



VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

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Looking back—and ahead— with Ventura Police Chief Darin Schindler (part two)

by Amy Brown

Having served as the Chief of Police for the Ventura Police Department since 2020, and in a range of roles in law enforcement for more than 30 years, Chief Darin Schindler has had a unique vantage point from which to see and shape changes in community police work. He acknowledged that serving in law enforcement is both rewarding and challenging, a job that often requires the ability to make important decisions under stressful conditions and in a split second. When asked what new or existing training has been implemented to better equip officers to differentiate between, for example, someone experiencing a mental health crisis and someone intentionally committing a crime, he said it starts early. "Obviously, it starts at the police academy, but you can't

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Chief Schindler at the recent Coffee with a Cop sharing time with a Venturan.



Ivor Davis with John Lennon.

Ventura gang invades Cuba

by Ivor Davis

Visiting Cuba has been on my bucket list for all my life and thanks to Ventura College retired Professor Bill Hendricks—I finally—accompanied by a group of Ventura's notable local yokels—we recently made it to that beleaguered Caribbean country.

So let me keep it short and sweet: Twas a memorable, eye-opener visiting this country of absolute contradictions. And ineffable charm. Don't forget Cuba is a mere hop skip and jump from America--90 miles from Key West!

Along for the journey were California Appeals court Justice Steven Perren, Long time locals Clark, Diane and Grey Hubbard, as well as Scott Williams, who packed a bagful of baseball balls to give-away to delighted kids on the street. Real estate broker Karen Hoffberg who merrily danced on the streets of Havana and assorted Ventura College students who somehow managed to spend eight days in Cuba without sleep! For them it was a "Hard Day's Night!"

Apologies for not mentioning some of the other local dignitaries who cha-chaad their way through Cuba—but all that rum and the cigars and late night carousing has dimmed my memory.

But what remains vivid and memorable is this:

A visit to the John Lennon Park in Havana—where a bronze statue of the late Beatle sprawls for all to see. I have had a passing acquaintance with Mr. Lennon so I was happy to learn the story about John—told to

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Your Hometown Paper

Member, Ventura Chamber of Commerce

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– From George
Washington's
Rules of Civility &
Decent Behaviour

Local Government News

Ventura had a significant decrease in property crimes

Ventura's crime statistics are based on the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR), defined as the number of crimes committed per 1,000 population. Part I Crimes are comprised of eight offenses, broken down into two categories. Violent crime includes homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault; property crime includes burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

The City of Ventura experienced a 13.3% reduction in reported Part I Crime in 2022. Overall, Part I Crimes totaled 2,881, which was 443 fewer offenses than were reported in 2021.

Despite the overall reduction in Part I Crime, violent crime saw a small increase of 2.6% in 2022, with 10 more offenses reported than in the previous year. Aggravated assaults increased 21.7%, with 51 more assaults being reported. There was one homicide in 2022 compared to none in 2021. Sexual assaults had a decrease of 28.6%, with 12 fewer incidents than last year, and robberies decreased by 29.7%.

Property Crime dropped by 15.4%, with reductions in every category except arson when compared to 2021. Burglary dropped by 18.5%. Larceny and vehicle theft saw reductions of 15.8% and 8.1% respectively. Arson showed the only increase, with 2 more arsons reported than the previous year, an increase of 10%.

For 2023 the Ventura Police Department is transitioning away from the traditional UCR (Uniformed Crime Reporting) and implementing NIBRS (National Incident-Based Reporting System) as recommended by the FBI. The UCR system captures crime data based on only eight categories while NIBRS collects data from

over 50 categories. The UCR program utilizes a hierarchical system to prioritize and categorize offenses. The hierarchy rule requires that an incident with multiple offenses or charges be narrowed down to a single offense, usually the most serious charge. NIBRS collects more detailed information, provides greater specificity in reporting criminal offenses, and provides more data points for analyzing crime trends. The Ventura Police Department started collecting NIBRS data in July of 2022 and will utilize this format for all future reporting. For more details about NIBRS refer to: <https://www.fbi.gov/how-we-can-helpyou/more-fbi-services-and-information/ucr/nibrs>

With this new format, crime rates will look significantly different, and at first glance, crime will appear to have increased significantly. The appearance of increased crime is due to the NIBRS mechanism of data collection and reporting as noted above. These new categories include crimes that existed under the UCR standards; however, under the UCR standards, they were not reported out.

4th of July Street Fair: Vendor and sponsor applications open

The City is seeking vendors and sponsors for the 46th Annual 4th of July Street Fair and Pushem-Pulleem Parade. This year's event is themed "Celebration



by the Sea" and will run from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 4, 2023, in Ventura's Downtown District.

Vendor applications and sponsorship forms are available on the City's website at www.cityofventura.ca.gov/StreetFair. Eligible groups include arts and crafts, non-profits, and food vendors.

Vendor applications will be accepted beginning Wednesday, February 1, 2023, through Monday, April 3, 2023, before 5:00 p.m. PST. Applications can be submitted by mail, email, or dropped off in-person at City Hall, located at 501 Poli Street, Room 226.

Entertainment is being scheduled by the Downtown Ventura Partners (DVP). If you are a musician or entertainer interested in participating in this year's event, please contact DVP at: music@downtownventura.org.

For questions and more information, contact City of Ventura Recreation Coordinator Allyson DesBaillets at adesbaillets@cityofventura.ca.gov or (805)

Looking Back—and Ahead Continued from page 1

learn everything though in a six month police academy. We really value and reinforce career-long development, learning and growth, whether you're at three or thirty years, so it's ongoing and continual until you retire," said Schindler.

Ongoing programs include a 40 hour Crisis Intervention Training class—Schindler said his goal is to have 100 percent of the officers complete it, currently about 90 percent have. "It's not as black and white as it was 30 to 40 years ago, due to the proliferation of behavioral and mental health issues now faced in the criminal justice system," he said. "Somebody

As I See It by Sheldon Brown

Approximately 500 people attended the Ventura County Fairgrounds re-development meeting held Thursday, Feb. 23 in the Santa Rosa building. The \$319 million project proposed by the Pacific Sports Group of Oxnard would bring a 7,500-seat baseball stadium and other improvements to the fairgrounds. Most people in attendance were opposed to the proposal.

Certainly, the fairgrounds needs to improve the very old deteriorating Quonset type buildings that are now used for their events. The fairgrounds is in desperate need of renovation.

The plan calls for two new parking garages, a transit center, a police sub-station, and retail space that could be used by restaurants, stores and other business. The Ventura County Fair would still be held there.

Some protesters claimed Pacific Sports Group was just looking to make money. Of course, they want to make a profit if they are willing to spend \$319 million on the project. Some of what they are proposing couldn't even legally be built there, but I think a minor league baseball team would great. It could be called the Ventura Breezers and might get kids out of the house and into the sunshine for matinee games. And people from outside of Ventura could take the Amtrak to the games and spend money in Ventura.

A lot of Venturan's want to keep our town of 110,000 a "little sleepy town" exactly as it is. Except, unfortunately, "sleepy little towns" don't provide the tax base to maintain even basic infrastructure.

Regarding the fairgrounds 4 Los Angeles County men have been arrested in connection with the theft of more than \$500,000 at the Ventura County Fair in August. The money came from gate receipts and parking.

The suspects are: Alexander Piceno, 28, of Baldwin Park, Rafael Morales, 56, of La Puente, Carlos Alberto Aranda, 44, of Los Angeles and Jesus Rios, 55, of El Monte.

The Ventura City Council has approved an ordinance to help build more affordable housing. The new rules will impact residential projects with seven or more units and will take effect on July 1.

Approved unanimously, the inclusionary housing ordinance, will require projects of seven units or more to have a certain percentage set aside for low and moderate income residents.

The ordinance contains the following: 10% of affected housing projects must be reserved for moderate-income residents.

For rental properties, 15% of units will be restricted, with 5% for very low-income and 10% for low-income tenants.

In Ventura County, moderate income for a family of four is \$118,550 annually for the household. The low-income equiva-

lent is \$90,350 and very-low is \$56,450.

Research conducted in The Netherlands has found that the maximum ceiling life span for a female is 115.7 years. For men, it is slightly lower at 114.1 years, but, even so, that's a long time. Therefore, women will need to live alone for 1.6 years.

Six people are dead and another was wounded in a series of shootings in Tate County, Mississippi after a man opened fire on his ex-wife and potentially other family members. The suspect, Richard Dale Crum, 52, was arrested and is facing charges of first-degree murder in connection with the case. I doubt if he bought a gun to kill his ex-wife and 5 other family members.

A record 6,542 guns were intercepted at U.S. airports last year. Not at all surprising as more and more people are carrying guns.

Recently a friend asked me to buy cigarettes for them, I was out and about and heading to a liquor store. I bought 2 packs for over \$22. Many people who smoke are spending at least \$350.00 a month to support their habit. For that amount, you can buy a car.

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



Despite the rain Coffee with a Cop (and dog) was well attended at Cafe Ficelle at 390 S. Mills Rd. Police officers (and chief) shared coffee, stories and conversations with Venturan's in this informal gathering. Photos by Michael Gordon.

might be having a mental health crisis, or committed a crime while suffering mental health issues. The idea is earlier identification, so when you arrive to these calls for service, you have to ask, is it mental health, criminal in nature or a combination? There might be other factors involved. It doesn't always begin and end with a crime."

As part of an effort to effect meaningful change, and keep both police officers and the community they serve safer, the department has programs to reduce racial and other implicit biases for officers. He said that officer training includes a diverse suite of topics, beyond the more obvious and highly necessary firearms safety and defensive tactics segments. "It's complex, we also train yearly on things like biases, racial issues, and ethics in policing," said Schindler. "There can be implied biases, things that you maybe aren't even aware of." Officers spend at least two days each year doing different scenario-based training exercises. Schindler said it involves different training locations and a range of situations, from something as simple as a traffic stop, to as complex as responding to a robbery in process. "You might think it's just tactics, for keeping the officers safe, and that's part of it, but it's also mindset," he said. "We're looking to see how officers react under stress, and are trying to introduce them to situations that are new, so they react to something they've never seen. Then we talk about it: what did you see, what were you feeling, why did you do this?" Schindler reported that it helps them be aware of what goes through their minds, and how their bodies react, so they can be better prepared and have improved

control when out in the field.

Schindler introduced a confidential mental health component of their wellness program during his second year as Chief. "It's been really successful; an annual mental health check-in with a clinician is mandatory for all officers, dispatchers and crime scene personnel, and optional for all other full-time employees. If employees are healthy, both physically and mentally, they understand the rigors of the job, and they're able to talk about it, it's better for the community. They can serve better because they're in a good place themselves," he said. The department also has a comfort therapy dog, Asher, who works not only to provide support for the employees, but has recently passed specialized therapy training, and is available to help support victims of crimes, especially young victims.

The department remains focused on engaging with the community, last year resuming the

Public Safety Community Block Party at police and fire headquarters, where the public could tour the facility, see equipment and interact with the police officers. Schindler shared his pride in the department, especially when community members reach out to commend an officer. "You'd think it would be mostly saving lives or big things, but it's the simple things, the empathy an officer has at a car accident, or when someone's loved one passes away. I never realized when I was a young officer the impact you can have on someone's life," he said. "Most people don't engage with law enforcement except for a couple of times in their lives, but those few contacts can really leave a lasting impression on them."



Beautiful snow surrounds us as seen from the Harbor looking towards the Portside Ventura Harbor development and other locations. Photos by Patricia Schallert and Robert Chianese.



REASONS TO CHOOSE CREMATION

Cremation continues to grow in popularity. Here are the top reasons people pick cremation over burial:

1. **Saves Money** (often less expensive than traditional burials)
2. **Saves Space** (no need for cemetery space, though it's an option)
3. **Saves Environment** (doesn't require harmful chemicals)
4. **It's Simple** (involves fewer steps)
5. **Offers Greater Service Flexibility** (allows for scattering, decorative urns, shared ownership of ashes, etc.)

For more information on cremation, visit us online and request our FREE cremation guide.



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Saturday, March 11, 2023 • 10AM
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Let's Celebrate!

Grand Marshal: Elks Lodge #1430 - Celebrating 100 years!
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The parade will be held on March 11.

CAPS Media covers annual St. Patrick's Day Parade

CAPS Media is covering all the festivities at the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday, March 11. This year's theme, "Let's Celebrate!" hosted by Elks Lodge #1430 includes enthusiastic marching bands, dazzling drill teams, festive floats, classic cars, the 2023 Irish Belle and her court, the Parade's Grand Marshal, celebrating 100 Years in Ventura, and much more. CAPS will record all the action rolling down Main Street on the Saturday

morning extravaganza and will air and stream the complete St. Patrick's Day Parade later on CAPS Media Channel 6 and capsmedia.org.

In other news, the creative and engaging DJs at CAPS Radio KPPQ, Ventura's only local radio station, continue to consistently deliver outstanding programming 24/7. Recent examples include Nadine Piche's interview with Carl Morehouse on Ventura Vibe! discussing Ventura's

Sister City: Loreto, Mexico; Kathleen Good, CAPS Board Members and DJ host of "In The Women's Room," spoke with celebrated local poet Marsha De La O, reading her original poem Indelible. Kathleen also interviewed Jake Schwartz of Green Corps and Don't Cage Our Oceans about lobbying against proposed large scale industrial fish farms off the coast of Ventura.

