



## Top Stories



### Blakespear Awards \$1.4M for Trail Construction

State Sen. Catherine Blakespear has secured \$1.4 million from the state budget to complete a one-mile segment of the Coast to Crest Trail near Fairbanks Ranch. Finishing the Osuna segment will connect the four westernmost miles of the regional trail to 27 contiguous miles to the east.

“We are extremely grateful for these essential funds to close a long-standing gap in the Coast to Crest Trail,” said Shawna Anderson, Executive Director of the San Dieguito River Park JPA. “The state funds combined with an existing public grant and private donations provide the needed funding to construct the bridge and trail and finally close this gap in the Coast to Crest Trail.”

In a July 14 press release, Blakespear said the Osuna segment funding is part of \$10 million she is allocating to “critically important projects in my district.”

Funding from Blakespear adds to \$2 million donated by Conservancy and River Park JPA supporters to complete design work to fill gaps in the Coast to Crest Trail at San Pasqual Valley and Lake Sutherland.



A series of switchbacks challenges hikers on the Santa Fe Valley trail.

## Year 7 Coast to Crest Trail Challenge: It's on!

Lace up those boots! The five hikes for the 2023-24 Coast to Crest Trail Challenge await!

For this, Year 7, we're pairing each hike with a monthly Walk N Talk. July's hike took us to San Dieguito Lagoon and for Aug. 10, we'll visit Santa Fe Valley.

Complete the C2C Challenge series in any order, however and whenever you'd like.

Hike with the group or go solo, with spouses, sweethearts, besties, kids, dogs or all of the above. Send us your selfies!

Find details on the Year 7 C2C Challenge Webpage.

The five hikes (and Walk N Talk dates) are:

- HIKE 1: San Dieguito Lagoon Trail (July 13).
- HIKE 2: Santa Fe Valley (Aug. 10).
- HIKE 3: Sikes Adobe to the base of Bernardo Summit (Sept. 4).
- HIKE 4: Santa Ysabel Lower Truck Trail (Nov. 9).
- HIKE 5: Pamo Valley (Dec. 14).



Patch by Canyon Crest Academy student  
Chaehong Yun.

[Year 7 C2C Challenge  
Webpage](#)

# Santa Fe Valley Trail



**JOIN SDRVC FOR THEIR MONTHLY THURSDAY  
WALK N TALK ON THE COAST TO CREST TRAIL**

**8175 DEL DIOS HWY  
NEXT TO PARADISE PRODUCE MARKET**

## **Aug 10: Walk N Talk and C2C Challenge Hike at Santa Fe Valley**

We walk. We talk.

Monthly Walk N Talks get hikers onto the trail with the Conservancy's staff and board members. For this outing, which can double as Hike 2 of the Coast to Crest Trail Challenge, Conservation Manager Joseph Rivera is excited to answer questions about the wildlife and landscape he knows and loves. In addition to habitat, we'll also discuss the archeological importance of Santa Fe Valley.

We'll shove off at 8 a.m. Meet at 8175 Del Dios Road, San Diego, CA 92127 (from the fruit stand, follow signs to the parking area and trailhead below).

Please register.

[Register](#)

## Donate

Because of your support, we have earned the accolade of Nonprofit of the Year.

Your donations translate directly into conservation, education and recreation.

None of it would be possible without you.

Thank you!

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## Upstream



**FREE MONTHLY YOGA | 3RD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH |  
10:00AM - 11:00AM | ALL LEVELS WELCOME! FAMILY-FRIENDLY!**

## Aug. 20: Yoga at the Birdwing

Inhale nature. Exhale your troubles.

Practice yoga within nature's embrace from 10 to 11 a.m. on the third Sunday of every month at the Birdwing Open Air Classroom.

Instructor Susan McCrea leads the free class.

Bring water and a yoga mat and don't forget to breathe!

Park at the ranger station at 15648 San Andres Drive, Del Mar. (The Birdwing is a short hike to the east)

[Details](#)



## Oct. 15: River Valley Fest

State Sen. Catherine Blakespear will be our honored guest at the 14th Annual River Valley Fest.

In May, the Senator named San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy as Nonprofit of the Year in her district and, in July, she awarded \$1.4 million to the San Dieguito River Park JPA to complete the Osuna segment of the Coast to Crest Trail.

This year's theme, Wings of Migration, recognizes our high-flying accomplishments and the importance of the river valley to migrating birds on the Pacific Flyway.

Mark your calendars for 4 to 7 p.m. Oct. 15 at Morgan Run Club and Resort, 5690 Cancha de Golf, Rancho Santa Fe.

The fundraiser includes a dinner, cocktails, music, opportunity raffles and a live auction.

