

Vol #4 - Issue #20

CAMBRIA • CAYUCOS • LOS OSOS • MORRO BAY

October 20, 2022 - November 2, 2022

LOCSD Still Pursuing State Water

By Neil Farrell

The Los Osos Community Services District will continue exploring ways to bring in new drinking water sources, in an attempt to bolster what the County considers an aquifer in trouble.

The CSD board voted 4-0 Oct. 6 to send a letter to the County "expressing the District's interest in acquiring State Water," according to a staff report.

They also authorized the staff to continue negotiations to secure water, preferably Table A State Water, which is "a more assured and reliable water contract."

They allocated some \$80,000 to do environmental review work on a preliminary design the CSD put together in a "Technical Memorandum" that was competed by the Wallace Group, an engineering firm from San Luis Obispo.

That work comes on the heels of a County report in 2021 that said Los Osos' water supply was in danger. The "County Regional Water Infrastructure Resiliency Plan," as the study was called, "ranked Los Osos as one of the top five most vulnerable communities for future water supplies because of its single source, local groundwater."

Los Osos has two possible sources for more water — State Water Project and Whale Rock Reservoir. The Whale Rock Commission is a small group of agencies — CMC, Cal Poly and the City of SLO — that were the first signatories to the Whale Rock Agreement. The Army Corps of Engineers designed and built Whale Rock Reservoir for Camp San Luis.

But cracking the Whale Rock Agreement isn't likely. Also, Whale Rock water is raw water and would require building a full treatment plant under State Law.

So the alternative for Los Osos is State Water, which is somewhat ironic because in the early 1990s, the town rejected tapping into the "Coastal Branch of the State Water Project," the pipeline that brought Northern California water to the Central Coast.

The Chorro Valley Pipeline branches off the main



pipeline near the top of Cuesta Grade and runs down the Chorro Valley, perpendicular to Hwy 1. It delivers Morro Bay's 1,313 acre feet a year allocation of State Water. State Water arrives in Morro Bay fully treated and fit to drink.

What's this water supposed to do for Los Osos? "Operationally," the report said, "the conceptual plan is to use supplemental water as a strategy to help, in the short-term, balance and add long-term resiliency to the groundwater basin. With the variability of water supply available from the State Water Project from year to year, the plan is to take State Water during wet years when supplies are readily accessible. This would allow for maximum recharge of the Los Osos groundwater basin and fosters long-term recovery of the basin. During periods of reduced State Water supplies, the District would rely more on the groundwater basin."

The stated goal is to achieve "long-term resiliency of the groundwater while not be overly reliant on outside water sources."

Groundwater would remain the town's No. 1 source of drinking water, a situation that led to Los Osos' water supply coming into jeopardy.

Those efforts are spelled out in the "Basin Plan" an agreement the town's water purveyors — LOCSD, Golden State Water, SLO County and S&T Mutual — reached

State Water Continued on page 24

Moving Forward: Gari Cave Welcomes Residents to Discover Their Los Osos Community Center



By Judy Salamacha

Has anyone else noticed post-COVID "new normal" events have re-emerged full force? Indeed, the Board of Directors for the Los Osos Community Center realized it was time for an on-site manager to guide a busy schedule already calendared as well as to recommend more ideas appropriately suited for their town's event center on Palisades Road. Chaired by Matthew Fourcroy, the board selected longtime resident and retired business owner, Gari Cave. Her office hours began Monday, October 3, and she is waiting — and excited — to greet potential clients during her part-time hours of 1-3 p.m. Monday, Wednesday,

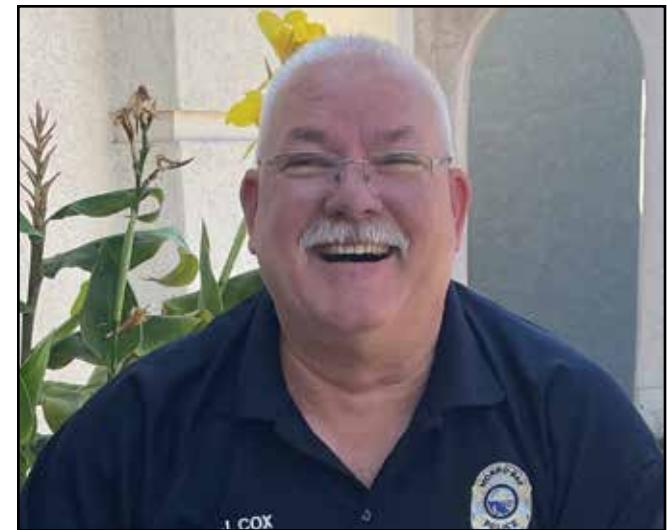


Community Center Continued on page 25



Moosh, the therapy dog, poses with Morro Rock in the background after spending time running on the beach.
Photo submitted

Police Chief to Retire Dec. 31



By Neil Farrell

The City of Morro Bay will need a new police chief to go along with a new harbor director, as a second City department head has put in retirement papers over the last three weeks.

Morro Bay Police Chief Jody Cox announced his impending retirement on Oct. 10, with his last day with the City set for Dec. 31.

Chief Cox said in a statement, "Making the decision to retire has been a very long and difficult process. After nearly 35 years of public service in the Law Enforcement profession, it is time to focus on my family and our grandkids."

"The last 10 years here in Morro Bay have been the highlight of my career, because of the people, the community, and especially my team at the P.D. and the City staff."

"I could not have imagined a better place to live and work. It has been an absolute honor and privilege to lead this department, and we have assembled an amazing team of people at the PD."

City Manager Scott Collins, who will handle finding a new police chief, said, "Jody embodies leadership. He took command of the Morro Bay Police Department at a very important time, as law enforcement was experiencing radical change as a profession. Despite all the related challenges associated with change, he found a way to strengthen ties and build trust with the community, evolve the department to meet modern policing standards, and mentor the next generation of peace officers to equip them to lead our City

Chief to Retire Continued on page 24

Furry Therapy

By Theresa-Marie Wilson

Comfort and companionship can come in many forms — sometimes it has a wet nose and tail that wags. Moosh, a 10-year-old Australian Shepherd, has been a certified therapy dog for five years. Together he and his owner, Elise Mebel, are members of the Alliance of Therapy Dogs (ATD) organization.

ATD is an international registry of therapy dogs that provides support at assisted living, mental health, hospice and rehab facilities as well as schools, nursing homes, airports and private homes. Research shows that therapy dogs help with both physical and mental health through lowered

Furry Continued on page 22

Campaign Finance Reports Won't Set Records

By Neil Farrell

Morro Bay's November City Council Election likely won't set any records for fundraising or spending, but several candidates for the mayor and two council seats have gotten some decent support for their runs at office.

Mayor John Headding is running for a third, 2-year term. His first Form 406, dated Jan. 1 to June 30, 2022, starts off with \$5,125 in his coffers. In the document cover-

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Maritime Day a Big Hit Page 20



Cambria Scarecrow Page 11

Police Blotter Page 8



News

School District Proposes \$349 Million Bond

By Neil Farrell

On Nov. 8, local voters will be asked to approve a huge school bond measure, increasing property taxes by hundreds of dollars a year to start addressing over half a billion dollars in needed improvements at elementary and middle schools.

Measure M-22, as the bond measure will appear on the ballot, was proposed by the San Luis Coastal Unified School District to begin implementing its “Facilities Master Plan,” produced by PBK Architects., Inc., and approved in March 2022 by the school board that identified \$570 million in needed capital improvements at the District’s elementary and middle schools, as well as the Pacific Beach continuation high school.

However, that amount was apparently too steep. “District Trustees,” reads a press release from the Yes on 22 campaign committee, “believe a more manageable amount

for taxpayers is a \$349 million bond, which will still deliver significant and badly needed improvements, both in terms of security, overall facility modernization, and classroom improvements.”

At \$349 million, the measure will add \$49 a year in property taxes for every \$100,000 of a property’s assessed value.

So a private property valued at \$500,000, would get \$245 a year added to property tax bills.

“Measure C-22,” the Yes on 22 committee said, “requires the approval of 55% of votes cast by registered voters in the San Luis Coastal Unified School District, which serves Avila Beach, Los Osos, Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo and Shell Beach.”

And while Cayucos students can now attend Morro Bay High, this tax increase would not apply to that town. Funding the handful of students from Cayucos who attend MBHS is handled through the Districts, with a transfer of some tax monies.

There are 11 elementary schools due for upgrades, two middle schools and Pacific Beach H.S.

According to the committee’s website, many of the District’s elementary and middle schools are more than 50-years old and even the newer schools “need significant upgrades.”

Among the needs listed are:

- A lack of “modern safety measures” including locking doors, alarm systems, playground fencing and secure windows;
- Schools have “leaky roofs, problem bathrooms, broken window blinds, damaged flooring;”
- Americans with Disabilities Act improvements “are badly needed;”
- Utility bills “are high and classrooms miserable due to aging HVAC systems and inefficient lighting; and,

Every school lacks “modern classroom technologies.”

It should be noted that the District recently erected security fencing around its schools, in an effort to beef up security in the wake of the recent school massacre in Texas.

Under the FMP’s prioritized list of needs that looks out from now to 20-years down the road, Del Mar Elementary in Morro Bay has over \$14.9 million in immediate (Priority 1) needs with an additional \$4.3 million in future Priority 2 needs (within four to seven years), and \$5.9 million in P-3 needs (in eight to 15 years) for a total of \$25.3 million.

Baywood Elementary in Los Osos shows \$29.3 million in P-1 needs, plus another \$41.4 million in P-3 needs. Baywood also has optional work plans with one at \$20.6 million and another at \$8 million. All together, Baywood needs over \$30 million in upgrades, according to the FMP.

Even Monarch Grove in Los Osos, which was built in the early 1990s, has \$7.5 million in P-1 needs; \$1.3M in P-2; and \$12.5 million in P-3; with \$22.4 million needed overall.

Los Osos Middle School lists \$51.6 million in P-1 needs; \$22.3 million in P-2; for a total of \$74.4 million. The list includes an additional \$8.8 million added needs under the P-2 schedule.

Laguna M.S. lists nearly \$100 million in needs and improvements over the four priority lists.

The closed Morro Elementary and Sunnyside schools will even need tens of millions in work, with Morro totaling \$34.3 million and Sunnyside at over \$46 million.

All told the FMP has \$253 million in P-1 needs; \$162 million in P-2; \$82.4 million in P-3; and \$72.9 million in P-4 for the overall total estimate of \$517.5 million.

Measure M-22 comes on the heels of the District’s 2014 Measure D, a \$177 million bond to upgrade SLO and Morro Bay High Schools. MBHS projects have included a new administration building, new STEAM labs, auto shop, new track, student quad, theater, landscaping and more. Measure D passed with over 70% approval.

And like Measure D, the new bond includes the establishment of “an independent citizens’ oversight committee to audit spending and ensure that all budgets and timelines are honored.”

As for the ballot, while

an argument in support of the measure will appear in Sample Ballot booklets, no arguments were submitted opposing C-22, according to the County Elections Office website.

The pro argument sites as an example that Del Mar Elementary in Morro Bay was “first built in 1960.” Pacheco Elementary in SLO was built in 1953, and Pacific Beach H.S. is one of the oldest schools in the District with some buildings built over 84-years ago.

The pro argument concludes with, “Measure C-22 upgrades and renovates old and inadequate classrooms, improves the education of local children, and maintains the quality of our community. It’s a smart investment in our kids and community. That’s something we can all support.”

If readers want more information on Measure C-22, see the Yes on 22 website at: yesonc22.com. To view the District’s Facilities Master Plan, see: yesonc22.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/SLOFMP_03-14-2022.pdf.

Parcel Tax Would Support Harbor Infrastructure

By Neil Farrell

Morro Bay voters on Nov. 8 will be asked to increase their property taxes to support City-owned harbor facilities.

Called “Measure B-22” or “Morro Bay Harbor Infrastructure Act” the item asks voters to increase their property taxes by \$120 a year, or \$10 a month, with annual increases tied to inflation. The measure applies to private property, both residential and commercial.

The measure’s authors — local residents Bill Luffee, Homer Alexander and Ron Reisner — have estimated the tax will raise some \$680,000 a year and can only be used to repair, maintain or replace City-owned facilities — like docks, piers, seawalls, the launch ramp, and the rock revetment, among other structures and facilities.

Under the Measure’s language, none of the money can be used for employee salaries or benefits, “or any other matter, other than maintenance of and improvements to City owned harbor infrastructure.”

The tax would also apply to businesses that lease City property, i.e. the waterfront lease sites, labeling them “taxable possessory interests,” according the impartial analysis done by the City Attorney Chris Neumeyer.

Under the City’s agreement with the State Lands Commission, which ultimately owns all the tidelands leases (essentially the west side of the Embarcadero plus the water areas), monies from lease payments, dockage at the T-piers and City floating docks and slips, and offshore moorings, must be kept separate from the City and used for maintaining the harbor facilities and for the Harbor Department.

The agreement does not prohibit City Hall from pitching in on the department’s budget, which this past year it finally did. Ordinarily, City Hall takes far more money away from the Harbor Fund with its cost allocation payments, than it gives.

This situation exists even though the retail and restaurant businesses on the Embarcadero, along with the handful of expensive motels collect sales and bed taxes for City Hall.

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News

The idea of taxing all private property owners in town to pay to maintain the harbor facilities is something entirely new.

The supporting argument that will appear in the Sample Ballots said, "There is more than \$10 million in deferred maintenance and repair of the City's waterfront/harbor infrastructure."

It adds, "City liability for failures of the waterfront infrastructure would be huge."

The argument is signed by Luffee as President of Friends of the MB Harbor Department; former Councilwoman Marlys McPherson; Jeremiah O'Brien, vice-president of the Commercial Fishermen's Organization; Ken Vesterfelt a past Citizen of the Year; and Dana McClish a member of the Morro Bay Yacht Club.

The measure is opposed by four local residents, who all are members of the political group, Citizens for Affordable Living or CAL. They are Linda Donnelly, Kristen Headland, Dan Sedley, and Betty Winholtz, who is also a former Councilwoman.

CAL names three "red flags" with M-22. First that language in the measure, like with the use of the word "preventative" when referring to maintenance and capital improvements, "allows the tax money to be used for the Harbor's operating budget, not just infrastructure" as the title implies.

Second red flag is the term "adjusted for inflation." CAL argues "Who defines inflation each year? The annual adjustment is not tied to the CPI [Consumer Price Index] or other defined formulas."

They claim that if the rate increase were 10% a year, the costs would start at \$120, and jump to \$132, \$145, \$159 and \$175 by year five and topping \$200 in year seven.

CAL's third red flag involves the phrase "until ended by voters." "There is no ending date as there are with some tax increases," reads CAL's argument against M-22. "Others would have to initiate a petition to get on the ballot, a measure, to eliminate this parcel tax."

After questioning who would initiate such a move to eliminate the tax, CAL concludes, "It is not likely anyone would. So this becomes a forever tax that continues to climb exponentially."

Normally with tax measures, the City would need to get two-thirds of the vote for a tax with a specified use, or a simple majority for a general tax. And while M-22 is specified to go to the Harbor Department for specific uses, because it was drafted and proposed by private citizens, under a special State Law it will need just a simple majority of votes — 50% plus one.

One other note, though M-22 applies to all private property, it is not an assessment district, so registered voters will decide it, instead of just property owners, which is how so-called Prop. 218 "protest" votes are done.

EBN readers can see the full text of Measure B-22 on the City's website at: www.morrobayca.gov. On the Home Page, click on the "Election Information" button in the menu on the left side; then scroll down to "Measure B-22" and click on the "Full Text of Measure (draft ordinance)" button.

City Changing Street Signs Again

By Neil Farrell

For the third or forth time, the City of Morro Bay is spending money to help people find their way around town.

The City started a "Way-finding" sign project" on Sept. 30 hiring a company to install the new signs throughout the community, especially along entrances to the city.

The work is expected to wrap up sometime in November and readers are advised to watch for work trucks and crews out blocking the streets. Contractor for the work that will see 40-50 new directional signs installed, is Statewide Safety Systems of Nipomo.

The \$200,000 contract is being paid for out of the City's economic development fund, according to the project manager, Pamela Newman, who is with the engineering department.

"The project," reads a news release from the City, "comes on the heels of engagement with the business community, Morro Bay Chamber of Commerce, Morro Bay Tourism, Public Works Advisory Board and the Planning Commission."

The "way-finding and parking signs help orient community members and visitors to key landmarks, facilities and parking areas throughout the City."

Those consultations, "helped inform decisions about the type of signage and locations selected. The signage project will update, replace, and add way-finding signs throughout the city mainly in business districts."

The Mayor is pretty happy. "We are excited," Mayor John Headding said, "to see this project come to fruition, to support our local business community by guiding our residents and visitors to important landmarks and parking more seamlessly."

This marks at least the fourth time the City has remade its directional signage. The original signs went in a long time ago and in the latter 1990s, the City replaced them with new, carved wooden signs pointing out destinations in town, such as the bay, Embarcadero, the beach and Morro Rock.

