

## Happy 100th Birthday to Lee Arnold

Photos and Story by Neil Farrell



Lee and Allyn Arnold, properly protected from COVID by face shields, are pictured during Lee's 100th birthday party held at Luneda's Garden Bistro in Cayucos.

Friends and neighbors of Lee and Allyn Arnold of Cayucos gathered last week in the garden at Lunada Garden Bistro to celebrate the 100th birthday of one of Cayucos' treasured citizens.

And while it was Lee's birthday, it's tough to separate the two when talking about their many contributions to Cayucos' arts and educational endeavors.

Born in 1920 in Pueblo, Colo., Lee (nee Concettina) said Pueblo was a little town where her parents owned a restaurant.

The family made its way to Los Angeles, where Lee went to storied Lincoln High School, where her principal was Dr. Ethel Percy Andrus, who became the first woman principal of a major urban California high school in 1917 and served for 28 years.

"She became quite famous," Lee said of Dr. Andrus, who was founder of the National Retired Teachers Association (NRTA) and the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP).

Over her working life, Lee was a teacher, principal and director of instruction in the Los Angeles Unified School District, and she was given the 1958 National Science Secondary Teachers Association Award.

Allyn, 94, who was also an educator, said he was in the Navy for a long time and he'd asked her to marry him several times, but she said "No." Eventually he came up with a diamond ring and the two got married in 1978. It was his first and her second marriage.

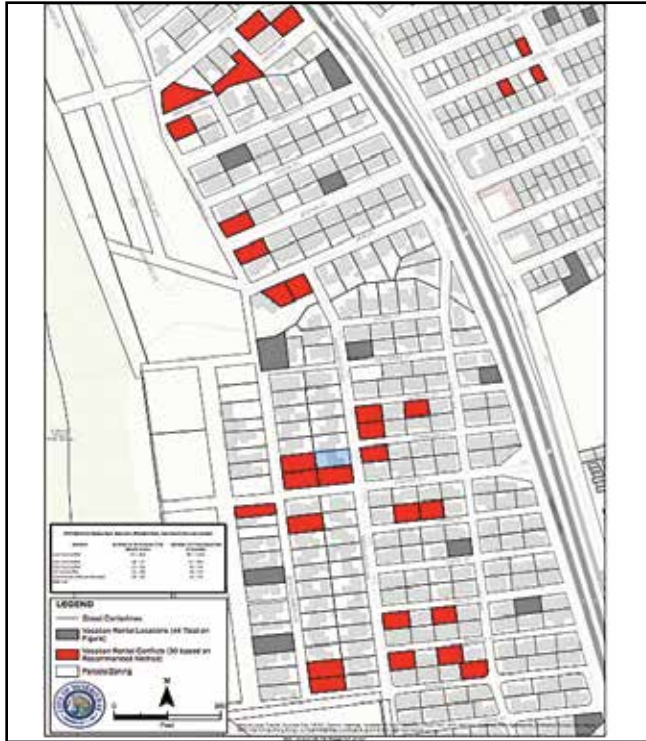
They retired to Cayucos, where Lee said they'd had a second home while they were in Los Angeles. They wasted little time becoming involved in the community.

They co-founded Cayucos Beautiful, and Lee led the effort to use County funds to build the Cayucos Pier restrooms and resurface the pier entrance.

**100th** Continued on page 14

## Council Adopts Vacation Rental Moratorium

By Neil Farrell



Morro Bay City map from 2019 shows the locations of over 40 vacation rentals on both sides of Hwy 1 just from Sienna Street to Orcas Street.

As its permanent-ordinance wends its way through the bureaucracy, the Morro Bay City Council voted to put an emergency moratorium on any new vacation rental licenses.

Entitled, "An Interim Urgency Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Morro Bay, California, Approving a Citywide 45-Day Moratorium on the Issuance of Any New Permit, License, Approval, or Entitlement Pertaining to a Short-Term Vacation Rental Within the City of Morro Bay and Declaring the Urgency Thereof," the moratorium is on short-term rentals or vacation rentals in residential zones.

**Vacation Rentals** Continued on page 14

## City Sets Up Waterfront RV Spaces; Hikes Illegal Camping Fees

Story and Photos By Neil Farrell

Morro Bay is ready to enter the RV park business at the same time it's raising fines for illegal camping by some 150%.

The City Council on Aug. 18 changed its camping ordinance, Section 8.20.030 of the Municipal Code, increasing fines from the current \$62 for a first offense to \$250 for camping in a car or an RV anywhere that isn't specifically designated for such use. And they did it through an emergency ordinance.

A second offense jumps to \$500 and a third violation (and each violation thereafter) will garner a \$1,000 fine, "for the 12 months after the first violation," according to a report from the City Attorney, Chris Neumeyer.

Though State law only allows up to \$100 fines for "infractions" of muni codes, among other restrictions, switching the fines to an "administrative" offense, equal to doing construction without a permit, has no limits on the fine amounts, according to Neumeyer.

"With the current COVID-19 pandemic," Neumeyer said, "coupled with increased popularity of traveling via recreational vehicles and trailers, the City has experienced an increase of travelers, camping through their recreational vehicles or other vehicles ["vehicular camping"], unable or unwilling to camp in designated areas."

The police department ends up dealing with them, which is really a code enforcement issue. "Morro Bay Police Department," Neumeyer said, "reports that officers will on average contact over 50 unlawful vehicular campers during a weekend night shift."

Illegal camping in Morro Bay is defined as staying anywhere outside designated camping areas — public

**Camping Fees** Continued on page 13

## Librarians as Disaster Service Workers During the Pandemic

Story and Photos By Theresa-Marie Wilson



Los Osos Librarians Diana Hammerlund and Derek Hood both worked as county Disaster Service Workers in the midst of the pandemic.

The day-to-day job duties of a librarian don't typically include delivering groceries and medical supplies, staffing safe parking locations for the homeless, providing COVID-19 testing support, or performing food preparation. However, as public servants, County librarians took a disaster service worker's oath promising to respond in times of need — that need came in the form of a worldwide pandemic.

"As a disaster service worker, I could see the positive outcome my work had on the community," said Derek Hood of the Los Osos Library. "It was important for me to do my part during this pandemic in the community I work and live in."

Hood, who has worked for the library system for nearly two years and is also a professional magician, was a part of the Safe Parking Program for the homeless where he helped create and setup sites at the Oceano Dunes RV Park, SLO Vets Hall and Los Osos Library parking lot. His duties included staffing, providing supplies and handling any questions or issues that arose on a daily basis.

Other jobs handled by librarians and staff include contact tracing, food delivery, lodging coordination, warehouse logistics, public information dissemination, alternative care site support at Cal Poly, and case management.

"Generally, staff are assigned according to location, need, availability and skill set," said County Director of

**Librarians** Continued on page 15

Police  
Blotter  
Page 8



Church  
Celebrates  
Page 7



SLO  
Roast  
Page 12





# Poly Requires COVID-19 Test for All Students Living On Campus



In consultation with the San Luis Obispo County Public Health Department, Cal Poly announced the university will require a negative COVID-19 test from all students living on campus for the Fall 2020 quarter, taken within the 72 hours prior to arriving on campus.

In addition, the university strongly encourages all students not living on campus to test for COVID-19 before returning to the area. Instructions on how students will submit their test results to the university prior to move-in were given to students and parents.

“Our goal is to keep SLO County safe, open, and strong in this new school year. We can do that by managing the spread of COVID-19 and minimizing the risks to our community, which includes Cal Poly students, staff and faculty,” said Dr. Penny Borenstein, San Luis Obispo County health officer and public health director. “It’s important for each individual to do the right thing and adhere to health guidance so that we can continue to move forward together.”

The university understands that logistics and other circumstances may make it difficult for a student to obtain a test within the required time frame; we are working with students to help them find resources to meet this requirement locally or in their areas of permanent residence.

Cal Poly’s Fall 2020 quarter begins Sept. 14. The majority of courses will be held virtually, but about 12 percent (or 511) of the more than 4,000 fall classes will be taught face-to-face (with proper social distancing, PPE and other health and safety measures in place). Approximately 6,000 students are expected to take at least one in-person course. Most in-person classes will conclude Nov. 20, and all classes will be held virtually Nov. 23-24, with virtual final exams from Nov. 30 through Dec. 4.

In addition, the university is opening its campus housing facilities to about 5,150 students (versus the more

than 8,000 beds normally available in University Housing). Students will be housed by themselves in single rooms only. Most of the students who will live on campus will be in their first year at Cal Poly — a crucial time when living on campus has proven to make a significant difference in a student’s long-term academic success, said university officials.

For more details about Cal Poly’s Fall Roadmap, visit [www.calpoly.edu/roadmap](http://www.calpoly.edu/roadmap). For up-to-date information about the university’s COVID-19-related planning and impacts, visit [www.coronavirus.calpoly.edu](http://www.coronavirus.calpoly.edu).

## Sheriff’s Deputies Kill Gunman in Nipomo



Scott Huffman, 42 of Bakersfield was shot and killed by Sheriff’s Deputies after an active shooter incident at a gas station/mini mart in Nipomo on Aug. 21.

Sheriff’s deputies shot and killed a man in Nipomo who had opened fire on a local gas station and fired several rounds at a passing fire truck.

According to Sheriff’s spokesman, Tony Cipolla, about 11:15 a.m. Friday, Aug. 21, deputies responded to a report of shots fired at the Vons Gas Station in the 500 block of Tefft St.

“Witnesses reported seeing a man firing a handgun indiscriminately in the parking lot of the shopping center,” Cipolla said. “When Deputies arrived, the suspect entered the Vons gas station at the corner of West Tefft Street and Mary Avenue. The suspect fired shots inside the building.”

The gunman left the store and was confronted by deputies and a Highway Patrol Officer and when he reportedly opened fire at the officers, they shot and killed him.

The shooter was identified as Scott Huffman, 42 of Bakersfield.

“Law enforcement,” Cipolla said, “canvassed the entire area, which included numerous businesses on both sides of West Tefft and confirmed there were no injuries and to make sure the public was safe and secure.”

Police from several agencies and departments responded. “Sheriff’s personnel including Sheriff’s deputies, detectives and Special Enforcement Detail [SED] responded to this incident along with the CHP, the Regional Swat Team, FBI, State Fish and Wildlife, and Cal Fire,” Cipolla said.

In a later press release, Cipolla added details of what



Law enforcement officers and a SWAT member tend to a Bakersfield man who was shot and killed by Sheriff’s deputies during an active shooter incident Aug. 21 in Nipomo. Photo courtesy SLO Sheriff’s Department

occurred. “The suspect was shooting multiple rounds at the Vons gas station convenience store,” Cipolla said. “After shooting several rounds at the exterior doors of the convenience store, the suspect walked toward Tefft Street as he continued to fire multiple rounds toward businesses on the south side of Tefft.

“The suspect then shot multiple rounds at a Cal Fire fire truck that was traveling Eastbound on Tefft responding to an unrelated call for service. The fire truck was struck multiple times in the passenger door.

“The suspect then entered the center median of Tefft Street and pointed his handgun at motorists. The suspect made his way back to the Vons shopping center parking lot, where he ultimately made entry into the same convenience store he had shot previously.”

He fired more shots from inside the store, Cipolla said. The gunman reportedly left the store and continued to fire his handgun and that’s when officers arrived, shooting and killing him. Cipolla said no law enforcement officers were injured.

“The Sheriff’s Office’s Major Crimes Unit immediately began an Officer Involved Shooting investigation with assistance from the California Highway Patrol and FBI,” Cipolla said. “At this point, a motive for the shooting is still being investigated.”

Cipolla said investigators were looking for a possible witness seen talking with the suspect. “During the incident,” Cipolla said, “the suspect made contact with a person driving a 4-door, black, hatchback vehicle on West Tefft Street just east of Mary Avenue. Investigators are asking the driver of that vehicle to contact them with regards to this incident at 805-781-4500.”



**Dean Sullivan**  
Owner - Publisher  
[dean@esterobaynews.com](mailto:dean@esterobaynews.com)

**Theresa-Marie Wilson**  
Editor  
[editor@esterobaynews.com](mailto:editor@esterobaynews.com)

**Neil Farrell**  
Reporter  
[neil@esterobaynews.com](mailto:neil@esterobaynews.com)

**Joan Sullivan**  
**Jill Turnbow**  
**Ruth Ann Angus**





**A TRADITION OF TRUST  
ON THE CENTRAL COAST**

**TIM COWAN**  
REALTOR® LIC#02021716  
805.459.3818  
[Tim@BHGREHaven.com](mailto:Tim@BHGREHaven.com)

This is a publication of Estero Bay News LLC. Copyright 2019 all rights reserved. We are a bi-weekly publication with 10,000 copies distributed throughout Morro Bay, Los Osos and Cayucos. Our website is [EsteroBayNews.com](http://EsteroBayNews.com). You can reach us through emails listed above, by phone at 805.528.6011 or by snail mail at P.O. Box 6192, Los Osos, CA 93412.





Barbershops, Salons  
Can Reopen

By Neil Farrell



The State of California’s new metric chart for the “Blueprint for a Safer Economy.”

Barbershops and hair salons in San Luis Obispo County were allowed to reopen last week under a new ranking system Gov. Gavin Newsome issued in the continuing coronavirus pandemic response.

“We needed a clearer path forward and this new framework offers that,” Dr. Penny Borenstein, SLO County Public Health Officer said. “According to the State’s new framework, hair salons and barbershops across the state may open indoors with modifications, as early as Monday [Aug. 31]. Owners and staff should prepare to adhere to the State’s COVID-19 guidance.”

Gov. Newsome released the “Blueprint for a Safer Economy” plan, his latest attempt to manage public health and safety with an economy that’s all but collapsed since the State shut down non-essential businesses on March 20.

The Blueprint is a color-coded, tiered “framework for reducing COVID-19” the disease caused by the coronavirus. It’s intended to “adjusting sector activities to keep Californians healthy and safe,” reads a news release from County Health.

The Blueprint’s four tiers indicate a particular risk level, they are:

- **Purple** (widespread) — Many non-essential indoor business operations are closed;
- **Red** (substantial) — Some non-essential indoor business operations are closed;
- **Orange** (moderate) — Some indoor business operations are open with modifications; and,
- **Yellow** (minimal) — Most indoor business operations are open with modifications.

San Luis Obispo County falls under the Purple (widespread) risk level., despite having just 14 people currently hospitalized with four in the ICU.

“This framework lays out the measures that each county must meet,” the Health Department said, “based on indicators that capture disease burden, testing, and health equity. A county may be more restrictive than this framework.”

“This framework replaces the current County Data Monitoring List. Movement across the tiers is based on COVID-19 metrics such as new cases and positive test rates.”

Guidance on Child Care

The Community Action partnership of SLO County (CAPSLO), which provides childcare in the county, the Child Care Resource Connection, SLO County and the Child Care Planning Council of SLO County have come up with guidelines for local child care providers and parents.

“We recognize that child care is essential to the sustainability of our county,” reads a flyer announcing the guidelines. “Guidelines are provided to support child care programs operating as safely as possible and are based on the best available data at this time, and the practical realities of managing a child care program. As new data and practices emerge, the guidance will be updated.”

