

Changes Coming to Waste Management Collections Beginning July 1

Food scraps combined with green waste and separate trash to be collected weekly



New Waste Management containers. Anticipated cart transition to be complete by January 1, 2026. From left to right; Organics, Recycling & Trash

The monthly cost of waste disposal for Orcutt residents will increase significantly in July primarily because of the passage of Senate Bill 1383 and a new two-year contract negotiated between Santa Barbara County and Waste Management, the firm that collects trash and green waste in much of northern Santa Barbara County.

The state legislation is designed to reduce methane emissions at landfills by shifting food waste disposal from landfills to recycling centers like Engel and Gray in Santa Maria which recycles the food waste into compost.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, every year in the United

States approximately 31% of the overall food supply is wasted and contributes to 18% of total U.S. methane emissions from landfills. Methane accounts for about 20% of global emissions and is more than 25 times as potent as carbon dioxide at trapping heat in the atmosphere.

The goal of Senate Bill 1383 is to reduce food wastes at California landfills by 75% by 2025.

Last month the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors renewed its contract with Waste Management. The new contract increases the collection of green waste, food scraps and trash to weekly from bi-weekly for residential customers.

Additional containers for those who do not have green waste containers will be supplied.

Collection for recycling containers will remain every other week.

According to the Santa Barbara County Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division, residential collection cost will increase on an average of 30%; the commercial rate increases 67%. Overall it's about a 25% increase in revenue to Waste Management.

Initially Waste Management requested an overall increase of 50%, but in March the County re-negotiated the 25% revenue increase to the waste collection firm.

According to Michael Rivera, Public Sector Manager for Waste Management, Orcutt residents should expect a \$10.36 increase for 90-gallon service.

In order to have time to investigate all potential options for service at the lowest cost to customers, the County insisted on a two-year contract instead of the seven years requested by Waste Management.

Leslie Robinson, Division Program Manager, told county supervisors that Waste Management was attempting to bring its rates closer to the current market rate, noting when the company bid for the franchise in 2011, it significantly reduced its rates to win the contract.

Although Rivera says the rates will rise because of state mandates, "there are added perks Waste Management is adding for its customers. Weekly (instead of the current bi-weekly) collection of the combined green waste and food scraps begins July 1st."

Rivera also says, "if you are cleaning your garage, if you need to get rid of furniture and other large items, Waste Management will pick these items up four times a year."

Sam Dickinson, Senior Program Specialist for the Public Works Department of the County, is requesting that residents add food scraps and wet paper products to their green waste container. He says free kitchen pails will be available this fall to make collecting this material from kitchens easier. "Until then, please wrap food scraps in paper and drop them into the green waste container," Dickinson says.

Trash will continue to be collected every week. The green, food waste, and wet paper products will be transported to Engel and Gray and recycled into compost.

Dickinson says a huge outreach campaign will be in full swing in July and August. "We will do radio, TV, newspaper and direct mail advertising both in English and Spanish so that everyone is aware of the changes."

Steve Southwick reporting

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Orcutt Dr Saves A Life and Promotes CPR



On May 1st, Orcutt resident Dr. Tom Dawes listened to a favorite Sunday podcast in his car. He was in an almost empty lot in Thousand Oaks after visiting his girlfriend. There were 6 soccer fields and a baseball field adjacent to the lot. Suddenly, a man and a woman frantically approached his car yelling, "A man has collapsed on the baseball field. Are you a doctor?" Dawes followed to the scene. "The guy was dead, completely blue, eyes rolled back in his head for 7 minutes already! There were about 40 people, mostly watching. "They had pretty much given up. He was on his

side. He had thrown up and then choked when they tried CPR," explains Dawes.