Other KPPQ programs include the Pure Rock Music Show with Mark, Ojai Dream hosted by Kevin Wallace, Doc Ventura's Delta Blues, another CAPS Board Member - Pam Baumgardner - hosting her special Music Hour, plus the award-winning Girls Night Out featuring the best in radio drama. All of the KPPQ local programs programs as well as national and international shows can be enjoyed 24/7 at 104.1 FM and streamed worldwide on myTuner Radio and capsmedia.org.

The ECTV team, mentored by Phil Taggart, had 6 program finalists and won WAVE 4 awards at the annual ACM West Conference - Alliance for Community Media, WAVE stands for Western Access Video Excellence.

Art About Agriculture with John Nichols, winning the Arts, Entertainment award; a discussion with Chumash Elder, Julie Tumamait-Stensile, winning the Culture and Lifestyle category; an interview with Mark Lunn, Ventura County Clerk, Recorder, Registrar of Voters, winning the Talk Show award and Why Poetry, winning the education access award. This year's WAVE awards add to the more than 30 regional and national

awards the ECTV students have won over the past few years. All ECTV programs can be viewed on the CAPS Media website at capsmedia.org/ectv-el-camino-interns-news-and-informational-series/.

CAPS, which stands for Community Access Partners of San Buenaventura is a nonprofit service organization that is commonly referred to as a PEG - standing for Public, Education and Government with cable channels 6 and 15 and an online presence. CAPS crews continue to cover all of Ventura's City and community meetings every week, recording, broadcasting, and streaming to the public. The CAPS crews also produce informative videos for the community such as the King Tides celebration, the Westpark Skatepark Community Meeting, and a Curbside Coffee Chat with Ventura Police at Juanamaria Elementary school.

In the coming months the CAPS team will help celebrate Ventura County's 150th Anniversary with a series of videos chronicling its fascinating history in collaboration with the Museum of Ventura County.

To learn more about CAPS, visit capsmedia.org, where the home page has a video labeled: CAPS Media City Council Presentation 2023, which presents an overview of the organization. The website includes links to programming and information regarding the reopening of the CAPS Media center.

Every member of the CAPS staff thanks the Ventura community for your continued support.

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Ventura residents Clark and Diane Hubbard.

Ventura gang invades Cuba Continued from page 1

me by Fidel's personal photographer Roberto Chile--and why it was the Liverpool Lennon--and not the Leningrad Vladimir Lenin--who was such a tourist attraction in Cuba.

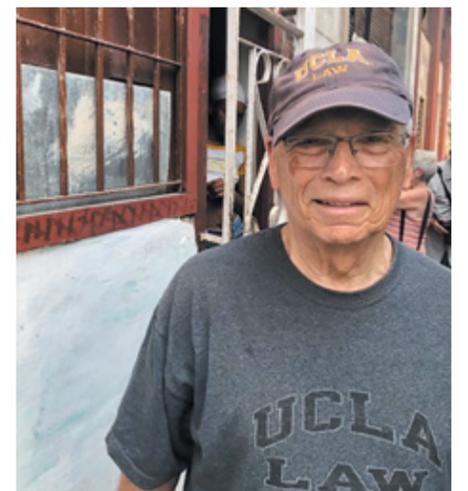
First John and the Beatles music was banned by Fidel as being part of the cliched "corrupt Western decadence." Then when Lennon went to war with the Nixon regime during the peak of the anti-Vietnam War movement, Fidel suddenly recognized him as a fellow revolutionary.

And thus in December 2000, a park was born with Fidel unveiling the bronze as, "All You Need Is Love" blared over loudspeakers.

For me the highlights included the fabulous food, visiting Havana's main synagogue which was generously unlocked for me, and where I noted that

Steven Spielberg also got a personal tour a few years ago.

Biggest surprise: I went to the Cuban government cigar factory and shop--and



Ventura Appeals Court Justice Steven Perren.



Ventura County District Attorney Erik Nasarenko was among those at the open house. Photos by Patricia Schallert.

Open house held at the Grand Jury

The Ventura County Grand Jury invited the public to its annual Open House on Thursday, February 23, at the Grand Jury Chambers located at 646 County Square Dr.

The Grand Jury is a panel of 19 Ventura County citizens who conduct investigations into the operations of local governmental entities within the county. Investigations originate either from a public complaint or from within the Grand Jury.

Visitors were able to tour the Grand Jury Chambers and offices, meet current Grand Jurors, learn about Grand Jury functions and the application process. They also enjoyed the food table that we available.

The primary function of the Jury is civil oversight accomplished through on-site or protocol visits, interviews, briefings, investigations and research.

The Jury publishes reports on its conclusions from their investigations and may make recommendations.

Jurors are paid \$25.00 per meeting plus mileage. Therefore, they serve as a

service to the communities they serve in Ventura County.

Juror Lori Macdonald told the Breeze why she became a juror.

“Early in my retirement I felt the need to do something meaningful. I already volunteered in a number of ways in our community but I wanted something that would be challenging for me and make a difference. I read that the Ventura County Grand Jury was looking for jurors and decided to apply. I strongly believe that the work that happens within the Grand Jury is important. It is a way for the citizens to voice their concerns and feel heard. It is the intrinsic rewards of knowing that what we do matters that make this experience valuable.”

If you are interested in applying for the Grand Jury or want more information, please visit the Grand Jury website at: <https://www.ventura.org/grand-jury/> For questions, please email lori.macdonald@ventura.org

Complaint forms are available at [ventura.org/grand-jury/forms](https://www.ventura.org/grand-jury/forms).

much to my chagrin (would you believe) they refused to take their own Cuban currency! Dollars, Si. But sorry no credit cards!

For a nation under duress, the Cubans were warm and welcoming.

Particularly after we all unloaded suitcases laden with band-aids, clothes, toothpaste and children's clothing at the local church. And baseballs--of course!

The food was fabulous, the internet was non existent--and our tour guide Alex was top notch with a great sense of humor.

Bill Hendricks is planning another “cultural trip” to Cuba later this year.

Go if you can. It's something you will never forget. And maybe the Breeze will publish your adventures!!



Ventura resident Scott Williams.

OLIVAS ADOBE HISTORICAL PARK

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March 12, 2023

11am - 3pm

Three great events in one day! Free Admission.

Happy Birthday Raymundo Olivas

Celebrate Raymundo Olivas's birthday with refreshments and tours of his rancho home.



Olivas Adobe in Focus Exhibit

Meet and greet with artists from the Thousand Oaks Photo Group.



PHOTO: SCOTT HARRISON

Volunteer Orientation • 1-2 pm

Do you like to garden, plan events, or bring history to life? Learn about our many volunteer opportunities!



CITY OF VENTURA PARKS & RECREATION



www.cityofventura.ca.gov/OlivasAdobeEvents



CMHS Auxiliary installed new officers and presented awards at luncheon.

The Auxiliary volunteers work in most areas of the hospital

Members of the Community Memorial Healthcare System Auxiliary recently attended a luncheon and installation of incoming Executive Board members. In addition awards were presented for those attaining milestones in number of hours and number of years of volunteer service.

Board President for the next year is Linda Petit, and she is also in charge of Data Base Management. 1st Vice President is Cynthia Broaddus, and 2nd Vice President is Mary Wdowicki. Recording Secretary will be Bobbie Mendez and Corresponding Secretary is Linda Wilson. Cheryl Volden is Treasurer, Marilyn Beal is the Junior

Coordinator, Judy Miller is Parliamentarian, and Edie Marshall is Past President. John Crandall and Lynn Ridout will serve as Directors.

Awards for volunteering 100 hours were presented to Tomas Guillen, Debbie Kost, Cheryl Lewis, JoAnn O'Beirne, Brenda Ogden, Ani Toran, Roberta Vollmert, and Trisha Williamson. Those attaining 500 hours of service were Cynthia Broaddus, Argie Mandakas, Jan O'Donnell, Cheryl Volden, and Linda Wilson. John Crandall and Mike Patton both contributed 1000 hours, and Marilyn Beal, Ellen Bugaj, and Stephanie Coray volunteered 2000 hours, while

Maria Kapp had 3000 hours of service. Trudy Cook and David Howard served 7000 hours and Mary Wdowicki, 8000. Both Sandra Frandsen and Linda Petit contributed 10,000 hours, and Frank Cavallero served 13,000. Judy Miller was honored for volunteering 24,000 hours! Both Connie Ferritto and Marjo Gardner were recognized for 25 years of service.

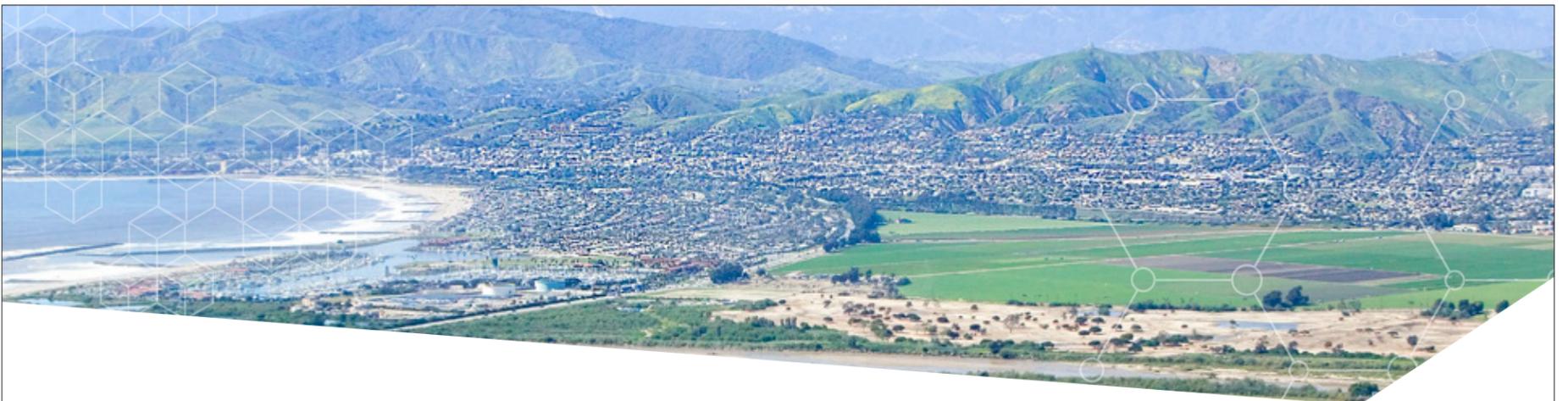
Community Memorial Healthcare System Auxiliary treasurer Cheryl Volden presented a check for \$50,000 to CMHS CEO Mick Zdeblick at the luncheon. The funds are from donations, bequests, and fund raising by the Auxiliary. In

addition to monetary contributions, the Auxiliary contributes many hours of volunteer service to the hospital each year. The assistance of these volunteers saves the healthcare system thousands of dollars and is a welcome contribution.

The Auxiliary volunteers work in most areas of the hospital, from the front desk to the gift shop to assisting the nurses and other staff in most departments. Information about joining this group may be found at the front desk of the hospital. In addition, you may call 805-948-4299 to leave a message and an auxiliary member will contact you.



CMHS Auxiliary treasurer Cheryl Volden presenting a big check to CEO Mick Zdeblick.



YOU'RE INVITED TO A COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE

about the Ventura Compressor Station Modernization Project

Please join us for a series of community open houses to provide the public with information and updates on the Ventura Compressor Station Modernization Project. Residents will have the opportunity to learn about the proposed project, recent regulatory changes, and analysis of alternatives. The community is invited to participate, ask questions, and offer comments.

Register for in-person meetings or join a virtual meeting at:
[SoCalGas.com/VenturaOpenHouse](https://www.socalgas.com/VenturaOpenHouse)

*Spanish language translation will be available

In-person Meetings (Registration required)

Thursday, March 9: 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Saturday, March 11: 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.

De Anza Middle School

2060 Cameron St. Ventura, CA 93001

*Day of registration may be accommodated, capacity permitting

Virtual Meeting (No registration required)

Thursday, March 9: 10 am – 11 am

[SoCalGas.com/VenturaOpenHouse](https://www.socalgas.com/VenturaOpenHouse)

For more information, contact: projectinfo@socalgas.com or 805-681-7937





Visit Ventura Director of Business Development Michele Gilmour, Visit Ventura President & CEO Marlyss Auster, and Wanderlust Content Studios Co-Founder Nicole Bordges accepting the Adrian Award.

Award winners were recognized at an in-person event in Los Angeles on February 23

Maintaining an ongoing streak, Ventura Visitors & Convention Bureau (VVCB) was recently honored for travel marketing excellence by the Hospitality Sales & Marketing Association International (HSMIAI) at the 66th annual Adrian Awards Celebration, the world's largest global travel marketing competition. The award ceremony took place at the JW Marriott LA Live on Thursday, February 23, 2023. Visit Ventura accepted the award in partnership with Wanderlust Content Studios, the inspiration guide's publisher.

Visit Ventura received a Bronze Adrian Award for its winning entry in the Print Advertising category for the 2022 Inspiration Guide. This is the fifth Adrian Award VVCB has been awarded in the last five years.

