



COUNTY CURRENTS

Santa Cruz County

www.santacruzcounty.us

Winter 2017

A publication of the County Administrative Office Susan A. Mauriello, County Administrator



Join the Club!



The Bear Creek Country Club, a beloved jewel for generations of San Lorenzo Valley residents, has been protected for future generations. The Boulder Creek Recreation and Park District and the County of Santa Cruz agreed to purchase the property and increase public access at the formerly private club, which until recently was operated by George Patterson and Mary Beth Patterson. It includes tennis courts, a swimming pool, clubhouse, fitness room, hiking trails and picnic areas, and should be open to residents in the San Lorenzo Valley and beyond in the near future!



So long, Cecilia!

Cecilia Espinola, Santa Cruz County's Human Services director and its longest-serving department head, retired this year after 30 years with the County. The agency counts 91,000 residents as clients.



The 2010 closure of the Davenport Cement Plant impacted the Davenport community and the local economy, causing the loss of jobs, County revenues and community benefits. [Click here](#) to stay up-to-date on reuse plans.

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LEO's Haven gets major donation

The Monterey Peninsula Foundation, a



community-focused grant-making organization that hosts the annual AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am golf tournament, has pledged \$250,000 toward LEO's Haven, the first fully inclusive playground in Santa Cruz County. To make a donation, [click here](#). The County will match donations up to the same \$250,000 amount.

Partnership for the future

Board implements Nurse-Family Partnership program

In December, the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors voted to implement the Nurse-Family Partnership program, a nationally-renowned, evidence-based effort to match Public Health Nurses with low-income, first time mothers.

Under the program, nurses would make home visits with approximately 100 mothers, beginning during pregnancy and continuing through the critical first years of life. Nurses help new mothers become knowledgeable parents able to better prepare children for successful futures.

"Supporting mothers and kids in these critical years is essential," said Supervisor Ryan Coonerty, who advocated for the Nurse-Family Partnership program after learning about it at a White House Conference on Innovation in Government. "The data shows the Nurse-Family Partnership program is one of the best investments we can make to benefit kids, children, families and the community."

"I am pleased to have worked with Supervisor Coonerty to implement this important program," Health Services Agency Director Giang Nguyen said. "We worked tirelessly with the local medical community to provide funding for the Nurse-Family Partnership. Because everyone worked together, we can make a difference in the lives of local children."

Founded in Elmira, N.Y. in 1977, Nurse-Family Partnerships are now in place in eight countries and 43 U.S. states. Santa Cruz County is the 23rd county in California to implement the program, which helps reduce childhood illness and injuries, increase school readiness, decrease subsequent pregnancies and increase maternal employment. These outcomes also have been shown to reduce long-term health care, education and criminal justice expenditures.



In October, Simpkins Family Swim Center hosted its first annual floating pumpkin patch, allowing children (and parents) to pick a pumpkin by jumping into the pool. If you missed it this year, we'll see you in 2017!

 COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ DEPARTMENT OF
PARKS, OPEN SPACE AND CULTURAL SERVICES



2016-17 PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

Looking for something to do? Whether you're 8 or 85, the Parks Department's Activity Guide is a great place to start. From trips to language classes, there's something for everyone. [Check it out!](#)

Mauriello honored by CAO peers

County Administrative Officer Susan A. Mauriello was honored recently with the 2nd annual Distinguished Service Award by the County Administrative Officers Association of California.

The award honors statewide leadership at the county executive level, and recognizes mentorship, ethics, innovation and effectiveness on behalf of county residents. The award was presented at the California State Association of Counties' annual meeting in Palm Springs.

"I am humbled to receive this award from my peers," Mauriello said. "This represents an endorsement of the hard work and dedication of the Board of Supervisors and all County employees toward making Santa Cruz County a great place to live, work and play."

Citizen Connect



We've always updating our award-winning Citizen Connect app to give you access to any-time, anywhere services. [Download Citizen Connect](#) for iTunes and Google Play.

