

LOCSD Proposing Water Rate Hike

By Neil Farrell



Water rates could increase in Los Osos.

Water rates for much of Los Osos could be going higher and if people want to protest the rate hike, they will soon get their chance.

The Los Osos Community Services District will hold a hearing on the new water rate schedules at 6 p.m. Thursday, June 2 during the LOCSD Board's regular meeting. The meeting is at the District's offices, 2122 9th St., Ste. 110.

Notices of the water rate increase are posted on the LOCSD website, see: www.lososcsd.org/notice-of-public-hearing-on-proposed-water-rate-increases including how the CSD's customers can protest the hike.

The LOCSD said it needs to raise rates, "to fund critical water supply and reliability improvements, finance high-priority capital projects, and keep up with operating cost inflation. Several factors drive the need to increase the District's water rates, some of which are:

- Help secure a sustainable water supply by funding Los Osos Groundwater Basin Plan projects;
- Address high priority capital improvement needs identified in the District's near-term 5-year Capital Improvement Plan (available on the District's website, lososcsd.org); and,
- Adequately fund the increased operational expenses of the water system."

The increase has been a work in progress. "The proposed rates were developed by a working group of community members and advisory groups that provide input to the District; the Financial Advisory Committee and Utilities Advisory Committee," the notice said. "LOCSD is proposing to phase in the proposed rate increases over three years to help minimize the annual impact on customers."

Rate Hike Continued on page 20

Local Adventurer On New, Cross-Country Adventure

By Neil Farrell

Morro Bay's resident adventurer is planning another epic journey — retracing the first crossing of the U.S. by automobile — but with a modern, even futuristic twist.

Jack Smith, whose claim to fame includes being among the first to push a skateboard across the United States, something he's done five times since the mid-1970s, is about to make the journey with a custom built, electric, vintage, VW Bus, dubbed the "Rust Bus."

"Horatio's Drive Electrified, 2022" is the name of the expedition Smith and longtime friend and co-driver on the trip, Mike Adamski, who was instrumental in the founding of Central Coast Surfboards in San Luis Obispo, are planning.

The trip will follow the route taken in 1903 by Horatio Nelson Jackson — the very first man to drive across the country by automobile. Nelson, along with mechanic, Sewall Crocker, and a dog named Bud, made a \$50 bet that he could drive across America, this at a time when automobiles might be lucky to make it across town.

"While in San Francisco's University Club as a guest on May 18, 1903," reads a history of Horatio's Drive posted online, "he agreed to a \$50 wager [equivalent to \$1,440 in 2020], to prove that a four-wheeled machine could be driven across the country. He accepted, even though at age 31 he did not own a car, had practically no experience driving, and had no maps to follow."

Nelson, "bought a slightly used, two-cylinder, 20-hp, Winton, which he named the Vermont, after his home state; bade his wife good-bye, and left San Francisco on May 23, carrying coats, rubber protective suits, sleeping bags, blankets, canteens, a water bag, an axe, a shovel, a telescope, tools, spare parts, a block and tackle, cans for

Morro Bay City Council Candidates Q&A



James Costanzo



Jen Ford

In the June 7 Primary Election, Morro Bay voters will pick someone to serve out the remaining time on the term of the late Councilman Robert Davis, with the appointed incumbent Jen Ford being challenged by retired businessman, James Costanzo. The winner will serve until the November 2024 General Election.

It's the only local race on the ballot for Morro Bay voters to decide and the Estero Bay News sent a number of questions to the two candidates to give voters an idea of their positions prior to the election.

There are other important races — Dist. 2 Supervisor, State Assembly, Congress — that voters here will cast ballots on, but with multiple candidates in each of those races, it seems safe to say the Top-2 vote-getters will face off in the November General Election. EBN is concentrating coverage of the June vote on the one race that will definitely be settled in June.

Jen Ford

As a native Californian who grew up in Bakersfield, Morro Bay was my family's favorite vacation destination to enjoy as a child. My husband and I continued this tradition with our two daughters until we could move here a decade ago.

Our goal was to provide cleaner air and a better life for them. After settling in, we started our own business with one client in Morro Bay and now serve businesses and organizations worldwide.

I believe an effective leader views themselves as an equal to those they serve. Reflecting on my life experiences as a mom, former teacher, community leader, former Planning

Candidates Q&A Continued on page 17

Moving Forward: Stephanie & Dylan Bueno Introduce SLACKTYDE Morro Bay

By Judy Salamacha



Dylan and Stephanie Bueno show off one of their shirts at Morro Bay's Foghorn where brother Blake works. Photo by Judy Salamacha

Is it possible some folks attract dark clouds that create havoc every move forward they try to make? As Stephanie and Dylan Bueno smiled and laughed through the retelling of their family story, I wondered how I would match their hard luck story to the genuine peace they projected in its retelling. What I heard but was unspoken by this mother-daughter team that created their own apparel business, SLACKTYDE Morro Bay CA, during COVID-2020 was, Our family will endure; overcome all odds; *This too will*

SLACKTYDE Continued on page 22

Police
Blotter
Page 8



Bike
Month
Page 13

Championship
Team
Page 16



Garage Fire Damages Two Homes

Story and photos by Neil Farrell



An April 23 house fire on Bernardo Avenue destroyed a garage and a Ford Escape SE hybrid, plug-in car.

A Morro Bay home sustained extensive damage in a garage fire that also damaged the neighbor's home and destroyed a brand new Ford Hybrid car.

No one was injured in spectacular blaze on April 23 that heavily damaged a home at 510 Bernardo Ave., in the Heights Neighborhood of South Morro Bay.

The house is the home of Frank and Laurie Sances. Laurie Sances had just gotten home and was in the backyard working on a deck project when she realized there was a fire.

She told Estero Bay News that when she got home at about 6:20, there was no smoke. But a few minutes later, at about 6:35, she noticed smoke and walked around the side yard to find the garage ablaze, with flames shooting into the sky.

"It was spontaneous and very violent," she said of the blaze that included a number of explosions and blew out the garage side window to scorch the side of her neighbors, Jerry and Nancy Weber's, home.

Jerry Weber said the fire blew out the garage window and against his home "Like a blow torch."

The fire blackened the siding and blew out a window next door. Weber said the fire department estimated the damage to his home at \$100,000, but they had not yet gone through the insurance process and hoped there wasn't a lot of hidden damage.

The fire also spread out of the open garage door catching the Saunces' 2022 Ford Escape SE hybrid, plug-in car on fire. The Ford was not plugged in when the fire happened and while the front end was essentially melted off, the car's lithium ion battery thankfully did not catch fire.

Laurie Sances said she ran into the house when she saw the fire to get her phone and dog, and noted there were a series of explosions caused by the fire.

She tried to run out the front door but it was blocked and so she went out the back and eventually they found their dog safe and hiding in fear in the backyard.

She said she ran around the side of the house and then realized she had her purse, keys and cell phone in her hands. "I didn't even realize I had them," she said of the chaos and commotion the fire ignited.

Nancy Weber went outside her house, saw the fire and called 9-1-1. She was still a bit shaken two days later but was very thankful that no one was hurt.

Morro Bay Fire Chief Daniel McCrain said he was at home in North County when he got called in to the fire at 6:50 p.m. When MBFD arrived within minutes, it was an "active fire," he said. He said the initial reports were of a structure fire with an electric vehicle involved, too.

Firefighters knocked the fire down quickly, the Chief said, and spent several hours mopping up the fire, opening up the walls to make sure the fire was completely out. They also had to cut holes in the roof to fight it. Neighbor Jerry Weber noted that firefighters used a lot of foam to fight the fire, which is normal with potential lithium battery fires.

Chief McCrain said the department's fire investigator, along with SLO Fire Investigation Strike Team (SLOFIST), were investigating the cause of the fire, but



The April 23 fire on Bernardo Avenue in Morro Bay scorched the side of the neighboring home, causing about \$100,000 in damages.

they were sure it started in the garage.

There was a lot of stuff in the garage, he said, which made it a tough fire to put out, as is often the case with garage fires. Garages are particularly tricky fires, he explained, as they are where people store the normal household stuff, like cleaning products, gas cans, paints and anything they don't want to store in the house.

Firefighters were able to contain the fire mainly to the garage and saved the majority of the Sances' home. They estimate damage at between \$200,000-\$300,000.

"There was minimal fire damage to the main part of the house," Chief McCrain said. But it did sustain smoke, heat and water damage and will need extensive cleanup and repair. The Weber's home, while scorched on the outside, also sustained some heat and smoke damage.

MBFD was assisted in fighting the fire by Cal Fire crews from Cayucos and Los Osos.

Caring for an Aging Population

By Theresa-Marie Wilson



A new report looks at the county's ability to care for its aging population. Photo submitted

A new report says the county is unprepared to meet the needs of its aging population.

"High-Value Opportunities for Improving the Lives of SLO County's Older Adults" was released in April and can be found at slocountyseniors.org. The report was initiated by Jimmy Paulding, current Arroyo Grande City Councilman and candidate for 4th District County Supervisor.

"SLO County's fastest-growing population segment is 65 and older," Paulding said in a news release. "These are the people who helped make our region such a great place to work and live. But the services, housing and care they need to preserve a good quality of life are severely limited.

My objective was to set the stage for us to help our older adult population, those who care about them, and those who care for them."

More than 20% of the county population is now 65 or older; by 2030, a projected 25.3% of county residents will be in that age range, according to a regional growth forecast. Residents aged 55 and above are the largest population group in the county at 37%. An estimated 22% of that group are at risk of becoming "elder orphans," who have no spouse, partner, children or other person on whom they can depend for assistance. Further, the lack of affordable housing options for seniors leads directly to the rising number of people experiencing homelessness. According to a 2020 UC San Francisco study, persons aged 50 and over now account for "half of unhoused adults in California – a four-fold increase since 1990 when 11% of homeless adults were over 50. However, the services, housing, care, and other resources essential for older adults' quality of life are limited and scattered in in SLO County.

The 14-page report was prepared by an "informal working group" made up of Linda Beck, a lawyer and patient advocate, principal of Nipomo-based Square One Elder and Health Advocacy; Alexandra Morris, a certified professional geriatric care manager; Anne Wyatt, executive director of SmartShare Housing Solutions and board member of the County Area Agency for Aging.

"The numbers are staggering," Wyatt told Estero Bay News, "with the combination of increasing absolute numbers of older seniors, the number of elder orphans and increasing number of seniors that will not have significant savings or pensions to rely on and will be largely reliant on minimum social security payments. A better understanding of these challenges ahead and action now on a the variety of fronts addressed in the report and some vital activities not discussed in the report, such as physical and mental health care, will be essential."

Although many of the issues require action at the state or national level, the group did pinpoint area-specific work that could be done.

Local Action Priorities Identified

- Increase awareness of existing services for older adults.
- Expand care management and adult day programs.
- Increase housing options for seniors at every economic level.



Dean Sullivan
Owner - Publisher
dean@esterobaynews.com

Theresa-Marie Wilson
Editor
editor@esterobaynews.com

Neil Farrell
Reporter
neil@esterobaynews.com

Shari Sullivan
Marketing Director
shari@esterobaynews.com

Joan Sullivan
Jill Turnbow
Ruth Ann Angus
Judy Salamacha

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

Bear Valley Realty
REeBroker Group
CalBRE#01522411

Steve Auslender | Owner
DRE # 01068881

CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT
(805) 801-4444

E: steve@bearvalleyre.com
900 Los Osos Valley Rd Suite A
Los Osos, CA 93402

From all of us

Happy Mother's Day!

a Passion for Serving

News

• Connect older adults through technology.
• Assist older adults with transportation.
Some of the priorities seem fairly easy to put into action, such as outreach and expanding education, but others, including housing and adult care programs, require collective involvement and financing. Getting the necessary engagement across the county while keeping the report's findings at the forefront of planning and management could prove difficult.
"It's tough sometimes to make seniors and senior issues sexy," said Wyatt, "particularly when a high percentage of seniors with the highest level of need feel embarrassed for their difficult circumstance—like they have failed and will be judged—or have limited mobility and struggle to interact and feel largely invisible, either by choice or societal reality. As I'm watching aging, I'm thinking it's a lot about compromise and settling, which we tend to equate with failure much of the time."

The report was created to promote dialogue about the opportunities and challenges as well as to help people understand them. The group hopes to next schedule discussions with the senior serving community and existing senior provider groups, such as the Adult Services Policy Council (ASPC) and the Central Coast Commission for Senior Citizens. The goal would be to lay the groundwork for effective partnership and sharing of resources while determining to what extent services are missing versus those that might only need more information in the hands of the senior population at large.

The aging population across the state is creating a demographic shift that must be adapted to. There are few problems that are locally specific

"SLO County," Wyatt said, "has a few particular challenges conspiring against senior service provision for lower income seniors, in particular, yet affecting seniors in all income brackets: extremely high housing cost; low vacancy rates; the rural nature of the County means significant travel distances from homes to services or, conversely, for service providers to get to the homes of seniors."

As an example Wyatt noted Cambria, where getting home health and assistance providers into the homes can be virtually impossible because the workers cannot afford to live in the area in which they work and have to choose work closer to their communities, saving commute time and gas costs.

If the needs of the aging population are not met, the reality is a grim one.

"We can expect to feel our hearts ache more frequently as we look away from weary seniors sleeping or panhandling on the streets, and the added ache from the shared sense of failure," Wyatt said. "On the flip side, we may not see them, yet we may know that a host of our former shop clerks and delivery persons, gardeners and table servers, among others, are isolated treading water, as they become further detached from the fabric of the community."

Meet the Morro Bay Candidates Event

The Morro Bay Chamber of Commerce continues efforts to inform voters about candidates and issues for upcoming elections.

The Chamber's "Meet the Candidates Mixer," presented by Estero Bay News, features food and beverage offerings provided by local member businesses Chowa Bowl, Grape Leaf, and Kelsey See Canyon Vineyards. The event takes place at the 2021 Business of the Year Coalesce Bookstore and Garden Chapel on Monday, May 16 from 5:30 p.m.-7 p.m. Space is limited and registration for this event is required. Chamber members must register in advance and may attend free of charge as a benefit of their annual membership dues. Non-members are welcome to register for a fee of \$15.

The Morro Bay Chamber of Commerce works to catalyze business growth, convene community leaders, and champion a strong community. One of the ways they accomplish this mission is by providing a platform through which community members can effectively inform themselves to cast their vote in local elections.

For the upcoming Special Municipal Election on Tuesday, June 7 the Chamber has invited the two candidates for one city council seat to engage in multiple ways with the electorate. First, the Chamber organized a free and public candidate forum moderated by the League of Women Voters that was held on May 4. Second, the Chamber invited candidates to answer a questionnaire that will be available to all on its website, morrochamber.org, through election day. The third candidate engagement has been designed to provide access to the candidates for Chamber members.

For more information and to register, go to morrochamber.org/2022-special-municipal-election or contact the Chamber at info@morrochamber.org.

Parcel Tax Will Go to Voters

By Neil Farrell

Morro Bay voters will be asked in November to approve a proposed parcel tax to support the Harbor Department, after a successful citizen-led petition drive qualified it for the ballot.

The City Council in April approved putting the initiative on the ballot that would charge \$120 a year to every privately owned, residential and commercial parcel in town. The tax will raise some \$680,000 a year.

Called the "Initiative Measure To Fund City Of Morro Bay Harbor Infrastructure Through \$120 Special Parcel Tax With Revenues Used Only And Exclusively For Maintenance And Improvements To City Of Morro Bay Owned Harbor Facilities," the tax comes out to \$10 a month in perpetuity.

The proponents — Bill Luffee, Ron Reisner and Homer Alexander — had to collect valid signatures from 10% of Morro Bay registered voters. According to a staff report, they achieved it with room to spare.

The report from the City Clerk said as of August 2021 there were 8,268 registered voters in Morro Bay. Ten percent would be 827 signatures and after verifications by the City and County Clerks, the petition drive had 1,047 valid signatures.

Because it is a proposed tax, the City Council couldn't simply adopt it, as it recently did with a petition to place on the ballot a ban on RV camping on the Embarcadero.

The council unanimously voted to place the parcel tax measure on the ballot as presented with no changes. If passed, the new tax would begin with the 2023-24 tax year, according to the City Clerk. It also contains an inflationary clause and would be adjusted annually.

Though it is being proposed for a specific purpose, as a citizen-led proposal, it needs just a simple majority to pass. "If approved by a majority of registered voters in the City of Morro Bay," City Clerk Dana Swanson's report said, "the funds collected would be used solely for maintenance of and improvements to City owned harbor related infrastructure, including but not limited to: City owned properties including public restrooms along the waterfront; docks; piers; sea walls; revetments; the Tidelands Park launch ramp, the Harbor Walk and City owned harbor structures."

The City Attorney will write an impartial analysis that will appear with the measure and voters can submit pro and con arguments, with the deadline set for the close of business on Tuesday, July 22.

Rebuttals to those arguments are due by close of business on Tuesday, Aug. 2. (Check with the City Clerk about how to do this.)

Officially the proposed ordinance is the "Morro Bay Harbor Infrastructure Act of 2022" and would go into the municipal codes as Section 3.27.010.

The parcel tax would be a major change in how the Harbor Department is funded. Currently, nearly all of its funding comes through lease site payments by waterfront businesses, plus slip and dockage fees.

