



**Meals on Wheels**

FOR SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

COMMUNITY BRIDGES  
PUENTES DE LA COMUNIDAD 

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**March for Meals Community Champions Week highlights work of Meals on Wheels**

Meals on Wheels for Santa Cruz County, a program of Community Bridges, joins Meals on Wheels America in celebrating Community Champions Week, March 20-24, 2017. This annual event represents part of a nationwide campaign that aims to increase awareness and encourage support for senior nutrition needs and services.

Throughout the week, elected officials and first responders of Santa Cruz County will deliver meals to local seniors to experience firsthand the positive impact that meal services and social contact have on seniors facing the challenges of aging, isolation and poverty. Participating officials will also visit the Meals on Wheels program's five senior dining sites to engage in the community and camaraderie found at each local site.

A press conference is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday March 22 at the Meals on Wheels Live Oak kitchen, located at 1777 Capitola Road in Santa Cruz. County Supervisor John Leopold, Community Bridges CEO Raymon Cancino, and Santa Cruz County Sheriff Jim Hart will attend the press conference and help deliver meals that day. Santa Cruz County Sheriff Jim Hart will be joining his parents Larry and Susan Hart, who volunteer weekly for Meals on Wheels for Santa Cruz County.

Local elected officials and first responders planning to participate during Community Champions Week include: Aptos Fire Chief Jon Jones; Capitola Police Chief Terry McManus; Central Fire District Interim Fire Chief Steven Hall; County Supervisors Ryan Coonerty, John Leopold and Bruce McPherson; Santa Cruz County Sheriff Jim Hart; County of Santa Cruz Human Services Department Interim Director Ellen Timberlake and Adult and Long Term Care Division Director Mike McConnell; Capitola City Council members Jacques Bertrand and Ed Botorff; Santa Cruz City Council member Cynthia Mathews; Scotts Valley City Council members Stephany Aguilar and Jack Dilles; City of Watsonville Mayor Oscar Rios; Watsonville City Council members Rebecca Garcia, Felipe Hernandez and Lowell Hurst; and Scotts Valley Fire Chief Daniel Grebil.

**About Meals on Wheels for Santa Cruz County, a program of Community Bridges**

Since 1976, Meals on Wheels for Santa Cruz County, a program of Community Bridges, has served nearly 9 million meals to 60,000 local seniors in need. Meals on Wheels for Santa Cruz County serves more than 1,700 seniors in need each year with nutritious meals and caring human contact. The tireless work of this program—supported by a dedicated army of 200 volunteers—allows thousands of Santa Cruz County residents to remain healthy, safe, and independent in their own homes.

For more information about Community Bridges services, or to view Meals on Wheels lunch menus, please visit [www.communitybridges.org](http://www.communitybridges.org) or email [info@cbridges.org](mailto:info@cbridges.org). Any individual age 60 and over is welcome to visit the dining sites Monday through Friday for a suggested donation of \$2.50. The Scotts Valley site serves on Wednesdays only.

To find out if an individual qualifies for home-delivered meals, please call 831-464-3180 x 100.