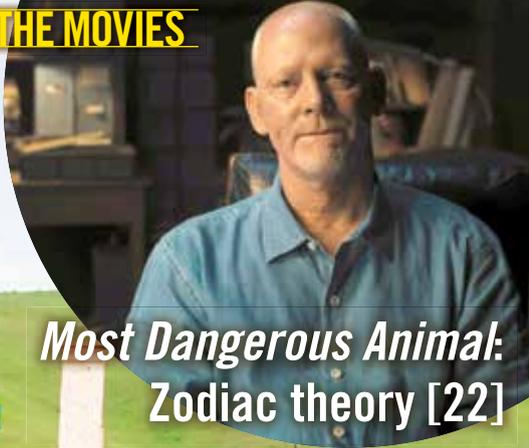


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*Most Dangerous Animal:
Zodiac theory [22]*

SUN



One more year

*Terracore gets an extension to build
the Cat Canyon oil pipeline along
Foxen Canyon Road [6]*
BY MALEA MARTIN

NEWS Carbajal asks for COVID-19 stimulus funding [3]

ARTS Talk California's spirit with Holli Harmon [20]

EATS Local meals delivered to your doorstep [23]

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AUGUST 13 - AUGUST 20, 2020 VOL. 21 NO. 24



PIPELINE DEBATE: The Santa Barbara County Planning Commission approved an extension for the Foxen Petroleum Pipeline Project amid opposition.

The Foxen Petroleum Pipeline has yet another year to start construction thanks to an extension granted by the Santa Barbara County Planning Commission. But opponents to the project say that its environmental impact report should include the impacts of an oil drilling expansion project that's in the works for Cat Canyon. TerraCore Operating Company took over both projects when it took over ERG's assets in 2019. Staff Writer Malea Martin talks specifics [6].

This week, you can also read about what the HEROES Act has to do with the Lompoc federal prison [3], Califia—"the spirit of California" [20], a music video that takes a stand against oil drilling in Cat Canyon [21], and how HomeStyle can cook dinner and deliver it [23].

Camillia Lanham
editor

Cover photo by Jayson Mellom > Cover design by Alex Zuniga

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Political Watch

• **U.S. Rep. Salud Carbajal** (D-Santa Barbara), **state Sen. Hannah Beth Jackson** (D-Santa Barbara), and **Assemblymember Monique Limón** (D-Santa Barbara) joined a conversation with California Secretary of State Alex Padilla on Aug. 12, after the *Sun* went to press, to discuss the work that the state is doing to ensure census completion. “Ensuring an accurate census count is critical,” Jackson wrote in an Aug. 10 Facebook post promoting the event. “It determines billions in federal funding for state and local governments to build better schools and roads; fund community programs for seniors, children, and families; and improve housing, as well as the number of seats each state receives in the House of Representatives.” Limón also posted about the event on Facebook, writing in an Aug. 7 post, “As we enter the last phase of the census and approach the 2020 election amid the COVID-19 pandemic, we want to answer any questions you may have regarding these important topics provide valuable information.”

• The California state Legislature will soon vote on Assembly Bill (AB) 3030, authored by **Assemblymember Ash Kalra** (D-San Jose). According to a press release from **Defenders of Wildlife**, the **California Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee** will vote on the bill before Aug. 31. If passed, the bill would legally establish two key state policies. One is the goal to conserve at least 30 percent of California’s land areas and waters, as well as help protect 30 percent of the nation’s ocean waters, by 2030, dubbed “30 by 30.” The bill would also establish policy “to improve access to nature for all people in the state, including for communities of color and economically disadvantaged communities,” the release states. The bill passed the Assembly on June 8. Key opponents of the bill include sportfishing organizations such as **Keep America Fishing**. In an article posted to its website, Keep America Fishing states, “Every angler understands the importance of conservation. However, the supporters of the legislation have not yet provided any explanation for how and where it will be implemented—leaving the fishing community questioning if the bill will lead to new, arbitrary closed areas to meet the 30 percent goal.” The Defenders of Wildlife release states, “AB 3030 would protect our declining biodiversity. Ecosystems around the world are in a state of crisis, threatening our planet and humanity itself.”

• **Assemblymembers Jordan Cunningham** (R-San Luis Obispo) and **Monique Limón** (D-Santa Barbara) recently gave updates in response to the difficulty that some of their constituents have faced in accessing the state’s **Employment Development Department’s** (EDD) services. In an Aug. 5 Facebook post, Limón wrote, “My office answers calls every day to help constituents receive their unemployment aid. Many who have waited weeks and spent much time on the phones trying to resolve their concerns. We are in the fifth month of the ongoing pandemic, and we want to work with the department to bring aid to our constituents who most need it.” Limón included an Aug. 5 letter to Newsom, which she signed along with 62 other state Assembly members and senators asking that the EDD clear its backlog, increase accountability, and address customer service, among other issues. Cunningham wrote in an Aug. 7 Facebook post, “My office has helped, or is working to help, more than 3,000... residents with their EDD issues. Our residents cannot afford to wait any longer for a functional EDD. Californians [deserve] a government that works for them. EDD must be completely overhauled.” He encouraged constituents to reach out to his office for help with their unemployment claims. ○

California representatives ask Congress to pass HEROES Act with Bureau of Prisons funding

It’s been nearly three months since the House of Representatives passed the Health and Economic Recovery Omnibus Emergency Solutions (HEROES) Act, a \$3 trillion stimulus package in response to the COVID-19 outbreak and its impact.

But this aid can’t be delivered until the HEROES Act also passes through the Senate, a process that U.S. Rep. Salud Carbajal (D-Santa Barbara) believes isn’t happening fast enough.

Carbajal, along with California U.S. Sens. Dianne Feinstein and Kamala Harris, wrote a letter on Aug. 10 to majority and minority leaders in the House and Senate to ask that they “expeditiously finalize the COVID-19 emergency response package and include critical assistance for the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) to respond to the ongoing pandemic.”

The HEROES Act, as passed by the House, would appropriate \$200 million for the BOP to address COVID-19 within its institutions, particularly those experiencing or recovering from virus outbreaks. One of those prisons is the Lompoc Federal Correctional Institution, which had nearly a 77 percent COVID-19 positivity rate among its inmates in May.

“[The funding] would be comprehensive to address the challenge of this pandemic throughout the prison system,” Carbajal told the *Sun*. “Certainly Lompoc is one of the most challenged institutions in the system, so they would definitely be one of the institutions that would receive funding.”

Carbajal said the funding would support testing, protective equipment, and “everything that is needed to help the prison system better handle and address this COVID-19 emergency.”

A key concern raised in the Aug. 10 letter is the BOP’s inconsistency in conducting universal COVID-19 testing of its inmates, particularly at institutions with large outbreaks. At the Lompoc institutions, for example, the correctional institution received universal testing—after which the positivity rate skyrocketed—but the nearby U.S. Penitentiary never implemented universal testing.

The letter also points out that Lompoc prison staff were not provided with on-site testing, which increases the chances of community spread outside of the prison. The letter references findings from an investigative report conducted by the Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General (OIG).

“While the BOP has not communicated plans to provide testing for their staff on-site, the OIG report highlights that only 53 of 416 staff members at Lompoc [Federal Correction Complex] were tested for COVID-19 in May,” the letter stated. “Of those that were tested, approximately 60 percent tested positive.”

For these reasons, Carbajal said, the swift passing of the HEROES Act is critical—not just for the prison system, but for any American affected by COVID-19.

“The House [has] been waiting for three months to negotiate the HEROES Act, and the Senate just a week ago decided that they would step up to the table to negotiate,” Carbajal said. “We need to pass an economic relief package to address the needs of workers, unemployment, businesses, families, local governments. ... This is not a game. We need to get this done right away.”

—Malea Martin



CALLING ON CONGRESS: U.S. Rep. Salud Carbajal (D-Santa Barbara), along with Sens. Dianne Feinstein and Kamala Harris, wrote a letter to congressional leaders asking that they work swiftly to finalize the HEROES Act and include funding appropriated for the Bureau of Prisons.

Guadalupe passes strict tobacco control regulations

Guadalupe now has one of the most stringent tobacco control ordinances in Santa Barbara County, and it’s going into effect at the end of this month.

Through the new ordinance, which Guadalupe City Council passed on July 28, retailers will have to obtain licenses to sell tobacco products. The sale of flavored tobacco—including menthol—is banned, along with the use of coupons and discounts for tobacco products. Retailers will have to sell tobacco products at set minimum prices or higher, individuals under 21 will not be allowed to sell tobacco products, and new tobacco retailers will not be allowed within 1,000 feet of schools.

The ordinance also establishes regulations for smoking allowances in multi-unit housing facilities, requiring that smoke-free areas exist indoors and out.

It’s a big change for Guadalupe, which received an F rating from the American Lung Association in its 2020 State of Tobacco Control report. With roughly 30 percent of Guadalupe’s population being under the age of 18—the demographic that tobacco prevention specialists say is often targeted by tobacco companies—Guadalupe City Manager Todd Bodem said there was a lot of interest from city leaders in getting serious about prevention measures.

“We didn’t even have a tobacco ordinance,” Bodem told the *Sun*.

Now, city and county officials are working with Guadalupe’s eight tobacco retailers to ensure they’re clear on the coming regulations, which go into effect just before the end of August. Even after the ordinance becomes effective, Bodem said, existing retailers will have several months to sell off their now banned products, including flavored tobacco. Enforcement and implementation of the

ordinance will start with education, but Bodem said Guadalupe has big plans for that as well.

With the help of Santa Barbara County tobacco prevention staff, Guadalupe recently applied for a state grant of more than \$800,000, Bodem said, which would provide the funding needed to hire two new staffers—a police officer and an office assistant—to help with tobacco prevention, enforcement, and education for three years.

Guadalupe should know by October whether the city will receive that grant.

“I think it’s smart. It’s a good move,” Bodem said. “[Tobacco is] addictive, and it’s not good for our children.”

—Kasey Bubnash

NEWS continued page 4

Weekend Weather

KSBY NEWS
Microclimate Weather Forecast
Dave Hovde
KSBY Chief Meteorologist

<p>Thursday</p> <p>COASTAL > High 76 Low 56 INLAND > High 87 Low 55</p>	<p>Friday</p> <p>COASTAL > High 79 Low 58 INLAND > High 93 Low 59</p>
<p>Saturday</p> <p>COASTAL > High 81 Low 56 INLAND > High 95 Low 63</p>	<p>Sunday</p> <p>COASTAL > High 82 Low 56 INLAND > High 96 Low 63</p>

Temps pick up with some high clouds and definitely more muggy Friday through Sunday. This is the kind of humidity you'll notice.

NEWS from page 3

County Planning Commission hears appeal of contentious land use permit

The Santa Barbara Planning Commission recently heard both sides of a contentious land use debate over whether a proposed vegetable greenhouse would be misused for growing cannabis. The Aug. 5 meeting ended in a vote to continue the discussion at the commission's Sept. 4 meeting.

The hearing was requested by Stephen Jacobs, who asked the commission to consider an appeal supported by more than 100 of his neighbors, he said. The neighborhood in question is located on the north border of Solvang, and straddles the city limits.

Jacobs, the main appellant, argues that the approved construction of a nearly 16,000-square-foot greenhouse on a property in his neighborhood is not compatible with surrounding residences, would create issues with the water supply, and is not in compliance with the county Land Use and Development Code.

Steve Decker, the property owner who plans to build the greenhouse, got the development approved on June 8, 2020, with a land use permit. Jacobs filed his appeal eight days later.

A county staff report presented at the meeting by Planner Ben Singer addressed some of the main claims made in Jacobs' appeal, with Singer ultimately recommending that the Planning Commission deny the appeal.

Addressing the claim of neighborhood incompatibility, Singer said that the property and surrounding unincorporated area is zoned AG-1-5, which encourages "maximum agricultural productivity." As for concerns around water usage, Singer said, the county does not have "expressed purview over individual water usage."

The third claim proved one of the larger points of discussion at the meeting. Jacobs' appeal points out that Decker first applied for his greenhouse project as a cannabis operation, but the county's cannabis ordinance made the proposal unfeasible. So, Jacobs claims, Decker submitted a new land use permit application shortly after, which was fundamentally the same, but switched the word "cannabis" out for "vegetable." From Jacobs' and his neighbors' perspectives, Decker's intention is still to run a cannabis farm.

"This is not a commercial neighborhood, and it's going to change the reflection of how this neighborhood looks if you allow it," Jacobs said at the meeting.

However, the county staff report drew a different conclusion.

"The applicant has made it explicitly clear that the greenhouse will not be used for cannabis cultivation, [and] is therefore not subject to the cannabis ordinance and cannot be out of compliance with said ordinance," Singer said.

Decker argued that his property and those neighboring are zoned for agriculture, and that the community's land use goals support "true, productive agriculture."

"Policies of the county land use regulations and the Santa Ynez Valley Community Plan clearly and unambiguously state this," he said at the meeting.

After Jacobs and Decker each gave their sides to the story, six different speakers from the neighborhood spoke in support of Jacobs' appeal during public comment. The issue was then brought back to the Planning Commission for discussion.

"This issue of what is the true intent

here, I don't know how we would ever solve that or deal with that here at the Planning Commission," said Commissioner John Parke, who represents the county's 3rd District, which includes the area in which Decker hopes to build his greenhouse.

Parke continued and said his main concern is whether Decker's project is truly exempt from environmental review.

Singer noted in his presentation that the county considers the proposed greenhouse to be a "small structure," and therefore is exempt from the section of the California Environmental Quality Act that concerns structure size. However, Parke questioned whether a 16,000-square-foot greenhouse is really a small structure, and pointed out that there are no objective standards for what constitutes a small structure.

With this main concern in mind, Parke made the motion "to give direction to staff to continue this to Sept. 4, and to prepare appropriate findings for approval of the appeal and denial of the project."

The motion was seconded by Planning Commission Chair Laura Bridley, and approved 4-0. Commissioner Daniel Blough was absent from this part of the meeting, so he didn't cast a vote.

