

SOUTH COUNTY CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE  
*Creating partnerships and opportunities  
that ensure South County businesses prosper*



January 2021  
Volume 61, Issue 1

## 2020 Survey Results and Moving Forward



**Jocelyn Brennan**  
President | CEO  
South County Chambers of Commerce

At the Chamber we are in the business of business. Our mission is to create partnerships and opportunities that ensure South County businesses prosper. Did the Chamber deliver on this mission in 2020, one of the most challenging years ever for businesses? We surveyed our members to get the answer.

Average length of membership from the 75 responses was 8 years, 33 were committee members and 17 are graduates of Leadership South County.

Overall satisfaction 93% very satisfied with the Cham-

ber  
Advocacy efforts above average 81%  
88% believe the Chamber has a friendly and welcoming atmosphere

96% would recommend the Chamber to a fellow business  
Of the 28 events and webinars that the Chamber offered in 2020, with over 4K participants, the most popular were the Annual Dinner and Recognition Awards, mixer at the Hilton Garden Inn, Small Business Administration webinar, State of South County webinar and webinar with Assemblyman Cunningham.

Of the fifteen Chamber opportunities listed, the top four were:

47% of respondents stated "The Chamber has promoted my business on social media.", 38% had run an ad in the Chamber newsletter, 32% had run a press release through the Chamber, and 29% had sponsored a Chamber event.

Referrals:

70% from a fellow Chamber member

44% Chamber networking event  
41% from Chamber office  
23% from sponsoring an event  
20% Chamber website  
14% Chamber social media channel  
11% South County Chambers Community & Visitor Guide  
8% South County Chambers map

What did businesses predict would be their biggest challenges in the next year? In addition to facing COVID restrictions, they reported hiring qualified employees, state regulations, affordable housing for employees, and marketing business digitally.

This year we saw the business community unite like never before while the community rallied to show their support for local businesses.

The Chamber will continue to advocate for the business sectors who have not been allowed to open, the performing arts, event related businesses, schools. The Chamber will work with our local, state, and federal partners on economic recovery efforts.

I can be reached via email at [jocelyn@southcountychambers.com](mailto:jocelyn@southcountychambers.com)

**UPCOMING  
CHAMBER EVENTS  
(CONNECT VIA ZOOM):**

**Thursday, January 7:**  
**Nipomo & Oceano  
Business Meeting**  
8:30 to 9:30 am

**Tuesday, January 12:**  
**Pismo Beach  
Business Meeting**  
11 am to 12 noon

**Thursday, January 14:**  
**SCCC Chamber  
Ambassador Meeting**  
8 to 9 am

**Friday, January 15:**  
**Grover Beach  
Business Meeting**  
12 noon to 1 pm

**Wednesday, January 20:**  
**Wednesday Webinar  
on HR requirements**  
11 am to 12 noon

**Thursday, January 21:**  
**Arroyo Grande  
Business Meeting**  
8:30 to 9:30 am

**Friday, January 22:**  
**Governmental Affairs  
Committee Meeting**  
8:00 to 9:15 am

**Thursday, January 28:**  
**Membership Coffee**  
9 to 10 am  
(nonmembers of the Chamber are welcome)

...  
**All online Chamber meetings can be accessed by logging in with your computer or device—or calling in by phone. Please RSVP on our website to receive the Zoom login or call-in details.**

## January 2021 SCCC Business of the Month: Garing, Taylor, & Associates

Garing Taylor & Associates (GTA) is an experienced, dedicated team of Civil Engineers and Land Surveyors. Their clientele includes private developers, independent land owners, cities, public agencies, architects, and other professional consultants. Established in 1962, GTA has a proud history of work throughout the Central Coast.

Their team comprises several senior professionals who are well-established in addition to up-and-coming, exuberant, talented professionals who continually learn from the senior staff and creatively apply the ways,



lessons, and principles of the past into today's engineering and development environment.

GTA offers a complete project solution for their clients, from the initial back-of-the-napkin planning all the way through entitlement, design development, construction documents, and construction management.

GTA's mission is to remain a trusted partner, by both private and public interests, in the development of the communities

in which they operate and are deeply involved.

The team at GTA are compelled to be active, caring, generous leaders in our communities by their integrity and the weight of the trust these same communities have in them. The GTA way is to treat each other with compassion, to care for and help one another, and to elevate each other towards the goals and milestones they identify in their lives and careers.

Their office is located at 141 S. Elm St. in Arroyo Grande. Reach them at (805) 489-1321, or visit [garingtaylor.com](http://garingtaylor.com).

