

VISIT US ONLINE
@santamariasun.com.
SIGN UP for E-Newsletter(s)
LIKE US on Facebook
FOLLOW US on Instagram
FOLLOW US on Twitter

Sun

AT THE MOVIES



Cocaine Bear is a fun romp [16]

Cash for gas

Gas bills nearly tripled for residents in Southern California, something SoCalGas blames on the natural gas market [6]

BY BULBUL RAJAGOPAL



NEWS It snowed in Santa Barbara County [4]

ARTS Watercolor, acrylic at the airport [14]

EATS Gina's Piece of Cake is opening new spot [17]

Contents

MARCH 2 - MARCH 9, 2023 VOL. 24 NO. 1

When thermometers on the Central Coast read colder winter temperatures than usual, locals adjusted their home and business thermostats accordingly. But gas bills increased at a disproportionately high rate in January, which SoCalGas says is due to fluctuating market rates it has no control over. This week, Staff Writer Bulbul Rajagopal from the *Sun's* sister paper, *New Times*, talks with customers, utility reps, and local officials about the issue [6].

You can also read about the snow that closed Highway 154 during late February's storms [4]; an Orcutt resident's new show at the Santa Maria Airport [14]; and what Gina's Piece of Cake has in store for the future [17].

Camillia Lanham
editor



BURNING CASH: SoCalGas bills more than doubled for residential customers due to what the utility company said was higher than normal market rates for natural gas.

Cover image from Adobe Stock > Cover design by Alex Zuniga

NEWS

News Briefs.....	4
Political Watch.....	4
Spotlight.....	7

OPINION

Web Poll.....	8
Mayfield.....	8
Canary.....	9

EVENTS CALENDAR

Hot Stuff.....	10
----------------	----

ARTS

Arts Briefs.....	14
------------------	----

MOVIES

Reviews.....	16
--------------	----

CLASSIFIEDS, HOME, AND REAL ESTATE

.....	19
-------	----

Abbey Carpet & Floor®

Happily serving our community for over 25 years. We are your one-stop showroom for all of your flooring and window covering needs!

Small store prices...
...Salon style service

- ✓ Female Veteran Owned
- ✓ On-Staff Installers
- ✓ Free Measures

805-347-1121

SantaMaria.AbbeyCarpet.com

2051 S. Broadway
Santa Maria, Ca 93454
Located in the Western Village
Shopping Center
M-Sat 9AM-5PM



Lic. 668152

FLOORING *at its Best!*

SKIP THE WAIT



TEXT for your appointment date!
805-361-8400

SCAN TO TEXT



Waiting on the phone is so yesterday. Text us any time of day at 805-361-8400 to schedule, cancel or reschedule your medical appointment TODAY!

You can also reach us via chat on our website, on your Patient Portal or call us toll-free at 1-866-614-4636. Se habla español. www.chccc.org



COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS OF THE CENTRAL COAST



DONATE DONATE DONATE

HELP SUPPORT OUR MISSION

Informative, accurate, and independent journalism takes time and costs money. Help us keep our community aware and connected by donating today.

www.santamariasun.com

Bedroom & Bathroom Mobility Accessories



Proudly taking care of Santa Maria Community's Home Health, DME, Pharmaceuticals & Special order needs.



1504 S. Broadway · Santa Maria
Mon-Fri 9am-6pm, Sat 9am-1pm

805-922-1747
www.healthmart.com

10 Ways to Prevent Child Abuse



- Volunteer your time. Get involved with other parents in your community.
- Discipline your children thoughtfully.
- Examine your behavior.
- Educate yourself and others.
- Teach children their rights.
- Support prevention programs.
- Know what child abuse is.
- Know the signs.

North County Rape Crisis and Child Protection Center

KNOW MORE | DO MORE | NO MORE!



24-Hour Support Line (805)736-7273
www.sbcountyrapecrisis.org



PROUD TO BE THE
 COMMUNITY PET RESOURCE FOR

Santa Maria



Animal Adoptions • Low-cost Veterinary Care
 Affordable Dog Training • Pet Supplies & Resources

sbhumane.org | 805-964-4777

1687 West Stowell Road
 Santa Maria, CA 93458



**LOVE.
 HOPE.
 FOSTER.**

Because every
 child deserves
 a champion.



Learn more at
www.angelsfostercare.org

POLITICAL WATCH

U.S. Rep. **Salud Carbajal** (D-Santa Barbara) led 15 members of California's congressional delegation in calling for a federal investigation by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission into recent spikes in home energy costs, according to a Feb. 22 statement from the congressman's office. "With unexpectedly high home gas prices, we have heard stories from our constituents who have had to make the hard choice between staying warm at night or not having enough funds to buy groceries for the week," the lawmakers wrote. "Therefore, we ask that you move expeditiously and open an investigation to ensure there [is] no unfair market manipulation or anti-competitive practices that are hurting many of our constituents across the state of California." The lawmakers cite data from the California Public Utilities Commission that shows that despite a nationwide decline in natural gas prices, California ratepayers have seen dramatic spikes in their utility bills—with some in California paying more than double what they paid the previous year. Pacific Gas and Electric customers in Northern California experienced an increase from \$151 to \$195, meanwhile SoCalGas customers' prices more than doubled compared to the previous year with an average of \$123 to \$300. This contrasts with natural gas prices falling by an average of 50 percent across the country based on recent analysis, the letter stated.

U.S. Sen. **Alex Padilla** (D-California) and several members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus sent a letter to President **Joe Biden** urging him to appoint a highly qualified Latino American to the Federal Reserve's board of governors, according to a Feb. 22 statement from the senator's office. In the Fed's 109-year history, a Latino or Latina has never served on the board of governors. In their letter, the lawmakers urge Biden to take this historic moment and recognize the fastest-growing demographic with a \$2.8 trillion economic output. The lawmakers also highlighted that only 5 percent of the Fed's overall workforce identifies as Hispanic or Latino. "As you consider nominees to fill the vacancy on the Federal Reserve board of governors, we strongly urge the administration to nominate a qualified Latino candidate to fill this position," the lawmakers wrote. "Despite being the United States' largest and fastest-growing minority population, Latinos have been persistently underrepresented at the Federal Reserve."

The California state Senate hosted the first informational hearing of the special session to pass a price gouging penalty and transparency measures, according to a Feb. 22 statement from Gov. **Gavin Newsom's** office. Gas prices reached a high of \$6.42 per gallon last year, a record \$2.61 more per gallon than the national average. This spike in gasoline prices resulted in record refiner profits of \$63 billion in just 90 days. Newsom convened a special session of the Legislature in December to pass a gas price-gouging penalty to increase transparency into the industry and to keep extreme oil refiner profits in check. During the hearing, lawmakers and experts agreed that Californians are getting "ripped off" at the pump and action is needed to protect consumers. It was also made clear that more data is needed on Big Oil's profits and California's gasoline market, which is what the governor's proposal hopes to accomplish by holding the oil industry to the same levels of accountability facing other critical industries like electrical utilities. "Today's hearing provided even more evidence that we need to crack down on Big Oil's price gouging at the pump. Experts detailed how gas price hikes led to record profits and why we need greater transparency," Newsom said in the statement. "Big Oil's lobbyists again used scare tactics and refused to provide answers or solutions to last year's price spikes. We're taking action to hold them accountable with a price-gouging penalty and long-overdue transparency measures." ◯



PHOTO COURTESY OF CALTRANS

Act now!

Send any news or story tips to news@santamariasun.com.



BLIZZARD EFFECT: Snow closed about 20 miles of Highway 154 during the last weekend in February, and Caltrans deployed plows to clear the roads.

County blizzard warning went into effect for the first time in decades

For the first time since 1989, the National Weather Service issued a winter storm warning for Santa Barbara County and snow fell at elevation levels as low as 1,500 feet.

Robbie Munroe, a Los Angeles National Weather Service meteorologist, told the *Sun* that the system traveled from the Gulf of Alaska and Western Canada, bringing an "unusually cold" source of air into the Santa Barbara County region in late February.

"Because it had a long duration over water, it was able to incorporate quite a bit of moisture from the ocean; there was very impressive amounts of moisture available given how cold the storm was," Munroe said. "We do have another round of an unusually cold system with low snow levels, and we could see snow again on some of those higher foothills and mountains in the Santa Ynez range and the Santa Barbara interior range."

Munroe predicted more snow starting Feb. 28 at elevations around 4,000 feet or higher, and then as temperatures dropped it could cause snow as low as 1,500 feet. The valleys in Santa Barbara County weren't expected to see snow on the ground but were expecting a quarter to three-quarters of an inch of rain and "gusty winds."

The recent cold air and high amounts of moisture caused snow to fall at lower levels than normal, fellow National Weather Service meteorologist Kristen Stewart said.

"We often see snow above 5,000 feet; anything lower than that is usually quite rare. We have a lot of attention here [from a] national perspective," Stewart said. "Since it's been such a wet winter, it's exciting to see something different than we've seen the past several years."

Although snow is something unique for many local communities, Stewart advised people to admire it from a distance until the storm passes and roadways are up and running again.

"A lot of these roads or mountains are really treacherous to travel through; a lot of people could get stuck [or] trapped. It's good to stay at home and watch from afar," she said.

After the Weather Service issued a blizzard warning that took effect on Feb. 24, Caltrans crews started 24-hour coverage to respond to incidents along the roadways, Public Information Officer Alexa Bertola said. Highways 154 and 166 closed during the snowfall, Highway 1 in Lompoc experienced a washout, and Interstate 5's Grapevine closed—causing traffic on Highway 101 to increase.

During the 154 closure, Caltrans deployed four plows to clear the snow and put sand on the roads to increase tire traction.

"Besides our maintenance crews on 24-hour coverage, ready to respond, we have them patrolling throughout the day and working to reopen the highways after rockslides, downed trees, and clear drainage systems if there is flooding," Bertola said. "We always have people out on the roadways to ensure the safety of drivers."

As of Feb. 28, 154 was to reopen, 166 had closures in the Kern County area, and there was controlled one-way traffic at various locations between Las Cruces and Jamala Road on Highway 1 due to the washouts, according to Caltrans road information.

At the county level, the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) sent out emails, social media messages, and wireless alerts regarding the weather, Public Information Officer Jackie Ruiz said. The office worked to make sure its alerts were provided in English and Spanish and were easily accessible—with Ruiz noting that it was the first time the office had to translate "blizzard" in Spanish.

"We know with more extreme weather, we will have to continue to adjust and address issues we don't commonly deal with," Ruiz said.

It was also the first time the county relied on its plan to provide warming centers for the general population. Usually, she said, warming centers are for those experiencing homelessness.

"We saw some of our residents experience power outages," Ruiz said. "Whenever there's the possibility for power outages and low temperature thresholds, a warming center for the general population is something we have to consider."

Many people wanted to compare the recent set of storms to the atmospheric rivers from January, but the cold fronts were far less destructive, Ruiz said, noting that there are still concerns for any follow-up damage this storm had on those still trying to recover from January.

"Thankfully, some of the impacts we had are most common, like road closures, where flooding tends to happen. As far as we heard from our perch, there weren't too many people putting themselves in dangerous situations," she said. "We are definitely still working with communities to do an assessment post storm [where] we tend to hear from communities who were impacted."

—Taylor O'Connor

Santa Maria evaluates potential new performing arts and convention center

The city of Santa Maria is budgeting a study to determine whether a new large-scale convention hall in town would be economically viable.

Thanks to unanimous approval from the Santa Maria City Council during its Feb. 21 meeting, the Santa Maria Valley Chamber of Commerce has permission to spend up to \$94,250 in consulting fees and other expenses to complete the feasibility study—originally proposed by a local orchestra.

The Santa Maria Philharmonic Society pitched the potential convention center as a way to not only provide a suitable venue for its own performances, but offer space to local and visiting theater groups, and businesses of all kinds to hold various events and conferences.

"We've long dreamed of a permanent home for the orchestra," Philharmonic Society Executive Director Fran Saveriano told the City Council on Feb. 21.

The orchestra frequently performs at Grace Baptist Church in Santa Maria and other churches in the area.

"We don't have a suitable venue, and even the ones that we play in that are suitable, we have a problem with availability with those, so it's an ongoing issue," Saveriano said. "We're very pleased with the prospect of doing the feasibility study and moving forward because we feel it will be a great thing for the community; it will fuel economic growth, encourage new business and visitors, and position Santa Maria as a business and arts destination for Northern Santa Barbara County."

The proposed space is envisioned as a dual-use facility, according to the city's staff report, with a main performance hall—designed to seat between 800 and 1,200 attendees—that could also be used for large business conferences, workshops, and other events.

"There is a need generally from an economic development and tourism perspective to increase the city of Santa Maria's competitiveness within the region and within the state of California," said Assistant City Manager Andrew Hackleman, who added that the feasibility study for a performing arts facility would align with one of the City Council's 2022-24 budget goals to provide more recreation opportunities for families.

Before the City Council voted to fund the study, Councilmember Gloria Soto questioned one aspect of the proposal's community outreach component, in regard to the chamber's assigned duty "to ensure that appropriate stakeholders are engaged throughout the research and analysis process," as listed in the staff report.

"How will the city also partake in promoting those engagement interviews and making sure that we have ample representation from all walks of life in those interviews or those stakeholder meetings?" Soto asked staff during the Feb. 21 meeting.

Hackleman said that the chamber would be leveraged "to ensure that we get all of those inputs, as we would for any type of city activity."

Glenn Morris, CEO of the chamber, said that if the study moved forward, the chamber would organize a steering committee to include representatives of the city, local businesses, and the arts community.

After Councilmember Carlos Escobedo made a motion to green-light the study, it passed in a 5-0 vote.

—Caleb Wiseblood

Carbajal wants California coast off 'Big Oil's shopping list'

U.S. Rep. Salud Carbajal (D-Santa Barbara) recently reintroduced the California Clean Coast Act to the House of Representatives in order to protect the state from future offshore oil drilling.

The bill aims to permanently ban future offshore oil and gas leasing off the Central

NEWS continued page 6

The Santa Maria Joint Union
High School District
**Special Education
Child Find**



The Santa Maria Joint Union High School District (SMJUHS) seeks to identify, locate, and evaluate high school age students suspected of having a disability who may be eligible for special education services designed to meet their educational needs at no cost to families. This includes students that are highly mobile, migrant, experiencing homelessness, students that are wards of the state, and students attending private schools located within SMJUHS boundaries.

If you suspect your child has a disability, contact the school special education department or district office Special Education Department. Staff | Special Education | Santa Maria Joint Union High School District (smjuhsd.k12.ca.us)



El Distrito Escolar de las Escuelas
Preparatorias de Santa Maria
**Educación Especial
Búsqueda de Estudiantes**

El Distrito Unificado de Escuelas Preparatorias de Santa Maria (SMJUHS) busca identificar, localizar y evaluar a los estudiantes en edad de escuela preparatoria sospechosos de tener una discapacidad que puede ser elegible para servicios de educación especial diseñados para satisfacer sus necesidades educativas sin costo alguno para las familias. Esto incluye a los estudiantes que son altamente móviles, migrantes, sin hogar, estudiantes que están bajo la tutela del estado, y los estudiantes que asisten a escuelas privadas ubicadas dentro los límites de SMJUHS.

Si sospecha que su hijo tiene una discapacidad, comuníquese con el departamento de educación especial de la escuela u oficina de Educación Especial del distrito SMJUHS. Staff | Special Education | Santa Maria Joint Union High School District (smjuhsd.k12.ca.us)

**ATTENTION all former SMJUHS
Special Education Students born
1997 and 1998!**

All records for any Special Education student that was born within 1997-1998 and attended a Santa Maria Joint Union High School District school, your physical special education records are available for pick up at no charge from the District Office. All 1997 Records not picked up by June 1, 2022 and 1998 Records not picked up by June 1, 2023 will be destroyed.

