

the Lutrinae

CSUMB Student-Run Newspaper

Sept. 12, 2019



Students shine at this year's first Open Mic Night

Story and photos by Jenna Ethridge

On Sept. 7, California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) and the Residential Housing Association (RHA) hosted the first Open Mic Night of the Fall 2019 semester. The monthly event used to be held in the Student Center, but was moved to the Black Box Cabaret, where students performed on stage from 7 to 9 p.m. to a full house.

Fourth-year liberal studies major Sarah Leff opened the night with "Year 3000" by The Jonas Brothers, which proved to be a crowd-pleaser as everyone clapped and sang with her in unison. Leff has performed at every Open Mic Night since coming to CSUMB last year except for one, due to a "prior commitment."

"I always struggle with picking songs because I want to make sure I'm not doing ones I've already done. I want to show I have a bigger repertoire than just my go-tos," said Leff. "I literally pick my songs like five minutes before I go up, I have a lot of fun."

Senior Philly Kash was the only comedian of the night, providing the audience with impressions of Michael Jackson, President Donald Trump and Ross from "Friends." As a transfer student, this was Kash's first performance

at CSUMB, but he'll "probably come back."

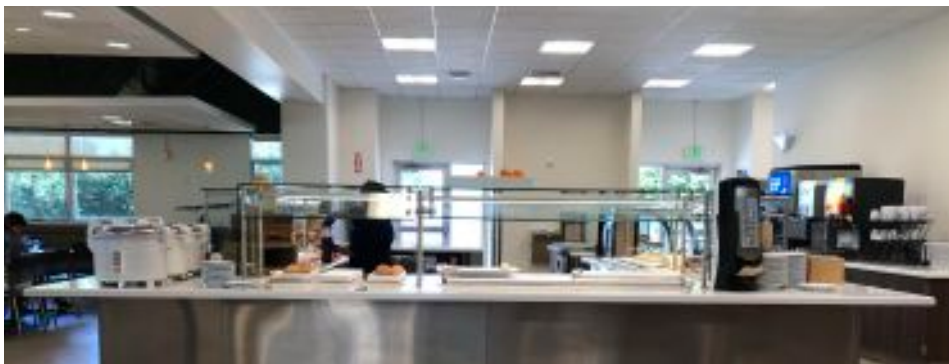
Kash's high-energy from being a preschool teacher translated through his performance, as he enjoys making people laugh and is willing to put himself out there to achieve that. "I expect mixed reactions, but I had a blast. Everyone else was amazing," said Kash.

Julia Bozzo and Charlie Togeichi performed "Fly Me To The Moon" by Frank Sinatra, followed by a cover of "Jungle" by Tash Sultana. Bozzo's vocals and Togeichi's guitar-playing were memorable, not only for their chemistry on stage, but for their unorthodox coming-together, as well.

"We met in our history class on the Wednesday before Open Mic Night, and started talking about making music and what instruments we play," explained Bozzo. "I told Charlie my main strength is singing and he said he'd been looking for a vocalist to play with for the Open Mic Night on Saturday. The rest is pretty much history!"

RHA's next Open Mic Night is on Oct. 5.

From left to right: Jacob Goller, Amosi Morgan, Julia Bozzo, Charlie Togeichi, Philly Kash, Sarah Leff
Students performing at this year's first Open Mic Night in the Black Box Cabaret.



The new salad bar located in the Dining Commons

Restaurants on campus are renovated

Story and photo by Sydney Brown

When going to catch a bite to eat on campus, students returning to California State University, Monterey Bay for the Fall 2019 semester have noticed a few changes in on-campus restaurants.

Over the summer, the Dining Commons had a cosmetic revamping, opening up what used to be the back hallway to make a larger toast and bagel station, along

with new flooring. The salad bar was fully remodeled, now wrapping around in a large square where individuals can customize their salads with more leafy greens, dressings and tasty toppings than they were able to last year.

Many students agree the best part of the new salad bar is its abundance of desserts. "I shouldn't be eating dessert after every meal," said student Kaitlyn Johnson, "but because they're so bomb, I do!"