## Update from Supervisor Lynn Compton, District 4: Oceano, Nipomo, and Arroyo Grande

Happy New Year! As we move into 2021, I know we are all ready for things to start getting back to normal. 2020 was a difficult year but I know our community is strong and is going to come back better than ever. Please know that I am here to support you in any way I can and my office can be reached at 805-781-4337 or e-mail [district4@co.slo.ca.us](mailto:district4@co.slo.ca.us).

I have been getting a lot of questions about what Cal Poly is doing related to Covid-19 as they move into their Winter Quarter. Below are the school's plans to prevent the spread of the virus when school starts on January 4th:

- We developed a comprehensive plan for winter quarter in conjunction with County Public Health and other health experts that is supported and endorsed by SLO County Public Health Director, Dr. Penny Borenstein and the CSU.

- Similar to fall, the plan includes de-densified on-campus housing and limited in-person classes.

- We are implementing significant improvements from the fall quarter to our upcoming winter quarter, including:

1. We have developed in-house capacity for widespread testing of as many as 4,000 students per day.

2. We are requiring all students – whether they live on campus, or live in the SLO community and take their classes virtually – to be tested as often as twice per week. If those students skip their tests, they will have their ability to access university resources restricted until they do get tested.

3. We have increased capacity for isolating any infected student residents on campus. For winter, we are adding about 50 beds to our on-campus isolation capacity, for a total of 236 beds.

4. We are implementing a staggered return of on-campus students in the first week of the quarter.

- These changes will help ensure the safety of our community because any infections of students – whether they live on or off campus in the SLO community – will be known quickly and they will be isolated immediately.
- The context is also very important: We know thousands of students would be coming to live in the SLO community even if we did not allow any students to live on-campus and were 100 percent virtual—we saw this happen last spring and over summer. This plan gives us the ability to actively monitor our students, test them and influence their behaviors.

...

Respectfully,

**Lynn Compton**  
**San Luis Obispo County**  
**Supervisor District 4**

*To our Chamber members:*

# Happy New Year!

from the Board of Directors, Ambassador Committee, and Chamber staff. We look forward to partnering together for a prosperous 2021.



## Arroyo Grande News

Hello Chamber Friends:

It's really hard to write in my usual upbeat voice while so many people and businesses are suffering as we head into the second three-week closure. What should be the "most wonderful time of the year" has been tainted by anger, despair, sadness, and a sense of longing for normalcy. This got me thinking: how can I use my voice to lift your spirits during this dark time? The answer, of course, is to bring you light. This is not to dismiss all the hardship. Rather, it's to give us all things to lift us up. So, here are the "Top 10 Things We Can Look Forward To in 2021", through Mayor Caren's eyes.

#10: Streaming first-run movies! Just in time as we are done getting caught up all the older ones in 2020.

#9: Serena Williams making history! The 39-year-old tennis icon is poised to tie Margaret Court's record of 24 career Grand Slam singles titles in February if she takes all at the Australian Open. I don't play tennis, but seeing this elite athlete break a huge record will be awe-inspiring.

And who doesn't need a little more awe in their life?

Continued on Page 5

### A warm welcome to our new Chamber members:

Jeannie Pleasant  
of Century 21 Hometown Realty  
•  
Ritual Skin & Body Care  
•  
Center for Family Strengthening  
•  
FHA CA Mentor Network  
•  
Habitat for Humanity  
for San Luis Obispo County

## Grover Beach News

As we thankfully approach the end of 2020 and the start of 2021, I realize that we find ourselves in a time of opportunity—a time to review and reimagine our paths and to push for our priorities with new vigor and purpose. For Grover Beach that means seating a new Council, confirming and establishing those priorities, and moving forward together.

You've all seen the progress we've made over the last years: just 5 years after you approved Measure K-14, more than half our street upgrades are complete and we're pushing to make sure all of the streets are fixed. Also, we will ensure our police, fire,

and emergency services are fully staffed and ready to handle new challenges. These are priorities that Grover residences have identified and we will continue to push as a City.

While we wait for COVID-19 to run its course, Grover Beach will continue to support economic revitalization, so our businesses can keep their doors open, their workers employed and our families safe and strong. Our entrepreneurs are passionate, hard-working, visionaries who share their skills and dreams with the community and make us all proud — bakers, bankers, builders, shop-owners, architects, restaurateurs, artists—all are valued contribu-

tors to our community and we will do everything we can to help you survive and thrive.

