

Mission Village **VOICE**

Still the 'Wild West'
Sommelier Thomas Brenner on his
favorite American wine-growing
region — the Central Coast
See page 26





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Mission Village VOICE

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Joseph Caetano
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Wanda Guibert

Advertising Sales

Anne Caetano
acaetano@missionvillagevoice.com
annecaetano@aol.com
(917) 513-7137

Art Director

Jeff Baham

Web Developer

Luke Kerbs

Copy Editor

Wanda Guibert

Cover Art Curator

Carla Hollander

Calendar of Events

Anne Caetano

Photographers

Our Community

Cartoonist

Futzie Nutzle

Crossword Tzar

Carlanka

Astrologer

Hilda De Anza

Feature Writers

Our Community

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P.O. Box 999

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Email: missionvillagevoice@gmail.com

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A note to our readers

An Irish Blessing

May the roof
above us
never fall in,
and may we friends
gathered below
never fall out.

—Traditional



On the cover

"Visual Supply" by artist Jason Limon. For more information, see page 8. Learn more about the artist at limon-art.com.

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#BOOKWORM

Happy 'Paws to Read' Month!

By Leanne Oliveira

"I can shake off everything as I write; my sorrows disappear, my courage is reborn." - Anne Frank

Most of us know that Anne Frank's family hid in an Amsterdam annex from July 1942 to their discovery August 1944 when deported to Auschwitz. Ultimately, all would die in camps except Anne's father Otto. But who spilled the beans to the Nazis? Willem Gerardus van Maaren (manager of the Annex's building) had historically been the primary suspect, yet new findings claim that prominent Jewish notary Arnold van den Bergh reportedly revealed the annex to save his own family from deportation.

According to Dutch filmmaker Thijs Bayens, "We went looking for a perpetrator and we found a victim." Canadian academic and author Rosemary Sullivan presents all the compiled data in her new book *The Betrayal of Anne Frank; A Cold Case Investigation*. Note that Bayens' documentary *Cold Case Diary* is also forthcoming (great reads on coldcasediary.com/press) in collaboration with the Anne Frank Museum in Amsterdam.

And now some good news: It is no secret that I am basically obsessed with my dog daughter Piper, a rescued cairn terrier (now 12!) who looks like Toto. Therefore, March marks a pretty fun holiday with "Paws to Read Month" celebrating reading dog programs. Recent studies at UC Davis and Tufts (PawstoRead.com) reveal doggone grrreat news: Reading skills and emotional wellness significantly improve when reading aloud to shelter/therapy animals who provide a safe non-judgmental presence. What book does Piper like best? *The Wizard of Oz*, of course.

Heard about 8-year-old Dillon Helbig who hid his 81-page book about his "Crismis" adventures on an Idaho library bookshelf where it became an instant hit and spawned copycats? Heard about the annual "Giant Letter" installations around Chicago and Austin from a 100 ft tall kid named Bobby? Git to Google - or your friendly neighborhood librarian! Speaking of neighborhoods, celebrate "Won't You Be My Neighbor Day?" and Mr. Rogers' birthday (3/20/1928) in style this month by wearing cardigans and feeding fish.

B&N VIRTUAL EVENTS

Virtual author events: Lan Samantha Chang, Joanne Fluke, Sabaa Tahir with Ashley C Ford, John Scalzi, Bob Odenkirk, Clare



Leanne Oliveira

Mackintosh, Harlan Coben, Dolly Parton with James Patterson, Janet Evanovich with Jack Carr. Details at barnesandnoble.com.

BLACK LIVES MATTER

Waterloo, Iowa's "Soul Book Nook" is the first and only Black-owned indie in a state where less than 4% the population identifies as African American. Owner Amber Collins has focused on the BIPIC population, feeling (correctly!) there was a great need to put African American and Indige-

nous books on the shelf so that readers of all ages could see themselves represented. Details at soulbooknook.com. Online orders available!

BOOKSHOP SANTA CRUZ

Wow! March author visits include Margaret Atwood, Deepak Chopra, Erik Larson, Karen Joy Fowler, Marissa Meyer, Sandra Lim, and more TBA; visit bookshopsantacruz.com for details.

#BOOKSNOTBANS

I stand with Glad and others who are deeply concerned about the sudden rise in censorship in school libraries and resulting impacts on education, the rights of students, and freedom of expression. As a Historian in an era of erasure, I am doubly wary! For more information on #BooksNotBans, visit the National Coalition Against Censorship at ncac.org/news/attack-on-books.

EDIBLE BOOK FESTIVAL 2022

Featuring creative food projects that draw their inspiration from books and stories! I'm told this was again canceled due to the pandemic, but check the website for updates: <https://guides.lib.berkeley.edu/edible-book-festival>.

GILROY LIBRARY

Now open Sundays! Check out SCCLD.org for all the great programming including their 2022 Silicon Valley Reads (reading list is up at siliconvalleyreads.org) with author visits. Their Friends Bookshop is worth a looksee and is open Mon-Fri 1pm-3pm; note that Friends members get a steep discount atop the already ridiculously cheap books and multimedia. Grab yourself a cute \$2 tote, too!

LIBRARIAN ACADEMY SYMPOSIUM

For my fellow librarians and/or data junkies: The Research Data Management Librarian Academy (RDMLA) Symposium will be held online on 4/22, so pre-register now at rdmlasymposium.github.io. This free ADA accessible event includes a keynote speaker, panel presentations, posters, and virtual networking activities discussing the theme "Data

& Communities: Intersections of Truth, Silence, Access, and Identity." Thanks to #Bookworm Daphne for the tip!

LITERARY HOLIDAYS

Happy "Paws To Read" Month, Read an eBook Week (3/6-3/12), and Folk Tales and Fables Week (3/13-3/19). Also: Read Across America Day (3/2), National Grammar Day (3/4), Captain Underpants Day (3/4), National Proofreading Day (3/8), The Ides of March: RIP Caesar! (3/15/44 BC), Freedom of Information Day (3/16 - birthday of James Madison who was an advocate of governmental transparency), and United Nations World Poetry Day (3/21). Birthday babies are Will Eisner (3/6/1917), Dr. Seuss/Theodore Seuss Geisel (3/2/1904), Dav Pilkey (3/4/1966), Mr. [Fred] Rogers (3/20/1928), Wonder Woman (3/22/1941), Captain James T Kirk (Future: 3/22/2233).

LITERARY LADIES BOOKCLUB (Est. 2016)

This month, Nina Alejandro chose Anne Rice's (RIP!) classic *The Witching Hour*. The AMC TV adaptation releases this Fall! Interested in joining us? Email me at oldfashionedolive@gmail.com.

LUCK LIBRARY

Visit san-juan-bautista.ca.us/community/library.php for updates including details on in-person storytimes, utility assistance, and free online courses through LinkedIn Learning, Coursera, and Skillshare. Open Mon-Fri 11am-5pm and Sat 11am-2pm.

MURDER MYSTERY GAME

Check out Hunt A Killer's immersive murder mystery game "Death at the Dive Bar" for your next date night or small gathering. (I'm

hoping to play it at our next Book Club.) Ages 14+. Info: deathatthedivebar.com. This isn't your grandma's "Clue," folks!

NEW EVANOVICH SERIES

While I liked the Stephanie Plum series, I was ready for something new after 27 books. The last Plum novel *Fortune and Glory* introduced us to Gabriela Rose, a treasure hunter who is now the lead character in Janet Evanovich's newest spinoff series debuting with *The Recovery Agent* out on 3/22! Still waiting on a good tv or movie adaptation. Maybe the Reacher folks can pitch in?

NEW RELEASES

Visit the Publisher's Weekly On-Sale calendar at tinyurl.com/March22Bookworm for #AllTheBooks.

PIZZA + BOOKWORM TEE

Pizza Hut's "Book It!" promotion is back and comes with a free book lover's t-shirt! Feel free to keep your pizza and send me the tee because I'm totally worth it. Info at pizzahut.com. (Note that there is no longer a Pizza Hut in Hollister. D'oh! Sorry.)

SBC LIBRARY (Hollister)

See you all for Tea & Treasures 3/20 12:30pm-3:30pm at Ridgemark's Diablo Room. Tickets are \$40 (call 831-205-1373) and masks and vaccine cards are required. Looking forward to the Friends Book Sale in April! (Date TBA.) Updated library programming at SBCFL.org.

TV'S JACK REACHER

Loved the recent Amazon Prime TV offering of Lee Child's Jack Reacher series with the adaptation of *The Killing Floor*. What a scruffy hunk actor Alan Ritchson is - and the epitome of the character, unlike Tom Cruise. Season Two of "Reacher" has already been greenlit, so clear your binge-watchin' calendar for 2023.

ULYSSES TURNS 100

James Joyce's classic has just hit one
Continued, next page



The unique family-friendly features at the Henrico County Public Library in Richmond, VA offer family pods, lactation stations, and rocking chairs.

VOICING SOME THOUGHTS

Happy to hear it

By Halina Kleinsmith

A bowl full of stars filled the night sky and all the crickets were chirping, signifying the end of another pre-Spring long weekend in San Juan.

As I enjoyed the outdoors in the chilly dark, with an evening dew softening my footsteps, I heard a special kind of quiet.

Even the usual asphalt traffic sounds echoing down the highway were strangely muffled and silenced, more like the wheels of conveyances ages ago than the big diesel behemoths of today.

That hypnotic, low, rumbling sound reminded me of a childhood summer, staying in a '49er golden chain motel, hearing the same level of drowsy hum from passing traffic through the open bathroom window.

I loved that sound, because it was so distinctly different from city noises.

At home, through our street-facing living room window, we'd constantly hear vehicles idling and then restarting, at traffic lights and stop signs. The mechanical symphony of mufflers and exhaust noises was augmented by sirens, horns, squealing brakes, an occasional peeling out from a stand-still rev, and assorted tire skidding screeches.

We'd hear the fire department only three blocks away, their alarm bell ringing with sustained, hammer action clarity. On our own block was a major hospital and ambulance service, with emergency vehicle sirens and loudspeakers broadcasting ar-



rivals and departures.

Each Tuesday at noon there was a neighborhood Cold War drill, featuring an oscillating, bleating air horn heard citywide, indicating the testing of early warning systems.

Blending in with this variety of 'be wary' announcers were elevated houses of worship sounds, carrying the tones of bells, gongs, music box carillons, and elaborate pipe organs across town. They often played decibel-tag with the low bellowing foghorns coming from the Golden Gate.

A major swish of tree branches brings me back from this reverie to a new comfort, where nighttime breezes strum a harmonious roll-of-ocean-waves sounding calm through the open spaces and abundant foliage of San Juan Bautista.

I return inside, with the window wide open, so I can hear those rock me off to sleep hypnotic highway tones, and enjoy the tranquility that is a hallmark of our central coast gem city. ■

#Bookworm, *continued*

century. Do you feel old now? 'Cause I certainly do.

LIT-TLE BLACK BOOK

Reminder of COVID-19 restrictions and possibly modified hours.

CITY LIBRARIES:

SJB (bautista.bywatersolutions.com),

PG (pacificgrovelibrary.org),

Monterey (monterey.org/library),

Carmel (ci.carmel.ca.us/library)

COUNTY LIBRARIES:

Santa Clara (<https://scclid.org/locations/GI>),

Monterey (mcfl.polarislibrary.com),

Santa Cruz (santacruzpl.org),

SBC (sbcfl.org),

Merced (co.merced.ca.us),

Stanislaus (stanislauslibrary.org)

BOOKSTORES:

BARNES & NOBLE (GILROY): 6825 Camino Arroyo

BOOKBUYERS (GILROY): 7541 Monterey St

BOOKBUYERS (MONTEREY): 600 Lighthouse Ave

BOOKSHOP SANTA CRUZ: 1520 Pacific Ave

BOOKSMART (MORGAN HILL): 421 Vineyard Town Center

BOOKWORKS (PACIFIC GROVE): 667

Lighthouse Ave

DOWNTOWN BOOK & SOUND (SALINAS):

213 Main St

FARMHOUSE CAFE (HOLLISTER): 615-D

San Benito St

FRIENDS BOOKSTORE (MARINA LI-

BRARY): 330 Reservation Rd #F

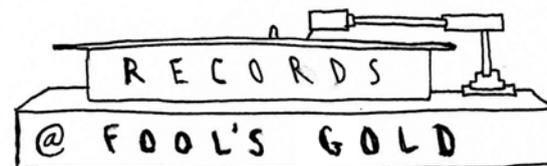
FRIENDS BOOKSTORE (GILROY LI-

BRARY): 350 W. Sixth St

KELLY'S BOOKS (WATSONVILLE): 1935

Main St

Leanne Oliveira (MLIS, MA History) is a dual EU/US citizen who works at the new ADRC office (www.SanBenitoADRC.org) and teaches writing for Gavilan College @ SBC Jail. Contact OldFashionedOlive@gmail.com or "Comicfairry" on Goodreads. ■



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THE DROUGHT IS NOT OVER YET

Recent storms made a dent in the drought, BUT it's far from being over.
We must continue to conserve and use water efficiently.

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www.wrasbc.org



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EVENTS

San Juan Bautista Art and Craft Festival March 26-27

There's no better way to kickoff Spring than a visit to the annual San Juan Bautista Art and Craft Festival the weekend of March 26-27. The historic downtown area will be lined with over 100 artists and craftsmen displaying their wares, plus food vendors and children's entertainment making this event an annual favorite.

Attendees will discover funky finds to special one-of-a-kind treasures. From exquisitely hand crafted jewelry, fashion wear, home décor to garden accessories, wood-carvings and tasty gourmet foods, there's plenty of variety while you stroll through downtown.

Food vendors will provide on-the-spot cooking including festival favorites from tasty American barbeque to international cuisine including Greek, Mexican and Thai foods. With fresh squeezed lemonade, snow cones, and kettle corn, there's a yummy temptation for people of all ages.

Children will love pony rides, face painting, and more!

The Patty Kistner Band performs the best of classic County Rock all weekend long.

Location: Third Street, downtown San Juan Bautista: Eight blocks long!

Dates: Saturday & Sunday, March 26 & 27

Hours: 10am - 6pm - Saturday, 10am - 5pm Sunday, Free admission, free parking. ■





CITY BEAT

City projects moving full steam ahead

By Don Reynolds,
City Manager

Two months into 2022, and the City's work is rolling full steam ahead. The roundabout at First and Lavagnino will be completed in March; Franklin Park will be 50% built, and the new restrooms at Verutti Park are scheduled to arrive by the end of March. The City will initiate three ambitious community-engagement planning activities in late February and March with conversations around the City's Sphere of Influence and potential growth within that sphere of influence across State Highway 156.

Woven in between these community conversations will be the development of an integrated cultural bike and walking trail to connect all of the public amenities in and around the City (otherwise known as an Active Transportation Plan). There will be many opportunities to have your voice heard especially around sensitive topics like managing the City's growth, balanced with new housing, and jobs. Join us by survey, by written feedback and in person. Join us on walking tours and working in small groups called "design charrettes." A design charrette is a fun, creative way to work with your fellow community members using pens and markers and a large aerial photo-map of the

city, drawing and creating its future, the way you want to see it.

