

# SUN

AT THE MOVIES



Laugh and cry with *Jojo Rabbit* [29]

## CROSSING PARTISAN LINES

*Not all liberals are anti-gun, and this club proves it* [10]  
BY CAMILLIA LANHAM



**NEWS** County talks cannabis dispensaries [7]

**ARTS** Capturing the photo-worthy grapevine [26]

**EATS** Online deli gets artisanal with meat [32]

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# Contents

NOVEMBER 14 - NOVEMBER 21, 2019 VOL. 20 NO. 37

**W**hat do you do if you happen to love guns—buying them, owning them, shooting them—but you don't love the NRA, President Trump, or saying no to every piece of gun-control legislation? Well, one thing you could do is join The Liberal Gun Club. This organization has been around since 2008 and offers a safe place for people to shoot off their opinions and to be their liberal selves while putting holes in metal targets at places like the SLO Sportsmen's Association's Rifle-Pistol Range. For this week's cover story, Editor Camillia Lanham literally sets her sights on gun ownership rights, mental health, and the politicizing of both issues [10].

Also this week, read about how many cannabis dispensaries the county is planning on allowing [7], progress on Santa Maria Joint Union's new career technical high school [8], a famous wine country photographer [26], the latest exhibit at Gallery Los Olivos [28], and a Central Coast deli selling its wares online across the state [32].



**NOT THE NRA** The Liberal Gun Club has been around since 2008, but since Donald Trump got elected president, its national membership has more than doubled.

Andrea Rooks,  
associate editor

Cover photo by Jayson Mellom > Cover design by Alex Zuniga

**NEWS**

News Briefs .....5  
 Political Watch .....5  
 Weather.....5  
 Spotlight.....9

**ARTS**

Arts Briefs.....26

**OPINION**

Web Poll .....12  
 Mayfield .....12  
 Canary.....13

**MOVIES**

Reviews & Locations .....29

**EVENTS CALENDAR**

Hot Stuff .....15

**EATS**

Nibbles & Bites .....34

**MUSIC**

Music listings ..... 23

**CLASSIFIEDS, HOME, AND**

**REAL ESTATE** .....35

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## Political Watch

• State Assemblymember **Jordan Cunningham (R-San Luis Obispo)** released a statement on Nov. 6 condemning Facebook's refusal to respond to a subpoena California Attorney General **Xavier Becerra** issued. "Facebook has a legal obligation to comply with subpoenas, and its refusal to fully comply with this subpoena is extremely troubling," Cunningham said. "The company's unwillingness to hand over information and emails surrounding its privacy practices further shows Facebook's total disregard for protecting its users' private information and making its platform more secure." In the statement, Cunningham said Becerra plans to take the issue to court to force Facebook to comply with the subpoena.

• On Nov. 7, state Sen. **Hannah-Beth Jackson (D-Santa Barbara)** responded to a survey that the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) conducted on climate change this past summer. "Californians continue to grasp the seriousness of climate change and the importance of taking strong steps to curb our greenhouse gas emissions. Our work to combat [climate change] must continue," Jackson said on Twitter. According to the report on the PPIC's statewide survey, 71 percent of Californians are "very concerned about wildfires becoming more severe due to global warming." The survey also found that 67 percent of Californians are in favor of a state law that requires California to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions to 40 percent below its 1990 emission levels by 2030.

• In a report issued on Nov. 1, the **National Interagency Fire Center** states that most of Southern California will have an above normal potential for a large fire throughout November and into early December. According to the report, the southern part of the state won't receive rain anytime soon, and offshore wind events are expected to occur at a slightly above normal frequency. "Long-range models offer little optimism that wetter weather will arrive anytime soon. ... Wetting rains do not appear imminent, or even possible, through the middle of November. In addition, most long-range models indicate that the next three months may be drier than average as well."

• California Gov. **Gavin Newsom** announced on Nov. 7 that the state has opened up almost \$900 million in grant funding to support affordable housing and sustainable community development. More than two-thirds of the funding comes from cap-and-trade dollars and will be used to help build additional housing and transit options closer to job centers and services. The remaining funding will be used to support infill housing development. "Sky-high housing costs are putting the squeeze on family budgets while long commutes contribute to dirtier air," Newsom said. "By bringing housing closer to jobs, we can fight climate change and create healthier, sustainable communities across California." According to a press release from Newsom's office, housing affordability has been a top priority for the governor, who signed 18 bills into law in October designed to help jump-start housing production.

• The **Sierra Club of California** gave Assemblymember **Monique Limón (D-Santa Barbara)** and state Sen. **Hannah-Beth Jackson** a 100 percent score on their 2019 report card. Every fall, the Sierra Club's staff reviews legislators' voting records for the year on what they see as key issues affecting the environment. The club handed out perfect scores to 34 Assembly members and nine senators, but it wasn't thrilled with the outcome of 2019, describing traction on environmental policies as "incremental." "At a time when we face frightening and catastrophic climate change impacts, seemingly intractable water and air pollution, and public health and natural resource harms that go with these conditions, a year dominated by incrementalism is disheartening," the report card states. View the report card at [sierraclub.org](http://sierraclub.org). ○

## Women's March SLO co-founder announces run against Jordan Cunningham

Greeted by a raucous San Luis Obispo Guild Hall crowd of more than 100 people, Dawn Addis opened her run for state Assembly on Nov. 7 like she did her political life in 2017 as a Women's March SLO organizer: surrounded by energized local progressives.

"In 2017, millions of us took to the streets knowing that the fabric of America was about to be torn in ways we couldn't fathom," Addis told SLO Progressives Club members at their annual Friendsgiving dinner on Nov. 7. "We came together to demand a more positive and just future. Together we laced up our shoes."

Addis' experience co-founding the local Women's March propelled her into office in 2018 as a Morro Bay City Council member. Now, just a year later, the longtime public school teacher is taking a crack at higher office.

"The truth is, at the state level, we have urgent work to do," Addis told the Guild Hall audience.

Addis will challenge incumbent Assemblymember **Jordan Cunningham (R-San Luis Obispo)** for the 35th District seat, which covers SLO County and Northern Santa Barbara County.

District voters will cast their ballots for the race in November 2020.

Addis told the *Sun* that the Women's March changed the trajectory of her life, as it showed her the power of "everyday people" turning to politics.

"I decided to take a chance in 2017," Addis said. "I saw what happened with the election, and the writing was on the wall that people I care about were going to be attacked—LGBTQIA people, people with immigrant backgrounds. ... I realized I needed to step out of my comfort zone, get off the sidelines, and do something a little bit larger."

"It was incredibly successful," she continued about the Women's March. "We woke up the next day and my inbox was full, my social media was full, with people saying, 'I had lost hope, and coming out on Jan. 21 [2017] gave me hope again.' That was not a message I could walk away from."

A Democrat, Addis said she's "hungry for change" on the Central Coast. As "a mom who knows how to juggle," she said she's prepared to balance her duties on the Morro Bay City Council with her state candidacy.

"We need someone at the state level who's going to advocate for real people, for real policies, and who's going to take actual action," Addis said. "I'm going to be listening to people in a different way. I'm not going to pick the softball issues."

Cunningham, who was previously a SLO County deputy district attorney and Templeton Unified School District board member, ran and won his first Assembly campaign in 2016. He was re-elected in 2018, beating Democratic challenger **Bill Ostrander**. He's one of just 18 Republicans—with one seat vacant, Democrats fill 61 of the remaining 62 Assembly seats.

In his three years in office, Cunningham's focused on regional issues like the Diablo Canyon Power Plant closure, local highway funding, and fighting human trafficking.

"Assemblyman Cunningham has been an independent and bipartisan fighter for the Central Coast," read a statement from Cunningham's re-election campaign following Addis' announcement. "We are confident that the voters will continue to recognize his efforts to fight human trafficking, fund career technical education, and fight for jobs and infrastructure here on the Central Coast."

—Peter Johnson

PHOTO BY PETER JOHNSON



**STUMP SPEECH** Flanked by supporters, Dawn Addis announces her candidacy for state Assembly at a SLO Progressives Club event on Nov. 7.

## County Planning Commission gives two cannabis projects the go-ahead

After numerous hearings, the Santa Barbara County Planning Commission recently approved two cannabis cultivation projects and denied one.

On Nov. 6, the commission discussed winemaker **Blair Pence's** appeals filed over the county's approval of the **Santa Rita Valley Ag. Inc.** project and the **Santa Barbara West Coast Farms** project. The commission denied the former appeal and upheld the latter. During a special meeting on the following day, the commission unanimously denied an appeal that farmer **Sharyne Merritt** filed over the county's approval of the **Busy Bees Organics** project. All three properties are located along Highway 246, near Buellton.

These appeals, and others filed in the county, have centered on whether cannabis is compatible with existing agriculture in the county.

Vintners have raised concerns over cannabis terpenes—organic compounds produced by a variety of plants—potentially affecting the taste of wine grapes. Some farmers have also expressed concerns about not being able to apply pesticides on their crops out of fear that they could be sued for accidentally contaminating nearby cannabis farms.

Aside from farmers, some residents have complained about the number of cannabis cultivation permits approved or pending along Highway 246, which is a concern Planning Commission Chair **John Parke** shares.

"Of course my problem is the clustering of so many grows right in the same place, neck to neck, and especially at [the Santa Ynez Valley] western gateway," Parke said while discussing the **Santa Barbara West Coast Farms** project on Nov. 6.

The commission first discussed the **Santa Rita Valley Ag. Inc.** project, and was scheduled to discuss the **Santa Barbara West Coast Farms** project, during a nearly nine-hour meeting in August. But commissioners decided to postpone making a decision on both farms. The commission also delayed making a decision on **Busy Bees Organics** when it first discussed the project during another nearly nine-hour meeting on Oct. 30.

At that October meeting, Planning Commission Chair **John Parke** said he would only vote in favor of approving the

project if certain conditions were added to it, such as a reduction in the amount of acreage used for cultivation and a two-year review period.

During the Nov. 7 special meeting, staff brought back these conditions, as well as an alternative to the two-year permit review period that gives the county's planning director the ability to check on the project in two years. With these conditions in place, the commission unanimously approved the project.

Commissioner **Dan Blough** added a similar acreage reduction requirement, as well as a landscaping condition, to the **Santa Rita Valley Ag. Inc.** project. In a 3-2 vote, the commission denied the appeal and approved this project.

In the vote over the **Santa Rita Valley Ag. Inc.** project, **Parke**, who voted against the project, said he didn't believe the conditions imposed went far enough.

"We're not considering as heavy of conditions on this as we looked at on [**Busy Bees Organics**], and yet it's not nearly as good a project," Parke said.

After the **Santa Rita Valley Ag. Inc.** decision, the commission moved forward with denying the **Santa Barbara West Coast Farms** project in a 3-2 vote.

The commission was scheduled to weigh in on another cannabis cultivation permit near the **Santa Ynez Valley** on Nov. 13, after the *Sun* went to press. The applicant behind this project is proposing to grow 15 acres of cannabis on a nearly 64-acre property on **Baseline Avenue** near **Highway 154**.

—Zac Ezzone

## New urgent care proposal in Buellton could bolster health care services

The Buellton Planning Commission approved an item on Nov. 7 allowing a new urgent care facility into town.

The proposal came from **Cottage Health**, a 125-year-old nonprofit with a network of 600 physicians, under the umbrella of a volunteer board of directors from the greater Santa Barbara area.

**Ron Biscaro**, listed on the organization's website as vice president of housing and real estate development, made his appeal to the Planning Commission in a suit and tie.

NEWS continued page 6

## Weekend Weather

**KSBY NEWS**  
Microclimate Weather Forecast  
**Dave Hovde**  
KSBY Chief Meteorologist

Thursday	Friday
<b>COASTAL</b> > High 68 Low 51 <b>INLAND</b> > High 76 Low 41	<b>COASTAL</b> > High 70 Low 49 <b>INLAND</b> > High 78 Low 40
Saturday	Sunday
<b>COASTAL</b> > High 75 Low 49 <b>INLAND</b> > High 81 Low 40	<b>COASTAL</b> > High 80 Low 52 <b>INLAND</b> > High 86 Low 44
Cold front comes thru on Thursday but I don't think there is enough moisture for rain, it'll crank up winds Saturday and Sunday for more sun.	

NEWS from page 5

“Last year, our board of directors made the decision that we should expand our services in this area as well as other areas on the Central Coast,” he said.

The Cottage Urgent Care Center has already agreed to lease a property at Crossroads Commercial Center located at 328 McMurray Road.

“We feel some of the basic primary care needs of many on the Central Coast have been underserved,” he said. “We’ve also realized, given the shortage of primary care physicians in our communities, that having an urgent care center in Buellton or other communities around the Central Coast is really important to ensure access to care.”

Concerns over primary care offerings statewide have been mounting. The Future Health Workforce Commission reports that California already has a shortage with 50 primary care physicians per 100,000 residents. That ratio is also reported locally on the Central Coast.

The ratio should be 60 to 80 physicians per 100,000, and the report indicates the situation isn’t improving. The commission says the state will have a shortage of 4,103 primary care clinicians by 2030 as population numbers grow. The report notes that more health care providers are implementing “team-based, patient-centered care models in which clinicians work collaboratively with other team members.”

The proposed facility in Buellton would not be home to any physicians, Biscaro said, but would be run by three nurse practitioners. Radiology would be available, he said, and staff would have a direct line to physicians in the network.

Cottage also expects a modest flow of patients. While other clinics in the network see upward of

50 patients a day, the health care provider network expects the Buellton location to see 15 to 20.

It will also be open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Biscaro said there’s a gap in health care availability between 4 and 8 p.m. when many doctors’ offices are closed.

The commission approved the conditional use permit despite one reservation voiced by Planning Commissioner Marcilo Sarquilla.

“I think it’s a great project, but it’s one of the worst parking lots I’ve ever been in,” he said. “I’m sure we’ll get an earful from the public.”

—William D’Urso

## Rep. Carbajal holds fundraising lead over Caldwell

With a year to go in the 2020 election, 24th District Rep. Salud Carbajal (D-Santa Barbara) is off to a big financial head start against his Republican challenger, radio host and political commentator Andy Caldwell.

As of a Sept. 30 campaign finance filing deadline, the second term congressman and former Santa Barbara County supervisor had amassed \$983,220 for his re-election campaign—compared to Caldwell’s \$67,303.

Caldwell announced his candidacy in early August, which may partially explain the huge gap. Yet Caldwell’s Sept. 30 finance report falls well short of what his 2018 Republican counterpart, Justin Fareed, raised during the equivalent time period in his campaign.

Between August and October of 2017, Fareed hauled in about \$217,000. Fareed then went on to lose to Carbajal by 17 percentage points the following November.

In response to questions about the campaigns’

latest filings, Caldwell campaign advisor Tab Berg told the *Sun* that Caldwell’s fundraising has picked up significantly since October. Caldwell is now up to more than \$250,000 in contributions, according to Berg.

“Support for Andy has been phenomenal—fundraising has accelerated,” Berg said. “We’re building a strong grassroots campaign to expand Andy’s existing name ID—but we also fully expect to have the funds needed to get our message to voters.”

Berg acknowledged that Caldwell is not likely to win the fundraising battle against Carbajal come Election Day.

“Andy isn’t running to be the best fundraiser,” he said. “We can’t match Salud’s fundraising prowess any more than Salud can compete with Andy on the issues.”

Carbajal’s largest donations, of \$5,000, have come from political action committees, mostly representing labor unions. Caldwell had not received a \$5,000 donation as of Sept. 30. During the August to Sept. 30 time period, Caldwell raised \$67,303 while Carbajal raised about \$382,000, according to campaign finance filings.

In the last few election cycles, the 24th District race has drawn millions of dollars to support both the Democratic and Republican candidates. In 2016—an election with no incumbent—Carbajal raised \$3.2 million in his winning bid, which garnered him 53.4 percent of the vote, while Fareed raised \$2.4 million and received 46.6 percent of the vote. In 2018, incumbent Carbajal sailed to victory with a \$2.8 million war chest and 58.6 percent of the vote, while Fareed saw his support taper to \$1.5 million and received 41.4 percent of the vote.

Carbajal and Caldwell’s next deadline to file campaign finance reports is Jan. 31, 2020.

—Peter Johnson

## Sears to close Santa Maria location

Sears may be shutting the doors on its Santa Maria Town Center location in February 2020, but leaders of the city’s business community say retail is still going strong.

Suzanne Singh, the economic development director for the Santa Maria Chamber of Commerce, said she doesn’t see the town’s retail economy spiraling downward. She referenced the disruption Amazon has caused to brick-and-mortar retail nationally but said Santa Maria has thrived.

“We’re probably 10 years behind that movement,” she said. “We’re going to have more time with retail than a lot of areas.”

The Sears closure is part of a national restructuring by parent company Transform Holdco, which is shutting down 96 Sears and Kmart locations across the country. Nineteen of those Sears stores are in California.

Singh said retail in town is doing well with Santa Maria attracting traffic from neighboring cities. But she notes that the types of retail that are thriving focus on experiences.

“If you look at millennials, they don’t have a lot of stuff, but they have a lot of experiences,” she said. “They’re still going out. They’re still spending money, but they want to go out and have an experience and not come back with a pair of pants.”

She pointed to national chains like Buffalo Wild Wings and Cracker Barrel at Enos Ranch Business Center, the same complex as Dick’s Sporting Goods and Costco.

“I think because of Enos Ranch we are very strong retail wise,” she said. “We are definitely taking on a regional shopping hub type moment.”

—William D’Urso

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# Rolling out retail

## County changes framework for cannabis retail stores application process

BY ZAC EZZONE

Following a year of nonstop conversations over cannabis cultivation, residents and stakeholders in Santa Barbara County will have a new marijuana-related topic to discuss in 2020: The actual sale of the stuff.

Currently, cannabis dispensaries are only located within the county's cities that allow the businesses, such as Lompoc and Santa Barbara. But this could change by the end of next year as the county finalizes amendments to its cannabis retail ordinance that will allow shops to operate in unincorporated areas.

The county's existing ordinance allows for one dispensary within each of the county's six community plan areas, like Orcutt and Los Alamos. This limited number of locations makes each one extremely valuable for the chosen operator, 5th District Supervisor Steve Lavagnino said.

When the county first drafted its cannabis retail ordinance in 2018, it planned on selecting operators through a lottery-based system of qualified applicants. But, during its Nov. 5 meeting, the Board of Supervisors discussed significant changes to this process, including a transition to a merit-based system that grades and ranks applicants with the top scorer receiving a permit for the location.

Lavagnino told the *Sun* he wasn't completely

sold on this change out of a concern that operators who aren't selected could attempt to claim the county was biased in its selection.

"Random selection gives a hands-off approach where nobody can say there is influence," he said.

But in selecting random operators, the county can't guarantee the best project is chosen, 3rd District Supervisor Joan Hartmann told the *Sun*.

Devon Wardlow, director of public affairs at Coastal Dispensary—which has one location in Santa Barbara and a second opening soon in Lompoc—told the *Sun* that as a future applicant, she's happy the county switched to this merit-based approach because it ensures there's fair competition between local and large operators.

up, residents will have the chance to weigh in on these benefits at public meetings in each community plan area. Hartmann said that in other jurisdictions that also factor in community benefits, cannabis operators often become involved with and donate money to local nonprofits.

Not all supervisors were thrilled with this community benefit component. At the meeting, 4th District Supervisor Peter Adam said implementing these kinds of requirements could set a precedent that extends beyond cannabis-related businesses.

"I'm a little uncomfortable with this whole thing," Adam said. "I realize this is a special subject matter for a variety of reasons, but I also

**'When you have 20 or 30 people applying for one license, it would be nice that they fit the community.'**

—Steve Lavagnino, 5th District county supervisor

"As a small operator, I am more than willing to make the investment up front in what will be needed and what I think will be best for the individual communities, but if there is any chance of a lottery, it's very hard for me to ... make that type of investment without a sure bet that I'm going to be graded purely on merit," Wardlow said during the public comment portion of the Nov. 5 meeting.

After defining the selection approach, much of the discussion at the meeting focused on crafting the criteria the county will use to select the best project. Proposals will earn points based on aspects such as the project's financial and security plans, as well as how that operator plans on benefiting the community where the shop is located.

Prior to the application process opening

wonder what other project we'll be applying this logic to at some other time."

In addition to weighing how projects will benefit the community, the county also plans to factor in how compatible different aspects of that project are with the surrounding neighborhood. These factors will differ by community plan area, but they could include looking at how the project fits in with the feel of the neighborhood or how the business could affect parking in the area.

"When you have 20 or 30 people applying for one license, it would be nice that they fit the community and that they are also active participants in the community," Lavagnino said.