Sponsorship opportunities are available. Email: [sdrvc@sdrvc.org](mailto:sdrvc@sdrvc.org).

[More Info](#)

## Downstream

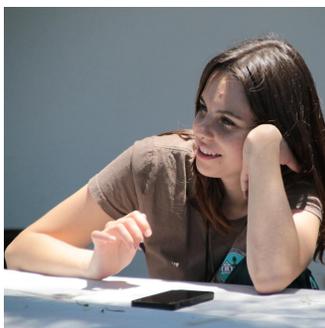


### Summer fun with Watershed Explorers

What a great summer to get kids into nature. From pine forest to lagoon, Watershed Explorers built an appreciation for the outdoors. This month, to celebrate National I Love Horses Day, we explored Bibby Ranch.



[Open Webpage](#)



# Coast to Crest Trail Challenge

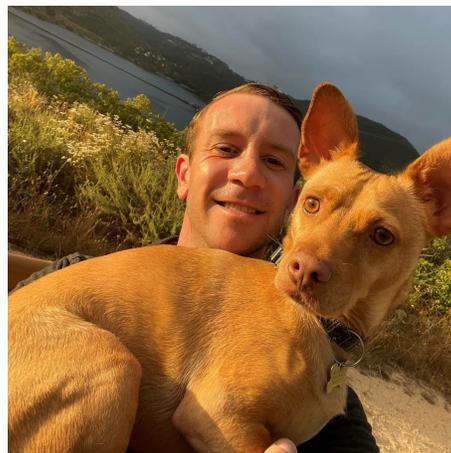


**Ayoola Folarin**

Congratulations to the hundreds of hikers who completed the Year 6 series of the Coast to Crest Trail Challenge. Here are some final selfies to close the books on Year 6.



**Leora Cooper**



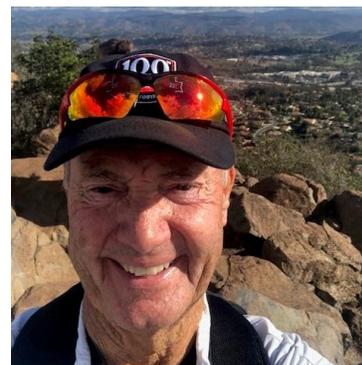
**Stephen Mazurek and Max**



**Clifford Reader**



**Sheila Speirs**



**David Dohren**

## Hit Us With Your Best Shot



Coast to Crest Challenger Clifford Reader happened upon this fellow during one of his hikes. Send your best shot to [sdrvc@sdrvc.org](mailto:sdrvc@sdrvc.org). Great job, Clifford!

## River Park News



## Aug. 13: Monthly Trail Maintenance

Work with rangers to improve the trails and restore native habitats from 9 a.m. to noon Aug. 13 in Del Mar. Meet at the Dust Devil Trail Staging Area, 13925 El Camino Real, San Diego.

We'll provide tools, training and work gloves. Please bring drinking water, sun protection and wear sturdy, closed-toed shoes. We can't wait to see you!

Contact: [leana@sdrp.org](mailto:leana@sdrp.org)

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## Welcome Aboard, Calei!

Please welcome Calei Heaslet, the River Park JPA's new Interpretive Ranger. Calei is a passionate and experienced professional with a strong background in customer service, project management and events organization. When she is not working, she enjoys horseback riding, spending time with her family and creative pursuits such as watercolor and being a part of the Pageant of the Masters at the Festival of Arts. Calei is excited to apply her skills and knowledge to support the San Dieguito River Park's goals and enhance the visitor experience at the park.

Welcome aboard, Calei!



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## Holmes Stereopticon at the Sikes Historic Farmstead

*On your next visit to Sikes Adobe Historic Farmstead, ask a docent to show you one of the Holmes Stereopticons in the museum's collection.*

Stereoscopes are an old invention that allows the viewer to perceive a photographic image as 3-D. To achieve this effect two photos are taken with the same focal point, but from different angles. When viewed through two prismatic lenses, adjusted for individual vision requirements, it becomes a single 3-D picture.

The first stereoscopes date to around 1838 and there were many models available. However, the popularity of stereoscopes skyrocketed in 1861 when Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809-1894) invented the hand stereopticon.



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Photo: Hanna Zhao

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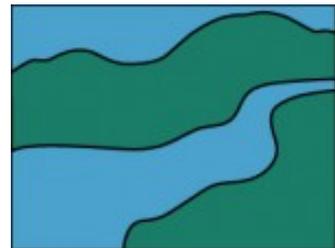
## Stay in Touch!

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RIVER VALLEY**



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