The City received some criticism from Downtown merchants because while the signs were strung throughout

Downtown, all arrows pointed to the waterfront.

That prompted the city council at the time to have the signs modified to include a banner across the top that read, "Old Town," but didn't change the signs themselves.

Then in the mid-2000s, newly designed directional signs were install at strategic areas on the outskirts of the Downtown core.

In past efforts, the Council was criticized by some folks for adding to what was already a sea of street signs on poles, with one community member pointing out that he counted some 100 road signs embed in the sidewalk on Main Street from Quintana Road to Beach Street, on just the west side of the street.

Indeed, former-Mayor, the late Bill Yates, led an effort to "de-clutter" the Embarcadero sidewalks, removing dozens of pole signs including numerous parking restriction signs, as well as A-frame sidewalk signs, which under the City's sign ordinance are not allowed on public sidewalks.

Los Osos Fire Dept. to Get New Gear

Los Osos' fire department is getting some new gear courtesy of Cal Fire.

Cal Fire/County Fire Sta. 15 in Los Osos will receive grant money for new gear, including new fire safe turnouts for their reserves and some new battery operated emergency equipment to address climate change.

The Los Osos Community Services District Board recently accepted a Cal Fire Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant for \$15,800, covering half of a \$31,700 laundry list of equipment.

In a report from North Coast Battalion Chief, Paul Provence, the request for "personal protective equipment" (PPE) for the reserves, "will outfit our Reserve Firefighter staff with a matching spec of Structural PPE to our full-time staff. This request will aid in replacement of Structural PPE that is nearing the end of its useable lifespan."

The shopping list has six sets of PPE costing over \$13,200; along with 30 pairs of gloves at \$2,800.

The new equipment includes a Dewalt battery reciprocating saw; two Dewalt work lights; a Super Vac 18-inch fan for clearing smoke out; and 10 Dewalt Flex batteries. They are also buying several new fire hose nozzles.

The new battery tools are "to replace gas powered small engines," Battalion Chief Provence said. "The goal is to reduce the greenhouse emissions produced by our daily operation and be in compliance with AB 1346, which will ban the sale of small engines in 2024."

The new nozzles are needed for the same reason — they are old and at the end of their useful lives. "The purchase," Battalion Chief Provence said, "will ensure that the

New Gear Continued on page 27

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Morro Bay

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News

Rocks Returned to The Rock



A pair of large tugboats tended a barge carrying thousands of tons of boulders from the Port San Luis Breakwater, back to Morro Rock where they were originally mined by the Army Corps of Engineers. Photo by Neil Farrell

By Neil Farrell

On Oct. 12, thousands of tons of Morro Rock — considered sacred by local Native Americans — came home.

The Army Corps of Engineers recently began its project to rebuild the breakwater at Port San Luis (Avila Beach), repairing a rock structure originally made with thousands of tons of granite mined from Morro Rock in the early part of the last century.

The work was anticipated to need to remove and replace about 10,000 tons of boulders, some weighing as much as 10 tons. The ACOE, in consultation with local Chumash, decided to return the unneeded rocks to Estero Bay, where last week a bulldozer pushed them off a barge into the ocean about 1,500 feet off Morro Rock.

Despite the poor visibility in a thick fog, over a dozen

people turned out to watch the spectacle from the North Jetty.

The PSL project, which started in August, according to a Coastal Commission staff report, "includes the repair of approximately 1,420 feet of existing breakwater by resetting stones and raising the overall height of the breakwater by 3 feet (back to its original design height and configuration)."

The Coastal Commission was the final approval ACOE needed to get the work started, after over seven years of planning.

The original breakwater boulders were quarried from Morro Rock by the ACOE, which removed a million tons of rock from the late 1800s, until the early 1960s when quarrying was halted forever.

Morro Rock is now part of Morro Bay State Park and protected. It is also a sacred site for the Chumash and Salinan tribes that populated the area for thousands of years.

As part of the quarrying operation, the ACOE built the causeway out to Morro Rock (now Coleman Drive) and the rock revetment that created the Morro Bay Harbor and Embarcadero business district.

The spoils of Morro Rock also built breakwaters up and down the Coast, including at Port San Luis. But it's turned out that the particular kind of granite of Morro Rock isn't well-suited to make jetties, and so the new rocks that will be used to rebuild the PSL breakwater will be brought in from other quarries.

As for the new reef here, according to the ACOE, "The footprint of stone placement will encompass up to approximately 3-acres of the sandy ocean bottom at a depth ranging from approximately -50 to -65 feet Mean Lower Low Water."

As is the nature of the ocean, all manner of sea life is anticipated to immediately start attaching itself to what will become a reef and, it's hoped, a good fishing spot, though some might think the area a bit close to the rocks of the jetty.

MBFD Gets \$105,000 in Grants

The Morro Bay Fire Department recently got more than \$100,000 in federal grants to buy new equipment used during times of emergency.

According to a news release, the fire department received an \$85,000 grant through the American Rescue Plan Act, which allocated monies to state and local governments in response to the coronavirus pandemic response, which in Spring 2020, shut down most of the economy in the early days of the worldwide health emergency.

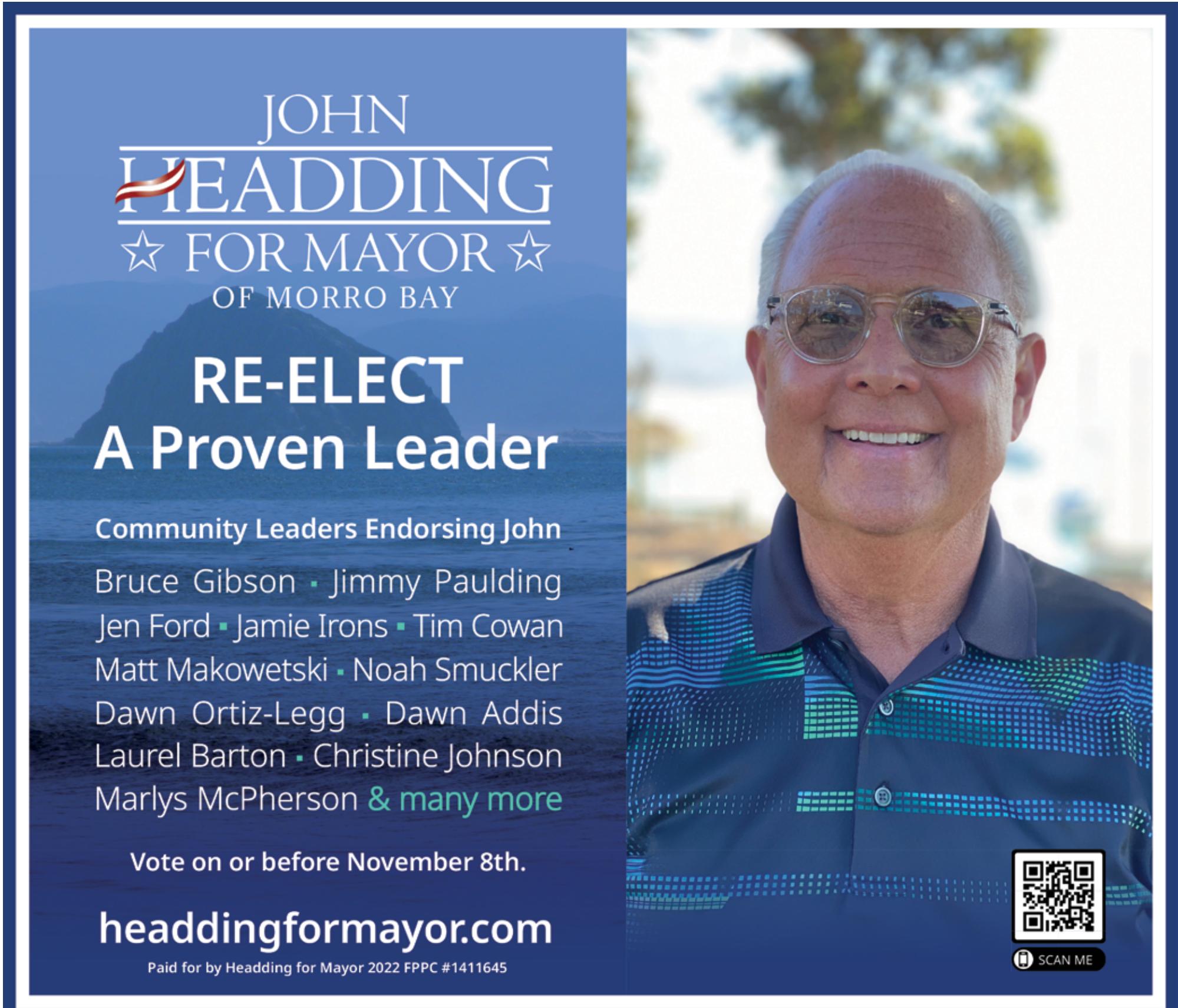
The \$1.9 trillion ARPA, which was pushed through Congress in February 2021 and signed into law by President Biden that March, was supposed to speed up the country's recovery from the economic and health effects of the pandemic.

MBFD purchased two, Zoll X Series 12 lead EKG monitors, to replace two older technology monitors. It will outfit all response vehicles with the most current patient diagnostic technology.

The Fire Department also got a \$25,000 grant through the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant and the California Nuclear Power Preparedness (NPP) Program to buy three handheld radios.

The multi-band radios, "can transmit and receive on any public safety communication frequency including the VHF, UHF and 800 MHz frequency ranges," according to the news release. "This is intended to enhance responder safety by improving communications capabilities of emergency responders within Diablo Canyon's Emergency Planning Zones."

Fire Chief Dan McCrain said, "These purchases will improve our ability to provide emergency medical care to the community and ability to respond to emergencies."



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 SCAN ME

Save Water this October

The Los Osos Community Services District reminds residents that October is the time of year to shut off their irrigation controllers.

"Many of our residents have replaced landscaping with drought tolerant plants," reads the SLO Water Wise Landscaping website. "This is a good thing as they don't require as much water. Evaluate the condition of your garden. Native plants that are established don't require a lot of watering. For those of you who have landscape contractors regularly visit your home, ask them to shut off the irrigation. Due to the fact that Los Osos is built on sand dunes, our soil will percolate most water accumulated. So, this provides a possibility for leaks to go undetected. Go ahead and shut off your irrigation for the rest of the year through winter."

For tips on water conservation ideas, go losososcسد.org/water-conservation. For sustainable landscapes, drought information and to learn more about watering on the Coast go to slowerwiselandscaping.com.

Upcoming LOCSD meetings are:

- Utilities Advisory Committee Meeting - October 19 at 5:30 p.m.
- Finance Advisory Committee Meeting - November 1 at 5:30 p.m.
- Board of Directors Meeting Open Session - November 3 at 6 p.m.
- Utilities Advisory Committee Meeting - November 16 at 5:30 p.m.
- Emergency Services Advisory Committee Meeting - November 17 at 5:30 p.m.
- Finance Advisory Committee Meeting - November 28, at 5:30 p.m.

Information for each meeting and how to get con-

News Briefs

By Theresa-Marie Wilson

nected will be available on the Agenda for each meeting. Agendas can be found on the LOCSD Website (losososcسد.org) which is posted a minimum of 72 hours before the meeting time.

reduce any harmful health effects by limiting outdoor activities. These precautions are especially important for children, the elderly, and people with respiratory and heart conditions.

Controlled Burns To Take Place

Prescribed burns will take place through March of 2023 in San Luis Obispo County to prevent future fires, California State Parks announced in a news release. The effort will be carried out in cooperation with Cal Fire, the San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District, and the Morro Bay Fire Department.

The burns will occur in Hearst San Simeon, Harmony Headlands, Estero Bluffs, Morro Bay, and Montana de Oro state parks. Work includes grasslands and coastal scrub burns, as well as broadcast and pile burns in forested and urban/wildland interfaces to address diseased, dead, and downed trees.

"These burns are part of the prescribed fire program for vegetation management, hazardous fuel load reduction, wildlife habitat improvement, and other ecological benefits," State Parks officials said. "These treatments will enhance the health of the ecosystems by removing diseased materials, restoring essential nutrients to the soil, and reducing the chance of a catastrophic wildfire."

"In grassland and scrub areas, fire will be reintroduced as a component of the ecosystem on a rotational basis. Forest prescribed burns will help in managing forest pests and pathogens in the parklands and will improve wildfire prevention in wildland-urban interfaces."

Some public trails near the burn area may be closed on the day of the burn. People traveling near the fire burn areas may see smoke from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the day of the burns. In readers smell smoke, San Luis Obispo County urges you to take precautions and use common sense to

New Rules for Affordable Housing in SLO

Developers in the City of San Luis Obispo have some new affordable housing rules to consider.

The so called Inclusionary Housing Ordinance gives residential developers the option to either build affordable housing or pay a fee to the City's Affordable Housing Fund, which is then used to help fund new projects in SLO.

One of the most significant updates to the Inclusionary Housing Ordinance is that the number of affordable units provided in each project is subject to a flat percentage or a set fee per square foot. The previous ordinance allowed for the reduction of the number of dedicated affordable units for certain projects based on densities or unit sizes.

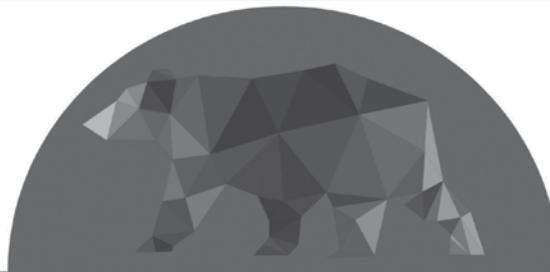
The City Council also established an impact fee for all new commercial development, the Commercial Linkage Fee, to contribute to the Affordable Housing Fund.

A 2020 Affordable Housing Nexus Study found commercial development in SLO creates more demand for residential housing. For example, when a new hotel, office, or other type of commercial business is built, new employees need housing, and housing demand increases. The new commercial linkage fee will be based on the project's square footage.

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.

Follow us to the Car Show by The Bay! Sunday, October 30 Downtown Baywood Park

For more info,
visit: carshowbythebay.com



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News

Poly President Warren Baker Dies

Warren J. Baker, Cal Poly's president emeritus and its eighth overall and second-longest serving leader, died Friday, Oct. 7. He was 84.

Baker's leadership was instrumental in transforming Cal Poly into one of the highest-ranked public master's polytechnical institutions in the nation.

It was "almost by accident" that Baker became a university president, let alone stayed at Cal Poly for 31 years, retiring in 2010. He had served in various capacities as teacher, researcher, engineering practitioner and university administrator for more than 40 years.

"I accidentally got into this at a relatively young age, when I tried out being a dean at a college of engineering," he said in 2010 on the eve of his retirement. "I really thought that I would not stay in the academic world. I didn't have a plan to be a university president."

Under his guidance, Cal Poly became a truly comprehensive polytechnic university, renowned for its scientific, engineering, technical, agricultural and the built-environment curriculum, as well as for distinctive offerings in business and the liberal arts.

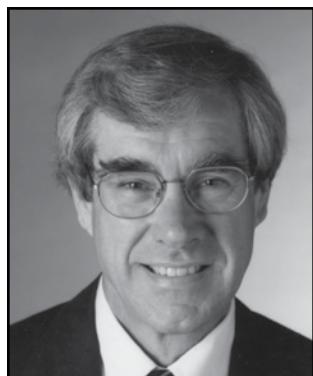
Dr. Baker was born September 5, 1938, in Fitchburg, Massachusetts. He attended the University of Notre Dame, where he received a bachelor's degree in civil engineering in 1960 and a master's in civil engineering in 1962. He received his doctorate in civil engineering at the University of New Mexico in 1966 and later studied at Harvard Business School.

The California State University Board of Trustees named Baker as Cal Poly president on May 22, 1979. He and his wife, Carly, and their children relocated to San Luis Obispo from the University of Detroit in Michigan. On Aug. 22, he took the reins of the university, becoming, at age 40, the youngest campus president in CSU history.

During Baker's first fall quarter, Cal Poly's student enrollment was 14,684 and would increase incrementally throughout his career, peaking in the Fall 2009 at 19,325.

He was instrumental in developing strong financial, facility and program growth; fostering relationships with private and governmental funding sources; increasing the breadth of academic programs; and making a name for Cal Poly at the state and national levels.

Baker oversaw approximately \$1 billion in new facil-



ties and renovations that transformed the physical campus and made Cal Poly an institution in which current students, their parents, alumni and benefactors took immense pride. These new facilities included the first new student housing in a generation, as well as a project that enhanced the stadium for Cal Poly's Division I NCAA status (attracting the support of then-San Diego Chargers owner and Cal Poly alum Alex Spanos).

In addition, Baker crafted a partnership involving the university, the city of San Luis Obispo, and a newly formed foundation in the 1990s for a magnificent Performing Arts Center — which in 1996 became a major entertainment hub for national and international performers while still allowing venues for student musicians, singers, dancers and actors.

