Looking back at 2018, page 2

VENTURA RELATION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPER

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Helen always remained glamorous.

VCF receives donation from Helen Yunker estate

The Ventura College Foundation has received a \$2 million donation from the Helen Yunker estate.

Honoring Yunker's request, the donation will establish endowments for the Ventura College Music Department and the Opera and Musical Theatre program. The gift will be split evenly between the two.

"Helen has been a fixture in Ventura since moving here in 1958," says Dr. Damon Bell, president of Ventura College. "She was a generous volunteer, supporter and donor to many local organizations in the areas of education, medicine, youth, theater and the arts. We are very grateful to Helen for her contributions to our art, heritage and culture at the college and in the community."

Yunker, who died in July at age 96, served on the Ventura College Foundation Board for 18 years. This past May, the Foundation Board of Directors honored her service and leadership by naming her as a Board Emeritus Ventura College Member. Over the course of Continued on page 18



Ribbon cutting for first two homes rebuilt after the Thomas Fire

by Richard Lieberman

Ed and Sandy Fuller celebrated the completion of their home rebuild after the Thomas fire devastated their neighborhood and reduced their beloved home to ashes. A ribbon-cutting ceremony by

Ventura city officials was held in front of the new home and another across the street at the newly completed residence of Michael and Sandra Gustafson who also lost their home to the Thomas Fire.



"The most exciting piano duo on the planet."

Ventura Music Festival 25th Season expands

At a recent sponsor preview, the iconic Ventura Music Festival announced plans for an expanded silver anniversary celebration next year by bringing renowned artists year-round in addition to its regular two- week season in July.

Leading off the celebration on February 9th are Anderson & Roe, lauded as "the most exciting piano duo on the planet." Then in a special concert on May 10th NICO – the New Ideas Chamber Orchestra - take center stage as

Newly appointed Mayor Matt LaVere spoke during the event, recalled watching the devastation and wondering how the city could ever recover from the catastrophic event that leveled over 500 homes in Ventura. LaVere said, "But we sat down that next week and we were talking about the idea of Ventura strong and the amazing strength and resiliency of this community. We said our number one priority in 2018 has to get homes rebuilt and back into their homes. And here we are one year later, celebrating the first two homeowners who have rebuilt and are moving back into their homes and I think that is a momentous

Ed Fuller is an avid singer and was at a rehearsal for his barbershop quartet in Camarillo when news of the spreading Thomas Fire reached him. Fuller raced back to his Ventura home, but like 500 other Ventura families, his home would be destroyed.

On the morning of the ribbon cutting ceremony, Ed and his barber

Continued on page 10

"the rock stars of chamber music." Both events are set for the Ventura College Performing Arts Center. Tickets for both events are on-sale now.

Nuvi Mehta - VMF Janet & Mark L. Goldenson Artistic Director - also reported that a "major star" was set to close the year in November, but that the artist's name must remain a secret for some months. "Wait till May," he said; "You'll love it."

As to the July Festival, music lovers only have to wait until Monday, January 28th for the "Silver Anniversary Festival Preview" from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. at the Museum of Ventura County. The program includes artist previews of the Festival's July line-up along with live music and refreshments. There is no cost to attend

VMF Board president Richard Reisman provided the endnote to the sponsor gathering by announcing that the VMF Board had voted unanimously to invest Miriam Schwab's recent \$1.3 million bequest in a special endowment-like VMF Legacy Fund. "The Festival is celebrating its 25th Anniver

Continued on page 23

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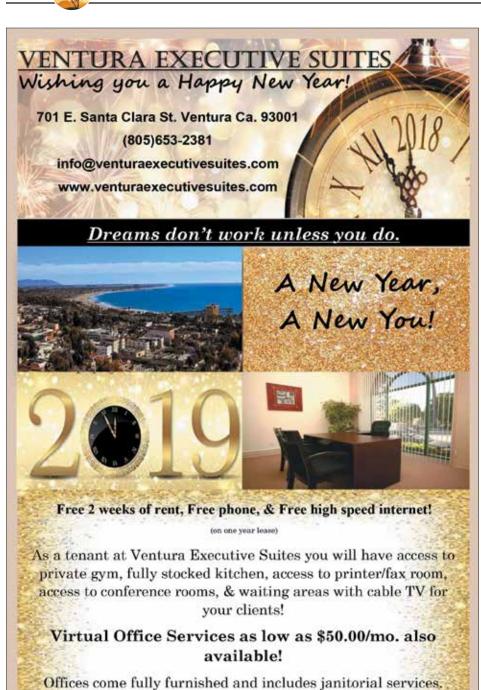
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Re-printed from the Ventura Breeze issues, 2018

After more than 20 years as an active businessman and community volunteer in Ventura, Neal Andrews was encouraged by many citizens of Ventura to run for City Council. He was elected on his first attempt in 2001. Now 16-years later he has been selected to be Ventura's mayor by the City Council. Council member Matt LaVere, who was elected in 2016, became deputy mayor on a 7-0 vote.

mayor. His colleagues voted 7-0 for him to be mayor. He succeeded Nasarenko at the conclusion of his two-year term.

When elected little did he know that his first concern would be the devastating fires that have over -whelmed

The City Council members voted 7-0 to adopt an electoral district map for the 2018 and 2020 election cycles, which brings the arduous work to change from an "at large" election process to a district election process almost to a close. The re-districting project spans nearly four years, begun in 2014, and involved dozens of council meetings, public notices, thousands of hours of community involvement, staff dedication and input from a professional election consultant.

In the final evaluation, valid maps had to meet key requirements of the Federal Voting Rights Act (FVRA) and California Voting Rights Act (CVRA).

The Thomas Fire Benefit Festival will be held at Plaza Park on Saturday, February 3, and will kick off with a VIP Chef Experience followed with live music featuring Kevin Costner and Modern West; Olivia Newton John (on her own recovery tour after second bout with breast cancer); three-time platinum hip hop and rap artist from Ventura, Super Duper Kyle; Grammy award winner, Colbie Caillat; Ventura's own Big Bad Voodoo Daddy and as Mark Hartley teased, there may be a few more bands

On Tuesday, January 23 Nuvi Mehta, He had been the longest-serving the VMF Janet & Mark L. Goldenson council member to never hold the post of Artistic Director, introduced the large audience gathered at the Museum of Ventura County to the artists appearing at the 2018 Ventura Music Festival. He was assisted by Executive Director Susan Scott. Refreshments and entertainment were provided at the free event.

> THE VMF reminds all that "The fires have left members of the Festival staff along with numerous friends and neighbors in need of basic resources like food, clothing and shelter. Many people and organizations are rallying to meet those needs and, in time, they will be

Teams of bulldozers, excavators and other heavy equipment are working throughout the Thomas Fire burn areas as CalRecycle works to clear debris. Thirty-five teams are clearing properties with an expected completion date in April. Property owners who have not signed

Looking Back at 2018

County's local program, face the possibility of having their property abated by the County and the cost added to their property tax bill.

The CalRecycle program operates at no direct cost to homeowners. Under the program, properties are cleared down to clean soil and the debris is taken to a landfill. But homeowners must sign up for the program. Almost 700 properties have been approved for the CalRecycle program and approximately 50 properties have already been cleared.

CFROG (Citizens for responsible oil and gas) held a protest march in Ventura. The environmental group is working to stop the federal government's plan to open the coastline to more oil and gas drilling. Since the 1980's offshore oil and gas leases have virtually been put on hold. This past January the Department of the Interior released a proposal to sell oil and gas leases in federal U.S. waters, including off the coast of California.

As the largest wildfire in the state's history, the Thomas Fire generated some staggering statistics. It burned 281,893 acres (440 square miles). At its most devastating, it was being fought by an army of firefighters more than 8,000 strong. More than 1,000 structures were destroyed. And the fire's most-sobering statistic is the 23 fatalities - including one firefighter - which resulted from the fire and its associated debris flow.

The County of Ventura, in cooperation with the cities of Ventura, Santa Paula, Ojai and Fillmore, initiated a fire recovery process weeks before the fire was even declared contained. The Ventura County Recovers website was launched on December 10, 2017, six days after the fire started. Since then it has had more than 45,000 unique visitors and about 200,000 page views.

Community members visited Arroyo Verde Park on Friday, February 16 to celebrate its partial reopening. The park, located at Foothill and Day Roads, was closed for approximately 10-weeks to ensure safe conditions for park users and repair damage due to the Thomas Fire and January rain event.

City crews and contractors worked hard to restore and reopen this highly visited park for the community to enjoy. The work included removing burned debris, tree removal, trail repair and installing mitigation measures for rain events.

Let's play! The City of Ventura Parks, Recreation & Community Partnerships Department is proud to announce the official Grand Opening and Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony for Kellogg Park, located at the corner of Kellogg Street and Ventura Avenue, on Saturday, April 14 from 10 am-noon. Opening day festivities include live music, games of cornhole and chess, free snacks and giveaways (while supplies last). Explore the park and all of its new amenities including play and exercise equipment, a walking path, turf slide, public art, and an amphitheater.

Cabrillo Economic Development Corporation will conduct a groundbreaking ceremony for its newest affordable housing development, Phase II

up for the CalRecycle program, or the of Snapdragon Place Apartments, at 10 a.m., Thursday, April 5, at Snapdragon Place Apartments, 11094 Snapdragon Street, Ventura.

> The event will begin at 10 a.m. with a reception in the Community Room at Snapdragon Place Apartments. The program will include a welcome address from Cabrillo and its project partners. Following the program, attendees will walk to the building site for the groundbreaking ceremony and photos.

> March 14th marked the one-month anniversary since seventeen lives were senselessly taken by a shooter at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida on February 14th.

> Declared "National Walkout Day", students from 2,800 schools across the U.S. showed solidarity for the victims in

> Here in Ventura, students at Ventura High School took part as well, marching and carrying signs that read, "Students Take Action!", "Enough! Keep Us Safe!" and my favorite, "Fear Has No Place in Our Schools!". As they marched, the students chanted, "end the violence! no more silence!" and in one of the videos taken, you can hear a student say, "this is way more organized than I thought it would be!".

> With the video being captured by a drone, the students at Cabrillo Middle School sent out a message of love by standing together on their field and forming a heart.

> On Wednesday, Mar. 28, ground was broken on the Rancho Verde Apartments, the first USDA Section 514 rental housing property to be developed by the Housing Authority of the City of San Buenaventura (HACSB). It will be the first net zero energy multifamily residential property in the City of Ventura.

> In this new development, 24 USDA Rural Housing units will be constructed as a multi-family site for farmworker households. Rancho Verde Ventura LP, a limited partnership affiliated with the Housing Authority of the City of San Buenaventura, is the owner and the Housing Authority of the City of San Buenaventura will be property manager. It is located at S. Saticoy Avenue and Blackburn Rd.

> The Ventura County Fairgrounds receives no tax dollars or any other State funding. The Fair and maintenance of the Fairgrounds is made possible by self-generating funds.

> To best serve the public in all of these capacities the Fairgrounds is making some hard decisions on how to responsibly use the funds generated through the year. Properly maintaining the Fairgrounds is most important to ensure its safety and readiness in good times and in times of crisis. To that end the Fairgrounds has regretfully announced it will reduce spending by eliminating the Fair Parade and reducing the number of Fireworks shows.

> A fire that broke out on March 27, at about 2:30 pm on Santa Cruz Island is now fully contained. The fire, driven by moderately strong winds, grew from just 20 to 100 acres in the first three hours.

Looking Back at 2018

The fire escaped from a prescribed small burn pile fire that had been set earlier this week. It started near the main ranch on The Nature Conservancy

The Ventura Breeze is holding an "un-official" Name The Green Pig Contest for the new pig that was in the St. Pats Parade to replace the one that died last year. Send you suggestions to editor@venturabreeze.com. They will be submitted to the pig committee for their consideration.

On April 18th at 6:23pm, a 911 call reported that a homeless man was at the Ventura Promenade yelling and "being disruptive," according to a statement issued by Ventura Police. Because all patrol cars were on other calls, the command center staff watched the pier's security camera for twenty minutes and determined that a man matching the caller's description was not threatening or disturbing.

At about 6:30pm, a homeless man, Jamal Jackson (49) entered the Aloha Steakhouse patio and stabbed patron Anthony Mele (35) in the neck. Mele was eating dinner with his family and had no connection to Jackson. Aloha employees quickly responded with first aid using towels to stop Mele's bleeding. They took Mele's family to a back room to comfort them. Mele's wife appeared to be in shock. His daughter was given icecream. Mele was taken to the hospital and later died. The tragedy marks the city's first homicide this year.

The City of Ventura and The Trust for Public Land held the long-awaited and highly anticipated Grand Opening of Kellogg Park on Saturday, April 14, from 10 am to noon. Nestled between rolling green hills, on the corner of Kellogg and Ventura Avenue, the park features state of the art amenities including: two playgrounds (for ages 2-5 and 5-12), nature play areas, permanent cornhole stations, chess and checker tables, outdoor fitness equipment stations, an amphitheater, and ¼ mile walking path.

Five new Ventura Police Officers graduated from the Ventura County Criminal Justice Training Center's Academy this month and are now in their next phase of field training!

Congratulations to Officer Rolls for being presented with the "Outstanding Personal Traits Award" and Officer Allen for being presented with the "Outstanding Academic Achievement & Scenario Performance Award".

The 49 recruits, representing agencies throughout Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties completed 24 weeks of instruction provided through the combined efforts of local law enforcement agencies and other criminal justice entities.

The final results of the Breeze VERY UNOFFICIAL naming of the green pig are in. The long list of funny names sent to us by readers were submitted to a panel of Breeze staffers for review and selection. Of the names submitted over 15 received at least one vote. The winning name is HAMLET. Other names that were right behind HAMLET were PIGASSO, HAM SOLO and ALBERT EINSWINE.

And who knows, at next year's St.

Pats Parade the pig might still be named BACON. But let's get serious, the name of an inflatable green pig is really not very important, but we had fun.

Thursday May 3rd, George and Debbie Fox presented United Way of Ventura County a check for \$60,900. When asked how this project came about, Debbie Fox explained, "the Thomas Fires occurred on Monday and by Thursday we decided we had to do something!".

Before becoming Ventura Water's new General Manager, Kevin Brown, now a retired Navy Captain, worked in the Pentagon as chairman of the Strategic Laydown Assessment for the Chief of Naval Operations, a nine-billion-dollar annual program.

With an annual revenue of around \$94 miilion, Ventura Water brought in Brown specifically for his strategic planning experience for infrastructure. He had been on the job only 2 short months when the Thomas Fires erupted.

The City of Ventura has issued the first full-home Thomas Fire rebuild permits to property owners who lost their homes in the fire last December. The City of Ventura Community Development Department worked closely with the homeowners and architects to issue building permits.

The Ventura City Council took several steps early on to help residents rebuild homes on fire-damaged properties by instituting a streamlined and expedited approach. After the Thomas Fire, policy changes were made to accelerate the recovery process such as a allowing homeowners to maintain their legal nonconforming status and instituting a 14-business day turnaround for permit plan check(normally at least 6-weeks). To help review rebuilding permits, the City contracted with outside firms to support the workload and ensure Thomas Fire rebuilding applications are given priority.

The Ventura City Council adopted a Fireworks Social Host Ordinance during its regular meeting on June 18, 2018. Under the new ordinance, any homeowner, renter, or person in charge of a residence or other private property who knows or should know of the sale, use, and/or possession of any fireworks on private property are subject to a civil penalty levied by the City of Ventura.

Police Officers investing in local youth as Detective Marchetti, Officer Rodriguez, Officer Lopez, Detective Quiorz and Detective Henderson took 20 local youth to the Dodger game on June 15. The effort, funded by the Ventura Police Community Foundation, is part of the Ventura Police Department's efforts at crime prevention through mentorship of at risk youth.

The City Council voted on July 9 to approve moving ahead with plans to open a year-round homeless shelter. The council voted 7-0 in favor of moving ahead with city and county officials in drafting terms of the proposal. The shelter will be located at 2323 Knoll Drive, a 4-story property owned by the county. The county would lease the space to the city for a Voted #1 Best Pest & Termite Co.



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Twelve years ago, Turning Point Foundation took a group of people living along in the river bottom in tents and started them on the path to hope and the promise of better things to come: A new beginning at River Haven where they have been living in cleverly-designed Geodesic domes that have surpassed their lifespan of five years by

On July 27, a ribbon cutting was held to celebrate the new small houses made by Tuff Sheds as a replacement for the domes. Tuff Sheds have a 30-year

ParkMobile, the leading provider of smart parking and mobility solutions in the US, is partnering with the City of Ventura to allow drivers to pay for metered on-street parking spaces Downtown using their mobile devices. Beginning July 17, customers can register for free through the app for iPhone, Android or online at Parkmobile.IO.

The ParkMobile app allows motorists to park, pay for parking via their mobile device, and not be required to stop or wait in line at a pay station to pay for or add time.

On Monday, August 7, 1978, Sergeant Darlon "Dee" Dowell became the only Ventura Police Officer killed in the line of duty. The City named Dowell Drive, the location of police headquarters, in Sergeant Dowell's honor in 1979.

