South County Business News

A publication of South County Chambers of Commerce—creating partnerships and opportunities that ensure South County businesses prosper

'Sip & Shop' event added to Elegant Christmas

ARROYO GRANDE — Elegant Christmas, a favorite holiday event, is returning to the Village of Arrovo Grande this weekend with everything you love: festive lights, holiday music, Santa, carolers, extended-hours shopping, and wine/ beer tasting. This year's celebration will be Sunday, December 5, from 12 noon to 7 pm. Stores in the Village of Arroyo Grande will stay open extended hours to accommodate shoppers. Big Ditch Marketfeaturing local makers, artists, and food trucks-will also be open during the same hours to add to the festivities.

Elegant Christmas is a perfect opportunity to showcase the charm and offerings of the Village of Arroyo Grande. Last year's version of this event was scaled back, and we are excited for Elegant Christmas to return with the new 'Sip and Shop' opportunity that includes wine tastings and special shopping discounts.

Participants of the exclusive "Sip and Shop" option can purchase wristbands online for \$30. The wristband will provide several wine tastings throughout the Village and a "Christmas in the Village" tote bag of exclusive discounts and coupons for Village merchants. Tastings will include Rooster Creek Tav-

ern, Mason Bar & Kitchen, Gina's Italian Cuisine, and Café Andreini. Wristbands are available for purchase in advance on the Chamber's website. Paid wristbands can be picked up at the event at the Chamber table in the Big Ditch Market area ("Car Corral parking" lot on East Branch Street between Old Village Grill and Sports Dugout)

All shoppers and diners can



submit their receipts from December 5 purchases in the Village for a valuable prize drawing. Receipts can be dropped off at the Chamber booth in the Big Ditch Market area. The winners will be announced at 7 p.m. on December 5. Winners do not need to be present to claim their prize. For further details, please visit southcountychambers.com, or call (805) 489-1488.

South County Chambers of Commerce

December 2021 Volume 61, Issue 12

UPCOMING CHAMBER EVENTS

Sunday, December 5:
Elegant Christmas
in the Village/Sip & Shop
12 noon to 7 pm
Buy tasting wristbands at
southcountychambers.com

HOLIDAY PARADES & EVENTS

Friday, December 3: Holiday Harmony at Pier Plaza in Pismo Beach starting at 5:30 pm with Santa, snow, tree lighting, bounce houses, and more

Saturday, December 4: 54th Annual South County Holiday Parade in Grover Beach: 10 am start time followed by snow, live music, tree lighting, and Santa's workshop

5 pm on December 4:
Arroyo Grande Christmas
Parade (5 pm in Village)
followed by tree lighting,
live nativity, and Storytime
with Santa

Sunday, December 5:
Olde Towne Nipomo
Family Christmas from 2
to 8 pm (5:30 pm parade)
with a marketplace, train
rides, s'mores firepits,
live music, and more

Thursday, December 9: Shell Beach Holiday Stroll at 5 pm with a parade, carolers, and treats

Saturday, December 11: Santa's Doggie Parade at 11 am in Avila Beach

Sunday, December 19: Santa and friends travel through Oceano to spread holiday cheer

Leadership South County Class III launches with orientation

The newly formed Class III of Leadership South County met on November 5 for their orientation. Thanks to Chamber member SeaCrest Oceanfront Hotel in Pismo Beach for hosting this special event on their beautiful oceanview terrace. Leadership South County is a ninemonth program that includes a two-day Leadership Retreat in January 2022 and nine Leadership Development Days complete with exciting field trips, behind-thescene tours, and engaging conversations with local leaders. This specialized program from South County Chambers of Commerce easily complements a busy schedule since the day sessions are just one Friday a month.



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

Merry Christmas everyone! I hope you had a relaxing Thanksgiving and enjoyed some delicious food with family and friends. The Board of Supervisors is wrapping up 2021 and recently set their priorities for the next year. We identified a handful of priorities staff should consider in drafting next year's budget.

They are:

- · Public Safety
- · Housing and Homelessness
- Economic Development in the County
- Water Resiliency (groundwater management, maximize State Water delivery, desalination)
- Roads

The establishment of Board priorities helps to guide development of the FY 2022-23 budget and decisions about funding levels for various programs and services. The priorities were passed by a unanimous vote.