At the February 15, 2022 City Council meeting, the status of the City's Strategic Plan ("Item 7.A") was shared in the staff report that is easy to find here at the City's web-site: <https://bit.ly/3shrg1j>

This is the third year the City Council has used this Strategic Plan to guide its budget process. In report 7.A., staff reviewed the status of the three big initiatives launched this year. \$100,000 was budgeted for each of these three focus areas: Sphere of Influence study and General Plan update (referenced above); Third Street Master Plan, and Public Safety. The Public Safety Ad-Hoc Committee was established last July and began meeting in August of 2021. The Third Street Master plan will evolve through the recently established Economic Development Citizen's Advisory Committee. It suggests ways these focus areas may need additional support and begins to explore new ideas for the next Fiscal Year that begins July 1, 2022.

The report looks at the quality of life in our city and the opportunity to expand recreation and leisure for teens and seniors. The City is making improvements to the Community Hall so it can be used for more social gatherings that may feature senior programs. The City and School District are developing a detailed plan to share the San Juan School recreational amenities when school is not in session. The staff report considers a part-time or full-time Recreation Coordinator position to tie all of this work together.

The City discussion around its new Strategic Plan will occur in "Zoom format" at 6 PM Tuesday, March 8, 2022. The link will be posted on the City's website. This is your opportunity to participate in the City's future. Spring is on its way, and the City is poised to blossom this summer! Come join us. ■

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

UTILITY ASSISTANCE FUNDS AVAILABLE

Utility Assistance Funds still available! Hasta 3 meses de pagos de asistencia de servicios públicos!



Up to 3 Months Utility Assistance Payments

Available to eligible households throughout San Benito County.

Funds are for Water/Sewer, Energy (gas/electricity) and Garbage.

Applications Thursdays 11am - 1pm in March & April at San Juan Bautista City Library.

Info call 831-623-4687 831-637-9293.
sitio web: www.sbccab.com/programs



This space provided as a community service by Graniterock to highlight nonprofit agencies or individuals who serve our community. To be considered for this spot please contact Anne Caetano at annecaetano@aol.com.

The Aromas Grange Presents....

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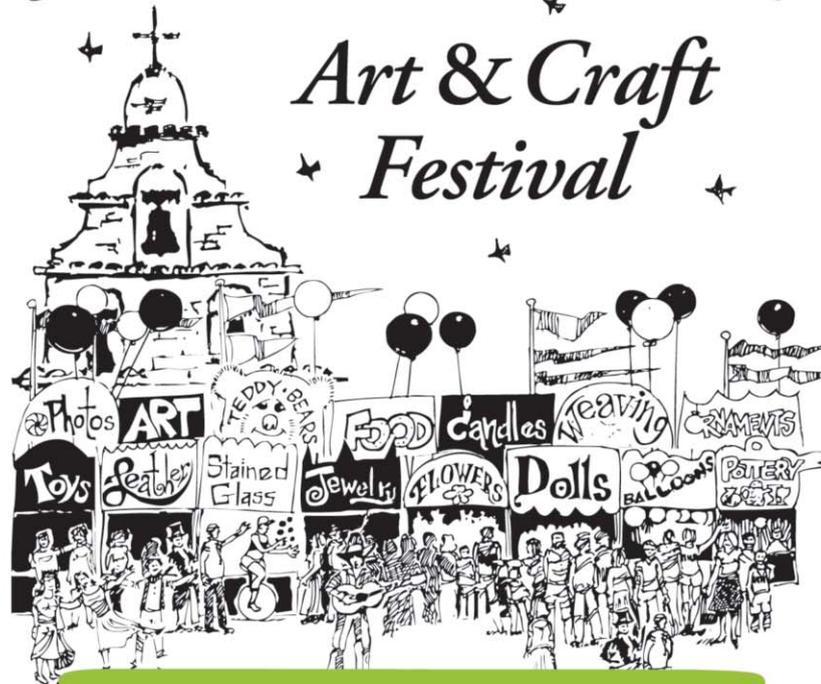
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<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/228422266147>

www.aromasgrange.org

San Juan Bautista

Art & Craft Festival



March 26th - 27th

Saturday ~ 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Sunday ~ 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

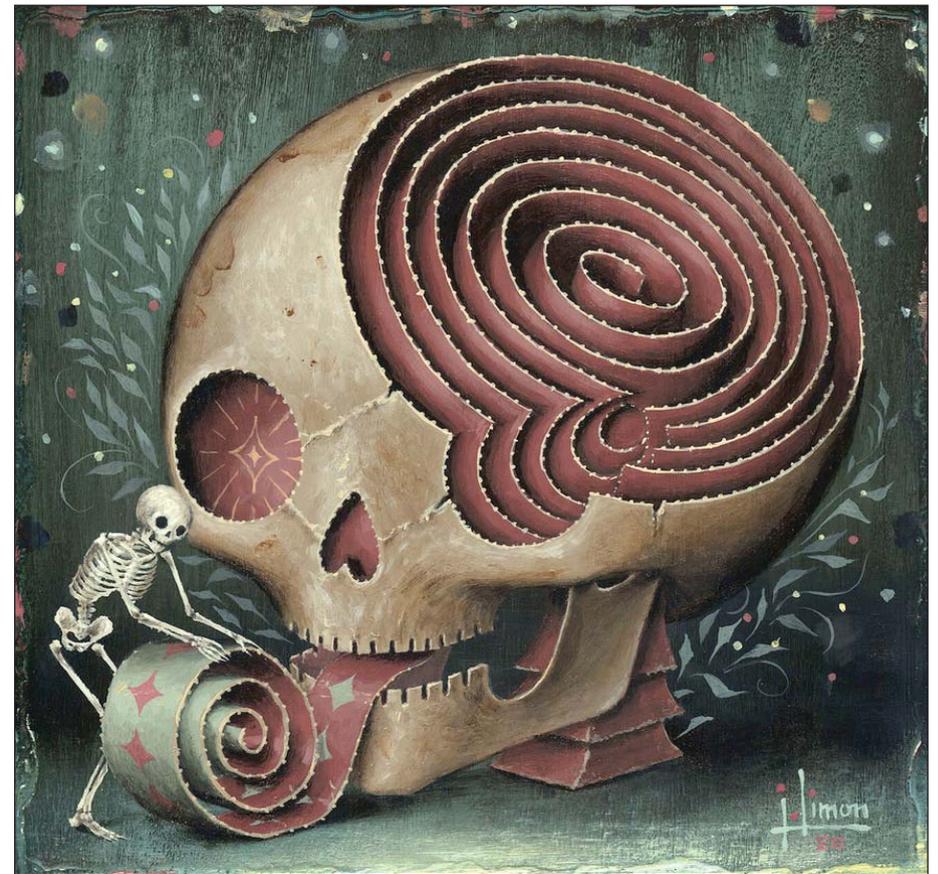
Family Fun! Live Music! Fantastic Food!

Come join us for two fun-filled days!

Downtown will have bountiful food, drink, and live music all weekend long! Shop, browse, feast, and discover thousands of quality treasures! Kids will love the pony rides, face painting, and more!

For more information call: (775) 324-6435

www.sanjuanbautistaartandcraftfestival.com



COVER ARTIST

Jason Limon

Jason Limon is a painter and sculptor that was born in San Antonio, Texas. In early 2007 he moved from a long career in graphic design to begin work as a visual artist exhibiting in galleries across the United States and parts of Europe. Following twelve years of commitment to producing award winning logos and designs he turned his focus and concentration to where his heart truly began: developing artwork by hand and brush, no longer by the clicks of a mouse.

He has had recent solo exhibitions in New York, Los Angeles, and Melbourne and has participated in a large variety of group exhibitions. His art has been presented in an array of publications and has received awards and accolades from Communication Arts, American Illustration and The Society of Illustrators of Los Angeles.

In 2016, a toy based on one of his paintings won Toy of the Year award from the Designer Toy Awards in New York. ■

Links

Website: limon-art.com

Instagram: @jasonlimon

Pictured: Unravel, 8" x 8", Acrylic on Panel, 2020.

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40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Friday, March 25, 2022

11:00 AM to 10:00 PM



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25 Franklin St
San Juan Bautista



Come celebrate our 40 years in business with us!



Hourly Raffle Prizes will be announced (1:00 - 8:00 pm)

Entertainment by:

"SHOWBIZ" & MARIACHI JUVENIL SANTA CRUZ AND A LIVE BAND AT 6:00PM

COME SAY "HOLA" TO AL CASTANEDA (11:30 am - 7 pm)

CELEBRATION MENU SPECIALS



Also, come celebrate with us on
Tuesday, March 22, 2022
11:30 AM to 8:00 PM

SPECIALS

Ground Beef
TACOS:
40¢ ALL DAY!

40 cent Tacos will be available for both the 22nd and 25th, for dine in only! (while supplies last)

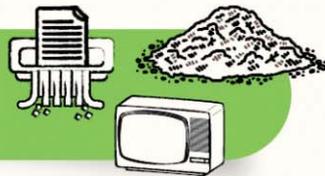
ENTREES:

Buy one entrée at full price; receive 2nd entrée (from Special Menu) for **40¢ (March 22 ONLY!)**

www.cosb.us/iwm

FREE Recycling Events in San Benito County

Recology Environmental Days



Secure Document Shredding, Electronic Waste Recycling (E-Waste), and Compost Giveaway events:

- Jan 8 & 15, April 16 & 23, Oct 8 & 15, 2022
- 9am - 1pm
- www.recology.com/recology-san-benito-county/environmental-day

Quarterly Bulky Item Recycling/Disposal Events



Bring up to 2 bulky items for free recycling/disposal at these events:

- March 26 & 27, June 25 & 26, Sept 24 & 25, Dec 10 & 11, 2022
- 9am - 3pm
- John Smith Rd. Landfill

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Events



Dispose of your paint, motor oil, household cleaners, and other HHW at these events:

- Every 3rd Saturday of the month
- 9am - 12pm
- John Smith Rd. Landfill
- Proof of residency is required
- Limit of 15 gallons or 125 pounds

National Drug & Sharps Take Back Days



Safely dispose of your sharps and unused or expired medication:

- April 23 & Oct 22, 2022
- 1790 Airline Hwy, Hollister, CA (Target Parking Lot)

San Benito County Integrated Waste Management
(831) 636-4110 | www.cosb.us/iwm



ARTS

It's been a while

By Heidi Jumper
Marketing & Community Engagement
Manager, San Benito County Arts Council

We miss you! It's been 2 years since we've been able to really "see" each other, gather together in community spaces, talk, in-person, about projects we've been working on, and share in the exploration and enjoyment of art.

For some of us, the impacts of COVID-19 and the closure of workspaces and businesses have led to a very productive and creative time; for others of us, it has been a creative achievement to produce just one new piece of art. Wherever local artists find themselves in this process, we look forward to sharing and celebrating their work.

In honor, the Arts Council will be presenting a new exhibition, It's Been a While. This love letter to our artist community will showcase visual artworks that have been created within the last 2 years by local and regional artists. This show is also an opportunity to explore how our creative community has adapted their work and art making during a



time where the structure of exchanging ideas, resources, and spaces has shifted.

On Friday, March 25, 6-8 pm we're inviting the public to join us at the Art Depot to enjoy and view the It's Been a While exhibition during a special Opening Reception. The show will remain up for viewing at the Art Depot, 35 5th St., in downtown Hollister through May 6.

We look forward "seeing" you soon. Together let's continue to connect, explore, celebrate, and make art.

For all of the ways to get creative with us visit www.sanbenitoarts.org. For special exhibition hours or to make other arrangements for viewing, email heidi@sanbenitoarts.org. ■



A piece of art by *It's Been a While* exhibition artist, Karen Percival.

ST. FRANCIS RETREAT

March 2 – Fr. Ken
Ash Wednesday

March 9 – Fr. Paul
What Does God Promise Me?
Gen 15: 5-12, 17-18

March 16 – Fr. Ken
God Surprises Moses and Us.
Ex 3:1-8, 13-15

March 23 – Fr. Paul
The Good News: God Removes the
Accusation Against His People.
Jos 5, 9:10-12

March 30 – Fr. Ken
Do We Remember What God Has
Done for Us? Is 43:16-21

April 6 – Fr. Paul
Should I Fight Back When Struck
or Insulted? Is 50:4-7

Lenten Days of Recollection
Each Wednesday of Lent

10:00 a.m. Presentation
11:00 a.m. Mass
12:00 p.m. Lunch
1:00 p.m. Presentation

Suggested donation: \$25

St. Francis Retreat
549 Mission Vineyard Rd, San Juan Bautista

FINANCIAL FOCUS

Time for some financial Spring cleaning

In just a few days, we will experience the vernal equinox – one of the two times in the year when the sun is exactly above the equator. Apart from this astronomical anomaly, though, the equinox is mostly known as the beginning of spring – a fresh beginning and the time to spruce things up. This year, as you tidy up your home and surroundings, why not also consider some financial spring cleaning?

Here are a few ideas for getting your financial house in order:

- **“De-clutter” your portfolio.** Over the years, many of us tend to pick up duplicate items that find their way into the nooks and crannies of our homes, gathering dust and remaining unused. Over time, your investment portfolio can also accumulate redundancies – that is, you might own several investments that are essentially similar. It might be appropriate to replace some of these and broaden your holdings.

- **Own your investments purposefully.** You own certain things for certain reasons – a broom to sweep the floors, a microwave to heat the food and so on. As an investor, you should be following a goal-based strategy that includes the matching of certain investments with certain objectives. For example, you might own

stocks or mutual funds to eventually provide the capital appreciation potential you'll need to retire comfortably. But you might also own other vehicles, such as bonds or other fixed-income investments, to provide you with a source of regular income.

- **“Dust off” your investment strategy.** Over a long winter, your windows can get dirty and grimy, so, when spring arrives, you may want to get out the glass cleaner – and when you're done, you'll be able to see out more clearly. Over time, your investment strategy may get somewhat “dusty,” too, especially if you've experienced significant changes in your life, such as a new job, a new child or even a new plan for retirement. By periodically reviewing your investment strategy, you'll be able to clarify your vision for the future.

- **Protect yourself from hidden dangers.** If you poke around your garage, shed or other storage area, you may well find some objects – gardening tools, paint thinners and engine fluids, leaning ladders and so on – that could be dangerous, either because they aren't stored properly or they're hard to see and can cause trips and falls. As part of your spring cleaning, you'd want to get these objects out of harm's way to safeguard yourself and your family. But

when you think of your financial situation, are you also exposing yourself and your loved ones to risk? If something were to happen to you, could your family members stay in their home? Could your children still go to college? To help keep their lifestyle intact if you weren't around, you'll need adequate life insurance. And to avoid burdening your grown children with potentially huge expenses should you ever need some type of long-term care, such as an extended nursing home stay, you may want to

talk to a financial advisor about protection strategies.

