

Plotting a way forward

CSUMB campus organizations respond to 2024 election results



ILLUSTRATION BY ZOE KAPP

**Paige Francis, Zoe Kapp, Oscar Daniel Jimenez Iniguez,
Layna Hughes, Hayley Matto and Keira Silver**
The Lutrinae

Gaby Weedon, a third-year sociology major at Cal State Monterey Bay (CSUMB), immediately felt “her vote didn’t matter.”

Fourth-year business administration major Josefina Valdez described watching cars drive around campus, waving flags that displayed the name of President-elect Donald Trump and popular phrases. Disappointed and fearful, Valdez knew why so many took the day off.

Ash Straws, a member of the Student Disability and Accessibility Center, remembered the videos of Trump “berating people with disabilities for being disabled. And if

that becomes the standard ...”

CSUMB has a collection of student and university organizations that provide spaces for minority groups to connect. Many of these groups such as women, people of color and LGBTQ+ individuals have been targeted by Trump’s remarks and plans for the United States, causing fear and uncertainty in these groups.

The Lutrinae reached out to a handful of these groups to hear their reactions to the election results and find out how they plan to empower their groups in the future.

LitMatch Feminist Literature Club
LitMatch Feminist Literature Club is just one

of the many groups on campus that were left feeling uncertain following the election results.

“Waking up the morning after the election, I just wanted to be surrounded by my people, my community,” said Rachel Dack, vice president of LitMatch and third-year liberal studies major.

However, sitting with the news was never an option, the club officers were quick to create a third space where people can come together and express their emotions, and feel a sense of community.

Melissa Stevenson, a third-year psychology major and the club’s treasurer shared, “That support is so important. In tragedy what is beautiful is how individuals can come together and see how many others feel the same way you do, *Continued on Page 2*

Writers from the Edge showcase

Read about the contemporary writer showcase that happened on campus.



Veterans Resource Center

Learn more about this support system for nontraditional students.

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Takes Two to Review movie review

Have you seen “Heretic?” Read Francine and Hayley’s review on this psychological thriller.

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this is how social change is created [and] movements in the future will come from us healing together now."

In lieu of their normal club meetings, LitMatch hosted a gathering for any individual feeling impacted by the election results to join them and share in a safe space, something they hope to continue to do moving forward, even within their normal club activities.

"On a local level, there are things we can do to combat the hopelessness and fear, this third space is what we can provide – it's a first step and a lot of love," said club president Cece Nepacena.

"Which is everything we had hoped for in starting this club, it sucks that these are the circumstances really bringing us all together, but we are grateful to have the ability and resources to be this space for one another," Nepacena said, expressing LitMatch's message.

They will always offer a space full of "togetherness" echoing to students hurting right now that "you are not alone in the grief and it is now our responsibility to come together within the community to support and uplift one another."

Otter Dreamers

During his campaign, Trump proposed to enact mass deportations on his first day in office. Many expect his administration to eventually rescind Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), which includes 530,000 federally protected recipients who came to this country as children.

"If I were undocumented, I'm going to be stressed, overwhelmed by what's going to happen in a year. How am I going to survive? Where am I going to go?" shared Liliana Agudo-Garcia, fourth-year social behavior science major and DACA dreamer.

Agudo-Garcia was born in Mexico, arriving in the United States at 8 months old and is now one of 119,000 dreamers currently enrolled in higher education. She is president of the Otter Dreamers, a club for undocumented students and allies aimed at sharing community resources and advocating for social justice.

With the election results finalized, it now poses often recurring and difficult questions for Agudo-Garcia and the immigrant community she proudly represents, as she believes "we will have to plan ahead how we're going to keep ourselves alive."

As Otter Dreamers president, she hopes to use her platform to continue advocating for the rights of immigrants and dreamers on and off campus, in spite of any potential threats her community faces from the upcoming administration and beyond.

"This nation is built off immigrants, it's a nation of immigrants, and the nation will not strive without us," said Agudo-Garcia. "Immigrants are people who don't give up regardless of the struggles they go through, they always find a way to make something happen."

**Rainbow Raft Pride Center**

The language used in Trump's 2024 presidential campaign largely targeted the rights of LGBTQ+ people, especially transgender people's access to gender-affirming care.

Project 2025, the 900-page blueprint, authored by conservative think tank The Heritage Foundation for an incoming Republican administration, calls for the enforcement of conservative Christian values into American legislation, including removing the rights for same-sex couples to legally marry and have children. It also includes removing laws protecting queer people in public, at school and in the workplace.

Despite Trump's claims of having nothing to do with the proposed rollout, many of his past and current staffers including key cabinet picks he has chosen so far have been directly linked to Project 2025.

This uncertainty for the future has left many queer people anxious, staff and attendants of the Rainbow Raft Pride Center were no exception.

"It's very scary how we're a center about being proud of who you are, and now there are students who are scared to come in," said Josefina Valdez, a student assistant at the Rainbow Raft. "It's just really upsetting, we want them to be here and to not back down and to be brave, but it's very hard when there are people who are putting them down."

"We just want them to know this is a safe space for them, we want them to come in," Valdez said. "If they just want some peace of mind, they're always welcome here, and we will do our best to protect anybody who needs help."

"Just know there are people out there who are going to go through the same things as you, so you are not alone."

