



# SANTA CRUZ TECH BEAT

The go-to source for Monterey Bay tech

## Digest #360

We're almost at the end of 2020. Whew! This week we have (mostly) feel-good news to end your year.

I want to take this opportunity to give a BIG THANK YOU to our Platinum, Gold, Silver, and Bronze partners: UC Santa Cruz, Baskin Engineering, Cloud Brigade, Looker, City of Santa Cruz Economic Development, South Swell Ventures, Western Growers Center for Innovation & Technology, Cabrillo College, Amazon, CSUMB, NextSpace, Bay Federal Credit Union, Community Foundation Santa Cruz County, Paystand, City of Salinas, and Haynes Beffel & Wolfeld. Learn more about our partners [here](#).

Scroll down and start reading the news!

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**Top Stories**

**Our  
Partners**

A gift from Bud & Rebecca Colligan will expand COVID-19 testing capacity and help fund a new diagnostic lab in the Genomics Institute at the Westside Research Park. [Read the article.](#)

A \$3.7M NIH grant will fund development of a low-cost biosensor technology for diagnosing viral infections in point-of-care settings. [Read the article.](#)

A new book, *How Pac-Man Eats*, explores how computer games work and how they can create meaning and address important topics. [Read the article.](#)

Stuck inside for the holidays? Parallel Flight Technologies will deliver your Christmas tree by drone??? [Read the article.](#)

Time magazine places Salinas company's FarmWise Titan on its list of *Best Inventions of 2020*. [Read the article.](#)

Bank of America grants \$50K and names Digital NEST as Neighborhood Champion in recognition of work to advance economic mobility in Monterey Bay Area. [Read the article.](#)



Watch: PFT hosts webinar with aerial cinematographer and wildlife rescuer Douglas Thron who uses drone technology to save animals after natural disasters. [Read the article.](#)

Narinder Kapany, 'father of fiber optics,' pioneering scientist, entrepreneur, and philanthropist, dies at 94. [Read the article.](#)

Rotary Club of Watsonville and Driscoll's help close the digital divide for PVUSD students. Equal Access Santa Cruz County has met first its financial goal but the need is still great. [Read the article.](#)

## Jobs/Internships

- [View all job openings.](#)
- [Post your job.](#) Our jobs page is the most popular page in our website!

## Events

- Go to [our events page](#) for the most current information.
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