By taking some spring cleaning measures, you can brighten your living space for the seasons ahead. And by applying some of the same principles to your financial environment, you can help improve the prospects for meeting your important goals.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor, Alexis Winder. Edward Jones, Member SIPC

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Alexis Winder, AAMS®
Financial Advisor



615 San Benito Street
Suite C
Hollister, CA 95023
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March 30, 2022

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Chair,
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Chief Medical Officer



Russell Dedini, MD
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Amit Mathur, MD
Past Chief of Staff



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Medicine Department



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Vivek Jain, MD - Neurology

Joseph Jiang, MD - Cardiology

Kenneth Jiang, MD - Internal Medicine

Anne Kato, MD - Ophthalmology

Edward Kody, MD - Pediatric Hospitalist

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Steven Vetter, MD - ENT/Otolaryngology

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Daniel Wang, MD - Family Practice

D. Robert Wolff, MD - Ophthalmology

Zachary Zhang, MD - Radiology

The Medical Executive Committee (MEC) is the primary governance for the independent members of the Medical Staff; Physicians and Surgeons.

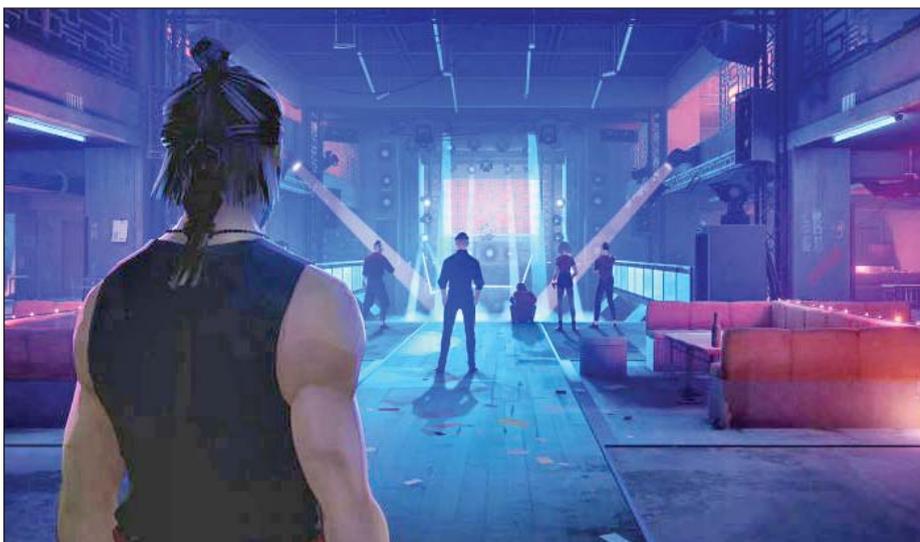
The MEC makes essential decisions related to Medical Staff policies, procedures, and protocols, always with an emphasis on clinical quality and patient safety.



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A scene from *Sifu*

ARCADE TODAY

Sifu captures the soul of kung-fu genre

By Jesse Teixeira

Chances are by the age of eighteen, most people will have seen at least one kung-fu movie. Of course, the term “kung-fu movie” is something of a flexible term these days, now that martial arts have crept their way into various genres beyond the original. Movies like *Kung-Fu Panda*, the *Matrix* films, even *Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings* might all be considered “martial arts” films, but generally, a true, original, honest-to-goodness kung-fu fighting movie is actually something from a very narrow niche. It’s different in the same way that “Westerns” bring to mind the very specific image of the lone gunslinger in a two-horse town (an irony given that Westerns as a genre owe much of their character to the works of Akira Kurosawa, the great inventor of the Samurai film). A good kung-fu film generally focuses not just on cool fighting sequences but also on the character and relationships of the fighters themselves, usually in a Confucian sense. The link between master and teacher is usually a driving force in the narrative, one which has again passed into other modes of storytelling as a trope to be respected (looking at you, George Lucas).

Plenty of games have borrowed from the style and feel of kung-fu films, but few have ever done it in the same way as *Sifu*, a game



recently released just this past February. It is, at its core, a beat-'em-up fighting game, like *Mortal Kombat*, but far less fantastical, and on a 3-D plane, rather than a 2-D stage. There’s no spine-ripping here but rather a solid-feeling and hard-core sense of struggle. Like a true kung-fu classic, your character is the lone survivor of a massacre of his class when his kung-fu school is attacked by a vengeful pupil who was expelled for misuse of the school’s teachings. The plot is relatively simple, focusing on the cost of vengeance and avoiding the misuse of power – elegantly, not just through cut scenes or dialogue -- but through the gameplay itself.

Fighting styles are not purchased with points as in most martial arts games; they are learned. Practice is a core aspect, and if your player is defeated, not only do they lose access to all their skills, but they also age significantly upon revival, giving the sense that your quest is one carried out over years through trial and error. Not only that, but the aging mechanic also means that if you are defeated enough times, you will reach a “peak” of power and performance from which you will begin to decline if you are defeated again. And if you kill your opponents, as your rival did, you lose, having broken with the teachings of your master.

It is a very difficult system to get the hang of, but then kung-fu films have always placed great weight on skill and practice as core values of their protagonists. Respect between student and teacher; rival and rival; for power and responsibility; these are all expressed through the gameplay itself. In this way, *Sifu* captures the soul of the kung-fu genre like no other game before. ■



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Then: Postcard of San Juan Union School, Photo credit: SJB Historical Society; Now, at right: First Street where townhomes and houses are currently located.



Then... and Now: School Daze

By Wanda Guibert

San Juan Bautista Historical Society

The archives of the San Juan Bautista Historical Society contain many old photos of various levels of schools dating back to the early days of San Juan Bautista and surrounding areas. Many were the typical one-room schoolhouse type, but there was also the 3-story Carpenter-Italianate style building constructed in 1868 near First Street in the northwest corner of town. In 1907 the building was sold to the IOOF Lodge and physically moved to the corner of Third and Polk Streets, where it remains today as commercial space (Sweet Pea Antiques &

Crêdo Studio). For more information about that building, refer to the July 2015 issue <https://www.missionvillagevoice.com/past-issues>.

The February "Then and Now" featured the San Juan Branch High School, located on First Street, adjacent to the site where the San Juan Grammar School was built in 1926. [Note that the Then photo is captioned "San Juan Union School."] The 20 February 1926 San Juan Mission News announces, "Mass meeting approves school bond election." The article continues, "A large and interested crowd assembled at Community Hall Thursday evening in response to the call for the board of trustees for a mass meeting to discuss another call for a bond election for the purpose of securing funds with which to build an adequate and modern grammar school building." Several months later, a headline in the 7 August 1926 Mission News states, "Contract let for the new grammar school." Of the 14 bids submitted for the main building, the contract was awarded to C. H. Lehman & Son of Sacramento, for \$33, 352.41, "...being the lowest and best bid." Contracts for plumbing, electrical, heating and lighting were also discussed. Furthermore, "The new building will be built on the Sullivan lot so that the old building [the San Juan Branch High School?] can be used until the new structure is ready for occupancy."

Just two weeks later, the 21 August 1926 Mission News reports, "With the consummation of the purchase of the Sullivan property and the recent purchase of several acres of the MacKenzie property, in addition to that occupied by the present building, work began yesterday morning on San Juan's new school building to be erected...east of the present school." Well-known local pioneer M. G. Ramirez had the honor of turning the first shovelful of dirt. A month later



Façade of San Juan grammar school.
Photo credit: SJB Historical Society

the 25 September 1926 Mission News describes the rapid progress being made on the new school. The school was built in a rectangular form, with 6 classrooms and extra rooms in front, with 4 classrooms and the auditorium in

the back. An innovative feature of the school was that "...all classrooms may be supervised by a single teacher in the corridor between both groups." The building would be "one of the best arranged, most modern and economical buildings in the State. It is steam heated throughout, wired for clock and telephone system in every room, and reinforced concrete, etc." Already, the attendance had increased so rapidly that the 3rd and 4th grades had over 60 pupils. Will the new school accommodate a growing population?

The 10 June 1927 Mission News announces in large font, "Cornerstone ceremonies and dedication of our new San Juan Grammar School," and the article begins, "The cornerstone of our splendid new San Juan Grammar

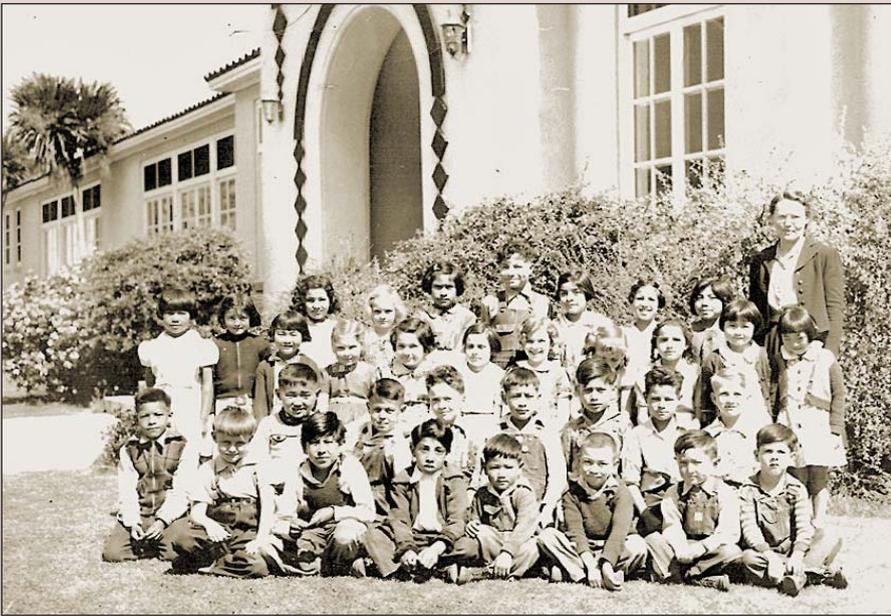


Cornerstone in situ at school.
Photo credit: SJB Historical Society

CORNERSTONE CEREMONIES AND
DEDICATION OF OUR NEW SAN
JUAN GRAMMAR SCHOOL

SAN JUAN GRAMMAR SCHOOL
1926
E. BURNETT PRES.
T. FRANK REILLY CLERK.
NELS SLIBSAGER TRUSTEE.
C. H. LEHMAN & SON CONTR'S
JENS C. PETERSEN ARCHT.

Close up of cornerstone; headline of
cornerstone at new school.
Photo credit: SJB Historical Society



1937 second grade class photo

School was laid Saturday, June 4, 1927, with appropriate and impressive ceremonies." It was a daylong celebration beginning at 2:30 with the official ceremonies, and at 8pm the auditorium was filled to capacity with parents and friends, awaiting the dedication program, which included a "public inspection" of the entire school. "Praise and admiration was heard from all sides, for we can proudly say the new school is modern in every respect, and a credit to the community many times larger than San Juan. The new school has roomy, well-ventilated, modern classrooms, a fine domestic-science room, a spacious library, well-lighted principal's office, rest rooms, and a beautiful auditorium with a seating capacity of six hundred. It contains a large stage and a balcony that is so arranged that moving pictures can be shown." A "splendid address" was given by Professor T. D. Johnson, "our popular and efficient principal," who spoke with "pride and happiness."

The Superintendent of Construction "...told of his watchful energy that no infe-

rior material was used, and when in doubt the Old Mission Cement Company accorded him, free of charge, the use of their laboratory for testing and analyzing the material." The children also provided an entertaining program, which was greatly enjoyed. In true, old-fashioned San Juan style, the day's festivities concluded with a dance at the Community Hall, which continued until midnight.

The beautiful and modern San Juan Grammar School seemed to thrive until its closure at the end of 1968. The Historical Society archives contain countless photographs of class pictures taken in front of the school and graduation pictures taken in the auditorium. Either the student population outgrew the facility, or perhaps it was not deemed earthquake-safe. From the San Benito County School Facilities Master Plan prepared in 1988, we learn that in 1966 a school bond was passed in the San Juan District allowing for the construction of a new school. The new San Juan School was built at its current location on Nyland Drive and dedicated in 1968. On 20 December 1968,

students attended their final day on the old campus. Students and teachers had already begun the process of packing books, personal items from their desks, and all the daily materials into potato boxes, to be moved one classroom at a time to the new school. When classes resumed after the Christmas vacation on January 6, 1969, students (including those from San Justo School in the San Juan

used for this purpose. Each child will be asked to bring a large, heavy-duty grocery bag to school. Into this he will put his textbooks and other belongings from his desk. The bag will be closed, stapled and labeled with his name and room number in the new school. The desks, books and bags of each

• Concluded on Page Four

MOVE INTO NEW SCHOOL TO START DECEMBER 21

The move into the new San Juan Union Elementary School will begin December 21, the day after school closes for the Christmas holiday, it was decided at the busy School Board session Monday, December 2.

Students and teachers will start packing their books and other possessions prior to that time. Large potato bins will be



San Juan School fire, façade; below: smoldering remains.



Valley) would attend the new facility – "all on one site for the first time in many years."

Sadly, just a few years later – sometime between 1972-1974 – the old grammar school located on First Street burned to the ground, apparently as a result of arson, but it is unclear whether or not charges were filed. Regarding the fire, witnesses recently posted the following comments on social media. Stating that the fire was right next to her house, Kathy Laverone Edwards shared that her dad (Kenny Laverone) had called the Volunteer Fire Department. Jill Farley Bohn (former City Clerk) recalls, "Yes, I lived at 11 North Street, right across from the school and watched it burn from my kitchen window. The heat from the fire was so intense you could feel the heat from inside my house. It was a beautiful school, and I was really sad to see it burn down." Kathleen Avilla Manning stated, "I remember hauling out early the next morning to go to a horse show, and it was eerie and very sad. I went all but one year to that school. Lots of memories there. There was a brass plaque by the front door that melted. We looked for it before the little darlings stole it. I remember going up there while it was burning. Official gathering is a fire." The school property was then sold and developed into the Mission Vista development of 24 townhomes and 13 houses that are there today.

The current iteration of San Juan School celebrated its 50th anniversary in 1969, and Padre alumni came from near and far to celebrate together and reminisce about their good old school days. After 50+ years, this San Juan School seems here to stay. In fact, plans and donations are well underway for a San Juan Bautista Community Track at San Juan School. For more information, visit bit.ly/3gsQoJC. ■



San Juan School fire, Volunteer Fire Department at work.

BEEN THERE, DONE THAT



Shelby in SJB! Hair by Becca's Mobile Pet Grooming in Salinas.



Franklin Circle Park ground breaking SJB- L-R Kollin Kosmicki, David Medeiros, Leslie Jordan, Cesar Flores, Mary Morales, Yolanda Delgado, Scott Freels, John Freeman, & Robert Rivas.



Erin Go Bragh



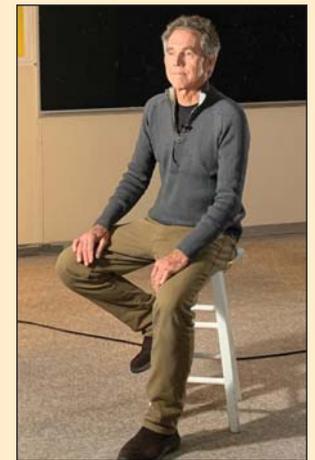
5th grade HDLA student shares her "Heart Art" created in the Arts Council's Visual Art Program.



Executive Director, Lynn Overtree, digging weeds with volunteers Georgesse Gomez and Darlene Boyd at the Nyland Property on Presidents' Day.



Georgesse Gomez digging weeds at SBALT's work party and hike at the Nyland Property.



CASA advocates for foster youth Christine & Dale Coke, filming a Child Abuse Prevention Council Awareness video at Inspira Studios of Watsonville.



