



COUNTY OF MONTEREY
CAO Weekly Report

In This Edition:

- > Public Works cuts down fire risk
- > Schilling Fitness Center opens its doors
- > Library benefits when cowboys and poetry combine

SPECIAL REPORT



Public Works crews cut back roadside vegetation that is a big fire danger along San Benancio Road.

County Notes

- > Love those Farmers Markets? Here is a [list of market locations and when they are open](#). Enjoy!

Public Works Fire Safety Efforts

The hardworking crews of RMA-Public Works have spent the last year working in the aftermath of disasters: first fire, then floods. Now they are taking the time to prevent one and protect the public.

With the Soberanes Fire still very fresh in mind, crews are cutting wildfire risks thanks to a \$200,000 CalFire grant for vegetation removal - reducing the dry grass and growth along roadsides that can fuel wildfires.

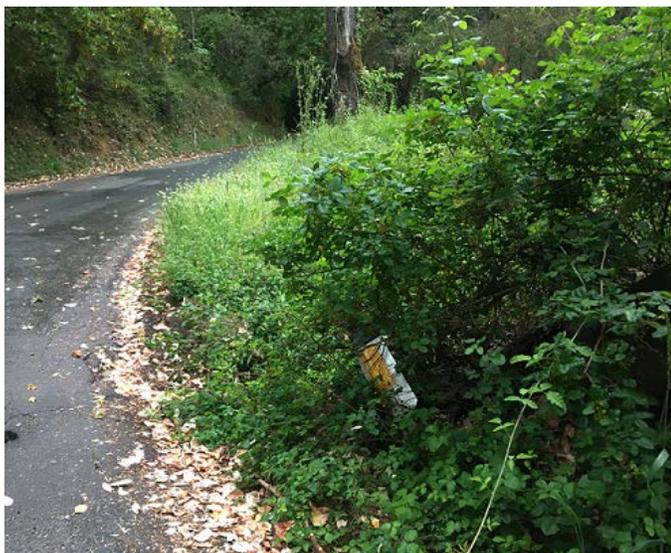
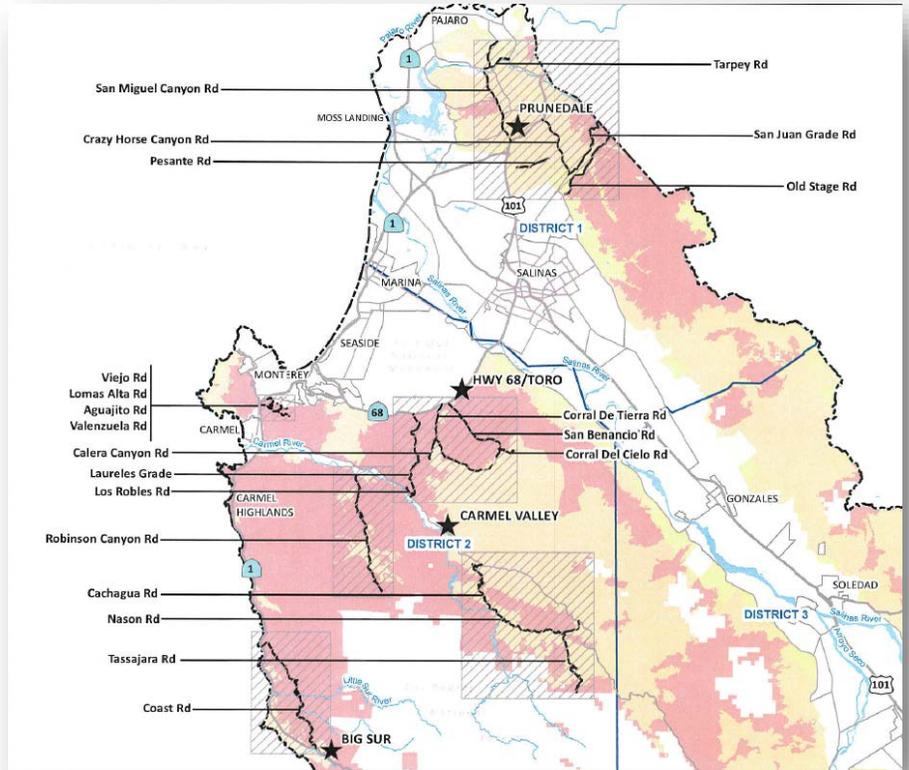


Work began in May and will continue through this month, to get vegetation cut before it becomes too dry and a more severe fire danger.

