

Two Cayucos Businesses Celebrate 40 Years on The Central Coast

Four Decades of Beach Living and Working

Story and photos
by Neil Farrell

For some four decades, he's been a fixture in Cayucos, as a surfer, businessman, and community supporter and has also played a large role in growing the local real estate industry.

Dale Kaiser of Dale Kaiser Real Estate recently celebrated his 40th anniversary in business, where he sells overwhelmingly homes and properties inside the "Town that Time Forgot."

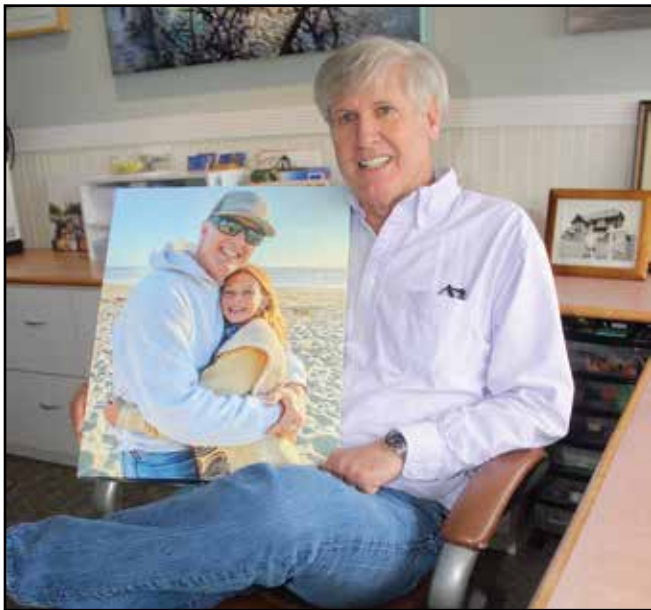
Kaiser sat down with a reporter and reminisced about his time in Cayucos, a place he dearly loves and cherishes, almost as much as his teenage daughter.

He was born and raised in Fresno, he says. He worked in the Ag industry throughout his time growing up, at cotton gins around the San Joaquin Valley.

He came here in the 1970s to attend Cal Poly where he studied Ag business of all things.

He landed in Cayucos where he became "a charter member of the Cayucos Garage Dwellers Association," he laughs. That was a bunch of locals — plus Dale — who lived in people's garage apartments. Kaiser lived in nine different ones, he says, boasting that he "lived in more garages than anyone in the crew." Mainly though, they bonded over surfing.

A couple of the CGDA crew started the Dolphin Shirt Co., in one of those garages, he recalls, and "it coagulated from there. We were all surfers and met on the beach. Dolphin made us T-shirts." Dolphin Shirt Co., has gone on to worldwide fame and business. Another member was sculptor Dale Evers.



Dale Kaiser holds a photo of he and daughter Averie sitting in the real estate office he opened in 1992.

"I learned how to surf in Cayucos," he laughs. "I can say that I am one of the Top 25 surfers from Fresno."

Eventually, Kaiser said he got a 1951 Chevy truck and then a camper shell and lived a nomadic life, parking in an alley behind the real estate office of retired attorney, Hugo Pearson, who had come to town from Hanford. It was next door to Doc's Dance Hall, he says.

No matter how tough those early days were, Kaiser says he was "bound and determined not to go back to Fresno."

He was working at Hearst Castle picking up trash and cleaning toilets. "Hugo saw how hard I was working," Kaiser says, "and let me sleep on the couch in his office. I was on that couch for seven years."

While at the Castle, "I got a job working at the base security gate." That was when his life changed.

One day he met Rosalie Hearst of the Hearst Family and former Palm Springs Mayor, Frank Bogert, who took a shine to the gregarious Kaiser. "They introduced

Living and Working Continued on page 18

By Neil Farrell

A handful of businesses scream "Cayucos" with their unique atmospheres and long histories, and chief among them is the Sea Shanty restaurant.

Fronting Ocean Avenue across from Paul Andrew Park, the Sea Shanty has been the love of Carol Kramer and Bill Shea for some 40 years, and its cozy atmosphere inside under a sea of donated ball caps or in the outdoor patio with family-sized tables have become as comfortable as the comfort food Bill and the staff cook up every day.

"I love this little town," Bill says of the adopted home they chose in 1983 — in a great escape from their former life in Southern California. "It's like Corona del Mar; a small beach town."

"Newport," Carol chimes in, "was more like Orange County."

The two were working at Chuck's Steakhouse in Newport — he was the cook and she was the bartender, explains Carol.

They had been going together and were talking about making a bold move, maybe starting their own restaurant. Then one day a good customer at Chuck's suggested his sister's place up in Cayucos, which she was trying to sell.

"We came up and looked at it," Bill recalls, "and hated it."

The building, which dates back to the 1940s, was in rough shape and needed a ton of work to bring it back to life. Still, Cayucos has a way of hooking people.

"We hated the building," Carol says. "It was just awful. Like something you'd see in Rosarita or Enseñada. Then we woke up one morning and decided to do it."



Bill Shea and Carol Kramer are celebrating 40 years at the Sea Shanty Restaurant in Cayucos. Photo by Neil Farrell

"I gave my notice on a Friday the 13th," Carol adds. "That was the last time I worked for someone else."

"We moved to Cayucos the next day," says Bill. They had nowhere to live and stayed at the restaurant while they worked feverishly to remodel. It took a week and they were good to go, opening the Sea Shanty in May 1983.

"We opened the week before Memorial Day," Carol says. "It was the Thursday before Memorial Day and by Friday we were very busy. We ran out of food that weekend."

"It was nuts," Bill laughs. The town, as per usual, was packed for the 3-day holiday and then, "Tuesday morning everyone went home. We sat in an empty restaurant and said, 'That was weird.'"

Then on 4th of July, Bill says, people were in the restaurant eating and then rushing out to join the parade. "Everybody was in the parade and no one was watching it," he says with a boisterous laugh. "That's my kind of parade."

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Moving Forward: Jim Zuur, a 2023 Masters National Swimming Gold Medalist

By Judy Salamacha

Congratulations to Morro Bay's Jim Zuur.

On the heels of international Ironman competitors visiting Morro Bay, we can also be proud to have a 2023 national championship swimmer living among us all year long. Last month Jim competed in the U.S. Masters Spring National Championships. He swam in five events and medaled in all of them. The event attracts 2,500 swimmers to Irvine, CA.

"I got my first Gold medal in the 50-yard breaststroke," he said. "There were 20 Olympians there, but luckily none of them were in my events."

Jim swims in the 80-85 group. He said he had achieved Gold before at the Masters National meet, but in team relays. This one was special because in 2023 he gave it his all for both himself and for the teams he competed with. He also earned medals in the 50-yard backstroke, 50-yard Freestyle, and two relays - 200-yard Freestyle relay and 200-yard Medley relay.

"My goal is to make it to the 90-95 age group class," he said. "You don't have to win

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Depeche Salcedo trains Masters Gold Medalist Jim Zuur at Fitness Works Morro Bay. Photo submitted by Jim Zuur

First EV Charging Station Opens

By Neil Farrell



Morro Bay got its first multiple station commercial electric vehicle charging station, and if you're hungry, you can charge your electric vehicle while you satisfy a "Mac Attack."

A 3-unit EV quick-charging station recently opened in the parking lot of McDonald's on Quintana Road, eating up a few parking spaces for the restaurant and becoming the first of its kind in Morro Bay. The EV station was put in by Albertson's Market, according to a sign on the 16 amp electrical box. There's a 24-hour emergency phone number displayed, too.

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State Releases Diablo Econ Study

By Neil Farrell



The future of the expansive lands around the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant has been at the top of minds for a lot of State agencies, after the Legislature and Gov. Gavin Newsom decided the power plant needed to remain open until at least 2030 to ensure the reliability of the State's power grid.

But that hasn't stopped plant owner Pacific Gas & Electric, State agencies, private non-profit NGOs from chiming in on what the future should look like for one of the few remaining largely-unspoiled stretches of Southern

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State Lands
Commission Extends
Diablo's Leases



By Neil Farrell

Another State agency has signed off on extending the life of California's lone operating nuclear power plant, as the push to keep Diablo Canyon running to support the power grid continues to gain momentum.

In a June 5 news release, Pacific Gas & Electric's Senior Manager for Marketing & Communications Suzanne Hosn, said, "In an important step to continue operating Diablo Canyon Power Plant [DCPP] beyond 2024-25 by direction of the State, today the California State Lands Commission voted to approve Pacific Gas and Electric Company's lease extension application related to its intake and discharge structures until 2030."

Guided by Senate Bill 486 (passed in 2022), the CLC's decision to approve a lease extension clears a major hurdle in a series of hurdles needed to keep the plant open past the 2025 date when the second of its operating licenses expires.

Diablo Canyon utilizes a so-called "once-through cooling" system, using seawater to cool steam produced by the plant's nuclear reactors. That steam is pushed through giant turbines to produce electricity and is then cooled for reuse in a closed-loop steam generation system.

The cooling water is discharged directly into the ocean at Diablo Cove and produces one of the main environmental concerns of the plant — thermal pollution affecting the marine life in the cove.

The other concern is so-called "entrainment" or the sucking of planktonic marine life through the cooling system into the heat exchangers. It's assumed all life that goes through the exchangers dies, which led the State Water Resources Control Board over a decade ago to declare an end to once-through cooling systems. Replacing Diablo's cooling system with a dry cooling system was deemed too costly and ended up being one of the justifications for closing it down.

That same ruling by the water board also helped kill Duke Energy's project to replace the Morro Bay Power Plant that also used once-through cooling.

Still, the CLC's vote was welcomed news for PG&E. "The extension of the lease," the news release said, "supports continued operation of the intake and discharge structures that are crucial to plant operations, including the generation of electricity and cooling for components."

According to the CLC's staff report, the lease covers "Use of an existing cooling water discharge channel, water intake structure, breakwaters, boat dock, storage facility, office facilities, intake electrical room, intake maintenance shop, equipment storage pad, and spare tri-bar storage associated with the Diablo Canyon Power Plant."

DCPP Vice President, Maureen Zawalick, said, "We remain committed to safely and reliably generating electricity for our hometowns and are proud of the role we play in being the state's largest clean energy producer."

But Diablo's continued operation well into the future is far from being finalized, as other State agencies such as the Coastal Commission, as well as the Federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission still have to act.

The NRC has demanded that PG&E submit a new proposal to re-license the plant after the company withdrew an application that had been in the works for several years when it decided to shutter the plant instead of con-

tinue the contentious battle over re-licensing.

The idea was that PG&E would build and/or buy power generated by solar and wind facilities to bolster its zero emissions generation portfolio. But the blackouts during what wasn't a particularly extreme summer in terms of heat waves, led officials to decide they should keep Diablo Canyon and its 2,300 net megawatts of reliable energy online to support the power grid and enhance reliability, at least until the state sufficiently increases its portfolio of zero emissions plants to more than cover the loss of Diablo Canyon.

The company in 2016 had reached a settlement with opposition groups to shutter the plant when its Units 1 and 2 licenses expire in 2024 and '25 respectively.

But recent summers have forced the State to conduct rolling blackouts to prevent a total collapse of the power grid, and brought criticism of the push to reinvent the grid with less reliable wind and solar.

Since SB 846, several agencies with a say in the matter have fallen into line with the Governor and Legislature's wishes to keep Diablo Canyon running for the foreseeable future. Even the Biden Administration has pushed for the plant to remain open.

However, the environmental group, Friends of the Earth, an original signer of the settlement to close Diablo Canyon recently filed a lawsuit seeking to force the company to honor the settlement, in what's become a never-ending-battle of lawsuits by the opposition vs. the push by nuclear energy proponents to recognize the plant for what it is — California's single largest zero emissions power plant.

The main bones of contention include earthquake safety of the plant and operational safety in general, as opponents believe the plant is not safe to operate.

Meanwhile, planning for eventual decommissioning of the plant continues with PG&E holding public meetings of its Decommissioning Engagement Panel made up of citizen volunteers taking public comments on that costly endeavor that is expected to take many years and cost several billion dollars.

New City
Manager Hired

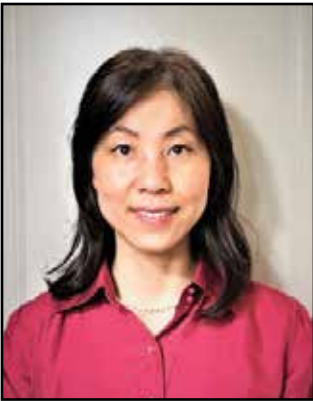
The Morro Bay City Council was slated to approve an employee contract for a new city manager at its June 13 meeting, and the new C.M. will start work in mid August.