"This is not going well, God," Dawes said to himself. "Do you want this man today?" Sensing that he must be there for a reason, Dawes went to work with CPR, clearing the air-way of vomit and sending someone for an ambulance. He directed several people to take turns with him, compressing and clearing. In 45 seconds the man, David Fox, 37, coughed. "Coughing is good," says Dawes. "It means he's still alive." For 10 more minutes Dawes directed the compressions, despite the heart having stopped. "Just compressions alone can get blood flow to the heart, the brain, the kidneys, keeping the vital organs alive until the defibrillator comes."

Paramedics showed up and, with 5 or 6 shocks, Fox's heart began to beat. He spent 3 plus days in a coma and 18 days total in the hospital. Doctors warned of possible brain damage but, as of now, there is only memory loss of the week before the event.

Fox explains that he had a pace maker for a slow and pausing heart. The pacemaker failed because his heart rate went too fast, causing cardiac arrest. Doctors believe it was complications of COVID-19 he'd had in January. Now, with medication and a different pacemaker, he will be protected if a similar situation occurs.

Dawes has a thriving 23-year family medicine practice in Santa Maria. He's also a psychiatrist. He wants no accolades for his heroism. "I am just the instrument. I could have done 1000 things. He was dead. To be given another chance with that much time down, that's bigger than all of us."

What Dawes does want is to get out the word about CPR. "It's so important to take a CPR course. Anybody can do it. Keep going until the medics come. And somebody needs to speak up and take control, keep talking and instructing, and to have a team to keep things going."

Fox says he is "incredibly lucky" Dawes was there. "He'd never been there before! I'm not a religious person, but it starts to make me think. There's not a doubt in my mind that there's a reason for me to be alive. We'll always be connected." Fox has signed up to take a CPR class and already has friends who have signed up. "Now a bunch of people will learn how to potentially save a life."

For options for a local CPR class, visit websites: www.fireguycpr.com, www.slostarcpr.com, and www.safetyfirstseminars.com

Katy Jacobson reporting



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Peoples Self-Help Housing Plans for 49 Affordable Homes at Site of Former Hi-Way Drive-in Movie Theatre

Although Peoples Self-Help Housing has helped guide construction of affordable homes for over 1200 families in Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties, the project at the former Hi-Way Drive-In location on Santa Maria Way in Orcutt is the first in the Santa Maria area in thirty years.

"We have done homes in Nipomo, San Miguel, Atascadero and Templeton and we are looking forward to building 49 homes to assist first time homebuyers in the Santa Maria Valley," says Ken Trigueiro, CEO of the non-profit Peoples Self-Help Housing in San Luis Obispo.

The project, to be known as Skylight Homes, is located at the southern boundary of Santa Maria. The city council has not formally approved the development, but last December did approve rezoning the city's General Plan to allow the project to proceed. Trigueiro says he hopes plans will be submitted to the city by year's end so grading can begin in about a year.

"The homes we are proposing will all

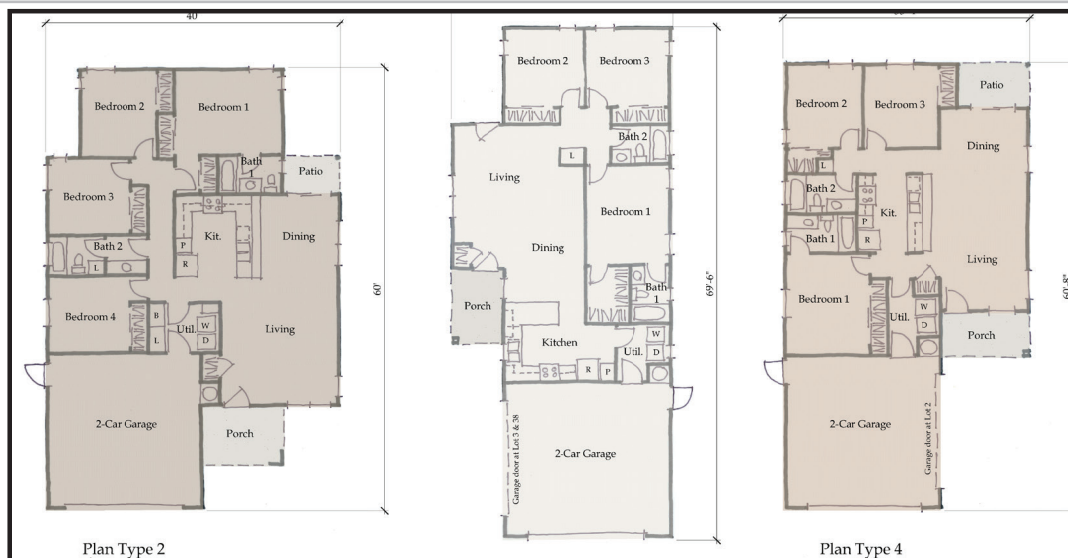
be single story with 2 car garages with solar on the roofing. Sizes will range from 1150 to 1350 square feet. There will be three and a few four-bedroom homes."