The goal of Ventura's 2022 Inspiration Guide was to set Ventura apart from its competitors at first glance while diving deeper to capture Ventura's community. Ventura's people, places, and partners tell their stories with page after page of engaging content that marries both advertising and editorial in cohesive themes. The result: There are no competing fonts, calls to action, or loud logos. Instead, native content blends organically with editorial. "Ads" are placed within corresponding editorial sections. This gives readers a fuller understanding of all that Ventura has to offer.

And at the forefront of Ventura's Inspiration Guide? The people of Ventura. Readers will not find paid models posing in photos featured in the guide. People photographed are true local Venturans, who go to the same grocery store and eat at the same restaurants as any other community member in Ventura. The incorporation of local Venturans and local artists alike is at the heart of the inspiration guide, resulting in an authentic and genuine guide that readers recognize from the first page.

"Ventura is a true gem of a City that offers outdoor adventure, historic and cultural attractions, one-of-a-kind retail, and a blossoming culinary scene," said

Ventura Interim City Manager Akbar Alikhan. "Visit Ventura's annual Inspiration Guide is a stunning magazine that thoughtfully captures the local feel and flavor that makes our community unlike any other!"

VVCB's work was judged to be exceptional by expert hospitality, travel, tourism, and media professionals. Judges were asked to evaluate each entry based on its own merit and success in achieving its objectives. Past winners of this coveted award include such industry giants as Choice Hotels International, Visit California, Hilton Worldwide, Marriott International, and Royal Caribbean International. VVCB's wins are a "little engine that could" fairytale come to life.



MEChA held a rally on Valentines Day.

Students rally to protest the VC President's choice that hurts transfers

Ventura College is in short supply of a course required by students transferring to a Cal State University. Since 2021, new students graduating from a Cal State University (CSU) are required to pass one course in Ethnic Studies. This semester, only 460 spots were available in a course that fulfills

Continued on page 13



This Summer Come Tour Ireland

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"Californians in Ireland"

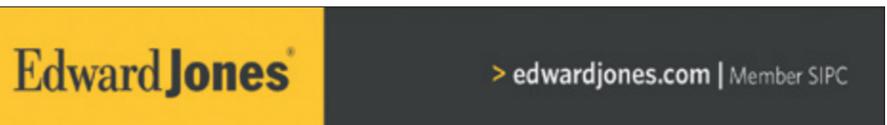
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President McKinley visited Ventura at the invitation of Senator Thomas R. Bard.

An American President comes to Ventura

by Richard Senate

Over the decades many American Presidents have passed through Ventura. Some visited before they were in office, like Ronald Reagan as Governor of California and Herbert Hoover after he left office. Some even say that John Kennedy and his new wife passed though on their Honeymoon in Santa Barbara.

But the first sitting president to come calling had the most impact on Ventura. It was President William

McKinley who came here at the invitation of Senator Thomas R. Bard on May 10th 1901. When his train came into the station it was greeted by a brass band and the whole town was decked out with welcoming signs and flowers. A decorated horse drawn open carriage was waiting to give him and his party a tour of the town.

They made there way up Front Street to Main, still an unpaved dirt roadway, to the cheers of the residents, all the way to the Old Mission San Buenaventura. Parishioners, some Chumash Tribesmen, were in the bell tower, at all the historic bells and rang them in a musical tribute to the President and first lady.

Father Grogan, the priest at the Mission and a historian in his own right, was on the steps of the Mission to give the party a tour of the ancient chapel. They were shown the Mission treasures and the Native Daughters of the Golden West Presented President McKinley with a large silver plate inscribed with the image of the Mission. After the tour, the presidential party were driven on Poli Street to view the Pacific Ocean and community before returning to the train station. Here, from the train, President McKinley gave a patriotic speech before heading north to Santa Barbara on his tour of California.

Sadly, in just a few months, he was assassinated. His successor; Teddy Roosevelt, would also visit Ventura and be given the same royal treatment. But, the visit by McKinley left the biggest impact on the young city of Ventura.

The Bookmark

About Libraries and Friends

by Mary Olson

Ventura County Library is offering a series of family-friendly sustainability-themed programs. English/Spanish interpretation services and children activities will be available for all the following programs at the Piru Library, Saticoy Library, and Soliz Library branches.

Purchasing an Electric Vehicle 101

Tuesday, March 14, 5:00 - 7:00 pm at Saticoy Library (1292 Los Angeles Avenue, Ventura) 805 671-5148

Wednesday, March 15, 5:00 - 7:00 pm at Piru Library (3811 Center Street, Piru) 805 521-1753

Wednesday, March 22, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm at Soliz Library (2820 Jourdan Street, Oxnard) 805 485-4515

Home Weatherization 101

Thursday, March 30, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at Soliz Library

Thursday, April 6, 5:00 pm-7:00 pm at Piru Library

Thursday, May 4, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at Saticoy Library

How to Get Green Business Certified
Thursday, April 13, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at Soliz Library

Thursday, May 11, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at Piru Library

Thursday, May 18, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at Saticoy Library

These programs are made available through a Sustainable California Libraries Grant from the California

State Library, and in collaboration with the County Executive Office's Sustainability Division. To learn more about the Sustainable California Libraries grant, visit their website at www.library.ca.gov/services/to-libraries/sustainable/.

The Ventura County Library Foundation has announced its second Rising from the Ashes tour to take place on Saturday, April 22, 12:00 to 4:00 pm. The Thomas Fire of 2017 caused devastation, but not defeat. The Ventura County Library Foundation invites you to witness the resilience of Ventura during a tour of some of the beautifully rebuilt homes and hear the stories of rebirth.

Proceeds will help fund important literacy programs, the Mobile Library, broader access to the internet and computers to close the digital divide, homework tutoring, STEAM initiatives, and much more.

For more information and to buy tickets, go to: <https://www.vclibrary-foundation.org/events/>

And Ventura Friends of the Library invite you to another Ventura Friends of the Library Book Sale at the Vons at Telegraph & Victoria Saturday, March 18, 10 am to 3 pm.

Pick up some quality used books at bargain prices. We also have a large selection of CDs and DVDs. Your purchases benefit the libraries of the city of Ventura.

Please stop by to shop and learn about the Friends of the Library. We are always looking for new volunteers - right now we especially need volunteers to help sort and categorize our incoming book donations. Please email friends@venturafriendsofthelibrary.org if you'd like to help.

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Senior Living



Dottie has always loved Ventura.

Dottie Lindsey celebrates 100 years

by Ross Williams

On March 8th Dottie Lindsey will be celebrating a milestone. Her 100th birthday. Dottie moved about the living room adjusting the curtains to get the lighting just right. For a person about to turn 100 she has a lot of pep to her step and a wit to match.

“I’m one of those Dust Bowl people” Dottie said as a matter of fact. In 1936 in Oklahoma during the Dust Bowl Dottie’s father owned a soda shop. It was called the Pine Palace and it was made of half logs, equipped with a soda fountain and sandwich counter. “He made the most gorgeous banana splits that you have ever seen.” Dottie says with a grin. “And at night they would have dancing and serve 3.2 beer. It was a wonderful place.”

There deep in the heart of Baptist country many of the religious people in the area didn’t approve of the business or its “immoral atmosphere”. One late night the family received a phone call, their livelihood was on fire. Arson. With that, the family packed up all that they could fit in their car, sold off what they could, took the insurance money and moved out to California for a new beginning. The rest of their possessions were sent by rail but there was an accident on the

railroad and the rest of their possessions never arrived. The trip to California was short lived as her father’s new business eventually failed and they once again returned to Oklahoma.

Just out of high school Dottie’s father passed away. With her mother at home with her younger brother and sister Dottie became the head of the household and went off to work. Dottie applied at J Paul Getty’s Spartan Aircraft just outside of Tulsa, settling for a job as a sheet metal worker and riveter when they didn’t have any open positions as secretary available. “Getty was a little guy, just about 5’5”. I had expected with all of his money and women for him to be much better looking than he was.” Dottie says with a matter of fact. One thing is clear, Dottie calls them how she sees them.

With the US now fully invested in World War II and moving operations into Africa, President Franklin D Roosevelt asked J Paul Getty to increase production and decrease rejections. With that, Dottie was one of those that Getty let go in the company shake up. Cashing in her last war bond, she gave her mother half and 20-year-old Dottie headed to Oklahoma City looking for

opportunities. That’s where she met her husband George. They were married by Christmas. George was a California boy and they quickly moved out to San Francisco to start a life of their own.

Dottie and George came to Ventura in 1959. Back in those days, Ventura was a little town of well dressed people and wonderful weather. The laid back beach town vibe sat well with the Lindsey’s. They moved to the Eastside of Ventura, which at the time was unincorporated and Out in the country as she put it.” Dottie has always loved Ventura, “It was a nice place where we could take our two boys to the drive in, watch a movie and drink cokes.” Simple things.

George worked for the Controller’s office and Admiral at Point Mugu until his retirement. Dottie worked there as a secretary until hers. Dottie retired from Point Mugu after 22 years. “It was always exciting. I was kept busy and there was always an adventure.”

After retirement Dottie did a lot of volunteer work with Congressman Gallegly. Sitting in on quarterly breakfasts, she would often talk to him and jokingly say that both of her grandsons were in Jail. Her two grandsons are both deputies and started their careers in Ventura. Congressman Gallegly would smile and remark, “And doing a fine job of it from what I hear too!” George and Dottie did a lot of work over the years supporting the congressman.

George passed away 12 years ago and Dottie chuckles and sighs in deep remembrance as she talks about the past and present, family and friends, those that have come and gone and all of the experiences that make a life worth living.

She had even had an autobiography that she was working on but it was lost at some point.

After our interview Dottie took me on a tour of her prized garden, showing off her collection of large and healthy orchids just ready to bloom. We picked oranges off of her tree with daughter Sandy. We looked over her collection of teapots and talked about the little details of life that give her joy. Painting, crafting, reading and all the things that make a life worth living.

Editor: If you are a senior (over 70-years), or know of one, who would like to share their retirement, or job, with us please let us know at editor@venturabreeze.com.

Ventura County Parkinson’s support group meetings

A community-based support group focusing on sharing relevant information and education about all things Parkinson’s.

Meetings are held monthly on the third Tuesday, 10-11am, AT Crosspointe Church (5415 Ralston Ave.) Next meeting: Tuesday, March 21, 2023.

Ventura County Parkinson’s Support Group gets together every month with skilled, experienced professionals who present significant breakthroughs, strategies and related issues surrounding Parkinson’s. The group’s mission is for participants to better understand and

Continued on page 11

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Senior Living



Congresswoman Julia Brownley and Shauna McGee are all smiles.

Shauna McGee joins Alzheimer's Association California Central Coast Chapter Board of Directors

The Alzheimer's Association is proud to announce the election of longtime volunteer Shauna McGee to its board of directors for the California Central Coast Chapter.

McGee was born and raised in Ventura, where she has deep roots in a family of entrepreneurs going back to the 1940's. As a young adult, she helped her parents run their family gourmet kitchen supply business, Toby's Kitchen Store, a local landmark for 20 years.

She graduated college in the Bay Area and worked as a marketing and project manager for several years, returning to Ventura in 2013 after her parents passed away.

Upon her return, McGee's dedication to serving her community led her to join a committee for the Ventura faction of the Alzheimer's Women's Initiative. Following this, she joined a variety of additional local committees for the Alzheimer's Association, including The Longest Day®

and Walk to End Alzheimer's® in East and West Ventura County. In 2023, McGee is serving as co-chair of the West Ventura County Walk to End Alzheimer's to be held on Saturday, September 23rd.

Her advocacy work for the Association expanded six years ago to volunteering with the Alzheimer's Impact Movement as both a state and federal advocate, meeting with legislators across the country and working to introduce and pass various legislation and funding requests to fight this disease.

Most recently, Shauna met with Congresswoman Julia Brownley to advocate for increased patient access to FDA-approved Alzheimer's treatments, which are currently being severely restricted by Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services.

McGee's strong desire to volunteer for the Alzheimer's Association stems from her personal family connection to the disease.

"I have lost my grandmother and great aunt to this disease, so to say I'm invested in helping find the first survivor of Alzheimer's disease is an understatement," she said.

"As a board member, I hope to ensure the Alzheimer's Association is successful in its mission to make Alzheimer's history," said McGee.

In Ventura County, over 9,000 people are living with the disease, expected to increase to 16,758 by 2040. It is the third leading cause of death within the county.

"Shauna has dedicated an incredible amount of time, passion and work for this cause," said Executive Director Lindsey Leonard, Alzheimer's Association California Central Coast Chapter. "We are grateful to have such a committed member of our Ventura community join our board and continue to make great strides towards our vision of a world without Alzheimer's and all other dementia."

The Alzheimer's Association leads the way to end Alzheimer's and all other dementia - by accelerating global research, driving risk reduction and early detection, and maximizing quality care and support. Our vision is a world without Alzheimer's and all other dementia. The California Central Coast Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association serves San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties. For more information, visit alz.org/CaCentralCoast or call the 24/7 Helpline at 800.272.3900.

VCAAA releases 2022 volunteer impact report

Volunteers at the Ventura County Area Agency on Aging contributed more than 7,000 hours of assistance in 2022, providing an estimated value of more than \$250,000 in work to the agency.

"Volunteers play a crucial role in the VCAAA's programs and services," VCAAA Director Victoria Jump said. "A significant part of what we do for the community would not be possible without the commitment that our volunteers have shown over the years. We are very thankful for the contributions they have made to improving the lives of older adults, people with disabilities, and caregivers in Ventura County."