The Council announced last week that they were set to hire Yvonne Kimball formerly the City Manager for Jackson, Calif., a small town in the northern foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Kimball has led Jackson, a town of some 5,000 residents, since 2017 and has some 15 years of city management experience overall.

Kimball is slated to start work here on Aug. 14. According to the Interim City Manager, Greg Carpenter, it was a thorough and productive search to replace the former C.M. Scott Collins, who left in February to lead the Housing Authority of San Luis Obispo.

"A rigorous recruitment process was conducted by Mosaic Public, a public employee executive search firm," Carpenter said in a news release. "The recruitment process garnered significant interest, with a total of 41 qualified applicants vying for the city manager position. After careful consideration, six candidates were interviewed by the City Council."

She went through several rounds of interrogation. "Following the initial interviews, the Council selected two finalists who proceeded to engage in interviews with various stakeholders, providing valuable feedback to the City



Yvonne Kimball is slated to start work as Morro Bay's City Manager in August. Photo submitted.

Council. This was followed by an additional interview with the City Council, comprehensive background checks, and thorough reference assessments."

At Jackson, "Kimball successfully oversees all city operations, manages substantial budgets, has executed capital improvement projects totaling \$20 million, negotiates contracts, and has spearheaded economic development initiatives."

Before Jackson, Kimball was the town manager at the Town of Dewey-Humboldt, Ariz., from 2012-17, and was the city manager at the City of Bowling Green, Fla., from 2008-11.

Kimball's earned a Master's of Public Administration Degree with a focus on urban and regional planning from the University of Central Florida. She also holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in business English from the Tianjin Institute of Technology in China.

Kimball will become just the second woman city manager in town history after Andrea Lueker and comes to a town that has for the first time ever, an all-female city council.

New MBPD
Commander Hired

Morro Bay Police have a new second in command, as Police Chief Amy Watkins promoted one of her sergeants to take over her old job as police commander.

Chief Watkins announced June 7 in a news release that she had hired MBPD Sgt. Tony Mosqueda to be the new police commander.

Mosqueda began his law enforcement career in May of 2005 with the Farmersville Police Department, Chief Watkins said. There he worked as a patrol officer, detective and was promoted to police corporal in 2014.

"Tony joined the Morro Bay Police Department in December of 2014," Chief Watkins said. "Tony has been



Former Morro Bay Police Sgt. Tony Mosqueda has been promoted to police commander by Chief Amy Watkins. Submitted photo



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Happy **FATHERS DAY**

News

assigned to patrol, detectives, and promoted to the rank of sergeant in November of 2015.”

He’s also been the department’s administration sergeant and was the department’s range master and acting commander before his latest promotion.

On a personal note, Mosqueda is married with four kids and the family lives in Atascadero. He’s a deep sea fisher (when he can find the time) and loves to watch sports, preferably live and in person.

“I am happy to continue my career with the Morro Bay Police Department,” Mosqueda said, “serving the community and the men and women of this department.”

Watkins too is relatively new to the chief’s job. The former commander, she was named Interim Police Chief last December as former Chief Jody Cox was set to retire at the end of 2022. She got the full-time job in February, in one of the last acts by former City Manager Scott Collins, who left the City at the end of February.

Toro Creek Bridge Wraps Up



Photo shows the new Toro Creek Bridge on Hwy 1 from essentially sea level on the banks of Toro Creek. Photo courtesy Caltrans

By Neil Farrell

Caltrans has finished replacing the Toro Creek Bridge on Hwy 1 in Morro Bay, reopening the traffic lanes, and removing the detour traffic controls, meanwhile another bridge project just a couple of miles up the highway is nearing completion too.

Caltrans hired Souza Const., of San Luis Obispo for the \$17.9 million project that replaced the original Hwy 1 bridge over Toro Creek that dated back to the 1930s.

The old bridge, located on the northbound side of the

highway, no longer met modern standards, including having little room for bicycles and substandard lane widths. The other bridge heading in the opposite direction was replaced sometime in the 1980s.

Alexa Bertola, Caltrans Dist. 5 Public Information Officer, said, “Construction began in May 2022 and included a traffic shift with one lane in each direction for travelers.”

Traffic was diverted to the southbound bridge and the detour was a lazy “S-turn” between concrete K-rails. Motorists could watch the progress of the project as they drove past.

“The new configuration — until the entire project is completed — will include two lanes in the northbound direction with traffic flowing over the new bridge and one lane in the southbound direction,” Bertola said. “The second southbound lane is expected to reopen early this summer.”

“The new bridge,” she added, “complies with current earthquake, geometric, hydraulic and structural standards.”

Caltrans District 5 Director Scott Eades said, “This bridge project is an important upgrade to our infrastructure and would not be possible without the availability of this funding source.”

The project isn’t completely done, as Bertola said they will replant the creek sides and monitor the plants over the next 2 years and will have to intermittently, and temporarily close lanes during that work.

As with all road projects, taxpayers footed the bill. Of the total cost of \$17.9 million, some \$16.3 million came from Senate Bill 1, the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017.

SB 1 provides \$5 billion in transportation funding annually, Bertola said, split between the State and local agencies. “Road projects progress through construction phases more quickly based on the availability of SB 1 funds,” Bertola said, “including projects that are partially funded by SB 1.”

SB 1 increased the taxes on gasoline and diesel fuel by 12-cents a gallon with an inflation adjustment. It also increased motor vehicle registration fees by \$25-\$175 a year depending on a vehicle’s value, and as of 2020, instilled a \$100 annual fee to electric vehicle registration fees for new models starting in 2020.

The EV fees were to make sure people who don’t buy gas or diesel pay their fair share of the SB 1 taxes, because while they don’t burn fuel, they still use the roads and benefit from them being in good repair.

For more information about other transportation projects funded through SB 1, see: RebuildingCA.ca.gov.

As for the other Cayucos bridge project, Bertola said, “Old Creek Bridge is set to be complete in about a month.”

Cuesta College Breaks Ground on New Campus Center



A rendering of the future Campus Center at the San Luis Obispo campus of Cuesta College. Photo submitted

By Theresa-Marie Wilson

Cuesta College students, faculty and community leaders took part in groundbreaking ceremonies for the new Campus Center

The \$37 million, 33,728 square foot Campus Center will serve as the “front door” and main hub of the San Luis Obispo campus. The state-of-the-art facility will feature a boardroom, café, meeting and conference rooms, offices, and student success and support programs.

“It will provide a comprehensive experience for new students and the community, consolidating various services under one roof,” college officials said.

The SLO Campus Center is the newest addition to Cuesta College, made possible by Measure L. San Luis Obispo County voters approved the \$275M general obligation bond in November 2014, allowing for new construction projects, necessary repairs, and upgrades at Cuesta College.

“Measure L has both added to and modernized classrooms on the SLO and North County campuses,” Ritchie Bermudez, associate director of Marketing & Communications for Cuesta told Estero Bay News. “The SLO Campus Center is a capital project under the third bond issuance that began in Spring 2021. Measure L project categories include repair, renovations, new construction, technology upgrades, and debt retirement. Completed capital projects include the instructional building on the SLO campus, the Campus Center at the North County campus, the

Cuesta Continued on page 4

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Questions? – (805) 772-6254



A groundbreaking for the new Campus Center at Cuesta College in SLO included Vice President of Administrative Services Dan Troy, Vice President of Student Success & Support Programs Dr. Elizabeth Coria, Trustee Pete Sysak, Trustee Patrick Mullen, Board President Mary Strobridge, Board Vice President Dr. Debra Stakes, Trustee Danna Stroud, and Superintendent/President Dr. Jill Stearns. Photo submitted

Early Childhood Education Center on the North County campus, and a new Aquatics Center and Data Center at the SLO campus.”

- Key details about the SLO Campus Center:
- Expected completion by Spring 2025
 - Project awarded to Wysong Construction of Atascadero
 - Project site covers approximately five acres
 - Includes development of a new RTA bus stop, updated parking with EV chargers
 - Aiming for LEED Silver Certification
 - Building’s lobby features a welcome center and help desk

• First floor houses student success and support programs, while the second floor accommodates college administrative offices and state-of-the-art meeting space for the Board of Trustees and Foundation Board

Another Measure L improvements is also in the lineup. “The fourth and last issuance of the bond begins in 2024,” Bermudez said. “It includes the construction of an instructional building on Cuesta College’s North County Campus in Paso Robles, a major renovation of the 3100 complex which houses the library and student success centers, as well as repairs and infrastructure and utilities upgrades.”

The first Measure L-funded facility to open at Cuesta College was the Dr. Frank R. Martinez Building, which was completed in the fall of 2017 and opened in the spring of 2018. The 32,000-square-foot, two-story instructional building houses eight high-capacity and multi-discipline classrooms and a forum-sized classroom on the ground level. The second floor has 40 offices, staff lounges, and meeting rooms.

“In 2018, we also opened the North County Campus Center in Paso Robles, a 40,000 square foot facility which centralized student services and added classrooms at the North County campus,” Bermudez said.

During the groundbreaking, Cuesta College Superintendent / President Dr. Jill Stearns addressed attendees. “The generous support from this great community provides the essential funding necessary for capital projects,” she said “With the passing of Measure L, the opportunities to improve Cuesta’s physical space to include a new center for student support services would not be possible.”

For further updates and detailed information about Measure L, go to cuestacollegebond.info.



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Sheriff Seeks Bar Brawlers



The SLO County Sheriff’s Office wants the public’s help in identifying these two men allegedly involved in a bar fight in Avila Beach.

The County Sheriff’s Office is asking for information on a pair of ruffians that allegedly attacked a third man at an Avila Beach bar, sending him to the hospital.

The altercation occurred at about 10 p.m. May 13 at Mr. Rick’s bar in Avila Beach.

“The victim in that fight,” Sheriff’s spokesman Tony Cipolla said in a news release, “suffered non-life-threatening injuries to their face and neck. The two men, identified as wearing a red hat and white hat in the photograph, are believed to be from the Fresno or Bakersfield area.”

Both men were wearing black hoodies and the one in the red hat also appears to be wearing red high-top sneakers and black shorts.

If anyone has information on these two men, contact the Sheriff’s Detective Division at 805-781-4913.

Traffic Stop Leads to Drug Bust



Alert Sheriff detectives stopped a suspected drunk driver in Paso Robles and discovered a trove of illegal drugs and paraphernalia, landing a Grover Beach man in the hoosegow.

According to Sheriff’s spokesman Tony Cipolla, at about 11:30 p.m. Thursday, May 25, detectives with the Sheriff’s Special Operations Unit saw a vehicle on South-bound Hwy 101 in Paso Robles, weaving across lanes of traffic and “driving erratically.”

Detectives stopped the vehicle near the Spring Street exit ramp. Cipolla said officers determined the driver was impaired reportedly based on his demeanor and condition.

Detectives called in a Sheriff’s K-9 unit to search the vehicle and sniff out any drugs. “The K-9 alerted to several areas of the car,” Cipolla said. “With the assistance of the Sheriff’s Major Crimes Unit, detectives searched the car and located Xanax, methamphetamine, a large amount of fentanyl, as well as drug paraphernalia indicating narcotics sales. Approximately 847 grams [30.25 ounces] of packaged fentanyl was located in the vehicle.”

Cipolla said the fentanyl was worth more than \$84,000. The driver, identified as Craig Eugene Doll, 50 of Grover Beach, was arrested for suspicion of possessing narcotics for sale; transporting narcotics for sale; and being under the influence of a controlled substance.”



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News

Poly Funds 17 Faculty Research Projects

Cal Poly’s division of Research, Economic Development and Graduate Education (R-EDGE) announced 17 awards for the 2023-24 cycle of the Research, Scholarly and Creative Activities (RSCA) grant program.

Supported by funds from the California State University (CSU) Chancellor’s Office and the Cal Poly Provost’s Office, the RSCA grant program is designed to enable faculty to contribute new knowledge through robust programs of scholarship focused on strengthening California socially, culturally and economically.

“Our faculty continue to impress us with innovative proposals that center student experiences and highlight the quality and depth of research that happens across our campus”, said Sarah Lester, chair of the grants review committee of the Cal Poly Academic Senate.

