PRELADO NOTICIAS

La Purísima Mission State Park Land Acknowledgement: We are on the ancestral land of the Chumash people who have lived here since time immemorial. We honor the Chumash people of the past and present who share their stories and history with us. We thank our Chumash community of today for helping us understand their vibrant culture of the past and present.

Siempre Adelante!

BY MICHELE JIMENEZ-HOLTZ

Ann Boggess is spreading her wings but is not flying the coop! Ann is now the Channel Coast District Interpreter taking on a bigger leadership role.

Her promotion was announced by District Superintendent Greg Martin: "To the Channel Coast District Team: Please join me in welcoming the district's new manager for Interpretation and Education (I&E), Ann Boggess. Ann has worked with State Parks in the interpretive field for nearly 25 years. During that time, Ann has been involved in various statewide interpretive programs, developed various traditional and non-traditional interpretive programs, managed volunteers, helped develop new interpreters, worked with cooperating associations, worked at beaches and state historic park units, and developed a working relationship with local Chumash representatives.



Photo: Ann at 2021 Chumash Culture Day. Photo by Emily Bergstrom.

The District Interpretive manager has been vacant for over ten years. I am excited for Ann to fill this role and help the district guide its I&E program area, work towards addressing its deferred list of interpretive tasks, and help the district tell its story.

Obviously, LPMSHP needs an Interpreter to help guide the day-to-day activities so Ann will be wearing multiple hats in addition to being the District Interpreter until a replacement can be hired."

For many of us, Ann has been the one who has cheered us on, encouraged us, and given the gentle nudge when needed to help us grow. Not unlike a mama bear. And always with a smile!

We all congratulate Ann on a well-deserved promotion! We'll miss seeing her on a regular basis but know she'll be



Photo: Ann with docent bread-makers, 2020. Photo by Emily Bergstrom.

doing great things and continue to lead us to greater heights!



IN THIS ISSUE

- Remembering Marie
- A Tribute to Goatie
- Autumnal Equinox
- What Made that Hole?
- Nature Notes du Jour
- Food for the Soul
- Get Ready for Las Posadas
- Summer Fun at the Mission
- Time to Step Up
- Tienda Highlights
- Inter-tribal Pow-Wow Oct 1-2

Remembering Marie

BY MARION ROCHA CARLOS

Marie Schlueter was in one of my first docent training classes in 1988. Little did I know what an impact this vivacious and outgoing new docent would make on my life. Marie was like a sponge soaking up knowledge and life's experiences. Her energy seemed to have no limits. She was available to help whenever it was needed at the mission except when she and Harry were off on another world visit.

Marie's love for children became apparent when she started giving school tours at the mission. Her tours would challenge students to think beyond just the mere facts, and place themselves as if they lived during the mission times experiencing the conditions, challenges and mental reality of mission life.

Mission Life Days found Marie helping with bread making, tortilla making, candle making or wherever



Photo: Marie had a strong affinity for the mission animals. Photo by Sheila Libby.

help was needed. Her real passion was haltering Elly, the burro, and letting Elly greet mission visitors outside of the pasture confines.

Marie was the chairperson for School Outreach program for many years. Her little car was loaded down with animal furs, face paints, mission games, drop spindles, carders, wool and many other items that represented mission life. She was constantly encouraging other docents and park staff to participate in this educational experience for the students.

For many years, Marie coordinated the docents' and mission participation in the Lompoc Flower Festival parade.

She and Harry worked long hours recruiting volunteers and making sure docents and staff got to where they needed to be for the parade and home afterwards.

Marie became a life role model for me. Her dedication to service and serving others became something for me to reach for. Her outgoing and infectious nature encouraged me to get outside of my box. Obstacles were mere challenges for Marie. No was not an option, there had to be a way to achieve the goal. My most vivid memory of Marie was when she would place her hands on both sides of my face, look me straight in the eyes and set me straight on wherever the issue was at the time!

Thank you, Marie, for the blessing you have been in my life and many others. You are missed Marie!



Photo: Marie was 2014 Woman of the Year in Lompoc. Photo by Sheila Libby.



Photo: Marie with the Mountain Men. Photo by Sheila Libby.



Photo: Marie with her fellow breadmakers. Photo by Sheila Libby.