We also heard from people concerned about regulations surrounding camping on private rural properties. The growing popularity of "Hip Camp", a popular booking system similar to AirBnB has prompted county land-owners to "rent" a portion of their properties to campers. As the County looks at its planning and zoning ordinances and priorities, people who have been using the app encouraged Supervisors to consider allowing for such uses, and there were some who

expressed concerns about fire dangers and other issues. Supervisors agreed to have staff evaluate the scope of work for this ordinance change to be added to the Planning and Building Tier I priorities for planners to examine in the coming year. Last, and most certainly not least, the Board passed resolutions honoring and thanking veterans in our county as part of "Thank a Veteran Month." We presented a proclamation to Morgan Boyd, the County's Veterans Services Officer. The Board also recognized the County Veterans Center for providing counseling service to combat veterans.

Lynn Compton San Luis Obispo County District 4 Supervisor

Update from Supervisor Dawn Ortiz-Legg, District 3: Avila Beach, Grover Beach, Pismo Beach, and San Luis Obispo

Hello and Happy Holiday Season South County! How can it be that time of year already?

It is the time to enjoy family, count our blessings, and find ways to help our community, especially those in need. There is so much to be grateful for this year, and I am especially excited for the opportunity to support the SLO Food Bank and you can help too! Now, until December 31st, 2021, we are matching donations to the SLO Food Bank, dollar for dollar up to \$20,000 dollars!

This significant contribution is thanks to the generosity of the International Brotherhood of Electric Workers (IBEW), Local #639, their families and the Labor Management Cooperative Committee of electrical contractors and business owners. To donate please visit give.idonate.com/slo-food-bank/match-campaign and for more information on the SLO Food Bank visit their website at slofoodbank.org

The dollar-for-dollar match will help provide holiday and other weekly meals

- children and seniors are the highest risk. Did you know there is likely one degree of separation between you and someone at risk of hunger? Together with your kindness and generosity, we can make a difference in the health and wellbeing of our community.

Another program near and dear to me is the San Luis Obispo County's very own SLO Foster Care, part of the Department of Social Services. You may have seen the news coverage on the fact there is a desperate need for foster families. Currently, there are 336 children awaiting placement in our foster care program. There are levels of engagement to consider, and if you have any ability or interest to learn more about becoming a foster parent, contact 805-781-1705.

There is another way to get that holiday spirit going and help SLO County foster children this season through Operation Santa. Here's a chance to support the youth in foster care and the resource families who care for them by providing gifts during the holiday season. Your

business can help by distributing gift tags or wish lists among their staff or customers to fill wishes for local youth. There are many ways for individuals and businesses to help make a better holiday for these kids, and you can call 805-788-2575 for more information.

In closing, it has been a great year to be a part of the dynamic and beautiful South County. Getting to know the community a little better, make new friends, and find ways to support our business community and families is why I am here! In 2022, we will have office hours every Thursday afternoon. You can always reach me at my office via email at district3@co.slo.ca.us or call 805-781-4336.

Sending happiest wishes to you and yours for a safe, memorable, and fun holiday season!

Dawn Ortiz-Legg San Luis Obispo County District 3 Supervisor





Arroyo Grande News

'Tis the season, Chamber friends! I'm sure this holiday season will be like no other, with perhaps the first family celebrations that include travel for a couple of years. I for one am SO ready to enjoy time with my extended family.

As we fill our hearts with the spirit of the season, consider shopping locally to support our business community. Here are a few suggestions. For the family with youngsters: how about a gift certificate to Five Cities Swim School? They have an indoor pool heated to 90 degrees- perfect place to get the wiggles out as the weather turns colder. For young adults/ teenagers: How about a hat or jersey from their favorite pro team from Sports Dugout? They've got fan gear and collectibles sure to please any sports fan. For ladies: how about a unique accessory or purse from Lady Di's Boutique? They have highend women's wear and accessories for

that special one-of-a-kind gift. And for him? How about a smoker from Miner's Ace Hardware? There is nothing like a smoker to kick up his BBQ game to the next level. What about the hard to buy for? How about the best gift of all-time with you? Check out the Clark Center's upcoming shows and book an evening of togetherness you'll all remember forever.

You can always visit the Chamber member page online to get ideas of what's out there in our community, and to spark your imagination for that perfect gift you might not have thought of otherwise. Shopping local is a win-win-win that will fill everyone's hearts.

I wish you a happy and healthy holiday season filled with love, laughter, and kindness. May the new year bring joy and prosperity to us all.

Caren Ray Russom Mayor, City of Arroyo Grande

Welcome new Chamber members:

Honeycomb Home Design

•

Central Coast State Parks

•

Alex Lopez with T-Mobile

•

Vitality Advisory Council of Oceano (VACO)

.

