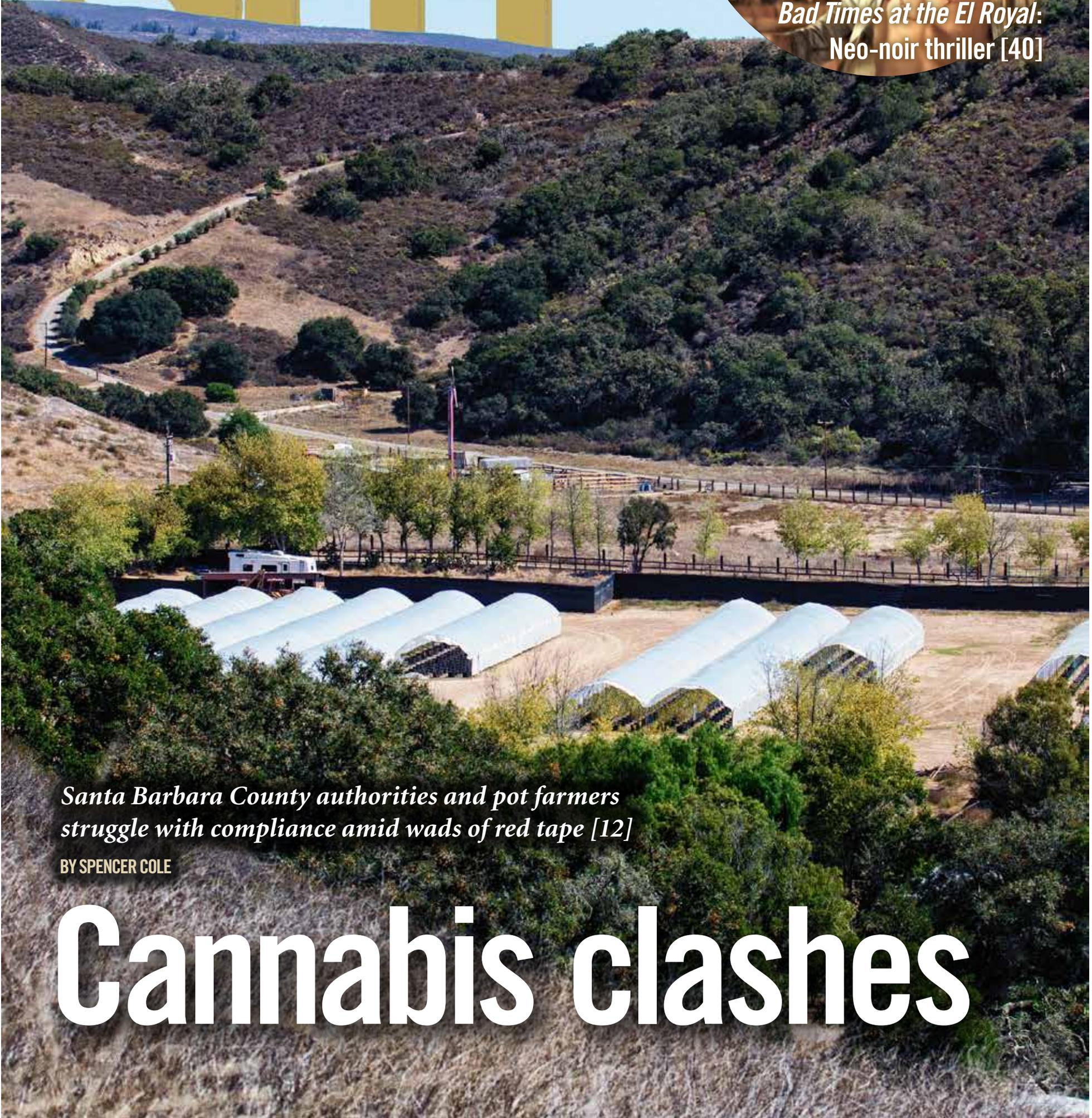


SUN

AT THE MOVIES



Bad Times at the El Royal:
Neo-noir thriller [40]



Santa Barbara County authorities and pot farmers struggle with compliance amid wads of red tape [12]

BY SPENCER COLE

Cannabis clashes

NEWS New Guadalupe safety chief talks past controversies [7]

MUSIC Hear who's playing at CORE Jam in Orcutt [32]

ARTS Local painter explores the landscape [36]



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OCTOBER 18 - OCTOBER 25, 2018 VOL. 19 NO. 33

Santa Barbara County leads the state in terms of applications for cannabis cultivation permits. The booming industry has forever altered the structure and rules of local governments, the agricultural landscape of multiple areas, and disrupted rural neighborhoods near Santa Maria and Lompoc. For this week's cover story, Staff Writer Spencer Cole explored the difficulties and the legalization process with the county, concerned citizens, and growers themselves [12].

Also this week, a local housing nonprofit offers a support program for Latina women seeking higher education [7], Guadalupe's new safety chief speaks on past controversies [7], the CORE Jam Showcase features local musicians sharing some space [32], an Italian-American painter explores California for her landscape work [36], the Santa Maria Civic Theatre rocks its production of Little Shop of Horrors [38], and Presqu'ile Winery and Field to Table cook for a cause [42].



CANNABIS CANYON: Cebada Canyon near Lompoc has its fair share of cannabis cultivation, which longtime residents say has disrupted the once quieter rural area.

Joe Payne, managing editor

Photo by Jayson Mellom > Cover Design by Alex Zuniga

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FILE PHOTO BY SPENCER COLE

Political Watch

- The Senate Judiciary Committee voted unanimously to advance legislation co-authored by Sens. **Kamala Harris** (D-California), **Cory Booker** (D-New Jersey), and **Tim Scott** (R-South Carolina) that would criminalize lynching, attempts to lynch, and conspiracy to lynch. The Justice for Victims of Lynching Act of 2018 would be the first successful anti-lynching legislation in U.S. history if approved by Congress and signed by President **Donald Trump**. "Lynching is a dark and despicable part of our country's history. These were acts of violence, needless and horrendous acts of violence that were motivated by racism. And we must acknowledge that, lest we repeat it," Harris said in a statement. "These were crimes that were committed against innocent people. These are crimes that should have been prosecuted. ... With this bill, we have a chance to speak the truth about our past [and] make clear that these hateful acts should never happen again."

- After Congress passed the America's Water Infrastructure Act, a bipartisan bill that helps provide funding to states for drinking water infrastructure and wastewater and stormwater management, Sen. **Dianne Feinstein** (D-California) praised the legislation for also reauthorizing state programs and authorizing 12 new water resource development projects in California. "I'm pleased it includes my provision that moves us closer to creating a new loan program for water storage, water recycling, groundwater recharge, and other water supply projects," Feinstein stated, adding, "As our climate continues to change, it's important that we prepare for more severe droughts and increased flooding. This bill invests in a number of projects that will help California prepare for that future while providing us with access to more water now, and I'm proud to support it."

- Rep. **Salud Carbajal** (D-Santa Barbara) defended his incumbency from Santa Barbara businessman **Justin Fareed**, the Republican challenger for the House's 24th District, during a televised debate by **KSBY News** on Oct. 14. In his opening statements, Carbajal touted funding accomplishments and "working in a bipartisan fashion whenever possible" in Congress, and work to protect Social Security and Medicare and acquire more funding for drought mitigation and renewable energy. Fareed countered during his opening remarks, putting a focus on Carbajal's support for sanctuary policies, criticizing votes on public safety and tax relief. The two sparred over sanctuary policies and immigration, how to mitigate the closure of Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant, the confirmation of Supreme Court Justice **Brett Kavanaugh**, gun control, health care, and other topics. During closing statements, Fareed said that he wanted to focus on "law and order" and "our local economy," saying, "I love the Central Coast and I love this country, and I will make sure that I am serving your voice well and with honor." Carbajal closed saying, "There is a real contrast between my opponent and I," mentioning his support of abortion rights, banning offshore oil drilling and fracking, and "saving" the Affordable Care Act and Social Security, and pointed to Fareed's opposite positions on those policies. Voters in the 24th District, which includes Santa Barbara and SLO counties, will decide between Carbajal and Fareed on Nov. 6.

- Gov. **Jerry Brown** signed a bill authored by state Sen. **Hannah-Beth Jackson** (D-Santa Barbara) into law on Sept. 27 that will help homeowners pay for repairs that will make their homes more fire resilient. SB 465, the Wildfire Safety Finance Act, allows the expansion of Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) programs by local governments to support homeowners in high fire hazard areas in building fire safety improvements. "California must do more to make communities first resilient in light of the growing threat of catastrophic wildfires," Jackson stated. "With the governor's support of SB 465 today, California homeowners can get help paying for repairs that will better prepare their homes for the next major fire, which could save lives and help reduce the spread of these fires." The PACE program provides financing to property owners for water and energy efficiency improvements and earthquake safety upgrades. The bill adds "wildfire resilience" to the projects eligible for PACE funding. ○

Authorities destroy 100,000-plus illegal pot plants in Los Padres

Santa Barbara County Sheriff deputies had roughly nine months' worth of funding to raid illegal cannabis grows alongside federal authorities in the Los Padres National Forest. Now that the money has run out and although Sheriff's officials say other illicit sites remain, at least 100,000 illegal pot plants will never enter the black market.

Lt. Brian Olmstead, who heads the Sheriff's Office Special Investigations Unit, told the *Sun* the work began back in late January and wrapped up at the end of September. He said the nine different locations cleared by enforcement teams were largely scattered across remote areas in Santa Barbara County off of Sierra Madre Road, just east of Santa Maria.

Deputies and officers used helicopters to drop into the illicit sites due to the rugged terrain that makes the locations otherwise extremely difficult to access.

"There's really no trails except the ones they [the illegal growers] made," Olmstead said.

The raids resulted in zero arrests but officials say the sites were characteristic of Mexican national drug cartel operations discovered in years past. Olmstead said the growers were tough to apprehend due to the sound of the helicopters alerting criminals of agents' imminent arrival and that their knowledge of the terrain at times surpassed investigative and enforcement teams.

The Sheriff's Office, state, and U.S. Forest Service plan to carry out the same operations next year to discourage such grows on federal land, officials say. Not only do the grows threaten the public with potential violence if they stumble upon such sites, but they also have a significant impact on the environment.

Illegal grows divert water from streams and rivers, commonly use dangerous and banned pesticides, and import propane tanks to power their operations (a potential fire hazard). Illicit cultivators also leave behind hundreds to thousands of pounds of trash, according to enforcement officials.

Olmstead noted that even with pot being legal in most of California, there would still likely always be rule breakers, especially on public land.

"I think part of the reason they like it out there is it's still a remote location and these organizations have been doing it for so long," he said. "They're obviously still making a profit off it because they are still doing it."

—Spencer Cole

Local officials discuss how best to define poverty

A collection of local business owners, politicians, and community leaders took part in a roundtable on Oct. 15 to discuss how best to determine if a family or individual is living below the federal poverty line.

"Imagine you're part of a family of four; two adults, one infant, and one school-aged child," said Henry Gascon, director of program and policy development for United Ways of California. He told the crowd assembled that day it was important to take into account a plethora of factors when calculating if a family is struggling to make ends meet.

"We need to think about what it would cost to have that family of four anywhere in Santa Barbara County," Gascon added. "What do they need to survive? What would be their monthly food cost? What would their house or apartment



BAGGING GREEN: The Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office and the U.S. Forest Service conducted a series of raids over the past nine months in the Los Padres National Forest that resulted in more than 100,000 illegal cannabis plants being discovered and destroyed.

cost? How much would transportation cost?"

These are all factors included in United Way's Real Cost Measure Index, which the nonprofit with branches all across the country touts as the most accurate and complete measure for determining if a family is living in poverty. United Way pulled data from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, as well as the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and combed through records of fair market rents, low-cost food plans, and consumer expenditure surveys from the U.S. Census.

United Way also looked at the state's Department of Education child care data to get as full a picture about struggling demographics as possible.

The measure index estimates the amount of income required to meet basic needs for a given household type in a specific community. It then builds a "bare-bones" budget that reflects "constrained yet reasonable" choices for essential expenses: housing, food, transportation, health care, taxes, and child care.

"A couple years ago we started talking about an unignorable campaign, which would create unignorable results," said Eddie Taylor, CEO for United Way of Northern Santa Barbara County. "What we are talking about today is unignorable data points."

Some of those data points include more than 41,000 households countywide living below the Real Cost Measure. The number translates to roughly 40 percent of all households in the entire county struggling to buy bare essentials. Families with children under the age of 6 also are struggling in Santa Barbara County, with as many 66 percent of those households below the cost measure.

And it's not as if these families aren't working, Taylor said. According to United Way's data, 97 percent of all households below the Real Cost Measure have at least one working adult.

"So they are working," Gascon said, before arguing that the stereotype of poor families just sitting around waiting for welfare checks was more myth than reality.

Since the Johnson administration declared a war on poverty in 1964, the U.S. government has measured struggling populations with primarily a simple formula based off the cost of food for a family of four.

But it doesn't take into account

geographical differences, Gascon explained.

And the cost of living is far different in Alabama compared to California.

The federal government is aware of this, according to United Way. But officials are always hesitant to change a formula that could "create" more poor people.

"It's a sensitive issue and we understand that," Gascon said. "What politician wants more poor people on their watch?"

Business and community leaders in attendance on Oct. 15 expressed surprise at the sheer volume of struggling families in the Central Coast county.

"This is kind of stunning," said Glenn Morris, president of the Santa Maria Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Santa Maria Mayor Alice Patino called for more education and outreach efforts to help bridge the language barrier so at-risk groups could better communicate with the city's social workers about their problems. She spoke of a "need for people being able to speak English."

NEWS continued page 6

Weekend Weather

KSBY NEWS
Microclimate Weather Forecast
Dave Hovde
KSBY Chief Meteorologist

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Thursday</p> <p>COASTAL > High 83 Low 47 INLAND > High 92 Low 43</p> | <p>Friday</p> <p>COASTAL > High 85 Low 48 INLAND > High 87 Low 44</p> |
| <p>Saturday</p> <p>COASTAL > High 79 Low 49 INLAND > High 84 Low 45</p> | <p>Sunday</p> <p>COASTAL > High 76 Low 49 INLAND > High 81 Low 46</p> |

More high pressure and offshore flow returns Thursday and Friday before some onshore flow returns Sunday into early next week for some slight cooling.

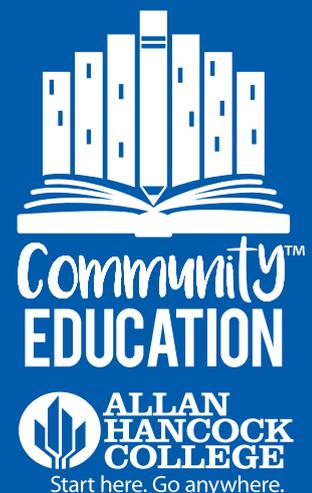
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NEWS from page 4

Fifth District Supervisor Steve Lavagnino said it was important to push the next generation of students to pursue the highest levels of education.

“Your life earnings change substantially and your life experience changes substantially the more education you receive,” he added.

—Spencer Cole

Taxpayers Association endorses Hancock bond

In a rare move, the Santa Barbara County Taxpayers Association announced at a rally on Oct. 11 its endorsement of a bond measure that would fund facility construction and improvements at Allan Hancock College campuses.

If approved by voters, Measure Y2018 would bring \$75 million to Hancock campuses in Northern Santa Barbara County to build entirely new facilities and classrooms, make much-needed renovations to aging buildings—some that are 50 years old—and purchase updated equipment and technology.

Lanny Ebenstein, education chair for the Santa Barbara County Taxpayers Association, said at the rally that after a careful analysis of Measure Y, association members agreed it would be “an excellent investment in the future of North County.”

“Allan Hancock is North County’s leading educational institution for higher education,” Ebenstein said at the rally, where a few community members gathered outside the Santa Maria Valley Chamber of Commerce to show support for the bond. “It does a great job for its students, and it’s great for the economy.”

Although Ebenstein said the Taxpayers Association, a nonprofit advocacy organization, often analyzes various ballot measures and initiatives, he told the *Sun* it’s rare that the organization publicly endorses them. But Measure Y would go toward better providing the affordable higher education Hancock offers to roughly 14,000 students in the county, he said, and at a reasonable price.

While \$34 million of Measure Y would be taken from a partially unused bond that was approved by voters in 2006, \$41 million would be provided through an \$11 per \$100,000 assessed valuation property tax. That tax would be in addition to property taxes that were approved with the 2006 bond.

“The average cost for a Santa Maria homeowner would be about \$2 per month,” Ebenstein said at the event. “We think the advantages that will come to Santa Maria and all of North County, Lompoc, and the Santa Ynez Valley will well exceed this investment.”

If approved, Hancock President and Superintendent Kevin Walthers said the bond would mostly go toward improving Hancock’s Science Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM), Career Technical Education, and fine arts facilities and resources.

In Santa Maria, the funds would be used to renovate the athletic training rooms, fitness labs, locker rooms, and classrooms in the physical education facilities. If approved, Hancock will also be awarded \$24 million in matching state funds to replace its aging fine arts facilities, which Walthers said were built in the ‘60s.

In the Santa Ynez Valley, Walthers said Measure Y would be used to buy equipment for the PCPA theater in Solvang, and improve technology resources on campus. Improvements would also be made to Lompoc’s Public Safety Training Complex, Walthers said, which would

help better prepare the community’s current and future first responders.

None of the bond will go toward salaries, Walthers said, and all expenditures will be subject to annual independent audits.

“The other part of it is, we’re not repairing things we should have already fixed,” Walthers said, adding that with a growing enrollment and constantly changing job market, Hancock needs all the funding it can get. “We’ve got 50-year-old buildings, and when you’re trying to teach virtual reality in a classroom that was built in 1960-something, it just doesn’t work.”

—Kasey Bubnash

Santa Maria police receive grant to improve traffic safety

The Santa Maria Police Department announced on Oct. 12 that it was awarded another grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety to improve traffic safety and increase driver and pedestrian awareness in the area.

It’s about the 10th year in a row that Santa Maria police have been awarded an Office of Traffic Safety grant, and this year’s \$358,000 will be used to deploy a year-long traffic safety enforcement and education program, according to Traffic Bureau Supervisor Sgt. Duane Schneider.

“We rely on the grant,” Schneider said.

As in past years, Schneider said the grant will be used to promote safe roadway habits among community members, and attempt to deter residents from violating traffic laws.

The grant, which was made available Oct. 1 and lasts until September 2019, will fund DUI checkpoints and saturation patrols, increased policing at intersections with high rates of pedestrian and bike collisions, and improved speeding, red light, and stop sign violation enforcement. Areas with high rates of motorcycle riders and crashes will also likely see increased safety operations, according to the release.

The grant will also help fund the department’s youth and community traffic safety education presentations—which focus on distracted, impaired, and teen driving, and bicycle and pedestrian safety—and specialized training for officers on identifying and apprehending impaired drivers.

Although the department will be doing fewer DUI checkpoints this coming fiscal year, Schneider said police plan to double the number of traffic enforcement operations.

“We just have so many traffic issue in Santa Maria,” Schneider said, adding that locals often speed and fail to stop at four-way stop signs and lights. “So I felt it was important to double that.”

Although the department has used Office of Traffic Safety grants for many years, Schneider said it’s difficult to measure how truly successful those resulting operations have been in improving traffic safety. Vehicle-related deaths and injuries tend to fluctuate from year to year no matter what.

From fiscal year 2016-17 to 2017-18, Schneider said Santa Maria’s traffic fatalities rose by about 33 percent, and injuries by about 16.3 percent. Alcohol-related traffic deaths shot up by more than 100 percent—Schneider said a quadruple fatality played a large role in this year’s increases—but alcohol-related traffic injuries decreased by more than 30 percent.

Still, Schneider said the department made nearly 100 DUI arrests using last year’s grant money alone.

“So how many fatalities and injuries would there have been without that grant?” he asked. ○

—Kasey Bubnash

Access to more

One local nonprofit is creating a support program to empower Latina women seeking higher education

BY KAREN GARCIA

Natali Camacho remembers her college experience as a tough but important part of her life. She went to Allan Hancock College for three years and then transferred to UC Davis where she earned her degree in Wildlife, Fish, and Conservation Biology.

She wasn't exactly thrilled to be attending community college because her first choice was a university. Family and financial circumstances ultimately put her on the community college path. At first, Camacho was crushed.

"But it [community college] opened my eyes, because I realized I was not ready to go forward to a university because I wasn't taught the skills or know what to look for in a university," Camacho said.

A lot of high school seniors readying themselves for college don't know the right questions to ask, such as how to utilize financial aid, where to look for scholarships, what will student debt look like after college, or where to find career workshops.

These are questions that Camacho has learned the answers to through her experience in higher education, and it's knowledge that she uses as a regional coordinator for Peoples' Self-Help Housing through its educational support

programs. Camacho teaches her students what questions to ask and what resources to look into.

The support programs include College Club, Youth Education and Enhancement Program, Youth Literacy Program, The Working Neighborhoods Initiative, and Adult Literacy and Workforce Readiness Program. Camacho heads the newest program, College Enrollment for Latinas Entering Bright Rewarding Educations (CELEBRE).

The program is still in its beginning stages, and it recently received a \$25,000 grant from the Women's Legacy Fund. CELEBRE is an extension of College Club, a program that creates a supportive environment for students who are preparing for or are already in higher education. Full-time advisors work with students to build the skills and knowledge needed for that next step through workshops, assistance with admissions applications, and finding scholarships.

CELEBRE does all that but focuses on supporting Latina girls and women. Camacho said this is an important program because these specific females may not otherwise have exposure to the option of continuing their education past high school.

"These women in particular grow up in families where the mom is the caretaker and is mostly at home. There isn't a big example of what options are out there for them," she said.

Men are expected to have these paying jobs—and for women, it's considered odd for them to choose a career over having a family at 19 or 21 years old.

She said in 2011, 17 percent of Latina women aged 25 to 29 had received a bachelor's degree compared to 43 percent of Caucasian females and 23 percent of African-American females of the same age group.

"I think because a lot of parents or immigrant parents like my own parents kind of have the mentality that I have seen from my own parents, which is, they came here and working is the key to surviving and to a better life," she said. "Tapping into education was never as available to them as they might have liked."

She wants to make it clear that not pursuing higher education is not the family's fault, because most are working hard to make a living and raise their families.

That's where Camacho comes in to talk about the numerous career options out there for females post college graduation. In the end, Camacho said, the parents she works with only want success for their children, just like her parents did for her.

Camacho's mom received her bachelor's degree at the age of 40 while she raised three children and worked full time. Her dad recently started attending Hancock to take English courses. Her parents wanted more for Camacho, and getting her degree was the start of that.

Aside from answering questions that Latina students may have about college or career options, Camacho said that many parents come along with questions of their own. They often wonder what they can do to support their child in finding resources for a successful path to a university or how to pay for higher education.

What she has found is that many families are fearful of putting their child in debt. Camacho understands that getting a job after high school comes with immediate satisfaction when



PHOTO COURTESY OF NATALI CAMACHO
WOMEN SUPPORTING WOMEN: Natali Camacho is taking her experience in higher education and sharing it with Latina girls interested in pursuing a four-year degree.

someone is getting paid every week or every other week. College is an investment that won't be seen for another four years or more.

Student loan debt is something serious to think about, but Camacho tells the parents what her mom told her.

"We get into debt with houses and cars, and we lose all that, but education, no one can ever take that away from you," she said.

CELEBRE is currently supporting 14 girls and their parents. Camacho said seeing the trust she's built with these students and their families is daunting because she feels their lives are in her hands—but she wouldn't have it any other way.

"My hand is here; come on, let's go through this together," she said. ○

Sun sister paper New Times Staff Writer Karen Garcia can be reached at kgarcia@newtimeslo.com.

A 'whole new path'

Guadalupe's new public safety director discusses his turbulent past and hopes for the future

BY KASEY BUBNASH

Despite community concerns and a highly scrutinized past in law enforcement, Guadalupe recently put its faith—and safety—in the hands of Michael Cash.

The Guadalupe City Council unanimously voted to confirm Cash as its police chief and director of public safety at a meeting on Oct. 9. He was officially sworn in that night and is charged with overseeing both Guadalupe's police and fire departments.

Cash, whose first day on the job was Oct. 10, was chosen by Guadalupe city staff to replace former Police Chief Gary Hoving, who retired in September, leaving the department temporarily to Sgt. Carlos Limon.

A former San Diego cop, emergency response instructor with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and former chief of police at Southwestern College—a community college in Chula Vista—Cash was the most qualified of nine candidates.

"We never really get a lot of applicants," Councilmember Virginia Ponce said. "So I feel we're lucky to have him."

Ponce said it can be difficult for a small town with a limited budget to find qualified applicants willing to take lower than usual salaries for high level administrative positions, especially one that requires both fire and police experience.

Although there were nine applicants for Cash's position, Ponce said several didn't meet the minimum requirements, only three were interviewed by city staff, and only two, including

Cash, were interviewed by City Council.

Ponce said she liked Cash best because of his sincerity and his community-focused, team-player attitude.

"I just think that if [Guadalupe residents] gave him a chance they'd see that he's going to do a lot for our community," Ponce said.

But Cash's confirmation process was dogged by controversy stemming from various alleged wrongdoings—some upheld and others unfounded—throughout his law enforcement career.

In 1989, the *Los Angeles Times* reported that

'I'm not here to really change anything. ... I'm here to enhance.'

—Michael Cash, Guadalupe public safety director

Cash was briefly suspended from the San Diego Police Department after repeatedly punching a suspect in the face while the suspect was already subdued. Years later, Cash was placed on administrative leave for about two months at Southwestern College after accidentally firing his gun in the campus police locker room, narrowly missing three people who were in the next room, according to a 2014 *San Diego Union-Tribune* story.

Then Cash resigned from his post at Southwestern in 2017, after five years with the department and another lengthy stint on administrative leave, according to the school's student newspaper.

Although relatively short, his career at Southwestern College was reportedly tinged with controversy. The school's student paper wrote about on numerous allegations against Cash, including ignoring a report of alleged

sexual assault, failing to report accurate campus crime statistics, and misusing campus funds to hire friends.

