

Live music is back, page 16!



VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

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Lovers of Jazz, R&B and Pop—don't miss this global star Aubrey Logan.

VMF's live July 23rd concert presents Aubrey Logan: Voice of the trombone

by Richard Newsham
VMF consultant

Lovers of Jazz, R&B and Pop—don't miss this global star of stage and stream with her transfixing voice and slide-in-your-tracks trombone technique during her 2021 Ventura Music Festival concert on Friday, July 23, at 8 pm, at the Robert G. Valles Performing Arts Center at Pacifica High School, 600 E Gonzales Rd, in Oxnard.

Aubrey Logan—a.k.a. the "Queen of Sass" or "Diva of Brass"—has cast a spell on audiences large (2017 Festival international de Jazz de Montréal) and small (Austin's intimate basement Parker Jazz Club) with her postmodern jukebox concerts that tilt hard for Jazz lounge standards, Pop hits and R&B and Calypso classics.

An "American Idol" contestant—who has worked with Quincy Jones, Burt Bacharach, Josh Groban, Dave Koz, Linda Ronstadt, Smokey Robinson and

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E.P. Foster Library is slowly opening.

Ventura County Library welcomes customers back into buildings

Since April 7, 2021, the Ventura County Library System libraries, including libraries in the cities of Ojai, Ventura, Port Hueneme, and Fillmore, have welcomed the public back for limited indoor services including browsing and checkout of collections and computer use. Customers have up to 50 minutes per day to conduct activities in the library. Since summer of 2020, customers have also been able to place holds for library materials online and pick them up when ready just outside the front doors of the libraries. Throughout the pandemic, the library system has worked closely with public health officials and within state guidelines for libraries to provide safe library services and programs.

The safety of customers and staff remain the first priority and customers may notice enhanced safety measures when they come back to the library, such as plexiglass barriers at service desks, availability of hand sanitizer, and socially distanced computer workstations. The library has covered additional costs throughout the pandemic associated with paying janitorial crews for more often and extra deep cleaning measures and upgraded filters on HVAC systems. The library continues to provide numerous online programs and resources, but also has plans to implement some in-person programs again as early as this summer.

When the state reopens, public seating and tables will be made available again for study and reading, and time limits for library use per day eliminated.

At the Ventura County Library System, 42% of library employees were re-deployed over the course of the pandemic to serve as Disaster Services Workers for other county agencies, performing tasks such as delivering meals to seniors, contact tracing and working at vaccination clinics. During the pandemic, several customer service modifications were made, some of which the library is planning to continue after the pandemic because they were so successful, such as offering live online tutoring for students in both English and Spanish, chat reference services, virtual STEAM and Storytime programs, and enhanced ebook collections.

For a seven-month period in the past year, over 2,000 students received live tutoring online through the library. Over 25,000 people received virtual library cards online to access ebooks and databases, including many students accessing these resources for schoolwork. And from July 2020 to April 2021 an average of 15,600 items were checked out from the libraries per month. Ebook usage increased 75% over the past year, and audiobook usage increased 25%.

Continued on page 7



SEEAG hopes to reach over 3,000 school-age children with their healthy eating message.

County of Ventura Human Services Agency Partners with SEEAG to Increase CalFresh student enrollment

The County of Ventura Human Services Agency is partnering with Students for Eco-Education and Agriculture (SEEAG) to increase CalFresh enrollment and food access among students and families served by SEEAG's Ventura County Child Wellness Initiative (VCCWI). CalFresh provides monthly food benefits to individuals and families with low-incomes.

SEEAG's VCCWI began in 2017. SEEAG staff members travel in an agricultural and nutritional-themed Farm Fresh Mobile Classroom van to Ventura County elementary schools to educate, inspire and empower children and their families to increase their consumption of locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables.

A main VCCWI goal is to reduce rates

Continued on page 20

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Photo by Phil Ranger

IT'S ON!

Live music returns to the Ventura Music Festival on **July 23, 24 & 25**

To maximize safety and peace of mind this will be a 100%-Vaccinated event. (Details on website)

Tickets on Sale NOW!
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Venue: Pacifica High School Performing Arts Center
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VENTURA MUSIC FESTIVAL

July 23 AUBREY LOGAN
8pm
"One of today's brilliant contemporary jazz artists."

July 24 TIME FOR THREE
8pm
"Sensational uncommon blend of instruments and voices."

July 25 ANDREA ROBERTO
3pm
"In the front ranks of young guitarists worldwide."

The Ventura Breeze is celebrating 14 years of publishing local news thanks to the support of the Ventura community and our advertisers. The time has come, however, for us to ask our dedicated readers to consider helping us continue publishing during this difficult time. Due to the lack of advertisers (which we understand) we really need your generous support to continue to bring local news to the community. In order to do this, we are starting the Ventura Breeze Honor Roll. The names of Honor Roll donors will be published in the paper unless donors don't want to be shown. As the publisher of this community's favorite newspaper, we appreciate the relationship we have with our readers and we pledge to keep bringing you all the local news and events.

There are a couple ways to contribute and be a 2021 Honor Roll Donor. You can go to our website (www.venturabreeze.com) where you will find a DONATE link at the top of the page and use the PayPal button to make a donation, which allows you to pay by credit card or with your PayPal account. If you would rather pay by check or have the Breeze staff process your donation, you can use the form below and mail in your check or credit card information. You may also contribute by going to www.gofundme.com/f/support-the-breeze.

We thank our latest donors **Richard Negus, Ann Huston, Carol Dann** and the ones that don't want to be mentioned.

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Community Events

Ventura events

Now through June 20: Channel Islands Choral Association presents “Into the Light”; A virtual choral experience celebrating Black composers in choral music. Performances include CSU Channel Islands University Chorus and Pleasant Valley School District Chorus. Online Video on-demand streaming event is available now through June 20. Tickets available at www.cicachoir.org

June 17: The East Ventura Community Council anticipates hearing from several elected officials, or their field representatives, at its next virtual meeting on Thursday, at 7 pm. Invited to discuss their legislative priorities as they impact Ventura are representatives of County Supervisor Matt LaVere, State Assemblymember Steve Bennett, State Senator Monique Limon, and U.S. Congressman Julia Brownley. A Question and Answer period will follow each presentation. In addition, there will be a report on city of Ventura Senior Services and an update on area crime statistics. Other topics may be added to the agenda, so be sure to check the group’s Facebook page for updates. East Ventura City Councilmembers are invited to weigh in, as always. The Council represents those who live east of Victoria Avenue and the public is encouraged to attend and participate. Join Zoom Meeting, 7 pm. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86085199558?pwd=RXZHMVVtSklsYnJRbWdTQlpuZ3VIUT09>. Meeting ID: 860 8519 9558 Passcode: 020080. For more information, Contact EVCC Chairperson, Deborah Meyer-Morris at eastventuracc@gmail.com

June 23: The Ventura College Area Community Council will be holding a Zoom meeting on Wednesday at

7pm. An invitation and link to the meeting will be sent to everyone on the CACC mailing list. Council meetings include speakers and discussion on topics of neighborhood and community interest, including public safety and economic development. At the June meeting Ventura Fire Chief Endaya and Fire Marshall Morelli will be discussing fire prevention and homeowner fire mitigation strategies. CACC represents citizens in Council District 3, neighborhoods between Dunning/Lemon Grove and Hill Road, north of Hwy. 126. collegeareacouncil.com/map Visit the College Area Community Council website @caccventura.com to be added to the mailing list and to access a link to the Zoom meeting.

June 26: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The popular monthly plant sale continues at the Dudley House. Bromeliads, orchids, succulents, tillandsias, rhipsalis, garden art and more. Vendors welcome (plants only), please call Charlie at 805 746 4317. The museum is located at the corner of Loma Vista and Ashwood streets (197 N. Ashwood) in Ventura. Free.

June 27 & 28: Bank of Books is excited to announce their launch of book clubs! They will begin by holding two book clubs with the hopes to expand into other genres. If you are interested in starting a group of your own they would be happy to talk with you more about purchasing the books and scheduling a day and time. The two clubs this month are as follows: The Midnight Library by Matt Haig June 27th, 2021 from 11:00am - 12:00pm. Dune by Frank Herbert June 28th, 2021 from 4:30pm - 5:30pm. Both of these books are available for purchase at either Bank of Books or Abednego Book Shoppe. Bank of Books 748 E Main St. - Abednego Book Shoppe 2682 E Main St.

City News

City of Ventura launches online tool to support local businesses in recovering from COVID-19

The City of Ventura’s Economic Development Division is launching a new online business intelligence tool called “SizeUp Ventura” to provide access to market research information.

“The City of Ventura is committed to helping our local businesses succeed and recover from the pandemic,” stated Mayor Sofia Rubalcava. “They are the foundation of our local economy, employ our residents, create new jobs, and make our community a more prosperous place.”

Local businesses and entrepreneurs can now access free industry-specific and hyperlocal information to help them grow and make smarter decisions using big data analysis. SizeUp features information collected from hundreds of public and proprietary data sources

covering firmographic, demographic, geographic, labor, wage, cost, consumer spending, transportation, and more.

“In today’s information economy, if you don’t have access to information your business is at a significant disadvantage. With the launch of SizeUp, we are empowering Ventura businesses to make more data-driven decisions to better operate, succeed, grow, and recover from the devastating impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic,” said Estelle Bussa, City of Ventura Economic Development Manager.

Using the new SizeUp Ventura website, local businesses can:

1. Rank their business performance compared to industry competitors,
2. Discover potential customers and suppliers,
3. Better understand the competitive landscape, and
4. Optimize advertising to target ideal customer segments.

In support of Small Business Week, local small and medium businesses are invited to a virtual SizeUp Ventura workshop on Thursday, May 6, 2021, from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Advance registration required for the Zoom meeting. To register, visit <http://bit.ly/SizeUpVentura>.

To learn more about SizeUp Ventura or the City’s Economic Development Office, visit www.cityofventura.ca.gov/SizeUpVentura.

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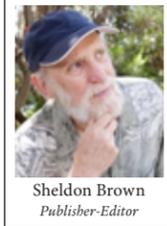
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Opinion/Editorial



Sheldon Brown
Publisher-Editor

■ There is an obituary in this issue that is very dear to my heart. Except for one high school friend (and relatives), **Jack White** was my oldest friend. Jack and I met in the 1950's when we were studying architecture at Los Angeles City College and continued our friendship at the USC School of Architecture. After we obtained our architecture licenses, we remained business and social friends the rest of our lives. Coincidentally, several years ago his son Rick and family moved to Ventura. I will miss Jack forever. Just a very special, nice human being. Loving, caring and concerned about life and the world.

■ **Fire Chief David Endaya** says Ventura needs more firefighters. Council agrees but how do we pay for them? The City Council still could not reach a solution during a special meeting on the fire department's budget. Council members agreed the fire department needs more money but remained divided over how to provide it.

Nearly 75% of calls to the fire department are for emergency medical help and less than 3% for fire deployment. Perhaps fire should have vehicles more like ambulances to answer medical emergencies instead of sending hook and ladder engines for such calls.

Endaya presented a proposed \$24.7 million budget, an increase of \$1.4 million from last year to pay for additional part-time employees.

The city's finance and technology director, Michael Coon, proposed potential cuts that could pay for the fire department improvements. I love one of them which is to eliminate the red light camera program. Ending the camera program in 2022-23 would save the city \$1 million.

■ In a previous issue I suggested that deaths from **Covid19** were probably much higher because people were not addressing other health issues that they have. From The Associated Press; "The U.S. saw remarkable increases in the death rates for heart disease, diabetes, and some other common killers in 2020, spurred in part, experts believe, by people making the lethal mistake of avoiding hospitals although they had the symptoms of dangerous illnesses."

■ Is nothing **sacred** anymore? It seems that reality shows are never what they appear to be. A worker on one stated, "I

worked on Love It or List It, and 99% of the work isn't done by the people shown doing the work on TV. It's done by subcontractors. Most of the stuff they put in for design purposes was taken back after the shoot because it wasn't part of the homeowner's budget."

■ A federal judge overturned California's longtime ban on **assault weapons** in a ruling that likened the AR-15 to a Swiss Army knife. He stated, "Like the Swiss Army Knife, the popular AR-15 rifle is a perfect combination of home defense weapon and homeland defense equipment."

