

Jim, Nan, Amy Fonzo, Stephanie Caldwell and County Supervisor Matt LaVere at the presentation.

# Ventura Chamber **Honors Harrison**

A special evening was held at the Ventura Chamber of Commerce's 2024 Annual Meeting & Board Installation.

The event is held each year in January to provide "a time to focus on the chamber, celebrating our accomplishments from the previous year and looking forward to the goals and strategic direction selected by the incoming Board of Directors for the new year." Longtime members are recognized, retiring directors are thanked and new officers are installed.

At this year's meeting, held Jan. 17 at the Poinsettia Pavilion in Ventura, E.J. Harrison & Sons received a plaque honoring its 50 years as a chamber member.

The chamber also recognized outgoing chair Dena Rogers and installed new chair Aaron Gaston. It was a fantastic networking reception featuring signature cocktails and hors d'oeuvres from Seasons Catering.



St. Junipero Serra has returned.

# St. Junipero Serra statue has arrived at a new home at the Mission

by Patricia Schallert

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The St. Junipero Serra statue has found a new home! On February 29th, 2024, the bronze statue of St. Junipero Serra, previously situated in front of San Buenaventura City Hall, was gracefully relocated to its new residence at the Mission Basilica San Buenaventura (211 E Main St.)

St. Junípero Serra, an esteemed Roman Catholic Spanish priest and friar of the Franciscan Order, is renowned for establishing nine Spanish missions in Alta California. Canonized by Pope Francis on September 23, 2015, he holds a special place in history. On Easter Sunday, March 31, 1782, Mission San Buenaventura, his final mission, was founded on a site now known as downtown Ventura.

Fr. Tom Elewaut, the dedicated pastor of the Mission Basilica,

Continued on page 6

# An afternoon of giving

On February 24, the Ventura Homeless Prevention (VHP) held an afternoon at an "Keeping People Housed: That's Amore" and auction to raise rental assistance funds for Ventura Homeless Prevention.

It included outstanding Italian food, drinks, entertainment and presentations. It was held in the hall at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura at 5654 Ralston.

The Ventura Homeless Prevention is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that prevents homelessness in the City of Ventura Client Outreach officer, Adele Fergusson, and President and by keeping people in their homes.

Every penny donated goes directly to pay

rent for households who have been stably housed but are suddenly unable to meet the current month's rent because of a one-time event like a car repair, medical bill, or loss of pay due to illness or temporary lay off.

Board Chair, Sue Brinkmeyer.

On average they have prevented homelessness for one household per week since they began their work in 2007 — over 1,300 people so far, 40% of them children.

VHP is an all-volunteer organization operating in donated space, and the Board pays for the few administrative costs, so every penny donated or granted goes directly to pay rent and keep people housed. Sue Brinkmeyer, President and Board Chair of VHP stated "Ventura Homeless Prevention helps residents

Continued on page 4



VHP Board Treasurer, Dave Schmutte; Webmaster and Vice

President, John Sanders Jones; Secretary, Debora Schreiber;

Ventura Social Services Task Force Chair Judy Alexandre;





FOR PROSPECTIVE RESIDENTS BOOK A TOUR AND JOIN US FOR

SUNDAY, MARCH 31

11:00 AM - 2:30 PM

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Member, Ventura Chamber of Commerce

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Laugh at
yourself first,
before anyone
else can.
– Elsa
Maxwell

# **City News**



Ms. Saxton is also the President of Women Leading Government.

# City of Ventura announces Carlene Saxton as the new Assistant City Manager

Carlene Saxton has been selected as the new Assistant City Manager after an extensive national recruitment process, with her start date set for April 15, 2024. Ms. Saxton brings diverse experience in private and public sectors, focusing on community planning and economic

development.

Ms. Saxton joins the City of Ventura after serving as the City of Moorpark's Community Development Director. She was previously the Economic and Community Development Director for the City of Palmdale.

"We are excited to bring a dynamic leader to our executive team with a demonstrated commitment to fostering positive relationships and understanding the pulse of communities," shared City Manager Bill Ayub. "Ms. Saxton has a proven track record for streamlining government processes and bolstering economic vitality, which we believe will help contribute to the City's sustainable growth and long-term needs. Additionally, her extensive experience in community development further strengthens our team's ability to address housing and development."

Ms. Saxton holds a bachelor's degree in environmental science from Valparaiso University and a master's in development and planning from University College London. Spearheading groundbreaking initiatives, including comprehensive General Plan Updates, Zoning Code Revisions, and pivotal large-scale development projects, Ms. Saxton also instigated district establishment for tourism and enhanced infrastructure financing.

Ms. Saxton is also the President of Women Leading Government,



helping women succeed in public service by enhancing career-building models that develop leadership skills and networking professional women in government.

"I am honored to have been selected to serve the City of Ventura as its Assistant City Manager," said Saxton. "I am deeply passionate about public service and empowering connections with our community to collaborate and drive positive change for the future and our residents."

The Assistant City Manager will support daily operations and manage highly complex administrative support for the City Manager's Office and City Council members. Learn more about the City's leadership team at www.cityofventura.ca.gov/Leadership.

# Water General Manager's Message

by Gina Dorrington

It can be said that when it rains in Ventura, it pours. This rainy season has given us another set of challenges here at Ventura Water. Water and wastewater crews worked 24-hour

# As I See It by Sheldon Brown



The Justice Department said Southern California Edison has agreed to pay the federal government \$80 million to recoup expenses caused by the 2017 Thomas Fire. Federal officials are calling it a "record" settlement, one that would compensate taxpayers for the costs of fighting the fire and damage to public lands. Exactly how this compensates taxpayers is yet to be seen.

The application to renew Patrick Berry's license as a general manager of the Ventura poker card club was rejected by the California Gambling Control Commission. This means he can no longer act as a supervisor for the card room. The card room operates 19 tables for card games. The business license was renewed for another two years.

The card room opened on Ventura Ave. in 1943 and later opened in the Ventura Auto Center and then to the fairgrounds. It is one of the city's largest taxpayers.

An FBI informant charged with lying to investigators about a fictitious bribery scheme involving President Joe

Biden, his son Hunter and a Ukrainian energy company, has had contact with foreign intelligence services, including Russian intelligence agencies.

Smirnov was indicted last week on charges he lied to the FBI, falsely telling them that executives with now-defunct Ukrainian energy company Burisma had paid Hunter and Joe Biden \$5 million each in bribes. He is being held in jail because he could be a flight risk. So, Biden will need to be impeached on some other charges.

I find this a little unbelievable. A new Alabama court decision that embryos created during the IVF process are "extrauterine children" and legally protected like any other child. IVF advocates say the ruling by the Alabama Supreme Court could have far-reaching consequences for millions of Americans struggling to get pregnant, especially those living in states with "personhood" laws granting legal status to unborn children.

The court's ruling repeatedly invoked Christian faith and the Alabama constitution, which specifically protects unborn children, although that has typically been referred to a developing baby inside a womb. IVF advocates have been warning for several years that such decisions were a potential repercussion of the U.S. Supreme Court's 2022 decision to overturn Roe vs. Wade and permit states to ban abortions.

What I find hypocritical about this is that when an unwed poor mother has a child (because she can't get an abortion) and needs welfare the same people complain about this becoming a welfare state. And why don't they complain about capital punishment that only has one purpose which is to kill.

Will be interesting when working robots form their first organized union

(probably part of auto workers because lots of them are working on cars). Just imagine that you tell your robot to get you a beer and it says, "This is Sunday, and I don't work on Sunday's - it is against my religion "Robotism."

The Federal Communications Commission is coming to the rescue and has outlawed automated robocalls that contain voices generated by artificial intelligence, a decision that sends a clear message that exploiting the technology to scam people and mislead voters won't be tolerated. The question is, how do they know they are robocalls?

Greece has become the first Orthodox Christian country to legalize same-sex civil marriage, despite opposition from the influential, socially conservative Greek Church. A cross-party majority of 176 lawmakers in the 300-seat parliament voted in favor of the landmark bill drafted by Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis' center-right government. Good for them.