Another key metric, Hartmann said, is how the operator plans to educate the public on the adverse health effects of using cannabis. Deputy

CEO Dennis Bozanich said this education could also include information on how cannabis products are tested and what this testing means.

While the county plans to measure and score the community benefits and neighborhood compatibility of each project with a committee of staff members from different departments, it plans to hire a third-party consultant to evaluate and score the financial aspects of each project.

County staff will bring back this ordinance, as well as a score sheet for the criteria being weighed, to the board in early January, Bozanich said. Assuming no significant changes are made, the ordinance could be adopted at a later meeting in January and go into effect by February, after which time operators could begin applying for permits.

When applying, the operator must already own the property where they plan on locating, or have a binding agreement in place with a property owner that says the operator will take over the location if his or her proposal is selected, Bozanich said. The county could begin selecting operators in early summer, and locations could open about this time next year.

Regardless of how the county plans to roll out the retail cannabis selection, Lavagnino said it's going to be a messy process. But, he said, it's important these businesses open so people have a vetted place to purchase legal cannabis that's properly tested.

"You've got a lot of production, and there's no place for people to go get it," Lavagnino said. "The problem is if you've made it legal and you don't offer it, people will go find it somewhere else and it incentivizes the black market. We're all looking for a regulated, tested product in a safe store that has security and pays taxes." ○

Reach Staff Writer Zac Ezzone at [zezzone@santamariasun.com](mailto:zezzone@santamariasun.com).



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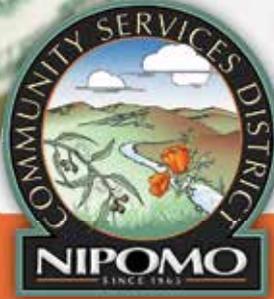
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IMAGE COURTESY OF SANTA MARIA JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT



**ALMOST THERE:** The Santa Maria Joint Union High School District expects its new Career Technical Education Center to be complete in February.

## Here comes ag ed

*After years of construction, Santa Maria Joint Union's long-awaited Career Technical Education Center nears completion*

BY WILLIAM D'URSO

The Santa Maria Joint Union High School District's nameless new high school is nearing completion. It's 72 percent of the way there, according to the school district, and officials estimate it could be all the way done in February, with students trickling in by the fall of 2020.

For now, officials are calling it a "Career Technical Education Center," a first-of-its-kind campus for the district that'll play host to livestock, fruit trees, and 500 students.

This \$20 million center is part of a larger plan to usher interested pupils into careers as heavy-machine mechanics or pest specialists in the area's expansive agriculture industry.

Jack Garvin, a board member for the district since 2004, said the district has gone through a number of advisory panels stacked with professionals in the agriculture industry, offering their insights.

Situated on a 25-acre plot north of the Elks Rodeo Grounds and east of Highway 101, the campus won't be an official home to any students, but it will host them as they're bused to the campus daily. The campus is meant to draw from multiple area high school campuses with students attending the new location in two-hour blocks.

The guts of the building are now in the works: electrical, sewer, drywall, roof work, plumbing, etc.

"It's very state of the art; it's very well planned," Garvin said. "Industry has taken a great deal of interest in what's going on."

In addition to classrooms, the school will feature many of the trimmings and equipment featured in a professional work environment. The campus will include a barn, which will be home to 15 steer pens, 32 pig pens, and eight more for goats and sheep. Those animals, Garvin said, will help students learn about farming but also veterinary sciences and the accompanying care-taking that herds can require. There's even farmland for students to tend and learn to maintain.

The idea behind the center, Garvin said, is to get students hands-on experience before they reach the workforce.

"The important thing is to be offering an approach to students that they're going to find in the workplace, and who better to get that from than people already in the workplace," Garvin said.

The district spent years on planning and funding calculations. It began with \$2 million in 2016 that the district received through the state's Career Technical Education (CTE) Incentive Grant. But the district needed more. It was able pull additional money from two bonds, Measure C2004 and Measure H2016, approved by voters at the ballot box. The land itself, owned by the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel, was vacant, used

for crop farming. The district bought the property for a reported cost of \$3.6 million.

Once classes get underway, Garvin said the focus will rest heavily on agriculture.

But the school's purpose is to jumpstart students' education, offering the sort of skills and education that can open doors for whatever's next. One of those doors is college. That's why some of the school's programs also count for college credit at the nearby Allan Hancock College.

Erin Krier, the coordinator and instructor for agriculture at Hancock, said she was part of some of the advisory boards that helped develop the curriculum at the new high school. She called the school's agriculture focus "critical" to area industry and noted that students need to know a career in agriculture is an option that can pay well.

"Sometimes there's a perception that agriculture means field labor, and that's not a very desirable career path," she said.

The courses that do transfer, she said, must be taught by faculty with Hancock's minimum qualifications, which include a teacher with a master's degree in their area of expertise. She estimates that there are a half-dozen classes that transfer, and students sign up for these courses through the Hancock registration system. They're entry-level courses, she said, programs like economics, mechanics, and animal science, all with an agriculture focus.

The courses that she developed are directly influenced by feedback she's received from various advisory committees, which are made up of industry professionals.

"We try to have a representative from every sector of the industry," she said.

The high school and CTE programs, in general, have enjoyed strong state support as well as cheerleading from Assemblymember Jordan Cunningham (R-San Luis Obispo). Such programs are considered a direct pipeline to the workforce, allowing entry to students who would struggle to afford a college-directed path to well-paying careers, and a built-in replacement for baby boomers who have left or will leave the workforce.

Krier said the curriculum is geared specifically toward needs forecasted by industry professionals.

"What's lacking right now are students who are trained in diagnosing and repairing the machinery that is so much more complicated now," she said. "The other part of the industry that is really lacking are pest-control advisers."

The career technical education center will change that, she hopes, and offer pathways to jobs in the industry. ○

Contact Staff Writer William D'Urso at [wdurso@santamariasun.com](mailto:wdurso@santamariasun.com).

PHOTO BY WILLIAM D'URSO



**DOLL WALL:** Students at Cosmoton practice their craft on mannequins equipped with human or yak hair. Once they're done, the school replaces the \$45 heads with new ones.

# Snipping time

*Nearing a year in business, Cosmoton Academy adds a new certificate program*

**BY WILLIAM D'URSO**

In a Lompoc strip mall next to a pizza shop and a vacant Chinese buffet is the Cosmoton Academy.

It's a starting point for people who want careers in hair styles geared toward men. But the school run by Michael and Laura Funkhauser recently added a new program to broaden the student base of their fledgling barber school, located at 1013 North H St.

They're now inviting in recent cosmetology school graduates for a 200-hour, straight-shaving course. It's a \$2,500 expense, but the Funkhausers said it's an extra skill that a cosmetologist could immediately monetize.

The pair brings years of experience styling hair for men and women, including years as teachers themselves. The two, who live in Santa Barbara, also ply their trade professionally at their shop there called Napoleon Blonde.

The essence of the profession is in layering skill sets. If you can cut hair, why not also color, wash, and rinse it?

"If you just cut hair, you're going to be in for some hurt," Michael said.

He's known hairstylists and barbers who have been crippled with arthritis or carpal tunnel pain. Even surgery to repair carpal tunnel problems, Michael said, doesn't always clear it up. Sometimes, it forces an early retirement.

That's one reason why Michael and Laura give their students a complete skill set. The other reason is time. The state of California requires 1,500 hours of training for barbers. Another reason is the cost: The school runs \$15,000 for the one-year program.

But after that, Michael estimates barbers who do little more than cut hair earn \$30,000 to \$35,000. That's why his students all learn shaving and basic coloring.

"A lot of the time people think barbers don't do color," he said. "But everyone goes gray."

Doing color may be as small as touching up a beard or some gray at the temples, but Michael said that could easily add \$15 to a bill. If it's a

permanent color, even more. It's also about hairstyles. A rapidly rising new trend is the perm-fade—a perm up top and a fade at the bottom.

"We call it the broccoli head," Michael said.

All of his students learn how to cut long hair, too, on \$45 mannequins equipped with real hair from a human or sometimes even the course bovine strands of a yak.

"I tell people before they start, you're going to have to do long hair," he said.

It's one of the reasons Michael and Laura want to bring in recent cosmetology graduates. Michael said it would bring in new blood with a different skill set that his students could learn from. It's also a way to make even more use of the space. The school will see 16 students this year—its full-time capacity. Those students attend three days a week, which Michael said allows many of them to work. But the two still have space for extra part-time students who are just looking for another certification.

This diversification is a step toward the future. "We want to expand and maybe at some point add another location," Laura said.

That could mean either growing the space they have now, or moving to another larger space nearby. She envisions a space big enough for 90 students—both full- and part-time.

"It's really cool as a teacher to see students at the beginning when they're learning, then see where they're at now," she said.

## Highlight:

- Leaders of the Santa Ynez Valley will be presenting an update on a new community aquatics facility on Nov. 15. SYV Community Aquatics Foundation President Lisa Palmer and Buellton Mayor Holly Sierra will attend the forum, which will take place from 4 to 5:50 p.m. at 2975 East Highway 246 in Santa Ynez. ○

Staff Writer William D'Urso wrote this week's Spotlight. Send news tips to [spotlight@santamariasun.com](mailto:spotlight@santamariasun.com).

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# Liberals with guns

Don't like the NRA but love the Second Amendment and liberal ideals? There's a club for that

BY CAMILLIA LANHAM • PHOTOS BY JAYSON MELLOM

**SHOOT TO THRILL:** Gun club members take a lever-action rifle class on Oct. 26 at the San Luis Obispo Sportsmen's Association (SLOSA) near Morro Bay as part of the national meeting for The Liberal Gun Club.



**TARGET PRACTICE:** Instructors accompany a gun club member who's honing his rifle skills on one of SLOSA's 12 ranges.

Pressing the trigger, kickback hammers my body as the bullet exits the barrel.

The polished wooden stock jams into the part of my shoulder where it's nestled, rocking me back as I open my closed eye, hoping to catch a glimpse of what I hit more than 300 yards away.

There isn't a dust cloud, and the men at my back nod their heads in approval.

I hit the target, and I'm determined do it again.

Shooters to my right and left are also firing. The sound ricochets off the wall behind me and the ceiling overhead. But I'm oblivious. Focused.

Hunkering into the seat, I close my eye, bend my head, and zero in on the tiny valley between the mountains of the iron sight.

Twice more I fire, absorbing the recoil from the .30-06 caliber leaving the M1 Garand, aiming at the upper-body shaped steel target on the hillside. More nods from the peanut gallery.

This semi-automatic rifle from World War II is one of the 5.5 million that were produced during and after the war, and no, I don't just know that. I got the rundown from its owner, who gave me all of the nerdy details and asked me if I wanted to try it out on Oct. 26 at the San Luis Obispo Sportsmen's Association's (SLOSA) Rifle-Pistol Range off Highway 1 between SLO and Morro Bay.

Of course I said yes.

It's the fourth and final gun I shot today, thanks to the national meeting of The Liberal Gun Club at the end of October. And I'm amped. All smiles and a little jittery beneath safety glasses and ear protection. We shout at each other through the fog of blocked sound.

"What'd you think?" one of them asks me.

"Super fun," is all I can think to say.

"You hooked?" another asks.

Maybe. It's exhilarating.

I was all nerves when I got here. The gunshots made me jump, shocking my ears and sending little injections of adrenaline through my body.

"Pop. Pop. Pop," was echoing from both sides as the range safety officer asked me if I had ear protection and pointed me to squishy orange ear plugs sealed in plastic.

Safety first.

The Liberal Gun Club Executive Director Ed Gardner walked me through the basics before they let me touch a gun. Barrel pointed downrange at all times. Index finger on the gun above the trigger and safety on, if you're not firing. How to load it. How to hold it. How to mitigate recoil. How to pull the trigger. Where to look.

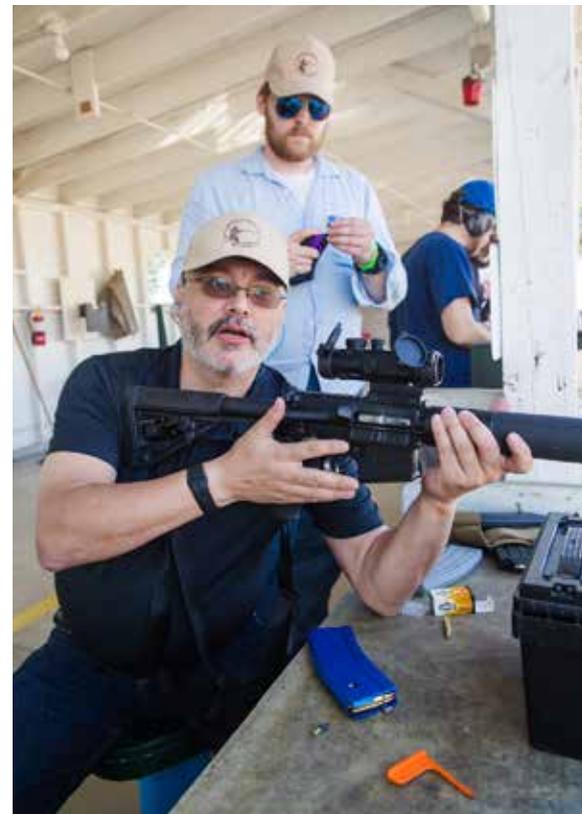
Gardner's a certified gun safety instructor and took over as executive director in 2015. The gun club has been around since 2008, but it's changed a lot since its inception.

"When it first started, it was more of an internet forum," he said, "where people could go talk about guns without getting yelled at for voting for Obama."

Progressives and moderates, people of color, members of the LGBTQ-plus community, veterans, and yes, even middle-aged white men make up its more than 2,600 paying members across the country. Since Trump got elected, its membership has more than doubled and The Liberal Gun Club is starting to find its political footing—pro-2A (Second Amendment) but definitely left of center.

"We're trying to get those folks in the middle and to the immediate left to pay attention," Gardner said. "It's hard to have a conversation with a Democrat about guns without it becoming an emotional conversation."

But Gardner is a Democrat. And so are some of the other members. For them, talking about the Second Amendment isn't a partisan issue,



**SAFETY LESSON:** Safety instructor and The Liberal Gun Club Executive Director Ed Gardner gives a lesson on how to properly and safely handle this variant of the AR-15, which was modified to shoot .22 caliber bullets and is 10 percent as powerful as a regular AR-15.

it's a civil rights issue. Guns, though, are a political issue, and Liberal Gun Club members don't always feel comfortable talking to fellow liberals about the guns they own.

"We joke about it. It's a safe space," he said with a laugh.

## Crossing aisles

Slow cookers, plastic containers, and serving bowls cover almost every inch of the folding tables against the wall below a deer mount and a sign letting everyone know that this space was "Made possible by a grant from the NRA Foundation."

Vegan chili and beans, kale and broccoli slaw salad, sandwich fixings, giant bags of chips, and a lunch line out the door. T-shirts damp with sweat and marred by dirt and gunpowder rock The Liberal Gun Club logo—a minuteman (civilian colonists who formed militia companies and were some of the first to fight in the American Revolution) encircled by stars.

About 60 club members from all over the nation spent the morning out on some of SLOSA's 12 ranges, taking various gun classes before coming to lunch. Faces sporting tan lines from safety glasses glisten as people chat and eat.

After lunch, they have the choice of attending a Stop the Bleed seminar on administering first aid to victims with traumatic injuries or taking a lever-action rifle class. Later in the afternoon, there will also be a three-gun shooting competition on the Hogue Action Pistol Range.

SLOSA Executive Director Dave Pabinquit addresses the crowd, giving them a little bit of history—the gun club has been around since 1986, but the area, which is part of Camp SLO, has been used as a shooting range since at least World War II, when soldiers would train here before getting shipped off to the Pacific.

"It's a great range, and we're so happy to have you out here," Pabinquit says. "You're a great group."

One of the special things about this range, Pabinquit tells me later over the phone, is that you can shoot at metal targets, something that's apparently rare in the state. Plus, there are a variety of ranges to shoot on, including one that's reminiscent of an Old West cowboy town.

Eric Wooten, a Liberal Gun Club member who grew up in Morro Bay and now lives in Atascadero, eats lunch as he tells me another unique thing about the range: You don't have to be a member of the National Rifle Association (NRA)

to belong to a SLOSA member. He used to belong to a private gun range in Atascadero, where members were required to belong to the NRA.

"I had to join the NRA. I made up for it by giving an equal amount of money to the ACLU," he says between bites of food. "So the whole Constitution was covered."

Wooten doesn't belong to that private range or the NRA anymore, but he's been a member of the Liberal Gun Club for the last six years. The first time he shot a gun was seven or eight years ago.

"I just knew I wanted to try it once," Wooten says. "The only way I can describe it is that feeling you get when you knock all the pins down."

Instantly hooked, he's owned and sold just about every type of gun on the market since then, although now he's really into double-action revolvers. That's pretty much all he owns. "They're just so zen," he says.

This range, Wooten proclaims, is one of the best in California. It's something a lot of the members tell me over the course of the afternoon. In June, California's two Liberal Gun Club chapters—north and south—met in the middle at SLOSA for a weekend of shooting, which they do twice a year. This national club meeting has drawn in people from all over: Massachusetts, Oregon, Texas, Mississippi, Washington, and more.

Many of these people tend to keep the fact that they own guns close to their chest, Wooten says, because there isn't a lot of "cross-pollination" between sides.

"The hard thing is, a lot of these folks are either closeted gun owners with their liberal friends or they're closeted liberals with their gun friends," he says. "A lot of them are uncomfortable with being outed."

As the club has become more active in the press, online, and politically, it's drawn in more members as well as garnered interest in the online community, such as on Facebook. The club has members in every state, chapters in 24 states, and gun safety instructors in 20 states. Education and gun safety are a large part of what the club does.

"We are seeing people come in who are looking for something other than the NRA. Who are sick of Trump," he says.

## Root of violence

After lunch, Wooten, Gardner, and I mosey over to the picnic tables at the Trap and Skeet Range. The range dog greets us with a panting smile as he runs to the end of his leash. A bright orange clay pigeon flings into the air in the opposite direction as the shooter fires, breaking the target into pieces that scatter, joining the other bits of clay already littering the ground.

Gun control, Gardner says, is an issue that Democratic politicians use to prove they're liberal. It's a false indicator, he adds, pointing out that U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-California) is a great example of the sleight-of-hand that politicians use to prove their partisanship.

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) gave her a 73 percent in its Congressional Scorecard on votes between January 2017 and May 2018.

"She's really not that liberal," he says. "Rather than saying, 'Oh, let's raise the minimum wage,' or, 'Oh, let's get universal health care,' it's, 'Oh, let's get gun control.'"

The gun control laws that elected officials such as Feinstein advocate for may make some people feel better about themselves, but that legislation doesn't actually do anything to address the deeper issue, Gardner argues.

"Are gun homicides a symptom or a problem?" he asks. "Our view would be that it's symptomatic of other problems."

If you had a living wage, if you had access to mental health care, it could change the levels of violence in the country, he says. The club focuses on something it calls "root cause mitigation," which basically means that rather than looking at the symptoms of violence, such as gun deaths, solutions should be based on addressing the root causes of that violence.

He uses the nation's suicide rate as an example. The suicide rate in the U.S. has increased by 33 percent since 1999.

Of the nearly 40,000 people who died from gun-related injuries in the U.S. in 2017, 60 percent were suicides, according to statistics from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Almost 24,000 suicides in 2017 used a gun, but that number accounts for only half of the suicides in 2017. In total, there were a little more than 47,000 suicides in 2017, according to the CDC.

"When I look at that, it tells me that we have a suicide problem," Gardner says.

And when he looks at homicide statistics, he sees that a majority of the murders involving firearms aren't committed by long guns such as the assault-style weapons banned in California; Connecticut; Washington, D.C.; Hawaii; Maryland; Massachusetts; and New Jersey.

Of the more than 15,000 murders reported to the FBI's Uniform Crime Statistics in 2017, almost 11,000 involved firearms. A little more than 7,000 of those homicides were committed with a handgun, 400 with rifles, and 260 with shotguns. In the remaining 3,200 murders related to a firearm, the type of gun is unknown.

According to the FBI statistics, long guns (rifles)—which include the assault-style firearms that mass shootings have made famous—make up way less than 1 percent of gun homicides, Gardner says.



**PREPPING FOR CLASS:** Lever-action rifle class attendees load up their guns with ammunition before the lesson starts on Oct. 26.

"The problem isn't the existence of the rifles, it's about what's around the people who are around the rifles," he says of perpetrators of mass-shootings. "Banning assault rifles doesn't make sense."