I agree with him, so I immediately went out and purchased a Swiss Army Knife. And a burglar broke into my home, I whipped out my knife, used it to open a bottle of Chardonnay and offered him a glass. He drank it and thanked me, but he did take the whole bottle (only a misdemeanor).

■ This is better than the **devil** made me do it. The lawyer for a Delaware man charged over the Capitol attack in January is floating a unique defense: Fox News made him do it. Likening the side effects of such a steady diet of misinformation to a mental health syndrome. Isn't there a pill for this?

■ "It's great to have a U.S. president who's part of the club and very willing to cooperate," **French President Emmanuel Macron**.

■ Has this country gone completely mad, besides our daily mass shootings? While speaking at a Dallas conference aimed at **QAnon** adherents, former Trump national security adviser Michael Flynn appeared to endorse the idea of a military coup to reinstate Donald Trump as president. A member of the audience asked about the possibility of a Myanmar-style coup in the US, and Flynn said there was "no reason" something similar couldn't happen in America. He added, "I mean, it should happen here."

And speaking about **guns**, when will the madness end? What happens after shootings is that more people buy guns that are usually used to kill innocent people, relatives, or themselves.

Texas is poised to remove one of its last major gun restrictions after lawmakers approved allowing people to carry handguns without a license and the background checks and training that go with it. The Republican-dominated Legislature approved the measure Monday, sending it to Gov. Greg Abbott, who has said he will sign it despite the objections

of law enforcement groups who say it would endanger the public and police.

It would take many pages to list the mass and senseless shootings that have taken place in just the last month, but here are just a few.

Just last week two people were killed and at least 30 more were wounded in separate weekend mass shootings reported in three states, stirring already brewing fears that a spike in gun violence could continue into summer. The cities of Savannah, Georgia, Chicago and Austin, Texas are the latest to fall victim to mass shootings late Friday and early Saturday.

Deputies in Volusia County, Florida, shot a 14-year-old girl on Tuesday night after she and a 12-year-old boy broke into a home, found multiple guns inside and then opened fire on deputies, according to Volusia County Sheriff Mike Chitwood. "I don't know what to say. Where have we gone wrong that a 12-year-old and 14-year-old think it's okay to take on law enforcement?" he said.

Three people were killed and five were shot during a graduation party in Kendall, Florida, early Sunday, according to the Miami-Dade Police Department.

Miami-Dade police are investigating a shooting that left three people dead and another three people injured during a domestic-related shooting.

A public transit employee opened fire on co-workers at a Northern California rail yard Wednesday, killing more than 8 people before taking his own life. His home contained Molotov cocktails, 12 firearms and approximately 22,000 rounds of various types of ammunition. Did he need all this to protect himself against the bad guys?

After a 9-year-old boy accidentally shot himself in Oxnard, police discovered illegal weapons, cash and drugs at the home and arrested a 17-year-old. A child had shot himself in the hand with a handgun he found inside the home that he thought was a toy.

Two people have died and eight others were injured after a shooting in downtown Minneapolis. Two men standing in a crowd outside got into an argument, pulled out guns and began shooting at each other.

A girl pulled a handgun out of her backpack and fired multiple rounds in a hallway and outside the Rigby Middle School building. A teacher disarmed the student and detained her until law enforcement arrived and took her into custody.

Two groups of people got into a fight outside of a Hugo Boss store. One person brandished a weapon, which spurred someone in the other group to pull out a gun and start firing.

Seven people have died after a gunman barged into a birthday party in Colorado Springs, where his girlfriend was present, before taking his own life.

■ At least nine people were killed after an attack using a semi-automatic shotgun in the city of Kazan in Russia. Russian President **Vladimir Putin** immediately ordered an overhaul of laws allowing civilians access to semi-automatic weapons after the latest tragic example of Russia's outbreak of U.S.-style school shootings. He has more sense than some of our politicians.

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

Mailbox

Dear Sheldon,

Does anyone like gas-powered leaf blowers? From neighborhoods and business complexes, to parks and schools, it's impossible to escape their raucous presence. They are mega pollutants which spew smog forming compounds, such as ozone and carbon monoxide into the air. What's more, these machines can generate 115 decibels of sound, which can cause hearing loss and psychological stress.

To improve air quality and reduce noise pollution, homeowners and landscapers should switch to battery electric blowers. They're zero emission and about half as noisy. There are models that can last up to 45 minutes on a charge, and the batteries are interchangeable with other lawn equipment of the same brand.

Wouldn't it be nice if we could have cleaner air and quieter communities? We

can. All it takes is ditching the gas blower and going electric.

Kristen Kessler, Ventura

Kristen:

But they still "spew smog forming compounds."

Dear Editor:

As a person living with metastatic breast cancer, the June 15 COVID-19 restrictions being lifted makes me rather nervous. From all outward appearances I look just like everyone else. With my hair and makeup done, my prosthetics on and my scars covered I could even pass for a healthy person most days. On the inside are where the real health issues lie. What healthy people don't understand are the worries I live with on a daily basis. I worry about being immunocompromised from treatment, about not knowing who has

Continued on page 5

We shall never
know all the
good that a
simple smile
can do.
— Mother
Teresa



News & Notes



Jack Lawrence White, A.I.A.

Jack Lawrence White, long time Los Angeles and Ventura County Architect and resident, passed away at the fine age of 89, on Monday, May 24th. Surrounded in love by his family, he took his last breath with his son Rick, holding his hand.

Jack, born in Phoenix, in the coat closet of the Kit Kat Club by a doctor who happened to be in the audience during a performance by his father's band. Jack grew up traveling with his father Robert, Mother Jean, and with his older brother Bobbie, on the Vaudeville circuit.

Graduating from Hollywood High in 1950, the graduation ceremony was held at the Hollywood Bowl.

With The Korean War starting, Jack joined the Air Force. It was in the Air Force Band that Jack honed his skills on the French-horn during the day, in order to avoid being shipped out to combat. At night, Jack would gig on the piano, playing jazz in the clubs that were relegated to the "Blacks Only" musicians. Jack became an aficionado of Jazz and always had Art Tatum, Miles Davis or Dave Brubeck playing in the house.

After leaving the Air Force with his 1956 Austin Healey, he returned to Los Angeles to LA City College and on to USC School of Architecture. It was while attending USC that he met Penny while they both worked at the Valley Men's Athletic Club. After only 6 weeks they were married at the "Little Brown Church in the Valley".

Starting their married life together in the San Fernando Valley, Jack's new Architecture practice for homes and apartment buildings during a time of growth, and Penny's life on and off screen and theatre made for an exciting life.

In 1971, an opening of a new community way out in Ventura County,

Westlake Village, brought new opportunities for them. Purchasing 3 dirt lots on what was to become a picturesque lake. With stake signs saying, "will build to suit," Jack started his Architect/General Contractor "White Oak Builders" career.

In 1978, before the real estate world slowed, Penny knew it was time to start a new career in travel writing. Becoming one of the most in-demand travel journalists for national newspapers and magazines, they became cruise experts and enjoyed traveling the open seas.

Life was good for many years, however in 1990, Penny was diagnosed with cancer. After a courageous battle, she died at the age of 54, leaving Jack, their children Rick and Jill, to start anew.

"Traveling with Jack and Jill" was born. This father and daughter team took many great journeys and eventually launched, Jillsfoodtravels. Both Rick and Jill watched over their father as he advanced in years to ensure his safety, his comfort and his health, a testimony to his 89 years strong.

In recent years, Jack and his brother Bob, co-wrote music and lyrics for a Hollywood play. Jack enjoyed playing, "Play a little song for me" as a tribute to Bob and their collaborative skills and strong eighty-three-year, brother and best friend relationship.

Eight years ago, Jack moved to La Canada to be close with Jill and her husband Rick, and their daughters Lizzy and Kate. Jack is survived by his daughter-in-law Eliane, grandson Kyle and wife Melissa Breslow granddaughter, Karina. Jack is also survived by his niece Lorry King and husband Bob, and nephew Steve White and wife Anne.

Mailbox

Continued from page 4

been vaccinated and who has not, about being in close proximity to others outside of my germ family. I worry that my lung metastasis could cause a more severe case of COVID-19.

Astra-Zeneca, the manufacturer of the anti-cancer drug I take, has a nurse helpline. Shortly after the vaccine was authorized for emergency use I called that nurse helpline to inquire about the vaccine and any known side effects or interactions with my treatment. Their answer, "We have zero information regarding that." I asked when they would have that kind of information. Her answer again, "We have zero information regarding that."

There are still so many unknowns with this virus, even the drug manufac-

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turers don't have enough data. I plan to continue to wear my mask inside and in situations where social distancing isn't possible until I feel comfortable going without. I'm thinking I should start a movement for the immunocompromised to wear a special ribbon or something on their mask that lets others know we are wearing masks to express we have a condition which may not be visible on the outside and to respect our personal space.

The research is now showing that the vaccinated immunocompromised may not be as protected from the virus and may not develop antibodies. So if you see me out in my mask with a ribbon tied to it, it will be your social cue to give me some space. For now my mask will continue to be my security blanket and hopefully a reminder to others, especially to those who are healthy, that not all dis-

abilities are visible. As Germany Kent says, "Be kind. We never know what people are going through. Give grace and mercy because one day your circumstance could change and you may need it."

Be well,
Marissa Holzer

Crawl of our Ocean
by Jeff Russell

Winds that gust a wave goodbye,
Are watchful out to sea,
Misty waters with a sunny slide,
The crawl beneath the tide.

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News & Notes



CAPS broadcasts and live streams high school graduations

Everyone at CAPS Media congratulates every 2021 high school graduate in Ventura! After a year of COVID lock down and isolation, the students, families and friends recently shared a week of joyous graduation celebrations. CAPS Media crews recorded and live-streamed the commencement ceremonies for all six Ventura high schools: Buena, Ventura, Foothill, El Camino, Pacific and VACE (Ventura Adult and Continuing Education).

The Buena High celebration was on Wednesday, June 9 at their Bulldog stadium; the Ventura High ceremony was on Thursday, June 10 at the school's Cougar stadium, and the final all-day extravaganza covered ceremonies for Foothill, El Camino, Pacific and VACE grads, held back-to-back at the Ventura College stadium on Friday, June 11. All of the commencement celebrations were held with enthusiastic friends and family members in the stands cheering on the graduates.

In addition to airing the events live on CAPS Channel 15, CAPS crews also set up and directed the live-stream distributions of every celebration to the VUSD, enabling all of the graduation ceremonies to be seen live worldwide and locally on the VUSD YouTube channel.

At the same time, CAPS crews are producing a series of video messages by Ventura City Council members and Ventura City Staff members as part of this year's State of the City update. The brief videos allow each representative and staff member to introduce themselves to the public, express their thoughts on the past year, and share their personal goals and visions for the future as the community emerges from the pandemic.

The messages will be included in Mayor Sofia Rubalcava's State of the City

report hosted by the Ventura Chamber of Commerce on June 24. Themed "A Time Like No Other," the program will feature an update by Mayor Rubalcava, plus a special presentation from Dr. Roger Rice, Superintendent of the Ventura Unified School District, and a question and answer session with Mayor Rubalcava conducted by Stephanie Caldwell, president and CEO of the Ventura Chamber. The Mayor's State of the City event will be begin at 1pm on Thursday, June 24 and will be live-streamed on the chamber website.

During the shutdown, the CAPS Media Center continues to broadcast and stream television programming on Channel 6 and Channel 15 and online. In addition, CAPS radio, KPPQ 104.1FM continues to broadcast and stream a vast variety of engaging original and syndicated radio programs. CAPS Member/Producers can submit television and radio programming via the online portal at capsmedia.org for broadcast and streaming on CAPS public access television Channel 6, and on CAPS Radio KPPQ 104.1FM. KPPQ DJs and hosts can access the radio studio in the CAPS Media Center by appointment. Please coordinate with KPPQ director, Elizabeth Rodeno.

Every member of the CAPS Media team wants to thank the public for going above and beyond during the COVID-19 emergency by staying safe and distant, getting vaccinated, wearing masks, and helping others. Thanks to the effort by the community, Ventura is slowly emerging from the pandemic restrictions. Despite the increasingly good news the CAPS Media Center will continue remain closed to CAPS Members and the public until further notice. CAPS Media is taking a very cautious approach to continue to protect our staff.

books will be available for purchase. VFOL office will be moving into the old bookstore room.