AmpSurf

•

SLO Coast Jerky

•

Arroyo Grande Valley Little League (AGVLL)

Rhonda's Relics

Grover Beach News

Rain—where are you?!? Unfortunately, as I am writing this month's article – there is no rain in sight and not even any rain in the forecast. This is especially troublesome in that Lopez Lake is at less than 30% capacity and Lopez is notoriously slow to fill up even when we do get rain. Historically the residents and businesses of Grover Beach are good stewards of our natural resources and we encourage you to continue that water awareness by conserving water and participating in city-sponsored programs. More information can be found

on the city's website here. While the prospect of a continuing drought is a concern, it is something that the city is mindful of and further information will be shared and discussions will take place, as needed, in the new year.

Until that time, let us continue to celebrate the many good things that Grover Beach and the South County have to offer. From amazing businesses who provide character, charm, and comradery...to the nonprofits that support and nurture those who are less fortunate perhaps due to food, housing or

health insecurities. I am thankful for all of the people that make up these businesses and these organizations as each individual has a role in the success, the vibrancy, and the compassion of Grover Beach.

So, as the holidays come upon us, I urge you to take a moment or two to appreciate who you are and what you mean to those around you. Celebrate in your own manner, in the time and place of your choosing—be yourself and join

Continued on page 8

Pismo Beach News

Santa is coming to town! Yes, on December 3rd at 5:30pm, Holiday Harmony is back at the Pier Plaza and Santa and his helpers will be there. We will have snow, bounce houses, cookie decorating, and lighting of the "tree" at the end of the pier at 6 pm.

The fun continues with the Shell Beach Holiday Stroll on December 9th at 5 pm. There is a parade, Christmas carolers, and local merchants will provide tasty treats. Pismo Beach will conduct "A Christmas to Remember: Holiday Lights Contest" for our residents and business owners. There are two categories: A Traditional Holiday or "The Clark Griswold Approach."

Pismo Beach is proud to host the 2021 International Surfing Association World Para Surfing Championship from December 7 to 11. This is the first time we will host this prestigious event. Athletes from 32+ countries will participate. AmpSurf, which partnered with the ISA

for the historic 2020 edition of the World Para Surfing Championship, will continue their partnership with the ISA as the event's host organization.

Finally, I want to thank the South County Chamber (especially Jocelyn) for partnering with us to provide grants to parents and childcare providers to expand childcare opportunities for working parents in Pismo Beach. The City provided a total of \$50,000 for the program.

Ed Waage

Mayor, City of Pismo Beach

Recent Ribbon Cuttings



Congrats, Coastal Communities Physician Network (CCPN)!

Congrats to Chamber member Coastal Communities Physician Network on their recent ribbon cutting and open house (with the Grinch!) at their new Arroyo Grande location. Coastal Communities Physician Network (CCPN) is a physician group with locations throughout San Luis Obispo County who comprise an Independent Physicians Association (IPA). Members who select CCPN physicians will see their doctors in their conveniently located private offices. All members of CCPN can access the full range of services, programs, and specialists offered by CCPN. Their new office is located at 336 S. Halcyon Rd. Suite 110 in Arroyo Grande. New patients are welcome. They can be reached at (805) 556-6011, or visit ccpnhpn.com.

Congrats, Urbane Cafe!

We celebrated a ribbon cutting last month with Urbane Café. During their soft -opening celebrations on November 4 and 5, guests dined for free with a donation to local nonprofits: SLO County YMCA, Dignity Health Foundation, Exploration Discovery Center, and Rotary Club of Arroyo Grande. Their family-owned restaurants serve hand-crafted, fire-baked, delicious sandwiches and salads. Their new Arroyo Grande restaurant is at 924 Rancho Parkway (in the old Starbuck's location near the Regal movie theater). View their menu at urbanecafe.com.

