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AT THE MOVIES



The Whale is tragic [26]

SUN



Storm remnants

An atmospheric river pelted northern Santa Barbara County, flooding neighborhoods and waterways, closing roads, and stretching emergency services [4]

BY TAYLOR O'CONNOR



VOLUNTEERS 2023

NEWS LGBTQ orgs build community [7]

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JANUARY 5 - JANUARY 12, 2023 VOL. 23 NO. 46

From water rescues in Lompoc to a sinkhole in Orcutt, northern Santa Barbara County was hit hard by an atmospheric river on Jan. 9 and 10 that dropped 2 to 4 inches of water in areas around the Santa Maria Valley. Roadways flooded and were closed, while residents found themselves navigating water-logged roadways. As the storm subsided, cleanup crews worked to clear mud and debris, and 4th District Supervisor Bob Nelson questioned the delineation of county resources dedicated to the response in North and South counties. Staff Writer Taylor O'Connor has a rundown [6].

For our annual Volunteers issue, Staff Writer Taylor O'Connor spoke with LGBTQ-plus organizations in North County about creating community and support [7]. You can also read about painter and printmaker Cristina Kartsioukas [24], and what Proof and Gather has planned for 2023 [28].

Camillia Lanham
editor



AFTER THE STORM: Cleanup crews work to clear Parkland Drive in Orcutt after rain and a sinkhole at Union Valley Parkway caused the neighborhood to flood in the late afternoon/early evening on Jan. 9.

Cover photo by Caleb Wiseblood > Cover design by Alex Zuniga

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Political Watch

U.S. Rep. **Salud Carbajal** (D-Santa Barbara) applauded President **Joe Biden's** approval of more than \$16.5 million in direct federal funding for community projects that benefit Santa Barbara County residents, according to a Dec. 30 statement from the congressman's office. Carbajal helped secure this funding through the omnibus spending package that was crafted over the past six months and passed by Congress in December. The appropriations package was written to cover federal spending for Fiscal Year 2023, providing funds to help expand U.S. Highway 101 carpool lanes and support upgrades to public spaces in Santa Barbara, Lompoc, and Santa Maria. "As the Central Coast's representative, my first and foremost responsibility is to deliver real results for our communities and its residents—and I'm proud to do that again by delivering nearly \$17 million for Santa Barbara County to support projects that will improve our quality of life," Carbajal said in the statement. "With these funds, we will be able to make critical upgrades that will reduce traffic, renovate public spaces, and improve access to food and clean water across the Central Coast." About \$1.3 million will fund renovations to Lompoc's Pioneer Park, \$1 million will support construction and equipment needs for Marian Regional Medical Center's Obstetrics and Gynecology Residency Program Clinic in Santa Maria, and \$500,000 will create a Santa Maria Japanese Community Center to honor the original Japanese settlers in the Santa Maria Valley.

U.S. Sens. **Alex Padilla** (D-California) and **John Cornyn** (R-Texas) along with U.S. Rep. **Sylvia R. Garcia** (D-Houston) celebrated President **Joe Biden** signing into law their bipartisan bill to provide a technical fix for crew members of lightering ships—which remove oil or other hazardous chemicals from vessels. The Energy Security and Lightering Independence Act of 2022 amends the C and D visa categories in the Immigration and Nationality Act to allow nonimmigrant visas to be granted for up to 180 days to foreign crew members of lightering ships involved in ship-to-ship liquid transfer of crude oil or liquid natural gas, according to a Jan. 5 statement from Padilla's office. Approximately 44 percent of all U.S. imports of crude oil or natural gas are conducted by lightering. Current immigration law authorizes lightering crews entering the country to stay in the United States for a maximum of 29 days through a C or D visa. However, lightering operations often last up to 180 days. As a result, Customs and Border Patrol and the State Department have had to develop workarounds on a case-by-case basis, which is time consuming and inefficient, according to the congressman's office. "As we work to make our immigration system more efficient and easier to navigate, this common-sense and bipartisan law will allow foreign crew members of lightering ships to obtain a visa for a time period consistent with their duties within the United States," Padilla said in the statement. "This ends the need for individual grants of parole and ensures they are able to properly transport resources into and out of the country without overburdening the administrative process."

Working to protect Californians from the incoming winter storms, Gov. **Gavin Newsom** proclaimed a state of emergency throughout California to support the ongoing response to recent winter storms, according to a Jan. 4 statement from the governor's office. "California is mobilizing to keep people safe from the impacts of the incoming storm," Newsom said in the statement. "This state of emergency will allow the state to respond quickly as the storm develops and support local officials in their ongoing response." The emergency proclamation supports emergency relief efforts including authorizing the California National Guard to support disaster response, directing Caltrans to request immediate assistance through the Federal Highway Administration's Emergency Relief Program for highway repairs and other support for local response and recovery efforts. Newsom also activated the State Operations Center to its highest level. ○



PHOTO BY CALEB WISEBLOOD

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FLOOD DAMAGE: Parts of Orcutt, including on the corner of Woodmere Road and Valley Drive, experienced significant flooding and damage to roadways. Visit readysbc.org for more the latest information and updates on your area.

'Atmospheric river' dumps historic rain levels throughout Santa Barbara County

The Santa Barbara County Fire Department responded to more than 400 calls related to service, with more than 100 of them involving rescues from Jan. 9 to 9 a.m. on Jan. 10, Fire Chief Mark Hartwig told the Board of Supervisors during its Jan. 10 meeting.

"There are no injuries or anyone missing reported. Our teams are out again, broken down from north to south and continue working with a focus on damage, mostly infrastructure," Hartwig said. "We're really trying to get people back into their homes, evacuate as few people as we need to keep them out of their homes for the least amount of time needed, and that's a principle we will continue."

Santa Barbara County received historic rainfall on Jan. 9 with more than 12 inches of rain in a 24-hour period across the county, with rates hitting 2.5 to 3 inches of rain in three hours, causing significant flash flood warnings and evacuation orders to echo throughout the county. Although a few dry days are expected from Jan. 11 to 12, the rain is predicted to continue on Jan. 13 to 16, according to the National Weather Service.

Sheriff Bill Brown told the supervisors in an update that communities across the county saw significant impacts with a sinkhole in Orcutt on Union Valley Parkway and Bradley behind Hibiscus Court; several debris flows and rockfalls, causing highways 101, 154, 33, 246, and 196 to close down both northbound and southbound routes; and school districts across the county canceling school on Jan. 10.

"We are continuing to work with the Fire Protection Agency to assess damage by the storm, but we are pleased to report although we had major property damage, we had no fatalities or major injuries," Brown said. "We know that evacuations are tremendously inconvenient and we do not make that decision lightly, but we want to keep everyone safe."

Fourth District Supervisor Bob Nelson commended first responders for their preparation of the storm's aftermath, but added that he felt some North County communities were "significantly undermined."

"My question for the sheriff is why our riverbeds, the Santa Ynez River in Lompoc Valley and the Santa Maria River, weren't included in the evacuation areas? It seems that those people are the most vulnerable people in our county, they actually live in a watercourse, and they should

have been included and evacuated," Nelson said.

Brown responded by saying that law enforcement reached out to Lompoc and Santa Maria Police Departments to work with homeless populations occupying the riverbeds, and that officers were accompanied by advocates to warn them and connect them to resources. Later, law enforcement flew by helicopter over both riverbeds and saw that the majority of the population had "self-evacuated."

"It was impossible for them to stay because the water was actually flowing; there were some still under the bridges. They were notified, but chose not to leave," Brown said. "The information was given to them, but we don't typically evacuate areas that are not habitable areas; we typically evacuate communities."

Nelson responded by saying there "obviously" were people living in this area as a woman gave birth in the Santa Ynez Riverbed while water was actively flowing. The Lompoc Fire Department rescued the mother, father, and child from the river and took them to the hospital, but Nelson said he was disappointed in the allocation of resources between the county's north/south boundaries.

As of Jan. 10, North County evacuation centers were closed because they didn't receive any members of the public, while South County locations remained open. North County residents who need access to shelter should call (833) 688-5551, and the county can reopen facilities.

A silver lining through all of the damage was that the Cachuma Lake Reservoir was reaching capacity for the first time in recent history, County Water Agency Manager Matt Young told the *Sun* on Jan. 10.

"It's at 72 percent capacity right now—we're finding as we go and send emails out on updates, it's wrong; it's rising so rapidly. It's come up roughly 34 feet in the last day. The elevation right now is at 734 feet and it tops out at 753 feet," Young said. "Things are looking good for the water supply, and we're expecting it to fill completely by this week."

The water agency is expecting to conduct a downstream release for the first time since 2011 to avoid flood damage and preserve as much water as possible, he said. However, the drenching didn't pull the county—or the state—out of its prolonged drought.

"It's certainly an extremely significant benefit to our water supply, but we've had many years of drought and it takes more than one year of rain for our groundwater basins to recover," Young said. "Our basins are still depleted; this certainly helped, but we would need many years of significant rainfall to replenish them significantly."

—Taylor O'Connor

County Animal Services reopened Lompoc shelter after nearly three years

Pet adoptions, lost and found assistance, microchipping, and volunteer opportunities return to Lompoc as county Animal Services opened its Lompoc shelter—located at 1501 West Central Ave.—for the first time since 2020, Animal Services Director Sarah Aguilar said.

When the facility first closed, a lot of people were at home and adopting pets, providing the shelter with high adoption numbers and low surrender and stray numbers. At the same time, county resources were spread thin with minimal staffing available, Aguilar said, causing the county to consolidate services from Lompoc to the Santa Maria shelter.

"It did impact the number of animals coming into the Santa Maria shelter. When strays are taken 20 minutes or more from where they actually live, that can create a barrier to them getting home," she said. "There was an increase to the number of animals housed in Santa Maria and a reduction of pets getting back to families within the same day."

In December, Animal Services shelters reached their capacities—with 85 dogs in Santa Maria and 42 in Santa Barbara—causing the agency to send out adoption and fostering calls to the community to find relief. Opening the Lompoc shelter is intended to give more relief to the Santa Maria shelter and connect families back with their pets sooner.

Lompoc's shelter was set to open at the end of 2022, but hiring and training needs set the date back to January. Now, people can access the shelter Fridays through Mondays from 10 a.m. until 7 p.m., Aguilar said.

"We are piloting this different schedule to see how the community responds. We're making sure we're open for hours after work and seeing what that effect has or what the need is," she said.

In the first few days, the shelter already had strays come in and be found by their families immediately, she said. Animal Services isn't housing animals there full time until it can get staffing for seven days a week, instead of four, with rebuilding the volunteer program becoming its highest priority.

"It feels as if we're rebridging relationships, and it's really exciting to know that we're moving in a direction that the city wants and the community wants," she said.

However, Lompoc City Council initially didn't want to contract with County Animal Services again. During its June 21 meeting, the City Council voted 4-1 to accept a new contract after a lot of frustration because council members had no time to look at other options.

The five-year contract started out at \$347,260 for the 2022-23 fiscal year, and it's expected to increase 1.6 to 4.1 percent each year over the next five years, according to previous *Sun* reporting. If the city didn't accept the agreement, then it would have violated laws requiring the city to provide animal services to its communities.

At the time, Lompoc Mayor Jenelle Osborne also disagreed with how the county handled the situation and the service level the city would be getting, but she said she didn't want to see the city lose required service in the meantime. Osborne told the *Sun* on Jan. 10 that she's thrilled the county reopened its Lompoc facility to provide local resources.

"I look forward to the kennel space being rehabilitated and reutilized; that was our biggest concern given the amount of money we pay to county Animal Services," Osborne said. "Given the pandemic, I absolutely understood the temporary closure and revamping of services, but it's really important to restore services to our community."

After multiple years of ongoing frustration with increased costs and inconsistent service,

NEWS continued page 6

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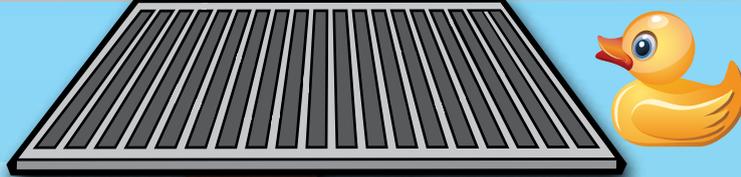
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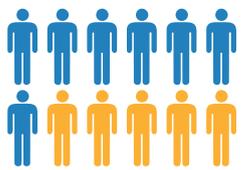
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NEWS from page 4

she said the city is still monitoring the county's progress in reopening its services—which will impact the city's decisions regarding future contracts. Animal Services Director Aguilar said that city staff seemed to be satisfied with their service thus far.

"I felt nothing but support from the city. Several city staffers came out and toured on Friday [Jan. 6], including the city manager and the city clerk and some other folks," she said. "It was a great opportunity to connect and explain what we're doing as far as county Animal Services go."

City staff will present a report about Animal Services during the Jan. 17 City Council meeting. Aguilar said she hasn't seen the report and doesn't know the details, but it was planned to be released by Jan. 13—after the *Sun* went to press.

—Taylor O'Connor

Pony Rides at Waller Park raises funds for hospitalized employee

A local horseback riding operator is asking community members to pony up some funds to help a longtime employee in need.

Santa Maria resident Michael Rudometkin Jr., 67, was put on life support due to sudden kidney and heart failure shortly before Christmas, said his employer, Lisa Leonard, owner of the Pony Rides at Waller Park.

"We're just trying to help him out so he can get back on his feet," said Leonard, who started a GoFundMe page to help offset Rudometkin's unexpected medical expenses and support his recovery process. "I'm just trying to do what I can to help him keep afloat, so when he does come out of this, he'll not have to come out of it with stress about paying his bills."

Just before New Year's Eve, Rudometkin's condition stabilized, and he was taken off life support but remains in the hospital, Leonard said.

"He's still not out of the water; he's still in ICU," said Leonard, who hopes that donations made to the GoFundMe page will help cover some of Rudometkin's upcoming house payments and other monthly expenses while he recovers.

"Even after he gets home, he's going to need some home care," Leonard added.

As of Jan. 10, the GoFundMe page has raised a total of \$415, from a pool of eight donors. Leonard's goal is to raise \$4,000, which she estimates could cover most of his expenses for up to two months.

Leonard said that the individuals who have left donations so far are longtime regulars at the Pony Rides at Waller Park. She's been using Facebook and other social media outlets to spread the word about the fundraiser, but hasn't received much response from anyone outside the Pony Rides "circle."

"A lot of the people that know him know him from here. He's been out here with us for over eight years. He's part of the family out here," Leonard said. "Everybody that's donated on the page so far has been our customers."

Ever since he started working for the Pony Rides at Waller Park almost a decade ago, Rudometkin has worn many hats, his employer said.

"He does everything," Leonard said. "He did all the maintenance stuff. He would load and unload kids. He'd walk with the ones that were crying."

Leonard added that it's been a struggle to maintain the riding facility in Rudometkin's absence, combined with the recent weather conditions, and called him invaluable to her staff.

"He'd jump for anybody," Leonard said. "Even anytime somebody touched a rake, he was like, 'Put that down, I'll do it.'"

—Caleb Wiseblood

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Community building

Volunteer at LGBTQ-plus organizations to help strengthen their presence in North County

BY TAYLOR O'CONNOR

Tish Heckler didn't expect a lot of interest or support for an LGBTQ-plus organization when she first moved to the Santa Ynez Valley.

"In the last 15 years, I've noticed there's definitely a lack of any sort of visibility for LGBTQ folks—a lack of visibility or support was obvious to me from the gate," Heckler said. "A few years ago, I started volunteering for Pacific Pride Foundation in Santa Barbara doing their Proud Prom and working with queer youth and volunteering my time there, but I always wished for something up in the valley that supported queer kids."