On August 7, 2018 Sergeant Dowell's Continued on page 5

You're Invited to a Free Gourmet Dinner & Workshop

Stress, Hormones & Your Health The True Cause of Belly Fat (Yes, this is for you men too)



Wednesday, January 9th - 6PM Imagine Your Life Without Belly Fat!

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- LEARN WHAT REALLY WORKS for permanent loss of belly fat and bulges.

Location for Stress, Health and Hormones: Mimi's Cafe 3375 E. Main St., Ventura

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Presentation by Tiffany N. Caplan DC, Board Certified in Integrative Medicine by the American Association of Integrative Medicine, Certified Functional Medicine Practitioner and Active Member of the Institute for Functional Medicine



Member, Ventura Chamber of Commerce

The Ventura Breeze is your free local community newspaper published every other Wednesday and circulated throughout Ventura and to many locations in Ojai and the Channel Islands Harbor located in Oxnard.

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If opposites attract, the North Pole and the South Pole would be married and living happily at the equator.

- Gene Perret

Opinion/Editorial



Happy New
Year to all our
wonderful readers,
our vital much-needed advertisers and the
dedicated Ventura
Breeze staff. Without
any of these we

wouldn't exist.

■ This will be any interesting year in Ventura watching our "new" City Council and new City Manager dig in to the many issues facing the city. A great opportunity for Venturan's to contact them or to speak at City Council meetings.

What are your thoughts about **legal marijuana stores**, building development, freeway access, tourism, water use and rates? With the new districts you know who to direct your thoughts to.

■ I have been accused of printing letters from readers only condemning **Trump**. This is not at all true. We can only print what we receive and are happy to print opinions praising him. We want to hear from Trump supporters and Republicans at opinions@venturabreeze.com. Please limit to about 300 words and tell is why you support him.

I'm happy to say that **Farmers** has reinstated my homeowner's insurance. In the last issue, I explained that they cancelled it for - what I found out later - was too many claims. These were \$12,500 for damage from a fallen tree, \$2,000 clean up from the Thomas Fire and zero from an auto claim that I cancelled. They reconsidered and basically said, "We didn't realize that the \$2,000 was from the fire so we aren't counting it." Does this mean if I only had one \$600,000 fire claim they wouldn't have cancelled?

I'm happy, but not satisfied. I never received a letter (or call) that they were considering cancellation so that I could respond, just got a letter one day saying I was cancelled.

Recently, I was at the new **CMH** and ate lunch in their dining room. It was very good. Fresh made sandwiches, a salad bar plus other food made

on the spot. Really nice outdoor (and indoor) seating. It closes at 8pm so don't go after that. Who would have thought eating at a hospital could be so good? And if you get sick while dining, help is right there.

■ I have received several emails complaining about the condition of the **parking lot** behind the 99c Store on Main. This lot is owned by the City and leased to the building owners. The City has 3 companies bidding on re-paving the lot. It is a very complex project because the entire lot can't be shut down at once since it is always full and delivery trucks need to be able to deliver goods. It will probably be done this year, we hope.

■ A recent Saturday printing of the Los Angeles Times and San Diego Union-Tribune (plus many other papers) was affected by a computer virus. Most papers were delivered later in the day. The Times said in a statement that Sunday's newspaper might also be impacted but most were delivered on time.

The suspected malware is thought to have come from outside the USA and the reason is not known. Perhaps it was because of all the "fake news" (except for the content in the Breeze of course).

For those that say **athletes** should just keep their mouths shut and play, consider this. Former Wake Forest guard and NBA All-Star Chris Paul is donating \$2.5 million in support of the Demon Deacons' basketball team. The donation, announced Tuesday, is the school's largest by a former Wake Forest basketball player.

He is not alone, as many athletes support multiple causes with their time and money. They have every right to speak their minds the same as any profession in America.

A teenager in Melbourne pleaded guilty after hacking into **Apple's** corporate computer network, where he accessed customer files and downloaded 90 GB of data. He probably also changed all his high school and college grades to A's, if necessary.

■ The new reservation system for camping spots along the scenic

Rincon Parkway is working as planned. Officials and campers say that disputes have plunged.

Each camper can only have possession of one site per stay. Those stays are limited to 14 days for the Hobson and Faria parks. They're cut off at 14 days at the Rincon in the off-season which runs from Nov. 1 to March 31, and five days the rest of the year.

According to the annual America's **Health Rankings** report, Hawaii, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Vermont and Utah are 2018's five healthiest states (California was 12th, which ain't too bad). The five least healthy were Arkansas, Oklahoma, Alabama, Mississippi and, coming in last, Louisiana.

A statement posted on Facebook by the Alabama Opp Police Department blames an increase in area homicides on the idea that young people have turned away from God and "embraced Satan." The post followed two gunshot killings in as many days in Covington County, located on the Alabama-Florida line. The murderer's defense on trial will be "The devil made me do it!" Case dismissed.

For two decades, adolescent smoking has been on the decline, but thanks to **vaping** products like Juul (which has 75% of the market), teen smoking just jumped by levels not seen for 43 years. Almost all the kids who vape are vaping nicotine: a toxic and highly addictive substance. And, to further validate the growth, Altria (formerly Phillip Morris Companies) acquired a 35% stake in JUUL Labs for \$13 billion on December 20.

Recently, one of my most **prolific** writers quit. Her main reason was because of the way that I treat Trump. At first, I was shocked then disappointed. Disappointed because she, of all people, should believe in the freedom of the press. She never expressed her feelings to me in person and certainly had the opportunity to express it in the paper. And, I always thought that she was a liberal. Maybe the devil made her do it.

Mailbox

Breeze:

Perhaps we need some special events that would be unique in California. Such events that could attract people from all over California and the west to come here and spend their money and stay in Ventura and enjoy all we have to offer. At this time of year it's a good time to speculate on new ways to put Ventura on the Map. I have a few ideas but you might be able to come up with some others ideas.

1. Hutash (the 29th of September) a Chumash Holiday--their new year with dances and feasts. The Spanish Missionaries discovered the date fell on Saint Michael's Day and had fiestas, parties, special mass and horse races on that day. It became a day celebrated by both the Europeans and Native Americans. We could do a procession, Pow wow and dances. Ring all the historic bells at the Mission--etc. Maybe even have a rodeo in the fairgrounds? It could show cultural unity as well as focus on the positives of our history in Ventura. Maybe a parade? 2. The Squidfest Our Marina catches most of the squid consumed in the west.

So a calamari festival should be held at the marina. With calamari tacos, ice cream, etc. The Mascot of the event "Carmen Calamari" a dancing squid with a Carmen Miranda hat and Cuban accent. Music of the islands, Blessing of the fishing boats. Everything squid would mark this day. Maybe a parade of boats? Boat races in the Marina? Chumash canoes (yes they were great fishermen).

3. Founders Day (April 10,) The day the city was incorporated by the state as a city. Then it had only 350 residents. We could have a historic plays, parades, street fairs, Special events. A special fiesta could be held in the downtown with a dance (as they did long ago). A special tour of all we are as a city. New museum display on the history of the town and an art contest on those artists who pain images depicting the colorful story of the state.

4. Horrorfest (October) A special holiday to focus on our ghostly legends and accounts in Ventura. Special screenings of horror films like "Homicidal" filmed in Ventura. A William Castle film

made in 1961. A low budget production that even impressed Alfred Hitchcock! Maybe this movie could be screened? Special tours, a Paranormal Conference could bring in all the people who love ghost hunting--the fastest growing hobby in America.

A few ideas to consider. Richard Senate, Ventura

to opinion

Here is another use of \$10 million tax cut dollars Patagonia is giving away.

A jump start fund to build a desalination plant (where they didn't want the college) designed to keep the lake filled.

Solves our drought problem. Tim Hansen, Ventura

To publisher

We, the Auxiliary volunteers of CMH

Continued on page 24

We encourage you to send your opinions to opinions@venturabreeze.com. Please limit them to about 300 words

Looking Back at 2018

Reprinted from the Breeze

Continued from page 3

Family, retired Ventura Police Personnel, Ventura Police Officers and Civilian Staff held a ceremony at Ivy Lawn in honor of Sergeant Dowell's life.

A scholarship set up in honor of Sergeant Dowell by the Ventura Police Officers Association has awarded over \$100,000 to local students.

One of Ventura's premier philanthropists, arts supporters and political activists, Helen died at age 97 peacefully on July 28. Her almost 60 years in Ventura is a virtual history of ongoing community engagement. She has been recognized over the years for her many contributions, by numerous service organizations in the areas of educational, medical, civic, youth, theater, arts, property rights and senior concerns. Ventura would not be the same without her enormous contributions.

On Saturday, August 11th, Ventura Adult and Continuing Education (VACE) celebrated its 50th Anniversary of providing Lifelong Learning to the community at the main campus on Valentine Road. In the past fifty years, VACE has offered adult education and training in over 150 locations throughout Ventura.

The Ventura County Fair is proud and happy to report another successful Fair. Celebrating the diverse traditions of Ventura County, the 143rd edition, "A Country Fair with Ocean Air" closed with thousands having come out to enjoy the 12-day event, many returning for the first time since making the Fairgrounds their home during the December Thomas Fire evacuations.

The Ventura County Fair's mission is to preserve, promote, and showcase agriculture and the traditions of Ventura County, this was accomplished with competitive livestock and horse shows, agricultural exhibits and baking contests.

Community Memorial Health System has once again been awarded the American Heart/American Stroke Association's "Gold Plus Achievement Award" as well as the association's "Target Stroke Honor Roll Elite Plus Achievement Award" which highlights the health system's dedication to the highest standards in stroke care. Both recognitions will be featured in US News & World Report.

(CMHS) moved a significant step closer on Wednesday, Aug. 29, to opening the new Community Memorial Hospital when President and CEO Gary K. Wilde received the keys to the new Ocean Tower at Loma Vista Road and Brent Street.

Now that CMHS has taken official possession of the newly constructed six-story building, CMHS can now begin the move-in process. It's anticipated that the new Ocean Tower will open to patients and the public in about four months.

The Ventura Rotary Club, Ventura Downtown Lions Club and the Salvation Army of Ventura have partnered to bring the community a free Eye Clinic. Their goal and vision is to provide free eye glasses for those in need (no questions asked). Patients are seen each Thursday from 7:30-9:30 except holidays. Walk-Ins are welcomed as well, just arrive early and ring the bell!

The Ventura City Council announced today that it has selected Alex McIntyre as the new City Manager of Ventura. McIntyre is scheduled to begin with the City in mid-November. He replaces Mark Watkins who left in December 2017 after five years in the City Manager position.

Nine new Ventura Police Officers graduated from the Ventura County Criminal Justice Training Center's Academy on October 12, 2018. The recruits completed 25 weeks of instruction provided through the combined efforts of local law enforcement agencies and other criminal justice entities. The intense training and education prepare these recruits for the responsibilities of serving the community as peace officers.

"Pay Tribute to This Wonderful Man" that is how Kathy Powell, the chair of Lift up Your Voice, worded a reminder for a celebration of the career of Neal Andrews. Andrews has served on the Ventura City Council since 2001, and is currently mayor. This is his last term.

Community members came together on Tuesday evening October 30 to honor Andrews for his tireless activism in the area of homeless services and celebrate what he has meant to those who often felt they were alone in their mission to help the less fortunate.

On Nov. 25, a ribbon cutting was held at the Turning Point Foundation Our Place Safe Haven located at 536 E. Thompson. Safe Haven is the first stop on the road to recovery for mental health issues and homelessness. This 10 bed shelter provides a safe place to live where basic needs are met and the most vulnerable receive mental health treatment, assistance establishing a stable source of income, and help obtaining transitional housing with the goal of permanent housing. Drop in services include hot meals, showers, laundry facilities, phone messages and mail delivery and case management.

The Ventura Botanical Gardens (VBG) held its grand reopening on Saturday, November 3. The Gardens have been closed nearly one year since the Thomas Fire. The fire swept through the entire 109 acres of the park; very few plants were spared.

Community Memorial Health System Now many of the original plants are showing signs of recovery, and many new specimens have been planted. Fire-damaged walkways were repaired or rebuilt. A new hand-hewn rock staircase is now in place and the long-awaited Merewether Welcome Center is open.

> On Monday, December 3, the City of Ventura held a ceremony in observance of the one-year anniversary of the Thomas Fire. The ceremony was held on the front steps of Ventura City Hall proceeding the regularly scheduled City Council meeting.

> Comments were made by Deputy Mayor Matt LaVere and Fire Chief David Endaya, followed by a moment of silence to remember those who lost their lives. Traditional bagpipe music was played by the Ventura City Firefighters Pipes & Drums Corps.



Classic pianists to Dixie Bands... the entertainment is always top notch!

4900 Telegraph Road, Ventura, CA 93003

805.642.3263

www.venturatownehouse.com CA LIC# 565801810

Handheld battery candles were held to show support and reflect the strength of our community.

On a beautiful Sunday, Dec. 2 a dedication was held at Serra Cross Park located in Grant Park to celebrate the repairs made after the Thomas Fire destroyed the area. Fr. Tom Elewaut from the Mission San Buenaventura gave a blessing to the Park. New landscaping, and grass made the area look as good as it did prior to the Thomas Fire. Even though the area is now usable Grant Park remains closed, but, by reservation Serra Cross is available for private events.

At the last most recent city council meeting, a large crowd gathered to honor three outgoing members whose service spanned nearly seventy years. Attendees also saw Ventura history in the making as the new council members were seated. Outgoing members Jim Monahan and Mike Tracy and Mayor Neal Andrews presided over the council for the last time

The evening was the first-time council members representing Ventura districts were seated. Members Sofia Rubalcava representing District one, Eric Nasarenko in District four, Jim Friedman in District five and Lorrie Brown in District 6.

as elected officials.

After taking their places, the board's first act was to unanimously choose Matt LaVere to be Mayor. The second vote was to choose Rubalcava as Deputy Mayor. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Ventura are picked by the council rather than a public vote.

Surprising many, Ventura Unified

School District Superintendent David Creswell has announced that he will resign after serving as Superintendent for only 16-months.

The announcement came after several weeks of controversy surrounding a sermon that came to light that he delivered while an elder at Redeemer Baptist Church in Riverside in 2016. Creswell worked for the Fontana Unified School District at the time of the sermon. Only School Board Trustee Mary Haffner called for his resignation.

Creswell will continue to be on district payroll until Aug. 22, 2019, the end of his contract. Creswell will be available to the district during that time to provide assistance to district management as requested.

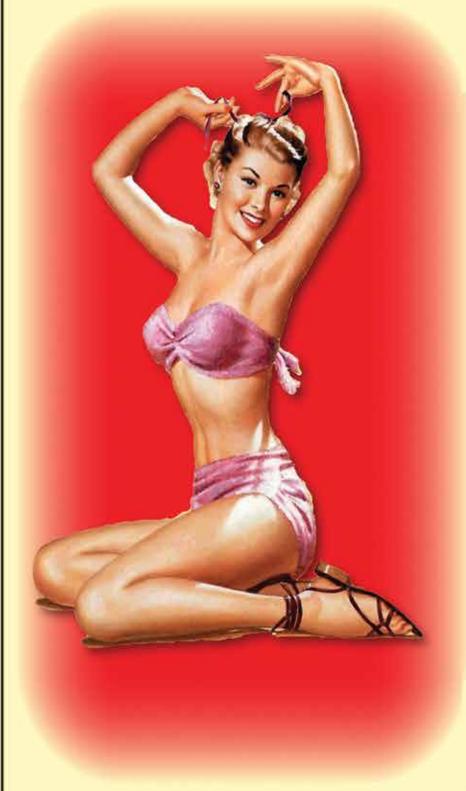
The Vagabond Coffee Shop will close January 1st after 52 years of continuous operations. The announcement of the closing was made by Jolene McBee 74, owner of the coffee shop in early December.

Not much has changed in the last 52 years of operations. The food, the ambiance and the welcoming nature of the wait staff have stayed the same. The diner, located at 756 E. Thompson Blvd. until now has been untouched by time.

The new Ocean Tower at Community Memorial Hospital opened to patients on Sunday, Dec. 16, when all the patients were transferred from their rooms in the old Mountain Tower to their new ones in the Ocean Tower. The transfer of CMH patients to the new building took the bulk of the day on Sunday and was completed without incident. Overall 130 patients were moved.



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Travel Prelude Event!



January 10th • 10:30 - 12 noon We'll preview 2019 - 2020 trips





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Event Location: 1500 Palma Dr., Ventura. Call or email to RSVP

805.535.5170 primroseexcursions.com



News & Notes

The joys and benefits of bicycle travel

The Executive Director of Adventure Cycling Association (ACA), Jim Sayer, will speak about bicycle travel and tourism; the why, what, where, and how of getting on a bike and exploring. He will share how communities coast-to-coast are attracting more bike tourists and how those bike tourists are revitalizing small town America. Jim Sayer will discuss ACA initiatives to make cycling safer and more accessible for people of all ages and abilities. Sayer will highlight the importance of bicycle-friendly cities and businesses; as well as the current efforts of CIBike, Cycle California Coast, and other local organizations to increasing bicycle tourism in Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties.

Sayer's visit to Ventura will be the first of more than 40 cities across the United States that ACA staff will visit in 2019. Sayer joined ACA in 2004 and also serves on the board of America Bikes.