**Otter Cross Cultural Center**

"Trump's election as president will potentially impact cultural centers in multiple ways. Since he has been elected, he has moved swiftly to implement an anti-trans, anti-DEI and anti-social justice agenda. What this means is censorship of whose stories can be learned in school," the Otter Cross Cultural Center said in a prepared statement.

"What they're really pushing for is a ban on cultural studies. Black studies, Chicano studies, Central American studies, Asian Pacific Islander studies, Queer studies, Women's studies and so on."

"It's also a ban on centering the lived experiences of historically marginalized communities, a ban on exploring identities and how these stories have been shaped and impacted by colonialism and imperialism."

"These bans have already begun to happen. If you [go to] states like Utah, Ohio, Texas, Florida, they have already eliminated cultural centers, spaces for students to go, spaces where they feel safe, where they feel welcome, where they feel like they belong. Those centers have been eliminated. Not just cultural centers, but women's centers, LGBTQ centers, and so on."

Student Disability and Accessibility Center

Straws, a member of the Student Disability and Accessibility Center, said "I definitely am nervous because [what] I've seen from President Trump himself, the spewing of hate, like in his speeches and the way he talks about people, about women [and] about health care. It seems like from what I've seen that he doesn't have respect for people."

With a figurehead of the American people spreading hateful speech and disregarding the health of people with disabilities, Straws fears that this will become the new standard.

"I'm worried we're going to go back to a period in time where the ugly laws existed, where if you were visibly disabled or you could easily figure out that you had a disability, you weren't allowed to leave your house, or you were committed to an asylum."

However, Straws remains hopeful for the future, aiming to use their voice to uplift others and inspire people. "This isn't the end. There is hope. We need to make sure that we're taking care of each other," they said.

"Also take the time, if possible, to make sure that you're taking care of yourself. We need to organize so that collectively we can make the United States and eventually the world, a better place to live and love one another."

The Lutrinae reached out to a number of other organizations on campus about their reaction to the election, such as CSUMB Turning Point USA and the ADLC, but they either didn't respond or declined to comment.

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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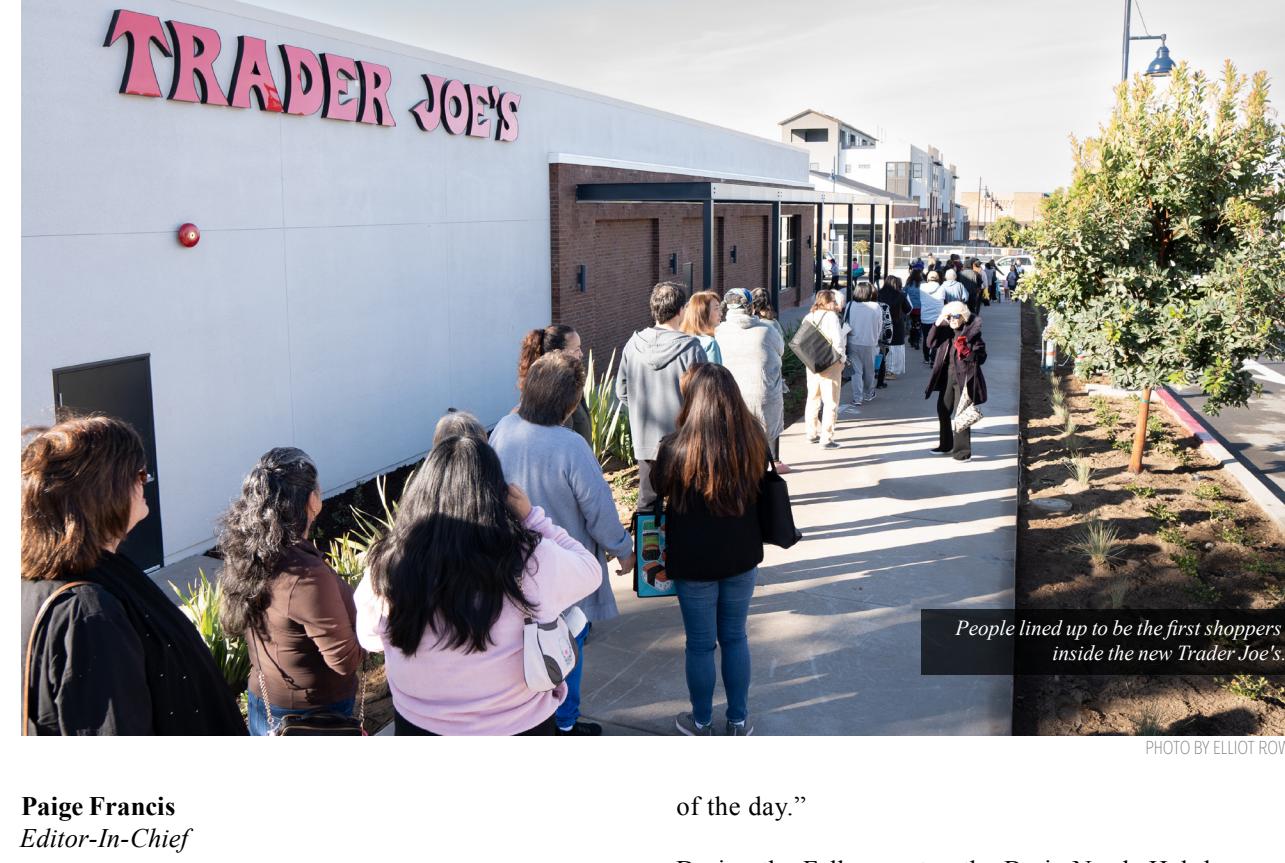
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New Trader Joe's will donate food to Basic Needs

People lined up to be the first shoppers inside the new Trader Joe's.