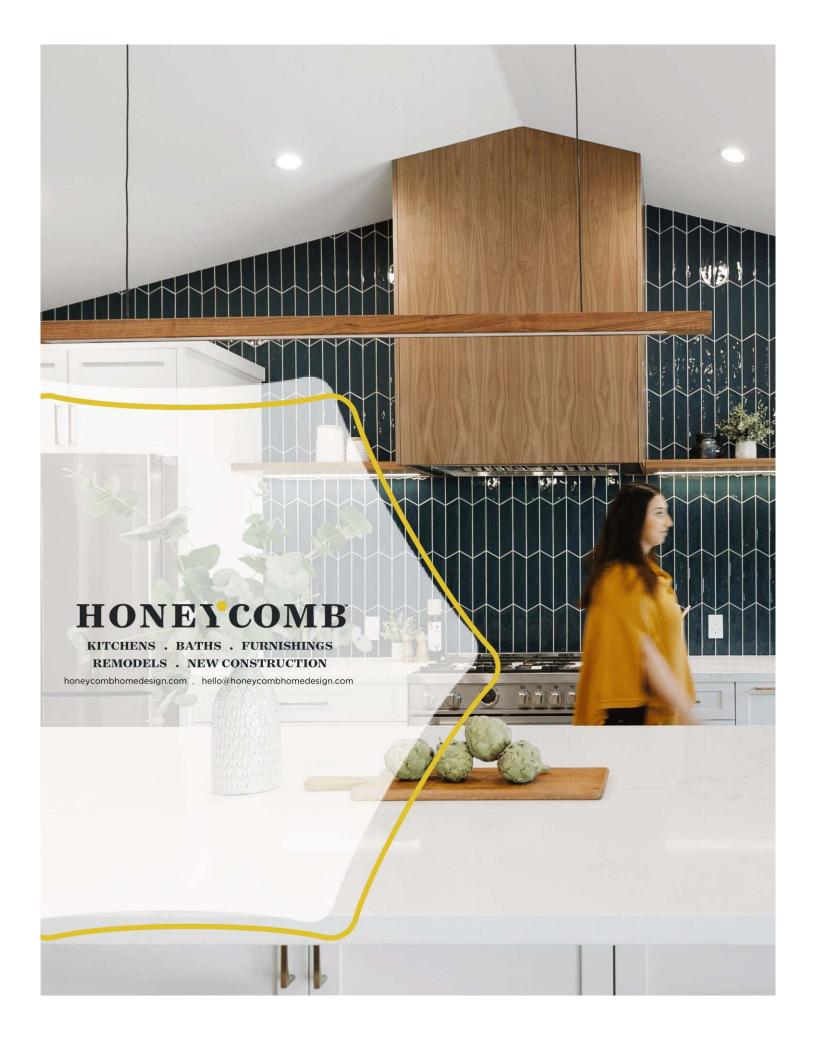






Congrats, Knowing You Matter!

Congrats to local nonprofit Knowing You Matter on their recent ribbon cutting and first annual fundraising dinner. Based in Arroyo Grande, their foundation exists to make a difference in the lives of others while raising suicide awareness and promoting emotional health and wellness to our community and beyond. Knowing You Matter was birthed from founders Cindy and Darrel's own personal experience of loss, grief, and deep need for healing when their son, Michael, died by suicide in January 2019. Their family's goal is to break the stigma surrounding this difficult topic. Knowing You Matter delivers "Hope Bags," to those affected by suicide. These self-care kits serve as a reminder that those recently affected by suicide matter. For more information about Knowing You Matter, please visit knowingyoumatter.org.



Recent Ribbon Cutting

Congrats to Central Coast Aquarium in Avila Beach!

Congrats to new Chamber member Central Coast Aguarium on their ribbon cutting in Avila Beach! Their mission is to cultivate a community dedicated to ocean stewardship through education, engagement, and action. During public hours, visitors have the opportunity to engage in hands -on exploration at the touch tanks-home to dozens of species of marine animals—including purple sea urchins. hermit crabs, sea stars, sea cucumbers, gumboot chiton, abalone, and kelp crabs. Their other exhibits feature the red octopus, decorator crabs, flat bottom fish, rock fish, iellies, and much more. Don't miss the opportunity to get up close and personal with their local shark species during the shark talk and shark touch tank. Staff, trained volunteers, and interns are stationed throughout the aquarium, ready to help identify animals on display, answer questions, and engage in conversation about the ocean environment. The aquarium is shorthanded on help and is in desperate need of volunteers. Contact Gaby at gaby@centralcoastaquarium.com, or call (805) 457-5357 ext. 1001 to learn how you can get involved. Central Coast Aguarium is located at 50 San Juan St. in Avila Beach. Visit centralcoastaquarium.com, or call (805) 457-5357. Thanks to the San Luis Obispo County District 3 Supervisor office for sponsoring this membership!



Healing Hearts Program offers help for young children who have lost a parent or sibling

Chamber member Hospice SLO County is offering four sessions of group counseling for children ages 6 -8 who have lost a parent, custodial grandparent, or sibling. The program will be offered free of charge and will take place on Zoom from 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM. The next sessions will take place at this time on December 11, 2021, January 15,



A Volunteer Hospice

2022, and February 19, 2022. Children may attend all or any of the three remaining sessions.

The Healing Hearts program recognizes that children perceive and handle death of a loved one differently than adults do. For that reason, this program helps them cope with loss in the company of their peers. The sessions will be facilitated by Andrea Heinlein, LICSW, a grief counselor at Hospice SLO County and will provide children the opportunity to participate in activities that ultimately help them express their thoughts and feelings, adapt and cope to the many changes in their lives, and memorialize their person who has died.