When she heard that the Santa Ynez Valley was going to host its first Pride parade and festival in 2022, Heckler said she instantly wanted to be a part of it. As a volunteer with the new nonprofit, SYV Pride, she was tasked with reaching out to community members to gauge interest and get people to participate in the parade.

"We saw the potential; it was very grassroots last year, but to see what happened has given us so much affirmation that people are really into this and it's so fun," Heckler said. "To show up for our community is important. The community at large, but especially the youth, need to know that they are supported not just verbally but we show up for them. It's real. It's authentic."

Now, LGBTQ-plus organizations across the county are looking for more volunteers—



particularly in northern and mid-county—to help the nonprofits reach more people in their area, or even survive into another year, and provide resources and a sense of community.

SYV Pride is shifting gears to Pride 2023, which is set for June 24, and is looking for volunteers at all levels, said Executive Director and CEO Golzar Meamar. The nonprofit wants more people on the ground at the parade to help with logistics along with representing the organization at other events, helping at educational community forums, or even acting as a board member.

"It's important because we need allies," Meamar said. "If you're not in the LGBTQ-plus culture specifically, being an ally is incredibly important because we have to stand together. The more faces we have, the more people that stand

Lend a hand

Northern and mid-county's LGBTQ-focused organizations include:

- SYV Pride: syvpride.org, (510) 996-2212, or info@syvpride.org.

- House of Pride and Equality: houseofprideandequality.org, (760) 500-3216, or info@houseofprideandequality.org.

- Pacific Pride Foundation: pacificpridefoundation.org/volunteer, (805) 963-3436, or george@pacificpridefoundation.org.

with us, the better for our mission."

The nonprofit's goal is to achieve equality, justice, and respect for all lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities through education and celebration of LGBTQ-plus culture, something that's especially important for the valley since there's already been hardship.

In July, two community members stole and burned a Pride flag at St. Mark's-in-the-Valley—which occurred right after Pride—and SYV Pride board members faced community members who believe what the organization's doing is wrong, she said.

"It's important that volunteers know they would be helping to really raise awareness and really educate people that don't understand the culture," Meamar said. "I want volunteers to feel like they are contributing in a meaningful way by having these conversations. As much as it is about celebration, the education component is key."

House of Pride and Equality, a volunteer-based organization in Santa Maria, has hosted local events, held a Pride resource fair, and provided

a space for LGBTQ-plus community members to gather and socialize. However, the pandemic hit the nonprofit hard, and it's been struggling to regain traction, said Eva Didion, a House of Pride and Equality board member.

"One of the things that will help us get on our feet again after the pandemic is volunteers," she said. "Frankly, we don't know if we can continue on in the community without volunteers."

House of Pride's board makeup recently

RESTORING COMMUNITY SPACES: Santa Maria's House of Pride and Equality board members are in need of many volunteers to help keep the organization running and operating within its community.



VOLUNTEERS continued page 8

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VOLUNTEERS from page 7

changed because previous members had a tough time balancing the nonprofit with other aspects of their life, she said. Even Didion herself was on the verge of calling it quits for health reasons.

"It's been difficult; it's been really difficult. People are getting sick and not able to make it to board meetings," Didion said. "For each of us personally, we have commitments at home, [and] it doesn't allow you to do much at the organization."

But Didion stuck around because she saw the value in holding a space for LGBTQ-plus community members in Santa Maria and doesn't think people should have to commute to SLO or Santa Barbara to find resources.

"Our community, we need to stick together. We look for community to feel safe; there are youth in Santa Maria who don't feel like they have a place to go," Didion said. "We just look for community within each other because that's when we feel safe, and having events for youth is so important."

House of Pride is looking for volunteers to join events and outreach committees and help lead group sessions, and for someone interested in working with LGBTQ-plus youth at schools, she said. It's also looking for a grant writer to help apply for funding, and the organization would eventually like to find a permanent space to host events and conduct its work.

"We're like a little family, and that's what's keeping us going," she said.

Pacific Pride Foundation (PPF) is also looking to strengthen its organization in North County, recently reopening its Santa Maria office. The nonprofit's in the process of hiring an outreach and education coordinator, Executive Director Kristin Flickinger said.

"It's important that people know we exist, and it's really meaningful when members serve as volunteers to carry the message and amplify

the message of the care we provide to the community," Flickinger said.

PPF's Syringe Exchange and Narcan Distribution program has the greatest need for more volunteers, as there's been an increasing number of fentanyl-related overdoses in the county, but it would welcome volunteers at the Santa Maria location to help with community events and outreach since there's only one staff member at that office, she said.

Part of its goals include getting more bilingual staff members and volunteers on board to do a better job of reaching the Spanish-speaking community, she added.

"This whole year is going to be addressing unmet needs and [figuring out] how we can better address it. If people are interested in volunteer groundwork, if people want to come out and do Narcan distribution, [or] office work and inventory, we can accommodate that," Flickinger said. "If someone thinks they might be a great board member, we are constantly recruiting and want people to represent north and mid-county."

There will always be a need for LGBTQ-plus organizations within communities with discrimination still present, she said. In the 2021-22 legislative cycle, there was a record-breaking 238 anti-LGBTQ-plus and anti-transgender bills introduced in the United States, according to previous *Sun* reporting, and a November shooting in Colorado Springs at a gay nightclub killed five people and injured 17 others, Flickinger added.

"I don't think you have to look very far to find that LGBTQ-plus communities face challenges and discrimination," she said. "Our LGBTQ-plus based organization provides services, programs, and access, but I think more than anything we provide visibility and representation for all members of our community who might not see themselves reflected in a positive way anywhere else." ○

Reach Staff Writer Taylor O'Connor at toconnor@santamariasun.com.

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FUN AND EDUCATIONAL: Altrusa President Anna Sorenson (left), Library Director Dawn Jackson (middle), and Literacy Chair Lorine Edens (right) celebrate a \$3,688 grant awarded to the Santa Maria Public Library to purchase science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM) kits for the Orcutt, Los Alamos, and Guadalupe branches.

Full STEAM ahead

The Santa Maria Public Library received a grant to purchase science, technology engineering, arts, and math kits for several branches

BY TAYLOR O'CONNOR

The Altrusa International Foundation has several branches dedicated to serving local communities—including Santa Maria—through grants and education scholarships.

The Santa Maria chapter has donated money to the Oasis Senior Center and its senior lunch program, the Orcutt Academy Dance Team, and recently provided a \$3,688 grant for the Santa Maria Library to purchase science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM) kits for the Orcutt, Los Alamos, and Guadalupe branches, said Lorine Edens, the literacy chair of Altrusa Santa Maria.

“This is an ongoing project that we are trying to get going,” Edens said. “There will be another phase that will include the Cuyama branch, and then there might be another phase.”

These kits are designed to engage students with science, technology, engineering, arts, and math in creative ways and promote teamwork and creative thinking, Edens said.

“I know my grandkids have been involved in those. It’s interesting to see the kids come together and figure out how to do this,” she said. “This gives them another option rather than just at the schools to do this. Some schools do have STEAM funding, but also having it at the library [helps].”

Santa Maria Library Director Dawn Jackson said the library has been gearing its programs toward STEAM topics and programs over the past several years because a lot of students are falling behind in those areas in school.

“We hope that it will support their academic success by introducing them and bolstering their knowledge of STEAM, and for those who maybe haven’t had a chance to study those, it will foster an interest and delve more deeply into them when [students] encounter them in school,” Jackson said.

A few years ago, the library offered STEAM kits for preschoolers that included topics like magnetism, color blending, basic art skills, and counting and numbers, she said. The new kits will have more sophisticated topics for a higher age range, from elementary to high school students.

The library is expecting about 20 kits per branch—costing about \$1,200 per branch—to arrive in three to four months, Jackson estimated. The library will

also have the opportunity to rotate them between sites to make sure there’s a variety of experiments students can choose.

“Most of the kits will be packed with

nonconsumable things so they can be reused but not used up. We do try to make them as nonconsumable as possible so they can be used over and over again,” Jackson said. “We set aside a budget to replace items as needed.”

When they are in the library’s system and ready to take home, students can use their library card to check out the kit, just like any other item at the library. Jackson said she hopes teachers will encourage students to check out the kits and help promote awareness of this new resource.

“We will take [the kits] to outreach events in the community,” she said. “We go to events at schools, we attend events like Downtown Fridays where we’ll take a sampling of new items, and if our Bookmobile is at that event, they can check it out right there, so that’s pretty exciting.”

Adding the kits helps promote the library’s other STEAM-related activities, like the preschool STEAM program, Coding and Culture, and the Maker Space program, which includes a STEAM-related project.

“We’re very thankful to Altrusa International, Santa Maria, for providing this donation to us and writing this grant on our behalf” Jackson said. “We look forward to the benefit it will bring to children and teens in our area, and we hope it can boost interest in these subject areas.”

Highlight

• The Santa Maria Public Library announced its fifth in the series of workshops to promote digital literacy, taking place on Jan. 14 at 10:30 a.m. in Shepard Hall. This part of the series will cover ebooks and e-audiobooks where patrons will learn how to borrow ebooks and e-audiobooks from the Black Gold library system and download them onto their mobile devices. Registration is required, and patrons are encouraged to bring their mobile devices with them for easier downloading. The library is located at 421 South McClelland St. Register at the library’s online events calendar, cityofsantamaria.org/library, or by calling (805) 925-0994. ○

Promote!

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Staff Writer Taylor O'Connor wrote this week's Spotlight. Reach her at toconnor@santamariasun.com.

DEATH NOTICES

For Obituary info call (805) 347-1968 or email obituaries@newtimeslo.com

ALFARO, YSIDRO Q., 68, of Santa Maria passed away 1/4/2023 arrangements with Dudley-Hoffman Mortuary, Crematory & Memory Gardens

BAXTER, ANTONIA, 93, of Paso Robles passed away 12/87/2022 arrangements with Blue Sky Cremation Service

BELARDINO, PONTELIONE JOSEPH, 89, of Santa Maria passed away 12/30/2022 arrangements with Dudley-Hoffman Mortuary, Crematory & Memory Gardens

CAVANILLAS, JOE, 53, of Nipomo passed away 12/28/2022 arrangements with Marshall-Spoo Sunset Funeral Chapel

CREEKMORE, JAMES, 74, of Grover Beach passed away 1/3/2023 arrangements with Marshall-Spoo Sunset Funeral Chapel

DELL, RUSSELL WILLIAM, 70, of Santa Maria passed away 1/8/2023 arrangements with Dudley-Hoffman Mortuary, Crematory & Memory Gardens

ERIKSEN, SARAH STELLE, 80, of Santa Maria passed away 12/31/2022 arrangements with Dudley-Hoffman Mortuary, Crematory & Memory Gardens

EVANS, TOM, 75, of Arroyo Grande passed away 12/29/2022 arrangements with Marshall-Spoo Sunset Funeral Chapel

GOLSTON, VERNON, 86, of Atascadero passed away 1/3/2023 arrangements with Blue Sky Cremation Service

GOMEZ, MARICELA CUEVAS, 66, of Santa Maria passed away 12/31/2022 arrangements with Magner-Maloney Funeral Home & Crematory

GONZALEZ, JAIME "ANGEL", 33, of Santa Maria passed away 12/28/2022 arrangements with Magner-Maloney Funeral Home & Crematory

JAMISON, ROBERT, 93, of Morro Bay passed away 12/23/2022 arrangements with Blue Sky Cremation Service

KILLGORE, ROY ROMAN, 52, of Santa Maria passed away 12/30/2022 arrangements with Dudley-Hoffman Mortuary, Crematory & Memory Gardens

LAZARO, DIONE J., 71, of Santa Maria passed away 12/30/2022 arrangements with Dudley-Hoffman Mortuary, Crematory & Memory Gardens

LOOMIS, BARBARA JEANNE, 92, of Arroyo Grande passed away 11/25/2022 arrangements with Marshall-Spoo Sunset Funeral Chapel

MORTON, LARRY, 76, of Morro Bay passed away 12/26/2022 arrangements with Blue Sky Cremation Service

MURPHY, LOUISE, 82, of Santa Maria passed away 1/2/2023 arrangements with Dudley-Hoffman Mortuary, Crematory & Memory Gardens

NEWTON, BETTY LEE, 90, of Santa Maria passed away 12/31/2022 arrangements with Dudley-Hoffman Mortuary, Crematory & Memory Gardens

OYE, AKIKO, 94, of Santa Maria passed away 1/6/2023 arrangements with Dudley-Hoffman Mortuary, Crematory & Memory Gardens

OZZIMO, MARGARET "MARG", 98, of Santa Maria passed away 1/2/2023 arrangements with Dudley-Hoffman Mortuary, Crematory & Memory Gardens

ROSA, PRISCILLA EVELYN, 93, of Santa Maria passed away 1/1/2023 arrangements with Dudley-Hoffman Mortuary, Crematory & Memory Gardens

SALAZAR, MARY, 86, of Morro Bay passed away 1/3/2023 arrangements with Blue Sky Cremation Service

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STILES, CHERYL, 64, of Atascadero passed away 1/3/2023 arrangements with Blue Sky Cremation Service

SUA ALIPIA, PETELO TAFAO, 73, of Santa Maria passed away 1/2/2023 arrangements with Dudley-Hoffman Mortuary, Crematory & Memory Gardens

TONASCIA, MARGERY E., 88, of Santa Maria passed away 1/4/2023 arrangements with Dudley-Hoffman Mortuary, Crematory & Memory Gardens

TORRES, ROSEMARY, 61, of Santa Maria passed away 12/29/2022 arrangements with Dudley-Hoffman Mortuary, Crematory & Memory Gardens

VENTRIGLIA, JAMES "JIM", 72, of Santa Maria passed away 1/9/2023 arrangements with Magner-Maloney Funeral Home & Crematory

WELDON, RICHARD "DICK", 94, of Santa Maria passed away 1/9/2023 arrangements with Magner-Maloney Funeral Home & Crematory

WILLIAMS, JACQUELINE, 82, of Orcutt passed away 1/3/2023 arrangements with Dudley-Hoffman Mortuary, Crematory & Memory Gardens

WOOD, JOYCE E., 84, of Santa Maria passed away 12/31/2022 arrangements with Dudley-Hoffman Mortuary, Crematory & Memory Gardens

ZEE, CAROL, 71, of Arroyo Grande passed away 1/4/2023 arrangements with Marshall-Spoo Sunset Funeral Chapel

BORN DECEMBER 28, 1929 - DECEASED JANUARY 1, 2023

Priscilla Evelyn Rosa

P Priscilla Evelyn Rosa born December 28, 1929 passed away January 1, 2023 age 93. She is survived by nine of her eleven children; Penny Webster, Vicky Reinke, Laurie Walley, Kevin Rosa, Sari Domingues, Leslie Wilson, Craig Rosa, Mark Rosa, and Eric Rosa. She is preceded in death by two of her eleven children; Julie Rosa and Glen Rosa. She also has 17 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren. She was a substitute teacher at Santa Maria Elementary schools for 15 years and was a realtor for over 20 years here in Santa Maria.



It is with a heavy heart that we lost our beautiful mother. Anyone who knew her would say she was a kind and thoughtful person. It is God's gain to have her wonderful soul. WE LOVE YOU MOM.

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- 38% Great. Our community needs more housing, and this provides a solid solution.
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- 16% I am not happy about the proposal.
- 16% It's necessary since the state is requiring more development.

31 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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Offensive to the senses

Cannabis' stinky growing season is coming again in Lompoc—and the county should care

BY RON FINK

The stench of cannabis from county-permitted grows east of Lompoc and other areas of the county will soon return. Spring is just around the corner, and if the history of this industry is any indicator, those grows will continue to pollute our air with their skunk odor for weeks that never seem to end as county regulators sit on their hands and pretend “nothing is wrong; it’s ag land.”

In California, a “public nuisance” includes anything that is injurious to health or offensive to the senses, and these odors are exactly that—“offensive to the senses.” The people of Carpinteria and Buellton can understand what I am talking about.

