Your Community Your News

ESTERO BAY NEWS

Local News, Arts & Entertainment, Schools, Business, **Environment**

Vol #1 - Issue #6

Cayucos · Los Osos · Morro Bay

he City of Morro Bay recently completed a project

▲ to spruce up the heart of Downtown and install new

lights in street trees along three blocks of Morro Bay

April 11, - April 24, 2019

Cayucos CSD Taking Bids on Treatment Plant

By Neil Farrell

7ith winter winding down and spring in the air, the Cayucos Sanitary District is getting ready to start the next phase of the "Cayucos Sustainable Water Project."

The CSD, which held a groundbreaking ceremony in August 2018 at the treatment plant site on Toro Creek Road, is now out for bids on the treatment plant construction contract.

CSD Manager Rick Koon said that the initial grading and underground work on the plant site was completed last November by David Crye Const., of Morro Bay.

They were able to get the grading as well as the hydro seeding and storm water/drainage work done before the rains started. "Everything is going great," Koon said of the way the initial site prep work has held up over what has been a pretty wet winter.

He explained that through discussions with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), which is loaning the District the money for the \$25 million project, they decided to split the project up into several phases, in order to give smaller companies, including local ones, a better chance at winning some of the project bids.

He said the grading/underground work had been esti-

Bids Continued on page 18 Boulevard and one block of Main Street. Approved with

Lighting Up Morro Bay



Morro Bay Blvd. and Main street. - Photo by Dean Sullivan

the current Tourism Business Improvement District or TBID budget, the City had solicited ideas to improve the looks of town for residents and hopefully increase tourism, **Lights** Continued on page 19

Kindness Coalition — Helping Feed Hungry Kids

By Neil Farrell



Bobby de Lancelotti of the Estero Bay Kindness Coalition runs a non-profit food program designed to make sure kids get nutritional foods to eat on weekends. - Photo courtesy Bobby de Lancelotti

e's dedicated his life to helping others, "so no more flying." first spiritually and now health wise, and with the help of numerous volunteers, hungry children from Los Osos to Cambria have something to eat every weekend.

Bobby de Lancelotti, 65, said he moved to Cayucos in 1974 at age 21. He became a Christian, and started pastoring with the Cambria Vineyard Church. He was there 10 years, he said, while sitting at a sidewalk table outside Cayucos Coffee Co. He was at a church in Orange County for the next 10 years and then returned to Cayucos, where he has worked with Lifewater International for the past 10 years.

He's traveled the world for Lifewater, a non-profit organization that brings clean, safe drinking water to some of poorest places on earth. "I had back surgery," he said,

He admits to being "kind of a hippie" and had been looking for a way to re-invent himself. He's been going to Coastlands Vineyard Church, which meets at Del Mar Elementary School and has a lot of young families, said de Lancelotti. He met Del Mar Principal Janet Gould and she told him about all the kids at the school who, while they can eat lunch at school, often go hungry at home.

"She said 64 percent of their students are below the poverty level," de Lancelotti said. "That blew my mind. So I adopted 12 families at Christmas." He got each family two Christmas gifts and a \$100 gift certificate to Cookie Crock Market. But with problems of hungry kids a year-round thing, he started formulating a way to help.

Kindness Continued on page 18

School Cop Returns to Morro Bay High

By Neil Farrell



MBPD Ofc. Maria Lomeli is back at Morro Bay High School as the school resource officer. Photo by Neil Farrell

🖊 orro Bay police again have a regular **IV** presence at Morro Bay High School, after the school district agreed to pay the

MBPD Chief Jody Cox said his school resource officer or SRO, Ofc. Maria Lomeli, returned in March to working full time at the high school after the position was eliminated at the end of the 2016-17 school year.

"We'd been [over] a year without the position," said Chief Cox. The department had anticipated getting the position back after getting wide-spread support from the City Council and residents, so when the school district agreed to fund the position, they were ready to fill it immediately.

Assistant Superintendent of Business

Services for the San Luis Coastal Unified School District, Ryan Pinkerton, said the SRO will cost the district \$140,000 a year and it's \$200,000 for the same position in San Luis Obispo. (Of note, the Sheriff's Office never canceled its SRO Program and doesn't charge the District either, according to Pinkerton.) So what changed?

"We have made reductions over the past few years," Pinkerton said in an email. We had higher than expected property tax revenues and will hopefully be receiving the mitigation funds from the PG&E settlement."

That settlement entails payments from PG&E for when it closes down Diablo Canyon Power Plant, slated for 2025, and takes

School Cop Continued on page 19

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Kite **Festival** Page 13



Seven Cal Poly Scholars Receive \$5,000



Front row, from left: Rieanin Zamora, Valeria Diego, Emmaline Voorheis, and Jumeika Lopez-Arteaga. Back row, from left: CommonSpirit Health Chief Human Resources Officer Darryl Robinson, Cal Poly President Jeffrey D. Armstrong; student Byungcheol So and Alan Iftinuik, CEO of Dignity Health's French Hospital Medical Center. Not shown are students Serena Cortez and Madelin Skinner.

Seven Cal Poly students were awarded renewable scholarships under a partnership between Dignity Health, owners of two county hospitals, and the university's Cal Poly Scholars program for first-generation college students and underrepresented groups on campus.

Under the arrangement, scholarships of \$5,000 per year for up to five years were awarded to qualifying students seeking careers in the medical or health fields and who are

majoring in biology, biochemistry, nutrition, kinesiology or business. This supplemental funding will offset some of the costs for tuition and housing while students pursue a bachelor's degree.

The inaugural group of Dignity Health Scholars, all from the Golden State, were honored recently at an on-campus reception. They include: Serena Cortez, Valeria Diego, Jumeika Lopez-Arteaga, Madelin Skinner, Byungcheol So, Emmaline Voorheis, and Rieanin Zamora. Four are studying nutrition, two are biochemistry majors and one is a biology major.

Voorheis is an 18-year-old freshman biology student. She graduated in 2018 from Paso Robles High School, where she was on the staff of the Crimson Newsmagazine for four years. She said she was honored to receive the scholarship that will aid her as she seeks a career in the field of medicine. She hopes to graduate in 2022.

Growing up in San Luis Obispo County, she said, she found Cal Poly was a natural fit. "Cal Poly has great science programs and puts a strong emphasis on undergraduate research and success, something that stood out amongst the other colleges I was considering as a senior in high school," she said. "Professor accessibility is very helpful, especially in my more difficult chemistry and biology classes."

On hand for the reception were university President Jeffrey D. Armstrong; Alan Iftiniuk, the president and CEO of Dignity Health's French Hospital Medical Center;

and Darryl Robinson, chief human resources officer at CommonSpirit Health.

Armstrong thanked the hospital chain for its generous donation "and for the opportunities it will provide."

"We know that the resources our students receive from generous donors like Dignity Health make a profound impact on their educations and ultimately in their lives," he said. "I am confident that these young people will go on to distinguish themselves and to become leaders in their respectful fields."

The 7-year-old Cal Poly Scholars program supports high-achieving students from lower-income California households, providing them with competitive scholarship packages that include annual housing support and a technology credit at the university bookstore towards the purchase of a desktop, laptop or tablet. Students participate in proactive advising and a living/learning community to support their educational success.

Piloted in fall 2012 in the College of Engineering, the first cohort included 11 eligible partner high school graduates. The program expanded in 2014 and now spans across all six academic colleges. It continues to grow each year; this past September, Cal Poly increased the total number of students served to 260. Further significant expansion of the program is planned beginning in Fall 2019 through the Cal Poly Opportunity



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Caltrans Scholarships Available

Caltrans District 5 and the California Transportation Foundation (CTF) are offering two \$1,000 scholarships to high school seniors within the five-county district (Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Benito Counties).

Employees of Caltrans District 5 initiated this scholarship program nineteen years ago, which is entirely employee funded through the proceeds of coffee and baked good sales in the district cafeteria. The scholarship program is designed for college-bound senior high school students who are planning to pursue a career in transportation and live within the five counties of the district.

These programs are common in most of the twelve Caltrans districts and have the encouragement and support of the California Transportation Foundation, which donates 25% of the funding with the coffee and food sales providing the rest.

This scholarship program continues to flourish. When the program began in 2002, \$500 was raised and one scholarship was awarded. In 2007, \$3,500 was raised and seven \$500 scholarships were awarded. The fund-raising efforts have grown since then, and they have awarded \$4,750 in student scholarships since 2017.

Applications must be submitted by April 30. The 2019 scholarships will be awarded this summer to high school seniors from the Central Coast.

For a link to the scholarship application, visit the site at: http://www.dot.ca.gov/d5/scholarship.htm. For additional information, contact Laurie Baima at Laurie.Baima@dot.ca.gov or call at (805) 549-3353.

Changes at PG&E

PG&E Corporation announced the appointment of William "Bill" Johnson as CEO and president and the appointment of 10 new directors to its board of directors. The company says the significant changes in leadership reflect PG&E's focus on strengthening its safety culture and operational effectiveness and successfully navigating the Company's Chapter 11 process.

Bill Johnson is concluding a more than six-year tenure as president and CEO of the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), with responsibility for leading the nation's largest publicly owned utility in its mission of providing energy, environmental stewardship and economic development across a seven-state region.

During Johnson's time at TVA, the organization achieved the best safety records in its 85-year history and has been a perennial top decile safety performer in the utility industry. In that same period, he led the retirement of more than half of TVA's coal generation, resulting in a reduction of TVA's carbon emissions by about 50% over the last decade. He was responsible for leading the generation of more than 50% of TVA's energy from non-greenhouse gas emitting sources. He also oversaw TVA's expansion into utility scale solar in recent years. Johnson is expected to begin his role in late April.

"The 24,000 employees of PG&E are clearly dedicated to this state and are determined to provide safe, reliable, affordable and clean energy to 16 million Californians," Johnson said. "I am humbled to take on this new challenge and am dedicated to meeting the high expectations that our customers, regulators and legislators have for PG&E. While the challenges facing PG&E and California are significant, by working together, we will overcome them to serve the best interests of our customers, their families and the communities we serve. This starts with a steadfast commitment to providing safe and reliable power."

Reflecting his absolute commitment to safety, more than half of Mr. Johnson's incentive compensation will be directly tied to safety performance and metrics.

PG&E's New Board of Directors

In addition to its own extensive search, which involved a professional search firm and the consideration of over 100 candidates, the PG&E Board received input from shareholders and stakeholders during the Board refreshment and CEO selection process. These discussions involved close consideration and review of dozens of highly qualified candidates with a wide range of skill sets and experiences sourced from a variety of stakeholders. PG&E has valued this dialogue and will continue to engage in conversations with its stakeholders as it works to further improve PG&E's safety and operational performance.

The new directors include individuals who have lived and worked in California, received degrees from universities in California, and who have California-related regulatory experience.

Cuesta Honors Alumni and Volunteers

Cuesta College alumni and volunteers will be recognized for their selfless service to the College and the community.

The Honored Alumni awards were established in 1989 to recognize outstanding professional achievements and

Cuesta Continued on page 5



Entertainment

Paul's Picks

Promoting a music event? To be considered for inclusion for Paul's Picks, submit your event to us directly on the Big Big SLO web calendar. It's fast, easy and reach hundreds of music lovers daily. Go to the events page at BigBigSLO.com and find the "Add Event" button on the calendar page.