During the initial session, the children will introduce them-

selves and talk briefly about the person they lost; if this is something they feel comfortable doing. In each session, Heinlein will read an age-appropriate book to the children about loss and healing. The participants will then have a chance to talk about the book and their own circumstances regarding their own loss. For the remainder of the ses-

sions, the children will work on constructing their own book about the family member who has died, sharing such things as their favorite color, favorite flavor of ice cream, profession or work, hobbies, and talents.

"When someone a child loves dies, grieving is natural and expected. Grief is a normal response to loss, and the process should be encouraged. We plan to continue offering this group on a monthly basis throughout the school year and hope to expand to include other ages going further," said Shannon McOuat, Executive Director.

For more information and to register your child, please call Andrea Heinlein at (805) 544-2266.

isasurf Pismo Beach



DEC 6-11









GOLD PARTNERS





















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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!! SIGN UP AT WWW. AMPSURF.ORG

Pismo Beach welcomes International Para Surfing Championship hosted by AmpSurf, December 6-11

PISMO BEACH - Pismo Beach will be the Title Sponsor of the 2021 Pismo Beach ISA World Para Surfing Championship Hosted by AmpSurf held in Pismo Beach from December 6 through 11. This sixth edition of the International Surfing Association (ISA) World Para Surfing Championship is estimating participation from over 140-150 elite athletes from at least 26-29 countries which is the largest participation to date. The event gathers the world's best para surfers to compete and display their talents in a Paralympic-style, World Championship competition. Opening ceremonies will be held December 6; Contest heats begin Tuesday, December 7 at 7 am through Friday, December 10; with final competitions being held on Saturday, December 11, immediately followed by closing ceremonies.

The 2021 Pismo Beach ISA World Para Surfing Championship, hosted by AmpSurf, will take place at the Pismo Beach Pier, located in downtown Pismo Beach at the end of Main Street. There is no cost to be a spectator at the event.

Promote your business to over 300 international athletes, coaches, and support staff who will be visiting South



County from over 25 countries December 4-12 as part of this special event. These visitors to our area will be looking for places to eat and shop, and your business name can be added to the event program.

AmpSurf is hosting the surfing championship and asking local merchants to offer discounts to these international visitors. Most merchants are offering 25% discounts. You will be provided with a poster to display at your store announcing that you are participating in

this special promotion. All athletes and participants will have event wristbands for identification purposes. To add your business to the promotion, please click here to fill out the merchant form and email it to katherynp@ampsurf.org. Feel free to include a logo for your business.

Please respond by Wednesday, December 1, to be included.

AmpSurf is still in need of volunteers for this event. Please email surf@ampsurf.org. Learn more about AmpSurf at ampsurf.org.

Grover Beach Continued from page 3

your friends, your neighbors, and those friendly strangers that you haven't met yet. We also invite you to celebrate with us as Grover Beach hosts the 54th Annual South County Holiday Parade on Saturday, December 4th at 10 am along Grand Avenue. The parade will be followed by Santa's Workshop at Ramona Garden Park complete with Santa, five tons of snow, music by Critical Mass, homemade and handmade items for sale, and the tree lighting ceremony at the end of the day. We look forward to seeing you there-especially since "There's No Place Like Grover Beach for the Holidays!"

Jeff Lee Mayor, City of Grover Beach

Holiday Lights Contest in Pismo Beach

PISMO BEACH—The City of Pismo Beach is proud to present A December to Remember: 2021 Holiday Lights Contest to their local residents and business owners. It is their hope that the community will come together in this festive season by interacting with the fun and joy of holiday decorations.

There are two categories for residents: A Traditional Holiday or "The Clark Griswold Approach." The category for local businesses is: Best Overall Design.



Registrations will be accepted until December 17th at 5:00 pm. Voting will close on December 19th at midnight.

Winners will receive a yard sign indicating them as the winners for 2021. First place in each category will receive a holiday basket and a \$100 gift card to the local Outdoor Supply Hardware store. Second

place will receive a holiday basket with a \$50 gift certificate.

Additional information is available here









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All stores are open daily from 6 am to 10 pm

Tag us on Facebook & Instagram @californiafreshmarkets @elranchomarket **f**





We Accept











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You can find us online at CaliforniaFreshMarket.com

Grants now available to eligible Arroyo Grande nonprofits

Deadline to apply is December 17

ARROYO GRANDE-The City announced its eighth year of the Arroyo Grande Community Service Grant Program, which provides monetary grants to eligible nonprofit groups that provide specialized social service, educational, cultural, beautification. and recreation programs and projects benefitting its citizens. Grants will be awarded



in minimum amounts of not less than \$250.