ACA is the largest bicycle-travel (touring/camping) organization in North America with more than 40 years of experience and 53,000 members. ACA, a non-profit organization, produces widely-used U.S. cycling maps, offers guided bicycle tours, promotes bike tourism, produces how-to tutorials for beginning cyclists, and supports print and online media featuring the best in bike touring gear and know-how.

All who are interested in bicycle travel, or just want to learn more about cycling, are welcome to attend.

Museum of Ventura County, 100 E. Main St. Wednesday, January 9. Doors open at 6:30pm with refreshments. The program starts at 7:00pm.

The Channel Islands Bicycle Club (CIBike), established in 1990, is Ventura County's largest recreational cycling club. CIBike shares the benefits of bicycling for health, recreation, sport, and transportation through regularly scheduled group bike rides, events and a free public program on the second Wednesday of each month at the Museum of Ventura County.

Adventure Cycling: adventurecycling.org/

Cycle California Coast: cyclecalcoast.com Channel Islands Bicycle Club: cibike.org Contact: Bill Faulkner, Grants Director, grantscibike@gmail.com.



England attended Oxnard High School.

Ferguson Case Orr Paterson mourns passing of partner

Ferguson Case Orr Paterson LLP (FCOP), recently announced the passing of long-time partner, Theodore J. England, who joined the firm in 2001.

Outside of his work, England was committed to volunteering, serving as a board member at Interface Children Family Services, the Salvation Army and St. John's Healthcare Foundation. Together with his wife Annette, he also managed his 38.5-acre ranch in Santa Paula, growing approximately two dozen different crops from apples to walnuts.

England attended Oxnard High School before earning his undergraduate degree from the University of California, Santa Barbara in 1963 and continuing his education at the University of California, Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law. Admitted to the California Bar in 1967, he was a frequent lecturer on real property law for the California Continuing Education of the Bar program.

"Ted's dedication to his colleagues, clients, family and friends was truly special. He was generous with his time and experience, sharing wise judgment on matters both legal and personal," said FCOP Managing Partner Michael Velthoen. "As an attorney, Ted's scope of expertise on the practice of law was unmatched. We will miss Ted greatly."

DUI checkpoint nets 3 arrests

The Ventura Police Department Traffic Unit conducted a DUI/Driver's License Checkpoint on Dec.28, The checkpoint was established at 9:23pm and screened approximately 862 vehicles traveling eastbound on Main Street from Callens Road. 3 drivers were arrested for DUI during the checkpoint.

One driver was arrested for 23152(a) and (b) CVC, 2800.1(a) CVC with a blood alcohol level of .20 BAC, one arrested for 23152(a) CVC and elected to provide a blood sample, and one arrested for 1203.2(a) PC and 23154(a) CVC with a blood alcohol level of .05 BAC.

The following is a list of additional enforcement activities during the Checkpoint:

460 Vehicles screened

12 Standard Field Sobriety Tests 1 Driver cited for being suspended (14601.1(a) CVC)

3 Driver cited for being unlicensed (12500 (a) CVC)

3 Miscellaneous citations issued 2 vehicles impounded

The deterrent effect of High Visibility Enforcement using both DUI checkpoints and DUI Saturation Patrols has proven to lower the number of persons killed and injured in alcohol or drug impaired crashes. Research shows that crashes involving an impaired driver can be reduced by up to 20 percent when well-publicized proactive DUI operations are conducted routinely.

DUI Checkpoints like this one are placed in locations based on collision statistics and frequency of DUI arrests, affording the greatest opportunity for achieving drunk and drugged driving deterrence. Locations are chosen with safety considerations for the officers and the public.

During the 2017 Christmas (Dec. 22-25) and New Year's (Dec. 30-Jan. 2) holiday periods, 25 people were killed and 643 injured on California roads, according to data from the California Highway Patrol Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System.

Studies of California drivers have shown that 30 percent of drivers in fatal crashes had one or more drugs in their systems. A study of active drivers showed more tested positive for drugs that may impair driving (14 percent) than did for alcohol (7.3 percent).

Of the drugs, marijuana was most prevalent, at 7.4 percent, slightly more than alcohol.

Funding for this checkpoint is provided to the Ventura Police Department by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.



VC Foundation welcomes Keith Barnard

Keith Barnard joins VCF Board of Directors

Keith Barnard, vice-president of sourcing at Mission Produce, has joined the board of directors of the Ventura College Foundation.

"The VC Foundation Board of Directors is excited to welcome Keith to the board," says Rob van Nieuwburg, foundation board chair. "Keith brings an agriculture industry voice to the Continued on page 15



20th ANNUAL BRAVO AWARDS

SERRA CENTER, CAMARILLO FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2019 ~ 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM



NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN!

Celebrating its 20th year, BRAVO is the annual signature event hosted by the National Association of Women Business Owners, Ventura County at which we spotlight women with vision and perseverance who create a bright future for women business owners and leaders in our community.

We are looking for the best of the best women in business and leadership! Do you know our Woman Business Owner of the Year? Do you know an innovative woman blazing new trails?

Please consider nominating strong, elevated women you know in business and leadership who are in "fearless pursuit of success!"

NOMINATE AT NAWBOVC.ORG

(nominations close Jan. 18th)



For more information, contact us!

- (877) 629-2682
- e BRAVO@NAWBOVC.org
- w NAWBOVC.org

Thank you to our Media Sponsor-Ventura Breeze





Happy New Year



Every month CAPS Media trained new members and mentored existing members.

2018 – A year to remember

2018 is a Year to Remember for everyone in Ventura including everyone at CAPS Media. The first few months of the year we dominated by reaction and recovery from the Thomas Fire. CAPS Media covered, broadcast and livestreamed numerous City, County and State events providing the public with valuable updates and recovery information.

In February, in collaboration with the Museum of Ventura County, CAPS Media launched the Thomas Fire Stories project, conducting interviews with first responders and the public chronicling the personal stories of survival and healing during and following the devastating Thomas Fire.

Every month CAPS Media

trained new members and mentored existing members in the use of media equipment helping them create their own programs and projects to air on television. CAPS Media Radio - KPPQ, 104.1FM, continued to grow with new local voices and programs developed and broadcast on the airwaves.

Every week the CAPS Media crew recorded, broadcast and live streamed City Council meetings, City Planning, Design Review and other city public meetings as well as Ventura Unified School Board meetings on Channel In addition, numerous faithbased and community organizations recorded and broadcast services and informative programs for the community on Channel 6.

All year long the ECTV Crew from El Camino High School produced engaging and award winning and the community. ECTV is a career pathways education program developed by CAPS Media in collaboration with VC Innovates and the Ventura Unified School district. In May and June CAPS and the ECTV crew members covered graduation ceremonies for El Camino and Foothill high schools, and Ventura College.

Every month CAPS produces a video for the city and school district's Mayor for a Moment each month a 5th grade student is selected and interviewed. The profile is presented at a City Council meeting and a VUSD school board

Throughout the year CAPS Media continued a productive collaboration with Ventura County Fire and Public Information departments included video annual report for the Ventura County Fire Department,

News & Notes



Keanna and Jaci Johnson from Foster VC Kids love the organization

The teen and Foster VC Kids are sharing her story

Keanna, age 18, is sharing the story of her life-long foster experience with the hope of encouraging caring adults to welcome a youth into their home as well as inspiring other foster children. She tells prospective foster/resource parents about the positive impact they could make, "even if the stay is temporary, your relationship could last a lifetime." Keanna is a youth Ambassador with Foster VC Kids, a program of Ventura County's Children and Family Services, which connects teens and children with caring resource families who can provide a safe, stable environment for youth in care.

Keanna knows about foster homes; since she was born, she has lived in 36 different foster homes and two group (congregate care) homes. She says that every birthday and Christmas, she "wished for a family." On her 36th foster placement, her wish came true. "I wanted a home and family... I finally found one." Despite the challenges she's endured, Keanna offers words of hope to other foster teens that "it does get better. Don't give up on yourself."

Foster children and teens come into care when they have been exposed to abuse or neglect that impacts their safety. Foster VC Kids works to strengthen families by providing support and resources to reunify children with their parents whenever it is safe to do so. And when reunification is not possible, Foster VC Kids ensures the youth are placed with loving resource parents

(foster or relative caregivers) who have the support to provide safety, permanency and quality care.

Last June, Keanna graduated from high school with good grades and is now is transitioning to adulthood. She credits her foster mom Miranda with teaching her life skills like how to write a resume, fill out a job application, and obtain a driver's license. At Miranda's home, Keanna says for the first time in her life "we ate dinner together like a real family.

Now that Keanna is 18, she has elected to participate in extended foster care - legislation enacted with the California Fostering Connections to Success Act (AB12) to support older youth as they transition from foster care into adulthood and independent living.

For community members who have a desire to help youth in need, welcoming a teen is an opportunity to change a life by providing a loving, safe and nurturing environment during a critical time in a

Recognized as a best practice leader statewide in the family recruitment and support component of child welfare, Foster VC Kids provides resource families with ongoing support services, trauma-informed training, and mentorship to enhance the safety, permanency and well-being of Ventura County's youth and families. Learn how Foster VC Kids is making a difference throughout Ventura County, www.fostervckids.

programs in the CAPS Media studio as well as updates by VCFD Chief premiered The Perfect Firestorm - The Mark Lorenzen, Ventura City Police Departments' Ashley Bautista and officers.

> Starting in September, CAPS Media started preparing for the upcoming election by working with the League of Women's Voters to produce videos including informational videos on the district election process and independent analysis of the ballot issues and candidate forums. CAPS continued its Video Voter program featuring individual candidate statements. CAPS also worked with Bill Nash, Ventura County Public Information Officer and Mark Lunn, Ventura County Clerk-Recorder, Registrar of Voters to produce special reports for voter information and education videos for the November elections.

December, CAPS Media

Thomas Fire Story at the Museum of Ventura County. The documentary film was produced in collaboration with the Museum in cooperation with County and City agencies. The Perfect Firestorm is a tribute to our entire community of heroes who, in the face of an overwhelming crisis, responded with astonishing calm and then opened their hearts, hands and homes to rescue neighbors and strangers and together rebuild their lives. The film is broadcast and live streaming on CAPS Media Channel 6 throughout January. Go capsmedia. org/program-schedules for air times.

2018 has been a very busy and productive year at CAPS Media. The entire staff eagerly looks forward to New Year of community Engagement, Education and Entertainment

January 3 - January 15, 2019 Ventura BREEZE

News & Notes



Jimmy McConnell's Super Big Band will be the opening act. Photo by Michael Gordon.

The Channel Cities Jazz Club moving to Ventura

The Channel Cities Jazz Club is a Inn in Ventura. Over the years, the not-for-profit corporation dedicated to supporting live jazz music performance. For over 30 years, it has presented monthly meetings which featured bands presenting their repertoire of traditional, swing, and other jazz forms, all available for dancing.

The primary purpose of Channel Cities Jazz Club (CCJC) is to promote the art and music of American Jazz. To bring together those peoples who love to listen, dance, and play American Jazz. To encourage talented musicians to perform and hone their skills before a live audience, and to bring into the public arena high school music departments and their jazz bands(Ventura High School Band has played there). To provide a forum for persons of all ages to come together to perform and enjoy jazz with an emphasis on building bonds between generations from youths through seniors.

They have been performing at the Pacific Corinthian Yacht Club in Oxnard for several years but an increase in rent has moved them to the Pierpoint Channel Cities Jazz Club has performed at different locations throughout Ventura County.

The first performance will be at 1 p.m. on Jan. 27. It will have an open jazz session with local musicians (jammers), a local high school band and music by headliner Jimmy McConnell's Super Big Band.

From their website: You May be a Jammer if – You coulda' been a pro musician You think you shoulda' been a pro musician instead.

You regret having taken that day job. You have a melody trapped inside your body that must get out.

Shows at the Pierpont Inn will take place on the third Sunday of every month except for big holidays or large events.

Join them for an afternoon of dancing and listening to great swing and jazz music.

For further information http:// www.channelcitiesjazzclub.com/.

Pierpont Inn, 550 Sanjon Road, Ventura.

Just drive

by Ventura Police Department

In the smartphone age, people are more connected than ever before, but also attempting to stay connected when they shouldn't: behind the wheel. And it is not just cell phones. Distracted driving is anything that takes your eyes or mind off the road, or hands off the steering wheel - especially when texting or using your phone. A study from the California Office of Traffic Safety found that 1 out of 8 drivers is on their smartphone while driving on California roadways. Using your cell phone while driving is not only dangerous, but also illegal.

What you should know about California's Cell Phone Distracted Driving

A first offense ticket will cost at least \$162, and at least \$285 for the second offense.

The law applies at stop signs and stop lights, just like when you are driving. Pull over to a safe parking space to handle your business.

While driving, you cannot use a cell phone or similar electronic communications device while holding it in your hand. If the device is used in a handsfree manner, such as speaker phone or voice commands, that is legal, but never while holding it. Bottom line you can't touch your cell phone while you are

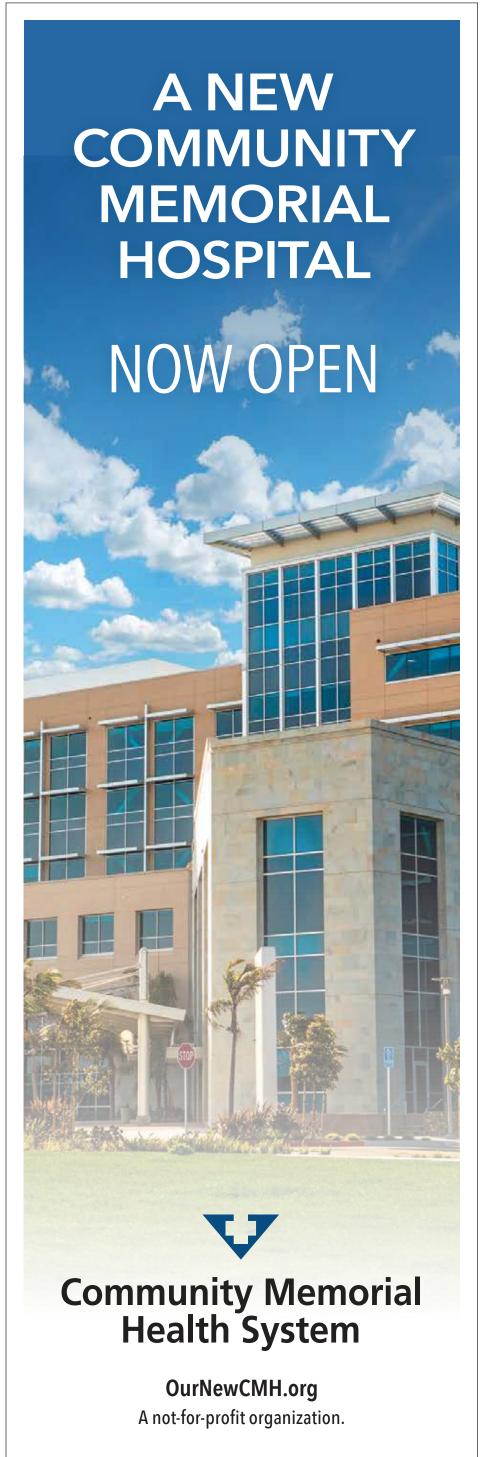
Using communication systems built into the vehicle by the manufacturer is legal. However, it still can be dangerous due to the brain's inability to safely handle both driving and using in-dash or speaker phone functions.

To be legal, the phone or device must be placed in a mount attached either on the dashboard, center console, or a seven-inch square section in the lower right corner of the windshield, or in a five-inch square section in the lower left corner of the windshield nearest the driver. The mounting or device placement cannot hinder the driver's view.

Emergency personnel such as police, fire and ambulance may use hand-held cell phones, but only in the legitimate course of duty.

Other serious driver distractions such as eating, grooming, reading, reaching for fallen objects, changing clothes and others are just as dangerous and can result in a ticket for "speed unsafe for conditions" or "reckless driving." These infractions carry much larger fines, plus points against your

Please be safe Ventura. Focus on the







Eating less meat is good for your health.

Sustainability Now News

Sustainable Body-Mind-Spirit Tips for 2019

by Maryann Ridini Spencer (@MaryannRidiniSpencer)

One: Go meatless at least once a week

Eating less meat, even just one day a week is good for your health according to the Mayo Clinic. Lowering meat intake can be beneficial in lowering the risk of heart disease, stroke, and diabetes. Meatless meals also benefit the environment by limiting the use of natural resources (water) and also lowering greenhouse gas emissions (burning less fossil fuel for electricity and transport). In an astonishing statistic, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) states that approximately 634 gallons of water are used to produce one hamburger and a recent Environmental Working Group (EWG) report details that "if every American cut meat and cheese from their diet for just one day a week, it would be equivalent to taking 7.6 million cars off the road."

Two: Nix the chemicals

Unfortunately, many of the industrial chemicals we've put in our air, food, clothing, beauty supplies, cleaning supplies, yard products, etc., have been found to be quite toxic and because often they can be inhaled or absorbed through the skin, there are also links to various chemicals contributing to cancer, autism, autoimmune disease, and other ailments. What can you do? Just as important as reading the labels on what you consume, beware of what you're putting on your skin and around your environment. EWG. org is an excellent site to investigate the toxicity of all types of products.