Third wave ska legends Let's Go Bowling take over The Siren in Morro Bay on Friday, April 19 along with Ventura based ska band The Stoneflys. We're seeing a ska revival around here lately with recent performances by The Skatalites, Steady 45's, and Upside Ska. Get your tickets now as this will likely sell out. \$10 in advance / \$15 at the door. Info and tickets at TheSirenMorroBay.com or at Boo

Boo Records in SLO. Photo by Fred Morledge



Beer at the Pier Heads Back Outside! Blue Heron Restaurant in Baywood is set to host this upcoming 5th season of Monday concerts in Baywood Park. Kicking off the first show of the season is The Turkey Buzzards on Monday, May 6. These concerts are free and family friendly, happening every Monday from 4:00-7:00pm through October. Enjoy great food and drink from the grill and outside bar at the Blue Heron, the dancing lawn, the firepit lounge, patio seating, and of course - the unparalleled community vibe. Check out the full season lineup at BigBigSLO. com/Baywood

Fri., Apr. 12 · 7:00pm Chasing Andre/Muse a Deux Puffers of Pismo 781 Price Street, Pismo Beach

SeaPinesGolfResort.com

Photo courtesy of Damon Castillo

Magic", etc.), Back Bay Betty, Unfinished Busi-

ness, Back Pages Band, Bear Market Riot, Turkey

Buzzards, Cuesta Ridge, Mother Corn Shuckers,

and Millertime Boogie. Also for this first concert

is a special Earth Day feature: Learn tree planting

with Greening Los Osos. Concert runs from 2:00

- 6:00pm, is free, and open to all ages. Details at

Fri., Apr. 12 · 8:00pm Cody Blackbird Band! The Siren 900 Main St, Morro Bay

Fri., Apr. 12 · 8:00pm Flosstradamus The Fremont Theater 1035 Monterey St, San Luis Obispo

Fri., Apr. 12 · 8:00pm Great Electric Quest, ZED and Stone Mountain Manny's Pizza & Grill 2748 Spring St, Paso Robles

Fri., Apr. 12 · 7:00pm SLOfolks presents Shannon McNally Coalesce Bookstore 845 Main St, Morro Bay

Fri., Apr. 12 · 6:30pm Ynana Rose at Blast 825 Brewery Blast 825 Brewery 241 S. Broadway St., Unit 101, Orcutt

Sat., Apr. 13 · 5:30pm Casey Donahew and Chancey Williams Cal Poly Royal Rodeo 1 Grand Ave, San Luis Obispo

Sat., Apr. 13 · 7:00pm Danté Marsh Puffers of Pismo 781 Price Street, Pismo Beach

Sat., Apr. 13 · 6:30pm Peter Beck & Jonas Richardson Baywood Tavern 690 Santa Maria, Baywood Park

Sat., Apr. 13 · 12:00pm Reunion Market Bang the Drum Brewery 950 Orcutt Rd, San Luis Obispo

Sat., Apr. 13 · 2:30pm Rhythm Method The Siren 900 Main St, Morro Bay

Sat., Apr. 13 · 7:30pm Shaky Groundz D'Anbino Tasting Room 710 Pine Street, Paso Robles

Sat., Apr. 13 ·7:30pm SLOFolks Presents: Shannon McNally Castoro Cellars 1315 N Bethel Rd, Templeton

Sat., Apr. 13 · 8:00pm The Reefriders & The Neptunes The Siren 900 Main St, Morro Bay

Sat., Apr. 13 · 7:30pm Unknown Mortal Orchestra The Fremont Theater 1035 Monterey St, San Luis Obispo

Sat., Apr. 13 · 7:00pm Vitaly - An Evening of Wonders California Polytechnic State University 1 Grand Ave, San Luis Obispo

Sun., Apr. 14 · 7:00pm Hannibal Buress The Fremont Theater 1035 Monterey St, San Luis Obispo

Sun., Apr. 14 · 4:00pm The Siren Sunday Jazz Jam The Siren 900 Main St, Morro Bay

Sun., Apr. 14 · 4:30pm Megan Steinke Bang the Drum Brewery 950 Orcutt Rd, San Luis Obispo

Sun., Apr. 14 · 4:00pm Violin and Cello Duo Pear Valley Vineyards 4900 Union Rd, Paso Robles

Mon., Apr. 15 · 4:00pm Beer at the Pier: BOBBY SANTA CRUZ La Palapa 1346 2nd Street. Baywood Park

Mon., Apr. 15 · 8:00pm **Bob Moses** The Fremont Theater 1035 Monterey St, San Luis Obispo

Tue., Apr. 16 · 5:00pm ZEDD, California Tour Avila Beach Golf Resort 6464 Ana Bay Road, Avila Beach

Wed., Apr. 17 · 8:00pm Blues Asylum Blues Jam Merrimaker, Baywood Park 1301 2nd Street, Los Osos

Wed., Apr. 17 · 6:00pm Elizabeth Etta Branch Street Deli 203 East Branch Street, Arroyo Grande

Thu., Apr. 18 · 8:00pm The Siren

900 Main St, Morro Bay **Thu., Apr. 18** · 6:30pm

Burning, Bad and Cool Puffers of Pismo 781 Price Street, Pismo Beach

Thu., Apr. 18 · 5:00pm Rachel Santa Cruz Sea Pines Golf Resort 1945 Solano St, Los Osos

Thu., Apr. 18 · 8:00pm Superorganism The Fremont Theater 1035 Monterey St, San Luis Obispo

Fri., Apr. 19 · 5:30pm Bear Market Riot BarrelHouse 1033 Chorro Street, San Luis Obispo

Fri., Apr. 19 · 5:30pm Brian Jeffrey Music Branch Street Deli 203 East Branch Street, Arroyo Grande

Fri., Apr. 19 · 7:00pm Christopher Cross The Fremont Theater 1035 Monterey St, San Luis Obispo

Fri., Apr. 19 • 7:00pm Civic Ballet Drew Silvaggio's RODEO Cal Poly Performing Arts Center 1 Grand Avenue, San Luis Obispo

Fri., Apr. 19 · 8:00pm Let's Go Bowling The Siren 900 Main St, Morro Bay

Fri., Apr. 19 · 6:30pm O'Donna Baywood Tavern 690 Santa Maria, Baywood Park

Fri., Apr. 19 · 6:00pm Zen Mountain Poets 7 Sisters Brewing 181 Tank Farm Rd Suite 110, San Luis Obispo

Sat., Apr. 20 • 7:30pm Tripped Up, Cydeways & The Ole's The Siren 900 Main St, Morro Bay

Sat., Apr. 20 · 8:00pm Barflyz in Concert D'Anbino Cellars 710 Pine St, Paso Robles

Sat., Apr. 20 · 7:00pm Civic Ballet Drew Silvaggio's RODEO Cal Poly Performing Arts Center 1 Grand Avenue, San Luis Obispo

Sat., Apr. 20 · 7:00pm Dirty Cello San Luis Obispo Museum of Art 1010 Broad St, San Luis Obispo

Sat., Apr. 20 · 6:00pm Donna Lu & Matt Kim 7 Sisters Brewing 181 Tank Farm Rd Suite 110, San Luis Obispo

Sat., Apr. 20 · 7:00pm The Jump Jax Puffers of Pismo 781 Price Street, Pismo Beach

Sat., Apr. 20 · 2:30pm The Legends Rock 'n Roll Revue The Siren 900 Main St, Morro Bay

Sat., Apr. 20 · 12:00pm Kevin Graybill Vina Robles Hospitality Center 3700 Mill Road, Paso Robles

Sun., Apr. 21 · 8:30pm Earl Sweatshirt The Fremont Theater 1035 Monterey St, San Luis Obispo

Mon., Apr. 22 · 4:00pm Beer at the Pier: MISS LEO La Palapa 1346 2nd Street, Baywood Park

Tue., Apr. 23 · 7:00pm Jazz Jam Linnaea's Cafe 1110 Garden St, San Luis Obispo

Wed., Apr. 24 · 7:30pm Copper Chief The Siren 900 Main St, Morro Bay

Wed., Apr. 24 · 7:00pm Devin Dawson The Fremont Theater 1035 Monterey St, San Luis Obispo

Wed., Apr. 24 · 7:00pm **SALES** SLO Brew Rock Event Center 855 Aerovista Pl, San Luis Obispo

Cuesta From page 3

service of former Cuesta College students.

- 2019 Honored Alumni -

· The Honorable Denise Dvorak, Superior Court Judge in San Bernardino County, attended Cuesta from 1972-1979. Dvorak, a Paso Robles native, prepared for a career in the justice system at Cuesta College before attending Western State University, where she earned a bachelor of arts and a Juris Doctor degree. During 30 years of service to the San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office, Judge Dvorak fought for justice in cases of child abuse, domestic violence and animal cruelty. She served as the county's Family Violence Unit Coordinator, created the first Child Abuse Investigation Manual, established the first Domestic Violence Death Review Team and helped form the Animal Cruelty Task Force. In 2016, Judge Dvorak was elected to a six-year term as a judge in the Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino. She and her husband Ross, a retired Sheriff's captain, live in Southern California. Their 25-year-old son serves as a lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force.

 Rick Mayfield, director of learning & achievement for the San Luis Coastal Unified School District, attended Cuesta from 1980-1982. Mayfield moved to San Luis Obispo after graduating from high school in 1979 with a dream of starting his own business. The business didn't work out as planned, but he found a rewarding career in academia instead. After re-entering education at Cuesta College, Mayfield spent six months in South America learning Spanish. He graduated with a degree in Political Science from UC Santa Barbara then served in the Peace Corps in Belize. Back in the states, his Spanish language skills helped him secure a teaching job at 9th Street Elementary School in Los Angeles' Skid Row. He followed that up with three years teaching in Namibia. When he returned to San Luis Obispo in 1996, he taught second grade at Pacheco Elementary, where he helped implement a two-way language immersion program. After earning a master's degree in educational administration at Cal Poly, he eventually returned to Pacheco as principal where he advocated for English Learner students and dual-immersion education. Today, he is the Director of Learning and Achievement for the San Luis Coastal Unified School District.

• **Lauren Peterson**, an agriculture teacher at King City High School, attended Cuesta from 2005-2008.

Born and raised in San Luis Obispo, Peterson always had an interest in agriculture. She turned that interest into a passion when she took an agricultural science class in high school and became an active member of Future Farmers of America (FFA). After high school, she enrolled at Cuesta College, and then transferred to Cal Poly where she earned a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in agricultural education. Peterson launched her teaching career at Everett Alvarez High School in Salinas, and then Gonzales High

School. For the past five years, she has taught agriculture biology, agriculture chemistry, agriculture earth science, and agriculture mechanics at King City High School. She also coaches FFA teams that compete within the region, state, and nationally. As a teacher, Peterson motivates students to push past their insecurities, and to discover what truly inspires them.

• Far Shariat, a film producer, attended Cuesta from 1992-1995. A short film Shariat made for a film and video art class at Cuesta College helped him gain admission to UCLA as a transfer student the following year. He began his career as an intern for film producer Andrew Lazar who is known for such films as "American Sniper" and "Bound." Shariat eventually oversaw the development and production of films for Lazar's production company for ten years. His work as a writer-focused producer in film gave Shariat the opportunity to create pilots for television. With his collaborator Rand Ravich, Shariat produced several one-hour pilots before having a breakthrough in 2007 with the crime drama series "Life" starring Damian Lewis. During this time, Shariat also produced the independently financed "I Love You Phillip Morris" starring Jim Carrey. After "Life" completed its run, Shariat and Ravich returned to NBC with the series "Crisis" in 2014. Currently, he is in an overall deal with HBO where he and his partner are working with renowned author George R. R. Martin to develop a spinoff of his groundbreaking series "Game of Thrones." Shariat lives in Los Angeles with his wife and two children.

- 2019 Volunteer Award Recipients -

• **Thom Schulz** will receive the Dr. Frank Martinez Superintendent/President's Award. First presented in 2001, this award recognizes the accomplishments of a community volunteer who has contributed time and talent generously, working in partnership with Cuesta faculty or staff, resulting in an achievement that might not have happened otherwise.

Schulz and his late wife, Laura Coats, have provided high-impact donations to advance their most heartfelt causes: education and cancer support. Their generous gifts have benefitted Cuesta College students starting with the initial campaign to start the North County Campus. They also funded a cancer research laboratory at UCLA and the John Wayne Cancer Institute in Santa Monica. The philosophy behind their philanthropic dedication is "to see first-hand where our donations and time are helping; we want to enjoy this journey of life to its fullest." Since Laura's passing in 2017, Schulz has continued the work they started together. As a tireless advocate for Cuesta College as a North County Campus Ambassador, he supports students in need by providing holiday gift baskets every year to CalWORKS, EOPS, and veteran students and their families. He also provided the capstone gift that launched the second-year Cuesta College Promise Scholarship in June of 2018.

