

What exactly is UCorp?

They oversee your campus housing payments and help pay for new facilities and services



ILLUSTRATION BY ZOE KAPP

Chris Hamilton
Staff Writer

The \$2.5 million used for the new fitness facility at Cal State Monterey Bay (CSUMB) didn't come from state funding or student tuition. It came through the University Corporation – a non-profit organization that receives money from the rent and meal plans that students pay for.

UCorp also was a big financial contributor to the new science and engineering building going up on campus.

And the Ottermobile, the new food truck that makes the rounds on campus? Yep, that funding came through UCorp as well.

Whether or not most students are aware of it, University Corporation (UCorp) makes decisions about key aspects of their lives, including housing and dining.

"There's not enough money coming in from tuition and the state to pay for everything [students] experience," says Jill Hosmer-Jolley, a former faculty representative for UCorp's Board of Directors.

She adds that auxiliary organizations like UCorp are essential to an efficiently operated university.

UCorp defined

According to Alan Fisher, interim executive director of the University Corporation and chief financial officer at CSUMB, the Corporation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization designed to, "lend support to the university and to enhance the student experience in ways that the university either can't do in terms of financing or falls outside of what the university's mission and overall expectations are."

To fill the gaps that state funding and tuition don't cover,



PHOTO BY ELLIOT ROWE

public universities such as CSUMB must create auxiliary organizations like CSUMB's UCorp and University Foundation.

All 23 California State Universities (CSU) receive support from auxiliary organizations similar to those of CSUMB.

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Rock the School

Read about the Music Club's first concert featuring local bands.



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Student parents

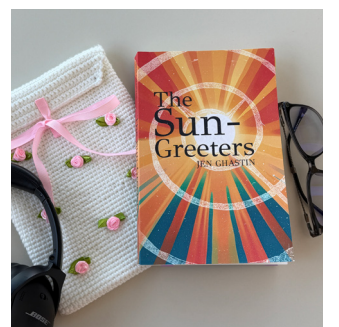
Read our article about resources for parenting students and hear from active supporters.



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Book review

"The Sun-Greeters" is a novel that takes place on UCSC's campus, navigating complex personal issues with a supernatural twist.



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‘Go lesbians!’

Monce Navarro Carpio hosts panel that spotlights lesbians of color

Layna Hughes
Contributing Writer

For Otter Cross Cultural Center’s (OC3) social justice student coordinator and fourth-year psychology major Monce Navarro Carpio (they/she/ella), it was crucial to spotlight lesbians of color at Cal State Monterey Bay’s all-day lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual and two-spirit (LGBTQIA2S+) summit.

“I was just noticing in queer spaces that lesbians aren’t named, so I think for me it was just really important to center that,” Carpio said. “In terms of organizing, lesbians have been at forefronts of movements for so, so long, and for an LGBTQ+ summit, it just doesn’t make sense not to center lesbians at one point.”

In collaboration with the Rainbow Raft Pride Center, Carpio’s seminar “Radical Belonging: Lesbians of Color Leading Resistance” was held in the Otter Student Union ballroom on Tuesday, Nov. 5. Carpio led the panel featuring guest speaker and self-proclaimed “Chicana dyke” Abby Maestas (she/her/ella), where they both shared intergenerational stories about living as a lesbian, person of color and activist.

Being a proud lesbian for more than 60 years, Maestas founded 20 Rue Jacob, a lesbian bookstore and coffee shop in Salt Lake City, Utah. From 1979 to 1984, she provided a safe space for lesbians to gather, converse and share art.

Throughout the event, Carpio and Maestas emphasized the importance of creating spaces exclusively for lesbians of color, a smaller community that is often underrepresented.

“There’s this whole concept that [lesbians] are not real,”



PHOTO BY MADDIE HONOMICHL

Maestas said. “And you need to be proud of who you are, it’s hard to be proud when you think the whole world is against you.”

Opening the event, Nurayah Alvarado (she/they/fae), the OC3’s sustainability and wellness student coordinator and a third-year biology major, described the challenges.

“It’s just so hard to find other lesbians. It’s so hard to find other lesbians of color, and without having a community you feel like you don’t have that backbone, you don’t have

the soil to plant your roots in to grow,” Alvarado said.

Maestas also noted the significance of holding the seminar on Nov. 5, saying, “I can’t think of a better way to spend Election Day.” What began as a scheduling coincidence became an act of protest for Carpio.

“To me, it was a prime point of resistance, where you’re able to literally escape and be with community during such a scary day,” Carpio said. “Queer people deserve to, at least, feel safe on a Tuesday.”

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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The *Lutrinae* serves two purposes: It is a training ground for students who wish to develop journalism skills and build their resume, and it is a forum for free expression of campus issues and news. The *Lutrinae* Editorial team will determine what to print and reserves the right to edit for libel, space, or clarity.

