


TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
 FROM: MARIO IGLESIAS  
 GENERAL MANAGER   
 DATE: May 5, 2017

**AGENDA ITEM  
 F  
 MAY 10, 2017**

**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

**ITEM**

Standing report to your Honorable Board -- *Period covered by this report is April 23, 2017 through May 6, 2017.*

**DISTRICT BUSINESS**

**Administrative**

The District encourages residents to provide reports of any observed water waste. During the wetter winter months, there are fewer calls about water wasting. Activities for April will be reflected in the May 24 General Manager's Report.

**Office Activities**

	Mar-17	Jul-16/Mar-17
Reports of water waste followed up on	0	2
Leak Adjustments	4	21
Leak Adjustment Amount	\$1,286	\$14,365

**Water Resources**

**1) Total Production (AF)**

	Apr-17	Year to date July-Apr 17
Groundwater Production	73.1	713.9
Supplemental Water Imported	<u>69.7</u>	<u>708.4</u>
Total Production	142.8	1,422.3

In April 2017, NCSD imported 69.7 AF of water over the 30 day period averaging 531 gallons per minute for a daily total of over 765,000 gallons per day. For the ten months, July through April, the District imported 708.4 AF of supplemental water. NCSD is 42 AF over the minimum scheduled take of 666 AF for this time period. For Fiscal Year 2017, NCSD is obligated to take or pay for a minimum of 800 AF from the City of Santa Maria ("CSM"). To import this amount of water, NCSD must average 66.7 AF per month from CSM. NCSD is meeting this target.

**2) Production vs. 23%\* State Reduction Target in Acre Feet (AF)**

	Apr-17	Year-to-Date July-Apr 17
Total Production (Annual Running Average)	142.8	1,422.3
Total Production for 2013	<u>224.0</u>	<u>2,108.0</u>
Reduction	<u>-81.2</u>	<u>(685.7)</u>
Percentage Reduction	36.3%	32.5%
Previous Reduction Target*	<u>23.0%</u>	<u>23.0%</u>
Difference in Percent Reduction vs. Targeted Reduction	<u>13.3%</u>	<u>9.5%</u>

*\*The Governor has lifted the Water Emergency. There is no State mandatory reduction.*

For April 2017, the community's water conservation effort reached 36.3% and for the year, the community reduced its consumption by 32.5% from 2013 consumption levels.

**3) GW Only Production vs. NMMA reduction target for the period (AF)**

	Apr-17	July-Apr 17
Total GW Production (Annual Running Average)	73.1	713.9
Average GW Production for 2009-2013	<u>199.0</u>	<u>2,022.5</u>
Reduction	<u>-125.9</u>	<u>-1,308.6</u>
GW Reduction Percentage	63.3%	64.7%
Target Reduction per NMMA	<u>50.0%</u>	<u>50.0%</u>
Difference in Percent Reduction vs. Targeted Reduction	<u>13.3%</u>	<u>14.7%</u>

Table 3 does not include the 33.3% purveyor credit. Refer to Table 4 for the calculated groundwater pumping reduction NCS D claims for this time period.

**4) NCS D GW Reduction**

The District's purveyor customers, GSWC and WMWC, each claim 16.66% (cumulatively 33.33%) of the imported water NCS D brings onto the basin through the NSWP. Of the 800 AF minimum imported water from the CSM, 266.6 AF will be credited to these two purveyor customers. The credited amount must be added to the District's groundwater pumping total every month to reflect the groundwater pumped by these customers in-lieu of taking imported water from the District.

**4) NCSW GW Reduction (NCSW GW Well Production plus Purveyor Credit) - (AF)**

	Apr-17	July-Apr 17
NCSW GW Well Production	73.1	713.9
Purveyor Customer Credit (33.3% of Import Water)	<u>23.2</u>	236.1
NCSW Total Calculated GW Production	96.3	949.9
Average GW Production for 2009-2013	<u>199.0</u>	<u>2,022.5</u>
NCSW Percentage of GW Reduction	51.6%	53.0%

The District reduced groundwater pumping by 51.6% for the month of April compared to the 5-year average from 2009 to 2013. Taking into consideration the above referenced purveyor customer credit the District can claim a cumulative groundwater pumping reduction for the first ten months of fiscal year 2017 of 53%. At the current Stage IV level of NMMA's Water Shortage Condition and Response Plan, the District must reduce its dependency on groundwater by 50% for the year, a goal the community has achieved.

**Rainfall Gauge**

Rainfall Summary (Reported in inches)	Nipomo East (Dana Hills Reservoirs)	Nipomo South (Southland Plant)
April 2017 Total	3.19	1.74
July-2016 through April-2017 (Seasonal Total)	31.95	23.01
Average Annual Year Rainfall	18	16

**Safety Program**

- No accidents or incidents to report.

**Public Outreach**

- The following Public Outreach Program materials are attached:
  - A summary of recent outreach and education activities
    - District related outreach, advertising and news coverage
    - Press release log
    - Website statistics

**Other Items and News of Interest**

No other items included in this report.

**Supplemental Water Capacity Accounting**

The District is not currently accepting applications for new water service.

<b>Supplemental Water Available for Allocation</b>	500	AFY
<b>Supplemental Water Reserved (Will Serve Letters Issued)</b>	-23.2	AFY
<b>Subtotal Net Supplemental Water Available for Allocation</b>	476.8	AFY
<b>Supplemental Water Assigned (Intent-to-Serve Issued)</b>	-180.4	AFY
<b>Total Remaining Supplemental Water Available for Allocation</b>	296.4	AFY

This information is accurate up to March 31, 2017.

**Connection Report**

The Connection Report is current through March 2017. April data will be presented in the May 24, 2017 General Manager's Report.

Nipomo Community Services District Water and Sewer Connections			
	JAN-17	FEB-17	MAR-17
Water Connections (Total)	4364	4365	4369
Sewer Connections (Total)	3154	3155	3159
New Water Connections	0	1	4
New Sewer Connection	0	1	4
Galaxy & PSHH at Orchard and Division Sewer Connections billed to the County	472	472	472

**Meetings (April 9 through April 22)**

*Meetings Attended (telephonically or in person):*

- April 24, Opterra Solar Farm Site Review
- April 24, SCAC
- April 26, Rotary
- April 26, NCSD Regular Board Meeting
- April 26, Management Team w/ General Counsel
- April 26, Purveyor Managers Meeting
- April 27, Los Primos Properties Settlement Meet
- April 28, JRPS Event Planning Meeting
- April 28, Eng/Admin Bi-monthly Meeting

**Meetings Scheduled (April 23 through April 29):**

- *May 1, Board Officer Meeting*
- *May 2, Public Information Program Update*
- *May 3, Rotary*
- *May 3, NCSD Facility/Water Resource Comm.*
- *May 4, Management Team*
- *May 5, Ad Hoc Comm. – Blacklake Sewer Master Plan*

**Water Resource Meetings**

- *NMMA-TG: May 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 10:00 AM, NCSD Office*
- *RWMG: June 7th @ 10:00 AM, SLO Library*
- *WRAC: June 7th @ 1:30 PM, SLO Library*
- *NMMA Purveyor Meeting: May 18<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00 AM*
- *NCMA/NMMA Managers Meeting: TBD*

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff seeks direction and input from your Honorable Board