• **Jasmin Wyatt** will receive the John Schaub Student Volunteer Award. First presented in 2001, this award recognizes a student whose community volunteer work best exemplifies the high standards established by the college's first dean of students, whose trailblazing work in creating programs for student success has helped thousands of students achieve their goals.

Wyatt graduated from Atascadero High School and attends Cuesta College as a Promise Scholarship recipient studying political science. As the clubs director for the Associated Students of Cuesta College, she is a member of the executive cabinet of student government, and she represents the students of Cuesta College at state and national conferences. She is also a Student Ambassador for the Cuesta College Foundation, where she represents the college at a variety of events and outreach activities. Wyatt volunteers within the community for the San Luis Obispo Democratic Party and Literacy for Life. She is also a member of Alpha Gamma Sigma, the California Community College Scholastic Honor Society, where she is recognized for academic achievements and community service. In addition to her studies and volunteer work, she is employed at Kennedy Club Fitness in Atascadero.

• **Grigger Jones** will receive the Betty Nielsen Volunteer of the Year Award. First presented in 1995, this award is given in memory of Cuesta College Trustee Betty Nielsen, considered the epitome of volunteerism. She served the community and the college selflessly for many years as an exemplary volunteer in several capacities.

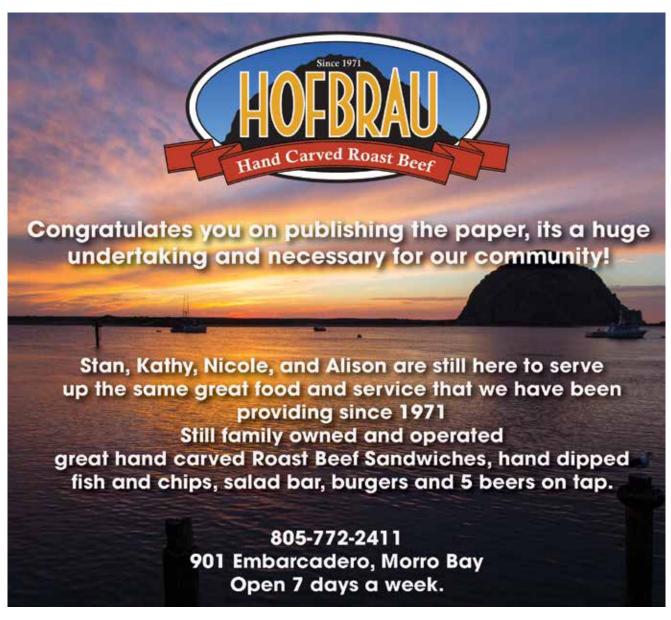
As a retired attorney, Robert "Grigger" Jones devotes his time and expertise to the Cuesta College Foundation as a member of the board of directors. Jones earned a bachelor's degree from UC Santa Barbara and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law. In addition to 32 years of private practice in Atascadero, he has filled many community service roles, including past chairman & president of the Atascadero Chamber of Commerce and President of the Atascadero Rotary Club. He remains active in the community today serving as President of the

Atascadero Mutual Water Company, Chairman of the North County Economic Foundation, and co-founder of Leadership North County.

City to Hold Goals Meeting

The City of Morro Bay is holding a second public meeting to work on crafting its goals and objectives for the coming year. The meeting is set for 6 p.m. Thursday, April 18 at the Community Center, 1001 Kennedy Way. All residents are invited to attend and let the council know where

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Goals From page 6

their priorities lie.

If readers can't attend, they can comment online at the City's Polco website: https://polco.us/morrobay (click on "sign-up" if you have not already used this portal).

The April 18 meeting "will provide an opportunity for community members to help Council rank the City goals and identify action items to achieve those goals," according to a notice on the City website. "Members of the public will be encouraged to provide public comment and engage in an interactive prioritization process, facilitated by former San Luis Obispo Fire Chief, Garret Olson."

The existing City goals are posted online, see: www. morrobayca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/12161/2018-Adopted-City-Council-Goals-and-Objectives.

For more information, email City Manager Scott Collins, at: scollins@morrobayca.gov.

SLO Man Arrested in Stabbing



Armando Benjamin Ayala, Jr

Morro Bay Police arrested a San Luis Obispo man on suspicion of assault with a deadly weapon after he allegedly stabbed a Cambria man while trying to rob him.

According to a MBPD news release, police responded at 8:44 p.m. Tuesday, April 2 to the Fireside Inn, 730 Morro Ave., for a report of a fight.

"On arrival," reads the news release, "officers detained the combatants."

According to police their investigation revealed that the suspect, identified as Armando Benjamin Ayala, Jr., 18 of SLO, allegedly tried to rob the victim, identified as a 42-year-old man from Cambria, at knifepoint.

"The victim and suspect fought," police said, "and both parties sustained non-life-threatening injuries as a result of the attack."

Police located the knife allegedly used in the fight at the scene and both men were taken to Sierra Vista Medical Center in SLO. The victim in the case was admitted into the hospital and Ayala was arrested and charged with suspicion of assault with a deadly weapon and attempted robbery. Police said their investigation is continuing.

Safe Digging Month

As the spring temperatures arrive, home improvement and construction work steadily increases. Since these projects often require digging and excavation, it is appropriate that April is designated as National Safe Digging Month. This nationwide public safety initiative is supported by Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) and more than 1,000 other utilities to raise awareness about the importance of having underground utility lines marked in advance of any digging project.

According to the Common Ground Alliance's damage information reporting tool, an underground utility line is damaged every nine minutes in the United States. PG&E is urging customers to help prevent dig-ins by placing a toll-free call to 811 or an online request to have gas and electric lines marked free of charge at least two working days before the project begins.

"Last year, failure to call before digging resulted in more than 1,700 third-party digs ins to PG&E's underground utility lines," said PG&E Gas Operations Senior Vice President Jesus Soto. "These dig-ins occurred during projects of all sizes, ranging from residential fence installation to major construction. Whether you are a contractor or a homeowner, calling 811 before you dig will help avoid injury or property damage and costly repairs that may result from striking underground gas or electric lines."

Contractors with projects of all sizes are required by California Government Code 4216 to call 811 to have underground lines marked before digging, including contractors hired by a homeowner.

Key Facts

- In 2018, there were over 1,700 third-party dig-ins on PG&E's underground infrastructure across Northern and Central California.
- Of the over 1,700 dig-ins, nearly half resulted from not using 811 to have gas and electric lines marked in advance.
- Of the third-party (customers or construction crews) dig-ins to PG&E's lines in 2018, residential dig-ins ac-

counted for 22 percent.

• In 86% of residential dig-ins, 811 was not called in advance.

The 811 number is a designated toll-free number for homeowners and professional excavators and is serviced by regional offices. Operators answering calls and emails will dispatch all necessary utilities to properly mark underground utility lines with paint or flags. Underground Service Alert of Northern/Central California and Nevada (USA North) is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and will provide Spanish and other translation services.

PG&E Safe Digging Tips:

Mark project area in white: Identify the digging location by drawing a box around the area using white paint, white stakes, white flags, white chalk or even white baking flour.

Call 811 or go online for a USA ticket at least two working days before digging: Be prepared to provide the address and general location of the project, project start date and type of digging activity. PG&E and other utilities will identify underground facilities in the area for free.

Dig safely: Use hand tools when digging within 24 inches of the outside edge of underground utility lines. Leave utility flags, stakes or paint marks in place until the project is finished. Backfill and compact the soil.

Mind the lines: If the utility line is visible, dig in parallel with the utility line and use all precautions when removing the soil from around the utility line.

Be aware of signs of a natural gas leak: Smell for a "rotten egg" odor, listen for hissing, whistling or roaring sounds and look for dirt spraying into the air, bubbling in a pond or creek and dead/dying vegetation in an otherwise moist area.

PG&E urges customers to call 911 and PG&E at 1-800-743-5000 if there's a suspected gas leak. If an accidental dent, scrape or other damage is made to a gas pipeline, those nearby must leave immediately and alert others to avoid the area. Only when a safe distance away, should anything that might create a spark such as cell phones, matches, garage door openers, vehicles, or yard equipment be used.

Sierra Vista Launches 24-Hour Program

Sierra Vista Regional Medical Center has launched a new program that provides 24-hour, in-house physician coverage for patients.

Sierra Vista Continued on page 9





We're collecting past issues of Data
The Bay News and The Bay Breeze!

If you have a copy dating between August 11, 1989 and early 2000s, we'd like to scan it and return it to you.

Articles may be re-featured in The Estero Bay News.

Please email dean@esterobaynews.com

Happy 30th Annual Bay-Osos Kiwanis Club Easter Egg Hunt!





For More Info: 805-528-0100

WHEN: Saturday, April 20th, 2019

WHERE: Grass area by the South Bay Community Center

<u>TIMES:</u> **10:00**_{am}: FUN Activities Begin: 2 Bounce Houses, Balloon Guy, Face Painting

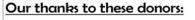
10:30_{am:} Contest Entries Due For <u>Best Costume</u> or <u>Best Home-Decorated Egg</u> & Judging. Prizes will be awarded for each age group: 1to2 3to4 5to7 8to10 years old

4-H Petting Zoo & Scout Demos & More!

10:30_{am:} Story Time Presented By Los Osos Library 11:00am: EGG HUNT BEGINS

Event is Co-Sponsored by SLO County Parks













Jimmy Bumps Pasta Hous 528-4898







Police Blotter



- **March 31:** Police stopped a suspicious driver at 3:15 p.m. at Morro Rock. The driver failed his FST and PAS so the SOB got a DUI.
- March 31: Police responded at 11 a.m. to Albertson's Market where they'd pinched some fellow for allegedly using the help-yourself aisle. Logs indicated the sticky-fingered weasel weaseled off with a trespassing warning from the store, he apparently was not worth the gas to Kansas
- **March 31:** A car was parked at 12:15 a.m. in a handicap space right in front of the police station, so police had to tow it away.
- March 30: A citizen in the 300 block of Java said some zhlub stole and fraudulently cashed some of his or her checks
- **March 30:** Police contacted a suspicious subject at 9 a.m. at Atascadero Road and Main. The dude was cited for smoking the evil weed in public, in yet another example of why they call it dope.
- March 29: Police and fire responded at 4:30 p.m. to a reported fire in the 400 block of Elena. Logs indicated the resident was at home when "personal belongings in the stove's broiler caught fire," no doubt a poorly conceived hiding place. The fire department dealt with the blaze and police were called to see what was cookin'.
- **March 29:** Police towed off an offending parked car from the 400 block of South St., once again foiling the Axis of Evil.
- March 29: Police responded at 1 p.m. to the Cookie Crock Market in the 400 block of Quintana where they'd caught some sneak allegedly trying to buy stuff with phony \$100 bill. They arrested the fake Franklin felon.
- **March 28:** Police responded at 5:30 p.m. to a disturbance in the 1000 block of Embarcadero. A 47-year-old juice weasel from Cambria was arrested for allegedly being forschnicked in public and she earned another hard knock of life.
- **March 28:** The school resources officer documented vandalism at the high school caused by some dishonor student.
- March 28: Police stopped a suspicious vehicle at 11:06 a.m. in the 500 block of Morro Bay Blvd. Logs indicated a 67-year-old woman from Mammoth Lakes was arrested for suspicion of driving on a toot. She was taken to French

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Serving Los Osos, Morro Bay and Cayucos 805-528-2564 Hospital first and then to the slammer, as yet another tourist arrives on vacation and leaves on probation.