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‘Rock the School’

Music Club debuts with a bang

PHOTO BY ELLIOT ROWE

Francine Pamplona
Staff Writer

“How are we feeling tonight?” echoed through the World Theater as Tomming Jerry’s lead vocalist rallied a crowd ready to rock. The question met with cheers and hollers and set the tone for a night of live music at Cal State Monterey Bay’s (CSUMB) first-ever Music Club concert, “Rock the School.”

Last Thursday, the Music Club’s long-awaited debut concert brought together students and community members with three local bands: Everyday People, Tomming Jerry and Macadamia – each adding a unique style that had the audience dancing, cheering and nodding along.

The night began with a welcome from the event’s hosts, who took a moment to thank attendees for their support and acknowledged the behind-the-scenes tech crew.

“We’ve never done anything like this before, and we’re really thankful to have a lot of good bands playing tonight,” one of the hosts said, adding with enthusiasm, “You can headbang all out!”

Everyday People opened with a high-energy Latin rock set, blending trumpets, guitars and congas into a lively beat that quickly energized the crowd. A few audience members ran to the front of the stage to dance, fully immersed in the rhythm and energy of the music.

Tomming Jerry followed, switching up the vibe with grunge rock that added a raw, edgy tone to the night. With a mix of original songs and covers, they engaged the crowd with head-banging rhythms, elevating the excitement in the room.

The final band of the night, Macadamia, brought a thoughtful, folk-inspired sound that added a different layer to the evening’s lineup. Formed just last semester in a campus songwriting class, the band played a mix of soft alternative and folk tunes, including both covers and original pieces.

As they wrapped up their set, band member Chloe Cavallaro took a moment to thank the audience, saying, “Music is just so cool. It’s the most powerful thing and it brings so many people together. Thank you for being here and listening.”

Continued from Page 3

While the purpose of the University Foundation is to receive donations, it is the University Corporation, which handles business enterprises on campus – things like housing and dining – that students are more likely to interact with on a daily basis.

In addition to these services, UCorp also operates CSUMB’s radio station KAZU, the Child Care Center, the Salinas City Center, CSUMB’s bookstore, grants, the Otter Student Union and various accounting and human resource services on campus.

Your housing and food

The Corporation operates certain services like housing and dining by contracting them out to third-party providers like Greystar and Chartwells respectively.

By contracting out these services through the Corporation, the University can avoid becoming mired in the many bureaucratic and budgetary restraints involved in utilizing state funds, allowing the University to “run them like a business instead of like a government agency,” Hossemer-Jolley said.

After the third-party providers get paid from housing and dining revenue, and operational expenses are paid within the Corporation, the remaining funds go into UCorp reserves which, “goes right back into upgrading things [on campus],” said Ben Corpus, vice president for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs. As of June 30, there was \$50,611,331 in the Corporation’s reserve.

Who decides?

Decisions like which businesses to sign contracts with and how to use the reserves are decided by the Corporation’s Board of Directors, which is made up of three administration members, a member of the community, a faculty representative and a student representative. It is overseen by Vanya Quiñones, CSUMB’s president.

The Board consists of:

Vanya Quiñones: Board President; CSUMB President

Alan Fisher: Interim Executive Director; Interim Vice President of Administration and Finance; Chief Financial Officer of CSUMB

Andrew Lawson: Secretary/Treasurer; Interim Provost; Vice President of Academic Affairs

Robert Taylor: Community Member; Attorney at Law

Ben Corpus: Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs

Arlene Haffa: Faculty Representative (formerly Jill Hosmer-Jolley)

Andrew Nino: Student Representative

Each board member has an equal vote, with Quinones a non-voting member. While smaller decisions are often delegated by Fisher to UCorp staff, bigger ones, “like the overall expenditure of \$1 million,” require a majority vote from the Board, Fisher said.

“Because the University is on a very finite budget, when some kind of an expense comes up that the state can't afford to do, they will oftentimes turn to the Corporation,” Fisher said.

For example, CSUMB is currently exploring the possibility of converting Gavilan Hall, Building 201, into dormitories. Fisher estimates that just to do preliminary assessments of the project’s feasibility could cost upward of \$1 million.

“That’s \$1 million that the university does not have,” Fisher said.

“All 23 [CSU] campuses are competing at the same money [to construct] more buildings and that’s where the [Corporation’s reserve] comes in handy,” Maddison Burton, interim associative executive director said.



The university corporation office is located six miles away from campus.

PHOTO BY CHRIS HAMILTON

How decisions are made

Some have wondered if resources are so limited, what the rationale was behind projects like the \$2.5 million fitness center, which opened in September, or the \$80,000 Otter Mobile food cart.

According to Fisher, expenditures like these are “a balancing act,” between investing in improvements to the campus that will affect a particular population of students versus those that will affect the student body as a whole. This was the case with the fitness center, which was part of CSUMB’s master plan but was delayed for years due to insufficient funding.

“With the workout facility, every student on campus is not going to participate in that but there are students who will utilize that and it enhances their student experience,” Fisher said.

The Otter Mobile on the other hand was purchased in response to complaints about poor access to food in certain parts of campus.

Are there ways in which students would rather see the reserves being used?

“We’re here to listen,” Fisher said.