Just when I thought he couldn't be more embarrassing for America, Trump unveiled a new line of shoes at Sneaker Con. The shoes, shiny gold high tops with an American flag detail on the back, are being sold as "Never Surrender High-Tops" for \$399 on a new website that also sells other Trump-branded shoes and "Victory47" cologne and perfume for \$99 a bottle. Is he that desperate for money? Does he think he is Michael Jordon. I'm sure the rumor that, if elected, he would paint the White House gold and try to sell it is not true.

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

shifts responding to broken water lines and increased flows in the sewer system. Thanks to one concerned resident, we were alerted to an exposed water line and were able to isolate the line without service interruption. We also lent support to our Public Works coworkers, cleaning debris, and pumping down flooded areas. The best part is you probably didn't even know it. This is the goal, so that our customers rarely experience disruptions. No matter what obstacles we encounter, Ventura Water's purpose stays the same; to provide local, reliable, and quality service for all generations.

We are guided by four quality standards: Safety, Reliability, Professionalism, and Stewardship. These are demonstrated routinely by the Ventura Water team, and it is an honor to work with them. One of our teams, the Sewer Collections Department, was honored this past month with the California Water Environment Association (CWEA) Tri-Counties Section Collection System of the Year Award and has been nominated for the State level award. The dedication is so great with this team that when the awards ceremony was held, half of the team was out clearing debris from a pump station that had been inundated by high surf events.

# Soft limits for soft back book recycling, hard limits for hard cover: Reuse is best

by David Goldstein

Book reuse, rather than book recycling, should be our first resort for discarded books. Books free of mold, mildew or water stains may be donated to thrift stores; sold on sites such as eBay, Craigslist, or OfferUp; given away to a Friends of the Library organization or through sites such as Freecycle or bookmooch.com; or brought to a bookstore, such as Abednego Books, in Ventura, which accepts used books and, in exchange, offers partial store credit toward

book purchases. Through the Little Free Libraries non-profit organization, some people set up book swap enclosures in front of their homes.

For 200 or more books at a time, collection can be provided by American Book Drive, based in Simi Valley, which also picks up CDs, or DVDs. American Book Drive depends on receiving high quality items among the discards; their business model involves selling some items and donating funds to a charity chosen by their book donors in exchange for the books. Book drives can therefore also be conducted by schools or non-profit organizations. You can contact the company at (877) 870-7701 or Americanbookdrive.com.

However, all books eventually reach a point of no return. For recycling, rather than reusing, large numbers of books, Berg Mill offers an option in Ventura. The company picks up and pays for books stored in quantities of 20 or more gaylords. A gaylord is a large cardboard box capable of holding approximately 1,000 pounds. This option works for book consolidation sites, such as regional sorting centers for thrift store chains, school district warehouses, and large Friends of the Library sorting centers with sufficient storage space.

For curbside recycling programs and recycling in commercial bins in Ventura by Harrison Industries, soft cover books are acceptable, but hard cover books are limited. The guideline in these areas is "no more than 10 hard cover books at a time," according to Danial Marks, with Berg Mills, which markets material sorted at Gold Coast Recycling, in Ventura. "Any more than that, and there is a chance it could end up in one bale, making it difficult to recycle," he explained. The spines of hard cover books must be cut off with device called a "guillotine" before the paper can be recycled, and buyers balk at loads requiring too much labor to

On-line resources:

Ventura Friends of the Library: https://venturafriendsofthelibrary.

http://americanbookdrive.com http://bookmooch.com/

David Goldstein, Ventura County Works Environmental Resource Analyst, may be reached at (805) 658-4312 or david.goldstein@ ventura.org



In our last issue, we neglected to give photo credit for this photo at Greg Rents. It was taken by stephenadamsphoto.com.



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Sue Brinkmeyer



Leona Rollins

# An afternoon of giving Continued from page 1

of the City of Ventura avoid the double traumas of eviction and homelessness by sending a check for part or all of their rent to their



Matt LaVere



landlord when a temporary loss of income or a major expense leaves them teetering on the brink, and they'll be able to resume paying their own rent after this one-time assistance."

"Thanks to the generosity of many local houses of faith and individuals, this non-profit is able to help an average of 6-7 families a month. And thanks, in part, to the additional expertise provided by case managers at Project Understanding or the Salvation Army, over 90% of the people assisted are still housed one-year later. Ventura Homeless Prevention can help any Ventura resident, without restriction due to income, immigration status, or type of residence, and it costs, on average, just \$500 per person or \$1,200 per household to keep people housed. Both donations and referrals are welcome. More information is available on the website venturahomelessprevention.org."

Leona Rollins Ventura Housing Services Manager continued "The Ventura Homeless Prevention Fund has been doing amazing work in our community since 2007. By providing one-time financial assistance, the Ventura Homeless Prevention Fund can assist individuals and families in remaining in their homes, avoiding eviction and the possibility of homelessness. There are currently 644 individuals and families experiencing homelessness in the community and we need to continue to work together to see that number decrease, not increase. With more than 60% of renters in the City being "rent burdened" meaning that they are paying more than 30% of their income towards their housing costs, they are unable to save for a rainy day. Without an emergency fund, individuals and families will find themselves unable to pay their rent and facing threats of eviction when that rainy day arrives. This is why it is important for us to continue to support programs like the Ventura Homeless Prevention Fund."

Matt LaVere, Supervisor, Ventura County Board of Superexplained "Despite the hard work of so many wonderful, dedicated people, we still have 2,500 unhoused individuals in Ventura County. But what this figure does not show is that there are over 14,000 individuals teetering on the edge of homelessness. These are people who are one missed paycheck, one lost job, one car repair, one hospital bill, one "bad break" in life from ending up on the streets. It is exponentially easier and more cost-effective to address homelessness if we can prevent people from becoming homeless in the first place. And that is why the work being done by the Ventura Homeless Prevention Fund is so critically important. Their efforts to keep people housed and connect them with necessary services truly changes the direction of people's lives."

Musical entertainment was provided by Sus Corez on guitar and Artie Perez on accordion with Sue Brinkmeyer singing along. Presentations were made by Gabrielle White, Talia le Duff and Jeremy Beaumont.





In the highlight of the day, treasurer Cheryl Volden presented a check from the Auxiliary to CMH.

# H Auxiliary Recognition

Recently volunteers with the Community Memorial Healthcare Auxiliary were recognized for their hours and years of service at an appreciation luncheon.

Contributing 100 hours of volunteer time were Kim Bernard, Rick Bartell, Pam Bluestein, Maureen Borkowski, Susan Buppert, Cyndi Burell, Teresa Campos, Jim Cooke, Kristl Everetts, Ashley Flores, Janice Gingold, Margarete Gonzalez, Vickie Lemmon, Julie Lofing, Dar Rosario, Stephanie Singletary, Dorothea Weiss, and Howard Young.

Those with 500 hours of service were Robert Holaway, Dianne Maggio, Millie McEvoy, Tammy Scott, Janis Titiriga, Ani Toran. Roberta Vollmart, and Anne Wilson.

Jared Abarnathy, Cynthia Broaddus, Carolyn Damron, Pam Hanawalt, and Emma Johnson contributed 1000 hours of volunteer time, while Antonia Colitti gave 2000 hours, Ellen Bugaj 3000, and Julie Kaplan 5000.

Both Mary Cathcart and Mary Harrison donated 6000 hours, David Howard 8000, and Connie Ferritto, Susan McDonald and Mary Wdowicki 9000, and Linda Petit gave 11000 hours, while Edie Marshall was recognized for

16000 hours of service.

Both Lois Moynihan and Marlene Sturgell received service awards for 35 years of volunteer service.

In addition, the incoming members of the Auxiliary Executive Board were installed. They are President- Linda Petit, 1st Vice President-Cynthia Broaddus, 2nd Vice President-Mary Wdowicki, Recording Secretary-Bobbie Mendez, Corresponding Secretary-Linda Wilson, Treasurer-Cheryl Volden, Parliamentarian-Judy Miller, Junior Chairperons- Marilyn Beal, Past President-Sandy Frandsen, and Directors-Lynn Ridout and Dianne Maggio. Linda Petit will also head the Data Base Management.