The total amount of time worked by volunteers in 2022 was 7,199.81 hours. The last Independent Sector study valued California volunteers at \$35.56 per hour, giving their efforts a total figure of \$256,025.24.

Volunteer opportunities are available in the Fall Prevention Program, the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program, the Information and Assistance Call Center, the Senior Nutrition Farm, and for Food Box Delivery Drivers.

To learn more about volunteering at the VCAAA, call (805) 477-7300 or visit www.vcaaa.org/volunteer.

The Ventura County Area Agency on Aging, an agency of the County of Ventura, is charged with the responsibility of promoting, developing, and implementing a comprehensive coordinated system of care that enables older individuals, children and adults with disabilities, and their caregivers to live in a community-based setting. The VCAAA advocates for the needs of those 60 years and older in the county, providing leadership and promoting citizen involvement in the planning process as well as in the delivery of services.



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“The Young at Heart”

by Leslie Sokol

I always say to my students, “Age is just a number.” Don’t let your age hold you back! As you age, it is essential to keep your body moving and active through regular exercise. Physical activity is the cornerstone of healthy aging – it will keep you in shape, improve alertness, and increase energy. Scientific evidence suggests that people who exercise regularly not only live longer, but also live higher-quality lives with less pain and chances of disability.

A good fitness routine includes three components: stretching, strengthening and aerobics.

Stretching: The three L’s -- longer, looser and limber -- are what you want your muscles to be. Stretching increases your range of motion and reduces your chance of injury. You become more flexible, which allows you to move faster, easier and more freely. It also enhances good posture and body placement.

Strengthening: Strength training is crucial for building muscle mass and firms your body. Building muscles helps support your joints and prevents injury. It is also better to have more muscle than fat because muscle burns more calories, even when you’re not exercising.

Aerobics: It’s critical to care for the most important muscle in your body – your heart! Any kind of exercise that gets your heart rate pumping (i.e., walking, dancing, swimming) is an absolute must for any fitness routine. Cardio helps strengthen your heart and lungs and increases the amount of oxygen in the blood. Aerobic exercise also burns calories, releases endorphins and gets you in great shape!

In my next article, I will provide examples of exercises for each of these components so you can achieve balanced fitness. Remember, the best exercise is always the one you enjoy the most! Our bodies were made to move – sound body, sound mind!

About the Author

Leslie Sokol is the creator and founder of the adult dance and fitness

program For the Young at Heart. She has been teaching adults and children for forty-five years. You can watch For the Young at Heart by visiting her YouTube Channel or on TVSB. She also teaches in retirement communities throughout Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties.

For more information contact Leslie at Dancekidsfun@gmail.com, 805-312-8089 or visit the website: www.LeslieSokolDance.com

Ventura County Parkinson’s Continued from page 9

talk about how this information impacts their own lives and affects immediate family members. In addition to those diagnosed with PD, caregivers, family members and friends are all welcome to attend free of charge.

More than just a meeting, all discussions/presentations offer interactive, compassionate, relevant education on PD. Topics range from “How to get up off the floor when you’ve fallen,” to “Nutrition and Parkinson’s” to “The benefits of deep brain stimulation and assessing if you’re a good candidate for DBS.”

Jon Everhart, retired accountant, US Marine and regular group attendee said, “It’s nice comparing treatments, symptoms, and the challenges we all face living with Parkinson’s.” This caring group empowers people like Jon to be more proactive and to participate in deciding the direction of his treatment, complemented by his team of doctors’ suggestions.

This unique group gives everyone a great opportunity to learn more about current PD research, to gain more awareness about local help and resources, to share relevant experiences with others – and to have fun along the way.

The Ventura County Parkinson’s Support Group was recently resurrected (post-Covid) by Dr. Vanessa White, owner of Ventura County Neurofitness (a local fitness program designed specifically for those with Parkinson’s and other neurological degenerative diseases). The impetus for her assuming this responsibility was after her mother-in-law, Toy White, was diagnosed several years ago with PD. This important, special group was born upon her passing.

streets and in our parks. Last year, VTA planted over a hundred trees with a multitude of partners and over 200 volunteers.

Wear your hat, sunscreen, and gloves. Bring water and a shovel (with your name on it). Wheelbarrows are also helpful.

For those interested in volunteering, contact Christy@christyweir.com.

The Ventura Tree Alliance is a 501(c)3 nonprofit public-benefit corporation that brings community members, educators, and business professionals together to enhance the urban tree canopy in the city of Ventura.

The mission is to “plant trees to augment Ventura’s urban forest, beautifying Ventura and counteracting climate change. Our goals are to inspire, engage and support Venturans in planting and caring for trees through education, advocacy, volunteerism, and fundraising.”

To find out more, visit www.VenturaTreeAlliance.com and join us on Facebook.

Celebrate Arbor Day planting trees

Enjoy a beautiful morning outdoors making a difference in Ventura. Grab your family and friends and join the Ventura Tree Alliance (in partnership with the City of Ventura) enhance our urban canopy. Volunteers are needed to help plant fifteen trees, which will someday provide shade and habitat for plants and animals, as well as carbon sequestration for our environment. Meet at Barranca Vista Park, 7050 Ralston on Friday, March 10, from 10 to noon.

The funds for purchasing the trees are provided by the Ventura Tree Alliance (VTA) and the generosity of donors who understand the value of trees in our community, on our

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DATA launches its second cohort of this STEAM-focused program.

Ventura Unified making news

When Casey Stoops, Head of Patagonia's Global Information Security and Core Technology and Scott Reed, Senior Account Executive at ePlus reached out to DeAnza Academy of Technology & the Arts' (DATA) Principal Carlos Cohen to see if he wanted to launch a GRIT pilot program, he enthusiastically said, "Yes!". GRIT, Girls RE-Imagining Tomorrow, was founded in 2017 by ePlus Technology in partnership with Cisco and a small group of girls on the East Coast in response to the increasing shortage of cybersecurity professionals worldwide, particularly women. GRIT was started to help girls understand what is available and what they can aspire to and to encourage them to consider careers in technology – girls can then re-imagine their tomorrow. The program has since grown to seven schools across the nation, including DATA.

GRIT's mission is to introduce diverse groups of middle school and high school girls to technology-focused career possibilities, inspiring curiosity and exploration in various areas of STEM. In addition, they seek to build confidence in these young women by providing mentorship and holistically approaching these young ladies in the areas of public speaking, online safety, and business etiquette.

Last year's DATA cohort, which began in January of 2022, participated in two visits to Patagonia's office spaces in Ventura. One was to their corporate office, where students were able to see its IT/cybersecurity infrastructure, marketing, and work/lifestyle spaces, and the second trip was to their Research & Development "Forge," where they saw the social and physical science that goes into making and selling a Patagonia product.

This year's Cohort will try to get out into the community monthly with its next visit to Fathomwerx. Fathomwerx is a public-private laboratory, community, and

resource for technological innovation that fuses small and non-traditional companies, academic institutions, and other Department of Defense stakeholders to work on the most challenging problems in the port and maritime domains. The students will be building a drone while they are there.

This program has been such a hit with the middle school girls at DATA a long waitlist was created at the beginning of the year. Instead of turning down a group of girls interested in STEAM, the DATA team created a GRIT club. This club includes the students chosen to be a part of the Cohort and any other girls at DATA who want to participate. The club is bringing guest speakers to campus and coordinating field trips to other STEAM sites throughout the year. They are also working on opportunities for goal setting when it comes time to select their high school classes as freshmen. The Ventura Unified School District (VUSD) has been awarded \$1,000,000 in 2022-2023 K12 Strong Workforce Program (SWP) funds. VUSD is one of ten Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to be funded by the South Central Coast Regional Consortium (SCCRC) and will use the funds to create a new Public Safety/Emergency Response Career Technical Education (CTE) pathway at Buena High School.

VUSD's strong partnership with Ventura College, Oxnard College, Ventura Police Department, Ventura County Sheriff's Office, Ventura County Fire Department, Ventura County District Attorney's Office, and other community partners will allow the District to design and implement a robust and relevant pathway for high school students to transition into high-wage high-demand careers in Public Safety and Emergency Response after graduation. This pathway will be available to all high school students in the District via multi-site agreements.

Museum of Ventura County celebrates the Spring Equinox during Nowruz Festivities

The Persian New Year, or Iranian New Year, begins on the Spring Equinox. The celebration, known as Nowruz, rings in a season of rebirth and good luck and is celebrated worldwide including right here in Ventura County. Nowruz: Persian New Year Celebration will be hosted at the Museum of Ventura County on Saturday, March 18, 2023, from 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Grab a friend and immerse yourselves in an exciting display of Persian culture at this free event, made possible with a generous grant from the Charles D. and Mary A. Bauer Foundation.

Experience the sights, sounds and taste of Persian culture during the Nowruz festivities at the Museum of Ventura County. An array of items from Kazakhstan such as tea pots, rugs and a traditional instrument known as a dombra will be on display. Guests will be encouraged to try traditional Persian tea, sweets and food from Diar Kitchen in Thousand Oaks. Traditional handson

crafting will include making paper hyacinths and goldfish. As per the traditions of Nowruz, a haft-sin display will feature symbolic items, most of which represent good luck for the new year. Guests can also participate in mock fire jumping, a tradition that takes place before the actual New Year's Day, for good health. Traditional music will also be playing throughout the celebration.

"I am half-Persian, so creating this event is very special to me," said Leila Kaseke, the Museum of Ventura County's Interpretive Site Coordinator. "The Persian community is a melting pot of cultures and customs from across the globe, and the Museum is celebrating Nowruz to highlight the diversity of people living throughout Ventura County." Leila organized this celebration, the first of its kind in the city of Ventura, with support from women in the community who were also looking for a way to celebrate Nowruz communitywide.

The Museum of Ventura County celebrates, preserves and interprets the art, history and culture of Ventura County, the California Channel Islands and the surrounding region through its collections, exhibitions, events, educational programs, publications and its research library, and serves as a gathering place for the community. The Museum has two locations – the main museum is located at 100 East Main Street, Ventura, California (805-653-0323). The Agriculture Museum is located at 926 Railroad Avenue,



The Ventura Chamber held a ribbon cutting at Strange Beast in Downtown. Strange Beast is a contemporary cocktail izakaya, and is situated in the historic Bank of Italy building.

Their cocktail menu celebrates Japanese flavors, and the cocktails, sake, beer, and wine are best paired with Japanese tapas prepared by the Michelin Bib Gourmand chefs of Sama Sama Restaurant Group.

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Photo by Michael Gordon.

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S2332 9/22



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.

Sandra Dillard pleads guilty to murder

Dillard pleaded guilty to a 2021 murder charge. According to the Ventura County District Attorney's Office, Sandra Dillard, 41, fatally stabbed Kelsey Dillon in September 2021; her body was discovered in Ventura two days after she was killed.

Prior to being arrested for Dillon's murder, Dillard was detained in July of 2022 for grand theft of a firearm after stealing a shotgun from her roommate.

Two days later, Dillard attacked a female deputy at the Todd Road Jail in Santa Paula and was charged with battery on a peace officer.

Negligent Discharge of a Firearm and Carrying a Concealed Weapon Arrest

On February 20, at approximately 3:30 pm, the Ventura Police Department Command Center received a 9-1-1 call from a business in the 3600 block of Harbor Blvd. of a subject shooting a gun out of the window of a white sedan. The caller saw the suspect shoot the firearm in the air, towards his office as it traveled southbound on Harbor Blvd., towards the City of Oxnard. An additional witness was able to provide a partial license plate to the vehicle.

The Ventura Police Department Command Center notified the surrounding law enforcement agencies and a Ventura County Sheriff's Deputy located the vehicle traveling on Ventura Avenue near Fix Way. The Sheriff Deputy and Ventura Police Officers conducted a high risk stop on the vehicle and the firearm was located.

Witnesses to the shooting positively identified 33-year-old Ventura resident Travis Booth as the passenger who shot the firearm and 34-year-old Ventura resident Jessica Harmon as the driver of the vehicle. The 9mm handgun is owned by Harmon and was seized as evidence. Officers located shell casings on Harbor Blvd. and were unable to locate any impact rounds in the surrounding businesses.

Booth was arrested for Discharge of a Firearm in a Grossly Negligent Manner and Harmon was arrested Carrying a Concealed Weapon in a Vehicle. Booth and Harmon were booked at the Ventura County Jail.

Possession for Sales and Maintaining a Drug House arrests

On February 23, at 5:50 pm, detectives from the Ventura Police Department Street Crimes Unit served a search warrant in the 10 block of West Barnett St. with the assistance of K-9 officers and patrol. The search warrant was related to an ongoing narcotics investigation. Several subjects were located on the property. The search of the residence found a large quantity of fentanyl, methamphetamine, multiple firearms, and stolen property. At the conclusion of the investigation, the following arrests were made: 48-year-old Ventura resident Marcos Angulo was arrested for possession for sales of a controlled substance.

Lee Olson, 34-year-old Ventura resident, was arrested for maintaining a residence for the purposes of the use or sales of a controlled substance, felon in possession of a firearm with a controlled substance, and felon in possession of ammunition.

Rocky Holbert, 33-year-old Ventura resident, fled from the residence but was arrested by detectives immediately after and he was arrested for delaying a peace officer and a Post Release Offender hold.