Three: Get regular doses of Enviro-Therapy

The term "grounding" (or

"earthing") refers to direct physical contact with the abundant supply of the Earth's electrons by walking barefoot, placing your hands on some grass or earth, or immersing yourself in a body of conductive water such as the sea or a mineral-rich lake. Research is finding that grounding in part, neutralizes free radicals, improves the immune system and blood circulation, reduces the production of stress hormones, harmonizes the body's biological rhythms, and contributes to overall well-being. Four: Nurture Your Relationships

"No man is an island" is a famous saying attributed to seventeenth-century English author John Donne to underscore that we all need each other to live, and better yet, to thrive. To foster sustainable relationships, be sure to make the time to enjoy special bonding time with loved ones and friends (minus the electronics) and join a group or club with like-minded individuals. Close relationships contribute to the feeling of belonging and purpose. They help us deal with eventual traumas (death of a loved one, loss of a job, divorce, and other traumatic events). They also enrich your life, ward of depression, and contribute to your health and well-being.

Five: Pay It Forward

When we do good in our life – for our family, friends, community – it grows our compassion and understanding and fosters a new appreciation of all that we do have. In "doing unto others" we not only help alleviate struggling and suffering, but we also strengthen bonds and encourage others to do the same by example.

News & Notes

New report spotlights education in Ventura County

For the first time, Ventura County's major educational institutions have combined their resources to create a report that encompasses educational programs and achievements from elementary school to graduate school. The 2018 Ventura County Education Report to the Community is now available to view and download.

California Lutheran University, CSU Channel Islands, the Ventura Community College District and the Ventura County Office of Education jointly produced the 20-page publication. The report highlights the innovative ways Ventura County's K-12 schools, community colleges and universities are expanding educational opportunity and achievement. The report also takes a look at the growing effort by educators to prepare students for the working world by providing the knowledge and skills sought after by local employers.

The report is being released by the Ventura County P-20 Council, which is a group of local education, business, government and nonprofit leaders who collaborate on educational issues.

The report is available to view as a digital magazine or download as a PDF document at www.vcp20.org/report. Printed copies are available at the Ventura County Office of education at 5100 Adolfo Rd. in Camarillo.

Ribbon cutting for first two homes

Continued from page 1

shop quartet performed for the gathered guests and city officials. Views of the Channel Islands and the hillsides visible from the rebuilt home added to the jubilant mood. A little over a year ago there was nothing but a scorched and debris filled lot. Today they would be finally moving into their rebuilt home.

Sandy Fuller was excited, "All I can say is I am so excited," She said as she hugged each guest entering the home to tour the newly built structure. "Last year was so sad," she added.

Jeff Lambert, Community Development Director for the city in remarks to the gathered crowd said: "It's been a long year since the

biggest fire in modern history hit the city."

The numbers tell part of the rebuilding story:

165 building permits issued, meaning construction can start.

410 Permits issued for repairs 106 plans in a review, which usually means a building permit isn't far behind

289 Zoning clearances issued 483 appointments with property owners and architects

"It's pretty exciting to see this much activity," Lambert added, "The Clearpoint neighborhood has the beginnings of several other homes, poles up, foundations set, fences erected around lots." He said.

Lambert added "In recent weeks, in addition to helping homeowners rebuild he has also been giving information to other cities now going through a similar process. The Hill and Woolsey fires in East Ventura County, and Los Angeles County destroyed more than 1,000 homes,"

Lambert said "Ventura learned from Santa Rosa," and now he and others are passing along what they have learned to Calabasas, Thousand Oaks and Malibu.

Across the street from the Fullers Michael and Sandra Gustafson also held a ribbon cutting where the same crowd of well-wishers and city officials assembled.

"It feels so good," Sandra said.
"It's good to have Sandy and Ed as neighbors because I think we were trying to keep up with them," she added.

"I feel elated it has been a long year a rough road," said Michael Gustafson just after cutting the red ribbon to his newly rebuilt home. "You know it wasn't as bad as I thought it was going to be," added Gustafson. "The city was excellent, they really helped out the city did what they told us they would do,"

"We poured the foundation on the second of July, so it's been five or six months and were done," he said. "Our insurance was excellent we didn't have any problems at all, they were just excellent," added Gustavson.

The first two homes in Ventura have been completed and ready to move into. A true milestone has been reached in the efforts of Venturan's to recover from the devastation, sadness and human tragedy that was the Thomas fire.



The powerful waves that hit the coast recently battered the Ventura Pier breaking several pilings. The Pier was closed temporarily but is now open after repairs have been done

Senior iving Pull Out Section



"A few more classes and you will be able to read the Ventura Breeze."

Help adults improve their reading and writing skills

Ventura County Library Adult Literacy READ Program is now recruiting Adult volunteer tutors who would like to help other adults improve their reading and writing skills. No teaching experience is required and the training is free. The five-week tutor training series will be starting soon!

The READ program trains adult volunteers to provide free one-to-one reading instruction for adults in need of basic literacy skills. Instruction in basic literacy includes the development of phonetic reading skills combined with communication skills. Ventura County Library is encouraging residents to take this opportunity to volunteer as a tutor or encourage someone you know to take advantage of the free program.

After completion of the five-week training, tutors will meet with their adult learners at locations throughout the county. Tutoring is scheduled by the availability of the tutors and the

Illiteracy is an issue that can be debilitating in so many ways for adults who never received the proper instruction. Adults who are unable to read have a much more difficult time with many daily activities that others may take for granted, along with a clear disadvantage in today's competitive job market.

For more information about how you can support literacy and make a difference in someone's life, call Carol Chapman, READ Program Manager at (805) 677-7160.





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Getting started with longdistance caregiving

Anyone, anywhere, can be a long-distance caregiver, no matter your gender, income, age, social status, or employment. If you are living an hour or more away from a person who needs your help, you're probably a long-distance caregiver.

What can I really do from far away? Long-distance caregivers take on

different roles. You may:

Help with finances, money management, or bill paying

Arrange for in-home care—hire professional caregivers or home health

or nursing aides and help get needed durable medical equipment

Locate care in an assisted living facility or nursing home (also known as a skilled nursing facility)

I'm new to long-distance caregiving—what should I do first?

Ask the primary caregiver, if there is one, and the care recipient how you can be most helpful

Talk to friends who are caregivers to see if they have suggestions about ways to help

Find out more about local resources that might be useful

Develop a good understanding of the person's health issues and other needs

Where can I find local resources for my family member? to find local services for older adults and their families.

As a caregiver, what do I need to

Continued on page 14



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RCFE #5658011737



Wednesday, January 9th • 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Please join us for our open house and experience the warmth of the gracious lifestyle you deserve. Enjoy refreshments and delicious chef-prepared hors d'oeuvres while you take a guided tour of our beautiful community. We would love for you to meet our residents and staff and answer any questions you may have.





The Palms At Bonaventure
Assisted Living & Memory Care

For more information, please call

805-647-0616

Senior Living



"The problem is I keep stopping to shop."

Fitting exercise and physical activity into your day

Don't let a busy day stop you from exercising! There are many ways to squeeze a little physical activity into your day. To get the most out of exercise and physical activity, they need to be a regular part of your life.

Here are some ideas to help you fit physical activity into your day:

Make it a priority. Remember that being active is one of the most important things you can do each day to maintain and improve health.

Sticky note that says "exercise"

Make it easy. You are more likely to exercise if it's a convenient part of your day.

Walk the entire mall or every aisle of the grocery store when you go shopping.

Try being active first thing in the morning before you get too busy.

Join a gym that's close to your home and easy to get to.

Take one or more flights of stairs up and

two down

Make it social. Many people agree that an "exercise buddy" keeps them going.

Take a walk during lunch with coworkers.

Try a dance class—salsa, tango, square dancing—it's up to you.

Use family gatherings as a time to play team sports or do outdoor activities.

Make it fun. Do activities you enjoy to make exercise more fun, if you love the outdoors, try biking or hiking, or try listening to music while you garden or wash the car.

Make it happen. Plan to be active in many places and many ways.

Be realistic based on how physically active you are now.

Be specific in the details.

Include a weekly worksheet that details your activities.

Alzheimer's Association care training

Alzheimer's Association Savvy Caregiver Workshop Series for 2019 begins in February.

A professional-level dementia care training for the non-professional caregiver.

On Wednesdays in February (6th, 13th, 20th, 27th) from 1 - 4 p.m.To be held at Alzheimer's Association Ventura County Regional Office located at 2580 E. Main Street, Ste. 201. Park behind the office.

The Savvy Caregiver is a 4-week



Senior Living

program for family caregivers offering 12 hours of face-to-face training with dementia experts. This is the opportunity to go beyond introductory education offerings and is designed for those tending loved one in the mid-stage of the disease.

The Savvy Caregiver program addresses your biggest concerns:

- Understanding Alzheimer's & other related dementias.
- The toll of caregiving.
- Managing daily life & behaviors.
- Caring for yourself, while caring for
- Decision making.
- Communicating with a person with dementia.
- Taking control.
- Goals for caregiving.

Space is limited and registration is required. To register call the Alzheimer's Association at 800-272-3900 (24 hour line). Material fee only \$25.



"Tai Chi is great because we can even do it

New Tai Chi **Balance Classes** in Ventura

Join as a participant or attend training and serve as an instructor.

It's the new year! Let's improve our balance together and kick off a year of wellness by enrolling in one of three free senior Tai Chi classes starting in January. Registration is open now by calling 805-385-8019.

Or consider joining the program as a trained, certified volunteer instructor! The free training will be held the first weekend of February. No experience is needed. Call 805-385-8023 to learn more about this opportunity to serve your community.

Tai Chi: Moving for Better Balance is a 12-week program offered by Oxnard RSVP and focused on improving the mobility and balance of older adults. Classes are free, designed for those age 50 and older, and taught by certified senior volunteers.

evidence-based program consists of a simplified eight-form routine of Yang-style Tai Chi. Intended for beginners who can walk easily with or without assistive devices, it teaches participants balance skills and good body alignment by using coordinated and flowing movements. The classes have been proven to reduce repeated falls

New classes are offered in Ventura at the following locations:

CMH Wellness and Fitness Center, 2723 E. Main Street, January 8, T/F, 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Our Lady of the Assumption, 3175 Telegraph Road, January 14, M/W, 9 a.m.

The Bonaventure, 10949 Telegraph Road, January 29, T/TH, 11 a.m. - 12:30

New participants are accepted only until the third class of each session. Another class located near the Ross store on Telephone and Main is tentatively scheduled to start in late February.

New volunteer instructors will be trained February 1 and 2. You must be 55 and older to volunteer. Training is free and new volunteers are asked to commit to teaching at least two full sessions following certification.

RSVP is a volunteer recruitment and placement program, helping people 55 and older find volunteer positions that match their interests, talent and available time. The Oxnard RSVP has almost 575 members and is sponsored by the City of Oxnard. To learn more about being an RSVP member or to discuss other volunteer opportunities, call 805-385-8023.

Begin the New Year with hope and insight on Parkinson's Disease

by Patty Jenkins

Start the New Year with hope for better treatments and a cure for Parkinson's Disease! Join the Ventura Parkinson's Disease Support Group as we kick off the New Year with Wayne Pickerell, Vice President and Clinical Research Manager of Neurosearch, Inc., at our meeting on Wednesday, January 9, 2019 from 1:00





Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice is the oldest and only non-profit home health and hospice care agency in Ventura County. We have been making house calls and serving residents of all ages since 1947, regardless of their ability to pay.

Free Community Education & Support Services

Bereavement Support Classes **Diabetes Education Classes**

Joint Replacement Classes

Speakers Bureau Advanced Directives and POLST Education

- Skilled Nursing Care
- Rehabilitative Care
- Palliative Care
- Hospice Care
- Personal Care



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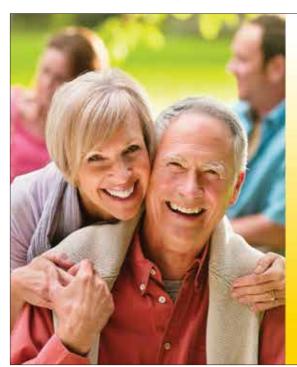
(805) 642-0239

pm to 3:00 pm at The Lexington Assisted Living at 5440 Ralston St, Ventura.

Wayne has been involved in Parkinson's Disease for over 18 years and has managed Clinical Research for Neurosearch for well over a decade. Thanks to participating clinics like Neurosearch and experts like Wayne, and also in large part to the leadership role of the Michael J. Fox Foundation, research continues to advance rapidly and there is more promising work being done to improve treatments for Parkinson's Disease. Wayne will give us an overview of Parkinson's Disease and the typical treatments that we currently have, update us in new treatments that are being studied and he will also discuss progress in the search for a cure to Parkinson's disease.

The Ventura Parkinson's Disease Support Group also welcomes the public along with our members, their care-partners and new friends who find themselves navigating the challenges of Parkinson's Disease and other neurological conditions. For those interested in attending the event, there is a drop-off/loading and unloading driveway in the front of the Lexington Assisted Living building. Extra parking is graciously available across the street in the Baptist Church parking lot. Reservations are not required. Attendees are invited to check in at the front desk for directions to the 3rd floor and sign-in at the meeting so we can keep in touch with you. For more information, call Patty at 805-766-6070.

The Ventura Parkinson's Disease Support Group is an independent and volunteer-organized group, not affiliated with or a part of any other organization or group. Thanks to the generosity of the Lexington Assisted Living, we host our meetings every second Wednesday of the month from 1 to 3PM.





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Thank you Ventura County for selecting Victoria Care Center as a FAVORITE in the recent Readers Choice survey.

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Life insuranceit is better to be prepared

by Jayson Cohen

American Legacy Solutions

Life insurance is one of those things that many people prefer to avoid thinking about because it often conjures up dark images. Many people are jarred into realizing the importance of buying life insurance after a close friend or family member has passed away or even after hearing a news story about a tragic death that hit close to home. The reality is that it is better to be prepared and know that our loved ones will not be left to fend for themselves. Consider these important questions to determine your need for life insurance.

How Will Your Loved Ones Live Without Your Income?

Some households are run on a paycheck to paycheck basis. Some people may have a modest amount of savings, but it may take two incomes to pay the monthly bills. Your spouse and children may quickly run out of money without your income to support them. Life insurance benefits are most commonly used to supplement lost wages and to eliminate debts after an income-producing adult passes away. By eliminating debts with insurance proceeds, your loved ones will need less money to live off of each month. Some people will purchase enough insurance to pay off all outstanding debts including the home mortgage. The surviving spouse may even be able to support the family through his or her income alone after the debts have been eliminated. Others will purchase enough coverage so that the proceeds can be invested to generate supplemental income.

How Will Your Spouse Be Able to Retire?

While some life insurance is needed to help your loved ones to survive on a monthly basis, you also need to think about the future. Your income may currently be instrumental in your spouse's ability to fund a retirement account. Without your income, your spouse may be forced to work for many years past the traditional retirement age, this can create an unnecessary hardship on him or her. It can be wise to purchase extra coverage to fund a retirement account.

Do Your Kids Need Financial Assistance Getting Their Adult Lives Started?

If you have kids, you may be well aware of their financial dependence

on you, and this will often not simply evaporate when they turn 18. Many children need financial assistance buying their first car, paying for their wedding, paying for college and more. Some parents will purchase additional death benefits so that their kids' lives are not financially impacted by a death.

How Much Coverage Do You Need?

This is a complicated question that often requires you to create a solid financial plan for the future. Funds can be used strategically in different ways, such as to purchase income-producing assets, to pay off debts and more. Your current lifestyle, debts and assets all must be taken into account. It is wise to work with an experienced life insurance expert to review your financial needs.

Remember, life insurance has evolved over the years and there are many benefit programs that can come to your families rescue even if you don't pass away but are too sick to work. Now can be a great time to review what coverage you currently have and what coverage is available to you. Some people will live well into their 90s or beyond, but others have a life that is cut short far too soon.

Does a full house beat 4-of-a-kind?

Wanted 1-3 retired men to play nickel, dime, dealer's choice fun poker with very nice retired men at my home on Tuesdays noon to 4 pm. Our ages are 65-80. Great way to pass time and enjoy bunch of fun guys. If interested call Al at 954-987-6670, my home is on Pierpont Beach.

Become a volunteer to seniors

Want to start the New Year right by checking two resolutions off your list? You can do just that by attending one of two volunteer trainings offered by RSVP soon.

The senior volunteer program oversees two distinct exercise programs designed for those 55 and over, both of them free, and they are seeking volunteers to train who will lead them. Trained instructors make a difference in the lives of those enrolled in the class as well as improving their own wellbeing through a regular exercise program.

RSVP Bone Builders is an osteoporo-

Senior Living

sis exercise and education program with 33 classes currently. Using light weights, participants build bones while also improving their balance and making new friends. Training for Bone Builders is scheduled for Tuesday, January 15, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Tai Chi: Moving for Better Balance is an evidence-based program comprised of eight forms. This simplified Tai Chi for seniors helps reduce repeat falls and teaches proper body alignment. Training is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, Feb 1 and 2, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days.

No experience is necessary to become an instructor for either program, although the first training step is to attend a class and observe. Volunteers must be 55 years of age or better, enjoy working with people, and be willing to volunteer. Instructors teach in pairs, allowing time away for vacations/illnesses.