On October 12, 2021, City Council authorized \$57,065 of

funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) received by the City to supplement the \$25,000 budgeted for the 2021-2022 Community Service Grant Program, bringing the total funding available for this program in FY 2021-22 to \$82,065.

The deadline for applications is Friday, December 17, at 5:00 p.m. Instructions, guidelines, and application forms can be obtained online here or by contacting Associate

Planner Andrew Perez at 473-5425, or by email at aperez@arroyogrande.org.

ARROYO GRANDE VALLEY LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBA 2022 SEASON REGISTRATION **SPONSORSHIP** AVAILABLE NOW visit: WWW.AGVLL.com

Kathleen Parker, EA

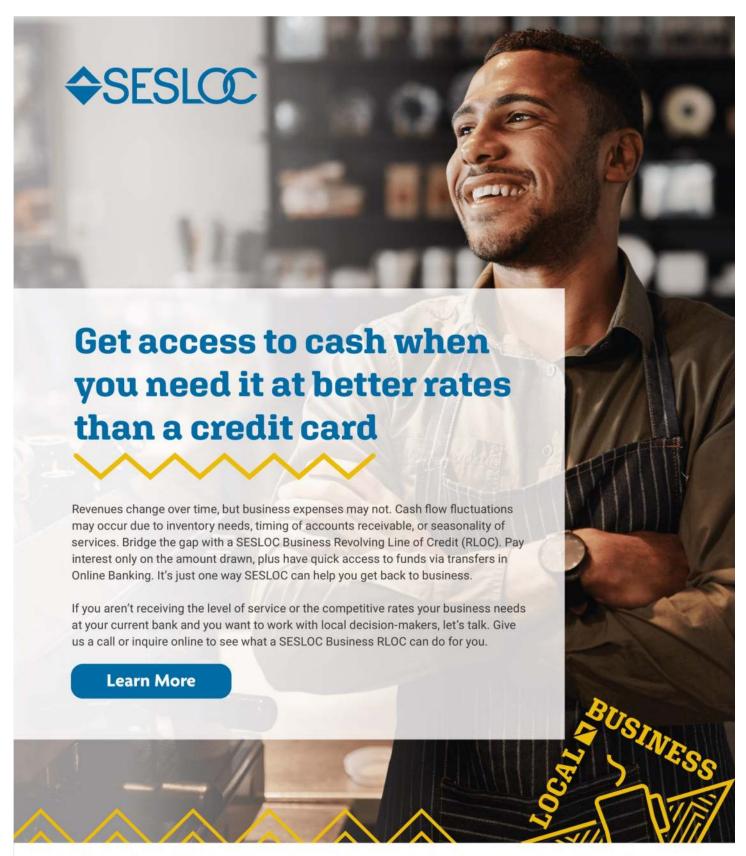
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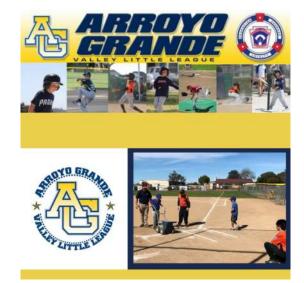
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New Chamber Member Highlights



Welcome to the Chamber, Arroyo Grande Valley Little League!

Arroyo Grande Valley Little League (AGVLL) recently joined the Chamber as a new member. Little League believes in the power of youth baseball and softball to teach life lessons that build stronger individuals and communities. Registration just opened for the Spring 2022 season. Sign up for \$100 now through December 4 before the cost increases on December 5. Divisions include T-Ball (ages 4-6), Farm (ages 7-8), Minors (ages 8-10), Majors (ages 10-12), and Intermediate (ages 11-13). For more information, please visit agvII.com, or email aglittleleague@gmail.com.

Welcome, Honeycomb Home Design!

The goal of their full-service interior design studio is to ensure their client's vision comes to fruition by creating a comfortable space that rejuvenates and inspires. They also offer semi-custom and custom cabinetry. Owner and Principal Designer Ariana Afshar Lovato has a strong understanding of design and culture to create spaces based on her clients' passions and inspirations. After earning her degree in Interior Design from the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising in Los Angeles, and a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from the University of LaVerne, Ariana gained experience by working for different builders and designers before venturing on her own. She founded Honeycomb Home Design with the simple mission to create pure lifestyle spaces that are consciously functional and tastefully curated. Their studio is located at 132 W. Branch St. in the Village of Arroyo Grande. For details, visit honeycombhomedesign.com, or email hello@honeycombhomedesign.com.