A plus to the move is it should be cooler than the former bookstore. There are many details to be planned and put into place before the opening.

As always, the store will be staffed by volunteers. Some of our folks have left for other activities. If you would like to help out, contact Sandy at bookstore@venturafriendsofthelibrary.org.

Online Bookstore

Our online website store will continue but the curbside pickup will be changing as of July 1. Tuesday's online orders will be picked up at the Foster Library VFOL bookstore. Saturday's orders pickup we would like to continue at Hill Road Library but inside where

The Bookmark

About Libraries and Friends

by Jill Forman

Bookstore and Book Sale News!

The Ventura Friends of the Library is very excited to announce that all our venues will be back within a month.

Foster Library

Our Ventura Friends of the Library bookstore will be reopening on July 1st. The bookstore is moving to the front left corner of the library's first floor (former magazine area). We will start out with partition walls and eventually have a more permanent structure. This will triple the size of the store so more

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our book Nook is.

We are looking for a volunteer who would like to be at Hill Road on Saturdays from 10-12pm with the paid purchases. Contact Sandy at email in previous paragraph.

Hill Road Library Used Book Shelves

We will have access to the "Nook" area in mid-June. It will take us a while to stock and organize the area but will definitely be back in business by July 1. These will be gently-used books in many categories with many children's and young adult titles, priced from 50 cents up to about \$2-\$3. They will be paid for by the honor system.

Save the Date(s) for Open-Air Book Sale

July 31 and August 1, there will be a book sale at the Dudley House (on the corner of Loma Vista and Ashwood.) It will be a "Category Sale" with all genres organized by type. We are happy to co-ordinate this sale with the Dudley House's monthly plant sale on Saturday and their house tours on Sunday. A lovely setting, plants and books and one of Ventura's historical treasures. What a treat!

Warehouse and Donations

Many of our bookstore volunteers have been helping out at the warehouse, keeping it at four volunteers per day per pandemic protocol. As a result, the warehouse has been up and working five days a week. With those folks returning to the store, and the COVID restrictions easing, we will be changing the warehouse day to Fridays only.

Donations can be brought to the warehouse Friday 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. The donation boxes will be back at the libraries but please limit those to small donations. If you need to make special arrangements, you can email us at info@venturafriendsofthelibrary.org.

Ventura County Library

Continued from page 1

From March 2020 to April 2021, staff produced 621 live Storytime programs on Facebook which had 70,044 unique views.

You can come inside and browse materials, checkout books, and use a computer. If you place a hold on an item online, you can pick it up at the library when it is ready. The only things you can't do at this time is be in the library more than 50 minutes per day, attend in-person library programs, or sit inside the library to study or read. Those things will start again after June 15.

Ventura region branches:

Avenue Library, 606 North Ventura Ave.
E.P. Foster Library, 651 East Main St.
Hill Road Library, 1070 S. Hill Road
Saticoy Library, 1292 Los Angeles Ave.

VMF's live July concert

Continued from page 1

Pharrell Williams—she uses her phenomenal vocal powers—now chanteuse, now opera singer—and sly Tommy Dorsey inspired "glides" on her trombone (the only brass instrument with a slide) to draw her listeners into compelling sultry and adventuresome arrangements of popular music.

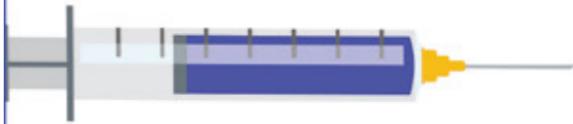
Whether it's Gershwin's "Fascinating Rhythm," MC Hammer's "Can't Touch This," Queen's "Bohemian Rhapsody," Michael Jackson's "Billie Jean," Smashmouth's "ALLSTAR," Fleetwood Mac's "Dreams," or Wham's "Careless Whisper"—around the corner of every familiar tune (and the songwriter's originals) are "anything but standard" surprises—a favorite song magically transformed by her singular brass and vocal gifts. Don't miss witnessing this once-in-a-generation talent!

Tickets and details for this 100% vaccinated event at www.venturamusicalfestival.org.



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“I got vaccinated to protect my family.”
—Ricky, Piru



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I got vaccinated to see my grandkids.”
—Beva, Santa Paula



News & Notes

Marginalized groups share histories of systemic oppression

An opinion by **Mary Haffner**
HAFFNER LAW GROUP Ventura

The Civil Rights Movement was led by advocates courageously confronting the erroneous belief that some of us are more valuable and important than others. They marched in protest to challenge the racial segregation that had been eloquently defended by politicians and enforced by police. The neglect and criminalization of people with mental illness is the civil rights and social justice issue of our time. People with mental illnesses continue to face stark inequities borne from stigmatizing beliefs about their worth. You won't see them marching in protest.

Marginalized groups share histories of systemic oppression, segregation, and a denial of basic human rights. But the distinctive feature of mental illness discrimination is that it causes impairment. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. stated, “of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhumane.”

The inhumanity these individuals and their families face goes unquestioned by leaders because this is a voiceless population. When those with the power to do something stand-by, support the status quo, and place arbitrary restrictions on rights and freedoms – when they tolerate this injustice through silent complicity and fail to work toward providing the same quality of healthcare enjoyed by persons with other health conditions – this is evidence of structural stigma.

Structural/institutional stigma embedded in the status quo of local governments has created vast disparities and is the most significant barrier to the wellbeing of people with mental illness. These inequities are evident in their disproportionate overrepresentation in our jails and on our streets and in the failures of decision makers to plan for their care, forcing them to remain untreated or waiting for days in emergency rooms only to receive substandard care. For any other health condition, these injustices would never be tolerated.

We waste millions on anti-stigma campaigns aimed at changing society's attitudes, but it is the leaders with the power to do something who must commit to the principles of equity and

justice to exercise their moral and ethical responsibility to bring change.

I spent 6 years on Ventura County's mental health board witnessing structural stigma. I observed the lack of investment in wellness and recovery; I watched millions of dollars approved by Supervisors for programs focused on people with mild mental health challenges, while the population most in need kept cycling, untreated, through restrictive environments. I watched top leadership display a belief that some people's basic human rights are open for debate when they stated, “we are doing more than we have to” for this population. I listened to countless families whose loved ones were passed from law enforcement to hospitals, to out-of-county facilities, to jails, and to homelessness.

Appropriate levels of care are not available- people who are unstable and acutely ill are placed in the wrong environments - sober living homes or board and cares. And those who are not acutely ill stay in intensive settings because there is nowhere for them to go.

Leaders who are responsible for making decisions about mental health-care should know that their silence and inaction is influenced by structural stigma. They should work toward solutions instead of continuing to endorse an inhumane status quo.

Supporting Kids & Families Together

Kids & Families Together (K&FT) is a nonprofit that has been serving foster/resource, adoptive, kinship, and birth families throughout Ventura County since 2000. K&FT works with children who have experienced trauma, abuse, neglect, loss, and multiple placements. K&FT also works with caregivers who need specialized education, support, and strategies to help raise safe, healthy, nurtured children that thrive.

Kids & Families Together, along
Continued on page 19



In a previous issue Marsha Moreland inquired about the status of the hotel being built behind the shuttered Golden China. Happy to report that framing has finally started.



Senior Living



Chronic pain might be an early symptom of dementia.

Dementia and chronic pain both cause changes to the brain

People with dementia may experience increased levels of pain 16 years before their diagnosis, according to new research. The study, funded in part by NIA and published in Pain, is the first to examine the link between pain and dementia over an extended period.

Dementia and chronic pain both cause changes to the brain and can affect a person's brain health. Although many people who have dementia also have chronic pain, it is unclear whether chronic pain causes or accelerates the onset of dementia, is a symptom of dementia, or is simply associated with dementia because both are caused by some other factor. The new study, led by researchers at Université de Paris, examined the timeline of the association between dementia and self-reported pain by analyzing data from a study that has been gathering data on participants for as many as 27 years.

The researchers used data from the Whitehall II study, a long-term study of health in British government employees. Participants were between the ages of 35 and 55 when they enrolled in the study. Using surveys conducted multiple times over the course of the study, the researchers measured two aspects of participant-reported pain: pain intensity, which is how much bodily pain a participant experiences, and pain interference, which is how much a participant's pain affects his or her daily activities. They used electronic health records to determine whether (and when) participants were diagnosed with dementia.

Out of 9,046 participants, 567 developed dementia during the period of observation. People who were diagnosed with dementia reported slightly more pain as early as 16 years before their diagnosis, driven mostly by differences in pain interference. These participants reported steadily increasing pain

levels relative to those who were never diagnosed with dementia. At the time of diagnosis, people with dementia reported significantly more pain than people without dementia.

The researchers note that, because the brain changes associated with dementia start decades before diagnosis, it is unlikely that pain causes or increases the risk of dementia. Instead, they suggest that chronic pain might be an early symptom of dementia or simply correlated with dementia. Future studies that include data on the cause, type, location, and characteristics of pain and the type and seriousness of a patient's dementia could help define in more detail the link between dementia and pain.

This research was supported in part by NIA grants R01AG056477 and RF1AG062553.

FDA approves new controversial Alzheimer's drug

Government health officials have approved the first new drug for Alzheimer's disease in nearly 20 years. The Food and Drug Administration said it granted approval to the drug from Biogen based on results that seemed "reasonably likely" to benefit Alzheimer's patients.

It's the only drug that U.S. regulators have said can likely treat the underlying disease, rather than manage symptoms like anxiety and insomnia.

This is in spite of independent advisers feeling that it hasn't been shown to help slow the brain-destroying disease.

The decision is certain to have disagreements among physicians, medical

Continued on page 11



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Senior Living



Quality sleep is important for many reasons.

Quality sleep is known to play an important role in concentration and learning, as well as mood and overall health

by Erin Bryant

NIH Research Matters

Changes in sleep patterns are common in people with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. They may wake up often during the night and find it hard to get back to sleep. These sleep problems are thought to result from brain changes caused by the disease that affect the sleep-wake cycle.

Studies have suggested that sleep patterns earlier in life may contribute to later dementia risk. Both insufficient sleep and sleeping longer than average have been linked to a greater likelihood of developing dementia. However, it has been hard to determine whether these sleep changes con-

tribute to the disease or simply reflect early symptoms.

Many of the studies on sleep and dementia risk have followed participants for less than a decade and focused on people over the age of 65. A study led by Dr. Séverine Sabia of Inserm and University College London examined how sleep patterns earlier in life may affect the onset of dementia decades later.

The study was supported in part by NIH's National Institute on Aging (NIA). Findings appeared in Nature Communications on April 20, 2021.

The researchers examined data from nearly 8,000 people in Britain starting at age 50. Participants were assessed on a wide variety of measures, including being asked on six occasions between 1985 and 2016 how many hours they slept a night. To assess the accuracy of this self-reporting, some of the participants wore accelerometers to objectively measure sleep time. Over the course of the study, 521 participants were diagnosed with dementia, at an average age of 77.

Analysis of the data showed that people in their 50s and 60s getting six hours of sleep or less were at greater risk of developing dementia later. Compared to those getting normal sleep (defined as 7 hours), people getting less rest each night were 30% more likely to be diagnosed with dementia.

The researchers adjusted their model to account for other factors known to influence sleep patterns or dementia risk, including smoking, physical activity, body mass index, and medical conditions like diabetes and heart disease. They also separated out people with mental illnesses like depression, which are strongly linked to sleep disturbances.

The findings suggest that short sleep duration during midlife could increase the risk of developing dementia later in life. More research is needed to confirm this connection and understand the underlying reasons.

"While we cannot confirm that not sleeping enough actually increases the risk of dementia, there are plenty of reasons why a good night's sleep might be good for brain health," Sabia says.

This research was supported in part by NIA grants R01AG056477 and RF1AG062553.

Reference: Association of sleep duration in middle and old age with incidence of dementia.

A View from House Seats

Theaters stay busy with summer youth camps

by Shirley Lorraine

Are your grandkids prone to dramatic behavior or break out in song? Several theaters are offering summer camps to enhance theater basics. Check them out right away if your kids are interested.