—Malea Martin

Solvang talks parking concerns amid Copenhagen closure

The city of Solvang revisited the Copenhagen Drive closure at its Aug. 10 meeting to hear residents' concerns about the closure, positive feedback from tourists, and discuss recommendations for a long-term program for businesses.

Residents and businesses stated that their main issue with the closure is that there isn't enough available parking—or not enough disabled person parking spots—near Copenhagen. During public comment, Mary Garvey, a Los Angeles resident and Solvang tourist for more than 30 years, opposed that statement.

"I don't get that. I've been coming up here for forever, and even on the Fourth of July, and I've never had a problem finding a place to park," Garvey said.

According to the staff report, Garvey and other tourists have given the city positive feedback on the closure.

During the meeting, City Manager Xenia Bradford said that people are happy to see a European style take over Copenhagen. The street's closure enables businesses to expand onto the thoroughfare due to the limitations imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

To mitigate the community's concerns, the city created an alternative temporary parking spot near the Visitor Center to make up for the one disabled parking spot that was eliminated. City staff has also set up additional disabled and limited-time parking on cross streets adjacent to Copenhagen.

According to the staff report, the number of tourists has increased since the street was closed, and there hasn't been an overflow of parking into residential areas. In order to increase awareness of available parking, city staff will place additional directional signage for available parking near the downtown area.

City Council members agreed that the Copenhagen closure will likely extend into the next year, but they said that there is a lack of consistency with the type of fencing, shade structures, and furniture being used by businesses currently.

"I do think that Copenhagen looks a little bit sloppy right now, and I wish we had some more

continuity and if we had the branding and design committee together sooner, it'd be nice to have," Mayor Pro Tem Robert Clarke said.

The council directed staff to provide guidelines or develop a program to purchase the equipment needed to operate outside or develop a partnership program with businesses for repayment.

—Karen Garcia

Groups announce partnership to grow commercial space at Vandenberg

Local political and economic leaders want to see Vandenberg Air Force Base in Lompoc become a national hub for the fledgling commercial space industry.

On Aug. 5, a coalition of agencies and industry groups—including REACH Central Coast, the California Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development, the U.S. Space Force, Cal Poly, and Deloitte Touche Consulting—announced a new partnership to develop the first-ever master plan for the commercial space sector at Vandenberg.

Melissa James, CEO of REACH, called the agreement a "landmark first step" in a Zoom press conference on Aug. 5 that convened aerospace companies and government heads, like U.S. Rep. Salud Carbajal (D-Santa Barbara), state Assemblymember Jordan Cunningham (R-SLO), and Col. Anthony Mastalir, the 30th Space Wing commander at Vandenberg.

"The agreement brings these parties to the table in pursuit of a shared vision," James said at the briefing.

The groups' signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) that describes its objective as "facilitating regional economic growth through the addition of high-quality commercial space industry employment."

"Over the coming decades, commercial space operations have the potential to anchor the Central Coast's economic growth based on high-quality jobs and activate the growth of the commercial space industry and relevant suppliers across the state of California," their MOU reads.

The four-year partnership is set to tackle business development and incubation at the base; road, rail, and marine improvements; utilities expansion; housing investment; policy and regulatory support; and the "synchronized deployment of federal, state, local, and private resources."

It formalizes as Vandenberg Air Force Base becomes increasingly well-known for its SpaceX launches and for its status as a finalist in the U.S. Space Force's search for a new command center headquarters.

At the press conference, Carbajal said that the Pentagon is still mulling over the decision on its new command center. He called his and other stakeholders' efforts to back Vandenberg a "full press to make sure [it] is selected at the end of the day."

Mastalir said there are many signs that suggest the commercial space industry is poised to lift off. He noted that recent aerospace innovations seem to be "all designed to drive down the price point ... per pound into orbit" and added that the commercial space economy is included in the Department of Defense's 2020 Space Defense Strategy.

"That kind of strategic level guidance has not always been in place," he said during the briefing. "I can't predict the future, but there are a lot of indicators right now that suggest things are a little different this time around." ○

—Peter Johnson

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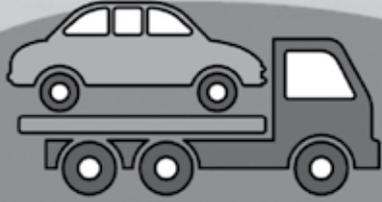
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Mimi

in Santa Barbara twice a week, still ongoing. What's next? Unfortunately, two days ago we were given the news that Mimi has an exposed pulp molar that needs to be addressed by a canine dental specialist immediately. At this time we are asking for donations to once again help Mimi in her time of need. Mimi has been through a lot, but remains a sweet dog with many many years left to play and run. If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation to Mimi, please mail to P.O. Box 2952, Orcutt, CA 93457 or through Paypal on our website listed below.

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Pipeline presses on

Planning Commission votes to approve extension on Foxen pipeline project, community members advocate for additional environmental review

BY MALEA MARTIN

It's been more than eight years since ERG Operating Co. LLC, an oil and energy company, submitted its initial application for the Foxen Petroleum Pipeline Project, a 2.9-mile pipeline proposed to replace the current practice of trucking crude oil from the Cat Canyon oil field. On Aug. 5, the Santa Barbara County Planning Commission voted to stretch that timeline a bit longer by approving an extension on the pipeline's development permit until Aug. 5, 2021.

The meeting began with a report from the county's planning and development department, during which county staff recommended that the Planning Commission approve the extension request from TerraCore Operating Company, which took over ERG's assets in 2019. TerraCore also requested that the pipeline project's existing environmental impact report (EIR), certified by the commission in 2015 when the project was first approved, would continue to be sufficient for the project moving forward. The county staff report concurred.

"The environmental setting has not changed, and no new significant environmental effects would occur," said County Planner Jacquelyn Ybarra at the commission meeting. "The project's original policy and ordinance consistency continues to apply, and therefore pursuant to section 15162 of CEQA, no additional environmental review is needed for this time extension request."

CEQA, or the California Environmental Quality Act, publishes a set of guidelines annually. Section 15162, as Ybarra referred to, determines whether a project needs subsequent environmental review. Commissioner Michael Cooney expressed concerns over this conclusion, citing issues raised by the Environmental Defense Center (EDC), an environmental protection organization.

"The conclusion of the staff as far as the need for any additional environmental review does not seem to take into account the various issues raised by EDC," Cooney said. "The issue of whether we can still find that there was adequate environmental review—isn't that put back in issue by this extension request?"

While the county staff report concluded that the project does not require additional review, community members who spoke during public comment felt otherwise.

Tara Messing, staff attorney at the EDC, said

that the Foxen pipeline project is intrinsically tied to the West Cat Canyon Revitalization Plan Project, because TerraCore is currently seeking expansion of its operations there. For this reason, she argued, failing to conduct a singular environmental review of the two projects constitutes a form of illegal piecemealing, making the pipeline's previously certified EIR inadequate.

"Piecemeal environmental review is prohibited under CEQA," Messing said during public comment. "The impacts from the Foxen pipeline and the West Cat Canyon project must be analyzed as a whole."

She further argued that new information from the West Cat Canyon project's environmental report, released in early 2019, "triggers the need for a subsequent EIR pursuant to the CEQA guidelines."

Most prominent among these 2019 findings, Messing said, are the negative impacts to clean water and biological resources from oil spills, which she called "now substantially more severe."

"CEQA prohibits chopping up one large project into many little projects in order to diminish the significant environmental impacts from that project, which is what we have here," Messing told the *Sun*. "It really needs to be analyzed together as one project, and the reason that it is one project is based on statements in the EIRs that show the pipeline wouldn't be constructed unless the oil project is approved."

The statement Messing refers to is in section 4.4 of the Cat Canyon 2019 EIR. It reads, "At this time, it is unknown if the Foxen pipeline would be constructed without implementation of the proposed [Cat Canyon] project."

Messing said this statement does not rule out the possibility that the two projects depend on one another, and in that case should be treated as one. But according to county staff's analysis, the two projects are independent, and therefore processing them separately does not rise to piecemealing.

"The environmental community in this case is saying the pipeline and the [oil] well development is all part of the same project, and therefore it should be processed together and analyzed together," County Energy, Minerals, and Compliance Division Supervisor Errin Briggs told the *Sun*. "We're saying, no, the pipeline is independent and separate from development of the wells. ... They could build the wells without the pipeline, or they could build the pipeline without the wells."



TWO PROJECTS: TerraCore argues that its Foxen pipeline project is entirely independent from its interest in Cat Canyon drilling expansion, and therefore does not require additional environmental review. Environmental advocates say otherwise.

Planning Commissioner John Parke questioned this analysis. He recalled that the pipeline would allow more daily oil movement from Cat Canyon than current trucking methods, which could indicate the financial dependency of the pipeline project on the Cat Canyon expansion project.

"I know that the description of the [pipeline] project was that there would be 8,000 to 9,000 barrels a day transported by pipeline," Parke said. But, he continued, if the delivery of oil remained by truck, "then it would be approximately 4,800 barrels a day."

"It sure seemed, at least then, that they were economically related," Parke said of the projects.

Nathan Eady of SCS Engineers, who spoke at the meeting on behalf of TerraCore, responded to Parke, stating that the projects do not depend on one another economically.

"At the time, it was really ERG's intent ... that the Foxen Pipeline really had an independent utility," Eady said. "Even from a cost savings perspective, if you are an oil and gas operator and you are strictly pursuing this pipeline for business purposes, it saves you a considerable amount of money on your transportation costs, depending on how much oil you're producing."

Additionally, the proposed pipeline has the potential to process a larger amount of oil each day than TerraCore currently produces in Cat Canyon, which, Eady argued, indicates that the pipeline can serve other companies besides TerraCore.

"[TerraCore] looked at how much oil they felt that they could produce with those existing facilities, and then designed a pipeline that was bigger than that," Eady said. "The Foxen Pipeline was approved with a 25,000 barrels per day total

throughput, so that there would be a surplus of volume if other carriers in the Cat Canyon region wanted to tap into the pipeline."

Eady added that TerraCore plans to build the pipeline regardless of getting approval to expand its operations in Cat Canyon, going a step further than the 2019 EIR which states this to be "unknown."

Commissioners Parke and Cooney ultimately voted against approving the extension after voicing additional concerns over the impact that the project would have on the local Western spadefoot toad population. But with the other commissioners in favor, the extension was approved 3-2.

Elena Salinas, a volunteer with Food & Water Watch Santa Barbara, told the *Sun* that the outcome was "frustrating, to say the least" for those who spoke during public comment.

"Everyone spoke against this request that TerraCore made, and the Planning Commission still went against people," she said. "What is the point of these hearings if you're not going to listen to the comments?"

Salinas said she plans to keep advocating for environmental causes, as well as increasing the public's ability to engage with local government.

"There's a youth coalition right now that is going to be speaking to one of the planning commissioners, and we're going to be talking about issues like these and also making environmental impact reports more accessible," she said. "Hopefully this is the beginning." ○

Reach Staff Writer Malea Martin at mmartin@santamariasun.com.



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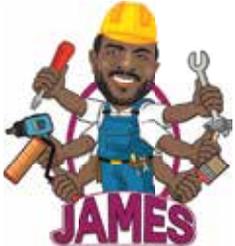
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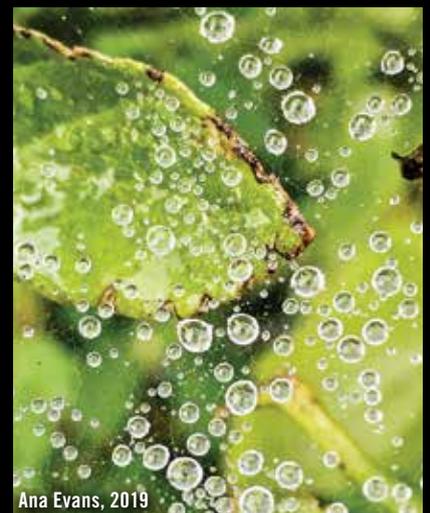
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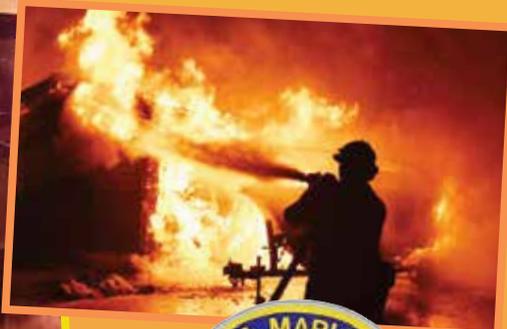
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PHOTO COURTESY OF SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY COLLEGE



TOMORROW'S NURSES: San Joaquin Valley College announced the expansion of its vocational nursing program to the college's Santa Maria campus.

Health care heroes

San Joaquin Valley College's new Santa Maria-based program will train the nurses of tomorrow

BY MALEA MARTIN

Even before the days of COVID-19, studies showed that nurse shortages were a resounding issue across the nation.

According to a 2017 Department of Health and Human Services report, California tops the list with a projected shortage of 44,500 nurses by 2030. Add in a global pandemic, and nurses are needed more than ever.

A new vocational nursing program in Santa Maria aims to train the health care professionals of tomorrow and help close the gap in the industry. San Joaquin Valley College (SJVC) recently announced an expansion of its vocational nursing program to three of its campuses, including Santa Maria.

SJVC completed its acquisition of Santa Barbara Business College at the start of 2020, and the new program is based at its Santa Maria campus, formerly operated by the business college.

SJVC first opened in 1977 in Visalia in Tulare County. Since then, the second generation, family-owned college has expanded to 17 different locations, including Atascadero and now Santa Maria. The vocational nursing program is offered at the college's Visalia, Santa Maria, Bakersfield, and Rancho Mirage campuses.

"We've had a VN program here [in Visalia] for some time with great outcomes, so we're very happy to ensure that the program continues to be offered in Santa Maria now through SJVC," SJVC President Nick Gomez told the *Sun*.

As a vocational program, Gomez said the college puts a particular emphasis on getting its students into the workforce after they graduate.

"The vocational nursing program that we offer is deep in its educational understanding, but it is geared specifically for that individual, upon completion of the program, to find employment," he said. "Whether that be in that local community or elsewhere based upon where availability is, it is a direct alignment to their career opportunity."