San Juan Bautista residents William Medina and "Dot" Villalon enjoyed bird-watching at SBALT's work party and hike at the Nyland Property.

BEEN THERE, DONE THAT



Brewery Twenty-Five invited homebrewer Janae Caetano to brew a collab. with their production system.



Running Roosters Wednesday Nights "geeks who drink" Trivia Night with team "Team Onion Rings".



Mr. Kane Casarez celebrating his 6th Birthday!

Memorable moments from the Community Foundation for San Benito County's new Epicenter receptions



Councilmember Frank Perez, Maria Ruiz, Shawn Herrera, Renee Wells



Sherrie Bakke, County Superintendent Krystal Lomanto, Esther Curtice, Anne Hall



Gillian Enz, Kathleen Sheridan



Sup. Bea Gonzales, Sup. Betsy Dirks



Beth Welsh, Fran Fitzharris, Sean Fitzharris, Chang So



Stephanie Littleton, Shannon Wilkinson, Alexis Winder

MISSION VILLAGE VOICE Q&A

Roxy Montana Foreman, San Benito County Civil Grand Jury

By Anne Caetano

MVV had a “grand” meet up with Roxy Montana, the current Foreman of the San Benito County Civil Grand Jury, who has served on the Grand Jury for six terms since 2001. Jurors Michelle Gutierrez, Stacie McGrady and Raul Sanchez also joined us in the conversation. Read about how these 19 jurors represent you to protect the public interest. If you think you’ve got what it takes to be a great grand juror, reach out to Roxy!

MVV: How many people are on the SBC Civil Grand Jury?

RM: San Benito County must impanel 19 jurors to begin each fiscal term – July 1 to June 30. Once impaneled, we can lose a few due to time constraints or inability to meet at the time the plenary group chooses, but we must maintain a quorum.

How do you find jurors?

By hosting periodic open houses, usually on a Saturday morning 10a.m.-1:00 p.m., inviting the public to come learn and ask questions. I explain in detail what the Grand Jury is, what it does and what it does not do, and offer reading materials. Jurors may be returnees who have served on an earlier term of the Civil Grand Jury. We have had several spouses join together. Because of the high level of confidentiality, jurors absolutely may not discuss the business of the grand jury with non-members.

What are the careers and the lifestyles of the current Civil Grand Jury?

A broad spectrum of careers is represented from MD, PhD, executives, business, firefighting, law enforcement, ranching, mental health/nonprofits, education, technology, human resources and legal fields. Retirees and non-commuters are often most available to devote the time needed for a successful experience. The time commitment makes it demanding for students.

You have committees?

We have five working committees and also ad hoc committees specific to issues. Each has a chairperson and four or five jurors with a focus at separately scheduled meetings. Any juror may attend any meeting of any committee at any time.

We have the Law and Justice Committee,

the Health, Education, and Welfare Committee, the City Committee which includes Hollister and San Juan Bautista, a County Committee, and a Special Districts Committee, which includes water districts, airports, etc.

Anyone can review your findings and recommendations?

Yes, I enthusiastically invite the public to visit archived grand jury reports and responses at: <https://www.sanbenito.courts.ca.gov/general-information/jury-service/grand-jury>

What does “look into” mean?

Penal codes instruct grand juries to at least “look into” issues of the “local prisons or jails.” The San Benito County Civil Grand Jury does an annual inspection of our County jail and often inspects the juvenile hall facility.

We may go to locations to individually interview multiple employees of a department or to inspect safety issues. It might be because their department is cramped and may need more space, or it could be that they’ve just moved into a new facility.

Do you respond to complaints?

Yes, we do! Any citizen or local public employee can print a complaint form available in English and Spanish found on the Superior Court website. It’s a highly confidential process and completed forms must be mailed to our private post office box, to which only we have the key. The complaints don’t go through the court. If it involves criminal activity, we then



refer those to the District Attorney’s office. All complaints are opened and read at the plenary meetings, and the grand jury decides if they fall into our jurisdiction. This is done by a super-majority vote with considerations to time and scope. If voted to go ahead with an investigation, an individual committee may look into them procedurally by scheduling appointments with the complainant and the department(s) involved.

Investigations are complaint driven as well as self-initiated?

If it’s self-initiated, it means that it may be time to do a review on a department that hasn’t been visited in a while or if there’s a rumble of curiosity with the public. Anybody, including jurors and elected officials, can go on to social media and read about what the public complains about. What generates general public interest may influence the grand jury to seek answers on their behalf.

Who do you report to as a Grand Jury?

The grand jury stands for the “We, THE People” of the community who pay taxes to fund and support the officials and departments of the city and county. We want our findings and recommendations to ultimately reach the public who we stand to serve, for they are the voters who decide to keep or lose those officials who manage the county, cities, school boards and the staff therein. Our annual Consolidated Final Report goes to the Board of Supervisors and other department heads that we interview, inspect, and investigate. We must have findings and also co-relating recommendations for each report in order to promote good government for all.

What happens if you don’t get 19 jurors?

The County doesn’t get a Grand Jury.

What happens when you don’t get a Grand Jury?

My associates at the California Grand Juror’s Association tell me there are counties who have had no Grand Jury for the past year or two, especially since Covid. They struggle to get back a foothold of interested and resolute jurors. This has even happened in our County in the past.

So, you’re never really in a courtroom?

We avoid courtrooms (laughing) and people who have been processed as criminals through them!

We are looking for people who are open-minded to learning about the operations of the City and County because if you come in pre-conceived, you’d be surprised.

That must be hard to find?

It can be. However, I think it’s how the meetings are managed. I would also say that while we all have our own opinions, we are adult enough to be able to put those opinions aside and look at any issue from an open perspective. There’s respectful discussion but no arguments or talking over others. We are civil!

How do you vet potential jurors?

The presiding judge does the initial individual interviews, and the Foreman has everything to do with working with and managing the jurors and guiding committees. I’ve discovered when it’s just not a good fit, especially for someone who has a personal agenda or ax to grind.

And the current Grand Jury?

We’re blessed with a socially mature team with outstanding life experiences and temperaments. With rare exception, they are dedicated to showing up consistently with a servant’s heart to work on behalf of the community.

Grand Jurors 2021-2022

1. Jae Eade
2. John Eade
3. John Ferreira
4. Natalya Gallion
5. Michelle Gutierrez, Correspondence
6. Patti Knoblich-Gonzalez
7. Dennis Lawn
8. John Lemos
9. Bob Marden, Pro Tem
10. Raul Sanchez
11. Dr. Parveen Sharma
12. Laurie Serpa Sabin
13. Stacie McGrady, Secretary
14. Shiven Singh, I.T.
15. Roxy Montana, Foreman
16. Bill Healy, Treasurer
17. Dave Busch
18. Cherie Toll

To learn more “About the Grand Jury,” visit <https://www.cosb.us/departments/grand-jury/about-the-grand-jury> ■





The CFFSBC has been introducing county residents to the new "Epicenter" in Hollister through a series of small evening events. *BenitoLink photo.*

CFFSBC NEWS

Receptions showcase new Epicenter building in Hollister

In February, the Community Foundation for San Benito County opened its doors for a series of six receptions showcasing the new Epicenter building, located in the 400 block of downtown Hollister. The Epicenter was built to serve as a central hub for non-profit activities and community collaboration. The land and construction costs for the project were a gift from Randy and Rebecca Wolf, who wanted to provide a space and resources for nonprofits in San Benito County and foster a positive impact on the community.

The Epicenter offers meeting spaces, office spaces, and multiple workstations for long-term or drop-in use by local nonprofits. Currently, ten nonprofits will be housed in the Epicenter. These include CASA of San Benito County, BenitoLink, Health Project Center, United Way, Emmaus House, Sun Street Centers, Hollister Community Outreach, Martha's Kitchen, and Economic Development Corporation of San Benito County. CASA's Executive Director Esther Curtis states that she looks forward to working "in an environment where we (CASA) can gather and support the needs of the community".

On Saturday, February 12th the Hollister Downtown Association hosted a public open house at the Epicenter, in attendance were Anthony and Carol Mauro. They were excited to see the new building that is now located where they once operated Mauro Stationers, Inc. until it was destroyed in the 1989 earthquake. Anthony said, "It is a beautiful building and so incredible to see. I love it!" As he walked outside to the patio area he remembered his old workshop that was in that area, "My workshop was the area that saved everyone in the earthquake." During the earthquake, Carol gathered everyone into the



workshop while the building around them collapsed. Ten people, including children, were safe and walked out unharmed. Carol was happy to see the Epicenter completed, "it is such a great way to bring the community together. It is just fantastic!"

The Foundation Board and staff would like to thank everyone who came out to celebrate the Epicenter and they look forward to it being a place for people to connect, plan, inspire, and create a thriving community. The Community Foundation's CEO, Gary Byrne says, "We are excited to start this new chapter for the Foundation. This building represents a lot of hard work and dedication from Randy and Rebecca Wolf, as well as many other community members, which helped make this dream a reality. We look forward to advancing our mission and continuing our work in a center that is designed and built to stand the test of time." ■



View of the Epicenter lobby from the open courtyard which connects to the new San Andreas Conference Center. *BenitoLink photo.*

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

SJB VFW POST 6359 FLEA MARKET

ONE DAY ONLY!

Saturday March 26

58 Monterey Street

San Juan Bautista, CA 95045



Now accepting vendors

\$25.00 per spot

Call Augie Garcia 408-603-9065

Canteen will be opened
during flea market.
Food and Raffles

We appreciate your support!



MONTEREY BAY AIR RESOURCES DISTRICT

Electric Bicycle Incentive Program

MBARD is offering \$1,000 to low-income applicants in Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz Counties as an incentive to purchase a Class 1, 2 or 3 electric bicycle in the price range of \$1,000 - \$4,000



LEARN MORE AT MBARD.ORG

831.647.9411



MISSION VILLAGE VOICE | MARCH 2022

Calendar

TUESDAY MARCH 1

MARDI GRAS COSTUME CONTEST & PARTY @ THE GARDENSHOPPE 6-9pm. FREE EVENT Info visit gardenshoppeandbar.com/Calendar-of-Events.

BEAR'S HIDEAWAY MARDI GRAS POTLUCK PARTY 5-8pm. Bear's Hideaway, San Juan Bautista.

WEDNESDAY MARCH 2

GEEKS WHO DRINK - RUNNING ROOSTER TRIVIA NIGHT 6:30pm. Think it's just trivia? Think again. 6 people per team! Every Wednesday @ Running Rooster, 800 San Benito St., Hollister. Runningrooster.com

LENTEN DAYS OF RECOLLECTION - ASH WEDNESDAY 10am Presentation 11am Mass 12pm Lunch 1pm Presentation. Presented by Fr. Ken Laverone. St. Francis Retreat, 549 Mission Vinyard Rd., San Juan Bautista. Visit stfrancisretreat.com

THURSDAY MARCH 3

GOLDEN STATE THEATRE PRESENTS - NATE BARGATZE: THE RAINCHECK TOUR visit goldenstatetheatre.com

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH MOVIE NIGHT - FRIDAY 7pm. At the Gardenshoppe. FREE EVENT. Visit gardenshoppeandbar.com/Calendar-of-Events

FRIDAY MARCH 4

CARMEL SUNSET CENTER PRESENTS - ROSANNE CASH & JOHN LEVENTHAL 7:30pm. Visit sunsetcenter.org

LIVE MUSIC @ DAISY'S - DJ JUNIOR D 9pm-1am. Daisy's Saloon, 213 Third St., San Juan Bautista. 831.623.4484

GOLDEN STATE THEATRE PRESENTS - BUDDY GUY BLUES LEGEND visit goldenstatetheatre.com

SATURDAY MARCH 5

PAICINES RANCH FIELD DAY - RANCH BBQ DINNER! Tour 2 - 4pm. Dinner 5 - 7pm. Experience the land, animals & people that make the Paicines Ranch so magical by taking an engaging tour of the ranch as we walk through the fields. Visit paicinesranch.com

SOCIETY FOR CREATIVE ANACHRONISM - BARONEY OF DARKWOOD'S WHITESHIELD TOURNAMENT Boland Park, Tres Pinos. Visit Society for Creative Anachronism at sca.org

LIVE MUSIC @ DAISY'S - JJ HAWG 9pm-1am. Daisy's Saloon, 213 Third St., San Juan Bautista. 831.623.4484

MARDI GRAS MURDER MYSTERY PARTY @ THE GARDENSHOPPE Tickets \$40 Visit gardenshoppeandbar.com/Calendar-of-Events

LIVING HISTORY DAYS 11am-4pm. San Juan Bautista State Historic Park. Step back into the early days of SJB. Meet mountain men, Civil War soldiers,

Victorian ladies & more. Enjoy craft & cooking demos. Old-fashioned in the historic Plaza Hotel Saloon. Historic horse-drawn vehicles in the Plaza Stables & Victorian furnishings in the Plaza Hotel & Zanetta family home.

SATURDAY MARCH 5 - SUNDAY MARCH 6

SJB PICKLEBALL PLAYDAYS 9am-1pm. San Juan School, 100 Nyland Dr. Beginners-Advanced players. Everyone is welcome! \$2 suggested donation. Courts open from dawn to dusk daily.

SUNDAY MARCH 6

LIVE MUSIC @ DAISY'S - NEXT BLUES BAND 2-6pm. Daisy's Saloon, 213 Third St., San Juan Bautista. 831.623.4484

MONDAY MARCH 7

HAPPY 18TH BIRTHDAY ALONDRA!

WEDNESDAY MARCH 9

GEEKS WHO DRINK - RUNNING ROOSTER TRIVIA NIGHT 6:30pm. Think it's just trivia? Think again. 6 people per team! Every Wednesday @ Running Rooster, 800 San Benito St., Hollister. Runningrooster.com

LENTEN DAYS OF RECOLLECTION - WHAT DOES GOD PROMISE ME? 10am Presentation 11am Mass 12pm Lunch 1pm Presentation. Presented by Fr. Paul. St. Francis Retreat, 549 Mission Vinyard Rd., San Juan Bautista. Visit stfrancisretreat.com

THURSDAY MARCH 10

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH MOVIE NIGHT - ON THE BASIS OF SEX 7pm. At the Gardenshoppe. FREE EVENT. Visit gardenshoppeandbar.com/Calendar-of-Events

FRIDAY MARCH 11

NATIVE DAUGHTERS PEDRO CARD PARTY 1 - 3:30pm. \$5 to play, snacks and prizes. Native Daughters Adobe, 203 Fourth Street, San Juan Bautista. Second Friday Monthly.

LIVE MUSIC @ DAISY'S - THE LIVE AGAIN BAND 9pm-1am. Daisy's Saloon, 213 Third St., San Juan Bautista. 831.623.4484

CARMEL SUNSET CENTER PRESENTS - STUNT DOG EXPERIENCE 3pm & 7:30pm. Chris Perondi is the Stunt Dog Guy and his famous stunt dogs are all out of this world! During this exhilarating interactive experience, witness some of the most incredible feats and behaviors ever performed by dogs. Best of all, these dogs have been rescued from pounds and shelters from across the country. Enjoy amazing tricks, big air stunts, comedy antics, and dancing dogs, fun for the whole family!

SATURDAY MARCH 12

LIVE MUSIC @ DAISY'S - SWEET DADDY 9pm-1am.