Some may tell you that we've entered a dark period of division and gridlock in this country. I don't see it that way. What I see is an opportunity to reaffirm and rejuvenate our commitments to each other; to make the fabric of our society stronger, more diverse, and more responsive. So, with that, I pledge my energy and commitment to you as Mayor of Grover Beach. We are #GBtogether...and want you to join us.

**Jeff Lee**  
Mayor, City of Grover Beach

## Pismo Beach News

We are hopeful that 2021 will see the end of the pandemic and we can get back to some semblance of normal. For now, we are still seeing some large increases in COVID rates and we need to be vigilant. But the release of the vaccines gives us hope.

Our businesses have struggled with the everchanging rules on serving the

public, but the additional federal funding should help keep them in business along with giving assistance to their employees.

The City Council will have a goal-setting meeting in mid-February to set the direction of the City for the next two years. The construction of a new fire station, an expanded police sta-

tion along with additional efforts to fix up the city will likely be part of it. We will also likely address the path forward later in the year as we transition out of the pandemic.

The New Year can only get better so a loud, long "Happy New Year" to all.

**Ed Waage**  
Mayor, City of Pismo Beach



## Recent Ribbon Cuttings

**Lady Di's Boutique • 121 E. Branch St. in the Village of Arroyo Grande • (805) 270-4256**



We celebrated a ribbon cutting last month with new Chamber member Lady Di's Boutique in the Village of Arroyo Grande. Their store features beautiful clothing, handbags, scarves, jewelry from local artists, locally made beanies, soaps, lotions, and much more. Many of their items are unique and American made. Plus sizes are available, too. Stop by and check out their frequent new arrivals. The boutique is located at 121 E. Branch St. in the Village of Arroyo Grande. For more information, call (805) 270-4256.



**Bookkeeping on Wheels • (805) 235-5504**

Congrats to Bookkeeping on Wheels on their recent ribbon cutting last month at our Arroyo Grande office! Based in Oceano, Jody offers over 20 years of professional bookkeeping experience. A QuickBooks ProAdvisor, she provides full-charge bookkeeping, budgets, payroll and related tasks, and financial reports. She can get your business and/or personal finances organized so you can complete your taxes for the year. If you received a PPP or EIDL loan, Jody can organize your books in order to apply for loan forgiveness. Jody can prepare your financial documents for future needs such as refinancing, loans, or tax preparation. Her services include: QuickBooks desktop setup and clean up, QuickBooks online setup and clean up, Bank reconciliation, Profit & Loss and balance sheet preparation, Payroll setup and maintenance, Quarterly payroll tax reporting and scheduling of payroll taxes, Year-end tax forms such as W-2s and Form 1099s, Sales tax reporting, Accounts receivable and accounts payable management, and Workers Comp audit reports. Call today to get your data reconciled and up to date: (805) 235-5504, or e-mail [jody\\_bookkeeper@charter.net](mailto:jody_bookkeeper@charter.net).



## More Arroyo Grande News Continued from Page 3

#8: "Friends" Reunion begins filming in March. It'll bring back the timely phrase "How You Doin'?" one more time.

#7: Matrix 4. How many of us questioned whether we wanted the red or blue pill in 2020?

#6: Tokyo Summer Olympics. Two weeks of the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat will be just the thing we need to bring excitement into the summertime.

#5: No more politics. No matter who or what you voted for, I think we can all agree that a non-election year and an end to political commercials is soooooo welcome. Let's start 2021 with peace and settling down to solve problems together.

#4: The vaccine. This ticket to normal is what we've all been hoping for. It won't fix everything, but it will allow some level of normalcy to return. How fast remains to be seen, but just knowing it's coming helps.

#3: The year of Tom Cruise: I'm showing my age here, but I'm really looking forward to Top Gun: Maverick in 2021. Plus, no matter if you're a Cruise fan or not, he will be film-

ing his next project in outer space aboard the International Space Station. Well isn't that something!

#2: Return of live music and theater. We lost so much live music, including Concerts in the Park in AG, fun bands at local pubs, and big tours like the Stadium Tour (I needed some 80s Hair Metal to take the blues away, but alas, it was 2020.) Broadway will be back, as well as our local arts venues like the Clark Center here in AG.

And without a doubt, #1: Togetherness. There is so much we are longing for, that we WILL get back in 2021. Delayed weddings, receptions, and baby showers. Dinners with friends. Making new friends. Holiday gatherings with extended family and friends. Fourth of July celebrations. New experiences. And without a doubt, the thing I have missed the most in 2020. HUGS. Hugs bring our hearts physically together and comfort us in a very special, biological way. I can't wait!