Volunteer positions are available in RSVP's four-city service area of Oxnard, Ventura, Camarillo and Pt. Hueneme. To see current class locations, go to http://seniors.oxnardrec.org and follow the Senior Services link or call 805-385-8019.

RSVP is a volunteer recruitment and placement program, helping people 55 and older find volunteer positions that match their interests, talent and available time. Oxnard RSVP has about 600 members and is locally sponsored by the City of Oxnard with grant funding from the federal Corporation for National and Community Service. To learn more about the benefits of being an RSVP member or for help finding a volunteer position, call 805-385-8019.

Getting started with long distanceContinued from page 11

know about my family member's health?

Learn as much as you can about your family member's condition and

any treatment. This can help you understand what is going on, anticipate the course of an illness, prevent crises, and assist in healthcare management.

Get written permission, as needed under the HIPAA Privacy Rule, to receive medical and financial information. To the extent possible, the family member with permission should be the one to talk with all healthcare providers.

Get tips for caregivers to make doctor's appointments easier.

How can I be most helpful during my visit?

Talk to the care recipient ahead of time and find out what he or she would like to do during your visit. Also check with the primary caregiver, if appropriate, to learn what he or she needs, such as handling some caregiving responsibilities while you are in town. This may help you set clear-cut and realistic goals for the visit. Decide on the priorities and leave other tasks to another visit.

How can I stay connected from far away?

Try to find people who live near your loved one and can provide a realistic view of what is going on. This may be your other parent. A social worker may be able to provide updates and help with making decisions.

Don't underestimate the value of a phone and email contact list. It is a simple way to keep everyone updated on your parents' needs.

Where can I find local resources for my family member?

Searching online is a good way to start collecting resources. Here are a few potentially helpful places to look:

Eldercare Locator, 1-800-677-1116 (toll-free)

National Institute on Aging website Family Care Navigator

Your state government's website

You might also check with local senior centers. Learn more about long-distance caregiving.

This 'n' That

Volunteers needed for annual homeless count

Community volunteers are needed for the annual count and survey of homeless persons in Ventura County. The 2019 Ventura County Homeless Count and Subpopulation Survey has been scheduled for Tuesday, January 22, 2019.

The annual Homeless Count is coordinated by the Ventura County Continuum of Care and County of Ventura, in partnership with community partners and cities. The survey data will be collected through a mobile app called "Counting Us" by Simtech Solutions. This data provides a Point-In-Time "snapshot" as to what the homeless population in Ventura County looks like during a single day to help community leaders better understand who is homeless, why and for how long.

In order to conduct a full and accurate count, the Ventura County Continuum of Care is seeking 500 volunteers. Volunteers are required to attend a training session in their community and will be paired up on the morning of the count to canvass areas seeking persons

to survey. Volunteers will be asked to download the free "Counting Us" app to their mobile device for data collection. Download the mobile app here: http://pointintime.info/. Interested volunteers can register online at http://www.volunteerventuracounty.org/.

For more information on volunteering, please contact Jennifer Harkey at 805-658-4342. For general inquiries on the Continuum of Care, contact Tara Carruth at 805-340-4969.

Residents and businesses will soon enjoy the advantages of clean, renewable power

The County of Ventura is proud to announce that the "unincorporated" (not Ventura) areas of the County will soon enjoy the advantages of clean, renewable power at competitive rates. On December 12, 2017, the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors voted to join the Clean Power Alliance. Starting in February 2019 for residential Continued on page 24

This 'n' That

Water likely to increase to \$300

by Venturans for Responsible and Efficient Government (VREG)

In the next 12 months, Ventura Water will ask the City Council to increase water rates for 30 wastewater projects and 28 water projects by 2024. These costly projects will benefit some property owners. Other projects will help the community at large.

As of June 30, 2018, Ventura Water accumulated \$115,000,000 to use for those projects from 2012-2018. Still, they need \$449,586,000 more before 2024.

These new rate increases will come on top of the increases imposed over the last six years. In 2012, Ventura Water wanted to increase rates to replace aging pipelines and facilities, building projects to improve water quality and constructing new groundwater wells.

In 2012 the average homeowner and family of 4, received a bi-monthly bill of \$145.72. That same family is paying \$209.67 today. This is a 43% increase over the 2012 rates.

So how can Ventura Water impose such large fees against its citizens without the traditional right to vote on such matters? The answer lies in how Ventura implements Proposition 218. Approved by the voters in 1996, Proposition 218 allows Ventura to raise money in one of three ways. General taxes. Those taxes used for general governmental purposes, Special Taxes. A Special Tax requires a 2/3 (66.67%) majority vote or Special Assessments, Fees and Charges. Fees or charges means an assessment imposed as an incident of owning property which receives a unique benefit.

Ventura wants to use Special Assessments, Fees and Charges to impose higher water rates. This is where Ventura water turns a non-vote into a yes vote.

Ventura Water sends a water bill. Somewhere in the body of that bill, it tells you why the rate increase is necessary. To dispute the rate increase, you must download a protest form, complete and mail it or take it to City Hall by a specific date. If 51% of the

ratepayers have not voted 'NO,' that is the end of the matter. There are 32,000 ratepayers. Sixteen thousand one must vote NO to defeat an increase.

The procedure followed by Ventura is consistent with Prop 218 language, but a California Supreme Court challenge

The California Supreme Court in Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency v. Verjil (2006)39 Cal.4th 205, at page 205, interpreted Prop 218's language to mean a city "may raise other fees or impose new fees without prior voter approval." The Court's decision was specific.

However, that decision by the Supreme Court only involved the issue of water delivery through a pipeline and whether voters could use an initiative process to require prior voter approval for the costs of that delivery. It did not involve a question of whether fees imposed to deal with a \$500 million projects together with environmental costs, expert studies, attorneys fees and a plethora of expenses arising out of a Consent Decree decided by a City Council in 2012, and in which the voters

What if the costs are not exclusively operational costs? What if the expenditures benefit the entire community, not just ratepayers? Does Proposition 218 apply in those circumstances? Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency v. Verjil does not address when the costs other than operational costs.

If the City is considering rate increase of this magnitude without prior voter approval, they should be mindful of the language in Prop 218. It provides that "in any legal action contesting the validity of an assessment, the burden is on the agency (Ventura Water) to demonstrate that the ...properties in question receive a special benefit over the benefits conferred on the public at large..." This needs to go before the voters for approval.

Red Cross urgently needs blood and platelet donations

Emergencies don't take a holiday. The American Red Cross urgently needs blood and platelet donors to make an appointment now to give and help ensure patients can get the treatment they need at a moment's notice.

Now is an important time to give blood and platelets. A seasonal decline in donations occurs from Thanksgiving to New Year's Day when donors get busy with family gatherings and travel. In addition, severe winter weather can cause blood drive cancellations and negatively affect the blood supply. Patients like McMahon can't afford for there to be a shortage of blood.

Give the gift of life - make an appointment to donate by downloading the free American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood. org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1800-733-2767).

As a special thank-you for helping meet the urgent need, those who come to give through Jan. 6 will receive a long-sleeved Red Cross T-shirt, while supplies last.

Jan.15: 11:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Knights of Columbus, 36 S. Figueroa St.

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40 percent of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit RedCross.org or Cruz-RojaAmericana.org, or visit Twitter at @

January blood donors can help children with critical illnesses

During National Blood Donor Month in January, blood donors can double their impact by giving blood at Moving In? **Moving Out?** Moving Up? I can help you with that.

CalDRE 01985025





% 805.701.7694

TeamTrainor12@gmail.com

@TeamTrainor12



As gorgeous as it gets by Michael Gordon.

Vitalant (formerly United Blood Services) while also helping to grant wishes for children through Make-A-Wish® Tri-Counties at the same time. Vitalant will track the number of blood donations received at all four Vitalant donation centers and nearly 85 community blood drives throughout the Central Coast in January. For each blood donation made, Vitalant will contribute a monetary donation to Make-A-Wish® in a collective effort by sister blood centers throughout California and Northern Nevada to grant six wishes. To achieve this, Vitalant aims to welcome at least 19,000 donors in California and Northern Nevada this January.

"Many young wish recipients also receive countless blood transfusions for their treatment, all made possible by donors," said Susan Noone, Regional Director for Vitalant. "For the third year of our amazing partnership with Make-A-Wish, we are growing to reach an even bigger goal of granting six wishes in California and Northern Nevada, thanks to the generosity of volunteer blood donors. You have the opportunity to transform the lives of patients, Make-A-Wish children and even your own with just one blood donation this January."

Additionally, donors can also support Make-A-Wish by visiting their Rewards account at blood4life.org and donating their Rewards, equaling a personal

monetary donation to help grant wishes.

During the past two years, more than 6,000 Vitalant donors have given blood throughout the Central Coast to save patients lives while raising more than \$10,140.00 to help wishes come true for children with critical illnesses.

To schedule a donation appointment, please visit Vitalant.org or call 877-25VITAL.

Keith Barnard joins VCF

Continued from page 7

table. We are looking forward to partnering with Mission Produce and the local farming industry to expand programs for Ventura College students in agricul-

Barnard was born and raised in Ventura County. He attended Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo where he obtained his BS in Agriculture Business. After graduating, he joined his father's company, Mission Produce. As vice-president of sourcing, he focuses on securing avocados for input primarily from countries in North, Central and South America. Barnard's family has been in agriculture for four generations.

"Agriculture is one of the top employers in Ventura County," says Barnard. "I would like to help introduce more programs at Ventura College that get young people excited about potential careers in the industry."



A Ventura Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting was held for the new 24 Hour Fitness located at 3350 Telegraph Road, Ventura. (805) 256-6071. At 24 Hour Fitness, they see their clubs as your ultimate daily retreat, where motivation and camaraderie are simply part of your gym membership. Photo by Michael Gordon.



The Pet Page



Dedicated to Scamp

SPAN Thrift Store is providing \$10 spays and neuters for low income cat and dog friends.

Two Clinics in January: Albert H. Soliz Library - El Rio, 2820 Jourdan St.,

Oxnard, on Friday, January 24th and second one in the SPAN Thrift Store parking lot 110 N. Olive St. (behind Vons on Main) on Friday, January 31st. Please call to schedule an appointment 805-584-3823.

The Greensburg-Decatur County Animal Shelter and the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) are reminding everyone to keep their pet's safety in mind this winter season.

According to the Greensburg-Decatur County Animal Shelter when it's cold outside a pet's best bet for safety is indoors. Essentially, they shouldn't be outside longer than they need to be.

Similarly, according to the AVMA, it's a common belief that dogs and cats are more resistant than people to cold weather because of their fur, but it's untrue. The AVMA says, like people, cats and dogs are susceptible to frostbite and hypothermia and should be kept inside, even the longer-haired and thick-coated dog breeds.

Questions regarding your pet's tolerance for winter weather should be discussed with your veterinarian (even in Ventura). For more information on winter weather safety for pets, visit www. avma.org.

Unusual Cases of Canine Heart Disease Linked to Boutique Diets by Hannah Beers

Veterinarians around the world have seen a sharp rise in cases of dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM, in which the heart is enlarged and weakened) in dogs not previously recognized as predisposed to this condition. The one linking factor: a grain-free diet based on exotic ingredients.

"For the past year we have begun to notice a trend of DCM in dogs that do not typically develop DCM," says Dr. Ryan Fries, a board-certified cardiologist at the University of Illinois Veterinary Teaching Hospital in Urbana.

Dilated cardiomyopathy is most commonly seen in large breed dogs, including Doberman Pinchers, Irish wolfhounds, and Great Danes. But recent cases have included dogs such as Boston terriers, Yorkshire terriers, and Pomeranians.

"We started looking for infections and other contributing factors, and these dogs' diets appeared as a connection. We noticed it because the diets were so uncommon and included unusual sources of protein not frequently used in dog food," says Dr. Fries.

As concern mounted, multiple institutions, including the University of Illinois and the Food and Drug Administration, have begun attempting to identify a reason that these particular

diets would cause a cardiac issue.

"Despite a lot of testing, we have yet to identify a specific deficiency of an essential vitamin, mineral, or amino acid. There has also been no specific cardiac toxin identified. So we do not know exactly what is causing the negative cardiac effects yet," says Dr. Fries.

One factor that appears to play a role in the problem is the size and experience of the pet food manufacturer.

"These boutique diets tend to come from smaller manufacturers that may not have the nutritional expertise and resources to ensure quality control that the larger, established companies have," says Dr. Fries. "We are not yet seeing DCM in smaller dogs fed grain-free diets produced by large-scale manufacturers."

There have also been multiple cases of dogs fed home-cooked diets that developed DCM.

DCM Reversal Possible with Early Intervention

In the 1980s, a similar rise in DCM developed in cats. That problem was eventually linked to commercial pet foods being deficient in taurine, an amino acid found in animal protein. So veterinarians and researchers initially thought the current cases of DCM in dogs might be due to a taurine deficiency. Low taurine levels have been documented in some dogs; however, nutritional analyses of the suspect diets and many other dogs have shown adequate levels.

"There is potential for some unknown component or lack thereof that could be affecting the dogs' ability to absorb and use the taurine. Research is exploring those options," says Dr. Fries.

Changing the dog's diet and supplementing taurine has led to a reversal of the DCM in some instances. Unfortunately, the improvements may take six to twelve months to occur.

"In many of the cases, the dogs are already in heart failure by the time DCM is diagnosed. They simply do not survive long enough to respond to the therapeutic diet change," explains Dr. Fries.

Owners should look for dog foods manufactured by large, established companies backed by scientific research, quality control, and FDA approval. These diets have years of data to back their safety and ability to meet a dog's nutritional needs.

"Diet is an important part of any pet's health. Make sure to bring up your pet's diet with your veterinarian, who can help you find a safe and nutritionally appropriate food," says Dr. Fries.

If you have any questions about boutique, exotic ingredient, grain-free foods and their link to dilated cardiomyopathy, talk to your local veterinarian.

■ Multiple dry dog food brands are being recalled after the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) said they contain "toxic" levels of vitamin D, which can be deadly to dogs.

The brands include Nutrisca, Natural Life, Sportsman's Pride and Evolve, among others. Many of the

Scamp Club

(Scampclub pets are not for adoption.)

My name is Nugget. I'm a five-year-old doxie. I love to play soccer and cuddle with my gramma. Mostly though I like to surf and catch me some gnarly waves!





Hi: I'm Nova, an
18-months-old Lynx
Point Siamese Cat.
I'm a purring
princess who is
affectionate, playful, and
love to cuddle and take
naps on my mom's lap.

Join Scamp Club

Animals of all sorts can join the ScampClub. Email me your picture and a little about yourself to Scampclub@venturabreeze.com.

You will be in the Breeze and become world famous.

affected brands were made by the same manufacturer. Various sizes and flavors — which include chicken, lamb and rice — are subject to the recall. A full list can be found on the FDA's website.

A Marine veteran is crediting the Siberian husky she inherited from her Air Force son in 2011 with helping to save her life after the dog sniffed out ovarian cancer three times. Stephanie Herfel, of Wisconsin, told the Journal Sentinel that it first happened in 2013 when she noticed that the dog, named Sierra, began acting strangely when around her.

"She put her nose on my lower belly and sniffed so intently that I thought I spilled

something on my clothes," Herfel, who had been experiencing abdominal pain, told the news outlet. "She did it a second and then a third time. After the third time, Sierra went and hid. I mean hid."

With the dog cowering in the closet, Herfel made her way to the emergency room where she was diagnosed with an ovarian cyst, but Sierra's strange behavior pushed the 52-year-old to make an appointment with her gynecologist. A few weeks later she was diagnosed with stage 3C ovarian cancer and underwent a full hysterectomy. She lost her spleen and continued with chemotherapy until April 2014, according to the Journal Sentinel.



The construction behind the Golden China Restaurant, at 760 S. Seaward, for the 120-unit Marriott Residential Inn has started with the beginning of grading. The hotel will be 2 to 5 stories, the 5th story is just a small portion of it. It should be completed in about 12-15 months.



The Pet Page

Lost pet? Go to LostCatVenturaCounty.com or LostDogVenturaCounty.com - free websites for finding and posting when you've lost or found a cat or dog.

Forever homes wanted

Hi: I'm Tommy a 12 1/2 year old Shepherd mix in need of a new home. Although my mom loves me very much, she had to move and could not take me too. I know there will be people who say I'm too old, but I'm not. I still have lots of love to give to my special someone. I'm always happy and I'm a favorite of volunteers and staff. I'm still active and I love going for walks. I do well in playgroups at the kennel with the other dogs, but I prefer females to the males. If you have a dog in your home, please bring her/him along

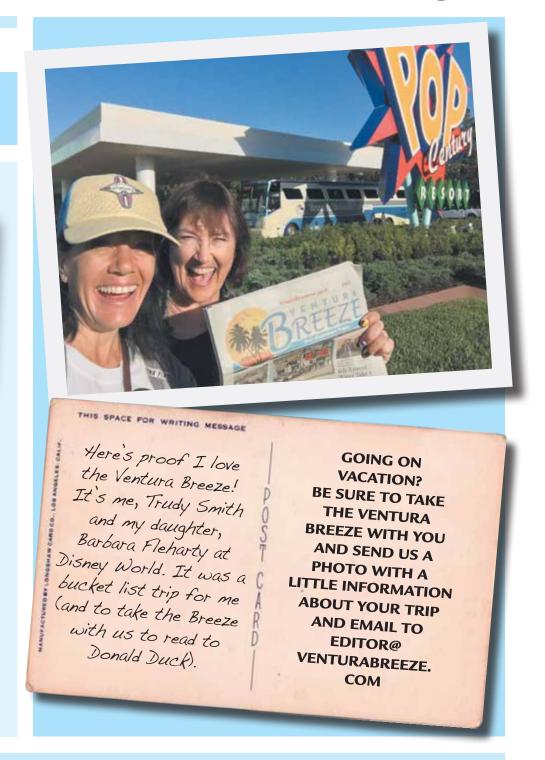


so we can do a meet and greet. I'm in a foster home and live with a cat. I'm good with children and I'm housetrained. My happy go lucky spirit lights up everyone's day. I could do the same for you too. I hope you'll give me a chance and come to meet me. Canine Adoption and Rescue League C.A.R.L.