The college achieves the employment focus through partnerships with local health care providers as well as a hands-on learning model for students.

"They participate in something called a clinical rotation, where they get to apply what they've learned in the classroom setting out in the field," Gomez said. "We've got a strong connection with

employers in the field. ... In addition to that, we have some simulation environments that we incorporate into our curriculum when they're on campus so they're further enriched when they have that opportunity, not only to go out and be part of the clinical, but when they come back and they understand how to integrate that into their learning."

SJVC also helps students get into the field as quickly as possible by offering an accelerated program, allowing them to earn their certificate in as few as 14 months and their associate degree in as little as 16 months.

Gomez said the current public health crisis further underscores the need for quality nursing programs in California.

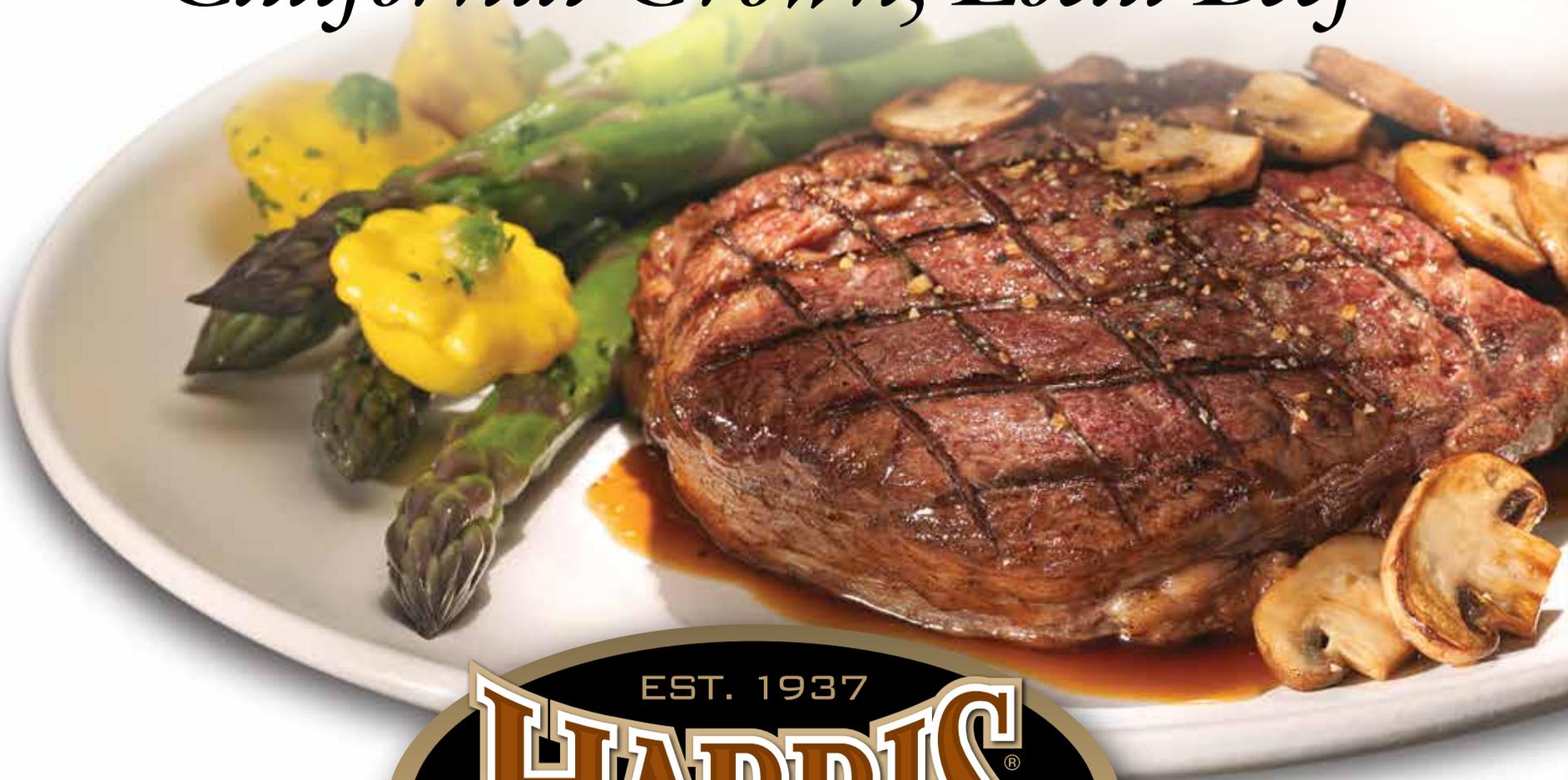
"We have a very unique circumstance in this environment with the pandemic that is putting extreme pressure on our health care systems, and we need trained people. We're seeing, perhaps more now than ever, that a reserve is needed," he said. "We've been very fortunate and feel blessed to be in the space to provide education for individuals to achieve those outcomes."

Highlight:

• Lompoc resident Annalynn Clark was named a finalist in the nationwide Mayflower Mover of Movers contest, which recognizes "those individuals who are making monumental moves and fostering change in their communities," the contest webpage states. Clark, a special education teacher, is one of three finalists, and the winner will receive \$25,000 to put toward a good cause in their community. If she wins, Clark plans to launch her Great Kindness Challenge, "a gentle, inclusive, empowering program that supports students and many others in the community to dedicate 100 kindness hours a year through helping others or improving the community," a Mayflower release stated. The prize would also allow Clark to supply and maintain a garden club she created at Lompoc Valley Middle School. Winners are determined by vote, and those interested can cast their vote at mayflower.com/moverofmovers. Voting ends on Aug. 17. ○

Staff Writer Malea Martin wrote this week's Spotlight. Send tips to spotlight@santamariasun.com.

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Online Poll

What do you think of the Lompoc prison facilities' ways of mitigating the spread of COVID-19?

- 55% It was not great but was typical of our current institutions.
- 23% It was certainly inhumane; inmates couldn't even shower for almost two weeks.
- 11% I think it was adequate given the situation.
- 11% Definitely cruel and unusual—more people should have received home confinement.

9 Votes

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

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Forward vision

Lompoc needs a City Council majority that's focused on economic development

BY RON FINK

Everyone knows that "Lompoc is at the end of the road" geographically, and this semi-isolation impacts our economy: Can city leaders improve the economic situation in our city?

Since the space shuttle program ended at nearby Vandenberg Air Force Base, the city has seen relatively little growth. Developers like large parcels of land to build projects so they can achieve a maximum return for their investment. Parcels like this don't currently exist within the city limits, so we are left with infill sites that are much smaller.

We are sort of boxed in by prime agricultural land to the west, the Santa Ynez River to the east, and developed areas to the north that may not want to be annexed. When an annexation to the west is proposed, the Local Area Formation Commission (LAFCO) opposes it. Moving to the east is also opposed, and moving to the north creates utility infrastructure issues.

We are also hampered by old-school politicians who have dominated the council for generations. These are the old family prodigies who still think the city is fine just the way it was in the 1960s. Some have no pride in their own properties and feel it's reasonable to allow their holdings, built by their fathers and grandfathers, to fall into disrepair and drag down the value of neighboring properties.

They legislate the same way. Their policies reflect the idea that a person can do anything they want to with their property and avoid meeting minimal appearance and construction standards. They eliminated the code enforcement function and now rely on a complaint-based system, which pits neighbor against neighbor. To dilute the effectiveness of this process they also included

provisions to identify the complainant if the subject of the complaint asked for it.

Local commercial property owners do little to attract business to their properties, many of which have been in their families for decades. For example: When the wine industry began growing, instead of locating their tasting rooms in the old town area, they chose to house them in an industrial area far removed from the commercial center of the city.

Why? Because the downtown buildings would have needed significant renovation to plumbing, heating/ventilation, and safety systems and additional exits. Building owners were unwilling to invest in the upgrades because of the initial expense and the fact that their property taxes would have increased as the value of their property increased and instead chose to leave the properties in their current state of decay.

Instead of encouraging a welcoming appearance to potential developers and new businesses, elected leaders have chosen to take the low road at every turn. A recent example was when the old municipal pool was demolished, the city had a budget of almost a half-million dollars to remove the pool and replace it with a park. There were several park configurations available, but they chose the cheapest, bare-bones version. Now the "park" is simply a shabby plot of dead weeds in front of City Hall.

To prosper, we need a new way of thinking at City Hall. People who aspire to be in leadership roles should have a forward vision for the city. Some do, and unfortunately the current council majority lacks this attribute.

Perhaps it's time to cast aside the old-school politicians who have dominated the council for generations and allow a younger, more vigorous group of folks to try their hand at policy-making.

We need imagination and a pro-business

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). 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.

attitude to embrace a city that sparkles to outside business interests. Public property should lead the appearance race in every corner of the city; roads need to be repaired and in some cases rebuilt; alleyways need to be repaved; parks need a makeover; and yes, we need a complete makeover at Ryon Park.

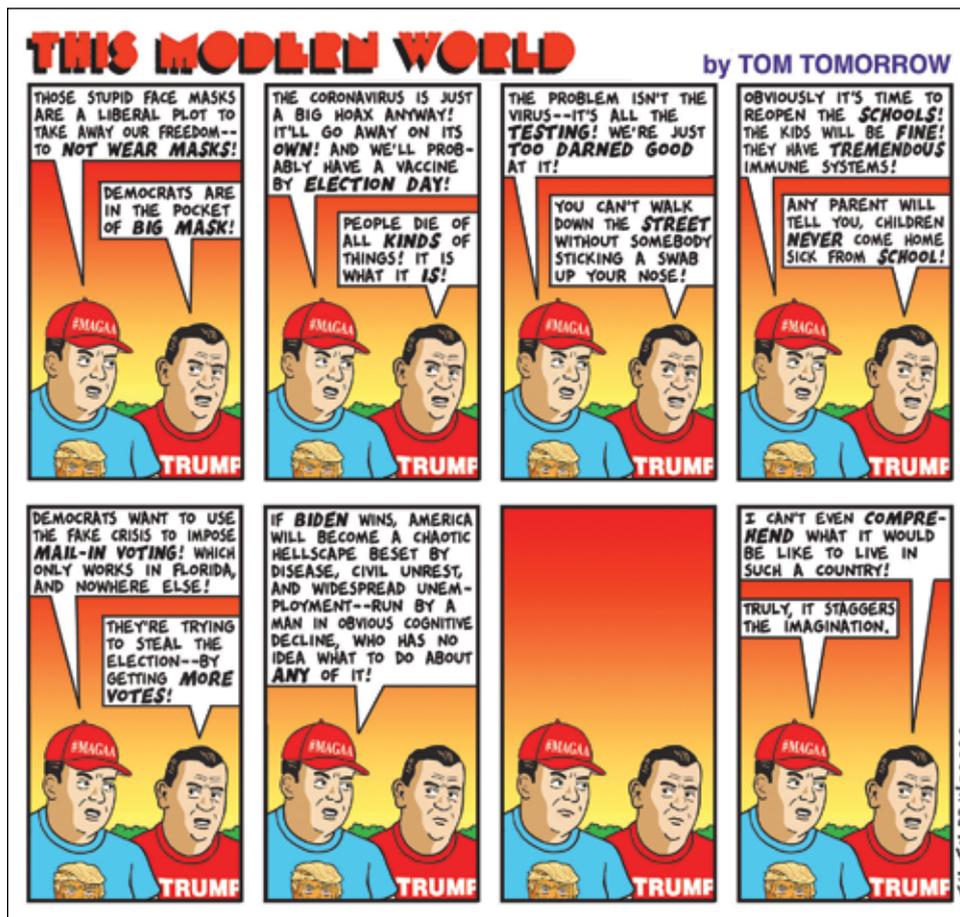
Our leaders need to reach out to new industrial clients, specifically those in the growing commercial space industry and introduce them to city staff members who can facilitate their projects. They need to stress the positive aspects of the city, like the low utility rates, clean air, and communication infrastructure that will support businesses.

Three former members of the Economic Development Commission are running for seats on the City Council. Mayor Jenelle Osborne is running for reelection, Councilwoman Gilda Cordova is running in the 1st District, and Jeremy Ball is running in the 4th District.

All three were serving on the EDC when the Economic Development Element of the General Plan was crafted and could breathe new life into this document and implement the policies and goals of the plan. The current council majority has proposed eliminating this important part of the General Plan in the recent past.

Yes, it's past time to cast away the image that a town at the "end of the road" can't help companies succeed in a competitive world. It's past time for a new team at the helm. ☺

Ron Fink writes to the Sun from Lompoc. Send comments through the editor at clanham@santamariasun.com or write a letter in response and email it to letters@santamariasun.com.



LETTER

Vote with your forward-thinking wallet

Assemblymember Jordan Cunningham (R-Santa Luis Obispo) authored AB 2898 in a last-ditch effort to extend the life of dirty Diablo Canyon Power Plant. This bill foolishly seeks to reclassify nuclear energy as a renewable resource. Not only is nuclear power by definition not renewable because the world's supply of uranium is limited—but it's also dirty, dangerous, and expensive. The Diablo facility is currently operating by ratepayer subsidy at \$1.2 billion over market costs. Pacific Gas & Electric Company has made the decision to shutter the plant because it is not economically feasible to continue operation.

Mr. Cunningham's bill shows that he is uninformed about the economics and science of nuclear energy. He also demonstrates backward thinking in his ideas of future energy planning. While the rest of the world looks forward to truly clean, safe, sustainable, and economical energy sources, Jordan Cunningham is looking to the past failed energy solutions.

When voting in November, choose a candidate who is innovative and forward-thinking—someone who will protect both our environment and our wallets.

Jill ZamEk
Arroyo Grande



GOOD NEWS!

The *Sun* is announcing a new **Matching Grant Program** available to all nonprofit and arts organizations in Santa Barbara County.

The *Sun* will provide matching funds to local nonprofit and arts organizations for a print and digital marketing campaign in the *Sun* from now until the end of 2020.

Let's partner together and help get your messaging out to the Central Coast community.