Trigueiro says Peoples Self-Help Housing will try to keep the cost at about \$400,000.

The non-profit also helps with arranging the mortgage. "The payment will not be more than 30%-35% of their monthly income. The most beneficial aspect of the program is making sure these folks will be able to get into home ownership and realize the American dream."

A lottery system is used to select applicants who will have the opportunity to use the "sweat equity" program to assist in the construction of the homes. The families selected will spend approximately 40 hours per week doing construction on their home which may be in lieu of a down payment.

After the families are qualified, they will work in groups of 10, constructing their



Above: Floorplans presented by Peoples Self-Help Housing as part of their submittal to Santa Barbara County Planning and Development.

own homes and their neighbors' homes. Every three months, a new group begins. Each group takes twelve to fourteen months to build. Trigueiro says he hopes the first group of ten will begin work in the spring of 2024. Families work with a supervisor contractor for training and guidance.

The Hi-Way Drive-in theater was in operation since the late fifties. The familiar sign was taken down in April and was sold to the Skyway Drive-In in Barstow, California.

The cost of the nine-acre site was about three million dollars.

Steve Southwick reporting

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Local Chapter of The 99s Inspires Female Pilots



The 99s paint the Compass Rose on the tarmac at the Santa Maria Airport.

Orcutt resident and 40-year certified pilot/flight instructor, Diane Pirman, encourages young women to consider a career in aviation.

Diane is a charter member of the Santa Maria Chapter of The 99s an international group of women pilots. The organization was founded November 2, 1929, at Curtiss Field, Valley Stream, Long Island, New York at the terminus of the 1929 National Air Races. All 117 women pilots at the time were invited to assemble for mutual support, the advancement of aviation and to create a central office to keep files on women in aviation. Ninety-nine women formed the original

organization. Presently there are 11 members in the local chapter, chartered in 1988.

Recently local 99s and friends coordinated painting the colorful blue and white "Compass Rose" on the Santa Maria Airport tarmac which can be seen from the skies and the restaurant. Pilots can use the Compass Rose to determine deviation from magnetic north on the compass in their cockpit. The compass is less important in 2022 due to GPS, but if electronics go out, especially in low visibility, deviation becomes important. Paintings like these and airport identifiers have been an earmark contribution of the 99s since the beginning of their history.

Education is a major purpose of The 99s. "I would encourage women to check out The 99s website. It contains the history of women pilots and how women can become pilots. If you're interested, go for it! If you're young enough and have the desire to fly

commercially, the sky is unlimited right now, especially for women and people of color."

Research bears out Diane's words. Many more pilots are needed in the field. Some airlines are actively promoting the under-represented to be pilots. United Airlines has the most women pilots, followed by Delta and American. Only about 5% of commercial pilots are women, however.

"In my experience there's not a lot of bravado with women pilots. We are good at teamwork, levelheaded. Our safety records are very good. In major commercial air emergencies, female pilots have kept their cool, are well trained and methodical, by the book," says Diane about why they are being sought out by commercial airlines.