In an interview with the *Sun* on Oct. 15, Cash, explained himself.

The locker room gunfire was an accident, he said.

Cash said he was in a rush to change into uniform and get to his office that day for an interview with an employee. As per his usual daily routine, Cash said he checked the gun—a new weapon he'd only recently been cleared to use—to make sure it was loaded before putting it in his holster.

When he slapped the magazine in place, Cash said he accidentally hit the trigger. The gun fired a bullet through a wall and into the next room.

"It was a mistake," Cash said.

He chalked the other allegations up to being unfounded and uninvestigated.

Cash said he was never investigated, or even talked to, regarding allegations of reporting insufficient and inaccurate campus crime statistics, a violation of the Clery Act, a federal law that requires college campuses to keep public crime logs.

Although Southwestern's acting Police Chief Dave Nighswonger said in a story published by the student newspaper that an audit team found 122 mistakes in an annual security report produced by Cash, he called those claims "vague."

The student newspaper also wrote that Cash misused nearly \$1 million in campus funds to hire "friends" who had retired from the San Diego

Police Department, attributing the claims to an unnamed "campus leadership source."

Cash blatantly denied that allegation, and said the school's extensive hiring process—which required authorization from Cash's supervisor, the finance department, the college president, the unions, and the school board—would have made it next to impossible for him to hire on a whim. Using that process, Cash said he did, however, hire a retired San Diego Police Department officer to help his staff write reports, which he said they were largely "deficient" at doing.

When Cash left in 2017 he said it was partially because he felt unwanted, although he left with a year of paid leave and a letter of recommendation. And in his five years there, Cash said he'd served under four different supervisors and three presidents. The constantly changing administration became tiring, he said.

Moving forward, Cash said he'd like to focus on the future of Guadalupe.

"I'm on a whole new path," he said.

Although Oct. 15 was only his third day on the job, Cash said he had some plans for low-cost public safety improvements in Guadalupe.

He said he's already working on a budget forecast for the departments, and in an effort to get a better feel for the city, Cash said he'd like to form community advisory and youth advisory boards, and a volunteer program for senior citizens. He'd like to improve recreation opportunities for kids in the area and also plans to find out what specific characteristics make Guadalupe safe, so that he can help continue its trend of low crime rates, he said.

"I'm not here to really change anything," Cash said. "I'm here to enhance." ○

Staff Writer Kasey Bubnash can be reached at kbubnash@santamariasun.com.

PHOTO COURTESY OF VIVID CYCLING CLUB

Spotlight on: Vivid Cycling Club

Calvin Harris, founder

BY SPENCER COLE

Calvin Harris began cycling years ago. The activity became a daily habit before becoming an “on-and-off thing,” he said. After a brief hiatus, which featured a few months carved out of the year to train for the Boston Marathon, Harris hopped back on his bike. It’s been full steam ever since, he told the *Sun*. But there was something missing. Unlike in a bike race, where contestants are shoulder to shoulder pedaling for miles, biking on the Central Coast can be at times a lonely activity.

“I realized then that there’s a lot of riders across the coast but nobody’s really kind of creating an organized way to get together and ride,” he said.

So Harris approached his bosses at Vivid Financial Management in Orcutt, where he is a vice president. His pitch: sponsor a club for local cyclists. He framed it as a chance to give back to the community while still offering what he called “the white glove service” the company already provides to clients.

The company bought in, and now the Vivid Cycling Club boasts more than 25 members and meets up twice a week. Rides start at 5:30 a.m. each Tuesday and Thursday. Club members

meet up at Vivid’s office in Old Orcutt (340 E. Clark Ave.) for coffee before hitting the streets. Every first week of the month also includes a group breakfast pre- and post-ride.

The club also does weekend rides. On the second week of October, one group met up to make the trek to Cambria while another rendezvoused before biking down to Santa Barbara.

On Oct. 5, a portion of the club met up in Salt Lake City, Utah, where they embarked on a 12-hour, 150-mile ride, with more than 20,000 feet in elevation gain.

“It was pretty intense,” Harris said.

Membership is \$60 to join and comes with a kit that includes a jersey, bibs, jacket, and cap.

“That’s what’s nice about doing it on behalf of the firm,” Harris said. “This is an expense for us that we’re comfortable spending, and it makes everything in the club more or less subsidized. It’s pretty awesome.”

A core tenet in Vivid Financial’s culture is to live intentionally, Harris explained, which transfers to the club as well.

“This is a good platform to live that through in action,” Harris explained. “Besides, we’re definitely happy to be reinvesting back into the community.”

Highlights:

- The Santa Maria Valley Chamber of Commerce is calling on local business owners to vote in the upcoming November election. “We recognize that the outcomes of these elections, both in terms of candidates and



COMMUNITY CYCLING: The Vivid Cycling Club is a collection of Central Coast cyclists who say they are united by their belief in living intentionally. The club is sponsored by Orcutt-based Vivid Financial Management.

measures, can have significant impacts on jobs, the state of our economy, and the health of our individual businesses,” the Chamber stated. The organization endorsed two local measures (Santa Maria’s Measure U, or public safety sales tax initiative, and Measure Y, the Allan Hancock College facilities bond).

- The seventh annual Santa Barbara County Veterans Stand Down will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Oct. 20 at the Santa Maria Fairpark. Veterans Stand Down offers veterans—particularly those who are homeless and at-risk—hot food, showers, clothing, hygiene items, and medical examinations. Veterans also will receive access to more than 100 service providers offering social services, legal aid, resume-

building, and job opportunities.

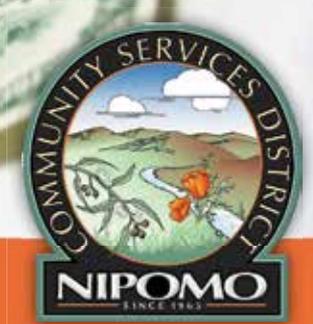
- San Luis Obispo-based insurance company, Morris and Garritano, announced it had received two industry awards on Oct. 10. The firm was named one of *Insurance Journal’s* “best agencies to work for,” while National Underwriter awarded the company its coveted Agency of the Year prize.

- First United Methodist Church of Lompoc will host a chili/bake sale and church bazaar on Saturday, Oct. 20, from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Staff Writer Spencer Cole wrote this week’s Biz Spotlight. Information should be sent to the Sun via fax, mail, or email at spotlight@santamariasun.com.

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County talks youth trauma

BY KASEY BUBNASH

Trauma. It affects everyone, and impacts nearly all facets of every community. But with the right steps, trauma can be treated and even prevented.

That was the message at this year's Bridges to Resilience conference in Buellton on Oct. 11, the third annual event of its kind in Santa Barbara County.

At the event, which was sponsored by numerous local mental health-focused organizations from throughout the county, more than 300 representatives and community members from varying sectors were able to come together to learn about providing trauma-informed care.

"The idea is that we want people to know more about what other people are doing to kind of unify our approach to how we are helping heal our community," said Barbara Finch, Children and Adult Network director with the Santa Barbara County Department of Social Services. "We have a vision of creating a resilient community, and this is a day where people can come and feel like they're not in it alone."

Community members—ranging from educators and social workers to child welfare specialists and probation officers—attended the daylong event, which focused on ways to treat and prevent trauma in youth.

Trauma, Finch said, can stem from any life event, and it adversely impacts individuals in all socioeconomic levels. Trauma and its impacts have become a focal point in Santa Barbara County in recent years, which Finch said is likely due to upticks in school violence, natural disasters, and poverty.

"So if we understand the impacts that has on people, including children," Finch said, "then we can shift how we're doing things to better meet the needs of those kids."

While in past years, presenters at Bridges to Resilience focused more on trauma itself, this year's event put a spotlight on resilience, the ability to make normal developmental achievements despite having experienced trauma and social barriers.

Melissa Morgan Consoli, a researcher at UC Santa Barbara who's working to find strategies that better help people overcome adverse experiences, said in her presentation at the conference that culture plays a key role in trauma prevention and treatment. Consideration for culture can help professionals more clearly identify the causes of a person's trauma and the tools that might help that person overcome.

Consoli, whose research mostly focuses on the Latino community, said that while many Latinos face numerous social and environmental barriers—difficulty with the immigration process, racism and discrimination, language, and economic hardship are some of the most common—they often continue to prosper.

Through research, Consoli said key

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

PHOTO COURTESY OF ANTHONY COOPER



Isabella Albano

Allan Hancock College student Isabella Albano has made a name for herself on the volleyball court.

As the team's trusty libero, Albano digs roughly 5.5 balls per set, making her the leading digger in the Western State Conference and fifth in all of California. This despite a mid-season position change that diminished her chances to dig, according to Anthony Cooper, Hancock's sports information specialist.

Albano, a dynamic player who Cooper said also excels at hitting and setting, is tough and dependable. She's never missed a match and was unanimously voted captain by her teammates.

In school, Cooper said Albano works just as hard, and currently has a 3.9 grade point average. ○

—Kasey Bubnash

characteristics of Latino culture have been identified as "protective factors" that help those who've experienced trauma heal. Strong religious and spiritual faith, family support, an emphasis on respect and loyalty, ethnic pride, and acculturation, are all pieces of Latino culture that Consoli said typically help individuals thrive despite adverse experiences.

In treating and preventing trauma, Consoli said it's best to focus on cultural—and personal—strengths, rather than problems and weaknesses. And, Consoli said, when working with youth, it's critical to hear from actual kids.

Anna Martinez, a student at Delta High School and youth panelist at the Bridges to Resilience conference, said honest communication is essential to building trusting relationships with struggling youth.

"I think that adults should stop sugar coating things for kids and tell them straight up how things are," Martinez said. "We won't listen if you sugar coat everything."

Martinez said she doesn't like to be left in the dark about having to move, change schools, or group homes. Even when she's bothering someone or acting out, she likes to know that she's crossed the line. That open and honest dialogue is what she said she loves about her mom and Fighting Back Santa Maria Valley, her two biggest support systems.

"I think that we want to know what's going on," Martinez said. ○

Staff Writer Kasey Bubnash writes School Scene each week. Information can be sent to the Sun via mail, fax, or email at mail@santamariasun.com.

PHOTO BY KASEY BUBNASH



BUILDING RESILIENCE: More than 300 community members from all over Santa Barbara County spent the day at the Santa Ynez Valley Marriott on Oct. 11 for the county's third annual Bridges to Resilience conference.

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A U-Haul van packed with pounds of freshly harvested marijuana eases its way down the narrow winding road on the back side of Cebada Canyon. As it rolls and bucks against uneven terrain, the driver brings the vehicle to a complete stop on the right shoulder to let a gunmetal Honda Accord pass by.

“That’s one of the good ones,” Elizabeth explains, who asked the *Sun* to withhold her last name because her ranch has already been vandalized by people who she claims are illegal cannabis cultivators.

The traffic is nonstop, she says, and the drivers aren’t always so polite. It’s been that way since Proposition 64 passed Nov. 8, 2016, when Californians overwhelmingly voted to legalize recreational marijuana.

It’s a day that will live in infamy for many of the canyon’s residents, several of whom spoke to the *Sun* on the condition of anonymity due to ongoing tensions between cannabis growers and established older residents.

They argue that out-of-area developers and marijuana cultivators swept into their peaceful little slice of ranchland northeast of Lompoc with an eye only for big bucks and quick profit—and no regard for how they affect the land around and under them. Growers counter that they’re just capitalizing on affordable plots of land in and around friendly markets while they wait for the state and county to set their regulatory mechanisms into place.

Meanwhile, the once peaceful canyon known for horseback riding and sprawling ranches has found itself at the center of conflict and much more than a just handful of neighborly spats.

There have been reports of vandalism, intimidation, water theft, and even potential gang or drug cartel activity. The Santa Barbara County Sheriff’s Office is investigating some of the alleged crimes but declined to elaborate further.

Lifelong residents say the new commercial grows could potentially drain the area’s ailing aquifer. A handful of Cebada residents say the canyon will never look (or smell) the same.

“This place was originally developed as little family ranchettes, you know where you could have your kids and grandkids out and you didn’t worry about things,” a retired California Highway Patrol Officer told the *Sun*. “Now we have so many illegal grows ... I count the U-Hauls as they go by.”

How Santa Barbara County addresses Cebada Canyon’s cannabis conundrum will provide a snapshot for the future of its budding marijuana industry, which is positioned to be one of the largest and most productive in California.

But before the green economic machine can begin firing on all cylinders, pot farmers have to be in compliance with the county so it can reap the benefits of millions of dollars in tax revenue. And that may only happen if the state opts to refine its cumbersome track-and-trace, or official inventory monitoring, system. Strict testing and environmental impact mitigation requirements have created more obstacles than pathways for growers to get legal.

In the meantime, local law enforcement is tasked with sussing out violators and determining which businesses are at least attempting to follow a shifting set of rules. Residents who oppose commercial cannabis operations popping up near their homes have few options except to report the activity and wait. Although much is still uncertain, one thing is clear: California’s so called “green rush” has already left an indelible mark on Santa Barbara County.

“I don’t know if places like Cebada or Tepusquet Canyon will ever be the same,” Deputy County Executive Officer Dennis Bozanich told the *Sun*.

Black market

No jurisdiction has more state issued cultivation licenses than Santa Barbara County. Even Humboldt, of the famed “Emerald Triangle,” lags behind the Central Coast. Santa Barbara alone is expected to harvest more marijuana annually than the entire state can consume, according to multiple staff interviews

Change in the air

CANNABIS CANYON: Cebada Canyon, like Tepusquet Canyon near Santa Maria, is a snapshot of a culture war in Santa Barbara County between the marijuana industry and longtime residents who bought rural ranch land in some cases decades ago.

Santa Barbara County, pot growers, and rural residents are at odds as laws and regulations slowly go into effect

BY SPENCER COLE • PHOTOS BY JAYSON MELLOM

and documents.

In December 2017, consultants projected that the county would rake in tens of millions of dollars in tax revenue once all its pot growers got assimilated into the legal marketplace. The initial numbers ranged anywhere from \$9 million to \$27 million. The county has yet to collect any taxes.

Holdups at the state regulatory and county level consistently create obstacles for cannabis operators trying to get above board, according to county officials and cultivators. Meanwhile, local residents say growers in some areas are creating nuisances that range from petty squabbles among neighbors to potential environmental disasters with few avenues for conflict resolution or legal enforcement.

Currently, the county is tacking toward assimilating as many willing cannabis business owners into the legal system as possible while preparing a cudgel of enforcement to sweep in and clear out illicit operations.

Whether that happens depends on if growers are staying in compliance and reporting their activity to officials. Those same operators will also eventually have to face a hearing with their neighbors, Santa Barbara County planning commissioners, and the Board of Supervisors if they wish to get conditional use permits for growing pot.

And there’s still considerable ground to cover before the majority of illegal sites can even be identified and ultimately transitioned to legal status or eliminated by authorities.

Canyon residents have had to accept the shifting reality over the past two years as the state and local governments attempt to organize an industry that has long been primarily in the shadows—and will always in part, according to law enforcement, support black market deals.

“Even looking at Colorado and Oregon as examples, there’s still illegal grows being busted,” Santa Barbara County Sheriff Lt. Brian Olmstead said. “And it’s just completely different here. We’re a big state. It’s been unregulated for so long. They’re all over—even here, every part of the county, there’s grows.”

‘A whole new world’

Jon moved to Lompoc to grow pot. His real name is withheld because his employer is transitioning their farm to legal status. An industry veteran, Jon has worked on sites all

over the country but got his start in Northern California with family more than 20 years ago.

He told the *Sun* that the county had been out to his “medium size” grow off State Route 246 twice already.

“The only complaint we had was one neighbor and they were being facetious,” he said.

It takes a tremendous amount of work to get a cannabis cultivation site fully operational, let alone into legal compliance. Jon said he spends his days wearing a variety of hats: grower, builder, electrician, bookkeeper, manager.

“I’m doing everything,” he laughed. One thing he’s noticed about a surprising amount of local growers? They’re not completely familiar with what it means to run a bona fide company. Even if they have the money to look the part.

“I told my boss, ‘You know we’re gonna need an office, right?’ A lot of people here don’t even know what an SOP—Standard Operating Procedure—is,” Jon said. “These guys don’t always understand that just because we have property and can plant a plant doesn’t mean it’s gonna be a business. You can’t just throw money at this.”

When asked about the complaints against growers in Cebada, Jon explained that a lot of cultivators just wanted to plant their crops and make what they could to get by. He said that if others like him are causing the problems that some of the canyon’s residents allege, then the cannabis community needs to start listening to their neighbors and consider how their work impacts the environment.

“But people need to remember that we go through a lot to be allowed to do what we do,” he added.

In order to be fully compliant in Santa Barbara County, growers had to apply for a temporary state license within the past two years. Those documents are set to expire at the end of 2018. The interim period was supposed to provide operators with ample time to apply for a county issued land-use permit and business license, thereby completing the compliance process.

On Sept. 17, Deputy County Executive Officer Bozanich informed a room full of cultivators in Santa Barbara that fewer than 40 percent of all of the county’s growers had applied for an annual land-use permit.

“Our goal is to keep people in compliance until they don’t want to be in compliance anymore, and then we have enforcement,”

Bozanich told the room.

Seven days earlier, the county’s Cannabis Compliance Team destroyed nearly 1,500 marijuana plants as part of a sweeping operation against illicit grows sites in Tepusquet Canyon near Santa Maria. A number of wells have reportedly gone dry in the area, which has been a hotspot for conflict between longtime residents and cannabis cultivators for years.

“There is more planned,” Bozanich said, before adjourning the meeting.

More raids followed. Thousands of plants were destroyed in the process, with multiple illegal sites shuttered. However, as of mid-October, only about half of the county’s cultivators had approached officials for permits.

Bozanich attributed the delay to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, along with the Regional Water Quality Control Board, creating hiccups with strict regulatory requirements on environmental disturbances and water use.

“If they can’t get clearance on things like that, then why would they apply to the county for a land-use permit and business license? If that’s kind of the show-stopper for their state license, they might have to go somewhere else,” he added.

Testing has also been an ongoing issue for growers. Cultivators claim the state has a poor oversight system for its many facilities tasked with determining if marijuana and its extracts came into contact with harmful pesticides. One sticking point is the labs doing the tests don’t currently have a universal standard for how to conduct such procedures. The result is that some samples come out clean while others from the same crop come back marked as contaminated.

Another complication on this side of regulation is due to how the federal government views cannabis. As far as the Drug Enforcement Agency is concerned, it’s the most dangerous type of narcotic, or a Schedule 1 drug. That means there is no list of acceptable pesticides for marijuana from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Currently, only about a dozen essential oils are considered usable in California, and all of those do little to limit pests, except suffocate them when sprayed directly.

So, if a neighbor douses different crops near a marijuana farm with essentially any common pesticide, that grow faces risk of contamination.

Santa Barbara County Ag Commissioner Cathy Fisher told the *Sun* that California’s cannabis testing labs were a major hurdle for cooperating growers to clear.



“That, right now, I’m seeing is the white elephant,” she said. “The labs: Without having any standards or regulatory oversight of any kind is the thing that’s interfering with the success of the regulatory program.”

Jon said that all growers could do was try to communicate with county and state officials as clearly as possible their intentions to get and stay in compliance. It’s either that or face consequences involving loud knocks on doors in the middle of the night, flashing lights, and lengthy court cases.

“This is a whole new world and a lot people don’t know what they’re getting into,” Jon added, “even the state’s not ready for it.”

Determining legality

Eight addresses are registered to grow cannabis in Cebada Canyon, according to the county Planning and Development Department. Only two of them have active temporary state-issued licenses allowing cultivation. The rest are either marked “about to expire” or “inactive.”

And even though many of these grows may technically be illegal, it’s taken the county a long time to conduct enforcement operations. Part of the reason is because the state keeps pushing back the expiration date on temporary licenses.

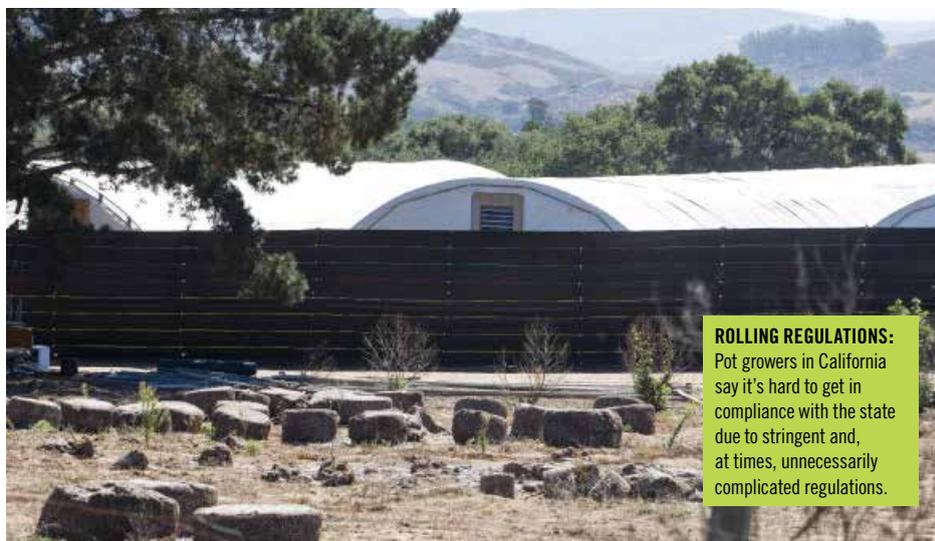
They were due to run out in January 2019, but an extended provisional license period is tacking on an additional year, according to the Bureau of Cannabis Control (BCC).

“In some ways, it’s kicking the can down the road,” Sheriff Lt. Olmstead said of the process.

Santa Barbara County’s criminal marijuana enforcement arm faced plenty of its own obstacles before it was ready to bust bad growers. The sheriff-run Cannabis Compliance Team requires a \$1.5 million annual operating budget, which the county paid out of pocket by way of its general fund before the tax revenue from marijuana sales could start stuffing county coffers.

Olmstead said the compliance team was still going through the staffing process as of Oct. 11, and currently only had two investigators on the team. There are plans to add a sergeant and three more investigators to the unit as soon as possible.

The task force began conducting operations in September and has thus far destroyed more than 17,000 illegal pot plants. The unit raided Cebada for the first time on Oct. 15 but arrived on scene after the cultivators had harvested the majority of their crops. Authorities did find



ROLLING REGULATIONS: Pot growers in California say it’s hard to get in compliance with the state due to stringent and, at times, unnecessarily complicated regulations.

some 1,400 “younger plants” and destroyed them on site.

Olmstead told the *Sun* that the sheer volume of illegal grows makes catching lawbreakers difficult enough, before even considering all the regulatory issues.

“I would say there’s by far more illegal grows than legal grows only because we haven’t catalogued all the grows in the county, and I would say the majority have just blossomed over the past two years,” Olmstead explained.

Santa Barbara County pot farms exploded in number after the Board of Supervisors placed a moratorium on growing medicinal or recreational cannabis on Jan. 19, 2016. The ban could be circumvented if cultivators were willing to sign an affidavit saying they had been growing medical marijuana on location before that date.

The idea was to allow collectives—associations or loosely affiliated groups of people legally allowed to cultivate or purchase medicinal marijuana—a chance to continue operations during the state’s transition period to fully fledged legalization. But a problem quickly emerged. One of the stipulations with the affidavit came from the growers certifying that their farms had been around since before the January ban. But the county simply didn’t have the resources to go to each location and follow up to determine whether the business owner was lying or not.

It resulted in a lot of opportunistic operators setting up shop immediately after state recreational legalization in an attempt to hoodwink compliance officers.

Olmstead said that those farms were the first

targets for narcotics teams.

“We know there’s a ton of people that either expanded or just started their grow after Jan. 19, 2016,” he added. “Those are the ones we’ve been doing enforcement on so far.”

And investigators are finally finding some footing, according to Olmstead. Along with checking every business that has a signed affidavit, they’re now combing through satellite imagery of grows to see what they looked like before the cut-off date. Those factors, coupled with anonymous tips from neighbors—who are sometimes legal marijuana growers—is making it easier for the Cannabis Compliance Team to do its job.

“The rules are getting a lot more defined,” Olmstead said. “We could work seven days a week, every week, until next summer and still not get them all.”

Bright lights

The lights glitter like burning candles scattered across Cebada Canyon’s valley floor. At least a dozen hoop houses dot the landscape, their heat lamps shining beneath thin white cloth against a moonless sky.

“These all used to be primarily family homes,” Elizabeth says, looking down from a cliff above a complex with several hoop structures.

Now all these plots are commercially developed, according to multiple canyon residents who are against industrialized cannabis cultivation in the area.

“It’s like a whole city lit up here at night,” Elizabeth adds as she turns and walks toward

her pickup truck. “And it’s all because they took advantage and planted after the moratorium while the state stuck their head in the sand.”

A deer emerges from some brush and ambles into her path. Pausing to peer down at the batches of UV light flooding the surrounding hillsides, the animal angles away from their glow.

It disappears into the undergrowth.

The lights keep burning.

The next day, Deputy County Executive Officer Bozanich reflected on the issues surrounding the canyon and its residents.

“They clearly are feeling impacted by traffic, noise, lights in the hills, all kinds of other stuff that really goes beyond anything traditionally that’s occurred there,” he told the *Sun*.

When the county’s growers are finally either eliminated or assimilated into the legal market, one of their final steps will be to apply for a conditional use permit. To get the document, cultivators will have to undergo a hearing in front of the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors, as well as any neighbors that may be affected by their operation.

The permits prohibit pot planters from polluting nearby areas with unwanted smells, noises, or lights. The public comment period is supposed to be a safeguard ensuring cannabis businesses will play nicely when they move into a new area.

Elizabeth and her neighbors eagerly await the day they can chime in on the canyon’s newest residents.

Bozanich said it was clear Cebada had several cases where growers had been, at the very least, disrespectful to their neighbors.

“And when you do things like that, it makes it really hard for the board or Planning Commission to make a decision in your favor,” he added.

County staff and supervisors hope that once the use-permit hearings begin, bad actors will be held accountable in larger numbers, according to Bozanich.