PHOTO BY ELLIOT ROWE

Paige Francis
Editor-In-Chief

A line of shoppers extended around the building as the new Trader Joe's in Marina opened Wednesday. The store is a short walk from Cal State Monterey Bay's (CSUMB) campus. Basic Needs will receive daily donations of food and fresh items from the store that would otherwise be thrown out. This process is known as food recovery and according to Basic Needs Hub director Robyn DoCanto, this will be a significant boost for the program.

"This is a huge community-based partnership and we're super excited," DoCanto said. "This creates much more accessibility for our students and our team. We're really hoping the Basic Needs Hub won't be empty at the end

of the day."

During the Fall semester, the Basic Needs Hub has seen a large increase in visitors, causing an unprecedented increase in demand. Since the opening of Trader Joe's, the hub has already announced on their Instagram story that item limits have been raised, due to the influx of donations.

The new Trader Joe's location also has a mural of the Tanimura & Antle Family Memorial Library inside, one of CSUMB's iconic campus buildings.

In addition, The Wave's weekend shuttle service will now stop at Trader Joe's from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Students and employees can ride the Wave for free with their Otter ID.

Money isn't everything Writers from the Edge share their truths



PHOTO BY MADDIE HONOMICHI

Aubrey Amila
Contributing Writer

The Writers from the Edge series gathered a diverse and supportive group of students, faculty and local community members to hear from Chris Siders, Norman Antonio Zelaya, Matt Sedillo and Tony Wallin-Sato, along with a fellow Otter who presented his original poem to the audience Thursday night.

Writers from the Edge is an annual series at Cal State Monterey Bay (CSUMB) that showcases contemporary authors from across the United States.

"For the past few years, we have had one event in the fall and one in the spring. This year, the goal is to have three events. One in November, March and April," said event host Alie Jones, a poet and a lecturer in the humanities and communication department.

She steered the speakers and audience through a night rich with poetry, questions, and useful guidance for emerging poets and writers.

Journalism student Max English participated in the event and was the first speaker to go on stage. He read his piece "Innocence," a poem about nurturing children and working for their dreams "as if those dreams are yours." He was greeted with a thunderous round of applause from the audience at the end of his performance.

Siders, a CSUMB alumni, delved into the theme of the evening: "The Truth Between Us." With approximately 50 people in attendance at the World Theater, Siders began, "We acknowledge the intersectionalities in our communities to strengthen that connection. And that acknowledgment starts with storytelling."

These poets' storytelling avenues range from reciting poetry, performing a musical, painting, educating and more.

"Study your own techniques, your own natural impulses, your own odd, strange neurons that fire up. Become a student of your own mind in your own interesting ways of doing things because your best writing you meet is an actual extension of your personality," said Sedillo.

"Lean heavily into AI," Zelaya joked as the crowd burst into laughter. On the contrary, he advises unplugging, writing in your notebook, and listening to the world around you because "people will say things you can't come up with." Inspiration comes from everything and everyone around you.

Similar to what Sedillo advised, Wallin-Sato, who was formerly incarcerated and now is the coordinator for Project Rebound, suggests keeping a journal and "Incorporate writing as a practice, like a discipline. You start to learn your patterns, the way you think, the way you [use] syntax. Doesn't it feel lighter to be understood by oneself?" The audience nodded in unison.

"For me, my highlight of the event was hearing more of their stories, more of their experiences, and their journey as an artist... [especially] when Tony talked about writing for himself and how he used to be the person in the back of the room," said Nathan Rainey, a local teacher.

Siders closed by encouraging the next generation of storytellers, "Keep going, keep going. It's a long haul, but it is going to be very rewarding."

Poetry served with a side of pozole

Aubrey Amila and Karla Valadez
Contributing Writers

With cold weather settling in, warm cups of pozole brought together students and staff at the sold out "Poetry and Pozole" event hosted in El Centro on Wednesday, Nov. 13.

Rachelle Escamilla, a humanities and communication professor, who has been working at Cal State Monterey Bay for seven years led the evening, which featured poetry readings, educational moments and, of course, plenty of pozole.

As attendees arrived, they were greeted by lively Latin music and a table loaded with pozole rojo, along with sides like cabbage, onion, cilantro and other condiments.

"The pozole was great. I always love free food, especially when it's this good," said Shannon Sondeno, a first-year graduate student.

"Honestly, I've been craving pozole from home. And I feel happy that they are serving it here," said Anjelina Jasso, a first-year computer science major student. "I really like poetry, too, so I was excited to find a group of people that also like poetry."

For Escamilla, who is Monterey County's Poet Laureate, poetry is often utilized "to keep family members who passed away alive by telling them, the audience, their story and making sure that story does not die."



PHOTO BY ELLIOT ROWE

Attendees were able to listen and interpret the poetry that Escamilla wrote as she shared poems written by accomplished writers: Chrystos and MK Chavez, and some excerpts from her book, "Imaginary Animal."

