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AirFest Comes to Santa Maria Public Airport



Waller Park Asks Visitors Not to Feed the Ducks

As of last month, the time-honored tradition of feeding the ducks at Waller Park is no longer allowed. But don't let this news get you down because it's for a very good reason.

Signs have been posted all around the park warning against feeding the wildlife. At the bottom, visitors are reminded that this feeding is actually illegal and will lead to fines, but the main goal of the signs appears to be educating the park-going public on the reasons behind the ban.

"To improve pond quality and to avoid harming wildlife, we ask that you do not feed the wildlife," the sign reads. It then goes on to outline seven reasons why refraining from tossing bread crumbs and other snacks into the water and onto the ground is better for the ducks, geese, small birds, squirrels, and other animals that roam the grounds.

Since feeding tended to occur in several main areas, this created a concentration of wildlife which can lead to damage of the park's roads, plants, and ponds.

In addition, as the signs explain, "wildlife who depend on people for food often lose their fear of people and become aggressive. They may chase and bite, especially children. They may beg and steal food or garbage and become a nuisance."

Think the ducks want your leftover croutons? Turns out most of what park visitors feed the wildlife has very few nutrients and "causes weak muscles, deformed bones, less ability to escape predators, and shorter life expectancy."

North County Parks Operations Manager Dan Pedersen says the signs have been working well so far and that for the most part people are respecting the rules. As to the question of whether or not Waller Park will ever adopt an alternate, park-approved feeding program for visitors, Pedersen says, "I don't see any changes in the future at this point."

Rebecca Ross reporting

The headliner of the October 6-7 Central Coast AirFest is the Canadian Forces Snowbird.

October is set to arrive with its usual traditions: the falling of leaves and the carving of pumpkins, the surplus of candy and costume creativity. In the Orcutt area, the month will also bring a possible new tradition — the Central Coast AirFest.

The inaugural event will feature aircraft demonstrations and displays on Oct. 6-7 at the Santa Maria Public Airport.

The Canadian Forces Snowbirds are headlining the show in their only aerobatic performance in California for 2018. The Snowbirds, who are in their 48th season, are celebrating the 60th anniversary of the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), a Canada and U.S. organization which provides aerospace warning, aerospace control and maritime warning for North America. The last time the team of nine aircraft visited the Central Coast was in 2002

at Vandenberg Air Force Base.

"It's a big deal for our area to be able to lock them down," Chris Kunkle, event coordinator and vice president of operations at the Central Coast Jet Center, said.

Additionally, more than 40 aircrafts will be on display including the Lockheed P-38 Lightning, a World War II-era fighter plane.

Cal Poly graduate Eric Tucker will perform a comedy routine with his Piper J-3 Cub, where he will attempt to land it on top of a moving ambulance. Sammy Mason, who was the youngest air show pilot in the world at age 16, will do aerobatics in his biplane.

"We have a lot of people in the aviation world coming to town that are top notch," Kunkle said.

A kid zone, beer garden, food vendors, music and more are also on the agenda.

Two things put Orcutt and the Santa Maria

area on the map — oil and aviation, according to Kunkle. The event is an important reflection of that.

"It's an area built on aviation," Kunkle said.

The last show at the Santa Maria Airport was Thunder Over the Valley in 2015. Because of military cut backs, it ended then. The Central Coast AirFest is a completely unrelated event.

"It's a new team and the whole goal is to bring the community together in one event," he explained.

The show takes place on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday between 11 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

For more information, visit centralcoastairfest.com.

Jamie Guista reporting

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Landscape Art in Old Orcutt Gets a Colorful Upgrade

Several years ago, Danny George, Orcutt's local landscape contractor, created a collage of 21 white window frames and shutters along the fence at the corner of Clark Avenue and Gray Street in Old Town Orcutt. A short time later, he added the whimsical "Bird House Condominium" to the artwork.