- March 27: Police stopped a suspicious vehicle at 10:52 p.m. in the 200 block of Andros. A 20-year-old rookie was arrested for suspicion of driving honked. She was cited and released from the police department presumably to a sober person.
- March 27: Police responded to a disturbance at 12:32 a.m. in the 2800 block of Main. Logs indicated a 29-year-old was arrested for suspicion of violating a domestic violence stay-away court order, possession of paraphernalia, a probation violation and of course being high on drugs. He chilled in the cooler.
- March 26: Police responded at 10:50 p.m. to a disturbance in the 900 block of MBB. A 32-year-old regular customer was arrested for suspicion of being high on dope and violating his "Post Release Community Supervision," as the carousel goes 'round the loony-go-round another time.
- **March 26:** A business in the 900 block of MBB took in a forged check and bounced it over to the police station next door.
- March 26: Police contacted a familiar face at 10 p.m. on Atascadero Road at Main. The 50-year-old felonious fellow had a felony warrant and went to jail.
- **March 26:** At 1 p.m. in the 800 block of Piney Way, police contacted a suspicious woman. The 47-year-old boozy floozy was nicked for being spanked in public.
- March 26: At 12:18 p.m. police responded to Coleman Park where someone apparently tripped and fell into a potential lawsuit.
- **March 25:** At 11:45 p.m. police cruised through Lila Keiser Park and spied a suspicious man, 49, and arrested him for suspicion of being UTI on drugs and a probation violation, like shootin' fish in a barrel.
- **March 25:** Police stopped yet another suspicious vehicle at the suspect time of 10:30 p.m. and arrested the driver, 27, for suspicion of driving dull.
- March 25: A citizen came to the police station and said his or her identity was stolen, and we don't know who they
- March 24: Police responded at 8:12 p.m. to the Morro Rock parking lot where a locked car was burgled by some SOB via FOB and credit cards were stolen. And in another heinous crime, someone stole the license plate off an innocent vehicle in the 900 block of Allesandro.
- March 23: Police responded at 5:52 p.m. to the 2300 block of Hemlock for a reported assault. Logs indicated it was "mutual combat," and the fight apparently declared a draw. At 6:34 p.m. in the 800 block of Quintana where some ogre got into a "physical altercation" with his long-time girlfriend, no doubt a misunderstanding that went bad. Officers documented the dust-up for when things go terribly bad.
- March 23: At 2 p.m. police responded to a disturbance in the 800 block of Embarcadero. Logs indicated police linked up with a bent hellcat, 63, and arrested her for suspicion of goin' on the razzle in public. She was first taken to the hospital and then the hoosegow.
- March 23: Police responded at 1:12 p.m. to the 600 block of Quintana, where a building jumped in front of a

moving vehicle. Officers documented the bit of pettifoggery.

- March 22: Police responded at 8:10 a.m. to Atascadero Road where some apparently disturbed fellow was reportedly standing in the middle of the road cursing at people passing by, like THEY'RE the crazy ones. The fooliot was cited for suspicion of disorderly conduct and released to further spread the joy.
- March 21: Police contacted a woman prancing about at Beach and Main at 11:38 p.m. and arrested the scofflaw, 44, for three, failure-to-appear warrants. Topping that, at 5 p.m. in Lila Keiser Park, officers contacted another model citizen, 49, who had one FTA from Kings County, and four from SLO County. He too was booked for a nice long vacation.
- March 21: Police responded at 8 p.m. to the 800 block of Front for a man causing a disturbance. The squit, 38, was arrested for suspicion of disorderly conduct and being higher than the stacks on drugs. He was booked into the Parkinson Palace.
- **March 21:** Someone found a bicycle and police are riding it around now.
- **March 21:** At 11:40 a.m. officers cite-released a 22-yearold man in the 1700 block of Embarcadero for allegedly refusing to submit to a chemical test for possible DUI and/ or habitual drug use.
- March 21: A woman in Van Nuys told police that her debit card was used several times in one day, apparently in Morro Bay, with the loss of approximately \$3,557.94, no doubt a record for 1-day shopping by a tourist in this town.
- **March 21:** Police stopped a suspicious vehicle at 1:08 a.m. and of course the driver, 29, was nailed on suspicion of driving hammered.
- **March 20:** Another citizen of the year, 61, was spotted in the 800 block of Front St., at 11:38 p.m. and went to jail for two warrants.
- March 19: At 11 p.m. police contacted a 38-year-old apparent all star in Lila Keiser Park and arrested her for suspicion of possessing prescription drugs, being UTI and violating her felony probation a case of "Say good-night Gracie..."
- **March 19:** Police responded at 3:41 p.m. to Albertsons for a disturbance. Logs indicated a 58-year-old fellow was tossed to the nick for being thick as a tick.
- March 18: At 10 p.m. police responded to the 1900 block of Sunset for a disturbance. Logs indicated a woman was arrested for suspicion of domestic violence and causing "visible injuries." While taking Mommy Dearest away, her 18-year-old daughter reportedly "attempted to pull her mother away from Police Officers' custody as she was being escorted to a patrol car," and so both battleaxes got nicked.
- **March 18:** Some scalawag stole a motorcycle in the 700 block of Shasta.
- March 18: Police responded at 1:25 p.m. to Main and Atascadero Road for a vehicle vs. pedestrian accident. And at 9:43 a.m. at Quintana and Main, there was a 2-car crash. Apparently neither resulted in injuries.









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Sierra Vista Continued on page 7

Sierra Vista – the largest hospital in San Luis Obispo County – partnered with Envision Physician Services to provide comprehensive care for its patients around the clock. The new Hospitalist Program is comprised of seven physicians and three nurse practitioners, all of who are board certified in their respective fields.

Physicians whose practices are dedicated to providing care specifically to patients within the hospital are called Hospital Medicine Specialists or hospitalists. Hospital Medicine is the latest medical specialization to be recognized by Medicare as a specialty.

By providing inpatient coverage 24/7, 365 days a year, patients receive care immediately, day or night. There is always readily available hospitalist on campus who can evaluate patients as needed and adjust treatment plans throughout the day. The hospitalist coverage is in addition to what was already provided by the emergency department physicians around the clock.

"Patients and families can expect more face-to-face time with their physician hospitalists," said Dr. Jose Yongco, medical director of Hospitalist Program. "This allows them to be better informed and educated about their condition and what to expect moving forward. Overall, patients typically recover faster and head home sooner when they feel connected to their physician and are in tune with their health."

Patients will also notice their care being more teambased. Hospitalists collaborate with each patient's primary care physician, other physician specialists, therapists and members of a multi-disciplinary group of providers to ensure patient care is timely, coordinated and seamless.

Without delay, hospitalists are able to admit patients from referring community physicians, trauma surgeons and the emergency department. They are also available immediately to respond to urgent or emergency inpatients concerns.

By providing this around the clock coverage, patients and their families know earlier in the day when they will be discharged, allowing them ample time to prepare. In addition, patients who need to be hospitalized can expect to be moved out of the emergency department sooner, and emergency patients can expect a shorter wait time before being seen by a physician.

Sierra Vista's sister hospital, Twin Cities Community Hospital in Templeton, also has a 24-hour hospitalist program. Together, the two hospitals provide 24/7 coverage so that no matter where patients are within the health system, patients can trust that they will always receive the highest quality of care, at all times of the day.

SLO Nonprofits Earn Up to \$5,000 in One Day

The Morro Bay Chamber of Commerce is inviting San Luis Obispo County nonprofits to submit beneficiary applications for the 2019 Avocado and Margarita Street Festival to be held from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday, September 7, 2019.

Beneficiary applications are due Monday, April 29 at 5 p.m. and can be downloaded from the Chamber's home page at www.morrochamber.org.

Prior year beneficiaries include Rotary Club of Morro Bay, Estero Bay Newcomers, Morro Bay High School Cheerleaders and Music Boosters, and Morro Bay Aquatics.

The 2018 Festival was attended by 10,000 people and paid out more than \$12,000 to beneficiary groups.

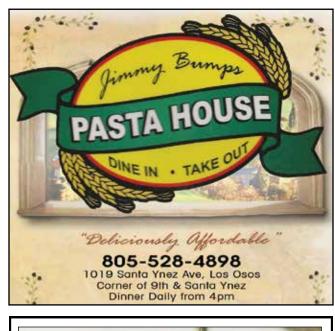
Nonprofits from anywhere in San Luis Obispo County are welcome to apply. Applicants who submit prior to the April 29th deadline are invited to present to the Festival's organizing committee in May, and contracts for selected beneficiaries are signed in June.

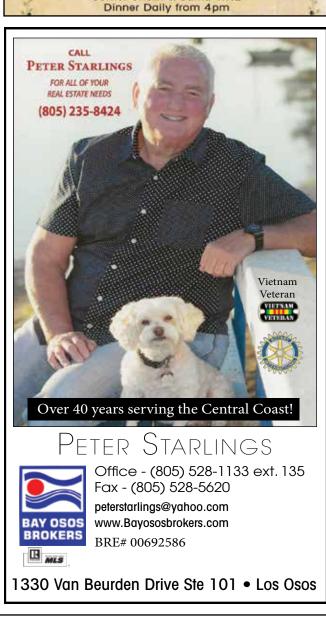
Barbara Spagnola of Estero Bay Newcomers, a 2018 beneficiary, said, "The visitors, citizens and fundraising groups all benefit from this festival," and that it was her club's, "honor and pleasure to volunteer at this wonderful event."

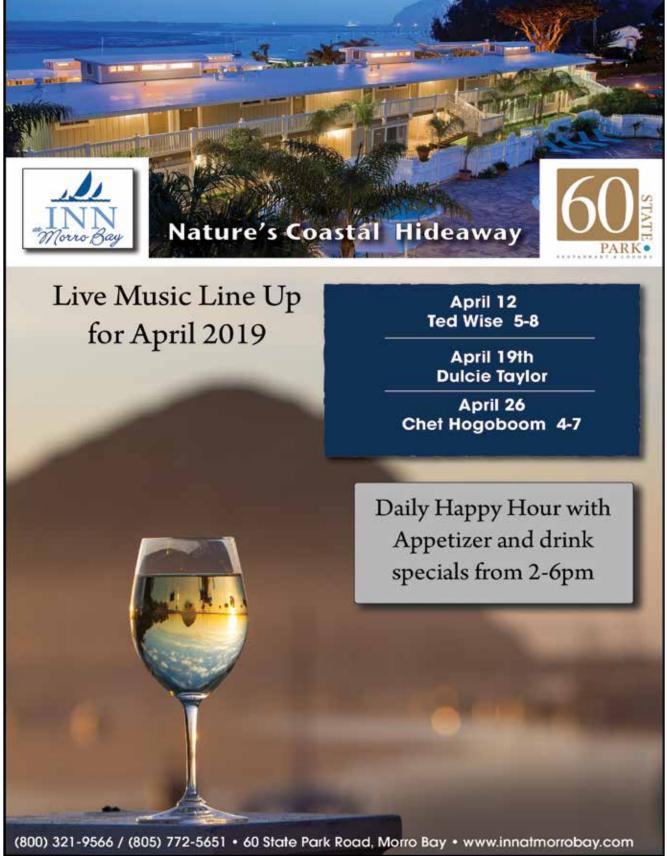
Jamie Boucher of Rotary Club of Morro Bay, a festival beneficiary for many years, exclaimed, "Wow! It amazes me what goes into creating such an incredibly well organized and successful event. To a person, all of our volunteers truly enjoyed themselves, felt valued and loved the event."

The Avocado and Margarita Street Festival is a dynamic family-friendly culinary celebration that takes place every September on the waterfront in Morro Bay. One and a half tons of locally grown avocados are hand picked and hand packed by farmers located just a few miles from Morro Bay's city center especially for this one day event. These local avocados are featured in avo-centric dishes ranging from deep fried avocados to avocado fudge pops, and everything in between. Handcrafted and premium blended margaritas are also offered for the 21+ set.

Beneficiaries volunteer in many areas of the festival including tickets, merchandise, menu distribution, and bars and are asked to support the pre-event promotion effort. Not only are beneficiaries paid out for their efforts, they also are featured in pre-event press and on our avomargfest. com website. Beneficiary packages range from \$500 to \$5,000 dollars.







4-H Doing Good in the Community



The Morro Bay 4-H Club recently made a donation of warm socks, blankets, sweaters and winter coats to the Monday Night Meals at the Morro Bay Vets Hall. Monday Night Meals is held every Monday at 5 p.m. where service clubs and churches serve meals and offer clothing, toiletries and groceries to those in need.