The department's oversight includes all water areas in the harbor, but only the land areas on the west side of The Embarcadero, with a couple of exceptions. The properties on the east side of the street are all privately owned with the exception of Centennial Parkway (Giant Chessboard Park), which is the City's.

While the revenues are enough to pay for the department staffing, it leaves very little to tackle maintenance and capital projects, which now total over \$10 million.

The City Council has long looked for additional revenues for the Harbor Department, including paid day use boat and trailer parking at the launch ramp, and a pilot

Parcel Tax Continued on page 4



Bayside Cafe

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


Just plain good food, generous portions



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


Come experience what the locals love about this hidden gem.

Open Monday-Wednesday 11:00am - 3:00pm.
Thursday-Sunday 11:00am - 3:30pm. Closed between 3:30-4:00
Open again from 4:00pm to 8:00 pm
10 State Park Road, Morro Bay. Phone 805-772-1465
Visit our Menu at Baysidecafe.com



FOR SALE

Homes and Ranches Of All Sizes



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

Kelly Vandenneuvel

Central Coast Property Sales
Owner / Broker / GRI
CalBRE# 01472453

I Can Sell Yours Too
Call Me Today!

805-471-1046

www.centralcoastsales.com • kellyv@centralcoastsales.com

City Awards Well Contract

By Neil Farrell

The City of Morro Bay's wish to find a well driller was fulfilled on the second go-round of bidding for a key component of the City's Water Reclamation Facility Project.

The City Council recently awarded a \$346,700 contract to Pacific Coast Well Drilling, Inc., of Paso Robles (see: pacificcoastwelldrilling.com), for "the construction and injection testing of the City's Injection Well No. 1," reads the report on the contract award.

The project included a \$9,900 "bid alternate" bringing the total contract up to \$356,000.

Also called the "Pilot Injection Well," the project will drill a full-scale groundwater injection well "that will be used initially to perform a pilot injection study. The pilot study will determine injection performance to further characterize the Morro groundwater basin, and the data obtained during the pilot injection study will allow the City to finalize the locations and design characteristics of the other wells that will be included the recycled water facilities component of the WRF Program," the report said.

The pilot well will be located near the Power Plant Bike Path that runs between Hwy 1 and the rear of the Morro Bay Power Plant property. That's the area that has been closed to the public for months now, while the project contractor — Anvil — lays the collection system piping down the Class-1 bike path.

The City's project was billed as a water-recycling scheme that would be capable of producing some 80% of the City's annual water demand, but the City apparently isn't sure if it will work.

"The well will be drilled to a depth of approximately 90 feet," reads the report, "utilizing a mud-rotary method and with a final borehole diameter of 18 inches and a casing diameter of 12 inches. Following the completion of the well, PCWD will perform a pump test and an injection test to collect water quality and hydrogeologic parameter information."

According to the City's recent modeling studies of the Morro Creek groundwater aquifer, so-called Indirect Potable Reuse (IPR), "assumed injection rates ranging from 50 to 100 gallons per minute per well and estimated, with an overall injection rate of 825 acre-feet per year, extraction of 994-acre feet per year could be achieved without inducing seawater intrusion. Results from the Pilot Injection Well will allow for further refinement of the injection and extraction scenarios and inform the final design of the recycled water injection system."

The costs for the well are already included in the WRF's overall budget and the City said it would not have to dip further into the project's contingency funds, which is where millions in cost overruns have so far been accounted for.

Spending down the contingencies has meant the City has yet to go back to ratepayers for another increase for the project, which was approved by voters at \$126 million but

has now ballooned to over \$145 million.

Between the contingencies and the savings from favorable loan rates, the City has thus far had plenty of wiggle room, and avoided asking for another rate hike.

It should be noted that Pacific Coast Well Drilling's bid was actually nearly \$4,000 below the engineer's estimate of \$350,000.

Recycling the wastewater is the key component of the WRF Project. It was a main selling point in the City's project to ratepayers and was also a main point in obtaining Federal and State low interest financing, too.

The initial plan was for a recycling system to replace State Water deliveries, which at 1,313 acre feet a year, are the No. 1 source of drinking water. But a citizen blue ribbon committee that looked at the project determined that the State Water deliveries would remain the top water source, which morphed the WRF to a system to block seawater intrusion in the Morro Creek aquifer and extract water via the existing wells.

The City's WRF Project includes a new treatment plant being built now on ranchland property above the terminus of South Bay Boulevard at Hwy 1. It also requires an extensive multiple pipe conveyance system that will send raw sewage from the Atascadero Road treatment plant some 3.5 miles to the new plant site, traversing down Atascadero Road, Main, Quintana, and South Bay in a \$31-plus million portion of the project. The treatment plant is now at about \$75 million. The initial contract to Black & Veatch/Filanc was for about \$69 million.

The City's first attempt to find a well drilling contractor got zero bids. So the package was reworked and put out again for bids, with Pacific Coast Well Drilling landing the contract.

PG&E Pays Hefty Property Tax Bill

The biggest utility company in California recently paid the second installment of its property taxes and fees, with nearly 300 agencies splitting over \$460 million, and San Luis Obispo County getting a sizable chunk.

Pacific Gas & Electric announced April 19 that it paid over \$464 million in property taxes and franchise fees to 50 counties, 246 cities and one special district, where the utility company owns and operates gas and electric infrastructure.

According to a news release, PG&E paid more than \$310 million in property taxes to the 50 counties. The payment covers from Jan. 1 to June 30, 2022. Total payments for the tax year of July 1, 2021, to June 30, totaled more than \$621 million (property taxes are paid in installments), for an increase of \$84 million over the previous tax year, the company said.

PG&E also pays "franchise fees" to cities and counties for use of public streets for the gas and electric lines. Franchise fees totaled nearly \$154 million — nearly \$106 million for electric service and more than \$47 million for natural gas — for an increase of over \$15 million from the prior year.

PG&E in SLO County, has Diablo Canyon Pow-

er Plant and provides electric service but not gas. But throughout most of its service territory, it provides both. SLO County marks the northern edge of Southern California Gas Company's service territory, and the southern edge of PG&E's gas service.

"Property tax and franchise fee payments," Chris Foster, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer for PG&E, said, "are one of the many important ways PG&E helps drive our hometown economies and support essential public services like education and public safety. These payments reflect the substantial local investments we are making in our gas and electric infrastructure to create a safer and more reliable system and to better mitigate against wildfire risk."

Close to home, SLO County received over \$8.6 million, according to PG&E's figures. Monterey County got \$4.8M; and Kern County \$11.1M.

Alameda County tops the overall list with \$39.1M; followed by Santa Clara at \$38.7M; Contra Costa at \$23.7M; and Fresno County at \$21.1M.

New County Adult Mental Health Manager

Mental Health care is fast becoming a growing concern and SLO County has a new guy to help lead its efforts in the field.

The County Behavioral Health Department announced that Josh Peters, LMFT had become their new Adult Mental Health Division Manager.

Peters has been with the County over 16 years, starting back in 2006, "when he joined the Behavioral Health's Drug and Alcohol Services (DAS) as a trainee. In 2007, Josh was hired on as a Specialist within DAS Preven-



Josh Peters is the County's new Adult Mental Health Division Manager. County photo

Parcel Tax From page 3

RV camping program, which though fairly successful, the Council recently put the kibosh on.

Another minor revenue enhancer has recently arisen, as the department is currently auctioning off the tables and walls it had used for the RV camping sites.

The auction includes numerous 8-foot long, wooden and steel framed, picnic tables, and portable, free standing, solid wood walls, 14-foot long.

Also on the block is a 1995, Radoncraft patrol boat and trailer all being sold through SLOCAL Estate Auctions (see: slocalestateauctions.com/auction/harbordept_boat_picnictables_harborpatrolboat).

Bidding on these items closes May 18, according to the auction website.



THANK YOU, MORRO BAY

In 2022, RHM celebrates 10 Years of Business in Morro Bay!
Thank YOU to the organizations, businesses, and individuals
who trusted us to help you succeed. We're excited to
see what the next decade has in store!

- Travis & Jen Ford



ROCKHARBORMARKETING.COM

News Briefs

By Theresa-Marie Wilson

Volunteers Needed for M.B. Advisory Boards

If readers want to be involved in the government aspect of the community, the City of Morro Bay is looking for volunteers for the Citizens Oversight/Finance Advisory Committee (1), Harbor Advisory Board, Public Works Advisory Board and Recreation and Parks Commission (one each).

The deadline for application submission is Friday, May 13 by 5 p.m. Application and eligibility information is available on the City Clerk's webpage at morrobayca.gov/advisorybody.

Completed applications can be emailed, mailed or returned at the drop box located at City Hall at 595 Harbor St.

New Isolation and Quarantine Guidelines

Following CA State Public Health, the SLO County issued new orders for isolation and quarantine for those who are exposed to COVID-19 but do not experience symptoms and do not test positive.

These changes mean many people who have been exposed to COVID-19 but don't have symptoms are no longer required to quarantine at home. However, they should get tested five days after the exposure, wear a well-fitted mask around others for 10 days following the exposure, and monitor for symptoms. Anyone who tests positive or develops symptoms must immediately isolate.

"The bottom line is still, stay home if you're sick or test positive for COVID-19," said County Health Officer Dr. Penny Borenstein. "If you're exposed to COVID-19, please be vigilant about masking, testing, and monitoring for symptoms—and be honest with yourself and others if you start to experience even mild symptoms like a headache or sore throat."

Quarantine is still required in high-risk residential settings (such as shelters, corrections, health care and long-term care) and is recommended for people who either had a high-risk exposure (such as to someone in their household) or are at higher risk of infection because

they are immune compromised or haven't been vaccinated. Specific State guidelines apply to child care, schools, health care settings, and other workplaces.

SLO County, like most California counties, is no longer carrying out individual contact tracing to notify residents that they have been exposed to COVID-19. Instead, those who test positive will receive a text message or email notification with detailed instructions to isolate and direction to inform their close contacts.

"If you are exposed and do not quarantine, please remember you must be extremely diligent in masking until after day ten," said Dr. Borenstein. "That means avoiding situations where you might take off your mask, like eating at a restaurant."

Detailed isolation and quarantine guidance and copies of the new Health Officer Orders are available online at www.slopublichealth.org/quarantine-iso.

Cal Poly to Open New Latinx Center in Fall 2022

Cal Poly plans to open a new Latinx Center during fall quarter 2022, with a tentative grand opening ceremony and celebration slated as part of Latinx Heritage Month in September.

The new center is intended to create an environment that fosters belonging, empowers Latinx students to thrive, and provide them holistic support. In turn, the center will offer these students the opportunity to gather and build community while exploring their cultures, histories and traditions. Open to all students, the center will feature an accessible computer lab, lounge space and culturally relevant workshops and collaborative programming.

The Latinx Center will be the newest addition to Student Diversity and Belonging (SDAB), a collective of campus resource centers within Student Affairs that aim to provide a home away from home for underrepresented students at Cal Poly.

In addition to the new Latinx Center, SDAB's Pride Center and the Men and Masculinity Program will transition to expanded spaces in the University Union this summer.

For more information about Student Diversity and Belonging centers and programs, visit <https://culture.calpoly.edu/>.

Central Coast Clean Campaign Targets Tobacco Waste

A new county collaboration will target trash, litter, and harms of tobacco waste. The County of San Luis Obispo Tobacco Control Program (TCP) has joined the Central Coast Clean campaign, expanding the campaign's focus to address the harms of tobacco waste.

The Central Coast Clean campaign aims to decrease the amount of litter that makes its way into waterways and affects water quality on the Central Coast. Organizers say, addressing tobacco waste can go a long way to achieving that goal. A recent report by the Ocean Conservancy shows that in 2020, 22.6% of items collected during California trash cleanups were cigarette butts.

With TCP's support, the campaign will increase social media messaging on the issue of toxic tobacco waste and encourage quitting the use of tobacco products.

The partnership will also place new tobacco waste receptacles at public locations in the cities of Grover Beach and Morro Bay. Messaging on the receptacles encourages smokers to dispose of tobacco waste properly and provides a QR link to free tobacco quitting services through Kick It California.

"Nobody enjoys cigarette butts on our beaches, in our streets, or in our waterways," said Amy Gilman, Tobacco Control Program. "This campaign helps keep harmful waste out of our water and is a natural complement to our work supporting people who want to stop using tobacco."

Learn more about the County of San Luis Obispo Tobacco Control Program by visiting www.slocounty.ca.gov/Tobacco. Learn more about the Central Coast Clean Campaign by searching the hashtag #CentralCoastClean or following @slostormwater on social media.

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

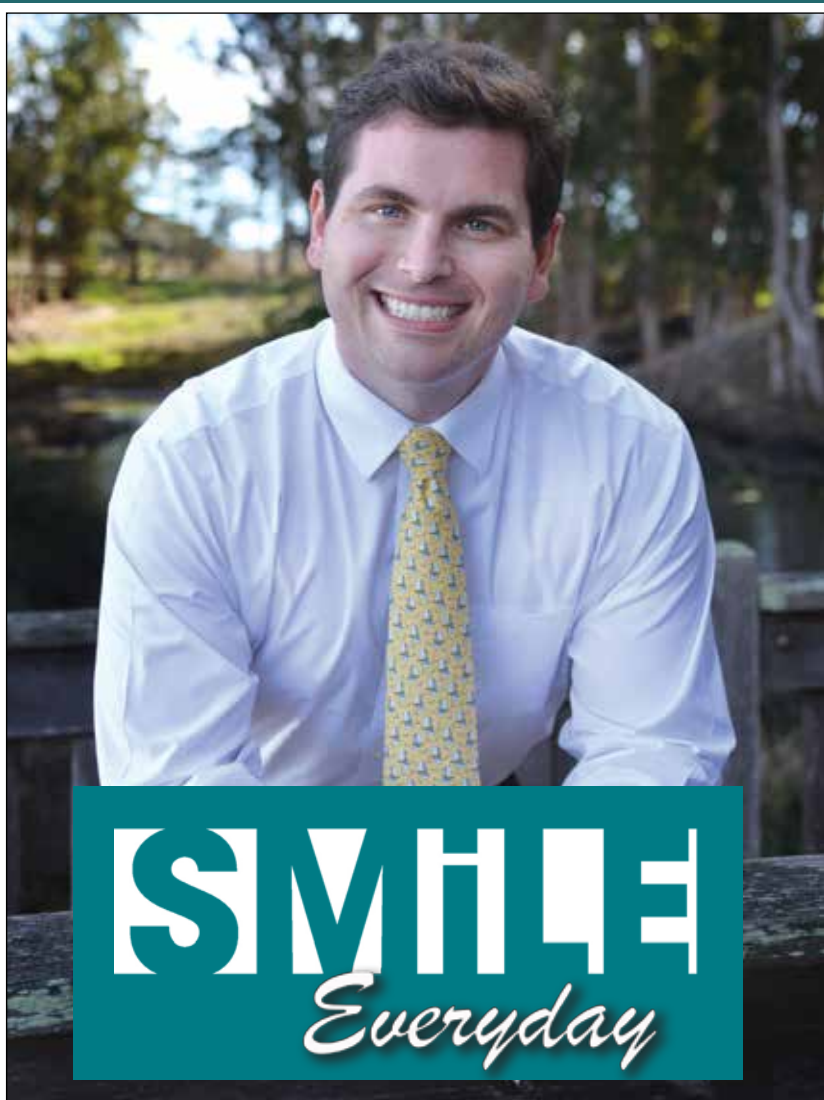
tion programs before going on to work as a specialist within the co-occurring treatment programs. He was named as a Program Supervisor for the Prevention and Outreach Division in 2014," the news release said.

Peters has helped develop treatment programs and train staff "to serve those facing co-occurring disorders, including transitional age youth and Veterans," the release said. "His leadership was vital during COVID-19, as he helped to switch services to telehealth platforms, ensuring no client was left behind in their treatment during the pandemic."

Anne Robin, County Behavioral Health Director, said,

"We are very pleased and excited that Josh will be joining the Division Manager Team, supporting our Adult Mental Health Division. Josh's training, experience, and knowledge of the county will enable us to grow and achieve new mental health initiatives. His extensive experience with leading co-occurring treatment, outreach services, and coordination with community partners will provide our department with the needed tools to serve SLO County adults experiencing serious mental illness."

Peters said he's grateful for the opportunity and promotion. "I look forward to supporting our department's front line mental health staff; they do great work," he said.



Services

Crowns & Bridges
Implant Crowns
Implant & Conventional Dentures
Laser Therapy
Invisalign®
Extractions
Periodontal Surgery

805 528 4144

– Sam Wolfe DDS –

2238 Bayview Hts. Dr. Ste N

www.lososfamilydds.com • dentist@lofdds.com

Ford Holding Meet & Greet May 7

Morro Bay City Councilwoman Jen Ford will hold an election event this Saturday in North Morro Bay, and meet with voters as she seeks election to retain her council seat.

Ford, the appointed incumbent, is holding a “meet & greet” with voters from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 7 at Foghorn Brewery, 2940 Main St.

Ford and her husband Travis own a local media company, Rock Harbor Marketing, and she is a community volunteer, women’s rights activist, wife of 22 years, and mother of two young women, according to a news release her campaign put out. “She has participated in her community as a past educator,” reads the news release, “Morro Bay City Planning Commissioner, and PTA President.”

Involved in the online communications world, Ford “enjoys troubleshooting, planning, bringing people together, and lending a hand when there’s a need,” her bio reads.