This year, R-EDGE received 44 proposals and awarded over \$270,000 in funds to 17 projects.

“The role of research, scholarly and creative activities is crucial to fostering intellectual vibrancy and the Learn by Doing culture at Cal Poly,” said Cynthia Jackson-Elmoore, Cal Poly’s provost and executive vice president for Academic Affairs. “Supporting faculty in advancing their scholarship and partnering in discovery with their colleagues and student collaborators is and will continue to be a priority.”

The RSCA program, active at Cal Poly since 2014-15, has provided over \$3 million in grants to faculty members over this period.

The 2023-24 awarded projects are:

- “Bringing City Planning Canon to YouTube: A Video Textbook”; Dave Amos (City and Regional Planning).
- “Local Implementation of an AI-generated Legislative News Tipsheet”; Kim Bisheff (Journalism).
- “Analyzing Methodological Attributes of ‘Systematized Reviews’”; Leyla Cabugos (Kennedy Library).
- “Watching for Sasquatch: A New Environmental Play”; Ramón Esquivel (Theatre and Dance).
- “Using Wastewater to Study SARS CoV2 Evolution”; Pat Fidopiastis (Biological Sciences).
- “Social Policy and Extreme Weather: How Tightly Woven is Our Safety Net?”; Leanne Giordono (Political Science).
- “Climate Change and Alpine Plant Community Shifts in California”; Dena Grossenbacher (Biological Sciences).
- “Learning Factory – A Roadmap for the Transition from Industrial Technology to Smart Manufacturing”; Rafael Guerra Silva (Industrial Technology and Packaging).
- “Design of Multi-DOF Worm Origami Robot”; Mohammad Hasan (Mechanical Engineering).
- “Africancalifornios.org: Data Visualizations that Explain the Role of Afro-descendants in Early Spanish and Mexican California (1768-1850)”; Cameron Jones (History) and Foad Khosmood (Computer Engineering/Computer Science and Software Engineering).
- “Multidisciplinary Computational Research for Undergraduate Students”; Joyce Lin, Paul Choboter, Elena Dimitrova and Warren Roche, (Mathematics).
- “Educational Context and Investments in Child Health Across Africa”; Sara Lopus (Social Sciences).
- “Assessment and Digitization of the Plant Sciences Entomology Collection”; Ryan Perry (Plant Sciences).
- “User Experience for Social Impact: Establishing a University-Nonprofit Collaboration”; Krista Sarraf (English), Hocheol Yang (Graphic Communication), David Gilette (English/ Liberal Arts and Engineering Studies) Michael Haungs (Computer Science and Software Engineering/ Liberal Arts and Engineering Studies), Franz Kurfess (Computer Science and Software Engineering) and Emily Robinson (Statistics).
- “The Use of AI-Created Selfies in a Public Service Announcement (PSA) Campaign Targeting College Students: The Impact of Self-Reference on Issue Relevance and Engagement.”; Yan Shan (Journalism) and Ruoxi Rachel Ma (Graphic Communication).
- “Sustainable Development of Sensing Nanocomposites for Structural Health Monitoring”; Long Wang (Civil

and Environmental Engineering).

- “‘The Variety Problem’: Exploring Intra-Varietal Heterogeneity of an Heirloom Wheat”; Nicholas Williams (Natural Resources Management & Environmental Sciences).

County Veteran Named to Head Behavioral



Star Graber
By Neil Farrell

San Luis Obispo County looked within to find its new Behavioral Health Department administrator, picking a long-time Health Department supervisor to take over the County’s efforts to address mental illness.

On June 6, County Supervisors approved hiring Dr. Star Graber as the new BHD administrator, the County said in a news release. Dr. Graber will take over her new duties in August when current BHD Director, Anne Robin, retires.

Dr. Graber has been with SLO County Health Department for some 35 years, according to a news release. Most recently, she’s been the Behavioral Health’s Drug and Alcohol Services division manager.

According to the news release, as division manager, Dr. Graber “has procured millions of dollars in Behavioral health grant funding to support innovative substance use treatment and awareness programs in SLO County.”

As the response to mental health has changed over the years, Dr. Graber oversaw department changes, too. “She is responsible for developing and implementing the Department’s Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System,” the County said, “the Medication Assisted Treatment Program, and the Adult and Family Drug Treatment Court programs.” She’s also an addiction studies instructor at Cuesta College.

Her boss said he’s glad to have her. “Dr. Graber,” Health Agency Director Nick Drews said, “is well respected at the county, state, and federal levels. We are fortunate to have her take on this new role. Star’s wisdom, expertise, and dedication will continue to serve the Behavioral Health Department and community well.”

Her name may be familiar to readers who’ve been convicted of a DUI and gone through the County’s mandatory, counseling and treatment program as ordered by the courts.

Prior to her current position, “Dr. Graber served as a Drug and Alcohol Services Program supervisor overseeing prevention programs within the community and schools,” the news release said. “She also spent several years as a Drug and Alcohol Services Program coordinator, overseeing what is known today as the Department’s Driving Under the Influence program.”

And at the very start of her time at the BHD, she was a drug and alcohol specialist, “conducting treatment, classes, and training with clients and families affected by substance use disorders.”

That program involves months of group therapy sessions alternating with individual counseling sessions that go on for as much as six to 18 months or longer for those with multiple DUIs.

Dr. Graber earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology

from the University of Oregon, a master’s of counseling from Cal Poly and a Ph.D. in psychology from California Coast University, the County said.

LOCSD Seeks Committee Members



The Los Osos Community Services District is searching for two people with interests in local government and finances to serve on its Financial Advisory Committee and nominations are being accepted now.

“Have you ever been interested or wanted to learn more about Los Osos CSD?” asks a news release in the CSD’s newsletter. “Do you have an interest in financial items? Do you want to see, review and advise the Board of Directors on Financial items for Los Osos CSD?”

The notice said the commitment is one night a month for the finance committee and notes they are looking to fill two vacancies and will keep the nominations open until the right people are found.


“Applications of qualified individuals may be submitted to the Los Osos CSD Office, 2122 9th St., Suite 110, Los Osos, or email to: ldurban@losososcsd.org or snail-mailed to: P.O. Box 6064, Los Osos, CA 93412.

An application form is available online at: www.losososcsd.org/files/46abc1085/FAC+Committee+Application+rev5.20.pdf; off the District website, at: www.losososcsd.org; or call 805-528-9435 to receive a form in the mail.

And this, “The Appointing Board Member reserves the right to appoint any qualified person, applications are requested but not required.”

For more information, or to learn more about the committee, email or call Laura Durban at 805-528-9435 or ldurban@losososcsd.org







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News Briefs

By Theresa-Marie Wilson

Poly to Hold Sustainable Commencement Ceremonies

Cal Poly has undertaken several initiatives for its upcoming commencement ceremonies on June 17-18 to minimize environmental impact.

The university will no longer offer plastic bottles during ceremonies. Instead, graduates will receive water in aluminum cans, while water dispensing stations with eco-friendly paper cups will be available for guests. By implementing this change, more than 5,600 plastic bottles will be eliminated from the waste stream.

The use of printed paper during graduation ceremonies will also be reduced. The university has ordered 12,000 hard copy programs instead of the previous range of 20,000-30,000. Rather than distributing a program to every attendee, guests can access a digital program through a QR code system. Two hard copy programs will be included in each graduate's gift bag, ensuring they have one for themselves and one to share with their supporters.

The Cal Poly Green Campus program recently launched the grad gown recycling program, a joint effort with the commencement team, the Cal Poly Food Pantry, the Educational Opportunity Program and Career Services' Professional Clothing Closet. This program allows students to borrow graduation gowns free of charge, eliminating the need for them to purchase new gowns that often end up in landfills. After each graduation ceremony, graduates will be encouraged to donate their gown to grow the program for next year. Students may email greencampus@calpoly.edu to learn how to donate their gown.

Lastly, the sustainability team has partnered with Jostens, a provider of graduation apparel, to offer the Evergreen Collection caps and gowns through the University Store. With every purchase from this collection, Jostens will donate \$1 to support sustainability efforts on campus.

Construction Delays in SLO

Drivers in the City of San Luis Obispo could hit traffic delays due to construction projects.

Construction is starting on Chorro Street from Walnut to Palm streets. It will begin on curb ramps and paving operations on Chorro Street. This work includes repaving Chorro St. between Mill Street and Palm Street. Commuters can expect traffic delays due to road closures



and detours. Sidewalk detours will be provided to pedestrians.

Intersection improvements at Johnson Avenue and Sydney Street with adding striping on Johnson Avenue from Bishop Street to Laurel Lane are in the works. Commuters can expect traffic delays due to lane shifting and can anticipate having one lane of travel in each direction on Johnson Avenue.

Striping work is anticipated to be done by the beginning of July. The bike lane will be closed and share the road signs will be in place.

The City reminds people to drive carefully and keep an eye out for road workers.

Celebrate State Parks Week

California State Parks Week is June 14 - 18 "It is an exciting new annual event that celebrates the amazing diversity of California's State Park System and the people who visit and help protect these iconic places," Central Coast State Parks Association said in their newsletter. "Through special community events and in-person and virtual programming, celebrate the communities and cultures that make California special, explore new adventures and activities in our shared parks, and discover



ways to deepen their relationships with parks and the landscapes they protect."

Locally, there is still time to celebrate this week and beyond. There is a Junior Ranger program on Friday, June 16 and 17 at the Morro Bay Museum of Natural History Learning Lab. Children ages 7-12 years old are invited to join State Park educators for a series of free summer Junior Ranger Programs Lessons highlight local wildlife and include a fun craft. Parents must be in attendance with all children.

Don't miss the ongoing traveling exhibit titled "Beauty and the Beast: California Wildflowers and Climate Change" at the Morro Bay Museum of Natural History. The Museum is open daily from 10 am to 5 pm.

The exhibit features photographs addressing climate change and its effect on a universal symbol of beauty: the wildflower.

"Exquisite photographs of California's wildflowers bring awareness to the beauty of the Golden State – as well as to the dangers facing our natural habitats from climate change," reads the event description. "All geographic regions of California are highlighted in this stunning show, from the high alpine 'rock gardens' above 11,000 feet in the Sierra Nevada Mountains to Death Valley National Park's below-sea-level environment."

The exhibit features seven different sections: mountains, coastal, desert, and Central Valley regions, the power of fire and renewal, a behind-the-scenes look at capturing these images, and an overview of California's geographic regions – those diverse and delicately balanced ecosystems supporting spectacular explosions of nature's color. Most importantly, these beautiful images address how climate change and other human impacts effect California's wildflowers.

To see a schedule of events, go to <https://central-coastparks.org/calendar>.

Cayucos Library Book Sale

The Friends of the Cayucos Public Library will host its Annual Book Sale on Saturday, July 15 at the library patio located at 310 B Street, Cayucos. Stock up on new reads or old favorites from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. — beginning at noon books can be purchased for \$3 a bag.

Donated books, DVDs, CDs, and other items are for sale with most items at \$1. Cash and checks are accepted. Friends of the Cayucos Library memberships are available for \$10.

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Takin' Care
of BUSINESS

By Theresa-Marie Wilson

Los Osos Chamber Honors Best of the Year

The Los Osos/Baywood Park Chamber of Commerce and its members recently celebrated the best of the best at its annual awards dinner. Due to the pandemic, honors recognized winners from both 2021 and 2022.

Rick Robinette, master of ceremonies and Curtis Armstrong, Chamber president, took part in honoring awardees at the South Bay Community Center.

First up was Kathy Breska of Pacific Capital Mortgage, the 2021 Business of the Year followed by Michael Costa of Costa Gallery, the Chamber's first ever New Business of the Year also for 2021.

Volunteers of the Year for 2021 were Amanda Esparza and Lynette Tornatzky.

Linda Quensenberry, Executive Director of Los Osos Cares accepted the Award as Business of the Year for 2022



From the left Clint Weirick(Rep for Sen. Laird), Kathy Breska, Linda Quesenberry, Paul Irving, Colleen Vecchetti , Lynette Tornatzky, Michael J. Costa, Bruce Gibson, Jennifer Ford (Rep. for Assemblywoman Addis)

for her organization, while Volunteer of the Year for 2022 went to Colleen Vecchetti of Movement for Life. The final award of the evening went to Paul Irving as the 2022 Los Osos/Baywood Park Citizen of the Year.