Pictured is Morro Bay 4-H Club reporter Layna Myers with a volunteer.

Photo by Tammy Haas



24-Hour Paddle for Cancer This Weekend

The 2019 Monster and Sea 24-Hour Paddle for Cancer will begin at Coleman Park in Morro Bay at 8 a.m. on Saturday, April 13. Six local paddlers in Team Morro Bay will join 40 paddling teams across the U.S. and Canada, spending 24 hours on the water to raise money to give to families dealing with cancer.

Dubbed "The 24," the fundraising event features relay teams of local stand-up paddlers and paddle boarders who will paddle in Morro Bay Estuary throughout the day and night, finishing at 8 a.m. on Sunday, April 14, at the Morro Bay Yacht Club.

Last year the Morro Bay paddle team surpassed its goal of \$6,000, instead raising \$12,000 with the help of several generous donors. A GoFundMe account has been set up for local donations for this year's event, at GoFundMe/MS24MB19.

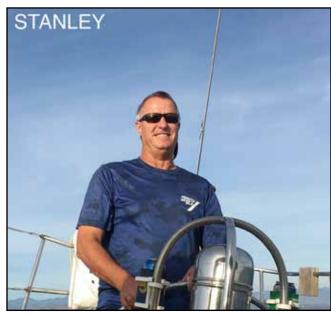
"We were able last year to help 12 Central Coast families struggling with cancer," Morro Bay team captain Teddy Borja said. "We delivered envelopes containing \$1,000 each, offering hope and inspiration to local families dealing with the chaos of cancer."

The paddlers are encouraging everyone to paddle along with the team to show support, using any waterborne device such as kayaks, canoes, stand-up paddle boards or surfboards, any time of the day or night. All six members of Team Morro Bay will start "The 24" together for the 8 a.m. launch on Saturday, April 13, at Coleman Park at the end of the Embarcadero.

Three rotating two-person crews will paddle throughout the day, the night, and into the next morning. The six paddlers join together at 11 p.m. until midnight near the yacht club, and again at 7 a.m. Sunday until the finish at 8

This year marks the fourth in a row for Team Morro Bay's participation in the Monster and Sea 24-Hour Paddle for Cancer, which began in the Seattle area in 2015. With the slogan "Go Because You Can," the fundraising event now includes 40 teams of paddlers throughout the U.S. and Canada.

Local paddlers are: Ken Twist, an accomplished international paddler and owner of The Paddle Board Company, paddling for his fourth "24" on Team Morro Bay; Sarah Sandstrom, a well-rounded and accomplished West Coast paddler who transferred from Team Seattle last year,



joining Team Morro Bay for the second time; Rob Jenkins, a local paddler and fire captain paramedic paddling for his first "24"; Stanley Craig, local paddler, volunteer firefighter, and real estate broker, paddling for his fourth "24" in Morro Bay; Teddy Borja, local paddler, engineer paramedic, and owner of ESTERO, serving as captain for Team Morro Bay for the fourth time; and Trevor Hamblin, local paddler and firefighter paramedic, back for his third "24."

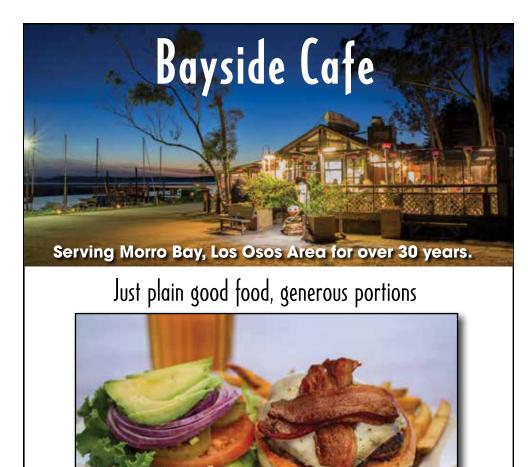
"Paddling for 24 hours can be difficult," said Hamblin. "It gets cold, and it can be pretty miserable. But we'll suffer a little bit to help raise money for those in need. It's a grassroots way of making a direct difference in people's lives as they deal with the monster of cancer."

More information about the Monster and Sea 24-Hour Paddle is available on Facebook.

First Jewish Learning Festival

Registration is open now for the JCC-Federation of San Luis Obispo and Hillel San Luis Obispo's first annual Central Coast Festival for Jewish Learning to be held on the Cal Poly Campus May 17th - 19th. It will be a weekend

Festival Continued on page 12



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Lunch Menu











Lunch & Dinner Menu













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Festival From page 10

of celebrating the gems of Jewish civilization by learning from various scholars, authors, rabbis, and artists with keynote addresses, interactive break-out learning sessions, social events, Sabbath services, and community meals. This experience is for everyone, not just the Jewish community, to celebrate and learn about Jewish culture from around the world.

Highlights include keynote address from Professor Aaron Tapper, Jewish Studies Chair of University of San Francisco, on the amazing diversity of Jewish identity (yes, Aaron happens to be a successful author and the brother of the well known Jake Tapper); Hussein Aboubaker Mansour, an Egyptian researcher of Jewish and Middle Eastern history and Hebrew literature who shares his personal story of growing up in Egypt to becoming a teacher of Hebrew and Israel; and, Holocaust survivor, Gitta Ryle, along with former Nazi war crimes prosecutor Judge Bruce Einhorn.

Part of the JCC-Federation's mission is to unify the Central Coast community with programs and services based on Jewish values. With no Jewish Studies department currently on campus this festival will help supplement campus life by bringing a diverse perspective and opportunity of learning to the Cal Poly community. It is a chance for the students and Jewish community at large to come together and be supported by one another. In an ever-polarized, divided world, it is imperative we strengthen our understandings of one another and connect in peaceful ways.

Anti-Semitism is on the rise in this country and according to the Anti-Defamation League Jews are the most targeted group of hate. Lauren Bandari, Executive Director of the JCC-Federation commented "the need to educate and tell our stories is ever-present. The Festival for Jewish Learning provides such an opportunity by allowing people to understand the diversity of the Jewish experience, expand their base of knowledge, and advocate against anti-Semitism."

Registration is expected to fill quickly. Special student rates and scholarships will be made available; donations toward these scholarships are welcome. For tickets and more information, visit www.jccslo.com/learning.



Spring Clean-up Week for Los Osos

April 15-19

For any questions: www.missioncountrydisposal.com/

Easter Events in Estero Bay Area



Jump in the pool on April 14 for the first annual aquatic Easter egg hunt at the Morro Bay High School Aquatic Center. The event is from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and, yes, thousands of plastic eggs will be in the pool.

Doors open at 1 for lap swim and recreational swim. Face painting with colored zinc oxide sunscreen will be available. At 1:30 there is an egg hunt for children ages 6 and under, at 2 the Easter egg hunt is for children ages 7-12 and at 3 the Easter egg hunt is open to all ages.

Goody bags will be distributed and there will be prize giveaways—blues tickets, swim lessons, Cal Poly Swag, swim passes, etc. The Easter Bunny may make an appearance as well.

The cost is \$15 for participants and lap swim will be \$4.

Space is limited, so Register at Morro Bay Recreation Services, 1001 Kennedy Way or online at https://apm. activecommunities.com/morrobay

Questions, contact Morro Bay Recreation Services at 805-772-6278.

Other Easter Egg Hunts in the Estero Bay Area include the Cayucos Lioness' Easter Egg Hunt, set for 10 a.m. Saturday, April 20 at Hardie Park. Free. Bring the kids out to meet the Easter Bunny and hunt for eggs in different sections of the park according to age groups.

At noon April 20, at the Cayucos Pier is the Lioness' Annual Doggie Easter Parade. Dress your best friend in his or her finest Easter themed costume and meet at the pier to parade down to the beach. Sign your dog up for a \$1 donation to support the Mutt Mitt program that keeps Cayucos' beaches and streets clean. Event T-shirts will be on sale for \$20 each.

And in Los Osos, the Annual Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the Bay Osos Kiwanis Club is set for 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 20 at the South Bay Community Center Park. There will be lots of fun activities, a costume contest for the kids, an egg decorating contest (decorate your own egg at home and enter to win) and much more.

And that afternoon at the Los Osos Library (across the street from the park), it's a free family movie matinee set for 2 p.m. Call the library at: 805-528-1862 to get the movie title. They provide the popcorn.



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Happy Easter from all of us at the Estero Bay News

33rd Annual Garden Tour



Caption AAUW members Sharon Meyer and Louise Gorfain welcome Garden Tour guests. - Photo submitted

The Morro Bay Chapter of the American Association of University Women has selected five outstanding gardens in Morro Bay, Los Osos, and Cayucos for showcasing during its 33rd annual garden tour, which takes place Sunday April 28 from noon to 5 p.m. Proceeds from the

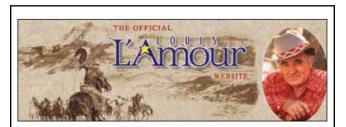
highly anticipated community event fund scholarships, prizes for academic achievement, and send outstanding seventh grade girls to Tech Trek, AAUW's science and technology camp held at UC Santa Barbara each summer.

Tickets are \$15 and may be purchased after April 1 at Volumes of Pleasure Bookstore in Los Osos, Coalesce Bookstore in Morro Bay, and Farm Supply in San Luis Obispo, Arroyo Grande, and Paso Robles or from any AAUW/ Morro Bay member.

AAUW is a national organization founded in 1881 to open the doors of education to women. For more Garden Tour information see morrobayaauw.org or call 805-772-1364.



A mature cactus garden is one of the highlights of the 2019 AAUW Morro Bay Garden Tour. Photo submitted



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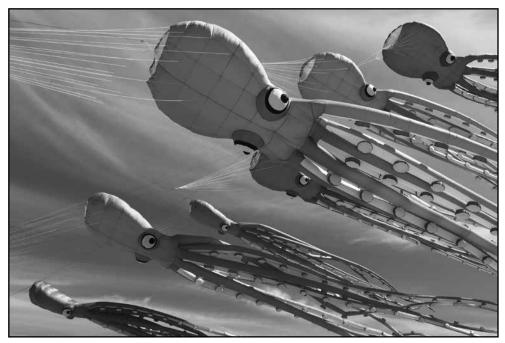
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Sea Creatures to Fill the Sky at Kite Festival

By Theresa Marie-Wilson



Don't be alarmed if you see a giant octopus soaring through the sky or Batman checking out the waves, it is just part of the fun planned for the 14th annual Morro Bay Kite Festival taking place at Morro Rock Beach on April 26-28.

"This year is more kid centric, there will even be a prize for best family kite," said Teri Bayus, event coordinator for Morro Bay Kite Festival, which is sponsored by the Friends of the Morro Bay Harbor Department, Morro Bay Tourism, Jeep and Castle Winds. "We have over 1000 free kites for kids. Every kid should fly a kite at least once in his or her life and our beach is one of the best beaches to do that. People from all over the world come here to fly kites."

This year's festivities feature the famous, larger than life octopus kites from Amsterdam. The kite flyers will show their mastery of the large aquatic kites on Saturday and Sunday.

"This is the first time these octopuses have ever been in the United States of America," Bayus said. "There are six of them and they are famous all over Facebook and You-Tube. They are like 80-feet long. It's ridiculously fun to watch."

You can have dinner with the two kite flyers on Saturday, April 27 from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Tognazzini's Dockside.

"Our goal is to bring all individuals, families, and all generations together in a safe, relaxing and fun environment, to learn and participate in the art of kite flying, Morro Bay style, "said Jennifer Little, tourism manager for the City of Morro Bay. "Our activities will attract young and old to celebrate all the wind provides and the people that harness it. Our breathtaking surroundings and the windy location are perfect for this gathering on the Central Coast."

This year will have new additions for kids of all ages including Knockerball, kite surfing, superheroes including Batman, Batgirl, Wonder Woman, and Spiderman, a giant maze, a bubble pool and a visit and song with princesses.