The guidelines include: workers wearing face coverings or face shields at all times and never put face coverings on babies or kids under-2 because of danger of suffocation. Kids over 2 should be encouraged to wear face coverings. The SLO Child Care Planning Council and Quality Counts will have face coverings available for adults and children for child care programs.

The guidelines follow Gov. Newsome’s executive order that recommended no singing “due to data that showed increased transmission of COVID-19 in choral settings.”

The County Health Department recognizes that music and singing are “a critical part of child development. Child care settings can be flexible to support developmentally appropriate practices through singing with face coverings, lip syncing, listening to recorded music, and, dance and movement.

The guidelines also discuss outdoor learning. “Children benefit from spending more time outdoors, especially

in natural places.” Quality Counts has workshops, training and coaching about outdoor classrooms.

The guidelines call for children to continue in groups “as small as possible to reduce exposure,” read the guidelines. It recommends keeping people staff and children in the same groups and putting family members together “to the greatest extent possible.”

Parents and child care providers can get more information online at [www.capslo.org/child-care-resource-connection](http://www.capslo.org/child-care-resource-connection), [www.sanluischildcare.org](http://www.sanluischildcare.org), [www.cdss.gov/information-sources/community-case-licensing](http://www.cdss.gov/information-sources/community-case-licensing) (State Social Services); and from the County Health Department at: [www.covid19.ca.gov](http://www.covid19.ca.gov).

Eviction/Foreclosure Protections

Gov. Newsom has moved to protect tenants from evictions and property owners from foreclosure due to COVID-19 response.

According to an Aug. 31 news release, Gov. Newsome signed legislation “to protect millions of tenants from eviction and property owners from foreclosure due to the economic impacts of COVID-19. These protections apply to tenants who declare an inability to pay all or part of the rent due to a COVID-related reason.”

The law, Assembly Bill 3088 means “no tenant can be evicted before Feb. 1, 2021 as a result of rent owed due to a COVID-19 related hardship accrued between March 4 — Aug. 31, 2020, if the tenant provides a declaration of hardship according to the legislation’s timelines. For a COVID-19 related hardship that accrues between Sept. 1, 2020 — Jan. 31, 2021, tenants must also pay at least 25 percent of the rent due to avoid eviction.”

“COVID-19,” Gov. Newsome said, “has impacted everyone in California but some bear much more of the burden than others, especially tenants struggling to stitch together the monthly rent, and they deserve protection from eviction. This new law protects tenants from eviction for non-payment of rent and helps keep homeowners out of foreclosure as a result of economic hardship caused by this terrible pandemic.”

Protections Not a Free Pass

Readers shouldn’t think this law gives anyone a free pass. “Tenants are still responsible for paying unpaid amounts to landlords, but those unpaid amounts cannot be the basis for an eviction.

“Landlords may begin to recover this debt on March 1, 2021, and small claims court jurisdiction is temporarily expanded to allow landlords to recover these amounts. Landlords who do not follow the court evictions process will face increased penalties under the Act.”

AB 3088 also extended anti-foreclosure protections from the “Homeowner Bill of Rights,” to small landlords. It also provides new accountability and transparency pro-

Reopen Continued on page 4

# Bayside Cafe

Serving Morro Bay, Los Osos Area for over 30 years.

Just plain good food, generous portions

Casual atmosphere, patio and inside seating with views of the back bay.

Come experience what the locals love about this hidden gem.

Open daily at 11:00am, serving lunch until 3:00pm.  
Dinner available Thursday/Sunday until 8:30 and Friday/Saturday until 9:00pm.  
10 State Park Road, Morro Bay. Phone 805-772-1465  
for questions or “take out”. • Visit our Menu at [Baysidecafe.com](http://Baysidecafe.com)

## Featured Listings

**New Listing** San Luis Obispo

[www.2220Exposition-63.com](http://www.2220Exposition-63.com)

The heart of the scenic coast, San Luis Obispo! Two bedroom, two bath condo in Woodbridge Meadows. \$474,000

**Sold** Paso Robles

[www.242cheyenne.com](http://www.242cheyenne.com)

River Bluff Estates! Enjoy the warm summer nights in this three bedroom, two bath family home situated on a large corner lot. Plenty of room for family gatherings! \$525,000

**Pending** Morro Bay

[www.965pacific.com](http://www.965pacific.com)

Quintessential Beach Cottage in Morro Bay Heights. One bedroom, one bath home with a large backyard with a peek-a-boo view of Morro Rock. Move in ready! \$550,000

**Pending** Morro Bay

[www.441oahu.com](http://www.441oahu.com)

Adorable two bedroom, two bath beach home. Newly remodeled kitchen and open floor plan. \$630,000

Call the Broker with the **SOLD** signs!

### Kelly Vandenhuevel

Central Coast Property Sales  
Broker / GRI  
CalBRE# 01472453

I Can Sell Yours Too  
Call Me Today!

**805-471-1046**

[www.centralcoastsales.com](http://www.centralcoastsales.com) • [kellyv@centralcoastsales.com](mailto:kellyv@centralcoastsales.com)



Reopen From page 3

visions to protect small landlord borrowers who request CARES-compliant forbearance; and provides the borrower who is harmed by a material violation with a cause of action.”

More County Testing Sites

The County Public Health Department has opened two new, pop-up, free, COVID-19 testing sites, one in Morro Bay and the other Arroyo Grande.

A clinic at the Morro Bay Vet’s Hall, 209 Surf St., will be open by appointment from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays through Sept. 18. The Arroyo Grande clinic is at the South County Regional Center, 800 W. Branch St., and open the same hours and days.

Testing is evolving in SLO County. “Test results are coming back faster and there are many more appointments opportunities available than before,” Dr. Borenstein said. “If you have symptoms or think you may have been exposed to COVID-19 in the past week, make an appointment to get tested. As you await your test results, keep your community safe by staying home.”

The County also has a testing clinic at the San Luis Obispo Veterans Memorial Building, 801 Grand Ave. But testing clinics in Grover Beach and Nipomo are being closed “due to low turnout.”

Like the pandemic response, the symptoms indicating the virus have expanded. Now, the health department lists symptoms as: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headaches, loss of sense of taste or smell, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea.

People exposed to the virus typically see symptoms appear two to 14 days after exposure to the virus.

The County contracted with OptumServe to do the testing by appointment only. There is no co-pay, but medical insurance will be billed and there is no charge for people without medical insurance.

Make an appointment online at: [EmergencySLO.org/testing](https://EmergencySLO.org/testing).

Pipeline Bids Come In High

By Neil Farrell

Bids on the next big contract for Morro Bay’s new sewer treatment plant and water recycling project have come in millions over estimates, but project officials have done the math and said they’re still within the \$130 million overall budget.

Unlike the over \$70 million contract to build the treatment plant when only two bids were submitted, the project to install the conveyance piping and at least two lift stations had five companies bid for the job.

The City’s engineer’s estimate for the project was \$24 million (with a \$3 million contingency for a total of \$27M), and a construction schedule of 435 days or some 14½ months, with much of that time spent trenching down

Quintana Road and digging a 30-foot deep wet well for a lift station that will go under a small vacant lot next door to Lemos Ranch Pet Supply store on Main Street.

The bidders were: Anvil Builders, Inc., of San Francisco at \$31.4 million; John Madonna Const., of San Luis Obispo at \$33M; W.A. Rasic Const., of Long Beach at \$38.4M; OHL USA, Inc., of Irvine, Calif., at \$39.6M; Nicholas Const., of Shafter, Calif., at \$42.6M.

So like the WRF’s treatment plant, which also came in over estimate and has already risen by \$7M just a few months into the construction, the over 3-mile conveyance system again strains the project’s contingency funds.

However, City water customers worried this might mean another rate hike, needn’t fret, rates don’t have to go up, yet.

“The WRF Team,” City Manager Scott Collins told Estero Bay News, “performed a financial analysis of the impact of bids being higher than engineers estimate, and found that rates will remain the same [i.e. no water or sewer rate increase].”

The project team will look at the extensive and detailed bid packages, ask for whatever additional documentation is needed or clarifications on some details before deciding what bids would be deemed complete and considered by the City Council.

It’s common in large complicated projects to make such corrections and fill in deficiencies to complete bid packages, and companies that were not the lowest bidders often drop out at that point, deciding not to expend any more money on the job. That’s what happened with the treatment plant bids last year.

It’s also a time when bidders will go over their competition’s bids with fine toothed combs searching for ways that other’s bids could be called into question and even going so far as to threaten lawsuits over perceived slights.

With the lowest bid millions over the estimate, it’s possible the City Council will reject them all when the item comes before them, expected some time in September, and start over. But there isn’t much of an impact expected from the high bids, as Collins assures the project budget still has wiggle room in its contingencies.

The bid for the treatment plant job went to a partnership of Filanc and Black & Veatch. The change order that’s already been approved, also came out of contingencies

The conveyance system includes a new lift station at the site of the current sewer plant on Atascadero Road that would collect the sewage from the middle and north ends of town and pipe it through a new main line to the new lift station next to Lemos Ranch.

The City also wants to install new piping from the No. 2 lift station located underneath the Front Street parking lot on the Embarcadero. That new pipe would send raw sewage collected from the south end of town and the waterfront through the power plant property and emerge on Main Street very near the new lift station.

Currently, the flow is piped under the Embarcadero, crosses under Morro Creek and heads into the treatment plant on Atascadero Road.

But the City and power plant owner, Dynegy, are at odds over that utility easement, with the City going to court for what is in essence an eminent domain matter.

From the new Main Street lift station, the conveyance lines would run down Quintana Road, under the roundabout and all the way to the City’s No. 3 lift station near South Bay Boulevard.

From there it would go up South Bay and underneath Hwy 1 and then up into the WRF site. Overall it’s about 3 miles and a few hundred feet elevation gain compared to the existing plant on Atascadero Road.

The “pipeline” will actually be multiple lines of raw sewage pipes, plus a pipe that returns treated wastewater back into town to be dumped into the ocean through the discharge pipeline of the old sewer plant.

The Cayucos Sanitary District, which owns some 40% of the treatment plant and discharge pipeline, is expected to give up use of both when it completes its new treatment

plant on Toro Creek Road, possibly by the end of this year. It’s unclear now how that partnership dissolution will be done. The two still share responsibility for the dismantling of the existing plant. The two boards haven’t met in person in years but a plan of action will have to be developed someday.

The CSD’s plans are to use an undersea oil loading line from the Chevron Estero Marine Terminal, which closed in 1999 to discharge its treated wastewater. Cayucos has already cleaned and lined that pipeline and leased it through the State Lands Commission.

The City would also have available the discharge pipe of the desalination plant, which though no longer capable of treating saltwater, will still be an integral part of the WRF and the drinking water system.

The desalter is used to filter groundwater from the Morro Creek wells at Lila Keiser Park that are too high in nitrates.

The idea now is to inject the treated wastewater somewhere east of Hwy 1 into the Morro Creek groundwater basin, but that system will only be used as a back-up water supply to State Water, which will remain the No. 1 source of drinking water in Morro Bay for the foreseeable future.

As a back-up system, the City’s plans now are to run the injection wells a few days each month to keep them in working condition and to help stave off seawater intrusion, should the City resort to the Morro wells for an extended time period.

But during normal use, the wastewater from the \$130 million WRF will be discharged into the ocean.

And these bids on the conveyance system don’t include the costs of that injection system, so-called Indirect Potable Reuse or IPR.

“The IPR system is a much smaller component of the overall project and budget compared to pipeline/conveyance,” Collins said. “The team is working on final study and siting of injection wells/securing easements and then it goes into design. It will be bid separately from the pipeline/conveyance bid.”

The City Clerk posted the conveyance system bids on the City website, see: <http://morrobayca.gov/Document-Center/View/14667/WRF-Conveyance-Bid-Summary---81220?bidId=88>.

County Awards \$9.3 Million in No-Bid Contracts

By Neil Farrell

San Luis Obispo County has approved more than \$9.3 million worth of repair and maintenance contracts through no-bid awards to pre-approved construction companies.

Called, “Job Order Contracting” or JOC, the process pre-approves companies for certain types of jobs considered routine or small to medium sized, awarding the jobs to the various companies under contract and saving the costs of the usual “design/bid/build” method.

Each of the JOC contracts is for one year and companies have to apply every year to remain on the list of approved contractors. The companies give a set price for different types of work and the County puts together job packages and awards them to the appropriate company.

County Supervisors must approve all the annual contracts, along with the JOC awards. For the most recent awards, the County gave Rob Reynolds Construction, Inc., jobs totaling \$1.2 million; JG Contracting got two sets of jobs for \$3.29M and \$1.06M; Quincon, Inc. of Grover Beach got two awards for \$2.02M and \$225,000; Kinyon Const., \$1.2M; and Precision Construction Services of SLO got \$265,000, for a grand total of \$9.37M.



Award winning Pharmacy and Gift Store

25% OFF

Any Single Gift Item

Coupon Expires 10-31-2020

805-528-1017

989 Los osos Valley Rd Los Osos,  
Mon. - Fri. 9:00-6:00 • Sat. 10:00-5:00

Jim Marshall  
INSURANCE INC.

- AUTO
- HOME/RENTERS
- BUSINESS
- LIFE

(805) 528-4739

2141 10th St., #A • Los Osos  
[www.jimmarshallinsurance.com](http://www.jimmarshallinsurance.com)

PC|M

PACIFIC  
CAPITAL  
MORTGAGE

805-528-5353  
[www.pacificcapital.biz](http://www.pacificcapital.biz)

1352 Los Osos Valley Rd., Ste - C  
Los Osos  
Across from Ralph's



Pac Cap Mortgage, Inc dba - Pacific Capital Mortgage  
NMLS #273846  
Ca Bureau of Real Estate License #01195922



As a point of reference, Kinyon Const., of Santa Maria got a JOC contract to rebuild the First Street Beach Access in Cayucos, after it had been closed for some 12 years. That project finished up in May and several local subcontractors also got work on the project.

The new jobs will repair, remodel or renovate existing County facilities from different departments. These jobs will upgrade facilities within the County’s health, Sheriff, libraries, airports and parks and recreation departments.

As examples of the types of jobs awarded and that are ready to go, the list includes making repairs and putting on a new roof of the public restroom at the Cayucos Pier; upgrading the water and sewer service lines for the County Office of Emergency Operations; repairing and replacing the windows at the County Honor Farm; repairing the walls and restrooms, and painting the interior of the SLO Vet’s Hall; replace the furnace and heating system and fire alarms at the Probation Department Offices; and repaving the parking lot at the Health Department, among numerous others.

The jobs that still have to have an environmental review includes replacing a water line running from Ocean Boulevard to Chaney Avenue in Cayucos; remodeling the Los Osos Library and moving the County Parks and Recreation Offices to El Chorro Regional Park, among several others.