For any questions, or to apply for a matching funds grant, please call **(805) 347-1968 ext. 111**

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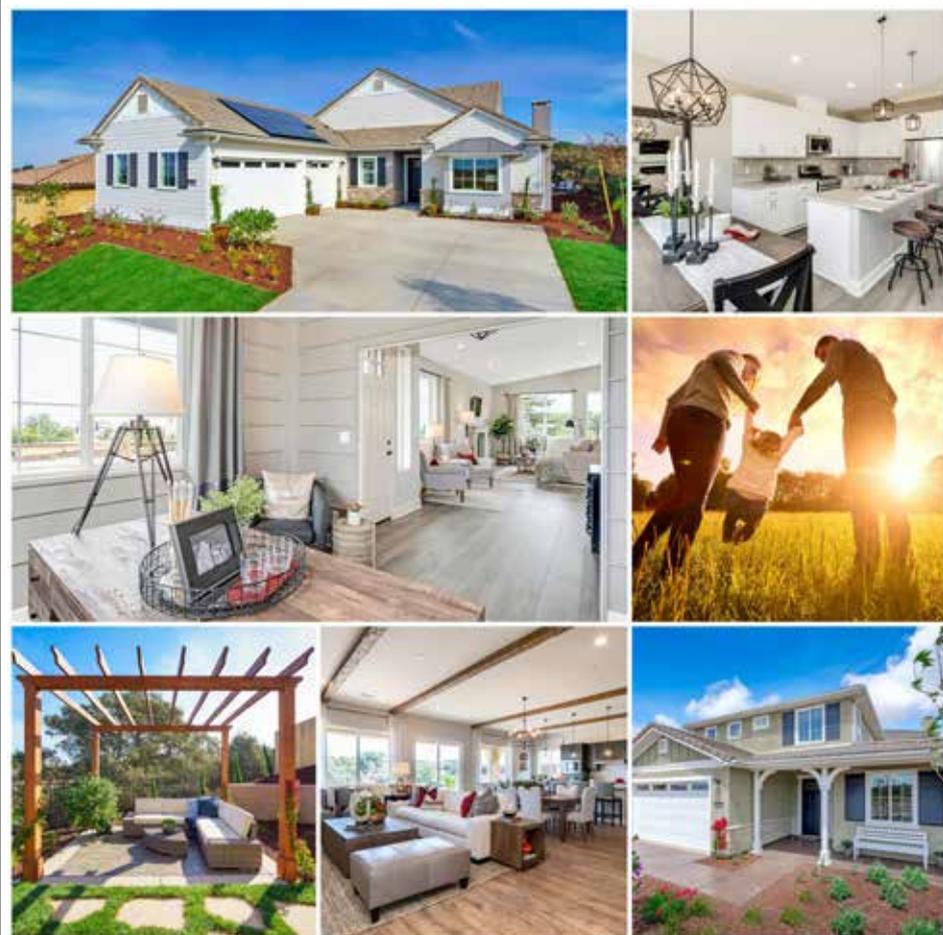
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The ol' switcheroo

Sometimes when you tune in to the right Santa Barbara County Planning Commission, you get more than you bargained for.

And often, that's in hours—people droning on about zoning and regulations that support their opposition to their neighbor installing a patio.

"The very thought of them enjoying their backyard conjures up noise, noise, noise!"

But occasionally, you get a little Planning Commission treat for persevering. Which is exactly what happened on Aug. 5 after the laborious arguments over whether TerraCore's Foxen Pipeline Petroleum Project permit should get approved for an extension.

Activists wanted the project's environmental impact report (which county supervisors already approved in 2018) to include a proposed oil well drilling project that TerraCore is also working on. Meanwhile TerraCore insists that the projects are separate—that the pipeline doesn't depend on the drilling project.

The arguments for that went like this:

"We should definitely get approved, because we're being as environmentally conscious as possible," the oil company and its proponents said. "Plus jobs and the economy."

"They are destroying the world with carbon emissions and have to be stopped," opponents said. "They only care about their bottom line."

There, now you never have to listen to another oil project hearing ever again. Because *that's what they all sound like*.

So after that long-winded hearing—which ended with the Planning Commission approving the extension and activists low-key threatening California Environmental Quality Act type appeals—a bunch of people who live down

near Solvang argued over the merits of having a greenhouse in the neighborhood.

But it's not just any greenhouse. When project applicant Steve Decker first applied to build his greenhouse, it was going to grow cannabis. After the county changed its cannabis ordinance, Decker supposedly withdrew his application because it was no longer an allowable use for the area.

Don't worry, though, Mr. Decker was undeterred. He simply reapplied, but replaced the word "cannabis" with the word "vegetable."

Voila! He received county approval. Not so fast, his neighbors cried! And they appealed the approval, which is our little Planning Commission treat this month!

Neighbor Stephen Jacobs argued against the approval, accusing Decker of trying to pull a fast one on the county. And yeah, it sort of sounds like Decker is trying to do something he shouldn't.

However, Decker swore that he didn't want to have anything to do with cannabis anymore.

"I have no intention of being in the cannabis business. Quite frankly, the cannabis business is in serious trouble financially, so I'm not interested in getting into cannabis at all," he said.

Funny thing, though, that's not what his LinkedIn profile alludes to.

"If you go on Mr. Decker's LinkedIn, you'll see that it mentions right at the top that he is the CEO of Santa Barbara Cannabis," Jacobs argued to the Planning Commission.

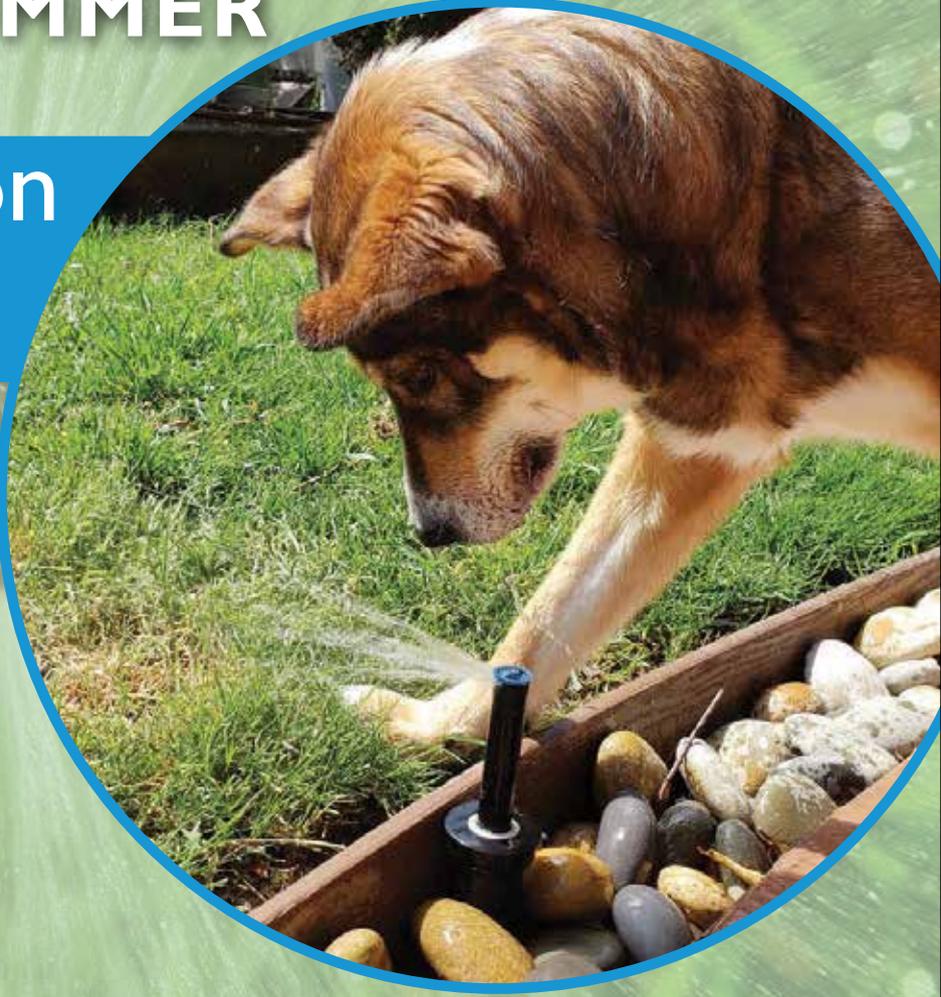
Maybe Decker should change the name of his business to Santa Barbara Vegetable? Either way, I think both the county and the neighbors are going to keep their ogling eyes on that greenhouse. ☪

The canary is switching to a flamingo. Send comments to canary@santamariasun.com.



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The Ryan Teixeira Story

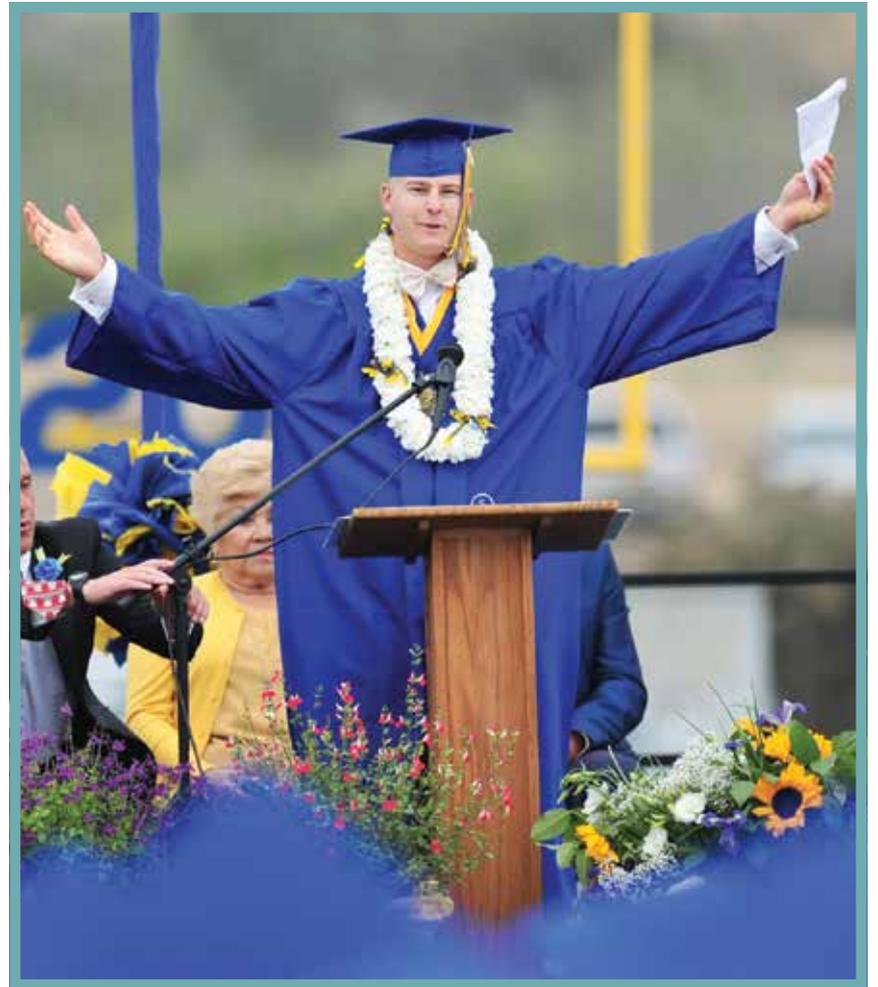
Can I take you on a journey for a moment? It seems that just last week a 10-year-old boy was given an opportunity to choose his jersey number to wear for his club baseball team. He came to his parents and said I want a number that means something to me for all the years I play baseball. His dad happily encouraged him and searched biblical numbers and their meanings; when his dad found number 17, which means Victory, without hesitation, the young boy shouted, **“That’s my number!”** That 10-year-old boy grew up and as a senior in high school was diagnosed with a rare cancer, Ewing’s Sarcoma. He would say, **“I got a rare type of cancer because I’m a rare kind of guy.”** Not long after his diagnoses, a cousin came up with the slogan “17 Strong”.

Ryan Teixeira was diagnosed with Ewing’s Sarcoma at age eighteen, in April of 2015, five months after signing a baseball scholarship contract with Colorado Mesa University, his baseball dreams were put on hold. Ryan had surgery for the removal of a large tumor in his right leg in August of 2015 and after intense cancer treatment and therapy, a social worker in

the hospital asked if he had given any thought about where he wanted to go on his “Make a Wish trip?” Full of excitement, he and his best friend researched and planned, in detail, what they were going to do. A week later, that same social worker came back in his hospital room to say, “I’m sorry, you don’t qualify for a trip because you were diagnosed at 18 years old. (To qualify you have to be diagnosed before your 18th birthday.)

After much frustration and disappointment, he prayed about it and came up with his own solution. He talked to his mom and dad about starting a nonprofit group to send young adults who are battling life-threatening diseases on “Victory Trips”; 17 Strong was born that day. It was no longer a victory slogan but became a mission and a purpose.

In January of 2016, Ryan moved to Colorado to officially begin his college and baseball career. In addition to on-going physical therapy, Ryan worked out with the team, completed the spring semester then spent the summer back home in Pismo Beach. In August 2016, Ryan returned to CMU



where, later that month, he traveled to Pennsylvania, for a week, as a volunteer for the Little League Challenger program. The Challenger Division is a program offered by Little League to enable boys and girls with physical and mental challenges to enjoy the game of baseball.

While there, Ryan enjoyed every moment...working with and encouraging youth with special needs. Two weeks after returning to campus, he developed a cold that would not get better. After consulting his local Colorado physician, Ryan was sent to the hospital where it was quickly discovered he had developed Leukemia, a side effect of the intense chemo treatment required for treating Ewing’s Sarcoma; he was flown to UCLA

Medical Center in California on September 13, 2016. After more intense treatment followed by a bone marrow transplant, Ryan bravely battled through multiple breakthroughs and setbacks. His legacy lives on through his passion to provide encouragement and inspiration for others, with the creation of 17 Strong, focusing on funding “Victory Trips” for patients who have battled life-threatening diseases.