Danny recently met Lynnae Lynne, an artist and children's art teacher, and they decided to paint the white frames with a warm 5-color palette, and plant lantanas and grasses around the corner display. They added a painted red wagon on a flagstone from the Rock Depot of Alamos with stepping stones leading up to the wagon. The new color scheme was expanded to include the eclectic artistic wall of the Old Town Market across the street. Danny and Lynnae said, "This is a gift we were inspired to give from our creative hands to our sweet town, for all to enjoy for many years."

Family and friends gathered in early September for a ribbon cutting to celebrate "phase 2 installation" as the two affectionately call the focal point of Clark Avenue in Old Town Orcutt.



Lynnae Lynne and Danny George celebrate at the ribbon cutting for their landscape art in Old Orcutt.



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Orcutt's Tupperware Lady, Wendy Knapp, Featured in Nationwide Catalog



For the last seventy years, kitchen cupboards all across the country have had one thing in common: Tupperware. Maybe you grew up drinking from Bell Tumblers.

Maybe you received a set of Wonderlier bowls as a wedding gift. Maybe you yearned for the Play Date Party Set. Whatever the piece, Tupperware supplied the containers for our domestic hopes and dreams. And who delivered this homemaking staple? The local Tupperware lady, of course.

Tupperware consultants in Orcutt have come and gone, but Wendy Knapp has stayed the course for 34 years and was recently featured in Tupperware's fundraising catalog.

"What I love most about my Tupperware career of 34 years is helping and meeting new people," Knapp wrote. "I'm so proud of the quality products and the ability to sell a product that has been endeared and admired by millions for 70 years, and my husband, John,

has been a huge supporter of my business."

With four children and four grandchildren, Knapp values the freedom and flexibility her career affords as well as the opportunity to give back to local schools, clubs, and organizations in the form of fundraisers. She hosts parties and fundraisers from Carpinteria to Paso Robles, has an eleven representative team, and attends several local car shows and holiday bazaars each year.

"I always say that if you're going to be a sales person you have to love the product and I love the product," says Knapp. She is able to rattle off specials, shipping information, and extensive product details at the drop of a hat, a talent her customers undoubtedly appreciate.

"Tupperware is an all-around great company to work for," says Knapp. "It's the best job in the world. It's changed my whole life."

While the perks don't hurt (incentive trips to Hawaii, Bahamas, Mexico City, and Orlando plus the free car program), it's being part of a family that motivates her. "Some of my best friends are Tupperware people!" she happily proclaims.

To become part of Wendy Knapp's Tupperware family, visit wendyknapp.my.tupperware.com and sign up for her monthly newsletter full of sale specials and more.

Rebecca Ross reporting

Ricky's House of Pizza Celebrates 20th Anniversary

A twenty year anniversary is no small feat in the restaurant business. So what's the secret ingredient? If you ask Ricky's House of Pizza owner Ricky Velasco, it's the customers.

"If you would have told me twenty years ago that we'd still be here I wouldn't have believed it," says Velasco. "But the customers keep us going. We've been able to build up a pretty loyal base of customers and I truly appreciate them."

In July of 1998, Ricky went from pizza shop employee to pizza shop owner when he and his dad Rick decided to go into business together. Now, twenty years later, Ricky's is still a family affair, with various members of the Velasco family regularly pitching in.

Since the very beginning Ricky has considered Orcutt as an extended family and made it a priority to give back by regularly donating to community events and organizations. As a sports fan, he has even offered to hang jerseys from local teams on the walls of the shop.

Though he doesn't eat a lot of pizza anymore (a hazard of spending every day in front of a pizza oven), Velasco says he still loves his own. They make their dough every day and use fresh ingredients. To keep things interesting, new menu items have been added over the



years like the Caprese Pizza, the Carne Asada Pizza, and the Spicy Buffalo Chicken Pizza to compliment the classics like the Ricky's Deluxe and good, old fashioned pepperoni.

Everyone has their favorite Ricky's pizza and Velasco says he has plenty of regulars. In fact, some of them don't even have to give their names when they call because he recognizes their voices and knows exactly what their regular order is! And it was a customer that gave Ricky's the RHOP nickname that adorns the shop's t-shirts and hats.