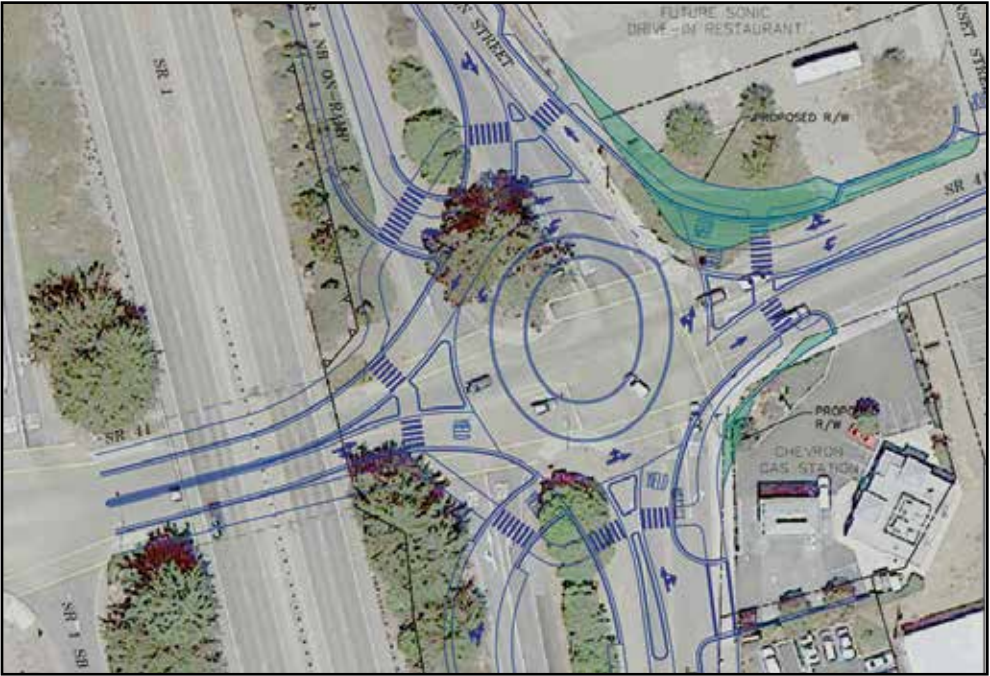
City Seeks Grant for Main/Hwy 41 Roundabout

By Neil Farrell

It’s becoming more and more of a problem, as tourism increases along with local traffic flow, and now the City of Morro Bay is applying for a big State grant to try and finally get a roundabout installed at Hwy 41 and Main Street.

The City and San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG) have been trying for about 20 years to find a solution to the intersection that also serves as the main entryway to Morro Bay by tourists coming from the Central Valley.

“This intersection serves as the principal gateway to Morro Bay from the Central Valley,” reads a staff



Roundabout Continued on page 6

This rendering shows how a roundabout at Main Street and Hwy 41 would be situated in the intersection.

News Briefs

By Theresa-Marie Wilson

COVID Testing in Morro Bay

Think you were exposed to the Coronavirus? The San Luis Obispo County Health Department has a place in Morro Bay to get tested for COVID-19.

The Health Department has set up a COVID testing site at the Vet’s Hall, 209 Surf St., which will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays through Sept. 18.

The County is asking people to pre-register for a test online at: [www.EmergencySLO.org/Testing](http://www.EmergencySLO.org/Testing).

The testing site is open to “those with symptoms or possible exposure to COVID-19,” according to a County Health flyer.

As of Sept. 3, the County reported 45 confirmed COVID cases in Morro Bay since the pandemic hit in March; 52 in Los Osos; and 16 in Cayucos. Cambria had 32 and San Simeon six.

Twenty people countywide have died of COVID, according to County stats.

Road Work on Nipomo Ave.

The Los Osos Community Services District started a project to install a new pipeline on Nipomo Avenue from Mountain View Drive to 10th Street. Construction is expected to take 4 to six weeks to complete.

The project follows the shoulder on the south side of Nipomo Avenue, which will impact traffic flow and driveway access during the day as the construction proceeds from the east to the west.

It is the contractor’s obligation to complete the project as quickly as possible and restore access to the impacted driveway on a daily basis. At the end of the project the approach to your driveway will be repaired.

Folks that have questions or need assistance, should call the District’s general phone line at 805-528-9370.

Poly Eligible for Diversity Grants

Cal Poly has received approval from the Department of Education to be designated a minority-serving institution during the 2020 fiscal year.

The university applied for and received a designation as an Asian American-, Native American-, and Pacific Islander-serving institution. This designation allows faculty and staff to apply for federal grant funding that is reserved specifically for certain minority-serving institutions, as well as funding that may be put toward strategic planning, faculty development and endowments.

The designation requires that Asian American, Native American and Pacific Islander students make up at least 10% of the institution’s enrollment. In fall 2019, 13.8% of Cal Poly’s enrolled students identified as within those demographic categories. The university also demonstrated that it was taking steps to substantially increase higher education opportunities for underrepresented students at Cal Poly.

“It is important that we view this designation as an opportunity rather than an achievement,” said President Jeffrey D. Armstrong. “We’ve made some improvements to our campus climate, but our CPX (Cal Poly Experience) data and our student, faculty and staff experiences show us clearly that we need to do more. I’m excited to see where this new opportunity leads, and I know that our campus will use it to make an impact.”

Cal Poly is the 22nd CSU campus to be designated as a minority-serving institution. The designation is active for one year, and the university must reapply and show progress in increasing higher education opportunities for students from underrepresented groups at Cal Poly.

Extra Garbage Pickup Canceled

The annual fall cleanup week for excess garbage has been canceled due to the pandemic.

San Luis Garbage, South County Sanitary, Morro Bay Garbage and Mission Country Disposal said that the last five months have had a toll on their employees and operations

“The impact of this pandemic has stretched our resources and just maintaining regular solid waste services has been challenging,” the company stated in a news release. “Regrettably, we are cancelling our fall clean-up week so we can focus on getting our drivers healthy and back to work and still accomplish our primary goal of providing our communities with regular scheduled collection of solid waste. With the impacted staffing, we ask for your patience as collection services may be delayed, but as we have the last 50 years it we will get it done.”

Folks with any questions or comments, should call (805) 543-0875.

LOCAC Meeting Sept. 24

The August 27 LOCAC general zoom meeting was canceled after a zoom meeting with supervisor Gibson the day before was hacked displaying a pornographic video. The next meeting will be held on the regular date of September 24 at 7 p.m. via Zoom.

Carried over from the August agenda is a “discussion to put together a community action in Los Osos, Los Osos Community Homeless Forum. For that purpose, LOCAC would create a special subcommittee to spearhead the forum, working with Los Osos residents, social service organizations and the County, and will set a potential date for the first meeting.

Sign in information and the agenda are online at [LOCAC.info](http://LOCAC.info).

Send your news, community and business briefs to [Editor@EsteroBayNews.com](mailto:Editor@EsteroBayNews.com). Be sure to include the who, what, why, where and when information along with a contact person.



**September Special • 15% off Hand Made Guitar Straps**

(Exp September 30)



Many to choose from, all hand made

For details please see Finn at the shop. Open Tuesday- Saturday 9-5

**880 Morro Bay Blvd., Morro Bay • (805) 772-0255 • [www.finnleathershop.com](http://www.finnleathershop.com)**



News

Roundabout From page 5

report from City Engineer Rob Livick, “our primary source of tourists. It is also the only route to Morro Bay High School, which generates significant vehicular traffic during the morning, lunch, and afternoon peak hours.

“Pedestrian and bicycle volumes have grown steadily at this intersection with the increased emphasis on ‘Active Transportation’ modes.”

The City paid for an “Intersection Control Evaluations” (ICE) study that identified a roundabout as the preferred solution for the intersection, which has a northbound off ramp from Hwy 1 that empties into the intersection, and also has a northbound onramp as well.

Caltrans and the Federal Highway Administration have authorized a “Preliminary Assessment, Environmental Documentation” (PA&ED) and “National Environmental Policy Act/California Environmental Quality Act” (NEPA/CEQA) environmental review. This work is in progress and expected to wrap up soon.

SLOCOG has paid for the PA&ED as well the NEP/CEQA work. That still leaves another piece of red tape to conquer — getting a right of way agreement out of the owners of a former Shell gas station site, that’s been vacant for over 20 years, but has been approved for a Sonic Burger restaurant.

Though that project has been conceptually approved, it’s sat in limbo since 2017, with a new permit extension recently granted by the City to April 2021.

“Required rights-of-way,” Livick said, “will be acquired as a condition of development for the adjoining property, because of the impact such development would have on the intersection.”

What if Sonic Burger doesn’t get built? Livick said, “If the property is not developed, then there is sufficient project budget to acquire the property. Failure to complete PA&ED, project design and ROW acquisition may result in loss of anticipated infrastructure construction funding.”

The project, which has had its doubters in the community since first proposed, has now climbed to an astonishing \$7.9 million and would completely rebuild the intersection. But it’s a long ways to fruition, as the City is applying for \$3.75M grant through the State’s “Active Transportation Program” or ATP, Cycle 5, created by Senate Bill 99 “to encourage increased use of active modes of transportation, such as walking and biking.”

SB 99 culled together several different Federal transportation funding sources, including for bike lanes and pedestrian projects, among others.

Should the City get the grant, it plans to tap a combination of local, regional, and federal funds to get the rest of the money.

Livick said this Cycle 5 funding is expected to have some \$440 million and is culled from Federal monies, State SB 1 transportation monies, and State Highway Account,

covering the next four fiscal years (through 2023/24).

“The goals of the ATP,” Livick said, “include, but are not limited to, increasing the proportion of trips accomplished by walking and biking; increasing the safety and mobility of non-motorized users; advancing efforts of regional agencies to achieve greenhouse gas reduction goals; enhancing public health; and providing a broad spectrum of projects to benefit many types of users including disadvantaged communities.”

The roundabout is expected to reduce greenhouse gasses being emitted by idling cars, as people wait for the other guy to go before entering the 4-way stop intersection.

The Hwy 41-Main roundabout originated with a traffic study the City undertook in the early 2000s to improve that intersection, as well as Quintana Road and Morro Bay Boulevard, and Main and San Jacinto, which includes a stoplight on the highway.

A roundabout was determined to be the best solution for all three intersections, but the City Council at the time, rejected a roundabout at Main and San Jacinto.

It was also leery of the Main/Hwy 41 roundabout due to the high school students that flood the intersection during the school year.

However, with the Measure D rebuilding program at Morro Bay High, the plan is to close the school at lunchtime and provide all food service on campus, as part of a new security plan and closed campus.

So students flooding the intersection at lunchtime would seem to be a moot point, though foot traffic before and after school is still an issue.

The City Council moved ahead with the MBB-Quintana Roundabout, though it voted six times on the project. And while it’s had its challenges, including some who travel entirely too fast through it and others who fail to yield to traffic already in the roundabout, it has overall worked well, despite the occasional fender-bender.

The idea was that roundabouts slow traffic to a crawl so any accidents that do occur, would be minor, as opposed to a 4-way stop and the potential carnage of a T-bone crash.

And if readers are wondering how a roundabout could possibly fit at Main and Hwy 41, it should be noted that the drawings at this time show the intersection being completely rebuilt.

John DiNunzio of SLOCOG said the costs have risen so much because of Caltrans, which has been helping on the engineering and design with the intent of keeping open both the on and off ramps to Hwy 101.

DiNunzio said the design requires retaining walls on the ramps, which has added greatly to the costs.

Asked why the center of this roundabout isn’t round, DiNunzio said the modern traffic circle can be teardrop shaped or as in this case, oval, depending on the layout.

The design shows a hairpin turn for a car traveling south on Main Street that wants to go north on Hwy 1, and DiNunzio said it may be that large trucks or semis with

double trailers may have to take a lap around the roundabout to access the northbound ramp.

He added that Caltrans wants to keep both the ramps as well as the Main Street on/off ramp just up the street.

So far SLOCOG has some \$3.9 million saved up for the project but DiNunzio said that like the Briscoe Road situation in Arroyo Grande, which is also looking at a roundabout, the time is coming when they won’t be able to hold that money any longer.

“It’s imperative that the City makes a good faith attempt to acquire the funding,” he said. “Paso Robles wants to use this money and there are bigger interchanges that see more people that could use this money.”

Once thought of as unusual, the modern roundabout is becoming a go-to solution. DiNunzio said there are now some 20 roundabouts being proposed across the county and they are being used more and more in new subdivisions, for example, a large housing project going in by the County Airport in SLO.

But Morro Bay led the way with the first roundabout in SLO County at Quintana and the Boulevard. “It was the first of any in the County,” DiNunzio said. “They are less expensive and safety is higher, and there’s less ongoing costs” as opposed to a stoplight, which somewhat ironically, he said they had enough money for right now.



Follow Cat Noir CC on Facebook for daily photos and read the blog at CatNoirCC.com. Every Color Deserves a Forever Home

HAPPY HOUR  
3-6pm Every Day

BEAUTIFUL MORRO BAY

FRESH SEAFOOD

HAPPY HOUR  
EVERY DAY FROM 3PM-6PM

BEERS ON TAP

WINE LIST

FULL BAR

APPETIZERS

It's the only way to live. It's the only way to eat.

701 Embarcadero, Morro Bay  
Call: (805) 772-2269 • [www.dutchmansseafoodhouse.com](http://www.dutchmansseafoodhouse.com)

WE ARE ON (LINE)!

September 24-26, 2020

CUESTA COLLEGE

CCWC

CENTRAL COAST

WRITERS

CONFERENCE

View Schedule and Register Today at:  
[CentralCoastWritersConference.com](http://CentralCoastWritersConference.com)



# Community

## Pot Dispensaries to Open Soon



Robert Garnica of Nolan Contractors out of Loomis, Calif., puts finishing touches on the colorful exterior of the Perfect Union marijuana dispensary, located at 1000 Quintana Rd. The building is undergoing extensive remodeling, as well as getting a spiffy paint job, and the target date for opening is Sept. 24. This is the first remodel that Nolan has done for Perfect Union, and the boss said they would soon be doing another one in Turlock, Calif. Photo by Neil Farrell

The publicity is ramping up for Morro Bay’s first cannabis retail store to open, as both of the licensed pot stores in town work on opening their doors.

Perfect Union, which has two stores in Sacramento, one each in Riverbank, Marysville and Seaside with stores soon to open in Turlock and Morro Bay, has been remodeling a building at 1000 Quintana Rd., into its Morro Bay location for a few months.

Another company, Natural Healing Center or NHC is remodeling a building Downtown at 495 Morro Bay Blvd., at the corner of MBB and Napa Avenue, the former long-time site of Mills Stationary.

The company website listed the opening date for the Morro Bay store as “mid-2020,” but that was before COVID-19 hit.

NHC has stores in Grover Beach and Lemoore, according to its website, and is also working on a store in San Luis Obispo as well as Morro Bay.

Perfect Union and NHC will both have delivery services as well as the stores. See: [www.perfect-union.com/news](http://www.perfect-union.com/news) and [nhcdispensaries.com](http://nhcdispensaries.com) for information on each company’s offerings.

Meanwhile, for cannabis users who don’t want to wait,

Megan’s Organic Market last month opened a dispensary in San Luis Obispo at 280 Higuera St., in the former Drum Circuit location and, ironically, opposite the Higuera-High Street intersection. See: [www.megansslo.com](http://www.megansslo.com) for their menus.

Earlier this year, the Morro Bay City Council amended its cannabis ordinance to allow NHC and Perfect Union to sell recreational weed, as well as medical marijuana, and CBD products.