Ryan Teixeira is the proud founder of “17 Strong”. His vision has become our mission and the platform of the organization. Family, as well as Ryan’s friends and community have become his voice to keep his vision and legacy alive. The journey is not over yet...

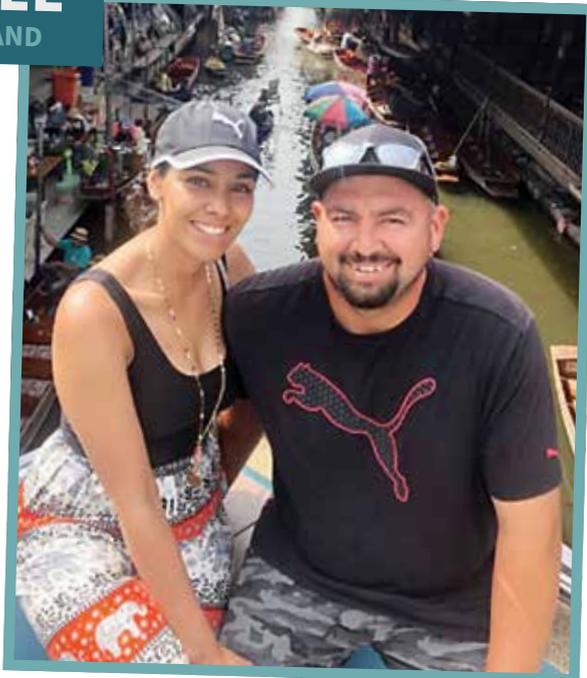
DANIEL
HAWAII



Daniel is a cancer survivor and was joined by his girlfriend Jennifer. "It meant the world to me to have anyone do something like this for me. It was highly appreciated and good for my mind and body to feel alive again. Whales were splashing and waving to us while we were on our Valentine's dinner cruise and it was amazing."

AYDEE
THAILAND

Aydee is a cancer survivor and was joined by her fiancé Javier. "My Victory Trip was an incredible experience leading to a new chapter in my life. For once, I forgot about everything, even that I had cancer. The beauty of Thailand kept my mind busy enough."



JOHN
HAWAII



John & his wife Alex traveled to Hawaii; John is a cancer survivor. "This trip felt like closing the door on a long and difficult fight. Our lives were put on hold, this trip was the end of that. It gave us a chance to finally take a breath and get back to normal."

NANCY
ROME

Nancy is a pediatric nurse and cancer survivor; she was joined by her mom to Rome. "This trip meant so much to me because I was able to enjoy and celebrate victory with mu mom, who is also deserving of this trip. The highlight of this trip was the spiritual experience in the Vatican and seeing the Pope with my mom. Just thinking about it gives me chills."



MARIA
DISNEY CRUISE

Maria and her son Christian went on a Disney Cruise to celebrate her victory over cancer. "My son and I were able to visit three different countries in 7 days which to me was a unique experience. This trip was blessing for us, we were able to spend quality time that was lost during this past year."



17STRONG

17strong.org

VICTORY TRIPS

Victory Trips allow the recovering patient time to recuperate and reset while fulfilling a lifelong dream. A candidate may be referred by medical professionals, social workers, or anyone with knowledge of the candidate's current medical condition.

For more information or to nominate an individual, please visit 17strong.org.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Must be within the ages of 18 to 40 (diagnosed before 40th birthday)
- Must have battled a life-threatening illness and have completed treatment (cancer-free)
- Must be cleared by your doctor to travel
- Cannot have had trip/experience from another organization

HOW CAN YOU HELP

DONATE TODAY

As a nonprofit organization, we rely on philanthropic support from individuals, businesses and other organizations to continue to provide life-changing Victory Trips to young adults. Gifts from people like you will ensure that victims of catastrophic illness will not be forgotten. To donate, visit 17strong.org or contact us at info@17strong.org

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Consider selecting 17 Strong as your designated charity by donating proceeds or a percentage to our organization.

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We host an annual fundraiser every November in Pismo Beach, California. There are also various event opportunities hosted by partners benefitting us. Visit our website for more information.

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“My Victory Trip showed me how truly spectacular life can be. It reminded me how lucky I am to be here today and gave me a platform to celebrate my health and recovery!”

Kay Foos, Thailand

“As we prepared for this trip, for the first time we felt an old familiar feeling – what it feels like to be a normal couple planning a beautiful vacation.”

Marcela Hurtado, Honduras

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HOT STUFF

AUG. 13 – AUG. 20
2020



IT'S A SMALL WORLD AFTER ALL
The Pacific Conservatory Theatre (PCPA) presents A World in Miniature, a special Zoom presentation with scenic designer Jason Bolen, on Wednesday, Aug. 19, from 6 to 7 p.m. Viewers can expect to learn about Bolen's creative process and get a special behind-the-scenes look into the world of model making at PCPA. The meeting is free to join, and attendees can pre-register at pcpa.org.
—Caleb Wiseblood

SCREENSHOT FROM YOUTUBE.COM/MODEL BY OLIVIA SARKIS

ARTS

SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

20/20: A RETROSPECTIVE This spring, the Wildling Museum of Art and Nature will mark its 20th anniversary with a special exhibition celebrating the Museum's 20-year history in the Santa Ynez Valley. View the exhibit online. Mondays, Wednesdays-Sundays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. through Sept. 7 805-688-1082. wildlingmuseum.org/news/2020-retrospective. Wildling Museum of Art and Nature, 1511-B Mission Dr., Solvang.

THE ART OF FACE MASKS: VIRTUAL EXHIBIT This group show reunites several artists from the museum's 2019 exhibit, The Art of Dress, including Georganne Alex, Carole Coduti, Gwen Samuels, and others. ongoing Free. artoffacemasks.com. Elverhoj Museum of History and Art, 1624 Elverhoj Way, Solvang, 805-686-1211.

A MIGHTY OAK: PERMANENT EXHIBIT ONLINE Depicts the habitat around a Valley oak—one of the largest and old trees found in our area. View the artwork online. ongoing Free. Wildling Museum of Art and Nature, 1511-B Mission Dr., Solvang, 805-688-1082. wildlingmuseum.org.

REMEMBERING BUD BOTTOMS: A LEGACY OF ART AND ACTIVISM This online exhibit features sea life sculpture works by the Santa Barbara artist locally renowned for his iconic Dolphin Family sculpture installed at the base of Stearns Wharf. Through Sept. 22 Free. Wildling Museum of Art and Nature, 1511-B Mission Dr., Solvang, 805-688-1082. wildlingmuseum.org.

SB COUNTY AND BEYOND Photographic landscapes by George Rose. View online. ongoing Free. Wildling Museum of Art and Nature, 1511-B Mission Dr., Solvang, 805-688-1082. wildlingmuseum.org.

SOLVANG SCHOOL: INSPIRED BY NATURE View the exhibit online. Features photography by 29 Solvang School Yearbook and Media students. The students, grades 7 – 8, were inspired by philosopher Henry David Thoreau's quote: "All good things are wild and free." ongoing Free. Wildling Museum of Art and Nature, 1511-B Mission Dr., Solvang, 805-688-1082. wildlingmuseum.org.

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

CALL FOR ARTISTS (GRADES 4-12): NEW CHILDREN'S BOOK This art contest will give students an opportunity create illustrations for a bilingual children's book that will depict local landmarks. Students are to create their illustration on a paper template entry form. All illustrations shall be created using colored pencils only. Through Sept. 25 Abel Maldonado Community Youth

Center, 600 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

PCPA: ACTORS TALKBACK Streams live on PCPA's Instagram every Thursday and spotlights a different thespian guest each week. Hosted by Erik Stein. Thursdays, 3:30 p.m. Free. pcpa.org. PCPA: The Pacific Conservatory Theatre, 800 S. College, Santa Maria, 805-922-8313.

PCPA READS AT HOME A literacy project that uses our students' learning to serve children and parents who are learning at home. Co-hosted by Allan Hancock College and the Santa Maria-Bonita School District to bring a love of stories and language to people right in their homes. ongoing PCPA: The Pacific Conservatory Theatre, 800 S. College, Santa Maria, 805-922-8313, pcpa.org.

SMPL VALLEY READS BOOK CLUB The Valley Reads Book club meets very month on the fourth Tuesday (now over the phone). Interested community members should email jgaytan@cityofsantamaria.org to join. ongoing 805-925-0994. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

TECH TALKS: LIVE ON INSTAGRAM Every Tuesday sit down with one of our technical staff and learn about the ins and outs of their craft. Get the exclusive with our host Erik Stein. Tuesdays, 3:30 p.m. PCPA: The Pacific Conservatory Theatre, 800 S. College, Santa Maria, 805-922-8313, pcpa.org.

WINE AND DESIGN VIRTUAL CLASSES Check Wine and Design's Orcutt website for the complete list of virtual classes online, for various ages. Also offering kids camps for summer. ongoing Varies. wineanddesign.com/orcutt. Wine and Design, 3420 Orcutt Road, suite 105, Orcutt.

WORKSHOPS VIA ZOOM Sara Curran Ice, PCPA's Technical Theatre Program Coordinator/Designer, is conducting Workshops via Zoom for local high school drama students. Check site or call for more info. ongoing PCPA: The Pacific Conservatory Theatre, 800 S. College, Santa Maria, 805-922-8313, pcpa.org.

SAN LUIS OBISPO

BRUSHSTROKES 2020 Brushstrokes

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. You may also email 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.

2020 is a digital exhibition featuring 42 paintings by members of The Painters Group, an affiliated artist group of SLOMA, and members of Art Center Morro Bay. Artists explore a variety of subject matter, from portraits of loved ones and animals to serene landscapes. Through Sept. 27 Free. 805-543-8562. slo.ma.org/exhibition/brushstrokes-2020/. San Luis Obispo Museum of Art, 1010 Broad St., San Luis Obispo.

CALIFORNIA SCULPTURE SLAM 2020 California Sculpture SLAM showcases current works by established and up-and-coming California sculptors. The exhibition's goal is to provide a platform for a wide variety of concepts and materials. Exhibition slideshow online. Through Sept. 27 Free. 805-543-8562. slo.ma.org/exhibition/slam-2020/. San Luis Obispo Museum of Art, 1010 Broad St., San Luis Obispo.

DIGITAL EXHIBITION: TERMINALLY OPTIMISTIC-THE PRINTS OF RACHAEL WINN YON This retrospective exhibition explores the prints of Rachael Winn Yon, who was joyous, adventurous, curious, and energetic. Her large personality is reflected in her prints, with playful imagery and imaginative scenes. You can view this digital exhibition at SLOMA.org. Mondays-Sundays. through Sept. 27 Free. slo.ma.org/exhibition/terminally-optimistic/. San Luis Obispo Museum of Art, 1010 Broad St., San Luis Obispo, 543-8562.

SLO CAMERA CLUB Online Zoom meetings and competitions. Everyone is welcome. Visit site for meeting links. Second Thursday of every month Free to guest. slocameraclub.org/home.shtml. SLO Guild Hall, 2880 Broad St., San Luis Obispo, 805-543-0639.

SLOMA: WEEKLY ART PROJECTS Kids can enjoy new activities from home (posted online every Monday). Mondays slo.ma.org. San Luis Obispo Museum of Art, 1010 Broad St., San Luis Obispo, 543-8562.

VIRTUAL ART GALLERY Every Friday, we publish our Virtual Art Gallery to our blog and newsletter. Featuring artworks from customers and the community. Fridays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. 805-747-4200. artcentralslo.wordpress.com.

com/category/gallery-exhibits/virtual-gallery/. Art Central, 1329 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo.

NORTH SLO COUNTY

FREE VISUAL AND PERFORMING ART CLASSES (ONLINE) Check the foundation's site for various classes offered, for ages 5 to 18. Through Oct. 31 Paso Robles Youth Arts Foundation, 3201 Spring St., Paso Robles, 805-238-5825, prya.org.

STUDIOS ON THE PARK: ONLINE CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS Check site for a variety of virtual classes and workshops online. ongoingstudiosonthePark.org. Studios on the Park, 1130 Pine St., Paso Robles, 805-238-9800.

NORTH COAST SLO COUNTY

MOSAICS FOR BEGINNERS Learn mosaic basics in the comfort of your home. Supplies include everything to complete the project except nippers. Video shows step-by-step how-to's to finish your mosaic masterpiece. **Aug. 23**, 10-11 a.m. Various. 805-286-5993. creativemetime.com. Art Center Morro Bay, 835 Main St., Morro Bay.

THE REBOOT: STORYTELLING REIMAGINED ON ZOOM Now live on Zoom. A curated mix of invited storytellers and open mic for novice storytellers. Spoken word, improv, character sketches and interactive games. Third Friday of every month, 7-8 p.m. Free. 805-772-9225. facebook.com/topdogcoffeabar/. Top Dog Coffee Bar, 857 Main St., Morro Bay.

SEA GLASS HAMMERED METAL JEWELRY Learn how to drill holes in sea glass, how to harden, strengthen and texturize metal to create a gorgeous jewelry set. Create in the comfort of your home with supplies and how-to video provided. Kit pick-up dates are listed. **Aug. 22**, 10-11 a.m. \$80. 805-286-5993. creativemetime.com. Art Center Morro Bay, 835 Main St., Morro Bay.

CULTURE & LIFESTYLE

LOMPOC/VANDEMBERG

GOOD MORNING LOMPOC The show is hosted by Lompoc locals Michelle and Jeremy Ball, who aim to keep the community connected while staying home at the same time. Episodes are also available to watch on YouTube after they're streamed live. Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 8:30 a.m. Facebook, Online, Inquire for Facebook address.