Banning assault rifles could maybe prevent another Parkland or Las Vegas, he says, but what about all of the other deaths by firearms. It's not the guns, he argues. It's whatever is driving that violence.

"The solutions to these problems are hard," Gardner says. "There is no magic wand."

## Cross-pollinating

Although they don't agree with much of the gun legislation that gets proposed, Gardner says, unlike the NRA, he knows just saying no to everything that restricts guns isn't the right approach.

He uses "red flag" laws as an example of something that could help if they're done right. These laws have been passed in several states, including California, and they put a process into place for filing protective orders to remove guns from people deemed to be a danger to themselves or others.

"If you do those wrong, you're actually taking away the rights of a citizen," Gardner says. "Currently, the Second Amendment is a right guaranteed to us under the Constitution. ... We don't just arbitrarily and administratively take things away from people."

The ACLU agrees with that position. In a 2018 blog post, the ACLU stated that red flag laws can be a reasonable way to further public safety, but the process must be fair, nondiscriminatory, and heard in court.

California became the first state in the nation to pass a gun violence restraining order law in 2014, after the Isla Vista shooting and stabbing that took the lives of six victims. The law now gives family members and law enforcement the ability to petition the court for the order. The ACLU said it believed that the law struck the right balance between public safety and civil liberties.

Gov. Gavin Newsom signed legislation in October known as AB 61 that expands the list of people who can file for a protective order to include employers, co-workers, and teachers.

The ACLU came out against AB 61, saying that it poses "a significant threat to civil liberties by expanding the authorization to seek ex parte orders," according to a Sept. 5, 2019, Assembly Floor Analysis.

"An ex parte order means the person subject to the restraining order is not informed of the court proceeding and therefore has no opportunity to contest the allegations," the ACLU stated. "We support the efforts to prevent gun violence, but we must balance that important goal with protection of civil liberties so we do not sacrifice one in an attempt to accomplish the other."

"Ping, ping, ping."

Metal targets move, one after the other, about 20 yards in front of me.

The small .22 caliber bullet firing out of this variant of the AR-15 are hitting the metal targets in front of me, but never the one I aim for. I laugh at myself because my arm is getting tired and I can't hold the gun steady.

This thing is heavy. And although it may look like an assault weapon—one of the ones that's banned in California—it's not. Black, with a magazine that clicks into place below the trigger, this particular gun is about 90 percent less powerful than a standard AR-15 because of the size of the bullet and the way that it fires.

Details like this are key to understanding guns, according to Michael Sodini who founded Walk the Talk America and was the keynote speaker at that night's Liberal Gun Club dinner. The only difference between something like the AR-15 and a hunting rifle in many cases—Sodini told me over the phone later—is that one's painted black and has a bunch of tactical extras.

"When I say tactical, it almost means scary looking," he said. "Assault rifles aren't automatic; they're semi-automatic."

Every time a bullet comes out of a semi-

## Feel like you fit?

You can learn more about what The Liberal Gun Club is all about by visiting [theliberalgunclub.com](http://theliberalgunclub.com). Find them on Facebook @ LiberalGunClub or Twitter @ liberalgunclub.

automatic weapon (and this is most of the guns available for purchase), someone had to depress a trigger.

Sodini said he spends a lot of time explaining details like these as part of the work he does for his nonprofit, which is attempting to bridge the gap between the mental health and gun communities. He

takes mental health professionals to gun shows to talk about mental health and the stigmas associated with it. And he does the same in the mental health world, exposing mental health professionals to firearms, gun culture and safety, and the associated stigmas.

The goal is to expose the two to one another and hopefully get people the help that they need in the process.

"It doesn't matter what you are. It doesn't matter what you believe in or what your philosophies are. Let's help people stay alive and get help, get mental help, if they need it. That's what our message is," Sodini said. "I feel like mental health and firearms ownership run parallel to each other but didn't communicate. There are narratives both ways, right?"

Narratives such as every mass shooter is a crazy person with a gun.

"The only future predictor of violence is previous violence, not mental health diagnoses," Sodini said, referring to a white paper put out by Mental Health America, an organization he partners with. "We've created programs that encourage treatment engagement and educate people on the misconceptions about mental health."

A lot of people in the gun community, Sodini said, believe that if they seek out help to deal with something like post-traumatic stress syndrome, that a mental health professional could take their guns away. And that isn't true in most states. In New York, though, counselors can put their patients into a database that essentially takes that right away (another form of a red flag law). Laws like that, Sodini said, also take away the incentive to go get help.

"Let's not just pass what I like to call 'feel good legislation' that we just think is working," he said. "Suicide rates are very high within the first responder and veteran community, so the approach is—I understand, you feel like this will work, but you also understand that if we create a society where I won't go get help because if I go get help, they might take away a right that means something to me."

Conversations like these are difficult, but Sodini said the key is to allow people to say what they need to say.

"There needs to be space to communicate different ideas," he said. "We're so far from that now. I want to try to bring that back." ○

Reach Editor Camillia Lanham at [clanham@santamariasun.com](mailto:clanham@santamariasun.com).



**LUNCH SPEAKER:** SLOSA Executive Director Dave Pabinquit welcomes Liberal Gun Club members to the range, saying club members have always been wonderful and are welcome back anytime.

## Online Poll

### Do you support the Orcutt Gateway development proposed for Clark Avenue?

- 65%** Yes. We need more shopping options in Orcutt.
- 20%** It should remain undeveloped land. We have plenty of shopping centers.
- 15%** No. It'll worsen traffic in the area.
- 0%** Only if the new grocery store is a Whole Foods!

20 Votes

Vote online at [www.santamariasun.com](http://www.santamariasun.com).

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FAX | (805) 347-9889  
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Our site was developed and designed by Liftoff Digital, a Central Coast web site development company ([www.gainliftoff.com](http://www.gainliftoff.com)).

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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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## Lompoc, get in line with your fiscally sound neighbors

Lompoc is facing a severe budgetary problem, and as a result, vital services like police protection are severely curtailed. So far, there have been seven murders in Lompoc, perhaps somewhat due to a lack of policemen.

So why does Lompoc charge new home builders so much less for connection fees for new houses than neighboring communities? This means the residents of Lompoc face a severe budget crisis due to a loss of about \$2 million on just the new proposed Burton Ranch housing development alone.

Do all Lompoc residents really wish to be forced to pay an additional sales tax due to severe cutbacks on public safety while builders get a sweetheart \$2 million more profits. The \$2 million flows right out of average Lompoc residents' pockets right into the wealthy builders' pockets!

Details: Lompoc only charges new home builders a \$10,579 connection fee per home, Vandenberg Village charges builders \$14,861 for the same services, and Mission Hills charges builders \$16,218. Note, the proposed Burton Ranch project is for almost 500 new connections, or roughly 500 multiplied by \$5,500, or more than \$2 million savings going into the builders' pockets.

Do you realize that Vandenberg Village charges builders at least \$1,100 per home more than Lompoc to connect to the sewer, but they both use the exact same sewer plant. This example shows how for the Burton Ranch case, Lompoc citizens are being asked to subsidize builders by about \$500,000 for the exact same services compared to the fiscally sound Vandenberg Village citizens.

Lompoc City Council needs to stop giving sweetheart deals to builders while letting Lompoc citizens pay higher taxes. Let's stop the money flowing from our pocketbooks straight into the builders' pockets. Vandenberg Village and Mission Hills are fiscally sound; Lompoc's poor fiscal management is only hurting its own taxpayers.

This is how the city of Lompoc can be \$2 million ahead. Start charging the "going rates" to builders.

Michael Donohue  
Lompoc

## Celebrate women's right to vote

The national anniversary of women's suffrage will be celebrated in August of 2020. Did you know that women in the state of California voted on state matters eight years earlier than they were able to do nationally?

California suffragists were successful in lobbying the Republican Party to include support for women's suffrage in its 1911 platform. The Suffrage Proposition became the Fourth Amendment adopted by the state Legislature and approved by voters in a referendum election in October 1911. California women joined Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Idaho, and Washington in gaining the right to vote on state matters. Eight years later, California had the opportunity to vote in favor of the 19th Amendment to the federal Constitution, which granted women national suffrage. This year and next, California women can celebrate the anniversary of our right to vote—once in November for state suffrage and again next August to celebrate the 100th year of the national women's right to vote! Hooray!

It's hard to believe, but in some countries, women still do not have this right. We, in the United States must honor that right and protect it.

Recently, a Santa Maria Suffrage Centennial Celebration Coalition was formed. The coalition is made up of women representing several women's and civic organizations and organized by the League of Women Voters Santa Maria Valley. The committee's goal is to gather all ideas for the coming 12 months to commemorate the right to vote, encourage one another, and celebrate women's equal rights and the success of our fore-mother's work!

Any like-minded individuals are invited to join in.

Find the group on Facebook @ SMSuffrageCelebration for a list of activities, calendar of events, and upcoming meeting dates.

Virginia Souza  
Suffrage Centennial Celebration Coalition Committee member  
Santa Maria

**WRITE NOW!** We want to know what you think about everything. Send your 250-word letter to Sun Letters, 2450 Skyway Drive, suite A, Santa Maria, CA 93455. You can also fax it (347-9889) or e-mail it ([letters@santamariasun.com](mailto:letters@santamariasun.com)). All letters must include a name, address, and phone number for verification purposes; may be edited for space or clarity; and will be posted to [santamariasun.com](http://santamariasun.com).

## Cannabis planting is taking over the Santa Ynez Valley

I live in Buellton and have lived in the Santa Ynez Valley for more than 50 years and have never been so sick with allergies as I have this fall. Thanks, cannabis growers who never quit planting, harvesting, and planting again. The "wet skunk" odor permeates our end of the valley whenever there is a hot day or a west wind. Instead of grass, vines, bean and tomato plants, we get a stinky, cloying stench every time we step out.

The pollen released is of epic proportions, coating cars and houses

Oh yeah, let the new aggie tricksters plant more of this crop that never ends, marching hoop houses over the hills and through the river bottom. Bravo Santa Barbara County planning commissioners.

JB Baker  
Buellton

## Aera dreams for Cat Canyon would be our nightmare

Aera Energy wants us to green-light its plan to radically ramp up oil operations in Cat Canyon. The company is jointly owned by Exxon and Shell. As you read this, Exxon is awaiting, probably in vain, a major court verdict in a suit that charges it has lied to the public for decades.

Exxon knew that its business was altering the climate, bringing us more destructive wildfires, among much else. But the company repeatedly deceived the public, just as the tobacco companies knew their cigarettes caused cancer but denied it.

Rather than act ethically and honestly, Exxon spent millions on climate-denying think tanks and researchers to confuse the public about climate science. Exxon now concedes that climate change is happening because of the burning of fossil fuels. Still, the company plans to increase its oil output by 25 percent by 2025, at a time when the world should be sharply reducing its greenhouse gas emissions.

Lawsuits, like the current one in New York state, brought by its attorney general, and the upcoming one in Massachusetts, are an important step for society to free itself from the grasp of this industry. Most directly, the suits can provide the billions necessary for communities to repair climate damages and fortify their infrastructure for the problems ahead. And if these cases are successful, Big Oil will finally be forced to pay for the costs they have foisted on taxpayers.

It's time to say a final "no" to new oil development in our county. No more being duped by Aera and the others. No more pursuit of short-term profit for a few. More than enough oil is available from other places to carry us through the transition to a cleaner, safer, and better economy. Good and plentiful jobs, and a healthy environment, depend on clean energy.

Seth Steiner  
Los Alamos



# Money talks

The fundraising race for November 2020 is off to a roaring start! You know elections, for the people, by the people, don't really matter, right? It's all about that money, baby!

If the last two cycles are any indication for what we should be expecting for the **24th Congressional District** race, **incumbent Salud Carbajal** will out-raise his opponent by around \$1 million (which is ridiculous, amirite?)—and you know what? We're on track for that so far.



Challenger **Andy Caldwell**, your favorite shrill-voiced liberal-hater of radio commentator and **Coalition for Labor, Agriculture, and Business** fame, had raised a whopping \$67,303 by the Sept. 30 campaign finance filing deadline. Carbajal, your favorite party-line toer who loves to rail against **Agitator-in-Chief Donald Trump**, was at a cool \$983,220. Hey! That's almost a \$1 million difference!

Yeah, at this point, we all know that Carbajal could raise money even if he shot a guy in the plain daylight of **New York City's Madison Avenue**. His people absolutely love him, folks! They think he's the absolute best. The guy has already raised \$7 million total since he started running for the seat. Holy crap! Is that really necessary?

It makes me want to vomit a little. Isn't there anything better you political donors can think to do with that cash? I hear there's an affordable housing shortage, a homelessness crisis, and a bunch of federal land on the **Central Coast** that needs to be saved from those **Big Bad Frackers** with the green light to drill, baby, drill! (Actually, they don't have the green light just yet as the **Bureau of Land Management** hasn't actually issued an official decision on the environmental impact statement all of the environmentalists are so concerned about, and the projects that everyone is worried about taking up every pristine federal acre of open land on the Central Coast haven't really been proposed yet, but I digress!) Maybe all of you potentially concerned liberal constituents out there with money to burn could do a little donating to those causes. I hear Carbajal's campaign chest isn't hurting for cash.

Meanwhile, Caldwell's **campaign guy Tab Berg** said Caldwell isn't concerned about fundraising. "Andy isn't running to be the best fundraiser," Berg told the **Sun**.

Well, I hope not, because he's losing already. Plus, Berg said, Andy did get into the race just 25 days before the Sept. 30 campaign finance report deadline. OK, OK. Salud's been running for the seat for almost six years, but um, just one quick question. Didn't Caldwell announce his candidacy on Aug. 12? That's not 25 days. Is my math off?

Berg also told the **Sun**, "fundraising has accelerated and we are well beyond \$250,000 already. But it is more than just dollars." What does "more than just dollars" mean? Is that code for something? Is it \$67,303 in cash and \$182,697 in doughnuts and T-shirts or something (which, also needs to be reported to the **Secretary of State**)?

One thing's for sure. Money wins races. As gross as it is. So Caldwell's campaign advisor might be saying that "we are competing for votes, not money" now, but we all know what really matters in an election isn't the people. It's the money.

And it's time to get that "grassroots" ass in gear. ○

The canary hates money but knows what it's good for. Send comments to [canary@santamariasun.com](mailto:canary@santamariasun.com).

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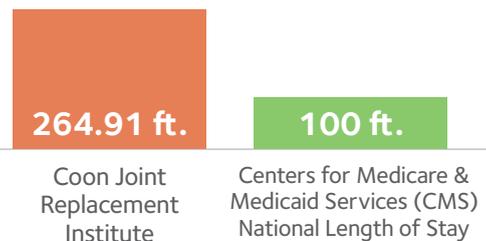


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More than 60% of our patients travel over 2 hours to receive treatment with us. Our focus is to provide minimally invasive surgical approaches with successful pain management techniques to minimize postoperative pain and shorten hospital stays.

**Join us for a free knee and hip joint replacement seminar**

**Tuesday, Dec. 10, 2019**

Registration & Dinner: 6:00 p.m.  
Presentation: 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

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Paso Robles, CA 93446

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**RSVP: 877-596-0644**  
[www.AdventistHealthJointCare.org](http://www.AdventistHealthJointCare.org)



Coon Joint Replacement Institute

# HOT STUFF

NOV. 14 – NOV. 21  
2019

## IT'S NEVER TOO SOON

The Wildling Museum of Art and Nature will host its ninth annual Holiday Marketplace on Sunday, Dec. 1, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Several local artisans have supplied a variety of gifts that celebrate wildlife, nature, and the great outdoors. The event will also feature family-friendly activities and holiday treats. Admission is free. The museum is located at 1511 Mission Drive, unit B, Solvang. Visit [wildlingmuseum.org](http://wildlingmuseum.org) for more info.

—Caleb Wiseblood

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WILDLING MUSEUM OF ART AND NATURE

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

#### MODERN COLORED PENCIL BOOK SIGNING WITH CHELSEA WARD

Local artist Chelsea Ward returns to the Santa Ynez Valley to sign her latest book. Modern Colored Pencil delves into all the basic techniques and concepts required to create fresh, colorful works of colored pencil art. **Nov. 15**, 2-4 p.m. 805-688-6010. [facebook.com/events/1656172287851577/](http://facebook.com/events/1656172287851577/). The Book Loft, 1680 Mission Dr., Solvang.

### SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

#### CORE 10TH ANNIVERSARY AND WINE CLUB PICK-UP PARTY

Join Dave and Becky Corey in celebrating their 10th year of pouring wine in Orcutt. Enjoy food by Chef Rick with 10 vintages of CORE Wines. **Nov. 17**, 2-5 p.m. \$10-\$20. [my805tix.com](http://my805tix.com). Chef Rick's, 135 E. Foster Road, Orcutt, 805-361-0789.

#### GUADALUPE NATIVE GARDEN DAY

Join volunteer, Judith Evans, who will be at Guadalupe Native Garden on the third Saturday of each month for this event. Third Saturday of every month, 9 a.m.-noon through Dec. 19. Free. 805-343-2455. [dunescenter.org/event/guadalupe-native-garden-beautification-days/](http://dunescenter.org/event/guadalupe-native-garden-beautification-days/). Guadalupe Native Garden, Corner of Campondonico and 7th Ave., Guadalupe.

#### HEART OF THE VALLEY FEATURING JOE DANA

Joe Dana will talk about the Dana Family, a well known local family affiliated with the Dana Adobe. **Nov. 16**, 10:30-11:15 a.m. Free. 805 925-0994 x1511. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

#### PRO WRESTLING UNPLUGGED: NOVEMBER REIGN

Features several performers, including 3 former WWE Superstars. **Nov. 15**, 6:30 p.m. \$10-\$20. [my805tix.com](http://my805tix.com). Veteran's Memorial Community Center, 313 W. Tunnell Street, Santa Maria, 805-925-0951.

### SAN LUIS OBISPO

#### 36TH ANNUAL SLO POETRY FESTIVAL

As part of the 36th Annual SLO Poetry Festival, poets will read at the library. Featured Readers: Jeanie Greensfelder, SLO Poet Laureate Emeritus; Toni Wynn; and Melinda Palacio. Also features Luke Johnson, selected reader. Open reading to follow. **Nov. 17**, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Free. 805-781-5783. [slolibrary.org](http://slolibrary.org). San Luis Obispo Library, 995 Palm St., San Luis Obispo.

**BISHOP STREET STUDIOS: GRAND OPENING** Transitions-Mental Health Association and the Housing

Authority of San Luis Obispo are proud to present Bishop Street Studios, a supportive housing project that demonstrates low-income housing is possible in our California communities. **Nov. 16**, 2 p.m. Free. Bishop Street Studios, 1720 Bishop Street, San Luis Obispo, 805-540-6500.

#### GEORGE LOPEZ: THE WALL WORLD TOUR

Named by TIME magazine as one of the "most influential Hispanics in America," George Lopez presents an evening of outrageous fun delivered through comic observations on everyday occurrences. **Nov. 16**, 8-9:30 p.m. Adults \$40-\$110. 805-756-4849. [pacslo.org/online/article/georgelopez19](http://pacslo.org/online/article/georgelopez19). Performing Arts Center, 1 Grand Ave., San Luis Obispo.

#### MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT CHOICES PRESENTATION

HICAP (Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program) will sponsor a free Medicare Open Enrollment Choices presentation. **Nov. 14**, 2-3 p.m. Free. San Luis Obispo Senior Center, 1445 Santa Rosa St., San Luis Obispo, 805-781-7306. [slocity.org/parksandrecreation/seniors](http://slocity.org/parksandrecreation/seniors).

#### PROTECTING BIRDS ON THE WEST COAST

Anna Weinstein, marine conservation director for National Audubon and Audubon California, will share stories of her collaboration with some of our 19 coastal California Audubon chapters to win conservation fights. **Nov. 18**, 7-8 p.m. Free. 805-772-1991. [morrocoastaudubon.org](http://morrocoastaudubon.org). San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden, 3450 Dairy Creek Rd., San Luis Obispo.

#### A STORY OF MORAL COURAGE: MARTY BROUNSTEIN

Come to hear the author of *Two Among the Righteous Few: A Story of Courage in the Holocaust*, a riveting and important story centered around the true account of rescue of dozens of people during the Holocaust. **Nov. 21**, 7 p.m. Free. Congregation Beth David, 10180 Los Osos Valley Road, San Luis Obispo, 805-544-0760, [cbdslo.org](http://cbdslo.org).