“None of these decisions are ever made in a vacuum. The University and the Corporation get as much input from students [as possible]...so that we can make decisions that are relative to what student needs are.”

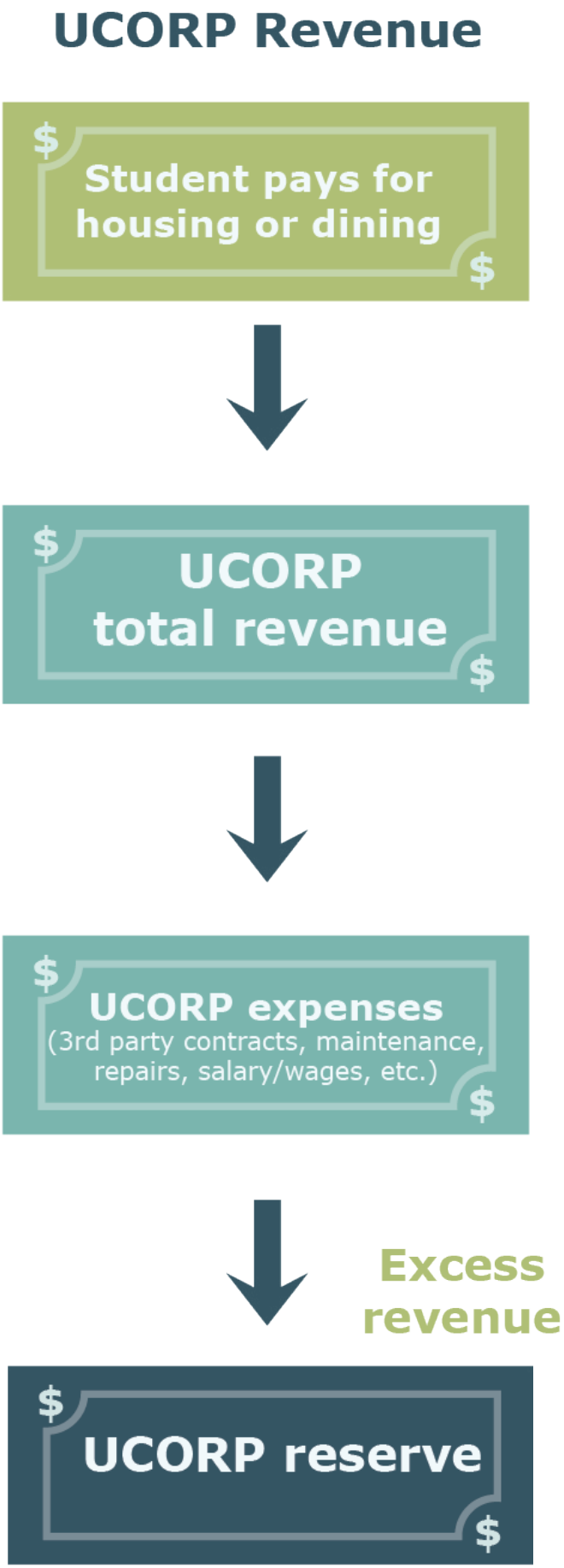
In addition to getting involved with various forums such as the Housing and Dining Committees or Associated Students (AS), according to both Fisher and Burton, the most effective way for students to make their voices heard by the Corporation’s Board of Directors is to get in touch with the student representative, Andrew Nino (asvpfinance@csumb.edu).

While Nino, a second-year business major, only began his position on the Board in July, he is also the vice president of Financial Affairs for AS where he is involved in working with the AS budget and, according to Fisher, “has no problem asking us questions and representing [the students].”

Nino encourages students to learn more about how the University Corporation operates.

“All the information for the Corporation as well as the Foundation is completely accessible online. Nothing’s hidden,” Nino said.

“If [students] want to know more about the Board of Directors, Corporation or Foundation, they can reach out to me...I would love to hear more from students.”



FLOWCHART BY ZOE KAPP

The Lutrinae
wants to hear
your voices!

Want to showcase your work in the student newspaper?

Email pfrancis@csumb.edu to have your work considered for our next issue.

We love to see your:
illustrations • short stories • poems • opinions

Student parents work to find resources and support at CSUMB

Keira Silver
Contributing Writer

Parenting students at Cal State Monterey Bay (CSUMB) are working to find resources to support their educational careers while raising families, according to students and faculty on campus.

One resource for student parents on campus is the Basic Needs Hub in Building 12, which includes a section for parenting students with items like diapers, formula and nursing supplies. The organization also hosts mixers and community events for parents seeking support.

“Student parents are an invisible population,” said Robyn DoCanto, the Basic Needs Hub coordinator. “Unless they have their kids with them, we would never know.”

“We want folks to know that they are welcome here, [and] they’re welcome to bring their kids with them while they shop,” DoCanto shared. “This is a space for them.”

DoCanto recommends that CSUMB parenting students join the Family Friendly Club and follow relevant social media channels for more information and events.

Megan Cuva is the vice president of the CSUMB Family Friendly Club. As a parenting collaborative health and human services major with two young daughters, Cuva advocates for students who are balancing schoolwork, jobs and family responsibilities.