“It’s gonna put operators in a position of needing to be responsive to their neighbors,” he said. “Even if they are successful in getting a permit, to keep their permit and keep their license, they’re gonna have to do a whole lot of things to reduce any nuisances.

“Either that, or find another place to go.” ○

Contact Staff Writer Spencer Cole at scole@santamariasun.com.

HOOP DREAMS: Hoop Houses are favored by cannabis growers for their controlled environments and relative privacy.

Online Poll

Should Santa Maria school districts require cultural proficiency training for faculty?

57% Yes.
28% No.
14% Not sure.

7 Votes

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We welcome submissions. Please accompany them with a self-addressed, stamped envelope. All letters to the editor become the property of the Sun.

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Bright young leaders vs. old business as usual

BY GALE MCNEELEY

We have a clear choice in the Nov. 6 Santa Maria City Council elections. We can re-elect the same old people who will continue business as usual, or we can choose Rafael Gutierrez and Gloria Soto: two visionary, energetic young leaders who will give our city 20-20 vision.

Santa Maria is the largest city between Salinas and Oxnard, but we are still run like a cow town. We have a part-time mayor and part-time City Council members who allow a highly paid city manager to run the show.

Santa Maria City Council is monopolized by good old boys and girls who do the bidding of COLAB, the Coalition of Labor, Agriculture and Business. We are treated as less important than the monied groups who fund council campaigns. Look at some of the major decisions the council has made. Even though 3,000 residents spoke against siting an ICE facility within city limits, the City Council voted for it.

After MS-13 gang members killed several of our young people, the city finally arrested them and made their case. The council members congratulated themselves on their success.

The Mayor's Task Force on Youth Safety, supported by all members of the council, was a dog and pony show to make it look like the mayor and council were doing something new. Those directly affected by the violence, youth, parents, and families, were excluded from the task force. As was One Community Action, with their own comprehensive plan to heal the community. As a result, nothing has changed.

Etta Waterfield told youth leaders at a council meeting that City Council was like their parents. They know better than the youth what has to be done. If this were true, the shootings and stabbings in our city would decline, and they don't.

Then there's Enos Ranch. The entire development was dictated by businesses from out of town. This includes the parking lot at Costco. One council person has said, "Whatever Costco wants, Costco gets." Our council does not bargain hard for us. They cave for tax revenue.

Finally, look at downtown. Thirty years of redevelopment plans fill drawers, with no action to make things better.

Now, there is new hope for Santa Maria. When Gloria Soto and Rafa Gutierrez are elected to council, progress will follow. Then, in 2020, we can elect two new council persons in Districts 1 and 2, and a new mayor. We need a new leadership team with open eyes, younger eyes, and a new vision for Santa Maria.

Once elected, Mr. Gutierrez and Ms. Soto will work together to bring good-paying jobs to Santa Maria and to redevelop the downtown core to include mixed-use housing, with stores below and affordable apartments and condos above for young families who can't afford to buy a house.

Santa Maria needs to be more than a bedroom community for Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo. We need to be a bedroom community for Santa Maria, where our children come back home after college to live and work.

Mr. Gutierrez has proposed a four-year university

for Santa Maria. This happened in Merced. Why not here? Vandenberg Air Force Base provides us with a great partner for aerospace education. Students could train here, then work here. Mr. Gutierrez is ready to lobby the powers that be for years to achieve that goal. The economy of Santa Maria would grow exponentially as a result.

Both Ms. Soto and Mr. Gutierrez speak passionately about safe neighborhoods with real neighborhood policing. They both emphasize the importance of youth programs after school and in the summer to keep our children safe. Both grew up and went to school here. They know the challenges ahead for Santa Maria and are focused on long-term plans to address them.

Now it is up to us, the voters. We have candidates to be excited about. We have a reason to register and vote and volunteer. As we walk door to door we can inspire our neighbors to get involved in changing the direction of Santa Maria. Out with the good old boys and girls. In with new ideas, new strategies, new minds and hearts.

We are at a real crossroads in our city's history with the new voting districts. We can settle for business as usual, or we can elect young Santa Marians who will truly represent the residents in our community and bring about real, forward-looking change. Santa Maria can and will get better. Voting for Rafa Gutierrez and Gloria Soto on Nov. 6 will help to bring about that change. ○

Gale McNeeley is a resident of Santa Maria. Send your thoughts to letters@santamariasun.com.

Lompoc needs new leadership

BY JUSTIN RUHGE

Mayor Bob Lingl, who is the best mayor Lompoc has had in the past 10 years, is retiring. Mayor Lingl, who beat out ex-Mayor John Linn, has been a blessing to Lompoc for the past four years. His well-attended Thursday get-togethers, "Coffee With Bob," has provided badly needed visibility on city issues.

The city of Lompoc is floating into financial oblivion with Mosby, Dirk Starbuck, and Victor Vega as Lompoc City Council members. These three have done untold damage to the future of Lompoc. In a recent political stunt, Mosby and Starbuck were seen filling gopher holes in Ryon Park; another example of short-sighted "problem solving." These are the same two councilmembers who decreased the park's budgets radically that caused Lompoc to lose the famous yearly dog show.

The total mismanagement of CalPERS civil service benefits by the CalPERS Investments management has created a financial disaster for cities all over California, and Lompoc has been caught up in this disastrous web. Lompoc's "bill" is more than \$70 million.

Councilmember Mosby and his two befuddled followers, Starbuck and Vega, would not listen to the city staff members who are way above their pay grades with financial experience and had been working on this problem for several months. Mr. Mosby apparently knows nothing about financing of city government as he has consistently demonstrated at the City Council meetings, where all he could do was flip through his budget book and make endless derogatory comments about the process and the city staff.

Mosby claims to ask the "tough questions," but in fact he can get the answers by talking to

the staff as Mayor Lingl and Councilmember Jenelle Osborne have done, but instead he wasted the city's time with endless arguments. He had stopped the process and delayed the approval of the budget by months while refusing to listen to the professional experts but listening to ex-Mayor Linn. The results are cutting everything, from police to fire to parks to staff. In the meantime we still have to pay "the bill" with interest.

The "Mosby Triad" opposing Mayor Lingl and Councilmember Osborne know nothing about city management or budgets, but because they were elected to the council, they think they do, and are not understanding the damage they are doing to the city.

The Triad's disdain for the former city manager spilled over when they punished the

COMMENTARY continued page 16



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COMMENTARY from page 14

manager for his frankness by making him and his staff and the city attorney get off of the dais where they sat for years and sit way back on the visitors floor where the little three men could look down on them. Again showing how small-minded these three are. Wiemiller was the best manager Lompoc had, and he resigned under protest and was hired by Santa Maria as assistant manager. The assistant Lompoc manager quit, as well as the second assistant, and got better jobs elsewhere. The fire marshal left, as did the manager of Public Works. The city employees themselves are supporting new candidates now running to replace Mosby, Starbuck, and Vega with their own funds.

The Triad cut the police budget drastically. They allowed sale of fireworks but did not add more police support. And the worst, they promoted an open-door policy on the sale of cannabis—dope—in Lompoc. Even more layoffs and closures are predicted for the future, maybe even the library, Chamber, and museum will go. They know no limit. Their antics had the county grand jury investigating Lompoc again.

Only by replacing these three destroyers of Lompoc can the citizens expect any near-term improvements. They are the willing dupes of the drug czars now expanding in Lompoc.

For these reasons, three citizens have volunteered to do this: Robert Cuthbert is running to replace Dirk Starbuck in the city's new District 3. Cuthbert is a longtime citizen, works at Home Depot, is a graduate of Cal Poly, and spent 11 years on the Lompoc Public Safety Committee. Shirley Sherman is running against Victor Vega in District 2. She is a Lompoc homeowner, works at a medical instrument company in Buellton and is president of her homeowner's association. Jenelle Osborne is running against Jim Mosby for the mayor position

to replace Bob Lingl. Osborne is a homeowner, university graduate, local businesswoman, and past chair of the Lompoc Economic Development Committee. She has been on the council for two years. All are committed to a financial plan that does not destroy the city of Lompoc.

We urge you all to help them replace Mosby, Starbuck, and Vega to stop further damage to our venerable pioneer town in the Nov. 6 election. ○

Justin Ruhge is a 25-year resident of Lompoc. Send your thoughts to letters@santamariasun.com.

LETTERS

Please support Measure U

I am the vice chair of the Measure U2012 Citizens' Oversight Committee, a native of Santa Maria, and am retired from the Santa Maria Fire Department after 34 years of service. I strongly encourage all Santa Maria voters to vote yes on extending Measure U to support local priorities identified by our neighbors.

This local sales tax measure provides needed funding for vital public safety services and quality-of-life programs that all residents expect and deserve.

Sitting on the oversight committee since its inception, I have been able to review all of the budget reports to assure transparency and that every Measure U revenue dollar is spent exactly as the city said it would do. Last year, 91 percent of the funds went to support Police and Fire services, and the rest to Recreation and Parks, Code Compliance, and the public library.

Supporters include the Chamber of Commerce, major labor unions, and the unanimous City

Council, among others. Measure U is vitally important to meet the ever-growing needs of our community. All of the revenue generated by Measure U stays right here in our community. No funds may be taken away by the state. By extending Measure U, we protect the current voter-approved funding supporting essential services and enable our community to continue to thrive.

Jack L. Owen Jr.
Santa Maria

Vote yes on Measure U

Dear editor, I am the assistant superintendent of Human Resources for the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District. I fully support extending and enhancing the local Measure U sales tax and urge all Santa Maria voters to also vote yes.

The funds provide many positive outcomes for the city and for our schools. We rely on our local police department to provide safety for all of our thousands of students, staff, and families.

Without the successful voter passage of this measure, the city will have to continue to further reduce staffing and programs, degrading public safety standards when demand for service is ever increasing. Extending Measure U will provide more support for our city residents, so I ask all voters to vote yes.

Kevin Platt
Santa Maria

Dems have no class

Hear about the GOP senators' personal information posted on the internet? Did you read the

posts were traced back to a computer in Rep. Maxine Waters' (D-Los Angeles) offices? Let's judge this as Democrats and treat her like Judge Kavanaugh. She denies any involvement or knowledge. Should we believe her? Not if we use Democrats' standards.

First, we throw out the constitutional protection that a person is innocent until "proven" guilty. Second, conclude she's guilty before we know any facts or hear any evidence. Third, call for the FBI to investigate but refuse to accept the report because it does not corroborate your conclusions. Fourth, threaten death and mutilation as Professor Carol Christine Fair did to the GOP senators who supported Kavanaugh. Don't forget the teacher who was suspended for advocating killing Judge Kavanaugh.

This is the Democratic Party of today. Rabid, in-your-face, attack, revile, forget the Constitution's rights afforded to anyone who disagrees with you, and destroy anyone who gets in your way. That is exactly why we need Judge Kavanaugh on the Supreme Court. A judge who will uphold the Constitution *as written* in order to protect everyone's rights. Democrats chafe under the restrictions placed on them by the Constitution and want to change it.

Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-California) knows that a person is innocent until proven guilty. What about Sen. Kamala Harris (D-California)? Of course she knows that also? Didn't they both take an oath to uphold the Constitution of this country? If a person is "proven guilty" then respond accordingly, but until that happens they as representatives must uphold that person's rights as they would their own. Both intentionally failed miserably. Their behavior shouts hypocrisy and they are even more despicable than the media.

Ellis Romero
Santa Maria



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Do your job

Is it too much to ask: People, why can't you just do your damn jobs?



THE CANARY

That's how folks living in the county's rural canyons have felt about the **Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office** over enforcement of unlicensed cannabis cultivation (see cover story on page 12) ever since Proposition 64 passed. The Sheriff's Office received enforcement funding a few months ago, sweeping through places like **Tepusquet** and **Cebada** canyons, rooting up plants and scofflaw pot farms.

I'm sure the Sheriff's Office wants those growers to do *their* jobs and follow through with getting all the proper licensing and permissions so they're above board in California's new billion-dollar industry. **Santa Barbara County** has become the green jewel in the state's pot industry crown, with more commercial cultivation license applications than any other county. But with that, numerous upstart farms have played fast and loose with the transition to legalization.

These farms have had a demonstrable effect on rural communities, from nighttime flood lights to potholes widened by convoys of trucks. Wells have run dry, people have been threatened. The least growers can do is pay taxes.

Well, growers are on notice. The Sheriff's Office has destroyed thousands of plants grown by unlicensed cultivators since funding kicked in. And I'd bet my bong that the complaints from locals at the county **Board of Supervisors** meetings had something to do with the shifting focus into areas like Tepusquet and Cebada.

And on the subject of complainers, what's going on in **Guadalupe**?

Social media was abuzz after the **Guadalupe City Council** announced it would hire **Michael Cash** as its new public safety director and police chief, despite multiple reports on Cash and his conduct across his public safety career in Southern California. Some of those incidents did happen, like an accidental weapon discharge on a college campus, Cash confirmed with the *Sun* (see page 7), while others were questionably sourced and reporters didn't reach out to him, Cash contends.

Things got testy on Facebook (imagine that!), where Guadalupe City Councilmember **Gina Rubalcaba** argued with locals concerned about Cash's "baggage." In a grammatically questionable post, Rubalcaba said the council was doing its job in vetting Cash, but also made a massive generalization about newspapers, saying that "now a days [sic] they are only one-sided."

I think Rubalcaba could learn a thing or two about basic media literacy. For example, this is an opinion piece, where I can make fun of her embarrassing writing, whereas the news story is impartial and allows Cash the chance to explain himself.

Cash should be scrutinized, like *anyone* appointed to a public office. That's why *Sun* Staff Writer **Kasey Bubnash** sat down and talked with the man about the issues, point by point. While I spend plenty of time defending the news media, I'll still call out the local outlets that drop the ball and get swept along by social media outrage without doing *their* job and hearing everyone out.

At least Guadalupe City Councilmember **Virginia Ponce** was doing her job in being honest that the tiny town hardly gets *any* applicants for the position.

"I feel we're lucky to have him," she said. ○

The Canary is always open-minded. Send your thoughts to canary@santamariasun.com.



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HOT STUFF

OCT. 18 - OCT. 25
2018

SUPER BOWLS

The Foodbank of Santa Barbara County hosts the 17th annual Santa Maria Empty Bowls Fundraiser on Oct. 24 at Santa Maria Fairpark, located at 937 S. Thornburg, Santa Maria. Seatings take place at 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Soups will be provided by Moxie Cafe, Crumbles, Jaffa Cafe, Olive Garden, Santa Maria Inn, Splash Cafe, Radisson Vinter's Grill, and more. More info: foodbanksbc.org.

FILE PHOTO BY JOE PAYNE

SPECIAL EVENTS

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

2018 PLANT FOOD AND MEDICINE

CONFERENCE Features plant-based food that are known to have healing properties. **Oct. 27**, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 805-669-7226. plantfoodandmedicine.org. Santa Barbara County Government Center, 511 E. Lakeside Parkway, Santa Maria.

CELEBRATING AUTUMN The Santa Maria Valley Sr. Club presents this dance. Features live music from the Riptide Big Band with vocalist Bob Nations. Funded by Community Foundation of SLO County. **Oct. 21**, 1:30-4 p.m. Free. 775-813-5186. RiptideBB.com. Elwin Mussell Senior Center, 510 Park Ave., Santa Maria.

LWV FORUM FOR VOTER EDUCATION Featuring the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District Board of Trustees. Spanish translation provided. Presented by the League of Women Voters of Santa Maria Valley. **Oct. 18**, 6:30 p.m. Santa Barbara County Government Center, 511 E. Lakeside Parkway, Santa Maria.

PLANET LUCHA: DAWN OF THE DEAD Presented by Cen-Cal Professional Wrestling. All ages welcome. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. **Oct. 21**, 7-10 p.m. \$15-\$20. 805-928-8000. Radisson Hotel, 3455 Airpark Dr., Santa Maria.

RIDE-2-RECOVERY Help cheer on veterans as they ride through Old Town Orcutt. Bicyclists arrive around 11:30 a.m. **Oct. 18**, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Free. 805-878-5530. Historic Old Town Orcutt, S. Broadway and Union Ave., Orcutt.

SANTA MARIA DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CANDLELIGHT VIGIL A vigil to recognize domestic violence survivors and honor women who lost their lives at the hands of their partners. Memorial walk starts at City Hall at 6 p.m. Presented by Domestic Violence Solutions. **Oct. 18**, 6:30 p.m. dvsolutions.org. Ethel Pope Auditorium, 901 S. Broadway, Santa Maria, 805-925-2567.

NORTH SLO COUNTY

GOLDEN OAK HONEY FESTIVAL Features various types of vendors including honey, food, crafts, retail, and more. Guests can also enjoy various seminars on honey. **Oct. 27**, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Free admission. 805-238-4103.

PasoRoblesDowntown.org. Paso Robles Main Street Association, 835 12th St., Suite D, Paso Robles.

SCARECROW ARTS AND CRAFTS FAIR

Featuring arts and crafts from more than a dozen local artisans. Includes paintings, pottery, jewelry, and more. **Oct. 20**, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. 805-395-2399. cambriascarecrows.com. Cambria Veterans Memorial Hall, 1000 Main Street, Cambria.

SAN LUIS OBISPO

BGA ANNUAL AUDIO SWAP MEET Features a barbecue, music, and opportunities to buy and/or sell audio gear. **Oct. 27**, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 805-545-8366. Bill Gaines Audio, 840 Capitolio, A, San Luis Obispo.

CAL POLY'S SUCCULENTOPIA: SUCCULENT SALE The Horticulture Unit at Cal Poly hosts this succulent sale. This event takes place in Building #48. **Oct. 19**, 12-6 p.m. and **Oct. 20**, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. \$4-\$25. 805-756-1106. Cal Poly Extended Education, 1 Grand Ave., San Luis Obispo.

CAMPAIGN TRIVIA NIGHT All ages trivia hosted by Re-elect Mayor Heidi Harmon. **Oct. 22**, 6:30-9 p.m. Free. 805-698-2534. 7Sisters Brewing Company, 181 Tank Farm Rd. Suite 110, San Luis Obispo, 7SistersBrewing.com.

CANDLELIGHT VIGIL IN THE PLAZA A candlelight vigil to honor those who lost their lives to domestic violence in the last year. **Oct. 25**, 6:30 p.m. standstrongnow.org. Mission Plaza, 989 Chorro St, San Luis Obispo.

CEN CAL PRO WRESTLING: DEAD MAN'S BALL A Halloween-themed wrestling show. All ages welcome. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. **Oct. 20**, 2-5 p.m. \$15-\$20. 805-541-0969. The Graduate, 990 Industrial Way, San Luis Obispo, slograd.com.

PAY ATTENTION! VOTE! FLASH

The Sun and New Times now share their community listings for a complete Central Coast calendar running from northern Santa Barbara County through SLO County.

Submit events online by following the link on the calendar widget at santamariasun.com. Submissions require logging in with your Google, Facebook, or Twitter account. You can also email calendar@santamariasun.com. Deadline is one week before the issue date. Submissions are subject to editing and approval. Contact Calendar Editor Caleb Wiseblood directly at cwiseblood@newtimeslo.com.

MOB A non-partisan flash mob to encourage voting. Find routine and tutorial on YouTube. **Oct. 18**, 7-7:15 p.m. and **Oct. 25**, 7-7:15 p.m. Free. bit.ly/PayAttentionVoteFlashMob. San Luis Obispo Farmers Market, Broad and Higuera, San Luis Obispo, 805-541-0286.

PURPLE THURSDAY Wear purple to show your support for local domestic violence survivors and victims. **Oct. 25** Free. standstrongnow.org. Mission Plaza, 989 Chorro St, San Luis Obispo.

SECOND ANNUAL FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL A family-friendly afternoon featuring hayrides, farm tours, a pumpkin patch, cooking demos, and yoga. A mini-marketplace will feature local businesses and nonprofits. Guests can also enjoy a beer garden and live music by Joy Polloi. **Oct. 21**, 1-5 p.m. Free. 805-769-8344. centralcoastgrown.org. City Farm SLO, 1221 Calle Joaquin, San Luis Obispo.

SLO FARMERS MARKET: DVAM PLEDGE Sign a pledge, pick up a DVAM coloring kit, and learn about violence prevention efforts in SLO County. Thursdays, 6 p.m. through Oct. 31 standstrongnow.org. Downtown SLO, Higuera St., San Luis Obispo.

SOUTH COAST SLO COUNTY

MAYHEM BY THE MESA FUNDRAISER LSF Central Coast Adult Services presents this fundraiser, which serves as an opportunity to learn about the services LSF provides in the area. Fridays-Sundays, 7-10 p.m. through Oct. 28 Free. 805-762-4500. lifesteps.org. LSF Central California Adult Services, 1431 Pomeroy Rd, Arroyo Grande.

FUNDRAISERS

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS
ANNUAL HENRY M GRENNAN MEMORIAL

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GOLF TOURNAMENT Proceeds benefit the VTC Enterprises Endowment Fund. Henry Grennan, a long time supporter of VTC, wanted to ensure the future of the organization and its mission to provide services for individuals with disabilities. **Oct. 26**, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. \$125. 805-928-5000 ext. 135. vtc-sm.org. Rancho Maria Golf Club, 1950 Casmalia Rd., Santa Maria.

THE GUADALUPE MAKERS MARKET A one-day gathering showcasing local artisans, crafters, small businesses of Guadalupe. Features unique and handmade crafts, arts, home decor, clothing, culinary treats, and more. **Oct. 20**, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Free. pshhc.org/makersmarket. The Maple Cottage, 945 Guadalupe St., Guadalupe, 805-356-6356.

TRUNKS OF TREASURE Enjoy food, drinks, prize giveaways, and more. This annual fundraiser dedicated to eliminating stigma and promoting recovery for people with mental illness. **Oct. 21**, 12:30 p.m. \$175 per couple. 805-540-6510. t-mha.org. SLO Brew Rock, 855 Aerovista Pl., San Luis Obispo.

SAN LUIS OBISPO

2018 SAN LUIS OBISPO WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S The Alzheimer's Association is inviting SLO County residents to participate. Registration starts at 8 a.m. **Oct. 27**, 8-11 a.m. Free. 805-547-3830. act.alz.org/SLO. Mission Plaza, 989 Chorro St, San Luis Obispo.

11TH ANNUAL MOVIE NIGHT: THE SANDLOT In celebration of the 25th anniversary of *The Sandlot*. Hosted by the YPNG (Young Professionals Networking Group). Proceeds from this event will be donated to Special Olympics. **Oct. 20**, 6-9:30 p.m. Free to \$20. 818-515-3544. ypng.org/event/movie-night-fundraiser/. Sinsheimer Park, 900 Southwood Dr., San Luis Obispo.

AN EVENING IN GREECE 2018 Come enjoy Greek cuisine, live music, dancing, a raffle, and a silent auction. **Oct. 20**, 5:30-10:30 p.m. San Luis Obispo Vets' Hall, 801 Grand Ave., San Luis Obispo, 805-781-5930.

FALL PLANT SALE FUNDRAISER SLOBG is opening its greenhouse to the public for this sale. Enjoy our wide selection of drought-tolerant and volunteer-grown California native and Mediterranean climate plants. Complimentary coffee will be available. **Oct. 20**, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

SPECIAL EVENTS continued page 20

the basics to a variety of classes. Dancers of all skill levels welcome. Thursdays, 6:15-7 p.m. \$8. 805-680-5695. Oasis Senior Center, 420 Soares Ave., Orcutt.

CREATIVE ART TUESDAYS Meet other artists and support and critique others' works. Tuesdays, 1-4 p.m. \$1. Oasis Senior Center, 420 Soares Ave., Orcutt, 805-937-9750.

EVERYBODY CAN DANCE Ballet workout classes for teens and adults. Tuesdays, 6 p.m. everybodycandance.webs.com. Everybody Can Dance, 628 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria, 805-937-6753.

INDIVIDUAL PAINTERS No instructor. Fridays, 9 a.m.-noon \$1. Oasis Senior Center, 420 Soares Ave., Orcutt, 805-937-9750.

INTRODUCTORY BALLET 1 Tuesdays, 5 p.m. everybodycandance.webs.com. Everybody Can Dance, 628 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria, 805-937-6753.

INTRODUCTORY BALLET 2 Wednesdays, 6 p.m. and Fridays everybodycandance.webs.com. Everybody Can Dance, 628 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria, 805-937-6753.

INTRODUCTORY BALLET 3 Wednesdays, 6 p.m. everybodycandance.webs.com. Everybody Can Dance, 628 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria, 805-937-6753.

LATIN DANCE CLASS: SALSA, BACHATA, AND MORE Instructors and styles vary from week to week. Thursdays, 8-10 p.m. \$10. facebook.com/dancingamor. Everybody Can Dance, 628 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria, 805-937-6753.

MUSIC LESSONS Offering private and classroom lessons. ongoing 805-925-0464. Coelho Academof Music, 325 E. Betteravia Road, Santa Maria.

SALSA DANCE CLASS No partner or experience needed. Wednesdays, 7-9 p.m. Free. 805-937-1574. CentralCoastSwingDance.com. Old Town Brew, 338 W. Tefft St, Nipomo.

SWING, BALLROOM, AND LATIN DANCE CLASSES Hosted by the Kings of Swing. All skill levels welcome (adults). Couples and singles welcome. Pre-registration recommended. Thursdays, 7-8 p.m. \$45. 805-928-7799. Adkins Dance Center, 1110 E. Clark Ave., Santa Maria.

UKULELE CLASS Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m. Oasis Senior Center, 420 Soares Ave., Orcutt, 805-937-9750.

WEST COAST SWING CLASS No partner or experience needed. Mondays, 7-9 p.m. Free. 805-937-1574. CentralCoastSwingDance.com. Old Town Brew, 338 W. Tefft St, Nipomo.

SOUTH COAST SLO COUNTY

DRAWING AND PAINTING WORKSHOP Exploring the psychological phenomena called Pareidolia. Guests will be given various surfaces to work on. **Oct. 20**, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and **Oct. 21**, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. 805-668-2125. LiIA Creative Community, 1147 East Grand Ave. Suite 101, Arroyo Grande, lila.community.

