

downtown  
*The* COLLECTIVE  
NEWS • HAPPENINGS • IDEAS

EVERYTHING\*

HOLIDAY

2016

New Year  
New Downtown  
Monterey Street Opens for Business

BROUGHT TO YOU BY

The  
San Luis Obispo  
COLLECTION





EVERYTHING\*  
**HOLIDAY**

2016

Santa's House Opening Day

MISSION PLAZA

November 25th 10am-7pm

Holiday Happenings

MISSION PLAZA

November 25th-December 26th

Santa's House • Classic Carousel

Holiday Tree

Holiday Parade

DOWNTOWN SLO

Friday December 2 7-9pm

Jingle Bells

COURT STREET  
DOWNTOWN CENTER  
MONTEREY STREET

December 10 5-7pm

December 16 6:30-8:30pm

Civic Ballet SLO presents

The Nutcracker

PERFORMING ARTS CENTER SLO

December 9-11 [www.pacslo.org](http://www.pacslo.org)

SLO Little Theatre Presents

A Christmas Story

December 3-23

SLO LITTLE THEATRE

The Santaland Diaries

December 9-17

SLO Youth Symphony

Winter Concert

PERFORMING ARTS CENTER SLO

December 16, 8:00pm

Ballet Theatre SLO presents

A Christmas Carol

ALEX & FAYE SPANOS THEATRE

December 16-18

monterey street  
opens for business

new  
year  
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down  
town

**Downtown San Luis Obispo's  
historic Main Street comes to life  
with new restaurants, retail stores,  
and a hip new hotel on the way.**

THE SAN LUIS OBISPO COLLECTION





**It wasn't so long ago** that Highway 101 came right through the middle of Downtown SLO, and by default, Monterey Street grew to become the “main street” of San Luis Obispo. Those were heady days with art deco movie palaces like the Fremont and Obispo theatres clustered alongside a host of restaurants, night clubs and retail stores lining San Luis Obispo's most famous and glamorous boulevard. After the 101 was rerouted to its current location, and the Obispo Theatre burned to the ground, Monterey street became known as much for its parking lots as it was for its historical place as the cultural center of San Luis Obispo.

Those paying attention have probably noticed a quiet

resurgence along the Monterey Street corridor as new hotels, restaurants, and tech firms move into NOMO (north Monterey Street), and retail standouts like **Urban Outfitters** take a seat next to SLO institutions BooBoo Records, Phoenix Bookstore, and the ultra hip coffee house Bello Mundo. But it was this fall's completion of a block-long stretch of Monterey near Mission Plaza that has turned more than a few heads, with national retailers like **H&M** and **Williams-Sonoma** arriving next to home-grown eateries like **Thomas Hill Organic Kitchen**, Giusseppe's, and **Mint & Craft**, (an upcoming cafe/market, from Novo/Luna Red owners Robin and Shanny Covey). >>>





(clockwise from above) Lululemon features a wide variety of yoga and fitness apparel, Williams-Sonoma is a cook's dream store, Marine Layer supplies comfortable fashion made in San Francisco. Francesca's features clothing for women of all ages and a wide selection of gifts and accessories.



Monterey Street now boasts exciting new stores from **lululemon** (maker of always in-demand fitness wear), San Francisco's **Marine Layer** (home to the softest tshirts anywhere) and central coast newcomer **Francesca's**. "It's so great to be here for the opening of the street. Everyone has been so excited and welcoming since day one." said Leigh Lingmann, manager of Francesca's. A trip

up the staircase reveals Thomas Hill Organic Kitchen's gleaming new digs, and a block-long plaza with viewing platform that overlooks the construction of **Hotel San Luis Obispo** (an 85-room luxury hotel and conference center that's sure to remind everyone we're not in Kansas anymore). Monterey Street will also see the opening of **MAC Cosmetics**, with more surprises, in the coming months.





# Legendary Organic Cuisine Arrives in SLO

## Thomas Hill Organic Kitchen Opens on Monterey Street

You almost have to prepare yourself. After ascending the stairs above Williams-Sonoma, the gleaming white stone tables are the first clue you aren't in some hipster-inspired brewpub. Sure, the seats look like school chairs, but they're white too. And so is the brick. The interior is rustic, but minimal, modern and surprisingly...comfortable. "We worked hard to create a space that would put the focus where it belongs, on the food," says Debbie Thomas, owner of Paso Robles foodie mecca and now San Luis Obispo's own **Thomas Hill Organic Kitchen**. Working with Executive Chef Justin Casey (formerly of Granada) and Chef du Cuisine Elijah Blackburn, Thomas has created a menu that is a mix of favorites and new creations, including a selection of pizzas from their new wood fired oven. "Eight years ago, we gave ourselves a goal of only working with ingredients that were fresh, local and organic. It wasn't the easiest way to do things, but it worked for us, and our customers really gravitated towards the approach. This restaurant is the culmination of what we started in Paso back in 2008."

Thomas Hill Organic Kitchen features a full artisan bar, local craft beers, and an outdoor patio. Open 7 days a week for Lunch and Dinner, plus Sunday Brunch.





# DOWNTOWN SAN LUIS OBISPO



SPECIALTY FASHION & HOME DINING

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