2021 will hopefully be the antithesis of 2020. I predict a year of hope. Recovery. Community. Celebration. Positivity. It will be a slow rollout for sure. We have a lot of big problems to solve. We've got really complex ones on the table. But when we have the ability to face our problems together, everything seems easier. Here's to 2021, the year of hope, resilience and recovery.

Sincerely,

**Caren Ray Russom, Mayor of Arroyo Grande**

**J Johnson  
Attorney**



### New partners:



**Hannah Murphy  
Attorney**



**Cori Jones  
Attorney**

## A new partnership for the new year

"The new name, Johnson, Murphy & Jones, reflects my proud partnership with my two daughters, Cori and Hannah, who are both experienced, accredited attorneys with a multitude of academic and professional accomplishments. For the last three decades, I have assisted the Central Coast community with estate and retirement planning. Reinvigorating the practice, my daughters and I collaborate seamlessly, and the combined knowledge and productive energy adds considerable value for the clients we serve."

— J Johnson, legal advice and representation since 1981

**928 W. Grand Ave.  
Grover Beach  
(805) 489-4111**

**[jjohnsonlawoffice.com](http://jjohnsonlawoffice.com)**





## Celebration of 28 Years of Business in the Village of Arroyo Grande

**Longtime  
Business Owner  
Carol Wilkerson  
of Carol's Gifts  
in the Village  
of Arroyo Grande**

**Photo taken in  
December 2020**



*(Submitted by Lisa Wilkerson)*

VILLAGE OF ARROYO GRANDE—My mother, Carol, is from L.A. She's worked at North American Rockwell for many years and then moved to the Central Coast and ran a recreation center in Orcutt. She was also a professional portrait photographer and had her own studio. Finishing cabinets is also something she excelled at. My mother didn't really have any hobbies because she was so busy working.

Her store in the Village of Arroyo Grande, Carol's Gifts, has changed over the years to cater to what the customers want. My mother has a natural eye to choose things people want which is a gift. Her prices have always been low so she can pass along the savings to customers. She doesn't advertise. Her business is through word of mouth. She was in the back of the building for about 13 years and

**Continued on next page**

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## More Arroyo Grande Village Business Continued from Page 6

moved up to the front of the building in 2007. How she made it all those years in the back of the building is a miracle. All I know is it's inspiring for me and for anyone who hears her story. Anything is possible if you work hard and make every person you meet feel important which my mother does very well.

The Village has changed over the years. There used to be more gift shops and antique stores. These days we are seeing less retail and more service-oriented businesses such as salons and also more restaurants which is helpful to all of us merchants. People come to the Village to get their hair done or eat and have a chance to look around the shops. Its wonderful to have a steady flow of foot traffic daily thanks to the salons and restaurants.

My mom is a very hard worker and tells me "I'm here for people. Here to listen because people need to talk. It's not all about making money." My mom doesn't pressure her customers to buy. She tells them if your unsure, don't buy it. Her heart is in this shop because of all the people who walk through the doors. I know right now her customers are giving her more energy to fight her cancer.

Carol's Gifts is currently hosting an anniversary sale. Stop by their location at 102 E. Branch St. for adorable children's clothing, unique jewelry, and great prices.

— Lisa Wilkerson, daughter of Carol at Carol's Gifts

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## NEW PARTNERSHIP ANNOUNCED

Anita Shower of the Exploration Station in Grover Beach and Debra Ugalde of the Children's Discovery Center of the Central Coast are pleased to announce a merger. They have joined forces and will spend the next months repainting and remodeling the Exploration Station building at 867 Ramona Ave. in Grover Beach. Look for their fundraising thermometer to be placed in front of the building in January. They hope to have a Hardhat Fundraiser in March.

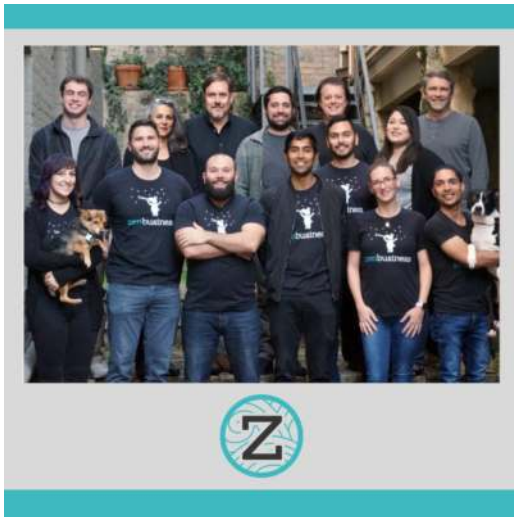
A donation of an ambulance and a boat are needed to enhance their front entrance and patio area.

