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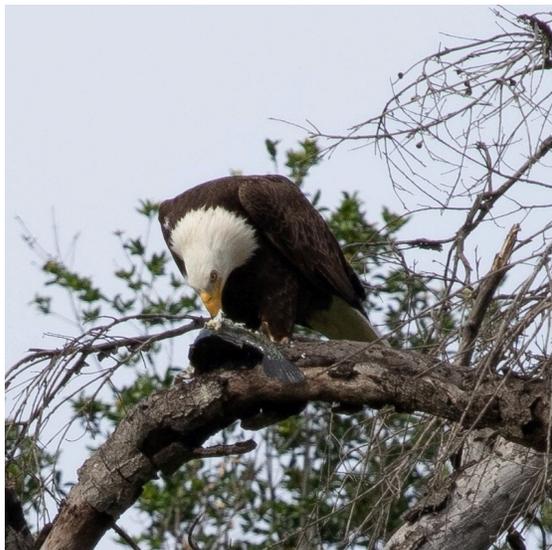


Dear ,

You never know who you might see soaring above Lake Hodges.



[lakehodesphototours.com](http://lakehodesphototours.com)



In addition to its importance as a reservoir and recreational resource, Lake Hodges provides habitat for great numbers of birds.

Fish eaters like the osprey (above) or bald eagle (left) can find a meal.

Some of the winged creatures may be nesting while others might be laying over during migrations along the Pacific Flyway.

Check out the keen eye of photographer Brian Caldwell of Lake Hodges Photo Tours and his [recent feature on CBS 8](#).

## When storm drains fail



Heavy rains overwhelmed a corroded storm drain in Crest Canyon this month, causing the formation of a massive sinkhole and major release of sediment into the San Dieguito Lagoon.

The corrugated metal pipe is part of the City of San Diego's storm drain system.

An emergency repair project to replace more than 1,000 feet of pipe is underway. Trails will be closed during construction.

The work is estimated to be complete in January 2021.

[Open the City of San Diego's Crest Canyon Emergency Storm Drain Project webpage.](#)

## Hooked on habitat



During a visit to San Dieguito Lagoon, kindergartners from High Tech Elementary School got a first-hand look at plant and animal habitats for a final project they will present to the River Park next month.



## Good to go at Gonzales Canyon



Thanks so much to our volunteers from UCSD's Alternative Breaks Program -- as well as one dedicated neighbor -- who dove right into our stewardship event at Gonzales Canyon.

## **From Solana Beach to Santa Ysabel**



County Parks and Rec joined us in hosting a visit by the Solana Beach Eco Rotary Club to the Santa Ysabel Preserve Nature Center.

## **Busy hands at Brigantine Basin**



What better way to recognize International Wetlands Day than by hauling invasive plants and trash out of Brigantine Basin at the west end of San Dieguito Lagoon? Our efforts were rewarded by sightings of an osprey and a long-billed curlew. Special thanks to our volunteers from National Charity League and American Conservation Experience. Thanks also to our intern, Joseph Rivera. Great job, everybody!

## Ranger spotlight: Avary Rollins



Avary Rollins

Introducing Avary Rollins, a new San Dieguito River Park Ranger.

She's a native of the Pacific Northwest who earned a bachelor's degree in geography from San Diego State University and has explored our varied landscape since she relocated here 10 years ago.

Avary and her partner and kids enjoy hiking, rock climbing, mountain biking, kayaking, fishing and camping. To top it off, Avary is a proud veteran of the US Navy. Welcome aboard, Avary!

## COAST TO CREST CHALLENGE



Clockwise from upper left: Annette Trnka, Lisa Strand, Petra Fastener, Michele Cassidy; Brent McDonald and friends; Bryce Baker, Holly Venaas; Cindi, Tom and Dinah Whitcomb; Chelsie Brown and friends.



Karen Castro

Are you ready to join the ranks of Coast to Crest Challengers?

You can do this! Just complete the five assigned hikes before June 30.

Each hike has a designated spot to shoot a selfie.

Once you've completed all five hikes, send us an email with your selfies.

Everyone who completes the Challenge and submits selfies will receive a special certificate, sticker, decal, REI coupon and patch, not to mention bragging rights for finishing five excellent adventures.

[Open the Coast to Crest Trail Challenge webpage.](#)



Justin Penn and Angel Castillo



Clockwise from upper left: Joe Duncan; John Duncan; John Flynn and friend; Ted Foster and Friend; Rhianne Steins; John Venaas.

## UPSTREAM

### March 21: Rattlesnake safety class

Rattlesnake season will soon be upon us and so will our rattlesnake safety class.