Monte's Cafe, known for its Pasta Fridays, decided to double up on the carbs, declaring there will now be pasta bowl nights on both Tuesday and Thursday. Sandwiches have also been added to their menu, creating a more broad selection for students and staff to explore.

Another noteworthy happening at Monte's is its change of hours, as it is now only open until 7 p.m. and not until 9 p.m. like it was last year.

"I've heard some students are worried about that and might be looking for another place on campus to eat after dark," said second-year Hailey Hill.

Luckily, the Otter Express (OE) is open during the later hours of the night, closing at midnight on weekdays and weekends alike. It also gives a great space for Otters to relax or do homework, since they're not required to order to be able to sit at one of the restaurant's many tables.

"Lots of people come in late at night," said OE employee Travis Lahey. Along with the popular grilled chicken sandwich, students are also trying out the new wraps and Impossible Burger now being offered by the OE.

Despite the positive changes, the OE has also experienced some major setbacks.

"Sadly, one of the back of house microwaves somehow exploded over the summer," Lahey explained, meaning sometimes students have to microwave their cheese fries themselves at the counter located at the front of the restaurant. "I can't complain. I'm happy to work in a place where I get to learn about who I go to school with."

Parking availability



Lack of overnight and general parking spots leave students frustrated.

Food pantry frenzy

A student's perspective on getting food from the AS Food Pantry.



Women's soccer



Otters take down the Hawaii Vulcans with a score of 2-1.

Parking availability decreases at CSUMB

By Hailey Hill

It's not uncommon for students at California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) to have a car on campus; many students who live on campus bring a car for the academic year, and many others commute to and from CSUMB from surrounding cities. Inevitably, a need for on-campus parking arises and that need has increased along with the growing student body.

However, it seems as though available parking on campus has seen a significant decrease, rather than the desired increase. A growing number of lots on main campus have been designated as "no parking 3 a.m. to 6 a.m." lots, posing a significant problem for students who live on campus.

During the 2018-2019 academic year, for example, students were able to park overnight in Lot 28, which is centrally located near the library and residential halls.

This lot provided a safe place for students to park that was a short walk to the residential halls, which is especially important at night.

Starting this year, Lot 28 is now limited to only daytime parking, leaving students with a parking ticket if their car is parked in it overnight. This scenario is now the reality of parking in almost every lot on campus, with a few exceptions.

Lots 71 and 59 are quickly becoming some of the only options available for students to park overnight without penalty, which can be problematic for a few reasons. These lots are not centrally located, meaning students have to walk a longer distance just to get back to their residences.

This is arguably unsafe, especially if someone is walking back by themselves late at night. The distance can also be inconvenient - ask anyone who is living/has lived in Area

One and they will explain how difficult the walk up the hill from Lot 71 can be with bags full of groceries.

Decreased parking also poses an issue for the growing number of commuter students arriving on campus during the week. They are left to compete for remaining spaces left over from residents trying to find a legal place to park, a process that can be frustrating, as well as unsafe. It is not unusual to see people driving aggressively in the lots in order to beat another car to a parking space, posing a threat to other cars as well as pedestrians.

"I don't even drive on campus, but I've cut through the lots often enough to know they're hazardous," said second-year Eric Holst. "I'd rather take the extra time on my bike than try and find parking, to be honest."

Transfer students adjust to life at CSUMB

By Hailey Hill

Each student at California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) has their own story about how they came to be a CSUMB Otter; while many students start their college career right after graduating high school, this is by no means the only pathway to a university.

It is more common than one would think for a CSUMB student to have started their college career on an entirely different college campus. Many CSUMB students are considered "transfer" students, meaning they initially attended a different university before transferring to CSUMB.

Often, transfer students are coming from a community college, where they completed their general education

or lower division courses while living at home before transferring to the university. In other cases, students transfer from other four-year universities for a variety of reasons: students may want to be closer to (or farther away from) home, their first university may not have had their desired major or program, or the campus simply may just may not have been the right fit for them.