“We try to plan events where [parents] are able to also bring their kids here for a fun time,” Cuva shared. “They’re getting connected to resources, whether it’s mental health, a sense of community or a sense of connection. We really want to make sure that’s something that can be implemented here on campus.”

As a transfer student, Cuva was not aware of any resources for parents until an orientation leader informed her of a family study room in the library. Cuva then connected with Basic Needs and Family Friendly, which led to collaborations between the organizations.

“I was at the right place at the right time and kind of got connected that way. I think that we could definitely market [events] so that parenting students don’t [feel] left out because I know that there can be like a sense of isolation,” Cuva said.

“I think if there’s a parenting student that’s reading this or comes across this, that they’re able to reach out to our Instagram, which is [csumb_familyfriendly](#), and just messaging us with whatever they need,” Cuva said. “Hopefully we can have more voices here on campus to hear what these parenting students need and how we can best help them with anything that they need.”



ILLUSTRATION BY ZOE KAPP

Marlyn Romero, an undergraduate student majoring in human communications with a concentration in legal studies, is a student assistant at the Transfer Center and a peer mentor. She has coordinated multiple student-parent events to raise awareness of the needs of student families at the school.

“It’s been empowering being the only parenting peer mentor at the Transfer Center because I’ve gotten to incorporate that in our events,” Romero said. “I’ve done that, and it’s gotten recognized.”

Romero feels she has had to seek out additional resources and opportunities for parenting students at CSUMB, noting a lack of prioritization by various departments around campus.

“I think Basic Needs and Family Friendly are doing great for parenting students,” she said. “I was able to hear about them and learn about their parenting scholar nights and a safe space where I can bring my daughter, which I thought was really nice. Some other departments should prioritize this too because it leaves us having to go fishing for help when we have enough on our plates.”

According to Romero, there is a gap in resources and op-

portunities between average students and parenting students.

Romero recalls struggling to find support early on at CSUMB, suggesting that the university use surveys to identify parenting students and determine how to best support them.

“My first semester I felt very judged. I felt like I had to balance work, being a student assistant, schoolwork [and] being present in class. I had to balance all of that with also being a mother. The fact that I have to tell my professors also so that they can get a little bit of an understanding is kind of disheartening,” Romero said.

“I think CSUMB should do a little bit more research and surveying at the beginning of parenting scholars’ time here, so that we don’t have to put in all of the work, and resources can naturally find us, making it more of a parent-friendly environment,” she said.

With the help of Basic Needs, Romero will be starting a peer mentor program for parenting students.

Romero said, “I’m glad to be a part of the movement because we need more of that at CSUMB.”

The sleeping giant of CSUMB: Anime Club’s 22 years of nighttime tradition

Sean Tubo
Staff Writer

At 8 p.m., Cal State Monterey Bay’s (CSUMB) campus is all but deserted. Classrooms are empty, buildings closed and dorms quiet. Except for a few stragglers catching the last Wave shuttle of the evening, it’s almost uninhabited compared to its daytime bustle. But inside Heron Hall, one room buzzes with activity: Lecture Hall 118, where twice a week the Anime Club holds its meetings.

“It provides a space to come together to watch anime and get that movie theater experience,” says Club President Sunny De La Pena, “where you watch with other people and hear their reactions.”

On Wednesday and Thursday nights, they do just that, gathering to watch anime in the shared darkness of a lecture hall. But this simplicity of purpose belies something about Anime Club. It’s somewhat of a sleeping giant.

It may be surprising that Anime Club is the longest-running student organization on campus. Founded in 2002, the club has met once or twice a week since the Bush Administration, even meeting over Zoom during COVID – long before the library or Otter Student Union were built.

“We’ve been here since 2002 and consistently here since then,” said longtime staff advisor David Bennett.

The club’s history runs so deep that its origins are somewhat hazy; Bennett’s records only go back to 2002, but he says the original founder told him they were meeting even before that.



PHOTO BY SEAN TUBO

With age comes polish, and Anime Club proves that by being one of the largest and most consistent communities on campus. Two nights a week, rain or shine, test season or holidays, they fill their lecture hall to watch the semester’s selection of shows. Club officer Chris Tam proudly boasts a “20 heads a meeting,” average—a notable turnout for any student organization.

The atmosphere at each meeting is warm, steeped in 22 years of tradition. The club follows a comfortable rhythm, hour by hour and night by night. When something absurd happens on screen, a joke is sure to follow, with comfortable laughter in response.

When the next show is about to begin, Bennett warns the

room: “Lights going off in 3... 2... 1...” and the room quiets.

Wednesdays are always packed; this is where their 20-person average comes from. On a recent Wednesday, they started with “Dungeon Meshi,” one of the season’s most popular shows. Some sit in the back eating dinner or working on a laptop and others sit closer to the front, reacting aloud or whispering to their friends.

The club aims to attract a wide variety of members. “A nice diverse mix of people, not just the [superfans],” as Bennett describes. They program accordingly, with officers choosing the shows each semester to appeal to a broader audience. They always choose recent releases, spanning action-packed fantasy series, sweet romances and intimate tragedies.