Saturday, March 26

SAN JUAN VFW FLEA MARKET IS BACK! Help support not only your local VFW but your community! 58 Monterey Street, San Juan Bautista.

Daisy's Saloon, 213 Third St., San Juan Bautista. 831.623.4484

HOLLISTER EXCHANGE CLUB'S ANNUAL CRAB FEED 5:30 - 10:30pm. Fresh Dungeness crab, garlic bread, pasta & salad, silent auction, live music. FULL BAR - DRINKS FOR PURCHASE. Bolado Park Event Center. Tickets at hollistercrabcrack.com

SAT. MARCH 12 - SUNDAY MARCH 13

B & R FARMS BLOSSOM VINTAGE MARKET B & R Farms, 5280 Fairview Rd., Hollister. Visit brfarms.com

SJB PICKLEBALL PLAYDAYS 9am-1pm. San Juan School, 100 Nyland Dr. Beginners-Advanced players. Everyone is welcome! \$2 suggested donation. Courts open from dawn to dusk daily.

SUNDAY MARCH 13

LIVE MUSIC @ DAISY'S - COSMIC DOG & GUEST BAND 2-6pm. Daisy's Saloon, 213 Third St., San Juan Bautista. 831.623.4484

COMEDY & DINNER @ THE GARDENSHOPPE 3:30pm. Tickets \$40. Visit gardenshoppeandbar.com/Calendar-of-Events.

CARMEL SUNSET CENTER PRESENTS - CARMEL MUSIC SOCIETY - MANUEL BARRUECO, GUITAR 3pm & 7pm. Visit sunsetcenter.org

WEDNESDAY MARCH 16

LENTEN DAYS OF RECOLLECTION - GOD SURPRISES MOSES AND US 10am Presentation 11am Mass 12pm Lunch 1pm Presentation. Presented by Fr. Ken Laverone. St. Francis Retreat, 549 Mission Vinyard Rd., San Juan Bautista. Visit stfrancisretreat.com

GEEKS WHO DRINK - RUNNING ROOSTER TRIVIA NIGHT 6:30pm. Think it's just trivia? Think again. 6 people per team! Every Wednesday @ Running Rooster, 800 San Benito St., Hollister. Runningrooster.com

THURSDAY MARCH 17

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH MOVIE NIGHT - A LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN 7pm. FREE EVENT. Visit gardenshoppeandbar.com/Calendar-of-Events

FRIDAY MARCH 18

RECOLOGY 2022 POSTER CONTEST DEADLINE Enter for a chance to have your art on a real recycling truck! Download & Questions email postercontest@recology.com

LIVE MUSIC @ DAISY'S - DJ JUNIOR D 9pm-1am. Daisy's Saloon, 213 Third St., San Juan Bautista. 831.623.4484

SATURDAY MARCH 19

LIVE MUSIC @ DAISY'S - JOHNY TSUNAMI & THE SHOULDER HOPPERS 9pm-1am. Daisy's Saloon, 213 Third St., San Juan Bautista. 831.623.4484

ENMODOBESTIA ACTIVE WEAR - ZUMBA & WEIGHT LIFTING COMPETITION 8am-5pm, Bolado Park, Tres Pinos. Facebook Enmodobestia Activewear.

GOLDEN STATE THEATRE PRESENTS - YACHTLEY CREW visit goldenstatetheatre.com

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE EVENTS 9am - 12pm. Dispose of your paint, motor oil, household cleaners, and other HHW. Every 3rd Saturday of the month. John Smith Rd. Landfill. Proof of residency is required. Limit of 15 gallons or 125 gallons.

SAN JUAN BAUTISTA 3RD SATURDAY ON 3RD STREET Come celebrate our unique merchants, restaurants & drinking establishments with live music & specials. Extended hours for select businesses. 3rd Saturday of each month on 3rd Street.

SAT. MARCH 19 - SUNDAY MARCH 20

SJB PICKLEBALL PLAYDAYS 9am-1pm. San Juan

Continued on next page

School, 100 Nyland Dr. Beginners-Advanced players. Everyone is welcome! \$2 suggested donation. Courts open from dawn to dusk daily.

SUNDAY MARCH 20

11TH ANNUAL TEA & TREASURES LUNCHEON
12:30-3:30pm. Diablo Room, Ridgemark Golf Club & Restaurant, Hollister. \$40/person. Hosted by The Friends of San Benito County Library. Visit sbcfriends.org

AROMAS GRANGE PRESENTS...DAN FRECHETTER & LAUREL THOMSEN Doors 3:45pm Start 4:30pm \$20/Advance \$25/Door. Snack foods plus premium beers & wines for sale. Tickets available at Marshall's Market in Aromas--and eventbrite.com. Visit aromas-grange.org

LIVE MUSIC @ DAISY'S - ROGUE ROOSTER 2-6pm. Daisy's Saloon, 213 Third St., San Juan Bautista. 831.623.4484

TUESDAY MARCH 22

DONA ESTHER'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
11:30am - 8pm. Specials Ground Beef Tacos 40 cents ALL DAY! ENTREES: Buy one entrée at full price receive 2nd entrée (from special menu) for 40 cents.

WEDNESDAY MARCH 23

GOLDEN STATE THEATRE PRESENTS - FLOGGING MOLLY visit goldenstatetheatre.com

LENTEN DAYS OF RECOLLECTION - THE GOOD NEWS: GOD REMOVES THE ACCUSATION AGAINST HIS PEOPLE 10am Presentation 11am Mass 12pm Lunch 1pm Presentation. Presented by Fr. Paul. St. Francis Retreat, 549 Mission Vinyard Rd., San Juan Bautista. Visit stfrancisretreat.com

GEEKS WHO DRINK - RUNNING ROOSTER TRIVIA NIGHT 6:30pm. Think it's just trivia? Think again. 6 people per team! Every Wednesday @ Running Rooster, 800 San Benito St., Hollister. Runningrooster.com

THURSDAY MARCH 24

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH MOVIE NIGHT - HIDDEN FIGURES 7pm. FREE EVENT. The Gardenshoppe. Visit gardenshoppeandbar.com/Calendar-of-Events

FRIDAY MARCH 25

DONA ESTHER'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION 11am - 10pm. Come celebrate our 40 years in business with us! Hourly raffle prizes. Mariachi Juvenil Santa Cruz and Live Band at 6pm. Come say "Hola" to Al Castaneda and celebration menu specials!

LIVE MUSIC @ DAISY'S - JOHN GRIFFIN & THE LIGHTFIGHTERS 9pm-1am. Daisy's Saloon, 213 Third St., San Juan Bautista. 831.623.4484

FRIDAY MARCH 25 - SAT. MARCH 26

SBHS PRESENTS - THE ADAMS FAMILY MUSICAL 7-9pm. SBHS Auditorium, 1220 Monterey St., Hollister. Contact Derek Barnes 831.637.5831 dbarnes@sbhs.k12.ca.us

SATURDAY MARCH 26

LIVE MUSIC @ DAISY'S - NEON CITY LIMITS 9pm-1am. Daisy's Saloon, 213 Third St., San Juan Bautista. 831.623.4484

SAN BENITO COUNTY CATTLEMEN'S ASSOC. ANNUAL DINNER DANCE 5pm. Bolado Park, Tres Pinos. sanbenitocattlemen.org

SAN JUAN VFW FLEA MARKET IS BACK! Help sup-

port not only your local VFW but your community! 58 Monterey Street, San Juan Bautista

PET FRIENDS - COWBOY FUR BALL - WESTERN WAGS & WHISKERS NIGHT FOR RESCUES! 6 - 9pm \$65. Ridgemark Golf Club & Resort, 3800 Airline Hwy., Hollister. Tickets eventbrite.com/e/cowboy

SAT. MARCH 26 & SUN MARCH 27

SAN JUAN BAUTISTA ARTS & CRAFTS FESTIVAL Saturday 10am - 6pm Sunday 10am - 5pm. FAMILY FUN! LIVE MUSIC! FANTASTIC FOOD! Downtown will have bountiful food, drinks and live music all weekend long! Kids will love the pony rides, face painting and more. Info call 775.324.6435 or visit www.facebook.com/SanJuanBautistaCraftsFestival/

CARMEL SUNSET CENTER PRESENTS - MELISSA ETHERIDGE 8pm. Visit sunsetcenter.org

SJB PICKLEBALL PLAYDAYS 9am-1pm. San Juan School, 100 Nyland Dr. Beginners-Advanced players. Everyone is welcome! \$2 suggested donation. Courts open from dawn to dusk daily.

SUNDAY MARCH 27

LIVE MUSIC @ DAISY'S 2-6pm. Daisy's Saloon, 213 Third St., San Juan Bautista. 831.623.4484

WEDNESDAY MARCH 30

LENTEN DAYS OF RECOLLECTION - DO WE REMEMBER WHAT GOD HAS DONE 10am Presentation 11am Mass 12pm Lunch 1pm Presentation. Presented by Fr. Paul. St. Francis Retreat, 549 Mission Vinyard Rd., San Juan Bautista. Visit stfrancisretreat.com

GEEKS WHO DRINK - RUNNING ROOSTER TRIVIA NIGHT 6:30pm. Think it's just trivia? Think again. 6 people per team! Every Wednesday @ Running Rooster, 800 San Benito St., Hollister. Runningrooster.com

HAZEL HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL CELEBRATES NATIONAL DOCTORS DAY Recognizing our Medical Staff for their dedication and commitment to providing quality, compassionate healthcare in San Benito County.

GOLDEN STATE THEATRE PRESENTS - ((FOLKYEAH)) PINK MARTINI FEATURING CHINA FORBES visit goldenstatetheatre.com

THURSDAY MARCH 31

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH MOVIE NIGHT - IRON JAWED ANGELS 7pm. FREE EVENT. The Gardenshoppe. Visit gardenshoppeandbar.com/Calendar-of-Events

Save the Date

WEDNESDAY APRIL 6 - WEDNESDAY APRIL 13

POPPY JASPER INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL Visit pjiff.org

THURSDAY APRIL 7

JOHN REISCHMAN & THE JAYBIRDS WITH OTTER OPRY 7pm. Monterey United Methodist Church, 1 Soledad Drive, Monterey. \$33/show (CBA members \$30; 15 and under free); \$10-15/pre-show dinner. (831) 375-8285, www.otteropry.org.

SUNDAY APRIL 10

AROMAS GRANGE PRESENTS...BACKYARD BIRDS



Sunday, April 10

BACKYARD BIRDS at the Aromas Grange Hall, April 10th at 4:30 PM. Backyard Birds are returning to the Aromas Grange Hall (the last visit was February 2020, before the you-know-what) to bless us with their sassy musical interludes and toe-tappin melodies!!

Backyard Birds are **Linda Baker** (vocals, acoustic electric guitar), **Jean Catino** (vocals, tenor ukulele), **June Coha** (vocals, soprano ukulele), **Larry Prather** (bass) and **Linc Russin** (mandolin). They perform a fresh blend of vocal harmonies in a wide variety of music, uncovering great, overlooked songs in genres ranging from Americana, rock and roll, alt-country, pop and R&B to jazz standards and originals.

The three women's close-knit harmonies and the band's acoustic stylings, highlighted by Russin's mandolin playing and Prather's expressive bass, have drawn comparisons to the music of the T Sisters and Rosanne Cash, but the Birds' discerning selection of eclectic material is unique.

Backyard Birds' 2020 album, *Wildlife*, showcases their approach to lesser-known but cover-worthy songs, with music from folk duo First Aid Kit, songwriter and singer Carlene Carter, Buddy and Julie Miller, rockabilly/soul songwriter Imelda May, classic country songwriters Ray Edenton and Don Winters, and Neil Young. Backyard Birds' intimate live performances also often include songs by Anna McGarrigle, Rosanne Cash, Sam Phillips, Dan Penn and Chips Moman, the Beatles, Leonard Cohen, Dave Frishberg and others.

Ticket prices are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. Concert starts at 4:30 PM -- doors open at 3:45 PM. LIMITED SEATING AVAILABLE FOR SAFETY -- only 125 Tickets will be sold. Snack foods will be available for purchase to eat outside of the Hall (no eating indoors). Premium beers and wines will also be available for purchase (drinking is OK in the Hall).

PLEASE NOTE: PROOF OF COVID-19 VACCINATION WILL BE REQUIRED AT THE DOOR. NO REFUNDS WILL BE AVAILABLE IF NOT VACCINATED. This is for the safety of our wonderful audience. ■

Doors 3:45pm Start 4:30pm \$15/Advance \$20/Door. Snack foods plus premium beers & wines for sale. Tickets available at Marshall's Market in Aromas--and eventbrite.com. Visit aromasgrange.org

FRIDAY APRIL 15

ANNUAL MOONLIGHT WALK ON ANZA TRAIL Regis-

tration at the gate 5:30 - 6:30pm. Moonrise 6:45pm, Sunset 7:41pm. Off the trail by 9pm. For updates call 831.673.0665 or visit FB REACH.

FRIDAY APRIL 29 - SUNDAY MAY 1ST

THE GREAT SAN JUAN BAUTISTA RIB COOK-OFF Visit williamsLtd.com



Regional Heritage Center photos courtesy of SoulofCA.org.



LOCAL NEWS

Regional Heritage Center opens in historic Southern Pacific Freight Depot

The Regional Heritage Center -- with a California Welcome Center within its premises -- recently opened in the historic Southern Pacific Freight Depot. Built in 1872, the Depot is centrally located in the Intermodal Transit Center of downtown Salinas, near the Amtrak Station.

As a regional heritage center, it now features its first exhibit, Postcards, Passengers, and Produce, telling the story of how the 5th largest economy in the world and the most populous state in the nation developed. The Southern Pacific Company not only provided transportation, but it was also an integrated marketing company that served as an economic engine for the development of California. Come visit the Welcome Center to view postcards that the Southern Pacific Railroad used to attract farmers and other visitors to

California, discover historically significant artifacts, learn about the evolution of agricultural crops, and the family-owned businesses that have now become global leaders.

There are promotional materials, brochures, souvenirs

and a friendly staff ready to answer questions. Plus, there is an eclectic selection of unique local items to choose from as a memento to take home. The Center features a diverse array of artifacts and collectors' items highlighting a century's-worth of artifacts from Salinas Valley, Monterey County and San Benito County; Monterey County included San Benito County until 1874. You'll find easily accessible literature and intriguing items that collectively capture the essence of the region. ■

Located at 1A Station Place, Salinas, with free wi-fi, clean restrooms and great parking. Open seven days a week from 9 am - 5 pm. Call (831) 757-8687 for information or visit their Facebook page @California.Welcome.Center.Salinas



**Southern Pacific
Freight Depot**
1A STATION PLACE
EST. 1873
SALINAS CITY, CALIFORNIA
Proudly Presents

PostCards
PASSENGERS
AND
PRODUCE

THE STORY OF HOW
SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY CREATED
THE SALAD BOWL OF THE WORLD

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Find and repair leaks in your equipment to be a Water Wise Business.



Green Business Tips

How to be a Water Wise Business

San Benito County got five inches of rain in December but barely two drops of rain in January or February, putting us on track for yet another dry year with an already depleted water table. To protect the groundwater and your business's bottom line, follow these water-saving tips from the Water Resources Agency of San Benito County's Shawn Novak:

1. Restaurants: only serve water on request. This also saves water by reducing glasses being washed unnecessarily!

2. Hotels and motels: provide guests with the option of choosing not to have towels and linens laundered daily. This also saves on staff time!