**ATTACHMENTS**

- A. Public Outreach Program Materials

May 10, 2017

ITEM F

ATTACHMENT A

**NCSD Outreach Summary  
April/May 2017**

<b>Date Started</b>	<b>Outreach</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Date Completed</b>
10/25/2016	Customer Info Packets	Creation of information packets for new customers	<b>In Progress</b>	
* 4/7/2017	Ad	Spring Cleanup ad in 4/13 Sun	Complete	<b>4/7/2017</b>
3/24/2017	Kids Day	Preparation for District booth at event on 4/8	Complete	<b>4/8/2017</b>
* 4/10/2017	Chamber Email Blast	Conservation Tip for Chamber of Commerce weekly email update	Complete	<b>4/10/2017</b>
* 4/10/2017	Ad	Conservation ad in 4/14 Santa Maria Times	Complete	<b>4/10/2017</b>
4/3/2017	Door Hanger	Door hanger updates	Complete	<b>4/12/2017</b>
* 4/10/2017	E-Newsletter	April E-Newsletter	Complete	<b>4/12/2017</b>
* 4/17/2017	Chamber Email Blast	Conservation Tip for Chamber of Commerce weekly email update	Complete	<b>4/17/2017</b>
* 4/19/2017	Manager's Column	Article for Manager's Column in Sun 4/27, SM Times 4/28	Complete	<b>4/21/2017</b>
* 4/21/2017	Ad	Conservation ad in 4/27 Sun	Complete	<b>4/21/2017</b>
* 4/21/2017	Ad	Conservation ad in 4/28 Santa Maria Times	Complete	<b>4/21/2017</b>
* 4/24/2017	Chamber Email Blast	Conservation Tip for Chamber of Commerce weekly email update	Complete	<b>4/24/2017</b>
5/1/2017	Chamber Email Blast	Conservation Tip for Chamber of Commerce weekly email update	Complete	<b>5/1/2017</b>
4/7/2017	Social Media	Content posting	Complete	<b>5/4/2017</b>
4/7/2017	Website Updates	Home page; minutes; packets; etc	Complete	<b>5/4/2017</b>
2/21/2017	Public Workshop/ Outreach	Coordination of responses and planning for future community meetings for Vista Verde Landscape Maintenance District	<b>Ongoing</b>	
4/1/2017	Rate Study	2017 Rate Study Outreach	<b>In Progress</b>	
4/5/2017	Joshua Pump Station Reservoir Ribbon Cutting	Preparation for Ribbon Cutting event on 5/24	<b>In Progress</b>	
4/28/2017	Ad	Conservation ad in 5/4 Sun	Complete	
5/1/2017	Blacklake Outreach	Blacklake Master Plan Outreach	<b>In Progress</b>	

**NCSD Outreach Summary  
April/May 2017**

<b>Date Started</b>	<b>Outreach</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Date Completed</b>
5/2/2017	Consumer Confidence Report	Creation of 2016 Water Quality Report postcard and report document	<b>In Progress</b>	
5/2/2017	SDLF Award	Preparation of SDLF Transparency Award application for 2017 & 2018	<b>In Progress</b>	
5/4/2017	District Newsletter	2017 2nd quarter newsletter for May distribution	<b>In Progress</b>	

\* Included in Packet



# 'Gifted' unites Evans with a new leading lady

**SARAH COHEN**  
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Chris Evans glows around his new leading lady, who makes no secret of her excitement at hanging out with Captain America. She gushingly talks up his talents ("He can tap dance!"), yet is just as quick to keep him honest when he says something questionable.

She also travels with a selection of stuffed animals, including a plush seal in a pink dress.

Evans' latest co-star is 10-year-old actress McKenna Grace. They star together in "Gifted," a family drama about an unassuming single guy raising his math-prodigy niece, determined not to let her brilliance interfere with her childhood.

Though Evans is an uncle in real life (his eldest sister has three kids, ages 3, 5 and 7), he says he bonded in a different way with McKenna: as colleagues. Evans and "Gifted" director Marc Webb ("The Amazing Spider-Man") saw dozens of girls read for the role, and McKenna stood out with her childlike charm yet old-soul maturity.

"She might as well have an apartment," he said. "I'm telling you, I've met lesser pros in adults."

The 10-year-old actress also a regular on TV's "Designated Survivor" — is the kind of



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chris Evans and McKenna Grace, who co-star in "Gifted," are photographed at the Four Seasons Hotel in Los Angeles. Evans stars as a single guy raising his math-prodigy niece, played by Grace.

professional who asks if she can bring her stuffed seal along while promoting her new film. She also has a plush cat with her at this interview, noting she's allergic to real cats.

McKenna says she isn't a math

whiz like her character in "Gifted." Instead, she feels like she's gifted with a great family and amazing lifestyle.

"This experience is so wonderful and it makes me so thankful for my life. I'm gifted that I have

my family here to support me and that I'm here right now with Chris," she said, adding, "Well, every job could be my last, you know?"

As for Evans' gifts? McKenna's got that covered, too.

"He has lots of secret talents," she said. "He can tap dance! Though he still has not tap danced for me."

Evans sheepishly admits that yes, he does tap dance.

"I'm looking to tap dance in a movie," the actor said. "I want to find one! Maybe an Ice Gene Kelly biopic."

"He can sing and he can tap dance," McKenna declared, putting a point on the subject like a manager might.

The two did a lot of singing on set between takes, she said — mostly 1990s pop-rock.

"Her dad grew up listening to the Presidents of the United States of America, a band back in the '90s," Evans said, "so we would sing 'Peaches' a lot, which was one of the better songs."

Looking at McKenna warmly, he added, "She couldn't actually hear all of their songs because some of their songs have bad words."

McKenna said she and her dad also love watching Marvel movies together, so she already knew about Captain America before working with Evans.

"He's so much more than Captain America," she said. "Civil War" is always (playing) on the plane. And look at it and I'm like, 'Hey, I know him!'"

## Freeman, Caine and Arkin discuss aging as actors

**JAKE COYLE**  
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Morgan Freeman, Michael Caine and Alan Arkin would, alone, be utterly unmissable, make a respectable Mount Rushmore.

One could hardly find a more formidable trio of such overwhelming character. Their voices, alone, are utterly unmissable. Put together Arkin's street-wise Brooklyn

accent, Caine's nasally Cockney cadence and Freeman's deep Mississippi timbre and you'd have the most colorful radio play ever assembled.

Or you would have "Going in Style," a new old-guy buddy-comedy that teams the contemporaries (Caine is 84, Arkin is 83 and Freeman is 79) for the first time. A remake of the 1979 comedy with George Burns, Art Carney and Lee Strasberg, the three play retired factory workers who, after having their pensions taken away, decide to rob a bank.

Freeman and Caine have made a few movies together (the "Dark Knight" films, "Now You See Me") and are friendly. But as Caine points out, there are divisions. Freeman lives in Mississippi and Caine in London.

"And he's a golfer," Caine says. "I can't play golf. I was great in friends with Sean Connery until he learned how to play golf on 'Goldfinger.'"

### REVIEW

## 'Gifted' is heartfelt, but a little too good to be true

**KATH WILSON**  
Times News Service

It often seems that Hollywood filmmaking trends too often to the "more is more" philosophy: more special effects, more stars, more spectacle. Alternatively, there's the micro budget "less is more" of the indie scene. Like Goldfish, you might be looking for something not more or less, but "just right." "Gifted" is a rare example of the kind of midbudget family dramas that used to populate movie theaters but are now hard to come by. It even stars the class president of cinematic spectacle, Captain America himself.

Chris Evans, putting down the star-embellished shield, demonstrates his chops beyond the "Avengers" universe in this exceedingly pleasant tale of a young prodigy and the uncle who encourages her to just be a kid. The story is an amalgamation of familiar story tropes and character types — the custodial courtroom drama, the precocious whiz-kid, the odd couple, unconventional



20TH CENTURY FOX

McKenna Grace and Chris Evans in a scene from "Gifted."

parent-child relationship. It executes all of these elements very well, with a distinct sense of wry sweetness throughout, thanks to director Marc Webb, known for "(500) Days of Summer." Evans anchors the film as Frank, opposite the

preternaturally talented McKenna Grace, already an industry vet at age 10, as his niece Mary. They share a cheerfully relaxed shaggy dog existence in Tampa, Florida, replete with boat trips, a one-eyed cat named Fred and a beloved neighbor, Roberta (Octavia Spencer). When Frank sends Mary to

### Focus Your Eyes On Heaven

Life is meaningless without God - "vanity of vanities, saith the Preacher, vanity of vanities: all is vanity" (Ecc1:2) Our eyes need to be focused upon heaven. Colossians 3:2 says, "Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth." Abraham had his eyes focused on heaven - "For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God."

(Heb.11:10) We do this by "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." (Heb 12:2) Don't allow a few negative things to monopolize your attention. If Christ is our Lord, we will always have more good in our life than bad.

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Phone see 'GIFTED', Page C3

**'Gifted'**

STARS: Chris Evans, McKenna Grace, Octavia Spencer, Lindsay Duncan, Jenny Slate

RATED: PG-13; 101 minutes

THEATER: Edwards 14

2 1/2 stars out of 4

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**NIPOMO**

Nipomo Community Services District

# Clean~Up Week

## April 17 – 21, 2017

### Rules & Regulations

#### CLEAN-UP WEEK

A community service provided free to single family residential customers of South County Sanitary Service.