Between episodes, officers make announcements about upcoming activities, like a trip to Round One in Salinas, a movie night in Marina or a reminder about where to submit viewing suggestions.

Thursdays are quieter, with a smaller group of regulars. This is when they test “bleeding edge” material—shows that are a little more risque or experimental and less likely to appeal to Wednesday’s larger crowd. Fewer laptops are open and most people give their full attention.

By 10:30 p.m., the last episode is over and the meeting ends as quietly as it began. By 11 p.m., Heron Hall is silent again.

But next week, they’ll be back. After 22 years, if there’s anything to count on, it’s that.

Indigenous Journaling

Maddie Honomichl
Photographer

Attendees participated in a journaling and scrapbooking workshop that celebrated Indigenous culture and storytelling.



Top 3 burrito spots on the Monterey Peninsula

Skye Harrop and Oscar Daniel Jimenez Iniguez
Webmaster and Staff Writer

Burritos are a staple in the average college student’s diet. They are budget-friendly, yet filling. Here are our personal favorite burrito spots on the Monterey Peninsula. Our ranks take into account: price, size of burrito, and taste.

3. Papa Chevo's Taco Shop

In the need for a quick burrito bite? Papa Chevo's Taco Shop in Marina and Seaside offers beautifully wrapped delicacies from breakfast to carne asada to vegetarian options. Marina’s location is a drive-through with only outdoor seating, so if you are ever in need of a burrito on the go or want to feel the cool Central Coast breeze, now you know where to go. The Seaside location has indoor seating for your budget-friendly and convenient eating.

With their regular carne asada burritos served with beans, rice and fresh guacamole coming at a price of \$10.50, Papa Chevo's Taco Shop is definitely the best bang for your buck!

Marina Location: 3038 Del Monte Blvd

Seaside Location: 1760 Fremont Blvd Ste

2. Las Cazuelas Taqueria

Located in both Marina and Seaside, Las Cazuelas Taqueria offers an amazingly authentic Mexican experience with signature cultural staples including, yes, an array of delicious burritos along with complimentary chips and salsa. From classic bean burritos to a jumbo burrito made with fresh guacamole big enough to fill both hands, there is most certainly a guarantee of full customer satisfaction. If you are looking for a nice Mexican restaurant to take anyone to, Las Cazuelas Taqueria has you covered.

With a regular carne asada burrito served with just rice, beans and salsa for \$11.50 Las Cazuelas Taqueria is leaning toward the pricey side. As a plus, in the restaurant, they have a complimentary chips and salsa bar which offers a great selection of salsas and vegetables to add to your chips.

Marina location: 3156 Del Monte Blvd

Seaside location: 880 Broadway Ave

1. Sweet Dreams Delight

Our number one pick is located at 1267 Broadway Ave. in Seaside, Sweet Dreams Delight is a hidden gem that can easily be missed. The building has a small exterior but when you walk in, you are met with both sweet and savory smells from their taqueria and bakery. Sweet Dreams Delight offers a wide selection of foods to choose from ranging from tortas, burritos, tacos, tamales, quesadillas and much more! Whether you’re in the mood for some mouthwatering and savory Mexican cuisine, or for some sweet treats that can’t be beat, Sweet Dreams Delight will surely satisfy those cravings.

With a regular carne asada burrito served with rice, beans, cheese, salsa, onion and cilantro at a price of \$12, Sweet Dreams Delight is definitely a little more on the pricey side. However, their burrito had the best taste, decent size and it showed clear signs of passion and love with how it was crafted leading to an immaculately structured burrito.



PHOTOS BY SKYE HARROP

Profound and emotional: ‘The Sun-Greeters’ by Jen Ghastin

Aubrey Amila
Contributing Writer

BOOK REVIEW

Have you ever read a book in which the author includes song titles within the story, leading you to listen to those songs and you end up making a playlist for it? This book gives a similar vibe but with books. Suddenly, I found myself adding three more books to my reading list: J.D. Salinger’s “The Catcher in the Rye,” Douglas Adams’ “The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy,” and “The Book of Changes,” a traditional Chinese text.

In September 2024, Jen Ghastin made her literary debut with the novel “The Sun-Greeters.” Paying homage to two notable cities on central California’s coast: Santa Cruz and Salinas, Ghastin accurately portrayed places and demographics using descriptive imagery. She painted them with fresh eyes and fresh air and gentle strokes of pride.

So what is her secret to painting the story as vivid as possible? She earned her bachelor of arts, studying literature and creative writing fiction, from UC Santa Cruz (UCSC) and is currently a graphic design teacher at North Salinas High School. She also owns a yoga studio, Yoga Salinas, where breathing and relaxation is of utmost importance. A marriage of creative writing, art and tranquility can only mean one thing: the birth of a masterpiece!

