

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

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15th

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This WEDNESDAY UPDATE is brought to you by

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COMMUNITY

THS STEM/ADMIN BUILDING RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY POSTPONED (AUG 15) –

Originally scheduled for Thursday, August 16th, the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and tour of the new STEM building and office facilities at Templeton High School (THS) has been postponed to an as yet to be determined date. "With staff settling into their new buildings and making sure we're ready for the first day of school on Monday, we have decided it is in the best interest of all to postpone the ribbon cutting ceremony to a later date," said an email from the school district's Support Services Administrative Secretary Brandi Javine. "The start of the school year is always an extremely busy time of year. This year is particularly busy at [THS] as construction of the new STEM and Administration Building is completed. We are eager to show off our new facilities in a way that makes the community proud to have supported this initiative [Measure H-12]. We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused and look forward to inviting you to tour this new building very soon."

DON'T MISS THE LAST 2018 SUMMER CONCERT IN THE PARK! (AUG 15) –

Featuring the country sounds of "Monty Mills & the Lucky Horseshoe Band", Templeton Summer Concerts in the Park will conclude next Wednesday (Aug 22) from 6 to 8 pm in Templeton Park. Once again, Templeton Market & Deli will provide the ice cream, toppings, and everything necessary for school district administrators to scoop and top into sundaes for all comers. Come on out and celebrate the last great 2018 Summer Concert in the Park, the start of school and the end of summer with your Templeton friends and neighbors!

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

WORK CONTINUES TO SAVE TEMPLETON FIRE –

A special committee meeting has been called to discuss special district fire protection and a communications strategy prior to seeking voter/property owner approval for Fire Department revenue enhancement. The Templeton Community Services District (TCSD) Fire & Emergency Management Committee will meet tomorrow (Thurs, Aug 16) at 1:30 pm in the Templeton Community Center (Women's Clubhouse at 601 S. Main). The agenda includes [1] a special district fire protection study meeting with San Luis Obispo County consultants that will cover (a) general background on fire protection, (b) special district situation analysis, and (c) County Fire's relationship to special districts. In addition, [2] the committee will discuss strategic communications options for use prior to seeking voter or property owner approved revenue

enhancement (monies to cover Fire Department funding deficiencies). Finally, [3] staff will provide an update on current Templeton Fire & Emergency Services operations and challenges – particularly during the challenging summer months and fire season. For more information, please [CLICK HERE](#) to download the 13 page agenda packet. The community is encouraged to attend.

REFUSE RATES AND THE STATE OF RECYCLABLES TO BE DISCUSSED FRIDAY – Solid Waste rates and the impact of the recyclables market will be discussed on Friday along with an update on Templeton Parks & Recreation summer activities. The Templeton Community Services District (TCSD) Parks, Recreation and Refuse Committee will meet on Friday (Aug 17) at 8 am in the TCSD boardroom (5th and Crocker next to the Fire Station). The agenda includes [1] an update on this summer’s activities provided by Templeton Parks & Recreation, [2] an overview of potential rate changes for solid waste service, and [3] a report by Brad Goodrow of Mid-State Solid Waste & Recycling on the status of recyclables. For more information, please [CLICK HERE](#) to download the 3 page agenda packet. The community is encouraged to attend.

Editor’s Note! Please see the section titled “Talking Trash” for more information on the challenges in the recycling industry.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT

COUNTY PARKS REACHES A LARGE AUDIENCE AT THE MID-STATE FAIR (AUG 3) *From Supervisor John Peschong* – County Parks had a booth at this year’s Mid-State Fair that featured displays, videos of a coming trail map app, a display of new features coming to El Chorro Park that included a go-kart to sit in, and a game board where visitors to the booth could win various small prizes all the way up to a free night of camping or a free day use pass. Over 6,000 people subscribed to the Parks email list and played the game to win prizes. Over 2,000 kids played a game to match animals to their tracks and skulls. This represents the most visitors to the County Parks booth since it’s been at the fair, and is a great way that staff can bring the parks to people to encourage them to come out and enjoy all that County Parks has to offer.

ELECTION NEWS

TEMPLETON BALLOT FOR NOV 6 ELECTION IS DECIDED – NO ELECTION FOR TCSD (AUG 15) – With four candidates on the ballot for two seats on the school board, Templeton voters will have an opportunity to choose who will serve on their behalf. These candidate include Katrina Merson, Jan Nimick, Matt Vierra, and Barbi Lichti Wunsch. Former Templeton Community Services (TCSD) Director Geoff English and incumbent Wayne Petersen threw their hats into the ring for the two open seats on the TCSD Board of Directors. The good news is that the seats on Templeton’s “town council” will be filled – but not through an election. Because only two candidates are running for two seats, Templeton voters won’t have a choice. The two candidates will be appointed by the Board of Supervisors in lieu of an election.