If you have any questions, or to arrange a pickup date/time, contact:



Sandra Hernandez/ Dept. of Special Education
Santa Maria Joint Union High School District
2560 Skyway Dr., Santa Maria, CA 93455
805-922-4573 ext. 4311

**ATENCION estudiantes anteriores
de SMJUHS nacidos en
1997 y 1998!**

Todos los registros de cualquier estudiante de Educación Especial que haya nacido dentro de 1997 -1998 y asistió a una escuela del Distrito Escolar de las escuelas preparatorias de Santa Maria, sus registros físicos de educación especial están disponibles para recoger sin cargo en la Oficina del Distrito. Todos los registros del 1997 que no hayan sido recogidos para el 1 de junio de 2022 y registros del 1998 que no hayan sido recogidos para el 1 de junio de 2023 serán destruidos.

Si tiene alguna pregunta, o para programar una fecha/hora de recogida, comuníquense con:

Sandra Hernandez/ Dept. de Educacion Especial
Santa Maria Joint Union High School District
2560 Skyway Dr., Santa Maria, CA 93455
805-922-4573 ext. 4311



SMOOTH Senior Dial-A-Ride

HELP WANTED \$500 BONUS!

DRIVERS PART-TIME TO FULL TIME WITH GREAT PAY & BENEFITS

Established, growing company with local routes. Class B Passenger & Air Brake Endorsements desired. Paid commercial license training provided. Good driving record & current DMV-(H6) required. \$300 Signing Bonus paid after 90 Day Intro Period. A GREAT career opportunity!



An Equal Opportunity (EEO) Employer

SMOOTH, Inc. 240 East Roemer Way, Santa Maria • 805-922-8476

KCBX fm
Central Coast Public Radio



NPR. Local News. Great Music.

90.1 FM SAN LUIS OBISPO & SANTA MARIA
89.5 FM SANTA BARBARA • 90.9 FM SANTA YNEZ
95.1 FM LOMPOC • 91.7 FM SO MONTEREY CO.

Celebrating 45 years on the Central Coast



What's Your Take?

We know you've got an opinion.
Everybody's got one!

This week's online poll 3/2 - 3/9
Would you sign up for any of the relief plans for natural gas bills?

- Yes, the California Climate Credit helped me a lot.
- No, these \$50 to \$100 relief plans are hardly cost-effective.
- When are we going all-electric?
- Someone else pays my gas bills.

Enter your choice online at:
SantaMariaSun.com



**LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO?
Check out My805Tix.com**



POWERED BY:



Burning money

Utility companies and elected officials try to pinpoint why natural gas costs increased for residents this winter

BY BULBUL RAJAGOPAL

In the 57 years he's lived in Pismo Beach, Cliff Henley has never paid a natural gas bill as high as the one he got in January.

"My bill for December is \$75 average. Now it's \$435!" he told the *Sun* on Feb. 20. "It's like buying a car or taking out a loan and not knowing about it."

The new amount was automatically deducted from his bank account, and left Henley adding roughly \$375 to his potential gas bill budget every month. An uncharacteristically chilly winter on the Central Coast did compel residents to use more heat than usual, but the usage amount and SoCalGas' calculation rates still left Henley confused.

"The day I got that bill, I told my wife to not turn the fireplace on," he said. "I think we used more gas in January than we did in December but not six times as much. That would be impossible."

Gas prices on the West Coast increased at the beginning of the year. Measured in therms, the commodity cost per unit of gas from SoCalGas—the company that delivers natural gas to residents and businesses throughout Central and Southern California—tripled from \$1.05 in December 2022 to \$3.45 in January 2023.

Similarly, customer bills from Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), which serves the Bay Area and Northern California, showed that the gas procurement cost rose from 98 cents per therm in December to \$1.37 per therm in January. PG&E defines procurement cost as the price of buying natural gas and transporting it to the local transmission system.

While natural gas bills are decreasing for February and March, California's customers are still reeling from sticker shock. SoCalGas data shows that customer usage spiked in early December compared to the same month in 2021 and the five-year average. However, usage plummeted below 2021 demands and the five-year average during the last week of December.

In a notice to customers dated Dec. 29, SoCalGas attributed the price hike to unstable national and regional markets where companies buy natural gas. Other reasons include reduced natural gas supplies to the West Coast from Canada, diminished interstate pipeline capacity to the West Coast because of pipeline maintenance work in Texas, and low natural gas storage on the coast.

Storage levels for both SoCalGas and PG&E decreased, according to Aleecia Gutierrez, the director of the California Energy Commission's Energy Assessments Division. She made the announcement at the state's Feb. 7 Public Utilities

Commission (CPUC) meeting, adding that inventory storage for SoCalGas was the highest it had been in six years, but that changed this winter.

From Nov. 1, 2022, to Jan. 24, 2023, SoCalGas' natural gas reserve sank from 88 billion cubic feet (bcf) to roughly 58 bcf. PG&E's levels dropped from almost 6 bcf to approximately 4 bcf over the same time period.

Jamie Court, president of a Santa Monica nonprofit called Consumer Watchdog, told the *Los Angeles Times* that SoCalGas could have managed their reserves better in preparation for the winter and offset costs for customers.

"SoCalGas' storage inventory requirements for winter are regulated by the CPUC," utility spokesperson Brian Haas told the *Sun* in response to questions about the mismanagement allegations. "As of Oct. 31, 2022, SoCalGas had about 88 bcf in its storage inventory, including the inventory space used for system balancing and the inventory held by wholesale customers and core aggregators—fully meeting state requirements."

Haas later added that it would take time to quantify SoCalGas' inventory versus the state requirements, according to "subject matter experts."

"Our inventory was 97 percent full at the beginning of the winter," Haas said. "We quite literally didn't have room for much more than we had."

Act now!

Send any news or story tips to news@santamariasun.com.



Rising natural gas prices alarmed Californians so much, that it caught the attention of U.S. Rep. Salud Carbajal (D-Santa Barbara) in the 24th District, which includes Santa

Barbara County and parts of SLO and Ventura counties. During the week of Feb. 22, he led a group of 15 members of California's congressional delegation to call for a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) investigation into the increased home energy costs.

Carbajal spokesperson Ian Mariani said that mismanagement of inventory controls isn't necessarily on the congressman's radar at the moment.

"His primary focus in this effort is ensuring FERC investigates any potential anti-competitive practices to confirm that market manipulation is not one of the reasons for this recent spike," Mariani said.

Earlier this month, Gov. Gavin Newsom also wrote a letter to the FERC chair calling for an investigation.

Haas from SoCalGas said the company was cooperative.

"We support Gov. Newsom's call for a review of the natural gas supply and storage constraints, and cold weather conditions that drove up commodity prices in the Western United States recently and that left many SoCalGas customers facing unprecedented winter heating bills," he said.

Chris Read, the city of SLO's sustainability manager, said that local governments are also feeling the pain of increased bills because SoCalGas heats some facilities like the pools at SLO Swim Center.

"We are making a concerted effort to lead by example as we switch from natural gas to all-electric energy, both because it is cost-effective and because it will help us achieve our goal to have carbon-neutral municipal operations by 2030," Read said.

Santa Barbara County spokesperson Kelsey Buttita said that she's come across complaints from residents on social media about natural gas bills that have doubled and tripled. But there's some respite, she said.

"The county of Santa Barbara is part of the Tri-County Regional Energy Network (3C-REN), which offers incentives to single- and multi-family residents to make energy efficiency improvements and switch to efficient all-electric appliances, which can reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate high natural gas prices," Buttita said.

SoCalGas also offers some help for customers struggling to pay their gas bills. They can apply to the Gas Assistance Fund for a one-time grant to cover a bill amount, as long as it doesn't exceed \$400. Then there's the Level Pay Plan program that averages a customer's annual natural gas use and costs over a 12-month period.

In February, the CPUC also tacked on a California Climate Credit to gas bills worth \$52.78 and \$50.77 for PG&E and SoCalGas, respectively.

"That doesn't help with anything," said Pismo Beach's Henley. "If my bill is \$435 again, that means it'll still be \$385. They [SoCalGas] could have done a better job notifying people." ○

Reach New Times Staff Writer Bulbul Rajagopal, from the *Sun's* sister paper, at brajagopal@newtimeslo.com.

GRAPH COURTESY OF SOCALGAS



GAS GRIEF: SoCalGas' natural gas prices hit 344 cents per therm this January—a whopping rise compared to the 84 cents per therm charged for gas in January 2022.

Briefs

NEWS from page 4

Coast and the rest of California. Carbajal first introduced the bill in 2017. In 2019, the bill passed in the House as part of a package of offshore drilling legislation, but it was not signed into law, Carbajal told the *Sun* via email.

"I'm introducing my California Clean Coast Act again because we need to make it clear, once and for all, that we want to take our coastlines off Big Oil's shopping list, permanently," he said. "I have worked to build bipartisan consensus like this in the past, and I am not giving up hope."

Carbajal reintroduced the bill in light of a new Republican majority in the House, which passed another bill that would open public land to oil companies "despite Big Oil having millions of acres of public lands at their disposal and thousands of unused oil drilling licenses," he said.

The California Clean Coast Act wouldn't

impact current offshore leases—including ExxonMobil's Santa Ynez Unit in Santa Barbara County, said Linda Krop, chief counsel at the Environmental Defense Center.

"It wouldn't directly affect Exxon's attempts to restart its existing platforms, but we're fighting that on different fronts," Krop said.

A federal judge allowed the Environmental Defense Center (EDC)—and other conservation and indigenous groups—to help legally defend Santa Barbara County after Exxon filed a lawsuit against the county over its denial of an oil trucking proposal, claiming the company's U.S. and California constitutional rights to private property and its use were violated.

The denied project proposed trucking crude oil along highways 101 and 166 from its Las Flores Canyon processing facility to the Santa Maria Pump Station or to the Plains Pentland Terminal in Kern County, according to previous *Sun* reporting.

The EDC filed its opening brief in federal court on Feb. 13 with Exxon's due May 1, and the first hearing is scheduled for June 16, Krop said. The brief argued that the county Board of Supervisors acted within its discretion and made a decision based on a "plethora of evidence," ranging from local testimonies to oil tanker truck accident reports on highways 101 and 166.

"In this case, the board appropriately denied ExxonMobil's application because it was inconsistent with county ordinances protecting the public health, safety, and welfare, as well as neighborhood compatibility," the brief states. "In an effort to respond to ExxonMobil's assertions that the benefits of the project outweighed its impacts, the board also adopted a finding that the benefits did not outweigh the substantial risks and significant impacts of the proposed project."

After the oil giant filed its lawsuit, Exxon sold its Santa Ynez Unit onshore and offshore

facilities—which have been closed since the Plains All American Pipeline rupture and oil spill in 2015. Exxon had hoped to restart operations with the trucking proposal. Sable Offshore Corporation purchased the unit for \$643 million. The deal is part of a merger between Sable and SPAC Flame Acquisition Corporation.

Since the oil drilling lease already exists, the California Clean Coast Act would not impact the sale or follow-up attempts to restart the platforms, Krop added, and the EDC will monitor the bill as it moves forward in the legislative process.

"Historically, opposition to offshore oil development in California has been a bipartisan issue," Krop said. "Because the bill is limited [to] California, hopefully it does pass."

ExxonMobil declined to comment at this time. ○

—Taylor O'Connor

Arts sanctuary

After 30 years of planning, Allan Hancock College opens its new Fine Arts Complex

Promote!

Send business and nonprofit information to spotlight@santamariasun.com.



BY SHWETHA SUNDARRAJAN

Student-produced artwork and live demonstrations greeted people who stepped out of the rain and into Allan Hancock College's newest building on Feb. 24.

The 88,000-square-foot two-story Fine Arts Complex with a corrugated metal facade includes a 400-seat concert hall, a film screening room, and student lounge areas for students in the college's dance, drama, film, graphics, music, photography, and multimedia arts and communications programs.

The building has been in the works for more than 30 years, Hancock Superintendent/President Kevin G. Walthers told the *Sun* during the Fine Arts Complex's grand opening festivities.

"The faculty started planning for this in the '90s, and I literally saw a memo from the mid 1990s where they were talking to faculty about what kind of space you would need," he said. "So they were already doing space planning 30 years ago, and now today, to see what it came to, it's pretty incredible."

Walthers explained that funding was the primary roadblock when it came to constructing the building. Funds for the Fine Arts Complex were provided by Measure I, the California Community College Chancellor's Office, and the estate of former Hancock faculty member Patricia Boyd.

With \$48 million in hand, construction on the building commenced in September 2020, and the complex has been open since January.

Students and faculty have been excited about the new building, said graphic design professor Nancy Jo Ward, as some students jokingly refer to it as UC Hancock. And they have good reason to be excited about it—before its construction, students and faculty were scattered across the campus in various outdated buildings, she told the *Sun*.

Theater teacher Michael Dempsey said he used to walk half a mile from his office to his classroom and hold rehearsals outdoors due to a lack of space.

"It gives me a focus-dedicated space for theater and all of the technology in the building is state of the art," Dempsey said. "You walk in here and there are hundreds of students doing the same thing they do. And there's growth by them, seeing what the other is doing and the conversations that go on between them about art and politics and everything else."

Adrienne Allebe, associate professor of art, told the *Sun* that her new classroom is much larger than the one she used to teach in. Fitting several easels and workstations, the new classroom is also equipped with large windows and LED lights to provide versatile lighting for budding artists. Prior to the Fine Arts Complex being built, Allebe said that there was only one classroom available to teach painting, drawing, and design classes.

With more classrooms in the same building, Allebe said she's noticed that collaboration between faculty is starting to bloom.

"We didn't even really run into our colleagues on a day-to-day basis. ... So now it's just nice for all of us to see each other all the time," Allebe

said. "We can easily walk into each other's classrooms and have collaborations, and the students can all mingle together."

For first year art student Natali Camacho, the additional lighting in the newly redesigned art classrooms really made a difference when it came to creating new pieces.

"So I feel like with these lightings and like the way it's set up, essentially, it feels very more like you can zone into what you're doing," Camacho told the *Sun*, adding that the fluorescent lights in the older classrooms didn't do her artwork justice. "I know that instructors definitely struggled a lot more in the past with lighting. So I think that they are going to really enjoy all the lights that they have now."



PHOTO BY SHWETHA SUNDARRAJAN

CREATIVITY SPREE: Large windows, focused lighting, and student common spaces are some of the elements that set Allan Hancock College's new Fine Arts Complex apart from the rest of the campus's buildings.

Graphic design professor Ward noted that those common spaces for the students were particularly important in the building's design.

"As you walk around, you're going to find pockets of areas for the students to hang out. That builds the culture and builds opportunities for conversations," Ward said. "And then students start to kind of open their eyes up to maybe a discipline that they hadn't considered."

And a new, larger building means more growth for the Fine Art Department, John Hood, chair of the Fine Arts Department told the *Sun*.

"I think certain programs are going to grow more than others, like game art, animation, drama, theater, they will grow," Hood said. "What's funny is that we have to be careful of how much we grow because this is it, but we definitely have room to grow as sections."