Unity Theatre Collective is offering Musical Theater Camps. Camps are Monday-Friday, from 9 a.m. to noon at Barranca Vista Park. The first offering is Annie. Camp runs July 12-16. After that, a camp for Shrek, the Musical, Jr. is from July 26-30. For ages 10-15, a camp for the musical Mama Mia is August 2-6.

Instructors Maddie Boyd and Sarah Covault will teach theater. www.unitytheatrecollective.com has all the details and the links to sign up. Openings are limited.

The Rubicon Theatre has already begun its Dare to Dream summer Shakespeare Camp, working on a production of Midsummer Night's Dream directed by Joseph Fuqua.

Shrek, the Musical, Jr. will be directed and choreographed by George Ratliff and Cheryl Baxter. For ages 8-15, will take place June 21 through July 18.

Finally, for ages 15 and above, a production workshop of Les Misérables on July 19-August 15. Check www.rubicontheatre.org/summer-education-programs for all the particulars. All productions will culminate in a filmed production.



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Senior Living

Accelerated aging in midlife and a higher risk of developing other diseases

People with mental disorders in youth tend to have signs of accelerated aging in midlife and a higher risk of developing other diseases and of dying earlier, according to a pair of related studies supported in part by NIA. The findings, which appeared in JAMA Network Open and in JAMA Psychiatry, suggest that improving individuals' mental health could enhance their overall health and extend their lives. The respective studies were led by researchers at Duke University and the University of Michigan.

Increasing evidence suggests that biological aging is best understood as a network of interacting genetic and environmental factors. As we age, our body's repair mechanisms decline, contributing to multi-system impairment and diseases that are more common in late life, such as cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and brain diseases, such as dementia. But less is known about how early life experiences influence disease onset many years later.

In the two new studies, the researchers followed up on the observation that

people with poor mental health when they are young are more likely to have age-related diseases when they are older. To better characterize the nature of this connection, they analyzed health and mortality data from large numbers of individuals in New Zealand collected over the course of decades.

For the JAMA Network Open study, the researchers examined data from more than 2 million New Zealanders aged 10 to 60 years old across the subsequent 30 years, or until death. Their analysis showed that people who had been admitted to hospitals for mental health problems – including substance use, psychotic, mood, and behavioral disorders – tended to have other diseases such as cancer, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease at a younger age, and to die earlier – than those who did not have mental health problems early in life. People with a history of mental illnesses were also more likely to develop more chronic health conditions and to be hospitalized more often and for longer periods. These patterns were seen in both men and women, and across the lifespan.

In the study published in JAMA Psychiatry, the researchers explored the idea that accelerated biological aging might drive the early onset of other health conditions in people who had previously experienced mental health problems. They used data from the Dunedin Study, which monitored the health of about 1,000 people in New Zealand from age 3 to 45.

The results showed that at middle age, people with a history of mental health problems were aging at a faster



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pace, as measured by a panel of biomarkers and assessments of sensory, motor, and cognitive function. The connection was significant even after the researchers controlled for other factors that could potentially speed the aging process such as smoking, being overweight, low socioeconomic status, having a preexisting health condition, or a history of poor childhood health or maltreatment.

Together, the findings suggest that treating mental disorders in young people not only improves their well-being but may also forestall the onset of health problems later on. The results also offer the possibility that further research on how adverse psychological states hasten the aging process could lead to strategies to slow its progression, possibly enabling people to stay healthy for longer.

FDA approves new drug

Continued from page 9
researchers and even patient groups.

The new drug, which Biogen developed with Japan's Eisai Co., did not reverse mental decline, only slowing it in one study. The medication, aducanumab, will be marketed as Aduhelm and is to be given every four weeks.

Dr. Caleb Alexander, an FDA adviser who recommended against the drug's approval, said he was "surprised and disappointed" by the decision.

"The FDA gets the respect that it does because it has regulatory standards that are based on firm evidence. In this case, I think they gave the product a pass," said Alexander, a researcher at Johns Hopkins University.

Since the FDA's approval researchers and pharma watchers have called the agency's decision "disgraceful," "a grave error" and a "dangerous precedent" that will end up "eroding confidence in the agency as a whole."

The FDA's top drug regulator acknowledged in a statement that "residual uncertainties" surround the drug, but said Aduhelm's ability to reduce harmful clumps of plaque in the brain "is expected" to help slow dementia.

The FDA is requiring the drugmaker to conduct a follow-up study to confirm benefits for patients. If the study fails to show effectiveness, the FDA could pull the drug from the market.

Nearly 6 million people in the U.S. have Alzheimer's.

Aducanumab (pronounced "addyoo-CAN-yoo-mab") helps clear a protein linked to Alzheimer's, called betaamyloid, from the brain.

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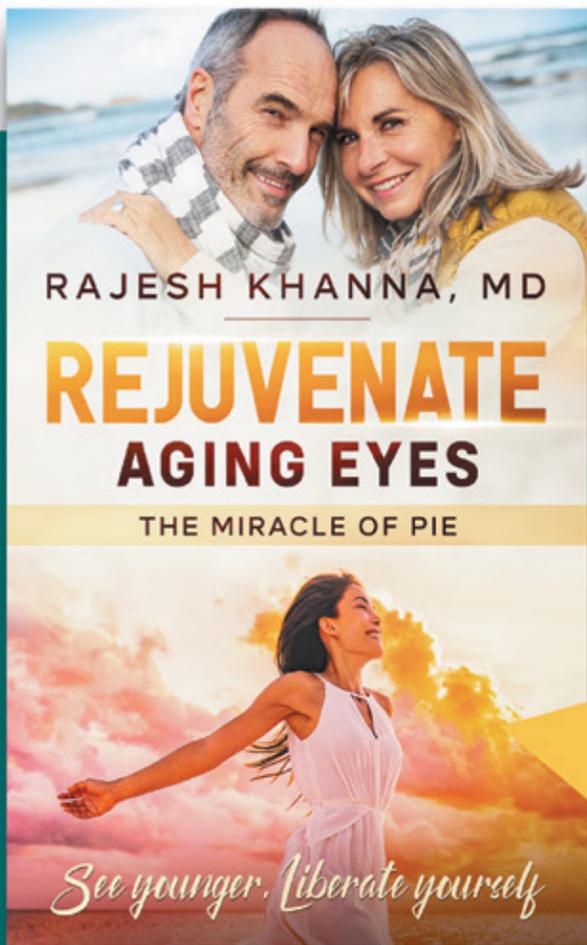
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This 'n' That

Rebuilding Ventura's travel and hospitality workforce is the key to regional and statewide recovery

The coronavirus pandemic has set back (but not defeated) Ventura's travel and hospitality businesses, but the economic power of the tourism industry is igniting a comeback as California Tourism Month begins.

The California travel industry's underlying strength and enduring selflessness and resilience aligns with California Tourism Month's theme, the "Power of Possibility." This week, California also joins the U.S. Travel Association in honoring the Power of Travel for National Travel and Tourism Week.

"At Visit Ventura we have always spoken the truth," says Marlyss Auster, Visit Ventura President & CEO. "And here's the simple truth. There has never been a more important time for the economic driver that is tourism. Tourism will put Ventura -- and our surrounding communities -- back on their feet. Working together, with ongoing safety in mind, we can not only survive, we can thrive."

Despite losses due to Covid-19 business closures and community lockdowns, California is well-positioned for recovery.

The long-term outlook for California has brightened considerably. Tourism Economics projects domestic visitor spending in California will reach 76% of 2019 levels this year. In 2022, domestic spending will hit 94% of 2019 levels, and total visitor spending, including resurgent international travel, will hit 87%.

The Golden State remains among the best-performing states in case counts and vaccination rates and has implemented long-term health measures so visitors can feel safe.

The outlook for summer travel in California is very positive, as the state expects to remove most restrictions by June 15 -- just before summer officially arrives.

The vast majority of California's abundance of tourism assets -- theme parks, museums, concert halls, restaurants and wineries among them -- are moving toward normal operations. Ventura, graced with the wide open spaces perfect for cautious recovery -- from Channel Islands National Park to recently opened Harmon Canyon (a hiking and biking paradise) -- has begun welcoming visitors back.

"With all our incredible outdoors and wide open beach spaces, Ventura is perfectly suited for these still socially-distanced times," says Auster. "We've

always welcomed visitors warmly. Now we welcome them warmly and safely."

And as Californians resume traveling, they have the power to jumpstart the state's economic recovery by choosing to keep their trips within California.

"California's tourism industry has long provided Californians with a strong civic foundation and generated billions of dollars in state and local tax revenues to help provide services that benefit everyone in the state," said Caroline Betera, president and CEO of Visit California. "Now residents can help their fellow Californians by keeping their tourism dollars in California and supporting local businesses as a modern-day act of patriotism. Together we can support our own economic recovery. There is power in California civic pride".

But there is plenty of work to do, particularly to re-build the vibrant travel and hospitality workforce. A month after the mid-March lockdown, more than half of the 1.2 million tourism workers found themselves without jobs.

Even as the economy re-opens and businesses gradually offer more services to more and more consumers, the foundation of the industry -- its people -- still strive to return to work in a safe and confident manner that makes economic sense for them and their families.

"In the end, it's not really about economics," says Auster. "It's about kindness and caring."

Aera Energy challenge was a huge success

Earlier this year, Aera Energy challenged our community to support health and wellness programs in VUSD schools by matching donations totaling \$5,000 to VEP for teacher grants. The challenge was a success and combined with funding from Mountains 2 Beach Marathon, Ventura Education Partnership made grants totaling \$21,000 for 7 individual grants and 7 group grants.

"During COVID VEP has offered grants in a streamlined way. Individual teachers were able to apply for \$500 for health/wellness projects. Groups of educators working together to impact

Continued on page 16

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

S	L	A	N	G	S	K	I	B	U	M
L	I	S	S	F	F	F	N	C	A	S
S	L	A	T	E	S	G	O	U	R	D
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A	A	H	A	H	I	A	M	I	S	I
P	L	A	N	E	R	S	P	U	N	C
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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.

Possession of Stolen Property Arrest

On May 25, a detached garage in the 300 block of Poli Street was burglarized, and an expensive and distinct bicycle was stolen. On May 30 at 1:00 pm, Patrol officers and detectives located the suspect in the Rite-Aid parking lot in the 100 block of Main St. in Ventura. The suspect, 29 year old Ventura resident Angelita Hernandez, had the stolen bicycle with her.

Hernandez was arrested and booked at the Ventura County Jail for felony possession of stolen property. The bicycle was returned to the rightful owner.

A search of the Ventura County Superior Court shows that Hernandez has prior convictions for theft, identity theft, burglary, and possession of a stolen vehicle.

The VPD Street Crimes Unit would like to remind everyone to register their bicycles online through the Ventura Police Department website. Also, remember to record your serial numbers on any high-end purchases and tools.

Carjacking / Felony Evading / Hit and Run Arrest

On June 4, at approximately 11:30 am, Ventura Police patrol officers responded to the Roadway Inn regarding a report of a vehicle having just been stolen. The victim reported that they attempted to stop the suspect by reaching into the vehicle and trying to remove the keys, however, the suspect started to drive off with the victim holding onto the car. The suspect was known to the victim, who identified her as 43 year old Kim Huber. Officers responding to the area located the vehicle being driven on Thompson Blvd Near Kalorama St and initiated a stop. Huber fled at a high rate of speed, driving on the wrong side of the road and side swiped another vehicle that was stopped at a traffic signal. Due to the danger to the public and other occupants in the vehicle at the time, the pursuit was terminated.

A short time later, the vehicle was found driving on Harbor Blvd at Sanjon Rd, and officers initiated a stop. Huber again fled at a high rate of speed. The vehicle was last reported driving North of Ventura Ave from Main St. A Ventura County Sheriffs Department helicopter was requested and responded to assist with locating the suspect. While officers were still in the area looking for the vehicle, a citizen reported a vehicle matching that description parked in their carport in the 100 Block of Ramona St. The helicopter responded and confirmed that it was the stolen vehicle. Patrol officers arrived at that location and found the vehicle left in that location with one occupant, but Huber had already fled the scene. The stolen vehicle was recovered and returned to it's owner.

Approximately 40 minutes later, Huber was located walking in the downtown area and was taken into custody without further incident. Huber was booked at Ventura County Jail for Carjacking, Felony Evading, Hit and Run and a warrant.