POLICE & FIRE LOGS

FERGUSON FIRE NOW 87 PERCENT CONTAINED (AUG 15 @ 7 am) – Firefighters are monitoring the progress of the fire backing down the canyon slope between Wawona Road and the Merced River near Elephant Rock. As the fire burns away from containment lines, the threats of spot fires outside the established hand line will diminish. Suppression repair efforts continue on the

remaining portions of the fire perimeter. The main effort of the repair group is to mitigate the effects of suppression. This may include repairing dozer and hand lines, using heavy equipment to build water bars, and bring in berms and vegetation.

YOSEMITE VALLEY NOW OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – Yosemite Valley is only accessible from Hwy 140 and Hwy 120. Wawona and Mariposa Grove are only accessible from Hwy 41. As visitors and residents return to the area, they may continue to see visible smoke within the perimeter of the fire. Fire equipment and personnel are sharing the road with visitors. Please drive defensively and slow down when approaching fire equipment parked along park roads and turnouts. For information regarding visiting Yosemite Park, please call (209) 372-0200 or visit the Yosemite National Park website at www.nps.gov/yose.

SMOKY CONDITIONS REMAIN IN THE AREA – Smoke and fire, like wind and waterfalls are part of Yosemite’s natural environment. Mornings can be smoky and unhealthy when fires are burning in the area. Smoke conditions improve with elevation and distance from the fire area. More information can be found at <https://tools.airfire.org/outlooks/YosemiteArea>.

CURRENT FIRE STATISTICS – The Ferguson Fire has been burning since July 13th, has consumed a total of 96,810 acres, and as of this morning, containment is at 87 percent. The fire is now the largest in the Sierra National Forest’s history. As of this morning, 35 engines, 4 water tenders, 3 helicopters, 6 crews, 14 dozers, 2 masticators and a total of 826 personnel are dedicated to the Ferguson Fire. To date, there have been no civilian injuries or fatalities, but 15 firefighters have been injured and 2 lost their lives fighting this fire. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

HEALTH & FITNESS

COUNTY 2017/18 MENTAL HEALTH PLAN YIELDS GOOD RESULTS (AUG 3) *From Supervisor John Peschong* – The County Behavioral Health Department has concluded an internal review of its Quality Support Team (QST) Work Plan, which identifies key areas of focus for San Luis Obispo County’s (SLOC) Mental Health Plan (MHP). The evaluation focused on key goals to improve access, monitor service quality, increase capacity, and measure consumer satisfaction. Highlighted achievements include reduced wait time for adults, studies of regional and age group demands that have prompted new performance improvement plans for improved service delivery, expanded Spanish language capacity across clinics, and a customer service survey showing that 91 percent of 635 respondents agreed or strongly agreed that they were satisfied with their services. The report also recognizes several goals from the previous year’s improvement plan that have been met. To review the 2017/18 Plan, please [CLICK HERE](#).

WEATHER & AIR QUALITY

FORECAST COMFORTABLE FOR START OF SCHOOL (AUG 15) – If the forecast holds, Templeton should see cooler temperatures by Sunday, dropping to the mid-high 80’s through next Friday. The current forecast for the first day of school in Templeton is a comfortable 85 degrees, and the forecast for Templeton’s LAST Summer Concert on Wednesday, August 22nd is a balmy 87 degrees.

[THURS 89, FRI 92, SAT 92, SUN 89, MON 85, TUES 86, WED 87, THURS 86, FRI 85]

NORTH COUNTY AIR QUALITY SLIGHTLY IMPROVED (AUG 15) – The Air Quality Index (AQI) as of this afternoon is listed as medium-moderate. Unusually sensitive people should consider reducing prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors. For more information, please [CLICK HERE](#).

TALKING TRASH

Editor's Note! For years, Californians have been patting themselves on the back for the great job they perceived themselves to be doing when it came to recycling. But what few knew was that a significant percentage of what was recycled here was being shipped to China for processing and manufacturing into usable products. In the meantime, the recyclers and environmentalists pointed fingers at China for what the finger pointers believed was poor environmental policies, major manufacturing discharges to the environment, and a significant impact by China on what many perceive as anthropogenic global warming/climate change. Now California's chickens have come home to roost. Not because of trade issues with the current President – but because some months previous to the current tariff wars, China decided to take steps to clean up its environment. Who's really been responsible for the environmental pollution coming out of China?