**CALL DEBBY UGALDE AT 805-698-7351 WITH DONATIONS**



867 Ramona Ave. Grover Beach CA

## New Chamber Member Highlights



### Welcome to the Chamber, ZenBusiness!

ZenBusiness is empowering the next generation of entrepreneurs, small-business owners, and freelancers to start, run, and grow a successful business. ZenBusiness offers the tools, guidance, and expertise to help you be your own boss. They provide fast filing, lost costs, expert service, and simple setup. ZenBusiness remains committed to ensuring small businesses are successful, whether that's through their hands-on help with business formations, publishing and sharing helpful resources, or participating in small-business grant and loan programs. Social impact is baked into their mission and business model. For more information, please visit [zenbusiness.com/california-llc/](http://zenbusiness.com/california-llc/).

### Welcome, Econcept!

Econcept Inc recently joined South County Chambers of Commerce as a new member. They are a local business marketing company designed for local businesses. Founded in Arroyo Grande in 2013, Econcept has designed and managed hundreds of local websites and social media business pages. They take pride in local businesses and highlight several of their clients through social media and their newsletters.

Econcept provides complete online solutions. They use local SEO (Search Engine Optimization) to find customers who want your product or service. They offer award-winning platforms and strategies to help your business "shine online." They can also rescue your website and bring it into the 21st Century. Call today to learn more at (805) 202-2368, or visit them online at [econceptmarketingsolutions.com](http://econceptmarketingsolutions.com).



### Welcome, Phoenix Rising Health & Wellness!

Phoenix Rising Health & Wellness recently joined South County Chambers of Commerce as a new member. Jenna Wolfson is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) licensed by the Board of Behavioral Sciences for the State of California. She is credentialed to practice in both a clinical and case management capacity. Having worked with all ages and stages of youth and their parents, Jenna is prepared to guide, support, and counsel families in various aspects of their lives. She is specifically trained and has worked for years within the therapeutic modality of Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, or TF-CBT. She will move at the pace of her client to develop a trusting relationship, improve coping skills, and explore the trauma endured in the right amount of time. For more information, please call (805) 904-8583, or e-mail [jwolfson@phoenixrisingtherapy.com](mailto:jwolfson@phoenixrisingtherapy.com).



## New Chamber Member Highlights

### Welcome, Jeannie Pleasant of Century 21 Hometown Realty!

Welcome to the Chamber, Century 21 Jeannie Pleasant! She represents luxurious coastal properties on the Central Coast. Jeannie serves investors, home buyers, and sellers with professionalism, diligence, and a strong work ethic. Her Century 21 Hometown Realty office is located at 1401 Dolliver St. in Pismo Beach. For more information, please call 805-503-8983. Visit her website at [jeanniepleasant.c21.com](http://jeanniepleasant.c21.com).



### Welcome, Ritual Skin & Body Care, to the Chamber!

Welcome, Ritual Skin & Body Care as a new Chamber member! Located in the Village of Arroyo Grande, they encourage women to celebrate their unique, ever-changing relationship with beauty by helping them create personal care rituals. Their spa services include eyebrow design, craniosacral therapy, pregnancy massage, facials, peels, and face & body waxing. Convenient curbside pickup is available for skincare, makeup, and brow products. Consider a gift certificate for any service or product as a great gift. Thank you to Ritual for participating in Elegant Christmas in the Village last month and donating a \$150 Ritual gift card, DermaQuest skincare samples, and a Ritual candle for the weekly prize drawing. Ritual Skin & Body Care is located at 522 Paulding Circle, Suite A. For more information, please visit [ritualskinandbodycare.com](http://ritualskinandbodycare.com), or call (805) 722-8222.

### Welcome, Granite Ridge!

Granite Ridge recently joined South County Chambers of Commerce as a new member. This full-service campground, retreat center, and rental facility provide program camps year round for your group, church, or family to reserve for private retreats and events. Boasting over 500 acres of rolling Central Coast land, Granite Ridge is the perfect place to experience life. With a wide range of sleeping arrangements, from the Lodge with hotel-style accommodations to rugged tent cabins with bunk beds, they provide unique options to accommodate your camp experience. Granite Ridge is located just 45 minutes from Arroyo Grande—northeast of San Luis Obispo. For more information, please visit [graniteridgechristiancamp.com](http://graniteridgechristiancamp.com).