In a highlight of the day, treasurer Cheryl Volden presented a check from the Auxiliary to CMH, represented by Adam Thunell, in the amount of \$100,000. This money was raised from sales in the gift shop, donations, and other fundraising.

If you are interested in joining this organization, applications may be obtained at the front desk of the hospital, or you may call the Auxiliary office at (805)948-4299 to leave your contact information.

# Ventura County Fair Announces This Year's Fair Theme

The Ventura County Fairgrounds is excited to announce this year's Fair theme: Fair-ever Young - 150 Years of Fun "I love that the theme represents past, present and the future," said Ventura County Fairgrounds and Event Center CEO Jen McGuire.

The theme was chosen by a judging panel following the 2024 Ventura County Fair 150th Theme Contest which ran February 1-23, 2024. More than 2,600 entries were submitted by the community. The winning entry was submitted by Kaytlyn Kirksey-Seymour of Port Hueneme. As the first-place winner, Kaytlyn will receive \$1,000. Second and third place themes were also chosen and will be awarded \$750 for second place and \$500 for third. Winning themes: 1st Place: Kaytlyn Kirksey-Seymour, Port Hueneme -"Fair-ever Young - 150 Years of Fun" 2nd Place: Alfredo Martinez, Oxnard -"Harvesting 150 Years of Happiness" 3rd Place: Ray Rivera, Ventura - "A Carousel of Memories: 150 Years of Fair Fun"

The winning theme will be used in the Youth Poster Contest which begins accepting entries this Friday, March 1st. This year, the Youth Poster Contest has been expanded to include all grades K-12 and includes grade-level placements and a school participation award. Also new for 2024, there will be no entry fee. Participants are encouraged to read the guidelines before submitting their artwork. "I enjoy seeing the interpretation through our youth's eyes, especially with the poster contest," said McGuire. "Our poster contest is one of our favorite annual traditions showcasing the talents

It's the official kick-off for our fair season, which is exciting for us." The Ventura County Fair is celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2024, including a series of events and contests leading up to the annual Ventura County Fair July 31 through August 11, 2024. ## About the 2024 Ventura County Fair: The Ventura County Fair is celebrating 150 years in 2024! The fun starts now, with monthly events and contests leading up to the annual Fair this July 31 through August 11, 2024. This year's Ventura County Fair will include new celebrations and pay homage to past traditions. Details will be available at https://venturacountyfair.org/ and on social media @VCFairgrounds.







### St. Junipero Serra statue Continued from page 1

warmly welcomed the return of the bronze likeness of St. Junipero Serra. Speaking on the historic significance of the land belonging to the Chumash people, Fr. Tom Elewaut emphasizes Serra's role as a spiritual father to the indigenous community

what was then known as Alta California. He highlights Serra's unwavering defense of their dignity and rights before the Spanish magistrate. "The statue acts as a catalyst for peaceful and open dialogue surrounding the indigenous history, the Mission era, Spanish conquest, Mexican occupation, the Gold Rush, and the eventual attainment of California statehood within the United States of America. All of these events have profoundly influenced and shaped the narrative of this land."

In July, 2020, the Ventura City Council made the decision to relocate two statues during a special public meeting. This choice paved the way for the landmark bronze statue of St. Junipero Serra, situated on public property in front of City Hall, to be temporarily stored with the ultimate intention of trans-Buenaventura.

In achieving a peaceful resolution, former Ventura Mayor Matt LaVere, former Chair Julie Tumamait of the Barbareño/ Ventureño Band of Mission Indians (Chumash), and Father Tom Elewaut collaborated to respectfully address community concerns and create an inclusive environment that respected and appreciated all community voices. The goal was to honor the cultural to its earliest inhabitants.

In February, work commenced on the concrete base of the statue, diligently carried out by Bryan Cooke of Cooks Crating, who spearheaded the delivery and installation process. The the original 1936 concrete statue, was unveiled in a momentous ceremony at Ventura City Hall on October 20, 1989. This striking 9'3", 1250-pound masterpiece

had since stood proudly overlooking downtown Ventura and the majestic Pacific Ocean.

Ventura Mayor Joe Schroeder expresses the historical significance of the statue and mission for the city, affirming that the relocation to Mission Basilica San Buenaventura symbolizes their commitment to preserving the rich history of the community and honoring the legacy of its earliest residents.

The decision-making process involved extensive public input, ferring it to Mission Basilica San the invaluable contributions of the Barbareño/Ventureño Band of Mission Indians, and the collaboration with Mission. It is a testament to their dedication to inclusivity and unity while celebrating Ventura's diverse heritage.

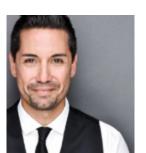
Mission Basilica Buenaventura, lovingly named after Saint Bonaventure, who was a Cardinal and Doctor of the Church during the years 1221-1274, is aptly known as the "Mission by the Sea." Guided by heritage of Ventura and pay tribute a mission statement that upholds the values of prayer and service, the mission endeavors to foster unity among various faith communities as it continues to move "always forward."

Editor: From a previous Ventura Breeze "A demonstration was held on Saturday, bronze cast, crafted to replace June 20, 2020, to demand that the statue of Father Junipero Serra in front of Ventura City Hall be taken down on grounds that he had committed atrocities against Native Americans, including the local Chumash."

# Life-Saving & Life-Changing

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— Kurt Caceres

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# Pacifica High School earned college scholarships

School earned college scholarships at the California Restaurant Foundation's 2024 ProStart Cup presented by Wienerschnitzel, a culinary arts and restaurant entrepreneurship competition held on February 21 and 22 at the Long Beach Convention Center. Over 250 students from across California showcased their skills, crafting three-course meals and presenting restaurant concepts to industry pros. Pacifica High School's team secured third place in the BJ's Restaurants Culinary Competition, with each student awarded scholarships to esteemed institutions like The Culinary Institute of America, Cal Poly Pomona, San Diego State University, Johnson & Wales University and more.

Additionally, the California Restaurant Foundation identified Pacifica High School ProStart teacher, Kristen Collins, as its "CA ProStart

Talented teens from Pacifica High Educator of the Year." Kristen brings a wealth of knowledge and experience from her time in the restaurant industry to the classroom, and in her eight years, has solidified Pacifica High School as one of the state's top high school culinary programs. With her mantra to 'never stop learning,' Kristen has built skills in gardening, dry-aging meat and pancetta making, which she weaves into classroom instruction and uses to fuel her students' success in the ProStart Cup competition and beyond.

> In addition to vying for The James H. Maynard Teacher of the Year, a national award and \$10,000 prize awarded by the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation, Kristen will be part of the newly established ProStart Educator Fellows program, a year-long engagement opportunity culminating with a gathering of all the fellows from across the county in October.



On February 20, at 11:44am, fire units were dispatched to a reported boat fire in the Harbor. Firefighters arrived within 6 minutes of dispatch and found a boat on fire with multiple boats surrounding the dock. Firefighters made an aggressive attack to extinguish the fire by deploying hoses down a long dock. Firefighters extinguished the fire with a coordinated effort of horizontal ventilation. The boats exposed to the fire were untied and safely removed by fire personnel with the assistance of Harbor Patrol. The fire was controlled 17 minutes after units arrived on scene and the boat was confirmed to have no victims inside. Ventura City was assisted by Oxnard Fire, Ventura County Fire, and Ventura Harbor patrol.

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March 6 to March 19, 2024 Ventura BREEZE



# Visit Ventura Honored With Platinum, President, Gold, and Silver HSMAI Adrian Awards

Visit Ventura was recently honored for travel marketing excellence by Hospitality Sales & Marketing Association International (HSMAI) at their 67th annual Adrian Awards Celebration, the world's largest and most prestigious global travel marketing competition. Visit Ventura was awarded a whopping total of four Adrian Awards at the in-person ceremony in New York City.