Logan Hoyt, 19-year-old Ventura

resident, was arrested for possession of a controlled substance.

Shooting Homicide UPDATE

On February 19, at approximately 1:00 am, the Ventura Police Command Center received a call of a subject disturbing outside a residence in the 11000 block of Mimosa St. As officers were responding to the call the reporting party called back and stated there was now a shooting victim that was inside of their residence.

Officer arrived on scene and located the victim, a 25-year-old male, who suffered from a gunshot wound to the chest. The victim received advanced life support from Ventura City Fire and AMR and was transported to Ventura County Medical Center where he succumbed to his injuries.

The ensuing investigation revealed that there was a possible altercation in the front yard of the reporting persons residence prior to the shooting. Currently the suspect is outstanding, and the investigation is continuing.

Anyone with any information about this crime is requested to contact the Ventura Police Departments nonemergency line at 805-650-8010.

UPDATE:

The Ventura Police Department has been actively investigating this crime since it occurred. During the course of the investigation information was developed that led to the service of a search warrant today, in the 700 block of West Santa Paula St in the City of Santa Paula. During the service of that search warrant 21-year-old Santa Paula resident Jose Posadas was arrested for the murder.

He was subsequently booked into Ventura County Jail without incident. Posadas has prior convictions of weapons violations, gang violations, stolen vehicle, and resisting arrest.

This investigation is ongoing and anyone with additional information about this crime should contact Corporal Gil Pusen at 805-339-4463.

Harbor Patrol Blotter

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

Tuesday 2/14

9:00am, Weather service issued Gale warning for winds gusting to 40kts later. Officers raised two warning pennants at Port District.

Wednes 2/15

6:10pm, while on patrol in Rescue B-19, observed vessel, inflatable dinghy, in violation of speed ordinance and improper navigation lights. Officers issued warnings for violations and escorted the vessel back to the launch ramp.

Thursday 2/16

9:15am, received request for assistance from a disabled fishing vessel 1/4 of mile outside the harbor. Officers responded with Tow Boat US and assisted the vessel to the Ventura Harbor boatyard for haulout.

1:00pm, dispatched to fall victim on the riprap near Marina Park. Officers responded, found fisherman upside down in the rocks. Responders were able to right the patient, assess, treat minor wounds and release at the scene.

Friday 2/17

4:40pm, dispatched to traffic collision on Spinnaker Drive. Officers responded, found the accident but no injuries occurred just damage to vehicles. Patrol stood by until Ventura PD arrived to conduct accident report.

Saturday 2/18

5:30pm, while on patrol in the Fireboat, officers observed large debris field of logs/sticks outside of the Harbor. They removed large logs when possible.

Sunday 2/19

1:23pm, received request to remove 250lbs of found chain. Officers removed the chain, hauled it off Rescue B-19 with hoist on the Fish-offloading pier.

5:00pm, received report of two very large logs adrift in the main channel of the harbor from Tow Boat US. Officers responded in Fireboat, towed the Hazards to the launch ramp, officers in the vehicle towed them to the roll-out dumpster.

Monday 2/20

4:10pm, while on patrol in Fireboat, observed and removed logs from the entrance of the harbor. Still, lots of debris in the water outside the Harbor.

Tuesday 2/21

2:00pm, observed NWS issued Storm Warning for winds gusting to 50 mph later today. Officers raised storm warning flag at the Port District flag pole.

Tuesday 2-21

6:56am, dispatched to a fire alarm in Portside complex. Officers responded with AMR/VFD to assist a 90 y/o male unable to turn off a fire alarm after burning his breakfast. Responders were able to locate and secure the alarm.

7:05pm, while locking up gates/restrooms at Harbor Cove lot, observing sand suspended in the air and sand drifts forming in the parking lot and Spinnaker Dr.

Friday 2-24

12:20pm, received report of an individual who tried to dry cannabis in the hand dryer of a restroom in the village. Officers responded, discover the strong scent and found the floor covered in the green leafy substance. The subject fled scene.

2:44pm, dispatched to an unknown problem at Andria's Seafood. Officers responded with VFD/AMR to assist an intoxicated female transient. She was eventually transported to hospital for further evaluation for intoxication.

10:49pm, dispatched to an unconscious person near the Launch ramp restrooms. Officers responded with AMR/VFD to assist a 30 y/o male overdosed laying on the ground. The patient overdose, then his friend gave him 3 doses of Narcan. He eventually regained consciousness and was transported to hospital for eval.

Saturday 2-25

6:40am, observed Santa Clara Rivermouth

breeched sometime last night.

9:03pm, dispatched to a fall in the Ventura Marina Community. Officers responded with VFD/AMR to a female who fell getting out of the jacuzzi. The patient was treated and then transported to local hospital by AMR.

Sunday 2-26

8:58pm, received report of a transient stealing a package from an apartment in the Portside. Officers responded, found a large package left behind in the general area of the theft. The property was retrieved and placed in lost & found.

Students rally to protest Continued from page 7

the new CSU requirement at Ventura College (VC).

VC currently has 1.5 full-time faculty in the Department of American Ethnic Studies (AES). Students in MEChA met with VC President Hoffmans last November asking to hire another AES professor. The VC Academic Senate ranked a new hire in AES as their top hiring

priority for 2023. The recommended position also included a specialization in Native American Studies. Recently, President Hoffmans publicly refused to hire a new full-time professor in AES despite the various pleas and advocacy by VC faculty concerned with the student transfer rate.

In 2025, the University of California (UC) will also incorporate an Ethnic Studies requirement. Community Colleges already have this requirement, however, there is no plan to address the scarce courses offered at VC for their 12,548 students who plan to transfer to a CSU.

Latino students do not want to pay more or delay their graduation. While the overwhelming majority of VC's general student population seeks to transfer to a CSU, VC's Office of Institutional Effectiveness reports little more than 700 students actually transfer each year. The inability of community colleges to effectively support their student transfer population, of which the majority are Latino, is well documented. However, President Hoffmans' decision is out of touch with student experiences and new graduation requirements.

MEChA held rally on Tuesday, February 14 (Valentine's Day) on campus to demand the VC President hire an Ethnic Studies professor with an emphasis on Native American Studies. Student.

MARKETING

VSolvit LLC has an oppty for a Proposal Coordinator I. \$83,606.90/yr to \$85,000/yr. May wrk from our HQ office in Ventura, CA or reside anywhere in US & wrk remotely from home. May wrk at other US locatns not prsntly known. Email resume w/Ref# VENADA to Recruiting@VSolvit.com. Must be legally auth to work in the US w/o spnsrshp. EOE

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 23 mins.

R	I	K	I	M	F	T	A	M	P
L	R	I	N	L	L		L	L	O
T	E	N	A	C	L	E	N	O	O
A	S	K	C	C	S	N	F	F	D
		E	A	B	U	M			
N	E	W	E	R	M	N	E	R	V
I	R	A	N	F	O	X	N	F	A
B	A	N	D	S	A	W	S	O	N
		E	O	N	H	A	S		
S	M	A	R	T	K	E	G	J	L
C	I			I	L	N	S	P	L
A	R	I	Z	A	E	R	B	R	A
T	O	T	E	P	L	V	S	R	S



The Pet Page



Dedicated to Scamp

■ SPAN Thrift Store is open to the public and looking for donations of adult clothing, household items and tools. SPAN Thrift Store provides \$10 spay and neuter clinics

for low income households for cats and dogs. Upcoming clinics: Tues., March. 14th, Shiells Park parking lot, 649 C St., Fillmore, 93015, and Tues., March. 28th, SPAN Thrift Store parking lot, 110 N. Olive St., Ventura. Please call to schedule an appointment (805) 584-3823. www.spanonline.org.

■ Cats are known to live life on their terms, but that doesn't always mean cat owners know what their finicky feline is going through.

"Indoor cats are extremely common right now. Everyone seems to have cats," Jen Gillum, a veterinarian with the Feline Wellness Center, said. "The common misconception for years and years is an indoor cat doesn't need preventative healthcare, doesn't need an annual exam, and that's completely fiction."

"Cats are notorious for masking their symptoms," Gillum said. "If we can get them in, establish baselines, look in their mouth, listen to their heart, run lab work, give them that full spectrum physical, we can avoid a lot of problems in the future."

Cat owners may not be able to tell if their cat has a problem. Unlike dogs, which often make it obvious when there's an issue, cats can hide their problems.

"A cat may be more aloof, may go off and hide, may cut back on how much they're eating or drinking or using the box," she said. "Very subtle changes, but any change in a cat's overall demeanor and patterns — because they're creatures of habit — that lasts more than 24 to 48 hours, we should know about it because they mask their symptoms so well. A lot of the times they get here and they're really sick and no one had any idea."

"Dental disease is a huge problem," she said. "We see a lot and we do a lot of dental work here at the clinic, and so we like to talk to people about things you can do to prevent that. There are additives that you can add to their food. There's toothpaste. There is home dental exams, there are dental treats and chews and food. So it's just kind of bringing awareness to simple things people can do at home to slow the progression of naturally occurring processes that happen as they age."

"We get a lot of calls going, 'My cat is urinating outside of the box.' Immediately owners think, 'Could this be behavioral?' But I would say probably 80% of the time there's a medical reason for that. They're creatures of habit. They stress very easily and one of the organ systems that shows those symptoms is the urinary tract," Gillum said.

Gillum said the most important thing a cat owner can do is get their

feline in for an annual exam.

"I think the focus should be on exams, not so much vaccines. We cater that to each client, depending on their lifestyle, but get them in once a year," she said. "Let us give a complete · Kara Carmody, an associate professor in the College of Veterinary Medicine, discusses tips for taking care of your pet's dental hygiene to improve your pet's overall wellbeing.

Q: What are some common issues with pet dental health?

Dental disease is the number one health problem diagnosed in small animal patients. By two years of age, 80% of dogs and 70% of cats have some form of dental disease. The most common issue is periodontal disease, which affects our pets just like it does people.

Periodontal disease is inflammation of the gums and structures around the tooth and can become quite severe if not addressed. Fortunately, periodontal disease can often be avoided or at least minimized with regular preventive care. Routine preventive care includes annual dental prophylaxis or cleaning — this procedure includes an exam, teeth cleaning and x-rays. The exam and x-rays reveal the degree of periodontal disease, and sometimes other problems that may include fractured teeth and painful lesions.

Q: What signs might indicate a pet has dental issues?

It's important to note that many pets show no signs of pain or discomfort in their mouth, so routine oral exams and annual dental cleaning are the best way to check on your pet's dental health.

Q: What are ways to get started with a dental hygiene routine to prevent dental issues?

It's never too late to start a dental hygiene routine, though we recommend consulting with your veterinarian first. The ideal dental routine would include daily brushing and annual dental cleaning, known as dental prophylaxis. Keep in mind that dental care such as brushing may actually be uncomfortable for pets with existing dental disease. We would recommend an exam first.

Q: What types of toys or food do you recommend to protect a pet's dental health?

Some pets may benefit from Veterinary Oral Health Council-approved products such as treats or foods, and chewing on toys of appropriate density can mimic the mechanical action of food to reduce plaque build-up. Ideally, toys should be constructed of a material less dense than the enamel of the tooth to minimize the risk of tooth fracture. A good rule of thumb is that if you can indent the toy with your fingernail, it poses much less risk of causing tooth fracture.

Kara Carmody is an assistant professor in the College of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Carmody researches preventive care, with emphasis on dentistry and nutrition management.

Scamp Club

(Scampclub pets are not for adoption.)

Here is Missy a 13-year-old shih tzu. she loves to take long walks with her Valentina. Missy is finicky and a picky eater. She doesn't fetch, but she likes to chase bigger dogs. She's very friendly and thinks that she is a movie star.



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 or LostDogVenturaCounty.com - free websites for finding and posting when you've lost or found a cat or dog.

This fur pile is 18" square and 3" deep.

■ Recently I had my first grooming done at Bark Avenue Grooming on Loma Vista.

I was told I should get groomed every 6 months, not every 11 years. I will be sure to get groomed as directed.

I was shocked at the amount of fur that was removed from me. Savana



Forever homes wanted

Hi: I'm Zander, a snuggly, happy, playful 2 month old pup rescued from a shelter when my time was almost up. The shelter had me listed as tri-color for breed, but CARL thinks I might be Terrier X. When I grow up I may be small to medium sized (15 - 40 lbs). Since I'm just a puppy, children in the home must be at least 6 years of age. It's a lifetime commitment, not a temporary one where the love and attention wears off after I'm grown. If you're ready and able to give me a lifetime of love and wonderful memories, please fill out an application to meet me. Canine Adoption and Rescue League C.A.R.L



Glitter is a playful 3-year-old lab mix (A807539) who arrived in September, 2022 after being struck by a car. She has since fully recovered from hip surgery! While recovering, Glitter lived with two other dogs in foster care and plays well with dogs of a similar size - just not too rowdy for the sake of her hip! She even knows sit, down, and paw. Due to her injury she's one our longer stays. She's a real catch and we know she'd make an awesome addition to any family!