#### ON THE CURB

Place your Clean-Up Week garbage on the curb no later than 6:00am on your regular garbage collection day. Don't block your waste wheelers, we still run automated trucks.

#### CONTAINER NOTES

Clean-Up Week garbage may be placed in standard trash cans or tied into bundles.

#### MORE CONTAINER NOTES

Standard trash containers will be emptied and left on the curb. Boxes and plastic bags will be taken away with your garbage. If you want your non-standard containers left behind, please mark or place a note on them.

#### CONTAINER SIZE

Containers or bundles of garbage must weigh 75 pounds or less and must measure four feet or less in overall length. No hazardous materials will be taken.

Garbage, greenwaste, & recycling combined for 12 cans, bags, or bundles plus your waste wheelers. Excess garbage will be left on the curb.

TWELVE standard trash cans (32 gallons each) OR the equivalent in bags, boxes, or bundles. Each not to exceed 75 pounds and four feet in length

#### BULKY ITEMS (PLEASE CALL FIRST)

The following special prices are valid only during Clean-Up Week. Items must be on the curb to qualify for these special prices. You must call one week before your collection day.

\$10 EACH -LIMIT TWO OF EACH. OVERLY LARGE ITEMS REQUIRING TWO MEN TO HANDLE WILL HAVE ADDITIONAL COST BY QUOTE ONLY  
 Televisions • Water Heaters • Couches • Washers • Dryers • Small Appliances • Chairs • Box Springs • Mattresses • Refrigerators • Overstuffed Chairs • Metal Items  
 Passenger Car Tires (maximum of 4)

TO ARRANGE FOR PICKUP OF BULKY ITEMS (NOT FREE)

you must first call 489-4246

Bulky items will not be picked up unless you call 489-4246

**DON'T PUT OUT YOUR TRASH UNTIL YOUR COLLECTION DAY**



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# THE HOPE OF Easter

Saturday, April 15 - 6:00 pm  
 Sunday, April 16 - 9:00 & 10:45 am

Children's Activities & Nursery Care  
 provided for all Services

## PACIFIC CHRISTIAN CENTER

3435 Santa Maria Way - Santa Maria  
 805.934.3491 - pacifcchristian.net  
 Rick Bloom, Lead Pastor

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# HAPPY Easter

**EASTER BUNNY ARRIVES  
 APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup> – 15<sup>TH</sup>**

#### VISITING HOURS:

Monday – Thursday: .....3pm – 7pm  
 Friday – Sunday: .....12pm – 7pm

**PICTURE PACKAGES START AT \$20**



**SANTA MARIA  
 Town Center**

**From:** Nipomo Chamber of Commerce <info@nipomochamber.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 12, 2017 10:16 AM  
**To:** Jessica Matson  
**Subject:** Weekly News - April 12, 2017



**Nipomo**  
CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE

**Weekly News** **April 12, 2017**



**Mixer Tomorrow**

Join us Thursday, April 13th at the DANA Cultural Center for the April Mixer. The event will be held in the Visitor's Center which is currently under construction.

Come see a brand new view of the Rancho, hear about our future and enjoy food & drink from 5-7 pm.

**For Info Contact:**

Board of Directors  
[admin@nipomochamber.org](mailto:admin@nipomochamber.org)

**Chamber Hours**

By Appointment

239 W. Tefft St.  
Nipomo, CA 93444

Office: 805.929.1583

Fax: 805.929.5835

[info@nipomochamber.org](mailto:info@nipomochamber.org)

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## SAVE WATER, SAVE MONEY!

For tips go to our website: [www.ncsd.ca.gov](http://www.ncsd.ca.gov) or social media   /NipomaCSD



Spring Garden Tour

## Nipomo Native Garden

### Spring Garden Tour

### Sunday - April 23rd 1 PM - 4 PM

Please join us for a delightful afternoon - Garden Tours, Free Talks, Children's Program

#### Free Talks

1:30 Controlling Gophers in the Garden.  
Gopher biology, habits, hearsay

2:00 Using Drought Tolerant Native Plants  
in the Garden

3:00 Controlling Gophers again - a popular subject



Blue Dicks

- Children's Garden Program -  
Kids can enjoy the regular activities  
available in the Children's  
Garden - the sandbox,  
the wishing tree,  
hopscotch, and looking  
for insects and other  
critters in the Bug House



Like Oak catkins

#### In addition

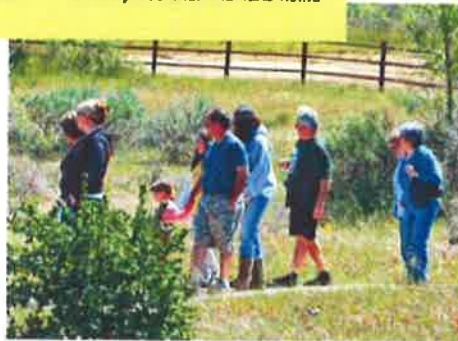
Puppet making: All the fixings  
available to make your own puppet

Flower Pounding: Kids can make  
a lovely bookmark to take home

#### Refreshments

Info or Questions?  
Cindy Jelinek  
Tel: 929-3589 or  
[Nipomonativegarden.org](http://Nipomonativegarden.org)

Parking at the Garden -  
Camino Caballo & Osage



Spring Garden Tour

## Bomb

From A1

throughout the Iraq war. It is designed to hit softer targets such as surface facilities, tunnel entrances and troop concentrations. It is pushed out the rear of the launching aircraft, guided to its target by GPS and slowed by a parachute. A separate non-nuclear weapon known as the Massive Ordnance Penetrator, or MOP, which is larger in its physical dimensions but carries a smaller load of conventional explosives, is designed to take out deeply buried targets like reinforced bunkers. The MOP has never been used in combat.

In its 2003 review of the legality of using the MOAB, the Pentagon concluded that it could not be called an indiscriminate killer under the Law of Armed Conflict.

"Although the MOAB

weapon leaves a large footprint, it is discriminate and requires a deliberate launching toward the target," the review said. It added: "It is expected that the weapon will have a substantial psychological effect on those who witness its use."

Adam Stump, a Pentagon spokesman, said the bomb was dropped from a U.S. MC-130 special operations transport. He said the bomb had been brought to Afghanistan "some time ago" for potential use.

Army Gen. John W. Nicholson, commander of U.S. forces in Afghanistan, said in a written statement that the strike was designed to minimize the risk to Afghan and U.S. forces conducting clearing operations in the Achin area "while maximizing the destruction" of ISIS fighters and facilities. He said ISIS has been using improvised explosive devices, bunkers and tunnels

to strengthen its defenses. "This is the right mission to reduce these obstacles and maintain the momentum of our offensive against ISIS-K," he added, using the U.S. military's acronym for the IS affiliate.

Ismail Shinwari, the governor of Achin district, said the U.S. attack was carried out in a remote mountainous area with no civilian homes nearby and that there had been no reports of injured civilians. He said there has been heavy fighting in the area in recent weeks between Afghan forces and IS militants.

White House spokesman Sean Spicer said IS fighters had used the tunnels and caves in Achin to maneuver freely.

"The United States takes the fight against ISIS very seriously and in order to defeat the group, we must deny them operational space, which we did," Spicer said.

## Registry

From A1

cultivation operations or intended future medical or nonmedical cannabis operations in the unincorporated areas of the county through the online registration tool.

Individuals interested in future commercial cannabis enterprises, who are not currently operating but have a site and the intent to cultivate or manufacture cannabis or cannabis-based products, also can register with the program through June 30, officials said.

Program goals include:

- Collecting data on past, current and planned cannabis cultivation or related operations in the county's unincorporated areas.
- Informing future cannabis studies, including but not limited to a California Environmental Quality Act

environmental impact analysis and, possibly, a separate economic impact analysis.

- Establishing a pool of registrants that may receive priority review if they submit an application for the cultivation of cannabis or related cannabis operations.

Earlier this month, the Board of Supervisors adopted an ordinance establishing a limited term, nonpersonal cannabis cultivation and related operations registry program for the unincorporated areas of the county in response to voters passing Proposition 64 in November 2016.