Ford is being challenged by retired trucker and political newcomer, James Costanzo, to serve out the remaining time on the term of the late Councilman, Robert Davis, who died in July 2021, after being re-elected to a second term at the November 2020 General Election. Whoever wins in the June Primary Special Election race, will serve in the seat until November 2024, when Davis’ term would naturally conclude.

The Ford Family moved to Morro Bay in 2011 and Jen Ford jumped right in being involved with the community.

The news release said, “she became active in improving the street conditions in North Morro Bay, asking for updates to the Pavement Management Plan. She also became involved with the Del Mar Elementary School PTA as their president, working closely with school administration and families to familiarize herself with their needs.”

In Morro Bay, Ford has been “advocating for children, improved city infrastructure, women’s rights, environmental impact, and various issues have connected her to local, County, and Congressional Elected officials.”

“One example was sitting at the table with Congressman Salud Carbajal to discuss women’s issues in our County, bringing him to Morro Bay to speak with the entire community in a Town Hall on broader issues. Talking to our representatives at all levels of government is something she is willing to do because problems that arise often call for help beyond our City limits.”

She was the first woman in her family to have a college education, the release said, and she is also the first to hold a public office. “I have been encouraging and supporting other women to run for years,” Ford said, “and it is time that I lead by example. Women belong at the table where decisions are being made.”

She was also a co-founding member of Women’s March SLO in 2016.

Ford, “believes the City’s progress has been exciting to watch over the past decade she’s lived in Morro Bay and is running to help keep this vital momentum moving Morro Bay forward while bringing her unique perspective to the dais.”

And, “As a mother of two young women, the owner of a small business employing local talent, and a person who rents her home, Jen’s point of view compliments the other members of our Council. Diversity is key to promoting equal representation.”

For more information about Jen Ford, see her campaign website at: jenford.org; email her at: jen@jenford.org; or call (805) 225-3257.



Jen Ford

County Boosts Tele-Psychiatry Services

San Luis Obispo County has signed a contract with a telehealth group for phone-in psychiatric services in its further attempts at dealing with mental health issues and a lack of staffing.

Back in March, County Supervisors approved a 16-month contract with Thomas Milam MD, Inc. (dba Iris Telehealth Medical Group), part of a total of \$2.04 million allocated by the County, according to a report from the County Health Agency.

The contract covers the time period from March-June 2022 and all of the 2022-2023 fiscal year. The contract also has a 1-year option that would extend it through the end of 2023-2024, at the discretion of the Health Agency Director.

The report said Telehealth Medical would provide, “telepsychiatry via the use of licensed psychiatrists and psychiatric/mental health nurse practitioners. Iris Telehealth operates similarly to locum tenens staffing agencies, utilizing a nationwide pool of participating psychiatrists, psychiatric/mental health nurse practitioners, and specialized licensed therapists, but in a virtual setting to provide telehealth to their clients’ consumers.”

The company will step in when the County can’t. “The use of telepsychiatry will help assure proper mandated coverage and medical supervision at multiple clinic sites when permanent staff or contracted staff are not available,” the report said.

The Health Department explained that there is a

shortage nationwide of “psychiatrists, psychiatric/mental health nurse practitioners, and specialized licensed therapists. A number of demographic and other factors continue to make this shortage especially prevalent in San Luis Obispo County where demands for services exceed available resources. Recruitment and retention of this limited pool of licensed medical staff is impacted by competition from Atascadero State Hospital [ASH and California Men’s Colony [CMC].”

Because the State’s pay and benefits exceed the County’s, they are losing potential new hires to the State facilities. “Behavioral Health,” the County said, “currently has 1.25 full-time equivalent [FTE] Staff Psychiatrists [0.75 FTE and 0.50 part time] working for the County. With a shortage of psychiatrists, wait times increase for clients to receive assessments and medication support. The contract with Iris Telehealth will help to fill the gaps for mandated coverage throughout the clinics and help ensure the provision of timely client care.”

The company is one of several the County has under contracts approved last August by Supervisors. Those were with: Ascend Medical Staffing LLC; DrWanted.com LLC; CA Locums, PC; ExMed, Inc.; PE Healthcare Staffing; Medical Doctors Associates, LLC, DBA Cross County Locums; and Jackson & Coker Locum Tenens, LLC. Iris Telehealth Medical Group was added to that list.

Why so many contracts? “It is important to maintain a wide pool of agencies,” the County report said, “to assure that when the Health Agency has a need for a psychiatrist, psychiatric/mental health nurse practitioner, or specialized licensed therapist, the appropriate one can be placed in a timely manner.” It will also allow the County to pick and choose docs with certain specialties for different clients.

The contract pays for 8,635 hours of “psychiatric professional placement services (approximately 4.20 FTE psychiatrists) at a total budgeted cost of \$2,040,420 for the pooled providers.”

The contracts apparently are open ended. “The contracts for these types of contractors have no limit,” the County said, “as they are only paid for actual services rendered as needed by the County, which varies based on other staffing vacancies. Psychiatrists will provide services to clients within the Mental Health, Drug & Alcohol, and Justice Services divisions of Behavioral Health.”

The \$2 million comes out of a trio of sources — Medi-Cal Revenues for 2021-22 at \$1.2M; some \$482,000 is out of “Realignment Revenue;” and \$339,000 is coming out of County funds.

Psychiatric services are an integral part of the County’s mental health efforts. “Psychiatrists, psychiatric/mental health nurse practitioners and specialized licensed therapists provide psychiatric assessments and medication support services to clients who are severely and persistently mentally ill or seriously emotionally disturbed. Psychiatric professionals are required to review and approve clinical documentation in order to be compliant with availability and accessibility State mandates.”

Vision. Leadership. Service.

This election, you decide how we determine our community’s future:

“County government needs to deliver results. That requires fact-based policies and services that address real people’s real needs. And that requires expertise and commitment so that we can build a better future.” – Bruce

Gibson
SUPERVISOR

www.brucegibsonforsupervisor.com

News

Body Identified as Wasco Man

The County Coroner's Office has identified the man found dead by the side of the road in rural Paso Robles.

The Sheriff's Department reported finding a man's body April 17 near Hwy 46 and Estrella Road in the Whitley Gardens area east of Paso Robles. Detectives and deputies immediately began an investigation that led to the discovery of an abandoned car about 5 miles away believed to be connected to the man's body, according to Sheriff's spokesman Tony Cipolla. He added that the death did not appear suspicious.

A few days later they identified the body as that of Adrian Reyna, 47 of Wasco, Calif., a small Kern County farming town northwest of Bakersfield and due east of Paso Robles.

An autopsy was to be done on Reyna to determine why he died, but the Sheriff's Department reiterated that no foul play was suspected.

The Cayucos Sanitary District finished another phase of its new sewer treatment plant, shining further light on the district's project.

The CSD recently flipped the switch on a 1-megawatt solar power plant adjacent to its new wastewater treatment plant on Toro Creek Road, fixing the plant's energy costs for the next quarter century.

CSD General Manager Rick Koon told Estero Bay News the plant was installed by REC Solar, a division of Dune Energy. "We have a

Cayucos Plant Goes Solar



Photos courtesy Cayucos Sanitary District

25-year, 'Power Purchase Agreement,' in which they provide us power at 8.2 cents a kilowatt hour and they can feed into the grid the excess," Koon said.

The plant cost over \$2 million, and Koon said REC Solar paid for it to be installed on land owned by the District.

The plant uses fixed solar panels, which means they don't track the sun as it moves across the sky.

The solar farm started up about 7 months after the CSD stopped sending its flows to the treatment plant on Atascadero Road, which it jointly owns with the City of Morro Bay.

The CSD officially switched over to its system at noon on Sept. 14, 2021, according to the agency's website.

If readers are curious about Cayucos' "Water Resource Recovery Facility" the CSD posted a pretty cool flyover video of the plant and solar farm on YouTube, see: www.youtube.com/watch?v=kLYfAEM7wuM.

JEN

FORD

MORRO BAY CITY COUNCIL

Building Our Future Together

JENFORD.ORG

Paid For By Jen Ford For Morro Bay City Council 2022 - FPCC # 1444164

VOTE JUNE 7 OR BEFORE

G

GELLERMAN CONSTRUCTION

Phone (805) 439-4950

Fax (805) 439-4955

gcbuilt@yahoo.com

License #832059

Since 1971

HOFBRAU

Hand Carved Roast Beef

It just doesn't get any better than this!

Celebrating In Business

50 YEARS

1971 - 2021

805-772-2411

901 Embarcadero, Morro Bay

Open 7 days a week.

Police Blotter



• **April 24:** Police stopped a suspicious vehicle at 9:36 p.m. in the 300 block of Surf. The driver, 27, was nicked for suspicion of driving stoned and warrants. His passenger, 29, had warrants too but was cited and released.

• **April 24:** A citizen in the 700 block of Quintana reported their license plate was stolen, proving once again that people will steal anything.

• **April 24:** A woman on Napa wanted police to document “marks on her child’s back.”

• **April 24:** Police responded at 11:30 a.m. to a non-injury car crash at Kennedy Way and Quintana. No juicy details were available.

• **April 24:** Police responded to a disturbance at 1:36 a.m. at Legend’s Tavern, in the 800 block of Main. A 59-year-old apparent rabble-rouser was pinched for suspicion of being puckered.

• **April 23:** Police responded at 12:37 a.m. to a disturbance at The Buoy Bar in the 800 block of Quintana. A 34-year-old fellow was arrested for suspicion of being high on drugs and possession of paraphernalia, his stash no doubt already spent.

• **April 22:** Police stopped a suspicious vehicle at 10:45 p.m. in the 800 block of Piney Way. Logs indicated the woman driver, 26, was nicked for suspicion of driving spun. She was booked and turned over to a sober friend.

• **April 22:** The scofflaw round-up continued with one bail jumper, 21, caught at 2:52 p.m. at Albertson’s and another model citizen, 62, caught at 3:36 p.m. at Main and Atascadero Road. A third squirrel, 53, was caught at 12:42 p.m. in the 800 block of Embarcadero. And the one that started this race to the bottom was nicked at 3:45 a.m. in the 700 block of Morro Bay Blvd. All were cited and released.

• **April 22:** Police contacted a suspicious fellow at 3 a.m. in the 500 block of Quintana. The hoot owl, 37, was arrested for suspicion of possessing drugs.

• **April 22:** Police contacted a suspicious dude at 1:44 a.m. at Kern and Pacific. The apparent odd duck, 40, was allegedly quacked on drugs and in possession of methamphetamine and paraphernalia.

• **April 21:** Police responded to Motel 6 where they took a report that a known guest, 37, had trashed Room 112. A report was taken for the lawsuit to come.

• **April 20:** Police stopped a suspicious vehicle at 11:55 p.m. on Hwy 1 at South Bay. A 36-year-old fellow was nicked for suspicion of driving poo-pooed.

• **April 20:** Police contacted a suspicious man at 2:39 p.m. in the 300 block of Quintana Pl. Logs indicated the little squit, 49, was cited for suspicion of possessing drugs and paraphernalia.

• **April 19:** Police responded at 6 p.m. to a disturbance at Motel 6 in the 200 block of Atascadero Rd. A 39-year-old apparently crankypated fellow was hauled to the gaol for suspicion of being lacquered in public.

• **April 19:** A man reported that his old passport and current visitor visa were lost sometime over the past week.

• **April 19:** A citizen in the 500 block of Monterey was no doubt shocked that someone stole his electric bike.

• **April 18:** A citizen told police that while he and his family were hiking Cerro Cabrillo some unknown, dastardly, litterbug dumped a bunch of junk next to his car.

• **April 18:** Another catalytic converter was stolen off a car in the 500 block of Dawson, as the crime wave continues.

• **April 17:** Police stopped a suspicious vehicle at 10 p.m. at Elena and Main. Logs indicated a 37-year-old chick was nicked for suspicion of driving thick.

• **April 17:** Police responded at 7 p.m. to a disturbance near the stationhouse in the 800 block of Morro Bay Blvd. A 37-year-old skunk was hauled away for suspicion of being stinky in public. It was his third run-in with the law that week, as at 7:25 p.m. April 14 he was picked up at Clar-

abelle and Norwich for the same crime against sobriety. Disagreeable chap was also picked up at 7:36 a.m. on April 13 in the 100 block of Azure St., after police responded to a report of a loud argument.

• **April 17:** Police hauled away a Chevy Astro Van parked too long at Market and Dunes.

• **April 17:** Police contacted a 55-year-old woman in the 300 block of Embarcadero who had multiple bench warrants. She was issued another forget-me-not citation and will no doubt forget about that one too.

• **April 17:** A citizen in the 700 block of Quintana reported their license plate was gone and must have been stolen, because they don’t just fall off on their own.

• **April 17:** Police stopped a suspicious vehicle at 1:55 a.m., when you truly don’t want to be out in this town, somewhere on Hwy 1 North. The 20-year-old driver was arrested for suspicion of driving stupid.

• **April 16:** Police contacted a regular customer at 7:54 p.m. in the 900 block of Allesandro. The 37-year-old scofflaw had three bench warrants and was issued a fourth disappearance ticket and unleashed.

• **April 15:** Police noted writing a 72-hour move-it or lose-it ticket at 4:20 p.m. April 12 for a trailer left in the 2800 block of Birch. At 9:21 p.m. on April 15 they returned and removed that blight on humanity.

• **April 15:** Police responded to a home in the 200 block of Bradley where a distraught citizen said some unknown scoundrel sprayed a chemical on his or her large hedge in the backyard, and killed the poor defenseless plant. Police have no leads as to who the herbicidal maniac might be.

• **April 15:** A woman told police that she parked her car in the 100 block of Dana Way overnight and some anarchist vandal keyed it.

• **April 15:** A fellow in the 2800 block of Hemlock told police that some sneaky thief stole the catalytic converter off his 2004 Honda Element while it was parked on the street in front of his house.

• **April 15:** Police responded to Anchor and Napa where they collected some narcotics to destroy.

• **April 14:** Police responded at 10:47 p.m. to a disturbance in the 500 block of Monterey. Logs indicated it was a father-son argument. No word on the nature of the boggle.

• **April 14:** Police arrested a 51-year-old annoying flesh monkey with a felony warrant at 9:42 p.m. at Albertson’s Market.

• **April 14:** Police responded to a disturbance at 8 p.m. to City Park on Harbor Street. A 51-year-old twisted fellow was nicked for suspicion of being smacked on drugs, possession of drugs and paraphernalia.

• **April 14:** Police reported that a missing juvenile, who is a habitual runaway, according to logs, had been located and brought to the police station.

• **April 13:** Police contacted a suspicious fellow at 11 p.m. in the 400 block of Quintana. Logs indicated a 36-year-

old master criminal was cited for suspicion of possessing a kidnapped shopping cart.

• **April 13:** Police contacted a suspicious woman at 6:30 p.m. on Main near the Hwy 1 off ramp. The 58-year-old bail skipper was arrested on three bench warrants, as that was apparently the last straw.

• **April 13:** A citizen reported the front license plate missing from his or her vehicle. A task force was not immediately formed.

• **April 13:** A citizen in the 2300 block of Nutmeg reported that some scalawag broke into his car parked in the garage and stole his binoculars and other undisclosed treasures.

• **April 13:** A citizen in the 500 block of Dawson reported a broken window.

• **April 12:** Police responded at 8:16 p.m. to City Park for yet another disturbance. A 61-year-old apparent disciple of Bacchus was nicked for suspicion of public revelry.

• **April 12:** Yet another catalytic converter was stolen off a car in the 2400 block of Juniper.

• **April 11:** Police responded to a disturbance at 5:55 p.m. on Reno Court. Logs indicated a woman said there was a dispute with her neighbor “which resulted in a battery and vandalism.” Of course neither party wanted to press charges.

• **April 11:** Police responded at 11:46 p.m. to a disturbance in the 600 block of Quintana. A 36-year-old reprobationer was cited and released for violating probation.

• **April 11:** Police contacted a suspicious woman at 8:30 p.m. in City Park. The 33-year-old apparent miscreant was taken to County Jail for warrants.

• **April 11:** Police contacted yet another repeat customer, 35, at 8 p.m. at Piney Way and Harbor. He too had warrants, but was cited and released, as the wheels on the bus go round and round, round and round...

• **April 11:** Someone in the 800 block of Shasta said a campaign sign was vandalized, a hangin’ offense in these parts.



Repairs

DONE RIGHT.

Reliable On-Site or In-Shop Repair Service For:

- Computers
- Tablets
- Phones
- Amplifiers
- Printers
- Small Appliances
- Household Electronics
- Televisions
- Vacuums
- Sewing Machines
- Vintage Electronics and more!

Call Now!

(805)-806-0165

experience

All Broker Dream Team

counts. | CAYUCOS.COM

DALE KAISER TEAM

805-995-2900

YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE EXPERTS FOR OVER 35 YEARS

Scenic Setting for this finely crafted contemporary residence nestled in a favored Heights area. Views of Morro Rock, harbor entrance, Bay, and coast up to Cayucos and beyond highlight the upper level. The lower level features 2 bedrooms, full bath, well-appointed laundry area, and an oversized two-car garage with extra high ceilings. A storage area under the stairway is a handy bonus. An impressive upper great room offers dynamic coastal views through windows including a perfectly positioned mitered glass unit. There’s a stately fireplace with tile trim and spacious mantle accented by volume ceilings. The open concept kitchen features natural light, eat at counter and pantry. Generous cabinet space and quality appliances add appeal. A powder room is nearby. The master suite is spacious and offers more coastal views. Master bath has separate shower and large soaking tub. At the rear of the parcel, a detached vintage studio offers a variety of options including efficiency rental, remote workspace, storage area, hobby shop or music room. This prime location is just 800 ft from the Morro Bay Golf Course and State Park trails that wind through the trees to overlook Morro Bay and surrounding hills. Seeking fine location, quality design and versatile options? Call your REALTOR® today!

