

Soaring Eagle Press e-Edition
Templeton's "Almost Daily" News

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25th

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This WEDNESDAY UPDATE is brought to you by the folks at

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Good Evening!

While I was in Templeton to cover two different student awards today, I had a few minutes between appointments to motor out Vineyard Drive to check out the spot where the closure had occurred below VES. Much to my chagrin, signs indicating that the road was closed to thru traffic were still out and I discovered that much more than the usual flooding at that spot had caused the closure. Please see "CORRECTION" below.

Also in this update:

- Recreation News – Boat launches re-open at Lopez and Santa Margarita Lakes
- Mid-State Fair News – 2017 theme announced / CEO hints at some exciting new changes & additions for this year's Fair
- Job Openings at TCSD – Wanted: Engineering Technician and Parks Maintenance Worker
- Take your Valentine to dinner and the theatre
- Reminders – The Chamber will hold an "After 5" Mixer tomorrow, Castoro Cellars will hold their monthly "Sunday Yoga & Brunch" on the 29th, and Symphony of the Vines will perform on the 29th as well. For more information on these items, please see the Bulletin Board at www.soaringeaglepress.com
- In Case You Missed It – TAAG announces candidates for March 2nd election

CORRECTION



Above: County Road workers discuss the progress of work and what was still needed to re-open Vineyard Drive as a heavy equipment operator continues to scrape very wet mud from the road to the road side for loading into the next truck that will haul it away. Workers estimated that a minimum of 1200 cubic yards of material – possibly more – had already been removed.

VINEYARD DRIVE BELOW VES STILL NOT OPEN – In the Tuesday Update (Jan 24), it was stated that Vineyard Drive just past Vineyard Elementary School (VES) when driving toward Turley Vineyards and on to 46W had re-opened. That was incorrect.

Historically, Vineyard Drive at this location floods somewhat during heavy rains, but usually drained relatively well with little or no erosion from the surrounding hillsides.

However, the heavy rainfall over the weekend eroded neighboring hillsides that had been denuded of vegetation and a great deal of sediment plugged up the drainage in that area. Once that happened, the roadway was inundated with copious amounts of very wet mud.

In a conversation with Tim Cate, San Luis Obispo County Department of Public Works Roads Division Manager today, he shared that the mudslide was still very wet and difficult to handle. “Our crews are working as hard as we can to get that road re-opened,” said Cate. “Hopefully it will open by the end of the week.”

Several large truckloads of the very wet material had been removed by early this afternoon. Crews continued to work on site. Please visit the County website for up to date road closures and conditions at www.slocounty.ca.gov/PW/roadrestrictions.htm for more information.

RECREATION NEWS

BOAT LAUNCHES RE-OPEN – The “pineapple express” has delivered rain and more rain, and the lakes in the San Luis Obispo County (SLOC) Parks system are filling fast. As a result, County Parks announced today that specific boat launches at both Lopez and Santa Margarita Lakes have been re-opened.

“We’re excited about our lakes filling up and seeing local boaters getting ready for a great year of boating, fishing, and water sports,” said Stacey King, SLOC Parks Operations Coordinator.

Lopez Lake has risen ten (10) vertical feet, re-filling the drought stricken dry arms and coves with both water and fish. Hillsides are green, flowers will be blooming soon and the lake is great for fishing. As a result, the main boat ramp is now open for use.

“Nestled in the southern Santa Lucia Range, Lopez Lake will be fantastic this spring with wildlife, flowers, intermittent waterfalls, and numerous recreational opportunities,” continued King.

The hidden gem, Santa Margarita Lake, has risen over thirty-five (35) vertical feet with more to come. The once dry canyons are filling fast as the recently quiet Salinas River is flowing once again. Santa Margarita Lake also promises some great fishing, amazing scenery, and pristine natural settings. Like Lopez Lake, the main boat ramp is now open for use.

Other boat launching areas at the two lakes are still closed, but will open when and if conditions permit.

County Parks and Recreation is asking boaters to be cautious during stormy periods, as floating debris and submerged hazards may exist. Five (5) mile-per-hour speed limits will be enforced as conditions warrant. Please see a Park Ranger for boating safety tips, wear life jackets, and be safe.

Quagga and Zebra Mussels are a continuing threat to local waterways and present a negative environmental impact on California’s reservoirs and waterways. The County is continuing mussel control inspection protocols for every vessel entering Lopez and Santa Margarita Lakes. Boaters must drain, clean and dry their boats, trailers, and equipment.

Both lakes provide opportunities for boating, camping, hiking, and much more. For more information, please visit www.sloountyparks.org.

VALENTINE'S DAY EVENT

"WEST SIDE" DINNER THEATRE – Templeton High School (THS) Drama Boosters presents a special Valentine's event on Saturday, February 11th at 6 pm in Templeton American Legion Hall – the "West Side" Dinner Theatre. Bring your special valentine, enjoy a delicious dinner, be entertained by amazing musical numbers from the upcoming THS Drama performance of "West Side Story", and participate in a live and silent auction. Tickets are \$30 for adults; \$20 for children 12 and under and can be purchased at www.thsvalentinedinner.bpt.me/.