Anticipating growth in enrollment and the need to replace obsolescent structures, Baker commissioned a new campus master plan that respected the university's history while envisioning new opportunities for the campus to meet its growing space needs. The 2001 Master Plan became the model for all master plans within the 23-campus CSU system and set a course for the physical development of the campus for 20 years (leading into a recent update).

Baker encouraged the continuous upkeep and development of the landscaped and built environment, especially as it relates to spaces that are used by students for living, learning, recreation or leisure. Among others, the continued enhancement of the campus and its architecture will remain as one of President Baker's lasting legacies.

Three years after his retirement, he was honored with the dedication of the second largest campus structure — the Warren J. Baker Center for Science and Mathematics, a six-story, 189,000-square-foot, multidisciplinary facility built in the center of campus to symbolize the central nature of science and mathematics in Cal Poly's polytechnic curriculum.

Another Baker legacy is Cal Poly's ranking in U.S. News & World Report as the best public-master's university in the west. The university received the honor for the first time on Oct. 4, 1993 and recently celebrated a milestone 30th consecutive year with the honor.

"The Cal Poly community has lost a true champion of Learn by Doing and a leader who helped architect what our university is today," said Cal Poly President Jeffrey D. Armstrong. "While we are tremendously saddened by the passing of Warren Baker, we are so grateful for the 31 years of leadership he provided to Cal Poly."

Baker's family requests that donations in his honor be made to the Foundation for the Performing Arts Center.

Another Water Leak Sprung



By Neil Farrell

Another major water leak has sprung forth on Quintana Road, owing to construction activities, according to the City of Morro Bay.

The City's Oct. 10 "Hot Topic" news release, said, "Quintana Road from La Loma to South Bay is closed to through traffic due to a water leak that developed during construction activities this morning."

The leak, was in a water main lateral near the intersection of Quintana and South Bay Boulevard. The news release didn't say exactly where the leak happened or how many water customers were affected but the only water laterals in that area service a mobile home park, a church, and a small subdivision.

The City's contractor is Anvil Builders, which has been installing the 3.5-mile conveyance systems of pipes and pumps for the Water Reclamation Facility or WRF, a \$160 million project.

In photos sent to EBN by a reader, Quintana Road is shown closed at La Loma Street. Our reader tells us there was no advanced warning, as the City had pledged to do with such closures.

The "City's WRF website doesn't show a detour for today," our reader said. "That webpage says, 'The City of Morro Bay is committed to ensuring you have up-to-date information about construction activities for the Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) and WRF Pipelines.' Do they really mean that?"

The WRF is the largest, most expensive public works project the City of Morro Bay has ever done.

The project began in Spring 2020, and is now largely completed. During a recent tour of the new WRF treatment plant, the project manager said they planned to start accepting raw sewage at the new treatment plant on Oct. 4.

City Manager Scott Collins said they started seeding the treatment plant's bio-digester tanks with microbes on the 4th, and last week they were continuing with testing of the lines.

RON ROUNDY PARTY!



There will be a wing-ding block party to celebrate the life of

Ron Roundy

on Saturday, Nov. 5, from 1-5 p.m.,
on the 1800 block of 7th St., Los Osos, CA.

Ron's art will be on display. Enjoy live music, wine, beer, soft drinks, plates, utensils, and BBQ. Please bring a dish and beverage to share with others. If you think you will want to sit down, bring a chair. Most importantly, bring yourself and your stories about Ron. We will mourn his loss for a very long time, but on Nov. 5 we will celebrate what he has left behind for us all to enjoy.

Please wear any Ron designed apparel-shirt, hat, scarf, jewelry, tie-whatever you may have.

If you are traveling from a distance, Los Osos/Baywood has a number of Airbnb options and three inns in close proximity to the party. Morro Bay and San Luis Obispo are within easy driving distance and have many lodging options.

Questions to escapingeden01@gmail.com



FISCAL YEAR 2022-23 TOTAL CITYWIDE BUDGET

(NOT INCLUDING TRANSFERS): \$54.1 million
OPERATING \$34.9 million*
CAPITAL \$19.2 million

GENERAL FUND DEPARTMENT BUDGETS (%)

Total General Fund Budget: \$15.8 Million
(excluding non-departmental costs and transfers)



General Fund Reserves: \$8.6 Million

ENTERPRISE FUND OPERATING BUDGETS

SEWER	\$3.7 mil	
WATER	\$5.1 mil	
HARBOR	\$1.7 mil	
TRANSIT	\$0.2 mil	

FOR MORE INFO:



<https://www.morro-bay.ca.us/827/Budget>

*Budgets for smaller governmental funds are included in the detailed budget online.

LOCAL REVENUE MEASURE (E/Q) \$4.3 MILLION

- Maintains Public Safety Services & Staffing
- Ensures Cleanliness & Safety of Public Spaces
- Ensures Fiscal Sustainability
- Invests **\$2.5 million** in Infrastructure & Equipment
(Contribution to CIP Budget Below)

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUDGET

\$19.2
Million

24
Projects

WATER & SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE (ONE WATER PLAN)

- Water Reclamation Facility
- Tank Replacements
- Sewer Main Replacements
- Stormwater Maintenance

ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS

- Street Paving ~\$3M IN PLANNED SPENDING IN FY 2022-23
- Key Intersection Improvements
- Bike & Pedestrian Safety

RECREATION ENHANCEMENTS

- Coleman Park Improvements
- New Bocceball Courts
- Lila Kaiser ADA Improvements

FUTURE NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- Harbor Needs
- All other non-water/sewer capital needs

Community Blessing of the Animals



Several animals and people with photos of their pets gathered at Estero Bay United Methodist Church in Morro Bay to be blessed on Oct. 8. Blessings were received by the usual cats and dogs, but a rabbit and turtles were also part of the event in remembrance of St. Francis of Assisi's love for all creatures.

Organizers report that treats were provided for both the animal and people, and that "a fun time was had by all with no dog fights."

At the end of the program Pastor Steve Poteete-Marshall, shown here with Nibbles and Jay, went to Pacific Wildlife Care in Morro Bay to also ask blessings for the animals and workers there.

Homecoming Parade in Cambria



The Coast Union High School Broncos celebrate Homecoming Spirit Week Oct. 3 – 7 with activities a parade, dance and football game against San Luis Obispo Classic Academy. The Broncos won the game 44-26.

Photos show the parade that went from the high school to Main Street.

Photos by www.PhotoByVivian.com



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Police Blotter



- Oct. 9:** Police espied a suspicious subject at 11:22 p.m. at Auto Zone in the 400 block of Quintana. The 42-year-old fellow was arrested for suspicion of possessing illegal drugs and paraphernalia but not for being lubed.
- Oct. 9:** Police were cruising through the 2800 block of Main at 12:26 p.m. when they spotted a woman runnin' in the road. The 38-year-old roadrunner was beep-beeped for suspicion of being bombed. It was her second run-in with police in three days. On Oct. 6 at 6:36 a.m. she was nicked in the same area for suspicion of disorderly conduct and of course, resisting arrest, which she should be used to by now.
- Oct. 9:** Police responded at 11:46 a.m. to a report of a deceased person at a motel in the 1000 block of Market.
- Oct. 8:** Police responded to a domestic dustup at 12:49 p.m. in the 400 block of Napa. A restraining order was reportedly violated, no doubt once again.
- Oct. 8:** Police contacted a familiar squat at 4 p.m. in the 400 block of Quintana. The 30-year-old apparent bail jumper was arrested on five bench warrants, a possible case of enough is enough.
- Oct. 7:** Police caught up to a 30-year-old apparently rotten egg at 12:46 p.m. in the 1300 block of Main. Humpty Dumpty had five bench warrants, and officers allegedly found him in possession of suspected illegal drugs and paraphernalia, so he had a great fall.
- Oct. 6:** Police responded at 8:25 p.m. to Rite Aid in the 700 block of Quintana. Logs indicated two, unknown, sticky-fingered women stole \$1,001.55 worth of merchandise. No word on what Rite Aid sells that costs that much.
- Oct. 6:** At 4:12 p.m. police contacted a 50-year-old guy in City Park in the 700 block of Harbor. He only had one bench warrant and so was issued a new court date to miss.
- Oct. 6:** Police responded at 11:40 a.m. to Morro Palms MHP in the 900 block of Morro Bay Blvd., to investigate a possible murder-suicide.
- Oct. 6:** Police stopped a suspicious car at the suspect time of 1:18 a.m. in the danger zone at Main and Shasta. A 42-year-old fellow was nicked for suspicion of driving pie-eyed. He was released to a sober adult and spared the Hwy 1 walk of shame.
- Oct. 5:** Police responded to a reported car burglary at 2:35 p.m. in the 1700 block of Embarcadero. The dirty thief stole a credit card. A few hours earlier they'd taken another car burglary report up the street in the 500 block of Atascadero Rd.
- Oct. 4:** Police responded to the 500 block of Atascadero Rd., for a reported case of fraud. No word on the loss, and police reportedly haven't a clue in the case.

- Oct. 4:** Police responded at 3 p.m. to Del Mar School for a fender-bender. No injuries were reported, but it was no doubt the talk of the school.
- Oct. 4:** Someone turned in to police several boxes of ammunition slated for destruction.
- Oct. 4:** Police responded at 10:14 a.m. to the 1700 block of Embarcadero where they encountered someone pitching a fit. They were put into a 72-hour timeout as a danger to themselves or others.
- Oct. 3:** Police responded to a disturbance at 8 p.m. in the 1300 block of Prescott. A 57-year-old woman was arrested for suspicion of being out of her tree.
- Oct. 3:** Police stopped a suspicious vehicle at 3:20 p.m. at Quintana and South Bay. A 35-year-old fellow was allegedly driving on a toot and got took to jail.
- Oct. 3:** Police took another car burglary report in the 500 block of Atascadero Rd., as apparently there's a skunk in the henhouse.
- Oct. 2:** Police contacted a real smooth operator at 11 p.m. at Morro Bay Boulevard and Monterey. The 29-year-old dingus had a bench warrant and when searched, he got nicked for suspicion of possession of illegal drugs, in this week's example of why they call it dope.
- Oct. 2:** Police responded at 4:21 p.m. to the 200 block of Main for a grand theft report. No word on what earthly treasure was pilfered.
- Oct. 2:** Police responded to a disturbance at 3:21 a.m. in the 1000 block of Main. Logs indicated it was a boyfriend vs. girlfriend kerfuffle with the battleaxe the apparent aggressor. The Bickersons were separated for the night and a report was sent to the District Attorney for possible inaction.
- Oct. 1:** Police stopped a suspicious vehicle at 4:12 p.m. on MBB at Bernardo. Logs indicated the driver, 27, was cited for a suspended license. He was sentenced to the DMV, a fate worse than death.
- Oct. 1:** At 2:40 p.m. police stopped yet another suspicious vehicle in the 1300 block of Main. Logs indicated the driver, 55, was tossed into the clink for suspicion of driving crunked and possession of drugs.
- Sept. 30:** Police contacted some nefarious fellow in Lila Keiser Park at 3 p.m. The 36-year-old humanicus dooficus had two bench warrants and alleged possession of a crack pipe, and got booked into the Parkinson Plaza.
- Sept. 30:** Police contacted three more scofflaws at 1:44 p.m. in the 400 block of Quintana in the Creek Bed Estates. The three stooges — a 46-year-old woman and two men, 29 and 22 — each had their own unique legal issues. The first man, 29, had three bench warrants and of course was issued a fourth citation to ignore. The second fellow, 22, had a felony warrant and two bench warrants and police allegedly also found a crack pipe and drugs on him, so he went to the hoosegow. The woman had three bench warrants but was cited and released to continue ridin' on the highway to hell.
- Sept. 30:** At 1 p.m. in the 1500 block of Main, police towed off a car whose registration expired at least six months ago. Another lazybones vehicle in the 300 block of Atascadero Rd., was towed for the same hanging offense.
- Sept. 30:** Police received a report of suspected child abuse in the 500 block of Estero. No further details were available.
- Sept. 29:** A citizen in the 2300 block of Ironwood reported a case of fraud. No leads as to the identity of the dirty rotten scoundrel.
- Sept. 29:** Police responded at 3:45 p.m. to a disturbance in the 2700 block of Koa, where some unhappy camper, 48, was nicked for allegedly being smoked on drugs.
- Sept. 29:** Someone turned in a briefcase they found somewhere in town. No word on which Double-O I.Q. spy lost it.
- Sept. 28:** In the 300 block of Embarcadero police took a report that some scalawag vandalized a cable lock and stole the motor off a man's dinghy.
- Sept. 28:** Police contacted a suspicious fellow at 1:12 p.m. in the 700 block of Quintana. Logs indicated the apparent swagman, 37, had three bench warrants and got thrown into the dungeon.
- Sept. 28:** Police responded at 10:34 a.m. to the 900 block of Pacific where some mulish bonehead violated a stay-the-hell-away court order. Earlier, at 8:34, in the 400 block of Napa, another sinister fellow violated a restraining order. Police will turn the fellows over to the D.A.
- Sept. 28:** Police contacted a suspicious woman, 33, at 3 a.m. hanging around Albertson's Market in the 700 block of Quintana. She of course had three bench warrants and despite it all was issued a fourth disappearance ticket and disappeared into the night.
- Sept. 27:** Police responded at 7:54 p.m. to The Rock parking lot for a report of several ruffians fighting. Police apparently broke it up and will file a report for assault with the D.A., but no word on who zoomed who.
- Sept. 26:** Police took a vandalism report in the 2800 block of Hemlock.
- Sept. 26:** Police responded to a disturbance at 11:38 a.m. in the 900 block of Pacific. A juvenile was given a 72-hour timeout with County Mental Health.
- Sept. 26:** Another offensive vehicle was towed from the 1000 block of Monterey for violating the City's parking-in-one-place too long law.
- Sept. 26:** At 9 a.m. police contacted a regular customer in the 100 block of Atascadero Rd. The lady scofflaw, 38, was hauled in for a bench warrant.



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from all of
us at the
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News**

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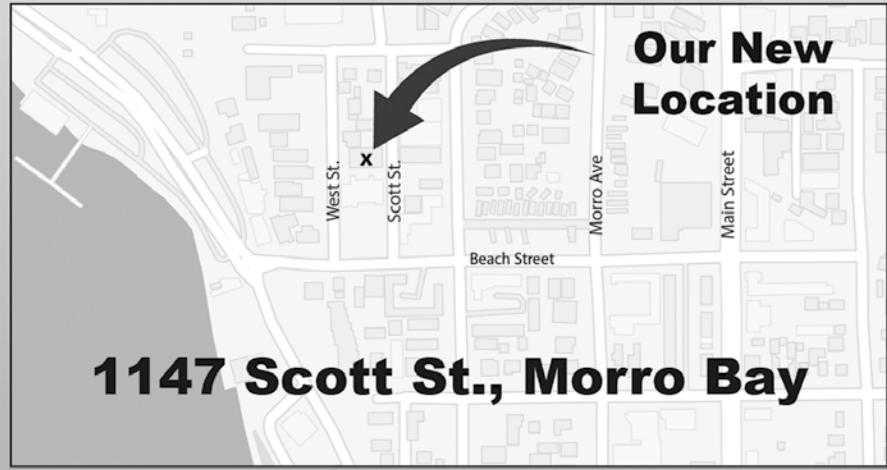


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Community

Nearly 600 In 2nd Ducky Derby



Rubber Duckies were let loose into the ocean for the Morro Bay Rotary Club's 2nd Annual Rubber Ducky Derby

Story and Photos by Neil Farrell

The Morro Bay Rotary Club held its 2nd Annual Rubber Ducky Derby with nearly 600 bright yellow bath toys riding the tide in the Harbor and competing for cash prizes.

The Club let loose 591 ducks from a raft near Channel Marker 12, off The Galley Grill & Bar and the incoming tide moved the yellow mass down the bay towards the finish line at the Tidelands Park floating dock.

And like a car race or maybe a footrace, the mass of bright toys quickly strung out in a line.

In just about 18 minutes, the lead pack of ducks were nearing the finish, with a group of them attempting to take wrong turns through the moored boats. Race officials on

kayaks and paddleboards guided them back into the main channel.

The officials did double duty, as the Club was required to make sure that all 591 ducks made it safely out of the water.

First place went to Leonard Moothart of Los Osos who is past president of the Los Osos Rotary Club, taking the \$300 first prize.

Second place and \$200 went to A.J. Martin, who is a new local veterinarian, according to Rotarian Jude Long who officiated the race. Taking third was Robin Carter, who won \$100.