HOLIDAY CARD CRAFTING WITH RUBBER STAMPS Learn techniques to create beautiful holiday cards using rubber stamps and paper crafting tools. Registration required. Register at slolibrary.org or by calling. For ages 13 to adult. **Oct. 20**, 2-3 p.m. Free. 805-473-7163. Arroyo Grande Library, 800 W. Branch, Arroyo Grande, slolibrary.org.

OPEN STUDIO FOR HOMESCHOOLED CHILDREN Includes drawing, painting, sewing, weaving, mixed media, printmaking, and 3-dimensional building in a safe, non-competitive environment. Fridays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. \$15 per hour. 805-668-2125. LiIA Creative Community, 1147 East Grand Ave. Suite 101, Arroyo Grande, lila.community.

PLAY EXPLORE CREATE 2 Includes drawing, pastel, watercolor, tempera, collage, printmaking, sewing, and building. Tuesdays, Thursdays, 9-10:30 a.m. & 1:30-3 p.m. \$20 for one day; \$35 for two. 805-668-2125. lila.community. LiIA Creative Community, 1147 East Grand Ave. Suite 101, Arroyo Grande.

SOUND CIRCLE For those who have always wanted to play music, but believe they are "non-musical". All levels of experience are welcome. Featuring easy-to-use hand pan drums. Wednesdays, 6:30-7:45 p.m. through Dec. 5 \$75 (for 6 classes). 805-710-9808. luciamarschools.asapconnected.com/. Branch Mill Organic Farm & Retreat Center, 2815 Branch Mill Rd., Arroyo Grande.

SPECIAL ART EVENTS

SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

10TH ANNIVERSARY PHOTOGRAPHY

Plant prices vary; all plants are tax-free. 805-541-1400. slobg.org/. San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden, 3450 Dairy Creek Rd., San Luis Obispo.

SOUTH COAST SLO COUNTY

HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL AND HAUNTED MAZE Hosted by the City of Arroyo Grande. Activities include games for prizes, cookie decorating, a costume contest, the maze, and more. **Oct. 27**, 4:30-7:30 p.m. \$2-\$5. 805-473-5474. arroyogrande.org/. Elm St. Park and Community Center, 1221 Ash St., Arroyo Grande.

PUMPKINS IN THE PARK Features pumpkin decorating, games, crafts, bounce houses, and costume contests. **Oct. 27**, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Free. 805-773-7063. pismobeach.org/recreation. Dinosaur Caves Park, 2701 Price St, Pismo Beach.

HOLIDAY EVENTS

SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

BEER AND BRAINS A special screening of *Night of the Living Dead*. Guests can enjoy beer from Figueroa Mountain and hunting for zombies via virtual reality. Come dressed like a zombie to win a prize. **Oct. 24**, 9:45 p.m.-midnight \$25. 805-455-6259. centralcoastfilmsociety.org/events. Parks Plaza Theatre, 515 McMurray Rd, Buellton.

HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARTY Features a Halloween costume contest, food and drink specials, and more. **Oct. 27**, 9 p.m. Maverick Saloon, 3687 Sagunto St., Santa Ynez, 805-686-4785, mavericksaloon.org.

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

ANNUAL BATTY BALL Guests can enjoy pumpkin decorating, Halloween crafts, games, science experiments, a costume contest, and more. **Oct. 28**, 12-4 p.m. \$6. 805-928-8414. smvdiscoverymuseum.org/. Santa Maria Valley Discovery Museum, 705 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

BOO YOGA A Halloween-themed yoga event. **Oct. 26**, 6-7:15 p.m. \$16. 805-266-6391. Treetop Yoga, 2771-C Santa Maria Way, Santa Maria.

FIFTH ANNUAL HALLOWEEN BASH Features wine, live music, a costume contest, and more. **Oct. 27**, 8 p.m. \$30. 805-937-8463. Cottonwood Canyon Vineyard And Winery, 3940 Dominion Rd, Santa Maria.

SAN LUIS OBISPO

THIRD ANNUAL HAOLEWEEEN SURF COMPETITION Costumes encouraged. All participants receive a t-shirt and free lunch during the award ceremony following the event at the Libertine Pub. **Oct. 28**, 8:30 a.m.-noon \$15-\$30. 805-548-2337. libertinebrewing.com/haoleween. Morro Rock, Santa Lucia Range, Morro Bay.

NORTH SLO COUNTY

HALLOWEEN HARVEST COSTUME BALL This dance party features a costume competition, live music, beer, wine, cocktails, and more. A portion of the proceeds benefit AAUW. **Oct. 26**, 7 p.m. and **Oct. 27**, 7 p.m. \$65-\$205. halloweenharvestcostumeball.com. Paso Robles Event Center, 2198 Riverside Ave., Paso Robles, 805-238-9607.

ZOO BOO AT THE CHARLES PADDOCK ZOO Expect Halloween decorations throughout the zoo along with carnival games, a costume contest, Halloween activities and treats, a haunted house, and more. **Oct. 27**, 5-8:30 p.m. \$9-\$10; free for ages 2-and-under. 805-461-3178. VisitAtascadero.com. Charles Paddock Zoo, 9100 Morro Rd., Atascadero.



ARTS

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

BALLROOM, LATIN, AND SWING LESSONS Marie King and Kings of Swing offer dance lessons for all ages and skill levels. Couples and singles welcome. Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$36 for 4-week session. 805-928-7799. Oasis Senior Center, 420 Soares Ave., Orcutt.

BASIC WATERCOLOR No experience required. Tuesdays, 1-3 p.m. \$8. Oasis Senior Center, 420 Soares Ave., Orcutt, 805-937-9750.

BEADING WORKSHOP Thursdays, noon oasisorcutt.org. Oasis Senior Center, 420 Soares Ave., Orcutt, 805-937-9750.

COUNTRY TWO STEP DANCE LESSONS From



JUBILEE PAGEANTRY

The Nipomo Community Presbyterian Church hosts its 25th Anniversary Celebration Oct. 27 through 28. The weekend-long festivities include breakfast, dinner, live music, special worship services, and more. The church is located at 1235 N. Thompson Road, Nipomo. More info: (805) 925-3890.

COMPETITION The theme of this year's competition is "Nature Regenerated." This year's guest judge will be Bill Dewey, whose extensively photographed the tri-counties through its many cycles of fire and regeneration. **Through Nov. 5** Wildling Museum of Art and Nature, 1511-B Mission Dr., Solvang, 805-688-1082, wildlingmuseum.org.

NATURE ABSTRACTED: OPENING RECEPTION A collaboration with the Santa Barbara based Abstract Art Collective. **Oct. 20**, 3-5 p.m. Free. 805-686-8315. wildlingmuseum.org. Wildling Museum of Art and Nature, 1511-B Mission Dr., Solvang.

LOMPOC/VANDENBERG

THE GOOD LIFE: WINNERS UNVEILED Winning photos will be revealed during the FSA Open House. The contest is accepting submissions through Oct. 1. **Oct. 22** 805-451-4338. fsacares.org/photos. Family Service Agency, 101 S. B St., Lompoc.

LOMPOC ART HUNT Hosted by the Lompoc Valley Art Association. Participants will try to find hidden art works including watercolors, pottery, glass, and gourds. **Oct. 18-21** Free admission. explorelomdoc.com. Old Town Lompoc, 100 South H St, Lompoc.

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

INSIDE PCPA An intimate behind-the-scenes conversation with PCPA Resident Artists. **Oct. 21**, 4-6 p.m. \$25-\$50. 805-928-7731 x4101. pcpa.org/insidepcpa. PCPA The Pacific Conservatory Theatre, 800 S. College, Santa Maria.

SOUTH COAST SLO COUNTY

OPEN STUDIO ART TOUR This rural art studio is celebrating 20 years of showcasing paintings, prints, and art gifts. **Oct. 20**, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and **Oct. 21**, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 805-473-4640. artsobispo.org. Laurel Sherrie Studio, 310 Corralitos Rd., Arroyo Grande.

SOUTH COUNTY POETRY An open mic follows each month's featured poet. Fourth Sunday of every month, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Free. 805-268-9216. CanDoJack.com. South County Poetry, St. Barnabas' Episcopal Church (annex), 301 Trinity Way off Traffic Way, Arroyo Grande.

SAN LUIS OBISPO

CORNERS OF THE MOUTH AT SLO LIBRARY A special edition of the Corners of the Mouth Poetry Series featuring Paula C. Lowe and Jan Wesley. Followed by an open reading. Jack Kerouac's On The Road scroll will be on display at the library. **Oct. 21**, 7-9 p.m. Free. 805-903-3595. languageofthesoul.org. San Luis Obispo Library, 995 Palm St., San Luis Obispo.

GIFTS OF THE MUSES: MUSIC AND NATURE This fundraiser show, benefiting Festival Mosaic, features paintings by Marcie Hawthorne. **Through Nov. 1** marciehawthorne.com. SLO Provisions, 1255 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo, 805-439-4298.

INVERSE PERFORMANCE ART NIGHT

Presented by contemporary performance artists Ayana Evans and Holly Bass. **Oct. 25**, 7-9 p.m. Free. 805-546-3202. Cuesta College Community Programs, Highway 1, San Luis Obispo.

JULIA MORGAN BUILDING TOUR Member

docents will guide you through our historic building and grounds. Tours may also be arranged by appointment. Mondays, 2-5 p.m. Free. 805-541-0594. themondayclubslo.org. The Monday Club, 1815 Monterey St, San Luis Obispo.

OPEN STUDIOS ART TOUR 20TH ANNIVERSARY Local artists from all over SLO County will be opening their studios for guests to enjoy their creations and creative processes. **Oct. 20**, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and **Oct. 21**, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. artsobispo.org/open-studios-art-tour. ARTS Obispo Open Studios Art Tour, SLO County, County wide, 805-544-9251.

UNBROKEN GROUND SCREENING Includes the screening, a Q&A, food samples from Patagonia Provisions, a Central Coast Grown veggie stand, and more. Guests are asked to bring their own chairs. **Oct. 26**, 7 p.m. Free. 805-543-1676. The Mountain Air parking lot, 691 Pacific St., San Luis Obispo.

EXHIBITS

SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

MIRELLA OLSON: FEATURED ARTIST **Through Nov. 1** Gallery Los Olivos, 2920 Grand Ave., Los Olivos, 805-688-7517, gallerylosolivis.com.

NATURE ABSTRACTED This exhibit is on display in the Barbara Goodall Education Center (third floor). In collaboration with the Santa Barbara based Abstract Art Collective. Features 29 works by 18 artists. **Through Feb. 4**, 2019 \$5. Wildling Museum of Art and Nature, 1511-B Mission Dr., Solvang, 805-688-1082, wildlingmuseum.org.

NATURE IMAGINED This exhibit celebrates nature through art by Cheryl Medow, Ellen Jewett, and Hilary Brace. These artists used diverse materials and methods to create their works. Mondays, Wednesdays-Sundays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. \$5. 805-686-8315. wildlingmuseum.org. Wildling Museum of Art and Nature, 1511-B Mission Dr., Solvang.

NATURE REGENERATED Photographers were encouraged to capture examples of nature's ability to regenerate and thrive. This exhibit showcases winning entries in the Adult and Junior categories. ongoing Free. 805-686-8315. wildlingmuseum.org/photography-competition/. Wildling Museum of Art and Nature, 1511-B Mission Dr., Solvang.

PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE A 30-year retrospective exhibit featuring various artists. **Through Nov. 11** 805-686-1211. Elverhoj Museum of History and Art, 1624 Elverhoj Way, Solvang, elverhoj.org.

PAVLOV GALLERY: FEATURED ARTISTS Showcasing new collections on a weekly basis. Featured artists include Chris Pavlov, Iris Pavlov, Robert Hildebrand, Doug Picotte, and more. ongoing, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. 805-686-1080. pavlovgallery.com. Pavlov Art Gallery, 1608 Copenhagen Dr., Ste C, Solvang.

LOMPOC/VANDENBERG

THEME AND VARIATION: RECENT LANDSCAPE PAINTINGS Featuring paintings by Lompoc-based artist Neil Andersson. Scenes

include California, Washington, and France. Presented by the Lompoc Valley Arts Association. **Through Oct. 28** Free admission. Cypress Gallery, 119 E Cypress Ave., Lompoc, 805-705-5328, lompocvalleyartassociation.com.

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

FEATURED ARTIST: IRINA MALKMUS This exhibit is one of a continuing series of shows to spotlight local art and artists. ongoing 805-938-9724. irinamalkmus.com. Ameriprise Financial, 2605 S Miller St., Suite 104, Santa Maria.

HOWARD RAMSDEN: FEATURED ARTIST Ramsden is the gallery's featured artist for the month of October. Through Oct. 27 Valley Art Gallery, 125 W. Clark Ave., Orcutt, 805-937-2278, valleygallery.org.

AN ILIAD This modern adaptation of Homer's classic story stars Tarah Flanagan as more than 50 characters and features live music by cellist Eva Scholz-Carlson. **Through Oct. 20** Severson Theatre, 800 S. College Dr., Santa Maria, 805-928-7731, pcpa.org.

MUTHALAND Written and performed by PCPA graduate Minita Gandhi. **Through Oct. 21** Severson Theatre, 800 S. College Dr., Santa Maria, 805-928-7731, pcpa.org.

SOUTH COAST SLO COUNTY

CPAF PRESENTS SHREK Performed by the tudents at Coastal Dance and Music Academy. All ages welcome. **Oct. 20**, 11 a.m.-noon Free. 805-473-7161. slolibrary.org. Arroyo Grande Library, 800 W. Branch, Arroyo Grande.

PAULA POUNDSTONE LIVE The acclaimed comedian known for her stage, television, and radio work. **Oct. 27**, 7:30-9:30 p.m. \$45-\$56. 805-489-9444. clarkcenter.org/event/paula-poundstone/. Clark Center for the Performing Arts, 487 Fair Oaks Ave., Arroyo Grande.

SAN LUIS OBISPO

DANNY COME HOME An original family musical inspired by a SLO Tribune article about a lost dog. **Oct. 19**, 7-9 p.m. and **Oct. 20**, 7-9 p.m. \$15 general; \$10 student. 805-439-0188. uuslo.org. Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Hall, 2201 Lawton Ave., San Luis Obispo.

STAGE READING: IRONBOUND SLO REP's Ubu's Other Shoe Staged Reading series presents a staged reading of *Ironbound* by Martyna Majok. **Oct. 19-20**, 7-9 p.m. and **Oct. 20**, 2-4 p.m. \$15. 805-786-2400. slorep.org. San Luis Obispo Repertory Theatre, 888 Morro St., San Luis Obispo.

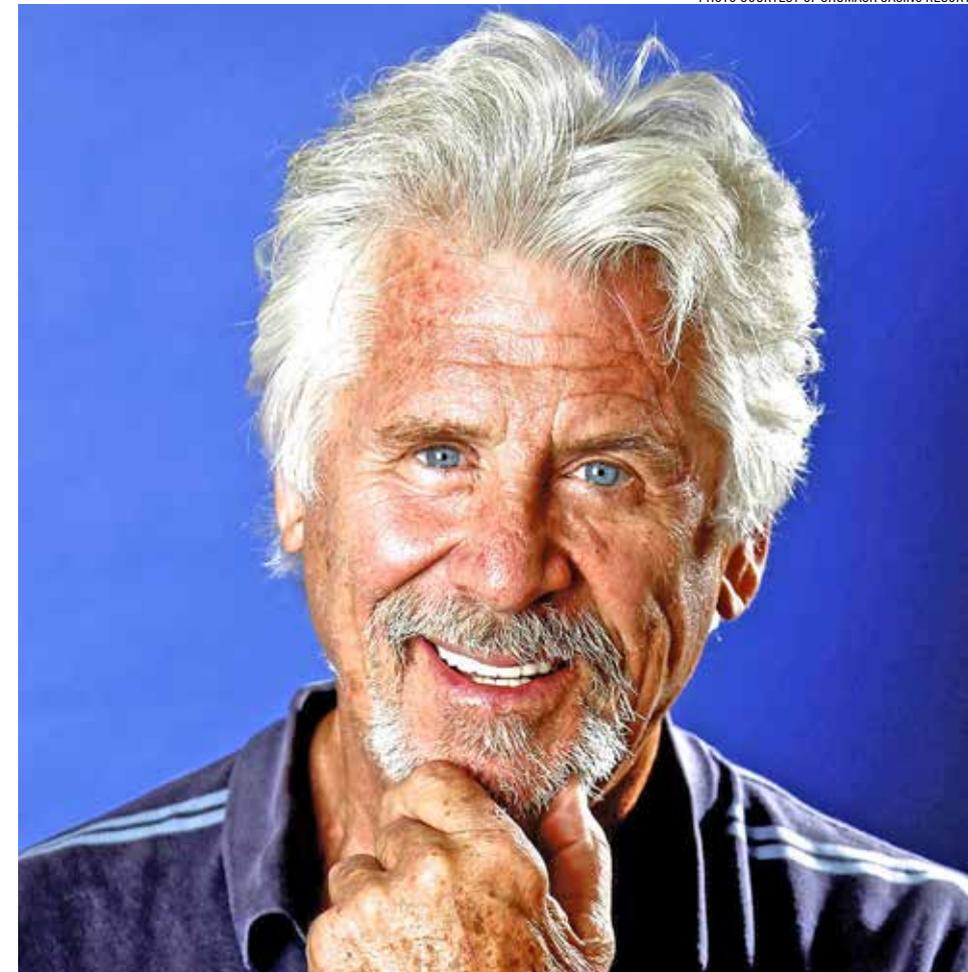
BALLET FOLKORICO DE MEXICO **Oct. 23** Performing Arts Center, 1 Grand Ave., San Luis Obispo, 756-4849, pacslo.org.

FINDING NEVERLAND **Oct. 25** Performing Arts Center, 1 Grand Ave., San Luis Obispo, 756-4849, pacslo.org.

MUSICAL IMPROV WITH LAURA HALL Presented by the Central Coast Comedy Theater.

ARTS continued page 22

PHOTO COURTESY OF CHUMASH CASINO RESORT



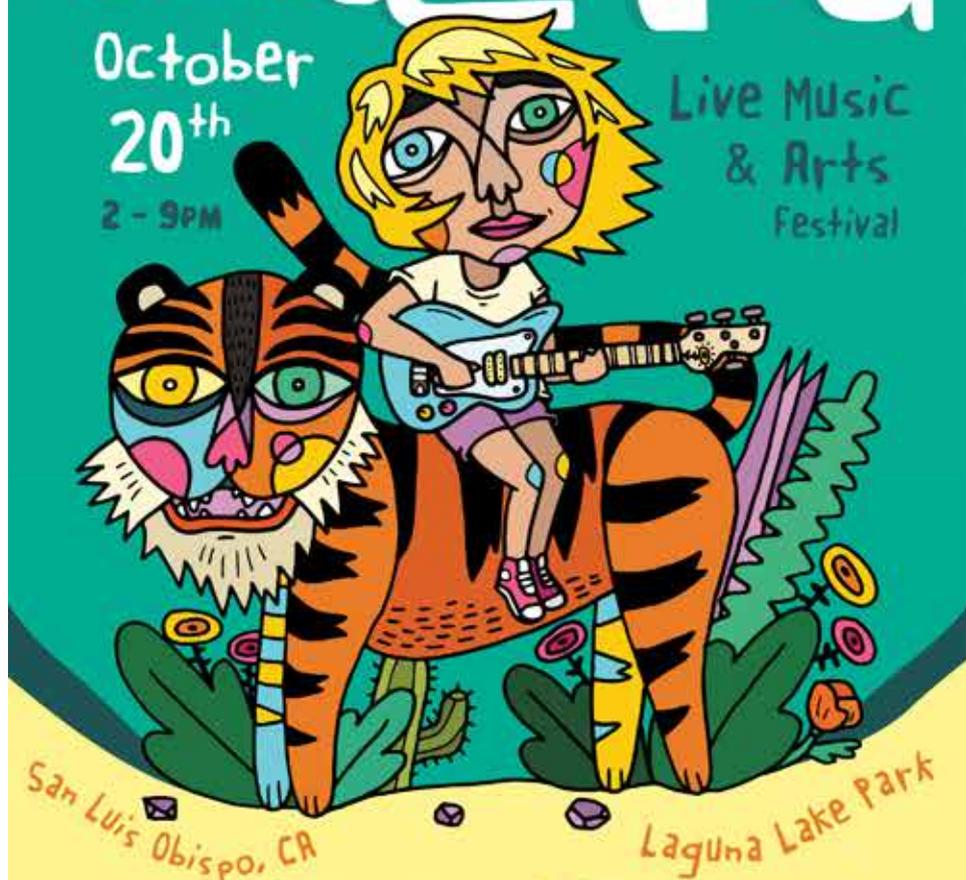
FRIGHT NIGHT

Chumash Casino Resort presents a special 40th anniversary screening of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* on Oct. 26 at 8 p.m. The event features a live shadow cast and a Q-and-A with actor Barry Bostwick (pictured). Tickets range from \$35 to \$55. The casino is located at 3400 E. Highway 246, Santa Ynez. More info: (800) 248-6274 or chumashcasino.com.

SHABANG

October
20th
2 - 9PM

Live Music
& Arts
Festival



LEVEN KALI THE BREATHING EFFECT DAISY

.PAPERMAN | ROWAN MCGUIRE | DEPRESSED SPECTER
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A SILENT DISCO EXPERIENCE
BY RESPECT THE FUNK

AFTER PARTY
10 PM - 2 AM AT SLOBREW
FREE W/ SHABANG WRISTBAND



shabangslo



Featuring special guest Laura Hall of *Whose Line is it Anyway*. **Oct. 20**, 7-9 p.m. \$10. eventbrite.com. The 4 Cats Cafe and Gallery, 1531 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo, 805-547-0278.

WELCOME STRANGER AERIAL SPECTACULAR This Halloween-themed aerial show features performers on aerial silk, hoop, and more. **Oct. 19**, 7-9 p.m. \$22. 805-549-6417. Levity Academy, 207 Suburban Rd., San Luis Obispo.

CULTURE & LIFESTYLE

LECTURES & LEARNING

SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

ALMA ROSA PRESENTS WINE TALK WEDNESDAYS An informational series that host speakers that discuss different aspects of the local wine industry. Fourth Wednesday of every month, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Free. 805-688-9090. almarosawinery.com. Alma Rosa Tasting Room, 181 C Industrial Way, Buellton.

TED AND CONVERSATION The Solvang Library screens an 18-minute talk from the TED Talks series. Afterwards, the audience explores the topic together over tea and coffee. Third Thursday of every month, 10-10:50 a.m. Free. 805-688-4214. Solvang Library, 1745 Mission Dr., Solvang.

LOMPOC/VANDENBERG

COMMUNITY FOOD CENTER The center is a food pantry offering nutritional classes. Wednesdays, 3-5 p.m. Free. 805-967-5741, Ext. 107. El Camino Community Center, W. Laurel Avenue and N. I Street, Lompoc.

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

BI-LINGO Informal conversation to practice Spanish language skills for anyone with basic Spanish-speaking skills. Fourth Thursday of every month, 6-7 p.m. Free. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria, 805-925-0994.

CENTRAL COAST BOARDWALKERS CCPI will be at the library to discuss investigations, show their equipment, and answer any questions. **Oct. 19**, 4-5:30 p.m. Free. 805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

CLUBS & MEETINGS

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

BOARD OF LIBRARY TEENS (BOLT) BOLT is an opportunity for teens to help decide on teen activities in the library. **Oct. 27**, 10-10:45 a.m. Free.

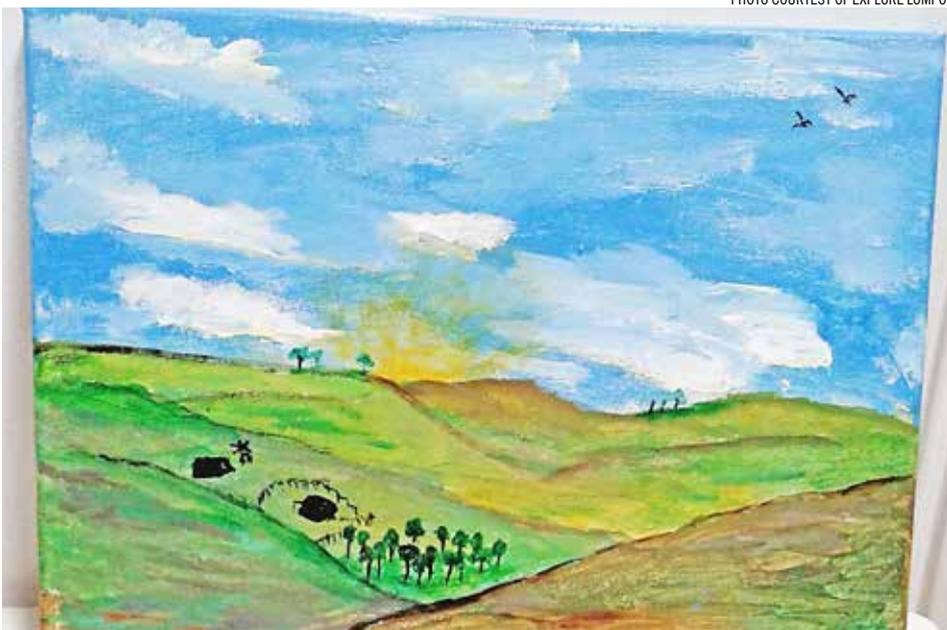


PHOTO COURTESY OF EXPLORE LOMPOC

GAME ON

The Lompoc Valley Art Association hosts *Art Hunt*, a scavenger hunt where participants have the opportunity to find free artwork throughout Lompoc, Oct. 18 through 21. An artist reception takes place Oct. 21 from 2 to 4 p.m. at Cypress Gallery, located at 119 E. Cypress, Lompoc. More info: lompocvalleyartassociation.com.

805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

CENTRAL COAST BEACH BOARDWALKERS: WALKING CLUB MEETING Join the Central Coast Beach Boardwalkers to learn about their upcoming walking event in Cambria. **Oct. 18**, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Free. 805-714-1552. beachboardwalkers.org. Giovanni's Pizza, 1108 E. Clark Ave., Orcutt.