MID-STATE FAIR NEWS

2017 THEME ANNOUNCED – The California Mid-State Fair (CMSF) has chosen "Come One, Come All!" as for this year's theme. The tagline will be featured throughout the 2017 Fair, appearing in exhibits, demonstrations, printed materials, and billboards in addition to being used on the Fair's website and app.

"We're extremely excited about this year's theme and the many, many ways to incorporate the festive atmosphere into the 2017 Fair," said Michael Bradley, CMSF CEO. "We're dedicated to making the Fair the most fun twelve (12) days on the Central Coast and I can't wait to showcase our changes and improvements."

"In fact, in just a few weeks, you'll be hearing about a major change that fits the theme extremely well and corresponds directly with our carnival area," continued Bradley. "If you haven't been to the fair in a while, you will not want to miss this year!"

"There will truly be something for all ages with new areas, new demonstrations, and new exhibits. Like the tagline says, "Come One, Come All!"

The 2017 California Mid-State Fair will run July 19 thru 30 this year. For more information, please visit the website at www.midstatefair.com.

JOB OPENINGS AT TCSD

Templeton Community Services District is recruiting for the following positions:

ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN (ADMINISTRATIVE) – The successful applicant will have strong verbal & written communication skills to provide a variety of office and field work necessary to support water, sewer, and stormwater permits. The position provides coordination of water & sewer applications and permits including inspection and follow up of public and private facilities to ensure compliance with District, state and federal regulations. This position includes public education and outreach, and coordination/development of Wastewater, Water, and Recycling programs; and performs a variety of technical tasks. Salary: \$3,296.50 to \$4,870.44 a month (\$19.02 to \$28.10 per hour), DOE, plus benefits.

PARKS MAINTENANCE WORKER – The successful applicant will perform various parks, landscape and/or facilities maintenance along with repair and installation work, and perform various other duties as assigned. Salary: \$2,285.62 to \$3,376.91 per month (\$13.19 to \$19.48 per hour), DOE, plus benefits.

For additional information, including job qualifications, benefits, and applications go to www.templetoncsd.org. Successful hires shall be fingerprinted, will be required to pass an entry exam, interview, and District paid physical examination.

The deadline to apply is Thursday, February 16th for the first review. The positions are open until filled.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

From the Tuesday, January 24th Update...

TAAG CANDIDATES ANNOUNCED – Six (6) candidates have stepped up to the plate to run for a seat on the Templeton Area Advisory Group (**TAAG election on March 2nd**). The upcoming election will be to fill three (3) voting delegate and two (2) alternate positions from this roster of candidates.

The candidates include: Bob Bejarano, Chris Cobey, Elaine Mattson, Matt Parker, Frank Scotti, and Joel Woodruff.

Other than contact email addresses, this is all the information that is available at this time. TAAG will be posting some basic info on each candidate on their website at www.taaginfo.org by the end of the week. And Soaring Eagle Press (SEP) has sent out an invitation to each of the candidates to participate in an SEP Online Forum that will be posted at www.soaringeaglepress.com on or around February 15th.

TAAG is a County Advisory Council (CAC) made up of local volunteers who are elected by registered voters living and registered within the boundaries of the Templeton Unified School District (TUSD). This area is almost 100 square miles in size and includes the town of Templeton in addition to parts of El Pomar, Santa Rita, York Mountain, Adelaida, and Willow Creek.

As a County recognized CAC, TAAG reviews and gathers public input on various zoning and land use issues (essentially building and development), as well as traffic circulation and roads, along with related projects and legislative items (for example: Oak Tree and Ag Pond Ordinances). TAAG's recommendations and related public input are then forwarded to various County agencies including the Board of Supervisors for consideration – effectively giving the residents of the greater Templeton area a voice in these matters.

Resolution 96-485 adopted on December 10, 1996 by the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors established the criteria for recognizing advisory councils as representatives of community opinion. The criteria for recognition in the 1996 resolution included:

- The advisory body must represent a defined area
- It should reflect a broad cross-section of the community it serves
- Meetings should occur regularly, be publicly noticed, and open to all members of the public
- Bylaws must be established
- And recommendations made by the advisory body to the Planning Commission and/or Board of Supervisors must be based on a majority vote of a quorum of the membership of the advisory council – with as much public input as is feasible

There will be more information on TAAG and the upcoming election in the next few updates.

As always, please share this information with your friends and neighbors throughout the almost 100 square miles of the greater Templeton area.

To subscribe to Templeton's "Almost Daily", please send a request for a subscription to the Soaring Eagle Press Editor (see email address below signature), and include the email address your copy of the paper will be delivered to in the body of your email.

Thank you,

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“If we can’t get it right at the local, grass roots level, how in the world can we expect to get it right at the county, state, and federal levels?” nanette fisher