"Typically to see and interact with these guys [superheroes and princesses], it is \$30 a child, but it's free at the Kite Festival," Bayus said. "Bring your camera because we will have a point-and-shoot with them."

Activities include: A kite fighting demonstration from on April 26 from 3 p.m. – 5 p.m. (weather permitting) at the Rock parking lot. On April 27 there will be large aquatic kite demonstrations from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. (to 3 p.m. on Sunday) at Morro Beach, Let's Go Fly A Kite with Mary Poppins and Bert from 10 a.m. – 11 a.m. at the Rock parking lot, the superheroes and princess will also be at the parking lot from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., small kite demonstrations on Morro Beach from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. along with windsurfing kite demonstrations from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and vendors will be in the Rock parking lot from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. On April 28, the schedule is similar with the event shutting down at 3 p.m. That day there will also be Knockerball from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Morro Beach.

A silent auction benefiting the Friends of the Morro Bay Harbor Department will also take place throughout the event.

Knowing that Mother Nature is unpredictable at times, is Bayus worried a lack of wind may be in store?

"There is never no wind in Morro Bay in April," she said with a laugh.

For more information about the Morro Bay Kite Festival, contact Teri Bayus at teribayus@gmail.com or by calling (805) 305-0579. Opportunities are available for both businesses and non-profits.

Morro Bay Family Dentistry Welcomes Dr. Alina Borchardt

By Theresa Marie-Wilson

Dr. Alina Borchardt has joined the team at Morro Bay Family Dentistry. After spending much of her education years in larger cities to the north and south, she is enjoying life on the coast.

"I have family in this area," she said, "and I like the smaller community focus over the big city where I came from. I love it here."

Borchardt attended Santa Clara University where she studied biology and dance. She found her passion for dentistry after serving on a dental mission trip, in which she discovered that she could combine her artistic side with her desire to serve others as a healthcare professional.

"There is a lot of artistry that goes into dentistry, and that's what I like about dance too," she said. "I feel like they compliment each other. You need a little bit of an artistic mind to be a dentist."

Borchardt attended dental school at the University of the Pacific's Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry in San Francisco. While in dental school, she was a

Tau Kappa Omega and Omicron Kappa Upsilon honor student. She first visited our office while she was still a dental student.

After dental school, she completed a yearlong general practice residency at VA Sepulveda in southern California. During that intense training, she was able to take an interdisciplinary approach to dentistry and work alongside the medical team to treat patients and give them the best care possible. She says she loved her time there because it reinforced her values of treating the patient as a whole, connecting each patient's oral health to their overall health. She was able to gain extensive experience in oral surgery, implant placement, periodontal therapies, and endodontics while working with veterans.

As a dentist, Borchardt's focus is all about prevention. She strives to help educate her patients as a tool to help them overcome potential long-term dental issues.

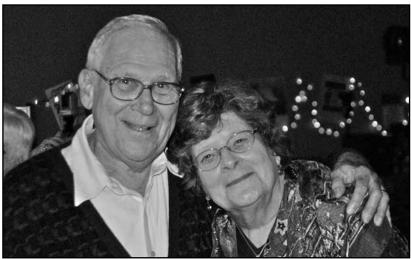
As a general rule she advises that people, "Keep up to date with your dental visits," said Borchardt. "Don't be shy about it. Brush two times a day, floss daily and eat healthy. It is all related. Whatever you put into your body will affect your whole body."

When she is not working, she enjoys dancing, baking, hiking, or spending time with per family.

Borchardt is a member of The California Dental Association, The American Dental Association, and has undergone advanced training at The Las Vegas Institute, which is focused on the integration of comprehensive diagnosis, contemporary techniques and technology.

Stop by and meet Dr. Borchardt at Morro Bay Family Dentistry at 747 Bernardo Ave. in Morro Bay.

In Memory Floretta Marie Meissner 1933 - 2019



Floretta Marie Meissner died on March 10, 2019, after a brief illness. She was born on Feb. 21, 1933 in Illinois and ended up moving to Morro Bay in the 90's my dad Chuck Meissner (he died August of 2009). She had been active (in the past) with meals on wheels, Morro Bay Beautiful, and the Morro Bay Art Association. She loved living in Morro Bay and would regularly say, "I don't know what we did to deserve to live in such a beautiful place." She is survived by her three children, Jim Crawford, Carol Mirassou and Mark Meissner, and her 7 grandchildren. She is also survived by her brother Chuck Kearns, and her sister Bonnie Hendrickson.

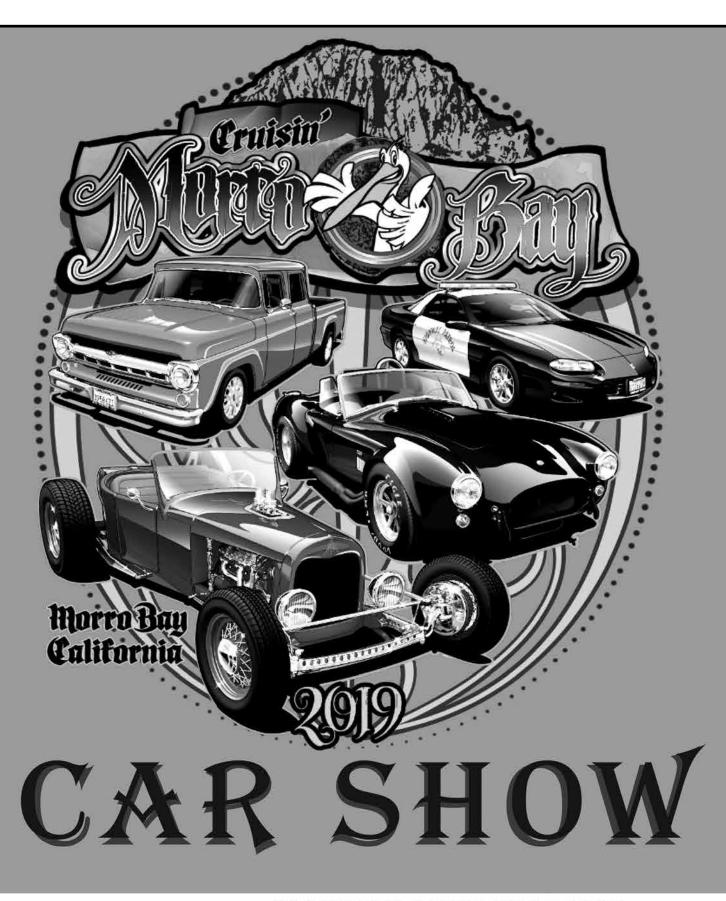
Her service is this Friday April 12th at 2 pm at Morro Bay Presbyterian which is located at 485 Piney Way in Morro Bay. In lieu of flowers, please donate to your favorite organization in her name.



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THURSDAY, MAY 2nd

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FRIDAY, MAY 3rd

10-5:30pm Registration

11am Cruise up Coast for Lunch

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2-8pm Bear Metal Kustoms Open House • 1147 Scott St.

6-7:30pm Cruise • REGISTRANTS ONLY

SATURDAY, MAY 4th

9am-4pm Show & Shine Downtown

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First Art Show a Success

The California Central Coast Pastel Society (3CPS) held a reception for it's first Annual Spring Open Exhibition at the Morro Bay Natural History Museum.

This show, "Two Worlds Meet: Living Together Along the Shore," looks at the cultural and natural environments on the Central Coast. It is both juried and judged show with 35 pastel paintings. The show runs through May 31.

The California Central Coast Pastel Society is a non-profit arts organization dedicated to advancing fine art in the soft pastel medium.

The Winners are:



Best of Show - Morning Light by Mark Mertens

Honorable Mention winners:

A Break in the Clouds by Suzie Stach
Elegance in Motion by Val Simon
To the Sea by Denise Schryver
Boardwalk View by Sandi Heller
Dune Shadows by Ginger Toomer
Sentinels of the Bishop by Tom Frey
Avila Beach by Ji Li
Yellow Chrysanthemums by Rosalie Beck
Breaking Wave, Morro Bay by Robert Sutton
For more information, visit 3cps.org.



A reception was held for the first Annual Spring Open Exhibition California Central Coast Pastel Society



1st Place - Breaking 3 by Bobbye West-Thompson



2nd Place - Lift Off by Linda Smith

Blessing of the Fleet



Morro Bay's annual Blessing of the Fleet event is a tradition marking the beginning of the fishing season. Blessings and a rose were given to fishing boats throughout the harbor of Morro Bay and the people who watch over them. The service was held at the North T Pier followed by lunch at the Morro Bay Veteran's Hall.

Photo by Dean Sullivan

Work to Start on Highway 101

A project to improve six miles of US Highway 101 from San Miguel to Camp Roberts will continue with the closure of the No. 1 (left) southbound lane of US 101 at the San Marcos Road Intersection beginning Monday, April 15.

As a result, motorists traveling northbound will be detoured onto the southbound lane of the San Marcos Overcrossing beginning Tuesday, April 23. This traffic switch is expected to last until the end of August.

The northbound US 101 left turn pocket at San Marcos Road will be closed on Monday, April 15 at 6 am until Tuesday, April 23 at 4 pm to facilitate this traffic switch. Motorists headed northbound may detour at Wellsona

In addition, the northbound US 101 off-ramp at South Mission Street will be closed beginning Tuesday, April 23 until early this summer. Motorist may detour to the next off-ramp at 10th Street.

The southbound onramp to US 101 at South Mission Street remains

closed. Motorists may detour via 10th Street, south to Cemetery Road before re-entering US 101 via the south-



bound on-ramp.

This project includes a realignment of US 101 to accommodate a new right hand southbound on-ramp at South Mission Street, paving US 101 and nearby ramps and lowering the profile of US 101 at Camp Roberts to achieve a minimum bridge clearance height. Drainage systems, guardrail and lighting will also be improved within this corridor.

The contractor for this \$53 million project is Security Paving of Sylmar, CA. It's scheduled to be complete in the spring of 2020.





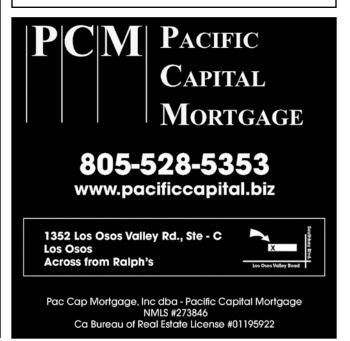






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Events and Activities

Coalesce Bookstore invites

you to a book signing, Saturday, April 27 from 2-4 p.m. with Diane Shabazian and her book "Riverborn." The book tells the story of a revolution brewing in Belsinane, but it's not coming fast enough to save Sola and Tower from their fate. They are Riverborn, and that only means one thing: they will be auctioned off and forced to serve a Seaborn family for life. Together,



Sola and Tower uncover a startling truth about a rescue, and it plunges them into a mystery that spans two worlds. They enter a new reality where baffling clues may alter their future and reveal the secrets of a nearly forgotten past. With mystery, fantasy, time travel, and magic, Riverborn is a story you will never forget. Diane Shabazian is a semi-retired educator, always seeking the next adventure. She divides her time between California and North Dakota.

Celebrate Earth Day 2019 and learn how to plant a tree at the Sea Pines Golf Resort in Los Osos, in conjunction with Barefoot Concerts on the Green on Saturday, April 27th from 2-5 p.m. This inaugural event is sponsored by Greening Los Osos whose mission is to preserve, maintain and expand the local tree population. The newly formed group has an ambitious plan to spread awareness of the beneficial impact trees have on the environment including improved water quality, reduction of soil erosion, recharging of the groundwater supply and release of oxygen. Bring the family and friends and let the kids experience earth day friendly fun activities like acorn planting and tree coloring handouts. Other events include rainwater capture, proper soil use, and a tree planting demonstration with free tree seedlings. The resort is located at 1945 Solano Street in Los Osos. Contact greeninglososos@gmail. com, for more information.