Over 800 entries were submitted this year and Visit Ventura's work was judged to be exceptional by experts in hospitality, travel, tourism, and media. All four

awards recognized Visit Ventura for their leadership in bringing the X Games to Ventura and its creative community integration supporting the event.

"We are absolutely thrilled and honored to receive four HSMAI Adrian Awards this year," said Marlyss Auster, Visit Ventura's President and CEO. "To be in a room with industry leaders and recognized for our work in marketing that our small team does in-house makes me so proud. Each aspect of the story that we told —from the full-page ads to the YouTube videos—we rolled up our sleeves and put our entire heart into "."

Visit Ventura received four Adrian Awards: Gold for its winning entry in the Public Relations/Communications-Special Event category, President's Award —which is the highest score in its budget range— in the Advertising-Brand Campaign category, Platinum —which is one of this year's highest honors— for the Public Relations/Communications-Special Event category, and Silver in the Brand Campaign category.

Visit Ventura was also a finalist alongside entries from Tourism Australia and Destination Canada, among other

large destinations, for Best in Show. This is Visit Ventura's first time receiving the President's Award, Platinum Adrian Award, and a Best in Show honor.

Most notably, Visit Ventura was one of the smallest destinations to receive multiple awards. As an international awards celebration, destinations and



Visit Ventura President & CEO Marlyss Auster and Director of Marketing Mike Laan represented the organization at an awards ceremony.

brands like IGH Hotels & Resorts, Marriott International, Atlantis Paradise Island, and Visit Honduras were among some of the winners. To see Visit Ventura, where a small team does all marketing in house, among the list of international winners is a true showing of hometown pride.

"The Adrian Awards celebrate the innovation and ingenuity that fuel our success and recognize the marketing leaders whose extraordinary efforts literally 'open the doors' to exploration and excitement," said Robert A. Gilbert, CHME, CHBA, president and CEO of HSMAI. "Their work inspired the world to get out and create memories through travel, and HSMAI is proud to honor them."

# Cancer Foundation of Santa Barbara Awarded Candid's Platinum Seal of Transparency

For the 6th consecutive year, the Cancer Foundation of Santa Barbara was awarded Candid's Platinum Seal of Transparency. This award highlights the Foundation's commitment to transparency, accountability, and efficiency in all aspects of its operations.

The Cancer Foundation of Santa Barbara earned Candid's Platinum Seal by sharing specific information about their finances, governance, strategic priorities, impact on their community, and number of donors, volunteers, and grants awarded. To keep their seals from expiring, Candid requires organizations to update their information once a year.

Stephanie Carlyle, Director of Philanthropy at the Cancer Foundation of Santa Barbara, emphasized the importance of transparency for nonprofits, stating, "Transparency is essential for building trust with our donors. By openly sharing our financials, impact reports, and resource allocation strategies, we empower our supporters to make informed decisions about their philanthropy, knowing that their contributions are making a meaningful difference in the lives of cancer patients."

In addition to its outstanding transparency practices, the Cancer Foundation of Santa Barbara sets itself apart with its strict financial oversight and ethical standards. The Foundation voluntarily undergoes an annual financial audit by an independent accounting firm, ensuring accountability in its financial management.

To view the Cancer Foundation's profile, visit www.guidestar.org/profile/8438565.





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The streets in Ventura are very confusing. Photo by Katie Whittaker.



# Senior Tiving



Her work is inspired by nature.

# Retiree has a Passion for Glass Art

by Juliette Nasarenko

Pamela Klebaum found a new passion during her retirement years in Ventura. She found a love for glass art and created the art in the heart of her home. Her work is inspired by nature and her latest work deals with climate change and its effect on our earth. She is working on a new piece that references plastics in the ocean.

When Pamela was 55 years old, she was looking through old boxes and came across a diary that belonged to her dad. Her father was in the navy while on a voyage to Greenland and the diary described his journey, the icebergs, and life at sea. This was when she decided to start making art based on the diary. In order to take on this project Pamela attended Ventura College and took an art class each semester to learn life drawing and life painting. She wanted to learn the basic principles of art since she never had any formal instruction when she was young.

Pamela retired in 2010 and after she redid her kitchen she wanted to put glass figurines inside the cabinets. At the stain glass store, she found a new process and started studying all over the country taking workshops. She was invited to do residencies and fell in love with the process. In 2018, she was also invited to attend a professional artists' residency on the northeastern shore of Scotland. It was only nine artists with two mentors, and she was able to feel at peace with nature as she fell "back in that time".

According to Pamela, it takes 6 to 8 weeks to make glass art. It takes multiple firings and when it comes out of the kiln it is very rough and must be finished with a chemical polish to bring out the shine. After the Thomas Fire destroyed several homes in her neighborhood, she felt compelled to create Project Phoenix

which is a small glass house for each neighbor who needed to rebuild their home. Each glass house was different as well as unique and she wrote in a note to each returning family, "...to hope that the glass house would bring beautiful light into your beautiful new home." In August of 2023, she finished her final Project Phoenix house which was number 112! Out of all her beautiful art pieces her favorite is called Glaciers Disappearing which shows the ice melting. She says, "You can see through her work what we are doing to the earth."

Pamela loves to keep herself busy and started playing soccer for the first 3 years of her retirement. She also continues to study the piano since starting retirement. She enjoys walking around her neighborhood and staying active. One piece of wisdom that Pamela always likes to think about is gratitude as it "becomes a way of our life." She loves to think about smaller graces every day and people spreading kindness to each other. She loves to go to Yosemite every year for her and her husband Nohl's anniversary. She loves to read and started reading the Pulitzer Award winner The Caine Mutiny by Herman Wouk. She said it was a very compelling story and similar to her dad's diary illustrating life on a ship and how intimate it can be. My conversation with Pamela was compelling and fascinating as she has so much ambition and passion for what she does. I loved listening to her story and journey as she has a big heart to help others and make the world a better place.

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 publisher@ventu-

# Now this is senior living ...



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Leslie and her students are having fun and getting a great workout!

# Spring Into Action

by Leslie Sokol

The Spring season symbolizes fresh starts. It is the perfect time to try out new and exciting workout ideas that will help you get in shape and feel great. You can also enjoy your indoor workouts outside too. With spring comes warmer weather, longer days and lots of sunshine. Wake up and smell the roses, hear the birds chirping and enjoy the benefits of getting outside. If you have been looking for fun ways to spruce up your workout routine, here are some simple suggestions to help you get started:

Design an exercise plan that works for you.

Find a workout you love.

Stay motivated.

Mix it up, variety is the spice of life. Give yourself time to rest and recover from your workouts.

Stop pressuring yourself, do positive

Be consistent and dedicated - start a workout routine.

Dress the part - wear comfortable

athletic clothes and good, supportive shoes, preferably sneakers.

Eat healthy and drink plenty of fluids.

Although humans are creatures of habit and comfort, frequently changing your workout program can help you avoid burnout or boredom. Mix up your workouts by doing a variety of different activities to improve your fitness level, get you in better shape, and utilize different muscle groups. Plan well-balanced activities that work the body from

Here are some activities and exercises to put a spring in your step:

Dance workouts

Golf

Hiking

Brisk walking

Biking

Swimming

Yoga Playing with your grandkids

Low impact sports

Pickle Ball

Calisthenics, stretches, and/or strength exercises

Spring Into a Heart-Healthy Diet

Another component of living a healthy lifestyle is eating well. Remember the old saying, "You are what you eat." The 80/20 rule is a smart guide for your everyday diet. If you aim for 80 percent of what you eat being healthy, then the other 20 percent can be treats or snacks. Included in the 80 percent would be fruits, vegetables, whole grains, lean meats, fish along with unsaturated fats. "Your food is your body's fuel." You also want to make sure you are drinking plenty of water and other hydrating liquids. Drinking healthy fluids is important, especially if you exercise a lot. Keep in mind that your body is over

Continued on page 10

# Senior Living



Mike sparing with Patty Harrison.