This story unfolds on the UCSC campus where the protagonist, a freshman college student, finally meets her perfect circle of friends. However, her time with them is short-lived as she finds herself stuck between life and the

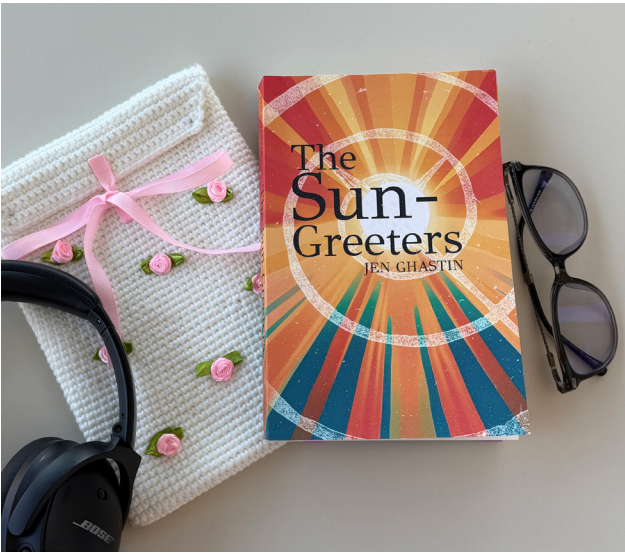


PHOTO BY AUBREY AMILA

afterlife after she falls from climbing a 150-foot Douglas fir. Not ready to proceed to the afterlife yet, she watches her friends navigate through life in her absence, grappling with grief while in pursuit of their purpose in life.

Ghastin’s first few lines from the prologue: “At first, it’s just an exhale. The breath leaves you. Then, time slows, if you would believe it. And for a moment, you’re flying,” commences with a breadth use of imagination, proof that books are portals to another world – an escape – where time does not exist. It is rare for a book to transport me into the narrator’s perspective at first glance. Although it is scary being thrown into the story from the first page

where I am in the midst of dying as Jules, the main character, but to feel the sense of adventure from within... it is worth it.

This thought-provoking coming-of-age story feels like a warm embrace from a friend. The deep, realistic dialogues between the protagonists and their internal selves, feel like someone out there, in this case, it’s a book that somehow understands what it feels like to be grieving and not knowing what to do or where to go.

How does one “correctly” confront the issues within romantic relationships, of homelessness, addiction, sexual identity, unplanned pregnancy and apathy? Ghastin’s storytelling encourages readers to perceive beyond the tip of the iceberg– to think things thoroughly and be open-minded when issues arise.

Not only does this book cover emotional dialogues, but Ghastin also illuminated the tone with sprinkled humor from one page to another. Throughout the book, I found myself losing track of time, annotating, and bookmarking quotes that I may go back and revisit.

It would be nice to have a movie adaptation of this book sometime in the future. I enjoyed the dynamic characters’ celebration of friendships and solidarity because of how their movements and thoughts echo cinematic timelessness. I highly recommend “The Sun-Greeters” by Jen Ghastin and would give it a cosmic six out of five, for its heart-felt coming-of-age story and appreciation of the interconnectedness of everything.

History repeats itself ‘Here’



Francine Pamplona and Hayley Matto
Staff and Contributing Writer

As November brings colder weather that has us reaching for all things cozy, Robert Zemeckis’s “Here” arrives just in time to provide a heartwarming experience for the fall season.

Starring Tom Hanks, “Here” is a captivating adaptation of Richard McGuire’s graphic novel. The story revolves around a single room – showing us the lives, memories and emotions that accumulate within its walls over generations.

We’re taken on a journey across decades, witnessing moments of joy, loss and change as different characters pass through the house. The film’s quiet intimacy of one room combined with its unique exploration of time and memory is sure to resonate with audiences who appreciate reflective storytelling.

For me, Francine, one of the film’s standout aspects is Hanks’ performance, which grounds the story as he ages within the room. Each phase of his character’s life is special yet has a sense of familiarity, as if each version of himself has left a fragment behind to be carried forward. Hanks’ portrayal of his character Richard brings subtle, yet powerful, shifts in demeanor and emotion throughout his history living in the space. This continuity makes the room feel almost alive, holding pieces of his aging character within it.

Speaking of the space coming to life, I, Hayley, felt the use of one angle and set to be incredibly charming and endearing. It created the sense of watching something similar to a theater production or blackbox play performance

and less of a film. This choice served well to not oversell anything, but instead allow the natural unfolding of every storyline that happened “here” to come to life speaking for itself.

No need for extravagant imagery or movie magic, just raw, genuine storytelling. This largely left the audience feeling like a fly on the wall, watching as various historical events and family developments grew, shrank and changed over time. I believe this also allowed for a lot more personal connection to be made from audience members to the families we were observing organically live out their lives.

Although the film only uses one angle, other cinematic choices enhance its depth. The cinematography captures the flow of time through the eras with subtle shifts in color and light: warm sepia hues for the nostalgic glow set in the early 1900s, while the cooler tones mark the shift to modernity and its sharper aesthetic. The score and sound design also evolve with each time period, moving from the rich tones of jazz to the soft hum of a minimalist soundscape of recent decades, immersing viewers in the emotional resonance of each era.

