



Monthly eNewsletter

Recap for the month of
April 2015

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EVC PARTNER

Mark Sylvester and introNetworks Win Small Business of the Year

"We would like to congratulate EVC partner, Mark Sylvester of introNetworks for winning the Small Business of the Year Award from Senate District #19 for the 2015 California Small Business Day."

Michael Manchak, President & CEO, Economic Vitality Corp.



CEO Interview Series

Mark Sylvester - introNetworks and 805connect

This interview series focuses on business leaders and innovators who are directly impacting our economy and their industry. This month Mike Manchak interviewed **Mark Sylvester**, CEO of **introNetworks**, a technology firm based on the central coast. With the EVC, Mark developed a great, new resource to help the local business community connect called 805connect.

[Read Interview](#)



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Sponsorship Update

We are pleased to welcome our newest sponsor...

Coastal Community Builders - \$5,000

Coastal Community Builders, Inc (CCB) is a San Luis Obispo County based development company building on a tradition of value, quality, craftsmanship, and homeowner satisfaction. Since 1988, under the leadership of CCB President Gary Grossman, the company has become a leader in new home construction, building over 2,000 homes throughout the central coast. For CCB, it is a privilege to be part of beautiful, life enriching communities and helping to make people's dream of homeownership a reality.

[About Coastal Community Builders](#)



Thank you, Gary Grossman and Cate Norton!

Here is one of CCB's newest projects



Vistas at Pismo Village

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EVC Receives Bank of America Grant

May 1, 2015

The Economic Vitality Corporation of San Luis Obispo County recently received a \$5,000 grant from Bank of America to help support the Economic Strategy Project for San Luis Obispo County! Thank you BofA for your partnership throughout the last 20 years. With help from private and public companies such as BofA, we have been able to assist a great number of business and entrepreneurs on the Central Coast in order to create a more thriving community in which we all work and play.



Thank you Greg Bland, Market President, Bank of America!

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EVC SPONSOR

Visit San Luis Obispo County Announces New President/CEO

Chuck Davison Leads Countywide Destination Marketing Organization

April 29, 2015



Chuck Davison

The Visit San Luis Obispo County Board of Directors announces its new president and CEO, Chuck Davison. Davison replaces Stacie Jacob who has served in the role for the past four years and has decided to pursue her entrepreneurship drive focusing her full attention on her business, Solterra Strategies. Davison begins his new position on May 1, 2015 and will work closely with Jacob on the transition of leadership to ensure the continuity and success for the county's destination marketing initiatives.

[Read Press Release](#)



South Santa Barbara County Economic Summit

UCSB Economic Forecast Project

April 2015

The current economic data suggest that the U.S. economy continues to grow and evidence abounds that our economy is, well, looking up. Employment continues to grow. Our housing values are increasing.

New businesses are springing up and so vacancy rates are still very low. Of course there are still some lingering issues. Some issues are the result of choice. Financial regulations have had deleterious effects on many of our community banks and it is still not clear how those changes will alter the size and shape of that industry. Other issues are imposed on us...from the bad weather in the northeast this past winter to the continuing drought in California. While the former is over, the latter is not. State imposed water regulations will affect us in the fields as well as in our kitchens!



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[SLO County Farm Bureau](#)
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NEWSLETTERS

[APCD of SLO County](#)

From annual event on April 30, 2015

[Read Full Report](#)
[View Presentation Slides](#)

EVC PARTNER

Five Student Startups Split \$45,000 in Innovation Quest Competition at Cal Poly

May 6, 2015

An interdisciplinary team of two Cal Poly students and an alumnus took first place for their invention of LiftGator, a removable, full-size hitch-mounted lift gate, in the 12th annual Innovation Quest (iQ) competition. Justin Russo, a mechanical engineering student; Matt Kloss, business administration, and Marty Affentranger, a graduate of the mechanical engineering program, won the \$15,000 Carson Chen Innovation Award. The LiftGator is designed to attach to the rear of a pickup. One person can install it in under three minutes.