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION Tuesdays, 1 p.m. oasisorcutt.org. Oasis Senior Center, 420 Soares Ave., Orcutt, 805-937-9750.



DCSRV MONTHLY MEETING Speaker sessions open to the public. Meeting for registered Democrats only. Third Thursday of every month, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Free. santamariademocrats.info. IHOP, 202 Nicholson Ave, Santa Maria.

HI-WAY DRIVE-IN SWAP MEET Come to the Hi-Way Drive-In for the Sunday Swap Meet. Sellers: \$20; Produce sellers: \$25; Buyers: \$2 car load. Sundays, 4:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 805-934-1582. Hi-Way Drive-In, 3170 Santa Maria Way, Santa Maria.

RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT: MAH JONGG Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m. 805-922-2993. Elwin Mussell Senior Center, 510 Park Ave., Santa Maria.

SANTA MARIA TOASTMASTERS WEEKLY MEETING Toastmasters International is a worldwide nonprofit educational organization that empowers individuals to become more effective communicators and leaders. Tuesdays, 6:30-8 p.m. 805-264-6722. santamaria.toastmastersclubs.org/. Toyota of Santa Maria, 700 E Beteravia Rd., Santa Maria.

THE SANTA MARIA VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY The Santa Maria Valley Genealogical Society holds meetings open to the public. Third Thursday of every month, 2-4 p.m. SMVGS.org. Family History Center, 908 Sierra Madre, Santa Maria.

TRI CITY SOUND CHORUS OF SWEET ADELINES INTERNATIONAL Welcomes all women who are interested in learning about barbershop-style music singing and performing. Thursdays, 6:45-9:30 p.m. 805-736-7572. Lutheran Church of Our Savior, 4725 S. Bradley Road, Orcutt.

TRIVIA NIGHT Wednesdays, 7 p.m. Free. naughtyoak.com. Naughty Oak Brewing Co., 165 S Broadway St Ste 102, Orcutt, 805-287-9663.

SUPPORT GROUPS

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

TRAUMA INFORMED PARENTING GROUP A foster parent class presented by Calm. Tuesdays 805-965-2376. calm4kids.org. Church For Life, 3130 Skyway Dr., Suite 501, Santa Maria.

CULTURE & LIFESTYLE continued page 27

2018 Cambria Scarecrow Festival
Presented by the Communities of Cambria & San Simeon Celebrating 10 Years!

October 1-31st

Celebrating 10 years! Our community-wide event with hundreds of scarecrows displayed through Cambria & San Simeon.

October Fest
Veterans' Hall
Cambria Pinedorado Grounds
Saturday - October 20

October Fest - October 20th

There's nothing like beer and brats to make for a wonderful time. So when you're checking out the scarecrows in Cambria, consider these other possibilities for a fun weekend!

Enjoy **OctoberFest**, Saturday October 20th at Pinedorado Grounds, 1100 Main Street from 12pm-5pm, lots of fun for the entire family!

Cambria Scarecrow Festival, Inc.
PO Box 1223 • Cambria, CA 93428 • 805-395-2399
cambriascarecrows.com

Sun New Times

NEW HOMES
Santa Maria
CA

CELEBRATIONS II

Final Phase Release Party
October 20 from 11:00 to 1:30
at 1965 Celebrations Ave, Santa Maria

Join us for *Light Refreshments, Live Radio DJ, Local Giveaways and Once in a Lifetime Home Deals*

(805) 714-3072 | www.celebrationsii.com

Protecting the most important relationship in the world



*CALM's mission is to prevent childhood trauma, heal children and families,
and build resilient communities throughout Santa Barbara County*

Calm4kids.org

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Emotional abuse
- Physical neglect
- Emotional neglect
- Family violence
- Incarcerated caregiver
- Substance abuse in household
- Mental illness in household
- Parental separation or divorce

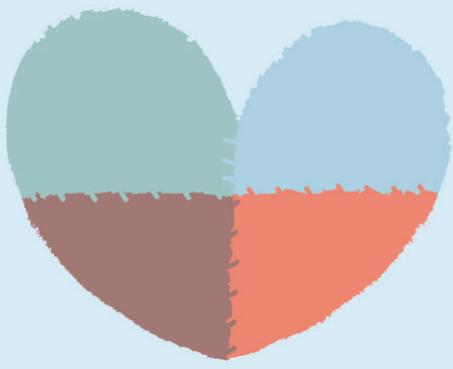
ACEs are traumatic events that can have negative, lasting effects on health and well-being.



- CALM provides more than 1,000 visits to homes each year to teach parents about how to build a strong attachment and protect a child for a lifetime.
- More than 50% of CALM's programs focus on positive parenting and prevention services.
- Last year, CALM provided services to nearly 2,000 children and families in our offices and over 4,000 children and families in our communities.
 - Over 60% of clients receiving treatment at CALM show improvement in key measures including stress, depression, ability to access resources, self-image, and ability to regulate emotions.

These pages sponsored by :





calm[®]

Mental Health

calm helps children tell their story by assisting them in writing a verbal, written or artistic narrative about their trauma experiences.

Healthy Sleep

At bedtime, ask your child three things they are grateful for that day. It keeps them in a good light and positive mood, drifting off to sleep.



2 Exercise

Take turns DJ'ing so everyone gets to play their favorite song. Then break a sweat while you boogie down!

3 Healthy Relationships

calm supports caregivers by offering them tools to help their child express their feelings and manage their emotions.



6 WAYS

parents, caregivers and *calm* staff can help children build resilience

5 Mindfulness

calm's support groups complete a mindfulness activity, like meditation or deep breathing, during each session.

6 Nutrition



Be a role model. Kids eat the way you eat. Involve your child in healthy meal planning, shopping and cooking.

Adopt a Family 2017

The 2017 holiday season was a challenge for everyone in Santa Barbara County. Even with the struggle many of us faced at home, our community came together for CALM families. Children and families across Santa Barbara County had a gift (or many) to open for the holidays **thanks to your kindness.**



236

Businesses, Families and Groups of Friends adopted and made the holidays more joyful for

1,050

Children, Parents, and Grandparents

The complete list of Adopt of Family supporters is available online at calm4kids.org

Adopt a Family 2018

Give the Gift of Hope this Holiday Season

CALM works with our clients in need to create holiday wish lists.

We'll match you with a family and you can shop from their wish list.

Then wrap the gifts and deliver them to CALM. We'll get them to the family!



805-614-9160
calm4kids.org
NCadoptfamily@calm4kids.org

CREATE & LEARN

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

CARD MAKING Tuesdays, 9 a.m. oasisorcutt.org. Oasis Senior Center, 420 Soares Ave., Orcutt, 805-937-9750.

FALL MAKERSPACE For participants to create, build, explore, use their imagination, and more. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. and Wednesdays, 4-6 p.m. through Nov. 28 Free. 805-925-0994. cityofsantamaria.org/city-government/departments/library. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

KNITTING AND CROCHETING Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. oasisorcutt.org. Oasis Senior Center, 420 Soares Ave., Orcutt, 805-937-9750.

MIND & BODY

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

CANDLELIGHT RESTORATIVE YOGA Release and open your body with breath, props, and meditation. Mondays, 7-8 p.m. yogaformankind.com. Yoga for Mankind, 130 N Broadway, Suite B, Orcutt.

GENTLE YOGA Tuesdays, Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. oasisorcutt.org. Oasis Senior Center, 420 Soares Ave., Orcutt, 805-937-9750.

FEATURED Features a 20 minute meditation followed by a brief discussion. Meetings take place in the sanctuary. All are welcome. Thursdays, 11 a.m.-noon Free. 805-937-3025. Unity Chapel of Light Church, 1165 Stubblefield Rd., Orcutt, unitysantamaria.net/.

REFLEXOLOGY AT OASIS Tuesdays, 9 a.m. oasisorcutt.org. Oasis Senior Center, 420 Soares Ave., Orcutt, 805-937-9750.

TAI CHI AT OASIS Tuesdays, Thursdays, 9:45 a.m. oasisorcutt.org. Oasis Senior Center, 420 Soares Ave., Orcutt, 805-937-9750.

OUTDOORS

SOUTH COAST SLO COUNTY

SLO COUNTY PUGS ON THE BEACH Socially friendly dogs and their humans are invited to run (leash free) in the surf sand at Olde Port Beach (Avila Dog Beach). Last Sunday of every month, 2-3 p.m. Free. aggbchamber.com. Olde Port Beach, 6520 Avila Beach Dr., Avila Beach.

SPORTS

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

NFL FLAG FOOTBALL Presented by Rise and

CULTURE & LIFESTYLE continued page 30

PHOTO COURTESY OF CEN-CAL PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING



BREAK A LEG

Cen-Cal Professional Wrestling presents Planet Lucha: Dawn of the Dead on Oct. 21 from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel, located at 3455 Airpark Drive, Santa Maria. All ages are welcome. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. Tickets range from \$15 to \$20 and are available at my805tix.com. More info: (805) 928-8000.



Let us help you plan for the future



If you have not set up an estate plan, the State of California has set one up for you, it's called Probate and it is very expensive, totally public and a huge hassle! The good news – you can avoid Probate if you set up a living trust. If you own a home or have over \$150,000 in other assets, you likely need a living trust. By attending this seminar, you will learn:

- How to avoid having your family forced into court if you (or your parents) die
- How to avoid having your family forced into court if you (or your parents) become disabled
- Why existing living trusts may need to be revised in light of recent estate tax law changes
- How to protect your heirs from divorce, lawsuits and financial predators
- How to protect a spendthrift heir from squandering their inheritance
- How to pass on the tax benefits of your IRAs and other retirement accounts to your heirs when you die
- How to protect you and your family from being wiped out by nursing home bills

Free Living Trust Seminar



WEDNESDAY
October 24, 2018

THURSDAY
October 25, 2018

Two Sessions
10AM | 2PM

Two Sessions
10AM | 6PM

Stephen Wood, ESQ

Stephen Wood is the founder of Wood Law. He is a State Bar of California Certified Specialist in Estate Planning, Trust, and Probate Law—a credential obtained by less than one-percent of California attorneys. Stephen views estate planning as a relationship rather than a transaction. Clients appreciate his clear explanations of the law, his guidance and the fact that he is always there for his clients and their families even after their estate plan is signed.

Vivid Financial Management Office

340 E. Clark Ave.
Old Orcutt, CA

RSVP REQUIRED – Space is limited per session
Call Holland @ 805.937.4556 to reserve your spot today

ALLAN HANCOCK COLLEGE BASKETBALL PRESENTS

FREIGHTMARE FOREST

THREE-ACRE HAUNTED FOREST MAZE

Dates: Fridays and Saturdays, Oct. 19-20 and Oct. 26-27; Wednesday, Oct. 31

Time: 7 – 10 p.m.

Cost: \$10 per person, open to all ages

Location: Baseball & Softball Complex
Allan Hancock College
800 S. College Dr., Santa Maria

For more information, call (805) 922-6966 ext. 3790 or email tyson.aye@hancockcollege.edu

All proceeds benefit the Hancock men's basketball program

#AHCfrightmare



ALLAN HANCOCK COLLEGE

NOVEMBER 17, 2018

RADISSON HOTEL

BENEFITTING THE

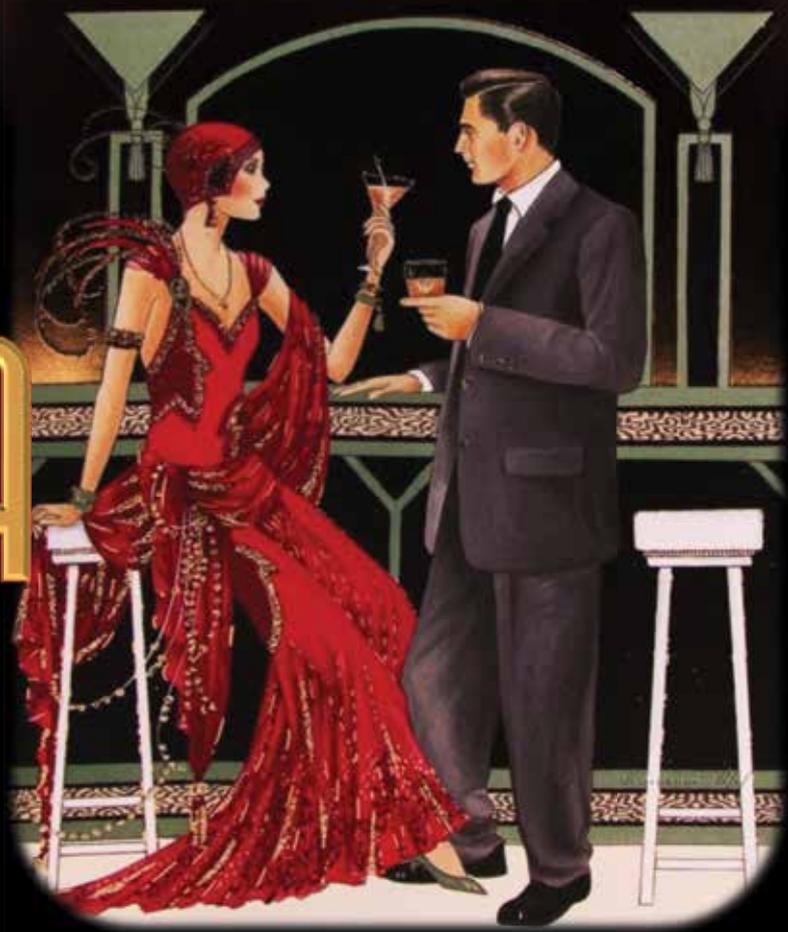
Santa Maria.
Philharmonic
SOCIETY

GREAT GATSBY GALA

HONORING
NANCY K. JOHNSON
2018 LEGACY AWARD

TICKETS

SANTAMARIAPHIL.ORG



Let Your Imagination Soar at the Santa Maria Valley Discovery Museum



705 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria, CA 93454 805 928-8414
smvdiscoverymuseum.org Tues-Sat 10-5, Sun 12-4

GUADALUPE
CULTURAL ARTS &
EDUCATION CENTER



The Guadalupe Cultural Arts and Education Center provides the history of Guadalupe, and the surrounding areas. This Center holds educational cultural awareness of diverse community groups and ethnic arts, presentations and educational classes.

We invite schools, clubs and social groups to tour our facility.
Artist and presenters are welcome to schedule exhibits.



Guadalupe Cultural Arts & Education Center

Open to the public: Tuesday – Saturday, 10am – 4pm

For all questions please contact Karen Evangelista at 805-478-8502
Email: karen@guadalupeculturalcenter.com

1055 Guadalupe St., Guadalupe CA

www.GuadalupeCulturalCenter.com





Arts Obispo – The Blend
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19
 Tooth & Nail Winery



Welcome Stranger Aerial Spectacular
FRI. & SAT. OCTOBER 19 & 20
 Levity Academy



Cen Cal Pro Wrestling: Dead Man's Ball
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20
 The Graduate



Point SLO Lighthouse Tours
EVERY WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY
 Point San Luis Lighthouse



Night Barre
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18
 Tooth & Nail Winery



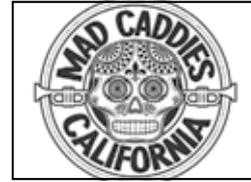
The Epic Big Band Blowout Concert
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19
 CPAC at Cuesta College



Cuesta Acoustic Guitar Concert
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20
 CPAC at Cuesta College



Wine Maker Dinner at Riverstar Vineyards
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20
 Riverstar Vineyards



Mad Caddies
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20
 Maverick Saloon



Alice in Wonderland Paint Bar
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21
 Tooth & Nail Winery



Cen Cal Wrestling Planet Lucha: Dawn of the Dead
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21
 Santa Maria Hotel Radisson



The Cimo Brothers
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21
 Old Santa Rosa Chapel



Cuesta Wind Ensemble
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21
 CPAC at Cuesta College



Chicago Duo Small Potatoes
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23
 Morro Bay Wine Seller



Cuesta College Choir Concert ft. SJSU Chorals
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24
 St. Timothy's Church



Phil Lee & Eric Brace
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25
 7Sisters Brewing Co.



Halloween Spaghetti Dinner/Bingo Night
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26
 Avila Beach Community Center



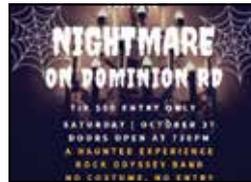
More Milk Adventure Club SLO Movie Premiere
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26
 The Fremont Theater



Halloween Harvest Costume Ball
FRI & SAT, OCTOBER 26 & 27
 CA Mid-State Fairgrounds



BGA Audio Swap Meet
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27
 Bill Gaines Audio



5th Annual Halloween Bash
SAT & SUN, OCTOBER 27 & 28
 Cottonwood Canyon Winery



80's Music Tribute in SLO
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1
 7Sisters Brewing Co.



Fall Harvest Spaghetti Dinner/Bingo Night
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2
 Avila Beach Community Center



10th Annual New Times Music Awards
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2
 The Fremont Theater



Central Coast Economic Forecast
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2
 Alex Madonna Expo Center



20th Annual Vocal Jazz Festival
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2
 CPAC at Cuesta College



Indian Summer Festival
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3
 Indian Summer Festival Grounds



Autumn Wine Stroll
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3
 Paso Robles Downtown Wineries



Mozart & The Masons Chamber Concert
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3
 King David's Lodge of SLO



Murder Mystery Dinner Series
SAT & SUN, NOV. 3 & 4
 Point San Luis Lighthouse



8th Annual Soupabration!
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4
 Morro Bay Community Center



Ghost Ship
NOVEMBER 8-18
 CPAC at Cuesta College



Salute! A Trumpet Tribute to Veteran's Day
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11
 Atascadero United Methodist Church



Tribute to the Eagles
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13
 Morro Bay Wine Seller



The Byrom Brothers
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15
 7Sisters Brewing Co.



Santa's Doggie Parade
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24
 Avila Beach Civic Association



Fin's Giving Tuesday-Dinner for a Cause
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27
 Fin's Restaurant



Roy Zimmerman
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29
 7Sisters Brewing Co.



Season's Greetings Holiday Choral Concert
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29
 Monarch Club at Trilogy



Victorian Christmas Open House
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29
 Friends of the Price House



Holiday Dinnertainment
NOVEMBER 30-DECEMBER 23
 Cambria Center for the Arts Theatre



Anne of Green Gables
NOVEMBER 30-DECEMBER 16
 By the Sea Productions



SLO Wind Orchestra: Make a Joyful Noise
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1ST
 CPAC at Cuesta College



Combopalooza
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11
 CPAC at Cuesta College



60's Rock & Soul NYE Bash
MONDAY, DECEMBER 31
 Embassy Suites by Hilton, SLO

Interested in selling tickets with My805Tix? Contact us for a demo today! info@My805Tix.com

POWERED BY: *NewTimes* & **SUN**

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!



Achieve. For boys and girls ages 5 to 17. First game takes place July 7. 10 games guaranteed. ongoing 805-868-3633. riseandachieve.com. Ernest Righetti High School, 941 E. Foster Rd., Orcutt, 805-937-3738.

KIDS & FAMILY

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

FAMILY HALLOWEEN STORY TIME Guests can come to the library to enjoy Halloween stories, arts and crafts, and more. **Oct. 24**, 4-5 p.m. Free. 805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

HEX BUG STEM MAZE CHALLENGE During normal library hours. **Oct. 22-26** Free. 805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org. Cuyama Library, 4689 Highway 166, Cuyama. Kids can participate in this hex bug maze challenge. **Oct. 26**, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Free. 805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org. Guadalupe Library, 4719 W. Main St., Ste D, Guadalupe.

HOMEWORK HELP For grades K through 6. Mondays-Thursdays, 4-7 p.m. through June 6 Free. 805-925-0994. cityofsantamaria.org. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

KTS ALL STAR GYMNASTICS: NINJA WARRIOR CLASSES Bring out your inner warrior with kids parkour classes in a safe setting. For ages 5 and up. Wednesdays, Fridays, 5:30 & 6:30 p.m. 805-349-7575. Santa Maria Town Center, 142 Town Center East, Santa Maria.

LET'S BLOW OFF SOME STEAM A program for kids ages 3 to 5. Thursdays, 4-5 p.m. through Oct. 25 Free. 805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

MOMMY AND ME CLASSES Brief gymnastics classes for ages 1 to 3 (as soon as they can start walking on their own). Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 9:30-10 & 10:15-10:45 a.m. \$35-\$55. KT's All Star Gymnastics, 237 Town Center E, Santa Maria, 805-349-7575.

NIGHT LIGHT THEATER: THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS A special screening of *The Nightmare Before Christmas*. **Oct. 23**, 6-7:30 p.m. Free. 805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

READALOUD The Buellton Library presents ReadAloud, a play-reading group for adults, teens and children 9 and up. Fridays, 4-5 p.m. Free. 805-688-3115. Buellton Library, 140 W. Highway 246, Buellton.

SANTA MARIA VALLEY RAILWAY HISTORICAL MUSEUM The Santa Maria Valley Railway Historical Museum features a locomotive, boxcar, caboose, railroad artifacts, and diorama. Second and fourth Saturday of every month. 12-4 p.m. ongoing 805-714-4927. Santa Maria Transit Center, Miller and Boone St., Santa Maria.

TEEN GAMING FRIDAYS An afternoon of gaming for middle and high school students. **Oct. 26**, 4-5:30 p.m. Free. 805-925-0994. cityofsantamaria.org. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

SOUTH COAST SLO COUNTY

ASTRONOMY FOR EVERYONE: SIZE AND SCALE OF THE UNIVERSE Astronomer Kevin Manning, former NASA consultant, will share his passion for astronomy. Learn about the size and scale of the universe, the stars, and other celestial wonders through hands-on activities. **Oct. 25**, 4-5:30 p.m. Free. 805-929-3994. slolibrary.org. Nipomo Library, 918 W. Tefft, Nipomo.

DRAGONFLY CIRCLES (AGES 7-11) IN AG This enrichment program promotes social, emotional, and physical well-being. Learn how to respond to stressful emotions and situations in a healthy, balanced, and positive way. Register thru AG Recreation. Thursdays, 3:45-4:45 p.m. through Dec. 13 805-270-5523. mindfulkindfullyouiversity.com/dragonfly-circles/. Women's Club of Arroyo Grande, 211 Vernon St., Arroyo Grande.

OCEANO DUNES VISITOR CENTER Enjoy exhibits of dune and lagoon plant and animal species. End your visit with a stroll behind the center to the fresh-water lagoon. ongoing. 12-4 p.m. Free. 805-474-2667. Oceano Dunes Visitor Center, 555 Pier Ave, Oceano.

PLAY EXPLORE CREATE 1 Enjoy various art activities including drawing, painting, building sculptures, and more. Designed for ages 3 to 4. All materials are included. Mondays, Wednesdays,

9-10:30 a.m. \$20 for two days; \$35 for two days a week. 805-668-2125. LiLA Creative Community, 1147 East Grand Ave. Suite 101, Arroyo Grande, lila.community.

SPIRITUAL

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

FREE WOMEN'S EXERCISE CLASS Open to all women regardless of denomination. Class includes stretching, aerobics, and floor exercises while listening to uplifting, spiritual music. Free childcare offered on site. Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 9-10 a.m. Free. 805-922-1919. cornerstonesm.org. Cornerstone Church, 1026 E Sierra Madre Ave., Santa Maria.

HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH SERVICES Join Hope Community Church for Sunday morning and Wednesday night services. Children care provided for infants and children under 4. Sundays, 10:30 a.m. and Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. Free. 805-922-2043. hopesm.com. Hope Community Church, 3010 Skyway Dr. Suite F, Santa Maria.

INTUITIVE GUIDANCE Sessions may include but are not limited to mediumship, psychic awareness, light journey work, and aura cleansings. Thursdays, 12-2 p.m. \$20 for 15 minutes. 937-271-5646. CovenTree: Books and Gifts, 722 E Main St., Santa Maria.

MEDITATION CLASS: A STUDY OF TRADITION AND PRACTICE

With AnnKathleen, who has been meditating since 1992 when she was introduced to Transcendental Meditation from teacher Sri John Karuna. Wednesdays, 6:30-7:45 p.m. \$10-\$15. 805-598-1509. divining.weebly.com. Art of Alchemy, E. Orange St, Santa Maria.

WISDOM READINGS AnnKathleen uses tarot and oracle cards to guide participants to solutions that bring peace, happiness, and positive thinking. Fridays-Sundays, 1-5 p.m. \$60-\$100. 805-598-1509. Art of Alchemy, E. Orange St, Santa Maria, divining.weebly.com.

WISDOM READINGS AT COVENTREE AnnKathleen, the Mistress of Alchemy, uses tarot and oracle cards to guide participants to solutions that bring peace, happiness, and positive thinking. Every other Friday, 1-5 p.m. \$60-\$100. 805-598-1509. divining.weebly.com. CovenTree: Books and Gifts, 722 E Main St., Santa Maria.

SOUTH COAST SLO COUNTY

HOUSE OF GOD CHURCH SERVICES Join Pastor Joseph and Amanda Anderson every Sunday for prayer, healing, and more. Sundays, 9:30-11 a.m. 805-888-7714. House of God Church, 946 Rockaway Ave., Grover Beach.

MEDIUMSHIP DEVELOPMENT Learn the basics of communicating with spirit in a safe environment with Mike Smith. Tuesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. \$15. 805-480-2432. Halcyon Store Post Office, 936 S. Halcyon Rd., Arroyo Grande.

REFUGE RECOVERY Refuge Recovery is a non-theistic, Buddhist-inspired approach to treating and recovering from addictions of all kinds. Open to people of all backgrounds and respectful of all recovery paths. Wednesdays, 7-8 p.m. Free; donations welcome. The Haven (classroom), 621 E Grand Ave, Arroyo Grande, 805-202-3440.

SINGING BOWL MEDITATION Enjoy vibrational sounds of singing bowls with Pamela Taylor. Fourth Wednesday of every month, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Offerings accepted. 805-674-4277. Halcyon Store Post Office, 936 S. Halcyon Rd., Arroyo Grande.

SUNDAY FOR SPIRIT PSYCHIC READINGS Features an assortment of psychic readers. Sundays, 1-5 p.m. Vaires. 805-489-2432. Halcyon Store Post Office, 936 S. Halcyon Rd., Arroyo Grande.