Priced at \$1,395,000

DALE KAISER REAL ESTATE

DRE 01297036

Gang Members Sentenced in 2019 Murder



From left to right: Gang members, Robert Joseph Garay; Gabriel Luis Garay; and Nathaniel Alexander Jara have been sentenced to state prison for their involvement in the 2019 murder of an Arroyo Grande man, the District Attorney's Office said in a news release.

Three South County gang members have been sentenced to long terms in state prison for their involvement in the 2019 murder of an Arroyo Grande man, the District Attorney's Office said last week.

D.A. Dan Dow announced that the three men — Robert Joseph Garay, 30; Gabriel Luis Garay, 23; and Nathaniel Alexander Jara, 24 — had each pled guilty to varying parts in the April 2, 2019 murder of Daniel Fuentes, 41 of Arroyo Grande. The men had pled guilty to the charges they faced in February and were sentenced April 22.

Robert Garay was given 30-years to life in prison after pleading to second-degree murder, and “for active participation in a criminal street gang,” the news release said. “He also admitted that he was previously convicted of the crime of assault with a deadly weapon in 2010, which is a ‘strike under California’s Three Strikes sentencing law.’”

His younger brother, Gabriel Garay, was convicted of voluntary manslaughter and active participation in a

criminal street gang, the D.A. said. He too had a previous felony crime conviction of assault by force likely to cause great bodily injury in 2015, the announcement said. That crime was also a strike under State Law. Gabriel Garay was sentenced to 13-years and 4-months in state prison.

Java was also convicted of voluntary manslaughter and being in a criminal gang and he too had a prior conviction. Java “admitted that he was previously convicted of the crime of possession for sale of a controlled substance for the benefit of a criminal street gang in 2018,” the D.A. said, “which is also a strike under California’s Three Strike Law.” Java also received 13-years and 4 months in state prison.

The crime seems to have been a totally senseless act. At the trio’s evidentiary hearing held last February before Superior Court Judge Jacquelyn H. Duffy, it was revealed that the three were riding in the same car driven by Java, “when they came upon Daniel Fuentes who was riding his

bicycle. When all three defendants got out of their vehicle, Robert Garay fired a handgun at Mr. Fuentes, striking him twice in the back, killing Daniel Fuentes,” the news release said.

D.A Dow said, “The People of San Luis Obispo County and all of California deserve full enforcement of our laws to hold violent criminals fully accountable and to keep our communities as safe as possible. That means, in San Luis Obispo County we do not decline to file criminal enhancements when the evidence supports them like some other California elected prosecutors.”

He applauded the tough sentences. “This prosecution and appropriately strong prison sentences send a resounding message that San Luis Obispo County will fully enforce the law to protect our community.”

The case was investigated by the County Sheriff’s Office and the District Attorney’s Office Bureau of Investigations and was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorneys Lindsey Bittner and Danielle Baker.

HIGHEST RATES IN YEARS! LOCK IN NOW.


Get guaranteed rates»

3.70%


APY - 5 year annuity

Rates valid as of 5/1/2022

For details, call Paul Irving:

Bayside Life

(805) 441-3344
baysidelife.com
paul@baysidelife.com
CA Lic. 0D05840



nhc
NATURAL HEALING CENTER

SLO COUNTY'S PREMIERE CANNABIS DISPENSARY

EVERYDAY IS 420 AT NHC!

Receive a discount on your final purchase during these special hours daily!

15% OFF

EARLY BIRD

7:10 AM - 8:10 AM

HAPPY HOUR

3:20 PM - 4:20 PM

NIGHT OWL


7:10 PM - 8:10 PM

NEW VAPE DEALS

BOGO \$7.10, \$2, or 15% OFF

On selected brands. Scan the QR code to view deal details!

5/1 - 5/16






Order online now!

FREE DELIVERY FROM GROVER BEACH \$50+ PURCHASE

Credit cards \$100+ purchase Grover Beach only



EXPERT 1-ON-1 SERVICE

CBD & MEDICALLY FOCUSED PRODUCTS

SENIOR & VETERAN DISCOUNTS

Shop in-store & online for express pickup and delivery!

GROVER BEACH
998 Huston St.
(805) 201-1498


MORRO BAY
495 Morro Bay Blvd.
NHCDISPENSARIES.COM

LEMOORE
338 West D St.
OPEN DAILY 7AM-9PM

Grover Beach License #: C10-0000388-LIC

Morro Bay License #: C10-0000797-LIC

Lemoore License #: C10-0000734-LIC

SAN LUIS SOILS & SOD FARM

805-528-SOIL (7645)

SOD • Rock • Bark • Planter Mix
Borders • DG • Base • Rock

FREE Delivery with most orders

Since 1981 and Still Farming

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



Vietnam Veteran



Over 40 years serving the Central Coast!

PETER STARLINGS
BROKER/OWNER
805.235.8424
peterstarlings@yahoo.com
BRE# 00692586



May 5, 2022 - May 18, 2022 • The Estero Bay News • Your Community, Your News 9

Takin' Care
of **BUSINESS**

By Theresa-Marie Wilson

Get Involved with
Cayucos Land
Conservancy



Tom Edell spots a shore bird during a Cayucos Land Conservancy walk.

A local conservation group is holding a membership mixer to drum up volunteer support for its many efforts. The Cayucos Land Conservancy is holding the mixer from 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 17 at a private home. The mixer is by invitation and if readers are interested in attending and possibly joining the CLC, email to: Hello@CayucosLandConservancy.org to sign up and receive information on the location.

The mixer will be indoors, and want attendees to be “fully vaccinated prior to attending in order to be compliant with COVID guidance.”

The event is a chance to learn about the Conservancy’s mission to preserve the rural greenbelt around Cayucos and the community education campaign including walks and speaker events.

Recently bird enthusiasts joined the CLC and local birder and biologist Tom Edell last month for a walk from the foggy bluffs at Villa Creek down to the beach and lagoon. Along the bluffs, walkers spotted red-winged blackbirds and a mallard perched high atop a rock. On the beach were a wide variety of shorebirds, including the western snowy plover.

Walkers also spotted a variety of ocean birds including cormorants, oystercatchers and brown pelicans. They learned to distinguish the Brandt’s cormorant from the local double-crested cormorant—the former has a curved neck in flight. Gulls and terns were also plentiful.

CLC was instrumental in preserving the Estero Bluffs

and making it a part of the State Parks Department, and in the preservation of Dog Beach, which was taken into the City of Morro Bay.

It is actively participating in efforts to preserve the former Chevron Estero Marine Terminal lands that border Cayucos and Morro Bay and stretch into the eastern hills.

CLC is an accredited all-volunteer land trust. Readers with professional skills that would benefit the organization, contact the board at cayucoslandconservancy@gmail.com.

Face Coverings Not
Required on SLO Transit

Due to a recent federal court ruling, masks are no longer required on public transportation and at transportation hubs. As a result, and in consultation with the County Public Health Department, SLO Transit will not require face masks while boarding or riding a SLO Transit bus, or while waiting at bus stops.

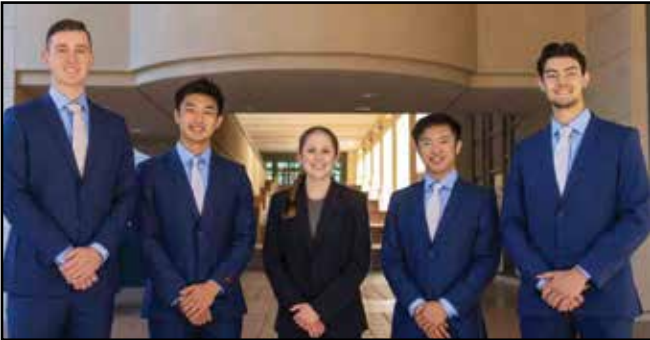
“Although SLO Transit will not require face coverings to ride on buses, we encourage our riders to continue wearing a face mask, especially if you are sick, to help support the health and wellness of our community,” said SLO Transit Manager Austin O’Dell in a news release. “We are closely monitoring federal, state and the SLO County Public Health Department’s orders and guidance and will continue to provide an affordable and healthy mode of transportation for our riders.”

SLO Transit says they remain dedicated to maintaining the health and wellness of the community and will continue to implement rigorous cleaning and sanitizing procedures for every bus in service.

Local bus riders are encouraged to contact Transit Dispatch at (805) 541-2877 along with visiting www.slotransit.org, or the SLO Transit app, for current service status prior to planning their trip.

For more information on routes and schedules, contact SLO Transit by phone at (805) 541-2877, by email at slotransit@slocity.org, or online at www.slotransit.org.

Poly Finance Team First
Global Semi-Finals
Competition



The team of five Orfalea College of Business students that represented Cal Poly in the annual Chartered Financial Analyst Institute Research Challenge global competition. From left, Dominic Juliano, Samuel Paik, Alexandra Joelson (team captain), Cameron Wong and Shingo O’Flaherty.

A detailed analysis of PayPal’s stock outlook, with a recommendation to sell, helped a team of Cal Poly finance students surpass hundreds of others recently in the Chartered Financial Analyst Institute Research Challenge.

Competing against more than 900 schools from North, Central and South America, the Cal Poly team was one of just 17 that advanced to the Americas’ semifinals held this month, having won the local and sub-regional stages. Cal Poly did not advance to the Americas finals that took place April 28.

“The competition is extremely competitive at the semifinal stage, and we may have been eliminated by a fraction of a point,” said faculty advisor Cyrus Ramezani, a finance professor in the Orfalea College of Business. “Still, this is the first time our students have reached this level, and we are proud of the work our team has completed.”

MED SYNC
The FASTEST, EASIEST
way to get your medications each month

Los Osos Rexall's
MED SYNC SERVICE
is FREE, easy, and convenient!

- Get all your medications refilled on the same date each month
- No need to order refills
- Fewer trips to the pharmacy
- No worries about running out of your medication
- Prescriptions ready on your refill date

LOS OSOS REXALL PHARMACY GIFT STORE

SPEAK TO THE PHARMACIST TODAY
to sign up for this service
IT'S FREE!

989 Los Osos Valley Road, Los Osos, CA 93402 • (805) 528-1017

James Costanzo
for Morro Bay City Council

“Vote on June 7th!”

I Voted

Just Common Sense

costanzoforcouncil2022@gmail.com

Paid for by Costanzo for Council 2022 | FPPC # 1446119

Community

The project provided the students important skills that will prepare them for their future careers, Joelson said.

The global competition included over 5,000 undergraduate and graduate students from universities in more than 91 countries. Students are tested on their analytical, valuation, report writing and presentation skills.

For the competition, the students were assigned to perform an analysis of PayPal, a San Jose-based company providing financial transaction processing services. The team spent five months compiling a report — which included information about PayPal’s business model, an industry overview, risks and more — before making a recommendation to sell PayPal stock, projecting its value would decrease by over 12 percent within a year.

SLO Repertory Gets Funding

Actors, directors, audiences and more can enjoy the outcome of funding to the county’s only non-profit regional theatre.

The San Luis Obispo City Council recently approved a \$3.9 million challenge grant agreement with San Luis Obispo Repertory Theatre to build its new live-performance theater in downtown SLO. To see a list of shows, camps and education opportunities, go to slorep.org.

In other theater news, the Performing Arts Center is celebrating its 25th anniversary. Check out upcoming shows at pacslo.org.

Are you or a neighbor Taking Care of Business? Submit your awesome local efforts for publication here. Is your business supporting our community? Maybe you’re launching a new business, or you’re making updates to your current business model, or re-opening. Or perhaps you have a job opportunity, or have been doing some volunteer work, or are collaborating with another business or a non-profit. Or maybe you know someone who is. Fill out our online form at EsteroBayNews.com.

Events and Activities

By Theresa-Marie Wilson



The Grammy Award-winning vocal ensemble Chanticleer and two Cal Poly choirs will present a concert at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 12, in Miossi Hall of the Performing Arts Center. The concert is titled “Beauty of the Day,” after Nico Muhly’s composition of the same name. The work will be performed by the combined choral groups. Chanticleer has been hailed as “the world’s reigning male chorus” by The New Yorker and is known around the world as an orchestra of voices. Founded in San Francisco in 1978 by singer and musicologist Louis Botto, the group has sold more than a million recordings and performed thousands of live concerts to audiences worldwide.

Chanticleer’s repertoire is rooted in the Renaissance but has expanded to include a wide range of classical, gospel, jazz and popular music. It has a deep commitment to the commissioning of new compositions and arrangements.

For the concert, Chanticleer will perform repertoire from its current tour, PolyPhonics will perform several short works from their recent tour, and the Chamber Choir will perform movements from Hindemith’s “Six Chansons.”

At the end of the concert, the Cal Poly choirs will join

Chanticleer for the premiere of “Beauty of the Day,” Muhly’s composition which was commissioned by Chanticleer. The piece will feature university organist Paul Woodring on the Forbes pipe organ. Tickets are \$24 and \$35 for the public, and \$15 for students. Tickets are available at the Cal Poly Ticket Office between noon and 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday. To order by phone, call 805-SLO-4TIX (805-756-4849). Event parking is sponsored by the PAC.

For more information, visit the Music Department’s calendar website, email music@calpoly.edu or call 805-756-2406.

...

Strategic planning is good for your nonprofit, and it doesn’t need to be a long, painful process. Register for Spokes’ Introduction to Strategic Planning and learn the basics with this online session, such as basic components, who should be involved, the planning process, using your plan once it’s written and more. The cost is \$35 for the general public and \$20 for Spokes members. The course is led by Michael Simkins, Ed.D. The registration link is <https://bit.ly/3xSGf58>.



Morro Coast Audubon presents the Community Program: Birds of the Amargosa River in Death Valley, CA with Moed Gerveni on May 16 at 7 p.m. The event takes place via zoom at bit.ly/3CaxW4C. The meeting ID: 257 500 2542 and the passcode is morrocoast.

Description: Often described as the “Crown Jewel of the Mojave,” the Amargosa River tributary is an oasis of life. With the second highest biodiversity rating in North America, it plays a vital role in the survival of over 100 species of special conservation concern, many of which are endemic. Over 300 bird species have been recorded in this extremely important habitat, including the endangered Least Bell’s Vireo, Western Yellow-billed Cuckoo, and Southwestern Willow Flycatcher. Local grassroots efforts once saved Amargosa from degradation and development, but now there is an uphill battle against invasive

Events Continued on page 12

Grandma's Mercantile

On Main

Welcomes
Cruisin' Morro Bay
Car Show Guests



NEW

Vintage Corner

Home Goods, Beaded Purses, Glassware

Children's Corner

Beach Toys, Duncan Yoyos, PopBeads

NEW

NEW

Special Gifts

Jewelry, Cards, Purses,
Home Decorations, Sale Items



Mother's Day SPECIALS



Make Mom her own special gift from our collection of necklaces, bracelets, earrings, and bath fragrances including a special wall art message showing how much she is appreciated.

805-225-1295
863 Main Street • Morro Bay

Relax Massage

Treat Yourself

Appointments or Walk-Ins Welcome

Relax Massage & Therapy

BODY		
30 min	\$40	
60 min	\$60	
90 min	\$90	

FOOT		
30 min	\$30	
45 min	\$40	
60 min	\$50	

COMBO		
30 min foot & 30 min body	\$60	
20 min foot & 50 min body	\$70	
30 min foot & 60 min body	\$90	

805.534.1238
Open Monday - Saturday 10 am to 9 pm
2060 9th St. Los Osos

Community

Events From page 11

plants, cowbird expansion, recreation, droughts induced by climate change, and most importantly, a sensitive topic for western communities: excessive water pumping from the nearby Pahrump and Las Vegas communities.

San Luis Obispo Repertory Theatre presents the Central Coast premiere of playwright “The Children” through May 15. The Tony-nominated drama is a one-act pressure cooker of a show that poses a difficult question: what do we owe, if anything, to the next generation? On a summer evening in an isolated seaside cottage in the East of England, a pair of retired nuclear scientists are startled by a visit from a former colleague. As some crackers and wine are trotted out, so are various old jealousies, leading to the revelation of a chilling and dangerous plan. Played out in real time, the three friends must come to terms with their shared culpability in this searing drama about responsibility and guilt, reparation and redemption. Performances are Thursdays through Saturdays at 7 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets range from \$20-\$38 and can be purchased online at storep.org or by calling (805) 786-2440. All shows take place at SLO REP, 888 Morro Street in downtown San Luis Obispo.