Prop. 64 permits adult recreational use of marijuana, although the supervisors have discretion in allowing or prohibiting various cannabis-related business activities, including the establishment of local regulations, business licensing and land-use permitting.

Local rules will be established in combination with state regulation and licensing through California's medical cannabis statutes and the statutes provided through Prop. 64, according to county officials.

An ad hoc committee recently formed to research, establish and monitor cannabis operations locally will host its first public meeting from noon to 2 p.m. April 25 to receive and provide input regarding medical and recreational marijuana regulation.

The meeting will be held in the Santa Barbara County Planning Commission Hearing Room, on the first floor, at 105 E. Anapamu St. in Santa Barbara.

April Charlton covers Santa Barbara County for Lee Central Coast Newspapers. Follow her on Twitter @WordsDown.



Zodiac Aerospace workers finish off a fence art mural in the kindergarten playground during the company's Give and Grow "Create" project at Ontiveros Elementary School on Thursday.

## Ontiveros

From A1

Faulk said the Give and Grow foundation was created by Zodiac to give working people ways — and time — to make a difference in the community.

"With over 100 people here, we're making an impact on the community," she said.

One volunteer, Carlos Alejandro, quality inspector at Zodiac Aerospace, said he volunteered because he wanted to do just that — give back.

Alejandro spent the day with several co-workers outlining and painting the school's mascot onto the outdoor stage at the campus.

"Kids have walked by and said 'thank you,'" he said. "It's gratifying to know that the kids will get to enjoy what we did here."

Faulk explained another purpose behind Give and Grow's projects is to let students know they have a community that cares about them.

"This is their home," Faulk said, referring to the students of Ontiveros.

She added that having a beautiful campus helps



Zodiac Aerospace workers install benches for a new outdoor classroom during the company's Give and Grow "Create" project at Ontiveros Elementary School on Thursday.

students feel excited when they come to school, bolstered by the knowledge that the community cares about their education. Beautifying their campus, she said, gives them a sense of pride in where they attend school.

Hawke expressed the same sentiment when he explained the reasoning behind the school's application for the Give and Grow project grant.

Beautifying Ontiveros will enhance the educational environment and create a sense of pride throughout the school, Hawke explained, adding that strong pride in its campus

enhances the true sense of ownership the students take in the school.

As the day carried on, teachers at Ontiveros took their classes on tours of the newly spruced-up campus and encouraged students to say "thank you" to the volunteers around the school.

With a grin, second-grader Arturo Flores said, "I really appreciate that they did this hard work for our school."

Krista Chandler covers education in Santa Maria for Lee Central Coast News. Follow her on Twitter and Instagram @KristaBea.

## Syria

From A1

The SDF, meanwhile, announced the launch of a new phase of its campaign to retake Raqqa. The Kurdish fighters, with U.S.-led air and ground support, have surrounded Tabqa, some 40 kilometers (25 miles) southwest of the city and are working to clear Islamic State militants out of Jabal Valley, north of Raqqa.

The SDF says it wants to isolate Raqqa before attacking it. Its closest position is less than eight kilometers (five miles) northeast of the city. But the countryside south of Raqqa is still under IS control.

Meanwhile, President Bashar Assad said a chemical weapons attack on a rebel-held town in northern Idlib province last week that was widely blamed on his forces was a "fabrication."

"Our impression is that the West, mainly the United States, is hand-in-glove with the terrorists," Assad told Agence France-Presse in his first comments since a U.S. missile strike on a Syrian air base in retaliation for the chemical attack.

"They fabricated the whole story in order to have a pretext" to attack the air base, Assad said in the interview, a video of which was released by his office.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Mark Toner called Assad's comments "an attempt by him to throw up false flags, create confusion."

"There can be little doubt that the recent attacks and the chemical weapons attack in Idlib was by the Syrian government, by the Syrian regime and that it wasn't only a violation of the laws of war but it was, we believe, a war crime," Toner said.

Syria strongly denies it was behind the April 4 chemical attack on the town of Khan Sheikhoun, which killed 87 people, including more than a dozen children. The government says Syrian warplanes struck an al-Qaida arms depot that contained chemical weapons.

Syria population transfer begins with exchange of prisoners

BEIRUT — Syria's government and rebels have exchanged more than 30 prisoners and nine bodies, part of a larger agreement to evacuate thousands of residents from four besieged areas in different parts of the country, activists and officials said Wednesday.

The exchange came ahead of the planned evacuation of more than 10,000 residents from two pro-government Shiite villages in northern Syria, Fousa and Kfayra, and the rebel-held towns of Madaya and Zabadani near Damascus.

Critics say the transfer amounts to forced displacement. The four besieged areas have been linked through a series of agree-

ments between government forces and rebels that the U.N. says have hindered aid access.

Hakim Baghdadi, a member of the relief committee for Fousa and Kfayra, said the overnight release was overseen by the Syrian Arab Red Crescent. He said gunfire erupted during the exchange, causing a pause in the process. He provided no further details. The Red Crescent had no immediate comment.

The military-run media said rebels released eight women, four children and eight bodies. Syrian TV later said 20 were released, including four children. Pro-government militias freed 19 gunmen and released one body.

Syrian al-Ikhabariya TV showed newly released women from Fousa and Kfayra, sitting in a room as the TV broadcaster wished them well. A couple of children appeared in the footage drizzling juice.

Videos released by rebel groups showed Red Crescent workers arriving in the rebel-held northern Idlib province overnight to chants of "God is Greatest." Men, some in military fatigues, embraced the released prisoners.

In a video released by Ahzar al-Sham, an ultra-Conservative rebel group, a former prisoner complained of maltreatment. As he finished speaking, a fighter handed him a loaf of bread.

A video from the military media showed the men before they were released as they sat on the floor, next to a pot of a boiling soup. A Facebook page that reports news from Fousa and Kfayra showed the coffin of a Lebanese fighter who fought on the side of the Syrian government, and whose body was released in the exchange.

Nearly 200 buses are to carry out the evacuation, according to the military media and Baghdadi. Abdul-Wahab Ahmad, a media activist from the rebel-held town of Madaya, said the first batch of 20 buses arrived and people are preparing to leave.

The U.N. says hundreds of thousands of Syrians face severe shortages in areas besieged by government forces or Islamic militants. U.N. officials say the sieges amount to a violation of international law, and that evacuation agreements must be voluntary.

# Clean-Up Week

## April 17 - 21, 2017

### Rules & Regulations

**CLEAN-UP SERVICE**  
A community service provided free to single family residential customers of Santa Barbara County Sanitary Service.

**ON THE CURB**  
Place your Clean-Up Week garbage in the curb no later than 6 o'clock on your regular garbage collection day. Don't block your waste wheelchairs, wheelchair or automated trucks.

**CONTAINER NOTES**  
Clean-Up Week garbage may be placed in standard trash cans or tied ric bundles.

**MORE CONTAINER NOTES**  
Standard trash containers will be emptied and left on the curb. Boxes and plastic bags will be taken away with your garbage. If you want your non-standard containers left behind, please mark or place a note on them.

**CONTAINER SIZE**  
Containers or bundles of garbage must weigh 75 pounds or less and must measure four feet or less in overall length. No hazardous materials will be taken.

Garbage, greenwaste, & recycling contained for 12 cans, bags, or bundles plus your waste wheelchairs. Excess garbage will be left on the curb.

TWELVE standard trash cans (32 gallons each) or the equivalent in bags, boxes, or bundles. Each not to exceed 75 pounds and four feet in length.

**BULKY ITEMS (PLEASE CALL FIRST)**  
The following special prices are valid only during Clean-Up Week. Items must be on the curb to qualify for these special prices. You must call one week before your collection day.

\$10 EACH - Large 1700 of each. Other sizes and quantities require a separate call.

Television \* Water Heaters \* Couches \* Washers \* Dryers \* Small Appliances \* Chairs \* Box Springs \* Mattresses \* Refrigerators \* Overstuffed Chairs \* Metal Items \* Prisoner Car Tires (maximum of 4)

TO ARRANGE FOR PICKUP OF BULKY ITEMS (NOT FREE)  
you must first call 489-4246  
Bulky items will not be picked up unless you call 489-4246

**DON'T PUT OUT YOUR TRASH UNTIL YOUR COLLECTION DAY**

### JUMBLE

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MISUN


WOSNY


LCHFV


CATPEK


Now arrange the correct letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's JUMBLE BLAZE RAINY SMOOZY SHOULD Arrive: the molasses warned during the earthquake they took a HORSE AND BULLY

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME  
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Kover

How did you do? This was a performance!