"I just want to say thank you for twenty years," says Velasco. "Without our customers we wouldn't be here."

Ricky's House of Pizza (open 7 days a week) is located at 4869 S. Bradley Rd. #106 in the Acorn Plaza. For more information, or to view their full menu, visit www.rickyshouseofpizza.com. To place an order, call (805) 938-1126.

Rebecca Ross reporting

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New Coffee Shop, Cups & Crumbs, Set to Open in Old Orcutt

While some business owners may stray away from opening a location near a major corporate competitor like Starbucks, Pam Rowan is certain a new local coffee shop will offer something very unique to Orcutt.

The owner of Coffee a la Cart has partnered with baker Claudia Stine and investor Julie Darrah to bring Cups & Crumbs to the community. The coffeehouse and bakery which will sit on South Broadway in between Jack's in Old Orcutt and the Old Orcutt Barber Shop, is planned to open before Thanksgiving.

"It's just different; I try to do the best I can at what I do and stick with what I'm good at," Rowan explained. "It's really important to me to serve good quality products."

Aside from coffee, Cups & Crumbs will offer breakfast, lunch and dessert, featuring fine ingredients and homestyle baking.

"We're going to serve crepes and nobody in town does crepes," Rowan said. "It will all be homestyle. That's something that isn't really offered often."

Rowan began brewing coffee for the community 16 years ago at First Christian Church. Seven years ago, she started Coffee



a la Cart out of a trailer serving coffee, tea and smoothies to customers at schools, sports games, businesses and more. Eventually, she opened a shop on Vandenberg Air Force Base.

"It's blown into something that I never expected," she said.

She is hoping Cups & Crumbs will provide a special space for Orcutt residents to gather and enjoy something a little different.

"I just love coffee and love serving people," Rowan said.

The Coffee a la Cart trailer and shop will continue to operate.

Jamie Guista reporting

Orcutt's Annual Poker Championship Coming Soon

On October 14th the Texas Hold'em tournament will bring together the best players on the coast to raise operating funds for the programs OASIS provides to the community. Office of 4th District County Supervisor, Peter Adam, serves as this year's "Tournament Sponsor." The Orcutt Poker Championship is being held at a mystery location in the Orcutt area. The location will be revealed Monday, October 8, 2018 to those purchasing tickets. There are a limited number of seats available, and the buy-in, \$55, is a reference to Orcutt's zip code 93455. Tournament champion receives the 2018

Orcutt Poker Champion's personalized jacket and first choice of major prizes. Last year, Orcutt resident, Sandra Brown, defeated over 100 players from as far away as Santa Ynez and Paso Robles to win the championship and the jacket.

Tickets are available online at <http://bit.ly/2wwss2S> (case sensitive) or contact Alicia at (805) 937-9750 ex. 5 email alicia@oasisorcutt.org. This event is organized by Five-Five Productions and the Kiwanis Club of Orcutt, the creative team behind the Old Town St. Patrick's Day Parade.

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Orcutt Schools Update

A New Formula for Teaching Math

Dr. Debbie Blow, Superintendent, OUSD



At a staff development day September 4, Orcutt Union School District teachers and administrators were treated to an in-person presentation by one of the world's foremost experts on math education.

Dr. Jo Boaler, a professor at Stanford University's Graduate School of Education, came to share a revolutionary message. Among her themes: How fast you can compute math problems has little to do with how accomplished a mathematician you can be. Math can be a subject of creativity and inspiration, not just clear-cut algorithms. Mistakes are as important for math learning as getting the right answer.

Boaler's message directly contradicts traditional notions about teaching math. In her world, timed multiplication tests and sheets of repetitive equations need to give way to collaborative math challenges and multiple ways of representing and tackling a single problem.

"Math has gone well beyond memorizing formulas and solving equations," says Orcutt Academy High School math teacher Heather Penk, an admirer of Boaler's who also serves as a regional trainer for College Preparatory

Mathematics (CPM). "The math has to go beyond the procedural into problem solving and critical thinking. It's about applying math in real-life situations."