It's easy to see why so many transfer students decide to start the next chapter of their college career at CSUMB: smaller class sizes, more affordable tuition and being the closest CSU to the beach are just a few of the draws that attract prospective students. When speaking to students who have transferred to CSUMB for the 2019-2020 academic year, it becomes clear that they are happy with their choice.

"Everyone has been really nice and the staff is really helpful," said junior transfer student Sydney Brown. "There's been so many campus events that are open to transfers and I've been really happy here so far."

Many transfer students also enthuse about the overall aesthetic of the campus. "It's such a pretty campus," said junior transfer student Kaitlyn Johnson, while junior transfer student Lauren Rafter described the campus as "very welcoming!"

On a university campus that prioritizes inclusivity, it is encouraging to hear transfer students have an easy time adjusting to life at CSUMB. Even the local wildlife has left an impression with some transfer students; junior transfer student Richard Espinoza said, "The raccoons are very welcoming."

the Lutrinae

The Lutrinae is a weekly campus newspaper covering CSUMB and its neighboring areas. Here at *The Lutrinae*, our goal is not only to educate and inform the public, but to entertain, to spark creativity, to encourage diversity of opinion, and to build a sense of community on campus and with the neighboring cities.

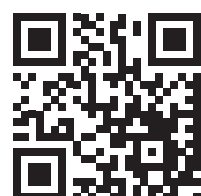
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Food Pantry Frenzy



A box of macaroni and cheese that was distributed to students at the AS Food Pantry.

Story and picture by Malia Savella

Last Wednesday, Sept. 4, marked the first Associated Students Food Pantry of the Fall 2019 semester. However, due to nearly double the expected attendance rate, food ran out before both distribution sessions were over.

The food pantry is an on-campus food distribution event that provides students with a host of free, donated food. The second session, which opened at 4 p.m. in the Student Center's West Lounge, closed nearly an hour and a half earlier than its scheduled end at 6 p.m.

Freshman Ah Lei Mai Lee, who was one of the last students to receive food, recalled upwards of 30 people behind him when the announcement was made. "By the time I got a box of macaroni and cheese, there were only 10 [boxes] or less," Mai Lee said.

The first session, from noon to 2 p.m., ran out an hour before projected. Sophomore Destiny Henderson-Hudgins, who forgot to pick up bread in her first run-through of the line, was surprised to find the pantry out of food by the time she had reentered. "The last time I went, they had extras," said Henderson-Hudgins

When the first session closed, students still in line were instructed to attend the second session at four, resulting in an unprecedented demand later that day. To guarantee they'd get food, students showed up unusually early. Mai Lee, who came ten minutes prior, met a line that stretched past the game room.

"I would recommend that other people go, but I'd recommend they go early," said freshman Charlie Claudino, who managed to get a full bag of food by showing up half an hour before the second distribution.

Although food pantries are a fun way to stock up the fridge, some students rely heavily on the groceries given out. "Food is expensive. Since it's my first year, I don't have a job yet ... so I don't have a lot of money," Claudino said.

Before it ran out, the pantry provided a plethora of quality items, from fresh fruit and canned vegetables to bread and sandwiches. For students not on a meal plan, a good diet can mean everything. "It's sometimes hard for students to access free food ... [this event] helps them make sure they maintain good health and a sufficient amount of food," Mai Lee said.

The next food pantry will be held on Oct. 4. Our advice? Bring your own bag, show up considerably early and happy eating!

Battle of the Bands: Silence of the Bands auditions

By Jenna Ethridge

Do you have a passion for music and want to compete among other talented California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) students?

This year's auditions for CSUMB's Battle of the Bands: Silence of the Bands will be held on Sept. 20 from 1 to 7 p.m. and Sept. 21 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Black Box Cabaret. You and your band can sign up to audition at tinyurl.com/silenceauditions.

The winner has an opportunity to open for next year's Otterlands!

Otters defeat Vulcans in women's soccer game



(Left) CSUMB's women's soccer team celebrating their victory.
(Right) Goalkeeper Alyssa Noh, 26, in action.