Brandishing a Replica Firearm

On June 6, at approximately 11:45 am, VPD patrol officers responded to a report of a subject brandishing a black

semi-automatic style pistol during a road rage incident. The victim provided a description of the suspect and his vehicle, including the license plate. Responding officers located the suspect vehicle in the area of Telegraph Rd and Saticoy Ave. Based upon the nature of the call, a high risk stop was conducted in the 10200 block of Telephone Rd. The driver and sole occupant of the vehicle, later identified as 32 year old Ventura resident Steven Infante, was taken into custody without incident.

A Ventura Police K-9 unit was used to clear and search the vehicle. A black pellet gun that resembled a semi-automatic firearm was located in the vehicle, along with narcotics and other controlled substances. Infante was arrested for Brandishing a Replica Firearm, Possession of a Controlled Substance and Possession of a Controlled Substance Without a Prescription.

Narcotics Arrest

On June 8, at 2:00 pm, members of the Ventura Police Department Street Crimes Unit conducted a search warrant at the above address due to an investigation into narcotics sales. Detectives using investigative tools were able to identify a primary suspect as 57 year old Oak View resident Paul Haney.

During the execution of the search warrant and the subsequent investigation, detectives recovered narcotics and evidence of narcotics sales inside Haney's home.

As a result of the investigation, Paul Haney was arrested for possession of methamphetamines for sales.

Stolen Vehicle Arrest

On June 11, at approximately 8:00 am, Ventura Police Officers responded to the area of Shenandoah St. and Chalmette Ave. regarding a Chevy S-10 pickup truck that had just been stolen. At about 1506 hours, the truck was seen in the 1200 block of N. Ventura Ave. Patrol Officers responded and, on arrival, conducted an enforcement stop as it entered the parking lot of a business. Carlos Martinez, 24 year old Ventura resident and 23 year old Ventura resident Juan Solis were taken into custody without incident. During the investigation, officers determined that the suspects had painted the vehicle to cover the original color. Martinez and Solis were arrested for the unlawful taking of a vehicle, grand theft auto, felony vandalism, and conspiracy.

Robbery, Delaying a Peace Officer, and Vandalism Arrest

On June 11, at approximately 9:00 pm, Ventura Police Patrol officers responded to a report of a theft which just occurred in the 1000 block of East Thompson Blvd. The suspect had entered the business and after a brief altercation with the employees, stole an item from the business. The suspect then left the business and was reported to be armed with a knife.

Patrol officers and a K-9 officer arrived on scene and contacted the suspect, 36 year old Pete Holder. Holder was armed with a knife and a blunt object. Holder refused orders to drop the knife however was taken into custody. Officers on scene determined Holder had brandished the knife at an employee of the business after stealing property and threatened to stab the employee. It was also determined just prior to the robbery; Holder had slashed multiple tires at a separate business in the area.

Holder was arrested and booked at Ventura County Jail for Robbery, Delaying a Peace Officer, and Vandalism.



Exciting New Changes to Your Trash Service, Coming July 5

Starting in July, you will no longer have to remember which cart to put out each week. Beginning the week of July 5, E.J. Harrison & Sons will collect ALL THREE carts – trash, recycling and yard waste – every week, at no additional charge! **Note:** Your pickup day of the week will not change. Simply set out all three carts on your regularly scheduled pickup day.

This service upgrade will provide more room for you to recycle and allow Harrison to divert more recyclables and organics from the landfill.

For additional information, call 805-647-1414.



1-800-41-TRASH
www.ejharrison.com

E. J. Harrison & Sons • Newbury Disposal • Santa Clara Valley Disposal

Harbor Patrol Blotter

Just a few of the things the Harbor Patrol tends to.

5/26 5:57pm, received a report of a capsized 19ft catamaran. Officers responded, were able to right the vessel and escorted it back to the launch ramp.

5/30 9:25am, received a Mayday call on VHF 16 from a sailboat near the entrance. Officers responded in Fireboat to assist the disabled vessel. After investigation, it was determined steering was lost due to autopilot was engaged.

4:55pm, received a report of a man harassing sea lions near VIM C-dock. After investigation, it was determined that a lawful attempt, spraying with water, was made to remove the sea lion from a swimstep of a large vessel.

5/31 12:35pm, received report of a person in the water from passerby on VHF 16. Officers responded and were assisted by TowBoat US to pull victim from water.

11:55pm, while on patrol, received report of transient refusing to leave 1559 Spinnaker. Officers encountered an individual refusing to leave and brandishing a baseball bat. The subject left the area, stating he was going to Riverhaven.

6/1 4:05pm, received report of a petroleum spill near Ventura Boat yard and South Basin. Officers responded in Fireboat and found the small sheen. It was breaking up, and unretrievable. The R/P was informed of the situation.

6/3 1:50pm, received report of vandalism, a rock was thrown through a window of a Ventura Marina Community unit. The R/P believes it was a pair of transients that were observed setting up camp earlier in the L/R overflow lot.

6/4 4:12pm, received a report of a Hazard to Navigation, a log near the launch ramp. Officers responded and found large patches of seaweed but no hazard found.

7:30pm, received a request for taking over a tow from TowBoat US. Officers responded and safely towed the vessel to their slip in VWM.

6/5 3:26am, dispatched to a full arrest at VHV G-dock. Officers responded with AMR/VFD/VPD and found the patient overdosed but now was able to walk off the vessel to the ambulance in the parking lot. Patient transported to hospital.

9-11am, officers educated 15 separate boaters about speed and wake ordinance in the main channel of the Harbor. 302(b) Ventura Harbor Ordinance: 5mph from the demarcation line (harbor entrance) throughout the inner harbor.

6/6 11:35am, received a report of a sailboat in the surfline near Greenock Lane jetty from State Parks. Officers responded and educated the skipper of the danger.

6/7 6:56am, dispatched to a stroke patient in the Ventura Marina Community. Officers responded and assisted AMR with 72 y/o female who was transported.

6/8 5:30am, observed National Weather Service issued a Small Craft Advisory for winds gusting to 25 kts in the afternoon, western portion of the channel.



The Pet Page



Dedicated to Scamp

Recently the Search Dog Foundation family officially handed the leashes of five incredible search dog graduates to their new handlers. The beginning of a career in service to the nation.

Two of the new teams are part of a pilot program that was launched in partnership with Los Angeles County Fire Department to provide human remains detection canines to their agency and California Task Force 2. Together, all five of these search teams will go on to certify and deploy to help with both the rescue and recovery phases of disaster search missions, ensuring that no one is left behind.

Now, these handlers and search dogs join the ranks of two- and four-legged heroes across the country who are ready to search for those in the aftermath of a disaster. In the next year, each handler and search dog will work together every day, honing their skills, growing their incredible bond, and preparing for certification to make them deployable with their fire departments and task forces.

SPAN Thrift Store is open to the public and looking for donations of adult clothing, household items and tools if you've got items you no longer use. SPAN Thrift Store regularly provides \$10 spays and neuters for low income households with cats and dogs.

Three upcoming clinics are: Tuesday, June 29th at Shiells Park, in the parking lot, located at 649 C St., Fillmore, 93015, a second one on Tuesday, July 6th at the Albert H. Soliz Library - El Rio, 2820 Jourdan St., Oxnard, 93036, and a third one on Tuesday, July 20th at SPAN Thrift Store parking lot 110 N. Olive St. (behind Vons on Main).

Please call to schedule an appointment (805) 584-3823.

By Linda Carroll

While dogs can eventually learn to listen to their owners, some pups seem to be born with an innate ability to understand humans, research published Thursday in the journal *Current Biology* suggests.

At just 8 weeks old, some of the puppies in the study showed a startling willingness to lock eyes with humans they didn't know and to take command cues, such as directions pointed out with a finger.

"From a young age dogs are displaying humanlike social skills," said the lead study author, Emily Bray, a postdoctoral researcher at the Canine Cognition Center at the University of Arizona in Tucson and a researcher at Canine Companions in Santa Rosa, California. "Puppies, even before they have a lot of experience with people, can reciprocate the human gaze and can use information from humans in a social context, like pointing as a cue to find hidden food."

To determine whether the tendency to interact with humans was innate, Bray and her colleagues ran several experiments with 375 8-week-old puppies who

had little previous one-on-one experience with humans. The puppies were all Labrador retrievers, golden retrievers, or a mix of the two breeds. All of the puppies in the study were bred to be service dogs.

The researchers placed a 4-foot-by-6-foot mat on the floor. At one end of the mat, a handler sat holding a puppy. At the other end sat a researcher, with two upside-down cups in front of her. One of the cups covered a treat.

In one part of the experiment, the researcher called out "puppy!" in a high-pitched voice and pointed to the cup covering the treat. Amazingly, some of the puppies would march right over to that cup, knock it over and gobble down the treat.

The ability to take directions without any training something not all the puppies in the study could do equally well suggested to the researchers that these particular puppies had an innate ability to understand humans.

In another part of the experiment with the same setup, instead of pointing to the cup with the treat, the researcher would call the puppy's attention to a small yellow block and place it next to the cup with the hidden treat. Again, some of the puppies would go right to the correct cup, tip it over and grab the treat.

Noting that some of the puppies weren't as good at understanding human communication, the researchers wondered whether the variation in the pups' abilities could be explained by genetics.

In an analysis of the puppies' social skills, along with their multigenerational pedigrees, the researchers found that genes could explain more than 40 percent of the variation in the dogs' abilities.

The study may help resolve a dispute among dog researchers "over whether these abilities are innate or learned," said Dr. Katherine Houpt, an animal behaviorist and a professor emeritus at the Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine. "This certainly shows dogs have innate abilities."

It might be argued that the breeds of dogs used in the study have been selectively bred to be very aware of humans, said Houpt, who wasn't involved with the new research. "Because they've shown it's so inheritable, they might have gotten different results if they used different breeds. It would be interesting to look at dogs that aren't bred to be service dogs, such as terriers or basenjis."

People who want to get a puppy that will grow up to be a close companion may want to look for social skills like the ones described in the study, Houpt said.

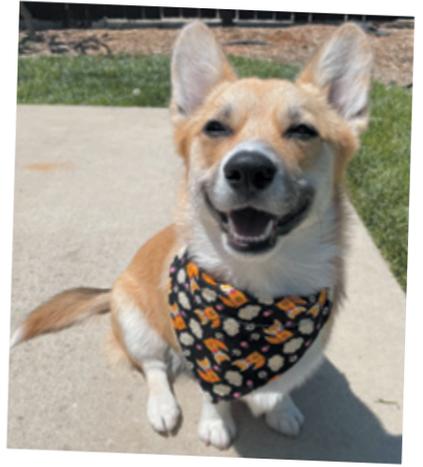
WASHINGTON, DC — More than 5,800 postal employees were attacked by dogs in the United States in 2020. From nips and bites to vicious attacks, aggressive dog behavior poses a serious threat to postal employees and the general public. To highlight the enormity of this serious issue, the U.S. Postal Service is providing the public with information on the do's and don'ts of responsible dog ownership as part of its annual National Dog Bite

Scamp Club

(Scampclub pets are not for adoption.)

"Lulu is my name, and I'm 1-year-old. I love walks with my mom, especially when treats are involved. Playing with my toys is fun, but not as exciting as a brand-new bone to chew on. I recently got a job as my mom's model for her bandana business. I work hard and play even harder!"

Etsy shop: [lovelulubylupita.etsy.com](https://www.etsy.com/shop/lovelulubylupita)



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.

Lost pet? Go to [LostCatVenturaCounty.com](https://www.LostCatVenturaCounty.com) or [LostDogVenturaCounty.com](https://www.LostDogVenturaCounty.com) - free websites for finding and posting when you've lost or found a cat or dog.

Awareness Week public service campaign.

"Raising awareness about dog bite prevention and how to protect our letter carriers as we deliver the mail is paramount," said USPS Acting Employee Safety and Health Awareness Manager Jamie Seavello. "Dogs are instinctive animals that may act to protect their turf and that why's it's important to inform the public about this campaign."

Dog owners are responsible for controlling their dogs. The best way to keep everyone safe from dog bites is to recognize and promote responsible pet ownership. Most people know the approximate time their letter carrier arrives every day and having their dog secured as the carrier approaches their property for delivery will minimize any dog carrier interactions.