#### STRAIGHT DOWN FALL CLASSIC

The Fall Classic is a fun and relaxed

annual golf tournament first held in 1997 as a way to attract top golfers from the PGA to the central coast. Spectators are invited to walk the course along with the pros. **Nov. 16**, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. and **Nov. 17**, 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Free admission. 805-543-3086. [straightdown.com/fall-classic/](http://straightdown.com/fall-classic/). San Luis Obispo Golf and Country Club, 255 Country Club, San Luis Obispo.

### NORTH SLO COUNTY

#### ELEGANT EVENING DOWNTOWN: PASO ROBLES

Features open houses, refreshments, live mannequins, music, and more. **Nov. 16**, 5-8 p.m. Free. 805-238-4103. [pasoroblesdowntown.org](http://pasoroblesdowntown.org). Downtown Paso Robles Shopping Core, 12th and Park Streets, Paso Robles.

#### HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

Features more than 50 vendors. A one-day craft show where all the items are handmade. **Nov. 16**, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. 805-461-5005. [visitatascadero.com/events/](http://visitatascadero.com/events/). Pavilion on the Lake, 9315 Pismo Ave., Atascadero.

#### LIGHT UP A LIFE

Wilshire Hospice invites you to our 2019 Light Up A Life remembrance ceremonies. No matter when we have experienced our loss, it can be healing to come together with others in our community to remember and honor our loved ones with music, poetry, and memories. **Nov. 19**, 6-7 p.m. Free. 805-547-7025. [wilshirehospice.org/LUAL](http://wilshirehospice.org/LUAL). The Carlton Hotel, 6005 El Camino Real, Atascadero.

#### TACO DAY ON TRAFFIC WAY

A family friendly food festival in Downtown Atascadero. Featuring a variety of taco vendors, beer and cider garden, local businesses, and live music. **Nov. 16**, 1-4 p.m. 805-464-2994. Downtown Atascadero, Traffic Way, Atascadero.

## FUNDRAISERS

### SAN LUIS OBISPO

**25TH ANNUAL BENEFIT CONCERT FOR FRIENDS OF 40 PRADO** The San Luis Obispo County band is proud to present our 25th Annual Benefit

Concert. All donations from this concert benefits Friends of 40 Prado. **Nov. 17**, 3-5 p.m. \$10. Mount Carmel Lutheran Church, 1701 Fredericks St, San Luis Obispo, 805-544-2133.

#### BETH DAVID POKER TOURNAMENT

Join us for our inaugural Poker Tournament. \$50 buy in to play with prizes for the top 9 players. **Nov. 17**, 1:30-2 p.m. \$50. 805-544-0760. Congregation Beth David, 10180 Los Osos Valley Road, San Luis Obispo, [cbdslo.org](http://cbdslo.org).

#### NON PROFIT MONDAY TO BENEFIT THE MONDAY CLUBHOUSE CONSERVANCY

Monday Club President Robbie Jorgensen and members Jennifer Alderman, Becky Price, and Vicki Carroll are polishing up their bartending skills for you. **Nov. 18**, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Varies. 805-439-4298. [themondayclubslslo.org/event-3609068](http://themondayclubslslo.org/event-3609068). SLO Provisions, 1255 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo.

## ARTS

### CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

#### SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

#### FREE WEST COAST SWING CLASS

No partner or experience required. Mondays, 7 & 8 p.m. Free. (805) 937-1574. Maverick Saloon, 3687 Sagunto St., Santa Ynez, [mavericksaloon.org](http://mavericksaloon.org).

#### 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](http://oasisorcutt.org). Oasis Senior Center, 420 Soares Ave., Orcutt, 805-937-9750.

#### COUNTRY TWO STEP DANCE LESSONS

From the basics to a variety of patterns. 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.com](http://everybodycandance.com).

ARTS continued page 16

SUBMIT  
YOUR  
EVENTS

New Times and the Sun now share their community listings for a complete Central Coast calendar running from SLO County through northern Santa Barbara County. Submit events online by logging in with your Google, Facebook, or Twitter account at [newtimeslo.com](http://newtimeslo.com). You may also email [calendar@newtimeslo.com](mailto:calendar@newtimeslo.com). Deadline is one week before the issue date on Thursdays. Submissions are subject to editing and approval. Contact Calendar Editor Caleb Wiseblood directly at [cwiseblood@newtimeslo.com](mailto:cwiseblood@newtimeslo.com).

## INDEX

Special Events .....	[15]
Arts .....	[15]
Culture & Lifestyle.....	[16]
Food & Drink.....	[18]
Music .....	[23]



## BREW CREW

The Naughty Oak Brewing Company hosts its next Beer Yoga workshop on Saturday, Nov. 23, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Admission includes one hour of yoga and one complimentary pint of beer. All experience levels are welcome. Tickets are \$22 and are available in advance at [my805tix.com](http://my805tix.com). The brewery is located at 165 S. Broadway, suite 102, Orcutt. Call (805) 287-9663 to find out more.

—C.W.

## ARTS from page 15

websites.com. Everybody Can Dance, 628 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria, 805-937-6753.

**FREE SALSA CLASSES** No partner or experience required. Tuesdays, 6:30 & 7:30 p.m. Free. (805) 937-1574. Cubanissimo Cuban Coffee House, 4869 S. Bradley Rd., Orcutt.

**FREE WEST COAST SWING CLASS** No partner or experience required. Wednesdays, 6:30 & 7:30 p.m. 805-937-1574. Cubanissimo Cuban Coffee House, 4869 S. Bradley Rd., Orcutt.

**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.

**KIDDYKEYS PRESCHOOL PIANO CLASS** Weekly improvisation on the keyboard, music theory, and composition are combined with the traditional elements

of music and movement. Fridays, 4-4:30 & 4:30-5 p.m. and Saturdays, 10-10:30 & 10:30-11 a.m. through Nov. 22 \$90 per 6 week session. 805-619-8776. christinefoghmusic.com/register.html. Christine Fogh Music, 685 Raymond Ave., Santa Maria.

**MUSIC LESSONS** Learn acoustic or electric guitar, mandolin, ukulele, bass, piano, violin, drums, percussion, voice, mandolin, banjo, saxophone, and/or clarinet. The academy offers private lessons by the hour or half hour for all age groups and ability. ongoing 805-925-0464. Coelho Academy of Music, 325 E. Betteravia Rd., Santa Maria.

**SANTA MARIA SEWING SUPERSTORE CLASSES** Visit site for full list of classes and more details. Mondays-Thursdays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. santamariasewing.com. Santa Maria Sewing Superstore, 127 E. Main St., Santa Maria, 805-922-1784.

**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.

## SPECIAL ART EVENTS

### SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

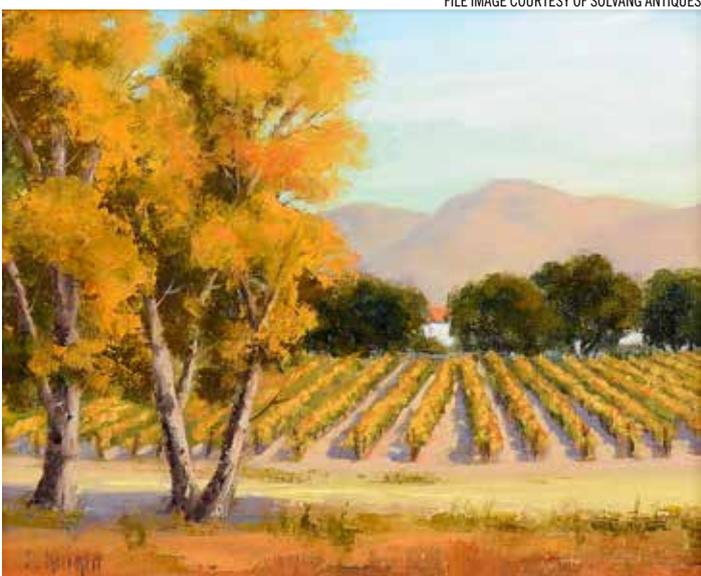
**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY AND BEYOND: EXHIBIT OPENING RECEPTION** The Wildling Museum is pleased to present Santa Barbara County and Beyond: Recent Photographic Landscapes by George Rose. **Nov. 16**, 3-5 p.m. Free. 805-686-8315. wildlingmuseum.org/news/california-landscapes-photographs-by-george-rose. Wildling Museum of Art and Nature, 1511-B Mission Dr., Solvang.

## EXHIBITS

### SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

**CELEBRATING THE NATIONAL LANDS OF CALIFORNIA** A showcase of fine art inspired by national parks, monuments, preserves, and recreation areas located within the state of California. Mondays, Wednesdays-Sundays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. through Jan. 20 \$5. 805-686-8315. wildlingmuseum.org/news/celebrating-the-national-lands-of-california-art-exhibit. Wildling Museum of Art and Nature, 1511-B Mission Dr., Solvang.

—C.W.



## VINEYARD VIEW

Landscape paintings by Orcutt-based artist Sheryl Knight are on display at Solvang Antiques Fine Art Gallery through Sunday, Nov. 17. The exhibition includes Vineyards in the Fall (pictured), which features the classic rows of grape vines that the Central Coast is famous for. The gallery is located at 1693 Copenhagen Drive, Solvang. Visit [solvangantiques.com](http://solvangantiques.com) for more info.

—C.W.

**COMMUNITY DAY AT THE WILDLING MUSEUM** offers free admission during Community Day. Enjoy drop-in art activities, current exhibits, and more. Third Wednesday of every month Free. 805-688-1082. wildlingmuseum.org. Wildling Museum of Art and Nature, 1511-B Mission Dr., Solvang.

**HOME AND AWAY: KRIS BUCK AND KAREN MCLEAN MCGAW** Features pastels and watercolors. The artists have been painting together locally and abroad. The paintings offer a broad range of subject matter including landscape, figurative, and florals. Mondays-Sundays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. through Nov. 30 805-688-7517. GalleryLosOlivos.com. Gallery Los Olivos, 2920 Grand Ave., Los Olivos.

**KRIS BUCK AND KAREN MCLEAN MCGAW** Buck and McGaw are the gallery's featured artists for the month of November. Through Dec. 1 Free admission. gallerylosolivos.com. Gallery Los Olivos, 2920 Grand Ave., Los Olivos, 805-688-7517.

**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.

**SANTA BARBARA PRINTMAKERS: WILD PLACES IN PRINT** The Wildling Museum is pleased to announce Santa Barbara Printmakers: Wild Places in Print, a new Barbara Goodall Education Center exhibition featuring nature and wildlife-inspired works. Through Jan. 1, 2020 Free. 805-686-8315. wildlingmuseum.org. Wildling Museum of Art and Nature, 1511-B Mission Dr., Solvang.

### SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

**ART EXHIBIT: MARGIE BOWKER** A display of painting and art tiles. ongoing Santa Maria Country Club, 505 W. Waller Lane, Santa Maria.

**ART EXHIBITION: MUSIC SERIES BY LORI MOLE** The Santa Maria Public Library will be exhibiting the art of Central Coast artist, Lori Mole. Patrons and art enthusiasts alike are encouraged to stop by the library's Shepard Hall Gallery, view the art and learn more about the artist. Through Dec. 5 Free. engagedpatrons.org. Shepard Hall Art Gallery - Santa Maria Public Library, 421 South McClelland St., Santa Maria, 805-925-0994.

**LOCAL ART AND ARTISTS: CONTINUING SERIES** An ongoing series of shows, facilitated by advisor Terry Dworaczyk, to spotlight local art and artists. Each show includes an artist reception. ongoing Ameriprise Financial, 2605 S Miller St., suite 104, Santa Maria.

**SANTA BARBARA PRINTMAKERS JURIED EXHIBITION** ongoing smartscouncil.org. Betteravia Gallery, 511 E. Lakeside Parkway, Santa Maria.

## STAGE

### SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

**THE LITTLE MERMAID** Based on the Hans Christian Andersen story of the Disney film. Presented by PCPA. Music by Alan Menken and lyrics by Howard Ashman and Glenn Slater. Book by Doug Wright. Through Dec. 22 Marian Theatre, 800 S. College Dr., Santa Maria, 805-928-7731, pcpa.org.

### SOUTH COAST SLO COUNTY

**DRAC IN THE SADDLE AGAIN: A VAMPIRE'S WESTERN** The un-dead Dracula of Transylvania (Jeff Salsbury), hops on the stagecoach to Tombstone, Arizona where he meets a cast of crazy characters. Wednesdays-Saturdays, 7-9:30 p.m. through Nov. 17 \$23-\$26. 805-489-2499. americanmelodrama.com. Great American Melodrama, 1863 Front St., Oceano.

**DRAC IN THE SADDLE AGAIN: A VAMPIRE'S WESTERN** The Great American Melodrama rings in the fall season with this hilarious spoof. Sundays, 6-8:30 p.m. through Nov. 17 \$23-\$30. 805-489-2499. americanmelodrama.com. Great American Melodrama, 1863 Front St., Oceano.

### SAN LUIS OBISPO

**DEATHTRAP** SLO REP is proud to present Ira Levin's ingenious comic thriller. Wednesdays-Saturdays, 7-9 p.m. and Saturdays, Sundays, 2-4 p.m. through Nov. 17 \$20-\$37. 805-786-2440. slorep.org/shows/deathtrap/. San Luis Obispo Repertory Theatre, 888 Morro St., San Luis Obispo.

**BALLET UNBOUND: PRESENTED BY THE MOVEMENT ARTS COLLECTIVE** Part of the annual Fall Season of Ballet Classics, evocative Modern Dance, and Contemporary Ballet. This year's iteration includes three works which focus on the theme of overcoming barriers. **Nov. 15**, 7-9 p.m. \$20-\$35. 805-756-4849. Spanos Theatre, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo.

**FLEX AT CAL POLY** Central Coast native Jay Carlson brings his work about his family's Filipino migration story to the stage in his hometown at Cal Poly. **Nov. 14**, 7:30 p.m. Free. Spanos Theatre, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, 805-756-7113.

**SLOLIO: A GATHERING OF TRUE STORIES AT LINNAEA'S** Come to Linnaea's to celebrate the 100th and last SLOlio event with the theme "Last Dance". True

stories told without notes based on a theme. **Nov. 20**, 7-9 p.m. Free. 805-995-2867. Linnaea's Cafe, 1110 Garden St., San Luis Obispo, linnaeas.com/.

# CULTURE & LIFESTYLE

## LECTURES & LEARNING

### SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

**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. Second Thursday of every month, 6-7 p.m. Free. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria, 805-925-0994.

**COMPUTER BASICS WORKSHOP** The City of Santa Maria Public Library is pleased to announce a free Computer workshop. The workshop will be presented in the Learning Center. Every other Tuesday, 1-2 p.m. through Dec. 11 805-925-0994. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

**HEART OF THE VALLEY** The City of Santa Maria Public Library is pleased to offer a local history series. The series is to educate and delight the public with interesting facts from the past that shaped Santa Maria. Third Saturday of every month, 10:15-11:15 a.m. through Dec. 23 805-925-0994. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

### HEART OF THE VALLEY: THE DANA

**FAMILY Guest Speaker: Joe Dana.** Seating is limited and on a first come first serve basis. **Nov. 16**, 10:15-11:15 a.m. 805-925-0994, ext. 8562. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

**SIMPLE SPANISH** Instructor based Spanish class for beginners. Tuesdays, 2:30-3:30 p.m. Free. 805-937-9750. Oasis Senior Center, 420 Soares Ave., Orcutt.

### STEM CELL AND REGENERATIVE MEDICINE

**CLASS** Join us to learn about stem cell allograft services as an option for knee, hip and shoulder pain. Every other Thursday, 5:30-6:45 p.m. Free. 805-614-7820. RestorativeSpineandJoint.com. Moxie Cafe, 1317 W. McCoy Ln., Santa Maria.

### SOUTH COAST SLO COUNTY

**POINT SLO LIGHTHOUSE TOURS** Docents lead guests on a one-hour tour of the historic site, the buildings, and up to the Lighthouse tower. Please arrive 15 minutes early. All proceeds go directly toward the site's restoration. Wednesdays, 12 & 1 p.m. and Saturdays, 12, 1 & 2 p.m. \$17-\$22. 805-540-5771. pointsanluislighthouse.org. Point San Luis Lighthouse, 1 Lighthouse Rd., Avila Beach.

**SOUTH COUNTY POETRY** An open mic follows each month's featured poet. Fourth Sunday of every month, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Free. 805-473-2416. South County Poetry, The Red Dirt Coffee House, 1452 E. Grand Ave., Arroyo Grande.

## CLUBS & MEETINGS

### SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

**BOARD OF LIBRARY TEENS (BOLT)** Teens have the opportunity to plan upcoming teen events, make changes to the teen zone, and make the Library the best place it can be for teens. **Nov. 23**, 10-11 a.m. Free. 805-925-0994. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

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

**DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF SM VALLEY: MONTHLY MEETING** Social at 6 p.m. Guest speaker at 7 p.m. Business meeting for members follows. Third Thursday of every month, 6 p.m. Free. 805-349-2708. santamariademocrats.info. IHOP, 202 Nicholson Ave, Santa Maria.

**HAM RADIO** HAM Radio operators can show guests how to build their own radio and share information about operating them. Mondays, 8:30-10:30 a.m. Free. 805-937-9750. oasisorcutt.org. Oasis Senior Center, 420 Soares Ave., Orcutt.

CULTURE & LIFESTYLE continued page 17



## POOR UNFORTUNATE SOULS

The Pacific Conservatory Theatre's (PCPA) production of Disney's *The Little Mermaid* will run through Sunday, Dec. 22. The cast includes Kitty Balay as the villainous sea witch, Ursula, who seeks to overpower King Triton and rule over the ocean. Tickets to the show range from \$38 to \$50. The theater is located at 800 S. College Drive, Santa Maria. Call (805) 922-8313 or visit [pcpa.org](http://pcpa.org) for show times and more info.

—C.W.

## CULTURE & LIFESTYLE from page 16

**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 CAMERA CLUB COMPETITION MEETING** Meet monthly for a friendly competition where guests get feedback on images and recognition for hard work. Third Wednesday of every month, 7:30 p.m. through Nov. 21 805-801-2879. [santamariacameraclub.org](http://santamariacameraclub.org). Merrill Gardens, 1220 N Suey Rd, 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/](http://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](http://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 Rd., Orcutt.

**TRIVIA NIGHT** Wednesdays, 7 p.m. Free. [naughtyoak.com](http://naughtyoak.com). Naughty Oak Brewing Co., 165 S Broadway St. suite 102, Orcutt, 805-287-9663.

## CREATE & LEARN

### SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

**TRAUMA INFORMED PARENTING GROUP** A foster parent class presented by Calm. Tuesdays 805-965-2376. [calm4kids.org](http://calm4kids.org). Church For Life, 3130 Skyway Dr., suite 501, Santa Maria.

### SOUTH COAST SLO COUNTY

**AWAKENED PARENTING SITTING GROUP** The intention of this group is to provide space for meditation and discussion in a supportive community. Appropriate for parents of children of all ages and anyone interested in exploring awakened parenting. Third Monday of every month, 6:30-7:30 p.m. [whiteheronsangha.org](http://whiteheronsangha.org). White Heron Sangha Meditation Center, 6615 Bay Laurel Place, Avila Beach.

**GENERAL GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP (SOUTH COUNTY)** Hospice SLO County is offering this support group for those grieving the death of a loved one. Held in the Church Care Center. Drop-ins welcome. Tuesdays, 10-11:30 a.m. Free. 805-544-2266. [hospiceslo.org](http://hospiceslo.org). New Life Pismo, 990 James Way, Pismo Beach.

**NAMI FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP** A confidential and safe group of families helping families who have a loved one living with mental health challenges. Group doesn't meet in July, August, or December. Third Saturday of every month, 10-11:30 a.m. Free. 805-489-9659. Safe Haven, 203 Bridge St., Arroyo Grande.

**SCLERODERMA SUPPORT GROUP MEETING** A support group for those who have Scleroderma or those who love someone with Scleroderma. **Nov. 17**, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Free. 805-878-6261. St. John's Lutheran Church, 959 Valley Rd., Arroyo Grande.

**SPOUSE AND PARTNER LOSS SUPPORT GROUP (SOUTH COUNTY)** A Hospice SLO support group for those grieving the loss of a partner or spouse. Held in Room 16. Drop-ins welcome. Thursdays, 5-6:30 p.m. Free. 805-544-2266. [hospiceslo.org](http://hospiceslo.org). New Life Pismo, 990 James Way, Pismo Beach.

## CREATE & LEARN

### SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

**CARD MAKING** Tuesdays, 9 a.m. [oasisorcutt.org](http://oasisorcutt.org). Oasis Senior Center, 420 Soares Ave., Orcutt, 805-937-9750.