Story and photos by Arianna Nalbach

On Sept. 7, the California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) women's soccer team played against University of Hawaii Hilo and came out victorious. The game took place on CSUMB's campus at the Otter Soccer Complex.

This was their second game of the season and so far, the Otters are on a winning streak. With only five minutes left before halftime, sophomore Sierra Levy scored the first goal of the game, putting the Otters in the lead at 1-0.

During the second half, the Vulcans score one goal, turning the game into a 1-1 tie. Even though the Vulcans managed to get one goal, the Otters made sure it didn't happen again, taking the game into overtime.

Another 10 minutes went by and no one scored, meaning the game would continue into double overtime. After going into double overtime, sophomore Lia Kilgore scored a goal with only 30 seconds left on the clock, winning the game for the Otters.

The game ended with a final score of 2-1, with CSUMB securing their second victory of the season. While the Vulcans played well, the Otters played better and kept their winning streak alive.

The girl's soccer team is on Sept. 11 at Menlo College in Atherton, California at 1:30 p.m.

For those who can't attend the next game in person, don't worry - you can still watch it live on otterathletics.com/watch. Here's to another great season. Go Otters!

What are you most looking forward to this semester?

Otter-Chatter

Story and photos by Gavin Frazier



Mariana Jimenez

Freshman
Marine science

"What I'm most looking forward to this semester is developing stronger relationships with my current friends and becoming more involved around campus. I'm also really excited to play volleyball with my new friends and hang out with a myriad of different people."



Kianna Hughes

Senior
Human communications

"I am looking forward to being one step closer to graduation. While CSUMB has grown on me, I am excited about my future outside of college. I am overjoyed to be the Resident Advisor of the first-ever LGBTQA+ Scholars community and expect to learn a lot with all the new personalities that my residents will show!"



Eduardo Casarubias

Freshman
Business administration

"This semester, I'm really excited about many things like joining clubs such as MECHA club, Emerging Otters, RHA and many more. I'm also excited to branch out my connections and meet new people, whether in class or out of class. What I'm most excited about is being able to create more memorable memories while I spend my time here at CSUMB."

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The 2002 Impreza WRX exploring its rally lineage in Stanislaus National Forest.

Car-ticle

Story and photo by Kristen Finley

Admittedly, 2002 wasn't a good year for Americans who liked cars. American manufacturers were coming into the age of caring more about safety and smog regulations. Both valid things, sure, but it meant cool cars were reduced to posters on bedroom walls. Chassis designs were bleak at best, and engines were smaller and ridiculously gutless.

That was until Japan finally submitted to tight American export regulations and sent over the car that threw a wrench in the idea Americans didn't want fast, fun, and relatively efficient cars. The 2002 Subaru Impreza WRX came to the rescue.

WRX, which stands for "World Rally Experimental," comes from a lineage that fits the name. The WRX's predecessor, the Impreza, ferociously dominated the World Rally Cross (WRC) for many, many years with its light, but venomously efficient, boxer engine.

The low center of gravity of the engine combined with Subaru's still undefeated symmetrical All Wheel Drive (AWD) made it an absolute force to be reckoned with. Though, a lot of their competitors were paying close attention, and started implementing AWD and more powerful engines.

Naturally, with many manufacturers nipping at Subaru's heels, they decided to up their game. With very minor engine changes and a turbocharger, the WRX was ready for anything. Once again, Subaru roosted in first place. The WRX soon became a car that dreams were made of and America wanted it badly.

Well, in 2002, Japan answered American cries and began to export the car bred from rally champions. What's interesting though, is at first, Americans hated the

An oldie, but a damn goodie.

outlandish looking "bugeye." It was just too ... weird. Now, as the bugeye WRX is becoming increasingly rare and cars begin to look more and more like one another, the bugeye is one of the most sought after models Subaru ever made.

Now, with that being said, it's time to look at this old car with a modern lens. Before I met my fiance Benjamin (whose bugeye I'm currently driving), I'd always wanted a Subaru. I grew up watching rally races with my dad on Sunday morning while bouncing on his knee and I immediately loved the friendly face the bugeye had. It just looked like a happy car, and after being around it and driving it for the five years I've been with Ben, I still maintain that thought.