## M.B. Rotary Names New President



Incoming Morro Bay Rotary President Jeff Jones takes over from 2019-20 President Melissa Davis. Photo submitted

The Rotary Club of Morro Bay welcomed new 2020-21 President Jeff Jones to lead the club through the year of “Rotary Opens Opportunities.” Jeff is well known in Morro Bay where he served as fire chief from 1991-2004 following 12 years as Morro Bay Fire Captain.

Rotary members have been attending virtual meetings for the past 4 months and Zoom in weekly to hear guest speakers. Pacific Wildlife’s Kelly Vanderheuvell recently presented updates and shared stories about several birds including Denali, a red-tailed hawk. Sandi Twist of The Paddleboard Company took members virtually to the Embarcadero for a paddleboarding demo and Rotary International Foundation Trustee, Brenda Cressey zoomed in to speak from her home in Maine.

The Club recently awarded five \$2000 scholarships to graduating Morro Bay High School seniors. Congratulations to recipients Justin Cisneros, Gerard Daulman, Joseph Ruddell, Madelynn Schultz, and Faye Vavra.

Jeff’s theme this year is “Help Us Help Others!” and

in that spirit the club is proud to be a Circle of Excellence member of the Chamber of Commerce.

“After years of local businesses supporting Rotary fundraisers, the board felt it was time to do fund-giving back to the community with projects like the free hand sanitizer distribution to local businesses and hours of volunteer time to support the Morro Bay CARES program of calling and delivering prescription medications to isolated citizens,” said Club publicity chair Jude Long. “Watch for what’s next as Morro Bay Rotarians continue their 70-year-old tradition of cooperation and support of Morro Bay.”

## From Humble Beginnings, Church Celebrates 10th Anniversary

By Theresa-Marie Wilson



Church members hang up the sign at the church. Photo submitted

Fourteen years ago a small group of people in Los Osos started getting together in alternating homes for Bible study sessions to form friendships and strengthen the faith and understanding of God better.

Out of those gatherings a church was born a few years later. The Maharlika Christian Fellowship, at 1805 11th Street, Los Osos, celebrates its 10th anniversary this month.

Their journey has been one of faith in more ways than one. Parishioners have relocated places of worship multiple times before settling into what will hopefully be their permanent spiritual home — only a few houses away from where the first Bible study was held.

“It is a sign of our faith that God will provide for us because it is His church and He is responsible for it,” said Pastor James Erwin Estoque. “We, the pastor, leaders, ministers and members (congregation), are just stewards.”

It is the first Filipino-based Christian church on the Central Coast, but the now 60-member church is open to people of all backgrounds.

“All are welcome,” said Pastor Estoque, who along with his mom, Pastora Elizabeth Estoque, were members of the original Bible study group.

“Color, ethnicity, prestige, background, religion, status, education and so on and so forth, it doesn’t matter; we love everyone.”

Like so many other churches, social distancing to help stop the spread of COVID-19 has had an impact in that fewer members attend services now held in the church parking lot. Pastor Estoque welcomes the change and said that in the future outside services might be worked into the regular schedule.

“The outdoor services are a great experience and are something we might do often, weather permitting,” he said. “It feels good to be outside. The neighbors and passersby get to see what our members look like. We enjoy being out in the sun. It’s a blessing in disguise.”

Times have certainly changed over the past 10 years, but Estoque says the heart of the church is still the same.

“We are still the friendliest, most welcoming church as

10th Anniversary Continued on page 9

# SLO COUNTY

# TAKE THE 2020 CENSUS

It's not too late to count everyone in your home this census.

**1.844.330.2020**

No es demasiado tarde para contar a todos.

**1.844.468.2020**

RESPOND ONLINE

**[www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov)**

HELP YOUR COMMUNITY RECOVER

## Sea Shanty

### RESTAURANT & CATERING

*Always in Perfect Taste!*

**805-995-3272**

296 South Ocean Avenue • Cayucos, CA 93430



Police Blotter



Morro Bay Police Logs

• **Aug. 30:** Police responded at 3:45 p.m. to a disturbance in the 400 block of Atascadero Rd. Logs indicated they arrested a 34-year-old Chicago man for suspicion of being swilled in public in no doubt another case of arrive on vacation and leave on probation.

• **Aug. 30:** Police stopped a suspicious vehicle at 1:45 p.m. in the 1000 block of Main. Logs indicated they cited the scofflaw driver, 38, for a suspended license.

• **Aug. 30:** Police responded at 1 p.m. to a suspected grand larceny at a gas station in the 900 block of Morro Bay Blvd. Logs indicated a 20-year-old is suspected of stealing to the penny — \$1,321.96 — from the business.

• **Aug. 29:** Police responded at 11:30 a.m. to a disturbance in the 1700 block of Embarcadero. They arrested a 53-year-old devotee of Bacchus for flexing beer muscles in public.

• **Aug. 29:** At 8:33 a.m. police at the stationhouse on Morro Bay Boulevard arrested a 54-year-old fellow for suspicion of being high on drugs, as sometimes they jump right into the boat.

• **Aug. 29:** Police responded at 10:30 a.m. to a hit-n-split crash in the 300 block of Surf. Logs indicated a 38-year-old woman was arrested for suspicion of hit-n-run, driving smacked on drugs, possession of a crack pipe and nitrous oxide, a.k.a. laughing gas (which is so ‘80s). She was floated off to the hoosegow.

• **Aug. 29:** Police caught up to a real desperado at 8:18 a.m. at City Park on Harbor Street. The 63-year-old had two misdemeanor warrants. He was cited and released to catch another day, ‘cause here they throw the little ones back.

• **Aug. 28:** Police responded to a suspicious subject call at 10:30 p.m. at the Storage Depot in the 300 block of Quintana where they discovered a suspicious woman. A computer check revealed the 36-year-old delinquent had six misdemeanor warrants out for her, and only one was “citable” so she was checked into the County B&B.

• **Aug. 28:** Police responded to a disturbance at 5 p.m. at Piney Way and Piney Lane. A 53-year-old woman was nicked for suspicion of being bent in public. She too became a guest at the iron bar hotel.

• **Aug. 28:** Police and fire responded at 1:15 p.m. to Main and Driftwood for an elderly woman who injured herself when she fell on the sidewalk.

• **Aug. 28:** Yet another belle of the ball, 37, was contacted at 10:40 a.m. in the 200 block of Atascadero Rd. She had a pair of misdemeanor warrants and was cited and released.

• **Aug. 27:** Someone turned in a set of keys they’d found on the beach somewhere between Hwy 41 and San Jacinto Street, about a mile stretch.

• **Aug. 27:** Police responded at 5:38 p.m. to City Park for another drunken zhlub engaging in some pettifoggery and the 55-year-old Bacchanalian was nabbed for disorderly conduct and being deep in his cups.

• **Aug. 27:** Someone stole an iPhone at Morro Rock, no doubt another debit into the tourist tax.

• **Aug. 27:** Police responded to City Park at 1:30 a.m. for another apparent performance of the hairless ape exhibition. A 46-year-old fellow was arrested for suspicion of belting the grape in public.

• **Aug. 27:** Police responded at 12:56 a.m. to a report of a car that was afire at Motel 6.

• **Aug. 26:** Police took a vandalism report at a home in the 2400 block of Hemlock.

• **Aug. 25:** Police responded at 8:42 a.m. to a reported assault at, you guessed it — City Park. Logs indicated officers contacted a 41-year-old fellow apparently running wild whom they arrested for suspicion of being UTI, threatening an officer, resisting arrest, and possession of psilocybin — magic mushrooms — which explains pretty much everything.

• **Aug. 24:** Officers responded to the 400 block of LaJolla where a citizen turned in some magic mushrooms for police to make disappear.

• **Aug. 24:** Police stopped a suspicious car at the suspect time of 1:15 a.m. at Mesa and Kern. Logs indicated the male driver, 41, was arrested for suspicion of driving UTI of illegal stimulants and possession of drugs, no doubt the stash he was saving for tomorrow.

• **Aug. 23:** Yet another citizen reported credit card fraud at the Sinclair Gas Station.

• **Aug. 23:** Police were called at 1:15 p.m. to the 400 block of Dunes regarding a fellow slumped over the steering wheel of a truck. According to logs they discovered a 40-year-old man allegedly smacked on heroin, possessing a syringe loaded with suspected heroin, with a stash of drugs sitting on the seat next to him. He also reportedly had a suspected meth pipe in his pants pocket. He was injected into County Jail.

• **Aug. 23:** Police responded at 9:46 a.m. to a disturbance in the 800 block of Embarcadero. According to logs, a 29-year-old man was arrested for allegedly disturbing the peace by banging items in a store and chasing away customers. Police said he made “bizarre comments,” too, an apparent case of free speech run amok.

• **Aug. 23:** Police contacted a suspicious fellow at Coleman Beach at 2 a.m. They ran the 41-year-old’s ID and low and behold he had a misdemeanor arrest warrant. He was cited and released with no doubt his next bench warrant.

• **Aug. 22:** At 5:45 p.m. in the 700 block of Harbor, police contacted a regular customer with a warrant. She got another ticket and went about her business.

• **Aug. 22:** At 5 p.m. a woman with two warrants turned herself in at the police station. She was cited and released on her sincere promise to appear, next time.

• **Aug. 22:** Police responded at 12:35 p.m. to the Mobile Station on Morro Bay Boulevard where some poor fellow lost his wallet and other items, as apparently the tourist tax was levied.

• **Aug. 22:** A woman in the

400 block of Napa told police that someone entered her house and deleted a Samsung tablet.

• **Aug. 21:** Police responded at 4:42 p.m. to a disturbance in the 400 block of Napa. Logs indicated a 31-year-old woman was arrested for suspicion of domestic battery.

• **Aug. 21:** At 11:10 a.m. an elderly man in apparent crisis in the 400 block of Luzon was rushed to French Hospital.

• **Aug. 21:** Police responded at 10:09 a.m. to a “general incident” in the 500 block of Kings. Logs indicated “insufficient evidence” was found, but of what? We do not know. So should we care? That is the question...

• **Aug. 20:** Police responded to the 2800 block of Hemlock where some larcenous scoundrel stole a check.

• **Aug. 20:** A man in the 300 block of Embarcadero told police that he was assaulted by his friend while driving, and with friends like that, who needs enemies?

• **Aug. 20:** Police contacted a suspicious fellow at 6 p.m. at Elena and Cedar. The 35-year-old scofflaw had a felony warrant and went to the hoosegow.

• **Aug. 19:** Some wicked vandal struck in the 700 block of Embarcadero.

• **Aug. 19:** Police were called at 5:33 p.m. to Motel 6 in the 200 block of Atascadero Rd., where a 22-year-old woman was apparently going berserk. Logs indicated she allegedly broke into a motel room and then assaulted a motel clerk. Police detained her and discovered her car was reported stolen, and they allegedly also found illegal drugs inside, which could explain a lot.

• **Aug. 19:** Police stopped a suspicious car at 2 p.m. at Quintana and South Bay. Logs indicated the 36-year-old driver was nicked for suspicion of recklessly driving while skunked.

• **Aug. 19:** Some graffidiot struck at a business in the 1100 block of Quintana, spray painting no doubt vile filth and debasing an innocent wall.

• **Aug. 19:** Police responded to a suspicious subjects call at 6:51 a.m. at Beachcomber and Whidbey Way. Logs indicated they discovered a man, 34 and woman, 39 and arrested them for allegedly being schwacked on drugs, possessing paraphernalia and having a stash of drugs, too.

• **Aug. 18:** Police booked into evidence surveillance video taken from somewhere on Embarcadero regarding a smash-n-dash and will turn it over to the D.A. for possible inaction.

• **Aug. 18:** Police responded at 3:15 p.m. to a minor car crack-up in the 700 block of Quintana.

• **Aug. 18:** There was another minor car crash at 12:36 p.m. at Main and Allesandro. Oddly enough, at 11:07 a.m. at Allesandro and La Loma, a garbage truck hit a sagging phone line, in yet another argument for wireless phones.

• **Aug. 17:** A citizen in the 400 block of Hill reported the unauthorized use of his debit card by some fraudulent scoundrel.

• **Aug. 17:** Police contacted another suspicious man traipsing about the 500 block of Morro Bay Blvd., at 3:15 p.m. The 55-year-old slapdash fellow got nicked for allegedly being high on illegal stimulants.

Components furnished and installed by Coast Electronics

Home Theater and Observation Systems

JBL

Monitors

Cameras

Smart Phones

We Beat Box Store Prices and We're Conveniently Local

Computers

Modems

LG

Computers

Modems

KENWOOD

Expert Consultation • Professional Installation • Computer Tutors • On-Site Service • Wi-Fi, TV mounts & Universal Remotes

SONY

OPEN 7 DAYS!

COAST ELECTRONICS

Morro Bay

510 Quintana Road

Morro Bay, CA 93442

805-772-1265

San Luis Obispo

1336 Madonna Road

San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

805 544-5400

Paso Robles

1171 Creston Rd. # 109 Paso Robles

805-369-2811

coast-electronics.com

Please be sure to register and

LAST CHANCE for 26% SOLAR TAX CREDIT.

The solar tax credit drops again at the end of 2020. Go solar today and save thousands more.

SOLARPONICS

(805) 466-5595 solarponics.com

Free quotes. Voted Best Value Solar Company.

CSLB #391670 • SINCE 1975

8

September 10, - September 23, 2020 • The Estero Bay News • Your Community, Your News



Community

10th Anniversary  
From page 7

ever. We are small but make a difference. Our faith never wavered, our mission, which is reaching out to ‘make disciples of all mankind’ is still the same.”

Because of the current situation, bigger plans to mark the church’s anniversary have been put on hold until likely 2021.

“We had big plans to celebrate with the community, but because of social distancing restrictions, we have to make it simple,” said Pastor Estoque. “Maybe some day all of the stuff we planned will come to fruition, and we can reach out to our community.”

A smaller version of the planned celebration takes place Sept. 27 at 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

“We will have mostly music, drama, dances—inspirational, cultural and modern worship, preaching, fun and games, and most of all a variety of Filipino food.

“It’s free and all are welcome to come and eat with us,” Pastor Estoque said.

For fans of Filipino food, and you should be, the church also holds a barbecue fundraiser on the last Saturday of every month from 11 a.m. -1:30 p.m. The cost is \$10 a plate. Lumpia (Filipino egg rolls) are \$10 for a dozen, fried/cooked or unfried/uncooked. Money raised goes to



The Maharlika Christian Fellowship celebrates their 10-year anniversary in Los Osos. Pictured is the Church Council: Lita Lazo, Kirby and Jojit Diaz, Marivic Miranda, Dick and Veronica Pacaoan, Fred Alvarado, Jesse Caluya, Emma Pacaoan, Elizabeth Estoque (the pastor’s mother) and Pastor James Erwin Estoque. Photo submitted

support the church building fund.

“Someday we may be able to buy this property as God provides,” said Pastor Estoque

Services at Maharlika Christian Fellowship are held on Sundays starting at 11 a.m. Members bring food to eat afterwards so that they don’t have to go out for lunch.

For folks who are avoiding public gatherings during the pandemic, there is a digital live version of the service on the church’s Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/maharikachristianfellowship>.

As for the future, Pastor Estoque said that beyond purchasing the building that they are now in, there are plans to establish and build another Mahalika Christian Fellowship in SLO county.