Highlight

- The Santa Maria Public Library, the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Santa Maria Branch, and the Women's March invites locals to Women, Life, Freedom (Zan, Zendegi, Azadi), a free presentation in recognition of International Women's Day on Wednesday, March 8. The event begins at 5 p.m. in the Library's Shepard Hall. Dr. Golnaz Agahi—a writer, educator, and practitioner of social work for more than 20 years—will speak about living in Tehran during the Iranian revolution and connect her experience to women's rights in Iran and the world. A question-and-answer session will follow. The presentation will also be offered over Zoom; register at cityofsantamaria.org/library. The library is located at 421 South McClelland St. Call (805) 925-0994, Ext. 8562, for more information. ○

Contact New Times Staff Writer Shwetha Sundarrajan, from the *Sun's* sister paper, at shwetha@newtimeslo.com.

For a Celebration of Life

GATHER IN COMFORT



Our Gathering Room is a comfortable place for family & friends to enjoy food & beverages during & after services. You will find an open floor plan with table & bar seating for 30, a large buffet table, a stocked coffee & tea bar, as well as a television for memorial videos, live chapel view, or children's entertainment.

Come see how our Gathering Room will complement your loved one's celebration of life.

Burial & Cremation Services • Advanced Planning • Monuments & Grave Markers
On-Site Crematory • Se Habla Español



MAGNER-MALONEY
FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATORY

Serving the Central Coast for 85 Years

(805) 925-2753 • www.magnermaloney.com

600 E. Stowell Road, Santa Maria • FD270 CR255

ORCUTT 76

PROVIDING FUEL & SERVICE TO ORCUTT FOR OVER 60 YEARS

SMOG CHECKS

★ PASS OR DON'T PAY ★

Old & New Vehicles

★ DRIVE-UPS WELCOME ★

OIL CHANGES

★ ASK FOR DETAILS ★

\$10⁰⁰ OFF **\$49⁰⁰**
SMOG CHECK
Pass or Don't Pay!
Drive Ups Welcome!
Regular Price \$59.00
Appointments
805-937-5340

Plus \$8.25 Certificate + \$1.50 Transfer fee + \$1.00 OPUS fee. '95 & Older \$99.00 / '96-'99 \$89.00. Vans & Motorhomes \$99.00 Coupons may not be combined with any other offer. Expires 3/31/23



805-937-5340
100 E. Clark Ave., Orcutt
WWW.ORCUTT76.COM

ONLINE POLL

What's the most memorable type of wedding favor you've received?

- 50% Customized and homemade household items.
- 12% A whole bottle of wine or beer!
- 26% Other consumable treats—chocolate, tea, coffee.
- 12% I don't keep wedding favors.

8 Votes

Vote online at www.santamariasun.com.



Northern Santa Barbara County's News & Entertainment Weekly
2646 Industrial Parkway, #200
Santa Maria, CA 93455

EDITORIAL & ADVERTISING | 805-347-1968
E-MAIL | mail@santamariasun.com
WEB | www.santamariasun.com

FOUNDER | Steve Moss 1948-2005

EDITORIAL
EDITOR | Camillia Lanham
ASSOCIATE EDITOR | Andrea Rooks
STAFF WRITERS | Taylor O'Connor
ARTS EDITOR | Caleb Wiseblood
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER | Jayson Mellom
ART DIRECTOR | Alex Zuniga
EDITORIAL DESIGNERS | Leni Litonjua, Taylor Saugstad
CONTRIBUTORS | Glen Starkey, Anna Starkey, Ross Mayfield

ADVERTISING
SENIOR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE | Kimberly Rosa
ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES | Katy Gray, Jennifer Herbaugh, Lee Ann Vermeulen, Drew Gilmore, Eva Ryan

PRODUCTION
ASSISTANT PRODUCTION MANAGER | Eva Lipson
GRAPHIC DESIGNERS | Eva Lipson, Ellen Fukumoto, Ikey Ipekian, Mary Grace Flaus

Business
Cindy Rucker
CIRCULATION | Jim Chaney, Michael Ferrell, Margo Baldives, Simon Lopez
PUBLISHERS | Bob Rucker, Alex Zuniga
OFFICE MANAGER | Patricia Horton
OFFICE ASSISTANT | Michael Gould, Taylor Gonzales

SUBMITTING LETTERS
WRITE | Mail your letter to Sun Letters, 2646 Industrial Parkway #200, Santa Maria, CA 93455. Include your name, address, and phone number.
FAX | (805) 546-8641
E-MAIL | mail@santamariasun.com, letters@santamariasun.com

TO ADVERTISE
DISPLAY ADS | Rates and special discounts are available. Call our ad department at (805) 347-1968.
CLASSIFIEDS | Call (805) 546-8208, Ext. 211. Visa and MasterCard accepted.

OnLine
Visit the Sun web site at www.santamariasun.com. Our site was developed and designed by Liftoff Digital, a Central Coast web site development company (www.gainliftoff.com).

The Sun is published every Thursday for your enjoyment. One copy of each issue is available free to Northern Santa Barbara County residents and visitors. Subscriptions to the Sun are \$156 per year. The entire contents of the Sun are copyrighted by the Sun and cannot be reproduced without specific written permission from the publisher.

Because a product or service is advertised in the Sun does not mean that we endorse its use. We hope readers will use their own good judgement in choosing products most beneficial to their well-being.

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

© 2023 Sun



Poised for transformation

Santa Maria's downtown revitalization will breathe new life into the city

BY ALICE PATINO

Downtown redevelopment in Santa Maria is proceeding with very exciting revitalization projects that will be transformative. Three developers are working with the city on projects to bring in new housing, businesses, entertainment, and restaurants, sparking more life to the area.

I will summarize the vision, each project, and as always, invite the public to continue sharing opinions as we strive to build the exciting downtown with vitality we want.

The city continues taking a leadership role toward this new iteration of downtown. Call it Downtown 3.0—the original being the grid block pattern pre-1970, downtown 2.0 being the big-box Mervyn's store (then Fallas) and the Santa Maria Town Center (the mall). Downtown 3.0 will build upon what is existing, and in some cases, utilize adaptive reuse concepts to convert older buildings to meet today's community needs and market trends.

Much of Downtown 3.0 will be in between the new buildings. The common spaces, plazas, fountains where people gather, drink and eat, and congregate for entertainment.

Rejuvenating downtown was discussed for decades. The city listened to the community's input, adopted environmental impact reports, and approved the Downtown Specific Plan. Now we are at actual implementation. Here is a summary:

The Vernon Group is in a development agreement with the city to reimagine and redefine several key city-owned downtown parcels. The vision includes more than 600 multifamily apartments, retail spaces, restaurants and other casual eateries, a hotel, and recreational spaces.

The former Mervyn's department store is to become 104 loft apartments. On Feb. 15, this was unanimously approved by the Planning Commission, and its recommendation next goes to the City Council. The surrounding parking lot along

Broadway will see new buildings; the Boot Barn building will be replaced; and the plaza at the southwest corner of Main Street and Broadway is proposed to become a five-story, mixed-use building with ground-floor commercial, 88 apartments, and a reimagined memorial plaza with a mosaic mural and flag honoring fallen firefighter Alvin Newton and the firefighting community of Santa Maria.

Developer Ben Nikfarjam is building a three-story, mixed-use building with 18 apartment units and ground-floor retail at the northwest corner of Main and Broadway. This building is expected to be completed first, before the end of 2023, as part of this next evolution of downtown and will provide the community a renewed sense of the exciting developments to come.

Developer Mark Fugate proposes the six-story, 104-unit Cook Street Apartments with a restaurant at the northeast corner of Cook Street and South McClelland Streets, near the mall and City Hall.

The new design for downtown is not just retail shopping but is planned with the human experience in mind: connecting with others in our plazas and open spaces, dining with family and friends, enjoying an outdoor festival or farmers' market.

The Chamber of Commerce provided coordination early in the process with its joint effort on the city's request for proposals on city-owned land. This effort stimulated renewed development interest for the best possible economic development and revitalization outcome.

Downtown is different than big-box or commercial strip shopping centers off the freeway. Commercial developments near the freeway are designed for vehicle access and convenience. Downtown developments are intentionally pedestrian-oriented. Parking may not be directly adjacent, but that trade-off allows for the creation of pedestrian plazas, paseos, and gathering spaces.

Speak up!
Send us your views and opinion to letters@santamariasun.com.




The retail landscape has changed. Online shopping reduced the need for large retail footprints. However, community residents still look for active recreational, entertainment, and dining. A revitalized, pedestrian-friendly downtown will bring in more sit-down restaurant venues.

Housing is important for downtown revitalization. New residents contribute to downtown vibrancy, patronizing new businesses along with visitors. New housing will add architecture that will color our city center with a greater sense of place and characteristics unique to Santa Maria.

The city is applying for grants to update older infrastructure, such as water and sewer pipes—a necessity to handle the projected downtown construction.

Looking ahead, we all should be optimistic for the future of Santa Maria's downtown. ○

Alice Patino is the mayor of Santa Maria. Send a letter for publication to letters@santamariasun.com.

WRITE NOW! We want to know what you think about everything. Send your 250-word letter to Sun Letters, 2450 Skyway Drive, suite A, Santa Maria, CA 93455. You can also fax it (1-805-546-8641) or e-mail it (letters@santamariasun.com). All letters must include a name, address, and phone number for verification purposes; may be edited for space or clarity; and will be posted to santamariasun.com.

LETTER

Americans' shortsighted consumerism is sickening

Can it be true that America's sunshine patriots are wavering in their support of the Ukrainian people's valiant struggle against Putin's invasion of their country? Does "long-term COVID" include the loss of one's spine? "Live free or die" is just a motto here, but it is being put to action in Ukraine.

These same Americans said nothing while the United States pissed away billions of dollars in Iraq and Afghanistan for 20 years. Why? Because they could still buy cheap gas, eggs, and milk. Their shortsighted consumerism sickens me. "Freedom is not free," the signs and bumperstickers say, unless of course the price of gas gets too high.

Should we just urge President Zelenskyy to negotiate peace with Putin by giving him Ukraine? OK, but *only* if we really "open the border" and provide a home for 40 million Ukrainian refugees. There is plenty of room for them in underpopulated and over-represented red states, and the Ukrainians already know how to farm.

Or we can continue to let "the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air" give proof through Ukraine's fight that "our flag is still there!"

Evil men only triumph when good people do nothing. I pray that there are still enough "good Americans" out there.

Slava Ukraini!

Stephen H. Siemsen
CW3, U.S. Army (retired)
Orcutt

Correction

In the commentary, "How much does providing shelter to the homeless cost all of us?" (Feb. 23), we published the incorrect number of spaces at the Dignity/Moves temporary housing village in Santa Barbara. The correct number is 34. Based on that inaccurate number, the incorrect total dollar amount for funding the project was also printed.

We also incorrectly stated the date that the project was completed: It was started in February 2022 and completed in October 2022.

The Sun regrets the errors.

Feast and famine

to fix our broken water system, and instead we continue to have the

Are you sick of hearing about snow yet? I hope not, because I'm not sick of talking about it yet. It snowed in **Santa Barbara County!**

And not just on the peaks either. **Highway 154** closed and **Caltrans** had to break out the snow plows. **New Cuyama** was blanketed in the white stuff. This February madness follows a January that knocked our wet socks off, causing a lot of damage to homes, roadways, and the forest.

This winter has been a little loony with tropical atmospheric rivers that caused major flooding and the Arctic blast that's still blanketing some areas in white. But I'm here for it.

After what feels like a million years of drought and scattered thunderstorms, **Cachuma Lake** is so full that the **U.S. Bureau of Reclamation** released water from **Bradbury Dam** into the **Santa Ynez River** ahead of the recent storms. And it's not the first time the federal agency has done that in recent weeks.

It's amazing, no matter how you feel about dams and what we should do with "excess" water. About 10 years ago, Cachuma was scraping at the bottom of its barrel. In order to get water from the lake to the thirsty South County cities that rely on it, Cachuma needed to install a special pump. The water levels got so low, a bridge built in the 1930s saw the light of day for the first time in decades.

In fact, all of the dammed lakes in the county are full for the first time in a long time—but, of course, that doesn't mean we're out of a drought. The only damning thing is how badly we're prepared to weather the feasts and famines that California's predictably crazy weather patterns perpetually bring. That we haven't learned how

same arguments we've been having for years about water storage and who deserves access to that water.

I don't think a taller Bradbury Dam would make a damn bit of difference when the state is in drought conditions. We need to put water where it can keep and make a difference.

What makes for better water storage: dams or groundwater basins?

Groundwater basins already exist and water doesn't evaporate out of them.

Plus, there's plenty of room for more water since we've pumped them into overdraft. Good job, everyone!

It's nice to have actual water flowing in our local riverbeds instead of whipping sand and cracked earth—you know that's what riverbeds are for, right? Water. Rivers are supposed to slowly meander across the land, recharging aquifers as they go and providing water to the beasts and belles that call those habitats home.

The water that's now flowing through our often dry riverbeds isn't just going to get dumped in the ocean. Some of it stays behind and trickles down into local aquifers.

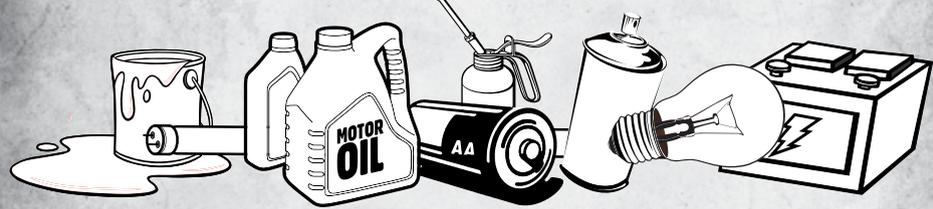
Without water releases, the groundwater along and beneath the Santa Ynez River doesn't get a chance for replenishment. So you should thank your neighborhood steelhead salmon for being an endangered species, since the federal government is required to release water for them at certain times of the year.

And you should thank the clouds for delivering us what we needed, even if it is a freezing cold deluge. ☹️

The canary is following the river bed. Send directions to canary@santamariasun.com.



WANTED



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

REWARD: A CLEAN AND SAFE ENVIRONMENT

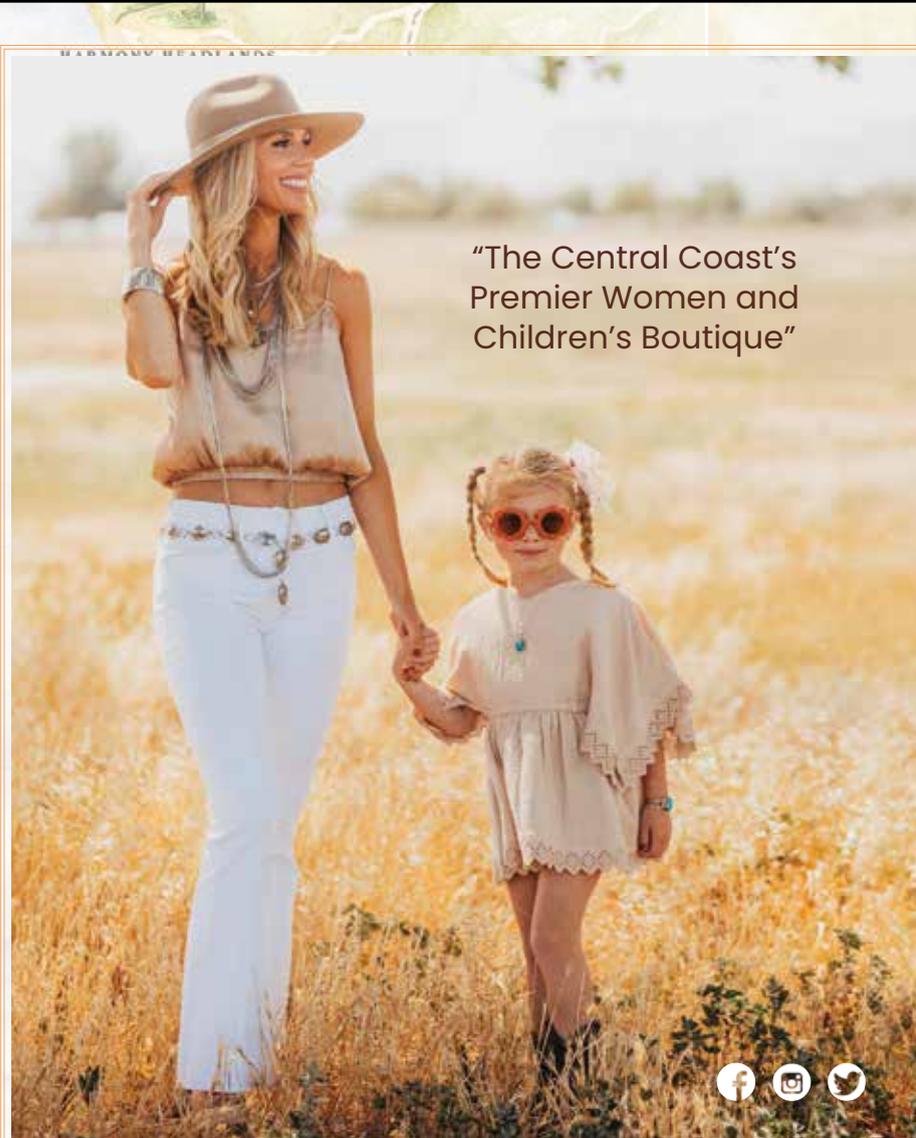
Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility
2065 East Main Street, Santa Maria
Wednesdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. • Saturdays 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.