During the event, outgoing board members Tim Carstairs, Amanda Esparza, Christina Grimm, Olivia Martinez, Annette Sheely, and Lynette Tornatzky were thanked

SoCalGas Funds Meals for Neighbors in Need

for their dedicated service. SoCalGas presented a \$40,000 gift to SLO Food Bank to support the nonprofit's efforts to alleviate hunger in San Luis Obispo County. The donation will go toward funding services and nutritious food for neighbors, including Neighborhood Food Distributions, Children and Seniors Farmers Markets, food for over 80 agency partners across the county, food rescue programs, and more.

"We're grateful to SoCalGas for stepping forward to support the needs of our SLO County neighbors with a significant \$40,000 donation," said Garret Olson, CEO of SLO Food Bank. "Right now, many neighbors are being pushed beyond their financial limits due to the prices of food and housing. SLO Food Bank is a critical resource for those struggling to make ends meet. We thank SoCalGas for investing in our mission during this time."

In addition to supporting hunger relief efforts in SLO County, SoCalGas offers the California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) Program. Qualifying individuals may be able to save 20% off their monthly natural gas bill through the CARE program. To apply, individuals can complete an online application that only takes a few minutes, and no additional documentation is needed. Once an online application is submitted, applicants will instantly know if they qualify.

In 2022, the SLO Food Bank served more than 31,500 individuals on average per month. Additionally, food rescue programs of the SLO Food Bank, including GleanSLO, prevented over a million pounds of food from being wasted



and instead nourished neighbors in need. All of this is made possible by volunteers' time and donors' support. To learn more about resources offered by the SLO Food Bank or ways to get involved, please visit www.slofoodbank.org.

Enchanted Fairy Garden Weekend in Cambria

Join Cambria Nursery and Florist for an Enchanted Fairy Garden Weekend, June 23-25 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily with a wide range of whimsical activities to captivate the imagination.

"Enchanted Fairy Garden Weekend is the perfect event for families to come together and embark on a magical adventure," said Mike Arnold, general manager at Cambria Nursery and Florist. "We wanted to create an immersive and inclusive experience that appeals to people of all ages,



sparkling their imagination and fostering a deep connection with nature."

Bring the whole family and explore a fairy wonderland filled with enchanting fairy gardens, lush greenery and captivating displays. Meet real-life fairies and take photos together, capturing a moment of pure magic! In collaboration with A Little Love Bridal by the Sea attendees will have the opportunity to purchase tiaras, wands, wings, knight costumes and more to bring their photos to life.

Then, embark on an exciting adventure with an enchanting scavenger hunt, allowing folks to explore the nooks and crannies of the garden as they search for hidden treasures and clues.

The event offers a free lunch from noon to 1 p.m. during the three-day event.

Workshops

- Class fees include all materials
- Create your Own Fairy Garden Workshop w/ Shana | June 23 and 24 at 10 a.m. Cost is \$75
- Family Yoga w/ Rebecca on June 24 at 9:30 a.m. Cost is \$20 per family.
- Daisy Chain Beaded Bracelet with Meghan June 24 from 11a.m. Cost is \$15
- World Terrarium Workshop w/ Nathan on June 25 at 10:30 a.m. Cost is \$50.

To learn more about the Enchanted Fairy Garden Weekend and its 3-day schedule, go to cambrianursery.com. Tickets aren't required to attend this event, but readers should sign up for workshops on the website.

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

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



KEVIN O'CONNOR, President

Police Blotter



• **May 28:** Police stopped a suspicious vehicle at 11:35 a.m. on Quintana at Las Tunas. Logs indicated the 52-year-old driver's license was suspended because of a previous conviction for driving on the razzle, which landed him in the hoosegow.

• **May 27:** Police responded at 11:19 p.m. to the Siren bar in the 800 block of Main where a schnuckered woman was causing some kerfuffle. The annoying flesh monkey, 46, was hooked up for suspicion of being too drunk not to go to jail.

• **May 27:** At 9:30 p.m. police contacted a suspicious fellow lurking in the Family Dollar store parking lot on Quintana. Naturally, the 55-year-old model citizen had a warrant and got cited again.

• **May 27:** Police swooped down on a man and woman at 7:40 p.m. in the 1200 block of Embarcadero. The felonious fellow, 28, was charged with suspicion of selling methamphetamines and possession of paraphernalia, plus several RSVPs from the judge. She, 24, was charged with alleged conspiracy to sell drugs and various other things you might not relish telling your parents.

• **May 27:** Someone in the 900 block of Morro Bay Blvd., reported a case of suspected child abuse.

• **May 27:** Police responded to the 400 block of Elena where they arrested a 77-year-old man for not registering as a sex offender, of which there are eight in Morro Bay currently listed on the Megan's Law website.

• **May 26:** Police contacted a familiar dude, 38, at 2 p.m. in the 700 block of Harbor at City Park. The apparent moon-

raker, 38, had five bench warrants and was issued a sixth and released to pick up again in about 30 days.

• **May 26:** Police contacted an apparent squit at 8:15 a.m. in the Creek Bed Estates in the 700 block of Quintana who had a bench warrant. He got another disappearance ticket and was released.

• **May 25:** Police stopped a suspicious vehicle at 9:18 p.m. on Hwy 1 at South Bay Boulevard. The 29-year-old driver had a felony warrant out of Kern County and he got taken to jail, yet another apparent case of arrive on vacation and leave on probation.

• **May 15:** Police logged a report of someone annoying or molesting a minor that apparently happened on the city beach back on Aug. 15, 2012.

• **May 25:** Police responded at 10:07 a.m. to a report of a woman causing a hoo-ha-ha at Monterey and Dunes. The 31-year-old disciple of Bacchus was nicked for suspicion of being drunk & disorderly.

• **May 24:** Police stopped a suspicious vehicle at 11:20 p.m. at Main and Quintana. Logs indicated the 37-year-old palooka driver was hauled to the gaol for allegedly driving polluted.

• **May 24:** Police responded to the 1100 block of Scott where some porch pirate stole a package of car parts.

• **May 23:** Someone reported a missing person from the 600 block of Quintana and police will no doubt move Heaven and earth to find them.

• **May 23:** Police contacted a suspicious subject at 4:11 p.m. in the 400 block of Quintana. Logs indicated the 42-year-old model citizen was arrested for suspicion of assault with a deadly weapon, resisting arrest with violence, and possession of crystal meth, which explains a lot.

• **May 23:** At 10:40 a.m. in the 300 block of Quintana, police arrested another citizen of the year, 30, for suspicion of vandalism, assault and resisting arrest.

• **May 22:** Police stopped a suspicious vehicle at 10:25 p.m. at Main and San Jacinto. Logs indicated they could only get the driver, 23, for a suspended license, as he apparently passed the DUI sniff test.

• **May 22:** Police responded at 12:46 p.m. to the 800 block of Front St., where a boisterous woman was causing much ado. The apparent hellion, 65, was nicked for suspicion of being too drunk to care for herself.

• **May 22:** Police at the high school placed a juvenile boy or girl on a 72-hour mental health timeout.

• **May 21:** Some apparent graffidiot committed vandalism in the 1300 block of Clarabelle, and a posse was no doubt formed to hunt down the varmint.

• **May 21:** Police contacted a regular customer in the 300 block of Quintana at 9:30 a.m. The 32-year-old fellow had a warrant for which police issued a future warrant and set the scofflaw loose.

• **May 20:** Police responded to a home in the 800 block of Napa where the homeowner said some porch pirate stole several packages off their front stoop with a loss of \$72.

• **May 20:** Police contacted a repeat customer at 2:49 p.m. in the 700 block of Quintana. The desperado, 38, had a warrant and since it was just one he was cited again and unleashed.

• **May 19:** At 11:30 p.m. at Embarcadero and Coleman Drive, police towed off some poor dingus' red Dodge Ram truck to clear the "No Parking" zone for the Ironman Triathlon that took over half the town and started later that early morning. Earlier they towed off two vehicles in the 1200 block of Embarcadero for the same reason.

• **May 19:** Police responded at 7:45 p.m. to a single car crash in the 500 block of Dunes. Logs indicated the driver, 46, wasn't physically injured, though his car will never be the same. Police nicked the fellow for suspicion of driving stoned and a little matter of no driver's license.

• **May 18:** Police responded at 7 p.m. to the 400 block of Embarcadero where a woman said some apparent perv fondled her.

• **May 18:** Police responded at 3 p.m. to the Mobil Gas Station in the 900 block of Morro Bay Blvd. for a fight in the parking lot. Logs indicated they contacted both pugilists and a 66-year-old apparent ruffian was arrested for allegedly making a terrorist threat or some such nincom-pooper.

• **May 18:** Police towed off an offensive trailer audaciously parked in the 700 block of Quintana, as the DMV had not been given its pound of flesh.

• **May 18:** Police responded to State Park Road where some tool stole a bunch of tools from a locked shed.

• **April 30:** Police logged a crime report back dated to April 30 regarding a suspected case of child abuse with great bodily injury or death in the 1200 block of Clarabelle.

• **May 17:** At 10 p.m. police arrested a 37-year-old man in the 1300 block of Clarabelle for violating a stay-the-hell-away court order and two contempt bench warrants.

• **May 17:** Police stopped a suspicious vehicle at 12:24 a.m. in the 1600 block of Main. The naughty fellow, 52, had a suspended license and got slapped with a ticket.

• **May 16:** Police at 2 p.m. in the 200 block of Atascadero Rd., arrested an apparent hooligan ruffian for alleged possession of a presumably concealed knife, in this week's example of why we need SWAT.

• **May 16:** Police responded at 10 a.m. to a business in the 800 block of Market for a reported commercial burglary.

• **May 16:** Police took a report from a mandatory reporter of suspected child abuse in the 2000 block of Bayview.

• **May 16:** Someone found something somewhere in the 500 block of Dunes sometime about 8 a.m. apparently left by some unknown someone.

• **May 15:** Police responded at 3:47 a.m. to a home in the 600 block of Morro Bay Blvd., where a woman had allegedly broken into an occupied home with nefarious intent. The apparent master criminal, 33, and her 38-year-old apparent partner in mischief were caught of course. He was charged with suspicion of being in possession of drug paraphernalia cited and released. The apparent mistress of evil was charged with suspicion of first degree burglary and hauled to the nick on a probation violation.

• **May 15:** Police contacted a suspicious subject at 2 a.m. skulking around Bottle Liquor in the 900 block of Main. Logs indicated the plod was arrested on suspicion of vandalism.

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COLLEGETOWN

By Michael Walker

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Community

The PetHouse Opens in Los Osos

There is a new place to shop for the furry, scaly and flighty members of your family. The PetHouse is now open in the Bay Osos Village Center in Los Osos.

The store is in a familiar location, the former Squeaks Chirps & Bubbles and before that JD's Pet House. That aside, the interior is almost unrecognizable with all the changes that have been done.

“We wanted to give it a fresh start,” said Los Osos resident Misty Gin who owns the pet store with her best friend Bret Alter. “It needed a revamp after 10 years of the previous fixtures and color tones. We’re going to change everything is changed every so often.”



The PetHouse in Los Osos is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The store is located at 10000 S. Bascom Ave., Suite 100, Los Osos, CA 94026. For more information, call (805) 688-1111 or visit www.pethouseinc.com.

The newly refurbished store is open and airy with fresh paint as well as new lighting, counters, fixtures, and flooring. There is a seed, feed and treat bar system taking up a large section of one wall where customers can bag up their supplies in individually selected quantities. The soon to be up and running self-serve dog bath has a new fiberglass tub and is getting retiled by Misty between waiting on customers, after which a groomer will be available by appointment. Local artwork hangs on the walls and, in a corner, sits a comfy chair with a chandelier hanging over it for people to relax and get to know their potential new family member.

“Everybody has come in and said, ‘Wow! I don’t know



The PetHouse in Los Osos is open. Owner Misty Gin, her daughter Amelia, and three of their dogs are on hand to serve the pet community. Photo by Theresa-Marie Wilson

many pet stores that have chandeliers,” Misty said.

During this interview, a customer came in to check out the store's new look and products.

“It’s open, bright and inviting,” said Los Osos resident Sarah Chesebro. “I’m excited to see what they do.”

Animals available for purchase include rats, Guinea pigs, birds, and snakes; bunnies and baby chicks are on the horizon. Anyone walking by the big window at the front of the store has seen the Kitty Korner playground with adorable kittens looking for forever homes.

