

LOMPOC RECORD



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UNITED LAUNCH ALLIANCE, JEFF SPOTTS

A United Launch Alliance Delta IV Heavy rocket carrying a critical payload for the National Reconnaissance Office lifted off with the NROL-82 mission from Space Launch Complex-6 at 1:47 p.m. Monday.

Spy satellite launched from Vandenberg Air Force Base

Delta IV rocket one of last four that will be used

DAVE MINSKY
dminsky@santamariatimes.com

A highly classified National Reconnaissance Office spy satellite was launched from Vandenberg Air Force Base on Monday with the help of one of the last Delta IV rockets.

Liftoff occurred at 1:47 p.m. from Space Launch Complex-6, carrying the satellite into space and with a mission so secret that base officials received no information about the satellite from either of the agencies involved in the launch, which also included

the Air Force, according to Patrick Harrower, a 30th Space Wing Public Affairs spokesman.

The Delta IV rocket is one of the last four that will be used, with at least three more slated for launch, including one from Vandenberg and two from Cape Canaveral, according to Harrower.

Hours before the launch, a cloud layer obscured the ridge of the Santa Ynez Mountains until it cleared shortly before countdown began.

As the launch occurred, a plume of smoke emerged from just south of the mountain ridge near Point Arguello, where SLC-6 is located.



NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE, CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The NROL-82 spy satellite lifted off into space with a classified mission from Vandenberg Air Force Base on Monday.

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City Council explores formation of \$1.3M cannabis oversight division

Members direct staff to return with job descriptions, funding sources

JENNIFER BEST
Contributing Writer

Lompoc City Council members spent hours on Weed Day (4/20) talking cannabis, from the city's attempts to conform with state regulations to staff's recommendation for a \$1.3 million cannabis oversight division.

In addition, the council discussed potential ballot measures that would require annual cannabis business license renewals with cost-recovery fees and allow businesses to show tax calculations on customer receipts.

"We want them to be successful because that's better for us. We don't want to be out there policing them. We want to be there as friendly as we can to usher them in the right direction," said City Clerk Stacey Haddon.

According to staff reports, Lompoc's existing Police and Fire department staff have added cannabis regulation monitoring to their already heavy slate of duties. Other communities with cannabis industry businesses in their jurisdictions have hired staff specifically to address the varied needs of the highly regulated industry.

Councilman Jeremy Ball said Grover Beach has five full-time employees dedicated to oversight of cannabis businesses there with 11 applications in the works. Lompoc has 34 applications and no dedicated staffing.

"It makes sense to have oversight ... so we don't leave money on the table," Ball said.

Police Chief Joe Mariani likened the California Bureau of Cannabis Control to the Alcohol and Beverage Control Board.

"I'll be honest; they're more of an administrative entity. They're relying on us. ... The bureau has said it's incumbent on cities to

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SUPPORTING THE COVID-19 VACCINATION EFFORT

Local faith leaders increasing confidence, trust in vaccines

Churches host mobile clinics to help community

LAURA PLACE
lplace@santamariatimes.com

As a reverend at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Santa Maria, Father Peter Kang never thought he would play a role in providing COVID-19 vaccines to the local community until he was asked to step up to the plate.

Upon request from the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department,

Kang jumped at the chance to host a mobile vaccination clinic at St. Peter's on Thursday and provide outreach to community members in the days prior.

"We run a weekly food ministry, and about 150 or so families come through that we serve every week. We thought this might be a good chance to help underserved people in the community to get vaccines if they haven't already," Kang said.

In response to technological, scheduling and language barriers experienced by low-income county resi-

dents of color, particularly in North County, officials have launched mobile vaccine clinics in partnership with churches and other trusted community groups.

Kang is one of many faith leaders in Santa Barbara County being tapped to address the gaps in vaccine access among underserved communities, by health officials who understand that their own outreach can only go so far.

"We are having conversations with pastors, fathers and other faith leaders throughout our county, asking them for the opportunity to visit their

places of worship so that we can address questions as well as asking if they can sponsor mobile vaccine clinics," Public Health Director Van Do-Reynoso said Tuesday.

With the outreach of a trusted leader who has already made connections in the community, and clinics operating at sites people are familiar with, officials hope to see access to distribution become more equitable.

According to Kang, around 65 individuals signed up to receive a vaccine at the Thursday

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LISA ANDRÉ, STAFF

Grace Temple Missionary Baptist Church in Lompoc served as a designated mobile COVID-19 vaccine clinic last week.

OBITUARIES	A4	LIFESTYLES	A10
OPINION	A5	SPORTS	B1
CLASSIFIED	A7	PUZZLES	B5

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