The only gripe we had was the use of CGI effects. The effects for Hanks and his co-star Robin Wright were done very well; their youthful years were just as believable as their seniors. However, scenes that explored nature and the prehistoric age could have been done a bit better. This didn’t detract thankfully too much from the film, as the story it was telling far outweighed this minor detail.

Hitting close to home for many of its audience members, no matter one’s age this film truly had something everyone could resonate with and go home reflecting on. A cozy tear-jerker, full of not-so-subtle moments of reflection–



SCREENSHOTS PROVIDED BY FRANCINE PAMPLONA

tion– we give this one a three and a half out of five stars. Encouraging those interested to not race to the theater to watch it, but instead cozy up with a good blanket and an open mind as they dive into this film from their sofas in their own versions of “here” at home.

Paint the ‘Roses’ Red!

Natalie Wong
Photo of the Week Winner

The Queen of Hearts was known to have a short temper. In an enraged state as she shouted to her henchmen: “Paint all the roses red! I want all of them red!” It becomes clear that the Queen’s regime has taken over the kingdom, turning the democracy into a dictatorship. This has become reflective of politics in our own world—with the lines between ruler and politician have been blurred. It begs the question: What really is democracy? Do we really see it demonstrated in our government today?

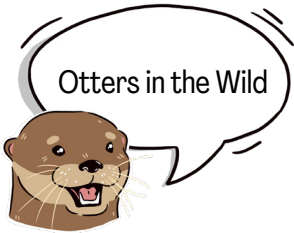


Photo of the Week

Looking to showcase your photography? Enter our ongoing photo contest throughout Volume 8 for a chance to have your work featured in our weekly issues. Check out our Instagram @thelutrinae for more details!



What’s your favorite cozy piece of clothing?



Eli Heck
Contributing Writer



Parker Struble

First-year marine science major

“It’s my favorite sweater because it’s very comfortable, something I can wear on any day, with any outfit and something I thrifted from a local Goodwill.”



Alexa Murillo

First-year business major

“I chose this shirt because it’s a good everyday shirt that I can wear any time. Plus I am a huge fan of corpse brides!”



Ava Piland

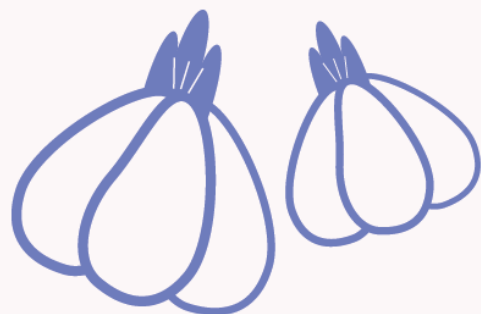
First-year environmental science major

“I’m a sucker for a cozy crewneck, it’s easy for that extra layering and simple accessorizing. Extra points if it’s thrifted! Some of my best and favorite finds have been [thrifted].”

10 Dollar Meals

Honey Garlic Chicken

\$9.58 RECIPE / \$2.39 SERVING



ingredients

Sauce:
1/3 cup honey (\$1.08)
2 Tbsp soy sauce (\$0.14)
1 Tbsp rice vinegar (\$0.10)
1 tsp sriracha (\$0.05)
2 tsp toasted sesame oil (\$0.20)
1 Tbsp cornstarch (\$0.05)

Chicken:
2 boneless, skinless chicken breasts (\$6.49)
1 tsp salt (\$0.05)
1/2 tsp black pepper (\$0.02)
1/2 tsp garlic powder (\$0.05)
2 Tbsp all-purpose flour (\$0.04)
3 Tbsp olive oil (\$0.48)
2 Tbsp butter (\$0.27)
4 cloves of garlic, minced (\$0.32)
2 green onions, sliced (\$0.24)

Instructions

Sauce: Combine the honey, soy sauce, rice vinegar, sriracha, toasted sesame oil and cornstarch together in a small bowl.

Cut the chicken breasts into 1/2 inch pieces. Add salt, black pepper and garlic powder. Then toss the chicken in flour until evenly coated.

Heat a large skillet over medium-high heat and add 2 Tbsp of oil. Once the skillet is hot, add half of the chicken and cook until browned on all sides. Remove the chicken from the skillet onto a separate plate and set aside. Add the remaining 1 Tbsp of oil and repeat with cooking the 2nd batch of chicken until cooked through.

In the same skillet add the butter and lower the heat down to medium-low heat. Add the minced garlic cloves and saute for 30-60 seconds until fragrant.

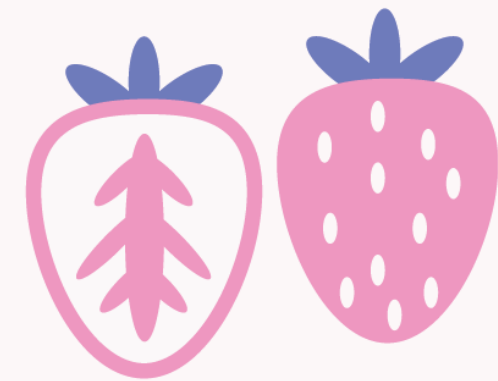
Pour the sauce into the skillet with the garlic. Stir the sauce and scrape up any browned bits that are stuck at the bottom of the skillet. Let the sauce simmer for about 2 minutes to allow the cornstarch to activate and thicken the sauce.