**FALL MAKERSPACE** It's time to create, build, explore,

and use your imagination at the Library Maker Events. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. through Nov. 30 Free. 805-925-0994. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

**KNITTING AND CROCHETING** Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. [oasisorcutt.org](http://oasisorcutt.org). Oasis Senior Center, 420 Soares Ave., Orcutt, 805-937-9750.

**SIP AND PAINT FOR TEENS** Open to teen artists of all skill levels. Beverages will be served. **Nov. 15**, 4-5:30 p.m. Free. 805-925-0994. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

## MIND & BODY

### SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

**FIT CLUB** A club to energize both body and soul. Pre and post workout drinks will be available. Mondays-Fridays, 9 a.m. Balance Nutrition, 1975 S. Broadway, suite E, Santa Maria.

**MEDITATION GROUP** 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/](http://unitysantamaria.net/).

## OUTDOORS

### SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

**HIKE TO MUSSEL ROCK** Just south of Guadalupe lies an extraordinary and unique nature preserve. **Nov. 17**, 9 a.m.-noon Free. 805-343-2455. [dunescenter.org/event/hike-to-mussel-rock/](http://dunescenter.org/event/hike-to-mussel-rock/). Rancho Guadalupe Beach, 6999 W. Main St, Guadalupe.

## KIDS & FAMILY

### SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

**NIGHT LIGHT THEATER PRESENTS: DETECTIVE PIKACHU** The library will be showing a special screening of the blockbuster adaptation. **Nov. 19**, 6-8 p.m. Free. 805-925-0994. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

**BEAUTIFUL BUTTERFLIES STORY TIME** Features fun stories, songs, finger plays, and digital storytelling. For children aged 3 to 5 and their families. Wednesdays, 10:30-

CULTURE & LIFESTYLE continued page 18

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**Sun**

NORTHERN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY'S NEWS & ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY  
[SANTAMARIASUN.COM](http://SANTAMARIASUN.COM)

# Hound Around Town



## Need someone to hug?

Sam does too! She loves being hugged and snuggled with. This week, she's hanging "Around Town" at the Santa Maria PetSmart with Store Leader Andy Cortez. Visit her at our shelter to meet this gentle teddy bear!



**ADOPT!**  
Adoptable Pets of the Week

**ARTSY**  
AGE: 1 year  
5 months  
BREED: Domestic  
Short Hair  
SEX: Female  
WEIGHT: 9 lbs



**SAM**  
AGE: 9 years  
1 month  
BREED: Labrador  
Retriever  
SEX: Female  
WEIGHT: 42 lbs

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11 a.m. through Dec. 11 Free. 805-925-0994. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

**BILINGUAL STORY TIME/HORA DE CUENTOS**

Features exciting stories, songs, and rhymes in both Spanish and English. Wednesdays, 5:30-6 p.m. through Dec. 11 805-925-0994. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

**BOUNCING BABY STORY TIME** Offers exploration of pre-literacy skills through music, movement, and visual stimulation. Fridays, 11:30 a.m.-noon through Dec. 13 Free. 805-925-0994. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

**BOUNCING BABY STORY TIME: FALL SESSION**

2 Story time for babies up to 12 months and their caregivers. Fridays, 11:30 a.m.-noon through Dec. 13 Free. 805-925-0994. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

**FAMILY AFTERNOON STORY TIME** Features stories, movies, and a craft. Tuesdays, 4-5 p.m. through Dec. 10 Free. 805-925-0994. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

**HOMEWORK HELP** Free after school homework help for grades K-6. No sign-ups required; first come, first served. Mondays-Thursdays, 3:30-6:30 p.m. Free. 805-925-0994. 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.

**LEGO CLUB** Meet with other Lego fans and build together. Nov. 14, 4-5 p.m. Free. 805-925-0994. 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 East, Santa Maria, 805-349-7575.

**NEON NIGHTS AT ROCKIN' JUMP** Fridays, Saturdays, 8-10 p.m. 805-266-7080. Santa Maria Town Center, 142 Town Center East, 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 Streets, Santa Maria.

**TEEN GAMING FRIDAYS** Teens can join the library on select Fridays for an afternoon of gaming. Light snacks will be provided. Open to Jr. High and High School students. Fourth Friday of every month, 4-5:30 p.m. through Nov. 22 Free. 805-925-0994. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

**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** Certified Intuitive and Evidential, Spiritual Medium, Julie Renee Medley offers 1/2 private readings. Please call to set an appointment or for consultation. ongoing \$60 per 1/2 hour or sliding fee can be utilized. 937-271-5646. CovenTree: Books and Gifts, 722 E Main St., Santa Maria.

**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.

**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.

**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 Street, San Luis Obispo.

**SLO FARMERS MARKET** Hosts over 60 vendors. Saturdays, 8-10:45 a.m. World Market Parking Lot, 325 Madonna Rd., San Luis Obispo.

**SLO TUESDAY FARMERS' MARKET** Tuesdays, 2:30-5:30 p.m. Free. Farm Supply, 224 Tank Farm Rd., San Luis Obispo.

**EVENTS**

**SANTA YNEZ VALLEY**

**ROBLAR WINE TASTINGS** Potting Shed and Barrel Room available to members. ongoing, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. 805-686-2603. roblarwinery.com. Roblar Winery, 3010 Roblar Ave., Santa Ynez.

**STANDING SUN: TASTING ROOM HOURS** Visit site for Cellar Club details and more info. Mondays-Thursdays, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. 805-691-9413. standingsunwines.com. Standing Sun Wines, 92 2nd St., Santa Ynez, 805-691-9413.

**WINE TASTING AT KALYRA** Offering varietals from all over the world. Mondays-Fridays, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturdays, Sundays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 805-693-8864. kalyrawinery.com. Kalyra Winery, 343 N. Refugio Rd., Santa Ynez.

**LOMPOC/VANDENBERG**

**LOMPOC WINE FACTORY TASTINGS** This tasting room highlights community-based winemaking. Features various member winemakers. Mondays, Wednesdays-Saturdays, 12-4 p.m. 805-243-8398. lompoctwinery.com. Lompoc Wine Factory, 321 N. D St., Lompoc.

**TASTING AT MONTEMAR WINES** Offering handcrafted wines, charcuterie, and cheeses. Fridays-



**DENTAL AWARENESS**

*Toby Tropper (left) portrays a bumbling dentist during a recreation of "The Dentist," a popular sketch from The Carol Burnett Show. The skit is part of the Great American Melodrama's Classic Comedy Vaudeville Revue, which follows the theater's production of Drac in the Saddle Again through Sunday, Nov. 17. Tickets to the show range from \$23 to \$30. The theater is located at 1863 Front St., Oceano. Visit americanmelodrama.com for more info.*

—C.W

Sundays, 12-5 p.m. 805-735-5000. facebook.com/montemarwines. Montemar Wines, 1501 E. Chestnut Ave., Lompoc.

**WINE TASTING AT FLYING GOAT CELLARS** This winery specializes in Pinot Noir and sparkling wine. Mondays, Thursdays-Sundays, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. 805-736-9032. flyinggoatcellars.com. Flying Goat Cellars, 1520 Chestnut Court, Lompoc. ☉

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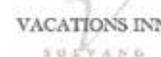
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**25+ BANDS ... MAD CADDIES 2 STAGES ... SAT NOV 16**

**MAD CADDIES LIVE SHOW**

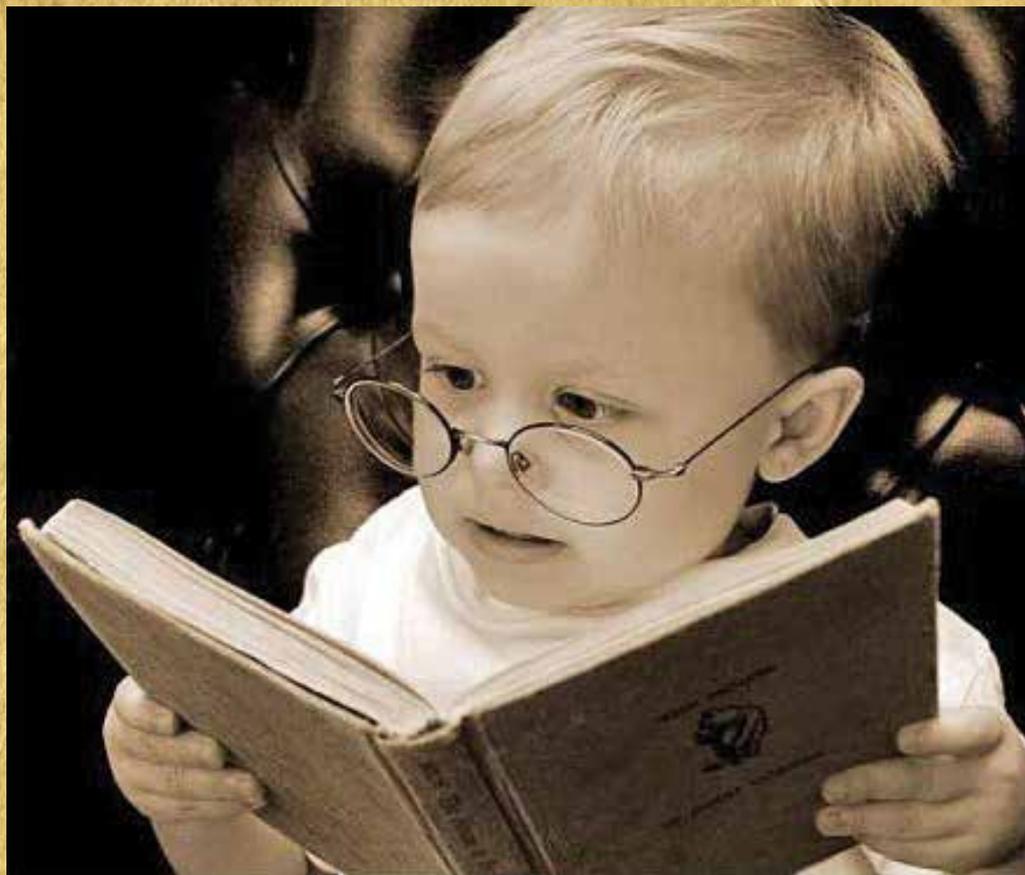
**NOVEMBER 15, 16 & 17**

**NOVEMBER 15, 16 & 17 SOLVANGFALLFEST.COM**



# ONCE UPON A TIME...

*37 years ago, actually,* a small group of people with big ideas about libraries and reading got together for a very purposeful meeting. They wanted to form a non-profit organization that would raise money and increase awareness about the Library, and that would promote reading and support literacy in the community. And they would call themselves the **FRIENDS OF THE SANTA MARIA PUBLIC LIBRARY** because, after all, that was truly who they were.



First, of course, was all the paperwork about incorporating, forming a Board, writing a mission statement, and making sure all the proper files were sent to the taxing authorities.

But then the hard work began. How would this small group gain members and really help libraries and readers in a meaningful way?

*FRIENDS* of  
The Santa Maria Public Library



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# THEY TOLD THEIR STORY TO ALL WHO WOULD LISTEN...

And their membership lists began to grow because many people loved their library and wanted it to prosper. These new members brought their new ideas and enthusiasm and helped to set goals.

- They would raise money and advocate for the Library
- They would promote literacy and reading in the community

**How would they accomplish this? Members, volunteers, and other community supporters would cooperate in multiple ways.**

- They would collect donated books
- They would operate a Friendship, later called The Library Shop, to sell these books
- They would spread the word about all the Library has to offer through participating in community events.

**And years later, they would develop other fundraising ideas.**

- They would sell exceptional donated books nationally and internationally through the Friends' Amazon Store
- They would hold barbecues with the help of Kiwanis
- They would continue on with the Annual Painted Chair Raffle that was initially begun by the Altrusa of Santa Maria members.



# AND THEY WEREN'T AFRAID TO START NEW ADVENTURES...

When the opportunity presented itself this summer to have a new Library Shop at the Santa Maria Town Center, the Friends decided that they were ready for a new challenge. They held their GRAND OPENING on September 29 and were thrilled to see so many old friends rediscover them in their new location.

But their new story needs lots of characters to make it a successful adventure. Maybe you'd like to play a part. They need people in these starring roles.

- Drivers who can pick up donated books.
- Sales assistants who can work in the Library Shop
- Internet workers who like to play sleuth hunting for books on Amazon
- Committee members who want to plan the Chair Raffle
- Artists who want to paint chairs for the Raffle
- Networkers who want to find Sponsors for the Chair Raffle
- Community Friends who like to join the crowds for National Night Out and other spectacular happenings



## FUN FACTS ABOUT THE FRIENDS

### *Did you know?*

Members of the Friends' Board have come from many different backgrounds since its founding, but for a number of years in the 1980's, a famous journalist/author was helping to guide the organization. Phillip Halliday Ault, former war correspondent, journalist, editor, and author was a major force behind the work of the Friends as well as the Santa Maria Historical Society. Many of Mr. Ault's books can

be borrowed from Santa Maria and other libraries in the Black Gold System today.

### *Did you know?*

The most ambitious outreach program attempted by the Friends involved every elementary school in the Santa Maria-Bonita School District. Accompanied by a children's librarian, a small group of Friends members helped promote the Summer Reading Program during lunch recesses in

every local elementary school, handing out library card applications and encouraging competition between the schools.

### *Did you know?*

Friends have traveled far and wide to promote libraries and reading, even in the worst weather. The most adventurous trip involved the city librarian, several Friends' Board members, and one of the library's favorite supportive families. All of them went to speak to

the Board of Supervisors in Santa Barbara about a tentative proposal to cut library funding that would have resulted in slashed hours and greatly diminished services and book budgets.

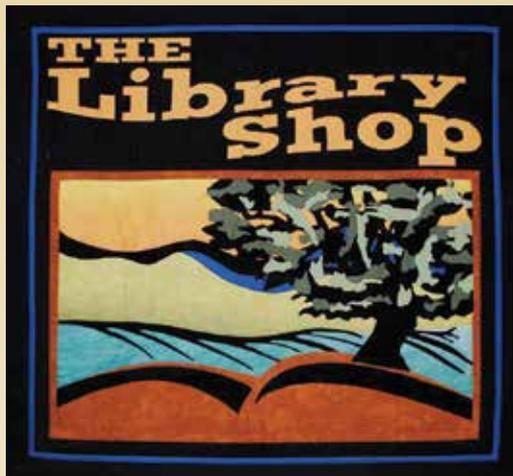
The real adventure began after the meeting when the group headed home and discovered that the highway had been closed due to flooding, and the library supporters would be spending the night in a hotel in Santa Barbara.

# BE PART OF OUR HAPPILY EVER AFTER...

Join the Friends and help with their mission in any way you can. Anyone can be a member and show support by joining the Friends. And those who have the time and the energy to help out in any number of ways are always welcome to do so.

Be a part of the story.

- Become a member and encourage others to join
- Donate books. They can pick them up.
- Shop in their Library Shop or at their store on Amazon
- Volunteer – once a week or once a year



*FRIENDS* of  
The Santa Maria Public Library



## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ST: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERSHIP DESIRED:  New Member  Renewing Member

### DUES:

Individual (\$10)  Family (\$15)  Business/Organization (\$50) = Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### DONATIONS:

Memorial: Recipient's Name \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Honorary: Recipient's Name \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Donation \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

GRAND TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to volunteer with the Friends.

Sales in the Shop  Sorting Books  With Fundraisers  With Events

*FRIENDS* of  
The Santa Maria Public Library

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**PAINTED CHAIR RAFFLE**

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SANTA MARIA TOWN CENTER MALL EAST, 2ND LEVEL

Raffle Tickets are 1 for \$1 or 6 for \$5  
Drawing will take place May 3, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.  
*Winner need not be present!*

 Features book-themed items decorated by local artists.  
Proceeds from the Raffle will help support the Friends' Mission to Promote Libraries and Reading.

For more information, please contact the Friends' Office at (805) 925-7116

Please mail in memberships to:  
FRIENDS OF THE SANTA MARIA PUBLIC LIBRARY  
238 Town Center East  
Santa Maria, CA 93454

Website: [www.fsmp.org](http://www.fsmp.org)  
Phone: 805 925-7116

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### Live Music

#### SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

**38 SPECIAL LIVE** The resort is a 21-and-up venue. **Nov. 22** Chumash Casino Resort, 3400 E. Highway 246, Santa Ynez, 800-248-6274, chumashcasino.com/entertainment.

**BACK POCKET LIVE** Food and drinks available for purchase. No outside food or drinks allowed. **Nov. 16**, 5-8 p.m. Cold Spring Tavern, 5995 Stagecoach Rd., Santa Barbara, 805-967-0066, coldspringtavern.com/entertainment.html.

**BANDA LOS SEBASTIANES WITH RANCHO VIEJO** The resort is a 21-and-up venue. **Nov. 15** Chumash Casino Resort, 3400 E. Highway 246, Santa Ynez, 800-248-6274, chumashcasino.com/entertainment.

**DUSTY JUGZ LIVE** Food and drinks available for purchase. No outside food or drinks allowed. **Nov. 17**, 4:30 p.m. Cold Spring Tavern, 5995 Stagecoach Rd., Santa Barbara, 805-967-0066, coldspringtavern.com/entertainment.html.

**THE DYLAN ORTEGA BAND** As part of KRAZY Country Honky-Tonk Thursday. Thursdays, 7 p.m. Maverick Saloon, 3687 Sagunto St., Santa Ynez, 805-686-4785, mavericksaloon.org.

**GREEN FLAG SUMMER LIVE** Food and drinks available for purchase. No outside food or drinks allowed. **Nov. 23**, 1-4 p.m. Cold Spring Tavern, 5995 Stagecoach Rd., Santa Barbara, 805-967-0066, coldspringtavern.com/entertainment.html.

**JUMPSTART LIVE** Food and drinks available for purchase. No outside food or drinks allowed. **Nov. 15**, 6-9 p.m. Cold Spring Tavern, 5995 Stagecoach Rd., Santa Barbara, 805-967-0066, coldspringtavern.com/entertainment.html.

**LET GO FLO LIVE** Food and drinks available for purchase. No outside food or drinks allowed. **Nov. 16**, 1-4 p.m. Cold Spring Tavern, 5995 Stagecoach Rd., Santa Barbara, 805-967-0066, coldspringtavern.com/entertainment.html.

**LIVE MUSIC ON THE PATIO** Local acts perform every Saturday. Saturdays, 5-8 p.m. Maverick Saloon, 3687 Sagunto St., Santa Ynez, 805-686-4785, mavericksaloon.org.

**SPOONFUL LIVE** Food and drinks available for purchase. No outside food or drinks allowed. **Nov. 23**, 5-8 p.m. Cold Spring Tavern, 5995 Stagecoach Rd., Santa Barbara, 805-967-0066, coldspringtavern.com/entertainment.html.

**STRAY HERD LIVE** Food and drinks available for purchase. No outside food or drinks allowed. **Nov. 22**, 6 p.m. Cold Spring Tavern, 5995 Stagecoach Rd., Santa Barbara, 805-967-0066, coldspringtavern.com/entertainment.html.

**SUNDAY ROUND-UP** Enjoy live music on the patio and special menu offerings every Sunday morning. Sundays, 11 a.m. Free. Maverick Saloon, 3687 Sagunto St., Santa Ynez, 805-686-4785, mavericksaloon.org.

**TOM BALL AND KENNY SULTAN LIVE** Enjoy a blend of guitar and harmonica blues, and rags,

**MUSIC LISTINGS** continued page 24



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MAD CADDIES

**MADNESS ENSUES:** Ska punk band The Mad Caddies headlines the Solvang Fall Festival at Solvang Park on Saturday, Nov. 16, at 8 p.m.

## Mad world

*Punk and reggae group Mad Caddies kick off 25th anniversary tour at Solvang Fall Festival*

**BY CALEB WISEBLOOD**

More than 25 bands will shift on and off two stages—Solvang Park and the Copenhagen stage—during Solvang's inaugural Fall Festival, which runs Friday, Nov. 15, through Sunday, Nov. 17. Ska punk band **The Mad Caddies** is headlining the festival, with a performance in Solvang Park on **Saturday, Nov. 16**, at 8 p.m. Four of the group's founding members—Chuck Robertson, Sascha Lazor, Todd Rosenberg, and Carter Benson—are Solvang natives who met during high school (all four are Santa Ynez Valley High School alumni).

The band started touring and recording together in 1995 and released its first studio album, *Quality Soft Core*, in 1997. Although best known as a ska punk act, the group's eclectic sound blends elements of reggae, Dixieland jazz, and even "cowpunk" (country punk). To date, The Mad Caddies—currently performing as part of their 25th anniversary tour—have sold more than 400,000 albums.