CITY OF SANTA MARIA (805) 925-0951 ext.7270

Utilities Department

WATER • WASTEWATER • SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL & COLLECTIONS www.cityofsantamaria.org



"The Central Coast's
Premier Women and
Children's Boutique"



TIMELESS CLASSICS FOR THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

Wildflower Women

ANNUAL WAREHOUSE SALE MARCH 3-5

Our Largest Sale of the Year
and Lowest Markdowns of the Season
(Orcutt location only)

ORCUTT

3388 Orcutt Road • 805.922.9195 • Fri: 10-6 • Sat: 10-5 • Sun: 11-3

LOS OLIVOS 2920 Grand Ave.	PISMO BEACH 890 Price St.	SAN LUIS OBISPO 874 Monterey St.	PASO ROBLES 1236 Park St.
--------------------------------------	-------------------------------------	--	-------------------------------------

FOLLOW US wildflowerwomenboutique.com

MELODRAMATIC MENU

The Great American Melodrama presents its latest vaudeville revue, *The Culinary Cabaret Vaudeville Revue*, through Saturday, March 25. The new chef-themed, one-act show follows each performance of the Melodrama's current two-act production, *Lumberjacks in Love*. Call (805) 489-2499 or visit americanmelodrama.com for tickets and more info. The theater is located at 1863 Front St., Oceano.

—Caleb Wiseblood



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GREAT AMERICAN MELODRAMA

ARTS

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

THE RIVER BRIDE BY MARISELA TREVIÑO ORTA

Marisela Treviño Orta describes her lyrical play as a "grim latino fairy tale" swimming with mystery, family, true-love, and unexpected visitors. Through March 5 \$49. 805-922-8313. pcpa.org/events/the-river-bride. PCPA: The Pacific Conservatory Theatre, 800 S. College, Santa Maria.

ALMOST MAINE Residents of Almost, Maine find themselves falling in and out of love in unexpected and hilarious ways. **March 10-26** my805tix.com. Santa Maria Civic Theatre, 1660 McClelland St., Santa Maria.

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. kleindancesarts.com. KleinDance Arts, 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, everybodycandance.webs.com/.

DIY CULTURAL TRADITIONS BOOK KIT Kit pick-up begins March 4. This kit has everything you need to create a book celebrating the cultural traditions of your family and ancestors. Ask family members to write down some of their favorite cultural traditions, stories, or family recipes. Available at all branches. **March 4** Free. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria, 805-925-0994.

FAMILY CRAFT TIME Families, get creative with an afternoon of Arts and

Crafts. Try out a new medium, make something amazing together, and take home a piece of art. All skillsets are welcome. **March 7**, 4 p.m. 805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org.

Santa Maria Public Library (Altrusa Theater), 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

LEARN CALIFORNIA'S OFFICIAL DANCE: WEST COAST SWING Learn west coast swing in a casual, friendly environment, taught by Texas state swing champion, Gina Sigman. No partner needed. Tuesdays, 6:30-8:15 p.m. Beginning class is free; \$10 for advanced. 805-344-1630. Cubanissimo Cuban Coffee House, 4869 S. Bradley Rd., #118, Orcutt.

MUSIC LESSONS AT COELHO ACADEMY Learn to play piano, drums, guitar, base, ukulele, or violin, or take vocal lessons. 805-925-0464. coelhomusic.com/Lessons/lessons.html. Coelho Academy of Music, 325 E. Betteravia Rd., Santa Maria.

PAPER UMBRELLA TO-GO KITS Enjoy a fun papercraft to do on a rainy day. To-go kits will be available while supplies last at Orcutt, Los Alamos, and Cuyama branches for patrons to make their own paper umbrellas out of jewelry wire and origami paper. **March 6** Free. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria, 805-925-0994.

READ ACROSS AMERICA STORY TIME Recognize Read Across America, with a special story time celebrating the privilege and joy of reading. Story time is designed to build literacy skills and school readiness, all while having a great time. **March 2**, 10 a.m. 805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org. Santa Maria Public Library (Altrusa Theater), 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

SPRING READING PROGRAM IN-N-OUT COVER TO COVER The popular In-N-Out Reading Program returns. Sign up at any SMPL location, track books, read,

and receive rewards for every five books completed. Final date to redeem is April 29, while supplies last. For ages 4-12. Sponsored and provided by In-N-Out. **March 4-April 15** 805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org. Santa Maria Public Library (Altrusa Theater), 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

TEEN ART TIME Teens, create artwork, learn about artists, and experiment with new media in an inspiring environment with other teen artists. All skillsets are welcome. **March 9**, 4 p.m. 805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org. Santa Maria Public Library (Altrusa Theater), 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

UCSB: WE DANCE FOR YOU! Under the direction of Delila Moseley, with MC Nathan Burdine-Ortega leading the show, budding artists perform high-energy, entertaining dances from modern dance to hip-hop to swing and folkloric. With awe-inspiring moves and audience engagement, We Dance for You! is an uplifting performance. **March 4**, 11:30 a.m. 805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org. Shepard Hall Art Gallery - Santa Maria Public Library, 421 South McClelland St., 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. anc.apm.activecommunities.com/santamaria/activity/search?activity_keyword=ukulele. Elwin Mussell Senior Center, 510 Park Ave., Santa Maria.

VALLEY READS BOOK CLUB 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

BECAUSE WE PAINT: DUO EXHIBITION Garrett and Ginny Speirs, an artist couple, will be showing their oil paintings in Gallery Los Olivos in March. Garrett's work will feature distant water and landscape scenes from California, Italy, and Croatia. Ginny's work shows the close-up details of local plant life. Mondays-Sundays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. through March 31 805-688-7517. GalleryLosOlivos.com. Gallery Los Olivos, 2920 Grand Ave., Los Olivos.

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.

LEARN CALIFORNIA'S OFFICIAL DANCE: WEST COAST SWING Learn to dance west coast swing in a casual, friendly environment. No partner needed. Taught by Gina Sigman. Thursdays, 6:30-8:15 p.m. Beginning class is free; \$10 for advanced. 805-344-1630. High Roller Tiki Lounge, 433 Alisal Road, Solvang.

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.

SOUTH COAST SLO COUNTY

ABSTRACT ART EXHIBIT BY STEVE ANDREWS Steve Andrews' "Wow Factor" works are on display at The Arroyo Grande Library. 10 percent of all sales help the Central Coast Parkinson Association continue their valuable work in the community's fight against Parkinson's Disease. Through March 25 Arroyo Grande Library, 800 W. Branch, Arroyo Grande, 473-7164, slolibrary.org.

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. Lila 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). Mondays, Tuesdays, 3:15-4:15 p.m. 805-668-2125. lila.community. Lila 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. Lila 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. Lila 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. Lila 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. Lila 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. Lila Creative Community, 1147 East Grand Ave. suite 101, Arroyo Grande.

PLAY, EXPLORE, CREATE 1 (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. Lila Creative Community, 1147 East Grand Ave. suite 101, Arroyo Grande.

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.

ART AND ABOUT SLO Join us for Art and About SLO, a self-guided art walk that gives the community an opportunity to experience visual, literary, and performing art in galleries and other venues. Visit site for an updated map of locations. Events will not occur on major holidays. First Friday of every month, 5-8 p.m. Free. 805-

ARTS continued page 12

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.

INDEX

Arts.....	10
Culture & Lifestyle	12
Food & Drink.....	13
Music	13

SUBMIT
YOUR
EVENTS

**HEAR IT ALL ON THE
 NEW SOUND SYSTEM!**

ONE NIGHT ONLY | THIS SATURDAY!



The HillBenders

March 4 at 7:30pm

Winning the Telluride Bluegrass Band Competition in 2009, The HillBenders have since received acclaim for tackling the music of The Who through the prism of Bluegrass. A virtuosic fusion not to be missed.

Sponsored by
 Stacy Korsgaden & Jodi Ramirez



St. Patrick's Day in Ireland
 March 11 at 7:30pm

The sound of fiddles, uilleann pipes, bodhrán, guitar, flutes, song and dancing feet will transport you and your family to the Emerald Isle. A night of "rip-roaring music, song and dance...the epitome of family entertainment, togetherness and Irish life." (Irish News)

Produced by Kerry Irish Productions



Saturday, March 25 at 7:30pm

THE SOUND OF YOUNG AMERICA &
 THE SOUL OF MODERN MUSIC
 SUPERBAND WITH INTERNATIONALLY
 ACCLAIMED ARTISTS

Get Your Tickets Today!
 (805) 489-9444

www.clarkcenter.org

ALWAYS AMAZING. NEVER ROUTINE.



**LOS HURACANES
 DEL NORTE**

APRIL 7 | FRIDAY | 8PM



MARISELA

MAY 5 | FRIDAY | 8PM



MARIACHI REYNA

MAY 6 | SATURDAY | 8PM



RAMON AYALA

MAY 12 | FRIDAY | 8PM
 ON SALE MARCH 3

Management reserves the right to change or cancel promotions and events at any time without notice. Must be 21 or older. Gambling problem? Call 1.800.GAMBLER.

CHUMASH
 CASINO RESORT

Welcome to Freedom

**ON SALE
 NOW**

LUMBER JACKS
in Love

FEBRUARY 3 - MARCH 25



**FREE
 SMALL POPCORN!**
 Expires 3/25. Limit one per order

COURTESY PHOTO BY LUIS ESCOBAR REFLECTIONS PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO



A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT

The Pacific Conservatory Theatre (PCPA) presents its current production of The River Bride at the Severson Theatre in Santa Maria through Sunday, March 5. The show's cast includes Johnny Valerio (pictured, left), Christen Celaya (right), Rosie Quintana, Oscar Emmanuel Fabela, Hugo Carbajal, and Dena Martinez. To find out more about the show or purchase tickets, call the PCPA box office at (805) 922-8313 or visit pcpa.org. The Severson Theatre is located at 800 S. College Drive, Santa Maria.

—C.W.

ARTS from page 10

544-9251. artsobispo.org/art-and-about. San Luis Obispo, Citywide, SLO.

ART EXHIBIT: NEEDLING Featuring the Cutting Edge Fiber Art Group. Reception on March 4. Through April 3, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. 805-747-4200. artcentralslo.com/gallery/. Art Central, 1329 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo.

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.

BEACON ART SHOW A juried show held annually. The community is invited to enter up to five pieces of art. The show's opening night will be March 3. This year's theme is Artistic Spectrum. Fridays-Sundays. through April 2 Free. 805-544-4608. San Luis Obispo United Methodist Church, 1515 Fredericks Street, San Luis Obispo.

COLORS OF CONSERVATION: SPRING 2023 ART EXHIBIT San Luis Outdoor Painters for the Environment (SLOPE) and The Land Conservancy of SLO County announce this annual exhibit of original landscape paintings from artist members of SLOPE. **March 3**, 4-7 p.m. and **March 4**, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. 805-544-9096. slope-painters.com. Octagon Barn Center, 4400 Octagon Way, San Luis Obispo.

A CONVERSATION WITH RAIN PRYOR: INTERSECTING IDENTITIES Rain Pryor, comedian, actress and activist, explores racism and her bi-racial and bi-cultural identity with insight and humor. This event is a part of the SLO Jewish Film and Learning Festival. **March 11**, 7-9 p.m. \$25. slojfff.com. Palm Theatre, 817 Palm St, San Luis Obispo.

CRITICAL ENCOUNTERS Beginning with monoprints and photography from the 1980s, this exhibition follows the lineage of Nixon Borah's practice towards his recent digital composites. Through April 3, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. 805-543-8562. sloma.org/exhibits/current/. San Luis Obispo Museum of Art, 1010 Broad St., San Luis Obispo.

FLORAL FEMALE SCULPTURE SERIES A seven-session class, walking students through a young woman sculpture with floral elements. Beginners welcome. Tuesdays, Fridays, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. through March 24 \$250. anamcre.com/booking. Anam Cre Pottery Studio, 1243 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo.

HOME/WORK Features the work of 14 contemporary artists whose work questions our collective experiences of home: Brandy Eve Allen, Zalika Azim, Kate Barbee, Phoebe Boswell, Andrea Bowers, Allana Clarke, Geoffrey Chadsey, Judy Chicago, Mary Kelly, Emmett Moore, Sophia Narrett, Woody de Othello, Greg Scott, and Chiffon Thomas. Through March 5, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. 805-543-8562. sloma.org/exhibition/home-work/. San Luis Obispo Museum of Art, 1010 Broad St., San Luis Obispo.

LIZ MARUSKA'S ART: ENJOYING BIG SUR Wander through Maruska's spellbinding impressions of this iconic seashore in a euphoric and inspiring display of art rendered in a luminous palette of colors that glows with vitality. **March 3-31**. 805-550-3308. SLOProvisions.com. SLO Provisions, 1255 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo.

NATURE NIGHTS An immersive exhibition for the entire family featuring Bryn Forbes' large format projections, Michael Reddell's wire sculpture, and Kody Cava's colorfully creative illumination of the garden areas. Food, wine, and beer available for purchase. Fridays, Saturdays, 6-8 p.m. through March 18 \$14.75-\$24.75. 805-541-1400. slobg.org. San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden, 3450 Dairy Creek Rd., San Luis Obispo.

PAINT YOUR PET Join Art Social 805 at Art Central where you will be guided through the process of creating a one of a kind masterpiece of your very own pet. **March 5**, 1-3 p.m. \$45. 805-747-4200. Art Central, 1329 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo, artcentralslo.wordpress.com.

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.

RING OF FIRE: THE MUSIC OF JOHNNY CASH From the songbook of Johnny Cash comes this unique, original musical about love and faith, struggle and success, rowdiness and redemption, and the healing power of home and family. Through March 12 slorep.org. San Luis Obispo Repertory Theatre, 888 Morro St., San Luis Obispo, 805-786-2440.