Join internationally renowned author, teacher and artist, Day Schildkret of Morning Altars to learn how to use nature and art as a way to mark the special moments in our lives on Saturday, May 14 from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Based on the practice conceived and popularized by Day's first book, “Morning Altars: A 7-Step Practice to Nourish Your Spirit through Nature, Art and Ritual,” this workshop guides participants through Day's unique seven-step practice and helps strengthen skills of wonder, belonging, gratitude, creativity, wholeness, and non-attachment. The first half of the workshop takes place in the gardens -- opening our eyes, our senses, and hearts while practicing the first two steps. The second half of the workshop, involves making nature altars and dedicating them to all the celebrations, losses and changes that happened this past year, using art to

tell our stories. The workshop concludes with an altar art tour, where folks go around and witness each other's hearts and art. Tickets are \$80 to \$90 and are available at slobg.org/calendar. For more information, contact Ruta at (805) 541-1400 or email ruta@slobg.org.



SLO Gallery, 1019 Broad Street, San Luis Obispo, across from SLO Museum of Art presents curated works by artists from the Central Coast Artists Collective. The display includes fine crafts, jewelry, paintings, photography, sculpture and more. The pieces are available for sale and there is no charge to visit and view them. They are open Thursday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. They can be reached at (805) 926-5050 or by email at info@slogallery.com. Check out their website at www.slogallery.com. The Central Coast Artists Collective, over 300 members strong, is an association of artist groups representing various disciplines. SLO Gallery also participates in Art After Dark, held on the first Friday of each month from 8 to 8 p.m. and sponsored by the San Luis Obispo County Arts Council. Photo by Bob Canepa



Yeeee – haaaw! Join the San Luis Obispo Rotary Club at their annual, family friendly, Spaghetti-Western Fund-raiser on Saturday, May 7 at the SLO Veteran's Hall, 801 Grand Avenue, from 5 to 8 p.m. Enjoy Cafe Roma pasta, top sirloin BBQ, wine and beer, Cal Poly country line dancing, western movies, sweet shoppe and cake walk, carnival games for the kiddos, and a silent auction including local staycations and other vacation packages, tons of local dining gift cards and wine, a fishing trip, handcrafted jewelry and arts, spa packages, photography, golf packages at several area golf courses including the San Luis Obispo Country Club, and much, more. Tickets are \$35 adults (includes entry & meal), children under 12 attend and eat for free. Tickets are available at www.slorotary.org or at the door. All proceeds benefit local student scholarships for high school and college students, as well as local non-profits. Due to COVID-19, this is their first event since March 2019 and, now more than ever, they are in need of support.



May 6-8

Fireflies

Written by **Matthew Barber** Directed by **Anita Schwaber**

A retired schoolteacher falls for a charming drifter, becoming the talk of the town in this romantic comedy.

By the Sea Productions

Tickets \$15
Friday & Saturday 7 pm
Sunday 3 pm

bytheseaproductions.org
545 Shasta Ave. Morro Bay
805-776-3287

NOTE: Photo ID & COVID vaccination proof required.



Visit The Morro Bay Maritime Museum

Thursday - Monday
10 am - 2 pm

Free Admission!



Visit our shop with unique gifts!

Your local nonprofit preserving the history of the Central Coast


1210 Embarcadero
Morro Bay, CA
805.255.5044

MorroBayMaritime.org





HAPPY Mother's Day



A TRADITION OF TRUST ON THE CENTRAL COAST

TIM COWAN
REALTOR® LIC#02021716
805.459.3818
Tim@BHGREHaven.com



Pianist and Music Professor Emeritus W. Terrence Spiller gives an all-Beethoven recital at 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 13, in the Pavilion of the Performing Arts Center.

The recital is the sixth in his survey of the complete piano sonatas of Beethoven. For this year’s program, Spiller will perform two of Beethoven’s most famous “named” sonatas: “The Tempest,” and the mammoth “Hammerklavier.”

Spiller retired from full-time teaching in March 2021, but he continues to teach applied piano in the Music Department.

Tickets are \$20 for the public and \$10 for students. Proceeds will benefit the Cal Poly Music Department Scholarship Fund. Tickets are sold at the Cal Poly Ticket Office between noon and 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday. To order by phone, call 805-SLO-4TIX (805-756-4849). Event parking is sponsored by the PAC.

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

Bike Month, Bike Week, Bike, Bike, Bike

By Theresa-Marie Wilson



The Los Osos Library supporting Bike to Work Day in 2019. The Rideshare event is now lasts a week with other activities throughout the month of May. Photo submitted

May is National Bike Month. More than a celebration of the two-wheeled conduit of fun and freedom as a child, it’s an opportunity to ditch the car and reinvent the commute to work.

Since 1956, National Bike Month offers a chance to showcase the many benefits of bicycling — and encourage more folks to giving biking a try. Locally, Rideshare, a division of the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG) started its Bike Month in 2000 and would have celebrated 20 years in 2020 but it was canceled for two years due to the pandemic.

“Bike Month is about the joy of riding a bicycle for fun, fitness, commuting and recreation, said Catalina Foster, Rideshare program coordinator and Los Osos resident.

The benefits to riders are multiple including saving money on gas, reducing your carbon footprint, increasing exercise and a chance to slow down and look around and take in your surroundings.

“Also, studies have shown that biking to work cuts your risk of cancer and heart disease almost in half,” Foster said.

Riders are not the only people encouraged to get involved, Rideshare is looking for community groups and businesses to support those who pedal to work during Bike to Work Week on May 16-20 by hosting a breakfast for commuters or holding a themed event anytime during the month.

“Bike to Work Week is in replacement of Bike to Work Day this year because so many people are working hybrid schedules,” said Foster. “We wanted businesses to be able to choose any day that week that most staff would be coming into the office.”

Commonly, a business hosts a bike breakfast (7 a.m. to 9 a.m.) or a bike happy hour (4 p.m. to 6 p.m.) and gives a small discount or giveaways to anyone who brings a helmet to the counter, or bikes in.

Rideshare has giveaways (water bottles, stickers and bike lights) for businesses looking to give out extra stuff. They are also giving \$200 mini-grants to cover some of the costs of hosting an event. That money can be used to purchase food, drinks, except alcohol, marketing material, improvements to a bike rack, and more.

Participating businesses get their name on the Bike Month calendar, which gets thousands of website views. Their business name will also be advertised across all Rideshare channels and in the Rideshare newsletter that goes out to more than 14,000 subscribers. Anyone looking for information or who has questions can email Foster at cfoster@rideshare.org.

For readers looking for some encouragement or who like a challenge, Foster said she once met a commuter that didn’t own a vehicle because he lived on a boat in the Morro Bay Harbor. He got in his dingy every morning with his bike, boated to the waterfront, then biked into SLO, and did the reverse at the end of the day. A few commuters also bike up and down the grade every day.

When all is said and done, the event, which has about 1000 participants across the county, is a fun way to engage with the people you work and play with.

“When we do surveys after the event the number one thing people love about bike month is the camaraderie and opportunity to connect to their community,” Foster said.

Bike Continued on page 14

NEED HELP AFFORDING GROCERIES?
Get the help you need with CalFresh!

With CalFresh, a family of four can get up to \$835 a month to spend on healthy groceries!*

APPLY ONLINE NOW AT GETCALFRESH.ORG
OR CALL 1-877-847-3663

CalFresh
FOOD

SLO FOOD BANK
County Partnership for Hunger Relief

When it comes to your to-do list, put your future first.

To find out how to get your financial goals on track, contact us for a complimentary review.

To Do List

1.

Los Osos

Deanna Richards, AAMS®
Financial Advisor

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

Morro Bay

Nelson Pamplona
Financial Advisor

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

Jennifer L. Redman
Financial Advisor

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

Cayucos

Alex Schams
Financial Advisor

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

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Member SIPC

LIVING TRUST

WILLS = PROBATE

Without a Trust, the courts decide who gets all your property and...WHO RAISES YOUR CHILDREN... The Government or your family

PRESERVE YOUR ASSETS!

- In-home Appointments!
- A complete Living Trust

For only \$800

Call Edward at: 805-772-2655

Since 1980

Call now for your peace of mind • ELH Trust

Lic# 095935-03

FLOORING DISCOUNT CENTER

Waterproof, Hardwood, Carpet & Vinyl Flooring

For the Quality you want and the Experience you Need.

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

Monday 9-4 • Thurs - Fri 9-5 • Saturday - 10-3


2450 Main St Suite A, Cambria, CA 93428
(805) 203-5544

Monday - Friday 10-4

www.fdcmb.com

OUT & ABOUT

WITH THE BOOKSHELF WRITERS



The BookShelf Writers consist of four Estero Bay women who have been writing & critiquing together for over five years. For more samples of their work, please visit www.thebookshelfwriters.com

Each issue, this column will feature one of the BookShelf Writers:
Debbie Black, Catherine "Kiki" Kornreich, Judy Salamacha and Susan Vasquez

The Plants Knew

By Catherine "Kiki" Kornreich



Orange and yellow marigolds dance in the small pots outside my kitchen window. I stand here, delighted that they’re still alive and thriving!

I’ve attempted to grow things for many years, but never succeeded. Seems I watered too much or too little... gave them too much sun, or not enough, and they all died after a very short life. I’m telling you: The. Plants. Knew. They saw me coming and would roll over and die.

I think it’s my attitude.

When I was young, my dad’s form of punishment (and I seemed to get in trouble a lot) was to go outside and weed. In the San Joaquin Valley. In 100-plus degrees. In rock-hard dirt. He’d kick back in his lounge chair, ankle resting atop a knee. He sat in the cool shade of the walnut tree. Cigarette pinched between his fingers. A refreshing iced tea in hand.

“Kiki, you missed one...” and he’d jab his cigarette toward a blade of grass (hmmmp). Dad didn’t believe in gloves, trowels, hand rakes. His theory was that the plants were happiest when touched by bare skin. Each time I’d end up with imbedded thorns and stickers, shredded and filthy fingernails, dry cracked skin, drenched clothes, and a sunburn.

I learned to hate yard work. Seems I never figured out that planting, watering, growing, and enjoying the fruits of your labor were even part of the equation. To me it was all punishment.

Eight years ago, I decided to move from a yardless house. My realtor knew I wanted to stay in Cayucos, but said she had a house in Morro Bay that checked all the boxes except one. And to keep my mind open.

As we pulled into the circular drive, I was in awe of the thousands of bright and happy flowers waving at me. Then I sighed and said, “Aaaah. The unchecked box. It’d all be dead in a week.” She said I could hire a gardener. “Ok, I’ll look at it.”

I was drawn to the center island, bursting with poppies, lavender, daisies, roses and other flowers that I couldn’t identify. It was mesmerizing: the different colors, textures, heights, and fragrances were delightful! Bees, butterflies and hummingbirds danced about, luring me further.

The garden was enormous, and bursting with life and joy.

I didn’t even need to go inside the house. I was in love. For eight years now, I’ve had a dedicated gardener who has kept things alive, robust and healthy. He’s planted even more trees and flowers, and installed walkways and a water-saving synthetic lawn. I added things along the way, like birdhouses, statues and whimsical art. And I basked in the glory of my garden.

Then the strangest thing happened. The local AAUW asked to include my garden in their annual Garden Tour. It flipped a switch in me.

I actually planted flowers! I moved chairs and statues around, I even weeded. And I enjoyed it! Every bit of it! A few more birdhouses completed my vision.

The yard now has “zones,” the Cowboy Cove, the Heart Haven, the Ocean Oasis and the Zen Den. All of it makes me happy. I drink coffee, meditate, reminisce, toss balls for my pooch, and simply smile at the beauty in my garden. I’m also more inspired to write, read and sketch.

Birds have moved in to some of the houses, and their music keeps me company all day. I’m getting very friendly with a bluejay I’ve named Bert.

I’m still experimenting with the amount of water my pots need, and I still have my gardener, but I have to say I’m enjoying spending time outside...gardening. Me. The one who said “never.”

As I sit here on my Zen glider, sketchbook on my lap, iced tea at my side, Bert glides in and lands on the Buddha statue next to me. I jab my pencil toward the peanut I have set on the table, cooing “Bert, you missed one.”

Bike From page 12

As for Foster, she walks the walk, or in this case, pedals the pedals, if you will, so she is aware of both the fun and the challenges involved in biking.

“I ride recreationally around Los Osos,” she said. “My husband and I love to ride our bikes to dinner, the local breweries, or just for a sunset roll. SLOCOG has a bike share at our office so I’m able to ride to any meetings I have in SLO. I almost always opt for the bike, if it’s doable and not raining. I would love to ride into SLO for work but I am pretty intimidated by Los Osos Valley Road. I had a goal in 2020 of riding in to SLO for Bike to Work Day, but when the event was canceled, I lost the motivation. Maybe this year!”

Bike to School Day, post-press time, kicked off the event and community celebrations are held throughout the month with some cool prizes up for grabs. One lucky person will win an e-bike donated by Trinity Cyclery in Grover Beach. Start now and log your biking and/or walking trips at iRideshare.org between May 1-31 and get entered to win a class 3 Serfac Edart with a 20 mph throttle or pedal assist and can go up to 28 mph.

For more information or to see the calendar of events and list of prizes for the month, go to rideshare.org/program/bike-month.

Treats, please



Yes, now!

I stopped liking this kind yesterday



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

Remember
Mother's Day May 8th

D & D

Floral Design

Order Early for Best Selection



Delivery to:
Los Osos
Morro Bay
Cayucos
Cambria
SLO



805-528-4230
1958 Los Osos Valley Rd., Los Osos
www.danddfloral.com

DUTCHMAN'S

SEAFOOD HOUSE



Happy Hour is Back!



FRESH SEAFOOD

HAPPY HOUR MON-THURS 3-5

BEAUTIFUL MORRO BAY

BEERS ON TAP

WINE LIST

FULL BAR

APPETIZERS

We follow all State Guidelines to keep you and our staff safe.

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

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

Community

Earth Day Was a Work Day



With an aim of saving the planet, Pacific Gas & Electric led a group of volunteers to celebrate Earth Day by getting a little dirt under their fingernails.

On Saturday, April 23, about 50 volunteers, including PG&E employees, their families and community volunteers, gathered at Montaña de Oro State Park in Los Osos, for a work day on the park's Bluff Trail and at the native plant garden, too.

The annual event, done in conjunction with the California State Parks Foundation, returned after a 2-year hiatus due to the Coronavirus Pandemic response, and 10 State Parks employees joined in the effort.

Pat Mullen, PG&E's Director of Local Customer Experience, said, "We at PG&E are so happy to be back here at Montaña de Oro State Park, with our employee volunteers and their families, together with many others from our local community to do this needed maintenance and preservation work in support of the California State Parks Foundation."

Mullen added, "At PG&E, we are committed to our hometowns and our Triple Bottom Line of 'People, our Planet and California's Prosperity.' We understand the effects of climate change on our environment, and we're thrilled to assist in this local repair and restoration effort, as a way of caring for our planet, for Earth Day and every day."

The company said its efforts this year are focused on climate change, "and working to reverse such impacts at state parks. At Montaña de Oro State Park, the concern is about sea level rise, which shrinks coastal wildlife habitats and causes erosion of the beautiful, scenic bluffs."

The local workday is one of a dozen different projects PG&E does on Earth Day with the State Parks Foundation. PG&E also contributed \$140,000 to support the volunteer activities, the company said.

In the photos provided by PG&E, volunteers smile while digging out invasive species of plant life along the Bluff Trail.

— Photos courtesy PG&E



Cambria Rotary Peace Picket Project



Students working on fence slats for the Cambria Rotary Peace Picket Project. Photos by Suzette Morrow

While people are often bombarded with news about violence and conflicts around the world, Cambria Rotary's Peace Builders committee saw an opportunity to promote peace right here in our community. They decided to approach the local school district to see how the students might participate in a Pickets for Peace Project.

At a recent Rotary meeting, Suzette Morrow, art teacher at both the middle and high schools in Cambria, told attendees, that upon returning to in-person classes, students were given a presentation on conflict resolution within their own friend groups and how they could lower the possibility of disagreement. The peace pickets fit in perfectly with the presentation and give the students a way to share what they learned with the community.

After the meeting, members of the Peace Committee collected the 96 pickets created by students 10-18 years old and prepared them for installation at businesses in Cambria and San Simeon.

"This is a project that we hope to grow in the coming years and expand to include additional businesses," said a Cambria Rotary spokesperson.

Readers are encouraged to take some time to get outside, walk around town and check out these works of art created by local students.



June 7, 2022



- Cars • Motorcycles • RV's
- Trucks • Trailers

Hand Car Wash
Interior Steam Cleaning
Wax/Sealant/Ceramic Coating
Polishing
Disinfectant & Protect

Get Your Mom Something Special This Mother's Day

15% OFF

Car wash & detail



Offer good through 5-30-22

805-423-0235

Call us today or Book Online • Appointments only
www.silvasdetailshop.com • 1598 Main St Morro Bay
licensed and insured



MAY SPECIAL!

2 FOR 1 ENROLLMENT
SAVE \$50 EACH*

2 for 1 enrollment offer* is based on any 2 people signing up for a 1 or 2 year membership at the same time.
Offer valid through 5/31/2022. Not valid with any other offers.



Jeff B. and Lettie H.
10-Year FitnessWorks Members

YOUR HOMETOWN GYM FOR OVER 30 YEARS

Over 40 Classes Weekly

- Pump|Combat|Spin
- Zumba|CORE|Pilates
- Yoga|HIIT|Silver Swans|
- Qi Gong|SeniorWorks



- Extensive Strength & Cardio Equipment
- Functional Training Zone
- Personal Training
- Massage Therapy
- Small Group Training

805-772-7466 | 500 QUINTANA RD., MORRO BAY | FITNESSWORKSMB.COM

Pirates Celebrate Football Championship Team

It wasn't a "ticker-tape" parade per se, but the community turned out Sunday to celebrate Morro Bay High's 2021 football championship season and hand out a little bling to go with it.