It took months of legal wrangling and costly legal representation for the people of Carpinteria to get some sort of resolution to their odor problem. We in Lompoc aren’t financially able to hire a legal firm to represent our interests, so we must put up with the stink.

The county of Santa Barbara is the permitting authority for large cannabis operations such as the Greenies Management Incorporated grow less than a mile east of Lompoc. Even though they are aware that a proven technology exists to reduce and, in many cases, prevent odors from escaping covered growing operations, they have steadfastly refused to address the issue.

After numerous complaints last year, all we got from the county of Santa Barbara was that properties zoned “AG-2” don’t require odor control; one such growing operation exists less than a mile east of Lompoc and others are planned. So if the wind blows from the east, as it does in the early morning hours, our homes, schools, and businesses be subjected to those skunky odors.

How do they know the odor-reducing technology exists? Well, local media reported that back in 2020 two citizens of Carpinteria sued one of the several growers down south for ruining their quality of life. Their claim was that the six-day-a-week odors made them ill.

At my house when the odors persist, I must use my in-home heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system to keep odors out; this causes a major increase in our electric utility bill.

We have lived in Lompoc since 1975 and rarely had to use this type of system; we just opened the windows to ventilate the house. Those days are long gone since the cannabis industry invaded our county and negligent, poorly informed regulators allowed them to put unfiltered growing operations so close to residential areas without proven odor control protocols.

All the county regulators had to do was ask any law enforcement agent who ever served a warrant on illegal grow operations what the area smelled like, and they would have gotten an earful of eyewitness accounts. And if they would have listened to citizens who complained during the permit development hearings and during Planning Commission meetings—instead of pandering to cannabis industry developers—they would have had some idea that what they were about to do would cause problems.

Meanwhile in Carpinteria, on Dec. 9, 2020, local press reported that “the Santa Barbara County Planning Commission unanimously required carbon filters for one of the largest proposed cannabis greenhouse operations in the valley: 13 acres at Vista Verde Farms, 3450 Via Real.” And others have agreed to install filtration systems too.

That leaves Lompoc and other housing areas in the county to put up with the odors again this year. When cannabis was illegal, there were large grows all over the state, but these were in areas far removed from civilization. It is only after the state legalized this drug that large groups of citizens were exposed to the stink.

There is a venue for complaints—the Air Pollution Control District Cannabis Odor Complaint Form can be found here: docs.google.com/forms/d/1FAIpQLSeVpYwqVYnrzU1g_uP7WTfEqMksmN6cNNmim_UqxLLc6W7CZgw/viewform.

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I have used this form and they *do not* provide any feedback, so you don't know what they do with this information.

Legalized cannabis has been with us for a couple of years; how long will it take for a majority of the Board of Supervisors to acknowledge that a serious odor problem exists with these growing operations and direct the county regulatory staff to take control of the situation? ○

Ron Fink writes to the Sun from Lompoc. Send a letter for publication to letters@santamariasun.com.

LETTERS

Biden continues producing real results

Just as Republican Kevin McCarthy was losing yet another vote for speaker of the House of Representatives in Washington, D.C., President Joe Biden and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell were doing a victory lap in Kentucky touting a new bridge across the Ohio River that was made possible by the 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill.

The appearance highlights a series of legislative triumphs for the Biden administration, including bipartisan victories on infrastructure, gun background checks, and manufacturing of computer chips. Not surprisingly, 2022 midterm election voters opted to keep the Senate in the hands of the Democrats as well as flopping two governor seats and four state legislatures to the Democrats. Biden, in comparison to his predecessor, has produced real results for the American people.

These include ongoing job creation because of the Infrastructure Bill and the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act, subsidies to those who wish to transition to zero-emission vehicles, a reduction in prescription drug prices, lower health care costs for Americans using the Affordable Care Act, continued support of the democratically elected government in Ukraine, and crackdowns on wealthy tax cheats with an influx of funding for the IRS.

In contrast, President Donald Trump had his chances to produce bipartisan solutions to the nation's problems during his four years in office. Unfortunately, he spent most of his time waging Twitter battles, turning a blind eye to white supremacists, and persecuting immigrants.

Instead, he could have cut a deal with Democrats on health care—he consistently said he had a plan that was better than Obamacare. He never produced it. He also could have negotiated immigration reform legislation. Democrats were ready to concede money for his wall if he had allowed for DACA and a path to citizenship for some 20 million undocumented workers who live in the U.S.

In addition, Trump announced several “Infrastructure Days,” which produced nothing. In fact, Trump’s only legislative achievement was a huge tax cut for the wealthiest Americans. It added nearly \$2 billion to the federal deficit and allowed Trump to pay zero federal income taxes in his last year as president. It’s no wonder he lost the 2020 election by 7 million votes.

Biden has done a solid job as president. He is not the political “Humpty Dumpty” he has been labeled as. Before World War II, the British wrote off Winston Churchill as feeble and an alcoholic. He proved otherwise.

Michael Smith
Santa Maria

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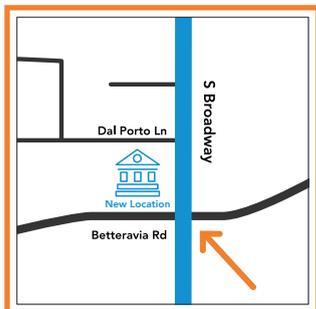
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Our community

Our community got hit hard, some say harder than expected. Meteorologists say harder than we've been hit in decades. All we have to do is look around. It seems folks in South County got more government resources to take the sting out of the crisis, while some in our community got hit with less help.

Fourth District Supervisor Bob Nelson expressed passion for his **North County** community at the Jan. 10 Board of Supervisors meeting. He asked the sheriff directly about the county's preparations for the record-breaking storms that hit the area just the day before.

Specifically, his question for **Sheriff Bill Brown** was why **North County** riverbeds weren't included in the Sheriff's Office's evacuation areas.

"It seems that those people are the most vulnerable in our county; they actually live in a watercourse, and they should have been included and evacuated," Nelson said. "Could you help me with that?"

In response, Brown said that his department was "extensively engaged in **South County** preparations, but reached out to **Lompoc** and **Santa Maria** police departments to work with that population."

He assured the supervisor that advocates went with the police to speak to the people living in the riverbeds. A fly-over later revealed that the majority of the population had "self-evacuated."

"Some [people were] still under the bridges; they were notified and chose not to leave," the sheriff said. "We don't typically evacuate areas that are not habitable areas; we typically evacuate communities."

Nelson was having none of it. He lambasted the sheriff and highlighted the discrepancies between the north and the south. These are longstanding divides down geographical and socioeconomic lines that too often widen during crises.

"We obviously did have people living there. We had a child born in the riverbed while flooding was going on," he said, calling out the "juxtaposition of all the staff and resources to go door-to-door in one community versus another location."

He then admonished the sheriff to conduct North County riverbed evacuations even now because the storms weren't over "for those people living in our community."

Our leaders need to help the community prepare as we deal with at what the "atmospheric river" wrought: The county received more than 400 calls for service—100 of which were water rescues—as of about 9 a.m. Jan. 10. The rains caused a sinkhole in **Orcutt** at Union Valley Parkway and Bradley; schools were closed; five highways were impacted and closed.

In addition to the newborn and parents who were rescued from the riverbed in Lompoc, three people and a dog were spotted on a newly formed island east of **Riverbend Park**. One person accepted the swift water rescue team's aid; the other two wanted to stay there. There are no doubt people still living in such places, people who should be evacuated—or rescued.

I wish I could chirp about a silver lining, but there isn't much of one. **Cachuma Lake** Reservoir is at capacity and planning for a downstream release for the first time since 2011. Yet it's going to take more than one wet year to regain balance.

As for being situated downstream from South County and its resources, will it really have to take more crises to shift that balance? ☪



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The Canary is proud of North County. Send your support to canary@santamariasun.com.

INSPIRATION

ORIGINAL STUDENT PAINTING!

*Orcutt Children's Arts Foundation Mission is to:
Provide all children in the Orcutt Union School
District the opportunities to experience and
participate in the visual and performing arts by
brining together community resources.*



Orcutt Children's Arts Foundation (OCAF) and Orcutt Union School District (OUSD)

believe that all children need to be exposed to the transformative powers of arts education. Arts education for students can take on many forms ranging from performing arts like band, theatre, dance, to visual arts like design, and poetry. Learning a craft, its history, and how art connects other areas community and school are part of what makes up a well-rounded education.



Encouraging Teamwork

We also believe that teamwork, discipline and dedication required by all genres of art, teaches life skills that positively influence the lives of our students. Results range from increased engagement in school, increased self-confidence and better test scores. Students know what they can achieve together, and that anything is possible. Visual and performing arts education must remain a priority.



OCAF Increased Funding Support

OCAF provided funding for arts materials and equipment needed for all genres of arts. With the support of foundations, OCAF provided funding for band instruments, band uniforms, Orff instruments, the upcoming 2023 play, Arts Attack curriculum, arts attack supplies, the upcoming 2023 Dance Infusion training, a new sound system, wireless mics, AP Arts, art related field trips and art related teacher grants. Funding these genres fosters a life-long relationship with the arts and the benefits thereof.



Building Confidence

OCAF believes that the arts have a valuable place in our school and community, and that through participation in the arts: young people will develop and build their self-confidence and self-expression.



Parent Testimonial

To Whom It May Concern:

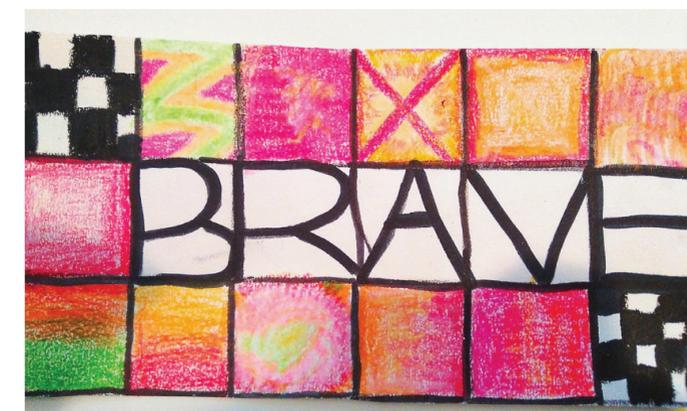
I am writing in support of the integral work of the Orcutt Children's Arts Foundation.

I sat on the board of OCAF for 7 years, from 2011 – 2018; the latter years serving as president. I have seen firsthand the amazing work of the numerous volunteers, teachers, and support staff bring the arts to the forefront in our school's district over the years.

I have witnessed the numbers of supporters at the community events grow, the smiling and engaged faces of children in the arts attack classes, the interest and growth of the District Band, the high-quality theater performances (inclusive of onstage acting, set design, lighting tech, and sound board).

OCAF is an amazing asset to the Orcutt Union School District Working in tandem with the curriculum validates and supports overall success of the students. I look forward to seeing OCAF's continued presence in our schools, and continually growing programs reach all students. The importance in teaching the whole child, inclusive of the arts, will only result in innovative and creative thinkers as they grow into adulthood.

Sincerely,
Allison Smith



Proof Positive!

Every student that walks through our school doors deserves the right to participate in visual and performing arts. These photos are original works of art and performances by OUSD students of all ages. Some have since graduated and are currently in college studying fine arts, cinematography, film production, graphics design, theater and one is moving to Nashville to pursue a career in music.



Orcutt Children's Arts Foundation GALA 2023

ALL TOGETHER NOW!
TAKE THE LONG & WINDING ROAD TO
THE RADDISON, SANTA MARIA
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 25TH AT 5:00 PM
COME TOGETHER, TWIST & SHOUT
WE'LL RAISE MONEY FOR OCAF
WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS!

Entertainment by: Unfinished with the Beatles

TO PURCHASE TICKETS, MAKE A DONATION, OR FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT US AT:

www.orcuttarts.com-2023 Gala

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OCAF believes that the arts have a valuable place in our school and community, and through participation in the arts; young people will develop and build their self-confidence and self-expression. Offering visual and performing arts education in school gives voice to school children of all ages. We can all help students transform their imaginings and their dreams into art works that each of us can treasure.

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SUCCESS & IMAGINATION THROUGH ARTS EDUCATION!

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For more information or
to be a sponsor contact:
Lee Ann Luongo
lluongo@orcutt-schools.net
(805) 938-8966

Tickets and sponsorship
also available online at:
www.orcuttarts.com





HANG YOUR HAT

The Cuyama Buckhorn in New Cuyama hosts its three-day Coast to Cuyama event, starting on Friday, Jan. 20, and through Sunday, Jan. 22. The venue is partnering with La Paloma Cafe for this weekend-long program of food, wine, and spirit offerings. Call (661) 766-2825 or visit cuyamabuckhorn.com for more info. The Cuyama Buckhorn is located at 4923 Primero St., New Cuyama. —Caleb Wiseblood

FILE COURTESY PHOTO BY STEPHANIE RUSSO

ARTS

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

BALLROOM, LATIN, AND SWING DANCE CLASSES

Social ballroom, Latin, and swing lessons for all ages on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Beginner and advance classes. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, 7-9 p.m. \$45-\$55. 805-928-7799. [KleinDanceArts](http://kleindancesarts.com), 3558 Skyway Drive, suite A, Santa Maria.

DANCE CLASSES: EVERYBODY CAN DANCE

Classes available for all skill levels. Class sizes limited. ongoing Everybody Can Dance, 628 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria, 805-937-6753.

MUSIC LESSONS AT COELHO ACADEMY

Learn to play piano, drums, guitar, base, ukulele, or violin, or take vocal lessons. ongoing 805-925-0464. coelhomusic.com. Coelho Academy of Music, 325 E. Betteravia Rd., Santa Maria.

NEXT CHAPTER BOOK CLUB: LOS ALAMOS BRANCH LIBRARY

A special book club for youth aged 8 to 12. Copies of the book will be provided on a first come, first served basis. Supported in whole or in part by the Central Coast Literacy Council. Jan. 18 Free. 805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org. Los Alamos Library, 405 Helena St., Los Alamos.

THE RED VELVET CAKE WAR

The three Verdeen cousins—Gaynelle, Peaches, and Jimmie Wyvette—could not have picked a worse time to throw their family reunion. Presented by SMCT. Fridays, Saturdays, 7 p.m. and Jan. 15-29, 1:30 p.m. through Jan. 28 smct.org/show/the-red-velvet-cake-war/. Santa Maria Civic Theatre, 1660 N. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

SEARCHING FOR SNOW: ICELAND PHOTOGRAPHY BY LEE VOLKER-COX

Grab a bite while viewing this winter-themed photography exhibit in the Santa Maria Ameriprise Office. Jan. 12, 4 p.m. Free. 805-938-9724. Ameriprise Financial, 2605 S Miller St., suite 104, Santa Maria.

UKULELE LESSONS

For individuals 50 years and up, at no charge. Participants will learn to play chords, melodies, and familiar songs. Five baritone ukuleles are available to borrow, or class members may bring one of their own. Mondays, Wednesdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m. cityofsantamaria.org/register. Elwin Mussell Senior Center, 510 Park Ave., Santa Maria.

VALLEY READS BOOK CLUB

January's book is *One Italian Summer* by Rebecca Serle. Jan. 14, 2 p.m. Free. 805-925-0994. cityofsantamaria.org. Second Saturday of every month, 2 p.m. Free. 805-925-0994. cityofsantamaria.org/city-government/departments/library. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

WINE AND DESIGN CLASSES

Check Wine and Design's Orcutt website for the complete list of classes, for various ages. ongoing Varies. wineanddesign.com/orcutt. Wine and Design, 3420 Orcutt Road, suite 105, Orcutt.

SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

DUNES: VISIONS OF SAND, LIGHT, AND SHADOW

Traverse the sand dunes with Central Coast photographer Bob Canepa in the Wildling Museum's new Valley Oak Gallery exhibition. Receptions: Sept. 11 and Oct. 9. Through March 23, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Wildling Museum of Art and Nature, 1511-B Mission Dr., Solvang, 805-688-1082, wildlingmuseum.org.

WILDLIFE ON THE EDGE: HILARY BAKER

New and recent acrylic paintings from Baker's Predators series alongside a new series of animal portraits on birch wood. From a group of common pigeons to an

elusive cougar, Baker's subjects make themselves at home in urban locales. Through March 6 Wildling Museum of Art and Nature, 1511-B Mission Dr., Solvang, 805-688-1082, wildlingmuseum.org.

WINTER SALON

In honor of the holiday season and celebration of the gallery's 30th anniversary. All fine art media hung "salon style", floor to ceiling. Mondays, Thursdays-Sundays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. through Jan. 30 805-688-7517. GalleryLosOlivos.com. Gallery Los Olivos, 2920 Grand Ave., Los Olivos.

LOMPOC/VANDENBERG

LIVE STAND-UP COMEDY SHOW

With Adam Dominguez, Wendy Wilkins, AJ Santos, Stef Teran, and host Justin Bournonville. For ages 18 and over. Jan. 21, 6 p.m. my805tix.com. Flower City Ballroom, 110 W. Ocean Ave., Lompoc.

SOUTH COAST SLO COUNTY

MIXED MEDIA (ADULTS)

Each week, attendees will combine two or more media in several pieces, while working with watercolor, acrylic, ink, pastels, charcoal as well as various printmaking techniques in the course of a month. Enjoy discovering new ways to work with traditional and nontraditional materials. Mondays, 1-3 p.m. \$35. 805-668-2125. lila.community/. LiIA Creative Community, 1147 East Grand Ave. suite 101, Arroyo Grande.

MIXED MEDIA FOR AGES 5-6 AND 7-12

For ages 5-6 (Mondays) and 7-12 (Tuesdays). 3:15-4:15 p.m. 805-668-2125. lila.community/. LiIA Creative Community, 1147 East Grand Ave. suite 101, Arroyo Grande.

MIXED MEDIA FOR AGES 5-7

Each week students will have the opportunity to explore and combine various mediums like pastels with tempera, watercolors and collage, or clay and wood and so much

more. Mondays, 3:30-4:45 p.m. \$25. 805-668-2125. lila.community/. LiIA Creative Community, 1147 East Grand Ave. suite 101, Arroyo Grande.

MIXED MEDIA WORKSHOP (AGES 7-12)

Come explore mixed media with an emphasis on the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design. Each week, students will have the opportunity to use various media. Tuesdays, 3:30-4:45 p.m. \$25. 805-668-2125. lila.community/. LiIA Creative Community, 1147 East Grand Ave. suite 101, Arroyo Grande.

OPEN STUDIO (AGES 7-12)

Guests can explore a variety of media and techniques while focusing on their own subject matter. Whether they come with a project in mind, or find their way as they play, this class offers a chance for independent learning in a supportive environment. Thursdays, 3:45-4:45 p.m. \$25. 805-668-2125. lila.community/all-workshops/open-studio. LiIA Creative Community, 1147 East Grand Ave. suite 101, Arroyo Grande.

OPEN STUDIO FOR ADULTS

Guests can come in and decide what materials they would like to work with and create freely. Share your creative process with others and see how your work will flourish. Tuesdays, 6-9 p.m. and Wednesdays, 12:30-3:30 p.m. \$40. 805-668-2125. lila.community/. LiIA Creative Community, 1147 East Grand Ave. suite 101, Arroyo Grande.

PLAY, EXPLORE, CREATE (AGES 5-7)

Young artists will play at various stations, exploring games, and mixed media. There will be a new activity each week. Wonderful opportunities for drawing, painting, and sculpture. Tuesdays, 9-10 a.m. \$25. 805-668-2125. lila.community/. LiIA Creative Community, 1147 East Grand Ave. suite 101, Arroyo Grande.

PLAY, EXPLORE, CREATE I (AGES 3 AND 4)

Enjoy the opportunity to explore

drawing, painting, collage, sculpture, and mixed media. Each week a new adventure awaits. Thursdays, 2-3 p.m. and Fridays, 9-10 a.m. \$25. 805-668-2125. lila.community/. LiIA Creative Community, 1147 East Grand Ave. suite 101, Arroyo Grande.

UPCOMING EXHIBIT AT DANA CULTURAL CENTER

Photography of My Diné (Navajo) Family and images of the Southwestern Landscape by professor, photographer, and DANA volunteer John Craig. Jan. 22, 1 p.m. \$8 for non-members; \$3 for children; free for DANA Members. 805-929-5679. danaadobe.org. DANA Adobe Cultural Center, 671 S. Oakglen Ave., Nipomo.

SAN LUIS OBISPO

ACTOR'S EDGE: ACTING CLASSES

Actor's Edge offers film and television acting training in San Luis Obispo, plus exposure to Los Angeles talent agents. All ages and skill levels welcome. Classes available in SLO, LA, and on zoom. ongoing \$210 per month. actorsedge.com. Online, See website, San Luis Obispo.

ALL LEVELS POTTERY CLASSES

Anam Cre is a pottery studio in SLO that offers a variety of classes. This specific class is open to any level. Teachers are present for questions, but the class feels more like an open studio time for potters. Thursdays, 6-8 p.m. \$40. Anam Cre Pottery Studio, 1243 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo, anamcre.com.

ARTIST RIKI SCHUMACHER AT ART CENTRAL GALLERY

Schumacher's work is pensive and introspective, inspiring one to take a solitary walk on a cloudy day. Wander in to reflect on her "delicious, wistful landscapes." Mondays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sundays, 12-4 p.m. Free. 805-747-4200. artcentralslo.com/gallery-artists/. Art Central, 1329 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo.

CERAMIC LESSONS AND MORE

Now offering private one-on-one and group lessons in the ceramic arts. Both hand building and wheel throwing options. Beginners welcomed. ongoing 805-835-5893. hmcruceceramics.com/. Online, See website, San Luis Obispo.

COMEDY HOUSE

A night of stand-up comedy and house music. Featuring an

all female lineup of comics from SLO to LA. Jan. 21, 6-11 p.m. \$20-\$65. eventbrite.com. The Siren at El Chorro, 2990 Dairy Creek Rd., San Luis Obispo, 805-541-1149.

COMEDY NIGHT

Professional comedy show featuring local and touring comics. Hosted by Aidan Candelario. Third Thursday of every month, 7-9 p.m. \$5. 805-540-8300. Bang the Drum Brewery, 1150 Laurel Lane, suite 130, San Luis Obispo, bangthedrumbrewery.com.

DATE NIGHT POTTERY

Looking for a fun date night? Head to Anam Cre Pottery Studio and play with clay. Couples will learn how to throw a pot on the wheel and make a cheeseboard. Fridays, Saturdays, 6-8 p.m. \$140. Anam Cre Pottery Studio, 1243 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo, anamcre.com.

DEAR, RIDER: SCREENING AND FILMMAKERS Q-AND-A

Central Coast film premiere of *Dear, Rider: The Jake Burton Story* with a special filmmaker Q-and-A following the screening. Jan. 14, 7:30-9:30 p.m. \$10 general admission; \$5 students. 805-668-4828. centralcoastfilmsociety.org. Palm Theatre, 817 Palm St., San Luis Obispo.

HILDA KILPATRICK-FREYRE: ART SHOW

Hilda is influenced by California paintings, as well as impressionists. Her work is vibrant and she paints local nature scenes. Through Feb. 14 805-545-5401. bigskycafe.com. Big Sky Cafe, 1121 Broad Street, San Luis Obispo.

IMPROV COMEDY SHOW

Improv comedy returns to the SLO Public Market. Join the hilarious cast of the Central Coast Comedy Theater for its first improv show of 2023. Jan. 13 \$10. eventbrite.com. San Luis Obispo Public Market, 3845 S Higuera St., San Luis Obispo, 805-439-4285.

INTERMEDIATE OIL PAINTING: ADULT ART CLASS

This class is for students who may have tried oil painting in the past but are looking to advance their skill levels. Color theory and proportion study will be a focus in the class. Mondays, 2-5 p.m. \$30 per student or \$75 for 3 classes. 805-747-4200. artcentralslo.com/workshops-events/. Art Central, 1329 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo.

ARTS continued page 20

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.

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INTRO TO OIL PAINTING WITH SPENCER COLLINS The perfect class for those wanting to try oil painting for the first time. Guests discuss color theory, layering paint, and how to use various media. For ages 16 and over. Thursdays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. \$30 per class or \$100 for 4 classes. 805-747-4200. artcentralslo.com/workshops-events/. Art Central, 1329 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo.

KIDS POTTERY CLASSES Enjoy making animal sculptures, bowls, plates, etc. Please arrive on time, not early, as venue uses the transition time between classes to sanitize. Designed to sign up on a weekly basis. Thursdays, 1:30-2:30 p.m. \$40. anamcre.com. Anam Cre Pottery Studio, 1243 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo.

LEARN TO WEAVE MONDAYS An opportunity to learn how a four-shaft loom works. You will get acquainted as a new weaver or as a refresher with lots of tips and tricks. This class includes getting to know a loom, how to prepare/dress a loom, and much more. Mondays, 1-4 p.m. \$75 monthly. 805-441-8257. Patricia Martin: Whispering Vista Studios, 224 Squire Canyon Rd, San Luis Obispo, patriciamartinartist.com.

LITTLE TREASURES HOLIDAY EXHIBIT Artwork in this exhibit is priced \$100 or less. Everything is handcrafted and made with love by local artists. Find that one-of-a-kind gift for that special someone. Mondays-Fridays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturdays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sundays, 12-4 p.m. through Jan. 30 Free. 805-747-4200. artcentralslo.com. Art Central, 1329 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo.

THE MONDAY CLUBHOUSE CONSERVANCY FINE ARTS AWARDS APPLICATIONS Open to high school juniors and seniors. Categories: classical music, jazz music, and visual art. Submit online application. Finalists in all categories compete in a live competition at The Monday Club on Feb. 26. Through Jan.

Free. 805-242-1076. themondayclubsllo.org. Online, See website, San Luis Obispo.

OPEN MIC COMEDY Sign-ups at 6:30 p.m. Hosted by Aidan Candelario. Mondays, 7-9 p.m. Free. 805-540-8300. saintsbarrel.com/event-calendar. Saints Barrel Wine Bar, 1021 Higuera St., San Luis Obispo.

PICKET PAINTING PARTY Decorative picket purchasing opportunities are available to show your support and help fund maintenance and educational programs in the Children's Garden. Second Saturday of every month, 1-4 p.m. \$75 per picket or 2 for \$100. 805-541-1400. slobg.org. San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden, 3450 Dairy Creek Rd., San Luis Obispo.

PLEIN AIR PAINTERS OF THE CENTRAL COAST A self-directed fun group of dynamic artists who enjoy painting and sketching outdoors. Artists meet on site at various locations. Weekly plein air destinations are provided by Kirsti Wothe via email (mrswothe@yahoo.com). Wednesdays, 9 a.m.-noon SLO County, Various locations, San Luis Obispo.

POTTERY: BEGINNING WHEEL CLASS This series is a great intro to the pottery wheel. Students learn to throw various shapes, surface decorate, and glaze. Clay and firing included with admission. Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$180. anamcre.com. Anam Cre Pottery Studio, 1243 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo.

SCULPTURE CLASS WITH ROD PEREZ This weekly sculpture drop-in class gives an opportunity for potters to take on new projects and learn new techniques relating to sculptural work. Additionally, every first Friday of the month, a new project will be taught by Rod Perez for beginners. Fridays, 10 a.m.-noon \$40. anamcre.com. Anam Cre Pottery Studio, 1243 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo.

SENIOR CLAY CLASS Offered to the senior community as an outlet to explore the beauty of clay. For ages 60 and over. Caretakers welcome for an additional \$20. Fridays, 10 a.m.-noon \$40. anamcre.com.

Anam Cre Pottery Studio, 1243 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo.

VIRGINIA MACK: BEGINNING WATERCOLOR This is a watercolor class designed to let you jump in and try out this engaging medium through experimentation. It's designed for beginners and those with watercolor experience who wish to expand their knowledge of painting in watercolors. To enroll please contact Mack via email: vbmack@charter.net Wednesdays, 1:30-3:30 p.m. \$35. 805-747-4200. artcentralslo.com/workshops-events/. Art Central, 1329 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo.

NORTH SLO COUNTY

DEPRISE BRESCIA ART GALLERY: OPEN DAILY Features a large selection of encaustic art, sculpted paintings, art installations, acrylic palette knife paintings, digital art, glass, jewelry, stones, fossils, and a butterfly sculpture garden. ongoing DepriseBrescia.com. Deprise Brescia Art Gallery, 829 10th St., Paso Robles, 310-621-7543.

NANCY HILL FABRIC ART EXHIBITION AT THE DOSTER GALLERY Doster Gift Gallery in Atascadero will be hosting an exciting exhibition of Nancy Hill's extraordinary fabric sculptures. Opens on Dec. 16 and runs through the end of January. Through Jan. 31 Free. 805 462-9309. Doster Gift Gallery, 5970 Entrada Ave., Atascadero.

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

TRACE YOUR FAVORITE IMAGE FUSED GLASS PLATE OR BOWL Preserve your child's or your own sketches in glass. Jan. 16, 10 a.m.-noon \$100. 805-464-2633. glassheadstudio.com. Glasshead Studio, 8793 Plata Lane, Suite H, Atascadero.

NORTH COAST SLO COUNTY

ART AND ABOUT LOS OSOS Join us for

Art and About Los Osos, a self-guided art walk that gives the community an opportunity to experience visual, literary, and performing art in galleries and other venues throughout Los Osos. Events will not occur on major holidays. Second Saturday of every month, 1-4 p.m. Free. 805-544-9251. artsobispo.org/art-and-about. Los Osos, Townwide, Los Osos.

COLLAGES AND PHOTOGRAPHS OF LOS OSOS Collages and photographs featuring Sweet Springs Nature Preserve and the Elfin Forest by Los Osos photographer Kelly Hayes are for sale online and on display at Los Osos Pop-up Gallery (1056 Los Osos Valley Road). Photo prints on metal, paper, acrylic, and greeting cards. Free. centralcoasty.com.Townwide, Los Osos.

COSTA GALLERY: ELLEN JEWETT Gallery hours are expected to be extended beginning in October or November for the holidays. Thursdays-Saturdays, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sundays, 12-4 p.m. Costa Gallery, 2087 10th St., Los Osos, 559-799-9632.

THE CRUCIBLE Arthur Miller's tale of the 1692 Salem Witch Trials, where religion, personal grudges, and fear clash, with deadly results. Jan. 13-15 my805tix.com. By The Sea Productions, 545 Shasta Ave., Morro Bay.

FINE ART CRAFTS BY JARI DE HAM: GALLERY AT MARINA SQUARE Jarien de Ham began Chinese brush painting in 2002. The Central Coast inspires her paintings and sculptures. Through Jan. 29, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. 805-772-1068. galleryatmarinasquare.com. Gallery at Marina Square, 601 Embarcadero suite 10, Morro Bay.

FINE ART MIXED MEDIA PAINTINGS BY STEVIE CHUN: GALLERY AT MARINA SQUARE Stevie Chun is passionate about shape and color in her paintings and crafts and uses minimal outlined shapes to create larger formats on canvas, paper, ceramics and other surfaces. Through Jan. 29, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. 805-772-1068.

galleryatmarinasquare.com. Gallery at Marina Square, 601 Embarcadero suite 10, Morro Bay.

FOR THE BIRDS Art Center Morro Bay presents its annual For the Birds exhibit. This exciting exhibition celebrates Morro Bay's vast array of indigenous species of birds and all things bird-related. Jan. 22-Feb. 20, 12-4 p.m. Free. 805-772-2504. artcentermorrobay.org. Art Center Morro Bay, 835 Main St., Morro Bay.