CULTURE & LIFESTYLE continued page 18

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- Culture & Lifestyle [17]
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Summer Movies in the Park: Sonic
SATURDAY, AUGUST 15
Paloma Creek Park, Atascadero



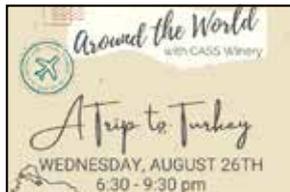
Free Live Stream Concert
Featuring:
AJ Lee & Blue Summit
SUNDAY, AUGUST 16
Online via Tiny Porch Concerts



Infused Spirits
SATURDAY, AUGUST 15
Online with Make & Muddle



Cass Wine Seminar: Rosé
SUNDAY, AUGUST 23
Cass Winery



Wednesdays Around the World: Turkey
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26
Cass Winery



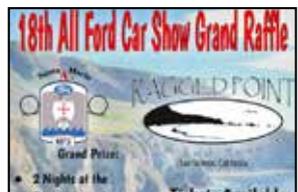
2020 Sunset Seafood Boil
FRIDAY, AUGUST 28
Cass Winery



Free Live Stream Concert Featuring:
Laura Jean Anderson
SUNDAY, AUGUST 30
Online via Tiny Porch Concerts



Shrubs & Reductions
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12
Online with Make & Muddle



All Ford Car Show Grand Prize Raffle
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12
Old Town Orcutt



Tiny Porch Summer Concert Series: The Coffin Brothers
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12
King Gillette Ranch



"Socially Distanced" High Tea on the Blue Deck
FRI.-SUN., SEPT. 25, 26, 27
Los Osos, SLO Master Chorale



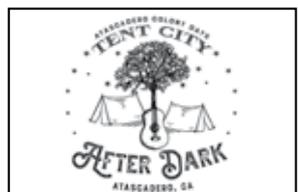
Bang Muay Thai Seminar w/Sensei Duane Ludwig
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26
Sleeping Tiger Fitness



Hot Buttered Rum with The Dales and Abby and the Myth
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26
Tiny Porch Concerts



Brew At The Zoo
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26
Charles Paddock Zoo, Atascadero



Tent City After Dark
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2
Tent City Sunken Gardens



2020 Estate Beef Dinner Series: Plate Ribs
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2
Cass Winery



Krav Maga Level 2 Weekend
SAT & SUN, OCTOBER 17 & 18
Sleeping Tiger Fitness, San Luis Obispo

MY805TIX BOX OFFICE IS OPEN Get your tickets online or at **Boo Boo Records**, the official **Box Office** for My805Tix events! Boo Boo's is located at 978 Monterey Street in SLO. Call 805-541-0657.

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

POWERED BY: **NewTimes & Sun** FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

THE DELI IN DELICIOUS
SLO Provisions hosts its Jewish Deli Day Fundraiser pickup on Tuesday, Aug. 18, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. A portion of each purchase benefits the JCC-Federation of SLO. Deli meat kits, vegetarian kits, and sides are available to order for pickup at jccslo.com/deli-day. SLO Provisions is located at 1255 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo. —C.W.



CULTURE & LIFESTYLE from page 17

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

BIZ MASTERS TOASTMASTERS TUESDAYS: Learn more about Toastmasters, prepare for 'Your Competitive Future', and improve your communication and leadership skills. Zoom Meeting ID: 317 198 472 (Password: 630). Tuesdays, 6:30-8 p.m. through Dec. 15 Free. 805-570-0620. Santa Maria Airport, 3249 Terminal Dr., Santa Maria.

HUMAN BEING SUPPORT AND INSPIRATION ONLINE GROUP An online group to listen and get support from others from the comfort of your own home. Tuesdays, 6:30-8 p.m. \$40 monthly subscription. 805-598-1509. divining.weebly.com. Divine Inspiration, 947 E Orange St., Santa Maria.

VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS OVER ZOOM Visit site or call to learn about various virtual workshop offerings. ongoing Varies. Unwind Studio, 130 N. Broadway, suite B, Santa Maria, 805-748-2539, unwindsantamaria.com.

YOGA FOR MANKIND: ZOOM CLASSES Offering a variety of virtual yoga and pilates classes over the summer. Check site for class schedule. ongoing Starts at \$10. yoga4mankind.org. Yoga for Mankind, 130 N Broadway, suite B, Orcutt.

SAN LUIS OBISPO

3 HIGHLY EFFECTIVE WAYS TO RELEASE STRESS AND CRUSH FOOD CRAVINGS End the vicious circle. Release stress and lose weight. Learn how to release those negative emotions and crush food cravings. **Aug. 20**, 6-7 p.m. Free. 805-242-1649. breakingdayhypnotherapy.com/. Zoom, Online, Inquire for Zoom ID.

COMPLIMENTARY OUTDOOR YOGA CLASSES Hotel San Luis Obispo, Piazza Hospitality's first property on California's scenic Central Coast, is now offering complimentary outdoor yoga classes on its rooftop terrace. Thursdays, Saturdays, Sundays, 8 a.m.-noon \$10-\$15 donation suggested. 805-235-0700. hotel-slo.com. Hotel San Luis Obispo, 877 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo.

COMPLIMENTARY SHOWERS WITH SHOWER THE PEOPLE After a short hiatus, the San Luis Obispo Library will once again be partnering with local non-profit organization, Shower the People. The shower trailer will be located between the library and parking structure. Toiletries provided. Sundays, 1-3 p.m. Free. San Luis Obispo Library, 995 Palm St., San Luis Obispo.

HOW TO THRIVE ON THE COVID ROLLERCOASTER: CURBSIDE PICKUP, ECOMMERCE, ONLINE RELATIONSHIPS COVID-19 has truly impacted small business owners and the communities they serve. Join to explore the 3 key pieces to thriving in this new marketplace. **Aug. 14**, 12-1 p.m. Free. 805-595-1357. mccorp.org/workshops. Zoom, Online, Inquire for Zoom ID.

MEDITATION, BREATHWORK, AND GRATITUDE PRACTICE: LIVE ON ZOOM This class will support you and help you stay vital during these uncertain times. Practices include breathing techniques to calm the nervous system, guided meditation for balanced relaxation, mantra practice to calm the mind, and tips to help you cultivate and maintain a home practice. Wednesdays, 12-12:45 p.m. through Sept. 16 \$10 for SLO Botanical Garden members/\$15 for non-members. 805-540-1762. eventbrite.com. San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden, 3450 Dairy Creek Rd., San Luis Obispo.

METABOLIC CONDITIONING We use primarily our own body weight in this interval training class to run through exercises and drills to raise the heart rate, condition our muscles, and stay flexible. This advanced class also incorporates hand weights and sand bags, if you have them. Mondays-Thursdays, 8:15-9:15 a.m. \$72. 415-516-5214. ae.slucsd.org. Online, 1500 Lizzie Street, San Luis Obispo.

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY CLASSES FOR SENIORS Have you heard the phrase, "Sitting is the new smoking"? Cuesta College's Emeritus exercise program, taught by Doris Lance, is offering a 45-minute class of stretching, balance, and cardiovascular fitness three days a week available to seniors. Tuesdays-Thursdays, 9-9:45 a.m. through Dec. 18 Free. 805-546-3942. cuesta.edu. Zoom, Online, Inquire for Zoom ID.

VIRTUAL TOUR OF THE DALLIDET ADOBE The Dallidet family lived in San Luis Obispo from the 1850s through the 1950s. Hear their stories while visiting the family home. Please register by noon on Thursdays.

Thursdays, 1 p.m. through Aug. 27 \$5 suggested. 805-543-0638. historycenterslo.org/virtual-tour.html. Dallidet Adobe, 1185 Pacific Street, San Luis Obispo.

VISIT THE DALLIDET GARDENS Enjoy the unparalleled natural beauty of the gardens through Labor Day weekend. Sundays, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. through Sept. 7 Free. 805-543-0638. dallidet.org. Dallidet Adobe and Gardens, 1185 Pacific St., San Luis Obispo.

WOODS VIRTUAL CRITTER CAMP Woods Virtual Critter Camps offer youth and families a fun way to meet and learn about animals, get to know other campers, and help animals in need, from home. Weekly themed camps include videos, activities and challenges, plus a Live Zoom meeting daily. Mondays-Fridays, 11 a.m.-noon through Aug. 14 \$100. 805-543-9316 ext. 13. woodshumanesociety.org. Woods Humane Society, 875 Oklahoma Ave., San Luis Obispo.

NORTH SLO COUNTY

INSPIRED HOME, GARDEN, AND GOURMET EXPO OF PASO ROBLES Features more than 100 home improvement experts offering remodeling ideas and more. Gourmet area features food and wine tasting, cooking demonstrations, and a chef competition. **Aug. 22**, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. 805-772-4600. inspiredexpos.com/. Paso Robles Event Center, 2198 Riverside Ave., Paso Robles.

SUMMER MOVIES IN THE PARK: DRIVE-IN In order to adhere to the COVID-19 guidelines, reservations are required and spaces are available while supplies last. Food is available for purchase from participating food trucks. Saturdays, 8 p.m. through Aug. 29 my805tix.com. Paloma Creek Park, 11665 Viejo Camino, Atascadero.

NORTH COAST SLO COUNTY

CENTRAL COAST SUMMER SLIM DOWN A 12-week program. Shed those extra pounds and learn which foods work with your unique body. ongoing, 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Call for price and schedule. 805-235-7978. gratefulbodyhealthcoaching.com. Grateful Body, 850 Shasta, Morro Bay.

MORRO BAY MARTIAL ARTS: SCHOOL OF TECHNIQUE A variety of adult and youth classes. Instructor has more than 35 years of experience. Offering Judo, Jiu-Jitsu, Kickboxing, MMA, and Self-Defense classes. Mondays-Saturdays, 7 a.m.-8 p.m. through Dec. 31 Call for details. 805-701-7397. charvetmartialarts.com. Morro Bay Martial Arts, 850 Shasta, Morro Bay.

RECLAIM YOUR CONFIDENCE FOR EMOTIONAL EATING (ONLINE) Successful in most areas of your life except food? Break the eat-repent cycle. **Aug. 20**, 6-7:15 p.m. Free. 805-235-7978. gratefulbodyhealthcoaching.com. Grateful Body, 850 Shasta, Morro Bay.

TAI CHI AND QI GONG: ZEN IN MOTION Small group classes with 2019 Tai Chi Instructor of the Year. Call for time and days. Learn the Shaolin Water Style and 5 Animals Qi Gong. Beginners welcomed. Mondays, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Call for price details. 805-701-7397. charvetmartialarts.com. Morro Bay Martial Arts, 850 Shasta, Morro Bay.

TAI CHI CHUN/ QI GONG BASICS Learn the foundation of Qi Gong, the rooting of breathing, and Shaolin Tai Chi. Tuesdays-Thursdays Call for details. 805-701-7397. charvetmartialarts.com. Grateful Body, 850 Shasta, Morro Bay.

FOOD & DRINK

SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

KALYRA: PURCHASES AND PICK-UPS Offering varietals from all over the world. Tuesdays-Sundays, 12-5 p.m. 805-693-8864. kalyrawinery.com. Kalyra Winery, 343 N. Refugio Rd., Santa Ynez.

STANDING SUN: PURCHASES AND DELIVERIES 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., Unit D, Buellton, 805-691-9413.

LOMPOC/VANDENBERG

FLYING GOAT CELLARS: APPOINTMENT AND PICK-UPS This winery specializes in Pinot Noir and sparkling wine. Call or check site for pick-up and

RAISE THE ROOF

Hotel San Luis Obispo is now offering free, outdoor yoga sessions on its rooftop terrace every Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday, from 8 a.m. to noon. Although classes are complimentary, a donation of \$10 to \$15 is suggested. Call (805) 235-0700 or visit hotel-slo.com for pre-registration details and more info. The hotel is located at 877 Palm St., San Luis Obispo.

—C.W.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ARIN KEELE

FOOD & DRINK from page 18

appointment info. Mondays, Thursdays-Sundays, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. 805-736-9032. flyinggoatcellars.com. Flying Goat Cellars, 1520 Chestnut Court, Lompoc.

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

PRESQU'ILE WINERY: RESERVATIONS ONLY

Call or go online to make a reservation (reservations open to the public starting June 6). ongoing Presqu'ile Winery, 5391 Presqu'ile Dr., Santa Maria, 805-937-8110, presquilewine.com.

SOUTH COAST SLO COUNTY

ARROYO GRANDE FARMERS MARKET Saturdays, 12:25 p.m. Arroyo Grande Farmers Market, Olohan Alley, Arroyo Grande.

SAN LUIS OBISPO

100 PICNICS CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION To-go picnic fundraiser. Order now to pick-up on Aug. 15. Only \$50 for a picnic for 4. Enjoy SLO locally sourced food, beer and wine, and complimentary gifts. Fundraiser also includes a raffle and online auction. **Aug. 15**, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. \$50. themondayclubslo.org/100-PICNICS. The Monday Club, 1815 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo, 805-541-0594.

PALATE RAP WITH JAKE AND JOSH BECKETT

Join Jake and Josh Beckett, the second generation of Peachy Canyon as they have fun with virtual tasting. **Aug. 14**, 5:30-6 p.m. Complimentary. 805-237-1577. peachycanyon.com/. Zoom, Online, Inquire for Zoom ID.

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



NORTH SLO COUNTY

VIRTUAL WINE TASTING PACKAGES AT CASS WINERY

Wine by the glass and bottles are also available for purchase. Check site for specific virtual tasting packages. ongoing Free. 805-239-1730. casswines.com/. Cass Winery And Vineyard, 7350 Linne Rd., Paso Robles.

NORTH COAST SLO COUNTY

BRUNCH IN THE GARDEN Enjoy the sun with a delicious meal accompanied by live music in the garden gazebo every Sunday this summer. Adult flat rate includes one entree, the choice of a homemade muffin or biscuit with jam, and a non-alcoholic beverage. Sundays, 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. through Aug. 30 \$9-\$19. 805-927-4200. cambriapineslodge.com/onsite. Cambria Pines Lodge, 2905 Burton Dr., Cambria.

UNCUT GEMS

Creative Me Time hosts a curbside pickup for its take-home Sea Glass Wire Wrapped Jewelry project at Centennial Park in Paso Robles on Monday, Aug. 24, from 6 to 7 p.m. The package is \$50 and includes all supplies needed, including local sea glass to craft a necklace or earrings from and instructions. Visit creativemetime.com for more info. The park is located at 600 Nickerson Drive, Paso Robles.

—C.W.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOAN MARTIN FEE

MUSIC

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

SANTA MARIA PHILHARMONIC: SOUND CLOUD

Features recordings of the Mozart Sinfonia from the Philharmonic's last live concert and other recordings. ongoing Free. smphilharmonic.org. Soundcloud (Santa Maria Philharmonic), Online, Santa Maria.