Harley is one of our favorite dogs! Everyone loves him because he is so playful, sweet and engaging and a big strong boy looking for a family that will play and love him for his great personality He is very playful and friendly. Loves playing fetch with a ball or tug toy and loves his tummy rubs in between playing fetch. He is responsive to training and loves to please. Ventura County

Animal Services - Ventura location -600 Aviation Drive. Harley A591221.



This 'n' That

Wear your old clothes and come join in the fun

On Saturday, January 5, at 9am help prepare the Oxnard armory for a winter homeless shelter.

There is lots to do but the main task is interior painting. Paint will be provided, they just need bodies and some supplies. Rollers and paint trays, brushes, masking tape, drop cloths, plastic sheeting and buckets.

They need the following because evthing that is donated ends up saving us money, and allowing us to stretch the shelter budget further! Every dollar saved will allow the shelter to stay open longer and provide better services.

There is no need to register in advance or to call just show up and help out.

While they ask you to please wear old clothes (you will probably get some paint on yourself) they are also asking folks to please not bring any other old clothes, food items, or other personal items to donate to homeless individuals. The Temporary Emergency Shelter is not yet open -- and is not set up at this time as a place to store or distribute donated food, clothing or personal items to homeless individuals.

Right now they are focused on the logistics of setting up a shelter facility and hiring staff. There are many organizations that can accept donated clothing and personal items, and we encourage you to take such items there. They will,

however, accept bulk donations of some necessary items we know will be needed, such as: boxes of toilet paper; hard plastic storage containers (see-through preferred); trash bags. If you have or can obtain any of those items, please bring them with you!

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Former Armory Building, 351 South K Street, Oxnard.



New Ventura City Manager meets the Breeze for an interview.

New City Manager Alex Macintyre's management style fits well by Richard Lieberman

City manager Alex Macintyre has taken over the reins at city hall. He came aboard in November 2018 and is

settling into the position. Macintyre's background and experience in city management are broad and extensive.

Macintyre has served as city manager for Menlo Park, an affluent city of 36,000 with a median income of \$126,000. Menlo Park is also the home and headquarters of Facebook. He had been with the city since 2012. He also served as city manager at Lake Oswego in Oregon between 2008 and 2012. He also served as chief assistant county administrator with Marin County from 2006 to 2008. Before that, he was town manager for Tiburon and Portola Valley, both in Northern California.

Macintyre has a Master of Public Bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of California at

In addition to the Thomas Fire rebuilding effort, Macintyre is overseeing an ambitious water agenda that includes connecting to state water and working with a new council.

"I am absolutely enthusiastic and looking forward to what we can do together," he said. "I know there is so much coming up and there is so much to do I'm ready to roll up my sleeves and get going" he added.

Asked how it would be different working with a behemoth like Facebook and now working for Ventura. "When I came to Menlo Park, Facebook had just announced it plans to move onto an old Sun Microsystems campus that had been abandoned and it was a small ten-acre

campus and I thought to myself it will be interesting to see how a very well branded company like Facebook does here. When they got there in 2012, they had something like 2500 employees and when I left they were up to about 15,000 employees.

When asked about how it will be working with a new council he said "I think it is going to be interesting given that we are now in the districts, how does the decision making or how might decision making be different on January 1 as compared with December 31st? How will things be different, I don't know but I know it will be different, I just don't know how?"

City workers have mentioned Administration degree from the Uni- to the Breeze that previous city versity of Southern California and a managers never came in to say hi and seemed to not be connected to the city workforce, do you plan to be different? He answered "I actually have been going out to the departments. Among all the other things I have in mind is to get back to the workforce and introduce myself to them. We have 609 employees and another 400 seasonal temporary employees, that is a thousand people. There is no reason I shouldn't be saying hello and interacting with them. I want to be able to knock on an employee's doors and speak with them face to face," he said.

Here at the Breeze we welcome Alex to our community and wish him the best of luck in his new position and we look forward to his ability, knowledge, and experience in helping Ventura into the future. We know his management style fits well with the city's goals and general plan.



Community Events

Ventura events

by Ana Baker

Ventura Poinsettia Dance Club Monday nights 7:30 - 9:45p.m. Poinsettia Pavilion. Ballroom, swing, Latin and line dancing. \$10 members, \$12 non-members. Dance lessons 6:45 - 7:15 \$5 for couple \$3 for single. Call Rick 415-8842 for more information.

There will be a regular Ventura Discussion Group meeting at Main Street Restaurant 3159 Main St., Wednesday from 4 - 5:45 p.m. Several people usually stay for a drink and a bite to eat afterward. Bring an interesting topic to discuss if you can.

Ventura's ACBL Duplicate Bridge Club offers games for all levels of play. Learn the game, play with your peers, and earn master points while you are having fun. There is a game every day of the week. Check out their website at www.vcbridge.org

Country Western Line Dancing every Tuesday 7 - 9 p.m. Instruction every night. Located at the Moose lodge, 10269 Telephone Road. More information at countrylovers.com.

Cross Town Hikers join in on Wednesday nights for a moderate-paced hike that includes views of Ventura from the cross, a walk out to the end of the pier, and a stroll along the Promenade back to the Museum. Four miles with an 800-foot elevation gain. Meet at 7 p.m. sharp at the fountain across the street from the Mission. Join Facebook page for more information: https://www.facebook.com/groups/800215670039426/

The members of the Ventura Investment Group meet on Mondays for an informal discussion of recent economic events. Topics cover current events that affect stocks, funds, real estate, and interest-bearing investments. The meeting is from 10 - 11:30 a.m. at the Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf at Telephone Road and Main Street. Visitors and potential members are welcomed. There are no dues or requirements to participate, and all levels of experience are welcomed.

Retired men might enjoy a visit to a meeting of the Ventura Retired Men's Group at the Ventura Elks lodge at 11:30 a.m. on the first or third Tuesday of the month. Stop in and introduce yourself for a complimentary lunch, interesting program, and a relaxing good time with your peers. Give Bob Likins a call at (805) 587-1233 for details.

Musicians' Sober Support Meetup @ FIND (A Friend in Deed) every Monday night 7-9 p.m. Bring acoustic instrument(s) for jamming after sharing support for sobriety. Bell Arts-Studio

Dr. Matt Wallace. DDS

9290 Telephone Rd. (at Petit) • Ralph's Center • Ventura 805.671.9697

39-432 Ventura Ave. For further information A.Friend.In.Deed.Ventura@gmail.com.

The Ventura County Philatelic Society meet on the first and third Mondays each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Church of the Foothills, 6279 Foothill Rd. Admission and parking are free. Come for a great evening. They are a fun group. Contact: Bill Garner (805) 320-1601 or sockonthenose@gmail.com.

Mended Hearts of Ventura. Come share if you have had heart surgery or stent implant. Group meets the first Tuesday each month at Lemon Wood Mobile Park, 850 Johnson Dr. Ventura. They have excellent speakers leading Cardiologists, Nutritionists, Dietitians etc. from our area. Contact Richard Hatcher at (805) 644-2733

Co-Dependents Anonymous (CoDa) is a 12-step fellowship of men and women whose common purpose is recovery from codependence in the development and maintenance of healthy relationships. Every Friday at 6 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 5654 Ralston (enter through side door off parking lot). Further information Deva (805) 814-5650 or Maryann (805) 509-4813. Jan. 6: The 1892 Dudley Historic House Museum will be open for docent-led tours from 1 - 4 p.m. Admission is free. The museum is located at the corner of Loma Vista and Ashwood streets, 197 N. Ashwood. For information please call (805) 642-3345 or visit the website at www.dudleyhouse.org. Jan. 9: Start the New Year with hope for better treatments and a cure for Parkinson's Disease. Join the Ventura Parkinson's Disease Support Group as we kick off the New Year with Wayne Pickerell, Vice President and Clinical Research Manager of Neurosearch, Inc. Wednesday, from 1 - 3 p.m. at the Lexington Assisted Living at 5440 Ralston St. For more details see full article in the Ventura Breeze Senior Section or call Patty at 805-766-6070.

Jan. 12: On Saturday, 1 - 4 p.m. Amnesty International USA Local Group #452 is hosting Write for Rights, a letter-writing marathon for human rights. Located at the College United Methodist Church, 4300 Telegraph Road, corner Telegraph and Baylor. This event is part of Amnesty International's Write for Rights campaign, the world's largest letter writing event. Drop in between 1 - 4 p.m. to write letters. Your hand-written letters, combined with hundreds of thousands of others from around the world, can change the lives of this year's 10 cases. We furnish paper, pens, stamps, snacks and good company.

Jan. 19-20: Ventura Friends of the Library will hold a Book Sale at the Topping Room at E.P. Foster Library, 651 E. Main St. All genres, books indi-

Dr. Matt Wallace, DDS

9290 Telephone Rd. (at Petit) • Ralph's Center • Ventu For crowns not covered by insurance. With this coupon. Not valid with other offers or prior service vidually priced. On Saturday, January 19, Ventura Friends of the Library members will be admitted at 11 a.m. Open for all 12 - 3 p.m. On Sunday, January 20, open for all 12 - 3 p.m.

Feb. 9-11: Community Presbyterian Church will celebrate the 150th anniversary of our founding. Several activities are planned. Located at 1555 Poli St. Free event for all ages. Saturday 9th: open house 10 - 2 p.m. Jolly Jumps, Classic Cars, Scavenger Hunt, Games, Tours, Living History and Photo Booth. Fun for the Whole Family. 12 - 2 p.m. Hot Dog Lunch Served. Sunday 10th: Worship & Reunion Concert 9 - 10:30 a.m. Worship Service: Rev. Darrell Johnson Preaching "I Will Build MY Church" 3 p.m. Fellowship and Appetizers 4 p.m. Reunion Concert. Childcare will be available. Monday 11th: Building A Legacy Seminar with Rev. Darrell Johnson. Fellowship and Appetizers at 4 p.m. and light dinner at 5 p.m. Seminar on building a legacy at 6 p.m. Childcare available.

Ojai news and events

The Beatrice Wood Center for the Arts is pleased to present Art Without Limits, sharing the work of the Santa Barbara non-profit of the same name. Art Without Limits provides artists of all disciplines with a belief in the power of the arts to transform lives and communities. The exhibition will feature recent work by emerging artists Elite Henenson, Sol Hill, Tom Pazderka and Andi Schoenbaum.

The Opening Reception on Saturday, January 2nd from 2 – 5 pm will feature Yulia Maluta and Derrick Curtis performing ballroom dancing. The public is welcome to attend.

A ballroom dancing workshop with Yulia Maluta and Peter Smith is scheduled for Saturday, January 26th. Participants will learn Swing, Argentine Tango and Foxtrot in three 40-minute sessions. The cost is \$30 per person. To RSVP e-mail the Center at beatricewoodcenter@gmail.com or call 805-646-3381

Running concurrently in the Beato Gallery is Intersection: Art and Life, an exhibition based upon the recent book by Kevin Wallace, director of the Center.

Beatrice Wood Center for the Arts is located at 8585 Ojai-Santa Paula Road in Upper Ojai. Opening Reception for Art Without Limits on Saturday, January 12th from 2 to 5 pm. The public is invited to attend. Ballroom Workshop is on Saturday, January 26th.

The Ojai Art Center Theater and director Paul Sulzman announce auditions for "The Miser" by Moliere (translation by David Chambers), the second production of the 2019 theater season. The play will run weekends beginning April 5 through April 28.

Actors should be prepared for movement and be prepared to read. Reading will be done without movement but sitting at a table. Script is available at the Arts Center (please do not remove) and sides are noted in the script and available online at the Ojai Arts Center website.

Auditions are open to everyone and by appointment only. Please call Paul @ (323) 273-7285 for more info or to schedule an appointment!

Dr. Sirena Pellarolo will visit the Ojai Library on Tuesday, January 15, at 12 p.m. to deliver a presentation entitled Mapping Your Successful **Midlife Career Reinvention.** This interactive workshop will show participants how to effectively set a plan of action to jump-start a successful midlife re-launch. This workshop is being co-sponsored by the Ojai Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. Pellarolo is a board certified Holistic Health Coach, international author and speaker, radio host, and blogger. With over 30 years' experience working on women's empowerment and mentoring thousands of students and clients, she believes in a holistic approach to help individuals navigate career and life transitions in an empowered and natural way. Her own midlife relaunch from College Professor to Midlife Reinvention Coach models for her clients how to courageously reinvent their lives by unleashing their unique personal power, creative self-expression, and hands-on genius.

Opera Santa Barbara will return to the Ojai Library to present a Free Noontime Opera Concert on Thursday, January 17, 2019. The concert will begin at 12 p.m. in the main room of the library and will last approximately 45 minutes.

Spend your lunch hour listening to members of the Opera Santa Barbara Studio Artists, who will perform a selection of popular opera arias and duets as well as some musical theatre pieces, all accompanied by piano.

Join Rev. Karen S. Wylie at The Ojai Retreat on Sunday, January 13, from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., to start the New Year off right!

"Don't let the past run your life," Rev. Karen says.

The Ojai Retreat is at 160 Besant Road, Ojai. People of all faiths and traditions, or no tradition, are welcome to attend.

The retreat is by donation; \$20 is suggested. For more information, contact Rev. Karen at 310-968-8928, or register online at www.karenswylie.com.

VCF receives donation

Continued from page 1

almost three decades, Yunker donated more than \$945,000 to the Ventura College Foundation. She had taken a special interest in the Opera Workshop for many years and was known to do a little singing and dancing of her own.

The Ventura County Ballet, accompanied by the Ventura College Symphony Orchestra, paid tribute to Yunker at The Nutcracker performances held in December at Ventura College in the Helen Yunker Auditorium. For eight years and well into her 90s, Yunker had a cameo role as the maid at the beginning of the yearly production.

"Helen's gift will enable students who share her passion for music and theatre to express themselves and thrive in a creative setting," says Anne Paul King, executive director of the foundation. "It's a wonderful legacy."

Established in 1983, the Ventura College Foundation provides financial support to the students and the programs of Ventura College to facilitate student success and grow the impact and legacy of Ventura College as a vital community asset. The Foundation also hosts the Ventura College Foundation Marketplace; an outdoor shopping experience held every weekend on the Ventura College campus east parking lot. For more information, contact Anne Paul King at (805) 289-6461 or aking@vcccd.edu or visit www.VCgiving.org.





Police Reports

by Cindy Summers

Police reports are provided to us by the Ventura Police Department and are not the opinions of the Ventura Breeze. All suspects mentioned are assumed to be innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Attempted Murder, Terrorist Threats, Felony Child **Endangerment, Felony Vandalism**

On December 17, at approximately 7pm, the Ventura Police Department Command Center received a call of a family disturbance and reports that one of the family members, later identified as the suspect 20 year old Ventura resident Gabriel Estrada, was making threats and had armed himself with a hammer.

As officers arrived on scene, they observed the victim, a 43-year-old female, running from the apartment with Estrada chasing after her. Officers saw Estrada hit the victim, who was later determined to be Estrada's mother, in the head with the hammer. After deploying a taser, which was not effective, officers tackled Estrada and took him into custody.

The victim was treated at the scene by Ventura City Fire personnel, and later transported to VCMC for non-life threatening injuries.

During the investigation, officers learned that Estrada forced his way into a bedroom prior to officers arriving and had made verbal threats towards his 14year-old sister. She was not injured as a result of this crime.

After being cleared from VCMC for minor injuries he sustained as a result of the arrest, Estrada was booked into the Ventura County Jail for attempted murder, terrorist threats, felony child endangerment and felony vandalism.

Vehicle Break-In, Property Theft

On December 19, at approximately 10:30pm, the Ventura Police Command Center received a 911call from the victim indicating she was holding down and detaining the suspect, 22 year old Ventura resident Erick Stevenson who had just broken into her car. Officers arrived on scene and found the victim and suspect a block from her car.

During the investigation, it was learned that the victim worked nearby on East Main St. and went to leave when she forgot something at her place of work. She left her car unlocked and walked in her business for a minute and returned to find Stevenson rummaging through her car. The victim confronted Stevenson and tried to detain him physically. Stevenson began to struggle with the victim and pushed her down. Stevenson fled from the scene with some of the victim's property, and the victim gave chase. The victim caught Stevenson a block away and tackled him to the ground. The victim struggled with Stevenson again and was finally able to detain him until police arrived and took Stevenson into custody.