The 99s are available to groups for education outreach, presenting at schools, scouts, and local groups. They are also responsible for the free 99s Memorial Garden near the Santa Maria Museum of Flight at the airport. It includes a 28'x8' color mural depicting women in aviation

Continued on page 5

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The 99s

Continued from page 4

from the first pilots to women astronauts.

Being a 99 means fun “fly-outs,” trips by air with other flight chapters, meeting for meals, mutual support and education, “usually at airports, all over California and beyond,” says Diane.

Another 99s event is the annual and stiffly competitive Santa Monica to Oregon women-only two-day Palms to Pines air race. “Prize money doesn’t cover the price of fuel. It’s just for bragging rights and the trophy,” laughs Diane, who has placed second twice.

Besides the 99s, Diane’s pilot license has provided her the ability to travel. She and her husband Mark, who was also a pilot, flew all over the US, including several trips to Alaska.

If you have questions about becoming a pilot Diane invites you to contact her at dpirman@comcast.com.

Katy Jacobson reporting

Farmers’ Market Debuts in Old Orcutt On July 20

And to think that I saw it on Marcum Street in Old Orcutt.

It’s taken a lot of time and work; the process started in the early 2000’s with initial discussions, but now with permits in hand, the wait is over. On Wednesday, July 20 from 4:30-7:30pm, Old Orcutt will hold its first farmers’ market!

The market’s goal, according to Samantha Bakke, a member of Old Orcutt Merchants’ Association (OOMA) and the Orcutt Farmers’ Market manager, is multifaceted. Bakke, who runs a financial planning firm in Old Town, said her goal is to create an event that will bring energy to Old Orcutt. “I’m raising my kids in the community and want to support the local scene and let them feel the good vibe,” says Bakke. The market is also supported by Old Town Orcutt Revitalization Association (OTORA).

What is this vibe? The vibe is local. The vibe is Ag-certified. The vibe is fun.

Included in the first summer’s line-up is 10 certified farmers selling local-sourced,

ag-certified produce including Main Street Produce and Bautista Farms. In addition to fresh farm produce, 30 vendors will sell goods, including locally crafted soap, jewelry and more. Local restaurants The Shift, Bella Forno, Old Town Mexican Café and many food trucks will offer food. Entertainment and a kids’ zone with face painting and a bounce house will round out the set and provide something for everyone.

The Orcutt Farmers’ Market will provide an opportunity for families to learn more about a local non-profit; at the July 20th Farmers’ Market, the organization CASA will be highlighted.

OTORA is also offering farmers’ market sponsorships to businesses and individuals to support the on-going expenses of putting on the Farmers’ Market. The fruit themed sponsorships, start at the blueberry level with a \$100 donation and go up to \$1000 at the pineapple level. Contact Samantha at 805-601-6014 for

information on sponsorships.

Whether it’s fresh vegetables, local fruit, one-of-a kind-crafts or tasty food, mark your calendars for Wednesday July 20th 4:30-7:30pm and every third Wednesday after that through the fall!

John Chamberlain reporting



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Orcutt Schools Update Busy, Productive Summer Planned

Dr. Holly Edds, Superintendent, OUSD

Asked to describe the Orcutt Union School District's plans for the summer, Brad Gitchell had to chuckle.

"We'll have so many oars in the water that it will look like a Viking ship," quipped the district's director of maintenance, operations, and transportation. "We are going to be busy, busy, busy."

Indeed, Summer 2022 will be an industrious time, as we will take advantage of the break from school to launch a signature project and upgrade facilities around the district. We also have a full slate of summer programming planned for students.

Headlining our summer schedule will be the groundbreaking for a new gymnasium/multi-use building on the campus of Orcutt Academy High School. Funded by Measure G, the bond measure approved by district voters in 2016, the facility will include a full-size

court for basketball and volleyball, a lobby with restrooms, an indoor/outdoor stage for performances, an adjoining classroom, and locker rooms.