While providing history and culture about the people behind the poems, she seemed to captivate and move the audience,

something that might not have been as impactful without context on the culture that makes and inspires her work.

Natalie Frontella, a first-year graduate student said, "Reading it on your own is one thing, but here, with the story behind it and the person who wrote it reading it aloud, it just feels more impactful."

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Pine nut necklace making celebrates Indigenous joy with Melissa Leal



Attendees made their own pine nut necklaces while learning about Indigenous traditions.

PHOTO BY MADDIE HONOMICHI

Maxwelle Tartaglia
Staff Writer

A brief hike uphill on Wednesday quickly became a lesson in Indigenous traditions as Melissa Leal led students to a pine tree outside the Otter Student Union. Stopping under its branches heavy with pinecones, she explained their significance to California Indigenous communities.

“These pine nuts are food, medicine, and materials for jewelry and regalia,” Leal shared, emphasizing their importance in tradition and daily life. The hike offered students a moment to reflect on the natural resources present on campus and their cultural relevance.

Back inside, participants gathered for a hands-on crafting session in the Otter Student Union (OSU) Ballroom led by Leal. Hosted by the Otter Cross Cultural Center (OC3), Native American Student United Student Organization,

and the OSU, the event blended education with artistry.

Leal, an Esselen and Ohlone educator and scholar, led the workshop with a mix of instruction and conversation, teaching students how to turn pine nuts into necklaces while weaving in stories of their role in Indigenous traditions.

“Typically—and the way I was taught—the first necklace you make, you are going to give it away,” explained Leal. “You are going to give it to someone special. So when you’re making it, that’s what your intention is. You are giving it that energy.”

Around 30 students attended the event, sitting around tables and using nothing but sandpaper and paper clips, to grind pine nut shells into beads. With the shells and a variety of beads provided, they crafted their necklaces, setting their intentions as Leal walked between tables and shared stories.

“I’m making my necklace for my aunt,” said Joe Perez, a third-year Agricultural Plant and Soil Sciences major. “I think she would like it.”

As students ended the evening of jewelry making and story sharing with their own handmade pieces, OC3 coordinator, Victoria Gómez, highlighted the broader goals of the event. “There’s a famous social justice quote that says, ‘Joy is an act of resistance,’” Gómez said.

“When we celebrate Indigenous communities, it’s important to honor their contributions and stories of resilience while also focusing on radical joy. Events like this are about creating that space for both reflection and celebration.”

As the workshop came to an end, Leal brought the attendees together one last time by teaching the group the word “Nimasanexelpasaleki,” an Esselen phrase that conveys gratitude and connection.

CSUMB’s Veterans Resource Center takes pride in serving nontraditional students

Layna Hughes
Contributing Writer

California state-funded colleges are required to provide an assistance center for veterans and military-connected students, but the Veterans Resource Center at Cal State Monterey Bay (CSUMB) goes beyond the mandate to support nontraditional students.

Giselle Young has overseen the Veterans Resource Center since its debut in 2016. In addition to processing educational benefits for nearly 300 military-connected students, Young has transformed the center into a keeper of history for the Fort Ord military base, the site on which CSUMB was built.

“They used to train soldiers here, and now we’re training students to go out into the world and be successful humans,” Young said.

Young has decorated her office, the lobby and the lounge area with Fort Ord memorabilia. Many of the photos, letters and even the American flag in the student lounge are donations from the Fort Ord Alumni Association and the Presidio of Monterey.

Young, who serves as the veteran services coordinator, has had a vision of creating an on-campus museum dedicated to the history of Fort Ord, a goal she has been promoting since the center’s opening.

“It’s not something I’m going to give up on until I retire,” Young said. “The history of this place is amazing and not a lot of people know it and nobody really wants to know it anymore. It’s kind of sad.”

Although the daily turnout isn’t particularly high, Young values the center as a safe space for veterans and military-connected students to bond over shared experiences.



The Veterans Center hopes to create a museum dedicated to the history of Fort Ord.

PHOTO BY ELLIOT ROWE

“Some of our students are combat veterans, and they don’t like to be around big crowds or noisy crowds. Even the library’s a little too busy for them,” Young said. “This is a quieter indoor space where they can feel safe to just put their head down and focus and not have to be on alert.”

Young describes the center’s primary demographic as nontraditional students – those who are often older and potentially have families or off-campus jobs. She is proud of the center’s role in helping them manage their academic responsibilities.

“They’ve been around the world, they’ve done a lot of things, so they’re a little different than a first-time freshman coming right out of high school,” Young said.

“There are a lot of nontraditional students on this campus, and their needs are important too. These are serious students.”

The main thing Young wants students to know about the Veterans Resource Center is, “where it is.”

The center is located on 6th Avenue across from the World Theater in Building 47 Room H110, sharing the space with Student Services. Young knows the center doesn’t get much foot traffic being that it’s based on the outer rim of campus.

“We were a stop on the trick-or-treat trail, and we got like four people. That was it,” said Young. “It would be nice if everybody knew where we were – or knew that they could just call and say, ‘Hey, where are you?’”

Pulitzer Prize winner and activist visits Monterey Bay



Jose Antonio Vargas spoke to attendees about his life story and why finding support is important.