3. Install high-efficiency equipment. Your plumbing equipment dramatically affects your water usage. Low-flow, high-efficiency toilets and energy-efficient dishwashers address two of the biggest water consumption appliances in the average business, and efficient equipment like dishwashers are especially important for restaurants and manufacturers.

4. Find and repair water leaks. Water leaks, even minor ones, are literally sending money down the drain. A dripping faucet can be an annoyance, but if you have leaks in your pipes and fittings, you may have a

potentially bigger problem.

5. Practice efficient landscaping techniques. Maintaining lawns and landscapes can use more water than you might think. One of the more high-impact water-saving tips for businesses is to be water-wise outside:

- Plant only low-maintenance, drought-resistant plants.
- Replace water-guzzling lawns with trees, shrubs, and ground cover. These are also visually more interesting!
- Use mulch so that more moisture stays in the soil instead of evaporating into the air.

Smart water use by businesses reduces the County's reliance on State water, protects the ecosystem, reduces the strain on water infrastructure, and cuts down on energy use and utility costs for businesses. To learn more and get free resources from the Water Resources Association of San Benito County (W.R.A.S.B.C.), contact Shawn Novak at (831) 637-4378 or visit www.wrasbc.org

Is your business interested in learning more about sustainability best practices and accessing free resources and rebates while becoming a Certified Green Business? Email Saburi Sai at ssai@environmentalin.com to schedule an info session and learn more. ■

CELESTIAL EVENTS



March 2 - New Moon in Pisces. The Moon will be located on the same side of the Earth as the Sun and will not be visible in the night sky. This phase occurs at 17:38 UTC. This is the best time of the month to observe faint objects such as galaxies and star clusters because there is no moonlight to interfere.

March 18 - Full Moon Virgo. The Moon will be located on the opposite side of the Earth as the Sun and its face will be fully illuminated. This phase occurs at 07:20 UTC. This full moon was known by early Native American tribes as the Worm Moon because this was the time of year when the ground would begin to soften and the earthworms would reappear. This moon has also been known as the Crow Moon, the Crust Moon, the Sap Moon, and the Lenten Moon.

March 20 - March Equinox. The March equinox occurs at 15:24 UTC. The Sun will shine directly on the equator and there will be nearly equal amounts of day and night throughout the world. This is also the first day of spring (vernal equinox) in the Northern Hemisphere and the first day of fall (autumnal equinox) in the Southern Hemisphere.



The "Worm Moon" will appear on March 18, marking the time of year when the ground softens and earthworms begin to appear.

MVV ēvz drāp



Pulled Over

Driver: Hello, Occifer.

Officer: Do you know why I pulled you over?

Driver: No, don't you?

At Driscoll's Berry Stand

Do you have any dingle berries?

The Aromas Grange Presents....

Dan Frechette & Laurel Thomsen



"Making beautiful music together.... A remarkable singing voice. A match made in heaven." - Dennis Taylor, The Monterey Herald

Seating is Limited For Safe Attendance

125 Seats Available

<https://www.danandlaurel.ca/>

SUNDAY, MARCH 20, 4:30 PM

Aromas Grange, corner of Rose & Bardue

TICKETS \$20 ADVANCE, \$25 AT THE DOOR

FACE MASKS and PROOF OF COVID-19 VACCINATION REQUIRED

DOORS OPEN at 3:45 PM

Snack Foods plus Premium Beers & Wines For Sale

Tickets available from

Marshalls's Market (Aromas) and

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/249752154417>

www.aromasgrange.org



DEARLY DENOTED

Headstone of the month

St. Patrick's Burial Place

St. Patrick's burial place is located at Down Cathedral in the UK. A large Mourne granite slab marks the traditional burial place of St. Patrick. A wreath is laid there each St. Patrick's Day.

A replica 8th century St. Patrick's High Cross is nearby, original stone fragments of which are housed in Down County Museum. Inside the cathedral, St. Patrick's stained glass window displays stunning colors. Two ecclesiastical stone figures dating back to the early Christian period (1150) are nearby, and the baptismal font was originally the stone base of a 10th-11th century cross. ■

Down Cathedral is located at 35 English St, Downpatrick BT30 6AB, United Kingdom. Photo credit: www.downcathedral.org.

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Cut to the chase

Meaning: Get to the point

Origin: In the early days of silent film, the most interesting parts were often the depiction of some sort of chase, whether on foot, horseback or in a stagecoach. "Cut

Above: Charlie Chaplin and Edna Purviance in "A Jitney Elopement." The film, a simple boy-gets-girl story, was shot locally in Golden Gate Park and along the Great Highway, and features one of the first car chase scenes in film history.

to the chase" became a phrase filmmakers would use when they wanted to see or hear about the more interesting parts of a film. ■

California Contemporary artist

FUTZIE NUTZLE

brings Modern Works and Archival Favorites to

FOOL'S GOLD

34A Polk Street (behind San Juan Bakery)

Wed-Sun 11-5 831/623-9275.

Original Oils, Cartoons, Drawings and Assemblages for sale - and originals of drawings published in *Rolling Stone Magazine* (1975-1980) and *Mission Village Voice* (2014 to-date). www.sanjuanbautistaca.com/art-galleries.

BUSINESS

Start anew in 2022

Here we are months into the new year, hopeful that Covid-19 is behind us and that we can keep the events and schedules as planned. It has been difficult to achieve goals when plans were changing and disrupted over past two years. Despite the challenges of 2021, the San Juan Bautista Business Association has worked diligently on behalf of our community.

In 2022 the challenge will be for SJBBA to keep the momentum going as we continue to build on our accomplishments. SJBBA is hon-



ored to have Fran Fitzharris on board as our new president for 2022-2024. In addition, we are delighted to be adding six new Board members. This brings new excitement to the planning and work on the year ahead.

A special "Thank you" for the support of Jeanna Arnold of PG & E for the grant that allowed us to purchase reusable bags. By partnering with PG&E, we were able to kick off the plastics ban with a boost for our local merchants and restaurants. Thanks everyone for using the supplied bags!

We are currently working on the calendar of events. If anyone would like to add an event, please email heidibalz@att.net with your updates.

Meeting in person on the 1st Monday of the month at Posada Hotel. Please consider becoming a member. Have a great month! ■



BENITOLINK

Hard work and big moves

By Alex Esquivel and Leslie David

At BenitoLink, the hard work never stops. Our team works day-in and day-out to deliver non-partisan local news to the residents of San Benito county. BenitoLink was created in 2012 and this year we begin our 10th year of operation!

We have a lot planned to make this year one for the books. In November, we began to work with Waltz Creative on an awareness campaign to bring the BenitoLink name to residents who might not know about us yet. They helped us explain Nine Reasons to Support BenitoLink to our readers during our fall fundraising campaign. This year we are excited to continue working with Waltz and sharing the numerous ways BenitoLink serves San Benito County residents.

In March, BenitoLink will move into the Epicenter, the new Community Foundation for San Benito County building that will house over 10 local nonprofit organizations. This means packing and decluttering (spring cleaning, anyone?) while serving our community members with both daily and more in-depth news reports. It's an exciting move for Beni-

toLink: we look forward to being surrounded by even more nonprofit organizations and sharing this beautiful and well-equipped building with the public.

BenitoLink has hosted in-person events for several years, including election forums, town halls and thank you nights, as well as our unique dia de Los Muertos event. All these events felt the impact of the pandemic; some were put online and others had to be canceled. This year, we plan to bring back the joy of in-person gatherings and offer hybrid events as much as possible.

Planning for our Your Vote-Your Voice election forums has started, and we are so excited to see both new candidates and some familiar faces once again vying for public office. Keep an eye out for the announcement of our event dates. This will be an exciting year for BenitoLink in the Epicenter. We look forward to seeing community members once again at these informative and sorely missed civic gatherings. ■



Reporter Carmel de Bertaut, Marketing Coordinator Alex Esquivel, and reporter Jenny Mendolla Arbizu go over new marketing materials sent over by Waltz Creative.



ASK RECOLOGY

Give new meaning to your spring cleaning!

By Gabbie Ulloa

Dear Recology,

This warm weather has got me itching to get going on my spring cleaning! I know I'll have a bunch of stuff to get rid of, including an old computer and tons of old papers. I know I shouldn't put these things in my curbside carts, but I don't know what the right thing is. Please help!

Sunny Daze in Sunnyslope

Hollister, CA

Dear Sunny,

You picked the perfect time to clean your home! A lot of no-cost, no-stress programs are coming up that can make your spring cleaning safe and sustainable.

Need to get rid of old furnishings or other bulky items? There will be a free bulky item drop-off event on March 26-27 at John Smith Road Landfill from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. Accepted items include mattresses, carpeting, broken furniture, among others. The next free Environmental Days take place on April 16 (Veteran's Memorial Park in Hollister) and April 23 (San Juan School in San Juan Bautista) from 9am - 1pm. Get rid of old documents using Recology's secure paper shredding service, as well as safe disposal of electronic waste or "e-waste."

While you're there, remember to pick up some free compost! Spring is the perfect time to plant herbs and veggies. Amending your soil first with Recology's high-quality compost will provide your green babies

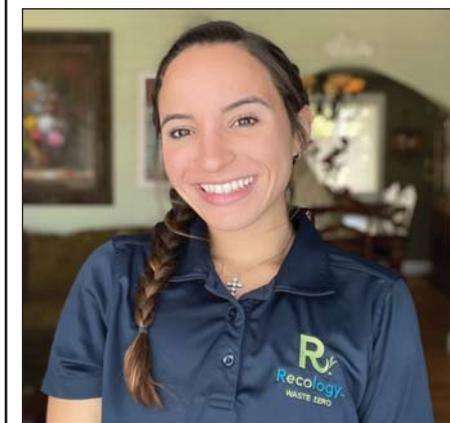
with the vital nutrients they need to get off to a great start!

Put more joy into your spring cleaning by getting together with neighbors and holding a group garage sale! You'll find new homes for your unwanted items and have fun while you're at it. Find lots of clever tips on how to make your sale a big hit at bhg.com. Search on "garage sale tips."

Happy spring!

Zero Wastingly,

Gabbie ■



Gabriella Ulloa is a Waste Zero Specialist with Recology San Benito and the new Ask Recology columnist. Do you have a question for Gabbie? Send it to gulloa@recology.com.

Source for garage sale tips: <https://www.bhg.com/decorating/storage/organization-basics/garage-sale-tips/>

MISSION VILLAGE VOICE Q&A

Thomas Brenner Sommelier, Palo Alto Hills Golf & Country Club

By Anne Caetano

At one of California's oldest wineries, MVV recently met with Thomas Brenner, sommelier at Palo Alto Hills Golf & Country Club and monthly contributor to our newspaper. As we shared a bottle of Tempranillo, we chatted about wines, a Silicon Valley golf & country club, and the inside story of a professional and consummate sommelier, whose favorite American wine-growing region is in the Central Coast – “still the Wild West.”

MVV: The expectations must be immense.

TB: It is most certainly a matter of perception. When you arrive at work, your behavior will never reveal how tired you are, how little sleep you have had, or what is going on in your personal life. You hang your emotions on the coat rack at the door. You're on stage; the curtains are unfurled, peeled back, and nothing fazes you. You are just present in this grand game of perception that everybody plays especially in this arena, which is a country club. There are multitude of logistics, organization, and accounting. But at the end of the day, it's primarily about people pleasing and justifying the extraordinary cost of membership at the club, by ensuring that the members and their guest are satisfied.

How many members?

There are about 600 members, not including their families and friends who also frequent the Club.

And you curate the wine list?

When I arrived, the wine list had just shifted from being traditional and comfortable to encompassing wines from all over the world. I just ran with it and now -- if it were in the realm of possibilities -- it would be an award-winning wine list. However, private country clubs do not get the same accolades and certifications that regular restaurant outlets would get.

Your members must be pleased.

Yes, they are, but there's so much more that goes into it. My work environment is unique, as we possess a retail license, so we may sell wines much like a traditional retail

outlet would. This allows us to sell wine by the case or by the bottle to go. Procuring and maintaining inventory of countless types of wines is quite a challenge, but I do feel that the membership is pleased with the variety and attractive pricing of the wines from which they may choose. The best perk for the membership lies in the fantastically low-priced selection and ease of access to beverages sourced from around the world.

That's a bonus.

The biggest sales vehicle is wine to go, as opposed to wine purchases for on-premise consumption at our various dining outlets. This is just very, very fascinating to me. We're practically tearing through cases. Currently, during the pandemic, it is almost im-



possible to not get cheated or to not even get the wine that you had ordered, especially when it comes to international imports. Availability has diminished, while prices have skyrocketed to highs not seen before.

You have buying power.

I'm so fortunate. Without this clout I don't know what I would do. For instance, January is the slow month, and I did \$80,000 worth of to-go wine sales in January alone. That is with a markup of just anywhere between 18% to 25%. Normal retail outlets charge considerably more while most restaurants charge anywhere between two and a half times more than the wholesale cost. A traditional pricing structure will see markups of 250% and even 400% while ours are marked up to only 18% to 25% to justify labor and storage. Our \$1 million in annual wine sales would ordinarily be 3 million in the real world.

That's a perk of the pricey membership.

Exactly. Our members have food and beverage minimums, which they must spend; otherwise, it expires. Consequently, the membership would feel compelled to come into the club and seek a big splurge to count toward their food and beverage minimum, which results in the occasional \$1,500 wine purchase. I encounter such occurrences regularly and must always be prepared and maintain an inventory of various wine types at numerous price points.

How did your love of wine begin?

I was working at a local central coast fine dining establishment, catering to an esteemed clientele. Our sommelier oversaw many staff trainings that encompassed all facets of wine, its origin and proper service. That's when my love affair with wine first started in earnest. I have always been very much interested in travel, geography, and history. I started slowly realizing that life's enjoyment of togetherness, family, friends,

good food and great scenery all coincided with the indulgence of wine. You could practically travel through a shared bottle.

The origin of the sommelier?

The king would travel in his royal coach while the sommelier would carry his luggage for him, which included the wine. And I guess --I wasn't there -- but I suppose that he would procure wines for the king to enjoy. And over time, the specification of the role of the sommelier would mainly revolve around recommendations and wine service. To this day, that tradition still holds true. The sommelier was basically the king's lackey, and that is still what I am today...on some level.

Education?

There are different certifications and accreditations that you could aspire to have bestowed upon you in Europe and worldwide. Each focuses primarily on a supreme knowledge base revolving around wine. You write essays, are knowledgeable about vineyard densities, clonal selection, irrigation and trellising tactics, and all manners of agricultural, service and business duties relating to wine. I am certified by the Court of Master Sommeliers. You just must learn about service a little bit more. This certification focuses primarily on wine theory, service, and the analysis of wine through deductive blind-tasting methods.

What key aspects of service are the most critical to you?