One Sunday afternoon in August my daughter, Gail, and I decided to venture out and sightsee along the coast. We drove north and then along Villa Creek Road in Cayucos. I wanted to see if we could locate the old Will Warren ranch with a two-story adobe on it. I had the pleasure of visiting the ranch with the Thursday Painters in 1978.

Lo and behold there it was about two miles inland, but we could barely see the adobe through the thicket. We were unable to drive closer to see who might be living in it. At the time the Thursday Painters met to paint on the ranch, Mr. Warren said his adobe house was once the headquarters for the San Geronimo Ranch that was granted to Rafael

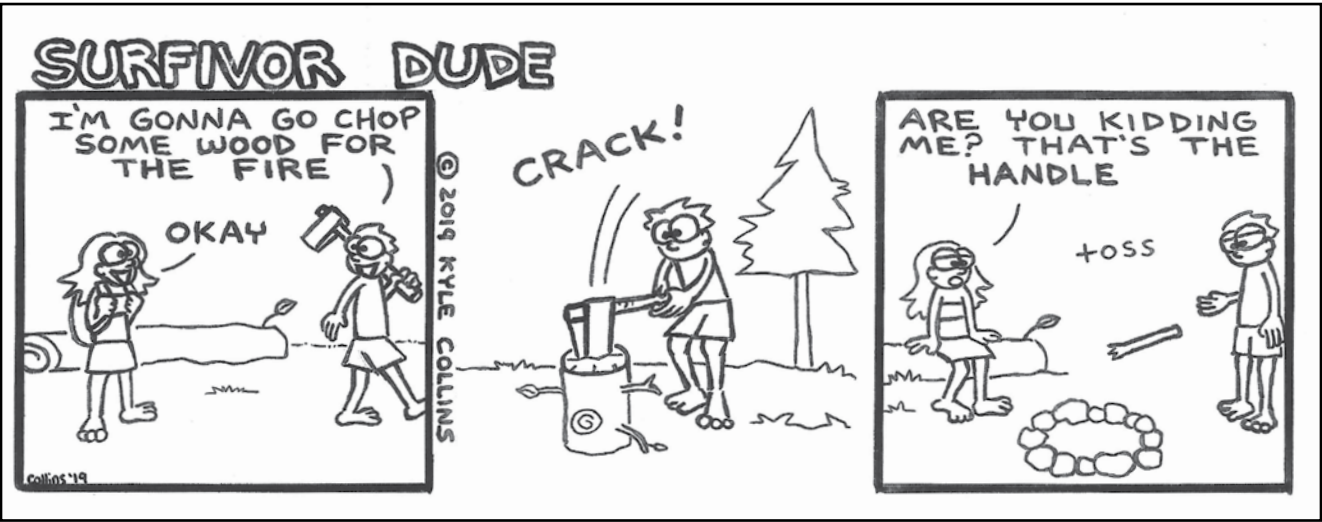


Joan Sullivan stands in front of the two-story Warren adobe in 2020 holding a watercolor she painted of the building in 1979. Photo by Gail Johnson

Villavicencio by Governor Alvarado on July 24, 1845.

It was a very historic ranch indeed and seeing it again brought back many good memories of our visit more than 40 years earlier.

*Rounding Up The Ranches  
By Joan Sullivan 2015*



**BURCH CONCRETE SOLUTIONS • (805) 748-4289**

**Locally Owned & Operated Since 2004**

• Benches

• Fire Pits

• Concrete Resurfacing

• Stained Concrete

• Patios

• Sidewalks

• Exposed Aggregate

• Retaining Walls

• Driveways

• Foundations

• Stamped Concrete

**State Lic# 816944**

[burchconcretesolutions@yahoo.com](mailto:burchconcretesolutions@yahoo.com)

[www.burchconcretesolutions.com](http://www.burchconcretesolutions.com)

Events and Activities

By Theresa-Marie Wilson

The Morro Bay Maritime Museum is holding its Third Anniversary Celebration Fundraiser, a barbecue drive-thru event set for 5-6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 29.

Advanced tickets are \$15 for a whole smoked chicken, or \$30 for a full rack of smoked pork ribs, all cooked by Tognazzini’s Dockside Restaurants.

Add a collector’s edition of fine Kelsey See Canyon Vineyards’ Viognier wine for another \$20. The Maritime Museum is located at 1210 Embarcadero in Morro Bay.

For tickets call: Bonnie Tognazzini at (602) 526-4367 or Kendall Welch (415) 307-3195 or at the Museum from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12 through Sunday, 20.

Proceeds will help keep the Maritime Museum afloat.

The Morro Coast Audubon Society’ September Community Program “Why Do Birds of a Feather Flock Together” presented by Jessica Griffiths is on Monday, Sept. 21 at 7 p.m.

You may have heard the old saying that birds of a feather flock together. But have you ever stopped to wonder why? Join Griffiths for a fascinating look at bird flocks and flocking behavior. Why do some species of birds form flocks, while others do not? Can different kinds of birds join together in a flock? Why do geese and ducks fly in a “V” formation? Learn the answers to these questions and more in this presentation, which touches on bird biology and behavior, and highlights some remarkable scientific discoveries.

Griffiths has worked as a wildlife biologist for nearly 20 years. She currently works as a biologist for Althouse and Meade, Inc. in Paso Robles. Prior to moving to the SLO area, Jessica worked in Big Sur for the Ventana Wildlife Society, overseeing all of their songbird research projects and running the Big Sur Ornithology Lab for several years. She is actively involved with Morro Coast Audubon and leads year-round bird walks for birders of all ages.

This is a Zoom meeting and can be joined at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88173298656?pwd=MzBOV1VDa-0l1aVdLY2N6TWdMdzRnUT09>.

The meeting ID is 881 7329 8656 and the passcode is 961503.

...

Morro Bay Art Association presents Perspectives Sept. 17- Nov. 2. This event is free and open to the public. Art Center Morro Bay, 835 Main St., is open from noon-4 p.m., Thursdays-Mondays and follows safety precautions as you comfortably view local art (bring a mask).

The exhibit explores how perspective gives a three-dimensional feeling to a flat surface. Linear perspective creates the illusion of distance to a vanishing point. It’s a system of representing the way objects appear to get smaller and closer together, the farther away they are from the viewer. We see parallel lines as converging in the distance, although in reality they really don’t. Roads and railway lines are obvious examples.

Multiple vanishing points such as cityscapes, enable a more naturalistic representation.

Atmospheric or aerial perspective, creates the sense of distance by simulating changes affected by color such as blue in a mountain as it meets the sky.

This exhibit celebrates artistic expression in all media to include textile, encaustic, mixed media, oil, watercolor, acrylic and photography. This theme extends itself to anything that represents a variety of perspectives.

The Point San Luis lighthouse, which is closed due to the pandemic, is offering docent-led interactive virtual tours instead. Using Zoom, a docent will lead up to 10 guests on a virtual walking tour of this historic site. Visitors will travel back in time to 1890, delve into the lighthouse’s

Lighthouse Continued on page 10

September 10, - September 23, 2020 • The Estero Bay News • Your Community, Your News

9



Community

Lighthouse From page 9

history, and see all the things one would see on an “in-person” tour, plus more. Guests will explore the light station’s grounds, visit the head Keeper’s dwelling and see all the rooms, climb the lighthouse tower to the lantern room with its spectacular views of San Luis Bay, step inside the fog signal room, and admire the beautiful Fresnel lens.

Tours run every Wednesday at 2 p.m. and last about an hour. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at My805Tix by searching “Point San Luis lighthouse.” All ticket proceeds go toward operating, maintaining and preserving this Central Coast hidden gem.

Send your event listing at least two weeks in advance to Editor@EsteroBayNews.com. Make sure to include the who, what, why, where and when of the event and contact information. Please, type out in paragraph form rather than attaching flyers.

A Matter of Taste Will Return

By Jill Turnbow



A Matter of Taste in Cambria was destroyed during a fire on Aug. 1. Photo by Jerry Rodriguez

The skies in Cambria darkened on August 1 when a fire erupted at A Matter of Taste, a local business in the East Village. A vehicle had slammed into the building, shearing the gas line causing the shop to burst into flames. One employee and a few customers managed to get out in time and there were no injuries. But, the building itself was destroyed.

A Matter of Taste, owned by partners Gayle Jenkins and Mark Morris, was located on the corner of Main and Burton. It’s an iconic kitchen store specializing in cookware, foods and specialty items. In 2019 the Cambria Chamber of Commerce named the shop “Business of the Year.”

Fortunately the shop was insured, however it is the insurance that has put the shop’s fate on hold. “They said it could take up to two years to figure it all out,” says Gayle. “We have received money for the loss of the business but not the inventory. It will be a while.”

Locals have been concerned about the fate of the busi-

ness. Fire department officials red-tagged the structure, making it uninhabitable. Sept. 4 was the first day Gayle and Mark had been able to get inside the building that is being prepared for demolition.

“We thought we would just see if anything was salvageable,” Gayle said. “I was hoping to find my grandmother’s needlepoint frames and perhaps the computer, register, anything. But it was so much worse than we expected. It is a complete and total loss; the only thing I could grab was a cast iron pan.”

This was not the first time the building at 4120 Burton Dr. has been damaged. When Mike and Sally Thompson had the business several years ago, it was also hit by a car at least once. And since Gayle and Mark have owned it, there have been two other accidents — just a month before a car went thru the side of The French Corner Bakery that sits across the parking lot from A Matter of Taste. So, the location does have its challenges.

“But those were events we could clean up and move on from,” said Gayle. “This is different, everything is gone.” However, they are optimistic about the future. There has been a great deal of community support. “We have heard from so many of our customers, our friends and family. We have been overwhelmed by the generosity, of not just Cambrians, but visitors who have written to tell us that shopping at A Matter of Taste was a family tradition. We are so blessed by the prayers and good wishes. It’s what keeps us going.”

Gayle insists they will keep going. They have been encouraged to rebuild, but in a new location. “We would like to stay in the East Village if we can,” she said. “This is a blank canvas for us now. We can expand and rebuild just the way we want it. We would like to grow into more than just kitchenware, possibly home décor as well.”

Currently there are two GoFundMe pages set up to assist with relocating A Matter of Taste. “We are so appreciative of our community. We will be back bigger and better,” said Gayle.

City Launches ‘Be a Trash Hero’ Effort

By Neil Farrell



The City of Morro Bay wants people to “Be a Trash Hero” to help combat the growing problem of excessive trash being generated by increased takeout orders at restaurants on the Embarcadero and other areas of town.

First Morro Bay residents and visitors were urged to “Be a Face Mask Hero” and help fight the coronavirus pandemic by wearing a facemask. Now, the City is asking people to become heroes by picking up trash that’s being strewn about by birds and litterbugs.

Jennifer Callaway, the City’s public information officer, said, “The City recently launched the ‘Be A Face Mask Hero’ Campaign to align with the State of California’s state-wide mask order and highlight the importance of wearing

masks to combat the spread of COVID-19.

“The campaign has been very successful,” Callaway said, “as the City continues to see increased compliance with face covering usage. The City is now launching its second leg of the Hero Campaign series, ‘Be a Trash Hero.’”

Since mid-June when the State eased up a bit on its pandemic response and allowed some non-essential businesses, in particular restaurants, to reopen but not allowing them to use their dining rooms.

That’s led to most of the nearly 50 restaurants in Morro Bay scrambling to make the new restrictions work, by offering takeout, curbside and home delivery, as well as setting up outdoor seating areas in parking lots, on sidewalks, plazas and patios.

It’s isn’t likely to be enough for many restaurants to survive for too much longer, but it’s allowed them to do some business. It’s also come with an unintended consequence.

“Since seeing the return of visitors to our area as allowed by State and County orders,” Callaway said, “the City has experienced a dramatic increase in the amount of trash and waste. In response, the City has added trash receptacles and increased staffing on weekends; however, the amount of trash and debris produced by visitors exceeds even the added capacity.”

Several volunteers have stepped up to pitch in, “and the City is very grateful for its committed and dedicated volunteer base that routinely assists staff with trash removal and cleanup,” Callaway said.

There remain several areas in town with overflowing trash cans where the trash keeps piling up, helped in large part to scavenging seagulls that pick through trash cans, pulling garbage out for whatever tidbits they can find, and leaving it on the ground to be scattered by the wind.

“We often forget,” Callaway said, “as a coastal community, that seagulls and other birds tend to pick up trash next to receptacles or pull out trash and carry it throughout the city if not fully thrown away.

“When this happens, trash and debris can end up in our bay, negatively impacting the marine life we all cherish and love to observe.”

The PR campaign “is focused on encouraging our visitors to respect our beautiful community and delicate bay, this place that they enjoy visiting and spending time in, by helping to be part of the solution, not the pollution, by properly disposing all trash and recyclables,” Callaway said.

Trash Hero signs and feather banners are being placed along the waterfront and Main Street, Callaway said, “to help communicate the message and ask visitors for their support and participation.”

And there could be rewards in it for trash heroes. “Just as with the City’s Face Mask Hero Campaign,” Callaway said, “City staff will be handing out swag items such as T-shirts and hats to visitors and residents that they see going above and beyond, picking up trash and helping to protect the bay — truly being part of the solution, not the pollution.”

Mayor Dr. John Headding recently posted a YouTube video discussing the “Be a Trash Hero” Campaign, see: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=axf7FQOswMU&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=axf7FQOswMU&feature=youtu.be).

Callaway said this won’t be the last part of the City’s Heroes Campaign. “Additional components of the City’s Hero Campaign will be rolled out in weeks to come as the City acknowledges our local businesses that have stayed the course and persevered during this constantly changing and uncertain times, as well as local volunteer heroes and the City employee heroes who continue to provide a high level of service to our community despite reduced staffing and COVID challenges.”



Mayor Dr. John Headding is shown in a YouTube video addressing a growing problem of excessive trash being generated by increased takeout orders at restaurants on the Embarcadero and other areas of town.

### SMALL HOME PROJECTS



**(Home maintenance and repairs)**

- Fencing
- Laminate floors installation
- Interior painting
- Pressure washing
- Yard maintenance
- Wall patching
- Demolition
- General small home repairs
- DOG WALKING and pet sitting...!!!!

Alex Vega: (206)697-7344  
Licensed, Bonded & Insured  
L&I # UBI: 603528470



### Need to Sell, Want to Buy, I'm Your Guy!

Serving the Central Coast since 2015

**Massive Marketing Matters:**

- Professional Drone Photography
- Widespread Syndication
- Virtual Open Houses
- Personal Website
- Flexible Fees

**Ask about:**

- \* 1031 Exchanges
- \* Trusts

...Get the Most the Market Can Bare



**JOEL PACE**  
Real Estate Specialist  
HONEST. TRUSTED. SERVICE.   
Visit [www.joelpacerealestate.com](http://www.joelpacerealestate.com)

**Joel Pace**  
Broker-Associate | CalBRE# 01946105  
**(805) 703-0778**  
Brokered by **BIGBLOCK** REALTY  
CalBRE# 01885775



Community

MBPD Officer Gets Footprint Association Award



Morro Bay Police Ofc. Gene Stuart was recognized by the International Footprint Association of California Central Coast.

Morro Bay Police Ofc. Gene Stuart received an award from the International Footprint Association of California Central Coast, Chapter 73, “in recognition of his outstanding service and professionalism to our community,” the department said in a news release.