A Tribute to Goatie

BY BETSEY LASWELL

Have you noticed someone missing in the corrals of the mission lately? After a very long life, Goatie the goat has died. Goatie's health had been declining over the past few months. Young Goatie came to the mission with her mother in 2007, according to Ann Boggess. She was best friends with our burros. After Mamacita the burro died last November, she was Babycita's constant companion. Our vet told us the average life span of a goat is typically 12 years. Although she suffered from old age complaints, Goatie lived to be 15! Old indeed.

Goatie was always there to greet her keepers and our visitors. She kept Babycita from being lonely.



Photo: Goatie certainly had her own personality. Photo by Colleen Newkirk.



Babycita is alone now, and she needs the more company. Since we will be concentrating on the animals that were used to create equato income during the mission times, mostly from Large long horn steer and sheep, we will not be replacing Goatie. If you are around and nig Babycita's corral, please stop by and give her some attention. She'd love it!

Thank you to all our animal caregivers for your generous time devoted to Goatie

If anyone has interest in helping take care of the mission animals, we'd welcome your help. For more information, call Betsey Lasswell at (760) 468-7540.

and for giving her a full life with lots of

love!

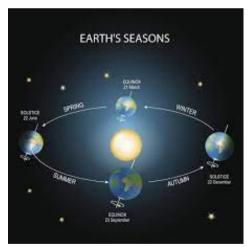


Photo: Goatie molting. Photo by Colleen Newkirk.

Autumnal Equinox:

BY MICHELE JIMENEZ-HOLTZ

Get ready for the equinox on September 22 at 6:04pm PST. An equinox is the instant in time when the plane of the Earth's equator passes through the geometric center of the Sun's disk. This occurs twice each year around March 20 and September 23. In other words, it is the moment at which the center of the visible Sun is directly above the equator. The word "equinox" comes from Latin *aequus*, meaning equal, and *nox*, night. On the equinox, day and night are "roughly" equal in length



Save the Date!

Docent Appreciation

BBQ:

Sept. 10

4-6 pm

What Made that Hole?

BY LEAH BRAITMAN

Since working at La Purisima, I've been fascinated by the range and sheer volume of holes in the ground, and the critters making them. I realize this is not a popular opinion, especially among the maintenance crew and gardening docents, but I love ground squirrels! They're so cute, especially the frolicking pups in the spring. And the sheer number of the perfectly round holes made me want to find out...what made that hole?

So, when I was tasked with creating several Junior Ranger programs this summer, it did not take much convincing that one of them should be titled, "What Made That Hole?!" I did some research and thought you, too, might want to learn what I got to share with the Junior Rangers. There are two main makers of holes here at La Purisima: Ground



Photo: Pocket gopher stretching out of his hole to grab ruderal vegetation. Photo by Leah Braitman

and Pocket gophers (Thomomys bottae).
Both species are diurnal, and were first documented by early European explorers, Frederick William Beechey and Paul-Émile Botta, who were here in California between 1826 and 1828.
Coyotes, owls, bobcats, snakes, and raptors dine on both species. But they're very different little creatures that make very different holes.

Let's start with Pocket gophers. They're the little buggers that make the perfectly round little holes. They're called "pocket" gophers because they have furlined pockets as well as cheeks. These pockets extend all the way back to their shoulders and the gopher fills them with plant material to carry back down to their burrows. The dig their tunnels, and all those holes, in search of food and a mate. They have very poor sight and hearing, but an excellent sense of smell and very sensitive whiskers and tail hairs (for walking backwards through tunnels). Basically, they will smell food (almost any kind of plant) and using mostly their teeth, burrow towards it. They'll pop up out of the ground, eat everything around the hole, even venturing their body's length away, then cover the hole with a 'plug' of dirt and work their way towards the next whiff of vegetation. They are able to wrap their lips around their teeth so they don't get mud in their mouths while they're digging. Pocket gophers will eat any part of the plant and are known to tug plants into their holes, down to their burrows to enjoy later. The nesting area of the



Photo: Baby Ground squirrel enjoying a snack. Photo by Leah Braitman.

Pocket gopher can be as deep as 5 or 6 feet underground, and a single pocket gopher can dig up to 200 yards of tunnel and displace as much as 2 ¼ tons of soil in a year! They are solitary little creatures and tend to stay away from each other's burrow systems. It has even been suggested that they are not naturally aggressive because they're just too tired from digging!

Ground squirrels on the other hand, are much more social animals, tending to use the same extensive burrow system for generations, and rarely traveling more than a couple hundred feet from the ancestral home.