PHOTO BY MADDIE HONOMICHI

Aubrey Amila and Max English
Contributing Writers

Pulitzer Prize-winning writer Jose Antonio Vargas shared an important lived experience with Cal State Monterey Bay (CSUMB) students last week.

"Find your core of support," Vargas told a group of 33 students at the Otter Student Union (OSU) Ballroom. "It is just as important as getting your degree. You gotta go find them."

Vargas, originally from Rizal, Philippines, emigrated at age of 12. Seeking a better life, he lived in the United States with his grandparents until he was 16 when he attempted to get his driver's license.

At that time, his family made him aware that he was never eligible for documentation and he had been living a "lie" since. In the 27 years after, he has been living undocumented and unapologetically.

mented and unapologetically.

Jose Antonio Vargas is now a notable author, Pulitzer-winning journalist, Emmy-nominated filmmaker and Tony-nominated theatrical producer. In his very first appearance on campus, Vargas shared his pride in being the first undocumented person to be appointed as a California State University (CSU) trustee.

"What brought me to this event was the topic of being an undocumented citizen," said Maria Torres, a third-year psychology major, who recalls how it has been a struggle for most of her family who came from Mexico to get papers.

Vargas brought up the importance of dream centers such as UndocuSuccess and the Otter Cross Cultural Center in a university setting and compared it to when he was in college in the early 2000s. "There was nothing. There was no support, we couldn't talk about it. Even if you did talk

about it, people did not know how to help you. It almost felt like it was something you could not say out loud," said Vargas. The CSU system has about 10,000 undocumented students. These dream centers can be a safe haven for these students to ask questions and seek further resources.

Vargas passionately highlighted a question for fellow CSU trustees and university officials: "How do we make sure that students can use their degrees so they can make a living out of it?" This question was especially daunting, as undocumented students often have greater difficulty finding employment than students with documentation.

Having read his memoir a dozen times, Evie Holl, is a fourth-year global studies major focusing on cultural intersectionality and is currently a study abroad advisor. She said that the themes she connected to personally were shared queerness, the idea of what "home" is and finding identity. She connected to Vargas' idea that "home is the people who make it home."

CSUMB students focus on wellness at Sleepy Hygiene Chat & Craft

Maxwellle Tartaglia
Staff Writer

Students at Cal State Monterey Bay (CSUMB) crafted personalized eye masks while learning about healthy sleep habits during the "Sleepy Hygiene Chat & Craft" event on Wednesday.

Hosted by the Student Housing and Residential Life (SHRL) Programming Board and the Personal Growth and Counseling Center (PGCC), the event emphasized the importance of sleep hygiene through discussions, hands-on activities, and wellness resources.

The event was originally conceived by Milo Drake, a first-year business administration major and student assistant with the SHRL Programming Board. It is one of many events Drake has organized as part of the Mini Monte Mayhem initiative, which aims to help students connect with campus resources and build community.

The event began with a discussion on the benefits of sleep hygiene, led by PGCC staff. Students learned how to improve their nightly routines, develop better habits and explore wellness resources like YOU@CSUMB to support their overall health.

"It made me think of how I like to journal before bed, so I thought an event centering [on] sleep hygiene and nightly routines might be beneficial for other students," said Drake.

After receiving their tips, students were invited to develop

their own personalized sleep strategies to improve their nightly routines and promote better sleep quality. After turning in a "sleep plan," students designed and bejeweled their very own sleep mask.

"I love having events that vary in purpose and style. We talk about wellness, but oftentimes we forget to highlight the importance of sleep and how to build habits to encourage prioritizing one's health," said Joselyn Martin, assistant director for programming and engagement,

Drake not only developed the theme but also partnered with the PGCC, organized the crafting activity and connected the event to the broader Mini Monte Mayhem initiative.

"Milo has incorporated a fun activity such as decorating a sleep mask, partnered with an important office at CSUMB and tripled a student's incentive to participate by connecting it with the Mini Monte Mayhem initiative," Martin said. "Very rarely do we see any events include so many components that the participant doesn't necessarily realize exist but are thoughtfully put together by an event planner."

Drake emphasized the initiative's goal of fostering connections between students and campus resources:

"All of the Mini Monte Mayhem events are meant to encourage students to engage with resources or groups on campus. These events are meant to create a place for students to practice using resources before they need them in critical moments."



ILLUSTRATION BY ZOE KAPP

NEMO

Denali Spector

Photo of the Week Winner

This image reflects the story of how Nemo discovered bravery.