Though, in driving it with the idea that I'm critiquing it, it's a car that makes me very happy to drive. There's just something about it - Subaru must have weaved powerful sorcery into the upholstery with this one. Maybe that's why it won so many rally races, because the drivers were so freaking happy driving them.

By no means is this little wagon a supercar. The engine is a staple Subaru family recipe: four cylinder boxer engine (meaning, horizontally opposed pistons) with a turbocharger that makes 227 horsepower with 217 foot pounds of torque. It doesn't sound like much, at all, but the car itself only weighs slightly over 3,220 pounds for the wagon version with the manual transmission.

The sedan weighs even less at 3,085 pounds. The thing is, though, this car is not slow - it does 0-60 mph in 5.8 seconds, which for today's standards is fairly moderate, most sedans or SUVs can do that. In 2002 standards though, that's nothing to sneeze at.

The rally DNA is most apparent in this car when it's taken on more spirited drives that involve a bit of crafty

cornering. The ride height, a little over 6 inches, is perfect - it sticks to the ground like a prowling jungle cat and that AWD only reinforces that idea. The five speed in it only makes it more fun, since the car is definitely more comfortable in the higher rpms.

My favorite part about all Subarus I've ever driven is the steering and visibility; the steering is tight and responsive. With visibility, I would even go to say that this car doesn't have a blind spot, I can see everything. Also, it's weird, but everyone who's ever sat in the back has always said to me (and I do mean always), "This is the first car I've ever been in that I didn't get car sick in!"

Only thing I would say that might make people grimace is the turbo lag. It does take a hot minute for the turbo to kick in and when it does, it's very, very noticeable. It doesn't seem to kick in until almost 3k rpms and when it does, it's like the whole car was rudely awakened and gathers a mind of its own. Your head is thrust into the headrest and it feels like the car is gearing up to launch itself into space, so much power is suddenly there.

Granted, it's something I got used to and adjusted to, but when you're in a new car that has no turbo lag, the first thing I think of is the WRX. It's not necessarily something I don't like about the car, but it's definitely something I'd rather it not have. Other than that, it's definitely a car I have on my "To Own" list.

What's killing music festivals?

Music Maven



By Jenna Ethridge
Photo courtesy of Fred von Lohmann via Flickr

Last month, Treasure Island Music Festival (TIMF) announced that there would not be a festival taking place this year and is on hiatus until further notice. After 12 consecutive years of featuring notable artists such as Modest Mouse, Vampire Weekend, The Flaming Lips, MGMT, Animal Collective and Tame Impala, TIMF had become a staple of San Francisco's live music scene.

"Bringing the festival back to life last year following the relocation was a massive undertaking, but with the new issues facing the site location, we feel strongly as though putting on a festival to the degree for which our fans have

come to expect over the past decade is simply not possible," stated Noise Pop and Another Planet Entertainment on the festival's website.

Two months ago, Woodstock 50 was officially cancelled after several setbacks including securing a venue location, artists dropping from the lineup and a postponed release of ticket sales. The festival was supposed to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the original Woodstock that took place in 1969.

"We are saddened that a series of unforeseen setbacks has made it impossible to put on a festival we imagined with the great line-up we had booked and the social engagement we were anticipating," stated Woodstock 50 representatives in a press release.

Last year, Los Angeles' FYF Fest was cancelled for the first time since its inauguration in 2004. Held at the Los Angeles Exposition Park, FYF Fest was consistent in showcasing the most popular artists of indie rock such as Mac Demarco, who performed at the festival consecutively for five years.

"Our team of many women and men have worked tirelessly on this event for many years, but felt unable to present an experience on par with the expectations of our loyal fans and the Los Angeles music community this year," tweeted FYF Fest.