During the inservice, Boaler outlined her research and findings in how students learn mathematics. She demonstrated ways in which math problems can be considered in multiple ways (visually, numerically, and verbally). She walked to a corner of the large meeting room and showed the 150-plus teachers in attendance how to do a "number walk." And she guided teachers through a collaborative math challenge that allowed multiple entry points to a solution and allowed extended thinking.

Throughout the day, Boaler repeated her credo that anyone can be a mathematician, and that mistakes don't inhibit learning – they build neural pathways that spark brain development. "Words like 'smart' and 'gifted' can be inhibiting," Boaler said. "Speed is the enemy of the kind of math we want people to be doing."

The audience of teachers and administrators responded well to Boaler's talk.

"Teachers are very excited," says Cher

Manich, a teacher on special assignment who supports teachers at Olga Reed School and the Orcutt Academy. "They appreciated what (Boaler) said about how math learning is not a race – it's a journey. Everyone learns in different ways, and teachers need to help people through the process."

Orcutt's response to Boaler's message is being developed. Teachers will be focusing on number sense, a fluidity with numbers that is foundational to learning higher forms of math. Teachers will continue to assign math problems that can be approached collaboratively and creatively. Staff also are exploring having Boaler return to the Santa Maria Valley for a presentation that parents and community members could attend.

In the end, the new way of teaching math is much more aligned to helping students prepare for college, careers, and life in general.

"Our students of today – we are preparing them for jobs that don't exist," says Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services Dr. Holly Edds, who organized Boaler's visit. "School needs to be more about applying learning in the real world than about learning

discrete content. We need to help our students be innovators, experimenters, and entrepreneurs – where failure and struggling are opportunities to learn. Jo Boaler is helping point us in that direction."

Superintendent Dr. Debbie Blow can be contacted by phone at 938-8900 or by e-mail at dblow@orcutt-schools.net. Follow her on Twitter at @debiblow.

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The P-38 was one of the premier fighting aircraft of World War II, designed to fly as high as bombers and with the same range. Used in both theaters, many a bomber pilot saw his chances of returning to base significantly increased when escorted by one of these powerful aircraft. And many of those pilots were trained right here in Santa Maria.





Second Lieutenant James K. Kunkle who went through P-38 training in Santa Maria was awarded The Distinguished Service Cross during WWII.



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CHP Wants To Hear from Orcutt

From traffic concerns to car seat inspections, California Highway Patrol officer Efreem Moore's mission is to keep the community safe and informed.

In June, Moore became the CHP's first full-time public information officer for the Santa Maria area. Over the past 18 years, he has worked as a dispatcher, commercial officer, vehicle theft investigator, car seat technician and California Motorcycle Safety Program associate.

"I have a wide range of knowledge of the CHP and what we do," he explained.

Orcutt falls under Moore's jurisdiction, where the CHP have a large presence with officers patrolling, issuing citations and responding to accidents.

"Orcutt is our responsibility. We are out there as much as possible," he said.

The heavy traffic and high speeds on Union Valley Parkway is one issue the CHP have recognized and tried to rectify in recent years.

"We have heard complaints and witnessed numerous accidents at that location," Moore said.

As a result, the CHP sent information to Caltrans to work on a solution. Last year, the southbound Highway 101 off-ramp only allowed drivers to turn left from the left lane and right via the right lane. Drivers can now also go straight and right by using the left lane, which has helped alleviate traffic problems, according to Moore.

He encourages Orcutt residents to report traffic concerns and reach out to learn more about safe driving habits. Moore also offers presentations to businesses to provide employees with tools to get through an active shooter situation.

"We just want to be here for the public," he said. "To hear their concerns and take action on them."

To share concerns or schedule an informational session, call the Santa Maria CHP office at 349-8728.