Welcome, Central Coast State Parks Association!

Central Coast State Parks Association (CCSPA), in partnership with California State Parks in San Luis Obispo County, supports interpretation, education, and volunteer efforts while promoting public awareness and stewardship of our natural resources and cultural heritage. Their organization is an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit. They are one of 85 similar cooperating associations across the state who work in partnership with state parks. For more information, please visit centralcoastparks.org.

New Chamber Member Highlights

Welcome to the Chamber, AmpSurf!

AmpSurf is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit established to promote, inspire, educate, and rehabilitate (PIER) all people with disabilities and their families through Adaptive Surf Therapy and other outdoor activities. They offer a unique, all-inclusive program to bring the healing power of the ocean to disabled individuals for an experience that is both mentally and physically rewarding. AmpSurf has provided their Adaptive Learn to Surf program to thousands of disabled veterans, first responders, adults, and children. AmpSurf is hosting the 2021 Pismo Beach ISA World Para Surfing Championship in Pismo Beach from December 6-11. This sixth edition of the International Surfing Association (ISA) World Para Surfing Championship is estimating participation from over 140-150 elite athletes from at least 26 countries—the largest participation to date. The event gathers the world's best para surfers to compete and display their talents in a Paralympic-style, World Championship competition.

There is a unique opportunity available to promote your local business to over 300 international athletes, coaches, and support staff who will be visiting South County as part of this special event. These visitors to our area will be looking for places to eat and shop, and your business name can be added to the event program. AmpSurf is asking local merchants to offer discounts to these international visitors.



To add your business to the promotion, please email Katheryn Pirkey at katherynp@ampsurf.org by Wednesday, December 1. AmpSurf is also still in need of volunteers for this event. To learn more, please email surf@ampsurf.org. The 2021 Pismo Beach ISA World Para Surfing Championship will take place at the Pismo Beach Pier. There is no cost to be a spectator. To learn more, visit ampsurf.org.

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Kirk Vaughn SVP, Senior Relationship Manager 805.268.5278 kirk.vaughn@1stCapitalBank.com

San Luis Obispo Office 599 Higuera Street, Suite B San Luis Obispo



New Chamber Member Highlights



Welcome, Rhonda's Relics!

Rhonda's Relics is a vintage and antique marketplace of 20+ vendors in the Village of Arroyo Grande. Their curated marketplace is filled with an incredible selection of vintage, antiques, and collectibles. They are happy to seek out specific requests for customers who are looking to add to their vintage collections. Stop by their monthly popup on Saturday, December 4, from 11 am to 4 pm for vintage treasures, jewelry, rusty décor, home/garden, antiques, and shabby chic. Multiple vendors will be set up in the promenade outside the back entrance of the store. Rhonda's Relics is located at 148 W. Branch St. For more information, please visit rhondasrelics.com or call (805) 270-4045.

Welcome, SLO Coast Jerky!

SLO Coast Jerky recently joined the Chamber as a new member. Their hand-crafted jerky is made fresh on the Central Coast. Follow them on Instagram at www.instagram.com/slocoastjerky. They can be reached at slocoastjerky1@gmail.com.





Welcome, Alex Lopez with T-Mobile!

T-Mobile wants to change wireless for good. They are consistently recognized for taking care of customers and creating a great work environment. They are proud of the hard work their team puts in to build a supportive, welcoming culture that places people first. They are customer obsessed and employee committed. From disaster relief efforts to renewable energy initiatives, they recognize their responsibility. Alex is a local representative for T-Mobile based in Grover Beach. He can be reached at (805) 399-0801 or via email at alexis.lopez528@t-mobile.com. Ask about T-Mobile's holiday specials.

New Chamber Member Highlight

Welcome to the Chamber, Vitality Advisory Council of Oceano (VACO)!

The mission of the newly formed Vitality Advisory Council of Oceano (VACO) is to advocate for Oceano by conveying the wants, needs, and desires of their fellow community members to the County Board of Supervisors, thereby helping to build a brighter Oceano together.

VACO was officially recognized by the San Luis Obispo (SLO) County Board of Supervisors as a new voice for Oceano in June 2021.

They are a diverse group of Oceano residents and business owners who are

passionate about their community and care deeply about preserving quality of life. They aim to build on their relation-



ships with their predominantly family-owned businesses for the success of the economy and the future of their quaint coastal town.

They strive to help unify and promote inclusive involvement within their community where all voices can be heard.