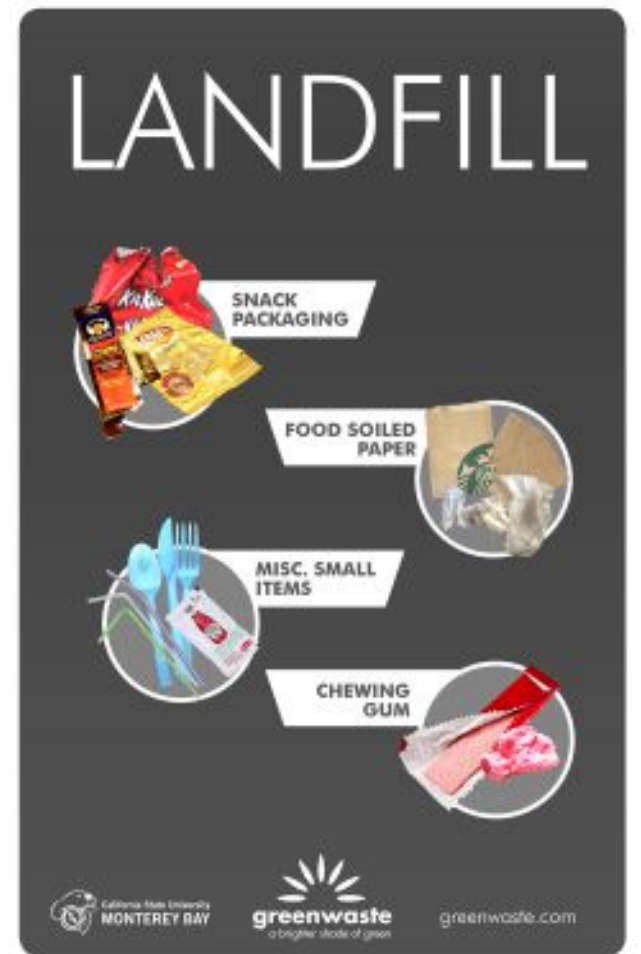
It seems that regardless of a festival's popularity or longevity, they are now all at risk of cancellation. So, what's killing music festivals?

There are several key components that contribute to the success of a music festival: location, venue, lineup, vendors, sponsors, lighting, acoustics, advertising, reputation, affordability, timing, etc. While it appears the cancellation of TIMF was mostly due to a change in location, the planning of Woodstock 50 was far too underdeveloped to be properly executed.

In an attempt to stray away from more commercialized festivals, some artists have taken it upon themselves to create their own independent festivals. The Growlers will be hosting their eighth annual Beach Goth festival in October; Tyler, The Creator's Camp Flog Gnaw Carnival will be celebrating seven years in November; and George Clanton will be hosting his second 100% Electronica festival in October - just two months after its inauguration as the world's first vaporwave festival.

Although the future for music festivals is uncertain, fans can keep live music operative by continuing to support local venues and artists.

Waste reduction and diversion at CSUMB *iVerde!*



By Carolyn Hinman

As you are settling into your new routine of classes, assignments, work schedules and hopefully a little self care, we hope you'll consider settling into a new routine when it comes to your trash, too.

Many of us are accustomed to recycling our bottles, cans and paper, but our campus has also begun recycling its food waste.

When food ends up in landfills it takes up a lot of space and releases methane - a greenhouse gas 25 times more potent than carbon dioxide (CO₂) - into the atmosphere, accelerating the climate crisis. California law requires high-waste generators to participate in a recycling program and keep their organic waste out of landfills through food waste diversion or composting.

During your time at California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB), you can help fight the climate crisis by making sure you know how to sort your waste. If you have been to the library, Student Center or University Center, you have probably seen a three-stream station. They have three different cans: one for landfill waste, one for recycling and one for food waste/compost.

Even though the stations have signage depicting the types of materials accepted in each can, it can be pretty confusing trying to decide what goes where. Here are a few rules of thumb to help you with sorting your waste:

When it doubt, throw it out! It's better to send one thing to landfill than to contaminate the recycling or compost. When there are inappropriate items in those cans, they have to be sent to the landfill.