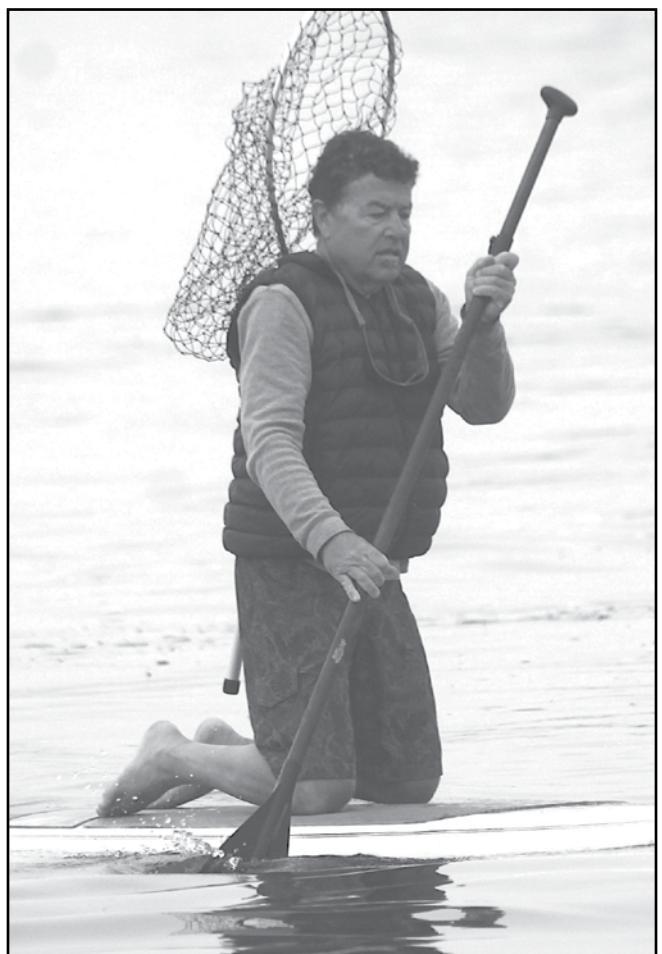
And last place, according to Long, went to Courtney Huckabay, who "sadly didn't win anything," Long said. (Perhaps for the Third Annual Ducky Derby they can



The group the Survivors help corral the ducks as they float to the finish line.

hatch some kind of zonk prize for last place.)

Prize winners were announced later that morning by Club President John Solu at the Maritime Museum's Family Fun Day.



John Solu, president of the Morro Bay Rotary searches for run away ducks in the bay.

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Community

Takin' Care of BUSINESS

By Theresa-Marie Wilson

Trick or Treat Event Downtown Morro Bay



Morro Bay will become Spooksville, USA once again, as local merchants are bringing back the Downtown Trick or Treat, set for 2-5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 29 in Downtown Morro Bay.

Organized by "Barber Jon" of Mike's Barbershop, this is the 8th Annual event.

The City Recreation Department will have a table set up at Main Street and Morro Bay Boulevard starting at 2 p.m. for check-in and to get a map of participating businesses.

Also, there will be a closed off area — on Morro Bay Boulevard starting at Main Street — where businesses outside of the Downtown area can set up booths and take part in the festivities.

Any businesses that want to participate can go online and fill out a participation form at: morrochamber.org. Then click on the "Events" link and then on "October 29" date on the Events Calendar on or before Oct. 20.

There will be haunted houses, a haunted trolley, a bounce house and fun and games in addition to candy and the regularly scheduled Main Street Market, which starts at 3.

The event is sponsored by the Morro Bay Chamber of Commerce, the City of Morro Bay and 97.3 FM and 107.9 FM The Rock Community Radio Station.

The Morro Bay Police Department will bring back its wildly popular haunted house, but at a new location. The haunted house will be set up in the parking lot behind Pizza Port from 2-5 p.m.

And at the Historic Circle Inn Building, at the corner of Main and Harbor, Gaia's Garden, The Ugly Mug and Legend's Tavern are turning the World War II-era building into a haunted house.

As for the attendees, kids of all ages are invited to costume up and hit the streets, visiting businesses, and collecting treats.

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Sea Shanty Makes Top 40 List



The Sea Shanty in Cayucos made the 40 Top Restaurants Along Pacific Coast Highway published by TastingTable.com, a one-stop online shop for food and drink enthusiasts.

The online magazine picked eateries on PCH running from Dana Point in Southern California all the way up to Mendocino County.

This is what they said about one of our local treasures, "As far as charming California beach town restaurants go, you can't get more quintessential than Bill and Carol's Sea Shanty. Family-owned and operated since 1983, Sea Shanty is a Cayucos landmark. It's got kitschy, vintage decor, a wicked hat collection, and a huge selection of desserts, if you've worked up a sweet tooth by now. Try the Shanty Pie, a mint chocolate chip ice cream pie with hot fudge and a chocolate cookie crust."

To see the entire list, go to tastingtable.com/1039726/the-top-restaurants-along-the-pacific-coast-highway.

Bigger Planes Heading from SLO to Dallas-Fort Worth

Capitalizing on the surge in travel from San Luis Obispo County Regional Airport (SBP), American Airlines announced that it is using larger aircraft for its twice-daily flights to Dallas-Fort Worth.

The airline previously flew the route using an Embraer E175, with 76 seats. The larger plane, the 128 seat Airbus A319, offers three classes, with 8 First Class seats, 24 in Main Cabin Extra, and 96 in the Main Cabin.

This year is expected to be the busiest year in the airport's history. As more travelers choose to fly SBP, passengers are encouraged to arrive two hours before their flight, especially if they are checking baggage.

To purchase tickets from San Luis Obispo to Dallas-Fort Worth and beyond, visit aa.com.

Morro Bay Chamber Ribbon Cutting



The Morro Bay Chamber of commerce celebrated Central Coast Lift's one-year anniversary with a ribbon cutting. The company offers electric boats, electric hydro foils, yacht charters, street-legal golf carts and more. Stop by and check out sales and rental opportunities at 125 Embarcadero, Morro Bay.

Oktoberfest Looking for Vendors

The Los Osos/Baywood Park Chamber of Commerce and Bay Osos Kiwanis are putting on the Oktoberfest in Baywood Park after two years being canceled due to COVID-19.

Live music, food, beer garden, axe throwing and the Car Show By the Bay are just part of the event this October 30 starting with a pancake breakfast from the Bay Osos Kiwanis at 7 a.m..

There will also be a costume contest for the kids along with a kids play area.

The annual run starts at 9 a.m. followed by awards. This event was started by the late Ron Roundy many years ago.

For more information about booths, visit www.lobp-chamber.org or call 805-528-4884

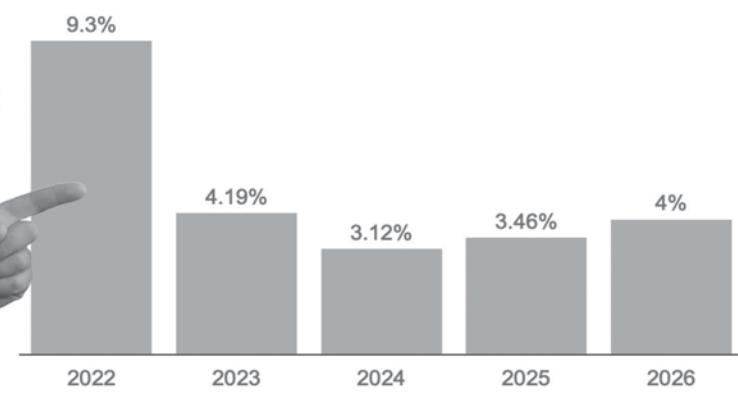
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Community

Scarecrow Festival Returns to Cambria

Scarecrows have once again taken over the streets during the 14th annual Cambria Scarecrow Festival in Cambria and San Simeon.

Whether readers are looking for scary, whimsical or funny, there are more than 400 scarecrows to discover in the streets and empty lots through October 31.

The festival debuted in 2009 with 30 scarecrows and expanded



from a one-weekend event at the Cambria Historical Museum to a month-long extravaganza.

Photos by
www.PhotoByVivian.com



Events & Activities



By Theresa-Marie Wilson

The Estero Bay Latino Outreach program of Los Osos Cares is co-sponsoring a free community health fair on Sunday, October 23 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Iglesias Linaje Escojido de Morro Bay church at 2050 Ironwood Avenue in Morro Bay.

Sponsors for this health clinic are Dignity Health of San Luis Obispo, Community Health Centers, the San Luis Obispo County Public Health Department and Los Osos Cares.

Health care offered will include blood pressure checks, heart monitoring, diabetes checks, mental health and more. Free Covid vaccinations for children and adults will also be offered. Participants can also obtain vouchers for free mammograms that day.

Over twenty providers including mental health organizations, legal foundations, the County Food Bank, and resource centers of Los Osos and Morro Bay will be on hand to provide information on available assistance programs.

This free health fair is open to any member of the Estero Bay community. For more information contact Los Osos Cares at 805-592-2701 or email WeCareInLosOsos@gmail.com.

• • •



The Annual Morro Bay Witch's Paddle is upon us once again.

The annual tribute to Halloween is set for 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 22 at Coleman Park.

Everyone is invited to dress as their favorite Witchy-Poo and take to the water in whatever human-powered craft suits your fancy — kayak, canoe, rowboat or paddleboard — and join the hundreds of witches of all stripes and costumes for a fun paddle down the bay channel. No charge for entry, as this is all for a little witchy fun.

Events Continued on page 12

NEED HELP AFFORDING GROCERIES?

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Visit one of our CalFresh Application assistance sites to get one-on-one help applying from November 2nd to November 10th! No appointment necessary.

November 2, 2022

12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

SLO Public Library
995 Palm St, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Coast Unified School District Office
1350 Main St, Cambria, CA 93428

November 3, 2022

12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Atascadero Public Library
6555 Capistrano Ave,
Atascadero, CA 93422

November 4, 2022

12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Morro Bay Public Library
625 Harbor St, Morro Bay, CA 93442

Nipomo Public Library
918 W Tefft St, Nipomo, CA 93444

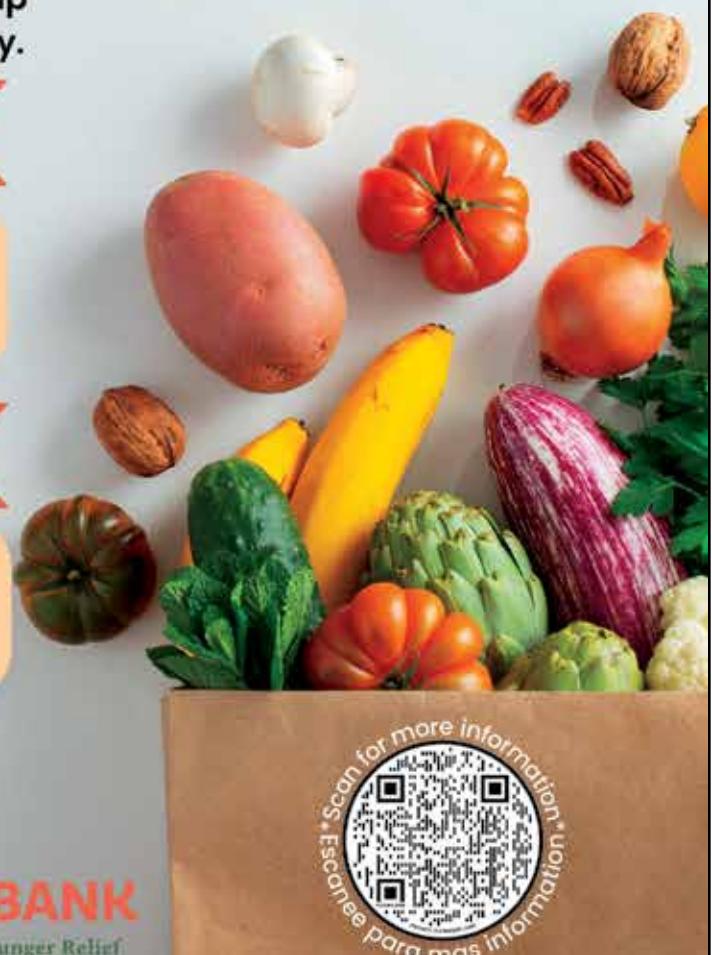
November 10, 2022

12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Shandon Public Library
195 N 2nd St,
Shandon, CA 93461

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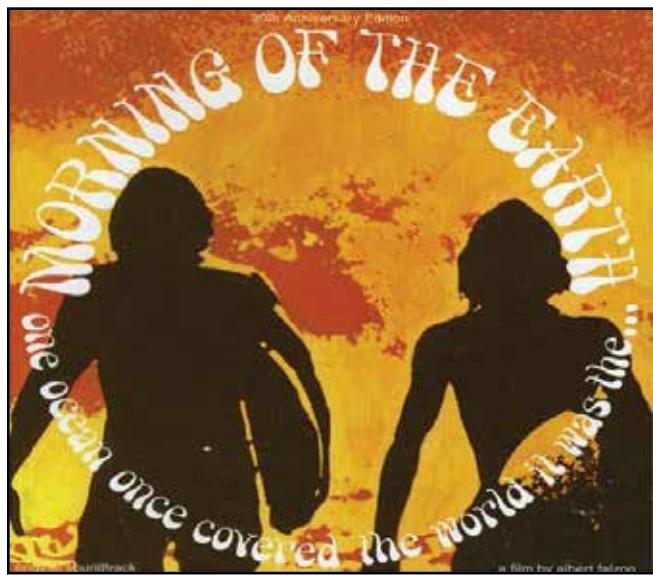
OR CALL 1-877-847-3663



Community

Events From page 11

• • •



Pizza Port in Morro Bay is sponsoring a special showing of a re-mastered classic surf movie for a fundraiser for the Morro Bay High School Surf Team.

The 50th Anniversary edition of "Morning of The Earth," a 1972 surf documentary is set for 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 7 at The Bay Theater.

Tickets are available online at: www.eventbrite.com/e/morning-of-the-earth-1972-50th-anniversary-remastered-tickets-412334101397. Tickets start at \$20.

The film is about a group of surfers living in harmony with nature, making boards and homes, looking for the perfect wave across Australia's North-East Coast, Bali and Hawaii. The film introduced the world to the waves at Uluwatu on the southern tip of Bali and helped make that South Pacific island one of the premiere surf tourism spots in the world.

The film also features a Gold Record soundtrack al-

bum produced by G. Wayne Thomas and featuring Australian music acts Tamam Shud, John J. Francis, Brian Cadd, Mike Rudd and Thomas.

Proceeds will support the MBHS Surf Team, a co-ed club team sport that competes against several local schools — Arroyo Grande, SLO, Atascadero and others.

• • •

The October meeting of the Central Coast Watercolor Society takes place on Tuesday, October 25 in the Wesley Room of the San Luis Obispo United Methodist Church (1515 Fredericks St, SLO). Social time at 1 p.m. is followed at 1:30 pm by a brief business meeting and a members-only pop-up Instant Gallery show. Members can bring one original, matted and/or framed painting, any size and paintings will be juried by those in attendance, and prizes will be awarded.

CCWS requires all attendees for all CCWS activities to be fully vaccinated and boosted at least two weeks prior to the event. Masks are optional, but social distancing is required.

Prospective members are encouraged to attend. For more information, contact Publicity Chair Mari O'Brien (805-439-0295) or arttrekfineart@gmail.com. Art by Matilija Glory D Schroeder



Join the Cayucos Library, 310 B St. in Cayucos, at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, October 27 for "Promoting Your Brain Health," an interactive education session focused on lifelong brain health. Attendees will learn about research in diet and nutrition, exercise, cognitive activity and social engagement, and use hands-on tools to help incorporate these recommendations into a plan for healthy aging. Presented in partnership with the Alzheimer's Association California Central Coast Chapter, this program is free to attend, and no registration is required. Contact the Cayucos Library at (805) 995-3312 for more information.



L a Loma Adobe, possibly one of the first structures built in San Luis Obispo, will be open to the public during the free Annual Open House on Sunday, October

Who I am:

- * Cal Poly SLO Graduate in Speech Communications
- * Small Business Owner for 13 years
- * Renter for 13 years & Property Owner/Landlord for 4 years
- * Community Leader with Experience in Policy & Decision Making
- * Chair of the Chamber of Commerce for 3 years
- * Founding Member of our local radio station 97.3 The Rock
- * Cuesta College Foundation Board Member

How I will lead:

- * Build Relationships
- * Put Safety & Environment first
- * Listen & Improve Communication
- * Recognize our Unique Neighborhoods & Connect Us
- * Focus on Fiscal Responsibility & Search for Alternative Revenue
- * Honor our History & Embrace our Future

Learn how YOUR VOTE can help determine OUR FUTURE:
CyndeeEdwardsforCityCouncil.com



CYNDÉE EDWARDS FOR CITY COUNCIL



Paid for by Cyndee Edwards for Morro Bay City Council 2022

Community

23 from 1 to 4 p.m. Friends of La Loma Adobe will host guided tours in the lower floor of the adobe, which remains stabilized but unrestored, much as it was left when the last family vacated in the early 1950s, showing – in some places – over 200 years of history.

Enjoy displays of adobe architecture, interpretive displays, artwork, a cochineal dye exhibit and light refreshments – including cactus juice punch – which will be available in the shady, landscaped gardens surrounding the adobe. Experts in adobe construction, archaeology and local history will be telling stories about the historic people who lived in and visited the adobe in the 1800s and 1900s, and of the structure itself – one of very few two-story historic adobes left in California.

The City of San Luis Obispo owns the adobe, and has partnered with Friends of La Loma Adobe to preserve the structure. Options for adaptive reuse of the adobe will be on display. Friends of La Loma Adobe will be surveying visitors, giving them a chance to voice their opinions about the adobe's future restoration.