YOUTH SERVICES The City Church Central Coast holds youth services for junior high school students. Mondays, 6:30 p.m. Free. 805-929-8990. thecitycc.org. Faith Life Community Church, 726 W Tefft St, Nipomo.

VOLUNTEERS

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

GUADALUPE NATIVE GARDEN BEAUTIFICATION DAY Seeking volunteers interested in gardening and helping to beautify the Guadalupe Native Garden. This event is led by Judith Evans. Third Saturday of every month, 9 a.m.-noon through Dec. 15 Free. 805-343-2455. dunescenter.org/event/guadalupe-native-garden-beautification-days/. Guadalupe Native Garden, Corner of Campondonico and 7th Ave., Guadalupe.

FOOD & DRINK

FARMERS MARKETS

LOMPOC/VANDENBERG

LOMPOC FARMERS MARKET Features fresh fruit and vegetables, flowers, entertainment, and activities for the whole family. Fridays, 2-6 p.m. Lompoc Farmers Market, Ocean Avenue and I Street, Lompoc.

VANDENBERG VILLAGE FARMERS MARKET Locally grown produce and food stuffs are available year round. Sundays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Vandenberg Village Farmers' Market, 120 Burton Mesa Blvd., Lompoc.

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

ORCUTT FARMERS MARKET Presents local farmers and small businesses. Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Orcutt Farmers Market, Bradley Road, Orcutt.

SOUTH COAST SLO COUNTY

ARROYO GRANDE FARMERS MARKET Includes produce, artists and musicians. Saturdays, 12-2:25 p.m. Arroyo Grande Farmers Market, Olohan Alley, Arroyo Grande.

NIPOMO FARMERS MARKET Includes a large variety of locally grown produce. Open year round Sundays, 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. nipomofarmersmarket.com/. Nipomo Farmers Market, Via Concha Road, Nipomo.

SAN LUIS OBISPO

FARMERS MARKET Farmers Market in SLO is the largest Farmers Market in California. Thursdays, 6:10-9 p.m. Downtown SLO, Higuera St., San Luis Obispo.

SLO FARMERS MARKET Hosts over 60 vendors. Saturdays, 8-10:45 a.m. World Market Parking Lot, 2650 Main St., San Luis Obispo.

NORTH SLO COUNTY

ATASCADERO FARMERS MARKET Visit site for info on featured music artists and chefs. Wednesdays, 3-6 p.m. Free. visitatascadero.com. Sunken Gardens, 6505 El Camino Real, Atascadero.

CAMBRIA FARMERS MARKET Fridays, 2:30-5:30 p.m. Free. 805-395-6659. cambriafarmersmarket.com. Cambria Veterans Memorial Hall, 1000 Main Street, Cambria.

PASO ROBLES FARMERS MARKET Tuesdays, 3-6 p.m. northcountyfarmersmarkets.com. Paso Robles Farmers Market, Spring and 11th St., Paso Robles.

TEMPLETON FARMERS MARKET Saturdays, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. northcountyfarmersmarkets.com. Templeton Park, 550 Crocker St., Templeton.

NORTH COAST SLO COUNTY

BAYWOOD FARMERS MARKET Mondays, 2-4:30 p.m. northcountyfarmersmarkets.com. Baywood Farmers Market, Santa Maria and 2nd St., Los Osos.

MAIN STREET MARKET Saturdays, 2:30-6 p.m. Free. 805-772-4467. Morro Bay Chamber of Commerce, 695 Harbor St., Morro Bay, morrobaychamber.org.

EVENTS

SAN LUIS OBISPO

FRIDAY NIGHT PINT NIGHT Buy logo glass for \$8 and bring it in every Friday for \$2 off refills. Wine offered at happy hour pricing. Fridays, 4-10 p.m. Free. 805-868-7133. 7sistersbrewing.com/events-page. 7Sisters Brewing Company, 181 Tank Farm Rd. Suite 110, San Luis Obispo.

TASTE OF SLO: WALKING FOOD TOUR Visit five different destinations in downtown SLO per tour. All food and drinks are included. Mondays, Saturdays, 1-4 p.m. through Sept. 5 \$85. 320-420-9853. tasteofslowalkingfoodtour.com. Downtown SLO, Higuera St., San Luis Obispo.

WOODSTOCK'S SLO PINT NIGHT With the first pint as low as \$5, Woodstock's gives half-off refills in the same glass. Wednesdays, 8-11 p.m. Free. 805-541-4420. woodstocksslo.com. Woodstock's Pizza, 1000 Higuera St, San Luis Obispo.

WOODSTOCK'S SLO TRIVIA NIGHT For trivia aficionados and fun-lovers in general alike. Tuesdays, 9-11 p.m. Free. 805-541-4420. woodstocksslo.com/events/. Woodstock's Pizza, 1000 Higuera St, San Luis Obispo.

NORTH SLO COUNTY

12TH ANNUAL SWISS DAY AND GRAPE STOMP Enjoy live music and a variety of traditional Swiss dishes paired with Vina Robles estate wines. **Oct. 20**, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. \$40-\$50. 805-227-4812. vinarobles.com. Vina Robles

Winery, 3700 Mill Rd., Paso Robles.

ARTS OBISPO OPEN STUDIOS ART TOUR: 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION An evening fundraiser sponsored by Tooth and Nail Winery. Enjoy dinner, a silent auction, and live music. **Oct. 19**, 5:30-8:30 p.m. \$35. 805-544-9251. Tooth and Nail Winery, 3090 Anderson Rd., Paso Robles, rabblewine.com/tasting-room/.

BURGER SUNDAY WITH LONE MADRONE Guests can enjoy elevated lamb, beef, and portobello mushroom burgers grilled by Chef Jeffery Scott. Sundays, 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Starts at \$14. 805-238-0845. Lone Madrone Winery, 5800 Adelaida Rd, Paso Robles, lonemadrone.com.

DAILY HAPPY HOUR AT THE NAUTICAL COWBOY Enjoy happy hour specials at this Central Coast steak and seafood house. ongoing. 4-6 p.m. 805-461-5100. the-carlton.com/dining/the-nautical-cowboy. The Nautical Cowboy, 6005 El Camino Real, Atascadero.

DOLLAR OYSTER WEDNESDAYS Enjoy fresh dollar oysters. Wednesdays, 4-9 p.m. 805-461-5100. The Nautical Cowboy, 6005 El Camino Real, Atascadero.

HARVEST WINE WEEKEND Events include grape stomping, live music, barbecues, barrel samples, and more. **Oct. 19**, 10 a.m.-10 p.m., **Oct. 20**, 10 a.m.-10 p.m. and **Oct. 21** Prices vary. 805-239-8463. pasowine.com/events/harvest-wine-weekend/. Paso Robles Wine Country Alliance, 1446 Spring St. #103, Paso Robles. Features wine specials, winery tours, live music, barbecue, and more. **Oct. 20**, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and **Oct. 21**, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Free to attend; \$15 for tasting. 805-238-9940. pomarjunction.com/harvestfest/. Pomar Junction Vineyards & Winery, 5036 S. El Pomar Dr., Templeton.

OCTOBERFEST Sponsored by the Cambria Scarecrow Festival and Cambria Lions Club. Features live music, a pumpkin patch, an art fair, family-friendly activities, and more. Beer, brats, wine and ice cream will be available for purchase. **Oct. 20**, 11:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Free entry. 805-395-2399. cambriascarecrows.com/events/. Cambria Veterans Memorial Hall, 1000 Main Street, Cambria.

PUBLIC BEER TOUR: PASO PICKUP Enjoy visiting 3 breweries during this tour which includes roundtrip transportation and a Beer Guide. Wine and food offered at some locations. **Oct. 20**, 6-10 p.m. \$35. 855-554-6766. hoponbeertours.com. Park Cinemas, 1100 Pine St., Paso Robles.

SUMMER GRILL AND CHILL Enjoy grilled dishes from Executive Chef Randal Torres, wine, and more. **Oct. 21**, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. \$12-\$14. 805-227-4812. vinarobles.com. Vina Robles Winery, 3700 Mill Rd., Paso Robles.

TRI TIP TUESDAYS Enjoy Santa Maria style tri tip every Tuesday. Tuesdays, 4-9 p.m. 805-461-5100. the-carlton.com/dining/the-nautical-cowboy. The Nautical Cowboy, 6005 El Camino Real, Atascadero.

WINE DOWN MONDAYS Enjoy half off all wines every Monday at The Carlton Hotel's Nautical Cowboy. Mondays, 4-9 p.m. 805-461-5100. the-carlton.com/dining/the-nautical-cowboy. The Nautical Cowboy, 6005 El Camino Real, Atascadero.

WINE TASTING AT CASS WINERY Wine by the glass and bottles are also available for purchase. ongoing, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. 805-239-1730. casswines.com/. Cass Winery And Vineyard, 7350 Linne Rd., Paso Robles.

WINE TASTING AT CHANGALA Enjoy local art and meet Changala's wine dogs while sampling various wines. Fridays-Sundays, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. \$10. 805-226-9060. changalawinery.com. Changala Winery, 3770 Willow Creek Rd., Paso Robles.

WINEMAKER DINNER AT PARK STREET GRILL Enjoy gourmet cuisine paired with award-winning Pomar Junction wines. **Oct. 20**, 6:30-9:30 p.m. \$110. 805-369-2750. pomarjunction.com/events/. Park Street Grill, 1344 Park St., Paso Robles.

WINEMAKER DINNER AT RIVERSTAR VINEYARDS Hosted by Steve Martell and featuring seasonal cuisine prepared by Chef Kyle Baca. **Oct. 20**, 6-9 p.m. Tickets start at \$85. 805-467-0086. Riverstar Winery, 7450 Estrella Road, San Miguel.

NORTH COAST SLO COUNTY

HARVEST FESTIVAL: THE FISHING PIG Captain Mark Tognazzini from Dockside in Morro Bay will be serving a barbecue dinner. Also includes an array of seafood dishes. This event feature barrel tastings, wine flights, and live music by Louie Ortega. **Oct. 20**, 5-8:30 p.m. \$75 members; \$95 non-members. 805-239-1616. roberthallwinery.com. Robert Hall Winery, 3443 Mill Road, Paso Robles. ○



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LOCAL NOTES from page 32

playing and the noisy wine bar all the sudden gets quiet and everyone listens. That's cool. You're music's so good you shut people up."

Other previous performers include local singer-songwriters who shared Hinkle's desire for a regular live music event in Orcutt.

For Jim Lambertson—who performs professionally with his group the Clark St. Flyers, including at the last CORE Jam—he wanted a new place to play in Orcutt outside the jam circles.

"The common denominator kind of rules the day, the three chord songs, so I was kind of looking for another outlet to play," he said. "The CORE thing is a great little venue for people who want to get out and show their stuff."

The showcase has already garnered a good crowd, Hinkle said, to the point that CORE Winery owners Dave and Becky Corey asked him back every week.

For now though, Hinkle remains focused on having the monthly event feature talented locals, he said.

"It's curated by a musician for musicians, which makes it something more than just booking music for our venue," Becky told the Sun via email. "For Dave and me, it's all about creativity and watching people flourish in our space no matter what kind of event we're hosting. That's our goal."

The Oct. 28 CORE Jam will feature local musicians Joelyn Lutz, Joshua Lindblom, Mel Desembrana, Leonard, and the band Shining in the Dark. The artists have varied styles, Hinkle said, so the jam will appeal to everyone in the audience.

"I love doing this, and it's fun to get people there," he said. "I'm hoping it will get some legs and be a draw for people. And I hope it gives musicians a place to play and looks out for the business owners." ○

Managing Editor Joe Payne might sign up for a slot soon himself. Contact him at jpayne@santamariasun.com.



DOWN TO JAM: Some of those who reserve time at the CORE Jam show up hoping to invite other musicians and friends to join in and improvise.

Check it out

The CORE Jam Showcase No. 3 features six different acts live on **Oct. 28** from 3 to 6 p.m. at the CORE Winery, 105 W. Clark Ave., Orcutt. More info: (805) 937-1600 or Facebook.com/COREJamOrcutt/.

MUSIC LISTINGS from page 32

STEVE AND THE REGULARS LIVE Oct. 21, 1-5 p.m. Maverick Saloon, 3687 Sagunto St., Santa Ynez, 805-686-4785, mavericksaloon.org.

TALES FROM THE TAVERN: GRETCHEN PETERS Oct. 24, 7 p.m. Maverick Saloon, 3687 Sagunto St., Santa Ynez, 805-686-4785, mavericksaloon.org.

THE YOUNGSTERS LIVE Performing classic rock. No outside food or drinks allowed. **Oct. 27,** 5-8 p.m. Free. Cold Spring Tavern, 5995 Stagecoach Rd., Santa Barbara, 805-967-0066, coldspringtavern.com/entertainment.html.

LOMPOC/VANDENBERG

AMY OBENSKI LIVE Oct. 20, 7-10 p.m. Lompoc Wine Factory, 321 N. D St., Lompoc, 805-243-8398, lompocwinefactory.com.

NASHVILLE LEGACY Featuring Jason Coleman and Meagan Taylor. **Oct. 19,** 7:30-9:30 p.m.

\$25 adults; \$5 students. 805-588-5971. LompocConcert.org. First United Methodist Church, 925 North F St., Lompoc.

SIP MUSIC CLUB Pairing music and local wine with 4 seasonal releases each calendar year. Price includes 3 VIP access tickets to each SipMusic event, and 1 album and 1 bottle of premium wine every 3 months. ongoing \$40. Lompoc Wine Factory, 321 N. D St., Lompoc, 805-243-8398, lompocwinefactory.com.

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

ABOUT TIME LIVE Part of Moxie's ongoing live music series. **Oct. 26,** 5:30-7:30 p.m. Free. Moxie Cafe, 1317 W. McCoy Ln., Santa Maria, 805-361-2900, moxiecafe.com.

BOB CLARK LIVE Part of Moxie's ongoing live music series. **Oct. 25,** 5:30-7:30 p.m. Free. Moxie Cafe, 1317 W. McCoy Ln., Santa Maria, 805-361-2900, moxiecafe.com.

COMPLICATED ANIMALS LIVE Oct. 19 Presqu'ile Winery, 5391 Presqu'ile Dr., Santa

Maria, 805-937-8110, presquilewine.com.

DULCIE TAYLOR LIVE Oct. 26, 4-6 p.m. Free. Presqu'ile Winery, 5391 Presqu'ile Dr., Santa Maria, 805-937-8110, presquilewine.com.

JAZZ JAM Instrumentalists and vocalists are welcome to join in with the house trio. Third Saturday of every month, 6-9 p.m. Free. 805-937-6400. Ca' Del Grevino Cafe and Wine Bar, 400 E. Clark Ave., suite A, Orcutt.

PETRELLA, FIRST LADY OF COUNTRY SOUL LIVE Featuring Petrella's band, Mixed Influence. Enjoy a blend of R&B, blues, country, and rock. **Oct. 21,** 1-4 p.m. Free. 805-361-0114. countrysoultrail.com. Cambria Winery Tasting Room, 5475 Chardonnay Ln., Santa Maria.

QUIQUE ESCAMILLA: FREE FAMILY CONCERT ¡Viva el Arte de Santa Bárbara! opens its 14th season of free family concerts and community outreach with Juno Award-winner Quique Escamilla. This multi-instrumentalist and singer/songwriter

blends Mexican folk music, such as huapango and rancheras, with jazz, pop, rock, and ska. **Oct. 20,** 7-8 p.m. Free. 805-343-2455. dunescenter.org/events. Guadalupe City Hall, 918 Obispo St., Guadalupe.

STEPPIN' OUT: OUTDOOR CONCERT Oct. 20, 4-8 p.m. \$10; free for ages 14 and under. Moxie Cafe, 1317 W. McCoy Ln., Santa Maria, 805-361-2900, moxiecafe.com.

SUN DRAGON DUO LIVE Part of Moxie's ongoing live music series. **Oct. 19,** 5:30-7:30 p.m. Free. Moxie Cafe, 1317 W. McCoy Ln., Santa Maria, 805-361-2900, moxiecafe.com.

TOM MUTCHLER LIVE Part of Moxie's ongoing live music series. **Oct. 27,** 5:30-7:30 p.m. Free. Moxie Cafe, 1317 W. McCoy Ln., Santa Maria, 805-361-2900, moxiecafe.com.

SOUTH COAST SLO COUNTY

MUSIC LISTINGS continued page 34

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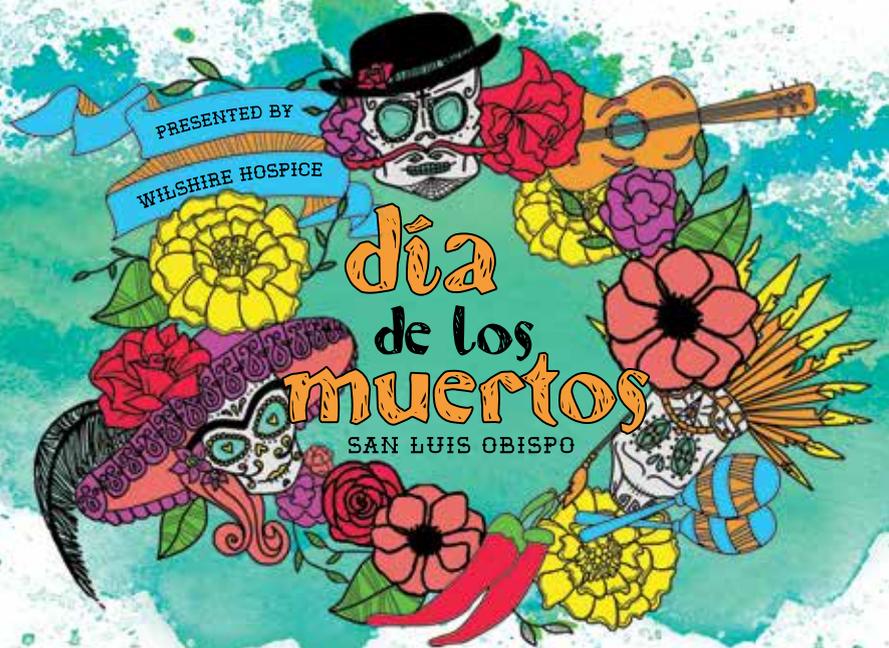
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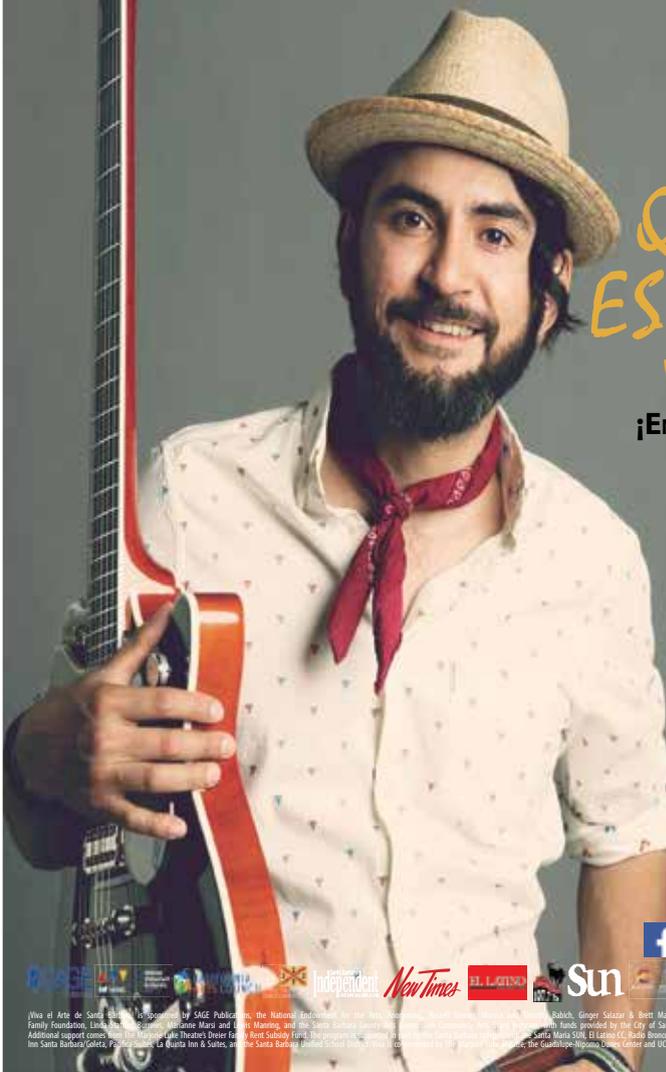
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MUSIC

MUSIC LISTINGS from page 33

ACOUSTIC SUNDAYS Sundays, 3-6 p.m. Seaventure Restaurant, 100 Oceanview Ave, Pismo Beach, 805-779-1779, seaventure.com.

JAZZ JUBILEE BY THE SEA Features five venues and twenty bands. Genres include jazz, ragtime, swing, big band, Mardi Gras, classic rock, and more. Visit site for more info. **Oct. 26-28** \$105-\$115 for all 3 days; \$30-\$70 for 1 day. 805-539-5696. pismojazz.com. Pismo Beach Vets' Hall, 80 Main Street, Pismo Beach.

A NIGHT WITH JANIS JOPLIN Tony Award-nominated Mary Bridget Davies will be accompanied by live back-up singers and a full band. **Oct. 23**, 7-9 p.m. \$45-\$56. 805-489-9444. clarkcenter.org/event/a-night-with-janis-joplin/. Clark Center for the Performing Arts, 487 Fair Oaks Ave., Arroyo Grande.

SAN LUIS OBISPO

CAL POLY CHOIRS' FALL CONCERT: LUMINOUS NIGHT OF THE SOUL The University Singers and PolyPhonics will perform music that ranges from the Middle Ages to modern times. **Oct. 27**, 8 p.m. \$14 general; \$9 students. 805-756-4849. music.calpoly.edu/calendar/. Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa, 751 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo.

CAL POLY MUSIC FACULTY SHOWCASE RECITAL Features performances by Amy Goymerc, soprano, Bryn Albanese, violin, Heidi Butterfield, oboe, Keith Waibel, clarinet, Christopher Woodruff, trumpet, Laura Kramer, baritone saxophone, Lisa Nauful, bassoon, Mark Miller, trombone, Barbara Spencer, cello, John Astaire, percussion, and Ken Hustad, bass. Also features university organist and staff accompanist Paul Woodring on piano. **Oct. 19**, 6:30-7:30 p.m. \$5 at the door. 805-756-2406. music.calpoly.edu/calendar/. Cal Poly Davidson Music Center, Room 218, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo.

CASH CASH LIVE **Oct. 25**, 8 p.m. The Fremont Theater, 1035 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo, 805-546-8600, fremontslo.com.

CUESTA ACOUSTIC GUITAR CONCERT: MARK GOLDENBERG The former lead guitarist for Jackson Browne. Featuring local performers Dorian Michaels, Martin Paris, Jeff Miley, and Jennifer Martin. **Oct. 20**, 7:30-9 p.m. \$10-\$15. 805-546-3198. Cuesta College Cultural and Performing Arts Center, Highway 1, San Luis Obispo, cuesta.edu.

CUESTA WIND ENSEMBLE Performing works by Eric Whitacre, Gordon Jacob, and Andrew Boysen. Jennifer Martin conducts. **Oct. 21**, 3-6 p.m. \$10-\$15. 805-546-3198. Cuesta College Cultural and Performing Arts Center, Highway 1, San Luis Obispo, cuesta.edu.

THE EPIC BIG BAND BLOWOUT CONCERT This concert features the Cuesta Jazz Ensemble student big band and the Cuesta College Jazz Orchestra community group. **Oct. 19**, 7:30-10 p.m.

\$10-\$15. 805-546-3198. Cuesta College Cultural and Performing Arts Center, Highway 1, San Luis Obispo, cuesta.edu.

AN EVENING WITH RAUL MIDÓN Enjoy live music from Grammy-nominated singer, songwriter, and guitarist Raul Midón. **Oct. 21**, 7-11 p.m. slobrew.com/live. SLO Brew, 736 Higuera St., San Luis Obispo, 805-543-1843.

FESTIVAL MOZAIC WINTERMEZZO I: CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT Features Scott Yoo and Jason Uyeyama, violins, Ben Ullery, viola, Jonah Kim, cello, and Susan Cahill, bass. **Oct. 27**, 3 p.m. \$40-\$75. 805-781-3009. festivalmozaic.com. SLO United Methodist Church, 1515 Fredericks St., San Luis Obispo.

FESTIVAL MOZAIC WINTERMEZZO I: NOTABLE ENCOUNTER INSIGHT Festival artists take guests on a one-hour tour behind Bach's Violin Partita and Beethoven's String Trio, providing insight into the composers' lives, the historical time period of the pieces, and their own perspectives. **Oct. 26**, 5:30-6:30 p.m. \$30-\$40. 805-781-3009. festivalmozaic.com. San Luis Obispo Museum of Art, 1010 Broad St., San Luis Obispo.

KAMASI WASHINGTON LIVE **Oct. 20**, 8 p.m. The Fremont Theater, 1035 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo, 805-546-8600, fremontslo.com.

LEE SCRATCH PERRY WITH SUBATOMIC SOUND SYSTEM In celebration of the 45th anniversary of "Blackboard Jungle Dub", the first dub album in history. **Oct. 20**, 7-11 p.m. ticketweb.com. SLO Brew Rock, 855 Aerovista Pl., San Luis Obispo, 209-417-7748.

MAX MACLAURY LIVE **Oct. 20**, 6-8 p.m. Free. 805-868-7133. 7sistersbrewing.com. 7Sisters Brewing Company, 181 Tank Farm Rd. Suite 110, San Luis Obispo.

PHIL LEE AND ERIC BRACE LIVE Presented by Songwriters At Play. **Oct. 25**, 6:30-9 p.m. \$10. 805-868-7133. 7Sisters Brewing Company, 181 Tank Farm Rd. Suite 110, San Luis Obispo, 7SistersBrewing.com.