Jamie Guista reporting



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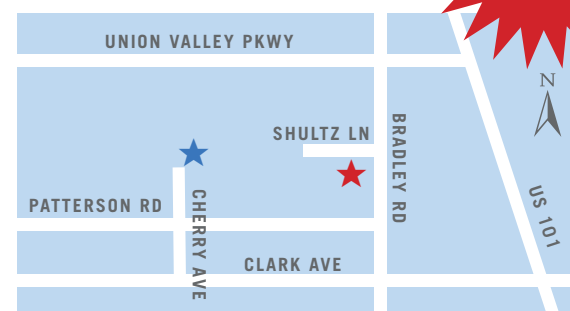
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Community Events

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.

SPECIAL EVENTS

"Muscles Mutt's and Meows" 2nd Annual Car Show to benefit the Santa Barbara County Animal Care Foundation will be held Saturday, October 6 from 10-3 at the Santa Maria Elks Lodge. Food, music and cars. Free admission. Shannon Reynolds (805) 709-0331

St Louis de Montfort annual Family Festival to be held Sunday October 7 from 11-4 at St Louis de Montfort Church. Food, music and fun for all. Free admission. Proceeds to benefit church programs. Information call 805-937-4555.

The Orcutt Lions Club First Friday hamburger fest will also be held on Friday, October 5. Hours are from 5-8PM. Hamburgers or cheeseburgers, plus potato chips, are only \$5.00. Purchase tickets at the door. Sodas and other drinks are available for separate purchase. Come celebrate First Friday at the Orcutt Lions Den, 126 So. Broadway in Orcutt. Only two more First Friday hamburger feasts left this year. So c'mon down.

Friends of the Library Book Sale, Saturday, November 3, 2018, 10AM-1:30PM at Orcutt Public Library, 175 S. Broadway in Old Orcutt, just off Clark Ave. Great selection of books, CDs, DVDs, games in good condition. \$1 (or less) per book. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. All proceeds go to the Library.

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.

ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLIC AND DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY SYSTEMS meets Sundays at 4PM in the conference room of the Marian Extended Care Facility at 1530 Cypress Way off of Palisades and Main. If you have questions, contact Kim at (805) 714-6908.

AA (or Alcoholics Anonymous). If you want to drink, that's your business. If you want to stop, that's ours. Meetings Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 6:30PM Orcutt Presbyterian Church. General information and other meeting times and places, 925-3782.

ALL AMERICA CITY QUILT GUILD meets at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 4380 Orcutt Rd., on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30PM. except March and July. Info: www.santamariaquilters.com or 937-4024.

ALTRUSA OF THE CENTRAL COAST meets at Noon 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 805.835.7627 or go to our website: www.altrusaofthecentralcoast.org.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 534 Breakfast 8-11AM on the first Sunday of each month. Public invited. 145 W. Clark Ave.

AMERICAN LEGION POST Veterans BBQ in Orcutt, 145 W. Clark Ave. 11AM-3PM or until sold out on the third Saturday of each month.

ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST at OASIS Senior Center, 420 East Soares, Old Orcutt on the second Saturday of each month 8-10AM: Adult members \$5, Non members \$7, Children under 10: \$3.

BIBLE STUDY on I & II Corinthians at St. Louis de Montfort. Monday nights 7-8:30PM. For more info contact Steve Stanley 937-1353; Trent Benedetti 937-9625.

BSA Troop 87 in Orcutt. Enjoy outdoors camping, hiking, fishing, snow & water sports, etc. Scouting provides an opportunity to try new things, build self-confidence, provide service to others, and reinforce ethical standards that improve relationships, family lives, and values. ron@enginetech-ca.com

Bilingual worship services at Christian Life every Sunday at 2PM, Unity Chapel of Life church located at 1165 Stubblefield Rd, Santa Maria, CA 93455. 719-660-9789.

CA 0295 TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meets at the Foster Road Church of Christ every Monday evening. Weigh-ins @ 5:30 meeting @ 6PM. (805)2681480

CAMPING LOVE OF ADVENTURE is a non-profit single & adult camping club. We meet for camping outings once a month on second Wednesday for up to a week or less. Elaine @ 805 937-5357

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