Members of the team, along with cheerleaders and coaches, paraded down the Embarcadero and up through Downtown Morro Bay to City Park where they held a ring ceremony celebrating the Pirates' CIF Central Section Championship, the CIF Regional Championship, and a second place finish in the State Championship, coming up a little short of sports nirvana, but making history all the same.

Morro Bay hadn't won a CIF Section title since the

magical 1995 season, when the Pirates steamrolled over Templeton High. It was the first time a MBHS team had won a CIF Regional Title, said former head coach Jake Goosen-Brown, and the first time any high school from SLO County has played for a State Football Championship.

Team Captains Dylan Turner, Nicky Johnson, and Christian Merrill spoke on behalf of the players thanking the coaches, school staff, family, fans and friends for the outstanding support of the team the entire season.

Coach Goose, who has since left the school for a coaching and teaching position at Notre Dame High School in Southern Calif., also expressed sincere thanks to all peo-

ple who supported the team in a myriad of ways, introducing each player and coach when they went up on stage to receive their championship rings.

The beautiful and impressive rings, were paid for by players' parents and business sponsors.

Among the other special recognition handed out, the coach acknowledged Dylan "Burner" Turner for earning All League, All-CIF and Second Team All State honors (by CalHiSports.com), the first football player at MBHS to make All State, the coach said.

Also, Turner and Merrill signed National Letters of Intent to play football in College — Turner at Cal Lutheran and Merrill at Pacific University in Oregon.

Story and Photos By Neil Farrell



Local Knowledge - Experienced - Reliable - Honest

"Experience is the teacher of all things"
Julius Caesar

Realtor Rick Johnson

40 years as a Realtor serving San Luis Obispo County
Cal Poly Alumnus

805-235-8423 • Rick@slosale.com

License #00757689

West Coast Properties • 710 Morro Bay Blvd. • Morro Bay, Ca. 93442



805-772-9540 • 787 Main St. • Morro Bay

News

Candidates Q&A From page 1

Commissioner, and sitting Councilmember, I can't help but see the lessons I've learned as building blocks to the community servant I am today.

James Costanzo

I am very fortunate to live and own a home in this beautiful City of Morro Bay. I have lived and worked for over 40 years here on the Central Coast and became a successful, independent, owner-operator doing contract work throughout California.

I have enjoyed volunteering at our schools and in the community. I have the time needed to serve on the Morro Bay City Council.

I am an independent thinker and intend to foster debate when appropriate. Through constructive debate we can come to a better understanding of issues. My only intentions when on the Council is to listen to the citizens and do what's right for the City of Morro Bay. Vote on June 7.

Estero Bay News: What do you see as the biggest challenge to Morro Bay's economic future?

J.F.: As a local small business owner, I believe the current drive to create good development regulations within our Planning Department and a healthy working relationship between our business community and our Chamber are vital in helping prepare for a better future. One of the biggest challenges is the lack of housing affordability for our workforce, and I will continue to work with City staff, organizations, and our community toward solutions.

J.C.: One of the biggest challenges is housing. Another is to have diverse businesses and not rely only on tourism. We need to ensure the economic viability of Morro Bay.

EBN: How can the City help alleviate the issue of homeless people living on our streets, parks and open space areas? Why would you support or oppose a homeless shelter being built here?

J.F.: As your Councilmember and a member of the Estero Bay Alliance of Care, I believe this issue will not be solved unless we address it regionally with an updated SLO County ten-year plan, which is currently in development. Within our City, I will continue to familiarize myself and support the current work being done to identify local, sustainable solutions.

J.C.: Homelessness is a serious problem. There are many reasons why someone has become homeless and building more shelters is not a solution it is a Band-Aid.

We have many organizations some here in Morro Bay and throughout the county. Something I think works well is outreach and to match a person's needs with the correct organizations.

This would give the individual or family a choice in what they feel comfortable with and not just force someone into a shelter. I could dive deeper into this subject and give other examples, but this is not the forum. The reader can have an idea on how I would approach the problem.

EBN: The main types of affordable housing in Morro Bay have traditionally been mobile home parks, subsidized housing, granny units and old motels converted to studio apartments. Which of these would you support more of and why?

J.F.: After living here for over ten years, I have witnessed the need for more choices in how and where

residents live. Home-sharing among our senior citizens and promoting an increase in affordable housing stock in Morro Bay are essential for our workforce and senior residents. I do not believe in one solution because the needs of our community are diverse.

J.C.: Yes, we need affordable housing. But the City of Morro Bay cannot build or subsidize, manage housing. What the City can do this have a master plan and zoning ordinances and the infrastructure in place when a developer is willing to build affordable housing.

The City can accommodate the development in a way that enhances the City. We may see some affordable housing in the near future.

EBN: What are your feelings about vacation rentals? Do you support the 250 licenses the city put into its ordinance, or should it be more or less?

J.F.: In 2020, City Council supported revising its cap on the number of homes used as non-hosted short-term vacation rentals from 250 to 175. Our City is also in the process of increasing monitoring and code enforcement. I am proud of our community for working together on the new ordinance that promotes successful, happier experiences between visitors and locals.

J.C.: I'm not a big fan of vacation rentals. I am a bigger fan of property rights. I do support the permitted rentals the city has already. Currently, I do not believe the City has any plans to make any changes to the current ordinance.

EBN: What is your position on the Vistra Battery Energy Storage System proposal that will probably come before the Council in the coming months?

J.F.: As a Councilmember, mom, and business owner, I care about our climate and the future of Morro Bay and our coastal community. Securing clean energy and solutions for substituting energy with the approaching loss from Diablo Nuclear Power Plant is essential for generations to come. Regarding Vistra's Battery Energy Storage System proposal, I'm balancing input from the community, environmental experts, and staff before making a decision.

J.C.: It is very early in the process, and we do not have the full proposal. I think it would be premature to make a judgment at this time.

EBN: Why are you happy or unhappy with Morro Bay as it stands right now?

J.F.: As a mom and business owner, I believe that our City is moving in a positive, more fiscally responsible, and climate action-oriented direction. I look forward to continuing our progress in building a future together.

J.C.: Morro Bay is a great place to enjoy the beach, live, work, visit and recreate. But we need to keep up on our infrastructure. When I am on the Council, I'll listen to the citizens about the issues that affect us in Morro Bay.

EBN: If elected, what will be your Top 3 priorities?

J.F.: Waterfront Improvement: As a Councilmember, I know that our waterfront is one of our biggest assets and economic drivers. For too long, the waterfront has been underfunded and under-cared for. It's time to change that. When elected to carry out the entire term, I will work every day to ensure our waterfront gets the resources and attention it needs.

Housing Affordability and Supply: As your Councilmember, I have the unique perspective of being a small

business owner, a current renter, and a former homeowner. Solving the housing crisis isn't just good for local people; it's also good for businesses who want to hire locally. The current housing crisis is detrimental to the health of our community. As a former Planning Commissioner and current Councilmember, I know what it takes to increase housing and aim to be committed to housing solutions that are the right fit for Morro Bay.

Climate Action Planning, Clean Energy: As your sitting Councilmember, I have seen first-hand how Morro Bay is at the front of the climate crisis. As a Coastal Community: The ocean is one of our greatest assets, but we have to be prepared for rising sea levels and changing weather patterns. I serve on the climate sub-committee because I believe we can make a difference when we work together to create solutions. I am committed to working hard to solve our biggest challenges.

J.C.: Infrastructure, work with Council members to make Morro Bay business friendly and focus on issues that affect Morro Bay.



Signs For Damn Near Everything!

**Digital Graphics • Store Fronts
Cars • Trucks • Vans**

805-772-5785
925 Main St., Morro Bay
goofygraphics925@gmail.com



Always in Perfect Taste!

805-995-3272
296 South Ocean Avenue • Cayucos, CA 93430

New On the Market




2728 Alder Ave, Morro Bay
Asking : \$759,999
Open Houses
Fri, May 6, 12:00 PM-2:00 PM
Sat, May 7, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM



SHERRY SIM
805-234-4315


Rare Street to Street Lot, 3 Beds 2 Baths, 1-Car Garage

@cayucos.realestate



**Depth Perceptions
Diving Services**

**There's nothing like
experiencing the
Ocean from
Under the waves!**



805.595.3631
12322 Los Osos Valley Road
San Luis Obispo, CA 93405
www.depthperceptions.net

Music
Schooners in Cayucos announces
Live Outside Concert Series



The fine folks at Schooners have been very busy and easily earning the title of hot-test spot for music in Cayucos. They've just announced their Live at the Lighthouse Concert Series, featuring concerts every Sunday from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., and multiple days on holiday weekends. These concerts are free and open to all ages, and they're right at the beach, so taking in a beautiful Cayucos sunset is just part of the experience. The series includes a great mix of local favorites and bands from outside the area to keep things interesting, and kicks off on May 8 with the Rachel Santa Cruz Band and continues through October. Photo: Steve Key

- Thu., May. 5 • 7:00pm
Robert Alberts Quintet
The Madonna Inn
100 Madonna Road,
San Luis Obispo
- Fri., May. 6 • 6:00pm
Cuesta Jazz Fridays!
Linnaea's Cafe
1110 Garden St,
San Luis Obispo
- Fri., May. 6 • 7:30pm
Marc Jean & the Belmont
Kings
The Siren
700 Main St, Morro Bay
- Fri., May. 6 • 8:00pm
The Mountain Goats
The Fremont Theater
1035 Monterey St,
San Luis Obispo
- Fri., May. 6 • 7:00pm
Vieux Farke Toure
SLO Brew Rock
355 Aerovista Place, San Luis
Obispo
- Sat., May. 7 • 8:00pm
Aeromymth (Aerosmith Tribute)
The Siren
700 Main St, Morro Bay
- Sat., May. 7 • 5:00pm
Easton Everett Duo
Sea Pines Golf Resort
1945 Solano St, Los Osos
- Sat., May. 7 • 8:00pm
Ron White
Vina Robles Amphitheatre
3800 Mill Road, Paso Robles
- Sat., May. 7 • 7:30pm
SLOfolks: Jason Anick Trio
Castoro Cellars Winery
1315 N Bethel Rd, Templeton
- Sun., May. 8 • 7:00pm
Bouncing Souls, Strike
Anywhere, The Last Gang
The Siren
900 Main St, Morro Bay
- Sun., May. 8 • 8:00pm
Bruce Cockburn
The Fremont Theater
1035 Monterey St,
San Luis Obispo
- Sun., May. 8 • 6:00pm
Live Outside: Rachel Santa
Cruz Band
Schooners
171 N Ocean Ave., Cayucos
- Tue., May. 10 • 8:00pm
Dave Mason
The Fremont Theater
1035 Monterey St,
San Luis Obispo
- Tue., May. 10 • 7:00pm
Songwriters at Play: Devin
Welsh
Schooners
171 N. Ocean Ave., Cayucos
- Wed., May. 11 • 7:30pm
Cuesta Wind Ensemble
Concert
Cuesta College
Highway 1, San Luis Obispo
- Wed., May. 11 • 7:00pm
Fayuca w/ Street Urchin
The Siren
900 Main St, Morro Bay
- Wed., May. 11 • 7:00pm
The Psychedelic Furs
The Fremont Theater
1035 Monterey St,
San Luis Obispo
- Thu., May. 12 • 7:30pm
The Far Side
The Fremont Theater
1035 Monterey St,
San Luis Obispo

Sunset Sessions: A
New Concert Series
in Los Osos

If you live in Los Osos, it's hard not to miss all the action at The Olde Alehouse, right downtown next to Rexall. With live music happening frequently and great food and beers on tap, it's no wonder it's become the main gathering spot in the neighborhood. New to the venue is a new series: Sunset Sessions, presented by local Bluegrass hero Miss Leo. These shows are happening every other Thursday-ish and will feature a set from Miss Leo to warm up the stage for the special guest headliner. These shows run from 6:30 - 8:30, are free, family friendly, and are expected to be quite popular, so get there early! The series kicks off on May 12 with Bar Jay Bar. Other upcoming artists include Natalie Haskins, Emily Franklin, Max MacLaury, Phillip Rogers, Joe Kaplow, and more. Check the calendar at BigBigSLO.com for details and upcoming show announcements. Photo: Miss Leo



- Thu., May. 12 • 7:00pm
Robert Alberts Quintet
The Madonna Inn
100 Madonna Road,
San Luis Obispo
- Thu., May. 12 • 6:30pm
Sunset Sessions: Miss Leo /
Bar Jay Bar
The Olde Alehouse
945 Los Osos Valley Road,
Los Osos
- Thu., May. 12 • 8:30pm
Venomous Pinks / Division 13
/ Latest Regret
Humdinger Brewing
116 W Branch St STE C,
Arroyo Grande
- Fri., May. 13 • 7:00pm
An Evening with The Church
SLO Brew Rock
855 Aerovista Place,
San Luis Obispo
- Fri., May. 13 • 6:00pm
Cuesta Jazz Fridays!
Linnaea's Cafe
1110 Garden St,
San Luis Obispo
- Fri., May. 13 • 3:00pm
Shabang!
Laguna Lake Park
504 Madonna Road,
San Luis Obispo
- Fri., May. 13 • 6:00pm
Todd Snider
Castoro Cellars Winery
1315 N Bethel Rd, Templeton
- Fri., May. 13 • 7:30pm
W. Terrence Spiller:
Beethoven
Pavilion at the Performing
Arts Center
1 Grand Ave, San Luis Obispo
- Sat., May. 14 • 7:00pm
Lauren Alaina Live
The Fremont Theater
1035 Monterey St,
San Luis Obispo
- Sat., May. 14 • 9:00am
Shabang!
Laguna Lake Park
504 Madonna Road,
San Luis Obispo
- Sat., May. 14 • 3:00pm
Stevie Nicks Illusion
Sea Pines Golf Resort
1945 Solano St, Los Osos
- Sun., May. 15 • 6:00pm
Dustin Lynch
Avila Beach Resort
6464 Ana Bay Road,
Avila Beach
- Sun., May. 15 • 6:00pm
Live Outside: Leroy
from the North
Schooners
171 N Ocean Ave., Cayucos
- Mon., May. 16 • 7:00pm
The Enterprise Blues Band
Kramer Estate Wines
825 Riverside Ave #16, Paso
Robles
- Tue., May. 17 • 7:30pm
Combopalooza!
Cuesta College
Highway 1, San Luis Obispo
- Tue., May. 17 • 8:00pm
Dennis Quaid
The Fremont Theater
1035 Monterey St,
San Luis Obispo
- Wed., May. 18 • 8:00pm
Palm Palm & Delta Spirit
The Fremont Theater
1035 Monterey St,
San Luis Obispo

Paid Advertisement

LEARN ABOUT THE FUTURE OF DIABLO CANYON.

ATTEND A PUBLIC MEETING ON SPENT FUEL STORAGE AT DIABLO CANYON POWER PLANT HOSTED BY THE DECOMMISSIONING ENGAGEMENT PANEL

May 25 from 6-9:30pm.

The Diablo Canyon Decommissioning Engagement Panel would like to invite you to its next public meeting being held virtually and at the County Government Center in San Luis Obispo May 25 from 6-9:30pm. An in-person visual display session will also be held from 5-6pm with subject matter experts available for questions.

PG&E will discuss the new system chosen to safely transfer and store on site, in the interim, all remaining spent fuel at Diablo Canyon Power Plant. Participants will also hear from the selected vendor, Orano USA. This is the second in a series of public venues where the Panel and PG&E will be discussing the new storage system.

The panel was created to foster open and transparent dialogue between members of the local community and PG&E on topics regarding the future decommissioning of Diablo Canyon Power Plant near Avila Beach, including the future use of DCPD lands and facilities.

These public meetings provide opportunities for two-way communication with community members and PG&E representatives as PG&E develops plans for decommissioning.

To find out more details about this meeting and all panel activities, visit www.pge.com/engagementpanel.

Be part of the conversation by attending the Diablo Canyon Decommissioning Engagement Panel's hybrid meeting on May 25.

Learn more about the decommissioning planning for Diablo Canyon at www.diablocanyonpanel.org or www.pge.com/diablodecommissioning.

MORRO BAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

ESTERO BAY NEWS
Your Community • Your News

present

MEET THE CANDIDATES MIXER

James Costanzo

Jennifer "Jen" Ford
(Appointed Incumbent)

Members Free Non-Members \$15
Capacity is limited, register today at www.morrochamber/events.

Monday, May 16th
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Coalesce Bookstore & Garden Wedding Chapel
845 Main St, Morro Bay, CA

FOOD & WINE PROVIDED BY

CHOWA BOWL

GRAPE LEAF
MEDITERRANEAN CUISINE
WOOD-FIRED PIZZA

KELSEY
SEE CANTON VINEYARDS

News

Volunteers Celebrate Arbor Day

Photo by Neil Farrell

Volunteers with Morro Bay in Bloom and Morro Bay Beautiful, along with City staffers, celebrated Arbor Day in Morro Bay on May 1 by planting four, Monterey Cypress trees in the parking lot at Lila Keiser Park.

The trees replaced a row of tall oleander hedges that had been growing in the lot that the City removed.