Pet owners should: Remind their children not to take mail directly from a letter carrier as the dog may view the carrier as a threat.

When a letter carrier comes to the home, keep dogs: Inside the house or behind a fence Away from the door or in another room

On a leash

Also, Informed Delivery is a great tool for customers. It's a free service that gives customers a digital preview of the mail and packages that are scheduled to be delivered so that they can take precautions and secure their dog when parcels are delivered to the door. Sign up at informedelivery.usps.com.

Letter carriers are trained to observe an area where they know dogs may be present. They are taught to be alert for potentially dangerous conditions and to respect a dog's territory.

If a dog attacks, carriers are also trained to stand their ground and protect their body by placing something between them and the dog — such as their mail satchel — and use dog repellent, if necessary. Even though postal officials ask customers to control their dogs, unfortunately dog bites still happen, which may cause injuries to our carriers and costly medical expenses for dog owners. Please heed the above best practices to help stop dog bites and protect your letter carrier.



Introducing America's newest search teams!

SPAN Thrift Store
SPAY/NEUTER ANIMAL NETWORK

\$10 Low/No Income Spay & Neuter
Tuesday, June 29th
Shiells Park parking lot.
649 C Street, Fillmore, CA 93015
Must call for appointment (805) 584-3823

\$10 Low/No Income Spay & Neuter
Tuesday, July 6th
Albert H. Soliz Library - El Rio
2820 Jourdan St., Oxnard, CA 93036
Must call for appointment (805) 584-3823

\$10 Low/No Income Spay & Neuter
Tuesday, July 20th
in SPAN parking lot.
Must call for appointment (805) 584-3823

WE ARE OPEN!
10am - 4pm Tues, Thurs & Sat
Call us today!

805.641.1170 110 A & B N. Olive St., Ventura CA 93001 www.spanonline.org



The Pet Page

Forever homes wanted

Hi: I'm Capo, a friendly 1-year-old Shepherd Mix who was rescued from the Devore Shelter where I was left by my owner. I have a bright smile and gorgeous eyes. I am a friendly guy who walks well on a leash. I love to run around the play yard and sniff everything. I could possibly do okay with another dog, a meet and greet would have to be done first. If you're looking for an active and lovable goofball, I'm your man. Canine Adoption and Rescue League C.A.R.L.



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Email: reservations@carldogs.org



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Another Great Beach Read from James Francis Gray!

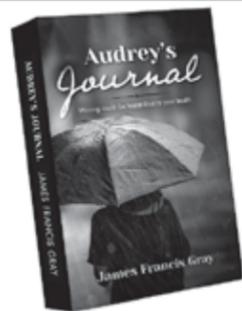
AUDREY'S JOURNAL

Dedicated Office Clerk Audrey Stienner stays on top of it all in her Working Journal...client appointments, high profile meetings, assignments, **and office secrets**...secrets that, if they were to be exposed, could cost her a lot more than her job.

Fortunately these secrets are kept safe in her locked desk drawer.

Books make great gifts.

Visit www.jamesgray.com See reviews on amazon.com
<https://youtu.be/y6GcldQZHpl>





Finn is a big, gorgeous boy who was surrendered because his previous owner no longer had time to provide the training, exercise and attention that Finn needed. Finn is very playful and friendly with people, but he may bark or lunge at dogs when he is on leash or behind a barrier (like a fence). At this time we are primarily looking for a rescue to pull Finn to ensure he goes into a breed-savvy home that can handle his size and needs.

Ventura County Animal Services - Camarillo location - 600 Aviation Drive
Finn A697734

This 'n' That



Jennifer Thompson cuddles with Michael, one of the cats available for affection and adoption, at Cassie's Cats.

A Purr-fect Place to Relax

by Jill Forman

"I'm here to hang out with kitties!" says the excited visitor as she comes into Cassie's Cats Lounge and Adoption Center. Four friendly felines stroll around, doze, and occasionally jump unexpectedly into waiting laps. Comfortable furniture, for both humans and cats, is spread out in the large, open room in Midtown.

It is a place to hang out, relax, de-stress, with the aid of cats. Cuddling with a pet has been shown to have all sorts of beneficial effects on physical and mental health; a "kitty fix."

"It's a dream come true" for Jennifer Thompson, who founded Cassie's Cats and opened the Lounge last month. She

first saw a similar setting in Santa Barbara, and went in "...because I love cats." With the help of her family, volunteers and community members she has been able to fundraise and get through the process of becoming a 501(c)3, renting the space, and equipping it. She has also kept an active social media presence on Facebook and Instagram.

On entering the storefront, there is a front area, with gifts for people and animals for sale: t-shirts, tote bags, car toys, pouches, earrings, quilted kitchen items, masks and lots more. The majority of the sewn items were made by Jennifer and her mother. (Free to come in and shop.)

Parking lots provide excellent opportunities for expanding Ventura's urban forest. This city-owned lot off Loma Vista, next to the Community Memorial Hospital parking structure, had no trees for decades. As part of a paving project, the city recently installed eight new Australian Willow (Geijera parviflora) trees, which will provide shade as their canopies spread. They are evergreen and will grow to 35' high and 20' wide. Their non-invasive roots make them a good fit for street and parking lot trees, and their water-filled leaves are fire resistant.

Ventura Tree Alliance
www.venturatreealliance.com



The cats are all rescues and are available for adoption, but there is no pressure to do so. In fact, pressure of any kind is the opposite of what the Lounge is for. They come from many rescue organizations who are delighted to have another avenue to give cats a good home.

Volunteers will be essential to keeping the Lounge staffed. There is a volunteer orientation on June 19. Anyone interested can contact Thompson at the email or phone that will be at the end of this article

To hang out and cuddle with a cat, the prices are \$8 for 30 minutes, and \$14 for a full hour. Reservations are encouraged, though walk-ins will be welcome if there are fewer than three folks enjoying the kitties at the time. Days will be Thursday-Sunday, 11-5.

To visit, donate, volunteer or any questions:
Cassie's Cats, 1744 E. Main St.
(805) 232-4228
info@cassiescatsandkittens.org
www.cassiescatsandkittens.org



by Pam Baumgardner
VenturaRocks.com

I really thought I was clever lining up local artists for a short Q&A the past year because frankly, there was very little to write about regarding our music scene other than a lack of a music scene, but that got old fast. So, the Q&A's were fun and interesting as I caught up with such local artists as Dan Grimm, Tommy Marsh, Will Breman, Natalie Gelman, Chulz Torrez, Guy Martin, Christine Law and so many more. We heard about how they had been holding up during the pandemic and what they had been up to and what new music they had been working on lately. (They're all archived by the way on VenturaRocks.com) Well I had one lined up for this issue, but I got burned, and he missed the deadline, so lucky for me, we actually have a music scene starting to come back to life for me to write about now!

In my last column I mentioned how it looked like the days of Concerts in your Car were numbered and I was right, Nelly was the last show on Saturday, June 12. I was severely disappointed that Vanilla Ice with Tag Team #WhoopThereItIs was taken off their calendar, that is until I opened an email from CBF Productions and found they've been rescheduled to perform here in town after all. CBF Productions are the good folks who brought you Concerts in Your Car, California Beer Festival, Winter Wine Walk, and yes, the Tequila and Taco Music Festival where you can now see both Vanilla Ice and Tag Team #WhoopThereItIs over the weekend of July 24. Last year of course was cancelled due to the pandemic and previous years it was held at Plaza Park, but this year the festival will be held at Surfer's Point at the Ventura County Fairgrounds. I'll be honest, it will be good to walk on solid ground (as opposed to the park) after a tasting or two of tequila, and definitely after one of those fiery margaritas they

have for sell. Saturday it's the two hip-hop/rap artists, and then Sunday features tribute to Selena & Latina artists. Tickets on sale now at TequilaAndTacoMusicFestival.com.

Adam and Josh have been slowly but surely getting their new jazz club, the Grape, ready to open their doors to the general public, and the timing couldn't be better as the county continues to reopen and allow businesses to get back to...business. I just spoke to Josh and he told me they're looking at the second week in July. YES, FINALLY!! Now you may have seen a post on social media about a show at the Grape on July 8, but that will be a live-stream featuring Karl Hunter, Hans Ottsen, Guil Juliao and Adam Clark (Adam's back in town for a mere week or so). Adam and Josh are working on dates for Mike Garson's return, and I hear Doug Webb and Danny Carey are eager to play the new joint as soon as they can. The new jazz house will definitely be a feather in the cap of Ventura's music scene, and I for one can barely wait to check it out.

Cadillac Zack has landed a new venue for his blues shows at Cantara Cellars in Camarillo. It's recommended to get your tickets in advance so you don't miss out when shows sell out. You can do so by calling or texting (323) 377-5291. Tickets range from \$20 to \$35 with all shows starting at 8 pm; doors open at 7. Currently the line-up includes Jimmy Vivino, bandleader for the Conan O'Brien show on Friday, June 25; Guitar Shorty, blues legend and Hendrix's step-brother, on Friday, July 9; Laith Al-Saadi, brilliant guitarist and finalist on NBC's The Voice on Friday, July 16; and Josh Smith, famed modern blues guitar genius on Friday, July 23. August dates include Chris Cain, the Atomic 44's (formerly The 44's), Paule Cerra and Lionel Young.

Quick Notes: Winchester's is hosting "Burning Mask Ventura" on Sunday June 27 from 1 pm to 7 pm with live music from Two's Company,

the Bomb and Spencer the Gardener; there's actual live music at Bombay's on Saturday, June 26 starting at 5 pm with the Swizzlers, Vonettes and Fish Fry; catch Tuesday Blues Day evenings at Copa Cubana featuring Jerry McWorter, Ed Berghoff and Shawn Jones this month; Franck L. Goldwasser has a date at Namba on Saturday, June 19; and finally, are you're missing a little Nardcore? Well Rock & Roll Pizza in Camarillo will be hosting Tuesday night Nardcore nights starting June 22 with Out of Trust and the Robot Uprising.

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

For more up-to-the-date listings go to
VenturaRocks.com

Bombay Bar & Grill

143 S. California Street
Ventura, CA

Fri, Sat & Sun: DJs
Sat 6/26: Swizzlers, the Vonettes, Fishfry (5-9 pm)

Cantara Cellars

126 N. Wood Road
Camarillo, CA

Fri 6/25: Jimmy Vivino (8 pm)
Sat 6/26: Brandon Ragan Project (4 & 7 pm)

The Cave

4435 McGrath Street
Ventura, CA

Music 5:30 – 8:30
Thursdays: Bobby Apostol
Fridays & Saturdays: Warren Takahashi

Copa Cubana

Ventura Harbor Village

Tuesdays: McWorter Berghoff & Jones (7 pm)
Sat & Sun: Ken Devoe (Noon – 6 pm)

Leashless Brewing

585 E. Thompson Blvd
Ventura, CA

Sat 6/19: Jacob Marquez
Sun 6/20: Yesai

Made West Brewing

1744 Donlon Street
Ventura, CA

Sun 6/20: Milo Sledge w/ Eddie Layman (3-5 pm)

Margarita Villa

Ventura Harbor Village

Music 8-11; Sundays 5-8
Fri 6/18: Corsican Brothers
Sat 6/19: Colette Lovejoy
Sun 6/20: John Young and Friends
Fri 6/25: The Tossers

Mrs. Olson's

2800 Harbor Blvd
Oxnard, CA

Fri 6/25: Kyle Smith Band; Free Love Project (8 pm)

Namba

47 S. Oak Street
Ventura, CA

Sat 6/19: Franck L. Goldwasser (7 pm)

Peirano's Market & Deli
204 E. Main Street
Ventura, CA

Music 6 pm

Fri 6/18: Two's Company
Sat 6/19: Anchor & Bear

Prime Steakhouse
2209 E. Thompson Blvd
Ventura, CA

Music 6-9 pm

Tues: Danny D - "Dinner with Frank"

Relm

2390 Las Posas Road
Camarillo, CA

Sat 6/26: Shawn Jones (5 pm)

Rock & Roll Pizza
305 Arneil Road
Camarillo, CA

Tues 6/22: Out of Trust, the Robot Uprising

Star Lounge

343 E. Main Street
Ventura, CA

Fri 6/18: CRV (9 pm)

Strey Cellars

951 N. Rice Avenue
Oxnard, CA

Fri 6/18: Ignition (6 pm)

Taqueria Jalisco
4275 Tierra Rejada Rd.,
Moorpark, CA

Music 5-9 pm

Tuesdays & Fridays: Jim Friery

Winchesters

632 E. Main Street
Music Thurs 5:30; Fri 7 pm; Sun 3 pm

Thurs 6/17: The Swillys

Fri 6/18: Blues Bullet

Sun 6/20: The Tossers

Thurs 6/24: Saint Pierre

Fri 6/25: Sean Wiggins

Sun 6/27: Spencer the Gardener, the Bomb, Two's Company

1901

740 South B Street
Oxnard, CA

Music 6:30 – 9:30 pm

Fri 6/18: Bobby Campbell

Sat 6/19: Toni Janotta

Ventura Music Scene

Aera Energy challenge

Continued from page 12

larger numbers of students were able to apply for \$2500," said Madhu Bajaj, President of Ventura Education Partnership.