The work targets roads in areas which have grown lush with the winter rains. Public Works identified 21 roads in the county which needed mowing and vegetation removal – more than 200 acres.

The roads are all across the county, ranging from Tarpey Road in North County to Coast Road near Big Sur. The goal is to mow or remove vegetation a distance of 10 feet from the edge of the roadway.

Crews and heavy equipment have fanned out throughout the county. The results of the work are dramatic - check out the pictures below.



A section of Robinson Canyon Road before (left) and after (right) vegetation removal work to reduce fire threat.

Schilling Place Fitness Center Open House

The much-anticipated Fitness Center at Schilling Place had a festive open house and kick-off this week. Employees were invited to drop by the center to check out the space, equipment and even try a little yoga and stretching.

The center is managed by the County Wellness Program and even before they held this open house, more than 300 employees had registered to use the gym.

The facility is located on the first floor of the Schilling Place. It is free to all Monterey County employees and is available Monday through Friday from 5:30a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (it is not open on county holidays).

Amenities include cardio and strength training equipment, men's and women's showers and storage cabinets. There are plans to phase in group exercise classes.

A waiver and badge form must be completed to use the gym, which can be found on the Wellness Program [website](#).

So far, the facility has been a big hit. It operates on a 'first-come, first-use' basis and can accommodate about 15 people at a time. There is a 20-minute limit on cardio equipment if someone is waiting for the same machine.



Visitors participate in the yoga and stretching demo exercise.



The open house gave folks a chance to check out the equipment, grab a healthy snack and even take a body composition test. And what fitness center launch would be complete without a ride on the smoothie bike?

This clever bike has a blender attached to the gears. When the bike runs, the blender spins. Smoothies were treats for visitors, so if you wanted some, a little pedal power was needed.

Many thanks to the Monterey County Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Program, which provided the nutrition resources, smoothie bike, fruit, and activity breaks at the open house.

Thanks also to Jeffrey Domalanta for sharing his great photos from this event.



Visitors to the open house enjoyed health treats and fun games with Wellness 'swag' as prizes.

Talk about leading by example! Health Department Director Elsa Jimenez takes a turn on the smoothie bike, pedaling up enough power to blend a round of fruit drinks.



Cowboy Poetry Event Benefits Libraries

As time draws near for the California Rodeo, it is of course time to start thinking about poetry and the library.

One of the few events surrounding this iconic western event that does not involve dirt, riding or roping is the Cowboy Music and Poetry Gathering, set for Sunday, July 16th. A portion of the proceeds from



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FREE LIBRARIES

this event will go to the Foundation for Monterey County Free Libraries which works hard to raise funds to support county library programs each year.

“The Foundation supports ongoing core programs like Summer Reading, adult literacy services, our Homework Centers and our online homework help,” says County Librarian Jayanti Addleman.

This event not only brings some well-known and beloved professional poets, entertainers and musicians to the stage at Sherwood Hall, but showcases the winners of the Monterey County Free Libraries youth poetry contest. This year’s winners are:

- Jaiden Myrick, a student at Tularcitos Elementary School
- James Philip “Jim” Moreau, from All Saints Day School
- Shekinah Nia Sims, from Benjamin Todd Christian Academy

If you are a fan of cowboy tales and lore, headliners at this event are Los Vaqueros Hunting Club, Dave Stamey, Annie Lydon, Chris Isaacs and local poet Clem Albertoni. Tickets are available [online](#).