“They are my foster kitties from SLO County Animal Services,” Misty said. “My hope is that in addition to socialization they’ll eventually find their mommies and daddies before they go to surgery, so they don’t have to stay in foster care any longer. Then we can get more kittens through



Misty has done a lot of the work on her own refurbishing The PetHouse. Here the dogs lend a paw with tiling the soon to be available, self-serve dog bath. Photo by Theresa-Marie Wilson

the system and into homes faster.”

“Surgery” refers to neutering.

As a long-time Los Osos resident, Misty wanted to support other community members by selling locally made pet products featured on a display in the middle of the store.

“I reached out to local artisans and crafters in the area asking for local companies that produce anything dog or cat or pet related in general to reach out to me because I want to stock their goods,” Misty said. “I’m trying to keep as much local stuff as I can.”

Items so far include pet collars, stickers, catnip kickers, crochet animals, treats and art by Rhys at Artistic Creations.

The store carries products to fulfill your pet's wants and needs including those that go somewhat beyond the norm.

“We are trying to fulfill more of a need for specialty pets,” Misty said. “We’re going to concentrate more on the reptiles, exotics, and that sort. I also have two Frenchies [dogs] that are allergic to everything under the sun; they throw up everything. So, we carry a lot of things for dogs that need to have special food or bowls that sit at the right angle for them.”

That said, general dog and cat food, toys and other supplies are also available including live and frozen feeders for reptiles.

So, why a pet store?

“We live in a zoo as it is, and my husband is excited that I have all the animals out of the house now,” said Misty. Her own “petting zoo” includes dogs, cats, chickens, rats, a bearded dragon, and horses, to name a few.

According to the American Pet Products association, 66% of U.S. households have a pet, which equates to 86.9 million households. Along with those increasing numbers, the relationship between humans and their pets has evolved over time. “Especially with the pandemic,” Misty said. “People have turned more to pets for comfort and for that socialization that we needed from the outside. They have become a lot more like family. It’s been great — I love to see that.”

Currently, The PetHouse has one official employee, Paige, but gets a lot of help from Misty's 9-year-old daughter Amelia.

“I work about 30 minutes to an hour a day,” Amelia said. She cleans the cages, helps at the register, and socializes the animals.

Stop by The PetHouse at 1010 Los Osos Valley Road in Los Osos. They can be reached at 805-528-5611. Store hours are 10 a.m to 7 p.m. every day excluding Mondays. A grand opening is planned for mid-July to allow for all stock to arrive. Readers can follow The PetHouse on Facebook to keep up with new supplies and information.

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Community

Events and Activities

By Theresa-Marie Wilson

Cambria Center for the Arts is looking for original 2 and 3-D art of all types, large and small to exhibit concurrently with their next featured artist, Tom Gould: Connections. "On the Central Coast, nature presents ever-changing visual stimulation".

Submit up to four pieces online June 28- July 2. For more information visit <http://www.cambriaarts.org>

Exhibit runs July 7 - Aug. 27 Gallery hours Fri-Sun 12 -4 p.m.



By the Sea Productions presents a staged reading of "Visiting Mr. Green" June 16-18, with evening performances at 7 p.m. and a Sunday matinee at 3 p.m. at 545 Shasta Ave. in Morro Bay. Tickets are \$15 and are available online at bytheseaproductions.org or by calling 805-776-3287.

"Visiting Mr. Green" tells the story of an elderly man nearly hit by a car driven by a young corporate executive. The young man's sentence for reckless driving is to pay weekly visits to his almost-victim. What starts out as an activity resented by both parties slowly develops into a friendship with unexpected benefits. This award-winning, sometimes funny, sometimes poignant play, written by Jeff Baron, and performed by Russell Snow and Phil Epstein, has been translated into 29 languages and performed around the world. Pictured is the cast of 'Visiting Mr. Green,' Russell Snow (L) and Phil Epstein. Photo by Janice Peters

The following are free events brought to you by the Los Osos Library 2075 Palisades Ave, 805-528-1862. All library programs will be following current California and County of San Luis Obispo health guidelines.

- *HexBugs - Friday, June 16, 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.
Create mazes for these motorized bugs, race them and more! All ages welcome.
- Comic Making for Teens with Kane Lynch - Friday, June 23, 3 - 4:30 p.m.
Join 'toonist Kane Lynch (and P-nut the Cat) for a comic making experience like no other! Learn about character design, creating scenery, and telling unique stories and finishing off with a comic story of your own to take home. All skill levels welcome. For ages 13-19.
- Pacific Wildlife Care - Saturday, June 24, 11- 12 p.m.
The Pacific Wildlife Care team is bringing some animal friends to the Los Osos Library. Come meet an American kestrel and a Virginia opossum. All ages.
- Nintendo Switch - Friday, June 30, 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.



A first of its kind exhibit, "We Are Family: Portraits of LGBTQ+ Families on the Central Coast," is on display through the month of June at The Bunker SLO, 810 Orcutt Rd. in SLO.

The exhibit captures eight families on the Central Coast who represent our LGBTQ+ community. Created as a response to the surge in anti-LGBTQ+ legislation, including over 500 (and counting - an historically record-number) state bills limiting the rights of LGBTQ+ people in these first several months of 2023, an alarming increase in threats and violence against LGBTQ+ people, and direct attacks on family-friendly queer events and spaces, this project showcases the diversity, beauty, joy, love, and connection in our LGBTQ+ families. Portraits provide a window into families that belong here, thrive here, and are glorious in exactly who they are.

Local photographers Renoda Campbell and Summer Truschke worked with curator Laura Albers with Central Coast Pride and Gala Pride & Diversity Center to create a visual display of the normalcy, approachability, vulnerability, and joy that exists in these Central Coast families.

For more information, go to slopride.com/events, or email slopride@galacc.org.

The following events are held at the Cayucos Library as part of their Summer Reading Program. Stop by to pick up a summer guide and some goodies! All programs are free to attend. The library is located at 310 B St. in Cayucos. Contact the library at (805) 995-3312 for more information or visit www.slolibrary.org.

- DIY Print Stampmaking for Teens & Tweens: Tuesday, July 11 at 11 a.m. Join Susana for this fun craft program and make your own stamp prints.
- Magician Jim Wilson: Wednesday, July 19 at 2:30 p.m. Be amazed by magician extraordinaire, Jim Wilson, as he levitates people and makes objects disappear!
- Registration begins July 1st for the Family Paint program, which will be held on August 8 at 2:30 p.m. Work together with your family to create an ocean themed painting.
- As always, Chair Yoga takes place every Tuesday at 11 a.m. (no class on July 4), Family Storytime every Wednesday at 10 a.m., and Booked for Lunch on July 14 at noon.



The public is invited to learn more about local agriculture with the third edition of the SLO County Open Farm Days set to highlight the significance of family farms and local agriculture in the region. Taking place from July 14 to 16, this popular, event has expanded to a three-day extravaganza, offering attendees an even greater opportunity to delve into the behind-the-scenes world of local agriculture.

Tourists, community members, and agricultural enthusiasts alike will traverse the SLO County Farm Trail, engaging in tours, tastings, and educational experiences. On Friday night, the festivities will kick off with the Farmer's Marketplace at Paso Robles City Park, offering visitors a chance to explore local produce and artisanal goods.

Then, on Saturday night, the culinary celebration Shepard to Chef will take place at Rêves de Moutons, curated by acclaimed chefs Rachel Ponce and Justin Lewis.

Tickets and more information are at farmstead.com. The general admission price for the two-day event is \$55, Children under 12 years of age can attend for free.

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10 June 15 - June 28, 2023 • The Estero Bay News • Your Community, Your News

Community



Visit “Central Coast Artists Collective Presents: Craftmakers, Photographers & Sculptors” through June 26 at Art Center Morro Bay. Jurors Sheryl Daane Chesnut, Chuck Jennings, and Tricia Reichert selected 130 eye-catching works to explore, many available for purchase. This exceptional showcase features a stunning collection of functional and decorative fine craft; traditional and abstract photography; and vibrant imaginative sculpture. This contemporary artwork has diverse content, styles, media and methods by members of Central Coast Craftmakers, Central Coast Photographic Society & Central Coast Sculptors. For art availability and pricing, contact Art Center Morro Bay at mbaa@artcentermorrobay.org or Central Coast Artists Collective at info@centralcoastartistscollective.org. Art Center Morro Bay’s exhibit is free and open to the public at 835 Main, Morro Bay. They are open daily from 12 - 4 p.m. Free Parking. Image is “Sophisticated Lady, Meet Me at Duke’s” by Larry Le Brane.

Take a Quick Studies Sculpture Workshop at Morro Bay Art Center, 835 Main St., Morro Bay on Sunday, June 25 from 12:30 - 3:30 p.m. The cost is \$65 for members and \$75 for non-members. In this quick study sculpture workshop, students experience sculpting the human form in clay. Students will work with a live model in a more spontaneous, more emotional arena, focusing on movement and gesture. This workshop will concentrate on the movement of the pose. Participants won’t have time to detail the small features, like hands, feet or facial features. Students can choose to sculpt the whole figure, a torso or a bas relief during this workshop with a short pose of three hours.

Instructor will provide a water-based clay along with some tools for your use while in class. Students should bring a board to work on, approx. 12”-14” square. Bring your favorite supplies, if you have them. Firing of the art is the responsibility of the student. Or instructor can do this for you for a nominal fee. Register at artcentermorrobay.org.



All things nautical will be for sale at the Annual Marine Swap Meet, set for 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 24 at the Maritime Museum, located at the end of the Front Street parking lot on the Embarcadero. Sponsored by the Friends of the Morro Bay Harbor Department, Maritime Museum, and Youth Sailing Foundation, the event is free to attend. Vendors will have marine-related items for sale — from wetsuits to boat and fishing gear, artworks, canoes and kayaks, surfboards and more. Bring cash if you plan on buying something.

Looking for something new to do on a Friday afternoon in Morro Bay? You could visit St. Timothy’s Catholic Church for their food truck and live music fundraisers and get a tasty treat and maybe a little spiritual uplifting. The events are held from 4-7 p.m. on every other Friday and also feature live music. Free admission and the food trucks will have delicious comfort foods available for purchase. Proceeds benefit St. Tim’s church maintenance fund. The remaining schedule is Fridays: June 30, July 14, July 28, Aug. 1, Aug. 25, Sept. 1 and Sept. 15.

Free programs at the Morro Bay Library located at 625 Harbor St. They can be reached at (805) 772-6394. • Summer Reading Kick-Off Art Party - Saturday, June 17, 11 - 2 p.m.

Sign up for summer reading and get creative with button making, paper flowers, chalk art, coloring and more! Bring your imagination! All other supplies provided - prizes included! For kids, adults and everyone in-between! • Comic Making for Teens with Kane - Tuesday, June 20, 1 - 2:30 p.m. Ahoy teens! Join ‘toonist Kane Lynch (and P-nut the Cat) for a comic making experience like no other! Learn about character design, creating scenery, and telling unique stories, finishing off with a comic story of your own to take home! All skill levels welcome! For ages 13-19. • Maritime Museum Field Trip - Wednesday, June 21, 11- 12 p.m. Meet at the Morro Bay Maritime Museum for a special interactive tour! Learn about boats, subs and all sorts of watercraft from yesterday and today along with some fascinating local history. All ages welcome! • Teen Crafternoon - Saturday, June 24, 2 - 4 p.m. Come on down! This Saturday’s craft will be paper-crafted flowers. All materials provided! For ages 11-18. • Acrylic Paint Marbling for Teens - Tuesday, June 27, 2-3 p.m. Teens join Susana as we learn with Creativebug on the technique of acrylic marbling. Create a one-of-a-kind piece to take home! • Magician Jim Wilson - Wednesday, June 28, 1-2 p.m. Join us for a fun afternoon of Magic by Magician Extraordinaire, Jim Wilson! He will levitate people and make things disappear; you will laugh and be amazed!



San Luis Obispo Repertory Theatre (SLO REP) closes out their 2022-23 season with “Once,” the musical based on the 2007 film of the same name by John Carney. “Once” features 13 actor musicians performing music from the film, including the Academy Award-winning “Falling Slowly.” It is the story of an Irish musician and a Czech immigrant who are drawn together by their shared love of music and the unexpected friendship and love story. The musical runs through July 2 with performances Wednesdays through Saturdays at 7 pm and Saturdays and Sundays at 2 pm. SLO REP is located at 888 Morro Street in downtown San Luis Obispo. Ticket prices range from \$20 - \$40 and are available at www.slorep.org or by calling (805) 786-2440.