And as you may guess, some of these burrow systems are vast. One group of scientists found a burrow system that included 741 feet of tunnel, with the deepest part at 28 feet, and featured 33 openings. Ground squirrels also have a more omnivorous diet than pocket gophers, that includes insects and even small bird eggs.

Instead of digging straight down, Ground squirrels prefer to dig into an embankment. They also have pretty good vision, possibly close to humans. They have a couple of characteristic poses, including the "meerkat." Instead of hibernating like some squirrels do, our Ground squirrels will "estivate" when it gets very hot. Basically, going deep in their burrows and taking a nap until it cools off. Mother Ground squirrels have anywhere from three to eleven pups, and I think probably the cutest thing I've seen in more than half a century are the baby Ground squirrels at La Purísima in the spring when they finally leave their burrows for the first time. There was about a month in the spring when, if you looked across the fields in front of the mission, it seemed like there were a million teeny little baby squirrels just going crazy and jumping around like popcorn. But I have to remind the fourth-grader in me about the circle of life. Seventy percent of a rattlesnake's diet in the spring are baby Ground squirrels.



Photo: A Gopher snake greeting the day. Photo by Leah Braitman.

But Ground squirrels have also learned some tricks when dealing with rattlesnakes. When encountering a snake, they will aggressively wave their tail around. If the snake persists, they actually have the ability to send blood to their tails which fools the rattlesnake, that has heat sensing pits on their heads, into thinking it's a much bigger animal. Also, this is pretty gross, but mother Ground squirrels will chew on the shed skins of rattlesnakes and lick herself and her pups to disguise their own delicious odor.

Vacated holes also make pre-fab residences for bugs, lizards, other rodents and snakes. Gopher (you are what you eat) snakes in particular use pre-dug holes for hunting and a home. Although the holes at La Purísima are destructive, annoying and dangerous, especially for livestock who may be injured by stepping in a hole, we should take some solace that Ground squirrels and Pocket gophers were annoying people even during mission times. Requests were frequently made for animal poison and one may assume it was for our furry little friends. Whether you find them as interesting and

cute as I do, or still hate the little buggers, at least the next time someone asks you, "What made those holes?" you'll know.

Nature Notes du Jour

BY MICHELE JIMENEZ-HOLTZ

Some decent low tides are on the horizon for tide-pooling:
Wed., 9/28 6:14pm, 0.5 ft.
Thur., 9/29 7:09pm, 0.4 ft.
Tue., 10/25 4:35pm, -0.2 ft.
Wed., 10/26 5:18pm, -0.5 ft.
Thur., 10/27 6:07pm, -0.5 ft.
Tue., 11/8 3:51pm, -0.5 ft.
Wed., 11/9 4:30pm, -0.4.ft
Thu., 11/10 5:12pm, -0.3 ft.
Wed., 11/23 3:26pm, -1.1 ft.
Thu., 11/24 4:12pm, -1.3 ft.
Fri., 11/25 5:02pm, -1.4 ft.

Full Moons: September 10, October 9, & November 8



Whales:

In November, Grays begin their southbound migration from the Chukchi Sea off the coast of Alaska to winter in Baja.
Humpbacks, Minkes, and Blues are still being spotted. Check out a local whale-watching excursion with Condor Express out of Santa Barbara or Island Packers out of Ventura.
Pinnipeds: California sea lions, Common dolphin, and Sunfish are being spotted as well.
Take a drive up Hwy 1 to Piedras Blancas (north of San Simeon) to see Elephant seals. Mahalo!

Food for the Soul

BY MICHELE JIMENEZ-HOLTZ

September marks the time for celebrating another successful year of interpretation at La Purísima Mission State Historic Park at our annual Docent Appreciation BBQ. It's a time to reflect on the year's "harvest" of friendships, sharing the mission's story with students, and the many ways the mission family joins together in the spirit of celebration. One could say it's our own version of "fiesta."

There's something about food that is a universal symbol of camaraderie and sharing. It nurtures the tummy and the soul and strengthens friendships. I recall as a young child Papa cooking fabulous Sunday cenas (dinners). They were always special and very yummy. During our teen years, we'd invite friends over to partake, and boy, did they bring the música! Mama and Papa were serenaded by canciones and guitarra from the homeland of México. We'd also get together at abuela's house to celebrate anything: a birthday, a holiday, a raise, any reason. Her house was filled with Tíos, Tías, and primos, all laughing and enjoying the

good eats that loving hands had prepared.