Other musical acts scheduled to play the festival include **Vineyard Byrds**, **Soul Cats**, **The Kicks**, and more than 20 others. Visit solvangfestival.com to view the full lineup of bands. Admission to each concert is free.



**MONSTER MASH:** Pop-rock group Ghost/Monster performs at the Naughty Oak Brewing Company on Friday, Nov. 15, from 7 to 10 p.m.

**LOCAL NOTES** continued page 24

FILE PHOTO COURTESY OF NATALY LOLA

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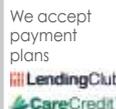
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LOCAL NOTES from page 23

Going south

The Maverick Saloon in Santa Ynez presents **Livewire on Friday, Nov. 15**, from 8 to 11 p.m. Fellow country act **The Tex Pistols** performs the following evening, **Saturday, Nov. 16**, from 8 to 11 p.m. Admission to both shows is free. A Tales From the Tavern concert takes place at the saloon on **Sunday, Nov. 17**, from noon to 3 p.m. This month's showcase features solo artist **Robert Cray**. Visit [talesfromthetavern.com](http://talesfromthetavern.com) for more details.

Classic rock cover group **Jumpstart** is jumping on over to the Cold Spring Tavern on **Friday, Nov. 15**, from 6 to 9 p.m. This group is described on its Facebook page as "Santa Barbara's newest, youngest classic rock band," as its members are all between ages 14 and 18. Acoustic indie-rock duo **Let Go Flo** take the tavern's stage the following afternoon, **Saturday, Nov. 16**, with a performance from 1 to 4 p.m. Eclectic trio **Back Pocket** follows the show that evening, performing from 5 to 8 p.m. The venue's weekend lineup closes with country act **Dusty Juzg** on **Sunday, Nov. 17**, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Entry to every show at the venue is complimentary.

Also in the Santa Ynez Valley, **Banda Los Sebastianes** will perform at the Chumash Casino Resort on **Friday, Nov. 15**, at 8 p.m. The concert takes place in the resort's Samala Showroom and features an appearance from special guest artist **Rancho Viejo**. Tickets to the show range from \$39 to \$69 and are available in advance at [chumashcasino.com](http://chumashcasino.com).

MUSIC LISTINGS from page 23

and good time music. Food and drinks available for purchase. No outside food or drinks allowed. Sundays, 1:15-4 p.m. Free. Cold Spring Tavern, 5995 Stagecoach Rd., Santa Barbara, 805-967-0066, [coldspringtavern.com/entertainment.html](http://coldspringtavern.com/entertainment.html).

**UNCLE UNCLE LIVE** Food and drinks available for purchase. No outside food or drinks allowed. **Nov. 24**, 4:30-7:30 p.m. Cold Spring Tavern, 5995 Stagecoach Rd., Santa Barbara, 805-967-0066, [coldspringtavern.com/entertainment.html](http://coldspringtavern.com/entertainment.html).

**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, [lompocwinery.com](http://lompocwinery.com).

**VIENES PIANO DUO** Featuring Eva Schaumkell and Vijay Venkatesh. This diverse program will include both classic repertoire and contemporary music. **Nov. 16**, 7:30-9:30 p.m. \$5 students; \$25 adults. First United Methodist Church, 925 North F St., Lompoc.

**HAVANA NIGHTS** Enjoy live music acts, including Victor Valencia and others. Fridays, 7-9 p.m. Cubanissimo Cuban Coffee House, 4869 S. Bradley Rd., Orcutt.

**JOHN ALAN CONNERLEY: BLAST 825 BREWERY** Singer/songwriter John Alan Connerley returns to serenade the crowd at Blast 825 Brewery for brunch. **Nov. 17**, 12-3 p.m. Free. (805) 934-3777. [facebook.com/pg/Blast825Brewery/events/](http://facebook.com/pg/Blast825Brewery/events/). Blast 825 Brewery, 241 S Broadway St., Ste. 101, Orcutt.

**LIVE MUSIC AT COSTA DE ORO** Enjoy live music and complimentary appetizers every week. Thursdays, Fridays, 5-7 p.m. and Saturdays, 3-5 p.m. Free. Costa De Oro Winery, 1331 S. Nicholson Ave., Santa Maria, 805-922-1468, [cdowinery.com](http://cdowinery.com).

**LIVE MUSIC AT MOXIE CAFE** Enjoy live music from local artists, food, and drinks. Thursdays-Saturdays, 5-8 p.m. Free admission. [moxiecafe.com/music/](http://moxiecafe.com/music/). Moxie Cafe, 1317 W. McCoy Ln., Santa Maria, 805-361-2900.

**LIVE MUSIC AT NAUGHTY OAK** Enjoy a different musical act and food vendor every Friday evening. Fridays, 5:30 p.m. Free admission. Naughty Oak Brewing Co., 165 S Broadway St. suite 102, Orcutt, 805-287-9663, [naughtyoak.com](http://naughtyoak.com).

**LIVE MUSIC AT O'SULLIVAN'S** Featuring live entertainment from local and touring alternative, indie, rock, punk, reggae, ska, alt-country, and other left-of-center musicians several times throughout each month.



GO WITH THE FLO: Acoustic indie-rock duo Let Go Flo performs at Cold Spring Tavern on Saturday, Nov. 16, from 1 to 4 p.m.



LOCAL VOCALIST: Solo singer-songwriter Kelly Irelan performs at Vino et Amicis Wine Bar on Friday, Nov. 15, from 7 to 10 p.m.

More music

Temple Beth El in Santa Maria hosts a fundraiser concert with big band and country artist **Barbara Wilson** on **Sunday, Nov. 17**, at 3 p.m. This solo performer has spent her career providing live entertainment on more than 100 cruise ships, Las Vegas showrooms, and other venues. Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door. Proceeds of this benefit show will support Temple Beth El. Call (805) 478-1463 for advance tickets.

Santa Ynez-based singer-songwriter **Kelly Irelan** will perform a set at Vino et Amicis Wine Bar in Orcutt on **Friday, Nov. 15**, from 7 to 10 p.m. This solo artist has described her passion as creating sounds that evoke strong feelings and messages that are otherwise hard to articulate through words

alone. Irelan dabbles in multiple genres, including jazz, folk, and indie, and some of her influences include Cat Power, Beach House, and Sia. Admission to the performance is complimentary.

Also in Orcutt, fellow solo artist **Chad Land** performs at Blast 825 Brewery on **Friday, Nov. 15**, from 7 to 10 p.m. The brewery hosts a **Joe Daddy and the Sumthings** concert on the following evening, **Saturday, Nov. 16**, from 10 p.m. to past midnight. The venue's weekend offerings conclude with singer-songwriter **Keith Cox**, who takes the brewery's stage on **Sunday, Nov. 17**, from noon to 3 p.m. Entry to all three performances is free. ○

Arts Editor Caleb Wiseblood wrote this week's Local Notes. Contact him at [cwiseblood@santamariasun.com](mailto:cwiseblood@santamariasun.com).

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

**KARAOKE WITH DJ RANDY** Fridays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Anthony's, 859 Guadalupe St., Guadalupe, 805-219-0977.

**KARAOKE WITH DJ RICARDO** Thursdays, 9-11:30 p.m. [spotonevents.com](http://spotonevents.com). Blast 825 Brewery, 241 S Broadway St., Ste. 101, Orcutt, 805-934-3777.

**KARAOKE WITH YSABEL** Wednesdays, 6-8 p.m. Anthony's, 859 Guadalupe St., Guadalupe, 805-219-0977.

**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. ○

PHOTO COURTESY OF CLIFF STEP



**HOT STUFF**  
NOV. 14 - NOV. 21  
2019

TAKE ME TO FUNKYTOWN

*Lydia Pense and Cold Blood perform at Rancho Nipomo Deli and Barbecue on Sunday, Nov. 24, from 6:30 to 10 p.m. This ensemble group performs funk, soul, R&B, and other genres. Admission is \$20. The venue is located at 108 Cuyama Lane, Nipomo. Visit [ranchonipomobbq.com](http://ranchonipomobbq.com) for tickets and more info.*

—Caleb Wiseblood

LITTLE TEXAS

Sat - Nov 23, 2019 - 7:30pm

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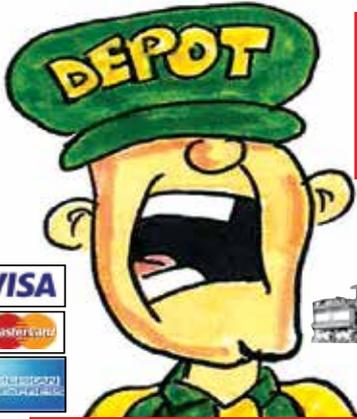
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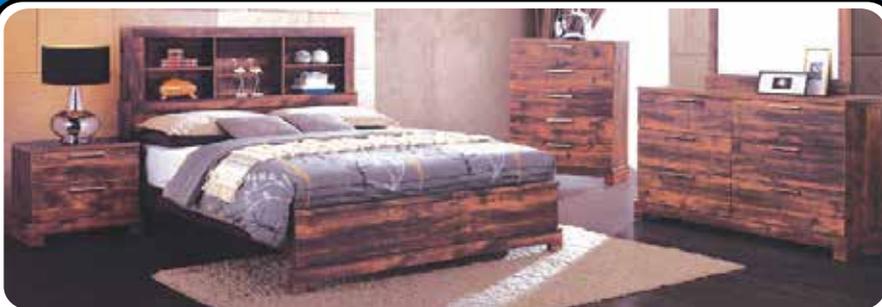
2-TONE  
36" X 60" **\$649**



7 PC. BED SET WITH STORAGE  
FOOTBOARD RUSTIC FINISH **\$1098**



SOFA-LOVESEAT **\$688**



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## Arts Briefs

### Solvang Antiques holds annual Holiday Art Show

IMAGE COURTESY OF MARY KAY WEST



Solvang Antiques Fine Art Gallery's annual Holiday Art Show opens on Friday, Nov. 29, and will run through Tuesday, Dec. 31. A special champagne reception to celebrate the show's debut will take place on Saturday, Nov. 30, from noon to 4 p.m. Artists will be present during the reception, and all artwork will be available for viewing and purchases throughout the show's duration.

The featured artists of this year's exhibition are Joe Barbieri, Howard Carr, Bill Churchill, Dirk Foslien, Sheryl Knight, Joe Mancuso, Barron Postmus, and Mary Kay West. A diverse collection of landscapes, including cityscapes, seascapes, and mountain and vineyard scenes, will be on display. The showcase will also include various still life paintings and sculptures.

To find out more about Solvang Antiques Fine Art Gallery's Holiday Art Show, call (805) 686-6322 or visit solvangantiques.com. The gallery is located at 1693 Copenhagen Drive, Solvang.

### Heart of the Valley series hosts guest speaker Joe Dana

Heart of the Valley, a free monthly history series presented by the Santa Maria Public Library, hosts its next event on Saturday, Nov. 16, at 10:15 a.m. This month's meeting will feature guest speaker Joe Dana, who will host a presentation on his ancestor, William Goodwin Dana, the famous sea captain who settled down in the Central Coast during the 1800s. The Dana Adobe was Dana's home in Nipomo and is now listed as a California Historical Landmark.

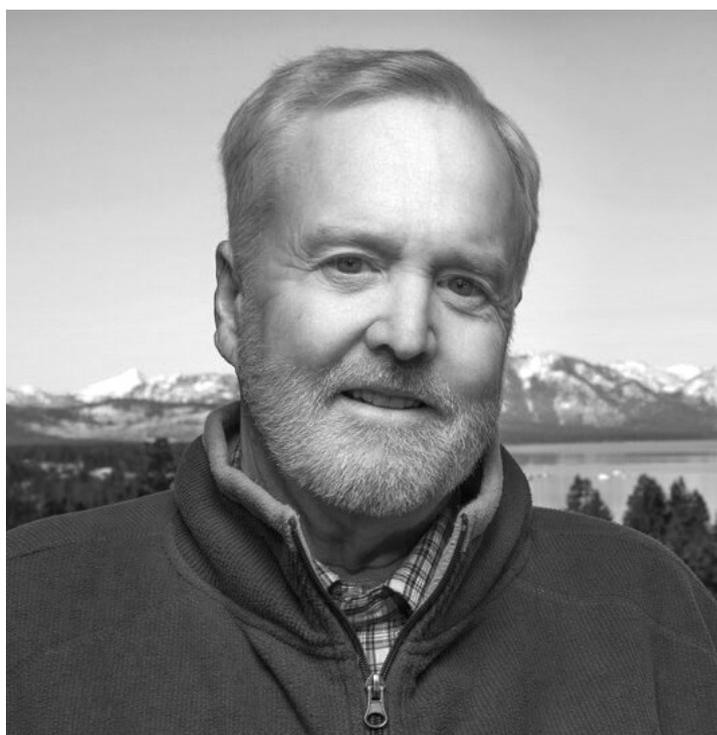
In collaboration with local historian Shirley Contreras, the Heart of the Valley series hosts a guest speaker on the third Saturday of each month. Topics cover various aspects of Santa Maria Valley history and nearby areas. For more info on the series, call the library's information desk at (805) 925-0994, Ext. 8562. The library is located at 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

### Orcutt Community Theater presents Annie

Orcutt Community Theatre's production of *Annie* opens at Klein Dance Arts Studio on Friday, Nov. 29, at 7 p.m. This classic Tony Award-winning musical is based on the popular Great Depression-era comic strip, *Little Orphan Annie*, by Harold Gray. The setting is New York City during the 1930s, and the plot follows an orphan as she's temporarily adopted by billionaire Oliver Warbucks, one of the richest men in the world.

The show will run through Sunday, Dec. 22, with performances every Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. and every Sunday at 1:30 p.m. Tickets range from \$8 to \$15 and are available in advance at my805tix.com. Visit orcuttcommunitytheater.org for more info. Klein Dance Arts Studio is located at 3546 Skyway Drive, Santa Maria. ○

Arts Briefs is compiled by Arts Editor Caleb Wiseblood. Send information to cwiseblood@santamariasun.com.



**PROLIFIC PHOTOGRAPHER:** A career photographer for more than 40 years, Santa Ynez resident George Rose has worked in various fields over the years, but primarily in the wine industry. Many of his winery and vineyard landscapes are featured in his new book, *Wine Country: Santa Barbara County*.

## Through the grapevine

*Wildling exhibition showcases landscapes from George Rose's new book, Wine Country: Santa Barbara County*

BY CALEB WISEBLOOD

Starting Nov. 16, guests of the Wildling Museum of Art and Nature can expect to find a new photography exhibition inside the museum's Valley Oak Gallery. The showcase, titled *Santa Barbara County and Beyond*, features more than 20 landscapes from Santa Ynez-based photographer George Rose. Although the exhibit's coverage area ranges from all over California, many of the landscapes depict the rolling hills of the Santa Ynez Valley and other parts of the county. Some of these photographs are also included in Rose's new book, *Wine Country: Santa Barbara County*, which the author will be signing copies of during the exhibit's opening reception.

A career photographer for more than four decades, Rose has experience as both a photojournalist and commercial photographer, with jobs ranging from staff photographer at the *Los Angeles Times* to freelancer for the NFL. Rose even co-owned and co-published his own newspaper, *The Mendocino Grapevine*, before shifting over to the wine industry. For the last 25 years, Rose has worked as a communications director for four different wine companies, capturing stunning landscapes of various vineyards and wineries along the way. In 2018, Pink Lady crowned Rose the Errazuriz Wine Photographer of the Year.

Rose took some time to connect with the *Sun* about his eclectic career, his latest photography book, and the upcoming exhibition at the Wildling.

**Sun:** As you've lived and worked in various parts of California, what attracted you to the Central Coast? And how does living in Santa Ynez compare to previous areas you've resided in?

**Rose:** My wife was born and raised in Santa Barbara, and I fell in love with the region during the many times we visited her family over the years. I love the weather on the South Central Coast. There is a wonderful Western feeling to living in the Santa Ynez Valley.

**Sun:** Tell me about your experience publishing your own weekly paper in the 1980s, all while maintaining your photography career. And how did this period lead you to start working in the wine industry?

**Rose:** I purchased a weekly newspaper in Mendocino County back in 1983. It was called *The Mendocino Grapevine*. It was the county weekly. I used the paper to address a number of rural county issues, but marijuana was always in the news. We also featured a different winery each week. It was while working in Mendocino County as a publisher that I met the Fetzer family. In 1990, they hired me to be the public relations director for Fetzer Vineyards. All the while



**THE LONG AND WINDING ROAD:** Santa Barbara County and Beyond, an upcoming photography exhibition at the Wildling Museum of Art and Nature, features landscapes by George Rose, including this one taken on Armour Ranch Road in Santa Ynez.



**OAK ODE:** *Approaching Storm and Lone Oak* is one of the featured photographic landscapes in George Rose's upcoming exhibition at the Wildling Museum of Art and Nature.

I was still freelancing—working for the NFL—but used my photography skills to help promote the winery and the county.

**Sun:** How did the transition from covering the Northern California wine scene to Santa Barbara County wine country occur?

**Rose:** I was with Fetzer until 1998, then moved to Sonoma County to take the PR director position with Clos du Bois/Allied Domecq Wines USA. By 2002, the company was up for sale, so I jumped ship and became the vice president of communications at Santa Rosa-based Kendall-Jackson. During this time period, my photography was used in all sorts of promotional materials—calendars, sales promotions. It was at Kendall-Jackson that I became acquainted with Santa Barbara County wines.

**Sun:** Now 17 years later, you've compiled a collection of your photographs into *Wine Country: Santa Barbara County*. How does your new book correlate with your upcoming exhibition at the Wildling Museum of Art and Nature?

**Rose:** Many of the images from my book will be featured in the exhibit. Some of them include my "seasonal changes" series along Armour Ranch Road in Santa Ynez. I've also included several images of the Carrizo Plain National Monument and a cool aerial of the Morro Bay estuary.

**Sun:** What brought you to choose the Wildling Museum as a venue to exhibit your landscapes?

**Rose:** A couple of years ago, I joined the board of directors at the Wildling Museum of Art and Nature. I embrace the museum's mission of using art to promote and protect our natural environment.

**Sun:** What's next? Are there any upcoming projects we can expect from you in the near future?

**Rose:** Now that I'm retired from the wine business, I have more time to visit and photograph America's National Parks and Monuments. I am currently in Grand Canyon National Park, following a week in Zion National Park. I have a mission and a camera in hand! ○

Arts Editor Caleb Wiseblood has a phone in hand, but uses it as a camera occasionally. Reach him at cwiseblood@santamariasun.com.

# Public Workshop Notice Unmet Transit Needs

Santa Maria Area Transit (SMAT) is inviting the public to a workshop on Unmet Transit Needs. As a requirement of the State of California Transportation Development Act (TDA), SMAT conducts an annual public input meeting to improve existing service and to identify future needs. The City of Santa Maria currently uses 100 percent of its TDA funds for public transportation.

**A public workshop will be held:**

**Date:** Tuesday, November 19, 2018

**Time:** Workshop: 5:30 p.m.

**Where:** Santa Maria Public Library  
Shephard Hall, 1st Floor  
421 S. McClelland Street  
Santa Maria, CA

If you cannot attend the workshop, but would like to provide comments, please mail comments to the City of Santa Maria at 110 S. Pine Street, Suite 101, Santa Maria, CA 93458. Comments may also be emailed directly to Transit Coordinator Eustaquio Valdez at [evaldez@cityofsantamaria.org](mailto:evaldez@cityofsantamaria.org) or faxed to (805) 928-4995 with subject "Unmet Transit Needs". You can also call (805) 925-0951, ext. 2225 for more information or to provide comment. The last day to submit comments is Friday, November 29, 2019.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations to participate in the meeting should contact SMAT at least three working days prior to the meeting at (805) 928-5624. A Spanish translator will be available at the hearing.

Favor de llamar a SMAT al 925-0951, ext. 2170 para más información sobre esta reunión.

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IMAGE COURTESY OF GALLERY LOS OLIVOS



**HOME AWAY FROM HOME:** Home and Away features a variety of landscapes from artists Kris Buck and Karen McLean-McGaw. Some works depict local areas while others were created during travels abroad.

## Where the heart is

Gallery Los Olivos hosts pastel and watercolor duo show, *Home and Away*

BY CALEB WISEBLOOD

Central Coast-based artists Kris Buck and Karen McLean-McGaw have been friends and painting partners for more than two decades, but this month's exhibition at Gallery Los Olivos marks the duo's first joint show.

"I've known Kris and painted with her for over 20 years, so it really is natural to show our work together," said McLean-McGaw, who became a member of the gallery in July. Buck, on the other hand, has been a member for around 10 years. The pair first became acquainted with one another through a mutual connection, Buck said, and hit it off right away.