## New Chamber Member Highlights

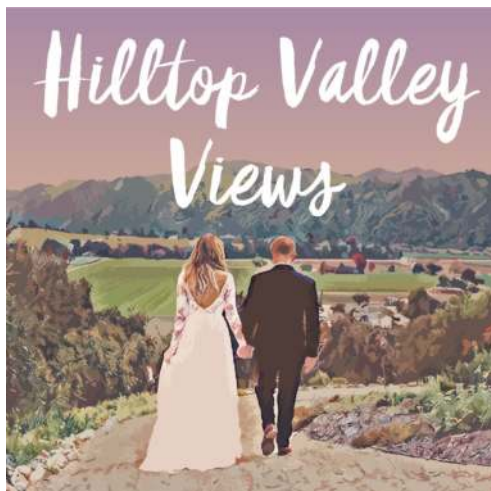
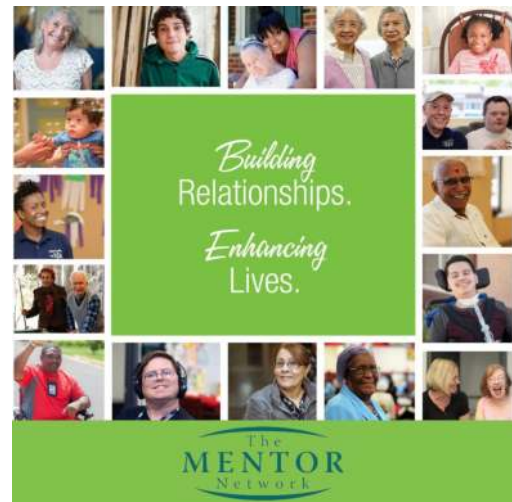


### Welcome, Habitat for Humanity for San Luis Obispo County!

Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities, and hope. Habitat for Humanity for San Luis Obispo County (HFHSLOCO) is an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI), a nonprofit, housing ministry founded on Christian principles. HFHI seeks to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness from the world and to make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action. Habitat has built over 500,000 houses around the world, providing 2,500,000 people with safe, decent, affordable shelter. Habitat partner families must have a stable income that is between 30-60% of the county's median income and reasonably good credit. Once a family is approved to buy a Habitat home, they begin to complete their 500 hours of sweat equity, a version of a down payment. Partner families are then able to buy their home with a no-interest mortgage. For more information about Habitat for Humanity and to reach their local office in San Luis Obispo, please call (805) 782-0687, or visit [hfhsloco.org](http://hfhsloco.org).

### Welcome to the Chamber, FHA CA Mentor Network!

Welcome, FHA CA Mentor Network (The MENTOR Network) to South County Chambers of Commerce! Their Family Home Agency (FHA) programs match individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities, who want to be a part of the community, with nurturing families, who they call "mentors." In a mentor's home, individuals can develop relationships that help them grow and enjoy all that life has to offer. FHA programs look at the interests, skills, and personalities of individuals and mentors in order to create that perfect match—one that leads to meaningful, long-term relationships. To contact their local office, call (805) 294-2665, or e-mail [carol.neale@thementornetwork.com](mailto:carol.neale@thementornetwork.com).



### Welcome, Hilltop Valley Views!

Hilltop Valley Views recently joined South County Chambers of Commerce as a new member. Their beautiful venue offers stunning views of Arroyo Grande. When safe, this wedding and event space is the perfect site for your boutique wedding, rehearsal dinner, or afternoon brunch. This space can also be used for afternoon parties and corporate events. Virtual tours of the property are available. For more information, please visit [101winetours.com/event-space/](http://101winetours.com/event-space/), or call (805) 874-2675.



## New Chamber Member Highlights

### Welcome, Center for Family Strengthening!

Welcome to the Chamber, Center for Family Strengthening! Center for Family Strengthening (CFS) is dedicated to strengthening families through education and advocacy. CFS manages primary prevention programs for families that provide parent education, community outreach, and healing services for child abuse victims. In addition, CFS partners closely with family support organizations in SLO County to provide resources to families in need, protect children from abuse and neglect, and ensure that strong families are a community priority. CFS, a private non-profit 501(c)(3), receives 70% of its annual budget from individual donors, private grants, private foundations, corporations, and other community organizations with the remaining 30% coming from government contracts to provide critical family services to thousands in our community each year. Their office is located in San Luis Obispo. For more information, please visit [cfslo.org](http://cfslo.org).



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## Grover Beach law office adds two partners, changes name

GROVER BEACH—J Johnson Law Office, Inc., providing expert legal advice and representation to the Central Coast since 1981, has changed its corporate name to Johnson, Murphy & Jones, Law Office, Inc. The name change reflects the firm's two additional partners, Hannah Murphy and Cori Jones, and its amplified commitment to delivering the highest quality services to every client.