AFTER SCRAMBLING THE ANSWER IS: COLON COLLECT

**Jessica Matson**

---

**From:** Nipomo CSD <info=ncsd.ca.gov@mail126.wdc01.mcdlv.net> on behalf of Nipomo CSD <info@ncsd.ca.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 12, 2017 12:17 PM  
**To:** Jessica Matson  
**Subject:** News from NCSD: When will my water bill go down?



Wednesday, April 12, 2017

[View this email in your browser](#)



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Forward

## **"When will my water bill go down?"**

### **A message from the General Manager**



Saving money and being aware of the environment are signs of the time. If you stop to think about it, money and the environment are directly connected. Reduce your demands on resources from the environment and you'll reduce your cash outlay. Consume less power, save money. Drive fewer miles, save money. All of this seems to make sense until you get to water. Use less water, pay more money. Water seems to buck the trend and it can be exasperating – a term my grandmother used a lot when describing something she just couldn't make sense of.

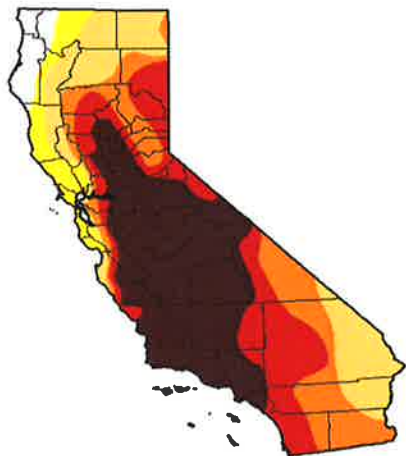
Grandma's not alone on this one. The community did a stellar job meeting the Governor's mandate to cut water use. But water providers up and down the state not only had their water tanks and reservoirs drained, they had their cash reserve funds drained as well. In ironic terms, the proverbial rainy day money, that responsible agencies set aside to take care of unforeseen and unforeseeable problems, dried up.

Now that rain has finally started falling again, people are asking when water rates will start falling. [Read more](#)

## Drought Update: Is it over?

MARCH 29, 2016

MARCH 28, 2017



● ABNORMALLY DRY ● MODERATE DROUGHT ● SEVERE DROUGHT ● EXTREME DROUGHT ● EXCEPTIONAL DROUGHT

SOURCE: US DROUGHT MONITOR

**WATER DEEPLY**

Last Friday Governor Brown [declared](#) an end to the California drought while promoting the State's new program, "[Making Water Conservation a California Way of Life](#)" which requires conservation targets based on local climates. Based on Nipomo's local climate, the District's State-mandated pumping reduction target is 23%.

From 2012 to 2015, California saw some of the driest years in history. State officials are warning residents that another drought could be around the corner. The District is still encouraging customers to make water conservation a way of life. As always, the less you use, the less you pay.

District Board of Directors will review area groundwater levels (Key Wells Index) and the District's Water Shortage Response and Management Plan later this spring/early summer.

[Read the Sacramento Bee's article regarding the Declaration.](#)

## Conservation Update

The District's conservation efforts remain steady exceeding the State-mandated target of 23%.

In March, the District produced 121 acre feet or about 39 Million gallons of water to meet customer demand. This equates to a **34.9% reduction** in overall production compared to March 2013. Additionally, thanks to the arrival of supplemental water in July 2015, groundwater pumping during March was **74% lower** than the 5-year average for March and therefore met the Stage IV 50% pumping reduction target\*.

As always, [saving water saves money!](#)

*\*The District is currently in a Stage IV water shortage in accordance with the [Water Shortage Response and Management Plan](#). Information regarding groundwater levels will be available late spring/early summer.*





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SAVE MONEY!**

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Do Your Part**

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Nipomo Community Services District

# Clean~Up Week

April 17 – 21, 2017

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### ON THE CURB

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### CONTAINER NOTES

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### MORE CONTAINER NOTES

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### CONTAINER SIZE

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### BULKY ITEMS (PLEASE CALL FIRST)

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**\$10 EACH -LIMIT TWO OF EACH.** OVERLY LARGE ITEMS REQUIRING TWO MEN TO HANDLE WILL HAVE ADDITIONAL COST BY QUOTE ONLY  
Televisions • Water Heaters • Couches • Washers • Dryers • Small Appliances • Chairs • Box Springs • Mattresses • Refrigerators • Overstuffed Chairs • Metal Items  
Passenger Car Tires (maximum of 4)

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# Nipomo Native Garden

## Spring Garden Tour

Sunday - April 23rd 1 PM - 4 PM

Spring Garden Tour

Please join us for a delightful afternoon - Garden Tours, Free Talks, Children's Program

### Free Talks

1:30 Controlling Gophers In the Garden.  
Gopher biology, habits, hearsay

2:00 Using Drought Tolerant Native Plants  
In the Garden

3:00 Controlling Gophers again - a popular subject



Blue Dicks

- Children's Garden Program -  
Kids can enjoy the regular activities  
available in the Children's  
Garden - the sandbox,  
the wishing tree,  
hopscotch, and looking  
for insects and other  
critters in the Bug House



Live Oak catkins

### In addition

Puppet making: All the fixings  
available to make your own puppet

Flower Pounding: Kids can make  
a lovely bookmark to take home

### Refreshments

Info or Questions?  
Cindy Jelinek  
Tel: 929-3589 or  
[Nipomonativegarden.org](http://Nipomonativegarden.org)

Parking at the Garden -  
Camino Caballo & Osage



Spring Garden Tour

Rebates Available

**NCS D**

[High-Efficiency Clothes Washer](#), \$75

**County of San Luis Obispo**

[Various Rebates](#)

[Turf Replacement](#) (Cash for Grass)

**We welcome feedback and comments. Reach out to us using one of the links below and feel free to share with others.**



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Website



Email

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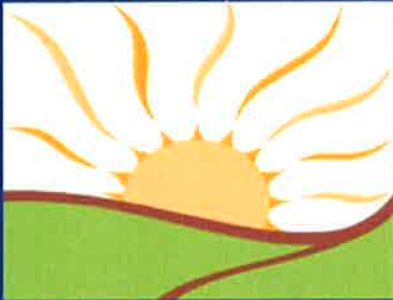
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**Jessica Matson**

**From:** Nipomo Chamber of Commerce <info@nipomochamber.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 19, 2017 12:10 PM  
**To:** Jessica Matson  
**Subject:** Weekly News - April 19, 2017



**Nipomo**  
CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE

**Weekly News**

**April 19, 2017**

**Art in Nipomo**

Your Nipomo Chamber of Commerce is partnering with local groups and artists to make art more prominent and accessible in our community. Our Concerts in the Park series resumes June 18th featuring an artist's enclave and the June Business Mixer will be art based. If you'd like to get involved contact the Chamber for more information. Make sure to scroll down this email to see what else is happening here.

**For Info Contact:**

Board of Directors  
[admin@nipomochamber.org](mailto:admin@nipomochamber.org)

**Chamber Hours**

By Appointment

239 W. Tefft St.  
Nipomo, CA 93444

Office: 805.929.1583

Fax: 805.929.5835

[info@nipomochamber.org](mailto:info@nipomochamber.org)

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Nipomo Community Services District

# Nipomo Native Garden

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Spring Garden Tour

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Camino Caballo & Osage



Spring Garden Tour

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INSIDE NCSD

## **Inside NCSD: Costs are rising – be part of the process!**

Apr 27, 2017 Updated 11 hrs ago

The mission of the Nipomo Community Services District is to provide its customers with reliable, quality, and cost-effective services now and in the future.

The increasing cost of water can be difficult for all of us water consumers but this resource is vital to life and essential to our way of living.

Most of us have grown up with the convenience of having water available at the turn of a tap in the comfort of our homes. While it is possible to conserve water, buying or not buying water is not typically an option. We typically do not have an opportunity to pick who we buy our water from because it's not cost efficient to have more than one water main in the street.