Stuart, MBPD’s school resource officer, received the “Distinguished Service Award” at a July 15 ceremony held at the MBPD stationhouse.

Ofc. Stuart “was nominated as the July recipient for this award in recognition of his outstanding service to the community as the department’s drone coordinator/pilot,” the department said. “Over the past year, Officer Stuart has conducted UAS [drone] operations at several San Luis Obispo County and City locations. Operations have included homicide investigations, major crime scene documentation, protests, UAS [drone] presentations, and special enforcement details.”

IFA Secretary and retired former MBPD Chief, John DeRohan, explained that Sgt. Nichols, “is our organization’s award coordinator. The way the awards work is we honor about two agencies per month, one officer/deputy and one non-sworn such as a dispatcher.

“The agencies nominate their personnel for these awards and Sgt. Nichols coordinates with the agencies to present the awards on our behalf.”

Like everything else, the Coronavirus Pandemic has tripped up the Footprint Association. “In the past before COVID,” DeRohan said, “we presented the awards in person at our monthly dinner meetings. Won’t be having

dinner meetings for a while, so we now go to the agencies and present the awards.”

So what does the non-profit, Footprint Association do? According to group’s website: “IFA Chapter 73’s Mission is to provide collaboration, assistance, support, and resources to local law enforcement agencies with the California Central Coast. The mission of CCCCK is to promote this collaboration, assistance, and support by targeting the youth and families of the Central Coast through an annual COPS ‘N KIDS Field Day.”

The IFA works with the “California Central Coast COPS ‘N KIDS, Inc.,” sharing a board of directors and with similar goals. “CCCCK is the sister organization to IFA Chapter 73,” reads the website, “and was officially certified as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization by the IRS on Aug. 9, 2006.” The IFA was started in 1992.

“The Vision for both our organizations is a Central Coast that enjoys an excellent relationship and mutual respect between our local law enforcement agencies, the communities they serve and our youth. Both our organization programs are aimed at this Vision.” See: <https://ifa73-cccck.org> for more on the organizations.

Shown at Ofc. Stuart’s ceremony, left to right are: MBPD professional staff members Becky Musolff and Christie Montoya, Sheriff’s Sgt. Nichols, Ofc. Stuart, Footprint Association President, Bill Blair (at podium), MBPD Chief Jody Cox, MBPD Sgt. Tony Mosqueda, Cmdr. Amy Watkins and MBPD professional staff member, Tami Ponder [We know, it’s hard to tell with the masks on].

Photo courtesy IFA Ch. 73

Exhibit Goes ‘Out on a Whim’



Artist Larry Le Brane

Morro Bay Art Association is featuring mixed media artist Larry Le Brane’s exhibit, “Out on a Whim,” with imaginative sculpture and functional fine craft, from Sept. 17-Nov. 2, at Art Center Morro Bay, 835 Main St.

The collection includes whimsical and unique artwork including his exaggerated stiletto footwear, Day-of-the-Dead sculpture, a car, a fish, glass-scapes and popular functional fine craft.

Le Brane’s eclectic designs blend a love for manipulating unusual materials, found objects such as musical instruments, fused glass, drawing, painting, and detailed craftsmanship with a street-wise and academic background.

Why shoes? “My current stiletto creations,” Le Brane said, “are suggestive, provocative, curvy forms combined with themes that fulfill flights of footwear fantasies. It’s so fun to watch guests circle around the high heels, trying to figure out ‘What IS that and WHAT was he thinking of!’ One of my favorite reactions was a young kid who pointed at my shoe sculpture and asked, ‘Hey Mom, is that art?’”

The Association’s Annual Member Showcase, “Perspectives,” is also on display and features home décor, and one-of-a-kind gifts by member artists.

The Art Center Morro Bay is open from noon-4 p.m., Thursdays-Mondays, and follows safety precautions as you comfortably view local art (bring a mask).

See: [www.artcentermorrobay.org](http://www.artcentermorrobay.org) for more on the MBAA.



Towers Of Bobble made of fused glass, stiletto knives, mirrors, leather, metal and found objects will be featured from Sept. 17-Nov. 2, at Art Center Morro Bay.

Technically Speaking  
The Real Meaning Of Smart Device



A term that gets used quite often in today’s technology conversations is “smart.” But, what does this mean and what does it have to do with intelligence? The word smart, in this context, simply refers to a device that may communicate to and/or from the internet. Examples of this are all around us: phones, televisions, home appliances, and even some toothbrushes, no we are not kidding.

There are also devices like Amazon’s Fire Stick, a smart device that can help an older, not-so-smart TV con-

Technically Speaking Continued on page 13

Dreaming Up the Ideal Retirement Is Your Job. Helping You Get There Is Ours.

To learn more about why Edward Jones makes sense for you, call my office today.

**Morro Bay**

**Nelson Pamplona**  
Financial Advisor

501 Harbor Street  
Morro Bay, CA 93442  
(805) 772-6188

**Jennifer L. Redman**  
Financial Advisor

1085 Kennedy Way  
Morro Bay, CA 93442  
(805) 772-7938

**Cayucos**

**Scott McManus, AAMS®, CFP®**  
Financial Advisor

241 S. Ocean Ave.  
Cayucos, CA 93430  
(805) 995-2110

**Ian Driskill**  
Financial Advisor

1236 LOVR, Suite J  
Los Osos, CA 93402  
(661) 699-2771

**Los Osos**

**Deanna Richards, AAMS®**  
Financial Advisor

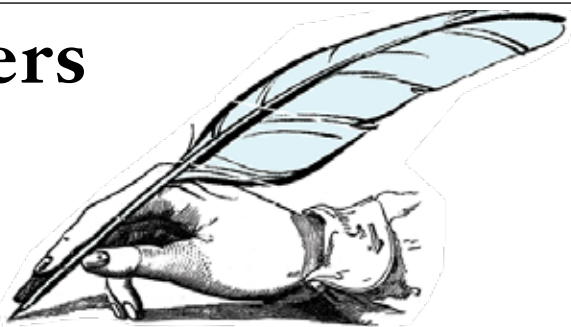
1236 LOVR, Suite J  
Los Osos, CA 93402  
(805) 534-1070

**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Member SIPC



# Letters To The Editor



## Eliminate Stand-Alone Vacation Rentals

A neighbor recently approached me in desperation over the constant disruptive activity from the vacation rental (“VR”) across the street. This permitted rental is constantly out of control; on complaint, management states they can do nothing about it, “call the police”. They are so desperate for peace and quiet they are considering selling their house at a financial loss and moving to a community that does not allow VRs in residential neighborhoods. They are concerned they will have to disclose the VR and must accept a devalued offer because of the VR proximity. They are currently trying to decide to move forward at a loss or wait to see if the new ordinance will solve the problem so they may comfortably remain in their home.

It is believed in the real estate community that converting a traditional residential rental into a VR can add up to \$200k worth of value. Adjacent properties (typically 4 or more) go down in value due to ONE property owner receiving special privileges of a VR permit. This could be seen as a taking by eminent domain wherein the city through its actions has created a special class of properties within a residential zone without due process thereby reducing property values around them. The VR ordinance as written could be considered arbitrary ‘spot zoning’ rather than complying with normal protocols of changing the zoning ordinance in the general plan. There may be as many as a thousand or more surrounding properties in the city of MB who could suffer a significant reduction in value due to a specific and intentional action by the city.

Nothing in the proposed VR ordinance speaks to the granting of special privilege or the preservation of public health, safety and welfare. This is language typically included in permits such as the proposed VR draft. Leaving out this language attempts to circumvent the general plan, creating a class of properties wherein no due process is required to achieve this special status.

If the typical VR property goes up \$200k and the adjacent 4 properties go down in value an estimated \$50k each, this loss of value may be attributed to the city’s action. If 1000 properties surrounding 250 VRs in the city of MB each go down \$50k, that is equivalent to a loss of \$50 MILLION dollars. Does it sound outrageous that the city could take an action that could cost the residents of Morro Bay \$50M? It’s already been done! The WRF project was relocated under protest and threat of lawsuit by an individual city council candidate and her neighborhood which caused the city to abandon its pursuit of the Righetti property in favor of significantly more expensive S Bay. We now know that this action precipitated by a few individuals petitioning the city for their own personal benefit cost the rest of the community approximately \$50M in increased costs for the WRF. Let us NOT repeat this injustice with our VR ordinance!

It is NOT too late to stop the city council from moving forward with the VR ordinance as proposed. Let us enforce the original intent of residential zoning to preclude the use of those properties for commercial purposes. The whole idea that the city needs a VR ordinance to grandfather in and validate what would have originally been viewed as a violation of the zoning ordinance is preposterous. The promoters of the VR ordinance are using big \$\$ to force the city to validate illegal use of their properties.

Neighbors, at any time, ANY residential property including yours could become a victim of the VR ordinance. It could lower your property value, create difficulties when selling, and create a 24/7/365 stressful environment so damaging you feel you must move, as our neighbors above feel. Please let your city council know that as a resident of the community, you are NOT in agreement with their proposal to create this egregious special benefit for a limited number of residential property owners. Let them know that your right to public health, welfare and safety, and quiet enjoyment of your property must not be infringed on by the city’s special class of vacation rentals.

Eliminate stand-alone VRs completely in residential neighborhoods. Instead, substitute unlimited hosted stays: permitted, and TOT-paying with no cap. This will allow ALL interested residential property owners to contribute to TOT and provide owner-on-site supervised housing opportunities for visitors without creating a ‘special class’ or expecting our police to enforce good neighbor behavior.

Judi Brown  
Morro Bay

## Police Blotter is Humorous

In recent issues, including the last one, several people have complained about the glibness of the Police Blotter. Apparently these individuals don’t appreciate tongue in cheek humor.

Rather than excluding people who do enjoy it by eliminating it as suggested, perhaps those people should simply not read it. If they want straight news they can go to the sheriff or MBPD’s website.

Kerry Keltz  
Los Osos.

## Reexamine State Road Closure

GREAT JOB Estero Bay News! After an inquiry about the road closure of State Park Road Theresa-Marie Wilson had a very comprehensive article with a lot of information from the Superintendent Dan Falat (Vol.2 Issue 17).

So some quick points about his response. Opportunities for recreation (walking and biking). There’s another state park not far from Morro Bay (Montana de Oro) with miles of trails available for hiking, walking, and biking. Plus, Morro Bay has the beautiful Embarcadero walk that goes all the way out to Morro rock. So there are local alternatives to this two-mile stretch of road.

Traffic congestion on finding the campground closed. Turning left into the marina gives you a huge parking lot to turn around in to get back out.

Shorter route to the center of Morro Bay. Anybody who’s lived in Los Osos for any time knows this. What isn’t shorter is getting to the Bayside Cafe (a favorite with many locals) or the golf course, which is still open, or anywhere else in the south part of Morro Bay.

I think it’s time to reexamine this issue and open the road back up. It’s not helping limit the spread of COVID, but it is making it a lot more inconvenient to get around.

Greg King  
Los Osos

## Vote for Andy Caldwell for US Congress

Our family has lived in the Tri Counties for over 70 years running a small business. Salud Carbajal is terrible for our cities and our counties because he doesn’t care about businesses or their employees and their families. He has consistently voted for more restrictions on business and higher taxes, which burdens small businesses and the people they employ.

Carbajal voted against police lives matter, and this is dangerous for our family members and friends. We must protect your family, friends and jobs. Andy Caldwell is our government watchdog; he really cares about your family, your job, and our first line of defense, our police force.

Kevin O’Connor  
Santa Barbara

## Open State Park Road

As much as I appreciate the park service saving us from a certain death from Covid-19, I think it’s time to reopen State Park Road — 90+% of traffic from Los Osos to Morro Bay used to take that turn off. Now to go to Bayside Cafe you have to either brave the 27 stop signs on Morro Blvd or take Kings from Quintana and wind your way through the residential Streets (I’m sure those homeowners would like that to stop).

Nobody is going to try to camp in the campground with all the closed signs they have up. It really doesn’t serve a purpose having the road closed. If they really wanted to make it better they should make it a one-way road, around and back down through the golf course; one lane for cars, and another big bicycle/walking lane.

Shelby Rinck  
Los Osos

Please include your full name and town you live in on all letters sent. Although we do welcome longer opinion pieces, publishing is as space permits. Estero Bay News reserves the right to edit for length and clarity. Email letters to editor@esterobaynews.com

# Community

## SLO Roasted Coffee: Julie & Chris Galloway Another COVID-19 Small Business Survival Story

By Judy Salamacha



Sister and brother, Julie and Chris Galloway, of SLO Roasted Coffee in Los Osos.

Norm Galloway launched SLO Roasted Coffee in 1984 in a 1,400-square-foot warehouse on 2nd Street in Los Osos. He imported, roasted, packaged and sold premium coffee. One of his marketing tactics was offering tastings and tours to walk-ins. He welcomed the opportunity to teach customers how his product achieved a richer tasting coffee than the nationally popular brands of the times.

Today, Norm’s children, Julie, Chris and son, Eric, continue the legacy, but they have expanded the company and now work out of a much larger industrial-green 7,000-square-foot warehouse at 1172 Los Olivos Avenue. Still in Los Osos, they moved in on Easter Sunday, 2000.

“We needed to accommodate the large-volume roaster that supports keeping us well stocked,” said Chris. “We’ve developed 100 brands over the years.”

The mammoth roaster is a focal point for visitors to see, hear and smell pungent coffee beans roasting during their annual holiday open house each December. Although they are open for sales and pick-up, open house gatherings are another casualty of the pandemic. Once safe again, inviting the public in for socials and tours will continue to be the Galloway’s outreach to the general public.

“The coffee industry has developed much like the wine and beer industries,” Chris said. “Customers’ palates have change over the years. We source our beans worldwide from family owned farms. They take more time to care for their crops.”

On the shelf, SLO Roasted Coffee might look like a large national brand, but they are a small family owned business that creates limited roasted batches, only purchased from small, family owned growers that they have gotten to know over the years. Growth for the company has been a steady business-to-business effort — a sales call then servicing one grocer, office or hotel at a time.

Early on they served SLO County’s popular grocery outlets, Williams Brothers and Scolari’s. Today, customers find SLO Roasted brands in Albertson’s, Vons and Spencer’s Markets as well as area liquor stores, hotels and offices from Paso Robles to Montecito.

When the rage for K-cup coffees took hold, they adapted. Automated bagging allowed for volume production and new bag sizes. Their 4-cup bags work well for travelers; locals going elsewhere and visitors enjoying more than one cup in their hotel room. Various sizes offered for brands that rotate seasonally has also expanded their online orders. They have even tipped their toes into private labels. Cal Poly Mustang Coffee is available at the student store. And they developed a SLO Roasted Cold Brew Coffee.

“Many of the hotels now offer our coffee for the 4-cup makers,” Chris said. “They discovered more positive Yelp reviews when visitors had coffee with flavor in their rooms and once home we often had a new online customer.”

Chris explained they were just starting to build a factory tour-package with area hotels before COVID-19. Also temporarily parked is their popular Espresso Cart, a full coffee-bar service enjoyed at weddings, area events and nonprofit activities. One of their biggest events was Babe’s Ride-Out with 1,200 ladies on motorcycles and Live Oak for KCBX 2019.