La Loma Adobe is located at 1590 Lizzie Street in San Luis Obispo, within the Reservoir Canyon Reserve, and serves as the western trailhead for Reservoir Canyon Reserve.

The adobe can be reached from Johnson Avenue by turning east onto Lizzie Street, directly across Johnson Avenue from the entrance to French Hospital. Continue for less than a quarter of a mile. Rain cancels. For more information, call 805-528-1066.

• • •



Cal Poly's Center for Coastal Marine Sciences invites the community to tour the Cal Poly Pier in Avila Beach from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 29. The public event is the first since 2019 after a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic.

The Cal Poly Pier is just over a half-mile long. Event activities will be held at the end of the pier located on Avila Beach Drive, just west of the San Luis Creek Bridge. Visitors will enjoy 360-degree views of San Luis Bay and interact with touch tanks full of live marine creatures.

Guests will have the opportunity to view tiny marine species through microscopes and learn about whale migrations and the recent red tides. Interactive displays will offer insights into local marine environments and scientific studies conducted by Cal Poly researchers and students

on protection of Morro Bay's ecosystem, sustaining local fisheries, mapping ocean currents and much more. Cal Poly professors and students will be on hand to answer any questions.

Attendees may take the tour at their own pace, and they are encouraged to bring cameras to take photos of seals, pelicans, sea creatures and the incredible coastal views.

The event is a walking tour on a pier with grating – closed-toe walking shoes are required (safety rules prohibit flip-flops or heels). Pets must be left at home (only ADA service dogs will be permitted). All visitors will be required to sign a safety waiver prior to entering the pier. Parking is very limited near the pier. Tour attendees are encouraged to park in the public parking lots in Avila Beach and walk to the pier. For more information, contact: marine.calpoly.edu or 805-756-6777 (recorded line). Rain will cancel event.

• • •

The next monthly meeting for SLO Skiers, a local, non-profit sports and social club for adults, is at Dairy Creek Golf Course Clubhouse in San Luis Obispo at 5:30 pm on Wednesday, November 2. Meetings are free and yearly membership is only \$65. Social and sports activities occur year round.

• • •



A new traveling exhibit is at the Morro Bay Museum of Natural History, 20 State Park Rd. The exhibition "Seeds: Nature's Artful Engineering" explores the incredible diversity and beauty – and critical importance – of native California plants and their seeds through a series of vivid photographs. Morro Bay Museum of Natural History is open 7 days a week, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Admission is \$3 for adults; kids 17 and under get in free.

• • •

The next Central Coast State Parks Association Virtual Mind Walk, The Spooner family, Their Ranch House, and Life on the Pecho Coast in the Early 20th Century, takes place Friday, October 21 at 1 p.m.

Have you ever wondered about the history of that quaint farmhouse that serves as the visitor's center for Montaña de Oro State Park? Do you want to learn more about the family who lived in that house and farmed in the adjacent rolling hills? Join Dr. Amy Hart, State Parks Historian, for an exploration of the history of the Spooner Ranch House during the years it was owned by the Spooner family.

The Spooner family operated a ranching business along the Pecho Coast during some of the most significant periods of U.S. history, including WWI, Prohibition, the Great Depression, and the start of WWII. This presentation will share stories of the Spooner family and of the broader farming community of the Pecho Coast during the first half of the twentieth century. Pre-registration required at <https://bit.ly/3CzCsU7>. Free to join

• • •

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.

OUT & ABOUT

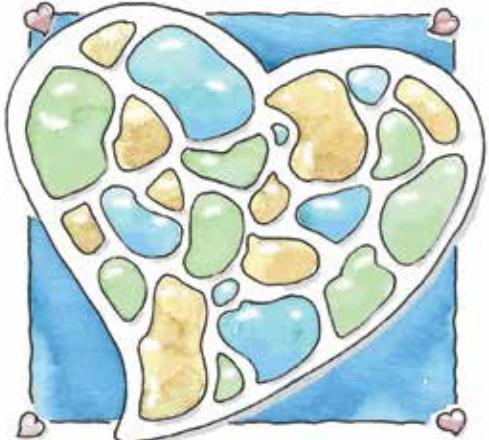
WITH THE BOOKSHELF WRITERS

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

Valuable Trash

Story and illustration by Catherine Kornreich



I've been a beachcomber my entire life, and there was a time I didn't understand those folks who wasted the energy to bend over for a piece of glass. I saved my resources for shells, driftwood and my favorite, heart-shaped rocks.

One stormy winter day as I strolled Cayucos Beach with my golden retriever, I saw a family of four digging through a rock pile. Literally DIGGING. I walked closer to the action to try to figure out what they were looking for, and saw the young daughter hold her cupped hands up to her mother. She cradled a mound of glass shards and asked, "Mommy, can we keep these?"

It looked like the remnants of a car crash. I didn't get it. Ten minutes later I stumbled across a perfect one-inch

Out & About Continued on page 27

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Sandy Cha Mumper
Financial Advisor
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(805) 927-1343

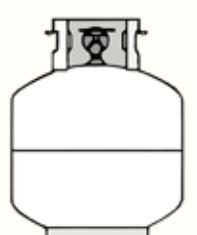


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Letters

To The Editor

Vote for Cyndee Edwards

I think most people will agree that government at all levels is broken. While we like to think that we are immune from "big city politics" on the Central Coast, the sad fact is that the disease of cynicism has infected almost every election in our area.

This leads to lack of trust and, well, the toxic politics that we too often see at the national and state level.

As I enter the winter of my life, I have decided to support only those candidates who stand apart from the cynicism and decay of our politics. There are a number of good, qualified people whose approach to running for office and serving is refreshing, and I give them credit for sacrificing their privacy and tackling our growing list of problems.

One such person in our area is Cyndee Edwards, who is running for the Morro Bay City Council. I have found Ms. Edwards to be absolutely dedicated to serving Morro Bay where she has been a voice for small business and a community volunteer for many years. She is the type of person who can say "no" to the various special interests who drift into town from time to time to sell the community on what is best for us...and especially for them. Ms. Edwards is a serious and intelligent person who can see through the layers of lawyers, lobbyists, and public relations firms to the truth. We need this common-sense leadership at city hall more than ever.

At the same time, Ms. Edwards is able to look to the future, a future that enhances economic prosperity for Morro

Bay, without sacrificing our environment. We need someone who can lower the volume, roll up their sleeves and get things done for Morro Bay. Cyndee Edwards is that person.

John Barbieri
Morro Bay

Let's Learn a Lesson from Moss Landing

Some residents may not be aware of this, but just weeks ago, a CA coastal town, Moss Landing, had to endure a mandatory shelter-in-place order. A lithium-ion battery fire at PG&E's newest battery storage facility was the cause. A Tesla Megapack was destroyed by fire, releasing toxic fumes, and causing a day-long shelter-in-place for the entire Moss Landing community. This PG&E facility is located next to Vistra's lithium battery storage site, which has had two emergency shut-downs in the past year.

Residents had to be confined to their homes for 12 hours, with windows closed and ventilation systems turned off. Businesses were not allowed to open. Students had to shelter in place at their schools. Highway 1 was closed down, resulting in a gridlock of traffic.

These fires are not uncommon. Last summer a Tesla Megapack caught fire at a giant battery project in Australia. It required three days and a hazmat firefighting team to put it out. The fact is that these lithium battery storage systems are still in their infancy and companies are in a learning curve to try to make these systems safe.

Whether you support Lithium-ion Battery Energy Storage Systems is not the issue. The issue is the location of Vistra's proposed BESS facility. Why build the world's largest battery storage facility in the heart of Morro Bay? In close proximity to businesses, homes, wildlife and sensitive habitats? Vistra's proposed location doesn't belong in such a pristine and populated coastal community as Morro Bay.

Picture a bustling summer day, when the Embarcadero is filled with tourists, and alarms start to sound from the Vistra plant. How could you even begin to evacuate the waterfront? What about surfers, people on the beach or on the bay, our wildlife? Imagine students being locked in school for 12 hours or more. Envision the gridlock of traffic at Highway 1, or Highway 41, because our highways would be shut down. This is the harsh reality that both residents and business owners need to be very aware of.

Not to mention the potential health hazards for our residents and wildlife or the potential economic losses for our tourism industry, local businesses, and property values. Instead of looking at the potential income of this facility, maybe Vistra, our City's leaders, and the Coastal Commission should be looking at the potential losses.

Mimi Black
Morro Bay

Save Our Bay — Vote Yes on B-22

I am compelled to speak in support of Measure B-22 even though I may lose some friends over it. Nobody likes taxes. Our country was founded on the unfair imposition of taxes from a government across the ocean. Yet the reality is that taxes pay for things we all want and need. Good roads. Our own police and fire departments. City staff to support and implement what we want done.

There are few California coastal towns of 10,000 residents that can support all that we have in Morro Bay. Why? Because we have a bay. We have a port. We have businesses on the water. We have a U.S. Coast Guard Station. We have a Yacht Club. We have two oyster farms. We have a traditional fishing industry. We have sea otters and surf. We have tourists who love to come here because of it all. Forgive me for thinking this—but how many people really come here to see The Rock? In my mind Morro Bay is all

Vote YES on Measure B-22 on November 8th



Failed seawall



Seawall repair



Repaired seawall

Five years ago this seawall that supports the Embarcadero shoreline failed

Measure B-22 is a \$120 per year parcel tax that would first appear on the 2024-25 property tax bills. The sole purpose of the tax is to provide the Morro Bay Harbor Department with a long-term and dependable source of funding to address what is now more than \$10,000,000 of deferred major maintenance, repair of the City's Waterfront and

Harbor infrastructure – infrastructure which is critical to our enjoyment of the Bay and to tourism sales tax and TOT revenue.

Revenue from Measure B-22 can ONLY be spent on projects like the seawall pictured above, which failed five years ago, and cost \$1,500,000 to repair and improve. Because the Harbor Department did not have the money, it was forced to borrow it.

Measure B-22 funds are dedicated to this type work.

SAVE OUR WATERFRONT!

Visit: www.harbormeasureb.org

Paid for by the Committee for MB Harbor Parcel Tax Measure B-22



SCAN ME



SCAN ME

Community

about THE BAY.

Ok. Measure B-22 could have been written in a way that would have been more acceptable to more residents. It could have been pro-rated based on each parcel's assessed value. It could have asked for \$100/parcel instead of \$120 for each. It could have had a sunset clause. It could have been structured in all kinds of different ways. Yet it has been designed to acknowledge the \$10 million dollar capital needs of the Bay and is structured to address them head on.

By the way, grants are typically awarded to agencies that have significant funds available for projects, but not quite enough to build or complete them. Agencies with no funds are rarely awarded substantial grants. City staff members and consultants are continually pursuing grants to supplement our own funds and have been highly successful in doing so. These ongoing efforts will continue with the proceeds from B-22.

While it would be nice if we could find a way to have our tourists foot the bill, raising taxes sufficient to generate \$680,000 a year---is likely to drive most of them away.

I'm a Morro Bay property owner. I don't like taxes. Yet I moved here for the Bay. Measure B-22 tackles the infrastructure needs of the Bay head on. I have confidence that our current and future staff will use these funds wisely. Let's give them two to three years and see how they do. If they fall short of our expectations, I will personally lead the charge to repeal the initiative. In the meantime, I hope you will join me in supporting B-22 on November 8. And if you don't, I hope you will still be my friend.

*Jeff Heller
Morro Bay City Council*

Last Rebuttal

Mr. Scott Presnal's most recent letter to Estero Bay News (Vol. 4, Issue 19) described my letter from the September 22nd edition of this publication as a rebuttal.

This is incorrect. The letter was simply a one sentence request for an explanation. Mr. Malcom McEwan's letter, also from the September 22 edition, could be considered a rebuttal, but Mr. Presnal ignored it.

I would posit that all religions are man-made, and the sooner they stop imposing their dogma on us the people and use their vast resources to help save what's left of this planter, the better.

Compassionate and caring are positive human attributes, regardless of belief.

*William Fritch
Los Osos*

YES on Measure B-22 - Facts Matter

The sponsors of Measure B-22 are focused on facts, and given that, would like to respond to Letters to the Editor in the October 6 edition of the EBN (Vol.4, Issue 19).

One writer stated the Measure B-22 parcel tax "...it can only be changed or rescinded." by a vote of the people. That is correct, but the writer failed to mention that any three members of the Morro Bay City Council can put a Measure on the ballot at any time to rescind the parcel tax. Common sense suggests asking voters to rescind any type of tax would pass easily.

The writer goes on to state that if the money the City's General Fund charges the Harbor Department for internal services rendered (stated as \$300K to \$350K per year) was reduced, there would be more money for infrastructure. In fact, in the current fiscal year the charged amount is \$238K. The Harbor Department does not have the personnel with the expertise to perform financial services, legal services, HR services, trash removal and janitorial services seven days a week. It is more cost effective to use the City's staff to perform these services. The State law that allows cities

to charge Enterprise Funds for these services has been in place since 1993, and is reviewed every three years by an independent firm.

Another writer to the October 6 edition of EBN seems to have missed the entire point of Measure B-22. The ballot's legal text clearly states the Measure is not "for repairs on the Embarcadero created by tourist..." (whatever those might be) but rather to protect the City's Harbor and Waterfront basic infrastructure (rock revetments and seawalls supporting the shoreline, piers, docks, the launch ramp, etc.) from the harsh and hostile marine environment. Further, the Measure's legal text clearly defines how funds generated by the parcel tax can be spent - ONLY on the maintenance, repair and improvement of this same infrastructure.

*Homer Alexander, Bill Luffee,
Ron Reisner Morro Bay*

Letters Continued on page 16

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Community

Letters From page 15

Vote Rodger for SLOUSD Trustee Area #1

School Board elections used to be straight forward enough. Just select a good candidate that had the will and experience to improve our schools and keep them current in this changing world.

Now, national political and or religious factions are targeting school board elections. Their aim is to control boards and thereby control learning agenda. Look around the world to see countries where political philosophy or religion dominates the schools. Not good, and not what we are in this country. Fortunately, I can recommend a good candidate for the SLOUSD Trustee #1 for our November election, Marilyn Rodger, who's only aim is to stick up for what's best for the children. She's getting my vote and I hope yours too.

Lynda Merrill
Morro Bay

John Headding for Mayor of Morro Bay

Small town mayors are often ceremonial figures - smiling for the cameras, welcoming tourists, cutting ribbons and letting events flow by.

Fortunately for us in Morro Bay, John Headding is anything but that type.

There have been a number of major issues dropped on us in the last few years, everything from the pandemic to major public works programs. Luckily for us, Mayor Headding boldly faced and led us down the road to solving them all.

That Dr. Headding is willing to serve again with all the

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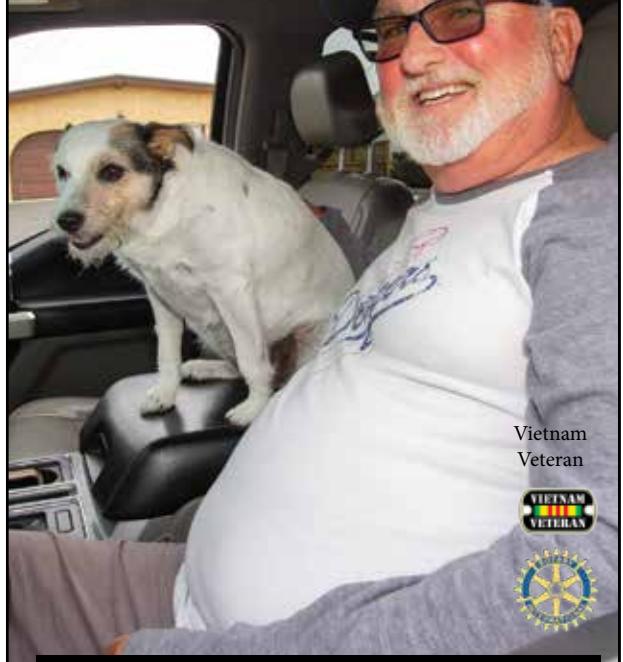
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worry and stress the mayor is currently under amazes me. But as he is, I can only be ever grateful and enthusiastically cast my vote - John Headding for Mayor of Morro Bay.

Frank Merrill
Morro Bay

Parcel Tax Robs Peter to Pay Paul

How long has Morro Bay had a harbor? Well that's a silly question. You would think that someone would have foreseen it needing repairs and saved up for them.

Well now Measure B-22 is coming up for a vote and I have talked to a lot of citizens who don't want it. They do want the Harbor to have the money for repairs, but B-22 is written poorly and they don't like that it goes up every year; that there is no end to it; and it increases everyone's property taxes — rich and poor alike. Rewrite it!!!

I talked to one person on the other side and he said "show me another way to get the money," so I did. Here're some suggestions:

- Grants of course;
- Hold one "Save the Harbor" major event per year with all the money going toward Harbor infrastructure, with no fees from the City;
- Reduce the Cities fees. The City has been taking \$360,000 per year from the Harbor Fund to balance the city budget. The City was asked not to take so much, but they still did;
- Hire a professional to manage the Harbor Fund; and,
- "Volunteer" help in moving rocks for the revetment.