[Read Press Release](#)

EVC SPONSOR

Tourist Spending in San Luis Obispo County Grows at Steady Pace Reaching \$1.5 Billion in 2014

May 6, 2015

Visit San Luis Obispo County will celebrate National Travel and Tourism Week on Friday, May 8 to recognize the local and national impact of tourism, a \$1.5 billion industry in San Luis Obispo County. Tourism partners and elected officials will come together at the SeaVenture Beach Hotel in Pismo Beach at 2 pm for a photo opportunity to commemorate the industry with a special hand-crafted beach mural designed specifically for the event.



Visit SLO County Annual Tourism Vision Workshop

Friday, May 8, 2015

9:00 AM - Noon (8:30 Registration and Breakfast)
 Atascadero City Hall, 6500 Palma Ave, Atascadero

[Read Press Release](#)

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Why Opportunity Matters



[Assemblyman Katcho Achadjian](#)

[Caliber Accounting](#)

[California Economic Forecast](#)

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[Women's Economic Ventures \(WEV\)](#)

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Adam Hill, Board of Supervisor District 3, County of San Luis Obispo
Op-Ed, Pacific Coast Business Times
May 4, 2015

I recently had the privilege of honoring MindBody at the opening of their campus in San Luis Obispo. As I gazed out at a sea of people - most in commemorative T-shirts identifying them as employees - my throat swelled with excitement. Why was I overcome in that moment, and why have I spent my entire time in office fixated on economic development? It comes down to jobs. The campus at MindBody will allow the company to grow over 1,000 of them.

[Read More](#)



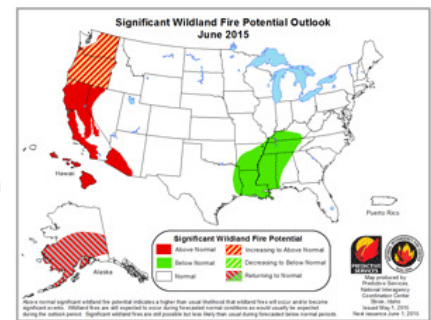
EVC SPONSOR

Get Ready for Wildfires, SLO County

By Lisa Howe, San Luis Obispo County Drought Task Force
May 2015

The risk of wildfire is extremely high this time of year, but this year more than others, the risk is even more severe. In fact, the National Interagency Fire Center forecasts significant wildland fire potential that is above normal for the Central Coast in May, June and July. As we continue into our fourth year of drought and our second year of a declared drought emergency, we're seeing unprecedented conditions on the Central Coast that indicate a higher potential for wildfires.

[Read More](#)



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In the News

Access to THE TRIBUNE and PACIFIC COAST BUSINESS TIMES articles require a log in by subscribers. The EVC provides a complimentary subscription to both publications for EVC sponsors. If you are a sponsor and have trouble accessing your account please contact Kaila Anderson at (805) 788-2012 or info@sloevc.org.

Business Flyers Trade Bigger Planes for Fewer Flights

By Erika Martin
Pacific Coast Business Times
March 27, 2015

[Read Article](#)



[Cal Poly Ranks Among Best Universities for Return on Investment](#)

By Nick Wilson
The Tribune
March 30, 2015
[Read Article](#)

SanLuisObispo.com
THE TRIBUNE

SLO Incubator Expands, Will Accept Non-Cal Poly Startups

By Marissa Wenzke
Pacific Coast Business Times
April 10, 2015
[Read Article](#)

PACIFIC COAST
BUSINESSTIMES

Cal Poly Promises Pay Hikes for Teachers in Wake of Critical Report

By Nick Wilson
The Tribune
April 10, 2015
[Read Article](#)

SanLuisObispo.com
THE TRIBUNE

Paso Robles Urged to Reduce Housing Permitting Barriers

By Elijah Brumback
Pacific Coast Business Times
April 24, 2015
[Read Article](#)

PACIFIC COAST
BUSINESSTIMES

Regional Banks Pluck Talent to Grow

By Elijah Brumback
Pacific Coast Business Times
April 24, 2015
[Read Article](#)