“China’s recycling restrictions hit U.S. towns”

CBS MONEYWATCH – August 15, 2018

By Irina Ivanova

The latest trade disputes between the U.S. and China have focused on items like steel, aluminum, and agricultural goods.

But there's another trade crisis that's getting somewhat less attention. The trade in recyclables...

Since January, when China tightened the standards for waste it would accept, its imports of solid waste have dropped by more than 50 percent – and that's a problem for many U.S. municipalities.

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to read more.

Editor's Note! It is also important to note that with the bottom dropping out of the recyclables market, the town of Templeton and the greater Templeton area is also affected. Tighter controls over what can be recycled along with the need to find a market for CLEAN glass, plastics, paper, aluminum, and other recyclables is not only increasing costs, but increasing the amount of waste going to landfills – and increasing the illegal dumping of waste both on land and in the ocean. For more, please see the item on Wednesday's TCS D Fire & Refuse Committee Meeting in this Update.

WATER NEWS

PRECIOUS RAIN – SLOW IT DOWN & SOAK IT UP

Help replenish water resources - design landscaping to limit runoff and soak up the rain

“Can California’s wild and scenic rivers stay that way?”

KQED Science – August 15, 2018

By Craig Miller

Spot Quiz: Of the dozens of rivers that flow through California, how many are completely undammed?

Answer: Just one, but that number would likely be zero, if it were not for a law passed by Congress 50 years ago – The Wild & Scenic Rivers Act.

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to read more.

ROADS & TRAFFIC

PLAN FOR DETOURS AND DELAYS

WORK ON MAIN STREET SCHEDULED TO START SEPTEMBER 4th – Work on the long-awaited Main Street project in Templeton is scheduled to begin right after Labor Day on Tuesday, September 4th. According to San Luis Obispo County Transportation Programs Manager Don Spagnolo, the work will ramp up slowly as the contractor begins with side of the road fixes prior to the more intensive preparations necessary to repave the street. With school starting on August 20th, the September start date will give school traffic an opportunity to settle down into a predictable pattern before the heavier construction begins. More information will be available in the not too distant future.

REMEMBER TO USE CAUTION WHEN TRAVELING ON LAS TABLAS NEAR THE WASTEWATER PROJECT CONSTRUCTION SITES

NEW EVENT LISTING

TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR THE 2ND ANNUAL FFA TRACTOR PULL – The Templeton FFA Support Club put on the very first Tractor Pull last October at Chesebrough Farms. The event was a huge success with over 1,000 people in attendance. It was so popular, that FFA is bringing this BIG event back! The 2nd Annual Templeton FFA Tractor Pull will be held on Saturday, October 6th – once again at Chesebrough Farms. The gates open at 1 pm and the event starts at 2 pm. Tickets are \$10 per person with children 6 and under FREE. To purchase tickets online, please [CLICK HERE](#).

REMINDERS

THS FOOTBALL DINNER & AUCTION FUNDRAISER SCHEDULED FOR AUG 25 – Every year as school gears up and football season opens, local folks gather with friends and neighbors to enjoy a good meal and the company of fellow football enthusiasts, while prognosticating about the upcoming season, and raising funds to help support the Templeton High School Football Program. This year, the dinner with both a live and silent auction will be held on Saturday, August 25th in Templeton American Legion Hall (8th & S. Main). The event begins with a “social hour” at 5 pm, when attendees will have an opportunity to meet the Varsity Coaches and bid in the silent auction while enjoying hors d’oeuvres and adult beverages. A delicious steak dinner (that’s right, steak!) with all the trimmings will be served at 6 pm, and an exciting live auction will start around 7 pm. Tickets are \$45 per person or \$500 for a VIP table for eight (8) – cash or check only, please. To purchase tickets, please contact Wendy Rasmussen at (805) 423-0169. For more information, please [CLICK HERE](#) for a copy of the event flyer.

PUBLIC WORKSHOP ON WATER & SEWER RATE CHANGES IS AUGUST 30 – The Templeton Community Services District (TCSD) provides drinking water service to approximately 2,800 accounts including homes and businesses. TCSD also provides sewer conveyance, treatment, and disposal to about 2,200 accounts. TCSD’s water and sewer utilities rely on rates paid by customers to fund the costs for operations and maintenance. These utilities do not receive any property tax revenues. After a great deal of careful study, the District has proposed an adjustment in both water and sewer rates to maintain a balanced budget. The public is invited to attend a workshop to learn more about the proposed rate adjustments on August 30 at 6:30 pm in the Templeton Community Center (Women’s Clubhouse at 601 S. Main). The DRAFT rate study can be viewed at the District’s website at www.templetoncsd.org or in the District office (5th & Crocker).

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