Those who drive by the work site on Pinal Avenue this summer can expect to see trenches dug for utilities and excavation for the building's foundation. An event to mark the start of this project will be held soon.

Other facilities work planned for the summer:

- Modernization of two permanent classroom wings on the Olga Reed/Orcutt Academy campus in Los Alamos. Rooms in these wings will be outfitted with new windows, doors, carpeting, paint, ceilings, and roofing. So the buildings are ready for the 2022-2023 school year, the pace of summer work will be intensive; contractors will be on site seven days a week.

- The replacement of a sewer main at Joe

Nightingale School. To accomplish this, a work crew will trench through the school's field, from the school's classroom and office complexes to Glenwood Drive.

- Painting of the Ralph Dunlap School campus. In mid-July, after summer school has ended, buildings at Ralph Dunlap will be beautified with the district's new color scheme of porous stone and metal fringe.

- The installation of shade structures at Alice Shaw, Joe Nightingale, and Patterson Road schools and on the Los Alamos campus. These will afford shade to students for both meals and outdoor learning.

- Asphalt repair and resurfacing at five schools. Our blacktops will be put in better condition for student use when school resumes in August.

Meanwhile, the summer months also will include programming for students.

From June 13 through July 9, we are holding Summer School at three sites for students entering grades 1-6. At last glance we had 223 students enrolled at Ralph Dunlap, 280 at Patterson Road, and 56 in Los Alamos. We also have an Extended School Year program for 55 Special Education students at Ralph Dunlap School.

"We are providing academics along with social/emotional learning and a focus on math

and project-based learning," says Julie Kozel, the district's executive director of curriculum and instruction. "Summer School will be engaging and fun."

From July 25 through August 5, we will hold two-week "jump start" programs for students entering transitional kindergarten, kindergarten, seventh grade, and ninth grade. We have a total of 70 students enrolled in a TK/K offering at Joe Nightingale School, 70 students in a seventh-grade welcome at Orcutt Junior High School, and 80 students in a ninth-grade program at Orcutt Academy High School.

Through it all, we also will be signing up new students for the coming school year. If you would like to register a student for 2022-2023, please go to our Enrollment Office web page, www.orcuttschools.net/enroll/, or phone 805-938-8946.

We know the next few months will go by quickly, as we all will be working hard in preparation to welcome students back on August 11 (August 10 for seventh graders) for a new school year. In the meantime, we wish all of our students, families, and friends in the Orcutt community a sensational summer!

Superintendent Dr. Holly Edds can be contacted by phone at 938-8900 or by e-mail at heds@orcutt-schools.net. She can be followed on Twitter at @hce101.



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Community Calendar

To submit your community event, email 50 words or less to info@orcuttpioneer.com by the second Wednesday of the month. Be sure to include, in this order, the name of the event, location, time, a short description and contact information.

All events are subject to change. Please contact the event or club sponsor to find out details about the organization/event and meeting times.

SPECIAL EVENTS

The annual KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GARAGE SALE will be Saturday, July 9 from 7am – 11am, in the St. Louis de Montfort Parish Hall. We will be accepting your donations at the 5075 Harp Road entrance to the Hall on Friday the 8th; we will be there to help you from 3pm-7pm. Thank you for giving us your “treasures”. No clothing, please. There will be no pick up this year. All proceeds will go to the Knights’ charitable activities.

Saturday, July 16, 9AM-5PM, BENT AXLES ANNUAL CAR SHOW on Broadway in front of the Unocal Building in Old Orcutt. Cool old cars, live music by “Tims Band,” 50/50 drawings, raffles, t-shirts sales, giveaway drawings, and a strawberry shortcake social. Come enjoy fun for the whole family!

Sons of the American Legion (S.A.L.) continues its Summer Concert and BBQ Benefit Series on the 3rd Saturdays of the month and run from 2– 5PM. BBQ will be available for sale. Orcutt Post 534 is located on 145 W. Clark Ave. Concert is open to the public and free.