The victim suffered minor injuries during the struggle she had with Stevenson and was treated at the scene.

Stevenson had minor scrapes and was treated at the scene. Stevenson was booked at the Ventura County Jail for Robbery.

Assault with a Deadly Weapon **Arrest**

On December 24, at approximately 6:45pm, the Ventura Police Department Command Center received a 911 call from a caller reporting that he was just hit by a vehicle near the intersection of Ash St. and Front St. The 28-year- old victim and the suspect, later identified as 59 year old vagrant Kevin Mateas, were known to each other and got into a verbal argument. Mateas was leaving in his vehicle and intentionally struck the victim as he left. The victim sustained minor injuries and refused medical treatment at the scene.

Officers checked the area, but were unable to locate the suspect.

At approximately 1940 hrs, Mateas had driven to the Ventura Police Department and was contacted in the parking lot of the station. After further investigation, Mateas was taken into custody. He was later booked into the Ventura County Jail for assault with a deadly weapon.

A review of the Ventura County Superior Court website shows that Mateas has no prior convictions.

Harbor Patrol Blotter

Just a few of the things the Harbor Patrol

12-18 4:45pm, while on patrol, officers observed hazardous conditions at the South Beach, Surfers Knoll and Marina Park. High Surf, 6-10ft with numerous and powerful rip currents all throughout. NWS issued warnings for conditions.

8:40pm, dispatched to a fire near Harbor/Olivas park. Officers responded and observed the burnoff in the field South of the Santa Clara River, no fire.

12-19 5:03pm, received a report of a boat fire near Island Packers dock. Officers responded in the fireboat and found one of the older diesel commercial fishing light boats was dormant for a while and a lot of soot/smoke was expelled from the vessel's exhaust upon it being started. No fire was observed.

9:10pm, advised of a diesel spill near VHV H-dock from the Dockmaster. Officers responded to the report, but no source for the small spill was located.

12-20 8:01pm, received request for entrance conditions from a vessel transiting the Harbor Entrance. Officers were able to assist the vessel safely into the harbor.

12-21 4:45pm, several reports of navigation buoys within the harbor are off station. Officers responded and towed the buoys back on station. The buoys were off-station due to the high surf and heavy surge from the last week.

8:10pm, received reports of various transients disturbing the peace all around the harbor. Officers responded but were unable to locate disturbing parties.

12-22 7:30am, contacted National Park Service, they advised no personnel on duty due to the government shut

9:07am, observed the city dock at Marina Park has broken due to the 7ft high tide. Ventura City personnel were advised and en route to turn off utilities.

12-23 2:00pm, received a request for information on the government shut-down concerning planned trips to the islands on commercial vessels. Advised caller to contact island packers to inquire.

4:56pm, while on patrol near the seaward in Boat19, officers contacted a long distance swimmer. He was escorted back towards the surfline.

12-24 12:40pm, received a report of a disabled Personal Watercraft Craft in Ventura Townehouse

It is our intention to please your palate!!

4900 Telegraph Road, Ventura, CA 93003

805.642.3263

www.venturatownehouse.com CA LIC# 565801810

the sandtrap. Officers responded and assisted the vessel, towed it and took the operator on board back to the dock in the Ventura Keys.

2:08pm, dispatched to a medical, lift assist in the Ventura Marina Community from FCC. Officers responded and assisted VFD/AMR with returning the patient to his wheelchair, no medical assistance required.

New Laws for 2019

A new year will bring new laws to California. Here are a list of laws going into effect January 1, 2019 which impact motor vehicles and public safety:

Temporary Paper Plates (AB 516): Authorized California dealers must place a paper plate with a number and expiration date on every vehicle they sell, whether new or used. The objective is to reduce the number of offenders passing through payment booths and improve road safety.

Breathalyzer on Engine Start (SB 1046): Between Jan. 1, 2019 and 2026, repeat offenders for DUI or those who receive a first DUI offense and have caused injuries, must install a breathalyzer on the engine ignition (IDD) for a period of 12 to 48 months. These regulations apply to DUI infractions involving alcohol consumption or the combined use of alcohol and drugs.

Driving Privileges for Minors (AB 2685): Courts will no longer be able to suspend, restrict or delay issuing a minor's driver's license for one year for truancy or for being under the guardianship of the state. Suspensions or delays reported to the DMV prior to Jan. 1, 2019 will remain in effect.

Motorized Scooters (AB 2989): People over 18 years old will no longer need to use a bicycle helmet to use

a motorized scooter. This law also amends existing law that prohibits a person from using a motorized scooter on a highway that has a speed limit greater than 25 miles per hour, unless it is on a special Class IV bikeway as well as Class II.

Unsafe or Unattached Loads on Vehicles (AB 1925): The DMV must include at least one question on 20 percent of knowledge tests (written exams) on traffic laws about California's unsecured load code. The purpose is, in part, an effort to verify that applicants understand that abandoning or dumping any animal is a criminal offense.

Passing Waste Service Vehicles (AB 2115): Driver approaching a waste collection truck with its amber lights flashing must move into an adjacent lane, if possible, and pass at a safe distance. If you can't change lanes, slow to a safe and reasonable speed. It's part of an effort to protect sanitation workers.

Police Transparency (AB 748): Requires that the images of body cameras on police officers and any other audio recording acquired by a police agency be disclosed to the public. This must be done within 45 days after a police shooting or excessive force causes death or injury to a person.

Police Transparency (SB 1421): Allows public access to police records in cases of force, as well as investigations that confirmed the lack of honesty in the work or sexual misconduct.

Juvenile Justice (SB 1391): Requires that juveniles ages 14 and 15 accused of crimes be tried in the juvenile justice system instead of being prosecuted as adults.

Gun Control (SB 1200): Eliminates fees for requesting a Firearms Violence Restraining Order and adds ammunition and bullet drums to the list of items related to firearms that can be confiscated.

Weekly SUDOKU — Answer 9 9 5 1 2 4 8 3 6 3 8 7

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Ventura BREEZE Your Hometown Paper www.venturabreeze.com

Ventura-Music-Scene



by Pam Baumgardner

VenturaRocks.com

Happy New Year! I'm wishing you a year of prosperity, love, friendship and of course lots of live music!!

Let's start off the year right by helping Crooked Eye Tommy get to Memphis to compete in this year's International Blues Challenge by attending a fundraising concert at Grapes and Hops on Saturday, January 5. Along with a \$20 donation to help out, there will be raffle items including one of Tommy's guitars. Performers slated on the bill include Michael John, Joey Delgado, Mikey Mo, Ian Mcfadyen, Jodi Farrell, Kelly Zirbes, Shawn Jones, Perry Robertson, Ray Jaurique, Dan Grimm, Eddie Dies and more! The show is scheduled to start at 6 pm.

The Channel Cities Jazz Club is moving their monthly shows to the Pierpont Inn this year. Their first performance will be Sunday, January 27 (1 pm) with an open jazz session. Headlining will be Jimmy McConnell's Super Big Band. It's only \$10 for members, and \$15 for nonmembers.

Congratulations to the Majestic Ventura Theater for partnering with Live Nation on booking future shows this year. We'll be looking for upgrades on the facility including their sound system. Meanwhile don't miss the benefit show for SPARC hosted by Malcolm McDowell on Saturday, January 19, with performance from Lacy J. Dalton with Dale Poune.

The good folks from Squashed Grapes will continue to book jazz shows at the Hong Kong Inn while the current owners look for new owners to take over the lease. Jazz Jams return to Tuesdays nights, Dogfish plays Wednesday, January 9, Coda on the 10th, Ben Clatworthy & Friends on the 11th and it's the Barrelhouse Wailers on

Saturday, January 12. Quick Notes: McWorter Trio return to their Thursdays: Danny D Tuesday night residency at Copa Cubana on January 8; Rapper Shwayze plays Discovery on Wednesday, January 9; Bluegrass jams continue in the New Year on Thursdays at the Boatyard Pub in the Ventura Harbor; The Hell Toupees and Sick Boy play Sans Souci, Friday, January 11; The Ventura Music Festival Student Jazz Competition will be held at Namba downtown on Sunday, January 13; The Swillys will be entertaining as you enjoy brunch at Traveler's Café on Sunday, January 13; and finally, Café Fiore will not be having live music on Thursdays for the time being.

Don't forget to tune in for The Pam Baumgardner Music Hour airing on CAPS Media's KPPQ-LP

every Tuesday and Friday at 5 pm and Sunday's at noon. I'm grateful for this platform to play artists who might not have the opportunity to have their music played on the radio as I play artists out of the 805 and artists who come to the 805 to play. Listen in at 104.1 FM in and around Ventura, or online at CapsMedia.org/Radio.

Do you have any music-related news or upcoming shows you want help publicizing? Please send all information short or long to Pam@VenturaRocks.com, and for updated music listings daily, go to www.VenturaRocks.com.

Music Calendar 1/2 - 1/15

For more events go to VenturaRocks.com

Blue Agave 185 E. Santa Clara

Fridays: Mariachi Band; DJ

Saturdays: DJ **Boatyard Pub**

Ventura Harbor Village

Tuesday-Thursday 6 pm, Friday & Saturday 7 pm Tuesdays: Jason Ho Thursdays: Bluegrass Jam Fri 1/4: Karen Eden & Cory Sat 1/5: Blue Motel Room Fri 1/11: Teresa Russell & Stephen

Sat 1/12: Troy Edwards **Bombay Bar & Grill**

143 S. California Street

Thursdays, Friday & Saturdays: DJs

Café Fiore

66 S. California Street

Wed 1/2: Bryan McCann Fri 1/4: David Prince Sat 1/5: Self Righteous Brothers Tues 1/8: Donna Greene Wed 1/9: Big Adventure Fri 1/11: Instone Sat 1/12: Rick Whitfield

Tues 1/15: The Sixth

Casa Bella The Jerry 391 E. Main Street

The Cave

4435 McGrath Street

5:30 - 8:30 pm Weds & Saturdays: Varon Thomas Thurs & Fridays: Warren Takahashi

Copa Cubana

Ventura Harbor Village Tues 1/8: The Jerry McWorter Trio

Discovery

1888 Thompson Blvd

Thurs 1/3: Ital Vibes, After the

Smoke Fri 1/4: Sgt. Pepper Sat 1/5: Heavy Petty Wed 1/9: Shwayze Thurs 1/10: The Delirians w/ The Stoneflys

Fri 1/11: Corazon de Mana

Sat 1/12: Yachtley Crew

Duke's Griddle n Grill

1124 S. Seaward

Wednesdays: Karaoke

El Rey Cantina 294 E. Main Street

Fridays: DJ

Saturdays: DJ

Four Brix Winery 2290 Eastman Avenue

Music 5:30 - 7:30 pm Fri 1/11: Déjà vu Too

Garage

1091 Scandia Avenue

Thurs 1/3: How to Live with

Sat 1/5: RADolescents, The Hatt, IDecline, TSR

Gigi's Cocktails 2493 Grand Avenue (805) 642-2411

Thurs, Fri & Sat: Karaoke

Golden China 760 S. Seaward (805) 652-0688

Karaoke seven nights a week 9 pm Tuesdays 7 pm: Open Mic

Grapes and Hops 454 E. Main Street

Wed & Thurs 6 pm; Fri & Sat 8 pm, Sun 4 pm

Thurs 1/3: The Session with Tommy Marsh, Kelly Zirbes & Perry Robertson

Fri 1/4: Johnny and the Love

Sat 1/5: Crooked Eye Tommy's Road to Memphis Fundraiser w/ Joey & Steve Delgado, Shawn Jones, Teresa Russell, Kelly Zirbes,

Perry Robertson, more... Sun 1/6: The Tossers Fri 1/11: Morganfield Burnett & Da Blues

Sat 1/12: Shawn Jones Trio Sun 1/13: Hot Cuppa Three

Hong Kong Inn 435 E. Thompson Blvd

Tues 1/8: Jazz Jam Wed 1/9: Dogfish

Thurs 1/10: Coda Fri 1/11: Ben Clatworthy & Friends Sat 1/12: The Barrelhouse Wailers

Keynote Lounge

10245 E. Telephone Road

Tues, Wed and Sun: Karaoke Thursdays: Open mic night Fri 1/4: Red Rhythm Sat 1/5: DJ-AVG Fri 1/11: Action Down

Sat 1/12: Studebaker Hawk **Leashless Brewing** 585 E. Thompson Blvd.

Tuesdays: Open mic

Limon y Sal

598 E. Main Street

Fridays: DJ

Saturdays: DJ

Sundays: Instone (1-4 pm)

Made West Brewing 1744 Donlon Street

Thurs 6 pm; Sat 4 pm; Sun 3 pm Thurs 1/3: Matt Sayles Sat 1/5: Shay Moulder Thurs 1/10: Alice Austin

Namba

47 S. Oak Street

Fri 1/4: Hand Me Down Band Sat 1/5: Sepiatone

Fri 1/11: Towse

Sat 1/12: Old Soul

Sun 1/13: Ventura Music Festival Student Jazz Competition

O'Leary's

6555 Telephone Road

Wed: Karaoke

Fri 12/28: Live Band Karaoke

Paddy's

2 W. Main Street

Wednesdays: Karaoke Fri & Sat: DJs

Red Cove

1809 E. Main Street

Thursdays: Music Club Open Jam

Sandbox Coffeehouse

204 E. Thompson Blvd 805-641-1025

Thurs 6 pm, Weekends noon Thursdays Open Mic Sat 1/5: Richard & Dakota Dry

Sat 1/12: Jesse Loren Strickman Sun 1/13: Alice Austin

Sans Souci 21 S. Chestnut

Sundays: DJ Darko Mondays: Karaoke Tuesdays: DJ Nick Dean Wednesdays: Open mic

Thursdays: DJ Spinobi Fri 1/11: The Hell Toupees, Sick Boy

Star Lounge 343 E Main Street

Thurs 12/20: Karen Eden

Fri 12/21: CRV Sat 12/22: Shawn Jones

Thurs 12/27: Katie Shorey

Fri 1/4: Shawn Jones The Tavern

211 E. Santa Clara Street (805) 643-3264

Sundays: DJ Steezy Steve Tuesdays: Karaoke

Thursdays: Get Right DJ Vintura at the Wine Rack 14 S. California Street

(805) 653-9463 Sundays music at 3 pm Fri 1/4: Blonde Faith

Sat 1/5: Rich Sheldon

Sun 1/6: Toni Jannotta Jazz Trio Wed 1/9: The Swillys Fri 1/11: Tommy Quayle

Sat 1/12: Jason Ho Sun 1/13: Bushwhackers

Winchester's 632 E. Main Street

(805) 653-7446 Music at 8:30 pm; Sundays at 2:30

Fri 1/4: Two's Company Sat 1/5: The Tossers Sun 1/6: Will Breman

Fri 1/11: Natalie Wattre

Sat 1/12: Karen805 Sun 1/13: Acoustic Crossroads w/

Crooked Eye Tommy

The 805 Bar Ventura Harbor

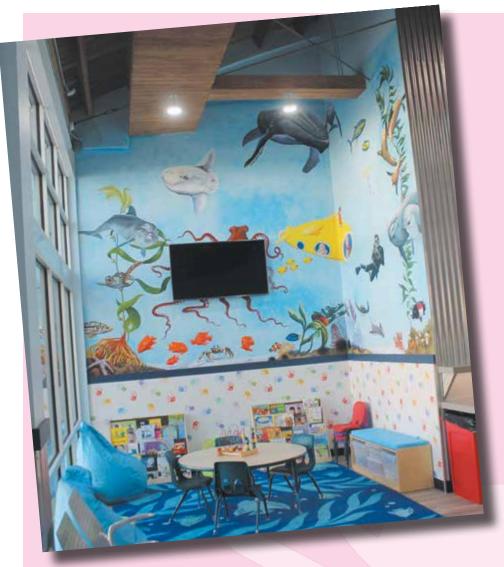
Music at Noon

Saturdays: Kenny Devoe









Not usually found at a laundromat is fine art. The two wonderful wall murals by **Lisa Kelly** at the Olas Express Laundromat & Wash and Fold, 505 N Ventura Ave, have changed that.

One is located at the children's play and study area (also not very often found at a laundromat).



Paul Whitehead is a British born painter and graphic artist mostly known for his surrealistic album covers for artists on the Charisma Records label in the 1970s, such as Genesis and Van der Graaf Generator. He has lived in Ventura for a year.

An art show in London in the mid-sixties led to Whitehead being picked up as an in-house artist for the London office of Jazz record label Liberty Records. Previously, he had been studying at the University of Oxford on an art scholarship. The first record cover he designed was for a repackaged Fats Domino album. Additionally, Whitehead is also credited as a performer on the Peter Hammill albums Fool's Mate (drums) and In Camera (percussion).

In 1973, Whitehead moved to Los Angeles, where he continued to work on album covers as a freelancer. He is still most associated with progressive rock, but the record cover work is, however, only a part of what Whitehead does. Whitehead was in the Guinness Book of World Records for the largest mural, which he painted at the Vegas World casino (since demolished and replaced by the Stratosphere casino) in Las Vegas.

Whitehead has further designed many corporate logos and for three years he was the creative services director at The Universal Studios Theme Park in L.A. This got him interested in writing screenplays and he completed half a dozen scripts on many subjects

He also makes his own particular brand of music. His interest in science fiction, performance art and classical and progressive music has led to the composition, recording and performance of The Borg Symphony.