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Army Veteran Jim Murphy and Air Force Veteran Donna Archer throw the Lost at Sea Memorial wreath into the Pacific off the end of the Cayucos Pier.



Army Veteran Jim Murphy gives the invocation at the 2023 Lost at Sea Memorial Ceremony at the Cayucos Pier.



People were asked to touch the memorial wreath in memory of a loved one lost at sea before it was tossed into the ocean.

Story and Photos by Neil Farrell

The 21st Lost at Sea Memorial ceremony was held May 29 at the Cayucos Pier as about 200 people gathered to pay tribute and remember all those lost at sea.

The somber ceremony was led this year by Lost at Sea board member Trudy O'Brien, and is sponsored for the 11th time by the Cayucos Rotary Club.

The ceremony included an invocation and benediction by Army Veteran, Jim Murphy, who also led the POW/MIS Ceremony with the assistance of Caitlyn Sullivan, the granddaughter of the late-Red Davis, an Air Force Veteran and former Morro Bay City Councilman.

And with the Cayucos Vet's Hall a major construction site, the ceremony was pushed off its normal location in the Pier Plaza and onto the foot of the Pier. O'Brien explained that meant the permanent granite obelisk that was erected several years ago to mark the annual ceremony, was removed for safety. And so, O'Brien's husband Jeremiah and retired commercial fisherman, Jim Blais handled the ship's bell ringing duties during the ceremony.

The Color Guard from Coast Guard Station Morro Bay presented the U.S. Flag [and the USCG colors too], with a half dozen Sea Cadets on hand for flag duty as well.

Trumpeter and retired Army Vet Carlos Gama performed solo the various military theme songs and the Cuesta Concord Chorus, led by Cassandra Tarantino, performed the "National Anthem" and "America the Beautiful."

Among the singers in the Chorus was retired Morro Bay City Engineer Rob Livick, a Marine Veteran, who stood when the "Marine's Hymn" was played by Gama.

The ceremony is held to remember anyone lost at sea — military, civilian, commercial fishers, Merchant Mariners, as well as pleasure boaters and surfers, to help with the grieving process, as people lost at sea often have no graves where family and loved ones can go to honor and remember them.



Army Veteran Carlos Gama, left with the trombone, performs the various military themes and also played Taps during the 2023 Lost at Sea Memorial Ceremony.



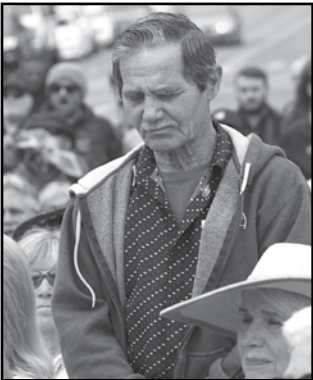
Members of the Sea Cadets salute the flag during the Lost at Sea Memorial Ceremony



Caitlyn Sullivan, granddaughter of the former Morro Bay Councilman and military veteran, the late-Red Davis, assists with the POW/MIA Remembrance Ceremony.



Retired Air Force Veteran, Donna Archer saluted during the playing of The Air Force's theme song, "Nothing Can Stop the U.S. Air Force."



This Marine stood for The Marine's Hymn.



Rob Livick, the retired Morro Bay City Engineer and Marine, was looking sharp in a tuxedo, as he also sang in the Cuesta Concord Chorus.

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Graduation 2023

Morro Bay and Cambria Graduations 2023



MBHS Pirates Sign Letters of Intent



Hannah Colletti wigned to play volleyball at Cuesta College next year.



Magic Woodbury, left, and Bella Musolf will play basketball at Cuesta College next year.

By Neil Farrell

A half dozen Morro Bay High School student athletes will be playing sports at the next level, after the school held a Signing Day ceremony for the kids to sign Letters of Intent to their respective schools.

Athletic Director Tyler Holt said most of the athletes will be competing at Cuesta College next year and three are heading out of the area for school and to compete.

MBHS Pirates heading to Cuesta include: Hannah Colletti to play women’s volleyball; Magic Woodbury for women’s basketball; and Bella Musolf for women’s basketball.

Musolf’s heading to Cuesta seems natural, as her grandfather, Ed, a retired teacher at MBHS was also the Cuesta women’s basketball coach for a very long time, and her mother, Carrie was a star athlete at Cuesta, too.

Soccer standout, Jessica Chavez will head to the University of Redlands, a private 4-year university that competes in the NCAA Div. III and fields 10 men’s and 11 women’s teams.

Football standout, Nicky Johnson signed to play football at Saddleback College in Mission Viejo, down in Orange County. Saddleback is a Community College in the South Orange County Community College District and has a long successful record of league and State Championships.

And Aiden Blackwood, who was the Male Athlete of the Year and a Platinum Pirate Award winner for MBHS’ Boy’s Track Team, plans to go to Santa Barbara City College, which is also a community college.

Congratulations to all the Pirate athletes who signed to play in college and any who might decide later to try out for a team.



Jessica Chavez will play soccer at the University of Redlands next year.



Quarterback Nicky Johnson will play football at Saddleback College in Mission Viejo next year.

Baseball Great Christy Mathewson Comes to Life in One-Man Play



By Neil Farrell

Cambria Center for the Arts will stage a revival of a one-man play featuring the actor who wrote it and starred in the play’s original run in New York celebrating one of baseball’s all-time greatest pitchers.

The 1-man play, “Matty,” stars veteran Hollywood actor, Eddie Frierson who also wrote the play about the great Christy Mathewson, a star pitcher for the New York Giants of the early 1900s.

Performances are Friday-Sunday, June 23-25 at the CCAT Theater, 1350 Main St., Cambria. Friday and Saturday performances are at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m.

Tickets are on sale now and available online at: www.cambriaarts.com or call 805-927-8190 or they’re available at the door. Tickets are \$25 for the general public and \$20 for Cambria Arts members.

The performances are a reunion for the two principles in the original off-Broadway run back in 1996 — Cambria resident and the play’s original director, Kerrigan Mahan, and Frierson who wrote the play after doing a ton of research on Mathewson (nicknamed “Matty,” “Big Six,” “the Christian Gentleman,” and “the Gentleman’s Hurler”).

In “Matty,” Frierson talks of course about baseball and the myriad of characters from his era, back when baseball was king and its stars played for the love of the game more than the money.

“Matty” delves further into life’s funny propositions, good and bad, as Frierson resurrects the legendary pitcher who over a 17-year career, won 373 games and lost 188 for a .665 winning percentage. His career earned run average of 2.13 and 79-career shutouts are among the best of all time. His 373 wins are to this day tied for No. 1 all time in the National League with another great from the early days — Grover Cleveland Alexander.

He is famous for inventing a pitch he called a “fade away,” but is better known as a “screwball.” A right hander, Mathewson also played professional football and was a fullback for the Greensburg Athletic Association in the 1898 season.

He played for the Pittsburgh Stars of the original National Football League while still pitching for the Giants, but dropped off the Stars’ roster in 1902.

After the play, Frierson sticks around to answer questions from the audience while still in character, such is his knowledge of Mathewson’s too-brief life.

The play was praised by critics during the original 1996 run in New York and is on NPR’s Top 10 List. Legendary theater critic, Clive Barnes called it a “must see.”

Born in 1880, Mathewson died of tuberculosis in 1925, which he contracted while serving in the U.S. Army during World War I. Mathewson was posthumously named to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1936 in the HOF’s first class. Also in that class were Ty Cobb, Babe Ruth, Walter Johnson and Honus Wagner.

Mathewson was just 14-years old in 1895 when he first pitched in the Minors as a semi-pro. He was the Giants’ star pitcher from 1900-1916 when he retired.

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Letters to The Editor



What Have We Wrought?

There are times in our lives that the universe stares us straight in the face and delivers a powerful message, one that if recognized, has the power to elicit a personal existential crisis: a crisis so demanding that everything up to that time seems to be leading us to a place of understanding and is the focal point for action. It is what I would call a “critical mass” experience. Three days ago, in of all places, Sacramento at the Pacific Offshore Wind Conference, I had such an experience. As I exited the conference building in search of fresh air and a way to mentally process and reconcile what I had been hearing, I looked up to see a powerful sculpture with the words “What Have We Wrought?” written underneath. This simple question shook me to my core.

What have we wrought? Although I so wanted it to be the answer, I now believe the world of offshore wind (OW) is one in which just like other Big Energy enterprises, profit supersedes humanity, and all other living beings are expendable. Will we continue down the path to this world where Big Business and governments use an environmental crisis termed “climate change” to dupe the public into accepting an ill-advised, costly, unproven and destructive technology? A world where the term “acceptable mortality” is tossed around without understanding what that mortality represents and its effects on an ecosystem? A world where the wasteful American public cares more about their creature comforts, (having all three tv’s, junior’s play station, countless appliances, and mom’s hair

dryer all running at once) and supporting an incredibly wasteful energy industry that is decimating marine species and killing off countless migrating birds?

I don’t know about you, but I have no desire to live in such a world and I refuse to condone creating a new energy industry that embraces just such ideals!

Many locals are not aware that offshore wind leases have been signed by three separate companies encompassing 376 square miles 20 miles offshore, in the area between Morro Bay and Cambria. This area is one of the most productive and pristine marine environments in the world. These proposed floating offshore wind facilities could not be located in a more damaging area! They are smack dab in the middle of both marine mammal and fish migratory paths, and are additionally right on the Pacific flyway, a major avian migratory route. The damage wrought by citing and operating these huge turbines will be considerable and devastating to already dwindling wildlife populations. We’re talking a footprint the size of the Giant Stadium, for each of hundreds of turbines with heights of over 1000 feet, almost twice as tall as Morro Rock!

The Feds, the State and the numerous energy companies drooling to be part of the windfarm windfall, collectively have not learned from the industry’s past mistakes which include citing power generation facilities in coastal communities where damage to the wildlife has been ongoing for decades, and facilities and grid transmission infrastructure is subject to the extreme damage and costly degradation that a marine environment can wreak. In 2014, the EPA determined that the cooling systems, called “once through cooling”, used by virtually all coastal power plants, were so damaging to the marine environment that they were banned in favor of newer best available technologies. They determined that no new systems be permitted, citing damage to marine species as their number 1 justification. The damage OW will do to the entire water column during construction phases, and the destruction of larger marine species and migrating birds during operation of these floating wind turbines dwarfs the impacts of the old-style coastal facilities. How incredibly shortsighted and anthropocentric of all involved!

Please don’t be a part of the voiceless majority going forward on this issue. I encourage all to be part of this process. Learn about potential impacts to the environment and how this OW industry can change our Central Coast forever. It will industrialize our lovely “Old California” coastal communities and be another “business-as-usual” Big Energy industry. There is a webinar on the issue by the California Energy Commission (CEC) on June 8 from 1-2. Get online and register, but keep in mind that this is by no means a discussion without pro-wind bias. We can use our heads for something besides a hat rack, can we not??

“What have we wrought?” is a question of the past. What I want to know is how can we learn from our mistakes and head into a future where all species are taken into consideration and energy solutions reflect that care and respect.

You have a choice! You have a voice!

Improve Beach Access in Morro

As a large kite flier and regular visitor to the beach north of Morro Rock, I have witnessed numerous instances of people, young and old struggling to get from the parking lot to the beach. Trips, falls and strained tempers are a daily occurrence. If only two people are impacted per day, that is over 600 in a year, every year. That number was surely surpassed at the last kite festival and triathlon. The current sand ramp at mid parking lot is easily eroded now with exposed rock. Additionally it is infested with scavenging squirrels. This is wholly inadequate for accommodating the numbers of visitors to this portion of the beach.

A second access slope near the dune face is used by Harbor Patrol trucks and is also plagued with rocks and very loose sand. Using it becomes the longest possible trek from parking lot to the water’s edge. Undesirable, I think.

I recommend that a conversation be initiated among stake holders with the goal of developing an access over the boulders and onto the beach midway at the Coleman parking lot. I believe a poured concrete structure consisting of both steps and a long ramp fitted with sturdy hand rails would suffice to get over the rocks and down to the beach with a greater degree of safety and convenience people of all ages as well as for the small wheeled wagons and strollers they use.

You may never know how many sprains, strains, busted shins, chins and teeth this would save, but I believe the number to be considerable. Yours in community spirit,

Glenn Mitchell
American Kitefliers Association member

Twain Would be Proud

My wife and I recently toured your area with my Pasadena brother and his wife. We very much appreciated your newspaper (May 18-31, 2023). I am not a writer, but a mere “consumer” of newspapers and other forms of journalism. It was clear you take seriously your duty to provide your readers with important factual information and context so they can participate in their community and government.