Deal reached on Parks Service Officers for San Vicente Redwoods

The County of Santa Cruz, Peninsula Open Space Trust, Sempervirens Fund and the Land Trust of Santa Cruz



County have reached a preliminary agreement on a three-year pilot program to facilitate public safety and access to the 8,500-acre San Vicente Redwoods property.

The proposal would provide for three personnel through the County's Department of Parks, Open Space and Cultural Services to protect natural resources, enhance the visitor experience and mitigate neighborhood impacts. POST, Sempervirens and the Land Trust would assume the costs of the program.

"This proposal offers a tremendous opportunity for the County to provide public services on a very large open space property on the North Coast at no County expense," Supervisor

Ryan Coonerty said.

"This is a great partnership between government and conservation groups to protect nature and provide public access," said Stephan Slade, executive director of the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County.

Owned by POST and Sempervirens, the San Vicente Redwoods property is the largest privately-owned parcel in Santa Cruz County and one of the largest in California. A community-based public access plan that include opportunities for recreation, research and education is being developed by the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County, with initial public access expected in 2018.



Looking for employment?
www.santacruzcountyjobs.com



Meet Your Supervisor

[John Leopold](#)

District 1 includes Live Oak, Summit Road, Soquel and parts of Capitola and Santa Cruz.



[Zach Friend](#)

District 2 includes Aptos, Corralitos, part of Capitola and the South County coast.



[Ryan Coonerty](#)

District 3 includes much of Santa Cruz and the North Coast.



[Greg Caput](#)

District 4 includes most of Watsonville and the Pajaro Valley.



[Bruce McPherson](#)

District 5 includes the San Lorenzo Valley, Scotts Valley and parts of Santa Cruz.



Click on each supervisor to learn more about them and their responsibilities, including how to reach them during constituent office hours.

Quick Guide

Citizens rely on county government for many needed services. Use this handy guide to find who to call, or come find us on the web at: www.santacruzcounty.us.

Main Number
(831) 454-2000

Board of Supervisors
(831) 454-2200

Agricultural Commissioner
(831) 763-8080

Animal Services
(831) 454-7303

Assessor's Office
(831) 454-2002

Benefits
(888) 421-8080

County Clerk/Elections
(831) 454-2060

Economic Development
(831) 454-2728

Environmental Health
(831) 454-2022

Health Services Agency
(831) 454-4800

Parks and Recreation
(831) 454-7900

Planning Department
(831) 454-2580

Public Works
(831) 454-2160

Recycling Information
(831) 454-2333

Sheriff/Coroner
(831) 471-1121
(call 911 if emergency)

Superior Court
(831) 763-8060

Tax Collections
(831) 454-2510

1,400 participate in Small Biz Saturday

Despite some rain, Small Business Saturday was a huge success in Santa Cruz County. Thanks to everyone who participated!

The annual event celebrates local communities by encouraging shoppers to spend their holiday dollars locally, and is held every year on the day after Black Friday. The County's Office for Economic Development helps encourage local businesses to participate through its Facebook page, www.facebook.com/santacruzcountysmallbusinessaturday. When you shop local, 68 cents of every dollar stays local, compared with 43

SAVE THE DATE!

The second annual Micro-Business Summit will be held April 28 at Cabrillo College. Stay tuned for more information!



Wonderland Toys in Soquel was a popular destination on Small Business Saturday.

cents when you shop at national retailers. Local businesses help create a local identity, sustain the local economy and provide local jobs.

Presidential election smooth for County Elections Department

To those who followed it, the 2016 presidential race was anything but smooth. But hundreds of volunteers helped Election Day run well in Santa Cruz County.

County Clerk Gail Pellerin and her staff helped manage 132,165 votes — a new record — in Santa Cruz County, including more than 83,000 who voted by mail. Voters elected new representatives across the county, passed school bonds in Santa Cruz and Soquel, weighed in on 13 state propositions and approved Measure D, the countywide transportation sales tax.