Ann Reisner
Morro Bay

Lithium-ion Storage Would Make Morro Bay Guinea Pigs

Morro Bay City Manager and Council are considering one of world's largest Lithium storage facilities within a few blocks of neighborhoods where hundreds of people are now living and near Morro Bay high school.

It has been documented and reported by Coastal Commission that the facility of interest is in a tsunami hazard zone and near an earthquake fault. This is the same area deemed too dangerous for a sewer plant.

Lithium batteries stored in a module container is made up toxic elements. Lithium-ion batteries are very sensitive to mechanical damage that may cause an electrical surge. This type of damage could lead an individual battery to overheat rapidly causing a thermal runaway to surrounding batteries causing fires and explosions. When the toxic smoke and fumes escape from the module it will spread across Morro Bay. The city would have to evacuate the area in at least a one-mile radius. Think about getting thousands of people out of town quickly with limited access roads.

Moss Landing facility with only 22 modules has had three shutdowns. Recently September 20th inside one of the modules a possible fire caused the system to shut down and was taken off the grid. The fire department had to evacuate people in a two-mile radius.

Remember, there has never been a lithium-ion storage system this size on the planet. In My opinion the residents of Morro Bay would be used as guinea pigs.

Letters Continued on page 27

RE-ELECT MARILYN RODGER
SLCUSD SCHOOL BOARD

Delivering for the coast

*Some candidates run on rhetoric.
MARILYN RUNS ON HER RECORD.*

As a working mother, Marilyn Rodger put two kids through our local schools. This experience made her passionate about empowering *all* students to achieve their goals. Under her steady guidance, our coastal schools are gaining state and national recognition for academic excellence. Across our schools, you can see the results of the investments Marilyn has helped secure in order to give our students a leg up.

Marilyn has a proven track record as an experienced leader and effective champion for our coastal schools.

DELIVERING... Achievement

- Highest performing district in the county
- Highest rates of post-covid learning recovery in the county
- 97% of students back to school full time
- California Distinguished School - *Del Mar Elementary*
- Leader in Me School - *Monarch Grove Elementary*
- State & National School to Watch - *Los Osos Middle School*
- First STEAM Middle School - *Los Osos Middle School*

DELIVERING... Equity & Opportunity

- 1st dual immersion school on the coast - *Baywood Elementary*
- Open enrollment schools, giving students equal access to their school of choice
- Enhanced transportation offerings help students and families access new opportunities
- New district wide elementary youth sports program
- Free Summer Experience program to meet the summer needs of students and families

DELIVERING... Resources

- Worked with our Foundation to build new innovation labs at all elementary sites
- Built a new community pool benefitting the residents of Morro Bay & Estero Bay
- Secured 25% pay increase for our teachers over 3 successful contract negotiation cycles
- Enhanced counseling across the district, including full time elementary counseling
- \$26 million in funding from PGE to offset impacts of eventual Diablo closure
- \$10 million from PGE to endow our district Education Foundation
- \$1 million in additional annual revenue after securing an agreement with neighboring Coast Unified School District to allow inter-district transfers
- \$77 million invested in Morro Bay High School through Measure D, delivering new state-of-the-art learning resources for our students

*"Marilyn doesn't just represent the coast.
She delivers for the coast."*

- MARIA SLAVIN,
5TH GRADE TEACHER

Community

A Dose of Good Dogma



Because It's a Dog

By Lisa Ellman

“Because it’s a dog,” is a response that I sometimes convey to my clients. I don’t always have answers for everything they ask, and often their questions entail topics like why does my dog eat feces or roll in dead animals, or roll in other animal’s feces. These are behaviors that humans can never understand, but dogs understand them innately. And that’s where they originate; in the DNA. Although unnecessary now, our domesticated house dogs still carry the brain wiring of their wild ancestors, that rolled in feces and dead animals to cover their own scent while stalking prey. As much as we incorporate our dogs into the family and sometimes treat them like human children, they’re still led by dog thinking and behavior.

Sometimes that’s a difficult concept for people to grasp. Dogs do not think like us, their brains are designed differently. One of the issues that I encounter when training people (and their dogs) is that they project human thinking and reason onto their dog. Unfortunately, the dog doesn’t think like we do. One must employ dog thinking and dog mental processes to attain success in changing dog behavior.

Several years ago, Casey Lomonaco wrote an article for dogster.com, titled, “What exactly is a normal dog?” It was interesting and humorous to me because the things she listed describe behaviors that many people are concerned about when their dog exhibits them. Again, these are examples of “normal” canine behaviors. I’m going to mention a few that she listed (underlined), and add my thoughts:

• Not coming when called - Unless your dog has been conditioned to respond to that behavior, taught by you, there is no reason for them to come back. They are not born knowing this command. There are dogs, however, that are so anxious about being separated from the person that

they don’t wander far. We call them velcro dogs.

• Bark and growl - They have to, that’s how they communicate. A growl is a precise, explicit way of expressing a warning, evidence of the dog’s unease about a situation. If dogs are reprimanded by owners when they do this, warning signals to other animals are absent and this can accelerate more aggressive behavior.

• Do not like every dog they meet - Why should they? I certainly should not be expected to like every human I meet.

• Chase small animals and sometimes kill them - This goes back to the dog brain and DNA I mentioned earlier. Although some dog breeds do have a higher “prey drive” than others, normal dogs are stimulated by movement. Think of the chase games they love to play.

• Hump legs (and other things) - As mortified as we are when our dog humps something, it is totally normal for the dog to do. Mounting is almost always a form of dominance behavior, not sexual. As I’ve written before, we see both genders mount each other, in incompatible positions, so we know it’s not about reproduction.

• Chew, dissect and destroy things – Yep, normal. All dogs go through a developmental phase where they explore the world with their mouths. Besides teething as puppies, it’s their way of figuring out if the object is something to play with, eat or leave alone.

There are several other behaviors Lomonaco mentions, but I wanted to address some of the topics that I hear frequently about from clients and friends.

It’s essential to learn and understand your dog’s, or any dog’s, behavior. Once a person can comprehend what is happening in the dog’s mind, and why, behaviors like humping, aggression and chewing can be more productively addressed.

Good Dogma has been training humans and their dogs since 1996. Readers are invited to submit questions to goodeggoma@ hotmail.com. Contact information for all offered services can be found on our website www.GoodDogma.net

A Caring Anniversary

By Ruth Ann Angus

It was six years ago that Linda Quesenberry had the idea to form an organization to aid residents of the Estero Bay coastal communities who were underserved or homeless. Over these years Los Osos Cares has grown from offering needy residents a resource list of aid agencies to a full-blown social service humanitarian organization that collaborates with over 20 other organizations and govern-

ment agencies trying to create a culture of care in the towns of Los Osos, Morro Bay, and Cayucos.

Los Osos

Cares is celebrating with a 6th anniversary fundraiser on Saturday, November 5 from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. at

Sea Pines Golf Resort in Los Osos. Admission is free and there will be live music featuring Déjà Vu and a Golf Ball Raffle with a grand prize of \$300 will be part of the fun. Tickets are \$10 each or \$50 for six. To purchase tickets, go to www.losososcares.com/news-events.

A Silent Auction will also be held featuring artwork by distinguished local artists, wine gift baskets, ten SLO Blues tickets, hotel stays, restaurant gift certificates and more.

Funds raised go towards the programs Los Osos Cares offers the community, such as Senior Programs; the R-You Okay program with four representatives phoning for each city; free community dinners in partnership with the Morro Bay Community Dinner program serving over 200 people per week; Laundry Love Program offering free laundry and detergent; Mobile Home Outreach; and support for the Warming center for individuals who need shelter when temperatures drop below 35 degrees or when it is raining.

“As long as we have funding, we will continue to help people who are already homeless or are one-step away from homelessness,” said Quesenberry, Los Osos Cares executive director, “as well as seniors and other community members who need support.”

Los Osos Cares serves 25 to 30 people a week out of their local office located at Sunnyside School room 18 in Los Osos and has bilingual staff for Spanish speaking individuals seeking aid. People seeking help are offered assistance with medical/mental health services, employment, transportation, housing and legal issues.

The Estero Bay Womenade Program also functions under the Los Osos Cares nonprofit umbrella helping community members with emergency funding.

Not slowing down at all, Quesenberry recently helped organize the Estero Bay Youth Coalition with agencies, organizations, and schools to enhance and encourage young people with life pursuits.

You can learn more about Los Osos Cares at www.losososcares.com.



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Obituary

Justin William West 2001 - 2022



Justin loved playing baseball, football and wrestling. He was often the MVP or captain of the team. Justin also enjoyed fishing, riding motorcycles and auto mechanics.

Over the last year, he spent time working on improving and discovering himself, finding the man he wanted to be. He had big dreams for his future.

Justin would often tell his mom, Johanna Sanders, that she was his "best friend," and he adored his cat, Diva. Justin was a tough guy with a kind heart.

Justin is survived by his biological parents, Janine Lindemans and Randy Grisback, his Mom, Johanna Sanders, his sister Marina Lindemans and niece Delilah, who could always make him laugh.

He is also survived by his grandparents Ed and Candace Bowie, Uncle Darran, Aunt Corral and cousins Sydney and Autumn Sanders and the whole Sanders Family. His Oma, Paula Lindemans and his Uncle Jeff and Aunt Kathy Lindemans, his Aunt Julie Tacker and cousins Teddy Tacker, Clayton Tacker, Jack Edwards and Marly (Julian) Santamarina, and second cousin, Johnathan.

Justin will be missed by his many friends and teammates and his "Badass Windmill Mafia Family".

Justin was preceded in death by his Dad, Josh Sanders, loving Opa and Oma, John and Jean Lindemans and his Nana and Papa Montgomery.

The "Justin West Memorial Fund" GoFundMe account has been set up, a donation of any amount would help with expenses incurred and preparations for a memorial gathering to be held at the Windmill on November 5, 2022, at 2 p.m.

Community CMC Vets, County Start Food Pantry



San Luis Obispo County's Veterans Services Office has started up a new food pantry catering to local veterans and put together by veterans incarcerated at the California Men's Colony, the County announced.

"The pantry," County Administrative Services Officer for the Veterans Services Office, Chris Emert, said in a news release, "will be located outside the Veterans Services Office on Grand Avenue [in SLO] during normal working hours. The food pantry will be open to the veteran community who need non-perishable food for themselves and their families."

Veterans in CMC organized and collected food donated from other inmates at the Men's Colony, Emert said.

Morgan Boyd, the SLO County Veterans Services Officer said, "The San Luis Obispo Veterans Services Office is proud to partner with the Veterans in The California Men's Colony to address food insecurities of our community's veterans. Furthermore, we hope that the program will provide veterans in the California Men's Colony with a sense of selfless services, something that I hope carries on with them once they are reintegrated into the community."

Emert said the CMC veterans organized the drive and recruited other inmates in the Men's Colony to purchase non-perishable food items from a list of items available at the commissary.

The chosen items were then purchased and collected by correctional officers who coordinated with the Veterans Services Office.

Michael Schacherer, a County Veterans Services Representative who works with justice-involved veterans with clients at CMC said the Veterans Services Office "appreciates the efforts and sacrifice from the veterans in the California Men's Colony. The selfless attitude from my clients to continue to serve their fellow veterans is priceless."

Overall, approximately 160 pounds of food was collected and donated.

For more information or to donate: call Emert at 805-781-5766 or email: slovets@co.slo.ca.us.

Celebrate Halloween at the Downtown SLO Farmers' Market



Kick off Halloween weekend at the Downtown SLO Farmers' Market on Thursday, October 27 from 5–8 p.m. Halloween festivities include the downtown Trick-or-Treat Trail, a Costume Contest, and a "Scary-oke!" karaoke contest.

Halloween festivities coincide with the normally-scheduled Downtown SLO Farmers' Market running from 6 – 9 p.m.. A full list of scheduled vendors and entertainment for the evening will be published at DowntownSLO.com/Farmers-Market/Vendors.

Trick-or-Treat Trail sponsored by First 5 SLO is from 5 – 8 p.m. Families can follow the trail to more than 35 downtown businesses and collect candy. Treat bags and Trail maps will be available at 5 p.m. in the Union Bank parking lot at 995 Higuera Street. Maps will also be published online at DowntownSLO.com/Halloween. Additionally, select Farmers' Market vendors will be passing out candy after 6 p.m.



The Costume Contest is sponsored by Puzzle Effect, presented by 98.1 KJUG with sign-ups at 5 p.m. and the

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When: **Sunday, November 13th 2022 at 3PM**

Where: Trinity United Methodist Church
490 Los Osos Valley Road, Los Osos

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(805)464,7804



Community

contest at 6:30 p.m. at the Union Bank parking lot at 995 Higuera. Prizes from local businesses are awarded to winners in the following categories: Age groups 0–2, 3–4, 5–8, and 9–12, as well as pairs and groups/families. Puzzle Effect is hosting a miniature pop-up escape room experience in the Union Bank parking lot, and a Halloween-themed photo opportunity.

"Scary-oke!" is sponsored by Kramer Events, Mystery Loves Company Tours, and The Haunt in Atascadero with Coast 104.5 and The Krush 92.5 from 6 – 8 p.m. at the intersection of Chorro and Higuera Sing your heart out and compete in this karaoke contest to win cash prizes!

Los Osos Rotary Picnic Tables



Pictured from the back left are: Dick Pacaoan, Keith Hanan, Michelle Feldman, Jim Stanfill, Don Gabler, Jim Quesenberry, David Preston, Gary dove, Cherrie Katayama and Tom Cross.

The Rotary Club of Los Osos recently competed a project in conjunction with the SLO County Department of Parks and Recreation to place picnic tables at the Los Osos Community Park on Palisades Avenue.

The Club had identified a need for family and group friendly seating around the lawn area of the park. Working with Laska Gaylord, supervising park ranger, two tables were placed along the path fronting the tennis courts as a trial to test utilization, location and any maintenance or other issues that may need to be managed before considering additional tables.

The Club is now working to Adopt-A-Park for ongoing support for the only community park in Los Osos. For more information about this or other projects for the Rotary Club of Los Osos, go to RotaryLosOsos.org or email to RotaryLosOsos.1987@gmail.com



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

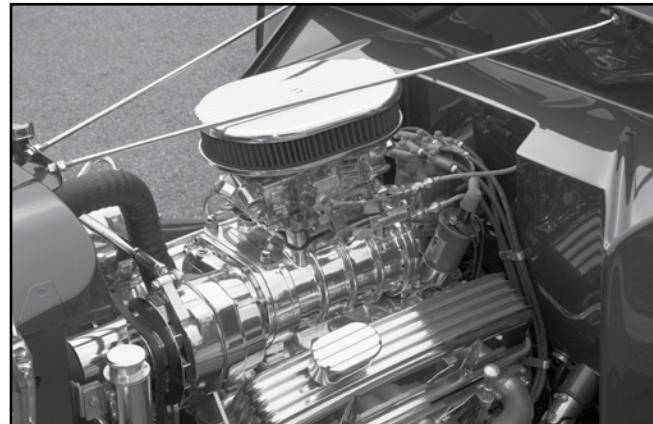
Winners of the 2002 Cambria Car Show

Photos by Lorienne Schwenk and Dean Sullivan

The Cambria Chamber of Commerce hosted the Annual Car & Motorcycle Show on Saturday, October 15.

"We had a fascinating variety of vehicles, including a 50-year old Datsun, a 1992 Nissan Figaro, beauties from the 1930s, and an Infinity Vaydar from this decade," said organizers. "We had several beautiful motorcycles. The proud owners and lots of visitors enjoyed seeing the different vehicular works of art. Even though the sun did not shine, the day was perfect for all the many people and dogs who came. We had 46 entries, our largest yet."

The Chamber sold out of the specialty shirts for the event, but stop by the Chamber office to purchase stickers or a hat from the show.



"Best in Show" went to Thomas Southwick left. Awards presented by Mel McColloch, Chamber board president.



And The Winners Are:

Hot Rod went to Santos Prado and his 1934 Ford Coupe (Infrared)
Motorcycle went to Jason Abel and his White Harley
Military went to Mel McColloch and his 1953 Willys Jeep
Stock went to DeRoy Jensen for his 1934 Ford
Truck went to Morris Sealy and his 1966 Chevy Pickup
Peoples Choice went to Jim Curtice and his purple 55 nomad
Third Place went to Abel Tagre and his 1968 Firebird
Second place went to Cindi Kennedy's 1979 Challenger
Best in Show went to Thomas Southwick and his 1957 Chevy Belair

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Community

Maritime Museum Family Fun Day

The Morro Bay Maritime Museum Association held a Family Fun Day on Saturday, Oct. 8 at the museum on the Embarcadero. Hundreds of people turned out to see the demonstration booths and eat some fine seafood delicacies — barbecued oysters from Dockside and tuna stuffed avocados from the Women for Fisheries, among others.