During the Eisenhower years of the 1960s, the average cost of a gallon of milk in the United States was about .50 cents. Today you can spend in excess of \$5 dollars for a gallon of milk depending on the producer and the varied assortment of health additives you choose. The steady increase in the price of milk can be significant when you look over an extended period of time, and time seems to affect the price of almost everything.

Like milk, the cost of water continues to increase. However, if you don't like the price of milk as a consumer you can choose not to buy milk. Water, on the other hand, is essential.

It is clear that water prices are higher today than a year ago, but is the price of water too high? The knee-jerk response may very well be "yes, they are too high." However, consider the fact that Californians are finally at the end of a long dry spell that caused financial hardships to many sectors of the state's economy as well as its residents.

It is fair to say no one was spared the impact brought on by the historic California drought and some areas in the state are still suffering due to groundwater levels that take years to recover. As we try to understand the value of water and put a price on it, we would be wise to remember what is at stake if we have no water and add that variable to the cost equation.



The Nipomo Community Services District is dedicated to minimizing rate increases while providing a level of reliability and availability of this precious resource. To accomplish this, the District is conducting a rate study and you are encouraged to be part of the rate building process.

The public will have an opportunity to hear a presentation of the report at the July 12 board meeting. The district board of directors will be looking to community members and rate payers to provide them with comments, ideas, and suggestions. Public forum dates and times will be announced in the coming weeks. Visit our website at [www.ncsd.ca.gov](http://www.ncsd.ca.gov) for more information and to review the April 12 rate study presentation. Stay engaged in the process and be part of the solution.

Until next time...

Mario Iglesias is the general manager of the Nipomo Community Services District. He can be reached by calling 929-1133 or by email at [info@ncsd.ca.gov](mailto:info@ncsd.ca.gov). For more information, visit <http://nipomocsd.com>. Follow NCSD on Facebook or on Twitter @NipomoCSD.

## Currents



From simple fences to high-tech border walls, a look at the world's barriers



Voices from around the world consider Trump's first 100 days



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Simpsons on Trump's first 100 days

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*Tenor the Musical.*

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**Sun**

direct, actors act, and writers write—but that's not the case across the board. PCPA The Pacific Conservatory Theatre's Brad Carroll can do it all. He directed PCPA's current production, *Lend Me a Tenor the Musical*, but he also co-wrote the play. For the cover story this week, Arts and Lifestyle Writer Rebecca Rose caught up with Carroll to learn the story of his play and how he's realizing it at PCPA [10].

Also this week, the county considers budget cuts to address the looming deficit [7], local disc golfers prepare for the Santa Maria Showdown [17], two *Whose Line is it Anyway?* stars will perform at the Chumash Casino [18], a traveling stilt walker towers over the Strawberry Festival [20], and The Bear and Star is the newest restaurant in Los Olivos [26].



**OUT OF THE CHAIR:** Brad Carroll (center) wears many theatrical hats. He co-wrote *Lend Me a Tenor the Musical* and is now directing the show at PCPA, working closely with fellow resident artists Karin Hendricks (left) and Erik Stein (right).

Joe Payne,  
Managing Editor

Cover photo by Jayson Mellom > Cover design by Alex Zuniga

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**Sun**

This week at santamariatimes.com

Friday

Take a look "Through our Lens" at a gallery of our photographers' great photos taken last week. Did we miss your event? Share your pictures with us on our Facebook page.

Saturday

We know how important the puzzles, games and comics are to our readers. But did you know that we have more of each on our website? Go online and read an entire series, print and play word games, or play right from your desktop, tablet or phone.

Sunday

Get your news your way, sign up for our email newsletter and let us send breaking news and recaps of our latest headlines directly to your inbox. Go to the "eEdition" menu online.

# California says oceans could rise higher than thought

ELLEN HORNBY/REUTERS

**SAN FRANCISCO** — New climate-change findings mean the Pacific Ocean off California may rise higher, and storms and high tides hit harder, than previously thought, officials said. The state's Ocean Protection Council on Wednesday revised upward its predic-

tions for how much water off California will rise as the climate warms. The forecast helps agencies in the nation's most populous state plan for climate change as rising water seeps toward low-lying airports, highways and communities, especially in the San Francisco Bay Area. Discoveries that ice sheets in Antarctica, which holds nearly 90 percent of the world's ice, largely spurred the change. As fossil-fuel emissions warm the Earth's atmosphere, melting Antarctic ice is expected to raise the water off California's 1,100 miles (1,770 kilometers) of coastline even more than for the world as a whole.

"Emerging science is showing us a lot more than even five years ago," council deputy director Jenn Eckert said Thursday. Gov. Jerry Brown has mandated that state agencies take climate change into account in planning and budgeting. The council's projections will guide everything from local decisions on zoning to state action on whether to elevate or abandon buildings near the coast and bays. In the best-case scenario, waters in the vulnerable San Francisco Bay, for example, likely would rise between 1 foot and 2.4 feet (one-third to three-fourths of a meter) by the end of this century, the ocean council said. However, that's only if the world cracks down on climate-changing, fossil-fuel emissions more than it is now. The worst-case scenario entails an even faster melting of Antarctic ice, which could raise ocean levels off California a devastating 10 feet by the end of this century, the state says. That's not 30 times faster than the rate over the last 100 years.

**LOTTERIES**

**Daily 3**  
 ■ Midday: 2-9-1. Evening: 2-9-4  
**Daily 4**  
 ■ 2-7-1-1  
**Daily Derby**  
 ■ 1st: Lucky Star-2nd:12  
 Lucky Charms-3rd:3 Hot  
 Shot, Race Time: 1:47:01.  
 Estimated jackpot: \$140,000.  
**Fantasy 5**  
 ■ 03-08-12-14-17. Estimated jackpot: \$75,000.

**Mega Millions (Tuesday)**  
 ■ 03-13-33-40-50, Mega Ball: 2, Megaplier: 4.  
 Estimated jackpot: \$61 million

**Powerball (Wednesday)**  
 ■ 01-15-18-20-51, Powerball: 26, Power Play: 4.  
 Estimated jackpot: \$113 million

**SuperLotto Plus (Wednesday)**  
 ■ 00-19-28-42-45, Mega Ball: 7. Estimated jackpot: \$33 million

**SANTA MARIA TIMES**

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# Hundreds rally in Berkeley after Coulter talk canceled

**JOCELYN BECKER Associated Press**  
**BERKELEY** — Berkeley, known as the home of the free speech movement, was under heavy police watch on Thursday as hundreds of people waving American flags and chanting "USA" gathered in a park to protest a canceled appearance by conservative commentator Ann Coulter. University police erected barricades and refused to let any protesters enter the campus. Four people were arrested — one for obstructing an officer and wearing a mask to evade police, and another for possessing a knife.



Coulter previously said she was forced to cancel a speaking event at the University of California, Berkeley, although she added that she might still "swing by to say hello" to her supporters, prompting police and university officials to brace for possible trouble. She was not spotted at the rallies.

**ASSOCIATED PRESS**  
Demonstrators gathered around a speaker Thursday in Berkeley. Demonstrators gathered near the University of California, Berkeley campus amid a strong police presence and rallied to show support for free speech and condemn the views of Ann Coulter and her supporters.

Several hundred people gathered for an afternoon rally supporting Coulter at Martin Luther King Jr. Civic Center Park in downtown Berkeley. "It's a shame that someone can't speak in the home of the free speech movement," said Wilson Grafstrom, an

18-year-old high school student from Menlo Park. He wore a military grade helmet with a "Make America Great Again" sticker across the back, goggles, gas mask and knee pads. He blamed Coulter opponents for forcing him to gear up for problems.

Many at the park rally about a mile (1.6 kilometers) from the university's main Sproul Plaza also wore military grade helmets and body armor. Some had "Build That Wall" or Trump stickers across their headgear. One man had duct tape reading "Berkeley" over his mouth. The tension illustrates how Berkeley has emerged as a flashpoint for extreme left and right forces amid the debate over free speech in a place where the 1960s U.S. free speech movement began before it spread to college campuses across the nation. Berkeley student Joseph Pagador, 19, said he was worried about violence and says the university is caught in the middle of the country's political divide. "Both sides are so intolerant of each other. We are a divided country. We need to listen to each other but we're each caught in our own bubbles," he said.