Funded projects include culinary explorations to teach good nutrition and healthy eating, mindfulness activ-

ities, physical exercise equipment like yoga and pickleball, sensory gardens and much more.

Sierra Meyers, Ventura High Physical Education Teacher applied for and received funding for hoola hoops to social distance, jump ropes, fitness bands, and other fun PE equipment that can be used outdoors. Meyers said, "Receiving

the grant means that my physical education students have an opportunity to try equipment & innovative activities outside the normal tradition sports. The grant gives my students a fun, safe, creative & health benefiting workout in a socially distanced environment."

"As a member of the review team, it was exciting to see the innovative

ways VUSD teachers are looking to engage students to improve the health and wellness," said Michele Newell, Aera public affairs. "During the pandemic Aera has focused greatly on employee mental and physical health. It is part of our exceptional care for people. So, partnering with VEP and local teachers in this effort



Home for the summer Kaylie has taken on the task of painting murals.

Local Ventura artist selected to join the City of Ventura’s Public Art Program’s Streetscape Mural Project

by Richard Lieberman

The City of Ventura Public Art Program’s Streetscape Mural Project is a sidewalk and street corner showcase for talented local artists and community members to transform traffic signal utility boxes into new public art. Since 2007 artists have painted over 30 boxes with designs that will beautify street corners and aid in minimizing graffiti. Artists, students, schools, and community organizations have made for a better pedestrian experience on Ventura Streets by participating in the City of Ventura’s “Think Outside the Box” program. The program was designed and initiated in 2007 to transform designated street utility boxes into public works of art.

Born and raised in Ventura local artist Kaylie Pendleton is currently a college junior at the Northwest College of Arts in Portland, Oregon. Home for the summer she has taken on the task of painting murals on two traffic signal utility boxes located at the corner of Day Street and Telegraph Roads. Kaylie won the “Mayors Art Award” in 2017 and has worked on the 2019 “Irish Belle” for the Saint Patrick’s Day parade. “I have always

been interested in art I love drawing people, flowers, doing magazine illustration, and fashion design,” she said. Painting the murals will take about one or two weeks she added.

Kaylie is a survivor of Retinoblastoma (a cancer affecting the retina which may be caused by genetic mutation though the exact cause is still unknown). In 2019 Kaylie had her mural design selected by Loma Vista Elementary School and installed in 2019, she is also the recipient of the 2021 Ventura County Community Foundation Vivian Klemz Scholarship.

“I have grown up in Ventura, so I have always seen these (traffic signal utility boxes) and saw which ones I liked a lot and since I went to college, we were able to pick our own project and I was able to design this for class and here we are,” Kaylie added. The City of Ventura’s Public Art Program supplies the material to accomplish the task. “I had to fundraise, and Ventura residents were able to donate and get me the supplies I needed, through the cities Public Arts Program,” said Pendleton. “I have been focused on drawing and illustration for around six years now so I

Ventura Art Scene



Entrance to Ventura Harbor in 1986 by local artist Tony Jankowski. www.tonyjankowski.com

Ventura arts group to debut new gallery

Buenaventura Art Association will reopen July 2 in a new home, Studio 99 at Bell Arts Factory, 432 N. Ventura Ave., with an exhibition by members of The Collage Lab, Ventura artists who create pictures using paper, photos, fabric and other mixed media.

It’s called “Picking Up the Pieces,” and will present “a selection of recent work reflecting thoughts, ideas, feelings and inspirations that carried the artists through the COVID lockdown,” according to Janet Black, one of the featured artists.

The others are Karen Hoffberg, Darlene Roker, Wendy Winet, Janna Valenzuela, Karen L. Brown, Mary Kolada Scott, Joyce Lombard, Virginia Buckle and Tasia Erickson.

Opening reception for the show will be 5-8 p.m. July 2, in conjunction with Ventura’s First Friday gallery crawl. It will be the first in-person exhibition since March 2020 at BAA’s Bell Arts gallery and will run through Aug. 14. Open hours will be noon-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays.

The grassroots Ventura arts group, founded in 1954, also has an outlet at Harbor Village Gallery & Gifts at Ventura Harbor, and artwork displays at Spice-Topia and Very Ventura, downtown shops on Main Street. For more information about BAA and its programs, call the gallery at 805-648-1235 or visit buenaventuraartassociation.org.



Mixed media collage by Mary Kolada Scott.

am studying illustration and graphic design and I hope people can see that in my work.”

Kaylie is looking forward to returning to Portland this fall as a senior and has also been accepted

into a study abroad program this fall in England “I love Portland overall, a great vibe for illustration and graphic design” she said.

Kaylie will graduate with a BA in illustration in May, 2022.

is not out of the norm for us. These grants provide VUSD students the means to get exactly what they need to be healthier inside and out. That is a wise investment in our future.”

More information on VEP and the complete list of grant recipients can be found at: <http://www.venturaeducation-partnership.org/Health-Wellness>

Grand Jury releases report

Most local special education school bus drivers are performing their duties alone, while also attending to student behavior issues occurring on the bus. Given that school bus drivers

have, by law, sole responsibility for rider safety and discipline on the bus, the 2020-2021 Ventura County Grand Jury (Grand Jury) examined the challenges that can emerge when transporting special education students.

The Grand Jury found that a special education school bus driver is required to do an extraordinarily

demanding set of tasks. They must drive a bus through city streets and traffic, obeying all laws, while simultaneously monitoring the behavior of every student on board. This creates the potential for distracted driving and for unchecked student behavior that could jeopardize the welfare of

Continued on page 19



Lighter Breeze

Mother Goose and Grimm



Mutts



Dustin



Shoe



Moose and Molly



Rhymes With Orange



Solutions on page 12

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

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

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!

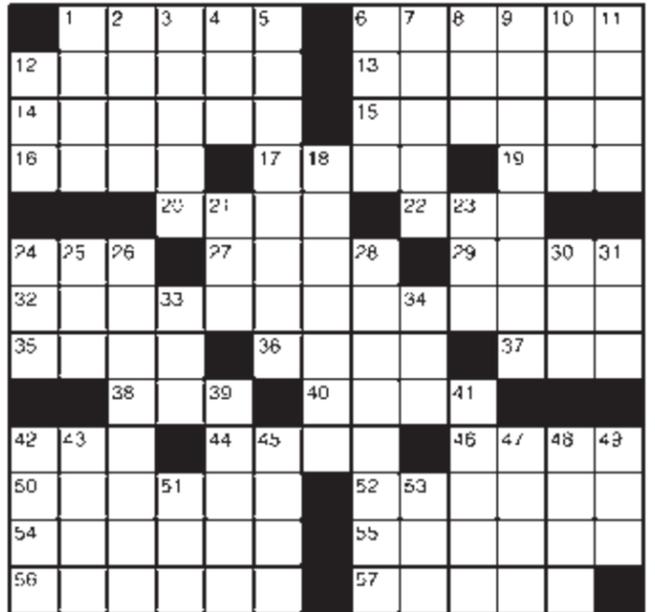
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Solutions on page 12

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Lingo
- 6 Slopes regular
- 12 Tenant
- 13 Sheathe
- 14 Schedules
- 15 Pumpkin relatives
- 16 Appointment
- 17 Spring melt-down
- 19 Cooking fuel
- 20 Libertine
- 22 Poseidon's home
- 24 Satisfied sigh
- 27 La Scala solo
- 29 Fine spray
- 32 Fruity rum cocktail
- 35 Author Wiesel
- 36 Eve's third son
- 37 That girl
- 38 "Awesome, dude!"
- 40 Pop
- 42 Trojans' sch.
- 44 Org.
- 46 Forget-me- (flowers)
- 50 Paris art museum
- 52 Athlete's woe
- 54 Tempt
- 55 Point maker
- 56 Op-ed pieces
- 57 Dwelling



DOWN

- 1 Actress Ward
- 2 Aspiring atty.'s exam
- 3 Fall bloom
- 4 Formerly called
- 5 Hand signals
- 6 Video game giant
- 7 Recognizes
- 8 Hosp. section
- 9 Haggles
- 10 Fed. food inspector
- 11 Gil dining hall
- 12 Leary's drug
- 18 Patty Hearst, for one
- 21 Feed-bag morsel
- 23 Outback bird
- 24 Mimic
- 25 100 percent
- 26 Barber s offerings
- 28 Flabbergast
- 30 Learning ctr.
- 31 Common title start
- 33 Museum-funding org.
- 34 Prof's degree
- 39 "Pride and Prejudice' suitor
- 41 Pear variety
- 42 Peter Fonda's beekeeper role
- 43 Male deliveries?
- 45 Beholds
- 47 Partially mine
- 48 Genealogy chart
- 49 Neighbor of Leb.
- 51 By way of
- 53 Sgt., e.g.

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LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) An on-the-job change works to your benefit by offering new opportunities. It's up to you to check them out. Meanwhile, a stalled romantic situation starts up again.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) That flare-up of Scorpian temperament cools down, leaving you more receptive to suggestions about changes that might need to be made in your personal life.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) An unusual period of indecisiveness is a mite frustrating. But things soon clear up, allowing the sage Sagittarian to make those wise pronouncements again.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) You might feel that you know best, but it's not a good idea at this time to try to force your opinions on others. Best advice: Inspire change by example, not by intimidation.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Some setbacks could affect your plans to fortify your financial situation. But things start moving again by early next week. Meanwhile, enjoy your resurgent social life.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Show that often-hidden steely spine of yours as you once again stand up to an emotional bully. You've got the strength to do it, especially as friends rally to your side.

BORN THIS WEEK: Your ruling planet, Mercury, endows you with a gift for writing. Have you considered penning the world's greatest novel?

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) A heads-up alert to all free-spirited Ewes and Rams: Be wary of a deal that could result in compromising your independence. Check every detail before making a commitment.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) New facts emerge that help put an irksome workplace situation in perspective. Meanwhile, pay more attention to a family member who needs your wisdom and strength.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A slight setback in plans is nothing to worry about. Use this delay to deal with a number of matters you might have ignored for too long. Expect news from someone in your past.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You're entering a period of stability. Use it to straighten out any outstanding problems related to a very personal situation. Also, pay closer attention to financial matters.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) As much as you love being a social Lion, you might well benefit from staying out of the spotlight for a while. You need time to reflect on some upcoming decisions.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A difficult family situation improves, thanks to your timely intervention. You can now start to focus more of your attention on preparing for a possible career change.

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Showtime

Streaming Spotlight by Cindy Summers

Sweet Tooth

-Netflix Originals



Breeze rating from 1 to 4 palm trees, 4 being best.

The main storyline behind “Sweet Tooth” reflects aspects of today’s news headlines as it plays out ten years after what was called “The Great Crumble” where a pandemic plundered the earth’s population, mainly targeting adults, while simultaneously came the unexplained situation of most women giving birth to babies that were part human and part animal referred to as “Hybrids”. “Sweet Tooth” primarily focuses on the sheltered life of a hybrid deer-boy named Gus (Christian Convery) who is taken under the wing of a large nomad named Jeppard (Nonso Anozie) as they travel across the country to help Gus find his mother who he believes is in Colorado from clues in a photo he found after his father died from the disease.