SECOND SATURDAYS AT SLOMA Intergenerational learning and creative expression for children of all ages. Families are invited to SLOMA's lawn to learn about the visual arts together using our unique activity kits and create an art project inspired by our exhibitions. Second Saturday of every month, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. 805-543-8562. sloma.org/events/second-saturdays/. San Luis Obispo Museum of Art, 1010 Broad St., San Luis Obispo.

SLO JEWISH FILM AND LEARNING FESTIVAL The JCC-Federation of SLO and Hillel CalPoly are coordinating to present the SLO Jewish Film and Learning Festival. With in-person screenings at The Palm and Cal Poly. **March 9-11** Varying by events. slojfff.com/. Palm Theatre, 817 Palm St, San Luis Obispo.

NORTH SLO COUNTY

AN EVENING OF COMEDY Bob Zany headlines this evening of hilarious entertainment, signature cocktails, and appetizers from Hemingway's Steakhouse. Two showtimes available. **March 4**, 6-7:30 & 8:30-10 p.m. \$38.50-\$55.00. Park Ballroom, 1232 Park St., Paso Robles.

NORTH COAST SLO COUNTY

THE PSYCHIC A failed mystery writer soon finds himself embroiled in a string of bizarre and hilarious murders. Fridays-Sundays. through March 12 my805tix.com. By The Sea Productions, 545 Shasta Ave., 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.

ANDROID PHONE CLASS First Thursday of every month Oasis Center, 420 Soares Ave., Orcutt, 805-937-9750.

BOUNCING BABY STORY TIME Explore pre-literacy skills through music, movement, and visual stimulation, and promote a healthy bond between baby and caregiver. Learn, connect, and grow with other babies and their caregivers. For 0-12 months. Wednesdays, 10 a.m. through April 12 805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org. Santa Maria Public Library (Altrusa Theater), 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

CENTRAL COAST CORVETTE CLUB Open to Corvette owners and enthusiasts. First Thursday of every month, 7 p.m. Free. 805-934-3948. Home Motors, 1313 E. Main St., Santa Maria.

FEEL GOOD YOGA Tuesdays, Thursdays, 8:30-9:30 a.m. 805-937-9750. oasisorcutt.org. Oasis Center, 420 Soares Ave., Orcutt.

FIRST FRIDAY First Friday of every month facebook.com/firstfridayoldtownorcutt/. Historic Old Town Orcutt, S. Broadway and Union Ave., Orcutt.

GROUP WALKS AND HIKES Check website for the remainder of this year's group hike dates and private hike offerings. ongoing 805-343-2455. dunescenter.org. Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Center, 1065 Guadalupe St., Guadalupe.

HOMEWORK HELP: SANTA MARIA PUBLIC LIBRARY Volunteer tutors are available to help with assignments and work on skills. For children in grades K-6. First come, first served; no sign-ups are required. No events scheduled between April 10 and 13. Mondays-Thursdays. through May 25 Free. 805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

LET'S BLOW OFF SOME STEAM Come to a special story time filled with exploration and discovery. For ages 3-5. Program funded in part or whole by California State Library. **March 10**, 11 a.m. 805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org. Santa Maria Public Library (Altrusa Theater), 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

PRESCHOOL ART TIME Assist your preschooler in creating a masterpiece. Preschool Art Time focuses on building fine motor skills. Encourage creativity and explore different media, and come dressed for mess. For ages 3-5. **March 6**, 11 a.m. 805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org. Santa Maria Public Library (Altrusa Theater), 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME Story time is designed to build literacy skills and school readiness, all while having a great time. This fun story time will feature songs, fingerplays, and stories. For ages 3-6. Mondays, 10 a.m. through April 10 805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org. Santa Maria Public Library (Altrusa Theater), 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

SANTA MARIA PUBLIC LIBRARY: IF/ THEN GENDER EQUITY FAMILY STEAM PACKS Packs feature a fun project and highlights a female leader in their STEAM field. This project was supported in whole or in part by the If/Then Initiative, a national effort sponsored by Lyda Hill Philanthropies. **March 4** Free. 805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

SANTA MARIA VALLEY RAILWAY HISTORICAL MUSEUM TOURS The collection includes late 1800's-early 1900's Engine used by the Betteravia Union Sugar Company, a 1930's Sacramento Northern box car, and more. Second Saturday of every month, 12-4 p.m. smvrhm.com. Santa Maria Transit Center, Miller and Boone Streets, Santa Maria.

TEEN BOLT Teens, have a chance to 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. Light snacks will be provided. **March 10**, 4:30 p.m. 805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org. Santa Maria Public Library (Altrusa Theater), 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

TEEN GAMING Teens, come for a Friday afternoon of gaming. Play to win or sit back and watch the action on a large screen. Light snacks will be provided. **March 3**, 4:30 p.m. 805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org. Shepard Hall Art Gallery - Santa Maria Public Library, 421 South 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.

WOMEN, LOVE, FREEDOM: SMPL SPECIAL EVENT Dr. Golnaz Agahi will speak about her personal experience living in Tehran during the Iranian revolution and connect it to women's rights in Iran and across the world, including the U.S. This is a hybrid event; patrons may attend in person or via Zoom. **March 8**, 5 p.m. Free. 805-925-0994. cityofsantamaria.org. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

YES SHE CAN: FAMILY STORY TIME Celebrate Women's History Month with a special story time. Story time is designed to build literacy skills and school readiness, all while having a great time. **March 6**, 4 p.m. 805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org. Santa Maria Public Library (Altrusa Theater), 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

YOUTH FAMILY HISTORY PACK: ALL LOCATIONS Learn and track family history with the Youth Family History Pack. Create a family tree, fill in information on relatives, ask questions, and share stories with loved ones while documenting and learning your family's history. Program funded in part or whole by California State Library. **March 4** 805-925-0994. engagedpatrons.org. Santa Maria Public Library, 421 S. McClelland St., Santa Maria.

SOUTH COAST SLO COUNTY

FREE SEMINAR: THE TRUTH ABOUT DOWNSIZING AND DECLUTTERING Leave with a simple plan to downsize, organize, and declutter your life. Be prepared for a future move. **March 2**, 10-11:30 a.m. Free. 805-710-2415. Hilton Garden Inn, 601 James Way, 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.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WATCH AND CLOCK COLLECTORS, CHPT. 52 Come join a friendly meeting of watch and clock collectors. Members bring watches and clocks to show, plus there are discussions of all things horological. Second Sunday of every month, 1:30-3 p.m. 805-547-1715. new.nawcc.org/index.php/chapter-52-los-padres. Central Coast Senior Center, 1580 Railroad St., Oceano.

PILATES & KAYAK TO THE LIGHTHOUSE Paddle a kayak out to the Point San Luis Lighthouse for a one of a kind Pilates session led by Vanessa Dominguez of Tabula Rasa Pilates. **March 5**, 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. my805tix.com. Point San Luis Lighthouse, 1 Lighthouse Rd., Avila Beach.

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.

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. theartofsilence.net. Online, See website, San Luis Obispo.

GARDEN FOUNDER WALK AND TALK Walk and talk with Eve Vigil in the Botanical Garden each month on the first Tuesday. Free garden tour with paid admission to the Garden. Free for

members. No need to RSVP, just show up and enjoy. First Tuesday of every month, 11 a.m.-noon Free with \$5 Garden Entry. 805-541-1400. slobg.org/calendar. San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden, 3450 Dairy Creek Rd., San Luis Obispo.

THE GRIEF RECOVERY METHOD (ZOOM) Part of the Cuesta College Community Educational Series. Call or go online for more details. Tuesdays, 6 a.m.-8 p.m. through March 21 \$150 includes book. 714-273-9014. griefrecoverymethod.com. 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. 805-528-3194. Hope House Wellness Center, 1306 Nipomo St., San Luis Obispo.

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

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.

SALLY, THOMAS, OPRAH, AND ME: A FAMILY STORY AAUW SLO is presenting member and local resident Mary Jefferson, a descendant of President Thomas Jefferson and Sally Hemings, who will talk about an often ignored chapter of our history as well as sharing her personal journey uncovering her heritage. **March 11**, 10-11:30 a.m. San Luis Obispo Library Community Room, 995 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo, 805-781-5991.

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.

TAICHI AND QIGONG ONLINE With Gary West through SLO Adult School. Held Wednesdays, at 8:25 a.m. (TaiChi) and 9:35 a.m. (QiGong). Wednesdays. through May 25 \$77 for semester. 805-549-1222. ae.slucsd.org. 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.

NORTH COAST SLO COUNTY

SHAKTI: EMBODYING THE GODDESS This four-class series will explore the iconography, mythology, and devotional practices of 4 goddesses: Durga, Kali, Saraswati, and Lakshmi. Guided by Dawn Feuerberg, certified classical ashtanga yoga teacher and tantra meditation instructor. **March 9**, 5:15-6:45 p.m. \$44; \$148 for series. 805-540-1762. my805tix.com. 9th Limb Yoga, 845 Napa Ave., Morro Bay.

FOOD & DRINK

SANTA MARIA VALLEY/LOS ALAMOS

2023 KIWANIS CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE Each meal includes a generous portion of lean corned beef, red potatoes, cabbage, carrots, onions, horseradish, and a freshly baked roll. **March 12**, 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Elwin Mussell Senior Center, 510 Park Ave., Santa Maria.

FOOD & DRINK continued page 13



Winter/Spring 2023 on stands February through July

Pick up a copy or read it online: NewTimesSLO.com

New Times: San Luis Obispo County 805-546-8208
Sun: Northern Santa Barbara County 805-347-1986

New Times Sun

MENUS

The Central Coast Guide to All Things Food and Drink



The Fall/Winter 2022-23 issue is on stands now!

Pick up a copy or check it out online at NewTimesSLO.com

NEXT ISSUE: SPRING/SUMMER 2023
BOOK ADS BY: MARCH 16, 2023

New Times Sun
SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY 805-546-8208
NO. SANTA BARBARA COUNTY 805-347-1968

FOOD & DRINK from page 12

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 Santa Barbara County. Embark on a journey through the cuisine, spirits, wines, and beauty of the West Coast. **March 3, March 4 and March 5** Based on room rate. 661-766-2825. cuyamabuckhorn.com. 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.

SIMPLY SOURDOUGH First Thursday of every month Oasis Center, 420 Soares Ave., Orcutt, 805-937-9750.

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.

SOUTH COAST SLO COUNTY

FISH FRY The St. Patrick's Italian Catholic Federation (ICF) is offering a seasonal fish and chips and coleslaw dinner in the parish hall. Dine in or take out. Fridays, 4-7 p.m. through March 10 \$10-\$20. St. Patrick's Church, 501 Fair Oaks Ave., Arroyo Grande, spatsag.org.

SOURD BREADS FROM MANY CULTURES: FERMENTATION CLASS Join Jennifer of

Kulturhaus Brewing and Monika of Colony Culture and learn about the traditional sourdough technique to make loaves, pizza, and naan as well as gluten-free fermented flatbreads such as dosa and injera. **March 7**, 5:30-7:30 p.m. \$50. eventbrite.com. Kulturhaus Brewing Company, 779 Price St., Pismo Beach, 805-801-6627.

SUNSET DINNER AND WINE PAIRING Features a five-course plated dinner with wine pairings by local, women-owned Arianna Wines. **March 10**, 4:30-6:30 p.m. \$65. eventbrite.com. Sunsets at Pismo, 1 Pier Plaza, Pismo Beach, 805-858-8220.

TRIVIA NIGHT Join BrainStew Trivia for a hilariously witty evening of trivia in Pismo. Teams of 1 to 4 people. Prizes awarded to the first and second place teams. Kitchen is open until 7:30 p.m. for brain fuel. Beer, cider, wine, and non-alcoholic options available. First Thursday of every month, 6:30-8 p.m. Free to play. 805-295-6171. kulturhausbrewing.com. Kulturhaus Brewing Company, 779 Price St., Pismo Beach.

Spread the word!

Send event information to calendar@santamariasun.com



SAN LUIS OBISPO

AT HER TABLE X CONSUMED PODCAST: APRON STRINGS Join Jaime Lewis of the Consumed Podcast for Apron Strings, a conversation about motherhood and the hospitality industry. This live recording before an audience will be happening at There Does

COURTESY PHOTO BY RICARDO HERRERA



FRIGHT NIGHTS

Cirque Italia presents Paranormal Cirque at the Santa Maria Fairpark, starting on Thursday, March 2, at 7:30 p.m. Additional performances will take place on Friday, March 3, at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, March 4, at 6:30 and 9:30 p.m., Sunday, March 5, at 5:30 and 8:30 p.m., and Monday, March 6, at 7:30 p.m. The show includes several horror-themed circus acts (ages under 18 must be accompanied by parent or guardian). Visit paranormalcirque.com for tickets and more info. —C.W.

Not Exist. **March 7**, 6-8 p.m. Free (RSVP). eventbrite.com. There Does Not Exist Brewery, 4070 Earthwood Lane, Suite 110, San Luis Obispo, 805-351-2664.

BAR TAKEOVER: IN THE SPIRIT OF WOMEN Visit Nightcap in Granada Hotel and Bistro for a special night with Dominique Gonzales from Root Elixirs and Monica from Re: Find Distillery as they mix delicious cocktails. **March 7**, 5-7 p.m. Free. athertable.com. Granada Hotel and Bistro, 1126 Morro St., San Luis Obispo.

BOOZY HIGH TEA PARTY Saints Barrel Wine Bar is hosting a boozy tea party featuring Secret Garden Herb Shop Teas, Bramble Pie Company, and Breda SLO's gourmet chocolates. **March 12**, 12-2 & 2-4 p.m. \$75. eventbrite.com. Saints Barrel Wine Bar, 1021 Higuera St., San Luis Obispo, 805-439-1929.

CRAFTY WOMEN TASTINGS AND TOUR Hop on the Be Hoppy Bus for this At Her Table event and meet the women behind some of the best craft beverages in the San Luis Obispo area. Tour includes transportation, beer, wine and cider tastings, along with lunch, cheeses, and charcuteries. **March 11**, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. \$175. my805tix.com. Be Hoppy Tours, Call or visit site for address, San Luis Obispo, 866-234-6779.

MEZCAL TASTING EXPERIENCE Join Ariette of Rambling Spirits in discovering four different mezcals from the Rambling Spirits Workshop private collection, and talk about the process.

For up to 15 guests only. **March 9**, 6-8 p.m. \$40. eventbrite.com. Rambling Spirits, 3845 South Higuera St., suite 114, San Luis Obispo.

NORTH SLO COUNTY

AT HER TABLE STREET FESTIVAL Support local, women-owned food and beverage companies at a street festival in downtown Atascadero. Food and drinks will be available for purchase by individual vendors, and can be enjoyed with live music. **March 12**, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free entry. athertable.com. Downtown Atascadero, Entrada Ave., Atascadero.

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.

KEEPING IT GREEN DANCE The Santa Maria Valley Senior Citizens Club presents "Keeping it Green", a dance with Riptide Big Band, vocalists, Bob Nations and Mitch Latting. Free thanks to grant funding by Community Foundation of San Luis Obispo County. **March 12**, 1:30-4 p.m. Free. 775-813-5186. RiptideBB.com. Elwin Mussell Senior Center, 510 Park Ave., Santa Maria.

MUSIC AT ROSCOE'S KITCHEN Live DJ and karaoke every Friday and Saturday night.

Featured acts include Soul Fyah Band, DJ Nasty, DJ Jovas, and more. Fridays, Saturdays, 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Roscoe's Kitchen, 229 Town Center E, Santa Maria, 805-623-8866.