SPAN Thrift Store
SPAY/NEUTER ANIMAL NETWORK
 Seeking donations of Clothing, Tools, Sports Equipment and Small Electric Kitchen appliances.
 10am - 4pm Tues, Thurs & Sat
 Wed./Fri 10-12
 \$10 Low/No Income Spay & Neuter March 14th Shiells Park 649 C St., Fillmore Must call for appointment (805) 584-3823
 \$10 Low/No Income Spay & Neuter March 28th SPAN Thrift Store 110 N. Olive St., Ventura Must call for appointment (805) 584-3823
 805.641.1170 110 A & B N. Olive St., Ventura CA 93001 www.spanonline.org



Ventura events

by Ana Baker

Do you want to Play Bridge? Join us for ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge games. Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 12:30 p.m. All levels of play, and we will guarantee to have a partner for you if you need one. Lessons are available. Contact: Richard 805-850-8011 or Rose 805-659-9223 or buckleyrose357@gmail.com. All are welcome.

Ventura County Library proudly presents a series of sustainability-themed programs at the Piru Library, Saticoy Library, and Soliz Library branches. During March, April, and May 2023, community members will have access to the Explore, Discover, Connect—Sustainable Living Grant Practices Program. This series of family-friendly presentations cover topics including How to Get Green Business Certified, Home Weatherization and Insulation, and Purchasing an Electric Vehicle. Saticoy Library (1292 Los Angeles Avenue, Ventura)

Tuesday, March 14, 5-7 p.m. – Purchasing an Electric Vehicle 101

Thursday, May 4, 5-7 p.m. – Home Weatherization 101

Thursday, May 18, 5-7 p.m. – How to Get Green Business Certified

March 7, 21: Please join the Ventura Senior Men's Group (VSMG) on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at the Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Road.

Be 55+ and not gainfully employed. All topics except religion or politics are on the table.

Our meeting agenda is as follows:

11:30-12 p.m. Social

12-12:45 p.m. Lunch Food Affair by Stacy

12:45-1 p.m. Business meeting

1-1:30 p.m. Speaker (local organizations and information)

March 7 topic is capitalizing on the real estate market in Ventura County
March 21 Mel Felix will be speaking about photography.

\$25 but free to first-time visitors

Need transportation? Call Lyle Hotzler 805-341-9820

March 12: Olivas Adobe Historic Park 11 – 3 pm. Three great events in one day! We will be observing the birthday of Olivas's family patriarch Raymundo Olivas with refreshments and music. The Olivas Adobe Historical Interpreters will be giving tours and have the gift shop open for unusual and interesting gifts. Have you ever wanted to volunteer at the historic rancho home? A volunteer open house will be held at 1 pm in the exhibit hall. There are many ways to volunteer; we need help with the gardens, tours, events, and the Music Under the Stars Concert series. Join us to help celebrate this wonderful historic park in Ventura, 4200 Olivas Park Drive. www.cityofventura.ca.gov/OlivasAdobe

March 16: Many teens have experienced the death of a loved one. This is a difficult time for anyone grieving a loss. Livingston's Grief and Bereavement Program provides a free support group for teens from March 16th through April 20th on Thursdays 6 - 7 p.m. in Camarillo.

For enrollment and more information, contact 805-389-6870 or online at lmvna.org/grief. Space is limited. All support groups are free for the community. Visit www.LMVNA.org for more details.

March 18: Ventura Friends of the Library will hold a Book Sale from 10- 3 p.m. at the Vons at 6040 Telegraph Rd. Quality used books at bargain prices. Large selection of CD's and DVD's.

March 19: The Ventura and Santa Barbara County chapter of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors (NAWCC) will meet Sunday in the Campus Student Center of Ventura College, 4667 Telegraph Road. The regular meeting starts at 11 a.m. There will be a mart where items will be for sale, followed by lunch. An informational meeting and a presentation on the topic of clocks or watches will start at 1 p.m. Anyone interested in watches and clocks (modern & antique) is invited to visit and join our chapter. Bring a watch or clock for a free evaluation. Monthly meetings are held on the 3rd Sunday at the Ventura College location. More information about chapter 190 can be found at www.nawcc-ch190.com.

March 22: The College Area Community Council in Ventura will hold a Zoom meeting on Wednesday at 7 p.m. Council meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month and include speakers and discussion on neighborhood and community interest topics, including public safety and economic development. An invitation and link to the meeting will be sent to everyone on the CACC mailing list. CACC represents citizens in the area bounded by Mills Road on the west, Hill Road on the east, city limits on the hillsides on the north, and the 126 Freeway on the south. Visit the College Area Community Council website @ <https://caccventura.com> to learn more, to be added to the mailing list, or to access a link to the Zoom meeting.

April 15: Step Up Ventura, a 501(c)(3) organization that provides academic, social, emotional, and behavioral skills to children experiencing homelessness under the age of 5, is hosting a Local Youth Artist Showcase on Saturday from 7-9 p.m. at Bell Arts Factory, 432 N. Ventura Ave. Our Inspire to Aspire event will feature the talent of local VUSD students through choral and jazz music, crafted desserts by Ventura High School culinary students, and a silent auction. For more information, please visit website to purchase tickets or to become a sponsor at www.stepupventura.org.

April 15 & 16 & May 13: The City of Ventura, Bike Ventura, and Trek Ventura are collaborating to offer free to the public bicycle safety training. Located at Trek Ventura, 4060 E. Main. Go to www.bikeventura.org/events and see ad for further information.

Ojai news and events

Wooden sculptures, charcoal portraits and fine ceramics are just a few of the treasures featured

March 11 as part of the Ojai Studio Artists' Second Saturday tour, which this month offers access to the private studios of artists across the East End of the Ojai Valley.

The second in a series of monthly events that runs through August, this East End tour offers neighbors, collectors and the merely curious a rare opportunity to experience world-class artwork in a casual and intimate setting unlike the busier, bigger October tour.

The East End Tour includes OSA founder Gayel Childress, an Ojai original whose colorful canvases depict otherworldly landscapes and exuberant emotions, a family art compound containing work by famed glass artist Susan Stinsmuhlen-Amend and world-renowned abstract painter Richard Amend, and the backyard studio of botanical artist Elizabeth White, whose close-up pastels are a favorite of local collectors.

This tour will be followed in April by a Downtown group, the Arbolada in May, Mira Monte in June, the West End in July and Meiners Oaks in August. Check the OSA website for a full list of participating artists.

Ojai Studio Artists supports community education that promotes art awareness, preparing the next generation of artists, and celebrating the importance of the arts within the region. To date, OSA has given more than \$200,000 in art scholarships. It also purchases art books for local libraries, partners with schools

in teaching classes and mentoring students, and supports public art projects and other community programs.

For more information and a full list of artists, see the OSA website: <https://www.ojaistudioartists.org/second-saturday-tour-march-11/>

Book Publishing 1-2-3. Grab a pen and join us for this lively 90-minute workshop, sprinkled with ideas and stories to inspire and empower writers of all types. We'll start by checking out today's book business (both traditional and indie publishing), then share valuable resources to help aspiring authors connect with literary agents and editors.

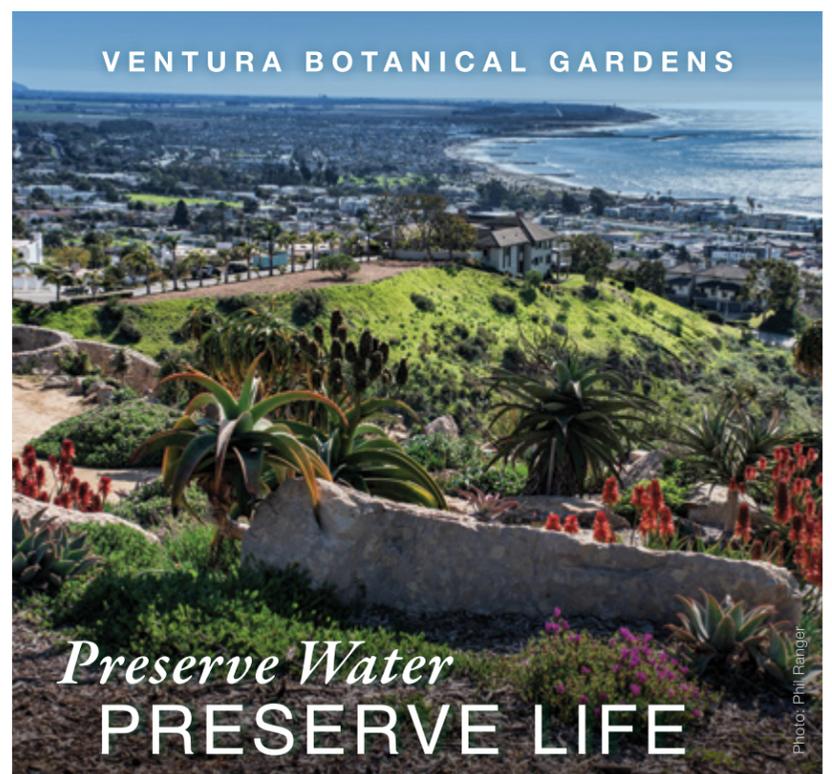
We'll offer ideas you can employ to add pizzazz to your prose, including a gem courtesy of a gutsy comedy star. Thursday, March 23, 1 to 2:30 pm
Oak Park Community Center & Gardens, 1000 N. Kanan Road, Oak Park 91377

Cost \$20 – cash or check only

Registration Requested. Call the presenter to reserve your seat at (858) 635-1233 or email her at thesuperioreditor@gmail.com.

Presenter Laurie Gibson is a professional editor with decades of experience serving hundreds of individual writers, as well as publishers.

Ten percent of every admission will be donated to a local conservation group for habitat restoration in Ventura County, kicking off the presenter's "Let's Endow a Forest!" campaign.



Free Admission on World Water Day

Bring your family and friends to enjoy the dramatic color the winter rain has created. Our South African Gardens are in bloom and the Chilean Gardens will start blooming in April. Leashed dogs are welcome.

Don't forget to stop into our Courtyard Garden Shop to browse our gifts, plants and pottery. See you at the Gardens!

JOIN US
Wednesday,
March 22

HOURS
9am-5pm

SUPPORT THE VENTURA BOTANICAL GARDENS, BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!

567 S. Poli St. | 805.232.3113 | VenturaBotanicalGardens.com



by Pam Baumgardner
VenturaRocks.com

If the recent English Beat show at the Ventura Music Hall got your motor running for more ska, then you're in luck! The 805 Ska Festival will be held at Oceanview Pavilion Performing Arts theater in Port Hueneme on March 18 with 8 Kalacas (Skacore from Orange County), Chenchá Berrinches, Los Waraperos and more. This all ages show is \$35 in advance (Eventbrite) or \$40 at the door.

I have good news and bad news: The good news, The Violent Femmes will perform their 1983 debut album in its entirety at the Ventura Music Hall on Saturday, May 6; the bad news, it's already sold out.

There are a number of local artists holding CD/Album release parties including: Night Demon who will play a special show at Bombay's on Thursday, March 16 with opening act Romper; Tommy Quayle will perform at Namba Performing Arts in support of his new release, Awakenings, on Saturday, March 18, and Karyn 805 will release her third recording, Gratitude, at Winchester's on March 31. Meanwhile, Medicine Hat just released their new single, "She Comes and She Goes" and Anchor and Bear are back in the studio, so looking forward to new music from them.

With St. Patrick's Day falling on a Friday this year, most venues will offer up Irish music and Irish specials to entice you into their doors. If you'd like something a little tamer, but a feast for the senses, then consider Phil Salazar and the Kin Folk at Namba Arts Studio. Phil is a legend around these parts being a fiddle champ and having played with legends such as Bob Weir. Joining him will be Tom Corbett on mandolin and guitar, Bill Knopf on banjo, Rick Borella on bass and Bill Flores on everything else including steel guitar, and accordion. The program will include several genres such as rock, blues, country, jazz pop, bluegrass and of course traditional Irish.

Mark your calendars now: Joe Nichols has been added to the bill for Boots & Brews on May 7th; Ventura Theater just added Angel for a show on April 26, Angel has been rockin' since the mid 70s; the Ventura Spring Wine Walk and Street Fair falls on Saturday, April 1; tickets for the Canned Heat show at Cantara on March 31 can be secured by contacting Cadillac Zack at (323) 377-5291; and the Guitar and Whiskey Club will open for Quiet Riot at the world famous Whiskey A-Go-Go on Saturday, March 25.

Quick Notes: Cool Hand Ukles play Saturday mornings at Harbor Cove Café; pianist Natasha Kislenco and Friends perform at the Ojai Art Center on Sunday, March 12; Los Lobos plays the Oxnard Performing Arts Center on Sunday, March 12; Tony's Pizzeria is offering live music again with the Stoneflys on Thursday, March 16, and Old School on Sunday, March 19; and finally, Barrelhouse Wailers will get you dancing at the House of Dance

on Sunday, March 19.