When COVID-19 hit in March, business accounts with grocers, area offices, restaurants and hotels dropped 60 per-



Community

cent. “Everything was going strong,” Julie said, “but then we had to figure out how to pivot.”

The national grocery chains pulled their bulk orders. “It slowed us way down,” said Chris. “We also lost the office and hotel business. People were working at home and the hotels were empty and not able to set out self-serve breakfast.”

Julie complimented her brother’s flexibility, “The grocers don’t like open space on shelves so Chris designed and installed new shelves for all the stores so our bagged products could go on their shelf. After July 4th tourists have come back to the hotels, but it is still slow.”

What is the prognosis to rebuild their business in the future? Besides not raising prices and still offering a 20%



After grocery chains dropped orders for bulk coffee, Chris Galloway built these display shelves for all the stores that SLO Roasted Coffee is sold in between Paso Robles and Montecito. Photo submitted

discount and free shipping for online orders \$50 or more Julie said, “We’re heading into winter and people always



Chief roaster Adam Boyd has been with SLO Roasted Coffee for 19 years. Photo submitted

drink more coffee when it is colder so we’re hoping for a very wet winter.”

Writer’s Note: An aha-moment was confirmed while interviewing #4 of this ongoing series. If you, my treasured readers, discover nothing else from Chris and Julie Galloway, notice a theme continues showing up in each interview that is key to keeping locally-based businesses going strong during this 2020 onslaught on their livelihood. Together we can survive and especially if a business can “pivot,” it might even thrive.

“SLO County has so many products produced right here in our own backyard,” Chris Galloway said. “Right now our residents are searching for quality high-end value and I believe they’ve learned to appreciate buying local. They say they want us to stay in business. We must all continue to support each other.”

**Technically Speaking** From page 11

nect to the internet and utilize apps and streaming services provided they have an HDMI port and an active internet connection.

Why do we need these smart devices? Like much of today’s technology, the main reason is convenience. Your smartphone gives you instant access to any website or social media platform you could need at a moment’s notice. This could be used for something as simple as looking up the proper information for an argument you’re having or as



complex as digitally signing secured documents. Personally we have been in both of these situations more than once!

Having a device or appliance that is smart may be convenient for the end user, but in most cases there are always strings attached to the manufacturer’s best interests. Be sure to read the fine print and terms of service before using your smart devices! You may be surprised about what you find!

*Chad Crawford is the owner of QuickTech in Los Osos located at 212110th Suite #A. They can be reached at <https://quicktech-computers.com/> or (805) 806-0165.*

*Send your questions to [chad@quicktechcomputers.com](mailto:chad@quicktechcomputers.com).*

**Camping Fees** From page 1

campgrounds (State Parks) and private RV parks, of which Morro Bay has six.

Not changing the fines, Neumeyer said, gives people an incentive to illegally camp. “Essentially an unlawful vehicular camper can set up in an illegal camping area, camp for a 48-hour period, and only pay \$62, because local law at present requires first a warning be issued; does not allow additional enforcement within a 24-hour period; and the current fine when a first citation is issued is \$62 [and can only be increased up to \$100 under current law].”

Essentially, the change makes illegal camping a misdemeanor and is also meant to fight environmental impacts too.

Neumeyer said, “Vehicular camping outside of prepared and designated areas creates immediate hazardous conditions for the environment with unlawful disposal of human waste, trash, fuel spills, and vehicle exhaust. The large numbers of vehicular campers who are camping in undesignated areas are also causing visual blight to the natural beauty of Morro Bay, as well as generating a deleterious, unwarranted and negative environmental impact. Morro Bay community members have also voiced concern and displeasure with the large number of vehicular campers who are camping in undesignated areas.”

But rogue RVers will soon have some spaces to legally stay by the bay. Harbor Director Eric Endersby said the department was planning this week to open up some waterfront areas to overnight camping for a handful of RVs, renting them out nightly through the online booking service, “Bonfire.”

Endersby told Estero Bay News last week that they had tried to get the RV spaces open before Labor Day Weekend, but “It will be too crazy,” he said of the massive influx of visitors the City was expecting for the end of summer holiday. “It’s going to be over-the-top crowded.”

The department decided on a soft opening in the middle of this week. There will be three sites where the City will allow RV or tent camping — three spaces adjacent to the basketball court at Coleman Park; nine spaces in an unused maintenance yard near Morro Creek, where Endersby said the Master Baiters used to bait long lines for commercial fishermen; and seven spaces in the “Triangle Lot” (behind the Maritime Museum), for a total of 19.

The Triangle Lot will be open to tent camping too, which Endersby said the Coastal Commission insisted on.

The fees range from \$75 a night at Coleman Park to \$65 a night at the Triangle Lot and the creek area (see: [www.morrobayca.gov/1020/Waterfront-RV-Tent-Camping](http://www.morrobayca.gov/1020/Waterfront-RV-Tent-Camping) for information on this program).

The City will also charge its 10% bed tax, 3% for the Tourism Business Improvement District, and 1% for the County Tourism Marketing District, for a total of 14% in taxes or \$10.50 a night (at Coleman Park).

These will be dry camping, he said, meaning there are



The Harbor Department has set up three RV spaces at Coleman Park for overnight camping. Coleman Park is one of three — soon to be four — areas around the waterfront where the City will rent RV and tent camping spaces

no utility hookups at all. Bathroom facilities would be a single ADA restroom at the Triangle Lot, and port-a-potties at Coleman Park, where the bathrooms are currently condemned and closed. Out by the creek, Endersby said they would have to bring in port-a-potties.

They also plan to eventually have a handful of RV spaces available by the launch ramp for fishermen who want to drive their RVs to town, towing their boats, and stay by the launch ramp.

Rockfish season, the main sport fishery in these waters, is open from April to the end of December. Tidelands Park has the best facilities including men’s and women’s restrooms with coin-op showers.

While Bonfire will handle the RV space rentals, Endersby said they would rent the launch ramp spaces through their parking kiosk, which has also had issues of late.

Installed about 10 years ago, the parking kiosk collects \$5 per day for parking a truck and boat trailer while people go out fishing. The system has worked well and the department has collected thousands every year.

But last year it began to unravel. Endersby explained that the company that made and serviced the kiosk sent an email announcing that as of a certain date it would no longer “support” the kiosks, and recommended customers buy a new one at some \$15,000.

Trouble was, he said, they emailed to the City’s old email address and no one saw it until a month before the service was to end. The death of the old machine coin-

cided with the close of last rockfish season, and in March, the launch ramp was closed for the coronavirus pandemic response.

It is now open to launch boats and social distancing and mask wearing is required while on shore.

Endersby said they conferred with Pismo Beach, which was in the same situation but for a lot more parking kiosks. They decided to go with a new company that Pismo found and bought a new kiosk for \$12,000. It can be programmed to take payments for the RV spaces and they should have that up soon, he said.

When fishing started again in April, Endersby said they used the old “iron ranger” method — a metal drop-box and essentially relying on the honor system — to collect parking fees.

Endersby said they adopted much of Port San Luis’ RV parking program that rents spaces along Avila Drive. PSL uses Bonfire, he said, and the company will handle reservations, collect payments including the taxes, add on a fee for itself, and remit the monies on a schedule, along with an accounting report.

He hopes to have a link put on the City’s home page that would take people directly to the Bonfire site to rent one of the city’s spaces.

Endersby emphasized that this a pilot program that he expects to last through the pandemic and if they want to make it a permanent thing, the City will have to get a coastal development permit from the Coastal Commission.





Accordionist, Dick Noel of Bakersfield, serenades Lee and Allyn Arnold during Lee's 100th birthday party at Luneda's Garden Bistro in Cayucos.

Lee led the Pier Plaza Committee's fundraising for the plaza remodeling that features a sculpture donated by artist Dale Evers in 1994, and designed by Cayucos artist, Al Musso.

Lee's active involvement in the Cayucos Art Association helped build its membership and scholarship program for local art students.

Allyn was a founder of the Cayucos Land Conservancy and they've been generous supporters of that group's efforts at establishing a greenbelt around the town, including conservation of the Estero Bluffs (now a state park). He also served on the Cayucos Citizens Advisory Council for many years.

They've been major supporters of the Cayucos Friends of the Library, supporting libraries countywide, and helped found the Cayucos Educational Foundation, the fund-raising arm of the Cayucos Elementary School.

Allyn has been active with the Lion's Club and was named Lion of the Year in 1992-93 and both are past Grand Marshals of the Lion's Club's Independence Day Parade.

They are also founding members of the Cayucos Historical Society. Both have been big supporters of education and the arts across SLO County and have also supported the Homeless Shelter Program and Food Bank Coalition.

And it was this wealth of history and public service that has endeared Lee and Allyn to their many friends and neighbors in Cayucos who look out for the two and pitch in to see that they are taken care of and loved during this pandemic that has everyone fearfully keeping their distance from each other.

Last week's birthday party that included Bakersfield resident, Dick Noel, who came out to play accordion and entertain at the party, saw people put aside their fears of the virus to celebrate two special people and valued citizens of Cayucos.

Estero Bay News wishes Lee Arnold a Happy 100th Birthday!

Vacation Rentals From page 1

It does not apply to those in commercial or visitor serving zones. Nor does it apply to "home-sharing" operations (like those through AirB&B), where someone rents out a bedroom in their home for a short-term stay, while they too are at home.

"The City has approximately 250 permitted short-term vacation rentals," reads the staff report by City Attorney Chris Neumeyer. "While travel and vacationing has decreased compared to previous years, short-term vacation rentals are still in use. Additionally, in the last couple of years, social media has increased exponentially the popularity and demand for short-term vacation rentals."

But it's that popularity that has some residents alarmed at the number of VRs that have seemingly sprung up overnight, across the City and in every neighborhood except the Cloisters where the CC&Rs prohibit them.

The City Council woke to the issue in May 2016 when it directed staff to "revise the City's vacation rental policies," Neumeyer said, "to better address quality of life issues in residential neighborhoods and to include the revision in the City's ongoing General Plan/Local Coastal Program/Zoning Code update process."

The Council also settled on 250 as the cap on the number of licenses.

That June they implemented the first moratorium of VRs setting the 250 cap. In July 2016, they re-upped the moratorium for another 22 months and 15 days, expiring in 2018.

In May 2018, the Council permanently adopted the 250 cap (Ordinance 613, MBMC Section 5.47.050) for VRs in residential zones.

Since then, the City formed a committee of business people and residents to hammer out a comprehensive VR ordinance. The results of that effort went before the Planning Commission this month, with a final vote for approval at the Sept. 1 meeting.

Among their recommendations is to cut the cap down to 175 in residential zones and not limit at all home-share arrangements, or VRs in commercial and visitor-serving zones.

Any drop was strongly opposed by people connected with the vacation rental industry in correspondence sent to the commission.

"If vacation rentals are already licensed and functioning, it does not seem fair to take away a license just because the new ordinance now makes them too close to another VR," wrote Beth Appel, who said her family rents out their home when they leave on vacation, adding that it's worked very well for them.

Another commenter, Bob Lalor of Oxnard, said his family likes to spend New Year's in Morro Bay. "My family has built a wonderful tradition of spending New Year's in Morro Bay for 5 years straight in the same rental. We treat it as a peaceful getaway, filled with walks, beach time, golf, cooking, and more walks. It would be a shame to lose such a thing based off of the voices of a few disgruntled homeowners. Instead of looking at a ban, why not focus on how you can make the system work FOR you."

Mark and Carol Hays of Visalia wrote, "We sunk our entire life savings into this house almost five years ago and

intend to retire there within five years. The only way we can do that is to rent it out as a vacation rental (as per our original plan) until we move in. We see Morro Bay as our hometown the same as anyone who lives there and we want to preserve its character for ourselves too. We care about the quality of life for all residents. It is an affront to us to be characterized as anything other than members of that community [especially since we are there a large portion of the time]."

The Hays' urged the City to pick up its enforcement efforts and crack down on unlicensed VRs. "Many of the complaints of full time residents could be alleviated through the act of enforcing the policies already in place. In our case, we are the only licensed rental for at least a city block in any direction. However, there are some within that circumference that operate as STRs and are NOT licensed [we confirmed this through our knowledge of our neighborhood and the obtaining of a list of all current licenses in the City]. It is a waste of time and money to put a new ordinance in place when the existing ordinances are not being enforced and, frankly, an insult to those of us living by the rules."

The Hays' supported reducing the 250 cap to 200 and that the licenses stay with the property should it be sold.

Cynthia Mauch wrote that she and her brother own their parent's old house and rent it out to vacationers. It's allowed them to keep the home in the family, use it when they want and represents cherished memories of growing up here.

"I understand that some proponents of the ordinances feel that VRs are a scourge to Morro Bay," Mauch wrote, "bringing rude partiers who don't care about neighbors or about our town, and are loud all night and scatter trash and park illegally. I can firmly tell you that is not the case with my rental. We have had no such complaints, we house primarily families looking to spend some quiet time together in our beautiful seaside community. Moreover, I have had no issues in my own neighborhood [North MB] in terms of neighboring vacation rentals, noise, parking, etc."

"I suspect most of the VRs that cause problems are not permitted, but that no longer seems to be a focal point with this issue - the direction has moved to a fight to eradicate all VRs, even the good, legal ones."

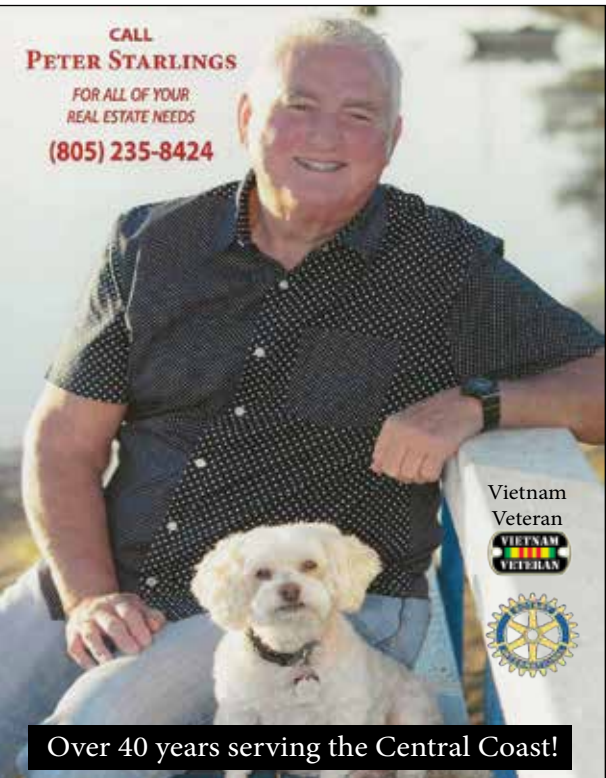
The City Council is expected to hear the vacation rental ordinance as recommended by the Planning Commission at its Tuesday, Sept. 22 meeting.

Once the Council finishes with it, it will be sent to the Coastal Commission, which has been reviewing such ordinances up and down the California Coast for the past several years. One constant for the Commission has been to prohibit the banning of VRs in any community, considering them to be an affordable way for families to enjoy the Coast by sharing expenses.

For cash-strapped Morro Bay, vacation rentals have been lucrative. According to information from the City Tourism Bureau, in Fiscal Year 2018-19, receipts for VRs totaled \$5.5 million and collected \$552,000 in bed taxes.