Due to the fact that both occurred at the same time, many people blamed the hybrids for the pandemic and a group named the Last Men formed throughout the country to eradicate all hybrids, who were all only small children no older than 10 years old. Gus was raised in seclusion by his father to keep him safe from the dangers in the outside world since “The Sick” killed most adults, and unfortunately also Gus’ father when he was only nine years old.

Gus lived alone fending for himself for a year until he was rescued from some poachers trying to lure him with candy by a very large nomad named Jeppard, who nicknamed Gus “Sweet Tooth” due to the incident. Gus was no longer safe where he grew up, so he set out to find his mother in Colorado, though had no idea how

to get there. Jep had survival and militaristic skills that were useful in keeping Gus alive and unharmed, and Gus kept following him until he agreed to take Gus to a train that would take him to Colorado.

They were captured by a group of teens living in an old theme park lead by a young woman called ‘Bear’. They all had animal names and trained in fighting skills to protect the hybrids from harm or capture. Their main enemy in this fight was the Last Men and upon seeing Jep had a Last Men brand on his chest, felt it was their duty to kill him even though he had been protecting Gus (who didn’t know up until then that Jep had been one of the Last Men).

Two other primary stories play out in the series. One involves Dr. Singh, who is a scientist involved with developing a cure for “The Sick” and his wife Rani, who contracted the disease but has managed to stay alive on sample doses of a vaccine being developed by one of her husband’s colleges with his assistance. Unfortunately, the cure they developed involves dark and drastic deeds, and eventually falls under the control of the ruthless “General”.

The other story involves a woman named Aimee (Dania Ramirez) who before “The Great Crumble” was a therapist the felt disconnected from everything in the world. She avoided “The Sick” and settled in an abandon zoo where she finally felt something she should relate to... the animals. One morning a basket with a baby was left by the front gate – a hybrid pig-girl baby, which Aimee took in with delight and raised as her own daughter.

Through glimpses of the past between Gus’ father and mother, clues to how the pandemic occurred and possible origins of the hybrids are revealed, and the end of the first season definitely points to a second season where the three primary stories are destined to collide in unexpected and explosive ways.

Season 1 – 8 Episodes 1Hr each

Supporting Kids & Families Together

Continued from page 8

with Heart 2 Heart will be holding our 3rd Bike Event on Saturday, June 19th from 10am – 1pm. The idea for this event was inspired by grandparents who were receiving support in some of our programs. They were a “kinship family”, and had their 7-year-old granddaughter in their care. Their granddaughter really wanted to learn how to ride a bike, but neither of the grandparents felt that they were physically capable of safely helping her. The grandmother reached out to K&FT looking for help. That one phone call, sparked the idea for this event! We knew if this was an issue for one of our families, there were most likely many Foster/Resource, Kinship and Adoptive Families in a similar situation.

So the event was born, and first took place in May of 2019. That day 10 children learned how to ride a bike for the first time! It was amazing to see these kids go from just starting out, to fully riding within a few hours. The smiles on their faces was priceless and they were filled with such pride and excitement! Due to COVID, the 2020 event was strictly held as a bike gift-away event.

But this year, we are able to bring it

back as a full Bike Safety and Bike Rodeo event! We are grateful to Crosspoint Church Ventura (5415 Ralston St.) for hosting this year’s event. Their large parking lot will be the perfect setting of our bike course. Our goal for this event is to serve 100 children! Included in this year’s event will be ... bike riding instructions, riding skills, a riding course will be set up, bike safety checks will be available for those that bring their own bikes, and drawings to win new bikes. All children attending the event will receive a new bike helmet, some treats and a grab bag.

We are grateful to our Bike Rodeo partners and event sponsors that will be out in force to support our families: Crosspoint Church Ventura, Bike Ventura, The California Highway Patrol (CHP-Ventura), and the Gene Haas Foundation.

Volunteer opportunities are available both prior to the event, to help sort, organize and prepare, along with time slots for the day of the event. To keep staff, families and volunteers safe, we are following current public health and safety regulations. All attendees will be required to wear a mask at all times. Contact: Jeni Futvoye 805-940-6323 jfuvoye@kidsandfamilies.org.

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 Pleasant Valley School District Chorus

Video On-Demand Streaming
 June 4 - June 20 2021

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 Artistic Director, Dr. KuanFen Liu
 President, Dean A. Butler

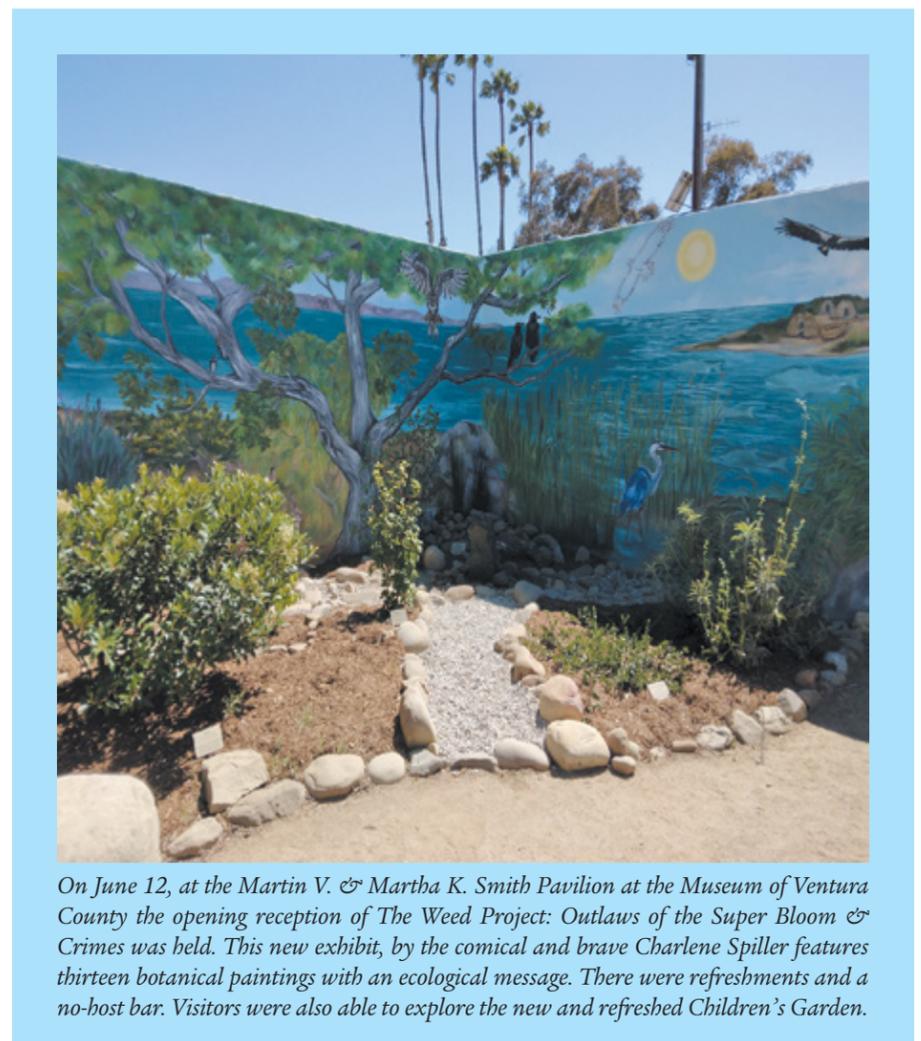
Grand Jury releases report

Continued from page 17

other students and the driver. The Grand Jury commends school bus drivers in Ventura County (County) for accomplishing a demanding set of tasks: simultaneously driving a bus and responding to behavioral issues during the bus ride.

The Grand Jury investigation

focused on a particularly vulnerable population of special education students who have an increased need for supervision on a school bus: students with diagnoses of autism, emotional or behavioral issues, combined loss of hearing and vision, medically fragile and non-verbal or those who are otherwise unable to speak out or defend themselves.



On June 12, at the Martin V. & Martha K. Smith Pavilion at the Museum of Ventura County the opening reception of *The Weed Project: Outlaws of the Super Bloom & Crimes* was held. This new exhibit, by the comical and brave Charlene Spiller features thirteen botanical paintings with an ecological message. There were refreshments and a no-host bar. Visitors were also able to explore the new and refreshed Children’s Garden.



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This 'n' That



The class of 2021 hails from eight different countries.

Villanova Prep celebrates 2021 graduates

Villanova Preparatory School graduated the 94th class in the school's history on Saturday, May 29 at 4 p.m. at the Grotto of Our Mother of Good Counsel on Villanova's campus. The 55 young men and women of the class of 2021 were joined by the Villanova faculty as well as their families to celebrate their accomplishments. The ceremony was presided over by the Very Reverend Gary Sanders, OSA (Order of Saint Augustine), Prior Provincial for the Province of St. Augustine in California. Mr. Brian Roney, Assistant Headmaster for Academics, served as Master of Ceremonies and welcomed the graduates and their families. The graduation was also broadcast live on Zoom so that international students and their families could watch the ceremony live from their home countries.

The ceremony consisted of opening remarks from Headmaster Brian Grisin, followed by a student address by class Salutatorian Jakob Pinedo of Oxnard. Jakob spoke of the challenges the class of 2021 has faced, from the Thomas Fire in their freshman year to the pandemic in their senior year, and how these challenges taught them to rely on each other. Jakob will attend the University of California, Santa Barbara in the fall.

The attendees enjoyed musical interludes performed by graduates Kimberly Shih of Kowloon, Hong Kong, Gabriela Magallanes of Redwood City, California, Keanu Ramirez of Camarillo, and Julia Reed of Oxnard.

The valedictory addresses were given by co-Valedictorians Zhiwo (Suzy) Xu of Jiangsu, China and Yiwen (Bruce) Zhang of Heilongjiang, China. Suzy delivered her address in-person and Bruce delivered his via video as he was not able to be present at the ceremony. Suzy encouraged her classmates to not put their lives on hold, but to seize the moment, even if it is a difficult one. Bruce extolled his classmates to work hard and to not wait for good things to happen to you. Both Suzy and Bruce will attend the University of California, Los Angeles in the fall.

The commencement address was given by alumna Laura Eloyon '01 who is the Deputy Branch Chief for Emergency Response and Recovery at the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Ms. Eloyon holds her B.A. from Boston University and an MBA from Duquesne University. She spoke to the graduates about her time in the Peace Corps and her work at the CDC. She spoke about her work in this last year at the CDC and how unexpected events are often the things that teach us the most in life.

The students dressed in navy-blue grad-

uation gowns and were called one by one to receive their diplomas from Prior Provincial Fr. Gary Sanders, Headmaster Brian Grisin, and Director of Mission Fr. Barnaby Johns, OSA. Students unable to attend had their name and hometown read and their diplomas mailed to them.

The ceremony concluded with a benediction from Very Rev. Gary Sanders and a singing of the alma mater. The class of 2021 hails from eight different countries and will go on to attend 35 different Universities and Colleges.

SEEAG to increase CalFresh

Continued from page 1

of childhood obesity and preventable illnesses. Next school year, SEEAG hopes to reach over 3,000 school-age children with their healthy eating message.

Over the summer, SEEAG will work with the Human Services Agency's CalFresh program to develop a curriculum designed to encourage families to enroll in CalFresh. The CalFresh curriculum will be incorporated into the VCCWI program as students learn about healthy eating habits and how fresh produce is grown.

Bilingual representatives from the county's CalFresh outreach team will be at SEEAG's VCCWI school presentations as well as at Food and Health Resource market pop-ups and on virtual webinars.

Major VCCWI health-related partners include Dignity Health St. John's Regional Medical Center, Kaiser Permanente, Clinicas del Camino Real, Gold Coast Health Plan and Adventist Health Simi Valley.

For more about SEEAG and the Ventura County Child Wellness Initiative, go to www.seeag.org. To reserve a program time and date, click on www.seeag.org/programscheduler.

Founded in 2008, Students for Eco-Education and Agriculture (SEEAG) is a nonprofit organization that aims to help young students understand the origins of their food by bridging the gap between agriculture and consumption through its agricultural education programming. SEEAG's "The Farm Lab" program based in Ventura County teaches schoolchildren about the origins of their food and the importance of local farmland by providing schools with classroom agricultural education and free field trips to farms. Through this and other SEEAG programs, over 60,000 elementary school students in Central and Southern California have increased their understanding of the food journey. For more information, visit www.seeag.org or email Mary Maranville at mary@seeag.org.

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