I became curious about any fiestas or celebrations that occurred during mission harvest times. So, I set off in search of documentation. I found none, per se, but Padre Payeras made reference to the Chumash neophytes as good musicians, "...to hear them sing and play like musicians, sing like experts..." He also makes reference to harvest, "...and let us continue with more firmness and fervor to labor in this vineyard, hoping, that when heaven blesses our work, we shall every day gather more and more abundantly the best fruit."

We do know that the mission padres were great hosts, offering meals and a place to stay for weary travelers. Every March-April, a supply list was sent from California to San Blas, Mexico, requesting goods for the following year. The goods were for the Santa Barbara Presidio and surrounding missions: corn, beans, rice, sugar, brown sugar, lard, chocolate, a variety of spices (saffron, pepper, cinnamon, cloves, cumin, anise, lavender, nutmeg), olive oil, honey, almonds, raisins, and olives. Large quantities of candy were for special occasions, as was brandy or whiskey for festive occasions. Some parties were undoubtedly held, but perhaps the austere life of the padres did not include mentioning them. More is known about the Chumash harvest celebrations. The following is used with permission and copywrite by the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians website,

www.santaynezchumash.org (from San Buenaventura Mission). "Utilizing resources from both the land and the sea, we called ourselves "the first people," and pointed to the Pacific Ocean as our first home. These early Chumash ancestors were hunters, gatherers, and fishermen who lived in large, dome-shaped homes that were made of willow branches.

As the Chumash culture advanced with boat-making, basketry, stone cookware, and the ability to harvest and store food, the villages became more permanent."

And I found this on encyclopedia.com: "Two of the most important festivals celebrated the autumn acorn harvest and the winter solstice (the longest night of the year, marking the beginning of winter). Other ceremonies honored animals, considered the First Beings. Men and women applied body paint for these occasions, played flutes and whistles, and scattered seeds. Descendants of the Chumash host several annual festivals; at some, they still perform the ancient Crane Dance, the Blackbird Dance, the Dolphin Dance, and the Bear Dance.



Although pow-wows were not originally part of Chumash culture, in modern times the people hold an annual one to introduce others to their culture. The pow-wow is a celebration that includes singing and dancing, as well as other activities." Specific to the Chumash autumnal equinox, Dr. John Anderson wrote the "Chumash Autumn Equinox." Andersen cites F. L. Kitsepawit, a leading Chumash historian of the early 20th century who helped preserve information on Chumash equinox traditions along with John P. Harrington. Anderson's writings cover Chumash preparations for the quickly approaching Harvest Festival, a time of joy and thanksgiving:

"Their equinox ceremonies were held on September 21. This was the exact moment in time when day and night are of equal length. September is the ninth month of the solar year. It is the time when Mother Earth....provides prosperous crops of seeds, fruit, and animal meat." "The fall equinox is characterized by a season of harvesting, plus the beginning of the darker days of approaching winter." How do we celebrate the harvest in current times? We celebrate locally with autumn and harvest festivals held throughout October. During the grape harvest affectionately known as the "crush," grape-stomping is common (yep, done with feet!). Apple festivals are abundant in the foothills; there, you can pick your own and make delicious unfiltered apple juice using a traditional apple

press (bugs and all!). And for some extra-special enjoyment, check out the

2022 Chumash Inter-tribal Pow-Wow

on October 1-2 in Santa Ynez! Autumn is not just about going back to school. It's a time for reflection on our many blessings and abundance. I invite you all to celebrate!

Sources:

Mission la Concepcíon Purísima, Fr. Zephyrin Engelhardt, 1986.

"Chumash Autumn Equinox" by Dr. John Anderson.

Documenting Everyday Life in Early Spanish California: Santa Barbara Presidio Memorias y Fracturas, 1779-1810.

sanbuenaventuramission.org encyclopedia.com santaynezchumash.org



Photos: (top & bottom) Docents making bread at the July Mission Life Day. Photos by Emily Bergstrom.



Calling all Las Posadas Aficionados

BY MICHELLE PITTENGER AND MICHELE JIMENEZ-HOLTZ

Mark your calendars and pencil us in for some holiday festivities. *Las Posadas* will be held on Sunday, December 18 at 2pm. We need your help: Mary & Joseph, Babycita and care-taker, inn-keepers, musicians, singers, peregrinos (pilgrims), a piñata leader, people to help serve up refreshments, photographer, and setup/clean up.