"Karen and I met through my husband; they'd gone to high school together," Buck told the *Sun*. "We became fast friends through our love of painting."

While Buck primarily works in soft pastels, usually with a watercolor underpainting, McLean-McGaw uses both watercolors and oils to create her vivid landscapes, still lifes, and figurative works. Although she's studied artists like John Singer Sargent and Winslow Homer over the years, McLean-McGaw rarely labels her own works under a specific umbrella in terms of category or influence.

"I've been painting for so long that I don't really think about an artistic style. It's kind of like handwriting—it becomes your own," said McLean-McGaw, who is excited for exhibit viewers to see the duo's paintings completed during their most recent trip to Limoux, France. Their first trip together was in 2002, a voyage they've repeated once every other year since then.

Titled *Home and Away*, the pair's first joint exhibition will showcase both their local landscapes as well as those created while traveling abroad.

"The inspiration for the title came from our reminder of not only the painting we've done locally throughout the Central Coast, but also how many painting trips we've done

together over the years," said Buck, whose landscapes range from capturing the canals in Venice, Italy, to the lake regions of Lugano, Switzerland.

"It's a reflection of our long history of painting together," McLean-McGaw agreed. "In France, Italy, and here at home."

For McLean-McGaw, painting while traveling isn't just about creating works abroad; it's also about gaining a fresh outlook on capturing local areas after returning home as well.

"We love to travel and paint, but that also allows us to bring a fresh eye and deep appreciation for what we see in our local landscapes," McLean-McGaw said.

During these trips, both artists often paint on canvases a bit smaller than usual, Buck added, but they feel assured in the opportunity to expand on their initial works later.

"We're usually working in smaller sizes—8-by-10, 9-by-12, 11-by-14—due to packing size limitations, and then we can create larger pieces from

those field studies," Buck said.

An additional layer Buck appreciates about their travels is making genuine human connections with people they've met along the way, she explained, even when language seems like a possible barrier.

"Our travels have made for some magical adventures where we've been invited into people's gardens to paint or into their homes for a cup of coffee—even when we couldn't communicate as well as we'd hoped," Buck said.

Over the course of their biennial trips to Limoux, France, the travel destination they've frequented more often than any other, the town has basically become a second home to the pair, McLean-McGaw said.

"Kris and I have developed many friendships in the area, so it does feel like a home away from home," she said. ○

Arts Editor Caleb Wiseblood believes home is where the heart is. Reach him at [cwiseblood@santamariasun.com](mailto:cwiseblood@santamariasun.com).

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### Film Reviews

#### CHARLIE'S ANGELS

What's it rated? **PG-13**  
 Where's it showing? **Movies Lompoc, Parks Plaza**  
**NEW** Writer-director Elizabeth Banks (*Pitch Perfect 2*) takes on the classic TV series (1976-1981) about a trio of crime-fighting women—Sabina Wilson (Kristen Stewart), Elena Houghlin (Naomi Scott), and Jane Kano (Ella Balinska)—who this time around must save humankind from a dangerous new technology. (118 min.)  
 —Glen Starkey

#### DOCTOR SLEEP

What's it rated? **R**  
 What's it worth? **Full price**  
 Where's it showing? **Movies Lompoc, Parks Plaza**  
**PICK** Writer-director Mike Flanagan (*Gerald's Game*, *Ouija: Origin of Evil*, *Before I Wake*) helms this film based on Stephen King's novel about Danny Torrance (Ewan McGregor), the little boy with the ability to see ghosts from King's earlier novel *The Shining*. Now an adult, Dan meets a tween girl, Abra Stone (Kyliegh Curran), who's got the strongest "shining" he's ever seen. Unfortunately, she's being stalked by The True Knot, a group of quasi-immortal people who sustain themselves with "steam," the energy those with "the shining" give off when they're slowly tortured to death. Can Danny save Abra before it's too late?

What I loved most about *Doctor Sleep* is how it was able to expand the "shining-verse" into the outside world, beyond the Overlook Hotel, in ways I never could have imagined—as if my imagination is on par with Stephen King's. On paper, the plot sounded disappointing to me. I haven't read the book, but the synopsis alone made me trepidatious. Especially the concept of The True Knot—basically vampires that suck energy from their victims' dying breaths (literally) rather than blood. It just sounded so non-*Shining* to me; just take me back to the good ole days of tricycling down the hallway; creepy ghost sisters around the corner; zombie lady in the bathtub ... all that good stuff. But that's all there too, and trust me, it's worth it, especially if you're a big fan of Stanley Kubrick's original film.

But back to The True Knot and their plight for a sec. The "steam" energy is the most potent when victims are in a state of fear. This is visually represented first during a torture scene when we see members of the cult inhale one of their victims' steam (which resembles a cold mist exiting their body) as he's being stabbed over and over again. But the murderers are careful to keep him alive as long as possible, to absorb as much sustenance as they can. It's basically as if they're feeding off of his screams. Sounds more like an R-rated version of *Monsters, Inc.* than a *Shining* sequel. But that's what made the film, and its story, all the more refreshing and surprising to me; it somehow ends up feeling like a genuine continuation. And the added mythology only works in its favor, adding new layers to what I originally hoped would be a one-shot tale.

On a side note though, it's also just fun to see a talented filmmaker pay homage to certain elements from Kubrick's

**FILM REVIEWS** continued page 30

#### 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

# Hilarious and heartbreaking

**W**riter-director Taika Waititi (*Hunt for the Wilderpeople*, *What We Do in the Shadows*) helms this adaptation of Christine Leunens' satirical novel about a young boy (Roman Griffin Davis) in Hitler's (Waititi) army who discovers his mother (Scarlett Johansson) is hiding a Jewish girl (Thomasin McKenzie) in their home. (108 min.)

**Glen:** I was really looking forward to this one and, sure enough, it's hilarious and heartbreaking. Waititi seems to have copied a page out of Wes Anderson's (*The Royal Tenenbaums*, *Moonrise Kingdom*) director's handbook, creating a colorful, comical, absurdist world and a look at one young fanatic's coming-of-age story. Jojo wants desperately to fit in, and we meet him on the day he's going to begin his Hitler Youth training. His father is away "fighting the war," so he lives alone with his loving mother, Rosie. His only real friend is pudgy Yorki (Archie Yates), who's also beginning his training. To work things out in his head, lonely Jojo has created an imaginary friend, Adolf Hitler, who appears whenever Jojo needs him to help psych him up and meet the challenges of his life. The film's interested in how someone can become a Nazi, and in Jojo's case, it was easy—he's been indoctrinated by anti-Semitic rhetoric his whole life, buying in to the dehumanization and scapegoating of "the other." If you're wondering if Waititi is drawing parallels to the present with this look at the past, it seems certain. The Nazis are depicted as supercilious buffoons for the most part—cruel, petty, and mean. Jojo wants to be a good Nazi, but he's cursed with a conscience. He gets his nickname Jojo Rabbit when he can't bring himself to writing a rabbit's neck as part of his training. When he eventually discovers Elsa, the Jewish girl his mother is hiding, his black-and-white Nazi world is suddenly complicated with shades of gray. What follows is his slow—painfully slow!—awakening. It's a very tender and sweet film that will have you howling with laughter and wiping away tears. I loved it!

**Anna:** This film has been on our radar for months. The all-star cast and satiric storyline had big promise, and, boy, did it deliver. This isn't New Zealand director Waititi's first hit—*What We Do*

*In The Shadows* was almost criminally hilarious, and *Hunt for the Wilderpeople* was a touching and funny triumph. In my book, he can do no wrong, and *Jojo Rabbit* is another testament to his brand of accessible humor. It's silly and absurd, yet poignant and touching. Davis is a gem as young Jojo—a boy so sure of his convictions yet still young and vulnerable. He's getting his first taste of uncertainty when he stumbles upon Elsa, a girl he is forced to hate by his convictions, but he soon warms, albeit reluctantly, to her. Could it be that the horned, demon-spawned

Jews that his mentors have always described are actually nice, normal people? A friend even? Could he actually be in love with the enemy he has always known? Jojo's world is upside down and inside out, that's for sure. I can't sing enough praise for Davis—this kid is expressive and sharp, a force to be reckoned with in the coming years. With a supporting cast of director Waititi himself, Johansson, Rebel Wilson, and Rockwell, this film is an absolute joy. This is one I will watch over and over again without hesitation.

**Glen:** Rockwell's character, Capt. Klenzendorf, is a real standout. He's a very complicated Nazi, one who dreams of glory on the front lines but who through his own lazy ineptitude keeps finding himself demoted to more and more embarrassing positions. He's a closeted gay, uncommitted to anti-Semitism, but a loyal and brave Nazi all the same. Klenzendorf is the kind of morally compromised but generally good-hearted character Rockwell is great at playing. I also thought Yates as Yorki was wonderful. His character, like Jojo, is earnest and loyal but also too sweet to be an effective Nazi. Wilson as Fraulein Rahm also delivered a lot of comic gold. It's both funny and horrifying to see how Waititi depicts Hitler's army during its death knell, willing to clothe children in paper uniforms, arm them, and expect them to fight to the death as the Allied invasion tightened its noose around Germany. Sorry to inject some politics in this, but

#### JOJO RABBIT

What's it rated? **PG-13**  
 What's it worth, Anna? **Full price**  
 What's it worth, Glen? **Full price**  
 Where's it showing?  
**The Palm in SLO**



**HEIL HITLER?** (Left to right) Capt. Klenzendorf (Sam Rockwell), Rosie (Scarlett Johansson), and Jojo (Roman Griffin Davis) each have complicated and contradictory feelings about Nazism.

I couldn't help but think about the recent White House Halloween celebration, where children were invited to write their names on construction paper "bricks" and stick them to a wall decorated with the words, "BUILD THE WALL." Regimes indoctrinate children through play, just like Jojo and Yorki have fun playing as soldiers in the Hitler Youth, dressed in their spiffy uniforms and with their special Nazi knives. *Jojo Rabbit* and its irreverent examination of Nazi Germany has a lot to say about our world today, but Waititi is such a hopeful filmmaker, and the film's ultimate message is that good will triumph over evil. Let's hope so!

**Anna:** It isn't all fun and jokes—this film packs emotional heat as well. Jojo and his mother are super close, so the realization that she's a traitor to the Nazi Party is a big gut punch to her young son. He can't let her know that he knows about her Jewish stowaway, but he still tries to find ways to get the message across that he's unhappy with her. He finds himself keen on spending more and more time with Elsa under the guise of writing a book on how to spot a Jew. He looks up to Klenzendorf as a mentor, a grown-up who will actually give him straight answers. It's all sweet and yet terribly sad when you stop and think about the circumstances. I too loved little Yorki—the two boys lit up like Christmas trees every time they spotted each other, even in the middle of an invasion. I hope to see more from both of them. Waititi is great comic relief as imaginary Hitler, whose jealous side comes out as Jojo spends more time with Elsa. The two used to do everything together, but Jojo is growing up and doesn't need Adolf as a friend anymore. Watching Waititi as a flustered and funny Hitler is a lot of fun. I highly recommend catching this one in theaters; it ranks as a must-see movie in my book! ○

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

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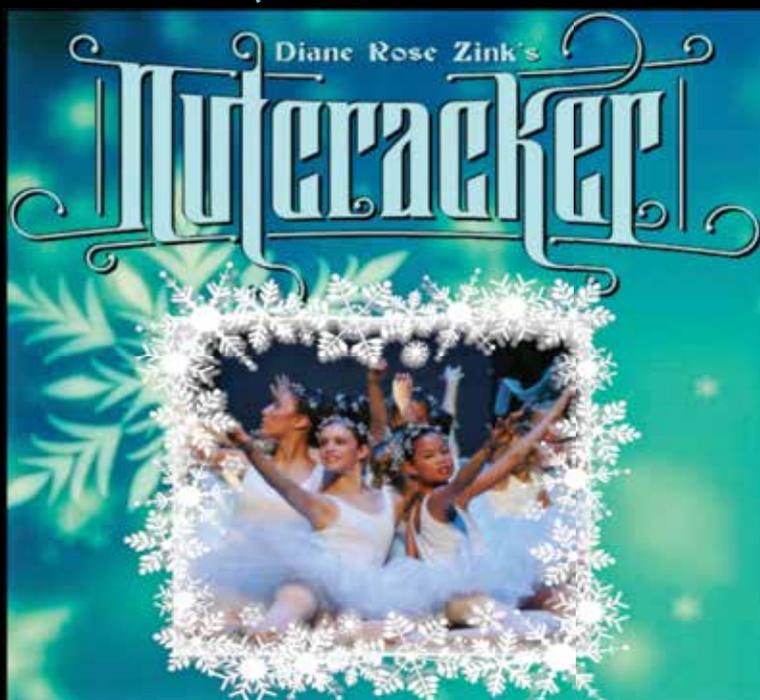
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**F I L M**

**FILM REVIEWS** from page 29

original film. Remember *The Shining* sequence in *Ready Player One*? I always wished that scene could have gone on even longer, but *Doctor Sleep* put that to rest. (151 min.)  
 —Caleb Wiseblood

**FORD V FERRARI**  
 What's it rated? **PG-13**  
 Where's it showing? **Movies Lompoc, Parks Plaza**  
**NEW** James Mangold (*Logan, 3:10 to Yuma, Walk the Line*) directs this biopic about car designer Carroll Shelby (Matt Damon) and race car driver Ken Miles (Christian Bale), who in 1966 team up to try to beat a car designed by Enzo Ferrari (Remo Girone) in the famed 24 Hours of Le Mans race. Tracy Letts stars as Henry Ford II and Jon Bernthal stars as Lee Iacocca. (152 min.)  
 —Glen

**LAST CHRISTMAS**  
 What's it rated? **PG-13**  
 What's it worth? **Matinee (for romantics and Christmas lovers)**  
 Where's it showing? **Parks Plaza**  
**PICK** Paul Feig (*Bridesmaids, The Heat, A Simple Favor*) directs this rom-com—co-written by Emma Thompson, who also co-stars—about Kate (Emilia Clarke), a young woman who's really good at making bad decisions. She works as Santa's elf at a year-round Christmas store, where she meets Tom (Henry Golding), taking her life in an unexpected direction. This audience pleaser (81 percent on Rotten Tomatoes) hasn't fared as well with critics (48 percent), who found the story poorly conceived despite its likable leads. Maybe it's the big holiday sing-along to the song "Last Christmas" that has appealed to the masses. Critics have called the film formulaic, sedate, and unfunny. (102 min.)  
 —Glen

**MIDWAY**  
 What's it rated? **PG-13**  
 What's it worth? **Matinee**  
 Where's it showing? **Movies Lompoc, Parks Plaza**  
**PICK** Roland Emmerich (*Stargate, Independence Day, The Patriot, White House Down*) directs this historical action-drama about World War II's Battle of Midway, told by those who fought it: Lt. Richard "Dick" Best (Ed Skrein), Edwin Layton (Patrick Wilson), Lt. Cmdr. Wade McClusky (Luke Evans), Adm. Chester Nimitz (Woody Harrelson), and Vice Adm. William "Bull" Halsey (Dennis Quaid). This pivotal June 4 through 7, 1942, battle between the American fleet and the Imperial Japanese Navy was the Pacific Theater's turning point. Audiences are loving this film that presents the epic battle with modern special effects and a more balanced viewpoint than the 1976 film, but critics have labeled it loud and unemotional. (138 min.)  
 —Glen

**PLAYING WITH FIRE**  
 What's it rated? **PG**  
 What's it worth? **Stream it**

**INSOMNIA**  
 When? **2002**  
 What's it rated? **R**  
 Where? **Blu-ray, DVD, Amazon Prime, iTunes**  
 Two LAPD homicide detectives are dispatched to Nightmute, a small fishing town in Alaska, to assist with an ongoing murder investigation. One half of the duo, Detective Will Dormer (Al Pacino), looks exhausted from the moment we meet him. We soon come to realize he's become drained due to a recent scuffle with internal affairs. Perhaps an escape from the hustle and bustle of LA will do him some good?  
 PHOTO COURTESY OF WARNER BROS. PICTURES



**NO REST FOR THE WICKED:** Inner demons—combined with Alaska's midnight sun—won't let Robin Williams or Al Pacino get any sleep, in director Christopher Nolan's chilling thriller, *Insomnia* (2002).



**ROAD WARRIORS:** Car designer Carroll Shelby (Matt Damon, left) and race car driver Ken Miles (Christian Bale) team up to try to beat a Ferrari in the 24 Hours of Le Mans race, in *Ford v Ferrari*.

Where's it showing? **Hi-Way Drive-In**  
**NEW** Andy Fickman (*She's the Man, Race to Witch Mountain* (2009)) directs this family comedy about a crew of firefighters who rescue three rambunctious kids. The film stars Judy Greer, Keegan-Michael Key, and John Cena. Very young kids might enjoy some of the film's antics, but parents will find nothing to recommend it. (96 min.)  
 —Glen

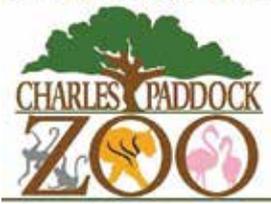
**TERMINATOR: DARK FATE**  
 What's it rated? **R**  
 What's it worth? **Matinee**  
 Where's it showing? **Hi-Way Drive-In**  
**PICK** Tim Miller (*Deadpool*) directs this next installment into the Terminator franchise. This time around, Sarah Connor (Linda Hamilton) and a "retired" T-800 Terminator going by the name Carl (Arnold Schwarzenegger) join forces with enhanced soldier, Grace (Mackenzie Davis), who's been sent from the future to protect Daniella "Dani" Ramos (Natalia Reyes), who if she lives will give birth to a Resistance leader who will stop an A.I. called Legion, who like Skynet hopes to destroy humankind. They're being pursued by Rev-9 (Gabriel Luna), an advanced Terminator that's able to split in two. If it all sounds a little familiar, it's because it is, but it's also nice to see Hamilton and Schwarzenegger from the original 1984 film and the equally good sequel, *Terminator 2: Judgment Day* (1991) back together again. Yes, it's essentially the same plot about time travelers battling to either kill or save a future mother who will give birth to the leader who will save humanity, but it's a lot better than, say, *Terminator Salvation* (2009) and *Terminator Genisys* (2015). (128 min.)  
 —Glen

*Sun* movie reviews were compiled by *New Times* Senior Staff Writer Glen Starkey this week. Contact him at [gstarkey@newtimeslo.com](mailto:gstarkey@newtimeslo.com).



celebrity showdown I never guessed I would have needed in my life. How Nolan ever thought that pitting Scarface against Mrs. Doubtfire was a great idea must have been divine intervention.  
 Without giving away too much of the mystery that unfolds, Williams plays Walter Finch, a local author who becomes a suspect in the case due to his "mentorship" with the deceased, who aspired to be a writer someday. Dormer is pretty much convinced Finch is the killer from the get-go, but a certain event takes place early on in the film that forces Dormer to tread lightly, as Finch is the sole witness to said event. In other words, Genie's got some dirty deets on Michael Corleone.  
 The cat-and-mouse relationship between Pacino and Williams is at the heart of *Insomnia*, but the film's other body parts are nearly just as meaty. Hilary Swank gives a stellar supporting performance as Nightmute detective Ellie Burr, as does Maura Tierney as a hotel owner who Dormer confides in one night, his seventh without sleeping a wink. Add to the mix an unsettling but beautiful score, cold, calculated direction, and an eerie, morbid atmosphere ironically drenched in sunshine, and you've got *Insomnia*. (118 min.)  
 —Caleb Wiseblood

### FRIENDS OF THE



**Groove at the Zoo**  
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16**  
 Charles Paddock Zoo



**Torsten Juul-Borre Piano Recital**  
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16**  
 Grace Bible Church



**Backyard Brawl: Mac N' Cheese**  
**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17**  
 Tooth & Nail Winery



**HARVEY**  
**WEEKENDS THRU NOVEMBER 24**  
 Cambria Center for the Arts Theatre



**Voices Across the Bay**  
**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14**  
 Morro Bay Chamber of Commerce



**Brighton Beach Memoirs**  
**SELECT DATES: NOV. 15-DEC. 1**  
 Park Street Ballroom



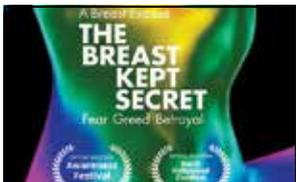
**Holiday Charcuterie 101 Workshop**  
**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15**  
 Talley Vineyards



**Best of Paso Robles**  
**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15**  
 Thomas Hill Organics



**Pro Wrestling Unplugged: November Reign 2019**  
**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15**  
 Veterans Memorial Building