# Mike Christie: Searching for sea glass and simplicity

by Mira Reverente

Friendly and upbeat, Mike Christie can easily put strangers and acquaintances at ease with his ready smile and his repertoire of jokes.

He readily talks about his day and what brought him to Neuroboxing Fight Camp at Portside

Ventura Harbor. "A friend told me about these no-contact boxing classes for people with Parkinson's, back in 2020. I was one of the first students," says Mike, 75.

More than three years later, he's still attending classes five times a week, with one class solely devoted to strength training. The Camarillo resident looks forward to the classes and meeting like-minded people going through the same thing - Parkinson's Disease (PD) and other neurological conditions.

He adds, "I no longer feel alone. Here I am surrounded by people who are in the same boat as I am and there's so much support out there." He even started attending monthly support groups where there is a lot of talking and sharing of coping mechanisms like Tai Chi.

Mike recalls being diagnosed in 2020 although the tremors started ten years prior. The tremors progressively got worse and he eventually sought and received a diagnosis from a neurologist at UCLA.

Pre-Parkinson's, Mike was inspecting vehicles upon arrival at Port Hueneme, a job he had for 13 years. Prior to that, was managing a cabinet shop in Orange County. He retired at 62 and didn't think another job was in the cards for him.

This Oregon transplant finds the SoCal coastline equally breathtaking and led to his fondness for collecting sea glass, which he finds immensely relaxing and satisfying in its simplicity. He says, "You walk amidst these rocks and you find these simple, beautiful pieces. You can get lost in the process and not notice that several hours have gone by."

"It's an outdoor activity I enjoy doing. I can spend hours or an entire day on a beach by the rock formations, just searching for sea glass," he says of his decades-long hobby. He likes the local beaches like Silver Strand Beach in Oxnard but also looks forward to the pristine beaches of Maui, which he usually visits once or twice a year.

While he doesn't do much with sea glass except to collect them for decorative purposes and careful storage, he has on occasion had the more vibrant pieces turned into necklaces and gifted them to close friends and family members.

His PD diagnosis hasn't stopped him from traveling. Aside from Maui, he has visited Israel and Australia. "I still live life the way I want to and it hasn't stopped me at all. I've gotten used to it that sometimes I no longer notice the tremors," says the father of one and grandfather of six. He does practice great care in navigating staircases and curbs, but very simple modifications. He also finds enjoyment in going out to dinner occasionally and not having to whip up home-cooked meals.

His neurologist in Oxnard was trying to convince him to do surgery when he was ready but he decided it wasn't for him, after much thought. He credits his spirituality and his past stint as a pastor for his current mindset of acceptance and contentment.

When asked what he would tell folks who get a PD diagnosis, Mike put it simply - "If you experience the usual symptoms, try to get an early diagnosis so you have access to more treatment options. Don't put it off and continue or start exercising to get a handle on it right away."

# Caregivers to Celebrate 40 Years of Service Helping Seniors

A local nonprofit provided more than 50,000 volunteer hours last year, serving 1,282 vulnerable senior citizens and those with disabilities in Ventura County.

This year, Ventura County Caregivers, together with its national partner, National Volunteer Caregiving Network, will celebrate 40 years of success serving the community with volunteer caregiving. Volunteers provide non-medical, in-home support services and transportation for homebound, frail elders, preventing their premature placement into board and care facilities and making it possible for them to continue to live in the comfort and security of their own homes.

In Ventura County, it is estimated that there are 30,000 seniors and people with disabilities in need of some help that volunteers can offer to help fill the gaps. The Ventura County Caregivers organization helps fill the need for volunteers to serve homebound elderly and people with disabilities.

"More than 90% of those we serve can age in place in the comfort and security of their own homes. This is huge for seniors, and thanks to our dedicated volunteers, donors and supporters, we will continue to serve Ventura County for another 40 years and beyond," explains Tammy I. Glenn, Executive Director of Ventura County Caregivers.

The 40-year-old organization's demonstrated model of success depends upon local volunteers who deliver groceries, pharmaceuticals, and provide personal transportation to critical medical appointments like dialysis and chemotherapy.

"Our mission is to promote the health, well-being, dignity, and independence of frail, homebound elders through one-on-one relationships with trusted volunteers," explains Joe Morgan, Caregivers Board Chair.

Helping to pass the torch of volunteering to the next generation, the Caregivers Volunteers intergenerational program "Building Bridges" brings high school students into the homes of frail elders to visit and to assist them. Under adult supervision at all times, students help with some of the more physically demanding tasks that frail elders cannot do for themselves.

"Communities don't realize how essential our volunteers are until aging, lack of mobility or disability sets in, or we become homebound in a pandemic. It's highly likely every one of us will need a helping hand one day. Thanks to the generous support of local and corporate donors, volunteer caregivers are vetted, trained and coordinated to be there when you need us most." added Glenn.

For more information on how to become a Caregiver volunteer, visit vccaregivers.org or call 805-658-8530.

### Spring into action Continued from page 9

sixty percent water. I always suggest to my students to drink water before, during and after any exercise routine.

Let's get this Spring off to a healthy and happy start!

Leslie Sokol is the creator and founder of the adult dance and fitness program For the Young at Heart. 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.Leslie-SokolDance.com



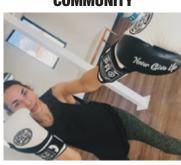
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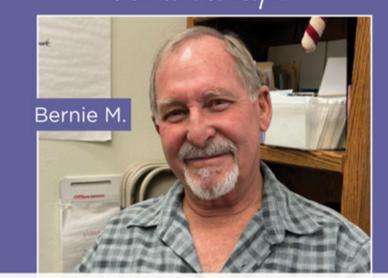


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Kirby Suburu is honored to treat each Volunteer Caregiver with a free car wash as a thank you for their service to seniors throughout Ventura County.









# Mental Health Services Act's continued priorities for 2023-2026

by Carol Leish, MA

The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), also known as Proposition 63, is a major source of funding for mental health services across the state, including Ventura County. The spending of these tax revenues is divided between five distinct categories: 1) Community Services and Support; 2) Prevention and Early Intervention; 3) Innovation; 4) Capital facilities and Technological Needs; and 5) Workforce Education and Training.

The community planning process is an important and continuous part of the Mental Health Services Act. Ventura County Behavioral Health is currently in the annual update phase of its Three-Year Plan that covers the 2023-2026 period. This update considers the implementation, evaluation, and budget allocations, and outlines Ventura County Behavioral Health's goals, programs, and spending for the remainder of the current three-year plan.

This annual update also mentioned that if Proposition 1 is passed by voters during the March 5th midterm election this year, there are potential impacts on Behavioral Health services across the state, including in Ventura County. If passed, the following are potential changes as outlined within the legislation: 1) A 30% housing component will be established, with a 'housing first' requirement. 2) Ventura County Behavioral Health will be established as a source of funding for substance use disorders (SUD) Services. 3) A new and comprehensive structure for planning, data gathering, and reporting will occur. 4) Their will be an overhaul of the adult and children's system of care statutes. 5) Their will be an elimination of the county-based control over prevention funding. 6) Their will be an establishment of new service requirements.

The current community planning process continues to build on the results of a broader needs assessment which outlines solutions in five categories: 1) Housing (i.e., buildings, services, and units); 2) Expanded Types of Services and Treatment Types (i.e., buildings, services, and units); 3) Access (i.e., timeliness of services); 4) Outreach and Education (i.e., knowing when, where, and how to access services); and 5) Alternatives to Ventura County Behavioral Health (i.e., care for persons with mild-to-moderate mental illness and service partners).

Any proposed updates to the current Three-year-Plan will undergo an annual review process which includes: 1) presentations of proposed changes to stakeholders and the broader community; 2) a period where community feedback is collected; 3) a 30-day public posting of the revised plan to allow for review; and, 4) a public hearing. The finalized plan is subject to the approval of the Ventura County Board of Supervisors.

Again, community feedback is important and helps inform and enhance planning. There are two years remaining to allocate and spend

funding for the 2023-2026 period. In light of potential changes to the Mental Health Services Act, much of the current funding is being planned as a one-time allotment with an emphasis being placed on infrastructure, time-limited expansion, and various programs and trainings.