Established by J Johnson in Grover Beach more than 35 years ago, the firm offers a broad spectrum of services, specializing in the areas of estate planning, probate, trust administration, and real estate.

"The new name, Johnson, Murphy & Jones, reflects my proud partnership with my two daughters, Cori and Hannah, who are both experienced, accredited attorneys with a multitude of academic and professional accomplishments," said J Johnson. "For the last three decades, I have assisted the



Central Coast community with estate and retirement planning. Reinvigorating the practice, my daughters and I collaborate seamlessly, and the combined knowledge and productive energy adds considerable value for the clients we serve."

J Johnson's daughter, Cori B. Jones, joined the firm in 2019, establishing a Southern California office in Huntington Beach, and bringing with her a wealth of legal knowledge and experience. Earning a full academic scholarship, Cori graduated law school and gained admission to the State Bar of

California in 2008. Over the course of her career, she has exhibited a talent for estate planning and administration as well as civil litigation and mediation, encompassing breach of contract, real estate law, and bankruptcy, for some of the world's largest financial institutions. While she is well-versed in litigation, Cori has seamlessly transitioned to taking up the family practice of helping other families with their estate planning and administration needs.

J Johnson's younger daughter, Hannah E. Murphy, has been providing broad-based multigenerational knowledge and experience to best serve her diverse base of clients since 2016. Graduating Cum Laude with a J.D. from Notre Dame Law School, she passed the California bar exam in

**Continued on next page**

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## More Grover Beach Law Office Continued from Page 12

2016. Prior to her admission to the California bar, she gained experience working for a large litigation firm and for the San Luis Obispo District Attorney's Office. Now, serving clients alongside J Johnson as a proud partner, Hannah consistently takes the time to get to know her clients, thoroughly exploring what their objectives are. She excels at fostering lasting relationships and gathering pertinent details and understanding to ensure all contracts, advice, and representation fully incorporate client interests and goals.

Leveraging the value of three exceptional attorneys in this long-established, family-run practice, Johnson, Murphy & Jones commences the new year with the mission of upholding and bolstering its strong reputation for providing first-rate legal services in



**From left: Attorneys J Johnson, Hannah Murphy, and Cori Jones. Hannah and Cori are daughters of J Johnson.**

the areas of estate planning, probate, trust, and real estate for clients on the Central Coast, with newly increased service in Southern California at the Huntington Beach Office. Offering the same dependable service clients have trusted for decades, the team at Johnson, Murphy & Jones is excited to continue to support clients with expanded resources.

From the team at Johnson, Murphy & Jones, "Our family looks forward to helping your family in 2021!"

• • •

The office of Johnson, Murphy, & Jones, Inc. is located at 928 W. Grand Ave. in Grover Beach. To contact them, please call (805) 489-4111, or visit their law office website at [jjohnsonlawoffice.com](http://jjohnsonlawoffice.com).

## Help us choose a local business as our next Business of the Month



Visit [southcountychambers.com](http://southcountychambers.com), and click on the "Resources" tab to nominate your choice.

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## California Welcome Center at Pismo Beach Premium Outlets Announces Fresh Renovation and New Manager

PISMO BEACH—While shopping at the Pismo Beach Premium Outlets, shoppers are invited to stop in the newly refreshed California Welcome Center from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week. The refresh of the California Welcome Center includes an aesthetically pleasing, inviting design and a selfie spot. Thanks to local business Palma Home Design for the work on this project.

The center highlights each destination throughout San Luis Obispo County including the Highway 1 Discovery Route and the SLO Coast and Paso Robles wine regions.

South County Chambers of Commerce recently hired Megan Leininger as the new manager at the Welcome Center. Megan brings a background in marketing and communication from her former role at Morro Bay Tourism. She also brings experience in hospitality, customer service, community out-



**Megan Leininger,  
new manager of the  
California Welcome  
Center at the Pismo  
Beach Premium Outlets**

reach, and event planning. The California Welcome Center in Pismo Beach is sponsored by Visit SLO CAL. California Welcome Centers (CWCs) are strategically located across the state and are staffed with experts who can provide resources and information that inspires visitors to explore a destina-

tion's greater region. The California Welcome Center is located at 333 5 Cities Dr. #100 in Pismo Beach.

...

For more information, email Megan (megan@southcountychambers.com), or call the California Welcome Center directly at (805) 668-7354.