SOUTH COAST SLO COUNTY

DIRTY CELLO: BLUES AND BLUEGRASS ON CELLO

A virtual offering. **Aug. 15**, 6 p.m. Clark Center for the Performing Arts, 487 Fair Oaks Ave., Arroyo Grande, 805-489-9444, clarkcenter.org.

SAN LUIS OBISPO

KURT VILE AND CATE LE BON LIVE

Featuring Stella Mozgawa and Stephen Black. Presented by K CPR. This show was rescheduled from May 7, original tickets will be honored. **Aug. 23**, 8 p.m. The Fremont Theater, 1035 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo, 805-546-8600, fremontslo.com.

NORTH SLO COUNTY

SATURDAY IN THE PARK: VIRTUAL CONCERT SERIES

Concerts will be available to stream for free. Saturdays, 6:30 p.m. Free admission. visitatascadero.com. Atascadero Lake Park, 9305 Pismo Ave., Atascadero, 805-461-5000.

WINE DOWN WEDNESDAYS: VIRTUAL MUSIC SERIES

Follow the venue's Facebook page for a virtual series of music, wine tasting, and education. Wednesdays, 5-6 p.m. Free. facebook.com/vinaroblesamphitheatre/. Vina Robles Amphitheatre, 3800 Mill Rd., Paso Robles, 805-286-3680.

NORTH COAST SLO COUNTY

LIVE MUSIC AND GOURMET PIZZA FRIDAYS

Enjoy an evening outdoors filled with gourmet pizza and live music every Friday. Dig into your own personal wood-fired pizza, garden or pasta salad, and a non-alcoholic beverage for a flat rate or just order a personal pizza on the side. Fridays, 5-7:30 p.m. through Nov. 20 \$10-\$15. 805-927-4200. cambriapineslodge.com/onsite. Cambria Pines Lodge, 2905 Burton Dr., Cambria.

VIRTUAL HAPPY HOUR: LIVE MUSIC BY RACHEL SANTA CRUZ

Live music streamed every Wednesday from the Schooners Deck. Tune into our virtual happy to hear some great music and watch the sunset. Wednesdays, 6-8 p.m. Schooners, 171 North Ocean Ave, Cayucos, 805-995-3883, schoonerscayucos.com. ○



BUTTERFLIES

Alive!

NOW OPEN
THROUGH SEPTEMBER

Walk through a beautiful garden while nearly 1,000 live butterflies flutter freely around you. The exhibit features a dazzling variety of butterflies, from local favorites to exotic tropical varieties. Learn about the life cycle and behavior of these spectacular invertebrates while observing them up close.



Reservations required via sbnature.org/tickets.

SANTA BARBARA
MUSEUM
of
NATURAL
HISTORY

2559 Puesta del Sol
Santa Barbara, CA 93105
805-682-4711

PRESENTED BY: Schipper Construction,
Santa Barbara Independent, Voice Magazine, El Latino,
Noozhawk, Santa Maria Sun, and Ventura County Reporter.

Arts Briefs

Valley Art Gallery presents new group show and 'treasure hunt' at the Santa Maria Airport

More than 30 locally created artworks will be exhibited at the Santa Maria Airport through the end of September, as part of Valley Art Gallery's new group show. This exhibit highlights contemporary works from various media including oil paintings, painted silk, and jewelry.

The show is open to the public during the airport's operational hours. A press release from the gallery described the new display as "a safe place to stay 6 feet away and get a chance to see contemporary art from local artists." The exhibit's special featured artist is Glenda Stevens, and participating artists include Esther Bartlett (pictured), Claudia Wageman, Howard Ramsden, Rob Paulus, Taffy French-Gray, John Card, Margaret Steller, Marilyn Benson, and several others.

In conjunction with the exhibit, Valley Art Gallery is encouraging attendees to take part in an optional "treasure hunt." While the hunt itself is not an official competition, it consists of a series of questions for viewers to answer while observing the artworks. The list includes questions like: "What is the name of the woman who is smoking in the painting by Glenda Stevens?"; "How many birds are in the sky in Hattie Stoddard's piece, *Vikings?*"; and "What is the crop being grown in *Rolling Hills* by Pat Stalter?"

To find out more about Orcutt's Valley Art Gallery and its latest group exhibition, its first in-person show since mid-March when COVID-19 mitigation measures began, visit valleygallery.org or follow the venue on Facebook.

The gallery has previously exhibited at the Santa Maria Airport for Metal Fusion, a showcase of metallic art by local artist Shamrock Acosta, in 2019 and other shows. The airport is located at 3217 Terminal Drive, Santa Maria.

Orcutt Community Theater announces *War of the Worlds* production, slated to open in October



Amid a season of cancellations and postponements, Orcutt Community Theater has announced its next production, *War of the Worlds: A Live Radio Play*, which is scheduled to open on Oct. 2 and run through Oct. 18, with performances every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, from 7 to 10 each evening.

The show will be held at Klein Dance Arts Studio (KDAS) in Santa Maria and tickets will be available online in advance at my805tix.com. General admission will start at \$15.

Call (805) 973-7264 or visit orcuttcommunitytheater.org to find out more. KDAS is located at 3546 Skyway Drive, suite A, Santa Maria. cwiseblood@santamariasun.com

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

FILE PHOTO BY CALEB WISEBLOOD



MEET THE ARTIST: Local painter and printmaker Holli Harmon (pictured) will host an upcoming Zoom webinar, *Califia and Beyond*, on Wednesday, Aug. 19, presented by the Wildling Museum of Art and Nature.

The muse, the myth, the legend

Painter and printmaker Holli Harmon joins the Wildling Museum's webinar series with Califia and Beyond

BY CALEB WISEBLOOD

Strong female figures are integral to the works of portrait and landscape artist Holli Harmon, whose latest muse is a mythical warrior queen, Califia, aka "the Spirit of California."

"Somehow, Califia was in my subconscious," the local painter told the *Sun*, while discussing her art featured in a new exhibition, the Califia Series, at Sullivan Goss Gallery in Santa Barbara (through Monday, Sept. 21).

While masks are required and a capacity limit is enforced at the gallery, fans of Harmon's work can also take advantage of virtual showcases from the comfort of their own homes. Aside from visiting her own online gallery (holliharmon.com), other opportunities to learn about Harmon's work include an upcoming Zoom webinar, *Califia and Beyond*, hosted by the Wildling Museum of Art and Nature in Solvang (Wednesday, Aug. 19, at 4 p.m.).

The first 100 people to register for the meeting will be treated to a free, in-depth exploration of

Harmon's artistic process, personal techniques, and inspirations.

"My work revolves around human experiences that are connection points between different cultures and generations set in iconic California imagery," Harmon said about the presentation. "I will be explaining who Califia is, how she became my muse, what makes California such a unique state, and I will share my painting and printmaking processes. There is a lot to unpack."

With a master's degree from San Diego State University, Harmon is also an alumna of Santa Barbara City College where she completed life drawing, printmaking, and other fine art courses. Over the years, Harmon's artworks have been showcased by the Elverhoj Museum of History and Art, the Westmont Ridley-Tree Museum of Art, and other local venues.

Harmon previously exhibited at the Wildling Museum in 2018 as part of *The River's Journey*, a collaborative multimedia show celebrating the beauty of the Santa Ynez River. While her more recent works were inspired by a specific mythological character, Harmon personified the river itself in her *Journey* paintings, she explained.

"The Santa Ynez River had become a spirit and took shape as a female figure in my paintings," said Harmon, one of six local artists who contributed paintings to the group exhibit, from small gouache pieces to larger oil works.

While her latest Sullivan Goss exhibit premiered in July, Harmon said she has probably spent more time gardening than painting during the course of quarantine.

"I am not creating a lot of work at the moment. I think most artists need a fallow period," Harmon said. "The quarantine has allowed me lots of time to work in my garden, and my mind is plotting and thinking about what to do next."

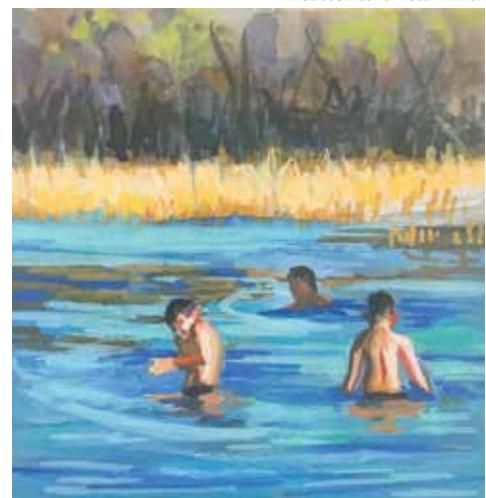
"I have some new ideas I want to explore. Those seeds are germinating," she added. "In a way, the isolation has been a good thing for me, at least that is the sunny side of the experience."

While many museums and galleries remain



ONE WITH NATURE: "This image of my Califia muse manifests the idea that we are at peace with the natural world, co-existing with planet Earth," Holli Harmon said in the artist statement for her oil painting, *Pacific Disposition*.

IMAGE COURTESY OF HOLLI HARMON



CALIFORNIA DREAMIN': "My work revolves around human experiences that are connection points between different cultures and generations set in iconic California imagery," Holli Harmon told the *Sun*.

closed due to COVID-19 related health and safety concerns, Harmon recommends that any aspiring artist should frequent as many art venues as possible, when safe to do so.

"You will learn more about yourself while looking at other creations," said Harmon, who described art observation as "the key ingredient to building an art practice."

Harmon described the coronavirus crisis as an "epic shift in reality," but finds optimism and comfort in the fact that artists can continue to share their works.

"You can find peace through many artistic endeavors. I am trying to balance what I take in from the news with other things that promote peace and connection," Harmon said. "When this pandemic was just starting to unfold, I think of news clips from Italy showing opera singers standing on their balconies while reaching out to their neighbors with song." cwiseblood@santamariasun.com

Reach out to Arts Editor Caleb Wiseblood through cwiseblood@santamariasun.com.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF NOA ZIMMERMAN

Noa's arc

Folk-pop artist Noa Zimmerman releases new music video based around environmental protests at Cat Canyon

BY CALEB WISEBLOOD

“Listen closely for screams beyond countries/ The sound of stirring hearts sink/ Look for the bleeding, collective unreeling/ Complete loss of the missing link,” Noa Zimmerman, 21, sings at the start of her new single, *Rapture*.

While the song's lyrics envelop themes of helplessness and oppression in general, *Rapture's* music video zeros in on one specific issue—climate justice. The video centers on a group of protesters in front of an oil well, carrying signs that say “no new oil drilling,” “ban fracking now,” and similar statements.

In between singing, songwriting, and studying music production at USC, Zimmerman is also passionate about film and shot the video for *Rapture* herself, which was scheduled to premiere the same day as the single, Aug. 12.

“It was definitely a lot of driving back and forth, but it was worth it,” said Zimmerman, who commuted from Los Angeles periodically to film in the Santa Maria Valley.

But the footage wasn't originally intended for a music video, she explained.

Between November 2019 and March 2020, Zimmerman was collaborating on a feature-length documentary about local community efforts against new oil drilling at Cat Canyon.

“It's really pretty out there if it weren't for the giant metal dinosaurs,” Zimmerman said, attributing the nickname to the oil wells of Cat Canyon, her primary shooting location.

Zimmerman described the experience as “eye-opening” and unique as an outsider to the Central Coast.

“It's kind of like walking a tightrope when you go into that situation because it's not our community, it's not our home,” Zimmerman said. “So we have to be really respectful of the fact that we're trying to elevate voices, we're not trying to project our own.”

When the pandemic halted production of the documentary in mid-March, Zimmerman was left with an incomplete film, although she and



MANY HATS: In between singing, songwriting, and studying music production at USC, Noa Zimmerman is also passionate about film and shot the music video for *Rapture* herself.

her collaborators aren't shelving the project permanently, she said.

In the meantime, Zimmerman decided some of the footage already shot would serve as a powerful visual component to amplify the message of her new song. Lyrics like “and while I sit tight in shadows of towers, I try not to cower in fear” meshes especially well with scenes cutting back and forth between protesters and oil wells looming over the horizon.

On a lighter note, Zimmerman admitted the filming experience was also “exciting and exhilarating, especially because you're not really supposed to film on the oil fields.”

Aside from the release of *Rapture*, Zimmerman hopes to continue raising awareness for climate justice and other causes through the Artist Foundation, a nonprofit she co-founded with Elena Salinas O'Toole and Emily Goniea. The group's

aim is to help promote art and artists driven by activism, under the ideal that “art is fundamental to the success of social change” (find out more at



WELCOME TO JURASSIC PARK: “It's really pretty out there if it weren't for the giant metal dinosaurs,” Noa Zimmerman said, attributing the nickname to the oil wells in Cat Canyon.

artistcollective.org).

Close to starting her senior year at USC, Zimmerman is currently back home with her family in the Bay Area, where she returned in March shortly before statewide COVID-19 mitigation measures began.

“It all happened the week before spring break, so I was planning on going home anyway,” Zimmerman said. “It went from going home for a week to going home for probably a year.” ○

Send local music recommendations to Arts Editor Caleb Wiseblood at cwiseblood@santamariasun.com.

Stay tuned

Find out more about Noa Zimmerman's music at noazmusic.com. For more info on the Artist Foundation, visit artistcollective.org.



WHERE THERE'S A WELL: The music video for *Rapture* centers on a group of protesters in front of an oil well, carrying signs that say “no new oil drilling,” “ban fracking now,” and similar statements.



MULTIPURPOSE: Noa Zimmerman was collaborating on a documentary about local community efforts against new oil drilling at Cat Canyon. While the pandemic halted production, Zimmerman decided to include some of the footage in her new music video.