FOREVER STOKED PAINT PARTY Join us at the gallery, for a few hours to travel on a creative paint journey. You will receive as much or as little instruction as you prefer. No experience is necessary. Saturdays, 7-9 p.m. \$45. 805-772-9095. Forever Stoked, 1164 Quintana Rd., Morro Bay.

GALLERY AT MARINA SQUARE: OPENING RECEPTION FOR JANUARY EXHIBITS A reception for featured artists Jari De Ham and Stevie Chun and the artists in the gallery's current group show. Jan. 14, 3-5 p.m. Free. 805-772-1068. galleryatmarinasquare.com. Gallery at Marina Square, 601 Embarcadero suite 10, Morro Bay.

METAL ART BY TRUDI GILLIAM Gilliam creates her sculptures using copper, brass, nickel/silver, and found objects. This new series of whales and birds uses copper and sea glass. ongoing 805-772-9955. Seven Sisters Gallery, 601 Embarcadero Ste. 8, Morro Bay, sevensistersgalleryca.com.

MOSAIC TRIVET WORKSHOP During this workshop, you will learn how to design and create a mosaic trivet. You will learn how to select materials, lay out a pleasing pattern, and adhere the tiles to the trivet base. You will learn how to properly grout and seal your project. ongoing, 1-4 p.m. \$60. 805-772-2504. artcentermorrobay.org/index.php/workshops/. Art Center Morro Bay, 835 Main St., Morro Bay.

THE PLEIN AIR TEAM Acrylic artist, Nancy Lynn, and husband, watercolorist, Robert Fleming, have an ongoing show of originals and giclee prints of Morro Bay

and local birds. ongoing 805-772-9955. Seven Sisters Gallery, 601 Embarcadero Ste. 8, Morro Bay, sevensistersgalleryca.com.

SECOND SATURDAYS Come by and see the Featured Artists Shows, find gifts for your loved ones, surprises for yourself, and meet the artists featured in the incredible gallery. Second Saturday of every month, 5-7 p.m. Free. 805-772-1068. galleryatmarinasquare.com. Gallery at Marina Square, 601 Embarcadero suite 10, Morro Bay.

START THE NEW YEAR WITH LARRY LE BRANE'S BEGINNING FUSED GLASS CLASS No previous art skills needed to make fused glass home-garden décor, gifts, dishware, and jewelry. Class size is 4 to 6 students. Safety mask and vaccination required, please.No drop-ins. Must attend all classes. Jan. 14, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$150 for three weeks. 805-748-6935. Central Coast Glass Blowing and Fusing, 1279 2nd Street, Los Osos, RodBakerGlass.com.

WHERE THE BIRDS ARE: A GROUP PHOTO SHOW Featuring photographers: Alice Cahill, Cathy Russ, Gregory Siragusa, Karen Peterson, Dominic Hartman, Jessica Weiss, and Michael Johnston. Through Jan. 29, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. 805-772-1068. galleryatmarinasquare.com. Gallery at Marina Square, 601 Embarcadero suite 10, Morro Bay.

CULTURE & LIFESTYLE

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

30 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IN SANTA MARIA/ORCUTT Community Partners in Caring is seeking volunteers to help support dependent older adults and seniors. ongoing partnersincaring.org. Santa Maria, Citywide, Santa Maria.

CULTURE & LIFESTYLE continued page 21

SANTA MARIA VALLEY Chamber

FIND OUT WHY 870+ LOCAL BUSINESSES ARE MEMBERS

JOIN THE CHAMBER TODAY

CATALYST. CONVENER. CHAMPION.

What's Your Take? We know you've got an opinion. Everybody's got one!

This week's online poll 1/12 - 1/19

What happened to you during the storm?

- I had to be evacuated, and I stayed at an evacuation shelter.
- There was a flash flood warning, and I was required to shelter in place.
- I got stuck on the road due to the highway closures.
- My neighborhood wasn't extremely affected, but I still stayed home as a precaution.

Enter your choice online at: SantaMariaSun.com

Sun

MY 805 TIX

ALL TICKETS. ONE PLACE.

ON SALE NOW!

BE HOPPY TOURS: FRIDAY HOPPY HOUR!

Fridays thru June 30, 2023

Central Coast Brewing Higuera Street, San Luis Obispo

Presented by: **BE HOPPY TOURS**

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT **MY805TIX.COM**

Does your organization sell tickets?

Get more exposure and sell more tickets with a local media partner. Call 805-546-8208 for more info.

ADOPT!

Adoptable Pets of the Week

Topsy
Age: 11 years
1 month
Breed: Domestic Shorthair
Sex: Female
Weight: 14 lbs.

Dwayne
Age: 6 years
10 months
Breed: Doberman Pinscher/Shepherd mix
Sex: Male
Weight: 64 lbs.

All animals are health checked, spayed/neutered, vaccinated and microchipped.

Santa Maria Valley Humane Society

1687 West Stowell Rd • Santa Maria
(805) 349-3435 • www.smvhs.org

Adoption Center Hours
Wed-Sun 11am-6pm

AD PROVIDED BY **Bunny Maxim**
The Maxim in Real Estate
(805) 878-0807

R CORNERSTONE

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SANTA YNEZ VALLEY CONCERT SERIES



NEVER TOO BASSOON

The Los Angeles Reed Quintet will perform at St. Mark's-in-the-Valley Episcopal Church in Los Olivos on Friday, Jan. 13, at 7 p.m. The five-person ensemble includes bassoon player Anthony Parnter (pictured), a featured performer on several film soundtracks. The group's Los Olivos show is part of the Santa Ynez Valley Concert Series. Visit smitv.org/syv-concert-series for more info. St. Mark's-in-the-Valley Episcopal Church is located at 2901 Nojoqui Ave., Los Olivos.

—C.W.

use. **Jan. 14**, 10:30 a.m. Free. 805-925-0994. cityofsantamaria.org. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

TEEN BOLT: SANTA MARIA PUBLIC LIBRARY Teens, help shape the future of your library. Discussions during BOLT will help determine teen program themes, and BOLT members will have the opportunity to help plan and run teen programs. **Jan. 20** Free. 805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

TEEN GAMING: SANTA MARIA PUBLIC LIBRARY Teens, come hang out for a Friday afternoon of gaming. Play to win or sit back and watch the action on our large screen. Light snacks will be provided. **Jan. 13** Free. 805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

TODDLER TIME: SANTA MARIA PUBLIC LIBRARY High-energy learning experience for toddlers and caregivers. Grow through stories, movement, and music. Tuesdays, Thursdays, through Feb. 23 Free. 805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland 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.

YOUTH CODING AND CULTURE: SANTA MARIA PUBLIC LIBRARY Learn how to code and make a difference through coding, STEM careers, and more. Ages 9-14. Registration required. Thursdays, through Feb. 23 Free. 805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

YOUTH SEW MUCH FUN CLUB; SANTA MARIA PUBLIC LIBRARY Youth will learn to sew, and practice sewing skills at the library. Learn the basics of a machine and sewing by hand, or practice skills with the club. Materials provided. Youth are welcome to bring fabric from home. **Jan. 18** Free. 805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

LOMPOC/VANDENBERG

CHRISTMAS LIGHT EXCHANGE PROGRAM Exchange your old Christmas lights for new, energy-saving LED lights. Participants entered in a raffle for a chance to win LED Christmas yard decorations and other items. Mondays-Fridays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. through Jan. 27 cityoflompop.com. Lompoc City Hall, 100 City Hall Dr., Lompoc.

LOMPOC VALLEY BOTANICAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY MEETING A presentation on the vegetation growing on Santa Cruz Island, after the removal of grazing sheep and feral pigs, along with invasive weed control. All are welcome. **Jan. 22**, 2-4 p.m. 805-450-3668. lvbhs.org. Stone Pine Hall, 210 South H St., Lompoc.

SOUTH COAST SLO COUNTY

BEGINNER GROUP SURF LESSONS AND SURF CAMPS Lessons and camp packages available daily. All equipment included. ongoing Starts at \$70. 805-835-7873. sandbarsurf.com/. Sandbar Surf School Meetup Spot, 110 Park Ave., Pismo Beach.

FREE YOGA FOR FIRST RESPONDERS, EMS, AND COMMUNITY CARETAKERS Join for some well-deserved self-care. Anyone including fire, EMS, police, hospital workers, medical staff, assisted living caretakers, etc. is welcome. All yoga abilities are encouraged to attend. Please email empoweryoga805@gmail.com in advance to enroll. Thursdays, 6-7 p.m. 805-619-0989. Empower Yoga Studio and Community Boutique, 775 W. Grand Ave., Grover Beach, empoweryoga805.com.

HOMESHARE SLO COFFEE CHAT: ARROYO GRANDE Join a chat about home sharing and learn about being either a provider or affordable housing options. **Jan. 18**, 3 p.m. smartsarehousing.com. Panera Bread, 1390 W. Branch St., Arroyo Grande.

POINT SAN LUIS LIGHTHOUSE TOURS Tours will give you a glimpse into the lives of Lighthouse Keepers and their families, while helping keep our jewel of the Central Coast preserved and protected. Check website for more details. Wednesdays, Saturdays pointsanluislighthouse.org/. Point San Luis Lighthouse, 1 Lighthouse Rd., Avila Beach.

SOCIAL GROUP FOR WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS Call for more details. Second Saturday of every month, 10 a.m. 805-904-6615. Oak Park Christian Church, 386 N Oak Park Blvd., Grover Beach.

WEEKLY WATER SAFETY LESSONS Facility advertised as open and safe. Give the office a call to register over the phone. Mondays-Fridays \$160-\$190. 805-481-6399. 5 Cities Swim School, 425 Traffic Way, Arroyo Grande, 5citysswimschool.com.

YOGA AND HIKE TO THE LIGHTHOUSE Hike to the Point San Luis Lighthouse for a one of a kind yoga session by Ashley Sagariballa, of Saunter Yoga and Wellness. **Jan. 22**, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. my805tix.com. Point San Luis Lighthouse, 1 Lighthouse Rd., Avila Beach.

SAN LUIS OBISPO

AGILITY CLINIC Agility (AKA parkour) offers a path to social confidence. No experience is necessary, so come transform from timid to triumphant. Ages 5 to 17 welcome. **Jan. 14**, 1:15-3:15 p.m. \$25 for first child; \$10 per additional sibling. 805-547-1496. performanceathleticslo.com/events. Performance Athletics Gymnastics, 4484 Broad St., San Luis Obispo.

BARS AND BOUNCE CLINIC Build whole-body strength swinging on bars and bouncing on trampolines. **Jan. 21**, 1:15-3:15 p.m. \$25 for first child, with \$10 per additional sibling. 805-547-1496. performanceathleticslo.com/events. Performance Athletics Gymnastics, 4484 Broad St., San Luis Obispo.

BEYOND MINDFULNESS Realize your potential through individualized meditation instruction with an experienced teacher via Zoom. This class is for those who wish to begin a practice or seek to deepen an existing one. Flexible days and times. Certified with IMTA. Email or text for information. Mondays-Sundays, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Sliding scale. 559-905-9274. heartofsilence.net. Online, See website, San Luis Obispo.

CAL HOPE SLO GROUPS AT TMHA Visit website for full list of weekly Zoom groups available. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays calhopecoconnect.org. Transitions Mental Health Warehouse, 784 High Street, San Luis Obispo, 805-270-3346.

CENTRAL COAST POLYAMORY (VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM) Hosting a discussion group featuring different topics relating to ethical non-monogamy every month. Virtually meet via Zoom. Third Wednesday of every month, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Free. galacc.org/events/. Online, See website, San Luis Obispo.

CITY FARM SLO'S YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM Check site for more info on programming and summer camps. ongoing cityfarmslo.org. San Luis Obispo, Citywide, SLO.

CONTAINER GARDENING BASICS: FLOWERS, SUCCULENTS, BLUEBERRIES, AND CITRUS Learn about the joy of container gardens through four previously recorded presentations. **Jan. 19**, 6:45-7:45 p.m. Free. lovgardenclub.org. Online, See website, San Luis Obispo.

GALA PRIDE AND DIVERSITY CENTER BOARD MEETING (VIA ZOOM) Monthly meeting of the Gala Pride and Diversity Center Board of Directors. Meets virtually via Zoom and is open to members of the public. Visit galacc.org/ events to fill out the form to request meeting access. Third Tuesday of every month, 6-8 p.m. No admission fee. galacc.org. Online, See website, San Luis Obispo.

HEALING DEPRESSION SUPPORT GROUP A safe place for anyone suffering from the pain of depression. We do not criticize but do share our journey, feelings, and what works for us. We can meet in person or use Zoom if needed. Mondays, 6-7 p.m. Free. 805-528-3194. Hope House Wellness Center, 1306 Nipomo St., San Luis Obispo.

LGBTQ+ FED THERAPIST LEAD SUPPORT GROUP (VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM) A pro-recovery group offering space to those seeking peer support, all stages of ED recovery. We understand recovery isn't linear and judgment-free support is crucial. Share, listen, and be part of a community building up each other. Third Wednesday of every month, 7-8 p.m. Free. galacc.org/events/. Online, See website, San Luis Obispo.

MINDFULNESS AND MEDITATION (ONLINE MEETING) Zoom series hosted by TMHA. Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.-noon Transitions Mental Health Warehouse, 784 High Street, San Luis Obispo, 805-270-3346.

NORMA RAPKO: YOU'RE A CREATIVE GENIUS START ACTING LIKE ONE Presented by WiiRE SLO. Featured speaker Norma Rapko is a serial entrepreneur, author, investor, artist, and inventor. **Jan. 20**, 12-2 p.m. my805tix.com. Saints Barrel Wine Bar, 1021 Higuera St., San Luis Obispo, 805-439-1929.

CULTURE & LIFESTYLE continued page 22



FUN SHOWS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!



DRUMLINE LIVE!
Jan 16 at 3pm & 7:30pm

For Martin Luther King Day, a thrilling spectacle paying homage to the show-style marching popularized at historically black colleges and universities, and a soul-stirring revue of some of America's favorite music.

Sponsored by Myraline Morris Whitaker



Peking Acrobats + Shanghai Circus
Jan 28 at 7:30pm

Featuring gravity defying feats that "reach breathtaking heights of skill" (New York Times) and are "pushing the envelope of human possibility" (New York Post). "Fantastic!" (CBS News)

Sponsored by Coast Hills Credit Union Arroyo Grande

Get Your Tickets Today!
(805) 489-9444
www.clarkcenter.org

Hot Stuff

CULTURE & LIFESTYLE from page 21

OPEN MIC COMEDY NIGHT Come on over to the tasting room for some laugh out loud fun at Open Mic Comedy Night with many delicious ciders on tap. Second Thursday of every month, 7 p.m. Free show. SLO Cider, 3419 Roberto Ct., Suite C, San Luis Obispo.

Q YOUTH GROUP (VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM) This is a social support group for LGBTQ+ and questioning youth between the ages of 11-18. Each week the group explores personal, cultural, and social identity. Thursdays, 6-8 p.m. Free. galacc.org/events/. Online, See website, San Luis Obispo.

SBCEO EDUCATION SPOTLIGHT WEBINAR: YOUTH OPIOID AND FENTANYL EPIDEMIC SBCEO to lead countywide forum on youth opioid and fentanyl epidemic in new "Education Spotlight" series. Jan. 19, 5-6:30 p.m. Free. 805-964-4710. sbceo.org/edspotlight. Online, See website, San Luis Obispo.

SLO BOTANICAL GARDEN PRESENTS YOGA ON THE TERRACE WITH CHERYL WAKEFIELD An immersive yoga experience led by Cheryl Wakefield, a yoga instructor of 15 years. The event will take place on the terrace in a serene outdoor setting that promotes a relaxed and tranquil mind. Saturdays, through Jan. 29 San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden, 3450 Dairy Creek Rd., San Luis Obispo, 8055411400.