This is a fun family event and we've been the only local *Las Posadas* in town for some time now.

Please let us know if you can help: Michelle P., *mpitt3@yahoo.com* or (820) 203-9686; or Michele J-H, *sequoiadreams350@comcast.net* or (530) 927-9762. Thank you!



Photo: Las Posadas, 2019.



Photo: Ann with bread-makers, 2020. Photo by Emily Bergstrom.

Summer Fun at the Mission

BY EMILY BERGSTROM

As summer comes to a close, it's the perfect time to reflect on all the activities we held here at the mission. We had three big craft classes for the kids of our community to participate in this year.

We had six junior blacksmith classes, all of which became wait-listed very quickly. These new classes were very popular. Doug Bradly and Lynn Maxwell have done an excellent job with leading them. We also had a Junior Fresco class and a Junior Ceramic Tiles class with eleven students each.



Photo: Junior blacksmith class with docent Doug Blackwell. Photo by Emily Bergstrom.



Photo: Junior blacksmith class with docent Doug Blackwell and junior docents Christopher Kennedy & Elijah Kelly. Photo by Emily Bergstrom.



Photo: Junior Fresco painting class. Photo by Emily Bergstrom.

It had been two years since Kid's Camp was held. This year's program was a great success and was also wait-listed. Ultimately, we had eighteen kids from the Lompoc community attend.

Junior Rangers program has been held weekly on Wednesdays and Saturdays at 10am and we've had an average of ten kids each session. Some of the topics discussed this year were water irrigation, Chumash games of luck and skill, and animals of the mission. Often, the same kids come each week to learn more about the mission and the natural resources in our area.

Docents and staff reported that the parking lot and overflow parking were completely full for July's *Mission Life Day*. We don't have an exact headcount, but would like to say that our docents did a wonderful job helping to make this event happen.

If you know of anyone looking to join in the fun, we plan to have a docent training class this fall, although no dates are confirmed yet. **Stay tuned!**



Photo: Junior craft class. Photo by Emily Bergstrom.



Photo: Junior craft class. Photo by Emily Bergstrom.



Photo: Kids Camp. Photo by Belinda Sanchez Machado.



Photo: Junior rangers explore who made that hole? Photo by Emily Bergstrom.

Time to Step Up!

BY TERESA MARRS

It is that time of year again when we need your help to elect new board members: Chair, Member-at-Large, and Secretary. The three positions are held for two years. New Prelado By-Laws are being generated and are scheduled to be presented to the membership by the end of 2022. The new By-Laws should be available in 2023 for the new board members and the general membership.

We ask that you consider taking on one of these positions. Step up and do your part to help keep our organization going strong. If you have questions about what each position entails, please contact the person currently in that position of interest:

- John Keane (President), jkeane@2345@gmail.com, (805) 736-7915
- Bertha Lebel (Secretary), blebel@impulse.net, (805) 588-1016
- Barbara Nyman, (Member-at-Large), bjnym@comcast.net, (805) 741-7552

Descriptions are also included in our Prelado handbook. If you need a copy of the current policies and procedures, Bertha Lebel will send you a copy.

If you are interested in any position, please contact me before **August 30**, **2022.** Elections are in November and new Board members are installed in January, 2023.

Please contact me via email tjmarrs752@aol.com, or call (805) 588-7283.

Join Prelado's team and help us continue to grow as an organization. We work for State Parks as volunteers to help maintain and keep our mission alive. We support the Park's mission in a plethora of ways and are integral in helping the Interpretive Staff. We also look forward to opening up more of our fund-raisers in the near future!



La Purisima Mission State Historic Park





Photo: Emily Bergstrom throws the pots that are later glazed and fired by the pottery team. Photo by Tim Waag.