Now add the cooked chicken back to the skillet and stir with the sauce until all of the pieces are evenly coated. Cook for 1-2 more minutes to allow the chicken to heat up.

Remove the skillet from the heat, top with sliced green onions, and enjoy!

Strawberry Spinach Salad

\$8.72 RECIPE / \$2.18 SERVING



ingredients

Balsamic Vinaigrette:
1/3 cup olive oil (\$1.10)
3 Tbsp balsamic vinegar (\$0.45)
2 Tbsp honey (\$0.50)
1/2 Tbsp Dijon mustard (\$0.09)
1 garlic clove, minced (\$0.08)
1/2 tsp dried basil (\$0.05)
1/4 tsp salt (\$0.01)
1/4 tsp freshly cracked black pepper (\$0.02)

Candied Pecans:
1/2 Tbsp butter (\$0.07)
2 Tbsp brown sugar (\$0.08)
1 pinch salt (\$0.01)
1/2 cup chopped pecans (\$1.15)

Salad:
8 oz baby spinach (\$1.83)
1/2 lb strawberries, sliced (\$1.25)
1/4 red onion, thinly sliced (\$0.21)
2 oz crumbled feta cheese (\$1.82))

Instructions

Dressing: Add the olive oil, balsamic vinegar, honey, Dijon mustard, minced garlic clove, dried basil, salt and freshly cracked black pepper to a jar, bowl or blender. Whisk in a bowl to evenly combined.

Candied pecans: Add the butter, brown sugar and a pinch of salt to a small non-stick skillet. Heat over medium heat while stirring.

Once the butter and brown sugar begins to melt add the chopped pecans to the skillet and stir with the brown sugar mixture. Continue to cook over medium heat, stirring every 10-15 seconds until the brown sugar fully melts (looks glossy instead of grainy) and completely coats the pecans.

Remove the skillet from the heat immediately and transfer the candied pecans to a parchment lined baking sheet. Spread the pecans out evenly in a flat layer and allow them to cool for 10 minutes.

Now prep the strawberries, red onion and feta cheese. Slice the strawberries, thinly slice the red onion and crumble the feta.

Divide the spinach between four plates. Drizzle 2 Tbsp of balsamic vinaigrette on top of each bed of spinach.

Add sliced strawberries, red onions, a tablespoon or two of candied pecans and a tablespoon of feta cheese to each salad. Feel free to drizzle a little more balsamic vinaigrette over the top of each and enjoy!

Source: budgetbytes.com

Upcoming Events

Nov. 12 to 15

The Personal Growth and Counseling Center is hosting post-election conversation spaces. These sessions are for those who want to join a safe conversation space to share their feelings following the 2024 election results. Warm beverages and light snacks will be provided. Sessions are spread out between multiple days at various times - check MyRaft for session information.

Wednesday, Nov. 13

The Otter Cross Cultural Center and the Native American Students United club are hosting Indigenous Joy: Pine Nut Necklace Making with Dr. Melissa Leal. This hands on workshop will celebrate Native traditions and creativity. Participants will learn how to make pine nut necklaces and hear from Melissa Leal of the Ohlone/Coastanoan Esslen Nation. The event will be from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the Otter Student Union Ballroom.

Wednesday, Nov. 13

Having trouble sleeping? Student Housing and Residential Life will be sharing tips on how to improve sleep hygiene from 5 to 6 p.m. in the Main Quad. Participants will create sleep plans and get to bedazzle eye masks.

Wednesday, Nov. 13

Join El Centro for Poetry & Pozole from 7 to 8 p.m. in Building 12. Poetry will be shared by Rachelle Escamilla and pozole rojo will be provided.

Thursday, Nov. 14

In honor of Veterans Day, there will be a ceremony during Otter Thursday honoring all who have served in the United States Armed Forces. The ceremony will begin at noon.

Thursday, Nov. 14

Associated Students and the International Club are hosting Trivia Night from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Otter Express. All participants play and the winners will receive prizes.

Thursday, Nov. 14

From 6 to 8 p.m., Writers from the Edge: the Truth Between Us will take place in the World Theatre. A panel of California poets will be available for a Q&A session and original works will be shared by students.

Puzzles

SUDOKU

In order to complete this Sudoku puzzle, you must fill in the square so that each row and column contain the numbers 1 - 9, with no repetitions within the 9x9 grid and outlined 3x3 grid.

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

WORD SCRAMBLE

Can you unscramble these accessory-related words?

spuer

gba

lwlate

eblt

sugsnslaes

ctwah

yweejlr

denhaadb

hwals

rcsfa

ANSWERS:

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

Purse, bag, wallet, belt,
sunglasses, watch,
jewelry, headband, scarf