The local Salinan Tribe was on hand discussing their culture and long history with the ocean.

Beautification group, Morro Bay in Bloom, was selling plants, and the Coast Guard Auxiliary was on hand to talk about boater safety.

Displays included the Yacht Club holding miniature sailboat races and teaching folks how to tack in a Day Sailor and a display of historical deep diving gear that included a rare diving bell helmet from the early days of abalone diving.

The Museum proper was also open to visitors, as well as its extensive outdoor displays of historic boats and other maritime vessels and gear.



18th Annual Fall Festival Halloween Night at El Morro Church in Los Osos



El Morro Church of the Nazarene, located at 1480 Santa Ysabel in Los Osos, hosts its 18th Annual Fall Festival on October 31. Free to the community, the event begins at 5:30 p.m. and ends at 8:30 p.m. A free shuttle service will be offered with a pick up location at Los Osos Middle School. Parking is encouraged at the middle school with shuttle vans running every 10- to 20 minutes between the church and the school.

Every year El Morro Church, hosts this family friendly event which includes fun activities such as a Trunk-or-Treat, game booths, bounce houses, and food. Scary costumes are discouraged since children of all ages will be on campus. El Morro Church partners



with Kiwanis Club of Bay Osos, who has graciously supported them by manning the BBQ for the food tent. Food tent items like hot dogs, churros, and sodas will available for purchase. They welcome the community to participate in the fun and friendly event this Halloween.

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Community

Monday Music Returns to Baywood!



Beer at the Pier Concerts ran every Monday evening for a solid 5 years at the Back Bay Cafe, Blue Heron, and La Palapa. And then the pandemic, which hit the pause button on these beloved community events. With properties changing hands in Baywood, the Monday music hadn't quite found a new home... Until Jennifer Dorn, the new owner of the Merrimaker, created a beautiful event garden and put together a great new Monday series. Come enjoy some of the area's top talent and unparalleled community vibes every Monday from 5:00 - 7:00. All of a sudden, Monday is cool again! Some of the acts in the lineup include: Jill Knight, Dante Marsh, Bobby Santa Cruz, Soul Poets, James Scoolis, Adam Levine Group, and a special surprise announcement coming for the big Merrimaker After Market Halloween Party. Details are at bigbigslo.com - just search "Merrimaker" on the calendar.

Fri., Oct. 21 • 8:00pm

10,000 Maniacs
The Fremont Theater
1035 Monterey St,
San Luis Obispo

Fri., Oct. 21 • 8:00pm

Michelle Wolf
Performing Arts Center
1 Grand Ave, San Luis Obispo

Fri., Oct. 21 • 8:00pm

Chelsea Handler: Vaccinated
and Horny Tour
Vina Robles Amphitheatre
3800 Mill Road, Paso Robles

Fri., Oct. 21 • 7:30pm

Cuesta Jazz & Starlight
Dream Band
Cuesta College CPAC
Highway 1, San Luis Obispo

Fri., Oct. 21 • 8:00pm

Will Hoge
The Siren
900 Main St, Morro Bay

Sat., Oct. 22 • 2:30pm

Back Pages Band
The Siren
900 Main St, Morro Bay

Sat., Oct. 22 • 3:30pm

Jill Knight
Cass Winery
7350 Linne Road, Paso Robles

Sat., Oct. 22 • 8:30pm

Lowdown Brass Band
The Siren
900 Main St, Morro Bay

Sat., Oct. 22 • 7:30pm

Petty Fever
Clark Center for the
Performing Arts
487 Fair Oaks Ave,
Arroyo Grande

Sat., Oct. 22 • 6:30pm

VOLATUS Harvest Party
Volatus Tasting Room
2985 Anderson Rd,
Paso Robles

Sat., Oct. 22 • 1:00pm

ICE CUBE
Elks Unocal Event Center
4040 US-101, Santa Maria

Sat., Oct. 22 • 2:00pm

YOUNG DUBLINERS
Sea Pines Golf Resort
1945 Solano St, Los Osos

Sun., Oct. 23 • 1:00pm

Lazy Locals: Kenny Taylor
Duo
Castoro Cellars
1315 N Bethel Rd, Templeton

Sun., Oct. 23 • 6:00pm

Live Outside: Rachel Santa
Cruz
Schooners
171 N Ocean Ave., Cayucos

Mon., Oct. 24 • 5:00pm

Baywood After Market
Mondays: The Soul Poets
Merrimaker
1301 2nd St, Baywood Park

Tue., Oct. 25 • 7:00pm

Songwriters at Play hosts Song
Contest
Schooners
171 N. Ocean Ave, Cayucos

Tue., Oct. 25 • 7:00pm

Tuesday Blues Jam
The Siren
900 Main St, Morro Bay

Wed., Oct. 26 • 7:30pm

Andrew Duhon
The Siren
900 Main St, Morro Bay

Fri., Oct. 28 • 6:00pm

The Haunting of Hill House

Zongo All-Stars returns to Sea Pines for Halloween!



Paul's Picks



It's hard to have more fun than at a Zongo All-Stars concert, especially when it's at Sea Pines for the annual Halloween Party. You'll want to put your costume together and come on down for a funky good time on Saturday, October 29. You'll also want to get there early by 2:00 to witness the debut of the freshest new band on the scene: Strange Cake, a collaboration of local music scene vets Isaac Horton and Aaron Berger. This will be an outrageous dance party with a costume contest and great prizes. It's free, family friendly, and fun! See you there! Photo: Courtesy of Zongo All-Stars

Wed., Oct. 26 • 7:00pm

Delicate Steve with
Strangelight!
SLO Brew Rock
855 Aero Vista Place,
San Luis Obispo

Wed., Oct. 26 • 7:30pm

Haley Johnsen
The Siren
900 Main St, Morro Bay

Thu., Oct. 27 • 8:45pm

Taylor Ashton
The Siren
900 Main St, Morro Bay

Fri., Oct. 28 - Sun., Oct 30

1st Annual ROCKIN'
SLO BOOFEST
SLO Brew Rock
855 Aero Vista Place,
San Luis Obispo

Fri., Oct. 28 • 7:00pm

Eat The Wolf Album Release
Party
SLO Brew Rock
855 Aero Vista Place,
San Luis Obispo

Fri., Oct. 28 • 6:00pm

The Haunting of Hill House

St Peter's by the Sea Episcopal Church Hall

545 Shasta Avenue, Morro Bay

Fri., Oct. 28 • 7:30pm

Molly Ringwald Project Hal-
loween 80's party
The Siren
900 Main St, Morro Bay

Sat., Oct. 29 • 10:00am

BGA Audio Swap Meet!
Bill Gaines Audio
840-A Capitolio, San Luis
Obispo

Sat., Oct. 29 • 2:30pm

The Hi Beamz
The Siren
900 Main St, Morro Bay

Sat., Oct. 29 • 8:00pm

Hollywood Blonde & Stevie
Nicks Illusion
The Siren
900 Main St, Morro Bay

Sat., Oct. 29 • 6:00pm

Live Outside: Post Westerns
Schooners
171 N Ocean Ave., Cayucos

Sat., Oct. 29 • 7:00pm

ORGONE w/ Dante Ele-
phantine
SLO Brew Rock
855 Aero Vista Place,
San Luis Obispo

Sat., Oct. 29 • 3:00pm

The Vibe Setters
SLO Brew Rock
855 Aero Vista Place,
San Luis Obispo

Sat., Oct. 29 • 2:00pm

Zongo All-Stars: Barefoot
Halloween Party on the Green
Sea Pines Golf Resort
1945 Solano St, Los Osos

Sun., Oct. 30 • 7:00pm

Joshua Ray Walker
The Siren
900 Main St, Morro Bay

Sun., Oct. 30 • 6:00pm

Live Outside: Murder Hornets
/ South Lot
Schooners
171 N Ocean Ave., Cayucos

Thu., Nov. 3 • 7:00pm

Son Little with Moorea
Masa & The Mood
The Siren
900 Main St, Morro Bay

Sat., Oct. 29 • 7:00pm

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Stranger Things Theme House Opens Oct 21

Don't miss the Halloween Display and "Stranger Things" Home Haunt at 2098 Tapadero Ave. in Los Osos. Local Hollywood film director/writer Damian Nieman's extensive Halloween display and home haunt features hundreds of hand carved Jack-o-Lanterns, larger than life animated characters, lights, music and FX. The walk-through haunt is based on the Netflix series "Stranger Things".

The house is open Oct. 21, 22 and Oct. 27 - Oct 31st. and other select nights (TBD) from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. It is free, but donations are gladly accepted. Good for all ages.



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



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News

Furry From page 1

stress and blood pressure, comfort and affirmation, and motor skill development as well as decreased anxiety and depression among other conditions.

"Therapy dogs can bring a non-judgmental and unconditional affection and attention and love to someone who may not be receiving those things from fellow humans," Elise said. "Many times I have seen people respond to Mooshum in a way they have not responded to other humans or caregivers in months if not years."

Over the years, Moosh and Elise, who live outside the incorporated area of Morro Bay, have worked with hundreds of people at various living and care facilities first in Tennessee and, now, in SLO County.

"I have always considered volunteer work to be an important part of my life that brings me great joy and purpose," Elise said. "Moosh has the perfect personality and demeanor for this work, and he thrives on all of the attention he gets."

The team is popular on their visits to the Wyndham Residence, an assisted living community in Arroyo Grande as well as Casa de Flores Assisted Living Facility in Morro Bay.

Once a month at Wyndham, the dogs and residents spend time together in the large living room area where it is all "smiles and laughter," said Wyndham Activity Director April McClaskey. Whether nuzzling a hand or simply sitting close by, dogs can provide comfort, trust, and a sense of calm.

"I can't express enough how amazing having the therapy dogs come in has been; it has made a huge difference in the residents who engage with the dogs," McClaskey said. "Listening to them reminiscing about their dogs that they had throughout their lives or hearing them tell the therapy dogs how much they love them as they are petting them, I seriously could go on and on about how amazing they truly are."

Elise is also a tester/observer for ATD and is part of the process for canines and people looking to join the team of volunteers.

"Once a human/pet dog team has done their own training," Elise said, "and feel ready to test and become a certified therapy dog, they contact me and we go through a series of handling tests and observations to make sure the dog and its owner would be a good fit as a therapy dog team."

Initial training is up to the owner, but anyone looking for a way to give back to the community who had a dog that is calm, friendly, gentle, well behaved and comfortable meeting new people while being pet in a variety of new and dynamic environments is encouraged to get involved. Dogs must not have any aggression issues towards other dogs or humans and be up to date on vaccines.

"Many times, as a tester for this organization, we find dog owners who really want to do this volunteer work themselves, but their dogs are not necessarily suited for the work," Elise said. "We coach potential applicants that their dogs should really love to do this volunteer work for them to be a successful therapy dog team."

Dogs that become certified as therapy dogs do not have any rights or inclusions into the ADA laws.



Elise Mebel and Moosh volunteer as a team providing services across San Luis Obispo County through Alliance of Therapy Dogs. In this photo they are on Maui where the cute canine was born. Photo submitted

"Therapy dogs are welcome if a facility permits it, but we are given no special accommodations as our dogs are not service animals," Elise said. "We visit solely to bring love and smiles to those we meet."

As for the people involved, Elise said the dog owners ideally are folks who like to volunteer, understand the joy these dogs can bring to humans and will advocate for their canine's comfort level during visits.

"Knowing when they [dogs] are becoming stressed or are tired or are ready to leave a visit is very important in therapy dog work," Elise said. "Moosh gives me very subtle signs that he is ready to go home, and I immediately wrap things up and leave. I like to keep every visit positive for him and never want to push him out of his comfort zone."

To reach Elise, send an email to contact@centralcoast-attd.org or check out or Alliance Therapy Dogs at www.therapydogs.com.

For readers that are curious, Moosh is short for Mooshum. He was named after a character in a novel by Elise's favorite author, Louise Erdrich. Mooshum is a word in the indigenous Ojibwe language that means "old soul" or "grandfather."

"Mooshum, the dog, is definitely an old soul, and has been since I got him when he was 6 months old."

Last week Moosh and Elise celebrated their 200th visit as a team, the fifty-fifth of 2022. Moosh and Elise have a social media presence on Instagram under Mooshtetherapydog.

Campaign Finance From page 1

ing July 1 to Sept. 24, Mayor Headding's monetary contributions top \$9,300, with contributions of \$200 and more coming from Tim Daniels of Morro Bay for \$1,000; Gail Davis of Morro Bay at \$500; former Mayor Jamie Irons and wife Monica donated \$500; local businessman Bill Luffee gave \$350; Johnie Medina of Morro Bay gave \$300; Dist. 3 County Supervisor Dawn Ortiz-Legg with \$200; Rose's Landing Owner Doug Redican and wife Susan donated \$500; Mark Simonin of IBEW Local 639 (electrical workers union) gave \$500; Bob and Carol Swain of Morro Bay at \$200; John and Joyce Texeira with \$200; and the biggest donor, Alla Weinstein of Castle Wind donated \$2,000.

Among his biggest expenses are an ad buy in Morro Bay Life at over \$1,000 and \$1,500 to Rock Harbor Marketing for website and social media PR work.

It should be noted that all of these candidates received numerous donations of \$100-\$150 and some number of donations under \$100 that don't have to be itemized in the reports.

Mayoral challenger, Carla Wixom's Form 460, dated Sept. 1 shows \$1,000 donated by Barry Branin of Morro Bay and \$1,000 from Richard Kelter of Morro Bay. She's also gotten \$1,000 from Elaine Giannini of Morro Bay.

And in her latest filing, dated July 1 to Sept. 4, Wixom received a total of \$9,579 for the period.

Her biggest donors include Roger Ewing of Morro Bay at \$250; \$200 from Stephen Ryan of Morro Bay; Christina Metzger of Morro Bay with \$250; Tammy Haas of Morro Bay with \$200; Bernadette Pekarek of Cayucos at \$200; Friends of Costanzo (the campaign fund for James Costanzo who ran unsuccessfully for Council at the June Primary), at \$905; Dan Sedley of Morro Bay with \$500; and Ron Bovasso of Morro Bay at \$300.

Wixom's biggest expenses so far have been \$1,700 in newspaper ads from Estero Bay News; and \$1,000 to Goofy Graphics of Morro Bay for yard signs.

In the City Council race for two open seats, Sarah Robinson raised a little over \$2,200 from July 1 to Sept. 24. Robinson reports getting \$200 from Richard Hawley of Cambria; \$500 from Barry Branin and wife Vivian; \$300 from former Councilwoman, Betty Winholtz; \$250 from Dan Sedley; and \$250 from Councilman Jeff Heller and wife Kerry (Heller declined to run for re-election).

Her biggest expenses have been \$500 with Goofy Graphics for yard signs and \$150 to ASAP Reprographics for brochures.

Robin Landrum's financial documents show she's raised nearly \$2,400 as of Sept. 24. Her biggest donors have been Barry Branin at \$500; Bernadette Pekarek at \$500; Betty Winholtz at \$300; Dan Sedley at \$250; and Councilman Heller at \$250.

She's spent \$260 at ASAP for flyers.

Council hopeful Cyndee Edwards reported \$6,500 in total money contributions plus loans of over \$1,500 for a

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News

total cash supply of some \$8,100.

Her biggest donors have been Jean Ryan of Morro Bay for \$400; Ginny and Greg Palmer for \$500; Monica and Jamie Irons of Morro Bay with \$250; Lisa Marie Huey of Pismo Beach donated \$1,000; Jacque Leonard at \$250; Sheila Tranquill of Morro Bay at \$250; Sharon Buffo of Los Osos at \$200; Joan Pederson of Morro Bay at \$200; former Councilwoman and current Executive Director of Pacific Wildlife Care, Christine Johnson gave \$250.

Edwards donated \$280 for her campaign kickoff party. She paid Bill Luffee of Promotion Plus, Inc., \$1,000 for lawn signs and the City of Morro Bay charged her for \$420. She's also hired Rock Harbor Marketing for Internet work at \$1,500.

Casey Cordes' Form 460 shows he's raised over \$3,400 with his biggest contributors being Megan Cordes of Paso Robles giving \$900; Diana Nevala at \$200; Jeff Heller with \$200; Glenn Sillaway with \$250; former Councilwoman Marlys McPherson at \$250; and Edward Bischof at \$200.

His only listed expenditure was \$230 to Hay Printing of Morro Bay for campaign literature.

And the other Council hopeful, David Durerger, filed a Form 470, which declares that he will not receive or spend over \$2,000.

As for other election issues and political groups the "Committee for Morro Bay Harbor Parcel Tax Measure B-22," — a \$120 per year property tax on all private property in town to support the City Harbor Department's maintenance needs — has raised the most money of all, reporting monetary contributions of over \$19,200; with non-monetary contributions of \$1,500 for a total of over \$21,800.

