

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

November 2020

Tales on the Trails

When: November 1-30, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Where: Spring Lake Natural Area
Who: The City of San Marcos Parks and Recreation Department, San Marcos Public Library, and Community Action, Inc. are partnering to bring you Tales on the Trails at Spring Lake Natural Area during the month of November. As you navigate our trails,

follow the story of Kiko as she goes on a camping trip with her class and learns about gratitude. Info: Visit sanmarcostx.gov/youth for more information.

Veterans Patrol Meeting

When: Monday, Nov. 23 at 7 p.m.
Where: 325 W. McCarty Lane (First Baptist Church)
Who: The Patrol is a faith-based organization dedicated to supporting all veterans to find and

maintain inner peace in their lives. Visit veteranspatrol.org for more information or call 512-216-9519 or 512-787-0992.

Online Storytime with Miss Ashley

When: Nov. 27, 11 a.m. to 11:20 a.m.
Where: Online program via San Marcos Public Library's Facebook page.
Who: Join Miss Ashley for some fun with stories, songs, and pup-

pets every Friday at 11 a.m. on the San Marcos Public Library's Facebook page. Info: Call 512-393-8200

Dream Colleges

When: Nov. 30, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Where: Online program via Princeton Review website hosted by the San Marcos Public Library
Who: Planning for college can be stressful. Let us put you at ease. Join this session to overcome fears,

dispel common myths, and learn how the college admissions process can actually be a fun experience (really!). We'll share valuable insights and insider information to help you get into your dream school. Registration required. Presented by the Princeton Review. For questions, contact Marcie Skonieczny, High School Outreach Manager at The Princeton Review: Marcie.Skonieczny@PrincetonReview.com, 512-253-2713. Info: Call 512-393-8200.

WEVO FROM PG. 1B

people is my mental illness," Uzimaki said. "All my life I've been told that I'm wrong, what I'm feeling is wrong, that my actions are wrong. I decided I'm not going to run away from it, I'm going to acknowledge it."

But Uzimaki said that Wrong is a word that can describe half of his experience. The word Love relays the other half. Outfitted with his new stage name and a repertoire of original music influenced by Lil Wayne, the Weeknd and Drake, Uzimaki took his talents beyond high school, playing gigs and shows around town.

This is where he would meet his manager and best friend, Travis E. Green, who ran a nonprofit called Off on a Tangent, which was dedicated to getting local artists into area shows. Green signed Uzimaki to his label around February of 2016.

"I was one of the first artists he signed officially," said Uzimaki.

Prospects for Green and Uzimaki looked promising as they recorded tracks and booked shows around town.

Unfortunately, however, Green took his own life

on Nov. 14, 2016 at Texas State, leaving Uzimaki and their circle of friends reeling in the wake of the tragedy.

"That was my dearest friend," Uzimaki said. "I didn't know he suffered with so much depression and anxiety."

Afterward, life spiraled into darkness for Uzimaki. "After that, I went homeless," he said. "After that, the situation with my grandma fully escalated. So I left. I stayed at Travis' garage. I was sleeping out at Playscape for a bit. Eventually, I came back to San Marcos."

It would take some time and moving around before Uzimaki would once again gain focus. But when he did, it became clear that he wanted to continue with Green's vision as a way to honor his memory and give back to his community.

Uzimaki runs the San Marcos Local Music page on Facebook, which currently has 861 members. But Uzimaki wants to see those numbers grow.

"I want everyone in San Marcos to like that," he said. "Ultimately, I want to give back to my community. I want that

page to be the center for fundraisers, school events. I want to cultivate it into a community. I want everyone to know that's the one true haven for music. Nothing's political, nothing's paid for."

Thinking even further ahead, Uzimaki wants to transform that idea into a nonprofit organization with a diverse board of community musicians, business members, and artists, setting up the groundwork for people to be supportive of San Marcos musicians.

"Any funding goes for the musicians," Uzimaki explained. "It all goes back to the community. If there's some way I can give back to the people I love, in the town that I love, I want to make it happen."

So even in the face of lifelong struggle and hardship, Uzimaki wants to take his music and his vision to the next level, to give to the community and honor the life of his friend who loved San Marcos musicians, too.

"Even though I want to give up 90% of the time, I keep going," Uzimaki said. "I'm not going to use a grudge as a crutch. It's all about elevation. That's why I try so hard."

LOCAL FROM PG. 2B

to continue to operate if they experienced a revenue loss for two months. Some have been shuttered for much longer.

Individuals looking for everything from clothing to home improvement services to office supplies can look to small businesses to fill those needs.

- Look for small businesses for any and all of your shopping needs. Chances are items sold by big box retailers also are sold by small businesses. When the options are the same or similar, purchase from a small business instead of its big box competitor.
- Readily provide

recommendations of small businesses with which you have done business. Too often people are quick to complain about places that have failed them, but those same people don't think to say kind words about companies that went above and beyond. Share great experiences on social media or through word of mouth.

- Talk to small business owners first if you have an issue. It's tempting to go directly to social media to complain about something, but such complaints can have a dire impact. Always take issues to the manager or business owner first to see if a resolution can be reached. A manager may

not be aware of an issue at all. Give small businesses a chance to make it right before taking things public.

- If you own a small business, rely on other small businesses to fulfill your needs. Order supplies from fellow small business owners, seek the help of local financial advisors and tax professionals and use local suppliers and delivery personnel.

Small businesses have experienced unprecedented setbacks due to COVID-19. By supporting small businesses, communities can help them regain stable footing.

LBJ Museum announces Debby Butler as new manager

The Lyndon Baines Johnson Museum of San Marcos has welcomed Debra (Debby) Butler of Luling as its new museum manager.

Ms. Butler is an event planner, former small business owner, and experienced manager who is working with the museum board to plan the reopening of the museum later this fall. The museum has been closed since the spring due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Her experience includes work for Bell & Assoc. Realty in Luling, co-owner of Magnolia T's and More, facility manager of the Gordon Ranch, owner of Meeting and



Debby Butler.

Event Connections, and manager of corporate and group sales for the George Ranch Historical Park in Richmond, Texas.

The LBJ Museum, located at 131 N. Guadalupe Street in San

Marcos, features historic exhibits and events that honor the local roots of President Lyndon Baines Johnson. President Johnson attended Southwest Texas Teachers College from 1927-1930 in San Marcos.

"We are delighted that Debby has joined our organization and look forward to reopening soon," said Neill Hadder, president of the LBJ Museum Board.

The LBJ Museum is undergoing a thorough cleaning after which it will reopen. The museum has meeting spaces available to rent and is planning on site and online virtual events soon.



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Deadline for submissions to the Calendar is 4 p.m. Wednesday. Calendar submissions will run in chronological order as space allows.