Tienda Highlights

BY TERRI SANDS

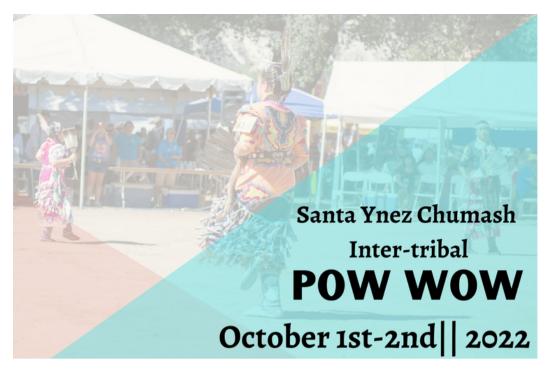
Summer is here, bringing visitors from around the world to beautiful La Purísima Mission. The Tienda hours for Summer are 12 noon to 4pm, and closed on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you have some time to give, please consider volunteering at La Tienda Gift Shop. We have openings for Store Clerk and for Clerk Assistant to help with bagging and greeting visitors. Please contact Renee Salter for more information, (805) 451-5774, or via email

lapurisimatienda@gmail.com.

Attention Crafters: we can use your help. The Tienda is Prelado's main fundraiser and we are always in need of Crafters. The crafts sold in La Tienda are easy to make and we will supply materials and get you trained. Join in the fun and be part of the team of crafters. Stop by to see where you can help!



Photo: baskets sold in La Tienda.



2022 Santa Ynez Chumash Inter-Tribal Pow-Wow

The Chumash Inter-Tribal Pow-Wow is a 2-day event, starting on Saturday morning, October 1st, 2022 in Santa Ynez. Over 300 Native American dancers and singers representing many of the tribes from Canada and the United States, attend annually to participate socially and competitively.

NEW LOCATION: This year the pow-wow will be located at the corner of Meadowvale Road and Hwy 246 in Santa Ynez, CA.

EVENT SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1 – 10:00AM – 10:00PM

Gourd Dance: 12:00PM and 6:00PM

Grand Entry: 1:00PM and 7:00PM

Dinner Break: 5:00PM

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2 – 10:00AM – 6:00PM Gourd Dance: 12:00PM Grand Entry: 1:00PM

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

- General Admission \$5.00
- No Public Camping
- Zero Waste Event
- Dance Contest
- Drum Contest
- Arts & Crafts
- Bring Lawn Chairs & Blankets
- No Drugs or Alcohol
- No Pets
- No Weapons

A Little Trivia: Prelado de los Tesoros roughly translates to Keepers of the Treasures.

Our mission: We are a non-profit, 501(c)(3) public benefit corporation. Our members volunteer their time and talent to assist the staff of La Purísima Mission State Historic Park in preserving history and providing quality educational programs for park visitors.

Calendar: Subject to Change

	<u> 56 p. </u>	Oct.	1404
Board Meeting: 10am, La Casita	24	22	ТВА
General Membership Meeting: 10am,	3	1 & 29	12

La Sala

November is the election of new Prelado officers to the Board: Chair, Secretary, Member-at-Large position to be filled. Look for a ballot in October! ABSENTEE BALLOTS MUST BE REQUESTED.

Docent Appreciation BBQ 10		
Winter edition of Noticias article deadline		1
Student Learning History Days	TBA	
Station Tours	TBA	
Student Guided Tours	TBA	

Park Interpretive Programs, Special Events, and school programs will be announced via email.

Save the Dates!

Founding Day, December 8, 2022 Las Posadas. December 18, 2022

Stay Connected:

Don't forget to check out the many excellent resources for news and videos. Please share with family and friends. Click on the links below to be re-directed:

- La Purísima Mission State Historic Park
- La Purísima Mission State Historic Park Facebook page
- La Purísima Mission State Historic Park YouTube page
- La Purísima Mission State Historic Park Virtual Tour
- Prelado de los Tesoros Official Non-Profit Partner of the Mission
- Prelado de los Tesoros Facebook Page

From the Editors' Desk

BY MICHELE PITTENGER & MICHELE
JIMENEZ-HOLTZ

Thanks to all who submitted articles and photos for the autumn edition. In an effort to drastically reduce costs, we're sending Noticias via email and via USPS mail only to those requesting such.

Noticias article submission guidelines:

- 600 words or less.
- 2 photos max: please only submit photos of docents, volunteers, or others for which you have obtained their written permission.
- Hi-resolution photos from camera or cellphone.
- Photos lose resolution the more they're transmitted.
- Articles may be edited to fit format.

Next deadline: November 1

Send to:

noticias@lapurisimamission.org



Prelado de los Tesoros La Purísima Mission SHP 2295 Purisima Rd. Lompoc, CA 93436

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Photo: Farewell to Goatie. Photo by Betsey Lasswell.