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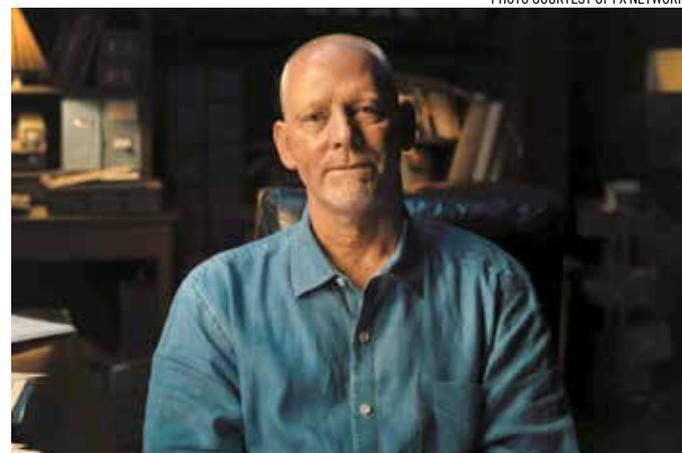
Created by Kief Davidson (*The Ivory Games*) and Ross M. Dinerstein (*The Innocent Man*), this documentary miniseries introduces us to Gary L. Stewart, a man in search of his past. He's always known he was adopted, but when in adulthood he meets his birth mother, Jude Gilford, he becomes obsessed with discovering who his birth father is, and whether his father is the infamous Zodiac Killer. Told through archival elements, contemporary interviews, and re-creations, one man's search for his identity leads to unexpected revelations. (four approximately 40-min. episodes)

Glen: You'd be forgiven for thinking you'd wandered into another pedestrian true-crime TV documentary when you begin this four-part miniseries. After all, at first glance it feels like another investigative rabbit hole of laboriously piecing together and reexamining evidence and making connections the police simply missed. It's also about the Zodiac Killer, who terrorized Northern California from the late 1960s into the early 1970s. He was never caught, but he taunted the police with letters and cryptograms and has inspired myriad movies, books, and TV documentaries like this one. What makes this particular offering interesting is it's less about whether Gary Stewart's biological father was a remorseless murderer and more about obsession, self-identity, memory, judgment, and the power

of confirmation bias. Stewart is sure he's solved the mystery, and indeed, he offers compelling evidence of a connection between his oddball bio-dad and the mysterious psychopath called Zodiac, who appeared to travel strangely parallel paths. If you can get through the first episode, the series is undeniably engrossing and thankfully surprising. **Anna:** Theories around the elusive Zodiac are a dime a dozen, and as a true-crime junkie, I've stumbled across more than a few, often with major flaws in the connections. Stewart's story and theories certainly fall into that same area, but the brilliance of this miniseries is that it travels outside of that narrow lane. While it's easy enough to speculate on why Stewart would so doggedly want to make connections between his biological father and the monster who terrorized NorCal, it becomes clear that the draw to make any connection at all is what matters. His desire to find his birth mother has been a constant in his life, and when he was finally able to find her, he didn't find answers. At 14 his mother ran away with the much older Earl Van Best Jr., and the events that followed seem to be a dark spot in her memory, and soon the few things she does remember don't add up. It's a pretty fascinating ride, and whether you buy Gary's theories or not, there is a lot more story here than just a hunt for the killer.

Glen: As an adoptee, I'm aware of the book Stewart references early on, *The Primal Wound: Understanding the Adopted*, which argues that being separated from your birth mother results in a host of long-lasting psychological afflictions from fear of abandonment to difficulty bonding. Stewart's

been married five times and is in search of answers to his perceived character flaws. As he learns about his pedophilic father, he finds another reason to shift the blame for his difficulty connecting with others. This is clearly a case of someone latching on to an idea and finding evidence to confirm it, and when confronted with evidence that disproves his idea, he can't accept it. It's a common pathology and also a destructive one, and it's important to note that Stewart spent 17 years of his life researching his father and the Zodiac, and that he wrote a *New York Times* Best Selling book with co-author Susan Mustafa, who's vastly more clear-eyed about Stewart's crumbling theory. In retrospect, she is aghast that she was swept up in Stewart's obsession, while he's invested so much of his time and identity in believing he's the son of the Zodiac Killer, he simply can't let it go. It's almost as if 50 years later, the Zodiac has collected another victim. **Anna:** Unsolved cases are infuriating, especially in cases like the Zodiac where he taunted victims and authorities for so long. If only DNA could pin this guy down as it did the Golden State Killer, Stewart and many theorists like him could put their ideas—right or wrong—to bed. Admitting Best wasn't a famed serial killer would mean Stewart may have to admit something else: Maybe



SON OF ZODIAC? In FX's *The Most Dangerous Animal of All* currently screening on Hulu, Gary L. Stewart investigates whether his biological father is the infamous Zodiac killer.

his father was just a pedophile and asshole. The man who abandoned him may not be "special" at all, even in terrible and dastardly ways. You feel for the abandoned kid in Stewart just looking for some answers. Is he reaching conclusions before finding evidence? Most certainly. Does he deserve to know and understand his birth parents and the first few months of his life? Yes, he does. I watch a lot of documentaries and series in the true-crime genre, and this one stands out for telling the story behind the story and the consequences of bending fact to fit a desired narrative. ○

New Times Senior Staff Writer Glen Starkey and freelancer Anna Starkey write Sun Screen. Glen compiles streaming listings. Comment at gstarkey@newtimeslo.com.

THE MOST DANGEROUS ANIMAL OF ALL

What's it rated? **Not rated**
 What's it worth, Anna? **Full price**
 What's it worth, Glen? **Full price**
 Where's it showing? **Hulu**

Film Reviews

PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRIS FAIRBANKS



FUNNY MAN: Comedian Chris Fairbanks has a new comedy special available on his website, chrisfairbankscomedyspecial.com.

RESCUE CACTUS

What's it rated? **Mature**
 When? **2020**
 Where's it showing? **chrisfairbankscomedyspecial.com**
 LA comic Chris Fairbanks delights with his unique and hilarious brand of comedy in his new special *Rescue Cactus*. From raunchy to ridiculous and all the while relatable, Fairbanks takes his audience on a journey full of belly laughs over buried childhood traumas to throwing an epic funeral. Co-host alongside Karen Kilgariff of the podcast *Do You Need a Ride*, Fairbanks is a quick-witted, self-deprecating gem. Filmed in Portland, *Rescue Cactus* showcases something the pandemic has torn away from us—live comedy for a room full of people. However, I was perfectly content curled up on my couch somewhere between snickering and in full fits of giggles as I watched. I just have one request: Chris, the next time you put a special together, can you make it two hours instead of just one?
 Available to rent or purchase through Vimeo or at chrisfairbankscomedyspecial.com, this is well worth the few bucks it costs. We all need a laugh right now, and *Rescue Cactus* is sure to hit the spot! (54 min.)

—Anna Starkey

ONLY

What's it rated? **TV-MA**
 When? **2020**
 Where's it showing? **Netflix**
 Writer-director Takashi Doscher (*Still*) helms this sci-fi romance set in the near future when a mysterious comet has released a virus on Earth that kills only women, some immediately and others after a brief illness. Will (Leslie Odom Jr.) tries desperately to protect his girlfriend, Eve (Frida Pinto), by sealing her into their overly sterilized apartment, hoping to save her from exposure to the deadly contagion.
 Not only must he protect her from the virus but also from those who work to kidnap the remaining women, whose eggs are harvested before they die by a government hoping to repopulate. Desperate and running out of time, the couple



THE END: As a deadly virus wipes out Earth's female population, Eve (Frida Pinto) and Will (Leslie Odom Jr.) share one final adventure together, in *Only*, screening on Netflix.

decides to head into the wilderness and experience one final adventure together. This low-budget affair may remind you of the much better *Light of My Life* (2019), with Casey Affleck as a father protecting his daughter through a similar pandemic. *Only* doesn't have quite the same emotional resonance, but thanks to depicting masks and social distancing, it feels a bit like now. At least you won't get the disconcerting feeling that the characters you're watching need to be more careful! (98 min.) ○

—Glen Starkey

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

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PHOTOS COURTESY OF ANTHONY MINNITI



SOUP OR SALAD: Most of the dinners HomeStyle delivers come with a soup or salad starter, all housemade and hand-crafted.

EXECUTIVE CHEF: Food Inc. of Santa Barbara County owner Anthony Minniti recently started HomeStyle to deliver dinners to North Santa Barbara County residents during the COVID-19 pandemic.

LOTS OF OPTIONS: With a five-week rotating menu, HomeStyle customers won't get a repeat meal for a month or longer. Executive Chef Anthony Minniti serves up chicken picatta one week and a pan roasted french chicken breast another.



GRILLED, NOT CHILLED: HomeStyle's cedar-planked salmon will hit your doorstep hot and fresh if you order online.

READY FOR DELIVERY: HomeStyle preps, cooks, and drops off dinners, such as rosemary lemon roasted chicken with veggies and potatoes, five nights a week.

Dinner on the doorstep

HomeStyle delivers affordable, fresh daily meals to your house

BY CAMILLIA LANHAM

In April, Food Inc. of Santa Barbara County morphed as all businesses adjusting to COVID-19 had to, shifting its business model from purely catering focused to meal delivery. But, according to executive chef/owner Anthony Minniti, it was a change that was sort of already in the works.

"I was going to do meal prep service for athletes, people at the gym, and then COVID came along," he said.

As restaurants started to close down, he wondered how older people who had a hard time getting around or people who couldn't cook were going to eat. So, he pivoted from meal prep for athletes to full meals delivered to front doors in Nipomo, Santa Maria, and Orcutt.

"HomeStyle is a division of Food Inc., and we do really clean, healthy food," he said, adding that the dinners he prepares bridge the gap between fine dining and high-end food. "The flavor is there, and you're not going to kill your waistline."

That being said, he does throw butter and cream into the food he makes, because it tastes good. With a background steeped in European style cuisine, it would be hard not to use butter or cream.

Minniti attended the Culinary Institute of America in New York in the mid-1990s before heading to Napa Valley to cook at places like Christian Brothers Winery, Wine Spectator Greystone Restaurant, Auberge du Soleil, and Bistro Don Giovanni.

He learned a lot at Don Giovanni's, he said. And especially from Giovanni Scala's wife, chef and restaurateur Donna Scala.

"She was probably the most vicious chef that I ever worked for. When you were in trouble, when it was your day, everyone kind of

steered clear of you," Minniti said. "But, you know, you learned food."

From Napa, Minniti made his way to Los Olivos to work for the Fess Parker Wine Country Inn before moving on to the Chumash Casino as the executive chef of fine dining at Willows Restaurant & Bar.

Eventually, he said, he got tired of working for other people and he began trying to figure out what he really wanted to do. In 2019, he started Food Inc., a catering company.

"Somewhere in the middle of it all, HomeStyle was born," he said. "Part of this when I was doing this was very much with COVID in mind. Let's face it, my industry is not doing well right now. ... Everyone is trying to scramble."

So he basically created a new brand, a new style of restaurant with HomeStyle.

The goal is to serve up the same quality of food he would at a sit-down place, but at a more affordable price. With a main dish and a starter such as a soup or salad, meals come out to around \$15 plus tax.

"We cook it, we box it, we drop it," Minniti said. "It goes from raw product, to cooked, to your door."

With a five-week rotating menu, customers can order dinners online or over the phone and get them delivered on weeknights. Minniti said some people order for every night of the week, some do three dinners a week, and some call the day of for a delivery that evening. From chicken enchiladas to meatloaf with buttermilk whipped potatoes, and cedar-plank salmon to handmade gnocchi, everything is made from scratch.

He describes his food as layered.

On Friday, Aug. 7, he was making sofrito—a Puerto Rican version

It's delivery

Visit foodinsb.com to check out the HomeStyle menus under the "Dinner Delivered" tab. You can order online or call. It's simple.

of Spanish rice that Minniti described as almost like a paella—to go with his chicken enchiladas. Herbs, tomatoes, onion, and garlic stewed together start the flavor base of the rice before it gets cooked. That was the last meal of his Week 1 menu.

He also described the porchetta—basically, a whole roast pork butt—slated for Thursday of Week 2. It's stuffed with a medley of herbs, rolled up, sous vide cooked, and the outside layer is crisped up before it's sliced into rings for the meal.

"I cook at a very high level, so I put that technique to everything that I touch, but I keep it simple," he said.

And Minniti does it all: orders the produce, meat, and to-go containers; preps the meals; cooks the meals; and drives them around town. He said he does have one person who helps him cook and one who helps him deliver.

In April, when HomeStyle was born, the goal was to do 40 meals a night. Right now, the service is averaging between 30 to 35 meals a night, so Minniti has almost hit his goal four months in.

As COVID-19 wears on, Minniti said he is starting to look at the meal prep idea again. Hopefully, he said, to start a program that serves up meal kit packages—lunch and dinner—to people who have active, healthy lifestyles.

"It's kind of taken on its own life," he said. "As the need and as this takes on shape, I have the expertise and knowledge to make this happen." ○

Editor Camillia Lanham is active and healthy—sort of. Send food tips to clanham@santamariasun.com.

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8/13 - 8/20

Should the Foxen oil pipeline project receive more environmental review?

- No. The existing report is enough.
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- That project should have been killed years ago.
- I don't care; COVID-19 issues are more important to me.

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Cute and cozy home within walking distance to Old Town Orcutt.. This 3 bedroom 2 bath is warm and inviting featuring tile and hardwood flooring throughout, Dual pane windows, and new sod for the front lawn. The back yard is south facing, with raised planter beds and a chicken coop. This is a great home, with a country feel. Perfect for animals or gardening. **\$431,990**

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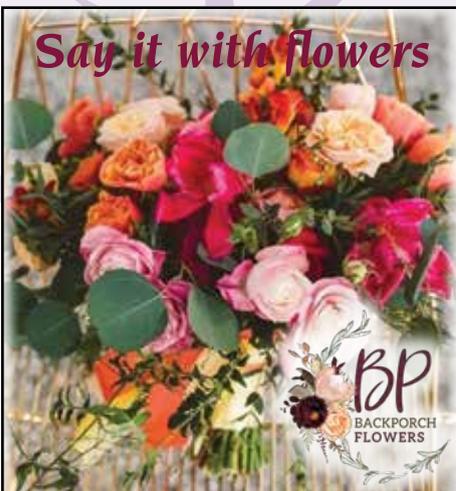
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