MUSIC AT THE LIBRARY: HILARY CLARK, CELLO AND LYNNE GARRETT, PIANO Hilary Clark, principal cellist of the Santa Maria Philharmonic, will be joined by pianist Lynne Garrett, in a performance of some of their favorite works; music by Schubert, Prokofiev, Faure, Debussy, and Lukas Foss. **March 11**, 3-4 p.m. Free. 805-925-0412. smphilharmonic.org/events-concerts/. Santa Barbara Humane-Santa Maria Training Center, 1517 Stowell Center Plaza, Suite B, Santa Maria.

SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

GEORGE CLINTON LIVE **March 4**, 8 p.m. \$49 and up. Chumash Casino Resort, 3400 E. Highway 246, Santa Ynez, 800-248-6274, chumashcasino.com/entertainment.

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

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 smivt.org/syv-concert-series.html. St. Mark's in the Valley Episcopal Church, 2901 Nojoqui Ave., Los Olivos.

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

ANGIE AND THE NIGHTMARES LIVE A night of music with Angie and the Nightmares and Mike Healy and the Canaries. This evening will feature country music, old time rock and roll, folk, and more. **March 11**, 8 p.m. my805tix.com. Flower City Ballroom, 110 W. Ocean Ave., Lompoc.

AN EVENING OF DEEP FUNKY HOUSE MUSIC ON VINYL WITH DJ MARTIN Presented by Anomaly House. **March 4**, 8 p.m. my805tix.com. Flower City Ballroom, 110 W. Ocean Ave., Lompoc.

FLANNEL 101 LIVE An evening of alternative rock with the Central Coast's premier '90s tribute act. All ages welcome. **March 3** 10. my805tix.com. Flower City Ballroom, 110 W. Ocean Ave., Lompoc.

THE GEARWORX: GOTH, INDUSTRIAL, DARKWAVE, AND MORE WITH DJ NEON MANIAC **March 8**, 7 p.m. 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.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS LIVE A night of classic rock. **March 10**, 8 p.m. \$10. Flower City Ballroom, 110 W. Ocean Ave., Lompoc.

SOUTH COAST SLO COUNTY

ANAM CARA AT BIG VARIETY NIGHT Part of Ted Waterhouse's Big Variety Night, the premier local music gathering for more than 30 years. Musicians from all over come to play a short set of their best stuff. **March 5**, 6-9:30 p.m. Tips accepted. 805-710-3309. Puffers of Pismo, 781 Price St., Pismo Beach, puffersofpismo.com.

THE TAPROOTS AT PUFFERS The Taproots, best known for their original compositions, strong harmonies, and guitar work, bring their lively mix of Americana, rock, and jazz-flavored music to Puffers Of Pismo. **March 2**, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Free. 805-773-6563. puffersofpismo.com. Puffers of Pismo, 781 Price St., Pismo Beach.

SAN LUIS OBISPO

BRAVE NEW WORLD Opens with LA-based composer and Grammy winner, Patrice Rushen's "Sinfonia." Keeping with the LA connection, soloist in Schumann's Cello Concerto transcription for violin, is LA Philharmonic first violin, and recent Nipomo resident, Mischa Lefkowitz. **March 4**, 7:30 p.m. \$21-\$89. 805-356-1438. slosymphony.org/. Performing Arts Center, 1 Grand Ave., San Luis Obispo.

CAL POLY WIND BANDS: BANDEMONIUM The Cal Poly Bands welcome Jennifer Martin and the Cuesta Wind Ensemble for a program that will feature three collegiate ensembles — separate and combined — in works inspired by theatrical stage and screen. **March 5**, 3 p.m. \$15 and \$20 general; \$10 students. 805-756-4849. music.calpoly.edu/calendar/. Performing Arts Center, 1 Grand Ave., San Luis Obispo.

EASTON EVERETT LIVE AT MULLIGANS Easton Everett plays guitar-woven indie music that has an authentic feel and is easy to listen to. **March 2**, 5-7 p.m. Free. eastoneverett.com/. Mulligans Bar and Grill, 6460 Ana Bay Rd, Avila, (805) 595-4000.

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.

EMILY FRANKLIN LIVE Come over to the tasting room for a jazz show from Emily Franklin and delicious ciders on tap. **March 3**, 6-8 p.m. Free. 805-721-6878. SLO Cider, 3419 Roberto Ct., Suite C, San Luis Obispo.

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 side kick 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, bontempscreelecafe.com/index.htm.

OPEN MIC NIGHT IN THE TASTING ROOM Kelsey Rae hosts this open mic event for music and comedy in the tasting room. Second Thursday of every month, 7-9 p.m. Free show. 805-721-6878. SLO Cider, 3419 Roberto Ct., Suite C, San Luis Obispo.

SHABANG BATTLE OF THE BANDS All ages welcome. **March 2**, 8 p.m. The Fremont Theater, 1035 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo, 805-546-8600, fremontslo.com.

SONGWRITERS AT PLAY FEATURES ZOE FITZGERALD CARTER AND KYLE HUSKEY Songwriters at Play host Steve Key will share the stage with Zoe Fitzgerald Carter, and local writer Kyle Huskey. They will swap songs in-the-round, Nashville-style. Cynthia Ford joins for a guest set. **March 8**, 6-8 p.m. Free. 805-204-6821. songwritersatplay.com/events. SLO Wine and Beer Company, 3536 S. Higuera Street, Suite 250, San Luis Obispo.

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.

TAKE ME TO THE RIVER: NOLA LIVE Featuring George Porter Jr. and Runnin' Pardeners and Jon Cleary and The Absolute Monster Gentlemen. **March 5**, 8 p.m. The Fremont Theater, 1035 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo, 805-546-8600, fremontslo.com.

VANCE FAHIE BENEFIT CONCERT WITH THE KICKS AND TRUE ZION 100 percent of tickets sold to this concert go to Vance Fahie and his recovery. **March 4**, 7 p.m. \$12. slobrew.com. SLO Brew Rock, 855 Aerovista Pl., San Luis Obispo, 805-543-1843. ○

PHOTO BY CALEB WISEBLOOD

ARTS BRIEFS

Local author holds talk in Los Olivos on new wildlife book

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SANTA YNEZ VALLEY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY



UCSB professor Peter Alagona will host a talk about his new book, *The Accidental Ecosystem: People and Wildlife in American Cities*, at St. Mark's-in-the-Valley in Los Olivos on March 2, starting at 7 p.m.

Alagona's book addresses topics centered on wildlife populations in cities in North America. Since World War II, cities throughout the U.S. have attracted unprecedented numbers of wild animals, according to the book. Today, most American cities have more wildlife in and around them than at any other time in history.

A professor in the environmental studies program at UCSB, Alagona previously studied at UCLA, Harvard, and Stanford before teaching in Santa Barbara. He is the author behind two books on American environmental history and human relations with wildlife, as well as more than 50 articles. Alagona is also the founder and facilitator of the California Grizzly Research Network, which conducts research on the past and potential future of brown bears in California, according to press materials.

Alagona's talk at St. Marks-in-the-Valley will be held in Stacy Hall and will also be streamed via Zoom. This program is hosted by the Santa Ynez Valley Natural History Society. Call (805) 693-5683 or visit synature.org for more info on the event.

Gallery Los Olivos showcases oil paintings in new duo show, 'Because We Paint'

Gallery Los Olivos' latest duo exhibition, *Because We Paint*, premiered in early March and is scheduled to remain on display through March 31.

This exhibit highlights a collection of oil paintings by local artists and husband and wife Garret and Ginny Speirs. An opening reception for the showcase will be held on Sunday, March 5, from 1 to 4 p.m.

IMAGE COURTESY OF GALLERY LOS OLIVOS

Many of Garrett's paintings in the exhibit are landscapes or waterscapes based on areas in California, Italy, and Croatia, while Ginny's close-up, still life pieces in the show capture local plant life.

"Since moving to Santa Barbara more than 21 years ago, I've been inspired by the area's organic objects just outside my studio door and at our local farmers' market," Ginny wrote in an artist statement.

Call (805) 688-7517 or visit gallerylosolivos.com for more details on *Because We Paint* and other upcoming exhibits hosted at Gallery Los Olivos. The gallery is located at 2920 Grand Ave., Los Olivos. For more info on Garrett or Ginny, visit garrettspeirs.com or ginnyspeirs.com, respectively. ○

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

Playful palette

Valley Art Gallery highlights whimsical paintings by Elinor Plumer

BY CALEB WISEBLOOD

Constantly inspired by her surroundings, Valley Art Gallery's current featured artist is always on the lookout for potential subjects, no matter where she is or what she's up to.

"If I have time, I'll sketch. Otherwise, I'll take a picture," said local artist Elinor Plumer, who often refers to her own drawings and photos before starting a painting in her studio space at her home in Orcutt.

Plumer's artworks are the focus of Valley Art Gallery's latest solo exhibition at the Santa Maria Airport, where the gallery periodically hosts showcases of artists working in various media. The exhibit debuted in February and is scheduled to remain on display through the end of March.

Displayed across a wide wall in the airport's lobby, an arrangement of both watercolor and acrylic paintings by Plumer provides an interesting contrast between her uses of the two disciplines, and two different eras in her life. For decades, Plumer primarily worked in watercolor before switching to acrylic painting about three years ago.

"I just kind of wanted to make a change," said Plumer, who described her watercolor style as strict, careful, and precise, and her acrylic approach as more freeing and experimental in comparison.

"I felt that a bit of whimsy would turn me loose from my own self-imposed standard of perfection. Watercolor requires a great deal of patience and planning; as much as I love the fluidity of the discipline, I felt that adding more playfulness to my work would increase my creativity," Plumer said. "I decided to experiment with acrylics and found out it allowed for more spontaneous movement."

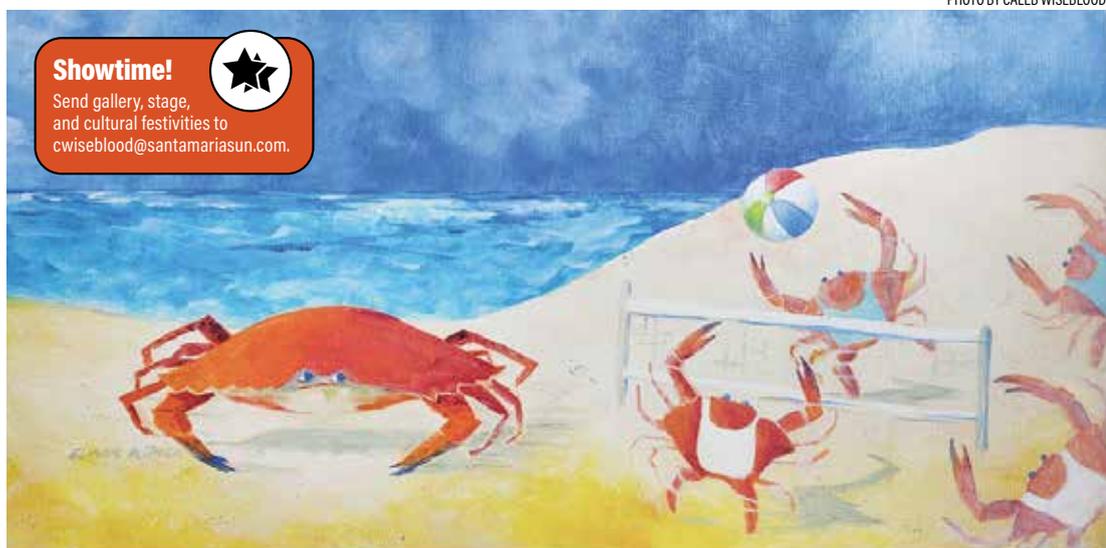
Between her watercolor and acrylic paintings, one notable similarity is that Plumer often captures animals in both media. Her featured paintings in the airport exhibit include the watercolor piece, *She's Beautiful and She's Mine*, in which Plumer illustrates a quartet of ostriches, and the acrylic painting, *Board of Directors*, which shows a trio of crows.

The latter was inspired when she saw some crows that looked like they were deliberating over something serious, as if they were in the middle of a board of directors meeting, Plumer said, recalling the inspiration for the recent painting.

Plumer's transition to acrylic painting happened around the start of the pandemic. One of her acrylic pieces in the show, *Splash*, simply depicts a wave crashing upon a rock in the middle of the ocean, based on a thought Plumer had during a beach day.

Showtime!

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



TIDES OF MARCH: Several paintings by Orcutt artist Elinor Plumer are currently on display through the end of March at the Santa Maria Public Airport, including *Boilers Vs. Old Bay*, which depicts crabs playing volleyball.

PHOTO BY CALEB WISEBLOOD

Solo round

Valley Art Gallery presents a showcase of acrylic and watercolor artworks by Orcutt-based painter Elinor Plumer at the Santa Maria Public Airport, where the exhibit will remain on display through the end of March. The airport is located at 3217 Terminal Drive, Santa Maria. Visit valleygallery.org for more info.

"That was during COVID. I went down to Pismo Beach and I found that rock and thought, 'Oh, that's what I feel like. I'm stuck, stuck here, waiting,'" Plumer said.

Originally from New Jersey, Plumer has lived in Orcutt since the 1980s and became serious about painting after taking classes instructed by Nat Fast and George Muro at Allan Hancock College.

Later, Plumer herself taught art courses for several years as part of Hancock's extended community education program. If she ever decided to get back into teaching, Plumer has a specific kind of class in mind.

"I was thinking it would be fun to do a class with art and meditation," said the artist, who meditates "a little bit," but not nearly as much as she paints.

"Painting is my relaxation," Plumer said. "Art is a wonderful thing. It's therapeutic, it's meditative, it's healing, and if you're worried or concerned or fearful about something, you start painting and everything goes away." ○

Arts Editor Caleb Wiseblood finds writing to be therapeutic, most of the time at least. Send comments to cwiseblood@santamariasun.com.

PHOTO BY CALEB WISEBLOOD



CROW AND TELL: *Board of Directors* was inspired by some crows that to artist Elinor Plumer looked like they were deliberating over something serious, as if in a boardroom meeting.



OSTRICH ODE: Elinor Plumer's artworks displayed in her current solo show at the Santa Maria Airport are available for sale, including her ostrich painting, *She's Beautiful and She's Mine*, priced at \$450 (including tax).

PHOTO COURTESY OF ELINOR PLUMER



PROLIFIC PAINTER: Elinor Plumer has lived in Orcutt since the 1980s, and her paintings have been showcased in various venues throughout Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties over the years.



PACIFIC CONSERVATORY THEATRE

A beloved story of matchmaking misadventures and romantic intrigue.

WEST COAST PREMIERE!

Emma

Adapted for the stage by Joseph Hanreddy
From the novel by Jane Austen

MARCH 2-19
Marian Theatre
Santa Maria

TICKETS 805-922-8313 | PCPA.ORG
GROUPS* 805-928-7731 x.4150



\$40 Gen Ad
\$80 VIP
ALL AGES
11a-5pm



WELCOME TO THE 805

SPRING CLASSIC



Host DJ/MC
DAPECHMODE



Saturday
March 25, 2023

TICKET LOCATIONS SANTA MARIA

Amsterdam Smoke Shop - 437 S Broadway
Dr.Sneaks805 - 1523 S Broadway. Ste D

LOMPOC

The Roots - 805 W Laurel Ave
New Era Sound - 900 N H St
Cold Coast Brewery - 118 W. Ocean Ave.