**A Breast Exposé: The Breast Kept Secret**  
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16**  
 Fair Oaks Theater



**Brewasana**  
**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17**  
 7Sisters Brewing Co.



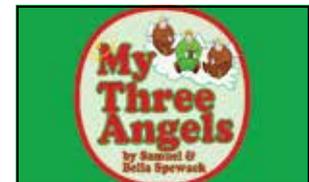
**ASN Speakeasy**  
**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21**  
 The Penny



**RiZe Up: A Comedy Night**  
**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21**  
 San Luis Obispo Guild Hall



**Friendsgiving**  
**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21**  
 CASS Winery



**My Three Angels**  
**NOV. 22-DEC. 15**  
 By the Sea Productions



**Steve Key CD Release**  
**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22**  
 Morro Bay Wine Seller



**Beer Yoga**  
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23**  
 Naughty Oak Brewing Co.

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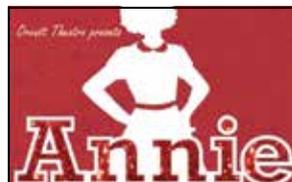
**Victoria Vox**  
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23**  
 Morro Bay Wine Seller



**David Minkin: Magic & Wine**  
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23**  
 Tooth & Nail Winery



**Lydia Pense & Cold Blood**  
**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24**  
 Rancho Nipomo BBQ & Gold Rush Cantina



**Annie**  
**NOVEMBER 29-DECEMBER 22**  
 Klein Dance Arts Studio



**Squid Dissection Saturdays**  
**NOV. 30, DEC. 28, JAN. 25, FEB. 29**  
 Central Coast Aquarium



**Winter Wine Stoll**  
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30**  
 Downtown Paso Robles Wineries



**Santa's Doggie Parade**  
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30**  
 Avila Beach Promenade



**Candlelight Christmas Concert Series**  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1-2**  
 Old Santa Rosa Chapel



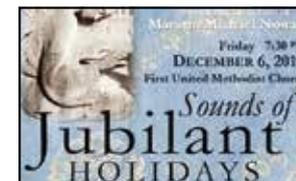
**Fin's "Giving Tuesday" Dinner for a Cause**  
**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3**  
 Fin's Restaurant



**Christmas Wreath Workshop**  
**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5**  
 Talley Vineyards



**Dinner & Tour with Edward Walton Wilcox**  
**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5**  
 Tooth & Nail Winery



**Sounds of Jubilant Holiday**  
**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6**  
 Santa Maria First United Methodist Church



**Caskmas**  
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7**  
 Libertine Brewing Company



**A Star in the Night**  
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7**  
 Monarch Club at Trilogy



**Irene Cathaway Rhythm & Blues Band**  
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7**  
 San Luis Obispo Guild Hall



**Pre-Concert Dinner**  
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7**  
 Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa



**Daou Holiday Dinner**  
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7**  
 Thomas Hill Organics



**Christmas on the Trail**  
**DECEMBER 7-8**  
 Foxen Canyon Wine Trail



**Dinner with Friends**  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8**  
 Santa Maria Civic Theatre

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**FAST FOOD FOR FOODIES:** Winery tasting rooms across the Central Coast—including The Sanger Family of Wines in Solvang—have caught on to the popularity of Cured and Cultivated's cheese plates.



**HOLIDAY BOX:** Imagine walking into your next family get-together with one of these "grazing tables." Cured and Cultivated's food artist knows exactly how to pull it all together.

These vast spreads are the work of Anatoly. I first met his grazing table at the Perinet After Hours event at Tolosa Winery in SLO.

Anatoly said he found the need to add food to all the wine-tasting goings-on years ago, in 2015, when he began selling cheese and charcuterie at the Halter Ranch Tasting room in Paso Robles, where his wife, Katherine (originally from Texas Hill Country), was working.

Anatoly, originally from Siberian Russia, said that when he first started out, cold calling the wineries to begin his business, he hoped the winery employees would remember him as the Russian with the meat samples. They definitely did. No doubt they were as impressed with his jolly, humble, hard-working, and innovative character as they were with his artistic, edible offerings.



**GRAZING TABLE:** Since 2015, Cured and Cultivated has been the artistic vision behind those gorgeous grazing spreads at events and tasting rooms. Now locals can order from the online deli for pickup or local delivery.

He told me Russians tend to be pessimistic, always waiting for bad things to happen, but based on his story, good luck seems to ride on his coattails.

EATS continued page 34

## Table talk

*Cured and Cultivated online deli now delivers gorgeous meat and cheese 'tables' to Central Coast foodies*

BY BETH GIUFFRE

About the same time their 15-month-old daughter, Zoia, took her first steps, Anatoly and Katherine Vorontsov launched the most happening cheese and charcuterie business around, Cured and Cultivated. And now, just in time for the holidays, the couple recently began

### Eat with your eyes

Cured and Cultivated online deli specializes in artisanal cheese and cured meats sliced to order and delivered to your door. Its grab-and-go plates are also available at several Central Coast wineries, including The Sanger Family of Wines in Solvang.

The deli delivers its wares throughout the state, and local delivery is available for customers from Paso Robles to Arroyo Grande. Cured and Cultivated also caters events throughout Santa Barbara and SLO counties. Learn more at [curedandcultivated.com](http://curedandcultivated.com).

offering online ordering and delivery of their boxes, boards, and "tables" of imported wares up and down the Central Coast.

These artistic grazing meals—often seen at winery events—feature meticulously arranged landscapes, with rivers of cheese wrapping around hills and valleys of salami and soppressata, colored with flowers and olives, nuts, and berries.




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**NICE TO MEAT YOU:** Cured and Cultivated specializes in imported meat and cheeses, which you can order individually or arranged on artistic grazing boards and tables for events, picnics, or family gatherings.



**BEHIND THE SCENES:** Pictured are Cured and Cultivated owners Anatoly and Katherine Vorontsov with their darling daughter, Zoia, who was named after Anatoly's aunt from Siberian Russia.

**EATS** from page 32

Plus, he really knows his stuff. He had me try some of his Csabai Hungarian salami, which tastes lighter and more delicate than the Italian variety I'm used to. He said when he was young, he and his family ate donkey sausage—but what I was eating was a delicately crunchy and delicious pork salami.

During his formative years, his part of the world was dark most of the day, and he grew up eating scoops of lard for sustenance, he said. Eating cured meats was a way of life. In a place as cold as Siberia, food must be preserved and stored when nothing is growing and ranching is difficult.

Preserved meat is still an essential part of Anatoly's life.

"My food is my message," he said.

Anatoly and his wife met in England and celebrated their marriage with small ceremonies in his Russian hometown and her Texas town. After Katherine took a turn living in Russia, the couple moved to SLO County when she was offered the job with Halter Ranch.

He said he spent a few months waiting for his legal work permit before he was offered a job at the former Enjoy Euro-Deli market in Arroyo Grande, a job he found by chance after overhearing the deli's future owner speaking Russian in a home-goods store.

Anatoly laughed when he said it didn't feel very "American" that there wasn't much eating going on with the wine tasting at the time he was working for the Euro-Deli. I think many of us remember those dark days, when all we could get was a cracker or a

heel of bread with our samples of vino.

A Central Coast winery owner once gave Anatoly the advice to balance the meats with cheese, and that's when he decided to add the delicate dairy offerings to his artistic charcuterie plates.

Now, wineries feature veritable deli cases in their tasting rooms, complete with Anatoly's grab-and-go boxes. Picnickers and wine tasters can plan ahead and order from Cured and Cultivated online—grazing boxes and tables, meats, cheese, caviar and fish products, and grains and garnishes.

Anatoly calls the popular 8-ounce cheese and charcuterie plate "McDonald's" because it's quick and easy to grab and go, but this is no cardboard Happy Meal. These boxes can contain sheep's milk Cordobes, sage Derby (the green cheese!), Paradise Vintage Gouda (my absolute fave), salami Barolo, salami sopressata olli, Castelvetrano olives, dried apricots, dried cranberries, almonds, peanuts, and cashews.

Among hundreds of exciting and exotic imported goodies, you can also find Citterio prosciutto and duck prosciutto, Boyarskaya salmon red caviar, Kaluga Alexander black caviar, and Kaltbach Le Cremeux cheese.

Their most momentous of offerings are the grazing boxes and tables. He said he likes to tell little stories with his boards, boxes, and plates. You can buy one of his beautifully told stories, from a small grazing box, perfect for a picnic or dinner in the park, to a stylized grazing table, which will serve a large gathering.

Anatoly will personally assemble a custom assortment of international artisanal cheeses, charcuterie, fresh fruit and vegetables, nuts, olives, dips, spreads, herbs, crackers, and sliced baguette. ○

*Contributing writer Beth Giuffre is decidedly cultivated. Send Central Coast story ideas to bgiuffre@newtimeslo.com.*

**Nibbles & Bites**

• As if decadent ice cream wasn't enough to tempt us, all Central Coast Doc Burnstein's Ice Cream Labs (725 E. Betteravia Road; 114 W. Branch St., Arroyo Grande) will be offering their new gourmet line of fine confectionary treats starting on Nov. 16. While supplies last, visitors may purchase half-pound and full-pound create-

your-own variety boxes of the new handcrafted chocolates, hand-dipped by head chocolatier Cale Munro. Fav flavors include Doc's Java, Raspberry Merlot, and Motor Oil. Visit docburnsteins.com for more info. ○

*Contributing writer Beth Giuffre is always looking for more chocolate. Send delicious foodie tips to bgiuffre@newtimeslo.com.*

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**121 GRANDVIEW DR**, 5BD, 5BA, \$799,000, Sat 11-1, Auer Real Estate, 805-801-6694, Brenda Auer, #0131053

**942 CHARLES PL**, 3BD, 3BA, \$739,000, Sat 11-1, Auer Real Estate, 805-801-6694, Brenda Auer, #0131053

**559 MANHATTAN**, 3 BD, 2.5 BA, \$619,000, Sun 12-4, Amy Gallagher, 805-608-8782, Bridget Higgins, DRE# 00874459

#### LOMPOC

**747 ONSTOTT RD**, 4BD, 3.5BA, \$599,999, Sat 1-3, Berkshire Hathaway Homeservices, 805-687-2666, Todd Mcchesney, #00864365

**3709 JUPITER AVE**, 4BD, 3.5BA, \$499,000, Sun 1-3, Village Properties - Santa Ynez Office, 805-350-4038, Patricia M Armor, #01320210

#### NIPOMO

**1470 VISTA TESORR PL**, 2BD, 2BA, \$980,000, Saturday 1-4, Taylor Hoving Realty Group, 916-765-7330, Eilene Pham, #01151591

**1148 VAQUERO WAY**, 2BD, 2BA, \$771,000, Sat 12-3, Richardson Properties, 805-712-1710, Jennifer Campa, #01441288

**654 WOODGREEN WAY**, 3BD, 2BA, \$555,000, Sat 12:30-3:30, Cal Coast Realty, 805-929-4970, Abe Viero, #1862677

#### OCEANO

**1821 BEACH ST**, 2BD, 1BA, \$395,000, Sat 11-1, Auer Real Estate, 805-801-6694, Brenda Auer, #0131053

**1510 16TH ST**, 2BD, 1BA, \$399,000, Sat & Sun 9-5, Auer Real Estate, 805-801-6694, Brenda Auer, #0131053

#### SAN LUIS OBISPO

**527 STONERIDGE DRIVE, SAN LUIS OBISPO CA 93401**, 4BD, 2BA, \$973,000, Sat 11:30-2, Carter & Co. Real Estate Group, 805-235-4499, Kristie Carter, RE#01364731

#### SANTA MARIA

**1205 VIA FELICE**, 2BD, 2BA, \$29,000, Sat 1:30-3:30, Cornerstone RE, 805-266-5216, Angelo Passodakis, #01055899

**226 HAMPTON DR**, 3BD, 2BA, \$610,000, Sat 11-3 Sun 12-2, Homebay, 415-881-1887, David Bezeau, #01331414

**1118 KIT WAY**, 4BD, 2.5BA, \$515,000, Sat 12-3, Mint Properties, 805-878-9879, Tri LeBlanc, #01871795

**1121 HAMPSHIRE LN**, 3BD, 2BA, \$175,000, Sat 12-3, Valley Hills Realty, 805-878-0104, Debra Kaylor, #1321588

#### SANTA YNEZ

**5510 BASELINE AVE**, 3BD, 2.5BA, \$1,835,000, sat 1-4, Berkshire Hathaway Homeservices, 805-689-3242, Kerry Mormann, #00598625

**1030 HIGHLAND RD**, 3BD, 2BA, \$1,265,000, Sun 1-3, Berkshire Hathaway Homeservices, 805-705-5486, Mathew Raab, #02063526

#### SOLVANG

**705 MESA DR**, 4Bd, 3.5BA, \$1,795,000, Sun 1:30-4, Berkshire Hathaway Homeservices, 805-448-7500, Laura Drammer, #01209580

**653 HILLSIDE DR**, 3BD, 3BA, \$723,000, Sat 12-3, Berkshire Hathaway Homeservices, 805-879-5003, Brenda Cloud, #01772551

**2075 STILL MEADOW RD**, 3BD, 3.5BA, \$2,595,000, Sat 1-3, Berkshire Hathaway Homeservices, 805-708-2580, Carole Colone, #01223216

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**\$2395 1852 Glenwood Ave** - 3+2, Legacy at LaVentana newer 1stry hm w/ many upgrades, open flrpln & kitchen w/brkfst island, granite ctrs, ldry rm hkups, on-demand wtr htr, 2car grg, low maint yard w/pergola, no pets

**\$2350 1539 Madison Ln** - 4+3. Heritage Square 1stry newer hm w/open flrpln, kitchen island, all appls, F/R, F/P, Ldry Rm inc w/d, 2car grg, sm yd, grdnr for front, no pets

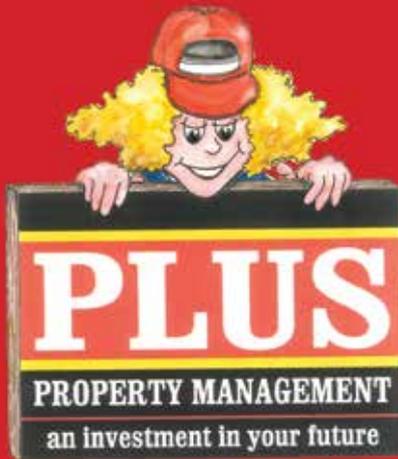
**\$2195 4604 Cherry Ave** - 3+2, Orcutt corner 1stry hm w/huge bns rm, L/R, D/R, kitchen w/all appls, w/d, RV pkg, 2car grg, covr'd porch, grdnr, 1sm dog considered w/add'l dep

**\$1995 4226 Shadowcrest** - 3+2.5, Orcutt 2stry hm near 101 frwy/high schools, open flrpln, ldry rm hkups, huge loft, bdrms u/s, 2car grg, yd/grdnr, access to priv pk, no pets

**\$1995 2832 S. Bradley Rd** - 3+2, Sunrise Hills 1stry hm w/new paint thru-out, L/R, new gas range, lg mstr ste, ldry rm hk-ups, 2car grg, wood patio deck/ld inc grdnr, no pets

**\$1895 518 Parkview North** - 3+2.5, Vlg of Northpoint 2stry condo w/all bdms u/s, den/office optn, lg mstr ste w/balcony, 2car grg, w/d hkups, priv patio, pool privs, no pets

**\$1750 935 Salisbury Ln** - 4+2.5, NE lg 2stry condo near hospital/101 frwy, lg mstr ste d/s, L/R, D/R, F/P, priv patio, balcony, 2car grg, w/d hkups, tenants pay all utils, no street pkg, no pets



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**\$2800 3042 Courtney Drive** - 3 + 2, Beautiful Mesa Oaks home situated on picturesque, oak studded half acre, elegant formal sunken living room and a formal dining room both finished with crown molding, well laid out country kitchen opens to cozy family room that has gas log fireplace with remote, large picture window, kitc has butcher block, upgraded applic, lg mstr bdrm w/ walk-in clst and patio slider to bckyd, RV prking, 3car atch grg, lawn care incl, sm pet considered.

**\$2200 233 Huntington Place** - 4 + 2.5, Southside spacious tri-level, Crestview Terrace hm is ideal for commuters exiting Hwy 1 & Hwy 245, features lg frm'l L/R w/vaulted ceilings, F/P bordered by antique wd mantle, kit is open to lg dining area w/French doors leading to back yard, all stainless steel applic, lot of cntr space & pantry, 2car atch grg, yd care incl, pets neg.

**\$2100 1311 Crown Circle** - 4 + 2.5, Beautiful newer 2015 2stry hm in gated comm, home is backing up to park area, some rms facing south hills, 2car finished grg, ldry rm u/s, located 8 miles to nearest VAFB gate or to beach, pet friendly w/dep, yd care incl, no section 8.

**\$1850 505 Mars** - 3 + 2, Single family South Vandenberg Village home with large family room, all newer paint and flooring throughout, includes 2 car garage, yardcare included, no pets.

**\$1450 207 Village Circle** - 2 + 2, Comfortable townhouse on second floor but one level, 1car grg, living room has fireplace, vaulted ceilings and open to dining area and kitchen, living and dining rooms have slider to balcony, kitchen has garden window with all appliances with separate closet with washer and dryer, tile flooring throughout, carpets in bedrooms only, pool and spa included, gated community, no pets.

**\$1250 112 S. "M" Street #B** - 2 + 1, South side apartments, spacious bedrooms, good size living room, dining area off kitchen with slider to fenced back patio, 1 detch grg and lndry on site, apartments are freshly painted, with new carpets and new plumbing fixtures, refrigerator included, no pets please, water is paid.

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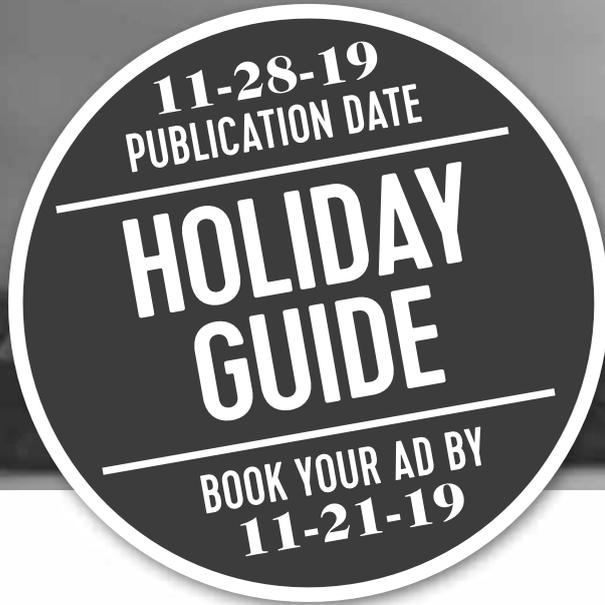
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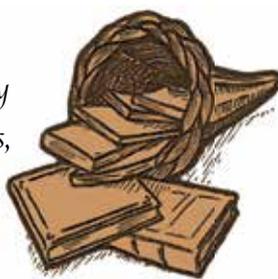
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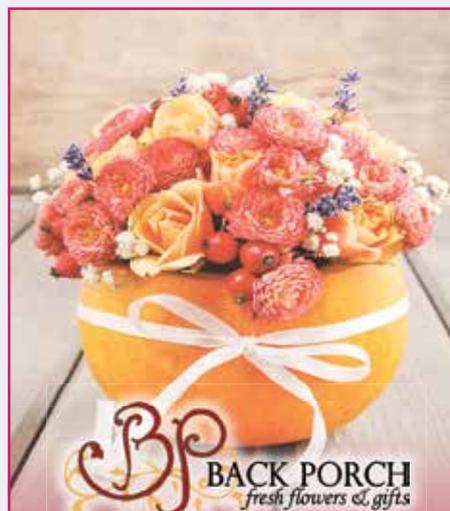
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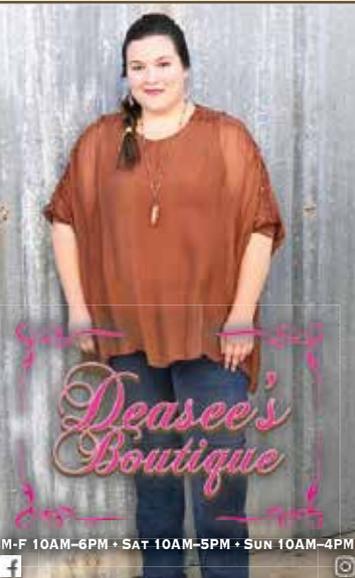
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