Morro Bay, which has "Tree City USA" status, has long celebrated Arbor Day annually by planting trees, but haven't for the past



couple of years during the coronavirus pandemic response. Projects include establishing a small grove of Sequoias in the back corner of Del Mar Park, and a row of trees in Lila Keiser Park planted several years ago, and which all appear to be doing very well. The Monterey Cypress is the official City Tree of Morro Bay.



BURCH CONCRETE SOLUTIONS • (805) 748-4289

Locally Owned & Operated Since 2004

- Benches
- Fire Pits
- Patios
- Sidewalks
- Stamped Concrete

- Exposed Aggregate
- Retaining Walls
- Driveways
- Foundations

State Lic# 816944

burchconcretesolutions@yahoo.com
www.burchconcretesolutions.com

FOR SALE

Prime located plots in Los Osos Memorial Park
Asking \$2,500/each -For Sale two burial plots in Sunrise Garden section (# 212, spaces C and D) of Los Osos Valley Mortuary & Memorial Park 2260 Los Osos Valley Road, Los Osos, CA. Their Website is losososvalleymortuary.com. Los Osos Valley Memorial Park offers a beautiful, serene setting surrounded by hills and overlooked by Hollister Peak. Since they are an endowment care cemetery, you can be confident that the cemetery grounds and memorial spaces will be meticulously maintained into the future. Again, priced at \$2500. per plot, at Garden of Sunrise # 212, spaces C and D. If you like this location, the memorial park office will take care of the transfer paperwork for us.

Please call Antoinette Payne for more information at **415-948-4629**

PCM PACIFIC CAPITAL MORTGAGE

805-528-5353
www.pacificcapital.biz

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

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

MORRO BAY CAR SHOW

2022 MORRO BAY CALIFORNIA EST 1997

MAY 5th thru MAY 8th 2022

THURSDAY, MAY 5th
5-8PM Evening Registration at Ocean View Garage • 936 Main Street

FRIDAY, MAY 6th
10AM-5:30PM Daytime Registration
11AM Cruise up Coast for Lunch
6-7:30PM Cruise • REGISTRANTS ONLY
*STANDING RESERVES BY 5PM

SATURDAY, MAY 7th
9AM-4PM Show & Shine Downtown
11:30 - 1:30PM BBQ
REGISTRANTS/SPONSORS ONLY
4PM Trophy Presentations

SUNDAY, MAY 8th
9AM - 1PM Show & Shine
1PM Trophy Presentations

More Information:
www.morrobaycarshow.org

2019 RECIPIENTS
ROTARY CLUB OF MORRO BAY
POLICE EXPLORERS
MORRO BAY HIGH SCHOOL
WOMENADE
NOOR CLINIC

PLATINUM LEVEL SPONSORS

GOLD LEVEL SPONSORS

SILVER LEVEL SPONSORS

POSTER PRINTED BY **HavPrintina**

You're invited to the

SATURDAY 07 MAY 2022

3:00-6:00 PM

Siete DE mayo FIESTA
(CINCO DE MAYO + 2)

Food provided by **The Singing Cocina (Kitchen)**

Enjoy at home or have a picnic on the Pinedorado Grounds

\$35 per person

CHOICE OF CARNITAS POLLO MOLE OR FRIJOLES MOLE
Comes with rice, tortillas, salsa and queso
Dessert provided by Linn's
Special requests honored happily (vegetarian, spicy, gluten free, etc.)
Beer and wine available for purchase

COST IS \$35/PERSON. FOR PARTIES OF 4 OR MORE IT IS \$30/PERSON SO MAKE IT A PARTY!

DJ PONCE WILL SING AND SERENADE US AS YOU ENJOY YOUR FOOD

Benefits structural and technical improvements at the Chamber so we can serve you better.

PICK UP LOCATION:
PINEDORADO GROUNDS

CONTACT US:
805.927.3524 OR
INFO@CAMBRINCHAMBER.ORG

Scan QR code to pay in advance or visit
https://forms.gle/yi5D1WtVwGr5BdKaA

Please reserve by **May 1st**

Rate Hike From page 1

The new proposed rates are set “to recover the cost of providing water services and to proportionately allocate the costs among the users. To derive the proportionality, the District completed a cost of services analysis in 2017. Additional analysis was conducted in 2022 to confirm revenue projections and expenses and determine the proposed water rates for the next three years. If approved, the proposed rates would become effective on July 1 of each fiscal year.” The rate hike is being spread out over three years.

LOCSD General Manager, Ron Munds, explained that the proposed rate increase is actually an old increase. The CSD approved a 3-year rate hike starting in 2017, Munds said, but never instituted the final year’s increase.

“This increase,” Munds told Estero Bay News, “is identical to where that 2019 increase would have been, but spread out over three years.”

Water service charges include both a fixed bi-monthly service charge levied regardless of water use, and Water Consumption Charges billed based on metered water use in each bi-monthly billing period, the CSD said.

Charges are billed under four inclining rate tiers “with water purchased first in Tier 1 and then subsequently in higher tiers as water use increases.”

For example, today the base water service charge is \$70 and will jump to \$73 in the first rate hike (2022-2023), and a dollar more each year topping out at \$75.

Current rates are \$6 for Tier 1 (i-5 ccf), and increasing to \$6.65 for Tier 1 users in 2024-2025, according to the CSD’s rate chart.

Tier 4 users (over 20 ccf) would go from \$11.25 per ccf to \$12.45/ccf on the high end.

“The average water use for the residential customer,” the CSD’s chart explains, “is about 11 units of water during a two-month (bi-monthly) billing cycle.”

For that average water customer, the base fee now is \$70, plus \$78.25 for a 2-month bill of \$148.25 or some 1.32%. In the final year of the hike it would go up to \$75 base charge plus \$87.05 for the volume charge for a total 2-month bill of \$162.05 — a \$13.80 increase.

Property owners, or a tenant that pays the water bill, are able to protest the rate hike under State Law. Protests must be submitted in writing before the June 2 hearing or in person at the hearing. And it won’t be enough to simply show up at the meeting and complain, nor is an email good enough.

“Only one written protest per affected property will be counted towards the majority protest,” the notice said. “If written protests are filed by a majority of the affected parcel owners and/or customers, the proposed rate increases will not be imposed.” A majority is 50-percent plus one.

To file a proper protest that gets counted:

- The protest must be submitted and received by the District at or before the end of the public hearing on Thursday, June 2, 2022. Written protests may be mailed or hand-delivered to the Los Osos Community Services District, 2122 9th St., Suite 110. E-mail and fax protests will not be valid.

- The box identifying that you are protesting the water rates must be checked;

- The written protest must contain the service address, and;

- The protest must be signed by either the account holder or the property owner of the service address.

Call the LOCSD Office at 805-528-9370 for assistance. It should be noted that while the proposed rate hike covers 3 years, you won’t get the chance to protest the second and third rate hikes, should it pass now.

The CSD is in the midst of drilling a new water well, recently going out to bids for the well being sited near the intersection of South Bay Boulevard and Bay Oaks Drive in a multi-million dollar project that will require a new water main also be installed that will run down Mountain View Drive.

Bids are due May 9 for the well-drilling contract and a separate contract will be done soon covering the new water line to being the new well into the CSD’s distribution system.

The well project is part of a greater effort by the local water companies — the LOCSD, Golden State Water, Co., and S&T Mutual along with SLO County — to better manage the groundwater basin, Los Osos’ lone source of

Consumption Charges are billed via four inclining rate tiers with water purchased first in Tier 1 and then subsequently in higher tiers as water use increases.

	2021-22 (2021-22)	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	
Base Fee	\$70.00	\$73.00	\$74.00	\$75.00	
Year 1	1-5 ccf	\$6.00	\$6.25	\$6.45	\$6.65
Year 2	6-10 ccf	\$7.75	\$8.10	\$8.40	\$8.65
Year 3	11-20 ccf	\$9.50	\$9.90	\$10.25	\$10.55
Year 4	>20 ccf	\$11.25	\$11.70	\$12.10	\$12.45

HOW WOULD THE PROPOSED RATE INCREASES IMPACT MY WATER BILL?
The average water use for the residential customer is about 11 units of water during a two-month (bi-monthly) billing cycle. The following tables summarize the impact of the rate increase on a single-family residential customer. The cumulative impact of the rate increase is \$13.80 bi-monthly (\$6.90 monthly) at the end of year 3 of the rate increases.

Year	Base Fee	Volume Charge	Total	Increase (bi-monthly)
Current	\$70	\$78.25	\$148.25	
2022-2023	\$73	\$81.45	\$154.45	\$6.20 - 4.2%
2023-2024	\$74	\$84.60	\$158.60	\$4.15 - 2.6%
2024-2025	\$75	\$87.05	\$162.05	\$3.45 - 2.1%
			Cumulative Total	\$13.80

HOW DO I PROTEST THE PROPOSED WATER RATES?
Under Proposition 218, if you are the owner of record of a parcel or parcels or a tenant directly liable for payment of the water bill, you may submit a written protest against the proposed changes to the water rates presented in this notice. Only one written protest per affected property will be counted towards the majority protest. If written protests are filed by a majority of the affected parcel owners and/or customers, the proposed rate increases will not be imposed. Although oral comments at the public hearing will not qualify as formal protests unless accompanied by a written protest, the Board of Directors welcomes input from the community during the public hearing. Additionally, a challenge to now or increased California water rates must be brought within 120 days of the effective date of the rates pursuant to Senate Bill 533.

It is important to follow these instructions for your protest to be valid:

1. The protest must be submitted and received by the District at or before the end of the public hearing on Thursday, June 2, 2022. Written protests may be mailed or hand-delivered to the Los Osos Community Services District, 2122 9th Street, Suite 110. E-mail and fax protests will not be valid.
2. The box identifying that you are protesting the water rates must be checked.
3. The written protest must contain the service address.
4. The protest must be signed by either the account holder or the property owner of the service address.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact the LOCSD at (805) 528-9370.

2

PROPOSED WATER RATE INCREASE PROTEST FORM

Name (please print): _____

Services Address (please print): _____

Date: _____

☐ I am protesting the proposed Water Rate (check the box)

Signature: _____

☐ Property Owner ☐ Account Holder

Mail: Los Osos CSD PO BOX 6054, Los Osos, CA 93402 or Deliver: 2122 9th Street Suite 110, Los Osos, 93402

Protest Form sent out by LOCSD to Los Osos residents drinking water.

The CSD and Golden State each serve roughly half the community with S&T Mutual serving the Sunset Terrace and Monarch Grove neighborhoods.

The aquifer has been in a state of overdraft — so-called Level III Severity — since the mid-1990s, before the CSD was even formed. The basin management plan, reached through a court order, is supposed to drill new wells on the eastern side of the town to slow seawater intrusion that threatens some of the existing wells, among other projects.

South Bay Boulevard Closure Ends

By Neil Farrell



South Bay Boulevard opened after being closed for four months

It took much longer than anticipated but the closure of South Bay Boulevard was slated to end last Friday, as Morro Bay’s Water Reclamation Facility Project starts to wind down.

Carollo Engineers, the project management company for the conveyance system work, announced last week that after being closed for 4 months, it would have South Bay reopened completely by the end of work on Friday, April 29.

“Access to and from Highway 1 at South Bay Boulevard,” reads an announcement from Carollo, “will be restored, and paving on South Bay Boulevard will be completed when the road is reopened.”

According to Sarah Rossetto, who is handling PR for Carollo Engineers the project manager for the pipelines, said the South Bay trenching took 13-14 weeks and they didn’t run into any snafus, as they did with previous portions of the conveyance system job.

Local Handyman

Licensed & Insured

Serving
Los Osos, Morro Bay, Cayucos & Cambria

805.235.9639

Confused about Medicare?
Call Laurie today!
Absolutely no charge...ever.

LacklandHealthPartners.com
Laurie.Lackland@Hey.com

My focus: Education, Integrity, YOU.
California License #4051815

Laurie Lackland
(805) 506-1649 TTY:711
Calling the number will direct you to a licensed agent.

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS A

CASH OUT NOW!
INCREDIBLE TIME TO SELL
Let's Talk About Your Next Move!

Call **"The Captain"** To Sell **805-500-3911**
Jay Chiasson NAVHOMES.COM **NAVIGATORS REAL ESTATE**

CalDRE# 01836276



Pictured is South Bay Boulevard as it looked on April 28. Photo courtesy Carollo Engineers

“There were not any problems,” Rossetto said, “aside from the challenging ground conditions we expected near the intersection of South Bay Boulevard and Quintana Road, which was the reason for the full road closure. Not a problem, but it did result in some slow production in that area.”

“It took about 13-14 weeks all-in. The contractor had some setbacks with weather, and they were impacted by COVID-19 around the beginning of the year.”

Coming up, Rossetto said they will be starting work on Kings Avenue in mid-May, “laying the purified water line toward the roundabout, and then they will start putting the risers in out of the micro-tunnel casing [that goes underneath the Roundabout]. We are hoping to have Las Tunas open by July.”

Giant excavators have recently also been at work behind a temporary fence adjacent to the Roundabout. Rossetto said they were digging out the pipelines, putting in risers to shore up the trench for worker safety and getting ready to connect up the pipes.

Anvil, the City’s contractor for the \$31 million pipeline portion of the project, trenched down South Bay and under Hwy 1 connecting the pipes running down Quintana Road to the WRF treatment plant, which is nearing completion on ranchland above the terminus of South Bay.

The Hwy 1 off and on ramps at South Bay have been closed since January with detours forcing motorists going from SLO to Los Osos to make the left turn off Hwy 1 at San Bernardo Creek Road.

The WRF, at some \$145 million and counting, is the largest public works project the City of Morro Bay has ever built and, “will meet state water and wastewater regulations, protect the environment, and contribute a safe and reliable water source for Morro Bay’s residents and businesses,” Carollo’s announcement said.

“Thank you to the communities of Morro Bay and Los Osos, and users of South Bay Boulevard, for demonstrating patience and cooperation during this extended road closure!” Carollo said.

Construction notices on the WRF’s progress and upcoming inconveniences are posted online at: morrobaywrf.com. Email to: wrfinfo@morrobayca.gov or call 777-MORROBAYH2O with questions about the City’s WRF Program.

Cross Country From page 1

forgotten. That is until the story was retold in a documentary film by famed filmmaker, Ken Burns, which was also Smith’s inspiration for this latest adventure.

“This adventure,” Smith told Estero Bay News, “was inspired by the Ken Burns/Dayton Duncan film, ‘Horatio’s Drive — America’s First Road Trip’ a documentary that [Smith’s wife] Cathy and I stumbled on about 6-months ago.”

“Ever since my 1976 skateboard push across America with [fellow MBHS students] Jeff French and Mike Filben, I’ve been interested in traveling across America using traditional and alternative forms of transportation. I’ve pushed across four times — 1976, 1984, 2003 and 2013 — and rode an electric skateboard across in 2018 [solo, with my wife as my support crew].

“In 1983 and 1984 I was a member of an ABC Wide World of Sports crew that filmed the Race Across America bicycle races. I’ve also driven back and forth to Iowa numerous times.”

Those Iowa trips were for research on a movie script Smith wrote, “New Providence — The End of an Era,” which was about the end of 6-on-6 girl’s basketball play in Iowa.

So with a crazy idea to back trace Nelson’s historic feet, he needed a vehicle, and another old friend came through.

Smith said his long-time skateboarding friend, Michael Bream, who Smith said owned Gravity Skateboards — one of the largest long board companies in the world before selling it in around 2015 — rose to the challenge.

Bream is founder of EV West, the leader in “transforming sweet classic cars into sweeter classic cars by converting them to run on electricity,” Smith explained.

One mention of his idea to Bream, and he was all in. “He immediately responded ‘If you want to do this, I’ll loan you any electric vehicle I own,’” Smith said.

What resulted was a cool 1964 VW Bus, powered by an electric motor to hopefully carry them across the U.S. and back, on what will be another historical-themed adventure.

Once in New York, Smith said, Adamski plans to fly home and Smith will be joined by another childhood friend, Larry Newland, and the two will return to California following as closely as possible the old Lincoln Highway, the first road to traverse the nation.

Conceived in 1912 by Indiana automobile entrepreneur Carl G. Fisher, and formally dedicated Oct. 31, 1913, the Lincoln Highway runs coast-to-coast from Times Square in New York City, west to Lincoln Park in San Francisco, originally through 13 states: New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, and California.

So they planned to embark May 4 from San Francisco’s Palace Hotel — the same starting point that Nelson had on his history-making drive.

The plan is to follow Nelson’s route as best they can because frankly, Nelson’s drive was mostly over the Oregon Trail, the pathway to the West that was first blazed by the Lewis & Clark Expedition and became the main linkage



Historic photo is of Horatio Nelson’s first automobile crossing of the U.S. in 1903.

for wagon trains of settlers from the Missouri River to the Pacific Coast all though the first half of the 19th Century.

Nelson faced one seemingly impossible obstacle to any automobile journey at the time — where to get oil, gasoline, and tires? After all, this was long before “fillin’ stations” opened in every town.

For Smith, the recreation of Nelson’s seemingly impossible feat, has it’s own modern hurdles, like finding electrical charging stations for the VW Bus, which has a range of about 180-miles to a charge. Ironically, that’s about how far Nelson’s car could go on a tank of gas.

Asked if he has the route mapped out based on available charging stations, Smith said, “Yep, especially since we will be traveling through some desolated places in the western part of the country. There are a couple of days that due to lack of dedicated charging stations, we will check into RV campgrounds with 50-amp service, to top off our batteries.