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 listings, additional times and genres go to VenturaRocks.com

Boatyard Pub

1583 Spinnaker Dr., Ventura

Wednesdays: Frank Barajas

Thursdays: Jim Friery; Bluegrass Jam

Fri 3/10: Smokey & Friends

Sat 3/11: Karen Eden & Bill Macpherson

Sun 3/12: Ken Devoe

Tues 3/14: Karen Eden & the Bad Apples

Fri 3/17: Ken Devoe; Teresa Russell & Stephen Geyer

Sat 3/18: Déjà vu Too w/ Bob Nichols

Sun 3/19: Epitome of Dreams

Bombay Bar & Grill

143 S. California St., Ventura

Thurs 3/16: Night Demon, Romper

Cantara Cellars

126 N. Wood Rd., Camarillo

Fri 2/10: Duke Robillard

Sat 2/11: The Jukes

Fri 2/17: Bad Habit

Sat 2/18: Fish Fry with the Vonettes

Copa Cubana

Ventura Harbor Village

Tuesdays: Blues Tuesdays

Thursdays: Glenn Bennet

Copper Blues

591 Collection Blvd., Oxnard

Fri 3/10: Power Syndicate

Sat 3/11: Los Amigos Band

Fri 3/17: Los Amigos Band

Sat 3/18: New Doubt

Deer Lodge

2261 Maricopa Hwy., Ojai

Sat 3/11: Bart Budwig

Fri 3/17: Easy Bear

Feros Ferio Winery

310 E. Ojai Ave., Ojai

Sun 3/12: Dianne Miller

Four Brix

2290 Eastman Ave., Ventura

Fri 3/10: Caught Red Handed

Sun 3/12: Cary Park

The Garage

1091 Scandia Ave., Ventura

Wed 3/8: The Blues Faithful

Fri 3/10: June Clivas & the Ditty Boys

Sat 3/11: Vanise Terry Band

Sat 3/18: Tommy Drunkard & the Remedy

Gigi's Cocktails

2493 Grand Ave., Ventura

Sat 3/11: Bone Maggot, Loc Dawgs, Up Your guts, Blitzkrieg

The Grape

2733 E. Main St., Ventura

Tues: The Gratitude Jazz Jam

Thurs Happy Hour: Tom Etchart & Friends

Wed 3/8: The Eric G Project

Thurs 3/9: Mika Krstic Trio

Fri 3/10: Tony Ybarra & Ron Freshman

Sat 3/11: RJ Mischo & his Red Hot Blues Band (2 pm); The Jacques Voyemant Septet (8 pm)

Wed 3/15: Peter Smith Trio

Thurs 3/16: One Shot Deal plays Zappa

Fri 3/17: Michael Falcone and the Sinatra Tribute Band

Sat 3/18: TD Lind and the Aviators (2 pm);

Tom Scott (8 pm)

Harbor Cove Café

1867 Spinnaker Dr., Ventura

10 am - Noon

Saturdays: The Cool Hand Ukles

House of Dance

3007 Bunsen Ave., Ventura

Sun 3/19: Barrelhouse Wailers

Keynote Lounge

10245 Telephone Rd., Ventura

Thursdays: Open Mic

Fri 3/10: CRV

Sat 3/11: Vinyl Gypsies

Fri 3/17: Breaking Bored

Leashless Brewing

585 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura

Fri 3/10: Evan Joffred

Sat 3/11: VIP Reggae

Sun 3/12: Illunis

Fri 3/17: Mike Scully Acoustic Trio

Sat 3/18: Kimo Moya

Sun 3/19: Boom Duo

The Lookout Bar and Grill

2800 Harbor Blvd, Oxnard

Wednesdays & Sundays: Gary Ballen

Lucas Sellers Wine

330 Zachary St., Moorpark

Sat 3/11: Natalie Wattre

Lucky Fools Pub

75 E. High St., Moorpark

Sat 3/18: DRB (acoustic)

Madewest Brewing

1744 Donlon St., Ventura

Sat 3/11: Adam & Sam

Fri 3/17: Ventura City Fire Bagpipes Band

Sat 3/18: Loop 83

Majestic Ventura Theater

26 S. Chestnut St., Ventura

Fri 3/10: Death to All, Suffocation, Nuken

Manhattan

5800 Santa Rosa Rd., Camarillo

Fri 3/10: Tour Support

Sat 3/11: Jeanne Tatum Trio

Wed 3/15: Robert Van

Fri 3/17: Jeanne Tatum Trio

Sat 3/18: Pam and Hollywood

Margarita Villa

1567 Spinnaker Dr., Ventura

Sun 3/12: CRV (acoustic)

Namba Arts

47 S. Oak St., Ventura

Fri 3/10: The Listening Room

Sat 3/11: The Odd birds, special guest Doug

Schmude

Fri 3/17: Phil Salazar and the Kin Folk

Sat 3/18: Tommy Quayle

Oceanview Pavilion Performing Arts Theater

575 E. Surfside Dr., Port Hueneme

Sat 3/18: 805 Ska Festival

Ojai Art Center

113 S. Montgomery St., Ojai

Sun 3/12: Natasha Kislenco and Friends

Ojai Underground

616 Pearl St., Ojai

Fri 3/10: Zoe Fitzgerald Carter

Sat 3/18: Tara Jeffery

Ojai Valley Brewing

307 Bryant St., Ojai

Fri 3/10: Josh Jones

Sat 3/11: Buena Onda

Fri 3/17: Top Shelf Brass Band

Sat 3/18: Kris Simeon

Oxnard Performing Arts Center

800 Hobson Way, Oxnard

Sun 3/12: Los Lobos, Gaby Moreno

Fri 3/17: Don Carlos, Rising Son

Poseidon Brewing Co.

5777 Olivas Park Dr., Ventura

Fri 3/10: Vanise Terry Band

Sun 3/12: Erinn Alissa Selkis

The Raven Tavern

1651 S. Victoria Ave., Oxnard

Fri 3/10: Holger's Heros

Sat 3/11: Teresa Russell

Fri 3/17: Jayden Secor; Bagpips & Irish Dancers

Sat 3/18: Red Rhythm

The Shores

1031 Harbor Blvd., Oxnard

Fri 3/10: Jake McClland

Sat 3/11: Checkpoint

Sun 3/12: Tribal Me

Fri 3/17: Gold Coast Pipe Band; Sin Chonies

Sat 3/18: Brandon Ragan Project

Sun 3/19: Los Amigos

The Six

419 E. Main St., Ventura

Fri 3/10: Ventura Irie-Ites Posse

Tony's Pizzeria

186 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura

Thurs 3/16: Stoneflys

Sun 3/19: Old School

Topa Topa Brewing

104 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura

Sat 3/11: Van Allen Twins

Wed 3/15: Davey Miller Jazz

Sat 3/18: Illunis

Topa Topa Brewing

341 E. Ojai Ave., Ojai

Fri 3/10: Ashun

Sat 3/18: Kellen and Drea Van Allen

The Twist on Main

454 E. Main St., Ventura

Thursdays: Davey Miller Trio

Fri 3/10: Jesse Jay Harris

Sat 3/11: The Pipes (1 pm); Adam Lenhard (5 pm); Crosscut 805 (8 pm)

Sun 3/12: Déjà vu Too (11 am); Joe Delia (3 pm)

Fri 3/17: Mark Masson

Sat 3/18: Morrison Drive (2 pm); Jetlemons (8 pm)

Sun 3/19: Ken Devoe (11 am); Bella Lucareli (3 pm)

Twisted Oak Tavern

2433 Ventura Rd., Camarillo

Fri 3/17: The 805 Social Club

Vaquero y Mar

435 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura

Sundays: Mariachi

Tuesdays: The Sea Hunter

Wednesdays: Tribal Me

Fridays: Conjunto Zacamandu de Tomas Herrera

Wed 3/15: The Trivle Omdobble

Ventura Music Hall

1888 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura

Wed 3/8: Ott, Soohan

Sat 3/11: Thievery Corporation, Emancipator

Thurs 3/16: Together Pangea

Sat 3/18: Matt Nathanson, Stephen Kellog

Sun 3/19: Old 97's

Ventura Performing Arts Center

4700 Loma Vista Rd., Ventura

Sat 3/11: VC Symphony, VC Chamber

Orchestra

The Vine (Sam's Place)

308 E. Ojai Ave., Ojai

Fri 3/10: Buckmoon

Sat 3/11: Duncan and the Dragonslayers

Sat 3/18: Smitty and Julija and Friends

Winchesters

632 E. Main St., Ventura

Music Thurs 5:30; Fri 7 pm; Sat 2 pm; Sun 3 pm

Thurs 3/9: Brandon Ragan

Fri 3/10: Heft & Wilson

Sat 3/11: Whole Hog

Sun 3/12: Blown Over

Thurs 3/16: Frank Barajas

Fri 3/17: The Pipes

Sat 3/18: Adam & Sam

Sun 3/19: The James Broz Band

Tues 3/21: Open Mic w/ Jenna Rose

Ventura Music Scene



Nine-year-old **Santiago Salazar** likes to paint with pastels. He wants to be a chef when he grows up. He was inspired after going to the Grand Canyon and when he came home painted these pictures.

Vivian Sky Accola is the daughter of Sarah Willey who is an original WAV artist. Vivian is nine-years-old and enjoys acting, singing, dancing drawing and roller skating.



Sophia Salazar is four-years-old and likes creating art with paint. She wants to be a ballet teacher when she grows up.



Photos by **Patricia Schallert**.

Progeny is an exhibit of visual art by children of WAV artists.

The show is curated by WAV resident artist Sarah Kalvin and will mark the thirteenth anniversary of the opening of the WAV in 2010. WAV is an innovative community that includes 55 live/work spaces for artists, writers, musicians and other mediums.

Besides the children's art the First Friday opening included numerous local vendors with their arts and crafts for sale in the gallery's courtyard. There was also live music.

"While once viewed as the controversial new addition to Ventura's growing downtown cultural district, Venturans have come to eagerly anticipate the next display of WAV artists' individualism," noted Sarah Kalvin.

Heavy rains were predicted for the night before the annual candlelight tours, at the Olivas Adobe last December but a small gathering of artists came prepared with umbrellas, raincoats, and scarves for an evening of Nocturne painting.



Lisa Mahony

Anette Power set up her easel next to the adobe, under the eaves for a lovely view of the lanterns and costumed docents who pull you back in time with stories and traditions from the early 19th century.



Anette Power

Laura Jespersen and **Lisa Mahony** set up in front of the Adobe for a view of the large poinsettia illuminated by the holiday lights and candles shining through the windows of the historic rancho home.

Artist Lisa Mahony was asked why painting at night ~ her reply:

"I like painting at night because it captures a side of the world that few people paint. It makes for a magical evening!"

For more information about events, exhibits, and tours at the Olivas Adobe go to www.city-ofventura.ca.gov/OlivasAdobe

Ventura Art Scene

Amazon gives Oxnard a disproportionate sales tax advantage

by **Bill Frank**
Ventura County Taxpayers Foundation

You've probably seen the Amazon warehouse off the 101 in Oxnard, but you've never stopped to consider the tax implications. They are substantial. The sales tax revenue generated by Amazon's distribution warehouse in Oxnard causes a loss of revenue for other cities in Ventura County as those municipalities are not collecting the sales tax. Here's why.

California passed a law, AB147, because of the ruling in the Wayfair case in the US Supreme Court. Called California's new online sales tax collection law, AB 147 allows the state to collect sales tax revenue based on the city where the buyer lives. In other words, if you live in Ventura and buy something online, you pay Ventura's sales tax rate of 7.75%.

The sales tax rate in Ventura County is 7.25%. In some cities, it's higher because voters have approved extra sales taxes for specific purposes. For most cities, however, the basic 7.25% sales tax is divided up this way. California's General Fund receives 3.9375%. Ventura County Realignment receives 1.5625%. County Public Safety gets 0.5%, and the County-wide Transportation Fund receives 0.25%. That leaves 1% for each city's General Fund, a part of the sales tax known as the Bradley-Burns portion.

Having an Amazon warehouse

in Oxnard matters. Under AB 147, if Amazon ships goods from a warehouse outside the state, the 1% Bradley-Burns part of the sales tax goes to the city where the buyer lives. Yet, because Amazon has a warehouse in Oxnard, the 1% Bradley-Burns part of the sales tax goes to Oxnard rather than the city where the buyer lives. As a result, the other nine cities in Ventura County lose out.

Cities are only now realizing the exact effect of the change. For example, the Director of Finance of Ventura estimated what the city would lose. He calculated Ventura would lose between \$750,000-\$1,200,000 per year from online sales through Amazon. The amount in other cities will differ, but there is no doubt that each city's General Fund will suffer.

Did city officials in Oxnard know of the sales tax windfall to the city of locating the warehouse there? It's uncertain. One thing is sure, though. The other nine cities in the county were unaware of how the Amazon warehouse in Oxnard would hurt them.

It's early, and each city is learning the total sales tax revenue loss it faces. One thing is sure, though. The General Funds of the other cities in Ventura County will lose revenue because of the Oxnard Amazon warehouse.

What that revenue loss will mean for the residents of those cities is this. Cities will cut services, or there will be a scramble to replace the lost revenue through increased user fees or taxes. Unfortunately, none of these prospects is good.

This situation highlights the complexities of sales tax collection in the digital age. Yet, it's surprising that City Councils throughout Ventura County are not more concerned about the loss of revenue.

The city of Moorpark is the one city in Ventura County that acted. In September 2021, Moorpark joined the League of California Cities to call on California's legislators to pass legislation to create a more fair and equitable distribution of the Bradley-Burns 1% local sales tax.

At first, you may not have thought about how the Amazon warehouse in Oxnard impacts you. What appeared to be a simple real estate transaction turned into an inequitable sales tax windfall for one city at the expense of nine others. When it comes to distributing sales tax, it takes time for the impact to reach residents. Yet, in this case, the pattern is evident early. Nine cities will suffer unless voters and elected officials take steps to diminish the effect of AB147.