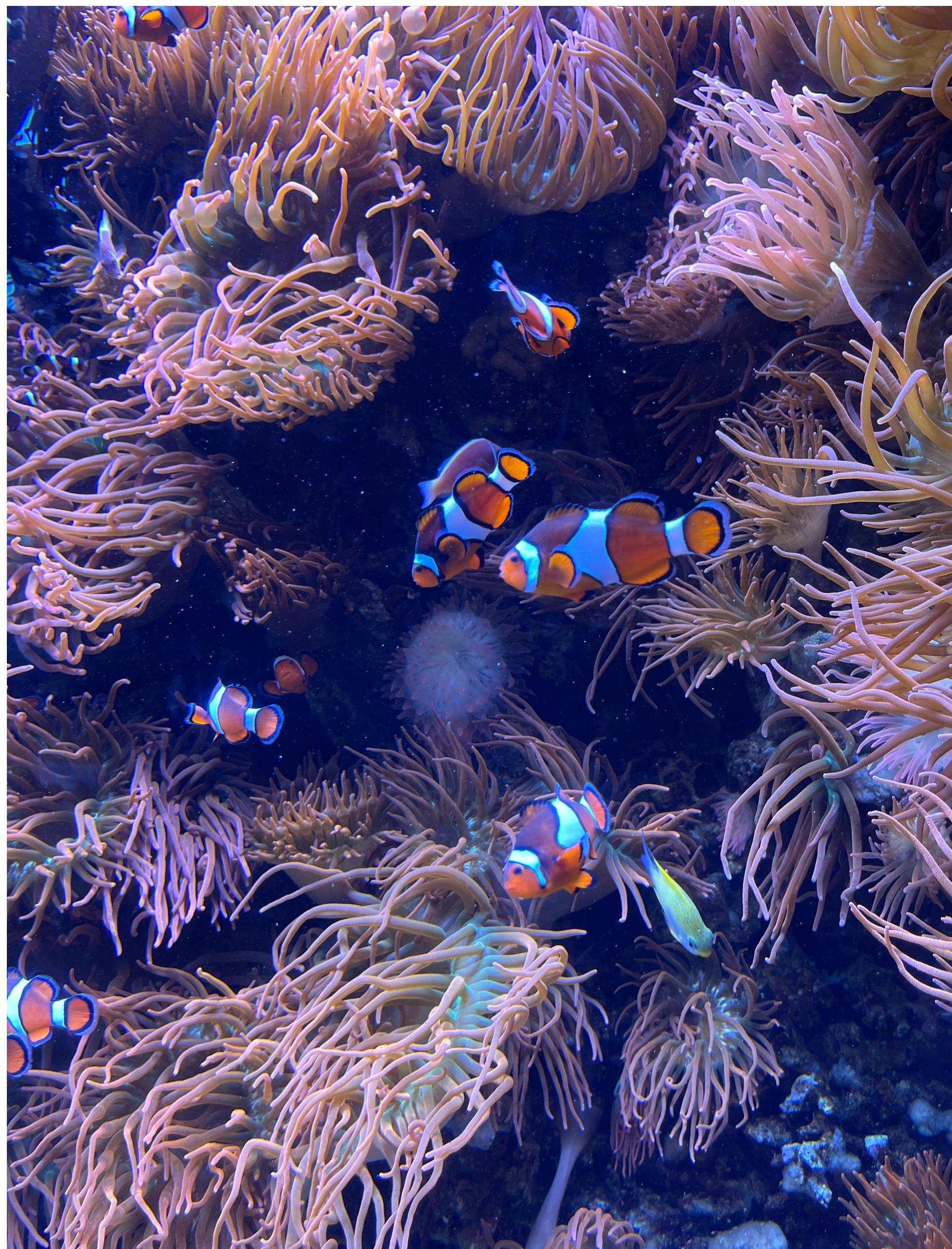


Photo of the Week

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!



'Heretic' to adherent: the psychological thriller raising all the questions



SCREENSHOT PROVIDED BY JAELLYN A DIOKNO

Francine Pamplona and Hayley Matto

Staff and Contributing Writer

"It's a simple choice that should not be made simply: belief or disbelief?" This haunting quote from "Heretic" perfectly captures the moral turmoil at the heart of this new psychological thriller. The film follows two young missionaries who, after knocking on the door of the mysterious and sinister Mr. Reed, find themselves trapped in his maze-like home—a house designed to reflect the seven levels of hell from Dante's "Inferno." As they navigate his deadly experiment, the pair of sisters must make life-or-death decisions guided by their faith if they hope to survive.

Hugh Grant stars as a calculated manipulator, exploring the complexities of faith, control and human vulnerability. This film kept us both on the edge of our seats, forcing us to question not just the characters' beliefs but our own. If you're looking for a movie that'll make you think long after the credits roll, "Heretic" is one we highly recommend catching while it's still in theaters.

Francine here—what sets "Heretic" apart from other religious horror films is its fresh focus on Mormonism rather than the familiar Christian and Catholic themes that often dominate the genre. In pop culture, Mormons have become a more frequent subject of conversation, seen in everything from reality show "The Secret Lives of Mormon Wives" to the rise of Swig soda, making the film's decision to dive into this belief system particularly eye-catching.

Instead of relying on supernatural forces or demons, the film delves into the darker, human side of religion, commenting on how faith can be used to control and break people. By focusing on this particular belief system, the

film raises questions about the power of organized faith and how it can be twisted for personal gain, without resorting to typical horror tropes.

The cinematography and sound design play crucial roles in creating the film's unnerving atmosphere. Close-up shots during moments of anxiety draw viewers deep into the sisters' discomfort, making every bead of sweat and nervous gulp feel personal. These intimate visual elements are paired perfectly with sound—or the lack thereof.

Profound silences during key moments make the tension almost unbearable, and when the quiet is finally broken, it feels as though the entire theater exhales. This combination of tight visuals and eerie sound design immerses viewers in an experience that keeps them on edge from start to finish.

Hayley here—alongside the immersive experience, the well-written script and pacing kept the story flowing while making the audience feel as though they were trapped alongside the sisters. Beyond simply observing, viewers become active participants in the tension. The angles and tracking shots of Grant helped to further amplify his character's control over the situation, making his presence even more commanding.