Paul's gallery-studio is at 110 N. Olive St, Suite R (behind Vons at Main and Ventura) By appoinment only at 310-461-6316 or paulypax@yahoo.com.

The artist does not see things as they are, but as he is. - Alfred Tonnelle



Trisha van Cleef's paintings are very complicated and take a long time to complete. She uses diverse materials including adhesives, found objects and a variety of paints and varnishes. She particularly enjoys mixing several different kinds of paint or varnish together just to see what happens. Some very interesting bubbling and crazing effects come from this.

Her paintings have been used on several CD covers. The highlight for her was being invited to be the third girl in the "Sonja, Lisa & Trisha" art show in downtown L.A.

Trisha shares a studio with Paul Whitehead at 110 N. Olive St., Suite R (behind Vons at Main and Ventura). They have shared galleries for a long time and are long time friends.

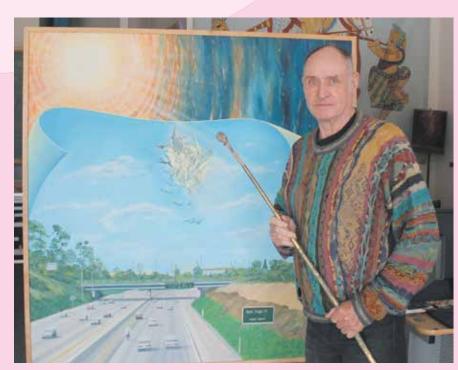
Increased funding for elementary school arts mini-grants

The Ventura County Arts Council is pleased to announce a generous increase in its mini-grant educational program for schools in the upcoming year 2019. Grants of \$500 to \$1000 will be available to bring standards-based arts programs into k-6 classrooms in Ventura County. Applicants can download the application @ vcartscouncil.org Click on Mini-Grants. Applicants will be notified by March 1 and projects must be completed by June 15, 2019.

Local non-profit organizations, artists and schools are encouraged to apply. Please note: 25% of the amount requested from the Ventura County Arts Council must be matched by the school. For example, in the case of a grant of \$1000, the school would have to generate \$250 making the total project \$1250. All funded programs must take place during the school's day. Only 1 application per school, arts organization, or artist will be funded. The mini-grant can be used to pay for artist services, tickets to an arts-based performance or transportation to an arts event. Projects will be selected on the criteria of

- 1. Learning experiences structured by the California Arts Content Standards
- 2. Utilization of local artist resources
- 3. On-going learning that uses this project as a springboard for continuing arts education and/or integration with other content areas.

The Artist-In-The-Classroom Project from the Ventura County Arts Council is not eligible for this grant. Upon notification of acceptance the applicant will receive 75% of the funds with the remainder paid out after the project is completed and an evaluation is turned in. Questions should be directed to the Ventura County Arts Council at vcarts@pacbell.net or 805-658-2213. The Mini-Grant Educational Program is funded by the John and Beverly Stauffer Foundation.



January 3 - January 15, 2019

Lighter Breeze

Baby Blues



Blondie







Hagar the Horrible





Hi and Lois



Retail







Crock





Solutions on page 19

(For a beginners guide to playing Sudoku go to venturabreeze.com)

3		8		9				5
	6		4				2	
1					6	9		4
	1			4		6		
2			1		8			9
		6	2				1	
4				7				6
	9	2			3	7		
	8		9			3	5	

Weekly **SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

♦ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY! © 2018 King Features Synd., Inc.

Solutions on page 19

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Lather
- 5 Diner order, for short
- 8 Unwanted email
- 12 On
- 13 Always, in
- verse 14 Patriot Nathan
- 15 Irrational suspiciousness
- 17 Artillery
- 18 Follow relentlessly
- 19 1984 Tom Hanks movie
- 21 Flightless bird
- 22 Knoll
- 23 Energy
- 26 North Pole staffer
- 28 Surveys
- 31 Leading man? 57 Basin acces-33 A mere hand-
- ful 35 Cry
- 36 Sweat outlets
- 38 Sweet potato 40 Meadow
- 41 Commotions
- 43 Actor Diesel 45 Walk like a
- duck 47 Bursts forth
- 51 Satanic
- 52 Pet bird, often 54 Got up
- 55 -de-France

14 15 16 17 20 19

58

9 Like some

10 Charitable

donations

20 4-Down, e.g.

lines

11 Netting

tive

27 "30 Rock"

25 Eden



- 56 Sea flier
- sory 58 Help
- 59 White-glove detection

DOWN

- 1 Enervates
- 2 Western state 23 Tase 3 Nickelodeon's 24
- "Explorer"
- 5 Grendel's
- nir
- 4 Card symbol
- slayer
- 6 Island souve- 29 Shelter
 - 30 Hot tub © 2018 King Features Synd., Inc.

- 32 Busybody 7 Garbage 8 Not deep
 - 34 Fluctuated 37 Scale member
 - 39 Actress Sorvino
 - 42 Old photo tint
- 16 City in Alaska 44 Microwaved, slangily
 - Altar affirma-45 Existed
 - 46 Acknowledge 48 Lima's land
 - 49 Sawbucks
 - cast member 50 Undo a dele
 - 53 Baba

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) It's a good time to take a much-needed break from your recent hectic schedule and spend some time in quieter surroundings. Important news could arrive early next week.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) The Taurean traits of reliability and thoroughness could be well-tested when decision-makers consider your proposals and/or requests. Be prepared to answer some probing questions.

with some tasks undone. It's OK to take a short respite. But get back to work by week's end so that you have time for other projects.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Avoid prejudging a situation just because it looks bad. Facts could emerge that would make your position uncomfortable, to say the least. A relative has interesting news to share with you.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) This is a good time to begin reassessing some of your recent decisions about your long-range goals to see if they still have merit. Spend more time with loved ones this weekend.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) An unsettled situation at home or on the job early in the week could drain your energy levels, making it difficult to get your work done on schedule. But things improve by midweek.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A temporary setback could give you time to go over your plans to find weaknesses you might have overlooked before. A romantic getaway with that special person is favored this weekend.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Professional and personal situations benefit once you set a positive tone in getting things off to a good start. Honest dialogue smoothes over any occasional display of balkiness.

SAGITTARIUS (November to December 21) A problem with workplace colleagues or family members seems to defy even your sage counsel. But be patient. Your words eventually will lead to a resolution.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A January 19) Don't just wait out that sudden attack of boredom leaves you unexpected and unexplained delay in your career move. You could gain added respect if you ask why it happened and what you can do to move things along.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Although your workplace strategies usually are accepted, you could be challenged by someone who isn't so favorably impressed. Be prepared to defend your positions.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Your friendship circle expands, with new people coming into your life at this time. Welcome them warmly. But don't neglect those cherished longtime personal relationships.

BORN THIS WEEK: You love to search for knowledge and share it with others. You would make an especially fine teacher.

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This 'n' That



Buena High Head Cheer Coach Lauren Lanski (far left) and Ventura High Cheer Coach Kari Robinson (far right) with members of the Buena and Ventura high school cheer teams.

#CheerForParadise Fundraiser brought local rival schools together

The Ventura High and Buena High cheer and athletic teams have been accustomed to seeing each other as fierce rivals for decades. However, the two cheer teams recently decided to work together to help the cheer team in Paradise, CA after the devastation of the Camp Fire. The two local teams got together to host a huge community garage sale to raise money to support the Paradise squad-and raise money they did. The teams spent days prepping for and then hosting the sale, which was a big success, and yielded close to \$3500.00. All of the money raised from the event will go towards replacing equipment, uniforms and other items lost by the cheer squad in the fire that decimated the entire town of Paradise.

Ventura High Cheer Coach Kari Robinson and Buena High Head Cheer Coach Lauren Lanski decided that they wanted to do something special for the Paradise High Cheer team after the loss suffered in their town. "Our cheerleaders worked hard on publicizing, gathering donated items, setting up the sale, and working on the day of the sale," said Robinson. "I am so proud of the girls and the love they have shown to others. I want to thank the Ventura community for supporting the #Cheer-ForParadise fundraiser—we could not have been successful without all of your love and support!"

Paradise Coach Cat McMurray shared that at least 36 of her 42 cheerleaders lost their homes and everything in them in the Camp Fire. Coach McMurray reported that she has since spoken with and seen most of the girls on the team, and they are all safe and in good spirits. "In an instant we were all separated and displaced," said McMurray. "In the presence of tragedy and total despair we have all seen numerous blessings unfold and we are all truly blessed to be a Paradise Strong survivor. We truly thank the Ventura community for thinking of us and helping us to see the light.

Coach Lanski, whose husband is a firefighter, lost her home in the Thomas Fire, as did a number of cheerleaders on both the Ventura and Buena teams, so this cause was especially close to their collective hearts. "After losing my home, I understand the significance of having people reach out and show support. The support my family was shown by our community is truly what made a devastating experience into one that taught me how to receive, feel gratitude and reinforced why my husband and I made Ventura our home 23 years ago," said Lanski. "I know how hard cheerleaders work showing support to others and I believe the garage sale was the perfect opportunity to let Paradise high school cheerleaders know that we care."



Friday Gretchen, Patti Channer and John White always like to read the Breeze while eating ice cream. They said that it was on short notice so they didn't have time to invite Sheldon who was still nice enough to run this photo.

Author announces new online fiction magazine

Ventura author, John Darling, is proud to announce the launch of his new quarterly online periodical, Strictly Fiction Magazine (http://strictlyfictionmagazine.com)

The site will feature fiction, science fiction, romance and mystery selections. There will also be a section for short, pet-based fiction, called Buddy's Storybook.

While the initial installment of the magazine will not be available until April 1, 2019, Mr. Darling is inviting readers, future contributors, and potential advertisers to visit his site before then and to send him any questions they may have about the magazine.

Regarding his reason for creating the site, he had this to say:

"At one time, for over five years, I produced an environmentally themed magazine called The Earth Comes First. That magazine offered a mix of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, artwork, photography, and opinions. It was an exhausting endeavor but very rewarding since it celebrated the Earth we live on.

This time around, I am concentrating on fiction because I want to narrow the focus of my efforts and emphasize the quality of work over the quantity of it so each quarter I will only be publishing a limited amount of stories.

I also do not want our readers to be ambiguous about what we do here. If you want poetry, non-fiction, editorials, or any other type of reading matter, there are plenty of other fine periodicals out there who can provide it to you.

Mr. Darling can be reached at 805-824-7901 or information@strictlyfictionmagazine.com.

A few robbery prevention tips for convenience store owners/employees

by Ashley BautistaCommunity Outreach Specialist

safety tips:

There has been an increase in robberies at local convenience stores in the City of Ventura. Persons, who own, operate or are employed by convenience store type businesses, may be susceptible to persons committing robberies. The Ventura Police Department urges store owners, operators and employees to use caution and to review the following

Be alert for suspicious people loitering around the areas of your store/place of business.

Be alert to vehicles in your lots, or near or around your business for extended periods, with occupants inside.

Write down the description of the vehicle, the license number as well as a description of the occupant/s of the vehicle.

All excess cash not needed to conduct normal operations should be "dropped" in a safe. Preferably a time lock type safe accessible only by specifically authorized persons. This fact should be prominently displayed.

Vary routines when removing money from the business. Do not use a money bag, carry cash in non-descript packaging. Do not transport cash at the same time every day; do not carry cash, in large amounts or a long a distance to your vehicle. If practical make drops in pairs.

Have two (2) employees working together, open and close the business in pairs.

Ventura Music Festival

Continued from page 1

sary with an investment in our future," Reisman said. "We're stable financially with a prudent cash reserve. What we didn't have was a fund to grow for the future. Now, thanks to Miriam, we have created a substantial Legacy Fund. Donors can join our Legacy Circle with a planned gift and be sponsors in perpetuity while the Fund - and the music - continue to grow."

Also on VMF's exciting 2019 schedule is the popular and free Student Jazz Competition (January 13), the glamorous Cabaret fundraiser (April 11) and the inspiring Rising Stars Concert on May 17 (free).

Since 1994, the mission of the Ventura Music Festival has been to bring world-class music to the community, foster audience-artist relationships, and enhance the joy of music through diverse programs for all ages. VMF seeks to create an inclusive, welcoming environment in which people both see and hear themselves reflected in the music.

For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit www. venturamusicfestival.org.







North Oxnard | 1921 N. Oxnard Boulevard Camarillo | 761 Daily Drive, Suite 100

Visit our website for more branch locations!



PremierAmerica.com/NYCD | 800-772-4000

*APY=Annual Percentage Yield. Rate effective January 2, 2019. Offer and rate may change or end without notice. A penalty may apply for early withdrawal. A deposit to be maintained in a share savings account (\$5.00 for consumers and \$250.00 for businesses) is required to join Premier America Credit Union. Insured by NCUA.

This 'n' That

Mailbox

Contined from page 4

are so grateful to the Ventura Breeze, Ventura County and Auxiliary volunteers for all of their services rendered to us in 2018. All of you have been so helpful so often and been a gift that kept on giving.

Let the countdown to a memorable year begin. We at CMH auxiliary volunteer department wish each of you 365 chances to laugh love and live your best vear vet.

Please remember that we still need male and female junior and senior volunteers. Pick up application at the front desk.

Lorraine Hirschey

Editor

Regarding the resignation of David Creswell as VUSD superintendent, some argue that it should be Creswell's behavior that is relevant, not his words spoken outside of his job.

I initially thought the same thing after Creswell apologized and met with some LGBT students. My reasoning is that I don't want us to be the thought police, and that as long as Creswell treated all students with respect going forward, I would be okay with his staying.

Then I saw a post that changed my mind.

Let's pretend that VUSD had a different superintendent, one who was a secret white supremacist, and he made disparaging remarks about Latinos and blacks in a speech to his supremacist group. Let's say the "cutest couple" in the yearbook was a mixed race couple and he made an insulting comment about them. Let's say he got caught and apologized and promised to be supportive of all students in the future.

Would we all be okay with his staying on as superintendent? No way. We would be clamoring for his head.

So why are all of us not outraged about what Creswell said? Because his comments were directed at LGBT students, and many believe that being LGBT is a choice; ergo, if they did not want insulting comments made about them, they just should not choose to be LGBT.

VUSD expressly forbids discrimination on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, gender, and gender identity or expression. LGBT students are just as protected as students of any race, color, ancestry, national origin, ethnic group identification, religion, etc. That's the bottom line here.

So Creswell's verbal discrimination against LGBT students is just as offensive and intolerable as the racist comments of our pretend white supremacist superintendent. Creswell demonstrated he is not the right person for the job.

Alison Carlson, Ventura

Dear Editor,

How Insane must a president of the U.S. be to be declared unfit for office?

How much danger does he have to represent?

How many people must he kill or be responsible for killing?

How many criminal laws must he break?

How many walls does he need to build?

How insane must a citizen of the U.S. be to tolerate such behavior?

How much longer?

Sincerely, Esther Cole opinions@venturabreeze.com

The difference between Clinton and Trump lying about affairs that when Clinton did it he committed purgery (perjury), then the press said it's no big deal. So it's no big deal, particularly when Trump didn't commit purgery. Samuel Goodin

Samuel:

So Trump having affairs is okay as long as he didn't commit perjury? Wonder if his wife

Thanks for writing.

Residents and businesses will soon

Continued from page 14

customers and May 2019 for non-residential customers, Clean Power Alliance will be the new electricity provider for unincorporated Ventura County.

Clean Power Alliance is a public agency made up of 31 local governments across Los Angeles and Ventura counties including unincorporated Ventura County working together to bring clean, renewable power choices to our communities. Clean Power Alliance purchases clean power and Southern California Edison will deliver it--nothing else changes. SCE will continue to deliver power to homes and businesses, send one bill, and be responsible for resolving any issues with electricity service.

Residents will not have to do anything to be automatically enrolled in Clean Power Alliance's 100% Green Power rate option, which provides 100 percent renewable content and gives customers the opportunity to join the County of Ventura in our commitment to protecting the environment.

Customers will still have access to special rates or programs such as California Alternative Rates for Energy, Family Electric Rate Assistance, Medical Baseline, Level Pay and Summer Discounts. Customers currently enrolled in the CARE, FERA, and Medical Baseline assistance programs and enrolled in the unincorporated areas of the County of Ventura 100% Green Power will be charged the same rates they would have paid to SCE. Clean Power Alliance will also develop new and unique programs exclusively for local customers.

If customers decide 100% Green Power is not the right fit for them, they will be able to select one of Clean Power Alliance's other two rate options: Lean Power, which provides 36 percent renewable content at the lowest possible cost, and Clean Power, which provides 50 percent renewable content and the opportunity to support building a cleaner future. No matter the rate option, Clean Power Alliance offers the shared benefits of local management and control, stable, competitive rates, and higher renewable content.

Customers in the unincorporated areas of Ventura County will receive a total of four notices via mail before and after the switch from SCE to Clean Power Alliance for electricity generation. Service for residential customers will begin in February 2019, and customers will receive their first notice in December 2018 which will contain additional details, including instructions on how to choose a different rate option and customer support contact information. Clean Power Alliance service for non-residential customers is scheduled to begin in May 2019.

For more information, visit: https:// www.ventura.org/live-and-work/