PACIFIC COAST
BUSINESSTIMES

Laetitia Winery Wants to Build up to 101 Homes in Rural Nipomo

By Kaytlyn Leslie
The Tribune
April 27, 2015
[Read Article](#)

SanLuisObispo.com
THE TRIBUNE

Upcoming Events

SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2015

EVC PARTNER

SLO MakerSpace Expo

Host: Softec & SLO MakerSpace

When: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM, Mission Plaza, SLO and
5:00 - 8:00 PM, SLO MakerSpace, SLO

Details: Local and state makers will demonstrate, teach
and exhibit their work.

[More info](#)



MONDAY, MAY 11, 2015

EVC SPONSOR

Tech Brew - The Open Source Movement

Host: Softec

When: 5:00 - 7:00 PM

Where: Pappy McGregor's, SLO



Details: VCT Labs will present to discuss how Open Source has exploded into the business community.

[More info](#)

TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2015

EVC SPONSOR

Builder Breakfast Series - "Meet the Money"

Host: Home Builders Association of the Central Coast

When: 7:00 - 8:30 AM

Where: Cannon, 1050 Southwood Drive, SLO

Details: Creative financing options in the building industry

[More info](#)



THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2015

EVC SPONSOR

15th Anniversary/Business Hall of Fame Gala Reception

Host: Pacific Coast Business Times

When: 5:30 - 7:30 PM

Where: Bacara Resort & Spa, Goleta

Details: Features the top 50 public companies, top 50 private companies and the top company to watch in the Tri-Counties.



[OFFER TO EVC SPONSORS - Buy One Get One Free Tickets to the Hall of Fame Reception. For more information contact Linda Le Brock at llebrock@pacbiztimes.com or \(805\) 560-6950.](#)

[More info](#)

EVC PARTNER

The Spectacle

Host: Cal Poly Center for Innovation & Entrepreneurship

When: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Where: Chumash Auditorium, Cal Poly

Details: Showcases from student startups, CIE programming and competition winners.

[More info](#)



FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2015

EVC PARTNER

The Powerful Sales Presentation for Startups

Host: Mission Community Services Corp.

When: Noon - 1:00 PM

Where: MCSC, 71 Zaca Lane, Suite 130, SLO

Details: Come and hear new methods for creating the income you want.

[More info](#)



EVC SPONSOR

Who's Who in Banking & Finance Nominations

Host: Pacific Coast Business Times

Nomination Deadline: May 15

Event Date: TBD

Details: Profiles senior executives in the regions banking and finance industry.

[More info](#)



MONDAY, MAY 18, 2015

EVC PARTNER
Entrepreneurship Forum

Host: Cal Poly Center for Innovation & Entrepreneurship



When: 4:00 - 7:00 PM

Where: Performing Arts Center, Cal Poly

Details: Announcement of 2015 Accelerator teams and panel discussion on Big Data.

[More info](#)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2015

EVC PARTNER

Your Life Line: Remote Presence is Becoming Telehealth

Host: MIT Enterprise Forum

When: 5:00 - 8:00 PM

Where: Cabrillo Pavilion Arts Center, Santa Barbara

Details: Hear from keynote speaker Yulun Wang, Founder & CEO InTouch Health, the pioneer of Remote Presence.

[More info](#)



FRIDAY, JULY 3, 2015

EVC SPONSOR

Spirit of Small Business Nominations

Host: Pacific Coast Business Times

Nomination Deadline: July 3

Event Date: August 14

Details: Honors businesses with fewer than 100 employees operating in the Tri-Counties.

[More info](#)



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EVC AmazonSmile Link: smile.amazon.com/ch/77-0402681



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For information on complimentary subscriptions

[Pacific Coast Business Times Flyer](#) and [The Tribune Flyer](#)

For questions regarding sponsorship please contact Mike Manchak at (805) 788-2013 or mmanchak@sloevc.org.





Join the EVC group on LinkedIn to get connected to local business leaders and participate in a variety of discussions. [JOIN TODAY](#)



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