Join us from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. March 21 at the Del Mar Branch Library, 1309 Camino Del Mar.

[Register for our rattlesnake safety class.](#)



### March 28: Crawling crabs

Crawling Crabs are on the calendar for 10 a.m. March 28 at La Colonia Community Center in Solana Beach. It's the latest educational event from our partnership with Living Coast Discovery Center and the City of Solana Beach.

[Register for Crawling Crabs with Living Coast Discovery Center.](#)



### **April 26: Hike and dedication for Coastal Ranger Station**

Mark your calendars for 9 a.m. April 26 to celebrate the opening of the San Dieguito River Park Coastal Ranger Station on Via de la Valle at San Andres.

The facilities include a public restroom, community meeting space, staff offices and a garage.

On our agenda for dedication day: A guided hike by Phil Pryde (9 a.m.); information booths hosted by River Park rangers and representatives of various lagoon groups, arts and crafts that include Kumeyaay jewelry making and a performance by the Prairie Sky Band (10 a.m.); ribbon-cutting ceremony followed by free drinks and pizza compliments of Viewpoint Brewery and Pizza Port (11:30 a.m.), and a live animal presentation by the Living Coast Discovery Center (1 p.m.).



You must not miss this epic event!

## DOWNSTREAM

### **Valentine's Tea**

We were all quite proper during Valentine's Tea at Sikes Historic Adobe Historic Farmstead.

Docents hosted dozens of guests and served scones, finger sandwiches, pastries and piping hot tea.

As all of this goodness settled, we toured the property.

Hosting teas in their sitting room was one way that pioneer farmers such as Eliza and Zenas Sikes could socialize and deal with the isolation of rural life in the agricultural community of Bernardo during the 1800s.



**Valentines on Volcan**

Our felt the love in a big way during our Valentines on Volcan hike and picnic.

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS

## MARCH 2020

<p><b>Sunday, 3/1</b>                  - San Dieguito Monthly Bird Count</p> <p>- Mardi Gras 10k and 5k</p> <p>- North San Diego Certified Farmers Market</p> <p>- Sikes Adobe Historic Farmstead Open for Public Tours</p>			<p><b>Saturday, 3/7</b>                  - Coast to Crest 10k and 5k</p>
<p><b>Sunday, 3/8</b>                  - Volunteer Trail Maintenance</p> <p>- Monthly "Special Sunday" at the North</p>			<p><b>Saturday, 3/14</b>                  - Volunteer Stewardship Day</p> <p>- Yeti Demo</p>

<p>San Diego Certified Farmers Market</p> <p>- Sikes Adobe Historic Farmstead Open for Public Tours</p>			
<p><b>Sunday, 3/15</b></p> <p>- North San Diego Certified Farmers Market</p> <p>- Sikes Adobe Historic Farmstead Open for Public Tours</p>			<p><b>Saturday 3/21</b></p> <p>- Volunteer Habitat Restoration</p> <p>- San Dieguito Lagoon Bird Walk</p> <p>- Rattlesnake Safety</p>
<p><b>Sunday, 3/22</b></p> <p>- North San Diego Certified Farmers Market</p> <p>- Sikes Adobe Historic Farmstead Open for Public Tours</p>			<p><b>Saturday, 3/28</b></p> <p>- Crawling Crabs with Living Coast Discovery Center</p> <p>- Volcan Mountain Dinner Dance and Auction</p>
<p><b>Sunday, 3/29</b></p> <p>- Hawk Talk</p> <p>- North San Diego Certified Farmers Market</p> <p>- Sikes Adobe Historic Farmstead Open for Public Tours</p> <p>-Santa Ysabel Arts and Crafts</p>			<p><b>Saturday, 4/4</b></p> <p>- Archipelago Ride</p>

[Open Full River Park Calendar](#)

[Make a donation](#)



Aaron Chang photo

Your donations translate directly into habitat preservation and programs that connect people to nature. Thanks so much for your support.

[MAKE A DONATION](#)

## Write a review



Please help boost our visibility and outstanding reputation by sharing a brief story about an experience you've had with us.

[WRITE A REVIEW FOR GREATNONPROFITS.](#)

Thank you!



Get in touch with the Conservancy: [sdrvc@sdrvc.org](mailto:sdrvc@sdrvc.org) | [sdrvc.org](http://sdrvc.org)



Get in touch with the River Park: [sdrp@sdrp.org](mailto:sdrp@sdrp.org) | [www.sdrp.org](http://www.sdrp.org)