MONTHLY OR WEEKLY EVENTS

50+ CLUB LUNCHEON, at St Louis De Montfort Church Hall at 11:30AM on the second Thursday of the month. Event is catered with nominal charge. For reservations call Irene at 934-2511.

AA (or Alcoholics Anonymous). If you want to drink, that’s your business. If you want to stop, that’s ours. Meetings Monday, Tuesday,

Thursday, 6:30PM Orcutt Presbyterian Church. General information and other meeting times and places, 925-3782.

ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS AND DISFUNCTIONAL FAMILIES (www.adultchildren.org) meets on Thur, Fri, Sat, and Sun. Contact Kim at (805) 714-6908.

AGAPE School of Christion Education now enrolling K-12 sliding scale (805) 614-9292.

ALL AMERICA CITY QUILT GUILD meets at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 4380 Orcutt Rd. on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm except March and July. Info: aacquilters@gmail.com or 805.448.6276.

ALTRUSA OF THE CENTRAL COAST meets at 6PM on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month. Altrusa is an international non-profit organization of men and women that strives to make our local communities better through leadership, partnership and service. For more information and meeting location call our president at 805 478-9243 or go to our website: www.altrusaofthecentralcoast.org.

ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST at The OASIS Center, 420 Soares Ave, Old Orcutt on the second Saturday of each month, 7:45-10am. Adult members: \$7.00, Non-members: \$8.00, Children under 10: \$5.00.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 534 is now open to all members Mondays 4:00-8:00PM Darts at 7PM Fridays 3:00-10:00PM Saturdays 12:00PM – 8:00PM Sundays 10:00AM-6:00PM

ANGELS FOSTER CARE is looking for families in Santa Maria and Orcutt who want to make a difference in the life of a local foster baby or toddler. There are approximately 350 children in foster care in Santa Barbara County. About 40% of those children are under the age of six and roughly 75% live in and around Santa Maria. We want to ensure there is a stable family ready for every infant and toddler who needs a home. To learn more about becoming an Angels Foster Care parent, please visit www.angelsfostercare.org or call 805-884-0012.

Letter to the Editor

OIL WELL ABANDONMENT CONCERNS

Dear Editor:

On May 16, 2022, a bid issued by the CA Dept. of Conservation was issued to cap 171 abandoned oil wells, related facilities, and piping from the Cat Canyon area near Orcutt. The five bids submitted range in value from \$39M to \$195M. Upon closer inspection of the bid documents, it has come to our attention that the “low bidder” is unlicensed to perform the work. Specifically, they do not have the HAZ license issued by the Contractor State License Board, and required in the solicitation itself, to perform work related to hazardous materials handling (contaminated soil, etc.). **The State

however has refused to review a protest to the bid results detailing said issue.

Given that this work is all to be conducted in Santa Barbara County, and within sensitive natural areas, it is imperative that the State accept and review the protest submitted.

Moving forward with an unlicensed contractor will ultimately cost California taxpayers more in project costs, incomplete work, and creating additional negative effects on the environment.

Please let Dept. of Conservation representative Benjamin Brown know of your concern about this important matter. He can be reached at 916-858-9277.

Sam Vasquez

Classified Ads

Sell items for free. Free ads can only be accepted via email to info@orcuttpioneer.com with “classified” in the subject line. 25 word limit. All ads must be received by the second Thursday of the month and will appear on the fourth Thursday of the month. Business ads only \$25/25 words. Mail payments for business ads to Orcutt Pioneer, PO Box 2545, Orcutt CA 93457.

Lawn Care. Liability insured, bi-monthly residential & commercial, one time cleanup, miscellaneous jobs, weed clearing, free estimates. Jim Reid 805-938-1402 Lic #36524

Wanted: Model A Ford Cars, Parts, Projects. Let me help clean out your garage. Jay McCord 805-598-8133

Shadowsfund, Senior and Pit Bull Rescue in Lompoc is looking for volunteers and dog walkers. Shadowsfund@gmail.com

Wanted, old fence boards. Will pick-up or dismantle. 805-937-7023 Monty.