However, your police blotter was a special treat. Many thanks to letting your staff and you readers have some fun. I could not help but recall how Mark Twain spent some time in California [as a journalist] and from that experience produced works like “The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County.”

James Tobin
Lee’s Summit, MO

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

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Community

Econ Study From page 1

California Coastline.

The California Natural Resources Agency in May released a study called for by Senate Bill 846 entitled, “Diablo Canyon Power Plant Land Conservation and Economic Development Plan.” SB 846 passed in 2021 and called for Diablo Canyon to remain open for the foreseeable future, set up studies to be done, and also a billion dollar loan to PG&E to keep the plant operating past its 2025 scheduled closure.

That Resources Agency study, “supports environmental enhancements and access of Diablo Canyon power plant lands and local economic development in a manner that is consistent with existing decommissioning efforts,” according to the study’s executive summary.

The “Diablo Canyon lands” covers about 12,000 acres and spans 14 miles of coastline. It is made up of numerous parcels with the actual power plant taking up a relatively small area. The rest is a mix of coastal bluffs, oak woodlands and other pristine habitats.

Among the parcels is Wild Cherry Canyon, a 2,400-acre coastal parcel south of the power plant. It is owned by Eureka Energy, a subsidiary of PG&E and leased by HomeFed Corporation, a real estate development company that’s held a lease since 1968 but never moved forward with a development project. Eureka Energy has challenged the validity of that lease in SLO Superior Court with a ruling expected some time in July.

Another parcel, the 4,800-acre North Ranch borders Montaña de Oro State Park to the north and has a public bluff top walking trail accessible from the park.

That parcel and another to the south of the power plant are being sought by local Native Americans.

The report seeks to find a balance between conservation and public access, and the desires of tribal stakeholders to control at least some of the property. The gist of the study is summed up with a single sentence: “Land conservation and economic development on the Diablo Canyon Lands, if planned effectively, are not mutually exclusive and can occur in parallel.”

Under the heading “Values” the study lists priorities it deduced from all the interviews and public comments that were taken:

- No. 1 — Foster the robust conservation of environmental and cultural resources while enabling appropriate public access.
- No. 2 — Support transfer of ownership of North Ranch and South Ranch to California Native American tribal ownership. (South Ranch is a 5,000-acre parcel south of the power plant.)
- No. 3 — Explore expanding existing managed public access of Diablo Canyon Lands.
- No. 4 — Enable reuse of Parcel P (the plant site) for research and economic activity, including a clean tech incubator, while protecting cultural, environmental, and marine resources on the site.
- No. 5 — Explore transfer of ownership of Wild Cherry Canyon to State Parks.

Also involved in this is the push to establish the Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary as Diablo Canyon sits near the center of its 156-mile long, and covering some 7,670-square miles of ocean.

And, with regards to the plant site, numerous entities and individuals told the Resources Agency that Cal Poly should be in charge. “In an open letter, federal, state, and local electeds, other community leaders, and stakeholders outlined their vision for the future reuse of the DCCP lead by Cal Poly: a research and development campus, a harbor for blue economy activity, and community center for Chumash heritage.”

There was a strong desire to conserve these pristine lands. “Input from local groups, leaders, and residents,” the study said, “consistently raised the importance of conserving environmental and cultural resources on the Diablo Canyon Lands, while protecting existing public access to these lands.

“Many also discussed a strong desire to expand public access and enable sustainable economic use in ways that avoid or minimize impacts to significant environmental and cultural resources.

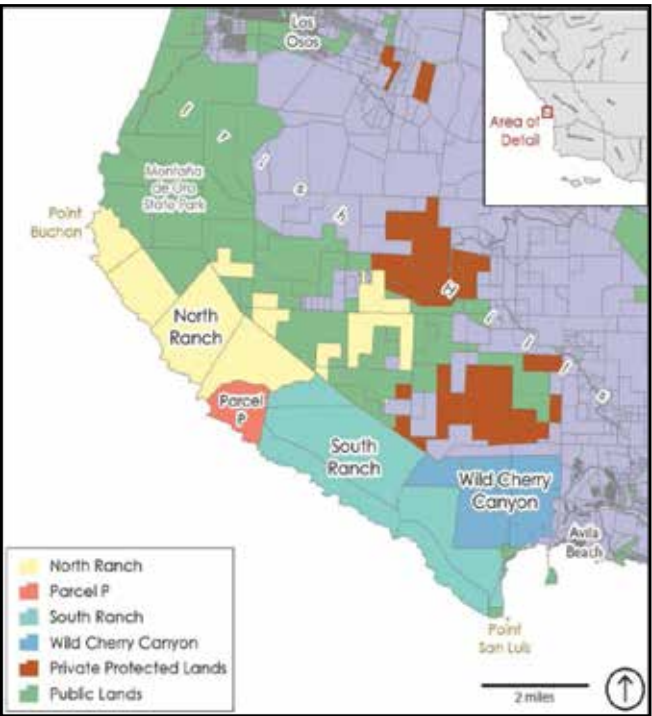
“To achieve these objectives, any future land-use decisions should consider a durable conservation easement or another

appropriate legal instrument to conserve and protect these resources and values in perpetuity. This easement or similar mechanism should also enshrine appropriate public access that is provided in a way that doesn’t harm these resources.”

But in the end, it comes down to time and money.

“It will require time, effort, and funding to carry out any action that supports land conservation and economic development activities in the region,” the study concludes. “The pace of implementation will depend upon the feasibility and availability of resources and competing priorities.”

Estero Bay News will post a pdf copy of the study to its website, see: www.esterobaynews.com if readers would like to download and read it.



A map of the Diablo Canyon shows the about 12,000 acres that span 14 miles of coastline and the parcels that make up the area.

Obituary

Carolyn Franklin
1939 - 2023

Carolyn Franklin was born Dec. 8, 1939 in Compton, Calif., and died May 10, 2023 in Morro Bay. Carolyn was an outgoing, beautiful and kind person. Carolyn is survived by her loving husband, Harry Franklin; her children, Sean and Erin and her husband, David; five grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Carolyn grew up in Compton, Calif., and graduated from St. Anthony’s High School. She and Harry were married in 1960 and had a long, and loving, 68-year marriage.



God has given her a wonderful place. Thank you for your prayers and love.

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me to Tom Hopkins, who was the sales trainer for Coldwell Banker.”

Hopkins was the No. 1 real estate salesman in California and according to his website, has coached some 5 million real estate professionals over the years. “Tom wrote the book on sales training,” says Kaiser. “He became a close friend of mine. I started to go to his seminars and put together my campaign to become successful in real estate.”

He decided to concentrate in Cayucos though in the early 1980s that’s not what was selling at the time. “Back then,” he says, “all the action was in Los Osos.”

He eventually saved enough money to buy three houses, he recalls, “mortgaged to the hilt.” In 1990 the first of now three recessions hit and “everything went into the toilet.”

He started his own real estate business in 1992 in the same office he occupies to this day at 36 N. Ocean Ave. He took on a partner in 2011 — Megan Sanchez.

And now, 40 years after he got his start, he has a crew that he says is top notch. Joining Kaiser and Sanchez are Gail Riley and Joleen Offill, all four are real estate brokers, he explains.

“I don’t know what they’re doing working with me,” he laughs. “They’re stellar people, with integrity and honesty, it’s humbling to be around.

“Dale Kaiser Real Estate now is a team of extremely competent professionals with the highest degree of integrity. I’m blown away and grateful to be associated with these folks that are the best in the business.”

So how much has Cayucos changed since the garage dwelling days? “People say Cayucos has changed so much, but I say compared to what? Show me a beach town that’s changed less.”

He estimates that 80 percent of all the homes he’s sold were inside Cayucos with 20% scattered from San Simeon to Los Osos.

He’s sold numerous homes more than once and admits to sometimes walking into a home and suffering deja vu.

“I’ve sold just over a thousand homes in a 40-year career,” Kaiser says. He’s also done about 20 development projects, mostly in the 1990s. He built his last house on Studio Drive, which he now lives in, in 2001. His daughter, Averie, was born there in 2008.

“She was born in my house,” he says, “on the beach. She’s a Cayucos local.”

Averie, who is now a sophomore at Morro Bay High, went to Cayucos Elementary through eighth grade. He talks about her with some reverence. He lists off — She’s a lifeguard, works at the Sea Shanty, coaches Junior Lifeguards and will be doing Varsity cheer/stunt next year.

Over the years he’s been a big supporter of local causes including the Cayucos Land Conservancy, the Chamber of Commerce, Morro Bay National Estuary Program, Rotary Club, Cayucos Elementary, Morro Bay High, the Estero Bay Kindness Coalition, and even adopted a stretch of Old Creek Road that he keeps tidy.

He also supports the Cayucos Lioness Club, in particular their Mutt Mitt Program that supplies free dog-poop bags at over two dozen beach access points in Cayucos. In a

year, they go through some 175,000 poop bags and Kaiser says he sponsors eight stations.

“I have two great Danes,” he says. “So I use a lot of the bags.” Sometimes it takes four bags to clean up one dog’s mess.

He feels blessed for this life he’s been able to have and while the garage dwelling days are far behind him, Cayucos is in his soul.

“I’m so grateful to wake up every day on the Central Coast.”

40th Years From page 1

Alas, it’s not that way anymore, as the 4th of July Parade is now attended by throngs of people.

For Bill, the formula to success was simple — find a good partner who’s a workaholic. “I found one in Carol Kramer,” he says.

“You have to have a good partner,” Carol responds. “Billy knows food and makes magic in the kitchen. He blows me away sometimes.”

How did the old shack become theirs? Bill says they had a lawyer friend write the original lease they signed with a local man who had a reputation for some rather shady business dealings.

He would lease a place and watch them fail, then foreclose and keep the money, explains Bill. They however, “Had an ironclad lease.” One thing led to another and soon the “crook” was in bankruptcy.

“Carol ran down to Santa Barbara and bought the property for \$1 more than the asking price,” Bill says, as Carol laughs with the memory.

Major changes came after they were hit with an Americans with Disabilities Act lawsuit over their bathrooms and Bill, who was a professional gambler, hit a Pick 6 Lottery jackpot for \$108,000.

The lawsuit put them in a favorable position with the County, as they were “forced” to remodel, which included a remodel of the too-small kitchen and outdoor patio. Because of the lawsuit, Carol reveals, the County couldn’t say “No.”

The two laugh now when they talk about Bill’s professional gambling, which he said he no longer does, including that he mostly won.

“It’s been a wild ride because of his gambling,” Carol says. “But it’s kept us afloat several times. And if he won big, he’d buy me jewelry.”

“I don’t gamble or drink anymore,” Bill says.

Another “gamble” they both took was opening a catering business out of the restaurant. “We were blessed with always being busy,” Carol says. “The catering was never Billy’s favorite thing.”

“It put a lot of pressure on that little kitchen,” Bill says. That pressure eased considerably with the kitchen remodel in 2008, as the ADA troubles actually did some good and led to an expanded business opportunity, albeit at a steep price.

That remodel ended up costing half a million dollars, Bill says. But it appears to be money well spent, as the patio is a big draw and greatly expands the capacity of that old building, which itself has seen a lot.

The building “opened as a meat market,” Bill says. It changed several times including stints as a Mexican food restaurant and a hamburgers and breakfast café.

The couple have been together some 43 years and married 20, with Carol’s three adult children and eight grandkids. Most have worked at the Sea Shanty over the years, including grandson Lucas who came to the area to attend Cuesta College.

“We always thought we’d ride this out and then sell it,” says Carol. “Then Lucas came along. He has embraced this and taken it over. That makes us a third generation-run, family business.”

So what’s with all the hats that hang from the ceiling and rafters and decorate the dining room’s ceiling?

Carol says the story goes back to Chuck’s, which was one of the first “exposition kitchens” where the cooks are out front and customers can watch them work. Bill used to never wear a hat and “People brought him a hat to wear,” she says. “He never wore a chef’s hat.” Bill says he used to

be a trucker and had about 100 hats.

She decided to hang them up to air them out and people started donating them and the collection just grew from there.

“There’s 1,700 hats hanging in there,” Bill says. “We were going to take them down with the remodel,” Carol says, “and paint the ceiling white.” But popular demand insisted they stay.