SLO CHESS CLUB All skill levels welcome. Feel free to come by and check it out. Tuesdays, 6-9 p.m. through Feb. 28 Free. 805-540-0470. Whole Foods Market, 1531 Froom, San Luis Obispo.

SLO LEZ B FRIENDS (VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM) A good core group of friends who gather to discuss topics we love/ care about from movies, outings, music, or being new to the area. We come from all walks of life and most importantly support each other. Transgender and Nonbinary folks welcome. Third Friday of every month, 6:30-9 p.m. Free. sloqueer.groups.io/lezbfriends. Online, See website, San Luis Obispo.

SLO NOONTIME TOASTMASTERS CLUB MEETINGS Want to improve speaking and leadership skills in a supportive and positive environment? During COVID, we are meeting virtually. Contact us to get a meeting link for info. Tuesdays, 12-1 p.m. Free. sloonoonime.toastmastersclubs.org. Zoom, Online, Inquire for Zoom ID.

SLO RAM RETIRED ACTIVE MEN COFFEE CABINET Weekly Coffee Cabinet meeting of the SLO RAM Active Retired Men, a local men's social club. Click 'Contact' on website for invite. Thursdays, 8-9:30 a.m. \$10. retiredactivemen.org. Madonna Inn Garden Room, 100 Madonna Road, San Luis Obispo.

SLO RETIRED ACTIVE MEN MONTHLY LUNCHEON San Luis Obispo Retired Active Men (SLO RAM) is a group of retirees that get together just for fun, fellowship, and to enjoy programs which enhance the enjoyment, dignity, and independence of retirement. Third Tuesday of every month, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. \$28. retiredactivemen.org/. Madonna Inn Garden Room, 100 Madonna Road, San Luis Obispo.

SLO TABLE TENNIS The club is open to all skill levels. There are many tables available to play casual and competitive games. Sundays, 4-7 p.m. and Tuesdays, Thursdays, 7-10 p.m. through Jan. 31 Free. 805-540-0470. Ludwick Community Center, 864 Santa Rosa, San Luis Obispo.

SUNDAY EVENING RAP LGBTQ+ AA GROUP (VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM) Alcoholics Anonymous is a voluntary, worldwide fellowship of folks from all walks of life who together, attain and maintain sobriety. Requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. Email aarapgroup@gmail.com for password access. Sundays, 7-8 p.m. No fee. galacc.org/events/. Online, See website, San Luis Obispo.

SUPPORT GROUP FOR CAREGIVERS OF PERSONS WITH FTD (FRONTOTEMPORAL DEMENTIA) A welcoming meeting providing information and support for caregivers of people with Frontotemporal Dementia (FTD). FTD is a dementia that affects younger people and is very difficult for families. This is an open group. Caregivers can drop in for information, supportive discussion, and caregiving tips. Second Saturday of every month, 2:30-4 p.m. through Jan. 14 805-471-8102. calpoly.zoom.us/j/83141446835. Online, See website, San Luis Obispo.

TRANS* TUESDAY A safe space providing peer-to-peer support for trans, gender non-conforming, non-binary, and questioning people. In-person and Zoom meetings held. Contact tranzcentralcoast@gmail.com for more details. Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m. Free. GALA Pride and Diversity Center, 1060 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo, 805-541-4252.

WEAVING OUR GARMENT OF DESTINY: A PILGRIMAGE Gina Whitaker and Ken Hill of the People of Faith for Justice presents Martin Luther King Jr. Sunday with a program about the Living Legacy Pilgrimage of the Civil Rights Trail reflecting on the power of nonviolence over violence and MLK's legacy today. Jan. 15, 3-4 p.m. Free. 805-771-9565. Unitarian Universalist, 2201 Lawton Ave., San Luis Obispo, uualso.org.

NORTH COAST SLO COUNTY

CENTRAL COAST WOOD CARVERS Learn the art of wood carving or wood burning. Join Central Coast Wood Carvers in Morro Bay at St. Timothy's. Open for beginners, intermediate, or advance. Learn a wide range of techniques and skills. Mask Required. Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Free. St. Timothy's Catholic Church, 962 Piney Way, Morro Bay, 805-772-2840, sttimothymorrobay.org/index.html.

PALE KAI OUTRIGGER CANOE DEMO DAYS Join Pale Kai for a fun intro to outrigger canoe paddling. Jan. 14, 8-10 & 10 a.m.-noon Free. palekai.org/recruitment-program/. Coleman Park, Morro Bay, 101 Coleman Drive, Morro Bay, (805) 772-6278.

SOCRATES: DISCUSSION GROUP Group members present interesting and thought provoking topics of all sorts. Topics are selected in advance and moderated by volunteers. Vaccinations are necessary. Enter through wooden gate to garden area. Wednesdays, 10 a.m. 805-528-7111. Coalesce Bookstore, 845 Main St., Morro Bay, coalescebookstore.com/.

FOOD & DRINK

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

COAST TO CUYAMA Venue is partnering with Santa Barbara's La Paloma Cafe for a weekend-long event celebrating the coast and the valley of our Santa Barbara County. Jan. 20, Jan. 21 and Jan. 22 661-766-2825. cuyamabuckhorn.com/happenings/coast-to-cuyama. Cuyama Buckhorn, 4923 Primero St., New Cuyama.

FOOD TRUCK FRIDAYS AT COSTA DE ORO

Featured vendors in the series include Cali Coast Tacos, Cubanissimo, Danny's Pizza Co., Chef Ricks, and more. Call venue for monthly schedules. Fridays 805-922-1468. costadeorowines.com. Costa De Oro Winery, 1331 S. Nicholson Ave., Santa Maria.

FOOD TRUCK FRIDAYS AT WINE STONE INN Fridays, 5-8 p.m. Wine Stone Inn, 255 W. Clark Ave., Orcutt, 805-332-3532, winestoneinn.com/.

PRESQU'ILE WINERY: WINE CLUB Call or go online to make a reservation to taste at the winery or find more info on the winery's Wine Club offerings. ongoing presquilewine.com/club/. Presqu'ile Winery, 5391 Presqu'ile Dr., Santa Maria, 805-937-8110.

TACO TUESDAY Tuesdays, 5-8 p.m. Wine Stone Inn, 255 W. Clark Ave., Orcutt, 805-332-3532, winestoneinn.com/.

SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

SECOND SATURDAY OPEN AIR MARKET: LOS ALAMOS A carefully curated open air artisan and farm market. Features great vintage finds, handwoven and hand dyed textiles, hand-spun yarn, organic body care products, and locally grown organic eats. Second Saturday of every month, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. 805-722-4338. Sisters Gifts and Home, 349 Bell Street, Los Alamos.

LOMPOC/VANDENBERG

HEAD GAMES TRIVIA AND TACO TUESDAYS CLASH Don't miss Head Games Trivia at COLD Coast Brewing Company every Tuesday night. Teams can be up to 6 members. Earn prizes and bragging rights. Kekas will be serving their delicious local fare. Fun for all ages. Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m. Free. 805-819-0723. coldcoastbrewing.com. COLD Coast Brewing Company, 118 W Ocean Ave, Lompoc.



LIGHTHOUSE IN A BOTTLE

Ashly Sagariballa (pictured), of Saunter Yoga and Wellness, will lead a yoga session and hike at the Point San Luis Lighthouse on Sunday, Jan. 22, from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Early registration is recommended, and tickets to the session are available in advance at my805tix.com. Entry is \$40. For more info, visit pointsanluislighthouse.org. The Point San Luis Lighthouse is located at 1 Lighthouse Road, Avila Beach. —C.W.

SOUTH COAST SLO COUNTY

PISMO BEACH FARMERS MARKET Features various vendors selling their goods. Wednesdays, 4-7 p.m. Pismo Beach Farmers Market, Pismo Pier, Pismo Beach, 805. 773.4382.

SAN LUIS OBISPO

DOWNTOWN SLO FARMERS MARKET Thursdays, 6-9 p.m. Downtown SLO, Multiple locations, San Luis Obispo.

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

WEDNESDAY NIGHT PUB TRIVIA Bring your thinking cap as questions vary from pop culture, geography, to sports. There is a little for everyone. Prizes for the winning teams. Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Free. 805-439-2529. Oak and Otter Brewing, 181 Tank Farm Road, suite 110, San Luis Obispo.

NORTH SLO COUNTY

PAINT AND PINTS Join ArtSocial805 at Barrelhouse where you will paint "the winter Cabin" while sipping on your favorite BarrelHouse beer. Jan. 19, 6-8 p.m. \$50. artsocial805.com. Barrelhouse Brewing Co. Brewery and Gardens, 3055 Limestone Way, Paso Robles, 805-296-1128.

PAINT AND SIP Join Art Social 805 at Pour House in Paso Robles and paint a "customized Welcome Sign," while enjoying a complementary glass of liquid courage. Jan. 19, 6-8 p.m. \$50. artsocial805.com. The Pour House, 525 Pine St., Paso Robles, 805-239-1000.

TACO TUESDAYS La Parrilla Taqueria will be in the courtyard serving up their delicious tacos and tostadas. Menu typically includes barbacoa, chicken, and pastor tacos, as well as shrimp ceviche tostadas. Tuesdays, 5-8 p.m. 805-460-6042. ancientowlbeergarden.com. Ancient Owl Beer Garden, 6090 El Camino Real, suite C, Atascadero.

NORTH COAST SLO COUNTY

BREAKFAST ON THE BAY A monthly occasion that brings together the passionate citizens and business owners of the greater Estero Bay region in one place to deepen connections and share information. Breakfast is included with ticket price. Third Wednesday of every month, 7:30-9 a.m. \$20 per member; \$25 per non-member. 805-772-4467. morrochamber.org. Morro Bay Community Center, 1001 Kennedy Way, Morro Bay.

MUSIC

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

THE HOMESTEAD: LIVE MUSIC ON THE PATIO Check the Homestead's Facebook page for details on live music events. Fridays, Saturdays The Homestead, 105 W. Clark Ave, Old Orcutt, 805-287-9891, thehomesteadoldorcutt.com.

TRIBUTE TO DOLLY AND WILLIE IN SANTA MARIA

Songwriters at Play presents local and touring artists covering Dolly Parton and Willie Nelson songs. Jan. 14, 2-4:30 p.m. \$20. 805-204-6821. stevekey.com/events. Unity Chapel of Light Church, 1165 Stubblefield Rd., Orcutt.

SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

LIVE MUSIC SUNDAYS Sundays, 2-6 p.m. Brick Barn Wine Estate, 795 W. Hwy 246, Buellton, 805-686-1208, brickbarnwineestate.com.

LOS ANGELES REED QUINTET LIVE LARQ'S concerts feature music spanning hundreds of years from Baroque pieces to 21st century compositions. Their concerts bring audiences on a delightful musical journey. Jan. 13, 7 p.m. smitv.org/syv-concert-series.html. St. Mark's in the Valley Episcopal Church, 2901 Nojoqui Ave., Los Olivos.

SANTA YNEZ VALLEY CONCERT SERIES: 42ND SEASON The SYV Concert Series' 2022-23 season includes five upcoming concerts, between October and May. Through May 13 smitv.org/syv-concert-series.html. St. Mark's in the Valley Episcopal Church, 2901 Nojoqui Ave., Los Olivos.

THE STORYTELLERS: LIVE AT LOST CHORD GUITARS The Storytellers bring their progressive bluegrass show to Lost Chord Guitars in Solvang. Jan. 12, 7:30-9:30 p.m. \$10. 925-640-3571. Lost Chord Guitars, 1576 Copenhagen Dr., Solvang.

WINE DOWN WEDNESDAYS Wednesdays, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Brick Barn Wine Estate, 795 W. Hwy 246, Buellton, 805-686-1208, brickbarnwineestate.com.

LOMPOC/VANDENBERG

THE DEVEROS, HOSTILE TAKEDOWN, DIRT FIGHT, AND RADIATION INVASION: LIVE IN CONCERT Presented by Cheap Shows 805. Jan. 14, 8 p.m. my805tix.com. Flower City Ballroom, 110 W. Ocean Ave., Lompoc.

FRIDAY THE 13TH TECHNO MASSACRE RAVE Presented by Anomaly House. Jan. 13, 8 p.m. my805tix.com. Flower City Ballroom, 110 W. Ocean Ave., Lompoc.

LOMPOC CONCERT ASSOCIATION: 2022-23 SEASON Visit website for full list of the Lompoc Concert Association's 2022-23 programming. Through March 18 lompoconcert.org. First United Methodist Church, 925 North F St., Lompoc.

SOUTH COAST SLO COUNTY

DANA HUBBARD LIVE Winner of the Telluride Blues and Brews Festival Acoustic Blues Competition and the Indie International Songwriting Contest for Folk/Acoustic, as well as the American River Music Festival Musician Showcase. Jan. 14, 7-9 a.m. \$20-\$35. my.ListeningRoomNetwork.com. Tunes On Mentone, 1901 Mentone Ave., Grover Beach, 805-441-5868.

MUSIC continued page 23

MY 805 TIX

ALL TICKETS. ONE PLACE.

ON SALE NOW!



BE HOPPY TOURS: SIP OF SLO TOUR

Thurs & Sun thru June 29, 2023

Central Coast Brewing
Higuera Street, San Luis Obispo

Presented by:
BE HOPPY TOURS

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT
MY805TIX.COM

Does your organization sell tickets?

Get more exposure and sell more tickets with a local media partner. Call 805-546-8208 for more info.

Can I crash on your couch for awhile?
Ask us about our Foster Program

FOSTER • SPONSOR • VOLUNTEER • DONATE
Anyone can help!

Butters is a white 2-1/2 year old chihuahua mix who would love to stay with her puppy, Bella. Both are very gentle, sweet, obedient and completely housetrained. They



love to play together, sleep together, and keep each other company. Both love people and are very social, although Bella is a bit shy at first, Butters gives her confidence. Together they are perfect!

CCSPCA, Inc.
Central Coast Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

PO Box 2952, Orcutt, CA 93457
Email: centralcoastSPCA@yahoo.com

centralcoastspca.org
(805) 937-1766

This ad provided by:
Bunny Maxxim
The Maxim in Real Estate
(805) 878-0807

MUSIC from page 22

JAZZ JUBILEE BY THE SEA Three full days of traditional jazz, vintage jazz, New Orleans, Cajun, Dixieland, Western Swing, and big bands. **Jan. 12-15** my805tix.com. Pismo Beach Veterans Memorial Hall, 780 Bello St., Pismo Beach.

SAN LUIS OBISPO

CAL POLY BACH WEEK CHAMBER CONCERT: BACH RECONSTRUCTED/DECONSTRUCTED Tesserae Baroque will perform modern reconstructions of Bach's works, including their own. **Jan. 20**, 7:30 p.m. \$20 general; \$10 students. 805-756-4849. music.calpoly.edu/calendar/special/. First Presbyterian Church of San Luis Obispo, 981 Marsh St., San Luis Obispo.

CAL POLY BACH WEEK FINALE: BACH AND THE GERMAN CHORALE Members of Cal Poly's Chamber Choir, Symphony, and faculty join with guest artists to perform a variety of works based on German chorale tunes and texts. **Jan. 21**, 2 & 7:30 p.m. \$20 general; \$10 students. 805-756-4849. music.calpoly.edu/calendar/. First Presbyterian Church of San Luis Obispo, 981 Marsh St., San Luis Obispo.

CAL POLY BACH WEEK INSTRUMENTAL MASTER CLASS AND CONTINUO WORKSHOP Guest artists Leif Woodward, cello, and Ian Pritchard, harpsichord, will coach Cal Poly students in instrumental repertoire from the Baroque era. **Jan. 19**, 11:10 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. 805-756-2406. music.calpoly.edu/calendar/. Cal Poly Davidson Music Center, Room 218, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo.