Residents within Ventura County are encouraged to express their thoughts and suggestions during this feedback period. Feedback can be given through March 29th, 2024. Then, the report will be posted to the public and opened for a public review period from April-May, 2024. The Public Hearing for the Mental Health Services Act Three-year Plan annual update is tentatively planned for Monay, May 20th from 1:00pm-3:30pm. For further information about the Three-year Plan, go to www.vcbh. org. To submit feedback and/or to get questions/concerns answered, email the Ventura County Behavioral Health about the Mental Health Services at: MHSA@ventura.org.

# VCCCD Announces Ventura College Presidential Finalists

Ventura County Community College District (VCCCD) Chancellor Rick MacLennan is pleased to announce that there are five (5) finalists moving forward in the search process for the next President of Ventura College.

Listed below are candidate and campus forums information. College faculty, staff, administration, and community members are invited to attend.

Ventura College President Finalist Forums Ventura College Performing Arts Center, 4700 Loma Vista Road, Ventura, California

Monday, March 11, 2024 Dr. Claudia Lourido-Habib:

Dr. Claudia Lourido-Habib:

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

- 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 12, 2024 Dr. Jennifer Kalfsbeek-Goetz:

 $9\!:\!00$  a.m. –  $10\!:\!00$  a.m. and  $11\!:\!30$  a.m.

- 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Dr. Vinicio López:

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

Dr. Monica Chahal: 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

- 12:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 21, 2024

Dr. Roberto Gonzalez:

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

- 12:30 p.m.

Public forums will take place the weeks of March 11 and 18, and each finalist will participate in two (2) open forums. Each forum will be one (1) hour and open to all faculty, administrators, staff, students, and the general public. There will be a brief introduction of each candidate, followed by a question-and-answer session.

We are looking forward to a successful completion of the presidential search process. If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to reach out to our ACCT Search

Consultant, Julie Golder, ACCT Vice President of Search Services, at jgolder@acct.org or (202) 384-5816.

Ventura College, the first institution of higher education in Ventura County, has provided quality education to the community since 1925. A designated Hispanic-Serving Institution, the college enrolls over 13,000 students each semester at two campuses. VC offers over 70 disciplines of study in STEM fields, business, the arts, education, social/ behavioral sciences, liberal arts, and the health sciences. Named one of the nation's top 150 community colleges by the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program, it is the largest provider of workforce participants in the county in manufacturing, automotive technology, and nursing. To learn more, visit VenturaCollege.edu.

### The Bookmark

# About Libraries and Friends

by Mary Olson

Ventura author **P. Scott Corbett** will visit the Ojai Library at 2 pm on Saturday, March 23, to talk about his new trilogy of books: **Harvest of Hunger, Fortune's Retrieval**, and **Pursuing Shadows**.

Meet the author who turned a lifelong passion for writing, China, and Asia into compelling historical fiction. Hear him discuss his works, the creative process, and publishing.

P. Scott Corbett received his Ph.D. in

History from the University of Kansas Columbia University. He has taught American history at the college level for over 30 years, including at Ventura College and CSUCI. He has also taught American history in China and Singapore.

The trilogy recounts the saga of four generations of an American family serving as missionaries and cultural ambassadors in China. Though a certain amount of literary license has been used in developing the narratives, they do track closely actual historical events and experiences of actual people encompassing the North China famine of 1920-21, war-torn China from 1937 to 1945 and China in the 1980s.

This event is free and open to the public. For additional information, contact Ron Solórzano, Regional Librarian, at (805) 218-9146 or ron. solorzano@ventura.org.

The **Wise Owls Book Club**, a book club for adults who enjoy reading children's literature, meets at Hill Library on Tuesday, March 19 at 5:00 pm to discuss Road The Complete Fairy Tales by George Macdonald. George MacDonald occupied a major position in the intellectual life of his Victorian contemporaries. This volume brings together all eleven of his shorter fairy stories as well as his essay "The Fantastic Imagination". His children's stories were profoundly experimental, questioning the association of childhood with purity and innocence, and the need to separate fairy tale wonder from adult skepticism and disbelief. To join the mailing list for this Book Club please email Linda.

Continued on page 14



# The Pet Page



Dedicated to Scamp

• According to the American Medical Veterinarian Association(AMVA), there are certain signs in a pet's health that point to a dental problem.

"If there's an issue can present with bad

breath, it can present with loose teeth. It can present with swelling in the jaw, behind the eye, or anywhere else in the mouth. Inflamed gums. Most dogs and cats will eat despite them having tremendous periodontal disease and things like that. So that's not always the first thing we look for," Dr. Sherri Dubuc, chief of staff said at Emerald Shores Pet Hospital Resort and Spaw.

"The smaller the dog, the toy breeds generally have genetically poor teeth, so they actually should have their teeth cleaned every year, year and a half. Once they get to be about two or three years



"It's easy to clean my teeth."

old. Larger breed dogs don't build up as much plaque. They don't get as much dental disease, and you can usually space that cleaning out three, sometimes even four years," Dubuc said.

If oral surgery is needed, the pet will be under anesthesia in order to get a full glimpse at the problem. Dubuc said proper treatment and check-ups can help keep your loved one around longer.

"Having periodontal disease can lead to bone decay, infections in the jaw or the bone. It can lead to heart disease. Vegetative endocarditis can be a result of periodontal disease. It can actually shorten their lifespan if they have a bad enough infection," Dubuc said.

The AMVA said brushing your pet's teeth regularly is the best way to prevent frequent vet bills or major dental problems

RescueCon, OPAC's one-day event bringing creativity and community together to celebrate and facilitate animal rescue and adoption, returns on Saturday, March 23 from 11 am to 4pm. This year's event features animal welfare influencer, the Kitten Lady (Hannah Shaw), and is free and open to the public. Festivities will be held at Community Center Park East, just behind the Oxnard Performing Arts & Convention Center. More information can be found at: theopac.org/rescuecon

With 1.3 million Instagram followers, "Kitten Lady" Hannah Shaw is this year's special guest. She's a renowned animal advocate, educator, and author, dedicated to improving the lives of vulnerable animals, particularly kittens. With a background in animal rescue and welfare, Shaw has become a leading voice in the field, inspiring a global community to care for and protect animals in need. Hannah will be

leading two workshops: "Saving Kittens' Lives" and "Community Cats 101." While Kitten Lady talks are free, there are limited VIP tickets with preferred seating available through Eventbrite which include a Meet & Greet.

A few of the special activities for 2024 include:

Pet adoptions from Ventura County Humane Society, Canine Animal Rescue League, Humane Society of Ventura County, Santa Paula Animal Rescue, the Bunny Brigade, and others

Kid's Area with jolly jump, hands-on and educational activities

Nonprofit exhibitors including National Search Dog Foundation, Cassie's Cats, Animal Guardians Horse Rescue, California Coastal Horse Rescue, Harleys Heart Kitten Rescue, Santa Barbara Wildlife Care Network, and others

Approximately 6.3 million companion animals enter U.S. animal shelters nationwide every year. RescueCon is one way to increase animal adoption, promote animal welfare and help create a strong rescue community. The event will also help shed light on other animals in need in our community, including marine animals, wildlife, farmed animals, and others.

RescueCon has been made possible thanks to generous support from the Ventura County Community Foundation's Animal Welfare Fund.

• Guinness rescinds Bobi's title as world's longest-lived dog. Bobi, a Portuguese mastiff, probably was not 31 years and five months old when he died, according to Guinness World Records, which pulled the previously awarded title of world's longest-lived dog from the dog. "Extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence, and no concrete evidence has been provided to prove his age," said veterinarian Danny Chambers, a council member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

• Licking: cats are absolutely obsessed with it. In fact, research suggests an adult domestic feline can spend up to 8 per cent of their waking hours grooming their body with their tongue. Licking can also play an important social role with felines, with adults often licking each other just before copulating.