# Lawmakers may require untested rape kit reporting

**SOPHIA SOLLAS Associated Press**  
**SACRAMENTO** — California lawmakers may start requiring police departments

to track the status of rape evidence kits in an effort to reduce the backlog of untested evidence. The state Assembly on Thursday unanimously passed a bill that would require police to report information about rape evidence kits that have been collected by investigators but remain untested. AB 41 now goes to the state Senate. Rape kits are used to gather

and preserve evidence after victims say they have been sexually assaulted. The kits contain DNA evidence collected during an examination of the victim that can last hours and can be "extremely invasive," said Assemblyman David Chiu, the bill's author. Chiu has said there are more than 6,000 untested rape kits in California but no comprehensive data on how many are collected and why

some have not been tested. The San Francisco Democrat says his bill would help decrease untested kits by requiring police to report them. "I hope that the injustice of the situation is obvious," he said. "When a rape kit remains untested, it re-traumatizes survivors and allows criminals to roam free." Under the bill, police would send information on the kits to the California Department of Justice, which would submit annual reports to lawmakers. The information would help officials determine why there is a backlog and how it can be improved, Chiu said. The requirements would apply for kits collected starting next year. Opponents of Chiu's bill have argued the reporting requirements are too burdensome for police departments.

## Puzzle solutions for page C4

C	O	W	N	S	C	A	B	T	O	S
G	R	A	I	P	O	L	E	S	A	O
N	E	I	M	R	I	F	F	R	A	F
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G	R	A	S	P	A	L	I	T		
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F	A	N	H	O	C	K	E	T	O	S
O	D	E	Y	L	O	R	S	D	E	W

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**Nipomo Firefighters' Annual Bar-B-Que**

Sunday, April 30 - 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
 Von's parking lot - 520 W. Telfer St., Nipomo

Shish sandwich tickets are available at either Nipomo Fire Station (450 Porteur Ave. or 2391 Willow Rd) or from any NFA member.

Funds raised will benefit the community with safety education and will assist Nipomo paid call firefighters with training costs and additional equipment.

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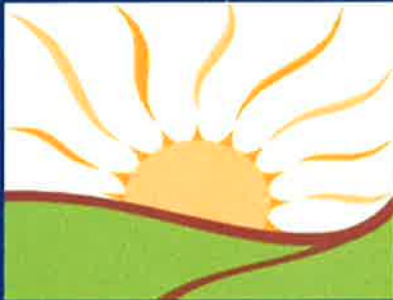
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**Weekly News**

**April 26, 2017**

### Monthly Luncheon

Tomorrow's Luncheon at Blacklake offers great food and a chance to network with local business leaders. The presentation will be a discussion of the myriad needs in our community, the structure of County Government and what we can all do to make the South County a better place to live. Please register and purchase your tickets on the [Nipomo Chamber](#) website.

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Board of Directors

[admin@nipomochamber.org](mailto:admin@nipomochamber.org)

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# The heart behind 'Guardians' vision

**LIBBYE BAHN**  
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — "Guardians of the Galaxy" was just the warm-up.

Two years ago, writer and director James Gunn and his cranky, lovable band of multihued misfits in space seemed like a sort of gamble for the Earth-bound Marvel Studios and its ever-growing plans for total multiplex domination. Star Lord wasn't exactly a household name, and neither was Chris Pratt.

Now as "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2" prepares for launch in North American theaters on Friday, the story is quite different.

"Guardians of the Galaxy" was a huge critical and financial success, grossing over \$773 million worldwide. Pratt became an international star and Gunn was given the green light to do what he wanted once more — making "Vol. 2" as weird and wild and idiosyncratic as his imagination would allow. Many reviewers have already called "Vol. 2" better than the

first, the monosyllabic Baby Groot is already a breakout star and it's headed for a possible \$140 million to \$150 million opening weekend.

"So many sequels are not good," Gunn said. "We really tried to let these characters grow and change. ... I didn't want it to be a rehash of the first movie."

Gunn likes to say that "Vol. 2" is an adventure film, a comedy and a space opera tied up into one brightly colored package, but that at its core, it's a family melodrama. A lot of big action and sci-fi films claim to be about family — whether it's the people you're tied to by blood or the ones you choose — but it's often a lot of talk. "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2" might have a talking tree and a wise-cracking, machine-gun-toting raccoon and an unparalleled glee for the art of teasing, but it's also got a big, beating heart that actually hit quite close to home for both Pratt and Gunn.

Pratt's Star Lord/Peter Quill



Chris Pratt, left, who stars in "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2," and the film's writer/director James Gunn are photographed at the London West Hollywood Hotel in West Hollywood.

Please see GUARDIANS, Page C3

## 5 things you don't know about 'Guardians' returns and Baby Groot of 'Guardians'

**SABBY COHEN**  
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Baby Groot was "born" at the end of the first "Guardians of the Galaxy" film, and the extraterrestrial, tree-like creature is a tiny, scene-stealing superhero in "Vol. 2."

Voiced by Vin Diesel, the computer-generated character usually says just one thing — "I am Groot!" — but it means everything, and his intergalactic comrades always seem to understand his (often four-mouthed) message.

Groot — regenerated from the massive tree-like character in the first film — can grow his arms and legs into twisted branches that can open doors and drawers and pull him into and out of



Groot, voiced by Vin Diesel, in a scene from "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2."

flight spots, but here are five things you don't know about the woody humanoid:

1. Groot apparently took on various duties behind the camera. Stay tuned through the closing credits of "Guardians, Vol. 2"

Please see BABY GROOT, Page C3

**JAKE COVLE**  
Associated Press

In James Gunn's sequel to his swashbuckling space Western, the Guardians of the Galaxy do the version of "The Empire Strikes Back," complete with daddy issues but with a considerably more anarchic spirit and enough acerbic interplay among its interstellar gang to make Obi-Wan blush.

The wild whiz-bang of the first "Guardians" and its gleeful spending of superhero conventions was, I thought, not the second-coming others felt it was. Having sat through a meteor shower of imposingly well-made Marvel products, the too-pleased-with-itself "Guardians"



Chris Pratt, left, and Dave Bautista in a scene from "Guardians Of The Galaxy Vol. 2."

fell to me like an intensely scripted politician trying to smugly crack wise.

When the motley crew of scavengers reunites in "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2," many of its tricks — the anachronistic '70s hits, the emphatically foul-mouthed creatures — are not the sneak attack they were in 2014. But that turns out to be a good thing. No longer so busy advertising his movie's genre transgressions, Gunn, who wrote and directed the

sequel, is free to swim back-stroked through his cosmic, CGI-spiced gambos. (It's a soupy, silly spectacle that recalls, if nothing else, the weird, kaleidoscopic design of a Parliament-Funkadelic album cover. Gunn's film also shares George Clinton's goofy extravagance (and includes his song "Flashlight"), and a neon-colored cast with its own Mothership.)

There are two types in the universe, Dave Bautista's muscle-mound Drax declares early on. "Those who dance and those who do not," in the "Guardians" universe, which blithely mocks just about everything, this is close to a mission statement. Whereas the first film featured Chris Pratt's Peter Quill on a far-away planet bopping to Redbone's "Come and Get Your Love," the early scenes of "Vol. 2" find the Guardians battling some giant

monster while Baby Groot — the extraterrestrial tree turned sapling (voiced by Vin Diesel) — grooves to ELO's "Mr. Blue Sky."

The "Guardians" universe, made up of such whimsies and oddities, worships at the altar of incongruity. Referenced within are "Cheers," Mary Poppins, Looking Glass' "Brandy (You're a Fine Girl)," David Hasselhoff and Fleetwood Mac's "The Chain." It's the kind of wacked-out lapastry that even Lindsay Buckingham would find head-spinning.

While Quill resembles a classic Han Solo-like hero, his fellow Guardians — Zoe Saldana's green-skinned Gamora, the caustic, Bradley Cooper-voiced raccoon Rocket, Drax and Groot — are a multi-species band of outsiders. No two are alike in temperament or genetics.

### 'Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2'

Stars: Chris Pratt, Zoe Saldana, Karen Gillan, Dave Bautista

Rated: PG-13; 136 minutes

Theater: Edwards 14

★ ★ ★ out of 4

PHOTO BY REBECCA, Page C1

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ALERT FEATURED

## Tired of the eyesore? Nipomo Clean Up day is Saturday

Jennifer Best Contributing Writer Apr 27, 2017 Updated 20 hrs ago



Len Wood, Staff

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Becky Chavez, a homeless woman who camps nearby, posed at the vacant lot on South Frontage Road in Nipomo that will be cleaned up during a volunteer effort on Saturday.

