

LEXUS
GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY
SALES EVENT

IS GOING ON NOW!
 LUXURY IS WITHIN REACH!

DCH Lexus of
 Santa Barbara

VIEW SPECIALS



SANTA BARBARA NEWS-PRESS

Wednesday, September 5, 2018

SEARCH

Home Local Sports Nation/World Editorials Opinions-Letters Obituaries Real Estate Classifieds Special Publications Archives

Local

Home » Local



Friendship Center in Montecito working to recover

By JOSH GREGA, NEWS-PRESS CORRESPONDENT
 July 23, 2018 7:19 AM

Since its patio, courtyard, and outdoor areas sustained ash damage during the Thomas Fire in December, the Friendship Adult Day Care Center has been working on its Garden Project, a spruce-up of the impacted spaces.

Friendship Center advancement and project manager Gabriella Forrester said the finished project will provide enrichment and enjoyment to the dependent adults who visit the center during the day to play games, eat lunch and relax in solitude.

Ms. Forrester told the News-Press that the center shut down during the Thomas Fire on Dec. 8 and stayed closed through the Jan. 9 debris flow.

The center reopened Feb. 2, but debris needed to be cleared from the center's patio and outdoor areas.

In addition to replacing chair cushions and refinishing tables and chairs that suffered ash damage, the Garden Project will construct new outdoor spaces for its visitors to converse with one another. The conversational areas will be separated with raised succulent planters, which will allow the guests to apply what they've learned in the center's weekly gardening classes without needing to lean over.

Ms. Forrester said gardening is helpful and therapeutic to the center's dementia-afflicted guests.

"Gardening is a sensory enrichment that is calming to folks with dementia and is entertaining for them," she said.

The project will include improved sectional seating arrangements and

Share Story [facebook](#) Tweet



The courtyard at the Friendship Adult Day Care Center in Montecito is being fixed up after being damaged by ash from the Thomas Fire.
 KENNETH SONG/NEWS-PRESS

Translate Website



Select Language

Powered by [Google Translate](#)

Related Stories

- **IN BRIEF** : Man trapped on rock makes it to shore
[ARCHIVE](#) Jan 3, 2009
- Playoff successes net honors at luncheon
[ARCHIVE](#) Feb 23, 2016
- DP's Valente shines in D1 finals
[ARCHIVE](#) May 13, 2012
- Riley brings Moore to the Foresters
[ARCHIVE](#) Jun 26, 2011
- Montecito Bank & Trust posts profit
[ARCHIVE](#) Jan 13, 2000
- Downtown vigil remembers domestic violence victims
[ARCHIVE](#) Oct 20, 2017
- Experts: Pacific Northwest under-prepared for tsunamis
[ARCHIVE](#) Jan 27, 2018
- "The Little Book" finds big success
[ARCHIVE](#) Jan 18, 2009
- Opinion: Should Montecito be a city?
[ARCHIVE](#) Jan 28, 2007
- Montecito bank's income declines
[ARCHIVE](#) Apr 14, 2000

added walkways that will allow the center's members to safely explore the grounds without risk of falling over something.

"Our members are mobility limited and diagnosed with some sort of dementia, so anything that is a fall hazard needs to be put out of the way," she said.

The Friendship Center does not yet have an end date for the Garden Project and has been raising funds since July 16, with a goal of \$40,000. Most of the money raised will go toward garden repairs and new furniture for both its Montecito and Goleta locations.

Ms. Forrester said she hopes the completed project will not only help the center's guests enjoy the remainder of their waning years, but feel appreciated as well.

"This is some of the last outside time our members will have. We want them to feel valued and to enjoy their lives," she said.

email: jgrega@newspress.com

Home

Local News

- Business
- Celebrations
- Columnists
- Life
- Sports
- Scene

Editorials

Opinions & Letters

Obituaries

Travel

Special Publication

Parade Magazine

Classifieds

Place your Ad

Real Estate

Rentals

Employment

Announcements

Merchandise

Garage Sales

More

Real Estate

Finance

House & Home

Open Home Director

Commercial Properti

Rentals

Archives

Events Calendar

More

Site Index

Weather

Traffic

Arrest Logs

RSS Feeds

Gas Prices

Contact Us

Contact News

Pay Your Bill

Advertising Information

Elected Representatives

TV Listings

FAQ

Front Page

Virtual Edition

Follow us on:  Facebook  Twitter