But what about humans: why do cats lick people? The good news: there's no evidence to say your cat considers this any part of a pre-mating ritual. The bad news: scientists and cat behavioral experts aren't completely sure why your cat might mop their little tongue against your face or hand.

However, while there's no overarching and definitive explanation for this behavior, there are several theories about why domestic felines lick humans. Spoiler: your cat doesn't come off well in any of them.

Why do cats lick people?

There's no one reason why your cat might lick you. However, there are three main theories as to why domestic felines engage in this behavior:

They're displaying they trust you.

They're accessing biochemical information from your skin.

They're marking you as another one of their possessions.
The trust theory

Yes, there's a chance a cat may lick you to show they trust you. Or at least to show they don't consider you as serious competition.

"This type of licking is similar to a cat-to-cat behavior known as allogroom-

# Scamp Club

(Scampclub pets are not for adoption.)

Sydney is a German Shepherd mix 10 months old. Loves chewing on furniture, blinds and socks; long walks, all kinds of chewing toys and treats and snuggles best of all. Rescued by Mira from Westside German Shepherd Rescue in LA



# 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.

ing, which is basically mutual grooming. A cat will learn this from its mother when they're a very young blind and deaf kitten. It's basically to clean the kitten and strengthen social bonds," says Dr David Sands, an expert in animal psychology with over 25 years of clinical experience.

"Because of these maternal origins,

adult cats will only lick other cats they trust and are not in competition with. And this trusting grooming behavior may be transferred to a human."

"After all, cats are not sitting there saying 'I'm a cat and you're a human being'. To them, animals are either in competition with them or not. And licking shows you're not in competition."

# Forever homes wanted



Hi: I'm Santi, an 8-monthold adorable Boxer X who is ready for a home! I was brought into my former home where there was another pup in the family and that pup did not like me. The volunteers and staff love my exuberant energy and playful puppy style. In playgroups at the kennel I was a little shy at first but warmed up and started initiating play with other dogs. I also love to play with tennis balls and toys. Please fill out an online application to meet

me. Canine Adoption and Rescue League C.A.R.L

Miss Magnolia is a total cuddle bunny looking for a forever home where she can hop and play on soft flooring due to her arthritis. Like many of our large ruby-eyed buns, Magnolia has been overlooked by potential adopters - but she is a snuggly and relaxed rabbit!

Pet Link: https://www.vcas.us/viewan-2/?ida=A837279

If you'd like to meet Magnolia, email VCASBun-nyBrigade@gmail.com and ask for her by name!





# Harbor Patrol Blotter

Just a few of the things the Harbor Patrol tends to. There are no Ventura police actions to report

Wednes 2/14

9:40am, received a report of a bird trapped in a business in the village. Officers responded and the bird was able to free itself from the business without

11:41am, dispatched to a traffic accident on Spinnaker Drive involving two motorcycles. Officers responded and assisted VFD/AMR with two patients who sustained severe injuries, they were treated, then transported to the hospital. Thursday 2/15

11:10am, received report of a Hazard to Navigation in the middle finger of the keys. Officers responded in the Fireboat, removed a 4x8ft piece of plywood. Friday 2/16

5:05pm, received report of a hit-n-run involving a boat trailer at the launch ramp. Officers assisted with towing an elite ocean rowing boat to patrol dock for storage because the trailers' roller was destroyed, they were unable to retrieve it. Saturday 2/17

7:55am, received report of dry storage entry gate malfunctioning. Officers responded and attempted to trouble-shoot. opening unit sustained major damage, likely from a boat trailer. Gate secured after attempts to repair unsuccessful.

Sunday 2/18

8:30am, officers patrolling the Ventura Point on Rescue Watercraft to assist and/ or conduct water rescues of distressed surfers along with State Parks. Several ocean rescues and safety contacts were executed of surfers in distress.

9:45am, received report of transients trespassing at VWM restrooms. Officers responded and contacted a couple attempting to use the private restrooms. Monday 2/19

7:00am, officers used delineators/ caution tape to close Navigator Dr for

5:10pm, responded to a small vessel with 2 POB's hoop netting in the sandtrap. Observed the vessel nearly swamped by a huge wave/whitewater blast over the breakwall. Terminated the skipper's voyage, escorted to the longdock for safety inspection.

Tuesday 2/20

6:27am, dispatched to fall patient in Ventura Marina Community. Lifted

11:45am, dispatched to a Boat Fire in VWM A-dock. Officers responded in Fireboat and in HP vehicle to a 60ft powerboat fully involved. With help from tenants using dock fire hose and VFD, the fire was knocked down before it could spread to other vessels nearby. Officers moved "exposed" vessels away until the fire was extinguished. The incident is under investigation; vessel is a total loss.

Wednes 2/21

8:15pm, received a call for assistance from a 4-person rowboat off Santa Clara River mouth, en route to Manhattan Beach on a training voyage. One of the rowers is seasick. The crew was taken aboard the Fireboat, TowBoat US towed the rowing vessel back to Harbor. The crew is training to row to Hawaii in June. Saturday 2/24

6:50am, while on patrol in the vehicle, officers observed a large pile of trash near Harbor Cove. Cleaned up the considerable mess of various large items taken from a dumpster officers deposited yesterday. Apparently upset

1:40pm, received report of a lost person

in the village. After gathering information including description of person, reporting party found the individual 9:15pm, received report of two large bon fires south of Surfers Knoll while conducting lockups. Officers responded with Ventura PD and assisted with breaking up the large parties and extinguishing the fires. Sunday 2/25

12:45pm, dispatched to a vehicle and trailer in the water at the launch ramp. Officers responded by land and sea, found the vehicle submerged and still connected to the boat/trailer. After hours of debate, the owner finally relented and took responsibility for the accident. TowBoat US assisted with towing the vehicle out of the water. Unfortunately, the vehicle is a total loss.



# On Vacation - Tennessee



Terry and Taylor Brelsford reading the Breeze in the Knoxville, Tennessee airport waiting to board.



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



### Ventura Events

by Ana Baker

The "Ventura High School Class of 71 Turns 71" Reunion will be held on June 22,2024, at the Pierpont Raquet Club (500 Sanjon Rd. Vta) from 4:00-7:00 p.m. Beer, wine, non-alcoholic drinks, and light appetizers will be served. Please RSVP by June 1st to: venturahighclassof71@gmail. com \$50 per person-payment information to follow your RSVP

Wanna Play Bridge? Join us for AC-BL-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, Rose 805-659-9223, or buckley-rose357@gmail.com. All Welcome.

The Ventura County Philatelic Society's meetings are held every first and third Monday of the month at the Church of the Foothills, Ventura. Meetings start at 7:30 p.m. A website with more information can be found at https://venturacountyphilatelicsoc.org.

Monthly Beach Cleanup First Saturday of every month! Meet your neighbors and help keep our beach looking fresh. Hosted by Pierpont Beach Community Council in partnership with Surfrider. Meet up at the end of Seward near the beach. (1140 S Seward St) 8:30-10:30 a.m. Arrive any time during the timeframe. Fun for the whole family. Supplies provided BYO water.

Paws for Reading brings together young readers and affectionate canine listeners to help boost the confidence of beginning readers. Hill Road Library, Wednesdays, 3:30 - 5 p.m. and E.P. Foster

Library, Thursdays, 4 - 5:30 p.m. Join PAWS dogs for one-on-one reading sessions. Arrive at the library early to choose a book and get in line to read a special pooch. Children of all ages are welcome

Livingston's Grief and Bereavement program in Camarillo is adding new grief support groups that cater to specific bereavement needs. These closed-ended support groups are Parent Loss of Child under age 21(March 7th through May 9th) and Adult Loss of Sibling (March 26th through May 7th). For more information or to enroll, contact 805-389-6870 or online at Imvna.org/grief. Space is limited. All support groups are free for the community.