The most important component ensuring the enjoyment of the wine by the purchaser is having it in stock and being knowledgeable about the product. After that, there are certain facets, such as the appropriate glassware. Ideally, for each type of wine, the vessel is different. Traditionally, a sparkling wine would be served in the flute. A burundy and grapes such as Pinot Noir or Chardonnay would be served in the Burundy glass, while Cabernet Sauvignon

would be served in the Bordeaux glass and sweet wines in a dessert style glass. The temperature must also be optimal. Occasionally, certain red wines or older wines need to breathe a little bit and be decanted before consumption. Timing this process can be tricky, as a delicate wine can fall apart rather quickly if decanted too quickly or if left in the decanter for too long. To make service a priority, each step must be anticipated. But at the end of the day, if the guest is happy, or the members happy, so is the sommelier.

You must have stories.

The movers and shakers of Silicon Valley all hobnob and find a home away from home at their golf and country clubs. It is literally a clubhouse where they can shoot the breeze, imbibe and dine, and be safe. It's all about enhancing life enjoyment, which is most easily accomplished in a beautiful setting, surrounded by friends and family, great meals, and even better wine.

As a sommelier, you possess knowledge they don't have, and these are people that really have accomplished a lot. Occasionally you have a lot of geeks who are now billionaires, and they're trying to attain new highs through wine. And that's where a sommelier comes into play.

There are also a lot of people who love to "nerd out" about wine with me, and I very much enjoy opportunities to do so. There are a lot of very classy, elegant guests who share my passion for history, are highly educated and successful, very astute, and benevolent. Consequently, I'm afforded some great insight into things, and into the lives they lead, but they also expect nothing but the best. I can never be stumped because I am supposed to be the expert, after all.

You probably are never stumped.

As pretentious as it sounds, I'm seldom stumped, and if I should be, I am completely transparent and will let them know that I will find out for them. And I do. There are some members who will ask me, "Thomas, give me something French or give me something Italian." This is so vast. Yeah. But I do know what to ask, and I do get to learn their preferences. For example, they may say, "Oh, can I have a Bordeaux or maybe something Italian?" Then I'll know to find them a super Tuscan, which can often be a Bordeaux blend from Italy. Conversely, if people ask for a Prosecco, I know that I can offer a Cava, Sekt, Crémant, or Champagne as well to keep it interesting.

And the Champagne region?

Champagne is basically like a trademark,



which mandates that Champagne may only hail from the Champagne region of northern France. It has kept its cachet of being exclusive, but I feel that it needn't be relegated to being enjoyed merely as a celebratory effort but can also be enjoyed as a pairing for appetizers, entrees, and dessert and on any occasion.

Bubbles?

Traditionally, the smaller the bubble, the better the quality. The bigger bubbles signify that the sparkling wine is made in an inferior kind of way when compared to the Champagne method, which sees a secondary fermentation inside the bottle. Often, bigger bubbles indicate that there's a lot of sugar not broken down by the yeast and that bubbles were simply injected into a tank. This could lead to a headache tomorrow, so beware: you get what you pay for. The fascinating thing is, people eat Brie and all sorts of different types of food that come from fungus. At the end of the day, the bubbles are "yeast farts." All alcohol is basically excreted by these microorganisms: yeast. Yeast comes in, gobbles up the sugars and then converts it into heat, CO₂, and alcohol, resulting in a complicated process we enjoy in the wine we consume and take for granted every time we pop a bottle. Such fascinating tidbits keep me engaged in my trade.

It's very scientific.

The love of wine is all-encompassing as it runs the gamut of biology, chemistry, geology, anthropology, cultural studies, meteorology, topography, and so much more.

Bubbles are very fascinating to me because Dom Perignon is credited with in-

venting the champagne method. He was a monk in the 17th century. He was the cellar master at an abbey in Champagne, and he had been charged with the arduous duty of ridding wine of these pesky bubbles, which were deemed a nuisance. However, he embraced it and started perfecting the champagne method and containing the vast amounts of pressure in those bottles. Avoiding having the flask containing the juice blowing up in your face was no small feat as the pressure inside these bottles exceeds the pressure you would find in a truck tire.

And here in the Central Coast?

In Central California, we can grow any grape that we prefer and make it in any way that we want. We have the freedom to plant and cultivate without restriction in the United States. In France, the home to most of these grapes, you must adhere to the mandates and protocols of the French government and are afforded little artistic freedom.

We are so lucky right now to enjoy complete freedom in the Central Coast.

It's still the Wild West. I love that you can do as you please when it comes to viticulture and vinification. We are truly free. Back in Europe, they will tell you how to water and how to train and trellis your grapes, and what to grow and how to grow it and how far apart the vines must be, which assures a certain type of quality and capacity of a product whereas here you truly do deserve what you sow.

My favorite American wine-growing region is in the Central Coast. However, Randall Grahm is my favorite vigneron as he is the most eccentric and exacting wine celebrity any longing wine-loving heart could desire. He is the Rhone Ranger. And a great many of my favorite grape varieties are those that hail from the Rhone, which is true for many of my peers. Mr. Grahm has promised an exciting future for San Juan Bautista at his new vineyard here, where he cultivates an experimental breeding ground for many new varieties and techniques that should entice wine lovers the world over. There is no better time to be alive and no better place to source wine from. We truly are blessed to call the Central Coast of California home. And if you don't live here, thankfully the region's wines are readily available the world over. ■



GOING POSTAL

Mountain Flora

These four new stamps celebrate the beauty of mountain flowers. Each Mountain Flora stamp features a different flower: a purple pasqueflower, an orange-red wood lily, a bright yellow alpine buttercup and a dark pink Woods' rose.

The artist's hand-drawn illustrations, refined digitally, create a block-print aes-

thetic. The stamps will be issued in booklets of 20 and coils of 3,000 and 10,000. Art director Ethel Kessler designed the stamps with original art by Lili Arnold.

Customers may purchase stamps and other philatelic products through the Postal Store at usps.com/shopstamps, by calling 844-737-7826, by mail through USA Philatelic, or at Post Office locations nationwide.

The Postal Service generally receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations. ■



Group photo of volunteers at San Benito Agricultural Land Trust's first public event out on the land; Attendees gathered near the iconic barn on the Trust for Public Land's Nyland Property, in San Juan Bautista.

SBALT NEWS

Two important milestones for SBALT

By Karminder Brown

A Family Hike and Volunteer Work Party at the Nyland Property



owned by The Trust for Public Land, managed by SBALT, and 101 Equipment runs the cattle operation. Since the property is not

On Presidents' Day, 25 residents of San Juan Bautista, Hollister, Tres Pinos, and Aromas attended SBALT's inaugural public event on the newly-acquired Nyland property south of Hwy 156 in San Juan Bautista. The 540-acre ranch is now

normally open to the public, it was a special opportunity for the community to explore it with land trust staff and board as their guides.

The day began with a volunteer "work party" under bright blue skies with a bald

eagle flying overhead. Teams spread out and collected ranch debris from around the iconic barn and another structure, removed old pallets from a shed, removed old cattle panels, and dug out some small patches of weeds.

After about an hour of work, guests chose between two levels of hikes to join. One group took a short uphill walk to the two reservoirs that provide water for livestock and habitat for birds, reptiles, and other wildlife. Birdwatchers in this group were rewarded with sightings of a variety of migratory waterfowl, including bufflehead, American wigeon, canvasback, common goldeneye, and ring-necked duck, as well as coots, cormorants, and mallards. A half dozen Western pond turtles were also observed.

San Juan Bautista resident William Medina attended with his girlfriend Dorothy Villalon. They are both birdwatchers and relished the opportunity to explore the trails on the Nyland Property. "I have always wanted to check this place out," said Medina. "It's great to be here and be able to lend a hand with the clean-up."

The other group, led by Executive Director, Lynn Overtree, took a longer walk westward through the pastures and oak woodlands while cattle looked on with curiosity. Those who brought lunches finished the day with a picnic at the upper reservoir.

SBALT is grateful to all who attended and pitched in to clean up a portion of the ranch! Subscribe to our website to receive notice of future events on SBALT's conservation lands.

National Accreditation Awarded to SBALT

On February 17, SBALT was awarded accreditation by the Land Trust Accreditation



Commission! We join a network of over 450 accredited land trusts across the nation that have demonstrated their commitment to professional excellence and to maintaining the public's trust in their work. We thank the Community Foundation for San Benito County for several grants

that helped us to prepare over four years. We also thank the many donors whose contributions have sustained SBALT through this process. Visit www.sanbenitolandtrust.org to see the accreditation seal proudly displayed and to read more about what accreditation means. ■



VUE À LA LOO

Gougane Barra has Ireland's top toilet

It's more famous for its magnificent scenery, but Gougane Barra can now lay claim to being the best place in the country to answer nature's call, after it was voted home to one of the world's top 100 toilets. ■

Source: www.irishexaminer.com/news/arid-20396073.html



Aromas residents Zooley Diggory and son Ren removing debris at SBALT's work party and hike at the Nyland Property.

MISSIONVILLAGEVOICE

Community Bulletin Board

Utility Assistance Funds still available! Hasta 3 meses de pagos de asistencia de servicios públicos!

Available to eligible households in San Juan Bautista and throughout San Benito County.

Beginning last fall, Nora Jimenez has been onsite here at the San Juan Bautista City Library, located in Carl Martin Luck Memorial Park 801 Second St. San Juan Bautista, to guide our residents through the application process for Utility Assistance through Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. She continues to be available throughout March and April every Thursday 11 am until 1 pm at the Library. Utility Assistance funds are available for Water/Sewer, Energy (gas/electricity) and Garbage.

If this is the first you are hearing about this please let us know! We have made every effort to reach you, short of hiring those extended car warranty folks, to get the word out. You can always leave the Library a message at 831-623-4687 or call the program coordinators directly at 831-637-9293.

Desde el otoño pasado, Nora Jiménez ha estado presente aquí en la Biblioteca de la Ciudad de San Juan Bautista, ubicada en Carl Martin Luck Memorial Park 801 Second St. San Juan Bautista, para guiar a nuestros residentes con el proceso de solicitud de Asistencia de Servicios Públicos bajo los fondos de la Subvención en Bloque para el Desarrollo Comunitario (CDBG). Ella estará disponible durante el mes de marzo y abril todos los jueves de 11 am a 1 pm en la Biblioteca. Los fondos de asistencia de servicios públicos están disponibles para agua/alcantarillado, energía (gas/electricidad) y basura.

Si es la primera vez que escucha sobre el programa, ¡háganoslo saber! Hemos hecho todo lo posible para comunicarnos con usted, aparte de contratar a esa gente de garantía extendida del automóvil, para correr la voz. Siempre puede dejar un mensaje en la Biblioteca al 831-623-4687 o llamar directamente a los coordinadores del programa al 831-637-9293.

Applications can be picked up at / La solicitud se puede recoger en:

San Juan Bautista City Library (La Biblioteca) 801 Second Street, San Juan Bautista

San Benito County Community Services & Workforce Development / Servicios Comunitarios y Desarrollo Laboral de San Benito 1161 San Felipe Road, Building B in Hollister

Applications can also be printed from the San Benito County Community Action Board's website / o en nuestro sitio web: www.sbccab.com/programs

People of San Juan Bautista Community Senior Center Forum

You are cordially invited to attend a forum to discuss the development of a Senior Center in San Juan Bautista. This forum is a unique opportunity for the community to come together and develop a set of recommendations that will advance the establishment of a center where our yesteryear adult community members can congregate!

How can San Juan Bautista serve and develop plans for aging generations now and in the future? Come help us answer this question with new and fresh ideas. Let us

come together to share our voices in a round table discussion to address the changing face of aging in our community. We hope you will participate in this long overdue and exciting event.

The recommendations that attendees develop will be sent in an official report from this Forum to our City Council, the Board of Supervisors and the Council on Aging. Please invite others and join us at the San Juan Bautista Community Center Saturday morning March 26 at 10 AM for an hour of inspiration, suggestions, and ideas! Please enter through the side door. Thank you!

Questions may be emailed to maryedge@sbccglobal.net or phone: 831-623-2582

San Benito Evening Primrose Removed from Endangered Species Act Due to Recovery

Thanks to decades of conservation efforts, the San Benito evening primrose, a small flowering plant native to California, is being removed from the federal list of endangered and threatened wildlife and plants due to recovery. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service listed the plant as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in 1985 due to ongoing threats of motorized recreation activities and commercial mining operations.

At the time of listing, the species was documented in only nine locations in a small area of San Benito County, California. Annual surveys for the species have confirmed that the plant now resides in more than 100 areas across multiple watersheds in portions of San Benito, Monterey and Fresno counties.

"The ESA is a catalyst that brings resources to the table to assess threats and support recovery," said Cat Darst, assistant field supervisor for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in California. "When we are able to say a species is no longer threatened in the wild, we know the ESA is working."

Understanding the plant's ecology and habitat has improved due to the diligent efforts of the Bureau of Land Management to survey, study, and conserve habitat for the San Benito evening primrose over the last three decades.

"Recovery of endangered species is challenging, but essential to the preservation of biodiversity. It requires careful balance of land use to protect habitat, a thorough scientific understanding of the ecology of the species, and diligent effort to fulfill the recovery actions," said Ryan O'Dell, natural resource specialist, Central Coast Field Office for the Bureau of Land Management. "The BLM is proud of its lead role in the recovery of San Benito evening primrose and the conservation of California floristic diversity for future generations."

"Plants are indicators of environmental conditions in an area, and contribute to the greater ecosystem and food web," said Service botanist Todd Lemein. "The San Benito evening primrose occupies a goldilocks niche, surviving best in areas with nutrient poor soils and a specific amount of disturbance. As a result, the San Benito evening primrose contributes to a primary trophic level in an environment where many plants can't survive."

A post-delisting monitoring plan has been developed to monitor the plant's status over the next five years to verify that the species remains secure from the risk of extinction.



The Service accepted public comments on the proposed rule to delist the San Benito evening primrose from June 1 to July 31, 2020. This final rule and the post-delisting monitoring plan will be available at <http://www.regulations.gov> under docket number FWS-R8-ES-2019-0065.

Working with others is essential to protecting ecosystems that benefit society as a whole. The Service uses the best available science to make ESA determinations and regularly engages conservation partners, the public, landowners, government agencies and other stakeholders in its ongoing effort to identify innovative strategies for conserving and recovering protected wildlife, plants and their habitats.

Established in 1987, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Ventura field office works to conserve and protect threatened and endangered fish, wildlife and plants across the southern and central California coast, collaborating with communities and conservation partners to build a future that supports both people and our unique and diverse natural landscapes. To stay up-to-date on the conservation work of our staff, like us on Facebook.

Pictured: The San Benito evening primrose is now being found most commonly in the coast range in California's San Benito, Monterey and Fresno counties. Credit: Ryan O'Dell/BLM

EcoFarm Conference: Rooted in resilience

One of the most influential events in the sustainable agriculture world, EcoFarm Conference is a hub for building climate resilient and equitable agriculture in California and beyond. The conference features visionary speakers, skill-building workshops, seed swaps, and networking events including Women and Nonbinary Farmer Meet-ups and more.

The conference kicks off on March 9 with a special event entitled Rooted in Your Own Resilience and Pre-conference events including How Can Farmers Access USDA Cash Assistance After Fires, Drought, and Winter Storms, and Cómo Asegurarse De Que Su Pequeña Empresa Familiar Sea Exitosa Financieramente for Spanish speakers. The main conference begins Monday, March 14.