Anton Mizerak and Laura Berryhill will perform their transformational healing music at 7 p.m. Monday, April 15, at Awakening in Los Osos. Exquisite vocals accompanied by keyboards, tablas, Tibetan bowls, and harmonica will feature Sanskrit and Celtic myths and stories. There is a \$10 suggested donation. Awakening Interfaith Spiritual Community is located at 1310 Van Beurden Drive, Ste 102, Los Osos. For more information contact: 805-772-0306 or awakening2theone@gmail.com.



Cal Poly's Kennedy Library will co-host the exhibit "Limitless: The Process of Innovation" from Thursday, April 11, through Friday, June 7. The exhibit showcases the unique work done in the university's PROVE (Prototype Vehicles) Laboratory — a student-led collective that makes zero-emission vehicles that break world records.

The exhibit features prototype vehicles, projects, student engineers and processes to demonstrate the power of alternative energy through innovative engineering. Student-designed and fabricated projects in development will be on display, including a human-powered biomimetic submarine, a top-speed gravity-powered vehicle, and a fully electric long-range sports car.

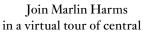
The "Challenger," a landmark historical vehicle from the extreme world of Gravity Racing, will also be on display, thanks to racing innovator Don Baumea.

The major theme of the exhibit is to illustrate innovation and invention without a rulebook. "This is a chance for PROVE Lab to show Cal Poly and the community what invention looks like," said advisor Graham Doig, a former faculty member in the Aerospace Engineering Department. "It normally happens behind closed doors, out of sight. It's works in progress. It's ideas in the process of being tested. It's an unbelievably talented and dedicated group of students figuring out how to be world-changers."

The public is invited to the exhibit's opening reception from 4 to 6 p.m. Thursday, April 18. The exhibit, co-hosted by the College of Engineering, is free and open to the public during library open hours.

For more information, contact Catherine Trujillo, Kennedy Library curator, at 805-756-6395 or ctrujill@calpoly.edu or go to: lib.calpoly.edu/events/limitless. Photo caption: Challenger Dynamic Testing: Student engineers wind-tunnel-testing "The Challenger," a record-breaking vehicle designed by legend Don Baumea. Photo Courtesy PROVE Lab.

Morro Coast
Audubon Society Community Program presents the Who's Who in the Tidepools with Presented by Marlin Harms on Monday, April 15 at 7 p.m. at SLO Botanical Garden Oak Glen Pavilion in El Chorro Regional Park





coast tidepool communities. With intimate photos of many tidepool creatures, he will show who lives at the edge of the ocean and what hides in the nooks and under ledges in local rocky intertidal areas. He will reveal lifestyles of the wet and squishy, some of the hazards that make their lives precarious, plus tips on how and where to explore it yourself firsthand.

A brief annual membership will precede the program: Agenda includes voting to amend the MCAS by-laws to create a Hi Mountain Lookout Standing committee and voting on the slate of nominees to fulfill the next term as Board members.

All MCAS Community Programs are free and open to the public. As always, all ages are welcome.

The El Moro Democratic Club will feature Walter Heath as thier guest speaker on the topic of Medicare for All at its April 16 meeting. Heath will discuss this timely topic at the Round Table Pizza in Los Osos at 7 p.m. Arrive at 6:30 if you plan to eat. As a volunteer grassroots organizer who has been building community around the issue of guaranteed healthcare for all people for 15 years, Heath will speak about the Medicare for All Act of 2019 (M4A) and the nationwide effort to secure its passage. The bill is sponsored by Congressional Representative Pramila Jayapal, with over 100 cosponsors.

"The current healthcare system in the United States is ineffective, inefficient and outrageously expensive" reads Jayapal's website. "It is time to remove the profit motive in healthcare, to resolve the inefficiencies and to guarantee quality, therapeutic healthcare to every person living in the United States."

The California Primary election is set for March 3, 2020Contact Vita Miller at 805-704-3173, for more information.





Morro Bay Family Dentistry Sorina Ratchford DDS. and Alina Borchardt DDS

> 805-772-8585 747 Bernardo Ave, Morro Bay www.mbfdds.com

Los Osos Spring Clean-up April 15 - 19th., 2019

Events and Activities

Cal Poly's Journalism

and Political Science departments will host journalist and author Ben Bradlee Jr. for a campus talk about President Donald Trump on Monday, April 15.Bradlee will discuss who voted for candidate Trump and why in 2016, the president's performance in office - especially his repeated attacks on the media as "the enemy of the American people" — and the prospects



for the 2020 election. The talk will take place at 7 p.m. in the Baker Center (No. 180), Room 101, in the heart of campus. The event is free and open to the public. Bradlee's new book, released in October, is "The Forgotten: How the People of One Pennsylvania County Elected Donald Trump and Changed America." It is an in-depth, closely reported examination of Trump voters in Pennsylvania's Luzerne County, a swing county in the northeastern section of the state, which played a pivotal role in Trump's election and victory in the Keystone State.

A question-and-answer period will follow the talk, and books will be available for sale and signing. Bradlee previously visited campus for a talk on "Journalism @ 100: Why It Matters Today More than Ever" during the Journalism Department's Centennial Celebration in 2016.

Join the Small Wilderness Area Preservation

(SWAP) for it's 3rd Saturday Nature Walk in the Los Osos Elfin Forest on April 20, 9:30 a.m. and partake in the presentation Photography and Native Plants. Nature and wildlife photographer Donald Quintana will take attendees on a photographic journey to capture the wild and beautiful world of the Elfin Forest. Using whatever camera you have, you will have an opportunity to photograph birds and butterflies, close ups of plants and flowers, or views of the Forest and bay. Don will discuss the use of light and how best to capture its influence on your subject. He'll also talk about some of the Elfin Forest's plant life. All levels of experience and skill are welcome. Heavy rain will cancel the walk.

Walks in the Elfin Forest begin at times stated above at the north end (1100 block) of 15th Street off Santa Ysabel in Los Osos. Wear closed-toe shoes, long sleeves and pants to avoid poison oak and mosquitoes. Park carefully, avoiding driveways and mailboxes, and leave pets at home. The easy paced walks last 1-1/2 to 2 hours. For more information call (805) 528-0392.

Don't miss these activities at the Los Osos Library at 2075 Palisades Ave. If you need more information, call 528-1862.

- Make and Take Craft Fri., Apr. 12 at 3 p.m. Arts and crafts with Ms. Kaela. Preschool and school age children. Los Osos Library. Free.
- Paws to Read Fri., Apr. 12 at 3 p.m.

There is an additional day for youngsters to read to an adoring dog, a listener of tales. It's happening every second Friday of the month. Ages 5 and older welcome. Free.

- Craft Klasch Sat., Apr. 13 from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. This is an art program for adults. No experience is required, and all materials will be provided. Let your creative
- Altered Book Craft Sat., Apr. 13 at 12 noon Alter a book, use old book pages, to create a new piece of art, at our Teen Altered Book Program. Supplies provided, ages 10-18. Free.
- **Book Discussion Group** Thu., Apr. 18 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

All adults are invited to attend our reading and discussion group on the third Thursday of each month. Free.

• Music With Mini Melodies – Sat. Apr. 20 from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Bring your little one to experience music and songs hosted by local music instructor from Lyrics and Melodies. Free.

• Family Movie – Sat., Apr. 20, at 2 p.m. Come enjoy free popcorn and a movie for the whole family. Call library for movie title. All ages welcome.

- Virtual Reality Tue., Apr. 23 at 6 p.m. Virtual Reality with Occulus is now available. Adults can step into space or into a new world with virtual reality at the library. Free.
- Library Legos Thu., Apr. 25 at 3:30 p.m. Build Legos based on the monthly theme, or free build using your own ideas. Come prepared to use your imagination. Ages 3-12 welcome. Free.
- Poetry in the Library Thu., Apr. 25 at 6:30 p.m. –

The theme for the April's poetry night at Los Osos Library will be "Hums & Honey." There will be two poets and a cellist. The event begins at 6:30 featuring poet Bonnie Young from Arroyo Grande, and poet Catherine Abbey Hodges and cellist Rob Hodges from the Porterville area. Open mic follows. Free.

• **Earth Day** – Sat., Apr .27 11:30 a.m. –1 p.m. Learn about the importance of trees. And do your part by taking home an acorn to plant.

Presented by Greening Los Osos. From tiny acorns grow mighty oak trees. Free.

• Pacific Wildlife Care – Sat., Apr 27 at 12 p.m.

Pacific Wildlife Care will introduce people to wildlife and how we can help out the wildlife in our area. Visit us on this special Earth Day to celebrate! Free.

Cal Poly's University Art Gallery will present the 2019 Juried Student Show from Thursday, April 11, through Saturday, May 4. The exhibition features works from every medium, carefully selected from a much larger pool of submissions. This year's juror was Cal Poly alumnus Doug Highland (Applied Art and Design, '94), a professor of photography at Cuesta College and a graduate of Cal Poly's photography program. The public is invited to an opening reception at 5 p.m. Thursday, April 11, in the gallery, located on the ground floor of the Dexter Building (No. 34). The University Art Gallery is free and open to the public from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

There will be an American Field Service Dessert Social/Information Night on Wednesday, April 24 at 6 p.m. at Coast Union High School, 2950 Santa Rosa Creek Road in Cambria.

Holly McHaffie and Julie Vasquez will share their experiences as exchange students in Spain and Japan. Past host families and returnees from around the county are encouraged to attend.

Information about hosting and sending programs will be presented. Event is free. For more information, call (805) 995-1432.

Go behind the scenes for a peek at the creative giveand-take between literary partners. Using the power of storytelling to help debunk the myth of conflict between author and editor, and then flip the script and focus on the teamwork and cooperation that's actually involved during the Author & Editor: Counterpoint, Complement, Collaboration event on Friday, April 12 from 3 – 4 p.m. at The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf (534 Five Cities Drive, Pismo Beach).

The presenter Laurie Gibson, the editor who's served more than 200 first-time and self-publishing authors—as well as the writing of success guru Brian Tracy, groundbreaking novelist Alice Walker, and Patagonia founder Yvon Chouinard. For several years, Laurie taught editing for the Extension programs at both UCSD and UCLA. Aspiring authors will leave with ideas for connecting successfully with editors, as well as practical suggestions on how to improve their craft. Other highlights: writing prompts; twopage handout describing the levels of editing; Q&A; quick case study featuring the book "Tracking Gobi Grizzlies" to show how a rumor about a very rare animal led to an award-winning work of nonfiction. This event is \$10 (cash or check). RSVP isn't needed, but arrive early since seating is very limited. For more information, contact the superioreditor@gmail.com or call (858) 635-1233.

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mated at more than \$1 million and they were able to get the contract for a bit over \$600,000 and use a local company.

Filanc, Inc., a giant engineering and construction firm, had been picked for a design-build contract but Koon said USDA recommended the District divvy up the project. Filanc is no longer working on the project, Koon said.

Dylan Wade of Water Systems Consulting, Inc., which did the site analysis, and permitting, continues to work on the project. Wade, a former special projects manager for the City of Morro Bay, is now assisting with the bidding process.

Koon said they expect to open bids sometime near the end of April and bring to the CSD board a recommendation in May to award a contract for construction of the treatment facility, which is being planned as a membrane batch reactor or MBR plant. Koon said the estimate for the 335,000 gallons a day treatment plant is about \$17 million.

He expects work on the plant that consists of eight structures — an operations building, a headworks building, equalization basin, the MBR, a dewatering building, UV treatment area and recycled water tank — to start possibly in June, with a completion target date for the end of 2020.

They've also changed course in one other aspect. "We're also doing a solar power facility," Koon said, "to power everything."

The \$25 million project is being financed through the USDA's Rural Assistance Program with a 40-year, long-term loan at 2.75% interest, with no penalties, should the CSD pay it off early.

The District purchased parcels of land from Chevron straddling Toro Creek Road, which had been in cultivation for many decades. Their plans are to treat all the town's sewage at the plant, recycle the usable wastewater and dispose of the unusable waste through the existing ocean discharge pipe, which Cayucos and Morro Bay share as part of the current treatment plant facility on Atascadero Road in Morro Bay. Morro Bay also plans to use the discharge pipe for its own new treatment facility.