PINT NITE WITH NICOLE STROMSOE AND DORIAN MICHAEL An atmospheric blend of eclectic, old soul, and jazz and blues. **Oct. 19**, 6-8 p.m. Free. 805-868-7133. 7SistersBrewing.com. 7Sisters Brewing Company, 181 Tank Farm Rd. Suite 110, San Luis Obispo.

PINT NITE WITH TIM JACKSON **Oct. 26**, 6-8 p.m. Free. 805-868-7133. 7SistersBrewing.com. 7Sisters Brewing Company, 181 Tank Farm Rd. Suite 110, San Luis Obispo.

RHYE LIVE **Oct. 19**, 8 p.m. The Fremont Theater, 1035 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo, 805-546-8600, fremontslo.com.

THE SALTY SUITES This group performs bluegrass

MUSIC LISTINGS continued page 35

PHOTO COURTESY OF COLD SPRING TAVERN / KEN TATRO



COUNT ON IT

Cold Spring Tavern presents The Nombres on Oct. 26 from 6 to 9 p.m. This group performs rock and country. Admission is free. Outside food and drinks are not allowed. Cold Spring Tavern is located at 5995 Stagecoach Road, Santa Barbara. More info: (805) 967-0066 or coldspringtavern.com.

MUSIC

MUSIC LISTINGS from page 34

and boogie. **Oct. 27, 6-8 p.m.** Free. 805-868-7133. 7sistersbrewing.com. 7Sisters Brewing Company, 181 Tank Farm Rd. Suite 110, San Luis Obispo.

SNAILS LIVE Oct. 21, 7:30 p.m. The Fremont Theater, 1035 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo, 805-546-8600, fremontslo.com.

SONGWRITERS AT PLAY: RACHEL LAVEN Winner of the 2016 Kerrville, New Folk Songwriting Competition. **Oct. 18, 6:30-9 p.m.** Free; tips accepted. 7Sisters Brewing Company, 181 Tank Farm Rd. Suite 110, San Luis Obispo, 805-868-7133, 7SistersBrewing.com.

DJ/DANCE

SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

KRAZY COUNTRY HONKY-TONK THURSDAY Thursdays, 6 p.m. Maverick Saloon, 3687 Sagunto St., Santa Ynez, 805-686-4785, mavericksaloon.org.

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SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

HULA DANCING Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. 805-598-6772. Oasis Senior Center, 420 Soares Ave., Orcutt.

LINE DANCING Mondays, 6:30-9 p.m. \$5. 805-310-1827. Oasis Senior Center, 420 Soares Ave., Orcutt.

NIGHTLIFE AT RANCHO BOWL Enjoy DJ's 6 nights a week in the Rancho Bar and Lounge. For ages 21-and-over. Tuesdays-Sundays, 9 p.m. Free. 805-925-2405. ranchobowl.com/nightlife. Rancho Bowl, 128 E Donovan Rd., Santa Maria.

SOUTH COAST SLO COUNTY

DJ CAMOTE Thursdays, 5 p.m. Harry's Night Club

And Beach Bar, 690 Cypress St., Pismo Beach, 805-773-1010, harryspismoeach.com.

DJ DRUMZ AT MONGO'S Fridays Free. 805-489-3639. mongosaloon.com. Mongo's Saloon, 359 W. Grand Ave., Grover Beach.

SAN LUIS OBISPO

COUNTRY NIGHT Thursdays, 8 p.m.-2 a.m. 805-541-096. slograd.com. The Graduate, 990 Industrial Way, San Luis Obispo.

KARAOKE/OPEN MIC

SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

KARAOKE AT SOLVANG BREW Thursdays Free. Solvang Brewing Company, 1547 Mission Dr., Solvang, 805-688-2337.

OPEN MIC NIGHT AT SOLVANG BREW Wednesdays Free. Solvang Brewing Company, 1547 Mission Dr., Solvang, 805-688-2337.

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

WEDNESDAY NIGHT KARAOKE Guests are welcome to take the stage and sing. Wednesdays, 9 p.m.-1:30 a.m. 805-863-8292. Louie B's, 213 E. Main St., Santa Maria.

SOUTH COAST SLO COUNTY

FRONT ROW KARAOKE Thursdays, 9 p.m. 773-1010. Harry's Night Club And Beach Bar, 690 Cypress St., Pismo Beach, harryspismoeach.com.

JAWZ KARAOKE Thursdays, 9 p.m. Harry's Night Club And Beach Bar, 690 Cypress St., Pismo Beach, 805-773-1010, harryspismoeach.com.

KARAOKE WITH DJ SAM Sundays Mongo's Saloon, 359 W. Grand Ave., Grover Beach, 805-489-3639.

SAN LUIS OBISPO

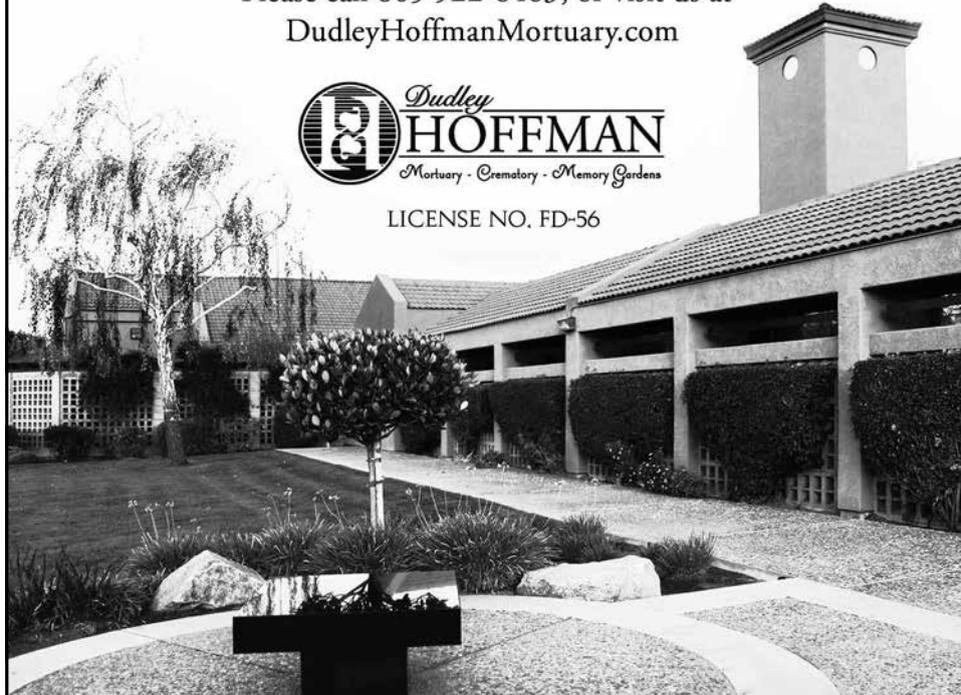
KARAOKE NIGHT SUNDAYS AT BUFFALO PUB AND GRILL Sundays, 8 p.m. Free. 805-544-5155. Buffalo Pub And Grill, 717 Higuera St., San Luis Obispo. ☐

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Arts Briefs

Haunted House in Santa Maria to benefit veterans group

The Santa Maria Fairpark will host a haunted house to benefit homeless women veterans.

The Screamatory is open from Oct. 19 through 22 from 7 to 10 p.m. and again on Oct. 25 through 31 from 7 to 11 p.m. The haunted house takes place inside the Armory Building and features 18,000 square-feet of Halloween-themed scares. The haunted house is not recommended for children under 12. (Parents of younger children can request a low-scare tour upon arrival.)

Tickets are \$13 for regular admission or \$20 for VIP admission, which includes a line hopper feature as well as a photo opportunity at the end of the tour and a \$5 off coupon for the next visit.

Proceeds benefit Operations WEBS (Women Empowered Building Strong), a nonprofit that builds tiny and RV homes for homeless women veterans. Volunteers are needed to work the haunted mansion (free tickets available for those who volunteer).

For more information or to volunteer, contact (805) 296-6562. The Fairpark is located at 937 S. Thornburg St., Santa Maria.

Lompoc now accepting entries for photography competition

The Lompoc Valley Photography Contest is now accepting photo submissions, as part of the city of Lompoc Recreation Department's Arts and Vines Event. This is first year for the photo contest.

The contest is open to amateur and professional photographers age 5 and up. Each photo entry costs \$3. Submissions are welcome at Anderson Recreation Center until Oct. 26. Ribbons will be awarded to first, second, and third place in each category as well as best in show.

Arts and Vines takes place on Nov. 3 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and features wine tasting and crafts. The event takes place at the Dick DeWees Community and Senior Center, 1120 W. Ocean Ave. Admission is free. The event is currently seeking vendors for the craft boutique and wine tasting portion. Proceeds from food and wine will benefit the Lompoc Employee Development Association. For more information, visit cityoflompoc.com/services/recreation.

Lompoc Ten presents Jamala: Highway to the Sea

The Grossman Gallery in Lompoc will host an exhibit by a collective of artists known as Lompoc Ten, featuring paintings inspired by Jamala Road.

Jamala: Highway to the Sea highlights the 14-mile stretch of road that connects ranches to farmlands and eventually winds to the seashore. Painters spotlighted in the exhibit include Lompoc Ten members Vicki Anderson, Jon Arnold, Diane Atturio, Trish Campbell, Alan Freeman, Linda Gooch, Elizabeth Monks Hack, Carol Oliveira, Betsee Talavera, and Ann Thompson. The artists meet regularly during the year for critiques, excursions, and studio visits.

The show is open Nov. 1 through 30 at the Grossman Gallery in the Lompoc Library, located at 501 E. North Ave., Lompoc. The show is open for free to the public during normal library hours. A reception is scheduled for Nov. 10 from 2 to 4 p.m. in the gallery. For more information, call (805) 875-8775. ○

Arts Briefs is compiled by Arts and Lifestyle Writer Rebecca Rose. Send information to rose@santamariasun.com.

A well-loved world

Mirella Olson's elegant landscapes highlight her fondness for California

BY REBECCA ROSE

Listening to Mirella Olson slowly describe the stunning beauty of California's scenery is almost otherworldly. "I just love it," she said in her velvety Italian accent. "It's spectacular in the springtime. In every time of the year. Leaving from Santa Barbara with the beautiful ocean and then arriving into the desert, it's a totally different world. California is really beautiful."

Olson, who is currently the featured artist during October at Gallery Los Olivos, takes great joy in talking about her favorite places throughout the Golden State. She especially loves the drive from Santa Barbara to Joshua Tree National Park, which, even after almost 60 years of living here, she still seems to find mesmerizing. Olson was born and raised in Italy, where she spent her youth cultivating a strong interest in art.

"My family is very artistic," Olson said. "I have a couple of aunts and uncles who were opera singers. My father also raced cars so we're all a little different. I always enjoyed art and self-expression."

When she came to California in 1964, Olson said she felt like art was her companion, as she worked to assimilate into American life. She first came to Los Angeles but then moved to Santa Barbara in the '70s. When she arrived in the seaside city, she knew she had come to the right place.

"I said, 'I'm home,'" Olson recalled. "It was so similar to the region [in Verona, Italy] where I come from."

Over the next few decades, Olson would build a name for herself as a talented and commercially popular local artist. For Olson, her artwork is heavily inspired by California's landscape. Her favorite places—such as Joshua Tree National Park and Figueroa Mountain—are permanently etched into her brain, and yet, she always finds new ways to tell the visual story of her most recent visits.

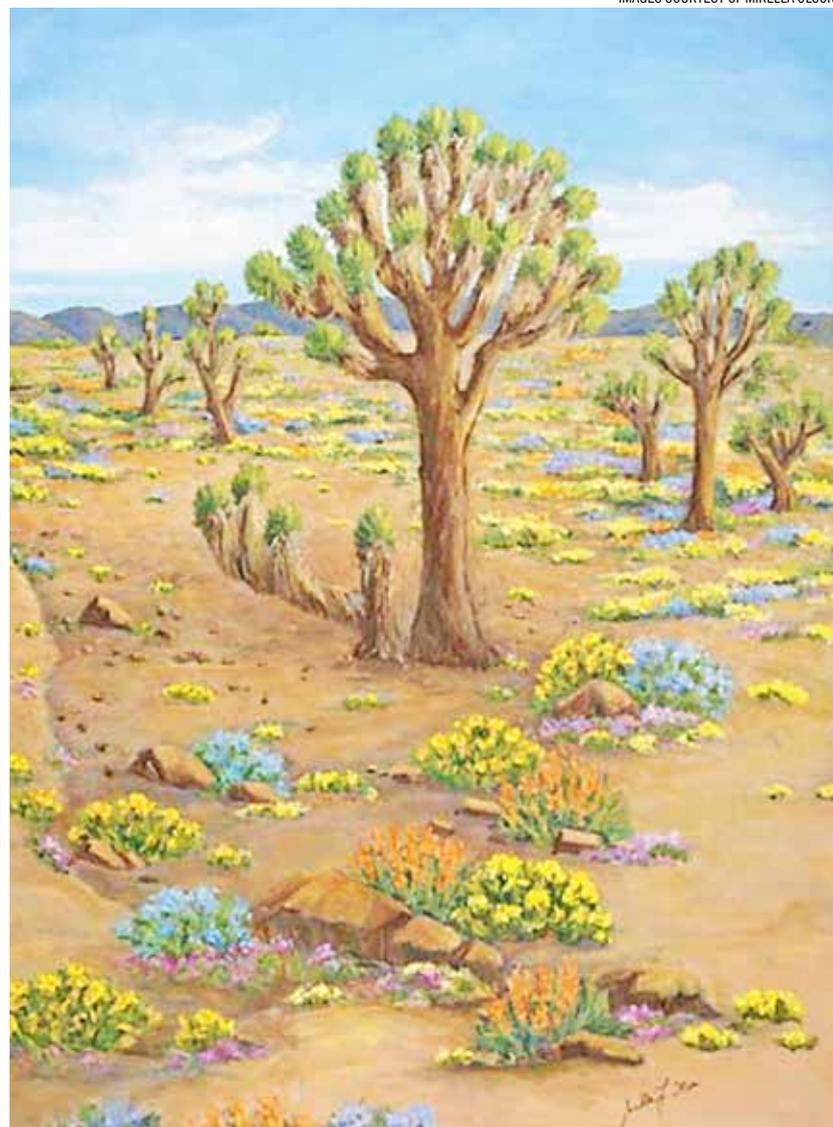
The artist is a devoted plein air painter, which means she focuses on work made on location rather than in a studio. For the avid traveler, who still makes time to visit her native homeland, it's a chance to connect to her natural surroundings.

"Art has been my best friend," Olson said. "I could trust the way I feel about nature. I always loved the beauty that was in this world."

Olson's paintings form a collective consciousness of sorts, pieced together almost as picturesque souvenirs but divorced from notions of tackiness or kitschiness. She is refreshingly joyful and chipper throughout her series on her favorite places, making each one seem more memorable than the next. A hazy horizon dips into a burst of gold flowers, slowly inching their way across a green meadow; Porter Trail is highlighted by accents of purple and yellow. These are small devices that when taken as a whole present a story about the kind of California Olson sees and is fascinated by.

"Every season is so different here," she said. "I love to see the color of the changes. If we would take the time to look at how beautiful things are there wouldn't be so much nastiness in this world."

After documenting Santa Barbara County and the surrounding areas for so many decades, Olson said she's definitely noticed a lot of changes. The wine industry has taken over a lot of areas and businesses but it has



YES, IT'S THE ACTUAL JOSHUA TREE: Joshua Tree National Park is a subject of artist Mirella Olson's new work, featured through Oct. 31 at Gallery Los Olivos.

also brought more interest in art. She said while there is a lot of art in the community, artists can still have a hard time making a living.

But Olson said she continues to pursue it out of passion.

"You have to do what you love," she said. "Being able to express what's inside you, that's what I like to put in my paintings. It's a genuine love for nature, and I think it comes through in my work." ○

Arts and Lifestyle Writer Rebecca Rose ama l'arte. Contact her at rrose@santamariasun.com.

Bella Mirella

Mirella Olson is the featured artist at Gallery Los Olivos, in a show that runs through Oct. 31. The gallery is located at 2920 Grand Ave., Los Olivos. (805) 688-7517.



ORANGE YOU GLAD: Mirella Olson studied interior design and eventually became a painter full time. Her work has been featured at the Elverhoj Museum of History and Art in Solvang, the Santa Barbara Festival of Art and Jazz, and the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum, to name a few.



PURPLE MOUNTAINS MAJESTY: Artist Mirella Olson hails from Italy but has lived in California since 1964. Olson, an impressionist plein air painter, is the October featured artist at Gallery Los Olivos.

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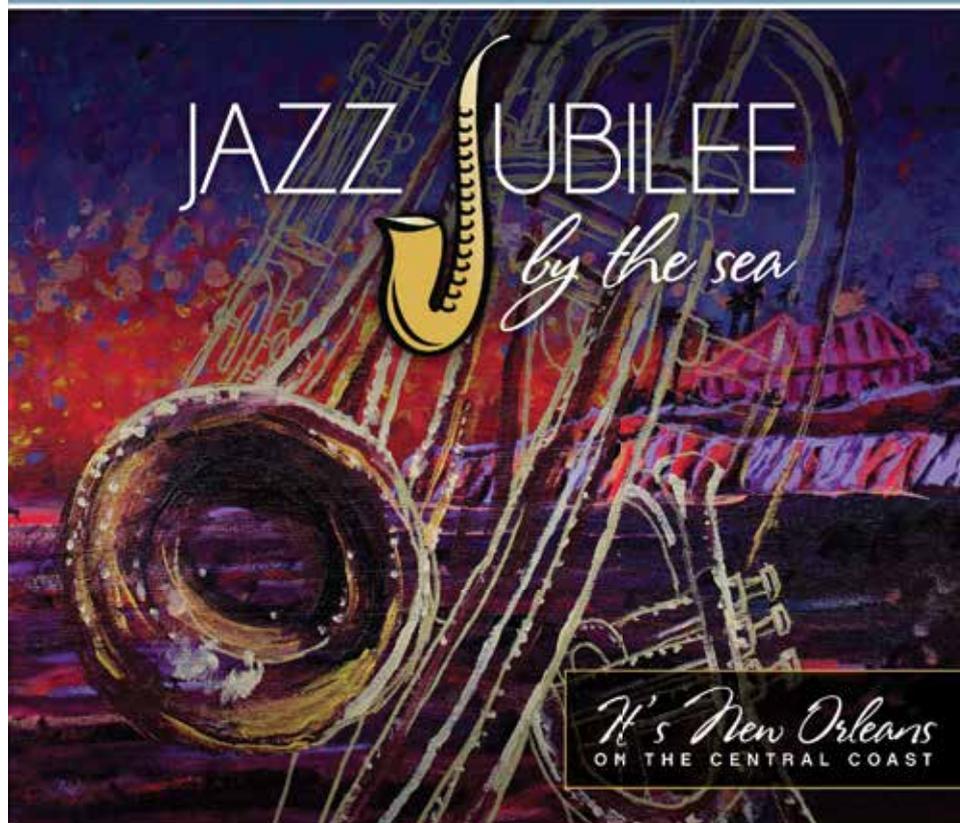
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LITTLE SHOP OF TERROR: (Left to right) Angela Jeunke, Kimberley Washington, Lynda Mondrago, and Josh Michelsen help bring Santa Maria Civic Theatre's *Little Shop of Horrors* to life through Oct. 28.

A shop that rocks

Santa Maria Civic Theatre
presents rousing production
of *Little Shop of Horrors*

BY REBECCA ROSE

It is almost impossible to be disappointed by anything the Santa Maria Civic Theatre does lately.

The theater, now in its 60th season, is a solid producer of community theater, presenting an array of impressive comedies, dramas, and musicals. But it's their musicals especially that seem to attract strong talent, a key to good local theater. *Little Shop of Horrors* is an excellent example of this; the show is filled with bright spots of talent who rise above all expectations to deliver a performance that would hold up under the bright lights of Broadway.

For those unfamiliar with the source material, *Little Shop* is a romp through early 1960s pop culture, complete with a fixation on low-budget scare tactics. The original movie was made in 1960 and directed by camp king Roger Corman. The tale revolves around Seymour (Jaime Espinoza), a nerdy floral shop worker who pines for the beautiful Audrey (Jordan Mills) as they work in Mr. Mushnik's (Josh Michelsen) store on Skid Row. Audrey is tormented by her warped and sadistic boyfriend, the dentist Orin Scrivello (Jim Dahmen) while Seymour toils on his mysterious new plant. Their story is righteously regaled by a trio loosely forming a makeshift chorus, Crystal (Lynda Mondragon), Ronnette (Kimberley Washington), and Chiffon (Angelica Jeunke).

The original film didn't have any musical numbers; that happened in 1982 when Alan Menken and Howard Ashman brought it to the stage. In 1986, a musical comedy of the same name was produced starring Rick Moranis as Seymour and Steve Martin in a now infamously classic performance as the deranged dentist. The musical numbers are some of the most well-known and oft-performed songs in theater history. They are also known for being some of the most difficult, and the Civic Theatre performers pull them off with ease and finesse.

One of the first numbers is "Skid Row" a big song with a lot of moving parts, and each cast member executes their part with precision and enthusiasm. Each one of the women in the chorus is a gifted vocalist, and Washington is simply magnetic with a silky voice that exudes confidence and charm with every note.

Espinoza is a raw talent who is at times adorable and electric, a dazzlingly gifted artist who makes everything he does look effortless. Mills nails

Audrey's vulnerability, but it's her voice that will stay with you long after the curtain drops (OK, the theater doesn't actually have a curtain, but you get the point). The titular line in "Suddenly, Seymour" requires a big powerhouse voice, one that can send a chill down your spine. I am pleased to report when Mills hit the note, my spine wasn't just chilled, it was practically frozen. "Somewhere That's Green" is one of the best torch songs in theater history (and my personal favorite), and Mills tackles it with a crisp perfection that shows the young college student is definitely on the right career path.

Michelson is well cast as the gruff and sleazy Mushnik and has great chemistry with Espinoza (I could easily see them as Leo Bloom and Max Bialystock in *The Producers*). The funniest moments come from someone largely unseen for most of the play. LaRonda Lewis (who is also a professional clown known locally as Jolly NOSE-It) plays the full-grown plant Audrey II. Her moments are some of the best in

the production, providing huge laughs as she terrorizes Seymour and his fellow Skid Row residents. The biggest laughs come courtesy of Dahmen, playing a dentist hell-bent on torture. Also, bless the

wigs of community theater. Without them, we would all be lesser beings.

Another impressive part of the show is the set, complete with several large moveable pieces. There is so much finesse and detail in the construction it becomes an integral part of each performance. *Little Shop* is a perfect example of the powerful talent at all levels within the cast and crew of the Santa Maria Civic Theatre. ○

Arts and Lifestyle Writer Rebecca Rose is somewhere green. Contact her at rosere@ santamariasun.com.



BOP SH-BOP: (Left to right) Jaime Espinoza and Jordan Mills are ill-fated sweethearts Seymour and Audrey in the Santa Maria Civic Theatre's impressive production of *Little Shop of Horrors*.

Last comic standing

Krider's comedic ego takes a hit

BY ROB KRIDER

I was at a dinner party recently, hanging out with some folks who were a mixture of friends, acquaintances, and complete randoms. I was standing around, shamefully eating carbs and arguably drinking too many IPAs. I was standing next to my wife, who wasn't eating carbs and therefore looked hungry.

Suddenly, a woman from across the room starts dragging her husband toward us and exclaims, "This is the person I was telling you about, *so funny!*" This wasn't a shocking thing to occur. I do write this humor column for the *Sun*, and I have written an entire book, *Cadet Blues*, which, in my extremely un-humble opinion, is very funny. I also tell a great vasectomy story at dinner parties whenever asked, so ultimately, I categorize myself as a genuinely funny person.

As the woman got closer, I was preparing for her to praise me for a witty line in one of my many columns or maybe a chapter of my book. I was even ready to sign an autograph if necessary (I keep a black Sharpie in my pocket at all times just in case somebody is a fan, or if I want to fix the grammar on some public restroom graffiti). She was about three feet away, still dragging her husband in tow when she said, "I wake up every day and get on my tablet just to enjoy a laugh."

Wow. Every day? This lady was a big fan. I only write this column once a month; she must be on my website going through the archive to get a laugh every single day. Good thing I had my Sharpie at the ready. She obviously loved her some Krider humor.

"She is so funny on Facebook!"

Wait. What? *She* is so funny? On *Facebook*? My wife?

"I just love the stories she writes. She's hilarious."

No, no, no. I'm the hilarious one. I'm the one whose actual job it is to be hilarious. My wife just tosses up little quips on the internet for free. That isn't the same. I'm the one who is published in an actual newspaper and who has a book on Amazon. Me. Not my wife. I'm the one who went through rejection letters, dealt

with editors, met deadlines, and have been published in more than 30 different periodicals. I actually had to work to be reasonably funny

and legitimately published. I don't just sit on the toilet with an iPad and type lines like, "My husband is so dumb he thinks all nuts are peanuts."

As this lady went on and on about how funny my wife is, my ego was taking a big hit. This lady loves what my wife said about our kids. She loved what my wife said about shampoo. I've written columns about the kids before. I've covered shampoo, extensively, and it was funny. Has this lady ever read *Man Overboard*? Nope.

This lady doesn't own a copy of *Cadet Blues*. She has put zero dollars in my bank account. She just logs on to Facebook, and enjoys a daily posting about how dumb I am from my wife each day, for free. This lady reads the posts and laughs and shares it with her seven friends. And they love it too. Don't get me wrong, my wife, whom I love, is funny, but she's no established humor columnist. After the lady went away without my autograph I asked my wife, "What exactly are you putting on Facebook?"

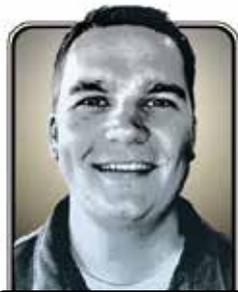
"Just stuff about us."

"But, I have an entire column and a book about us."

"Yeah, your column is too long. Plus, people don't like to click on links. People just want to scroll through Facebook and read a few lines. I guess they like what I write."

Well, there you have it folks, if you really want a good laugh, friend Sara Krider on Facebook. Apparently, she is super hilarious! ○

Rob has asked that his wife post this story on her Facebook feed. She is considering it, but her followers have certain expectations. Read more from Rob Krider at robkrider.com.