Recyclable materials need to be relatively clean, empty and dry. Dump your liquids in the sink and rinse excess food out of plastic containers. And yes, you can leave the lid on your glass and plastic bottles!

CSUMB Dining Services uses a lot of compostable disposable to-go packages. These need to make it to the green compost can to be processed by the anaerobic digester. These items do not break down in the landfill and they are not recyclable, so unless they make it to the compost container, they are going to end up as trash. If the item is BPI-Certified compostable, it needs to go into the compost can. This is the symbol to look out for on compostable containers:

Of course, the best and most effective way of keeping waste out of landfills is to reduce what you are consuming in the first place by bringing your reusable cup, drinking straw, and cutlery with you, shopping with reusable bags, saying no to single-use plastics like produce bags, and avoiding purchasing products packaged in unnecessary plastic.

The better we can be about properly sorting our waste, the more we will be able to keep out of landfills, leading to a

slowing of the climate crisis and reducing or eliminating the need to build new landfills. You have an opportunity to make a real difference in reducing contamination and increasing diversion by taking the time to make sure you are disposing of things correctly.

The Monterey Regional Waste Management District has a neat app to help make things clearer. You can download the What Goes Where app for free, enter in our zip code - 93955 - type in an item you aren't sure how to sort and it will tell you how to dispose of it.

Still have questions about waste reduction and diversion? GreenWaste Recovery is CSUMB's garbage hauler and has an environmental outreach coordinator to answer questions, provide education and information about waste. Feel free to contact her with any questions.

If you are an Otter who is passionate about waste reduction and diversion, contact Carolyn to learn more about becoming a Zero Waste Ambassador. This team of volunteers will help other Otters sort their waste, participate in waste audits, provide education and outreach around waste diversion, and other creative activities related to spreading awareness around waste. Contact Carolyn at chinman@greenwaste.com for more information.

Welcome to another school year. Happy sorting and remember to keep it classy, not trashy!

This day in history: Sept. 12

1895 Annie Londonberry (also known as Annie Kopchovsky) was the first woman to complete a round-the-world trip on a bicycle. It took her 15 months to complete, but when she returned there was \$10,000 for her to claim. In today's money, that would be almost \$300,000.

1940 Four teenagers in France followed their dog as it followed an interesting scent down a large hole. Their dog ended up leading them to 17,000 year old cave paintings now called the "Lascaux Cave Paintings."

1958 All-white Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas was integrated after direct orders from the U.S. Supreme Court.

1959 The Soviet Union launched "Luna 2," the first spacecraft to impact the moon. Interestingly, the Soviets rigged the spacecraft to release sodium gas, so movement can be observed from Earth.

1964 Sergio Leone's "A Fistful of Dollars," starring Clint Eastwood, premiered and set the precedent for the spaghetti western film genre.

1990 "Les Miserables" opened at Cirkus Theater in Stockholm, Sweden. The French novel, first published in 1862, delve into the drama, violence and even architecture of historical France.

1956 A tense tennis match between Stefan Edberg and Michael Chang lasted five hours and 26 minutes, and ended when Edberg defeated Chang with scores of 6-7, 7-5, 7-6, 5-7, and 6-4. This match remains the longest sports match in US history.

2005 Hong Kong Disneyland opened in Penny's Bay, Lantau Island. It is Hong Kong's largest theme park and the last of the Disneyland theme park locations.

Local divers come together to honor those lost in boat fire



Story and photos by Sara Gobets

Rainbow flecks danced in 34 abalone shells, each cradling a candle and encircling a black air tank emblazoned with a heart-shaped dive flag. Karen Harris picked up one of the silver Sharpies provided and scrawled a message across the cylinder to divers she had never met, but still felt she knew.

“A lot of us have been on the Conception,” said Harris, a local Monterey diver. “If it could happen to them, it could have happened to any of us.”

More than 100 people gathered at San Carlos Beach Park Thursday, Sept. 5, to honor the 34 divers who died in the Conception dive boat fire in the Channel Islands Labor Day.