Community members interested in making Nipomo great again are invited to Nipomo Community Cleanup - One Step at a Time. Meet at 170 South Frontage Road at 9 a.m. Saturday to pick up trash, remove broken concrete and commune with like-minded, community members.

The abandoned parking lot south of Little Jocko's has long been a gathering place for skateboarders and the homeless alike. Area youth walk through the lot on their way to and from the nearby school bus stop as do resident pedestrians.

Skateboarders have used the discarded piles of wood and concrete to build ramps and other obstacles. Others have done what they can to dismantle the creations, leaving behind the trash. Discarded blankets, tents, diapers, coffee cups, paint cans, dead trees and myriad other items pile up in the lot.



"It's littered with all sorts of nasty stuff. People change their oil in the parking lot out there. There are homeless people sleeping there. It's a bus stop. It's a hazard for our kids. For better or worse, it's where the kids go to skate. We're tired of looking at it. It's an eyesore from the road, from the freeway," said Richard Malvarose, who is heading up the effort in partnership with Caroline Schaffer.

The lot is certainly not representative of what Sabrina Lovell has come to know as her new home. She and her son moved to the area in October after living in Arroyo Grande and Pismo Beach for years.

"I had friends here, and I'd visit, but I never really realized it's a real awesome, quaint town with a historical feel. It's not the rushed city life like in AG or SLO. Everything is here. The locals take care of each other. But there's this trash, and it confuses me when I see the graffiti. What the heck? Who did that? That hasn't been my experience at all," she said.

Her 15-year-old son, Andrew Turbyfill, has also recognized the value of the great outdoors and explores of the expanse of the Nipomo mesa, from riding the foothills to flying his drone near the bluff.

"This is an awesome place to live, and we can keep it that way if we can start a movement to keep this community clean," Lovell said.

Malvarose said he has tried to contact the owners of the lot on multiple occasions with no success.

A variety of volunteers have already committed to the project including area high school students and representatives of four churches. A 40-foot roll-off garbage bin has been donated for the day. The American Red Cross will provide lunch and Nipomo Community Services District will provide water.

Volunteers are asked to bring any tools they think they may use, including: leather gloves, eye protection, shovels, rakes, hoes and wheelbarrows.

For more information, call 868-7951. No need to RSVP. Just arrive prepared to lend a hand.

**OVER THE HILL**

# Supervisors' vote to spread groundwater costs to all taxpayers is financially unfair

BY PHIL DIRKX

*Special to The Tribune*



The San Luis Obispo

County Board of Supervisors voted 3-2

Tuesday to assist some

people on the verge of

violating a state law.

Those people own property in or near five different groundwater basins in this county.

The state law in question was passed in 2014. It says many groundwater basins must have pumping management plans by June 30. If they miss the deadline, the state may step in and regulate them. Many people who own water-basin property in this county have neglected, forgotten or declined to draw up pumping management plans.

That state law applies to 127 overpumped groundwater basins, including five in this county: the Paso Robles basin and Atascadero sub-basin, the Los Osos Valley basin, the San Luis Obispo/Edna Valley basin, the Cuyama Valley basin and the Santa Maria basin.

What the county supervisors did Tuesday was vote to oversee any unmanaged portions of those groundwater basins so the state won't step in, at a cost of between \$6.1 million and \$8.6 million spread across all county taxpayers.

Owners of basin properties who are managed under a "groundwater sustainability agency" will pay additional money on top of that.

That sounds unfair.

This was the second time in three weeks that the supervisors voted 3-2 to approve this very same measure. It wasn't adequately identified on the first agenda try. People complained they would have attended and opposed it if it had been clearly labeled. So the procedure was repeated.

But the opponents' testimony this week didn't deter Supervisors Debbie Arnold, Lynn Compton and John Peschong. Neither did the millions of dollars of expected costs.

The three still firmly opposed a state takeover of the county's unmanaged water basins. Supervisors Bruce Gibson and Adam Hill disagreed.

I think the Board of Supervisors' decision was wrong.

One thing I question is the confusing, seemingly unequal financial treatment. I wonder whether that will attract lawyers. And now the county will be spending money from all of us to manage the groundwater of select property owners. So, I'm worried that our county taxes will increase or our county services may be reduced or both.

You probably remember some people living in the Paso Robles groundwater basin tried last year to organize a basin selfgovernment. They held an election. It lost in a landslide. I understand, though, that a couple of groups are now working again to form two smaller districts in the basin.

I wish them luck.

*Phil Dirx's column is special to The Tribune. He has lived in Paso Robles for more than five decades, and his column appears here every week. Reach Dirx at 805-238-2372 or [phild2008@sbcglobal.net](mailto:phild2008@sbcglobal.net).*

BETWEEN \$6.1M AND \$8.6M

*Expected groundwater costs spread across all county taxpayers*

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MY BOOKMARKS



How wet was 2016-17 in Sacramento? Here's the breakdown 1:05



LOCAL

APRIL 26, 2017 4:54 PM

## Despite drought's end, conservation rules were still in place in California – until now

BY DALE KASLER  
dkasler@sacbee.com

First the drought ended. Now the last vestiges of mandatory conservation rules are over, too.

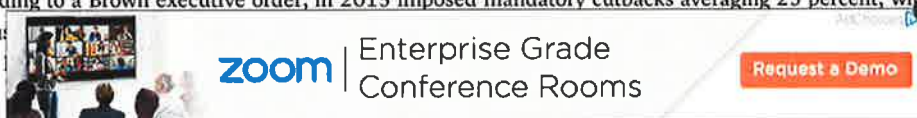
California's main water regulatory agency ended mandatory conservation regulations for urban residents Wednesday, following Gov. Jerry Brown's official declaration that the drought ended April 7.

The decision by the State Water Resources Control Board means urban water agencies no longer have to submit to "stress tests" proving they have enough water to withstand three straight years of dry weather. All other conservation requirements have ended, too, although Californians are still prohibited from engaging in "wasteful practices" such as watering their lawns while it's raining or hosing down sidewalks. What's more, urban agencies will have to continue to report their monthly water usage to the state.

ADVERTISING



The water board, responding to a Brown executive order, in 2015 imposed mandatory cutbacks averaging 25 percent, with the amounts varying according to per-capita use. The drought was the most severe in California's history, and the most severe in the state's history, bore the brunt of the regulations. ... test weather, bore the



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A year later, following a relatively wet winter in Northern California, the state board greatly relaxed the regulations. Agencies that could pass the stress tests didn't have to meet any mandatory cutbacks; the vast majority of the state's 400-plus urban water agencies were able to meet that standard.

With the standards eased, conservation efforts tailed off, but only slightly. Most agencies continued to reduce water consumption by 20 percent or more in the past year, according to the water board.

Despite the official end to the drought, the water board and several other agencies are continuing to sketch a long-term conservation plan titled "Make Conservation a California Way of Life." The plan will require urban agencies to meet new targets, based on their local climates, land-use characteristics and other factors. The urban agencies would set the targets themselves, based on parameters set by the state.

State officials have called the plan a more flexible, reasonable approach than the 2015 plan. But some local agencies have already protested that state officials will use the program to impose permanent cutbacks on urban water use.

Brown's decision to end the drought covered all but four counties where diminished groundwater supplies have dried up some municipal drinking water wells: Fresno, Kings, Tulare and Tuolumne.

Dale Kasler: 916-321-1066, @dakasler

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January	1394		921		2733		1.96		0:01:57		53.37%		53.73%	
February	1324	-5.02%	934	1.41%	2436	-10.87%	1.84	-6.12%	0:01:47	-8.55%	61.03%	14.35%	56.34%	4.86%
March	1331	0.53%	920	-1.50%	2441	0.21%	1.83	-0.54%	0:01:30	-15.89%	61.91%	1.44%	57.78%	2.56%
April	1300	-2.33%	988	7.39%	2263	-7.29%	1.74	-4.92%	0:01:15	-16.67%	66.62%	7.61%	61.54%	6.51%
May														
June														
July														
August														
September														
October														
November														
December														