CAL POLY BACH WEEK VOCAL MASTER CLASS Guest artist Mindy Ella Chu will coach several Cal Poly voice students in repertoire from the Baroque era. **Jan. 19**, 3 p.m. Free. 805-756-2406. music.calpoly.edu/calendar/special/. Cal Poly Davidson Music Center, Room 218, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo.

CAL POLY BACH WEEK: 'THE ART OF THE FUGUE' LECTURE AND CHAMBER CONCERT Join composer Meredith Brammeier, Bach Week co-director David Arrivée, University Organist Paul Woodring, and special guests for an exploration of the fugue, from Bach to the present. **Jan. 17**, 7:30 p.m. Free. 805-756-2406. music.calpoly.edu/calendar/. Performing Arts Center, 1 Grand Ave., San Luis Obispo.

DAVID ORR: LIVE IN THE TASTING ROOM Come on over for the sweet sounds of David Orr and many delicious ciders on tap. **Jan. 13**, 5-7 p.m. Free. 805-721-6878. SLO Cider, 3419 Roberto Ct., Suite C, San Luis Obispo.

DIRT MONKEY X JANTSEN: FULL CIRCLE TOUR **Jan. 12**, 8 p.m. The Fremont Theater, 1035 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo, 805-546-8600, fremontslo.com.

DJ B.TRU An evening DJ set featuring Mushroom Jazz and Roots Reggae and delicious ciders on tap. Held in the tasting room and patio. Saturdays, 5-8 p.m. 805-721-6878. SLO Cider, 3419 Roberto Ct., Suite C, San Luis Obispo.

EASTON EVERETT SOLO Enjoy some indie-acoustic, live music. Thursdays, 5:30-7:30 p.m. eastoneverett.com. Big Sky Cafe, 1121 Broad Street, San Luis Obispo, (805)545-5401.

LIVE MUSIC AT RAGTAG WINE CO. Enjoy live music by local favorites. Wine available by the flight, glass, or bottle. Thursdays-Saturdays, 6-9 p.m. Ragtag Wine Co., 779 Higuera St., San Luis Obispo, 805-439-0774, ragtagwineco.com.

LIVE MUSIC FROM GUITAR WIZ BILLY FOPPIANO AND MAD DOG Join "Guitar Wiz" Billy Foppiano and his trusty sidekick Mad Dog for a mix of blues, R&B, and more. Saturdays, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. 805-544-2100. Bon Temps Creole Cafe, 1819 Osos Street, San Luis Obispo, bontempscreolecafe.com/index.htm.

SUNDAY MUSIC AT RAGTAG WINE CO. Enjoy live music by local favorites. Wine available by the flight, glass, or bottle. Sundays, 4-7 p.m. Ragtag Wine Co., 779 Higuera St., San Luis Obispo, 805-439-0774, ragtagwineco.com.

TERENCE BLANCHARD: FEATURING THE E-COLLECTIVE WITH TURTLE ISLAND QUARTET Oscar nominee, six-time Grammy-winner, and 2018 USA Fellow trumpeter/composer Terence Blanchard has been a consistent artistic force for making powerful musical statements concerning painful American tragedies. **Jan. 18**, 7:30-9 p.m. \$45-\$65. 805-756-6556. Performing Arts Center, 1 Grand Ave., San Luis Obispo, pacslo.org.

TUNNEL VISION Tunnel Vision is quickly becoming one of Southern California's biggest new surf, reggae, ska bands. **Jan. 18**, 8 p.m. \$18.50. slobrew.com. SLO Brew Rock, 855 Aerovista Pl., San Luis Obispo, 805-543-1843.

W. TERRENCE SPILLER PIANO RECITAL Pianist and Cal Poly Professor Emeritus W. Terrence Spiller will perform works by Frédéric Chopin, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Sergei Prokofieff, and Maurice Ravel. **Jan. 13**, 7:30 p.m. \$20 general; \$10 students. 805-756-4849. music.calpoly.edu/calendar. Spanos Theatre, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo.

NORTH COAST SLO COUNTY

EASTON EVERETT AT LIBERTINE BREWING CO. Easton Everett plays guitar-woven Indie music that generates curiosity, with distinctive sound and a sweeping groove. **Jan. 21**, 8-11 p.m. eastoneverett.com/. Libertine Brewing Co. (Morro Bay), 801 Embarcadero Way, Morro Bay, 805-772-0700.

THE STORYTELLERS LIVE A progressive bluegrass ensemble whose repertoire represents a unique blend of roots-rock, Americana, country-blues, folk, and more. **Jan. 13**, 7:30-10 p.m. The Siren, 900 Main St., Morro Bay, 805-225-1312, thesirenmorrobay.com/.

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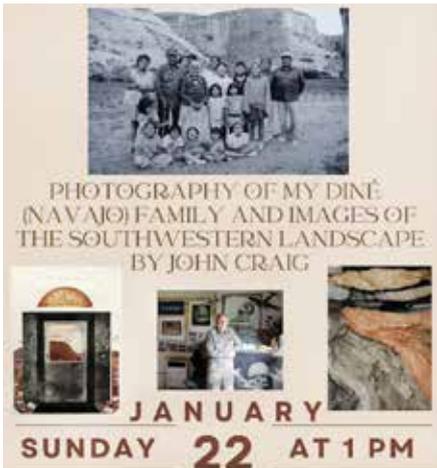
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Arts Briefs

DANA Adobe and Cultural Center showcases photos by John Craig

FILE IMAGE COURTESY OF THE DANA ADOBE AND CULTURAL CENTER



On Sunday, Jan. 22, the DANA Adobe and Cultural Center will host an opening reception for its new exhibition, *Photography of My Diné (Navajo) Family and Images of the Southwestern Landscape*, a solo showcase of photos by John Craig. Admission to the reception, which starts at 1 p.m., is free for DANA members, \$8 for nonmembers, and \$3 for children.

Craig will lead a presentation on his photography during the event, which will also include appetizers for guests to enjoy. To find out more about the exhibit and other programs hosted by the DANA Adobe and Cultural Center, call the venue at (805) 929-5679 or visit danaadobe.org.

The DANA Adobe and Cultural Center, regularly open Monday through Friday, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., is located at 671 S. Oakglen Ave., Nipomo. Tours of the Adobe are offered by appointment only. The adobe is a registered historical site and is considered the oldest home in San Luis Obispo County.

Allan Hancock College co-sponsors Central Coast Film Society screening of *Dear Rider*

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CENTRAL COAST FILM SOCIETY



On Saturday, Jan. 14, the Central Coast Film Society is partnering with Red Bull Media House to host a screening of the HBO documentary, *Dear Rider*, at the Palm Theatre in San Luis Obispo. The screening starts at 7:30 p.m. and will be followed by a Q-and-A with some of the filmmakers behind the documentary, which examines the life of innovative snowboarder Jake Burton (pictured).

The event's sponsors include Allan Hancock College, the San Luis Obispo Film Festival, the Cambria Film Festival, and the Rotary Club of Arroyo Grande. General admission to the screening and Q-and-A session is \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Tickets to the event are available online in advance at my805tix.com. The event is described as suitable for all ages in press materials.

Immediately after the Q-and-A, Hotel San Luis Obispo and San Luis Obispo Women in Film and Television will co-host a special after-party. For more info on the program and other upcoming festivities organized by the Central Coast Film Society, visit centralcoastfilmsociety.org. The nonprofit is dedicated to celebrating the Central Coast's ties to film history and promoting local filmmakers and filmmaking competitions.

The Palm Theatre is located at 817 Palm St., San Luis Obispo. Call (805) 541-5161 or visit thepalmtheatre.com for more details on the venue. ○

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

PHOTOS COURTESY OF CRISTINA KARTSIOUKAS



APOCALYPSE NOW: Cristina Kartsioukas' acrylic piece, *Falling Into Ruin*, will be on display in the artist's first solo exhibition at Shepard Hall in Santa Maria, set to premiere on Jan. 12.

Colorful chaos

Shepard Hall showcases eclectic works from painter and printmaker Cristitna Kartsioukas

BY CALEB WISEBLOOD

A cloud of charcoal smoke, laced with small swirls of party confetti, billows above a foundationless building. Some canoe paddlers flee the scene as the ominous structure sinks into a mass of water, in one of Lompoc artist Cristina Kartsioukas' surreal paintings.

It took several years for Kartsioukas to complete the apocalyptic piece, titled *Falling Into Ruin*, while working full time as an elementary school teacher and finding pockets of spare time to paint on and off in her laundry room.

"I basically wanted to paint chaos," said Kartsioukas, whose acrylic artwork is brimming with eclectic and subtle imagery, some of which might go unnoticed without a second or third viewing. "I like a lot of artists that have so much

going on in their paintings. I like to kind of be able to look at them for a long time and see different things, and I wanted to try doing some of this myself."

Falling Into Ruin is one of several paintings on display in Kartsioukas' current solo exhibition—slated to premiere on Jan. 12 and run through March 8 at Shepard Hall in Santa Maria. The show marks Kartsioukas' first at the venue. Her husband, Ryan Carroll, motivated her to submit her work after hearing about a call for artists.

"I haven't really exhibited my work very often, and that was one of the things Ryan encouraged me to do," Kartsioukas said.

Carroll, also an artist, submitted his own artworks for Shepard



PORTRAIT PRINT: Local painter and printmaker Cristina Kartsioukas based her intaglio print, *Goldie*, on a photograph of her grandmother.

Hall monitor

Cristina Kartsioukas' new solo exhibit at Shepard Hall is scheduled to debut on Jan. 12 and remain on display through March 8. Shepard Hall is located inside the Santa Maria Public Library, at 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria. Call the library at (805) 925-0994 for more details.

Hall's consideration as well and was chosen for a solo exhibit that immediately follows his wife's showcase, set to debut on March 9 and run through May 11.

While her husband, who works as a full-time chemist at Vandenberg Space Force Base, specializes in paper-cut art, Kartsioukas is a painter and printmaker. Both halves of the couple have an art desk in their home where they chip away at their ongoing projects, side by side.

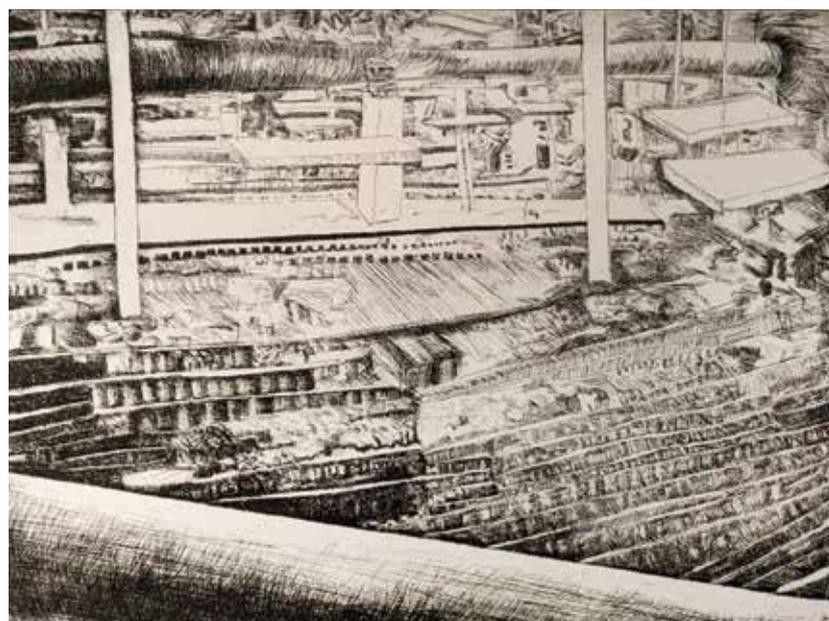
"We have a couple of desks in our laundry room. Ryan's table is like the clean table, and then mine has a bunch of paint on it—it's pretty messy," said Kartsioukas, who'll often listen to music or a podcast while the pair work on their respective artworks. "We definitely have a lot of times where we're just sitting there working together."

Kartsioukas can't remember for sure but guesses she was listening to some soft folk songs when she first began work on *Falling Into Ruin*. The project started as a collage—a collection of scissor-cut photographs from *National Geographic* and a few different fashion magazines, glued together in one of Kartsioukas' sketchbooks.

Then Kartsioukas began painting the piece based on the patterns of people and objects she meshed together. One of the reasons the painting took several years was due to Kartsioukas' tendency to work on a handful of art projects at once.

"I usually will be working on multiple things kind of simultaneously," Kartsioukas said. "I like to have different types of things to go to. I don't like to do too much of the same thing."

Kartsioukas bases many of her paintings on her own collages of photographs, some from newspapers



HUE LIGHT SPECIAL: During a stay in Newport, Oregon, Lompoc artist Cristina Kartsioukas took a photo while inside a multi-story Fred Meyer superstore, with the intention of using it as a reference for an artwork someday. Kartsioukas titled the finished piece *Corporate Human*.

Showtime!



Send gallery, stage, and cultural festivities to cwiseblood@santamariasun.com.

and other printed publications, and others from her own camera roll.

"I like looking for images in different sources, whether it's me, taking pictures, or just from magazines," Kartsioukas said. "I love looking at images and finding things and putting them together."

Some of Kartsioukas' pieces are based on single photographs, including another piece in her solo exhibit, *Goldie*—an intaglio print inspired by a portrait of the artist's grandmother.

Corporate Human, another print on display in the new showcase, was inspired by a photo Kartsioukas took while at a multi-story Fred Meyer—part of an Oregon-based chain of hypermarket superstores.

"I was just blown away by this huge 'everything' grocery store," said Kartsioukas, who wandered into the store while staying in Newport, Oregon.

While going up the store's escalator, Kartsioukas looked down and decided to take a photo on her phone, knowing she wanted to use it for a piece eventually.

The end result is refreshingly mysterious and leaves room for various interpretations—some viewers might correctly identify the store's overstuffed aisles and walkways, while others could guess the setting of *Corporate Human* is some kind of factory, or even a man-made cavern (on first glance, it looked like the Batcave to me).

"I was just looking down at this crazy, surreal space. I took some photos of it. I wanted to use a photo as a reference for something," Kartsioukas said, "but in a way that would be really intuitive, and imperfect." ○

Arts Editor Caleb Wiseblood's alignment is chaotic neutral. Send comments to cwiseblood@santamariasun.com.

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Suicide by meatball sub

PHOTO COURTESY OF A24 AND PROTOZOA PICTURES

Darren Aronofsky (*Pi*, *Requiem for a Dream*, *The Wrestler*, *Black Swan*, *Mother!*) directs playwright Samuel D. Hunter's screenplay about morbidly obese Charlie (Brendan Fraser), a reclusive online college English teacher who desperately longs to reconnect with his estranged teenage daughter, Ellie (*Sadie Sink*). (117 min.)

Glen: Charlie has deep regrets, most especially for abandoning his then-8-year-old daughter when he left his wife for another man. When the story begins, it's nearly nine years on, and Charlie, "who's always been big," is now gigantic, with legs like tree trunks, an abdominal apron that extends to his knees, and hulking back fat blossoming like sweaty mushrooms around his neck. Every movement is exhausting to witness, and watching him strain to get upright with his walker so he can lumber to the bathroom to relieve himself is painful—almost as painful as watching him stuff greasy fried chicken, pizza, or meatball subs into his mouth. Charlie knows his behavior is killing him. His nurse and only friend, Liz (Hong Chau), makes it abundantly clear. Charlie is committing slow suicide, wallowing in misery, but he's certain he doesn't deserve better. As the story unfolds, we learn what's driven him to his impending end. This is a tale about someone who's ready to die but who also wants to get one thing right before he goes—to make sure his daughter will be OK. It's sad and hard to watch, and I wish I could tell you there's a reassuring emotional pay off, but frankly, if there is, I missed it.