The group's biggest donors are Jack and Nancy Brown at \$250; Richard Caglia with \$500; SEIU Local 629 — Nicole Bryant field rep — gave \$500; Jarrell Carter of Los Angeles, \$500; Tess Endersby of Cayucos with \$250; Scott Engle of SLO at \$250; Bob Fowler of Morro Bay with \$250; Paul Gillen of Associated Pacific Constructors with \$3,000; Morro Bay Firefighters, Assoc., at \$500; Smith and Hannah Held of Cayucos with \$500; Martin Lomelli at \$250; Bill Luffee with five donations totaling \$1,375; Morro Bay Police Officers Assoc., at \$300; Rick Sacksteder with \$500; Judy Whibley \$3,000; Alla Weinstein at \$1,000; Kevin Winfield at \$250; and Rock Harbor Marketing has donated \$1,500 in non-monetary Internet work.

And another political group in town, Citizens for Affordable Living or CAL filed a donations report that was full of zeros. The group, which is opposed to Measure B-22, reported no contributions from Jan. 1 to June 30 but does have over \$500 on hand.

CAL was formed in 2018 to fight the City's Prop. 218 vote on its Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) project. The effort fell short and the WRF is now almost completed. CAL has been active in recent months issuing Newsletters discussing current events in the city and four of its members drafted the ballot argument against the B-22 tax measure.

News

State Water From page 1

to better manage the water basin, which has experienced seawater intrusion.

It's the smart thing to do. "The District will remain committed to the basin management strategies in the Los Osos Basin Plan, but with the changing climate and unknowns of future weather events like extended drought periods; it is prudent and good planning to consider other water sources."

CSD officials have reportedly met with Morro Bay and County officials to discuss pipeline alignments and "the challenges that may be encountered during design and construction."

That could be the understatement of the century. A pipeline following South Bay Boulevard to the Chorro Valley would need an easement from both SLO County and the City of Morro Bay. Morro Bay's City Limits begin a short distance south of the Chorro Creek Bridge on South Bay Boulevard.

The early cost estimate of \$8 million might be a tough sell to residents in Los Osos, of which the CSD only sells water to about half. So the cost allocations the CSD has mentioned thus far are to have these preliminary costs spread about the CSD's various funds.

"In order to equitably pay for the work," the report said, "staff is recommending that the Board reallocate the Zone A revenue since this is a District wide property tax since the project has a District wide benefit. By doing this, it will not place the burden of paying this expense solely on the District's water customers."

So currently the breakdown would be \$190,000 out of the CSD fire fund (67.3%); \$49,000 (17.7%) from the water fund; and \$42,000 (15%) from Parks & Rec for a total of \$282,000, according to the report.

The board changed the ratios to \$108,000 (38.5%) from fire; \$131,000 (46.5%) from water; and \$42,000 (15%) from Parks & Rec.

The report explains that taking money from the so-called Fund 301 (property taxes to support the fire department), was OK because they'd gotten a big "refund" from Cal Fire because the State Agency, which the CSD contracts with through the SLO County Fire Department, overcharged them.

"Though it is important to maintain a high level of funding for emergency services," the report said, "Fund 301 recently received a \$331,000 refund from Cal Fire for an overcharge for fiscal year 2021-22 and realized a \$300,000 decrease in Schedule A charges for fiscal year 2022-23." However, the CSD expects to see an increase in costs as Cal Fire is negotiating a new union contract. "It is unknown at this time what the impact of these negotiations will have in the future."

SLO County is entitled to 25,000 acre feet per year (AFY) of State Water, which is controlled by the County Flood Control and Water Conservation District and only 10,577 AFY is spoken for, which includes so-called "drought buffers."

Morro Bay has such a buffer, having contracted for 1,313 AFY and pays for another 1,313 a.f. as a buffer, so that when the State cuts deliveries due to supply shortage, Morro Bay doesn't lose water until the cut drops below 50%.



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The subscriptions mean the County is holding onto 14,423 AFY a year and frankly doesn't know what to do with it.

In at least one recent year, the County sold much of that unused allocation to water purveyors further down the pipeline, but that's not a good way of dealing with this excess.

"The State has instituted new water management tools," the CSD report said, "which make it easier to purchase and sell water within the system. Additionally, the County holds approximately 14,000 acre-feet of un-allocated water, which the Board of Supervisors has indicated needs to be allocated in the near future to remove the property tax burden from properties not benefiting from the project."

Indeed since its inception in the 1950s and construction in the 1960s, private property owners have paid a small charge on their property taxes for the State Water Project and continue to do so today whether or not they actually receive any water.

The CSD is also betting that there are some SWP subscribers that won't use all of their annual allocations, and the CSD might be able to purchase some of that water.

"These changes," the CSD report said, "plus the willingness of some State Water subcontractors wanting to sell some of their excess allocation, provide the District a unique opportunity to secure water for the community. Inquiries and negotiations on multiple fronts are complicated but staff is confident that there will be water available as the separate prospects unfold."

So what is State Water? According to the Department of Water Resources' website (see: water.ca.gov/Programs/State-Water-Project), "The California State Water Project [SWP] is a multi-purpose water storage and delivery system that extends more than 705 miles — two-thirds the length of California.

A collection of canals, pipelines, reservoirs, and hydroelectric power facilities delivers clean water to 27 million Californians, 750,000 acres of farmland, and businesses throughout our state.

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considered an engineering marvel that has helped fuel California's population boom and economic prosperity since its initial construction."

Chief to Retire From page 1

into the future.

"We are forever grateful for all he has done to empower our officers, command staff, police administrative staff, and the community to keep Morro Bay safe. We will miss him, and we wish him all the best in the next chapter of his life."

Chief Cox's announcement came just a short time after Harbor Director Eric Endersby announced that he was retiring, with his last day also Dec. 31. Coupled with new Fire Chief Dan McCrain, who came on in July 2021, replacing retired Fire Chief Steve Knuckles.

Cox was hired at MBPD in 2012, joining the local force as a sergeant. He'd already served over 24 years in law enforcement with the Tulare County Sheriff's Department and Tulare P.D.

After coming to Morro Bay, he soon was promoted to Commander after Cmdr. Bryan Millard left to become the police chief of Cuesta College.

He made Police Chief in November 2018 and brought to town an old colleague from Tulare County, Amy Watkins, to become the new commander.

If the city manager doesn't hire a replacement before Chief Cox leaves, Cmdr. Watkins would be the likely person to step in as interim chief. She would also seem a good candidate to be the next chief.

"I am very comfortable they will continue to build upon the solid foundation and strong community relationships we have developed," Chief Cox said of his department staff. "As for my immediate future plans, I look forward to spending a lot more time with family, building in my woodshop and a little more time cruising the coast on my motorcycle."

Chief Cox has become quite a wood worker, creating beautiful wooden artworks with American flags motifs.

His tenure leading MBPD has had several highlights.

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"As Police Chief," the news release said, "Jody led an expansion of programs aimed to connect the Department and the community, including launching the Citizen's Academy, Police Chief's Advisory Board, and mobile phone app, among many other initiatives."

"In addition, Chief Cox and his command staff were instrumental in bolstering the Department's training regime and aiding the City and community throughout the COVID-19 pandemic."

AS for what happens next, "The City plans to conduct a survey of community members and MBPD personnel on what they hope to see in their next Police Chief, to help inform the City Manager's decision on Police Chief succession."

In past recruitments for police chief, Morro Bay has gotten as many as 60 applicants, and with veteran police officers from large metropolitan departments leaving the big city in droves the past couple of years, there is likely to be no shortage of potential police veterans that would like to take over running a small-town department in a sleepy little fishing village.

Community Center From page 1

and Friday. I predict it won't be long before her hours are extended.

"This community center is unique," Cave explained. "It is owned by the Los Osos residents, who raised all the funds to build it. It has always operated solely on donations from generous residents and fees from activities it generates."

Besides the day-to-day office management duties, Cave will show people considering booking an event what is available at the center. She said she would also reach out to businesses, such as bridal shops, other community organizations planning future events, and work with families who have traditionally held memorial services, anniversary parties, or a quinceanera for their daughter at the center.

"We have the space and the resources to help produce a variety of activities," Cave said.

Although the Los Osos Community Center has always had generous community support, it had to survive unopened and without events during the pandemic. Luckily a bequest from the late Len Saldano allowed a skeleton crew to maintain basic uses. The center also houses the operations of People Helping People (PHP), which has donated funds to enhance the facility — a large screen intended to coordinate future children's movies with the Los Osos Library was a recent donation. Just before COVID shuttered the facility, PHP also provided for the construction of a dressing room for brides and/or "green room" for hired talent, plus a storage area for their 300-plus weekly distribution of food staples. They also support Los Osos Cares'

Wednesday evening community dinners for anyone to come and enjoy a free meal.

Why did the board decide Gari Cave was the best candidate for the job? She has a diverse list of career credits demonstrating the flexibility she will need for the job. She was the county coordinator/executive director for the Long-Term Ombudsman from 1993-99. It was during this time she and a partner realized the need for a nonprofit residential care facility for the elderly with dementia and Alzheimer's. They purchased, remodeled, and licensed Garden House of Morro Bay. She served a board of directors as she managed the facility from 1999-2014. When she found the right person who shared her passion for the residents, she sold it and trained Kasey Watson and then transitioned to its board of directors. She also competed to serve as an advocate for seniors at the state level becoming a California Senior Legislature Assemblywoman from 2013-19.

When Cave decided to downsize from her Morro Bay home, she and her husband, Jerry, moved to Morro Shores Senior Mobile Home Park in Los Osos. They enjoyed new friends, bocce ball, playing cards, football night and especially the dog park for their favorite rescue pup. Then Jerry passed and Cave knew she needed a change. Her daughter lived on a ranch near Bakersfield that had an extra home, so Cave decided to sell and move to be near family — especially her grandchildren. And although she loved being closer to them, she discovered home to her was truly Los Osos where she had friends her age and activities that served to enhance her lifestyle and purpose.

I asked Cave what her motivation was to seek another demanding career managing the Los Osos Community Center besides her already busy schedule at Morro Shores and her responsibilities serving San Luis Obispo families as a fiduciary manager of conservatorships and trustees. She explained, "When the special needs client I had been a fiduciary for passed on in July, I decided I needed a new plan. I also knew I would need to continue some paid employment. I had originally been the breadwinner in the family, and now I was trying to live on Social Security and a small trust. Most of all, in these later days of my life, I wanted to contribute something else worthwhile."

As a longtime member and volunteer for People Helping People, Cave was very familiar with the organization's

mission and the center's resources. So when she heard the Los Osos Community Center Board was looking for a part-time manager, she knew she had the life experience and ideas to help with marketing and fund raising. This opportunity also matched her desire to work with people, which she loves to do.

She understands fundraising is a priority to keep operations flowing at the center, so her first week on the job she started working on ideas with the board's Fundraising Committee Chair, Cherrie Katayama. They need to raise funds to replace the stage curtain. The goal is \$10,000.

She was also pleased her first scheduled event would be working more closely with her friend Richard Margetson and PHP members to set up and honor three community volunteers at their annual awards Pizza Night. PHP's next big event is the annual Needs 'n Wishes fundraiser, which happens directly after the Christmas Parade the first Saturday of December. Last year it raised \$53,000 for the Prado Homeless Center and Noor Clinic.

Cave will also be busy coordinating the Salvation Army Bell Ringers at Ralph's Market starting the end of October through Christmas Eve. If readers have two-hours to give, contact her at (805) 704-9676. Traditionally, the community of Los Osos has been the second highest generator of funds for this effort in the county. The secret sauce is willing bell ringers that bring their smiles, teens ringing in their sports outfits or friendly dogs.

For sure, Gari Cave has a new passion in life and most likely she won't be taking anymore motorhome cross-country trips driving herself and friend, Jan Whiskerson, 27,000 miles to visit 17 states across America. She reported they made it home with only two "motorhome booboo," but that's another story you'll need to ask her about when you meet up with her at the Los Osos Community Center Monday, Wednesday, or Friday afternoons.

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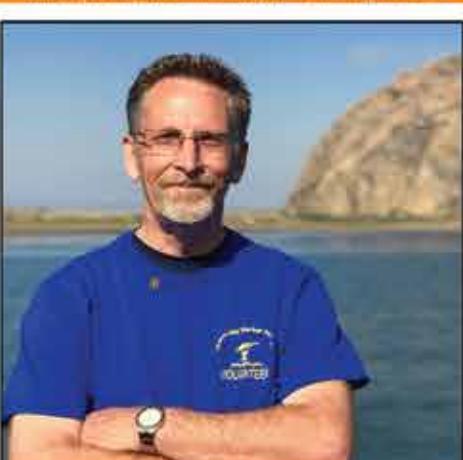
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Antique Photo Used for Promo for Oktoberfest

This photo shows the gas station that used to be in Baywood Park on 2nd and Sana Maria.

It was once the home of The Bay News and Joan Sullivan's Bayside Gallery.

It now an empty lot where music for the Oktoberfest takes place.



Photo
courtesy of
Dean Sullivan



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Committee to Elect Carla Wixom for Mayor 2022
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The Morro Bay Bird Festival is an annual eco-tourism event held to celebrate the diversity of the different bird species found in and around the California Central Coast.

Out & About From page 13

heart-shaped piece of smooth white glass, glistening on the sand after a fresh rinsing by the sea. It was surrounded by a tiny halo of foam, and I swear the skies parted and angels sang.

I plucked it up, held it to my chest and looked around me with wide eyes as if I had just found a 10-carat diamond ring and someone was going to snatch it away from me.

I wanted to run back to the diggers and join them, but instead slowed my pace as my head became a pivot, my eyes desperate to touch on every grain of sand.

I soon became obsessed with my daily walks, timing them to coincide with the low tide. I experienced a childlike joy when I found one of these glistening remnants of long ago — it was my year-round Easter egg hunt. I now have jars and bowls full of my treasures collected off of Cayucos Beach as well as from beaches across the world.

Not only did I manage to lose weight from my manic beach-combing, I often found myself bumping into the same ladies every day — sometimes literally — as we all had our heads down and weren't watching where we were going.

We'd open our cupped hands to each other and marvel at our daily bounty, threatening to steal a rare tumbled catseye marble or lavender colored perfume bottle topper.

I began to study sea glass. It is, essentially, recycled trash, broken pieces of glass that have been tumbled by

New Gear From page 3

nozzles used are of top quality and are standardized with all nozzles used on Station 15 equipment."

The new equipment comes after the CSD board agreed to hire a structural engineer to inspect the structural integrity of the South Bay Stationhouse on Bayview Heights Drive, which is getting pretty old.

The station was built in phases, with the first phase in the 1960s and the second in the 1970s, according to a CSD

The Festival is based in Morro Bay but events take place south to Oso Flaco, north to San Simeon, east to Carrizo Plains and west via pelagic trips out of the Morro Bay Harbor. Morro Bay is a designated Globally Important Bird Area and more than 200 species of birds call it home during the winter months. Birders go to bird festivals to see birds and this event ranks in the top five festivals in the United States.

For the past two years, the Festival was canceled due to COVID-19 concerns. At the time the 2022 Festival was canceled, there were more than 600 attendees registered from 14 different US states plus British Columbia. Based on attendee feedback to date, the Festival committee is estimating an even larger attendance for 2023.

The 2023 Festival is scheduled for January 13 – 16, 2023, over the Martin Luther King holiday weekend; the Festival will be based out of the Morro Bay Community Center with a Program of Events that include Field Trips, Presentations, Master Classes and Special Events. The 2023 program has a total of 160 events with over 100 lead-

ers who are experts in their fields.

David Allen Sibley is the featured guest for 2023. He will conduct a master class on The Basics of Bird ID, co-lead two field trips and deliver the Saturday Evening Keynote Address based on his new book "What It's Like to Be a Bird." David will also sign books at two of the events. He is the author and illustrator of the series of successful guides to nature that bear his name, including the New York Times bestseller "The Sibley Guide to Birds."

Jon Dunn is also a featured guest who leads five field trips. Jon was the chief consultant/editor for the first five editions of "National Geographic Society's Field Guide to the Birds of North America" and he co-authored the sixth and seventh editions.

Online registration for the 2023 Festival opens on November 5 at 8 a.m. A full list of program events is available for review on the Bird Festival website at <https://morrobaybirdfestival.org/>

For additional information, send an email to: support@morrobaybirdfestival.org, or call by 805-600-2147.

Letters From page 16

The lithium-ion storage system proposed to be built in Morro Bay is not on the November 8 ballot. Yet, the voters in Morro Bay can stop the project by voting for Carla as Mayor and a supportive City Council, Robin "Sara," and Sarah Robinson

Garry Johnson
Morro Bay

No on Measure B-22

We all agree on the goal. We don't agree on the method. Vote no on Morro Bay's Harbor Infrastructure Tax, Measure B-22.

It's unhealthy, for the more affluent to ask residents of all economic incomes to increase their financial burdens with another regressive tax on their property bill. Renters, expect landlords to pass this cost onto you.

It's a lack of understanding their constituents, for current elected officials to actively support a regressive tax with their money and talk.

It's a contradiction, for appointed city officials to feign concern over jobs and homelessness, while encouraging tax and fee increases that cause residents to have to move.

I oppose Morro Bay's Measure B-22.

Betty Winboltz
Morro Bay

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

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