“People said, ‘You’re going to put the hats back up, right?’” Bill says. The hats and the familiarity they instill are probably one reason they are so popular to many folks. So too the old style decorations hanging on the walls inside and out and the unique pole sign out front that is pretty much a work of art; also the garden-like exterior landscaping.

“Motorcycle guys and car show guys love this place,” Bill says.

So too do the people of Cayucos, as Sea Shanty is that rare restaurant that appeals to locals as well as tourists. It helps that they’ve been steady and dependable with both the atmosphere, the employees and the food for so long.

“It’s comfort food,” Bill says of the menu they’ve crafted. “And we decided early on to be open all the time.”

“We were dependable,” Carol adds.

Even people who might eat elsewhere go there afterwards. “We get them for dessert,” Carol says. “No matter where they eat.” Carol is Sea Shanty’s dessert specialist and prides herself on what they call “Carolitini” desserts.

Bill teases that their old co-workers called her “Meanie Carolini.”

They’ve had so many employees over the 40 years. Depending on the season, they have 22-30 employees on the payroll, more in summer than winter.

“We started with five of us,” Carol says, one of Bill’s sisters was there from the start.

“The five of us ran the whole place for at least the first year,” Bill says. Carol adds that her children worked the restaurant too, though not so much for money. “They didn’t get paid,” she laughs.

All their employees have become extended family. “We get to be grandparents to all these adopted kids,” Carol says. “They’ve become a part of our lives.”

Numerous young people have worked for them for 6-7 years and after they’ve gone off to college, they came back in summer and worked.

“Last year,” Bills says, “we had 22 graduates in our family and working family. That’s a lot of \$100 bills.”

What’s the best thing about their lives? “Living in Cayucos,” she says. “We would never have known what we were missing, what a special and magical place this is.” She likes that everyone can have a piece of Cayucos.

For Bill it’s location. “I can drive down to the beach and look at the Rock and the surf and say, ‘I’ve made it.’”

What’s the worst thing? “The worst is that everybody gets to have Cayucos,” Carol says. “It’s getting so people don’t want to share that anymore.”

When will they retire and turn the whole shebang over to their grandson? “Billy wants to still work,” Carol says. He still comes in to cut all their meats and fish but doesn’t have the same pressures as slaving over a hot stove brings.

Have they ever thought of expansion, maybe opening a second restaurant? They do have a winning formula. “No,” Bill says simply.

“Billy has always been content with this little world,” Carol explains. “I’ve always wanted to expand. That’s how the catering started.”

Bill praises his wife for her ability to handle the catering jobs, which have been as busy as three weddings in a weekend. “Carol does an amazing job with setting up the atmosphere, paired with the food.” Bill is a whiz at the menus and portions to make sure they have enough food for everyone.

“My food is my art,” Carol says. “People eat with their eyes not their mouth. It’s been fun, especially with how well Billy cooks. It’s always right on; an amazing magic show.”

The Sea Shanty is located at 269 S. Ocean Ave., Cayucos. Open daily for breakfast from 8-11:30 a.m., serving lunch and dinner from 11:30 to closing at 9 p.m.

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Gold Medalist From page 1

your race - all you have to do is finish, and you get a standing ovation!"

While building his professional career in film entertainment in the San Jose area, Jim had taken a 40-year break from swimming. He swam competitively for four years in high school and two more in the Philippines at Clark AFB. "I got back in the water for health reasons. When I found out about Senior Games, I swam at Stanford meets for four years. He discovered he enjoyed the competition, which also motivated him to train to a next level. The Masters meets offered more competitive teams, so he became a Marin Pirate until the coach retired. His 2023 success was proof he is capable of more.

Jim offered what he believes is key for seniors to maintain strength and vitality. "Keep that body moving - the secret to aging people's health and fitness is to keep that body moving!"

His trainer is Depeche Salcedo at Fitness Works of Morro Bay. "She is excellent. We worked on 'dry land' exercises that helped me with all my strokes."

Salcedo commented, "As a certified personal trainer and tactical conditioning specialist, I see the most success and long-term health benefits in the seniors I train who have specific fitness goals ... something to aspire towards. My senior clients' goals are broad-ranged - from playing softball another season, to keeping active with grandkids and even winning national swimming championships! Such is the case with 83 years "young" Jim Z. Jim trains with me in the gym to improve his overall strength, mobility and cardio, and then transfers that hard work into the pool. Jim's incredible achievement goes to show that hard work and training in the gym pays off. Not only did our training sessions provide him with increased strength and endurance, Jim also won 5 medals!"

Competitive swimming is a passion for Jim Zuur. "I work out at the Morro Bay pool, Fitness Works and Kennedy Club in Atascadero." His goal is to be fit enough to be competitive among his swimming peers. "I have been on a 'world class' Masters team, Tamalpais Aquatic Masters out of Marin County, for 11 years. Two of my teammates are already in the Swimmers International Hall of Fame and a couple have competed at the Olympic Trials."

As a columnist for EBN, one of my passions is discovering who our residents were before they created new lives living in the Estero Bay. Whether retired or transferring careers; opening a new business or spending time serving one of our many nonprofits, we chose to move here or grew up here and stayed or returned here to spend our lives here. We each bring a multitude of skills and talents looking for a place to regenerate. I find it magical when new passions are discovered that contribute to our community's best interests.

Jim and his wife Mary Ellen Zuur moved from San Jose to Cambria when she got a position as graphic designer for the Tribune. Eventually, Mary Ellen would accept a job at Cuesta College, and they moved to Morro Bay. "We love it here," Jim said. "And we are lucky to now have our own pool for aquatic classes and lap swimming."

Jim had an active career in San Jose. In 1972 as an MBA/Distinguished Alumnus from San Jose State University's School of Business, he worked for Philco-Ford as a field engineer as well as lectured on film production at the university. "An appetite for independent films" enticed him to collaborate with partners to co-found and operate Camera Cinemas - art theatres similar to San Luis Obispo's Palm Theater. Before San Jose's downtown redevelopment era boomed, the group opened their first theater, Cinema 1, in 1975.

In a SJSU alumni profile article written by Kat Meads, Jim was called a risk taker to invest in a theater in the tenderloin district of San Jose. He verified, "There were a lot of pimps and prostitutes walking the street." Regardless, the venture was a financial success, and the group would eventually open several theaters in San Jose and Los Gatos. Camera Cinemas would ultimately transition from foreign-language films and avant-garde artistic films to independent films typically previewed at the Sundance Film Festival. Jim was a regular attendee at Sundance beginning



Jim Zuur takes Gold in 2023 Masters Spring National Championship in 50-yard breaststroke. Photo submitted by Jim Zuur

in the mid-1980s. He witnessed the film festival's role "... changing the face of independent film making." One of the films, "A Room With a View" released in 1986, ran for a full year at their Cinema 3. "We felt like we were New York - the kind of metropolitan region it takes to keep bringing in an audience," Jim told Meads.

Jim received accolades for his community service in San Jose. To name a few extra-curricular contributions, he served as a Fine Arts Commissioner, chaired the Mayor's Task Force: ARTS 2020, was vice-president of the board for the Convention and Visitor's Bureau, and chaired the Los Gatos Film Festival. Jim also transferred his active membership in the Rotary Club of San Jose to the Cambria Rotary Club until he moved to Morro Bay and was consumed with training for Masters swimming competitions.

Meads listed several of Jim's favorite movies that included "The Wild Bunch," "Vertigo," "Dr. Strangelove," "Taxi Driver" and "Last Tango in Paris." I wondered if today he would agree with google on "the best movies to see after a swim meet." Recommended are "Unfiltered" (2005), "Pride" (2007) and "Swimming Upstream" (2003). I'll have to ask the 2023 Masters Spring National Championship Gold Medalist, Jim Zuur!

Charging Station From page 1

Community Development Director, Scot Graham, said it didn't require a planning permit and so it was never brought before the planning commission or city council for review or approval. There wasn't even a report done on it.

The station utilizes a computer touch screen and credit card reader to charge for the electricity and appears to run through a membership program.

It's just the first of several EV stations that are in the works including some nine - several of which will be the fast-charging variety - at the 83-room Hampton Inn nearing completion now on Atascadero Road. Those EV chargers were part of the original development proposal and were reviewed and approved by the City as part of the overall project.

Another EV charger is installed at the rear of the Natural Healing Center located at the corner of Napa Avenue and Morro Bay Boulevard and had been the only one in town.

The first ever, commercial EV charger was installed at the former visitor's center on Harbor Street at Piney Way. But that one's gone now. Graham said the company that installed and owned it went out of business and it was removed some time ago.

As for the future, the City is looking into putting in some EV chargers.

"The City," Graham told Estero Bay News, "is looking at putting charging stations in at Del Mar Park and down on the Embarcadero in the parking lots north of Beach Street on the west side of the street." The area being looked at is between Harbor Hut and GAFCO.

At McDonald's the new chargers ate up a few of the

parking spaces but considering the entire shopping center, there should still be plenty of spaces left for folks to satisfy their own McDonald's cravings.

Ironically, back in the early 2000s, the shopping center wanted to build a gas station on a large vacant pad fronting Quintana and the City rejected the proposal.

And while the McDonald's EV station is the town's first, it likely won't be the last by a long shot, as the State currently is mandating that all new cars sold in 2035 must be so-called "zero emissions" vehicles, which includes battery electric vehicles (EVs), plug-in hybrid electric vehicles, and fuel cell electric vehicles.

Convenience would seem to be an issue, as to fully charge an EV using a quick charger system takes about 30 minutes and units that you simply plug into a 110-volt electrical outlet like in your garage, take many hours to fully charge a car's battery. Whereas, fueling up an old gas Chevy takes about 10 minutes.

Flippo's Ribbon Cutting With MB Chamber



The Morro Bay Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting ceremony at the grand opening of Flippo's Gameroom. Take the family and hit the batting cages, shoot some billiards and enjoy a drink or snack at 220 Atascadero Rd., Morro Bay.



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A rare diamond stone only shows it's beauty as the facets are cut exposing the brilliance! This 11.5 acre ranch property located on Little Morro Creek Rd is our rare diamond. A 1676 s ft single level 2 bedroom 2 bath ranch home offers a unique opportunity to cut your personal diamond facets. With beautiful Morro Rock and Ocean views this usable land can be what your dreams are made of. A working avocado ranch? Horse Property with space to add riding arenas? Or is it your next dream home with room to update and expand. The 1977 home features tile kitchen counter tops, a large pantry and an indoor grill. The light and airy breakfast nook is off the kitchen service window allowing you to enjoy the backyard patio area. The bathrooms both feature tile vanity counter tops and tile tub and shower enclosures. Large paver stone floor tiles are throughout the entire home. Outdoor features include a small garden, concrete rear patio with a fountain, an enclosed animal pin, potential RV parking with available



power/water and septic hookups. Lastly use the converted detached two car garage as an ADU or living quarters as you create your dream exposing all the brilliance this property has to offer.

\$1,600,000.00

**Call Stanley Craig for a private showing
 of this fabulous opportunity!
 805-235-0514**



145 South St. C 3, San Luis Obispo



2018 Turnkey 2 bedroom, 1 bath manufactured home! Completely upgraded prior to moving in to create more efficiency, beauty, and comThe 9' ceilings create a more spacious feel throughout, Plus Indoor tubular skylights for added natural light.The kitchen includes maple white shaker factory lacquer cabinets, solid face frame cupboards and doors. Hammered copper



Tim Cowan
 Agent

805.459.3818

CA DRE # 02021716



FOR MORE INFO, TEXT 972754 TO 35620

Call Tim Cowan or Tera Dube for a showing • 805.797.4638

CA DRE # 02021716

CA DRE # 02132432

This Cayucos oceanfront custom home was completely remodeled in 2017. There are 3 bdrms, 3 bths, including two primary suites; one downstairs and one upstairs. A guest bedroom, guest bathroom, living room and kitchen are also downstairs for those wanting single level living. The upstairs primary suite has access to the roof-top deck which has electricity, gas and water. The BEAUTIFUL custom made glass dry bar between the kitchen and living room is a perfect place to sit and watch the waves. Take the private steps



down to enjoy the beach or simply relax on the deck to enjoy this paradise.

Priced at \$4,750,000



Kathy Taverner, CRS, GRI

Broker Associate

805-235-0437

CA DRE # 00870894



**Over 80 years of real estate
 experience in SLO county**

805 Main Street • Morro Bay, Ca 94332