Patrick Webster, a social media associate at the Monterey Bay Aquarium, spearheaded the affair by creating a Facebook event to bring his dive community together near Breakwater, a well-known local introductory dive site.

“This is not the definitive memorial tribute to the people that are lost,” Webster said. “I think I needed to get the community together somewhere to process and be together. I figured we might as well do it at the San Carlos Beach Park that started so many dive careers that ultimately went onto the Channel Islands aboard those boats.”

Because of his prominence in the dive community and his social media connections, the message spread up and down the Bay Area, attracting divers who commuted from hours away to be a part of the event.

Local dive shop Aquarius supplied pizzas for everyone, as well as bubbles that were blown in unison after a minute of silence. People took turns signing cards to be sent to Truth Aquatics and families of victims.

Though most present at the memorial did not know the victims personally, many divers have taken trips on Truth Aquatics vessels.

“My first trip to Channel Islands was on the Conception,” Webster said. “I met a really good friend of mine [Umihiko Hoshijima] on that trip. He passed away recently and the only photo I really have of him is on those Truth [Aquatic] boats.”

Three friends who work at Bamboo Reef, a well-known dive shop in Monterey, were on the Conception’s sister boat, the Vision, when the fire occurred. Jose Salazar, Nicholas Ta and Emily Palmer had planned the five-day trip to spend time together before Palmer moved to Florida.

After three days of “incredible” diving, Palmer woke up on Monday morning and felt an immediate change onboard.

“We’re headed to Cortes Bank and the captain turned the boat around,” Palmer said. “When he told us what happened, we were just completely shocked. You could tell that something went wrong, but I expected it to be that someone might have had a heart attack or dive accident. You never expect to hear a whole boat went down with everyone on it.”

Salazar, who graduated from California State University, Monterey Bay in 2017, barely remembered the onboard announcement, but recalled being overwhelmed by the news.

“Once the captain told us what happened, I was having a bit of a hard time taking it in just because that could have easily been us. It could have been any one of their ships that had caught on fire,” Salazar said.

Many divers had similar realizations when they heard the news and dealt with feelings of uneasiness and grief the best way they knew how - getting in the water.

“Diving is where I get my peace, where I have my freedom,” said Palmer, who dived with Salazar that morning to collect abalone shells for the vigil. “I go there to kind of escape what’s up here.”

Webster noted all divers share that connection to the water, but believes California divers have a special bond that unites them and draws the community even closer.

“California kelp forests are one of the most biologically interesting places to dive. They are cathedrals of algae that you get to fly through like you’re an owl in the redwoods. It takes a certain human to want to go there, to go through the training and then to keep doing it. And so then when you know those people and you meet them, you don’t have to make any introductions. You know that you agree with those people on 90 percent of everything that matters. And that’s your family, that’s your tribe, those are the people that you’re connected to,” Webster said.

“I feel like I lost brothers and sisters that I didn’t know yet, because I know that if I was on that boat, I would be getting along with every single one of them. And I’d be on that boat tomorrow if it was still here.”

(Left) The tribute at San Carlos Beach Park honoring the 34 divers who died during Conception boat fire. The temporary memorial overlooks Breakwater, a popular Monterey dive site. (Middle top) Patrick Webster thanks the crowd for coming to the memorial at San Carlos Beach Park. (Middle bottom) Votive candles nestle in 34 abalone shells, representing the 34 people who died during the Conception dive boat fire. (Right) Emily Palmer writes a message on the memorial air cylinder Webster painted and supplied for the event.

Can you unscramble these words to reveal their anagrams of ingredients key to a successful semester?

- rolfed _____
- kobo _____
- dusty _____
- peles _____
- searer _____
- renitent _____
- redfins _____
- persalt _____
- trout _____
- onset _____

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6	7	1	9	2	3	4	5	8
5	9	2	4	8	6	3	1	7
8	4	3	7	1	5	9	6	2
2	1	6	5	7	9	8	3	4
9	3	5	8	4	2	6	7	1
7	8	4	3	6	1	5	2	9

folder, book, study, sleep, eraser, internet, friends, stapler, tutor, notes