Rob Krider

Man Overboard

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Film Reviews

Editor's note: Santa Maria 10 (805-347-1164) films and show times were unavailable at press time.

BAD TIMES AT THE EL ROYALE

What's it rated? **R**
Where's it showing? **Stadium 10 in Arroyo Grande**
See Sun Screen.

FIRST MAN

What's it rated? **PG-13**
What's it worth? **Full price**
Where's it showing? **Movies Lompoc, Parks Plaza**
PICK Damien Chazelle (*Whiplash, La La Land*) helms this historical drama and biopic about astronaut Neil Armstrong (Ryan Gosling), who became the first man to set foot on the moon in 1969. Exploring both the space race and Armstrong's life on the ground with his wife, Janet (Clair Foy), the film is a reminder of the danger and daring of a trip into space during the analog era.

The film opens in the cockpit with Armstrong in an experimental plane designed to pierce Earth's atmosphere, reach zero gravity in near space, and then descend back to the ground. It's noisy, shaky, and chaotic, and it gives you a sense of both the wonder and sheer terror of early space travel. The space race between the Soviets and the U.S. had an existentialist undercurrent—the Cold War was in full force—and the Russians were beating us at every step. It was essential that we reach the moon first.

Back on the ground, Armstrong was wrestling with his own demons. With the death of his young daughter Karen (Lucy Stafford) to cancer, Armstrong harbored a secret fatalism. He knew the danger of space travel was real. He had lost colleagues, but stoicism was paramount. Gosling manages to convey all of these complications within a man of few words. His Armstrong is intensely focused, and the loss of his daughter drives him deeper into his work.

Armstrong's wife, Janet, is a big part of the story, and Foy is amazing in the role. Janet, too, has to be stoic—she knows her husband might not come back. There's an amazing scene in which she forces her husband to sit down with their two boys and explain to them the very real dangers. It really is miraculous that the mission was successful.

Even though viewers should know the outcome, there's plenty of tension throughout the film. The spacecraft are rickety, the technology antiquated, but the heroics are timeless. (141 min.)

—Glen Starkey

GOOSEBUMPS 2: HAUNTED HALLOWEEN

What's it rated? **PG**
What's it worth? **Rent it**
Where's it showing? **Parks Plaza**
Ari Sandel (*The Duff*) directs this next installment based on R.L. Stine's best-selling children's horror book series. If you're

FILM REVIEWS continued page 41

SCORING

FULL PRICE... It's worth the full price of an evening showing
MATINEE..... Save a few bucks, catch an afternoon showing
RENT IT..... It's worth a rental
STREAM IT..... Wait 'til Netflix has it
NOTHING..... Don't waste your time

Guessing game

Writer-director Drew Goddard (*The Cabin in the Woods*) helms this mystery thriller about a group of secret-keeping strangers—fake priest Daniel Flynn (Jeff Bridges), nightclub singer Darlene Sweet (Cynthia Erivo), criminal Emily Summerspring (Dakota Johnson), vacuum cleaner salesman Seymour “Laramie” Sullivan (Jon Hamm), and cult leader Billy Lee (Chris Hemsworth)—who converge at Lake Tahoe's seedy California/Nevada-straddling novelty hotel, the El Royale, hoping for a shot at redemption. Things quickly get weird. (141 min.)

Glen: This is one of those films I was glad not to know too much about. It's better to let its surprises unfold around you, and man was I surprised. The whole “seven strangers in a hotel” setup sounded

like an Agatha Christie bit, but this film goes wildly and surprisingly off the rails. If you need some touchstones, think the Coen brothers (*Blood Simple, Barton Fink*), Joe Carnahan (*Smokin' Aces*), and Quentin Tarantino (*The Hateful Eight*). The hero of the story is Darlene Sweet, a living-paycheck-to-paycheck lounge singer, who we learn almost made it big. Of all the characters, she's the most sympathetic, though Father Flynn is a close second. He's losing his memory, and Bridges delivers a very effective performance. Erivo as Sweet gets to show off her amazing voice, and the film's soundtrack is filled with great Motown sounds. It's a stylish, clever thriller with a wallop of an ending. Aside from Sweet, no one seems to be who they say they are. Hamm is great as the supposed vacuum cleaner salesman. He's too slick to be a lowly traveling salesman. Johnson's Emily



BAD TIMING: Jeff Bridges stars as fake priest Daniel Flynn and Cynthia Erivo as nightclub singer Darlene Sweet, in *Bad Times at the El Royale*. The two cross paths as trouble bubbles up around them.

Summerspring looks like a hippy, but it's not peace and love she's selling, and who's the tied-up girl (Cailee Spaeny) in her room? As good as all the performances are, the standout for me is Miles Miller (Lewis Pullman), who plays the front desk man. Even he's harboring some dark secrets, and now that I think of it, he's pretty sympathetic too. One reason the film worked was it was about bad people, but not irredeemable people—well, except for Billy Lee, the cult leader, who Hemsworth plays with a menacing, Charles Manson-like charisma. When I first came out of the film, I wasn't sure how much I liked it, but I have to say it grew on me over the course of a day or so. Some viewers might think it was overdone. I think that was director Goddard's whole point.

BAD TIMES AT THE EL ROYALE

What's it rated? **R**
What's it worth, Anna? **Matinee**
What's it worth, Glen? **Matinee**
Where's it showing? **Stadium 10 in Arroyo Grande**

Anna: I'd heard this film in promotional spots at the top of a few true crime podcasts I frequent, so the theme of “not everyone is who they say they are” was well drilled into my head going into it. But the film managed to surprise me nonetheless. It didn't turn out to be as much of a twist-turned adventure as *The Hateful Eight* or *Murder on the Orient Express* for me, but like you said, this one grew on me as the dust settled in the days after viewing. Bridges is a personal favorite, and while friends found it quite amusing that it was him I was there to watch and not the almost always open-shirted Hemsworth, he didn't disappoint as the flawed but sympathetic Father Flynn. The character of Miles was also a standout for me and one with more secrets than anyone can guess. Erivo's voice is powerful, soulful, and a wonderful backdrop that sets the mood for a dark and mysterious tale. Johnson and Spaeny held court as the brooding and beautiful mysterious pair, each with their own agenda. I wanted to punch Hemsworth's Billy Lee right in the face, which means he did a great job creating a smarmy, too powerful trickster with an eye for young girls. This is exactly the type of movie that you don't want too much given away beforehand, so without revealing more, I will say that it will keep you guessing at what this ill-fated group in a creepily remote hotel will encounter next. None of it is very pretty, but it sure is fun.

Glen: After the opening setup—a flashback 10 years prior—the film settles into a pretty slow beginning. It's all dialogue and set-to-simmer intrigue. Just when I thought to myself, “This film's dragging,” the unexpected happens. That



DARK CHARISMA: Chris Hemsworth stars as Charles Manson-like cult leader Billy Lee, who rains down holy hell on the El Royale hotel.

sets in motion a series of events, but before all that unfolds, we see—*Rashomon*-style—the same event from several characters' perspectives. That's some crafty filmmaking, and with that, the hook was set and the film reeled me in. Quick violence, on-a-dime plot twists, and the crazy over-the-top ending follows, with a fairly sweet denouement. This is definitely a film I'd watch again, and I won't soon forget Pullman's performance. He hasn't been in a lot of films, but he sure is good in this one. He plays Miles as a man on the verge of a nervous breakdown, and when his backstory hits, it all makes sense. Yes, the film's pacing is a bit uneven, its story is a bit too unbelievable, but this is pure entertainment. You just have to go with it.

Anna: It definitely has a change of pace at just the right moment, and it doesn't fall into the trap of letting the strings of the characters' individual stories get tied up in knots when they converge. It's deft filmmaking to be sure, and the moody feel, mystery, and Coen brothers- and Tarantino-esque elements don't feel like mere mimicry. It also escapes the pitfall of some films like this in that even though the mystery is over it would be totally enjoyable to watch again. Even if you know what's coming, there's still enough story and talent on the screen to be entertaining. It has a dramatic and over-the-top end scene that's a lot of fun, but for me the payoff was learning who Miles is and why he is who he is. The characters may not all be good guys, but they're not all bad guys either. It's juicy and surprising, the cast was a great ensemble, and the mood was set just right for mystery. If you like to be kept guessing, *Bad Times at the El Royale* is a fun, brutal romp through the lives of some pretty strange and dark people forced together for a long, rainy night, high on the hill. ○

Sun Screen is written by *New Times* Senior Staff Writer Glen Starkey and his wife, Anna. Comment at gstarkey@newtimeslo.com.

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For more information go to: **www.asn.org**



FILM REVIEWS from page 40

a young kid, you'll find some fun scares here, but your parents are going to be very annoyed having to sit through this. It definitely doesn't live up to its 2015 progenitor. (90 min.)

—Glen Starkey

HALLOWEEN

What's it rated? **R**

Where's it showing? **Hi-Way Drive-In, Movies Lompoc, Parks Plaza**

NEW Co-writer/director David Gordon Green (*Snow Angels, Pineapple Express, Joe*) helms this story about Laurie Strode (Jamie Lee Curtis), who four decades ago narrowly escaped being murdered by the masked figure Michael Myers. When Myers returns, she's ready for him. (106 min.)

—Glen Starkey

SEX AND THE CITY 2

When? **2010**

What's it rated? **R**

Where's it available? **YouTube, Amazon Prime Video, Google Play**

This movie is garbage. It's trash. It should be taken off the internet, strapped in a rocket, blown into space, and sucked into a black hole, where it can marinate with all the other mysterious "matter" NASA can't figure out.

OK, maybe that's a little harsh. But as a huge fan of the original *Sex and the City* (1998-2004) series, this movie shattered any hopes I once held of *Sex and the City* being a timeless classic.

Sure, the original *Sex and the City*—my comfort TV, my most simple cliché feminine pleasure—had its issues.

There's the problematic idea that four women living in New York City are

all white, as are all their friends, all their acquaintances, and nearly every other person they talk to, talk about, or sleep with over the course of six years. Then there's the time Samantha (Kim Cattrall) repeatedly refers to trans women as "trannies," and the episode Carrie (Sarah Jessica Parker) calls bisexuality a "layover on the way to Gay Town." And let's not forget the time Samantha proudly states that a man should definitely be running this country, and a hot one, too. Girl power!

But despite its sometimes outdated and cringeworthy attempts at humor, I love it. Its portrayal of female friendship is deeply heartfelt and celebratory. It's made women of varying generations laugh and cry since it debuted in 1998, and that really is something special.

Then when my favorite single woman, Samantha, and her three loser friends hit the big screen for the first time in 2008, it was wasn't great, but whatever—it was fun and glittery and they gave the people what we wanted, damn it.

I can't say the same for *Sex and the City 2*. In this failed attempt at a fabulous flick, the girls head out to Abu Dhabi to vacay with the ultra rich owner of a hotel empire. There, they clumsily attempt to critique the Middle East's treatment of women by cracking various tone-deaf jokes about hijabs, modesty, and Aladdin.

The choice to take these characters to the Middle East was a bad one, to say the least, and everyone knows Middle

NIGHT SCHOOL

What's it rated? **PG-13**

What's it worth? **Stream it**

Where's it showing? **Hi-Way Drive-In**

Malcolm D. Lee (*Undercover Brother, Girls Trip*) directs Kevin Hart in this comedy about former high school delinquents, now adults, forced to attend night school in order to get their diplomas.

If you like sophomoric silliness, you might find something here, but this one-note film doesn't give its two gifted comedians—Hart and Tiffany Haddish—much to work with. (111 min.)

—Glen Starkey

THE OLD MAN & THE GUN

What's it rated? **PG-13**

Where's it showing? **Parks Plaza**

BLAST FROM THE PAST

Eastern culture is *absolutely not* the issue *Sex and the City* needs to tackle. But even the social issues the show once thrived at picking apart—love, lust, motherhood, career life, all told from a female perspective—are missing from the second movie.

Yes, Carrie is feeling restless in her boring marriage, Miranda (Cynthia Nixon) struggles with a sexist boss, Samantha is going through menopause, and Charlotte (Kristin Davis) discovers that parenting is difficult—even when with a nanny and no job. But all those issues, which the girls seem to solve effortlessly and quietly, take a back seat to bad puns, cultural insensitivity, a completely contrived Carrie-Aidan plot, and a really rough karaoke scene.

It wasn't really funny, and it didn't push any envelopes. If anything, it just gave longtime *Sex and the City* haters more ammunition to attack fans.

The whole thing made me wonder, was the *Sex and the City* series problematic because it was written nearly 20 years ago? Or did it always, at times, lose touch with its key audience and lack perspective? And why, why in God's name, would they ever consider making a third movie? ☹

—Kasey Bubnash

NEW Writer-director David Lowery (*Ain't Them Bodies Saints, A Ghost Story*) helms this true story based on David Grann's article about Forrest Tucker (Robert Redford), a 70-year-old criminal who escapes San Quentin Prison and embarks on a string of robberies that confounds law enforcement and makes Tucker into a folk hero with the public. Tucker is pursued by Det. John Hunt (Casey Affleck) and—despite his "profession"—loved by Jewel (Sissy Spacek). (93 min.)

—Glen Starkey

A STAR IS BORN

What's it rated? **R**

What's it worth? **Full price**

Where's it showing? **Movies Lompoc, Parks Plaza**

PICK Co-writer, director, and co-star Bradley Cooper helms this remake of *A Star Is Born* (first released in 1937 and later remade in 1954 and 1976). In this iteration, Cooper stars as Jackson Maine, a famous musician whose star is waning as he discovers talented but insecure singer Ally (Lady Gaga). As Jack battles alcoholism and his own decline, he helps Ally find the strength to let her talent shine. (135 min.)



FORTY YEARS LATER: Jamie Lee Curtis reprises her role as Laurie Strode, who four decades ago escaped masked killer Michael Myers. When he returns in *Halloween* (2018), she's ready for him.

He's basically blacklisted from journalism throughout the city and is reduced to looking for dishwasher gigs. He's about to swear off reporting when whistleblower Dr. Dora Skirth (Jenny Slate) explains Drake is trying to mix humans with a number of alien forms called symbiotes. Skirth sneaks Brock into the facility and he becomes infected with the symbiote. Unlike many of Drake's trial runs, Brock's merge with the symbiote is successful as the alien-like parasite introduces himself as Venom.

The two decide to work together to stop Drake—who also gets infected by a symbiote—from bringing more of these creatures to earth with the intention to end the human race.

While we've seen Hardy really get into the role of his characters like Max Rockatansky (*Mad Max*), Bane (*The Dark Knight Rises*), or Eames (*Inception*), he just isn't that convincing as washed-up loser Eddie Brock. Maybe it's the weird accent or the match-up with Michelle Williams, which I wasn't buying either.

Despite that, the action scenes were full of intense in-your-face punches, cars smashing into each other, and people being flung into the air. While it doesn't reach a level of gory intensity as *Deadpool* does, people getting their heads bit off and eaten is pretty up there.

The film lacks a cohesive and strong storyline for the first introduction of the Marvel character, but I will admit I'll be watching for the sequel as the clip at the end of the movie lays the groundwork for someone all too familiar to Venom. (112 min.) ☹

—Karen Garcia

VENOM

What's it rated? **PG-13**

What's it worth? **Matinee**

Where's it showing? **Movies Lompoc**

PICK Ruben Fleischer (*Zombieland, Gangster Squad*) directs Tom Hardy as Eddie Brock, a former investigative journalist whose TV show is dedicated to taking down evil corporations and, later, becomes the host for an alien symbiote named Venom. The film is an adaptation of the Marvel Comics series featuring the anti-hero Venom.

Brock is an investigative journalist who rides his motorcycle around busy San Francisco to report on malicious corporations and expose them on his TV show. He's assigned a puff piece on Carlton Drake (Riz Ahmed), the founder of The Life Foundation, a research facility that engages in unethical experimentation with aspirations for world domination. Brock's boss basically tells him he can't expose Drake but, being the reporter he is, he tries to do the opposite of that.

Brock's fiancée, Anne Weying (Michelle Williams), is a lawyer whose firm represents The Life Foundation, so obviously Brock snoops through her files to dig up some dirt on Drake and his foundation. When it's time for the interview, Brock tries to expose Drake, which leads the reporter to lose his job, his apartment, and fiancée.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MMIX NEW LINE PRODUCTIONS



WHY? Our familiar four New York ladies hit up Abu Dhabi in *Sex and the City 2* (2010), and yes, it's bad.

Sun movie reviews are compiled by *New Times* Senior Staff Writer Glen Starkey. Contact him at gstarkey@newtimeslo.com.

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Field and glass

Field to Table and Presqu'ile Winery join forces for a dinner to help an important cause

BY REBECCA ROSE

Have you ever met a “mom on a mission”? If you have, you remember the encounter and the mother in question. The mom on a mission I know is Wendy Thies Sell, the former writer of this very column, whose 10-year-old daughter has Type 1 diabetes. It's become a mission for her to help spread the word about the condition.

“Her endocrinologist is a top researcher at Sansum Diabetes Research Institute in Santa Barbara,” Thies Sell explained in an email.

“There are no pediatric endocrinologists in northern Santa Barbara County or SLO County, so all of the kids with Type 1 diabetes in the Santa Maria Valley and SLO County must travel to Santa Barbara, Los Angeles, or the SF Bay Area to see a doctor every three months.”

What does all of this have to do with food and wine? I may not be a mom, but my mission is eating great food and drinking lots of excellent wine.

To that end, Presqu'ile Winery in Santa Maria is putting on a winemaker dinner to benefit Sansum's research and work on Oct. 25 at the vineyard's tasting room. The event features local food, wine, and an opportunity to learn a bit about diabetes in the region and why it's an important issue.

Kara Hornbuckle, event and stewardship manager with Sansum Diabetes Research Institute, said the winemaker series has been a successful fundraiser for the group in the past. A fundraiser in April 2017 at Ember in Arroyo Grande helped raise more than \$30,000 for the group. The dinner at Presqu'ile marks the first of its kind in Santa Maria for Sansum.

“What is really important to us is to really represent the different regions throughout the community,” Hornbuckle said. “We have people who are impacted by diabetes throughout the Central Coast who are participating in our work and what we are doing.”

Sansum does research related to Type I and Type II diabetes as well as outreach programs for



TOAST TO THE CAUSE: Winemaker Dieter Cronje personally selected the wines for the winemaker dinner on Oct. 25, which will benefit research at Sansum Diabetes Research Institute.

adults, children, and seniors. Hornbuckle said they hope to raise \$10,000 at the Presqu'ile event, which will go toward funding more of their programs. The dinner will also feature a brief presentation from Dr. Jordan Pinsker, a pediatric endocrinologist, who will talk about programs and research for children with diabetes.

Presqu'ile's Dieter Cronje hand-picked the wines, and chef Tracy Labastida with Field to Table, based out of Nipomo, is the chef featured at the winemaker dinner. It's not the first time he has been part of a fundraiser for Sansum (a staff member at his company has a brother with diabetes).

The chef said he was excited to work with the organization and to partner with Cronje for the event. “Whenever we create a menu, the first thing we do is see what's in season,” Labastida said. “We wanted to have the food reflect the overall setting at Presqu'ile and the season.”

The first course is a pairing with Presqu'ile's 2017 sauvignon blanc, which utilizes native yeast fermentation and is aged in neutral French oak barrels and concrete eggs. For this course,



DINNER WITH THE DOC: Presqu'ile Winery will host a fundraiser for diabetes research, with Sansum Diabetes Research Institute. The event will feature a presentation on pediatric diabetes from Dr. Jordan Pinsker in addition to food from Field to Table, a catering company based in Nipomo.

EATS continued page 43

Wine and dine for a cause

Sansum Diabetes Research Institute will host a winemaker dinner on Oct. 25 at 6 p.m. at Presqu'ile Winery to benefit their programs and research. Tickets are \$200 and can be purchased online at www.sdrispecialevents.com. Presqu'ile is located at 5391 Presqu'ile Dr, Santa Maria.

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Labastida is creating a wild salmon cake, jalapeños, and a jicama and apple slaw, with white balsamic pearls.

"I tried [the wine]," the chef said. "It's pretty green and will withstand some acid on it with the balsamic, jicama, and apple and the green pulling from the jalapeño. The salmon cake itself is mild in flavor and will be a nice mellow, neutral component of the dish."

The second course is a hyperlocal and seasonal dish, reflecting a lot of elements of agriculture

PHOTOS COURTESY OF PRESQU'ILE



DON'T BE CHARDY FOR THE PARTY: Presqu'ile Winery's Oct. 25 winemaker dinner with Field to Table will benefit Sansum Diabetes Research Institute. The dinner will feature a side-by-side tasting of Presqu'ile's 2014 and the 2015 Presqu'ile Vineyard chardonnay, paired with a cream corn risotto and lobster dish.

and fishing in Santa Barbara County. Labastida's colorful cream corn risotto pulls heavily from fall elements and, with lobster season kicking off, he adds locally sourced butter poached lobster.

The wine pairing is a side-by-side tasting of the 2014 and the 2015 Presqu'ile Vineyard chardonnay. As Presqu'ile has evolved, so has the soil on its grounds. Sandy soil helps create chardonnays enriched with minerals, giving these wines their distinctive Presqu'ile-specific taste.

"It has some butter," Labastida said of the chardonnays. "It's a little more fruit forward, and I think it will be a very fun pairing."

The third course also features a side-by-side pairing, this time with Presqu'ile's 2014 and 2015 Vineyard Pinot Noirs. These wines are especially popular because of their distinctive earthy and spicy flavors, including sandalwood, cherry, and rose petal.

"We're doing quail but we're stuffing it with focaccia bread and sausage," Labastida said. "It's kind of a play on a stuffed turkey."

For the final course, Cronje chose a 2013 late harvest chardonnay. So Labastida decided to incorporate it into a poached pear along with a maple pound cake with toasted hazelnuts, finished with a spiced butternut puree. He said he opted for a dessert with savory notes to balance the sweetness of the last wine in the meal.

"It's a really intimate experience," said Hornbuckle. "It's a chance to experience a beautiful location and great food and wine as well as learn about an important cause." ☪

Arts and Lifestyle Writer Rebecca Rose is currently in season. Contact her at rose@santamariasun.com.

EATS continued page 44

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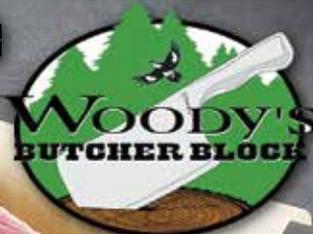
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EATS

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Rebeccamendations:

What's new, what's fun, and what to try

• Did you know the **Copenhagen Sausage Garden** in Solvang offers discounts to locals? Just show your Santa Ynez Valley identification to redeem deals such as \$1 off any sausage. Check them out at **1660 Copenhagen Drive**.

• I enjoy these fish tacos (pictured) at **Natural Cafe** so much I practically could adopt them into my family. They have a good amount of heat on them and are served with salsa and blue corn chips. I approve. Visit the restaurant at **2407 S. Broadway, Santa Maria**.

• Happy hour at **Hill Haven Provisions** is Tuesday through Thursday from 5 to 7 p.m. and features \$6 draft beers, wine, and well drinks and \$7 speciality drinks and appetizers. Grab your designated driver and go have some fun at **448 Atterdag Road, Solvang**.

• Happy autumn to everyone, especially this bottle of **Rancho Sisquoc 2016 Santa Barbara County sauvignon blanc**. The grapes grow warm and longer, waiting for harvest at the peak moment and emitting notes of honeysuckle, pear, and oak. The tasting room is located at **6600 Foxen Canyon Road, Santa Maria**.

• **Coffee a la Cart** is now offering seasonal drinks including salted caramel latte, pumpkin pie latte, caramel praline latte, eggnog latte, caramel chai, and a gingerbread latte. If that doesn't get you in a seasonal mood, then your heart is as black and frozen as the Grinch's. Visit thecoffeealacart.com for mobile cart locations.

• **Barrelworks'** first foray into methode

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PHOTO BY REBECCA ROSE





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\$499,900 • www.304Siratt.info
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HIDDEN PINES ESTATES



2433 Lilac Street, Santa Maria, CA 93458
\$397,000 • www.2433Lilac.info
 Move-in Ready Mediterranean in Hidden Pines Gated Community! Built in 1998 w/Cathedral Ceilings & an Elegant Focal Point Gas Fireplace that Frames the Entry to this 1811 SF Open Floor Plan Home. 4 Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths, 3 Car (Tandem) Garage on a 4792 SF Lot. Remodeled Kitchen w/Slow-Close Cabinetry, Granite Counters, Newer Microwave & Dishwasher. Back-ups Welcome.

CARRIAGE DISTRICT



130 E. Camino Colegio, Santa Maria, CA 93454
\$449,900 • www.130CaminoColegio.info
 Cute Cottage in Santa Maria's Historic Carriage District! Built in 1936 w/Classic Charm Intact, this Two Story Home has Downstairs Master Suite that Includes a Full Bath, Walk-In Closet & a Dressing Area that Connects w/a Cozy Den & Office Combo. Master Opens to a Picturesque Backyard. Elegant Step-Down Formal Front Parlor at Entry w/Crown Molding, Brick Fireplace w/Mantle, & a Bay Window Nook Perfect For Your Grand Piano. Back-ups welcome.

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\$389,900 • www.1973Celebration.com
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SANDRA CERVANTES' LISTINGS

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1917 Ybarra Avenue, Santa Maria, CA 93458
\$425,000 • www.1917Ybarra.info
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BACKUPS WELCOME



312 Jala Court, Santa Maria, CA 93454
\$380,000 • www.312Jala.info
 Cul-De-Sac Via Rubio Estates Home For Sale! Two Story 1665 SF Single Family Home Built in 2001 w/3 Bedrooms & 2.5 Baths. No HOA Fees in this Tucked Away Enclave of Homes. High Ceilings Accentuate the Spacious Feeling Upon Entry into the Living Room that Features a Focal Point Gas-Start Wood-Burning Fireplace. Bedrooms are Located Upstairs for Privacy. Indoor Laundry. Walking Distance to Shopping.

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