When listing the accolades of this film, Grant's acting cannot be pushed to the wayside either. Creating a captivating argument for why one should have belief or disbelief in faith, Grant's ability to command a room—and the audience—went well past the screen and into the theater with his monologue delivery. His performance will undoubtedly be one of the most discussed and remembered features of the film.



SCREENSHOT PROVIDED BY HAYLEY MATTO

"Heretic" is a film that ends in theaters but lingers in the minds of its audience, sparking discussion and debates about its themes. We give it four out of five stars—worthy of a rewatch and even an after-party for viewers to converse and contemplate the many themes and questions it proposes.

Top 3 things to do without a car

Simur Kaur Badhwar

Contributing Writer

Here are some walking-friendly and bus-friendly local adventures to go on.

First, remember Cal State Monterey Bay (CSUMB) students get to ride the bus for free using our student IDs. You just swipe your student ID card in the slot right next to where one would normally insert their bus pass.

People often dismiss bussing for a multitude of reasons, but Marina, Seaside, Sand City and Monterey buses are actually super simple, clean, environmentally more efficient and, most importantly, free. CSUMB has a few bus stops on campus: the main one is right next to the alumni visitor center; two of them are across the street from each other on Inter-Garrison Road right after the crosswalk between North Quad and main campus; there's also one right outside the Otter Sports Center.

You can navigate the bus systems pretty easily with Google Maps. To find the most efficient trip, type in where you want to go and switch the transportation from car to bus. If you're still against bussing, there are also walking-friendly activities on this list.

1. Beach Day

If you live on campus or in this area and haven't been to the beach yet, make it a priority. With how beautiful our local sand dunes are, beach trips are a must. Students on campus are lucky enough to have a beach that's just a 30-minute walk from campus. Fort Ord Dunes Trail is a beautiful walk through the dunes and will take you to a more private beach right next to campus. If you're looking for other beaches in the area, the Bus 18 can take you to Marina State Beach, Sand City Beach and Del Monte Beach depending on which Bus 18 you take.



2. Park Adventure

Adulting is hard, and sometimes all you want to do is go on a swing set and slide down a slide made for children. Or, if play structures aren't your thing, you can enjoy the grass on a picnic blanket and romanticize your homework, surrounded by daisies under the sun. There are so many great parks that are within walking distance from campus. If you want to explore the neighborhoods off of California Drive down the street from Promontory, there's a bunch hidden in those suburban roundabouts.



3. Cafe Crawl

This one is more for those of you who are willing to utilize the free bus system, but cafe hopping is one of the best ways to get in your daily dose of caffeine while getting your work done. If you're the kind of person who likes to take breaks and change the scenery while doing your homework, a cafe crawl is for you. Just hop on the bus to a cute cafe and then when you need a homework break or a fresh cup of coffee, hop back on the bus to a different cafe, and repeat!

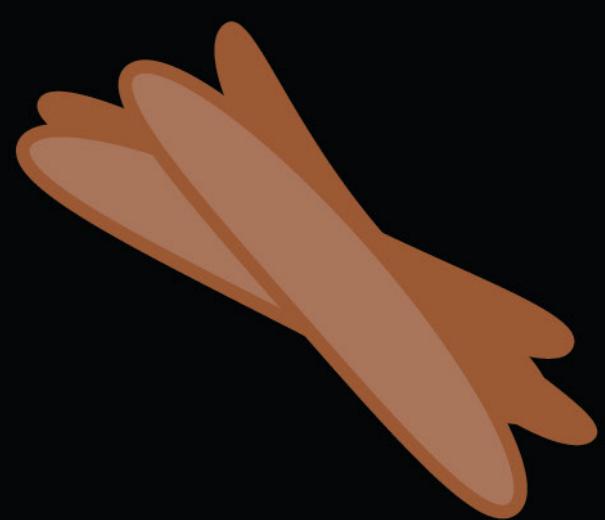


SCREENSHOTS PROVIDED BY SIMUR KAUR BADHWAR

This will allow you to explore the area you live in better, along with getting acquainted with the best local cafe experiences. If you are in need of cafe recommendations, check out our article, "Top 5 Local Bakeries & Sweet Treats."

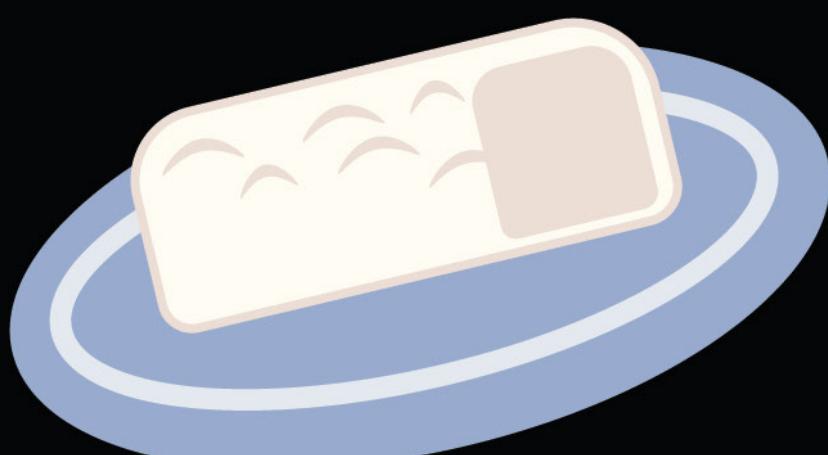
Enjoy the student life of having free bus privileges and having absolutely no worries about gas prices or parking. No car? No problem!