Craftsman sabre saw; electric, 120V, 60Hz, model 135.17241, with case and manual. \$25.00. (805) 937-3582

Drillmaster cordless drill; 18V, model 66965 with manual. \$25.00. (805) 937-3582

Community Garage Sale: Village of Northpoint HOA – 8/13 & 8/14, 8 am – 2 pm. Off of Hummel Drive between Foster Road and Union Valley Parkway.

All natural Birch Round Table 22" diameter x 23 1/2" tall, like brand new very smooth finish attractive base \$38 805 720-2127

LG Washer 5.5 cu ft model #WT7700HWA large tub, white, direct drive, no belts \$600 obo 805-260-8440, leave message

Day bed-\$60; Queen Mattress Frame-\$15; 35"W,19"T,17"D, TV Cabinet with TV- \$25; Skeet Thrower, \$20. 805-332-3027

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Craftsman impact screwdriver, cordless; model 900.11458, with manual. \$25. (805) 937-3582.

Drillmaster cordless drill; 18V, model 66965 with manual. \$25. (805) 937-3582.

Antique wash basin. White ironstone by Homer Laughlin. \$25. (805) 937-3582.

Glass decanter with glass stopper. Elegant swirl pattern. \$25. (805) 937-3582.

Wedding Officiant/DeeJay/Emcee 35+ years exp. Weddings, car shows, parties, dances, corporate events. James Jepsen's Borrowed Time Entertainment 805-878-1739



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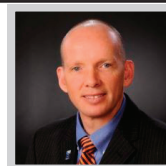
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SPECIAL DAYS

Wed July 13 **5 Before 5**
All Admissions \$5.00 before 5pm
Hours: 3pm-10pm

Thur July 14 **5 Before 5**
All Admissions \$5.00 before 5pm
Hours: 3pm-10pm

Fri July 15 **Agriculture & Cattlemen's Day**
Sponsored by Gold Coast Toyota Dealers
Free Admission for Youth (6-11)
Hours: 12pm-10pm

Sat July 16 **Military & Law Enforcement Day**
Sponsored by Mechanics Bank
Hours: 12pm-10pm

Sun July 17 **Fiesta Day**
Sponsored by Telemundo
Hours: 12pm-10pm

ATTRACTIONS

- * Cook's Racing Pigs
- * Petting Zoo (brought to you by Community Bank of Santa Maria)
- * Helm & Sons Amusement Carnival
- * Chef Landry's Cajun Comedy Show
- * The SUN Extreme Sports Zone
- * Kiddie Kave (Separate Ticket Required)
- * Raw Hide Train (brought to you by Jacks All American Plumbing)
- * Skip Banks, The Balloon Man
- * Tyzen, The Comedian Hypnotist

TICKETS

PRE-SALE TICKETS

On sale June 10 - July 10 at: Santa Maria Fairpark, Farm Supply, & La Miramar Stores & Online

Adults (12-61).....\$13
Seniors (62+).....\$10
Youth (6-11).....\$10
One Day Unlimited Ride Carnival Wristbands.....\$30
(Available Online Only)

ON-SITE TICKETS

Adults (12-61).....\$15
Seniors (62+).....\$12
Youth (6-11).....\$12
Kids 5 and under are always free
One Day Unlimited Ride Carnival Wristbands.....\$40

MICHELOB ULTRA MINETTI ARENA

Fri & Sat July 15-16 **The Raha FMX Motocross Show**
(Separate Ticket Required)

Sun July 17 **Fiesta Day Hispanic Concert**
(Separate Ticket Required)

ONLINE TICKETS
www.SantaMariaFairpark.com

Santa Maria Fairpark
Home of the Santa Barbara County Fair



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SantaMariaFairpark.com