As a comparison, RV parks had \$2.5M in receipts and collected \$256,000 in bed taxes. The City's TOT that year totaled more than \$3.5M with motels collecting over \$2.7M (on \$27.6M in receipts).

CALL  
**PETER STARLINGS**  
FOR ALL OF YOUR  
REAL ESTATE NEEDS  
(805) 235-8424



Vietnam  
Veteran  
VIETNAM  
VETERAN

Over 40 years serving the Central Coast!

**PETER STARLINGS**

Office - (805) 528-1133 ext. 135  
Fax - (805) 528-5620  
peterstarlings@yahoo.com  
www.Bayososbrokers.com  
BRE# 00692586

**BAY OSOS  
BROKERS**

1330 Van Beurden Drive Ste 101 • Los Osos

thedoopro.com



They Poop, I Scoop So You Don't Have To!

**THE DOO PRO**  
Pooper Scooper Service  
**805-458-7812**  
thedoopro@gmail.com

**FLOORING DISCOUNT CENTER**

**Waterproof, Hardwood,  
Carpet & Vinyl Flooring**

For the Quality you want  
and the Experience you Need.

**Monday - Friday 9-5 • Saturday - 10-3**

787 HARBOR ST. MORRO BAY, CA 93442  
PHONE 772-2211 FAX 772-7747  
www.fdcmb.com



**O'Connor  
Pest Control**  
"Family Owned and Operated"

**SPECIAL**  
**\$49 MONTHLY SERVICE**  
General Pest Service Only. Gophers & Rodents Not Included.  
One Year Term Minimum. Homes up to 3,000 sq. ft.

**Free Gopher & Rodent Estimates**  
Same Day Service M-F  
**ECO SMART PRODUCTS**  
**805-544-1170**  
www.oconnorcentralcoast.com

Kevin says,  
"Look  
for the  
ANT  
on the  
Door"



KEVIN O'CONNOR, President





San Luis Obispo County Director of Libraries Chris Barnickel served as the Care & Shelter branch director at the County Office of Emergency Services. Photo submitted

Libraries Christopher Barnickel who served as the as the Care & Shelter branch director. “We have an excellent workforce of smart, capable, compassionate, enthusiastic people. It is a pleasure to serve with them and a privilege to support the needs of the community.”

Victoria Heussen, who has worked in the County library system since 1999 was assigned to “Team Nourish” and was responsible for delivering 18 to 44 bags of fresh produce, dry goods and shelf-stable food items in North County from Creston to San Miguel.

“I felt honored to be able to bring bags of food to those sheltering at home who had no other resources to rely on and/or live in remote areas,” she said.

Diana Hammerlund, who has worked in the County library system for 20 years, calls the Los Osos branch home these days. She took on the job of supplying food for workers at the Emergency Operations Center, the health department, the Joint Information Center and the Safe Parking Program.

“It was a very rewarding experience and gave me a whole new perspective of our county and how it all became a well-oiled machine during this pandemic,” she said.

Bonnie Richan, a senior library associate since 2015, is the branch manager at the Cayucos Library but is currently at the SLO location. She holds a master’s degree in counseling psychology and is a flutist performing with the San Luis Obispo Symphony and the San Luis Chamber Orchestra. She is working with the Care & Shelter team providing services to homeless individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 and are being sheltered by the County.

“I left this field of work by choice many years ago as it was stressful and difficult for me,” Richan said. “However, as much as I want to not be doing it, I get a sense of satisfaction to be pulling out my old skills and finding that I’m not so rusty. It has been a good reminder for me of the challenges people face, and the resilience of human beings.”

Most of the librarians interviewed are now back at their respective branches and say they are happy to once again interact with patrons and co-workers.

Although people are back in the stacks checking out books and using computers many of the programs the libraries offer are still on hold until likely early next year.

“I most look forward to programs being held here in the library again and being able to see more families come in,” Hammerlund. “They come in now, but not as many as before. I’m sure parents are all being extra careful with their children.”

The experience as disaster service workers has taught them more than their assigned duties.

“I have learned to certainly not take my health for granted, but also just how vital it is to be with people, no matter what kind of work I do,” Richan said.

“I am fortunate to have a roof over my head in a beautiful area,” Heussen said. “I am grateful for running water, gas and, in this day and age, internet access. I am blessed to be in a stable relationship, to still be able to work in a meaningful livelihood. I also know that in this situation, and pre-COVID, there are many that have hardships in many and some monumental ways. My mind and heart goes out to those unfortunate.”

When the pandemic is over, what are they most looking forward to?

“I have been a professional magician for the last 14 years, and I have never gone this long without performing a live show,” Hood said. “Zoom magic shows just are not the same.”

“I am looking forward to getting back to Cayucos Library,” Richan said. “I am also a musician, and very much



Los Osos librarian Victoria Heussen dropping off food to a home in Atascadero. Photo submitted

miss rehearsals and performances.”

“I’m a hugger,” Heusses said. “Hugs all around.”

Seven branches of the County of San Luis Obispo Public Libraries are now open for Grab & Go Services. Hours of operation are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday at the Atascadero, Cambria, Morro Bay, Los Osos, San Luis Obispo, Arroyo Grande, and Nipomo branches, with a one-hour window for vulnerable populations from 9 a.m.-10 a.m.

“Because of staffing constraints — some of our staff continue to serve in disaster service work assignments,” said Barnickel, “and the inability to safely distance at our seven smaller locations, we will not operate out of those branches until significant environmental changes occur related to COVID, and the Public Health Officer determines it is safe to operate inside small spaces where social distancing is unnecessary.

All open branches follow State and County COVID-19 guidelines, so wear a face covering.

At this time, delivery services are not operating between the Black Gold Cooperative member libraries. Materials for hold requests will be limited to items in the local collections. Items from Black Gold Libraries can be returned at any time to the book drop at your local library.

Some public computers are available at each library. Computers are spaced 6 feet apart, and computer sessions are limited to one 20-minute session per day. Mobile printing is available. Chromebooks, mobile Wi-Fi hotspots, and Launchpads are available for checkout.

## On the Job — Support Our Community

By Theresa-Marie Wilson

Our On the Job series continues. Estero Bay News encourages people to support the community as well as shop local.

Stop by area businesses and tell them we sent you. Be

sure to check businesses for hours of operation and social distancing practices, as things change rather rapidly.

*Send your photos on the job with a brief description and who’s who to [Editor@EsteroBayNews](mailto:Editor@EsteroBayNews)*



Kim Gordon is serving up sweet treats at Carlock’s Bakery at 1024 Los Osos Valley Rd. They are open Monday through Saturday from 6 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. serving lunch items, breads, danishes, cookies and cakes.



Kevin Martinez is one of the mechanics on duty at Bay Auto & Tire, 1099 Los Osos Valley Rd. The full service automotive repair shop that also sells tires is open Mon. – Fri. from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to noon.



It just doesn’t get any better than this!

805-772-2411  
901 Embarcadero, Morro Bay  
Open 7 days a week.

**WE DO DRYER VENT CLEANING!**

**Morro Bay Appliance**  
**805-772-2755**

**Sales - New & Reconditioned  
Service & Repairs On All Major Brands**

**Freezers • Refridgerators • Washers • Dryers • Microwaves  
Dishwashers • Ranges • Cooktops • Wall Ovens • Hoods**

**Serving Los Osos, Morro Bay, Cayucos, Cambria & San Simeon Since 1971**  
**935 Main Street, Morro Bay**





# Come by and see our new patio. Serving our full menu!



We always follow safe  
serving guidelines!

We only removed her  
mask for a moment to  
see her great smile.

## BREAKFAST

**ALL AMERICAN** - 2 Eggs, choice of bacon, ham or sausage patty, home fries, cottage cheese or sliced tomatoes. Toast included.....\$13.00  
**BREAKFAST SPECIAL** - 1 Egg, 2 pieces of bacon. Choice of home fries, sliced tomato or cottage cheese + toast.....\$9.00  
**A LA CARTE** - 2 Eggs, choice of home fries, cottage cheese or Sliced tomatoes. Toast included.....\$9.50  
**EGG SANDWICH** - English muffin toasted, topped with scrambled egg, slice tomato and Jack cheese, coleslaw, pickle & carrot.....\$9.50  
**LOS OSOS SCRAMBLE** - 2 Eggs scrambled with snow peas, chicken sausage, mushrooms & Jack cheese, home fries, cottage cheese or sliced tomato. Toast included.....\$14.50  
**PORK CHOPS & EGGS** - 2 Chops breaded with 2 eggs, choice of home fries, sliced tomato or cottage cheese. Toast included.....\$15.00  
**BREAKFAST BURRITO**  
Bacon, ham or sausage, also includes coleslaw, pickle & carrot.....\$11.75  
**PANCAKES** - 3 Buttermilk cakes.....\$8.00  
**BELGIAN WAFFLE**.....\$9.50  
Add: Bacon, ham or sausage.....\$13.50  
**OATMEAL** - Cup.....\$5.50 Bowl.....\$7.00  
Add: Blueberries or strawberries....+\$2.00 ea.

**CALIFORNIA BAGEL** - Toasted bagel layered with cream cheese, tomato cucumber, red onion, avocado, sprouts. Includes coleslaw, pickle & carrot.....\$10.50  
**LOX & BAGEL**  
Toasted bagel with cream cheese, served with Norwegian smoked salmon, sliced tomato, red onion, capers. Includes coleslaw, pickle & carrot.....\$15.50  
**BAGEL W/CREAM CHEESE**.....\$3.75  
**BLINTZES**  
Crepes filled with ricotta and cream cheese, topped with raspberry sauce and dusted with powdered sugar. Side of applesauce.....\$11.50  
**HOMEMADE BISCUIT & GRAVY**.....\$8.00 OR ½ ORDER \$4.50  
**HOMEMADE HASH** - 2 eggs, choice of home fries, cottage cheese or tomatoes, toast or muffin.....\$16.50  
**12 OZ. NEW YORK STEAK & EGGS** - 2 eggs to order, home fries, tomato or cottage cheese and toast or muffin.....\$19.00  
**BACON OMELETTE** - Bacon & tomatoes, with your choice of cheese, avocado.....\$13.50  
**DENVER OMELETTE**  
Ham, bell peppers & grilled onions with cheddar cheese.....\$13.00  
**FLORENTINE OMELETTE**  
Fresh spinach, mushrooms & your choice of cheese.....\$13.00  
**MEXICAN OMELETTE**  
Chorizo sausage, tomato, black olives, mushrooms & cheddar.....\$13.50

**VEGETABLE OMELETTE**  
Egg whites only, fresh spinach, tomatoes & mushrooms. Topped with Jack cheese, avocado & sprouts.....\$15.00  
**GARDEN OMELETTE** - Broccoli, carrots & cauliflower with Jack cheese.....\$13.00  
**SMOKED SALMON OMELETTE** - Smoked Salmon, tomatoes & scallion. Topped with avocado, sour cream on the side.....\$17.00  
**SEAFOOD OMELETTE** - Bay Shrimp, Crab, Green Onion, Mushrooms & Jack cheese topped with Hollandaise sauce.....\$17.50

**GREEK OMELETTE** - Sautéed spinach, tomato, black olives and Feta cheese.....\$14.00  
**TRADITIONAL BENEDICT** - with ham.....\$13.50  
**BENEDICT SUPREME** - with eggplant, asparagus, tomato.....\$14.50  
**COUNTRY BENEDICT** - Patty sausage w/ country gravy.....\$15.00  
**VEGETABLE BENEDICT** - Avocado & sliced tomato.....\$14.00

**CRAB BENEDICT** - Fresh crab.....\$18.00  
**LOX BENEDICT** - Smoked salmon, asparagus & goat cheese.....\$16.00  
**GREEK BENEDICT** - Sautéed spinach, tomato, black olives and Feta cheese.....\$13.50  
\*BENEDICTS ARE SERVED WITH YOUR CHOICE OF HOME FRIES, SLICED TOMATO OR COTTAGE CHEESE.  
**Pan San** - 2 Buttermilk cakes w/2 eggs & choose bacon, ham or sausage... \$14.00

## LUNCH

**BEEF BURGER** - all the fixin's.....\$9.95  
**MUSHROOM BURGER**  
Mushrooms, Jack cheese & the fixin's.....\$11.95  
**CHICKEN ORTEGA BURGER**  
Chicken breast, Ortega chili, pepper Jack cheese & avocado.....\$11.95  
**SOUSDOUGH MELT**  
Thin sliced roast beef, Ortega chili & Jack Cheese.....\$11.95  
**TURKEY MELT**  
Turkey, Jack cheese, sliced tomato & avocado, sprouts.....\$11.95  
**CHICKEN MELT**  
Spinach Quesadilla with chicken, Jack cheese, tomato, red onion & cilantro.....\$11.95  
**PATTY MELT**  
Beef patty with onions & cheddar cheese grilled on Rye bread.....\$10.95  
**TUNA MELT**  
Tuna served on Rye with grilled onions and cheddar cheese.....\$10.50  
**FRENCH DIP**  
Thin sliced roast beef served on a soft french roll with A Jus.....\$11.95

**SAVORY RUBEN**  
Corned beef w/sauerkraut & Swiss cheese grilled on Rye.....\$11.95  
**COLD TURKEY**  
Whole wheat bread, mayo, hand carved turkey, lettuce, tomato and red onion.....\$12.95  
**TURKEY CLUB**  
3 slices whole wheat bread, hand carved turkey, bacon, sliced tomato, lettuce and mayo.....\$12.95  
**HOT TURKEY**  
with mashed potatoes, gravy & cranberry sauce.....\$12.95  
**HEALTH NUT**  
Whole wheat bread, mayo, cucumbers, Jack cheese, tomato, sprouts and avocado.....\$10.50  
**PHILLY CHEESE STEAK**  
Soft French roll filled w/beef steak topped with grilled onions and bell peppers.....\$11.95  
**ORANGE SALAD**  
Mixed greens topped with chicken breast, sweet oranges, red onion, avocado in sweet soy dressing.....\$14.50  
**COBB SALAD**  
Roasted turkey, tomato, onion & bacon, avocado w/blue cheese crumbles, hard boiled egg with homemade blue cheese dressing.....\$14.50

**SPINACH SALAD**  
Fresh spinach w/red onion, tomato, toasted pine nuts, hard boiled egg, blue cheese crumbles with pomegranate dressing.....\$12.00  
**CAESAR SALAD**  
Traditional with Parmesan cheese and croutons.....\$10.50  
**CHICKEN CAESAR**  
Traditional with grilled chicken, tomato, Parmesan cheese and croutons.....\$13.50  
**SEARED TUNA CAESAR** -  
Traditional topped with seared tuna, tomato and Parmesan cheese.....\$14.50  
**SHRIMP LOUIS** - Bay shrimp on mixed greens w/tomato, hard boiled egg, cucumber, avocado & homemade 1000 island dressing.....\$14.50  
**QUICHE** - Homemade w/soup or salad - \$14.50

## We Offer: Patio Dining • To Go

Open Mon-Fri 8:00 am to 2:00 pm - Sat & Sun 7:30 am to 2:00 pm

Closed Wednesday

CREDIT CARDS  
ACCEPTED



1188 Los Osos Valley Rd., Los Osos • (805) 528-5711