“Google Maps has a filter for EV charging stations. There are also a number of EV charging station companies that have apps to help you locate chargers.”

At 180-miles a day, how long will it take? “We’re shooting for 21 days for the Horatio’s Drive portion,” Smith said, “and about the same on our return route, the 1913 version of the Lincoln Highway.”

And of course, Nelson didn’t have any road maps, heck there were few roads period at the time, but Smith and Adamski have a plethora of maps to choose from — hard copies and the Internet.

Adding to the sense of adventure is the expense, which Smith said, after the vehicle donation they’re on their own. “For the most part we will be staying in campgrounds with the occasional hotel/motel. Campgrounds are great because of the availability of 50-amp hookups for recharging.”

Smith plans to document both legs of the trip. “We are definitely going to document the trip with video and still photography,” he told EBN, “with the hope of producing a documentary film and perhaps a book.”

The skateboard from Smith and friends’ first skateboard trek in 1976 is with the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C., as is the electric board from his 2018 trip.

“As far as the Smithsonian,” Smith said, “they are aware of our adventure, so you never know. Horatio’s 1903 Winton is on display at the Smithsonian.” Somehow an electric, ‘64 VW “hippie” bus would seem to be an interesting addition for America’s Museum.

As a side note, Smith said the Smithsonian is planning a book about its display of skateboards, and he was asked to contribute the stories of that 1976 first push across America and the 2018 high-tech trip on the e-board.

But there’s something missing. What about a dog? EBN asked if Smith planned to bring a pooch along. Bud, who traveled with Nelson and Crocker, is famous in his own right (see: www.coastalcaninemag.com/issues/summer2014/bud).

“Actually,” Smith said, “we are ...sort of. Julie Larsen, my favorite teacher that I actually never had as a teacher, at MBHS bought Mike and I a ‘stuffed’ dog to take along with us. His name is ‘Buddy.’ Julie has been very helpful in our research regarding Horatio Nelson Jackson’s drive across America in 1903.”

Nelson was wise enough to bring a mechanic along with him, but Smith and Adamski will rely on the Rust Bus crew back in San Marcos, Calif. “They should be able to talk us through any electrical or mechanical issues,” he said. “Michael [Bream] and I met through skateboard racing in the early 2000s, when he owned Gravity Skateboards.”

So why does traveling across the U.S. appeal so much to Smith? “I love traveling across America,” he said, “especially the wide open spaces. People often ask me what’s my favorite part of these adventures? My answer ever since the 1976 push, has been ‘the people we meet.’ There are a lot of good people in America.”

WE DO DRYER VENT CLEANING!



Morro Bay Appliance
805-772-2755

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

Freezers • Refrigerators • Washers • Dryers • Microwaves
Dishwashers • Ranges • Cooktops • Wall Ovens • Hoods

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



O'Connor
Pest Control
“Family Owned and Operated Since 1952”

SPECIAL

\$49 MONTHLY SERVICE

General Pest Service Only. Gophers & Rodents Not Included.
One Year Term Minimum. Homes up to 3,000 sq. ft.

Free Gopher & Rodent Estimates
Same Day Service M-F

ECO SMART PRODUCTS

805-544-1170

www.oconnorcentralcoast.com

Kevin says,
“Look
for the
ANT
on the
Door”





SLACKTYDE Beanies are part of the apparel line created by Stephanie and Dylan Bueno. Photo submitted.

pass; Joy will come if only in moments we create; I must survive for my children and myself; We will survive and thrive together for ourselves and our mother.

What they put out there in the universe on SLACKTYDE Morro Bay's website (www.slacktydebay.com) states the company's name is based on a life lesson they have experienced the hard way. It also demonstrates their family's philosophy:

"We are an apparel and brand developed by Dylan Bueno and Stephanie Bueno. Featuring the SLACKTYDE logo and specialty tie dye and bleach work. Here at SLACKTYDE we want you to remember to relax and enjoy the pause when the water is calm. Our story has been a journey of some pretty crazy tides! Some of the tough times in life are consuming and devastating and it's taken us some time to understand, heal and enjoy the slack tide. It might only last one hour but one hour of complete calm in the middle of a crazy day, reminds us we can endure whatever tide comes our way and take that moment to enjoy the right now!"

Dylan and Stephanie shared the "crazy tides" and business adventure currently bringing them joy. Stephanie said, "We're open about what has happened to us. If we can help another family's life by sharing what we've gone through, it is worth it."

Stephanie Bueno has four children, Blake, Kinser, Dylan and Dax. Team Bueno, I'll call them. They are very close and got even closer after her husband, Robert, their father, committed suicide in 2010. The boys were 12 and 10, Dylan was 5, and Dax 1. They lived in the Central Valley close to extended family, who had a Cayucos vacation home they would enjoy for getaways. Stephanie's father, her lifeline and cheerleader, lived in Santa Cruz. When the crazy tides suddenly turned and began to swallow her up, Stephanie knew her career path had changed from hairdresser to whatever it took to make life work for herself and her children.

Not long after their first family shock, Dylan was diagnosed with Hashimoto's thyroiditis, creating extreme fatigue and growth issues. At Stanford Medical, Stephanie observed, "My daughter was dying before my eyes." Over the years, they have treated and watched Dylan's disease and offered the family every kindness, but that meant years of regular trips back and forth to Stanford.

In 2015, not long after Dylan's medical emergency, Kinser was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes. Suddenly he and the family had to learn to adapt to his Juvenile Diabetes. Stephanie wondered, "How long? For life," the nurse said. Stephanie answered, "I can't take anymore." The kindly nurse said, "I will teach you how."

Next Dylan developed signs for Type 1 Diabetes. Stanford did even more tests and the family made more trips. Stanford offered a trial to offset the costs of housing during tests. They were testing an oral dose of insulin to replace diabetic injections. Normally interested in sacrificing herself to help others, Dylan knew the toll on her body would be too much. Since 2021 she joined her brother's daily management of Type 1 Diabetes.

Just as suddenly, Stephanie decided Team Bueno needed to move to the beach. Family asked why and how? She told them

she'd figure it out when she got here. Today, the boys have jobs in Morro Bay, Dax is still in elementary school, and Dylan is a high achiever both academically and with her commitment to the dance team at Morro Bay High School (MBHS).

And although they would have to weather other tragedies among close friends and family, life really was better at the beach. They learned to create momentary joyful experiences. For example, Stephanie loves her automobiles. In fact, she is a former sprint car racer well known around Central Valley racetracks. One Palo Alto adventure she created: "Dylan and I would test drive and dream of owning a Tesla."

One night in 2020 a random request by Blake triggered the idea for SLACKTYDE while they were sheltered together during the pandemic. Blake asked Dylan to tie-dye a shirt for him that would represent Morro Bay. They brainstormed and investigated the possibility of a tie-dye wearing apparel business bringing in extra money. They started throwing out names for their company and wanted the name to represent finding peace living at the coast. The concept of "slack tide" came up, but it was already a brand.

Dylan suggested a change in the spelling to SlackTyde Morro Bay. Stephanie wasn't sold on it. Dylan added, "We laugh about how Mom did the Mom-thing. The next morning, she said she had an idea. 'Let's change the spelling to SlackTyde.'" And their mother-daughter business venture began.

Dylan drafted several ideas for the logo. A Valley friend and graphic artist, Phillip Baeza, created it. Dylan credits the multi-media class at MBHS for helping her learn the photography skills needed to produce their website. It's been one learning curve after another, but they agree it has all been worth the effort. Once they found their supplier and products ready-made to order, there was instant demand for their brand.

Until recently Dylan tie-dyed the shirts. They now have enough orders, the tie-dyed shirts are ordered pre-dyed and their product line has expanded to multiple shirts of various colors, beany hats and whatever will work for them and their customers in the future.

The family is comfortable now accepting that every day can be either a challenge or can be an adventure. Their website is as fun to explore as the Bueno family's story is inspirational to learn. For example, their shirts have clever names that shout-out Shark Bite, Old Glory, and Rough Seas.

Be sure to check out the website's "Look Book" section. Products are also available at Smoobage in Morro Bay.

The Buenos enjoy giving back blessings to Morro Bay as Morro Bay has graciously blessed them with friends and supporters. They supported Project Surf Camp, an organization for children with special needs to have the opportunity to get in the ocean to surf and paddleboard. Their family volunteered during the camp and SLACKTYDE provided all the camp shirts.

Here's wishing rainbows for Team Bueno as we remember to enjoy the SLACKTYDE moments.

Morro Bay Kite Festival



Photos by Danna Dykstra-Coy

The sea took to the sky during the Morro Bay Kite Festival over the weekend. Sharks and whales were among the creatures flying in the wind on April 30 - May 1.

The event also featured team flyers, a candy drop, food trucks and more. Central Coast Funds for Children gave away 500 kites for kids to decorate and then take for a spin in the air.

The Morro Bay Kite Festival is an annual community event focused on family and the art of kite flying.

"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," the website Morrobaykitefestival.org says. "Our breathtaking surroundings and windy location is perfect for this type of gathering on the central coast."

"Our hope when attending this high flying event is that kids of all ages will not be distracted by technology for a moment and able to enjoy kite flying festivities, nature, and the ocean."

10 WAYS TO REDUCE ENERGY AND SAVE MONEY

#4

#7

SOLAR ELECTRIC + BATTERY BACKUP

Savings + security + 26% tax credit thru 2022.

See all ten at solarponics.com • (805) 466-5595

SOLARPONICS

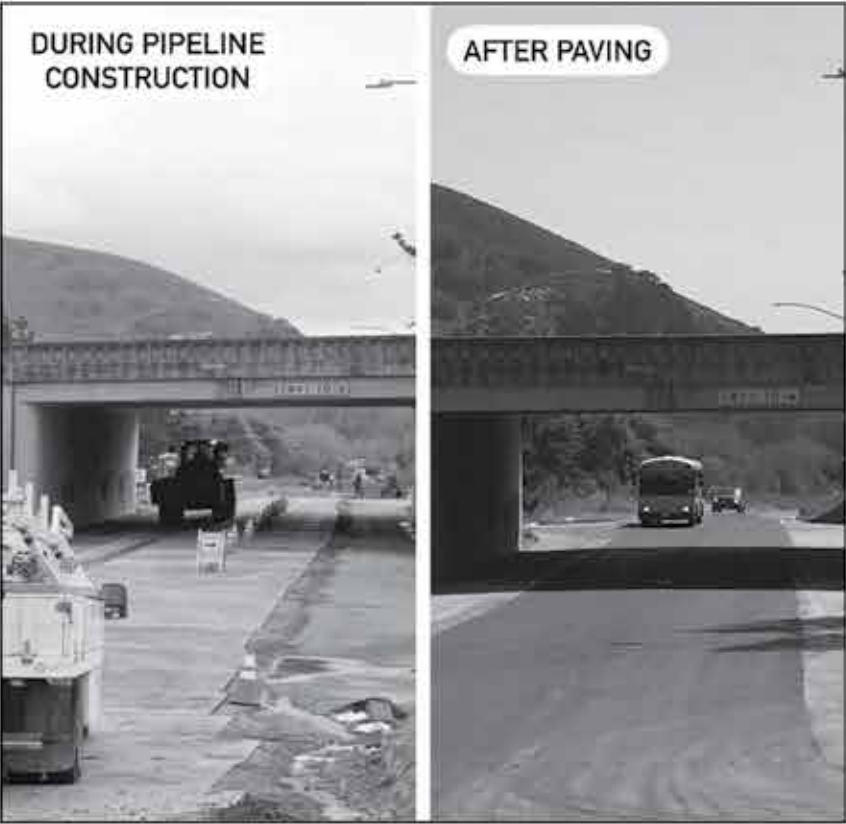
Tesla Powerwall, LG Chem, Enphase Certified Installers • CSLB# 391670 • SINCE 1975

UPDATE



UPDATE

ACCESS RESTORED ON SOUTH BAY BOULEVARD AT HIGHWAY 1



After four months of pipeline construction on South Bay Boulevard as part of the City of Morro Bay Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) Pipelines, South Bay Boulevard at Highway 1 has been reopened! The WRF Program is the largest-ever City infrastructure program, and will meet state water and wastewater regulations, protect the environment, and contribute a safe and reliable water source for Morro Bay's residents and businesses. Over the last four months, crews installed four pipelines on South Bay Boulevard to connect to the new WRF on South Bay Boulevard, critical component as construction of the WRF nears completion. Thank you to the communities of Morro Bay and Los Osos, and users of South Bay Boulevard, for demonstrating patience during this extended road closure!

Force Main Near Cloisters Area Back to Full Operation



On Monday, April 11th City Utility operators discovered evidence of a wastewater leak in a 6" force main running from a lift station in the Cloisters area under Highway 1 to Main Street. The operators isolated the leak and cleaned the area the same day the issue was discovered. They also diverted all wastewater away from the pipe and into temporary storage tanks, which stopped further leaking on the same day. Due to the quick actions of the operators, all sewage was contained and no sewage travelled to Cloisters Pond or the ocean. A big thanks to our Utilities Crew for their outstanding response!!

On Wednesday, April 27th a City contractor completed insertion of a smaller 4" High Density Poly Ethylene (HDPE) through the entire length of the force main, which has allowed the force main to go back into operation. This is a short-term fix that will prevent any further leakages until the Utilities and Engineering Divisions evaluate and implement a long-term option to replace the force main. The OneWater plan, the City's master planning document for water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure, did not prioritize this force main for replacement and showed no indication it was at risk for imminent failure. As such, the City is considering including full replacement of the force main as part of the much larger Main Street Sewer Improvements project currently being designed.

Now that the force main is back in operation, the City has directed the temporary storage tanks along the bike path to be fully emptied and removed from site. Further, the bike path that runs through the area has now been reopened. Thank you to the Morro Bay community for your patience during this challenge!

Paid advertising

Town Hall Meeting Success in L.O.

Los Osos Community Advisory Council's first Town Hall and Community Gathering was a success. "It was wonderful to see our community come out, connect, share, listen and learn," and event organizer said. "More than 16 organizations were present informing residents about valuable resources available. "Our Active Transportation Committee, which is working on getting a



multi model bike path on Los Osos Valley Road between Palisades and Monarch received a lot of support, which will help advocate the need for this safe path." Community members who attended the event held at the at the Red Barn also got a sneak peak at the Basin Man-



agement Committee's annual report about groundwater and LOCAC candidates met with their constituents. LOCAC said that they hope the Town Hall event will become an annual one as well as a stepping stone for "bringing our community together." Don't forget to vote on May 7 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Los Osos/Baywood Park Chamber of Commerce parking lot, 781 Los Osos Valley Road.




LOCAC is an elected body of 11 members that advises the County Board of Supervisors, Planning Department and Public Works on community affairs, land use, development, transportation, trees/landscape and environmental issues in Los Osos. There are four main committees, Land Use, Active Transportation and Circulation, Outreach and Trees & Landscape. LOCAC also has an ad hoc water committee that presents information about water issues. Public members are always welcome to join any committees and attend general meetings. More information can be found at www.locac.info.

Morro Bay

Upholstery

Is Your Boat Ready For Summer?



2602 Main St. Morro Bay
mbupholstery1@gmail.com
805-225-5252 • 805-538-0543 - cell



Your Central Coast California Real Estate and Property Management Since 1978!



Leon Van Beurden
DRE # 00646313

Are you tired of managing investment property? Tired of late night calls and fee negotiations with contractors? Tired of trying to find qualified renters and ensuring your investment is cared for? Bay Osos Property Management has over 30 years experience on the Central Coast and knows how to handle the unique challenges this rental market faces. With hundreds of properties already managed by Bay Osos Property Management, we know how to get things done.

Matching our knowledge with integrity

Contact us to see how we can take the work out of your investment.

805-528-1133 or bayosospropertymanagement.com



Kathy
Van Beurden
DRE# 00683117



Simon
Van Beurden
DRE# 01909180



Jennifer
Buentiempo



Jill
Stow
DRE# 01490106



Nicole
Londono
DRE# 01146064



Arrnie
Silacci

Office Space For Rent

Oak Grove Business Center

1310-1333 Van Beurden Dr. • Los Osos



*“Take your business
to the next level”*

- Most Affordable Rent
- Turn Key
- State of the art Design

Oak Grove Business Center

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

YOUR CENTRAL COAST

“REAL ESTATE AND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT” SINCE 1978!

1310 - San Luis Teachers Association

Awakening Interfaith-Spiritual Community

Los Osos Mediation

1320- Sunnyside Physical Therapy

Coir Enterprises

Coastal Homeworks

Cheri Love/Balance Point/James C. Wolf/BPI Power

A. Raymond Energies

1330 - Bay Osos Brokers/Bay Osos Property Mang.

Van Beurden Insurance Services

Free Light

ProCoating

Coastline Arts

1333 - Central Coast Central Office Intergo

Balasana Therapeutic

Bare Heart Boudior

Bay Osos/Budget Mini Storage



**New Electronic Gates
Don't Stuff It - Store It!
Park Your Car in Your Garage
One Month Rent FREE
Up to 10% Discount
Best Rates & Free Locks**



STORAGE SPECIALS

12 MONTH CONTRACTS - ONE MONTH FREE “OR” 12 MONTH PREPAY - 10% DISCOUNT

(805) 528-1133 or toll free (800) 540-0229

1330 Van Beurden Drive, Suite 101, Los Osos

www.bayososbrokers.com