Food Share's capacity to serve is dependent on volunteers.

Food Share readies to meet "Hunger Cliff" demand

Food Share, Ventura County's food bank, is bracing for an expected wave of food insecure individuals as the end

of COVID CalFresh benefits becomes reality on March 1. People already struggling with hunger will now have an additional worry - less CalFresh money for groceries.

CalFresh, a federally funded program, provides monthly food benefits to low-income individuals and families. CalFresh benefits were extended during the pandemic but those extra payments are set to end this month, at a time when high inflation means that wages aren't keeping pace with rising grocery prices.

According to data from the California Department of Social Services, as of December 2022, more than 41,889 households and 75,163 people currently receive CalFresh benefits in Ventura County, including 27,800 children under 18 and 10,800 adults aged 60 and over.

Commenting on the impact, Monica White, Food Share's President & CEO, said "There's no question that this is going to really hit people hard at a time when many are already struggling. We're bracing for an influx of people. The biggest impact is likely to be to low-income seniors qualifying for the minimum benefit under standard income guidelines. We're seeing estimates that their monthly CalFresh benefits could drop from \$281 to only \$23. These cuts really couldn't have hit at a worse time."

Inflationary costs are also hitting food banks like Food Share, placing them under increasing pressure to raise more money to meet the increased demand for food that's now considerably higher in price than it was 18 months ago. The cost of purchasing a case of canned mixed vegetables rose 30% in 2021 vs. 2020, while the cost of purchasing a crate of canned mixed fruit has

Continued on page 19



Lighter Breeze

Tiger



Crock



Hagar the Horrible



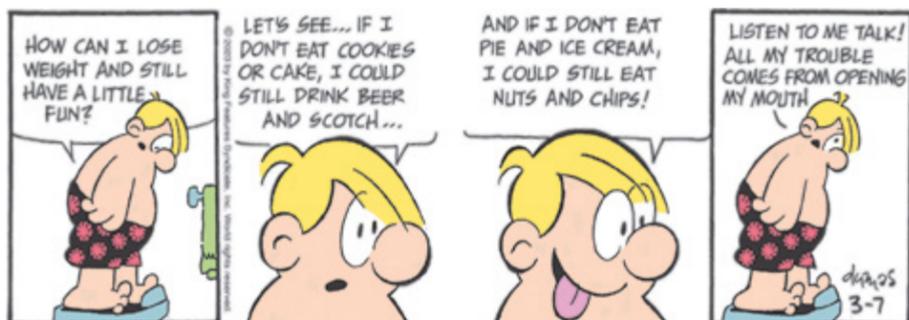
Marvin



Moose and Molly



Sam and Silo



Solutions on page 13

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

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

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 3x3 box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦♦

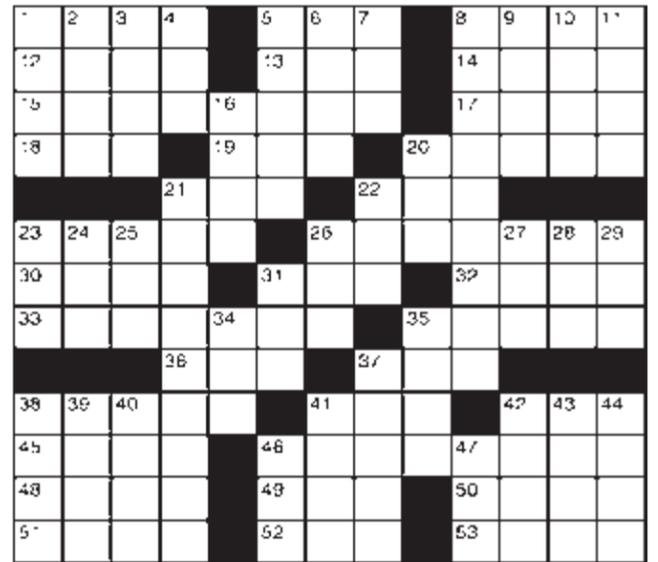
♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

Solutions on page 13

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Two-wheeler
- 5 Bumped into
- 8 Pack (down)
- 12 Ireland
- 13 Peyton's brother
- 14 "The Time Machine" people
- 15 Octopus arm
- 17 Lunch hour
- 18 Request
- 19 IV measures
- 20 Must-haves
- 21 Chai, e.g.
- 22 Vagrant
- 23 More recent
- 26 Goddess of wisdom
- 30 Tehran's country
- 31 Sly one
- 32 Tidy
- 33 Workshop cutter
- 35 Rock
- 36 Very long time
- 37 Possesses
- 38 Brainy
- 41 Small barrel
- 42 "The Wedding Planner" actress, to fans
- 45 New York's - Field
- 46 Bicycle type
- 48 N. Mex. neighbor
- 49 - Lingus



- 50 Pitt of 'Moneyball'
- 51 Carry
- 52 Layer
- 53 Round Table titles
- 10 plant
- 11 Disposition
- 11 Bowling targets
- 16 Computer brand
- 20 Convent manager
- 21 Prepare meat for cooking
- 22 Beiderbecke of jazz
- 23 Pen tip
- 24 Mound stat
- 25 Pallid
- 26 Trim the grass
- 27 Old
- 8 Some urban homes
- 9 Medicinal
- 29 Packed away
- 31 Summer cooler
- 34 Drunkard
- 35 Droops
- 37 Ford or Hudson
- 38 Ella's style
- 39 Surrealist Joan
- 40 Bickering
- 41 Fall (over)
- 42 Ryan of "Boston Public"
- 43 Tragic king
- 44 Probability
- 46 Light touch
- 47 "Frontline" airtel

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gone wrong.
LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Your loyalty to a friend in a tough situation earns you respect from people you care about. Those who criticize you don't understand what friendship is all about.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Stop being the wool-gathering Lamb, and start turning that dream project into reality. You have the ideas, the drive and the charisma to persuade others to follow your lead. So do it.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Your strong work ethic is rewarded with the kind of challenging opportunity you love to tackle. Now, go ahead and celebrate with family and/or close friends.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You've scored some big successes. But remember that all hard-working Ferdinands and Ferdinandas need some time to restore their energies and refresh their spirits.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) A legal matter you thought had been finally resolved could require a second look. But don't make any moves without consulting your lawyer.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You're gaining a stronger mental image of what you're trying to achieve. Now, look for the facts that will help get this to develop from a concept into a solid proposal.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Taking charge is what you like to do, and since you do it so well, expect to be asked to lead a special group. This could open an exciting new vista for you.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Some of you eager-to-please Moon Children might want to delay some decisions until midweek, when you can again think more with your head than your heart.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) An important matter might wind up being entrusted to you for handling. The responsibility is heavy, but you'll have support from people able and eager to help.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) A new business venture seems to offer everything you've been looking for. But be careful that this rosy picture doesn't betray traces of red ink under the surface.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) A spouse or partner might make an important, even life-changing, suggestion. Consider it carefully. It could hold some of the answers you've both been looking for.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A volatile situation needs the kind of thoughtful and considerate care you can provide right now. There'll be plenty of time later to analyze what might have

BORN THIS WEEK: You always try to do the right thing for the right reasons. No wonder people have come to depend on you.
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Show Time

A View from House Seats

The Moors - Delightful, Daring, Deceitful and Dramatic

by Shirley Lorraine

The Elite Theatre Company in Channel Islands has a treat in store for audiences. Now on the South Stage through March 25, the Elite presents *The Moors*, a quirky period piece filled with surprises. Written by Jen Silverman (*The Roommate* and others), *The Moors* delivers a theatrical experience unlike any other recently seen.

The staging is a comedy, a drama, a thriller, a farce, a satire and a SNL long-form skit all rolled into one and tied with a big red bow. Set in “the bleak moors...of England?” somewhere in the mid 1840’s, the plot echoes the works of Bronte, Dickens and the classic board game *Clue* as seemingly endless layers of plotline are revealed.

Sisters Agatha (Brook Masters) and Huldey (Kim Pendergast) live in a very old mansion in an isolated location. Agatha is stern and sinister, while Huldey is flighty, clueless and existing in a world of her own making. They are assisted by a parlor maid and a scullery maid, both played with droll delight by Rosie Gordon by merely the change of a hat and a name. The fun is amplified by the fact that her character is fully aware that she fills both roles in the household and plays into it thoroughly. The characters flux and wane in their relationships as they all attempt to maintain some sanity while clearly only hanging on by rapidly fraying threads.

A new governess, Emilie (Erin Hollander) is engaged to serve a non-existent child through what turns out to

be a carefully planned ruse. She enters the picture with confusion as to the real reason she has been summoned, later gaining control somewhat to her advantage.

The sisters have a dog, a large mastiff, played to the hilt by Scott Blanchard (in what must surely be his most unusual role yet) who displays a soul-searching character in a deep and poetic manner. He falls in love with a moorhen (gloriously played by Anna Maria Strickland) although their relationship is doomed from the start by the very nature of it. Both are a delight to watch as they dance around their mutual attraction.

The costuming by Sheryl Jo Bedal, who also is credited with set design, is simply marvelous. Myriad details accent the game all the players are engaged in. Direction by Kathleen Bosworth shows depth as each character has many facets, all of them fascinating. What fun she and the actors must have had exploring presentation possibilities.

Laughter is frequent as each actor takes their character to the limits and beyond. Each maintains total control of their absurdities and teases the audience with them. All the actors are outstanding. This production offers an unexpectedly light-hearted look at the intricacies of deceit, desire and loneliness. I thoroughly enjoyed the word play, the commitment and the uniqueness of this staging.

www.theElite.org 805-483-5118 Reservations recommended. Masks optional.

but couldn’t so patched it herself. On Day 197 and only 1588 miles from home, 3 storms converged into a super-storm directly in Jessica’s path leaving her two choices: head to port just prior to the finish, or head straight into the storm and trust that Pink could get them home safely.

Though her parents and Ben were concerned, they left the decision to Jessica knowing her boat and her skills, and she decided to brave the storm. A 70 foot rogue wave flipped the boat upside down in the storm, which triggered her emergency alarm automatically contacting the authorities with the situation. They called her parents and told them Jessica’s boat was 15 feet underwater and that things looked grim. Back at the boat, Jessica calmly waited in the air pocket knowing that this could be the end for her, but Pink amazingly uprighted itself.

Jessica’s journey had been followed around the world through her video logs and when she entered Sydney Harbor she was escorted by hundreds of boats and greeted by over 80,000 people who were there to welcome her home. Runtime 1h 49m

Food Share readies

Continued from page 17

risen 39% over the same period.

Food Share continues to serve hundreds of thousands of Ventura County residents each year through its network of 190 food pantries, plus multiple weekly emergency food box distributions, which the organization started running at the beginning of the pandemic. “We’ve just surpassed 900 emergency distributions,” commented Monica White. “We started out thinking there’d be a need for just a few months, which turned into three years. Now we’re running them in response to inflationary price hikes and the reduction in CalFresh benefits. It doesn’t appear there’s an end in sight.”

For all the latest information on where to find food, how to volunteer, and how you can support Food Share with a monetary donation visit: www.foodshare.com

Follow Food Share on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube and tag posts #WeFeedVC

Streaming Spotlight by Cindy Summers

True Spirit

- Netflix



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

Based on true events, “*True Spirit*” shares the inspiring story of Jessica Watson (Teagan Croft), who at 16-years-old was the youngest person to sail solo, non-stop and unassisted around the world. She departed from Sydney Harbor Oct 18, 2009 on a course that would take approximately 200 days and involve sailing some of the most challenging seas in the world.

Jessica decided at 12-years-old that she wanted to sail around the world and sought out well-known sailor Ben Bryant (Cliff Curtis) to train her as she was aware that he had himself made the trip three times. Ben at first was reluctant due to an accident that happened when he was captain of a ship in the Millenium Cup that cost the life of one of his crew, but Jessica was persuasive.

They spent the next four years training for the trip and then Jessica set out to do a test solo sail. Unfortunately, she was hit by a large tanker that damaged her boat, who she called “Pink”, and seemed to put an end to her

dream as it would be too costly to do the necessary repairs. Ben was able to gather a group of donors of time and funds to get Pink back in sailing shape, though the local media expressed concern over Jessica’s ability to make the journey.

During the trip if she went to port she would be disqualified and had to cross all lines of latitude and round all four capes for it to count as a true circumnavigation. The trip would begin by leaving Sydney Harbor crossing the Pacific Ocean, heading northeast to cross the equator then down south around the Cape Horn at the tip of Chile, then across the Atlantic Ocean to the Cape of Good Hope in South Africa, then across the Indian Ocean to Cape Leeuwin in Western Australia and then down around the South East Cape in Tasmania and back up to Sydney Harbor.

Though she weathered some storms, after 82 days and 12,884 miles from home she reached Cape Horn, the Everest of the ocean, reporting rounding it was smooth sailing. All things came to a halt on Day 112, when she ended up drifting into an area in the Indian Ocean that had no wind or waves. Jessica was stranded there for over a week, resulting in feelings of despair and depression, but finally Pink found the wind and again she was on her way.

On her approach to Australia, Jessica noticed a crack in the bulkhead which was troubling as Pink was designed to right herself in a storm only if there were no leaks. Jessica would normally have gone to a port to repair the issue,

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Moving Up?
Moving Out?**

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