

SANTA BARBARA NEWS-PRESS



United Way outlines plans to further services



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Goleta prepares for scary weekend

Halloween in neighboring Isla Vista expected to draw 50,000 visitors

Goleta officials are preparing for a busy weekend as thousands of visitors are expected to arrive in the area for Halloween celebrations in Isla Vista. The city is working to ensure that the festivities are safe and enjoyable for everyone.

Roundabout hailed

Officials: It's good for motorists, pedestrians, business



Local officials are praising a new roundabout project in Goleta, stating it will benefit motorists, pedestrians, and local businesses. The project is seen as a significant improvement to the area's infrastructure.

United Way outlines plans to further services

A large-scale collaboration designed to increase the well-being of children, seniors and their families on the South Coast announced Wednesday it is working to implement various projects to reach the community's goals.

Greenhouse must meet compliance issues before expansion can be considered

Local officials are reviewing compliance issues for a greenhouse expansion project. The project must meet certain regulatory requirements before any expansion can be considered.

Greenhouse Growing



S.B. street violence leaves three injured

Three people were injured in a street violence incident in Santa Barbara. The incident occurred on a busy street and has led to increased police presence in the area.

Navigation and utility information including website links, phone numbers, and social media icons.

ANGEL PACHECO, NEWS-PRESS STAFF WRITER

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A large-scale collaboration designed to increase the well-being of children, seniors and their families on the South Coast announced Wednesday it is working to implement various projects to reach the community's goals.

The United Way of Santa Barbara released the results of the Power of Partnership Initiative during a morning press conference at the Sunken Garden. Some 5,000 community members came together over the last two years to share their hopes and dreams for the future, and hundreds of community leaders, experts and more than 200 community organizations worked to clarify the community's goals and vision.

Now, POPI is in a 10-year process to bring the services needed to those who need them in order to achieve the vision. Beginning with pilot projects, POPI officials are hoping they will expand out into the community with time.

"Santa Barbara is a wonderful community," said Santa Barbara City College President Emeritus Dr. Peter MacDougall, who was among the various representatives from the POPI Vision Council, Children & Families Steering Committee and Seniors & Families Steering Committee. "There is a lot that's good about it, but there's also a lot that can be improved."

POPI worked to involve the community and listened to what residents believe to be the community's needs and how they can best be addressed. Now with goals and a vision defined, POPI is working to reach those goals.

The objective concerning children is that every kid has the nurture, support, nutrition and educational exposure necessary to succeed in kindergarten, Dr. MacDougall said.

"The data seemed to show that if children can have a successful experience there, their subsequent achievement levels will be higher," Dr. MacDougall said.

The first pilot project, which focuses on children, is taking place in Carpinteria.

"Before the child is born, the expectant mother will get support and services," Dr. MacDougall said. "And after the child is born, there will be interventions available to help on nutrition, learning and other things that greatly impact how that child develops."

Without the proper information about nutrition, he said children could develop diabetes.

As for reaching out to parents, he said each community and neighborhood will define the standards themselves.

"It's particularly important that there be peers that are involved so that where there might be cultural/language differences, those are bridged" Dr. MacDougall said.

At the other end of the continuum are seniors, and Dr. MacDougall said they are at times a hidden demographic as some people believe that if a person can get that far in life, he or she can survive through the rest. However, conditions change in the latter phases of life, such as losing the ability to drive.

POPI would like to ensure that the later part of life is as fulfilling as the earlier years, said Dr. MacDougall.

"That's why that initiative focuses on bringing resources to seniors and bringing services that will make them successful," he said.

However, this isn't the only effort of its kind, as POPI projects have been under way in other parts of the country, such as Wisconsin.

For resources, Dr. MacDougall said POPI plans to approach various foundations for support.

For more information, log onto www.partnershipsb.org.

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