Join VACO on Saturday, December 4, for the 11th Annual Toys for Kids Event hosted by the Friends of Oceano Airport. This free family event is from 10 am to 2 pm at the Oceano Airport.

Enjoy food, drinks, music, and fun. View vintage planes and cars. Please bring new, unwrapped toys. Don't miss their Beachin' Holiday plans with a Decem-

ber 15-18 decorating contest and Santa on December 19. Learn more at vaco805.org.

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We protect what you can't predict!

Chamber event photos from November breakfast and 'Friendsgiving'mixer

We celebrated our end-of-year "South County Success Stories" Chamber breakfast on the Rooftop of Inn at the Pier in Pismo Beach. Thanks to our guest speakers: Kassi from Nan's Pre-Owned Books, Elijah and Debralee from Troesh Coleman Pacific, Lynne from The Great American Melodrama & Vaudeville, and Frank from Rooster Creek Tavern, Mason Bar & Kitchen, and Shell Beach Brewhouse. Thanks to Epic Entertainment and GBeatZ in Grover Beach for hosting the special "Friendsgiving" mixer to commemorate a year of thankfulness for a resilient business community.







Left photo:

Chamber Breakfast at Rooftop of Inn at the Pier in Pismo Beach on November 10

Middle and right photo:

"Friendsgiving" Membership Mixer outdoors at Epic Entertainment and GBeatZ in Grover Beach on November 17

Thank you, renewing Chamber members!

Pacific Premier Bank- Chairman's Circle Membership- Gold Level

RB Stowell Corporation
Morris & Garritano Insurance,
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— We appreciate your support!



Who would you choose? Nominate a Business of the Month

Local businesses contribute to our economy, provide jobs, and demonstrate leadership. Many of these local leaders also invest time and money by giving back to our community. This deserves recognition and celebration. For this reason, South County Chambers of Commerce (SCCC) recognizes a Business of the Month.

The SCCC Business of the Month Criteria:

- 1. The business is a current SCCC Member in good standing.
- 2. They conduct responsible, ethical business in South San Luis Obispo County; Avila Beach, Pismo Beach, Grover Beach, Oceano, Arroyo Grande, or Nipomo.
- 3. They contribute significantly to the local economy and/or the local workforce.
- 4. They have demonstrated leadership in the business community.

The Business of the Month is recognized in the Chamber's monthly newsletter "South County Business News," on social media, and at the Chamber's monthly breakfast. The SCCC Businesses of the Month are automatic nominees for the SCCC Business of the Year Award. The SCCC Business of the Year is celebrated at the Annual Dinner and Recognition Awards. (Businesses are allowed to nominate themselves and SCCC Marketing Committee Members may also nominate businesses.)

Please help us choose by nominating a local company for Business of the Month. Visit southcountychambers.com, and click on the Resources tab at the top of the page to nominate a business.





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Ron Reilly Garing, Taylor, & Associates Frank Schiro Mason Bar and Kitchen Rooster Creek Tavern

Kim Banks, BBSI

Kristen Palera, Inn at the Pier

Tiffany Terra Home Instead Senior Care

Chamber Staff:

Ligia Zavala Chief Operations Officer ligia@southcountychambers.com

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

Jocelyn Brennan, Leadership South County leadership@ southcountychambers.com

Michelle Lea Bookkeeper

Chamber Ambassadors:

Kai Lynch Guild Mortgage Company Chairperson

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Linda Vleit Linda Vleit Insurance Services

Lettie Fuller Mechanics Bank in Grover Beach

Sue MacCagno Palmer Sue's Mobile Notary/Signing Service

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Geadell Giatti **Grand Inspirations** Home Furnishings & Décor

Carole Brown Gold Coast Express Registration

Rod Brown Geriatric Care Management and Dementia Consulting

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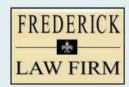


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To learn more, visit southcountychambers.com and click on the Resources tab at the top of the page.

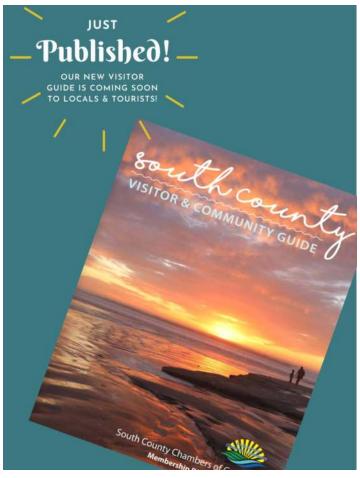
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239 W. Tefft St. Nipomo, CA 93444 (please call ahead for an appointment)

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business news and events

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