GROVER BEACH

Amsterdam Smoke Shop - 1519 W Grand Ave

PRE-REGISTRATION

10x20 Lot \$40 Grass Area \$60 Asphalt Area
20x20 Lot \$90 Barn Area

ALL MAKES ALL MODELS

CONTACT: FRESH FRANK
805 310 6292

ONLINE ACCESS CODE
REGISTRATION

The Magical Music of



MOTOWN

THE SOUND OF YOUNG AMERICA
& THE SOUL OF MODERN MUSIC
SUPERBAND WITH INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED ARTISTS

LIVE ON STAGE RECREATING MANY CLASSIC HITS OF:
THE TEMPTATIONS, THE SUPREMES, MARTHA AND THE VANDELLAS, MARVIN GAYE,
THE FOUR TOPS, FONTELLA BASS, THE JACKSON 5, STEVIE WONDER ...AND MANY MORE MOTOWN LEGENDS.

THE CLARK CENTER - ARROYO GRANDE C.A.
Saturday 25th March

Don't miss this UPLIFTING and AMAZING show!!! BOOK NOW!
www.clarkcenter.org

CMT RANCH 5200 DOMINION RD ORCUTT, CA
LIVE MUSIC - FOOD TRUCKS - KID ZONE
WELCOMETOTHE805.COM

White bloody lines

Elizabeth Banks (*Pitch Perfect 2*, *Charlie's Angels*) directs this action comedy inspired by a 1985 true story about black bear ingesting 75 pounds of smuggled cocaine. (95 min.)

Glen: OK, first of all, to call the story "inspired by" is a stretch. From what I've gleaned, a drug dealer (Matthew Rhys) jettisoned cocaine out of a plane into the forest before falling to his death, and a 175-pound black bear ate a bunch of the coke and was later found dead. Beyond that, the story about a rampaging coke-fueled 500-pound "apex predator" attacking hikers, Elsa (Hannah Hoekstra) and Olaf (Kristofer Hivju), is all in screenwriter Jimmy Warden's imagination. So is the storyline about a mother, Sari (Keri Russell), in search of her middle school daughter, Dee Dee (Brooklyn Prince), and Dee Dee's classmate, Henry (Christian Convery), who skipped school and wandered into the bear's territory. And the side story about park ranger Liz (Margo Martindale) and her crush, Peter (Jesse Tyler Ferguson), a game warden. And the trio of hooligans—Kid (Aaron Holliday), Vest (J.B. Moore), and Ponytail (Leo Hanna)—marauding through the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest park annoying hikers. And the part about the drug dealer, Syd White (Ray Liotta), coming to recover his missing coke, preceded by his henchman, Daveed (O'Shea Jackson Jr.), and

bereaved son, Eddie (Alden Ehrenreich), who lost his wife to cancer and is having a hard time being a father. And yet another side plot about a detective, Bob (Isiah Whitlock Jr.), who's hot on Syd's trail. The result is a silly, entertaining romp—gory, campy, spoofy. I sort of loved it.

Anna: This film was way more fun to watch than I was expecting. I guess I needed a reminder that Banks is hilarious both as an actress and a filmmaker, and she did a great job with this silly story. It has gore—limbs go flying as this beast gets all hopped up on rowdy powder. I'd heard the story long ago. In fact, I think the actual bear this is based on was taxidermied and has been posthumously named "Pablo Eskobear." The film definitely has very little in common with the actual story—there were no victims besides the bear. But this

COCAINE BEAR

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, Movies Lompoc, Regal Edwards Stadium 10 Arroyo Grande**

version is much more fun. A hopped-up, drug-fueled bear ready to tear into anyone and everyone is just plain funny. I was a little worried that this film was going to be dumb and far from funny, and I'm so glad how wrong I was! It was also bittersweet to see Liotta in this role as well since he passed not long ago.

Glen: The actors were certainly game for the fun and went all-in. Liotta, in what was one of his final film roles (imdb.com says he's got another film competed and two more in post-production), was riveting as the desperate drug dealer. Martindale is always a welcome addition, and her amorous Ranger Liz had



JUST SAY YES! *Cocaine Bear* delivers campy, gory, silly fun, screening in local theaters.

to hide her frustration with the interference in her wooing process of Peter. Speaking of Ferguson as Peter, he was definitely my favorite character—earnest and goofy with a Chris Elliott vibe and a Captain Kangaroo haircut. As for the bear, it's CGI and you can tell, but like the CGI sled dog, Buck, from *Call of the Wild* (2020), I'd rather a real animal not be put through the torture of making a film. This is going to be one of those love-it or hate-it films. If you like gore and absurdist comedy, *Cocaine Bear* will deliver.

Anna: I also really liked Convery, the kid who played Henry. He's hilarious and adorable. The band of troubled teens was also fun. Holliday as Kid was a great character to tag along with Daveed and Eddie. I had a whole lot of fun watching this one, and I can totally see saying yes to watching it again when it pops up on streaming services. ○

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

Film Reviews

MR. HARRIGAN'S PHONE

What's it rated? **PG-13**
 When? **2022**
 Where's it showing? **Netflix**

Craig (Jaeden Martell) grows to admire his employer, Mr. Harrigan (Donald Sutherland), whom he reads to from the billionaire's magnificent library. The two grow close, forming a bond over the words on the pages they share every afternoon. Craig teaches the old man to use a cellphone and the two talk about life—the little things and the big. Eventually Mr. Harrigan passes away and Craig is crushed.

At school he is a loner, shy and bullied. He's lost his best friend, odd as the pairing may be. At the funeral, Craig slips the phone into Mr. Harrigan's pocket in a last-ditch attempt to hold onto his pal. Like many do when they've lost someone, Craig sends a message to the buried man's phone in hopes of a bit of healing. Things turn sinister though, and soon Craig suspects that the weird texts he keeps receiving from Mr. H's phone are something more than a hacker or a glitch, and odd happenings seem to be tied to them.

This is a Stephen King short story, and unfortunately it



THE LONG REACH: After his death, aging billionaire Mr. Harrigan (Donald Sutherland) appears to communicate, and exact revenge, from beyond the grave, in *Mr. Harrigan's Phone* streaming on Netflix.

falls the way many film adaptations of King's work do: It fails to deliver the nuance that King builds into his world. That said, Martell and Sutherland pull off great performances, and the film, while flawed, is an interesting watch. Worth it if you have Netflix. (104 min.)

—Anna **NEW FLICKS**

SHARPER

What's it rated? **R**
 When? **2023**
 Where's it showing? **Apple TV Plus**

Benjamin Caron (*The Crown*) directs this nonlinear grifter story about various confidence games being played out in New York City by several "sharper," or swindlers. Who's conning who is part of the fun as these interlayered stories unfold, with each new segment offering a new reveal. It begins with Tom (Justice Smith), who runs a small bookstore and meets Sandra (Briana Middleton), a potential love interest whose background is complicated and murky.

Later we meet Max (Sebastian Stan) and his "mother" Madeline (Julianne Moore), who's living with billionaire Richard Hobbes (John Lithgow), who also happens to be Tom's father by a previous relationship. Mild-mannered Tom is a deep disappointment to his cutthroat businessman father, but Tom is also Richard's heir apparent. With this kind of money at play, the stakes are high.

The story is cleverly assembled, and the acting is riveting as one swindler after another tries to one-up the other and stay ahead of the current "game." The twists and turns kept on coming, and while the film isn't as



THE LONG CON: Tom (Justice Smith) is at risk of losing his multi-billion-dollar inheritance to Madeline (Julianne Moore), his father's new wife, in the grifter film *Sharper*, streaming on Apple TV Plus.

fun as *The Sting* (1973) or as slick as *The Grifters* (1990), it's a worthy entry into this very specific genre and free with your Apple TV subscription. (116 min.) ○

—Glen

DENTAL CARE

for the whole family!



OVER 30 YEARS OF PRIVATE PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

DR. LEE & STAFF

1558 W. Grand Ave, Grover Beach

(805) 474-8100

GroverBeachFamilyDentistry.com

Se Habla Español • Walk-ins Welcome

Open Mon, Tues & Thurs, 8am-5pm & Wed, 8am-12pm

NEW Patient SPECIAL!

INCLUDES:
 • Exam
 • Necessary X-Rays
 • Intra-oral Pictures
 • Basic Cleaning (in absence of gum disease)
 • Consultation
A \$400 Value!

IMPLANT SPECIAL

\$2,500 SPECIAL (REG. \$4,300)
 CALL FOR A FREE CONSULTATION
 INCLUDES:
 Implant, Abutment & Crown



FEATURING 40 YEARS
 AWARD-WINNING PATRICIO'S PIZZA



SHOP LOCAL

Same Great Pizza! • Same Great Taste!
 Dine In • Take Out • Deliver

156 S Broadway St. Orcutt, CA 93455 • 805.937.8976



PHOTOS BY CALEB WISEBLOOD



SO MANY TO CHOOSE FROM: Gina's Piece of Cake has been dishing out a wide variety of cakes, brownies, cookies, fresh bread, and other baked goods since 2004.

Dessert destination

Call (805) 922-7866 or visit ginaspieceofcake.com to find out more about Gina's Piece of Cake, located at 307 Town Center East, Santa Maria. The bakery's second location is set to open sometime this spring on East Clark Avenue in Orcutt.

IN GOOD COMPANY: Gina Martin and her staff members pose behind the front counter at Gina's Piece of Cake in Santa Maria. Some staff members are poised to frequent the bakery's second location in Orcutt, set to open sometime this spring.

Sweet sequel

Gina's Piece of Cake plans to open new Orcutt satellite bakery

BY CALEB WISEBLOOD

Finding the perfect spot for a second bakery location was no cake walk for Gina Martin, owner of Gina's Piece of Cake in Santa Maria.

"We have looked in Orcutt for quite a few years. And then after COVID hit, we figured we'd stay put," Martin said. "There were different locations that we looked at, but we never got that gut feeling about them; nothing ever really felt right."

That trend changed when Martin saw a social media post about a vacancy on East Clark Avenue—at the former site of The Shift—in Old Town Orcutt. After some texts, calls, and a site visit, Martin and her husband decided to negotiate a three-year lease. "You've got us for three years at

least—and hopefully more," said Martin, whose second location is set to open in mid-March at the earliest. "I think that three years is going to go fast."

Martin and her staff got access to the building in January, and they've been sprucing up the place ever since. With an established kitchen already on-site for use, most of the ongoing renovations have been decor-related, Martin said, like adding "splashes" of the bakery's trademark pink and black color scheme.

"It's a work in progress," said Martin, who added that the new location will have plenty of seating and a warm, welcoming cafe-esque vibe. "We're even toying around with the idea of adding a little cozy fireplace."

While Gina's Piece of Cake, located in the Santa Maria Town Center, stays open until 7 p.m. at the latest during the week (and closes even earlier on Saturdays and Sundays), Martin said she plans to have a trial run at the Orcutt location with later evening hours, giving patrons of local eateries in town the opportunity to stop in the shop for some dessert after dinner.

Before pursuing plans to open a second bakery location, Martin almost considered relocating entirely; sticking to one bakery but moving to a different site instead.

"We were playing around with the idea of relocating all together," Martin said. "But I felt like it was a smart decision business-wise to stay here and open a satellite."

Martin founded Gina's Piece of Cake in 2004, with its original Santa Maria location across the street from its current site, in the same plaza as the former Fallas building—

previously Mervyn's.

"There was a lot of foot traffic there, but once Mervyn's closed up, and Marie Callender's closed up, it was like a ghost town," said Martin, who moved Gina's Piece of Cake to its current location inside the Santa Maria Town Center in 2009.

Martin said her customer count "increased tremendously" after moving inside the mall, almost overwhelmingly enough to feel like they'd bitten off more than they could chew, she said, but she's always felt blessed for her dedicated staff members—who have also increased in count over the years.

"There's 18 of us total here—openers, closers, cake decorators, bakers, dishwashers," Martin said. "I'm very blessed."

Martin credits her start in the bakery business to her father, a longtime professional baker. While semi-retired, Martin's father currently

works part-time at Gina's as one of the three bakers on staff.

"Before I started Gina's Piece of Cake, my father had a business in Lompoc for 22 years. He owned a bakery. That's kind of where I got my start," Martin said. "When I was a little girl, I would go out and help him, and then I eventually learned how to decorate cakes. The girls he had employed with him taught me how to decorate cakes. They taught me how to set them up, and prep them, and the next thing you know, I'm icing the cakes, and fully decorating them."

"I never intended to be a cake decorator. I wanted to be a doctor," Martin said. "But now they call me the cake doctor." ○

Arts Editor Caleb Wiseblood is paging the cake doctor. Send your favorite beeper ringtones to cwiseblood@santamariasun.com.



OWNER AND FOUNDER: The Gina in Gina's Piece of Cake is Gina Martin (pictured), the bakery's founder and owner. Martin said she has loved cake decorating since childhood, thanks to her father, who owned a bakery in Lompoc for two decades.



THE SUITE LIFE: Gina's Piece of Cake has been located in the Santa Maria Town Center since 2009. The bakery's original location, established in 2004, was located just across the street from the mall, in the same plaza as the former Fallas building.

22222	a Employee's social security number	OMB No. 1545-0008
b Employer identification number (EIN)	1 Wages, tips, other compensation	
c Employer's name, address, and ZIP code	3 Social security wages	
d Compensation	5 Medicare wages and tips	
e Employee's first name and initial	Last name	Suff.
f Employee's address and ZIP code		11 Nonqualified plans
15 State	Employer's state ID number	16 State wages, tips, etc.
17 State income tax		18 Local wages

You're getting ready for tax season.

Form **W-2** Wage and Tax Statement **2022**
Copy 1—For State, City, or Local Tax Department

The Cannabis Industry Isn't.

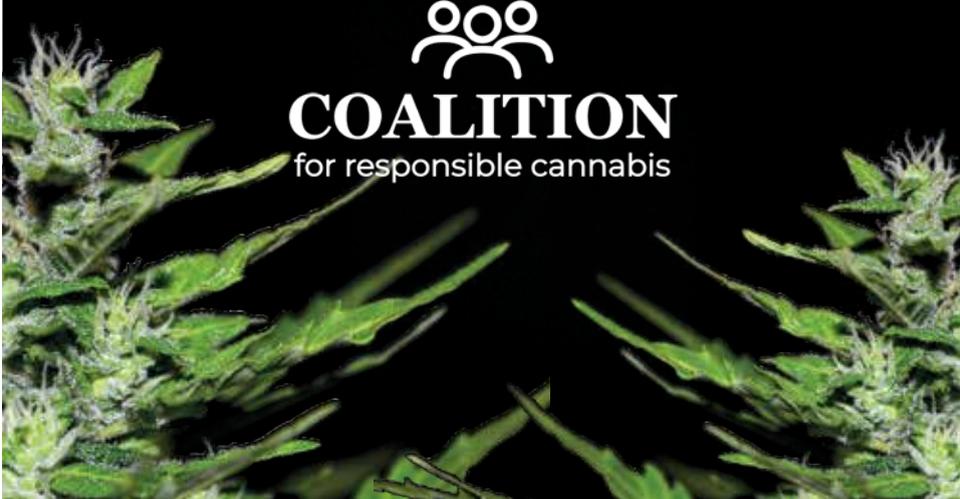
The cannabis industry isn't paying their fair share. Cannabis tax revenues are a mere 25% of initial projections and make up just .06% of the County budget. *Why?* Because more than 1/3 of all growers didn't pay a penny in taxes last year.

It's time for that to change.