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January 7, 2021 from 4pm - 7pm

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January 12, 2021 at 12pm

**Virtual Office Hours for Residents (Spanish):**  
January 13, 2021 from 6pm - 9pm

**Virtual Office Hours for Residents (English):**  
January 21, 2021 at 4pm - 7pm

**Virtual Office Hours for Residents (Spanish):**  
January 27, 2021 from 6pm - 9pm

Register at [3Cenergy.org/2021-enrollment](https://3Cenergy.org/2021-enrollment)

#### Watch 3CE Videos to Learn What 3CE Enrollment Means for You

**2021 3CE Enrollment:**  
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**Understanding Your Energy:**  
<https://youtu.be/cusTQzurUkg>

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## Thank you, renewing Chamber members!

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•

### Pacific Premier Bank: Gold Level Chairman's Circle


•

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Nipomo Community Services District  
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Santa Maria Tire  
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**NEW YEAR'S  
RESOLUTION #26:**



**JOIN A  
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OF THIS NEWSLETTER  
FOR DATES AND OPTIONS**



*Congrats!*

**Cosimo Allegretta,  
FoodJets SLO County**



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**South County Chambers of Commerce**  
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Western Association of Chamber Executives

## Chamber Board of Directors, Staff, & Ambassadors

### Board of Directors:

Jill Quint  
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The Casitas of Arroyo Grande  
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SeaCrest Oceanfront Resort  
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Ty Ortiz  
Central Coast Party Factory

Ron Reilly  
Garing, Taylor, & Associates

Kim Banks  
BBSI

Kristen Palera  
Inn at the Pier

### Chamber Staff:

Jocelyn Brennan  
President I CEO  
jocelyn@southcountychambers.com

Ligia Zavala  
Chief Operations Officer  
ligia@southcountychambers.com

Holly Leighton  
Marketing & Tourism  
holly@southcountychambers.com

Megan Leininger, Manager  
California Welcome Center  
megan@southcountychambers.com

Marty Imes, Executive Director  
of Leadership South County  
marty@southcountychambers.com

Michelle Lea, Bookkeeper

### Chamber Ambassadors:

Kai Lynch  
Guild Mortgage Company  
**Chairperson**

Kassi Dee  
Nan's Pre-owned Books  
Kassi's Book Hive  
**Vice Chairperson**

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Linda Vleit Insurance Services

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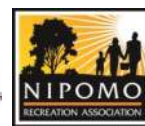
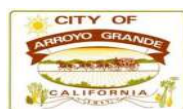
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## New Video Podcast Launching to Focus on Local Business

SOUTH SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY—A new video podcast series, coming to a streaming platform near you, is starting January 12, 2021 at 3:30 PST.

The BEST Coast Business Toast (BCBT) series pairs two co-stars who are uniquely connected to their communities, Ron Reilly and Andrea Turnquist, in 30-50 minute episodes featuring one-of-a-kind interviews with business owners and other influencers of Central California.

According to Reilly, guests on BCBT are either:

A. Killing it in this crazy Pandemic-Economy; B. Doing great things in the community, lifting up businesses and people in need in these difficult times; C. Struggling and in need of some helping hands to get through a difficult time; or D. Some combination of A, B and/or C.

Ron Reilly, CEO at Garing, Taylor & Associates (one of the most tenured civil engineering firm in SLO County), and Andrea Turnquist, the business development specialist for Placer Title, aim to shine a light on some names you may have heard and never had the chance to meet, help lift this community of small to medium sized businesses, and entertain. In addition to their passions for lifting up

and assisting neighbors in need, the co-hosts share an affinity for viticulture, suds and mixology, and look forward to bringing the highlighted guests to the audience in a casual happy-hour style discussion with terrific content. So, in addition to great information, resources and helping the businesses of Central California, there will be laughter and good times. Each guest spot concludes with a toast to either continued success, or that the highlighted business or leader will receive the assistance needed from the community to keep the train rolling.

Each show will also feature the Chamber Corner in which Reilly and Turnquist are visited by South County Chambers President/CEO Jocelyn Brennan, who will answer questions about current events in the Chamber, present issues faced by the local business community, and the strategic ways in which the Chamber and its various committees are addressing these hot-button topics.

The Central Coast Business Toast Video Podcast Series is produced by the Podcast Consulting arm of Westwyne, a brand creation and digital marketing firm based in Shell Beach. If you would like to be a guest on the show or would like to suggest a potential guest for the show, email [BestCoastBT@gmail.com](mailto:BestCoastBT@gmail.com).




**Ron Reilly, PE**  
CEO/President  
Garing, Taylor & Associates, Inc.  
In Arroyo Grande



**Andrea Turnquist**  
Business Development Specialist  
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