5 items from
TRADEJOE'S
you need in your cart



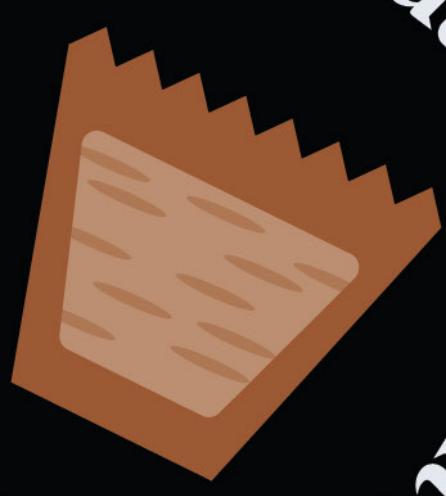
**Chili & Lime
Rolled Tortilla
Chips**

**Garlic
Naan**



**Goat
Cheese**

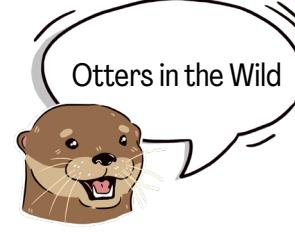
Dark Chocolate Peanut Butter Cups



**Sublime
Ice Cream
Sandwiches**



What is your favorite rainy-day song and why?

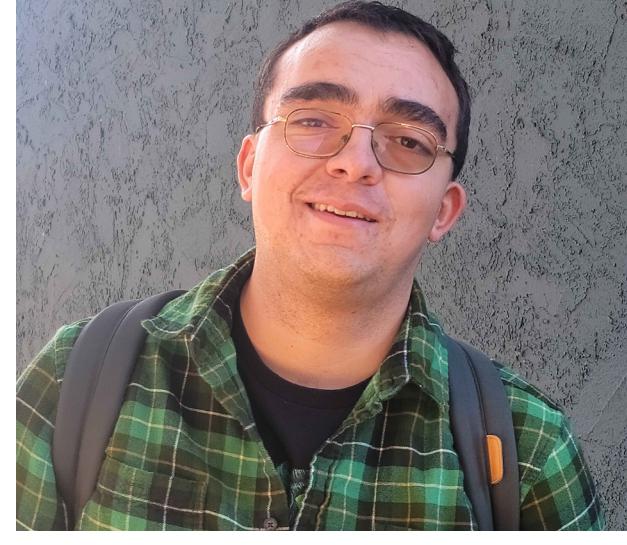


Sean Tubo
Staff Writer



Daisy Sanchez

Third-year English subject matter preparation major
"My favorite rainy-day song is 'Fade Into You' by Mazzy Star because they're one of my favorite bands and when I was younger, my mom would play it every single rainy day."



John McDonough

Fourth-year cinematic arts and technology major
"Probably 'Street Spirit (Fade Out)' by Radiohead. It's the final track off 'The Bends'. It's really good."



Aine O'Toole

Third-year marine science major
"Recently, I've been listening to a lot of 'The Crane Wives,' so I guess 'Curses' by The Crane Wives. I don't know— it just kind of has autumn vibes"

Upcoming Events

Monday, Nov. 18

Kicking off International Education Week, International Student & Scholar Services is hosting a Diversity March. The march will start at 11 a.m. at Gavilan Hall and end at the Otter Student Union.

Monday, Nov. 18

Interested in learning about building and maintaining your credit score? Check out Otter Credit 101 hosted by Associated Students at 4 p.m. in library room 1180. Associated Students Vice President of Financial Affairs Andrew Nino will be sharing how to build credit, answer questions about credit and explain how to maintain your score.

Monday, Nov. 18

Basic Needs is hosting Glow in the Dark yoga from 5:15 to 6:30 p.m. in the Otter Student Union Ballroom. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own yoga equipment and pre-register on MyRaft.

Wednesday, Nov. 20

Project Rebound is hosting a family-friendly movie night, screening "We Can Be Heroes." There will be kid-friendly snacks provided and popcorn. The movie starts at 6 p.m. in the Project Rebound Living Room, Dunes Hall (Building 10).

Thursday, Nov. 21

Keawe Auelua-Block, head of engagement strategy at Google, will be speaking during an online session at 10:30 a.m. All majors are invited to the talk where Auelua-Block will be sharing tips and techniques to land your first job and prepare for your career after college.

Thursday, Nov. 21

The annual Great American Smokeout hosted by the American Cancer Society will take place during Otter Thursday. The event will provide resources and ways to find support during the quitting journey. Free quit kits will be available and community partner Sun Street Centers will be in attendance.

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

WORD SCRAMBLE

Can you unscramble these Thanksgiving-related words?

kutyre

iknmpup epi

rycabrrren casue

tsewe aotpeost

amsehd opteatso

nrege nbesa

gfutnfi

lolfbato

vygar

almyfl

ANSWERS:

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

Football, family
pie, sweet potatoes, green beans,
potatoes, stuffing, gravy, pumpkin
turkey, cranberry sauce, mashed