Find out more and join the fight at www.sbcountycoalition.com



COALITION
for responsible cannabis





Tickets on sale now at My805Tix.com

SELL YOUR TICKETS WITH US AND SEE YOUR EVENT HERE



Be Hoppy Tours: Sip of SLO Brewery/Cidery Tours
THURSDAYS & SUNDAYS THRU JUNE 29
Begins/ends at CC Brewing, SLO



Flannel 101
(90s Tribute Band)
FRIDAY, MARCH 3
Flower City Ballroom, Lompoc



Be Hoppy Tours: Friday Hoppy Hour Tours
FRIDAYS THRU JUNE 30
Begins/ends at CC Brewing, SLO



By the Sea Productions: The Psychic
FRI, SAT, SUN, THRU MARCH 12
545 Shasta Ave, Morro Bay



Nature Nights: Immersive Outdoor Holiday Light & Art Exhibition
FRI, SAT, SUN THRU MARCH 19
SLO Botanical Garden



Point San Luis Lighthouse Tours
SATURDAYS & WEDNESDAYS
Virtual Tours Available On Demand
Avila Beach



Anomaly House: Mélange de Funk
Deep Funky House Music on Vinyl
SATURDAY, MARCH 4
Flower City Ballroom, Lompoc



An Evening of Comedy with Bob Zany & Justin Rivera
SATURDAY, MARCH 4
Hemingway's Park Ballroom, Paso Robles



46 West Wine Safari Weekend
SAT & SUN, MARCH 4 & 5
Hwy 46 Wineries, Paso Robles



Pilates/Kayak to the Lighthouse
SUNDAY, MARCH 5
Point San Luis Lighthouse, Avila Beach



Mo Jazz
SUNDAY, MARCH 5
Harold J. Miossi CPAC, Cuesta College, SLO



AT HER TABLE
March 6-12, 2023
7-DAY FOOD FESTIVAL
CELEBRATING WOMEN
AT HER TABLE: Celebrating Women Owned Food & Beverage Businesses
MON-SUN, MARCH 6-12
Multiple venues across SLO County



At Her Table: Orange Wine & Chakra Pairing
TUESDAY, MARCH 7
Timshel Vineyards, Paso Robles



The Gearworx: Goth, Industrial, Darkwave, & More w/ DJ Neon Maniac
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8
Flower City Ballroom, Lompoc



Shakti: Embodying the Goddess for Empowered Life Change
THURSDAYS, MARCH 9 & 23
9th Limb Yoga, Morro Bay



Almost, Maine
FRI, SAT, SUN, MARCH 10-26
Santa Maria Civic Theatre, Santa Maria



Unfinished Business
(Central Coast Classic Rock)
FRIDAY, MARCH 10
Flower City Ballroom, Lompoc



Be Hoppy Tours: Crafty Women Tastings & Tours
SATURDAY, MARCH 11
Begins/ends at The Hub, SLO

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



POWERED BY: *New Times* & **SUN**



Scan QR code with camera to sign up for the weekly **Ticket Wire** newsletter and get all the latest events each Wednesday

CLASSIES

Reach over 150,000 readers weekly from Santa Ynez to San Miguel

Get your classified ad—for Free!

Private parties may run **FREE** classified ads in the **FOR SALE** (items under \$200) and **GARAGE SALE** sections for two weeks

Contact us today! (805) 546-8208 or classifieds@santamariasun.com

Real Estate

FOR RENT

ARROYO GRANDE

1110 Sunset Dr. #D

1 Bedroom, 1 Bathroom

Rent \$1645 Deposit \$1645

SANTA MARIA

275 E. Newlove Ave. #3

3 Bedroom, 1.5 Bathroom

1-Car Garage

Rent \$2400 Deposit \$2400

1022 S. Railroad St. #B

2 Bedroom, 1 Bathroom

1-Car Garage

Downstairs Unit

Rent \$1800 Deposit \$1800

AVAILABLE NOW!

Call for more information

**WE TAKE THE HEADACHE OUT OF
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT**

COMMERCIAL



PRICE REDUCED

**COMMERCIAL
PROPERTY FOR SALE**

1520 E. Donovan • \$1,695,000
Great location. Property located in the Northeast side of Santa Maria. Rare M-2 industrial/manufacturing zoning. 1.6 acre parcel. Easy access to Highway 101.

(Do not enter property without an appointment.)

Contact your agent for more information

**PLEASE DO NOT
DISTURB TENANTS!**

Greco Realty Inc.
805-922-0599
118 W. Fesler, Santa Maria
Lic. #00892126

WANTED TO BUY

KC BUYS HOUSES

Fastest Cash- Any Condition! Residential and Commercial. Cash in 72 hours! Family owned and operated 25 years. 1-909-536-2060 (Cal-SCAN)

Well-Being

HEALING

Aloe Care Health, medical alert system. The most advanced medical alert product on the market. Voice-activated! No wi-fi needed! Special offer call and mention offer code CARE20 to get \$20 off Mobile Companion. Call today 1-844-790-1673. (SCAN)

Marketplace

Home & Garden

MARKETPLACE

HAULING & CLEAN-UP

JT's Hauling

Trees, Debris, Garage Clean Up, Moving and Recycling. Call Jon 805-440-4207

Business Services

MARKETPLACE

HOME SERVICES

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-424-7581 (cal-SCAN)

Pets & Livestock

MARKETPLACE



155779

AUSSIEDOODLE PUPPIES

5 girls and 1 boy. 1st shots, dewormed and vet checked. \$1200 (661) 900-4423

Miscellaneous

DIRECTV for \$79.99/mo for 12 months with CHOICE Package. Watch your favorite live sports, news & entertainment anywhere. First 3 months of HBO Max, Cinemax, Showtime, Starz and Epix included! Directv is #1 in Customer Satisfaction (JD Power & Assoc.) Some restrictions apply. Call 1-888-641-5762. (Cal-SCAN)

SUbingDOKU on YouTube!

A different SUDOKU puzzle every month.

Puzzle Levels - Tough, Challenging, Advanced or Brutal. Search SUbingDOKU on YouTube for the puzzles & videos. All videos include a Step-by-Step Puzzle Solution.

WHY USA WE HEAR YOU AMERICA!
PREFERRED PROPERTIES

**NOW ACCEPTING
NEW LISTINGS**

3919 Crestmont Drive, Orcutt

Location, location, location! Super cute Orcutt area home on a large lot walking distance to multiple Orcutt schools. This great home boasts 4 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms as well as living and family room areas. The huge backyard is a blank slate with endless possibilities! There could potentially be room for an ADU. This is an AS-IS sale. Call your agent to schedule an appointment to view this great home in a fantastic neighborhood! All information deemed reliable but not guaranteed. (CR391) **\$535,000**

(805) 922-0660 BRE #01275631
5400 Telephone Road, Santa Maria
www.WhyUSAProperties.net

**SELL YOUR
VEHICLE
IN OUR
CLASSIFIEDS**

Just \$15/week

Submit one image and
25 words of description

The cutoff to list your ad
in Thursday's paper
is Monday at 2pm

**Email
classifieds@
newtimeslo.com**

Or call (805) 546-8208
and ask for Drew

PREMIUM CANNABIS DISPENSARY

NATURAL HEALING CENTER

SHOP NOW

SCAN THE QR CODE TO VIEW ALL THE NEW DEALS

GHF 3.5G

BUY (2) RECEIVE (2)
3.5G FOR \$2

FRIDAY, 3/3 - SUNDAY, 3/5

PROMO CODE: GHFB2G2

RESTRICTIONS APPLY. WHILE SUPPLIES LAST. IN-STORE & PICKUP ONLY. VISIT THE WEBSITE FOR MORE CATEGORY DEALS.

THIS MONTH'S SPECIALS

VALID ALL MONTH LONG 3/1 - 3/31

WYLD™ - SLEEPY SUNDAY'S

BUY 1 WYLD ELDERBERRY + ANY WYLD PRODUCT & GET 25% OFF BOTH. 3/12 & 3/26 ONLY

PROMO CODE: WYLD25

25% OFF TINCTURES

MAMA SUE™ & GHF™ - JELLY FISH

PROMO CODE: MAMA25 & JELLY25

MARY'S MEDICINALS™

20% OFF: HIGHER CONCENTRATION COMPOUND

PROMO CODE: MARYS20

1:1 COMPOUND: BUY 1 GET 1 FOR \$1

PROMO CODE: MARYSBOGO

SELECT™ CLIQ BOGO

BUY ANY SELECT CLIQ POD GET A BATTERY FOR \$1

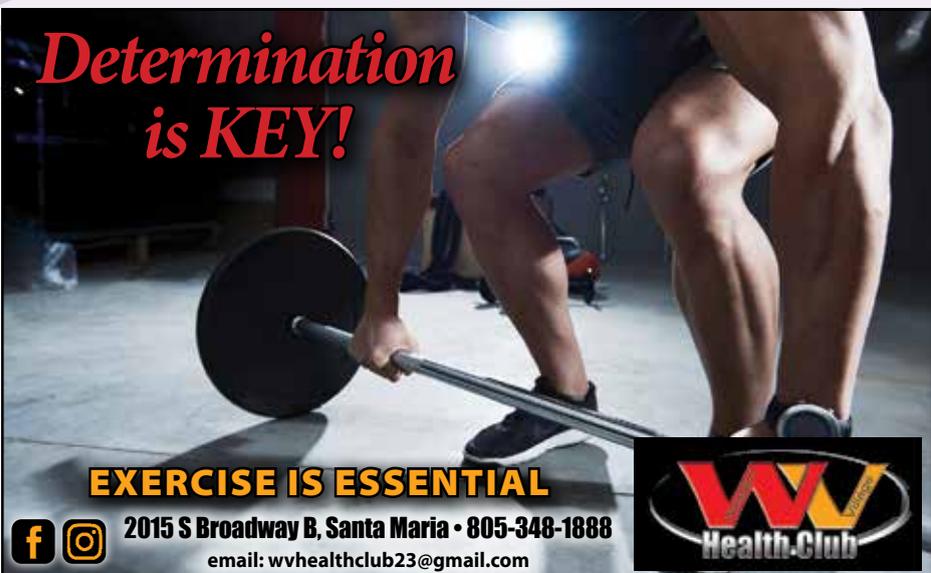
PROMO CODE: SELECT BOGO

RESTRICTIONS APPLY. WHILE SUPPLIES LAST. SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS.

NHCDISPENSARIES.COM

Grover Beach License: C10-000388-LIC / Morro Bay License: C10-000797-LIC

**Determination
is KEY!**



EXERCISE IS ESSENTIAL

2015 S Broadway B, Santa Maria • 805-348-1888
email: vwhealthclub23@gmail.com



GAVIN'S BOOKS
NEW & USED
EST. 2005

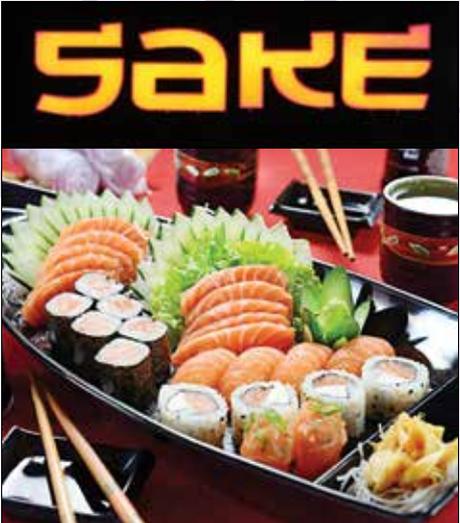
230 E Betteravia Rd ste K call or text: 805.922.4282
gavinsbooks.com info@gavinsbooks.com

BBB of the Tri-Counties
Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties

BBB's mission is to be the leader in advancing marketplace trust. Since 1945, BBB of the Tri-Counties has been fostering honest and responsive relationships between businesses and consumers – instilling consumer confidence and advancing a trustworthy marketplace for all.

5350 Hollister Ave., Suite G
Santa Barbara
Email this BBB
info@santabarbara.bbb.org
M-Th 8am to 12:30
then 1:30 to 6:00pm
Fridays closed at Noon
805-963-8657

Follow us:



SAKE SUSHI #1

194 Town Center East, Santa Maria (805)922-9900
GIFT CARDS AVAILABLE - AT ALL LOCATIONS!

SUSHI 805

ALL YOU CAN EAT
SUSHI & BBQ

460 W. Grand Ave.

Grover Beach

(805)489-3839

Mon/Tue/Thurs 4pm - 10pm
Wed-Closed • Fri/Sat 12 - 10:30
Sun 12pm - 10pm

Sake Sushi #2

KOREAN BBQ
& SUSHI

1325 N. "H" St. #C, Lompoc

(805)736-8899

Samantha Bakke
Your Santa Maria Valley
Wealth Advisor

ONECAPITAL
MANAGEMENT, LLC

805.601.6014
155 E. Clark Ave. Ste 240, Orcutt
onecapital.com

IN OLD TOWN ORCUTT

**CARE HOMES FOR SENIORS
WITH MEMORY LOSS**

Margie Halsell, Administrator/Owner
4620 & 4630 Song Lane
(805) 310-6996 magnoliacare.net
LIC# 425801520 & 425801723

Deasee's Boutique

M-F 10AM-6PM • SAT 10AM-5PM • SUN 10AM-4PM
DEASEESBOUTIQUE.COM

1130 E. Clark Ave Ste 120, Orcutt • 332-3152
115 W. Ocean Ave, Lompoc • 430-8396
Shop Online or on FB & IG

**SOLAR ELECTRIC
BATTERY BACKUP
SOLAR POOL HEATING
\$0 DOWN FINANCING
SERVICE & UPGRADES**

SOLARPONICS
PEOPLE • ENERGY • PLANET

(805) 922-3774 • CSLB# 391670 • SINCE 1975

MELBY'S JEWELERS

**Sun's Best of Winner,
13 years!**

1140 E. Clark Avenue • Suite 190
Santa Maria, CA 93455
(805) 925-1678

OUR STORE HOURS
Tues - Fri: 9:30-5:30
Saturday: 10-3

www.melbys.com

Mention this ad for a Military discount

IN OLD TOWN ORCUTT

Déjà Vu

ANTIQUÉ MALL

315 S. Broadway, Orcutt | 805-314-2409
WendyASteller@gmail.com

..... **AND**

EST. 2020

STELLER HOME

255 Union Avenue, Orcutt
805-287-9599

Local's Special
\$349 ROOM
INCLUDES
**One \$70 Dinner Voucher
& Two Breakfast Entrées**
Expires 4/2/23

Not valid with any other promotions, discounts, or groups, subject to rate availability, some restrictions apply, please mention "Sun" and present when checking in, advance reservations necessary.

Call for Reservations 1.888.584.6374
www.raggedpointinn.com

**BACK PORCH
BP
FLOWERS**

4850 S. Bradley Rd. #D1, Orcutt
(805) 938-1965
www.backporchflowers.net

805-925-8711 • 734-4355
www.oconnorcentralcoast.com

Got Gophers? Call Us

O'Connor Pest Control
Family Owned & Operated

**SPECIAL \$59 Monthly Service
or \$99 Every 2 Months**
General Pest Service Only. Gophers & Rodents Excluded.
One Year Term Minimum. Homes up to 3,000 sq. ft.

Free Gopher & Rodent Estimates
Same Day Service M-F

www.oconnorcentralcoast.com
Look for the ANT on the Door
805-925-8711 • 734-4355
www.oconnorcentralcoast.com

STRAIGHTEN YOUR SMILE

Dr. Specht's
**CENTRAL COAST
Orthodontics**
Creating Exceptional
Smiles!

**Voted BEST ORTHODONTIST in
Northern Santa Barbara County
6 years in a row!**

*Diamond Plus Provider Visit us on Facebook & Instagram

Central Coast Orthodontics
1311 South Miller St, Ste. 201, Santa Maria
(805) 347-4444

Shop Local RESERVE YOUR SPACE TODAY

805.347.1968 WWW.SANTAMARIASUN.COM