Anna: Most of this film is deeply uncomfortable, and while it seems fairly obvious from the subject matter, I would caution those with disordered eating to ensure a good head space when entering this film. It not only deals with Charlie's slow climb to death through congestive heart failure that stems from his obesity, but also his former partner, Allen, who lost his life after a period of deep depression—one symptom of that being self-imposed starvation. This is a sad film, and while I can't say that I actually enjoyed it, I can say that Fraser deserved every accolade he has received for this role—he's phenomenal. He isn't alone in that category either. Chau as

Liz is amazing as well, as is Samantha Morton in her brief but powerful role as Charlie's ex-wife, Mary. Set solely in Charlie's darkened apartment, this film feels insular in many ways, much like Charlie's life in a self-imposed prison. The ways we punish ourselves in

deep moments of loss and grief are evident here, and Charlie just can't seem to forgive himself for any of his past decisions. He can't quite see the reality in front of him either. It's all just melancholy and bleak.

Glen: Yet, Charlie has an optimism inside him. At one point he says, "Do you ever get the feeling that people are incapable of not caring?" He needs to know his daughter is going to be happy, or happier than him at least. He also cares about teaching and wishes his students would write with honesty. This is a very good film, but ultimately, I find it's deeply flawed.

THE WHALE

What's it rated? **R**
 What's it worth, Glen? **Full price**
 What's it worth, Anna? **Full price**
 Where's it showing? **Regal Edwards RPX Santa Maria**



EATEN UP WITH GUILT: Charlie (Brendan Fraser under a prosthetic fat suit) weighs 600 pounds, never wants to leave his apartment, and is eating himself to death out of sadness and regret, but before he goes, he wants to reunite with his estranged teenage daughter, in *The Whale*.

Will Ellie be OK? Will his ex-wife find solace? Will Liz find peace? There's a whole side story about a religious cult and how religion can wound and destroy. For so simple a story, it covered a lot. I found it an emotive viewing experience, but not a redemptive one. Don't expect a happy ending.

Anna: It's a pretty intricate character study of someone who hates himself even more than his teenage daughter does, or more than his ex-wife, or more than Liz, who spends her time

off of work caring for him. I think this film was a great opportunity for Frazier to showcase the nuance of his talent, but it certainly isn't easy to watch Charlie struggle. I have a feeling I'll be ruminating on this film over the next few days. ○

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

TV Reviews

WILLOW

What's it rated? **TV-14**
 When? **2022**
 Where's it showing? **Disney Plus**
 OK, '80s kids—we have reason to rejoice! I fell in love with the movie *Willow* as a kid, and now there's a series out to continue the magic. Warwick Davis is back as the titular character, and baby Elora Danan (Ellie Bamber) is now a young woman who has been raised without pomp and circumstance as a simple village baker under a different name. However, Prince Airk (Dempsey Bryk) and she are in the mad sort of love that only happens to teenagers, so when he's snatched from the village, she insists on joining the search party along with Airk's sister, Kit (Ruby Cruz); her friend/love interest, Jade (Erin Kellyman); her reluctant fiancé, Graydon (Tony Revolori); Willow; and naughty troublemaker Thraxus Boorman (Amar Chadha-Patel). The troupe ventures into the great unknown, encountering all sorts of obstacles along the way—from

PHOTO COURTESY OF IMAGINE ENTERTAINMENT, LUCASFILM TELEVISION, AND LUCASFILM



SMALL BUT BRAVE: Warwick Davis reprises his role as the Nelwyn sorcerer Willow Ufgood in this Disney TV series based on the 1988 Ron Howard film of the same name, *Willow*.

bad guys to psychedelic mind trips. Funny and charming, adventurous and intoxicating—this new version of *Willow* is just as endearing as the film and continues the fun all these years later. (eight 46- to 60-min. episodes)

—Anna

BINGEABLE

THREE PINES

What's it rated? **TV-14**
 When? **2022**
 Where's it showing? **Amazon Prime**

Created by Emilia di Girolamo based on the Inspector Gamache mystery novel series by Louise Penny, this Canadian TV show follows Chief Inspector Armand Gamache (Alfred Molina) and his colleagues Sgt. Jean-Guy Beauvoir (Rossif Sutherland), Sgt. Isabelle Lacoste (Elle-Máijá Tailfeathers), and rookie cop Yvette Nichol (Sarah Booth) as they solve a series of crimes in the cloistered village of Three Pines in Quebec. They're regarded with suspicion by the townsfolk, but slowly they develop deepening relationships.

The first season is broken into four two-part episodes revolving around the Indigenous, French-, and English-speaking cultures and involves the small town's many eccentric characters, such as gallery owner and Indigenous Peoples advocate Bea (Tantoo Cardinal), the irascible poet Ruth (Clare Coulter), and the Two Rivers family whose family member has gone missing and who police believe has simply run off to the city. The season ends in a cliffhanger!

PHOTO COURTESY OF AMAZON STUDIOS AND LEFT BANK PICTURES



INSIGHT AND EMPATHY: Chief Inspector Armand Gamache (Alfred Molina) solves a series of murders and mysteries in a small Canadian village, *Three Pines*, streaming on Amazon Prime.

The various storylines are compelling, and the always-reliable Molina brings great depth and empathy to Gamache, who's often at odds with his higher-ups. We discover more about his character in flashbacks to a young Gamache (Gryffin Hanvelt) and his mother (Marie-Josée Bélanger), and his frequent dreams, suggesting preternatural insights. (eight 54-min. episodes) ○

—Glen

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Jazz Jubilee by the Sea
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Pismo Beach / Grover Beach



Be Hoppy Tours: Sip of SLO
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THURS & SUN THRU JUNE 29
Begin and end at CC Brewing, SLO



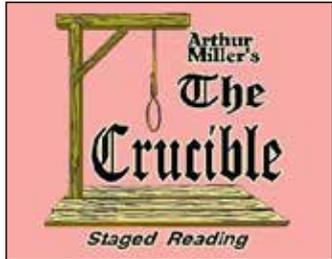
Be Hoppy Tours:
Friday Hoppy Hour Tours
FRIDAYS THRU JUNE 30
Begin and end at CC Brewing, SLO



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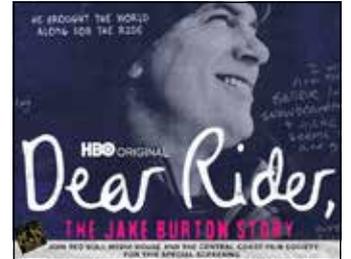
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Anomaly House Presents: Friday
the 13th Techno Massacre Rave
FRIDAY, JANUARY 13
Flower City Ballroom, Lompoc



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SATURDAY, JANUARY 14
Unity of Santa Maria



Dear Rider: The Jake Burton Story
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Palm Theatre, San Luis Obispo



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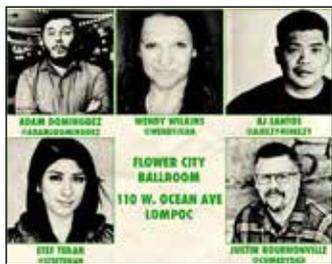
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Songwriters At Play:
Severin Browne
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18
Moonstone Cellars, Cambria



WiRE SLO: Norma Rapko: You're A
Creative Genius, Start Acting Like One!
FRIDAY, JANUARY 20
Saints Barrel, San Luis Obispo



Stand-Up Comedy
hosted by Justin Bournonville
SATURDAY, JANUARY 21
Flower City Ballroom, Lompoc



Yoga/Hike to the Lighthouse
SUNDAY, JANUARY 22
Point San Luis Lighthouse,
Avila Beach



Anomaly House: Liminal Space,
Showcase of Outsider Art
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25
Flower City Ballroom, Lompoc



Laugh Therapy
Stand-Up Comedy
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25
Mavick Saloon, Santa Ynez



Anomaly House: Studio 110, An Evening
of Disco-Infused House Music on Vinyl
FRIDAY, JANUARY 27
Flower City Ballroom, Lompoc



Women Making Waves: Your New Vibe:
Intention, Manifestation, Action
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On a roll

Proof and Gather's Kaitlin Munoz crushes her career goals with the launch of two bakeries on the Central Coast

BY CHERISH WHYTE

Kaitlin Munoz has had a lot to celebrate this holiday season. A little more than a year ago, she relocated her fledgling Proof and Gather Baking Company from a registered cottage food kitchen in Lompoc to a larger-scale commercial kitchen in San Luis Obispo.

Her stated long-term goal at the time was to open her own bakery one day.

She poured her heart and soul into her new enterprise, reaching customers via farmers markets, direct-to-consumer channels, and wholesale accounts—and now she is poised to celebrate the grand opening of her first brick-and-mortar bakery, with a second location to follow.

The new bakery, situated within the Network Shopping Center in downtown SLO, quietly debuted on Dec. 14, with a grand opening celebration slated for Jan. 21.

Later this spring, Munoz plans to open a second, larger bakery in the Tin City area of Paso Robles. Munoz will share space with Central Coast Creamery, a dream partnership as far as pairing her freshly baked bread with artisanal cheese, Munoz said.

She attributes her speedy expansion to love of her job and appreciation for her customers.

"I credit my success to really understanding what it is that keeps me ticking, and that's being creative with recipes and then getting to share that joy with customers when they eat my products," she said. "I believe customers can tell when something is baked with a lot of love and attention to detail, which keeps them coming back for more."



Share tasty tips!

Send tidbits on everything food and drink to eats@santamariasun.com.



FLAVORFUL FINANCIERS: Proof and Gather proprietor Kaitlin Munoz enjoys experimenting with seasonal ingredients. Fresh black plums adorn her brown butter financier pastries.

"My passion for baking and seeing happy customers continues to keep my cup full even when things get tough. I've also had an incredible support network, whether it's loyal customers, friends, and family willing to lend a hand, or the SLO community, which continues to show up and support my business."

One such customer, Carmen Mangino of Lompoc, said she recently enlisted Munoz to create her fall-inspired wedding cake—a perfectly balanced, cardamom-spiced work of art.

While Mangino is a family friend who has known Munoz for decades, she selected Proof and Gather primarily because of Munoz's expert craftsmanship. And supporting a good person is icing on the cake.

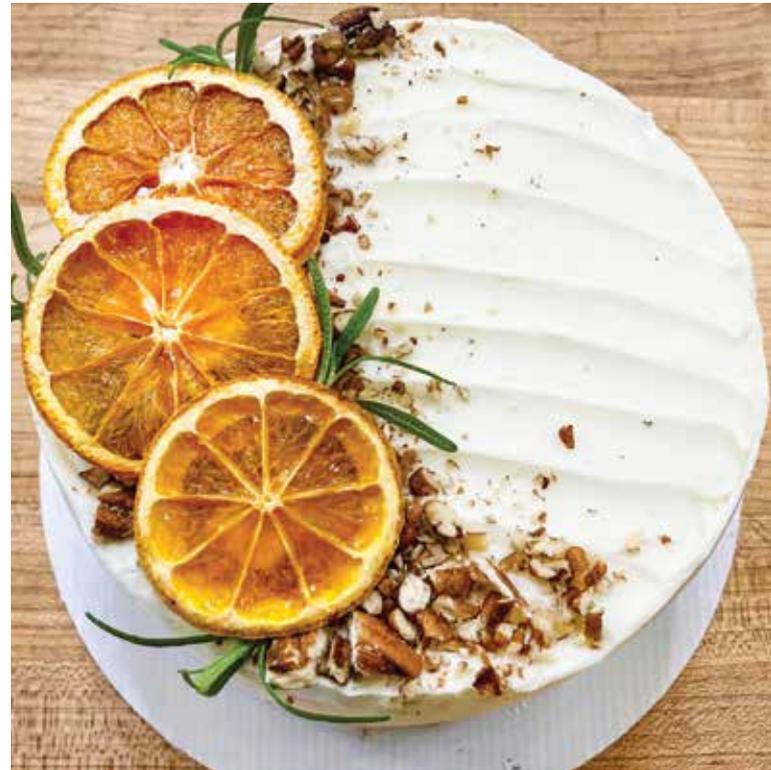
"For as long as I've known Kaitlin, she's been nothing short of kind and giving," Mangino said. "Seeing her vision of Proof and Gather come

true after years of hard work has been amazing. She used to deliver loaves of bread to my doorstep out of convenience for me. Now I will make the drive to SLO to continue my support for her."

The SLO bakery is a compact 900-square-foot space replacing Cowboy Cookie. There is limited seating indoors, with ample tables creekside for all Network Shopping Center customers.

"This will be a place for people to gather around for morning pastries with coffee, quick bites to eat for lunch, sweet treats for an afternoon pick-me-up, and pantry items to take home to share with the family like fresh bread, granola, crackers, and more," Munoz said. "We also do custom orders out of this location for parties, corporate events, catering, etc."

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WEDDING CAKE WIZARD: "Kaitlin [Munoz] made my cardamom-spiced cake with a beautiful buttercream frosting," customer Carmen Mangino of Lompoc said. "It was exactly what I wanted to reflect the fall weather and season."



JAZZED-UP CLASSIC: Proof and Gather's olive oil lemon rosemary cookie is "one of my best sellers—similar to a lemon sugar cookie with a hint of rosemary," according to owner Kaitlin Munoz.

For sweet and savory treats

Proof and Gather is open Tuesday to Sunday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., at 778 Higuera St., suite A, in SLO. The Paso Robles bakery will be located at 3075 Limestone Way. Proof and Gather also has a booth at local farmers markets, including Route One's farmers market events in Lompoc.

For more information, visit proofandgather.com, follow the bakery on Instagram @proofandgather, and attend the grand opening on Jan. 21.

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Eats

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All items are baked on-site—as will be the case at the Paso location.

Munoz invites guests to discover their own favorite treats, but popular standouts with her growing client base—including local restaurants—are sourdough options such as garlic and apricot walnut, several varieties of cookies, and cinnamon rolls.

“We have really unique and fun cookie flavors which draw people in,” she said. “Our olive oil lemon rosemary, gingersnap, and almond butter chocolate chip are the top sellers. People also love coming into the shop for a drip coffee and fresh cinnamon roll. I’ve been making this same cinnamon roll recipe for years, and it has definitely become a fan favorite.”

Munoz’s high product standards don’t wane with coffee selection.

“We work with Shawn [Clark] at Cacti Coffee Roasters, which is a local roaster out of Santa Margarita,” she said. “His attention to detail really comes through in his coffee, and his customer service is top-notch.”

For the grand opening of the SLO bakery, Munoz will be offering customers a buy one, get one special on individual cookies, with a limit of one free item.

Stay tuned for the opening of the Paso location, which will provide a much larger space.

“It’s a big warehouse that we are converting with multiple entrances,” she said. “I will be occupying one side, while Central Coast Creamery will occupy the other side ... [with] shared seating in the middle. There are a lot of opportunities there to create the ultimate customer experience for Tin City with wine, cheese, bread, coffee, and sweet treats.”

Munoz said her future plans are to stick with the two bakeries and continue to grow her

PHOTO COURTESY OF PROOF AND GATHER BAKING COMPANY



DOUGH DU JOUR: Proof and Gather offers an extensive product line, from demi-baguettes for wholesale clients, to customized desserts for events. Other specialties include English muffins, focaccia, biscotti, and scones. Vegan and gluten-free options are available as well.

business through product expansions, online ordering, and more catering gigs for weddings and other special events.

“I will be splitting my time equally between the bakeries to make sure everything is running smoothly,” she said, “and continue to do what I love”—whipping up a storm of new and evolving delicacies while preserving Proof and Gather classics.

“I’m so thrilled to be finally living out my dream of opening a bakery,” she added. ○

Contributor Writer *Cherish Whyte* envisions sipping Cacti drip with a pecan snickerdoodle creekside in the new year. Reach her through the editor at clanham@sanatmariasun.com.

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