Koon said later this year they will also be taking bids for needed pipeline and lift station work, under separate contracts. And he'll also get started this year on the water recycling aspect of the project.

The goal was to be able to store reclaimed water in Whale Rock Reservoir, where Cayucos gets its drinking water, but State law currently does not allow that. However, the State Water Board is supposed to work on regulations to allow that kind of storage.

The CSD would also need to get the OK to use Whale Rock from the Whale Rock Commission, which owns, manages and maintains the reservoir.

"The next thing I have to handle," Koon said, "is the reuse, either Whale Rock or ag reuse, something."

Kindness From page 1

He said a friend runs "Got Your Back," a food program in San Diego. He brought that idea here with the "Estero Bay Kindness Coalition," and in 2017 he started filling 12 backpacks each week with food "for students who were not otherwise going to be eating on the weekends."

By the end of the school year they were up to 40 backpacks a week and he was asked to extend the program through summer school [at Del Mar], he says. This school year, he was asked to bring the program to five local schools — Baywood and Monarch Grove in Los Osos, Del Mar, Cayucos and Cambria Elementary.

The need is great. For example, he said that Cambria Elementary, with just 286, kids has 189 on the reduced-cost lunch program.

Lots of people wanted to help. He got backpacks donated by Mountain Brook Church and St. Peter's Episcopal Church gave him \$500, which he thought was a ridiculous amount for backpacks. "Turned out I needed every penny of it," he said with a laugh.

Every civic group he's addressed — from Rotary to the Lions — and every business he's approached has supported the cause.

How it works is that on Fridays, the kids take home backpacks filled with two breakfasts, two lunches and two dinners, plus healthy snacks. They bring back the empty backpacks on Mondays. They now fill between 140 and 160 backpacks each week.

But he wanted to do more than just provide food and so puts educational flyers in the backpacks on proper nutrition written in English and Spanish. "It's important to protect the dignity of families and the kids," he explains, adding that he wants to avoid the stigma that comes with poverty.

During the week, people drop off food donations such as healthy cereal, evaporated milk, canned fruit, dry fruit, canned vegetables, canned chicken, tuna and beef, peanut butter and jelly, boxed mac & cheese, instant rice and boxed juice, at drop-off sites.

In Morro Bay they are Shine Café, Pizza Port, Morro Bay Yoga Center, and the Morro Bay Chamber of Commerce Office and Visitor's Center. The Los Osos Cares Office in Los Osos is a site and Cambria Connection, too (but there isn't one in Cayucos right now). Those groups along with the Estero Bay Alliance for Care (EBAC) are organizations that simply help people in any way they can and have been great partners for the Kindness Coalition.

A friend manages Trader Joe's in SLO, he said, and they've agreed to help; so too the County Food Bank. His partners include for profit businesses, non-profit groups, schools, and churches all pitching in to help families in the Estero Bay Area and the North Coast. Through the Cambria Connection, he said, this summer they will start helping families in San Simeon, too.

"It's been such a blessing," he says. "I've lived here a long time and I'm cashing in on relationships."

He's working to become an official 501 c-3, non-profit organization, having recently sent in the paperwork, but meanwhile, he can accept monetary donations through the Coastlands Church, see: www.esterobaykindnesscoalition. org for how to donate.

He explains that the Estero Bay Kindness Coalition is not a religious organization even though it is working for now through the church. In the end, he clearly gets great joy from this new calling.

"I'm here to love people and serve people," he said. "That's all I want to do. I just want to love people."

School Cop From page 1

a drastic reduction in the property taxes it pays.

San Luis Coastal is a so-called "basic aid" district and thus nearly all of its money comes from property taxes. Diablo Canyon is the biggest single property taxpayer in the District.

Last fall, the State passed a bill to ensure PG&E pays the \$85 million settlement, as well as a \$350 million fund to retrain its employees.

Pinkerton said, "The district never wanted to end the SRO program, but was forced to make tough decisions at the time due to the loss of revenue from Diablo Canyon's closure.

"As we come out of the financial strain we were in, one of the items that was a priority of our Board and Superintendent was the SRO positions."

And Ofc. Lomeli was the natural choice. "She's had the SRO training," Chief Cox said, "so we put her back in. She has lots of experience, she's worked investigations and detectives, which helps when you're dealing with juveniles."

The new 2-year contract has the District paying the whole costs, when the last contract split costs 50:50 between the District and the City.

"In the new SRO MOU's that the Board recently approved," Pinkerton said, "the district is paying the entire salary. We will also have more of the officer's time and focus."

Nothing much has changed at the high school to give the position added urgency, however, when there isn't an SRO, Chief Cox explained, school staff and faculty often try to deal with some of the issues and problems them-

School Cop Continued page 19



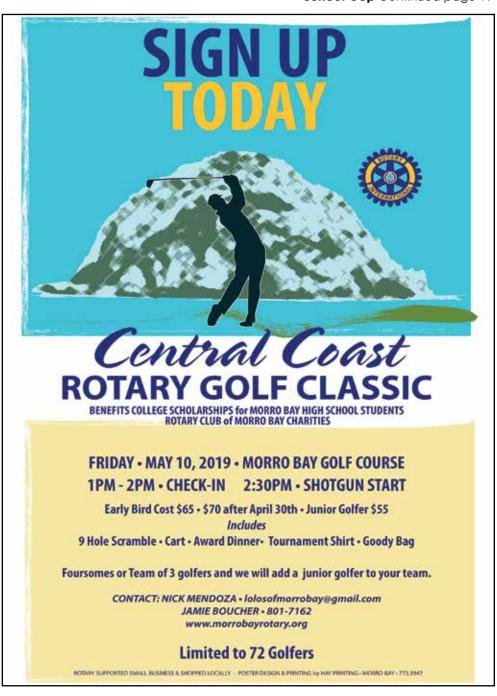
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Sports

Batter Up



Aidan Hunt (14u), Kyson Hickman (12u), Quentin Crotts (10u)





Batter up from left to right: Reagan Neville and Andrew Liamas

The 4th Annual Homerun Derby was recently held at Monarch Grove Elementary School.

More then 30 kids joined the competition and the winners were Aidan Hunt (14u), Kyson Hickman (12u), Quentin Crotts (10u). They now have the chance to compete in the Regional Competition with an eye on the National Finals, which will be hosted during the MLB All Star Week at the home of the Cleveland Indians

Angels Stun D-Backs With Late Walk Off Win 5-4

It was a pitchers duel that went the distance and just as the sun went down Tuesday March 26, the Angels had erased a 3 run deficit. The Halos stunned the D-backs in the bottom of the 7th inning as Andrew Llamas scored the game-winning run in walk off fashion.

Case Christiansen was the winning pitcher for Angels. He went five innings, allowing one run on two hits, striking out ten and walking one.

Timmy Taylor started things off on the pitcher's mound for Diamondbacks. He allowed two hits and one run over five innings, striking out nine and walking one. Taylor shut down the Angel offense for the first five innings.

Aidan Hunt, Andrew Llamas, Hayden Gentry, Kyson Hickman and Trent Penney each collected one hit to lead the Angels.

The Diamondbacks tallied eight hits on the day. Cody Waldon, Timmy Taylor, and Ryan Zust each collected multiple hits for the D-backs. Cody led the team with three hits in his four at bats.

INTERMEDIATE DIVISION

- 1. Angels 3-1
- 1. Brewers 3-1
- 3. Diamondbacks 0-3

MAJORS DIVISION

- 1. Athletics 3-0
- 2. Indians 2-1
- 2. Twins 2-1
- 3. Red Sox 1-3
- 5. Dodgers 0-3

AAA DIVISION

- 1. Royals 3-0-1
- 2. Giants 2-0-1 3. Braves 1-2-0
- 3. Marlins 1-2-0
- 5. Reds 0-3



Lighting From page 1

too. One of the proposed projects was to change out the lights on Downtown trees — proposed by the Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce, Morro Bay in Bloom and the Lions Club — that already have a power box plumbed into them. That electrical work was completed back around 1999, when

the City trimmed trees and ran the power service to the tree wells, along with new decorative street lights, benches, bike racks and planters. With the current budget, the council approved spending some \$17,000 on the new tree lights and Public Works did the work, first trimming the trees and then installing the lights. Some 25 trees got the new café-style lights.

School Cop From page 18

selves, which they aren't really trained to do.

Ofc. Lomeli said just having her presence on campus goes a long way to making the kids feel safer. "They like us on campus," she said. "And the staff is really happy."

This job is what she wants to do. "There were a couple of promotions in the department and I held off [applying for them]," she said. "This is what I really wanted to do. It's something in my career that I hadn't had a chance to do."

So what kinds of issues might she be expected to deal with? "It's about building a relationship with the school faculty and staff, and more importantly, the students," the chief said.

Ofc. Lomeli would agree. "The presence of us being here really makes a difference," she said.

Some of today's concerns are issues like smoking and vaping and "we have some fighting issues too," said the Chief. He added that big issues such as school shootings are also a consideration.

"The high-profile incidents, like Parkland [Florida shooting on Feb. 14, 2018]," he said, "show the need for that presence; to protect our youth."

There's also an educational aspect to the SRO Pro-

gram, which has largely taken the place of the old D.A.R.E. Program, too. "We also have the educational component for alcohol and tobacco awareness," said Chief Cox.

Ofc. Lomeli will split her time between the high school and Del Mar Elementary, "trying to reach the younger kids before they get to the high school level," he said

She will be dedicated "solely to the schools," said Chief Cox. Her work schedule will be set around the school's schedule and modified as needed so she can be on hand during special events — from dances to sports games. "The school's busy," he said. "There's a lot going on."

Ofc. Lomeli said that before, she was always getting called off to do patrol and now she'll have a chance to do more with the kids. She's putting together a couple of special presentations she wants to make before the end of the school year, including one for seniors to help prepare them for college life.

Bringing back the SRO is also part of a greater look at security for the District. "We are currently auditing all of our safety policies and procedures," Pinkerton said, "and bringing back SRO's was a vital component of developing our district wide safety plan."

The District wants their help with all its security

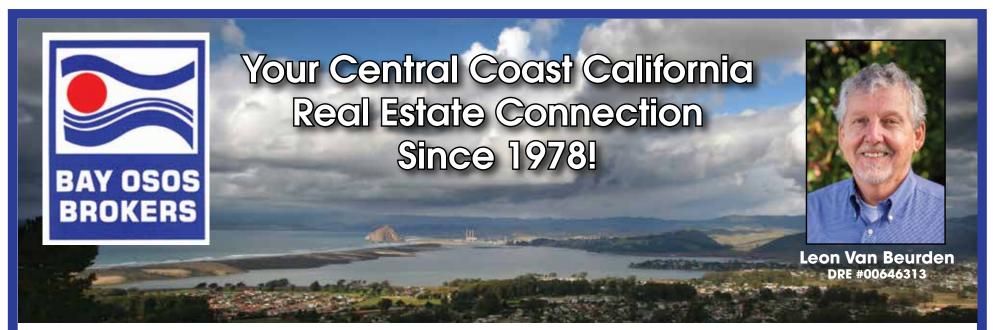
issues. "We are looking to expand the duties of the SRO," Pinkerton said, "to help not only at the comprehensive high schools, but also to help us look at safety throughout the school district's campuses. They will assist along with the sheriff's SRO in developing our site safety plans and overall district plan."

Pinkerton added, "The goal is to develop a positive relationship between law enforcement and the community, with the overarching goal of keeping our students and staff safe."

With one officer dedicated to the schools, the police chief said he will be hiring a new patrol officer, and already has one picked out. Chief Cox said Christian Galaz would start work April 15.

"He's a really sharp kid and I think he will fit in really well here," Chief Cox said of Galaz, who is in his 20s and was a reserve deputy with the Fresno County Sheriff's Office.

He also is looking to replace Ofc. Domingo Flores who recently retired after a more than 35-year career in law enforcement — 15 years with Tulare County Sheriff, and 15 years with the Tulare County District Attorney's Office, plus a few years in Porterville and Lindsay, said the Chief.





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