WHO: Keynote speakers include Elizabeth Hoover; associate professor at UC Berkeley whose work centers on food sovereignty and environmental justice for Native American communities, Mark Arax; bestselling author and journalist on California agriculture and history, Mario Sifuentes; professor of history at the University of California, Merced focusing on water wars and equity in the California's Central Valley, and Ricardo Salvador; director and senior scientist of the Food & Environment Program at the Union of Concerned Scientists working to transition our current food system into one that grows healthy foods while employing sustainable and socially equitable practices.

WHAT: The West's largest and oldest gathering of agriculturalists working towards just and ecological farming and food systems.

WHEN: Wednesday, March 9 - Friday, March 18, 2022

WHERE: EcoFarm online community platform via Mighty Networks, and Zoom.

EcoFarm's registration site: <https://eco-farm.org/conference/2022/register>

County Office of Education accepting submissions for annual County Arts Showcase

The San Benito County Office of Education will be accepting artwork submissions from local students, grades TK-12, in all media for a Countywide Arts Showcase to be held on Thursday, March 31st, 4-7 pm at the Veterans' Memorial Building in downtown Hollister.

Students are encouraged to enter paintings, drawings, sculpture, mixed-media and literary art pieces. Entry instructions are available at the County Office of Education and San Benito County Arts Council's websites. In-person, walk-in entries can be dropped off at the Veterans' Memorial Building on Wednesday, March 30th, 9 am-5 pm. Participants may also request a submission pick-up for March 22nd-25th by emailing cwoods@sbcoe.org.

More about the County Arts Showcase

Students, families and community members are invited to attend this free event from 4-7 pm on Thursday, March 31st at the Hollister Veterans' Memorial Building in downtown Hollister. This event is a student exhibition of visual and literary arts with performances by local dance, theater, and music groups. Other event activities include an interactive eco-art activity presented by Terra Cultura and an arts-focused STEAM project provided by Resource Area for Teaching (RAFT). Local food trucks will be hosted outdoors.

For other event or submission information, please contact Christian Woods at cmyers@sbcoe.org or the Arts Council at amandachiado@gmail.com. Other submission and event links can be found at www.sanbenitoarts.org.

Arts Council announces a Bachata Dance Workshop

Learn Bachata quickly in a fun & social atmosphere!

Join the Arts Council for March's Bachata Dance Workshop and learn Bachata quickly in a fun and social atmosphere. All levels of dance experience welcome, no partner or prior experience needed!

In this 3-part dance workshop led by instructor, Celina Stotler, students will be introduced into the basic steps and movements of Bachata. Students will learn progressive footwork patterns, partner patterns, styling, and practice the most common styles of Bachata.

Each session will begin with 1 hour of lesson followed by a 1/2 hour of dance practice. Comfortable clothing is recommended.

Registration is \$45/per person and includes ALL 3 Saturday sessions in March.

March 12th, 4-5:30 pm

March 19th, 4-5:30 pm

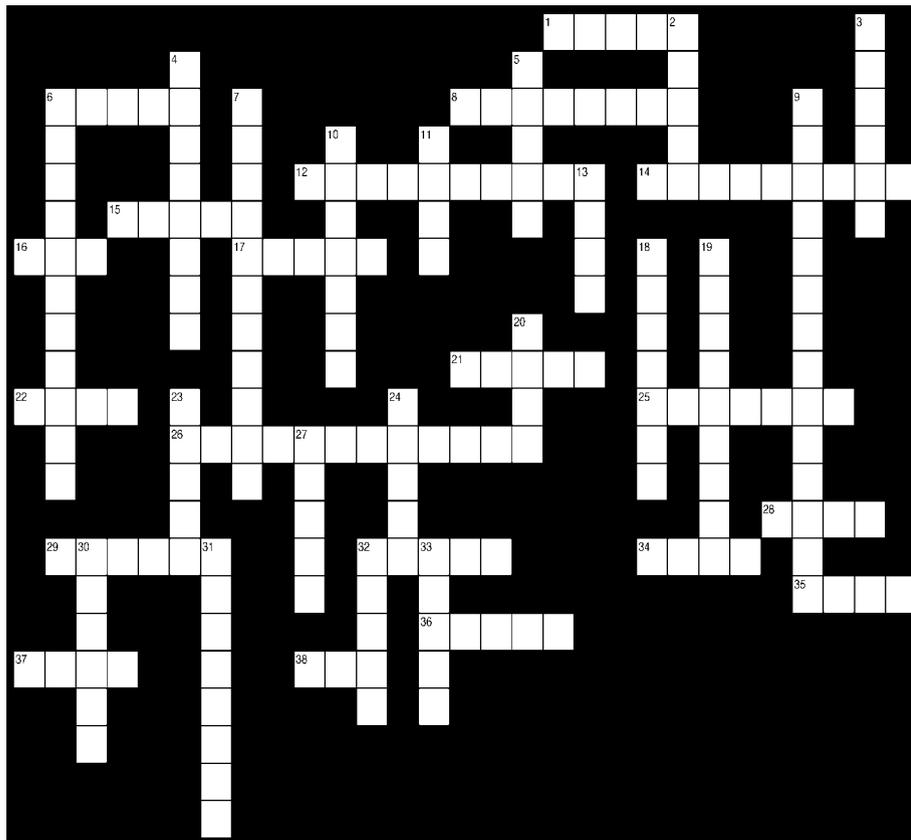
March 26th, 4-5:30 pm

March's enrollment includes free entrance to April Latin Social Dance Event with (Savings of \$10). All sessions will take place at the Art Depot, 35th St., Suite D, downtown Hollister.

For more information, contact the San Benito County Arts Council, at info@sanbenitoarts.org or at 831.636.2787.

Mission Village VOICE PASTIMES

CROSSWORD PUNCTUATE by Carlinka



- ACROSS**
- 1 Taboos
 - 6 Borders
 - 8 +
 - 12 \$
 - 14 ;
 - 15 Freight-carrying boat
 - 16 Small battery size
 - 17 Gets exactly right
 - 21 /
 - 22 What flat soda lacks
 - 25 %
 - 26 ?
 - 28 Medical imaging procedure
 - 29 Trendy new word game
 - 32 Grant money?
- DOWN**
- 2 Burn lightly
 - 3 .
 - 4 *
 - 5 I.R.S. inspection
 - 6 !
 - 7 ()
 - 9 " "
 - 10 Tuft of hair that refuses to be combed
 - 11 Mother Earth

- 13 Big Apple address letters
- 18 Where relief pitchers warm up
- 19 &
- 20 Give a big tug
- 23 =
- 24 Eel, on a sushi menu
- 27 Coin toss call
- 30 Port city in Ukraine
- 31 ...
- 32 Like some slippers and memories
- 33 Rock used to start a fire

Last month's puzzle solution

++MY LOVE++



HOROSCOPE MARCH 2022 by Hilda De Anza



ARIES
March 21-April 20
 March begins with an intense process taking

place in either business or personal relationships. Loose ends are tied up and agreements can finally come into force. On March 6th, the focus moves to new friends, groups or organizations that you choose to be with. It's also an excellent time for expanding your spiritual interests.



TAURUS
April 21-May 21

First of March, there is a need to change focus regarding studies, future plans, legal battles and areas where you are trying to get acceptance for your point of view. On March 6th, together with a partner you engage more dynamically on a professional level. It seems that many things that have been put on hold fall into place. This is also a time when there will be significant developments connected with friendships and new groupings.



GEMINI
May 22-June 21

As March begins, represents a time when some kind of judgment or decision is made, which you will need to abide by. There are new and heartwarming developments for partners at this time, as well as for professional associates. This is a time when career ideals are paramount, and big dreams become an inspiring factor. End of March your focus changes once again, stress levels increase, and you get dynamically involved in leadership issues in a group, where new roles may be delegated to you.



CANCER
June 22-July 22

The first part of March is characterized by a great interest in expanding your understanding of life. This could be a time of remarkable spiritual insights if you have habits of mindfulness. Professionally, March begins with some high-energy powerplay and maybe a crisis atmosphere connected with leadership. On a financial level, life gets a bit unpredictable after the 21st and alliances can show signs of instability.



LEO
July 23-August 22

Major significant developments in March take place and emotionally, this can get complicated. This is because it

can be difficult to decipher the signals you are receiving. If you can keep your bearings, this can be a great time for psychological and spiritual growth. By March 21st the focus changes and it is at this time that you will want to stretch your wings, expand your horizons, see the world and explore options to increase your understanding.



VIRGO
August 23-September 22

First of March is the time to connect with colleagues, a team, or group of work-related clients to make long term plans which bring greater efficiency and connectivity. It's also a time when a final catharsis or breakthrough is achieved in connection with a more personal project. End of March, there are excellent trends for relationships kicking in, and this could be the right time to merge your energies and interests with someone who has a vision you can believe in.



LIBRA
September 23-October 22

Early March, you have the reinforcements and resources to take the action you shied away from. This involves a radical clear-out in your domestic life, done together with a partner who has your back. March is also a very significant time in your working life, which is characterized by high ideals, creativity and a high dose of rather unrealistic ventures. It's a great time for innovation and inventiveness.



SCORPIO
October 23-November 21

March begins with a new moon, and this means new circumstances in a few areas in your personal life. Communication is particularly intense, and you tend to put everything on the line. You need to eliminate weaknesses and any threats which have been affecting important relationships. Mid-March, a major shift in emphasis, and your domestic life and community become of much greater importance. Plans which had been put on hold can now go ahead and agreements can be made.



SAGITTARIUS
November 22-December 21

First of March, relationship trends are very favorable. The beginning of March may bring some kind of crisis, which is resolved by decisive action, but later

in the month partners are far more inclined to do things the way you want them to, without argument. You have a vision of expansion and spiritual happiness, and people need to get onboard. March is also a time when there is a lot going on in the field of education, communication and networking.



CAPRICORN
December 22-January 20

During the first week of March you can finally launch a plan which was put on hold several weeks back because of an unexpected development. Later in the month is a stressful period financially, probably because family members or associates have some crazy ideas about what to do with available resources. They need to be controlled, because in the last analysis you have the plan that will work. The latter half of March is fascinating from the point of view of creativity and the imagination.



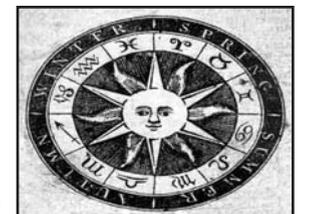
AQUARIUS
January 21-February 19

The first few days of March mark a culmination of some worries and anxieties affecting you, perhaps because you felt something was going on without really knowing what it could be. Mid-March, dramatic developments are out in the open. This could be a good time for love and passionate romance, and if so, then March develops into something of a roller coaster as you or someone in your circle walks on the wild side and breaks with convention.



PISCES
February 20-March 20

Early March is also a favorable time for partners and their work, when they get to finalize something that was considerably delayed. Mid-March is a very favorable time for partnership and for sharing your ideas and dreams with someone who is just as inspired as you are. March is going to be a great month for innovation and invention. It's electric, and this means new ways of travel, communication and networking need to be explored.





A STUDIO LIFE

Graduating SBHS Senior spotlight: Ava Shanrock

I never realized the impact dance would have on my life until now.

I started dancing at San Benito Dance Academy when I was around 5 years old. My mom wanted me to do ballet to help my coordination for sports. My foundation in ballet has helped me greatly in high jump, which is the main event I do in track and field. My dad wanted me to do tap to help with my brain development. Tap dance helps the brain develop because of the combination of counting music and movement. Little did I know tap would become my favorite style to dance.

My family has always been so supportive of me in dance whether being on stage or in the audience. One of my favorite traditions is performing with my mom in SBDA's production of "The Nutcracker." We have been performing the famous ballet for over ten years now. It is encouraging to look beside me on stage and see my mom and brother dancing alongside. Their dancing with me has made my passion feel appreciated. It has been a blessing to be able to share my excitement for dance with my family and have the amazing support they give.

I have met so many wonderful people at SBDA that I am so lucky to call my dance family. I have been able to grow in my dance education with such a supportive and loving group of people. I have so many wonderful memories with them in classes, rehearsals,



and performances. One of my favorite memories was dancing on stage before a show with the whole studio to "Shake it Off" by Taylor Swift.

I have been able to know many of the dancers at this studio as dancers and as friends. This studio has had such a positive impact on my life and on myself as a dancer. I would wish that everyone is able to find a loving and encouraging place to explore their passion. With dance, I have found a place of joy and passion, which has led my life. ■



Every Little Thing

Do you have a nagging question that googling just won't answer? Try calling into Every Little Thing. No, seriously. Call them at 833-RING-ELT, and they just might answer in their podcast.

"Why do we cry?" "Why do punches sound like that on TV?" It's only the important questions on Every Little Thing, and maybe your question is next.



You're Wrong About

And, if you want to learn even more, You're Wrong About sheds new light on subjects you think you already know. With the speed at which news and culture move in 2022, it's so easy for

things to get oversimplified. Luckily, the hosts of YWA use their journalistic skills to look into how our collective understandings may be mistaken. Some episodes are one-offs, and some installments in series — regardless, You're Wrong About is definitely one of the best podcasts on the market.



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Yarn is for the mobile user who wants something different than a cool video game to play or a great book to read. The app features a large library of stories told in text message format as if you were

snooping through somebody else's phone and reading their conversations. Episodes and conversations are updated daily, and you can enjoy stories from several categories, including mystery, romance, comedy, sci-fi, fantasy, and others. The free version of the app is limited, but you can upgrade to a subscription plan for unlimited access to all stories and features.



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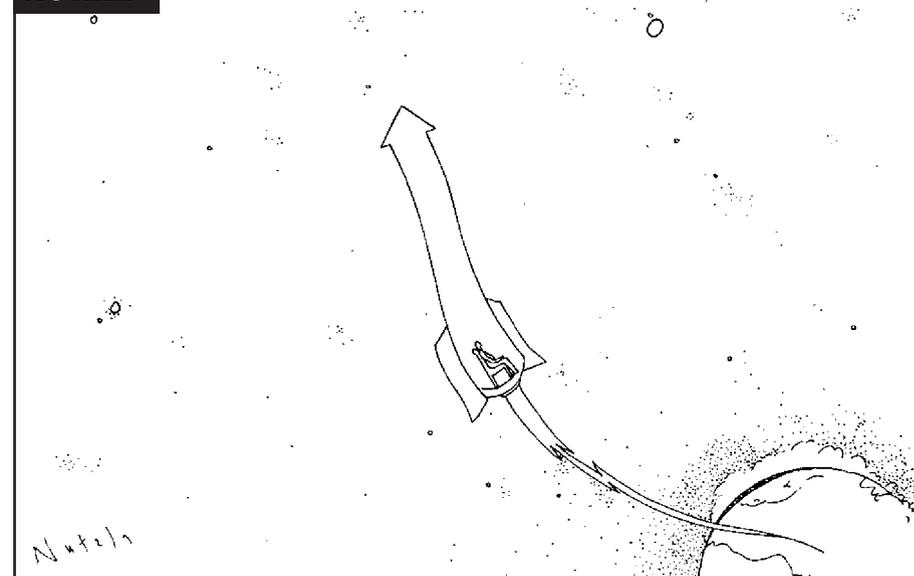
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