March 10: Olivas Adobe 11-3 p.m. Help us celebrate the birthday of Don Raymundo Olivas at his rancho home, take a docent lead tour, and view the new Celebrating Animals of the Rancho exhibit in the small adobe. Learn how the Olivas family gained and prospered in the beautiful Rancho San Miguel. At 1 p.m., volunteer training will be for those wanting to spend more time at this hacienda by the sea. There are many ways to volunteer. Plein Aire Ventura County artists will be on-site to paint the coming of spring at the Adobe; all artists are welcome to join. www. cityofventura.ca.gov/OlivasAdobe

March 11: Monday Dance Social. Portside Ventura Harbor. You're Invited! Back By Popular Demand! Come Dance & Mingle. 6:00pm Beginning West Coast Swing. 6:30pm Int- Adv. West Coast Swing. 7:15pm Fun Mixer lesson. 7:45pm Social Dancing & Fun! \$15 for lesson and social. \$5 for students 25 and under w/ ID. \$5 for social only at 7:45pm. Taco man will be onsite- available for purchase. You can bring your beverage and snack. Bring a snack to share!(optional) Text Jay for more information 805-405-2946.At Portside Ventura Harbor,



The Ventura Pier is being repaired from large wave damage. Photo by Michael Gordon.

1196 Portside Dr., Ventura.

March 12: Ventura Audubon Society's March 2024 Program "Birds and Offshore Wind Energy Development: BOEM's Avian Study Strategy to Assess Data Needs and Effects" with David Pereksta: Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Poinsettia Pavilion and streaming via Zoom: The offshore waters and the coastline of the Pacific states and Hawaii provide year-round habitat for many bird species, at least 13 of which are federally listed as threatened or endangered, and 80 others have some level of special status designation. This is a presentation you'll not want to miss! For more information, visit www.venturaaudubon.org/speakers.

March 13: The Channel Islands Bicycle Club (CIBike) is presenting a free, open invitation to an evening of socializing and enjoying a biking presentation. Bicycles, Bikepacking, and Brews 6:30-8 p.m. at Topa Topa H Q and Brewery, 4880 Colt Street, Ventura. CIBike is a 501(c)4 non-profit organization founded 30 years ago in Ventura County. presentations, bike safety classes for youth, and many other activities. CIBike also has an established grant program that has supported many local non-profits over the years. For more info: www.cibike.org

March 16: On Saturday afternoon, from 1-4 p.m., the Ventura County Genealogical Society will present two lectures. The first is "Railroad Records and Railroad History: Methods for Tracking," by Paula Stuart-Warren, followed by Stephanie O'Connell on "Reconstructing the Lives of Female Irish Ancestors." All VCGS lectures are free and open to members and the public. Non-members may request a Zoom invitation at https://venturacogensoc. org/request-invitation-to-lecture/. Please note that VCGS cannot respond to same-day requests. VCGS is an all-volunteer, public-benefit non-profit corporation [501(c)(3)]. Donations are greatly appreciated. For more information: https://www.venturacogensoc.org.

March 17: Ventura East Rotary is holding our second annual St Patrick's Day party at Topa Topa brewery on Colt street Ventura from 1-6 pm . The Party includes Irish music and food plus Topa Topa brews a special St Patrick's Day beer for this event.

All proceeds go to the Ventura Medical Center Ronald McDonald Family Room "Walk for Kids" fundraiser. Ventura East Rotary meets Thursday at noon at Poinsettia Pavilion, visitors are welcome to learn about how Rotary makes a difference in our community and world.

March 17: Anyone interested in timepieces, both antique and modern, can join the Ventura County chapter of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors for a watch/clock marketplace, lunch, and a presentation on a horological topic. Bring a watch or clock for a free evaluation at 11 a.m. at the Campus Student Center of Ventura College, 4667 Telegraph Road. nawcc-ch190.

com. For Details, contact: Bob McClelland, Director, Public Information

(818) 225-8212 rjmcclel@pacbell.net

March 19: Ventura Senior Men's Group. We welcome new members, so feel free to visit during the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays for lunch. Your first lunch is free. Members pay \$25 for lunch and \$25 for annual membership. Mel Felix will give a presentation on Edward Curtis, the famous photographer. According to the Smithsonian, "Edward S. Curtis (1868–1952) undertook the most ambitious photographic project in American history—to take photographs of the Native Americans of the American West before their traditional lifeways disappeared. VSMG meets at the Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Rd.

### The Bookmark Continued from page 11

**Cherry@Ventura.org** Visit the Hill Road Library to pick up the latest selection.

Families and children are invited to visit the Hill Road Library at 3:14 pm on Thursday, March 14, to celebrate **Pi Day** -- for the love of math ... and pie. Pi Day is an annual celebration of math and learning, and it also happens to be Einstein's birthday, so come and celebrate – make circle art, print  $\varpi$  symbol cookie cutters on our 3D printer, and other fun Pi Day activities.

Discover Science on Saturday, March 23, 11:00 am to noon at Hill Road Library. This **Rainbow in a Jar** water density experiment with sugar uses only a few kitchen ingredients but produces an amazing science experiment for kids!

The Ventura County Library Foundation is bringing its **Rising from the Ashes Home Tour** back for its third year, on Saturday, April 20, 12:00 to 4:00 pm. This event, celebrating the strength and solidarity of the Ventura County community, features a select number of homes beautifully rebuilt after the Thomas Fire. To purchase tickets, visit https://www.vclibraryfoundation.org/Proceeds benefit the Ventura County Libraries.

Priends of the Library Bookstore in E.P. Foster Library is now open 7 days a week. Monday through Saturday, 11:00 am to 4:00 pm and Sundays, 1:00 to 4:00 pm. New donations arrive every week and the stock in our store is regularly refreshed. With our extended hours, we could use more volunteers to staff the store. If you would like to help, please stop by the store and speak to a volunteer or email bookstore@ventura-friendsofthelibrary.org.





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For each Farm Lab field trip, SEEAG gives schools \$300 for bus expenses.

# SEEAG's "Bus Bucks" Fundraiser For Student Farm Field Trips

Each year, elementary school students travel by bus to Students for Eco-Education and Agriculture's (SEEAG) free Farm Lab program at Petty Ranch in Ventura and Allan Hancock College's Demonstration Orchard in Santa Maria. While at the farms, students learn about the farm origins of their food. Funds raised through SEEAG's current "Bus Bucks" fundraiser will help offset school bus expenses so that field trips remain entirely cost-free to students, teachers and schools.

For each Farm Lab field trip, SEEAG gives schools \$300 for bus expenses. Currently, SEEAG is scheduled to host 70 field trips in 2024. To ensure there are enough funds to pay for transportation, the Bus Bucks' goal is to raise \$20,000.

"High transportation costs often prevent schools from offering field trips," says Mary Maranville, founder and CEO of SEEAG. "We don't want transportation to be an obstacle. If we receive enough donations during the Bus Bucks campaign, thousands of Ventura, Los Angeles and Santa Barbara county students will be able to travel from their schools to one of SEEAG's Farm Lab locations."

In the 2022/23 school year, SEEAG educated 7,547 students from 21 school districts about local agriculture during

58 field trips to its two Farm Labs. That number is projected to increase to 10,600 students from 83 school districts in the 2023/24 school year. Most students have never been to a farm. Many who attend are low-income, Title 1 students.

To make a Bus Bucks donation, go to https://www.seeag.org/bus-bucks. For more about SEEAG's ag education programs, go to www.seeag.org. To watch a video about how donations are used, go here.

Founded in 2008, Students for Eco-Education and Agriculture (SEEAG) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that aims to help young students understand the origins of their food by bridging the gap between agriculture and consumption through its agricultural education programming. SEEAG's "The Farm Lab" program teaches schoolchildren about the origins of their food and the importance of local farmland by providing schools with classroom agricultural education and free field trips to farms. Through this and other SEEAG programs, over 100,000 elementary school students in Central and Southern California have increased their understanding of the food journey. For more information, visit www.seeag.org or email Mary Maranville at mary@seeag.

red container designed to store water at construction sites or other areas where water supply is needed.

The Ventura Water Pure project is using baker tanks so that they can treat the water and test it to make sure that it is clean before the water is released into the ocean. They have a permit with the State of California that allows the Project to discharge clean groundwater Into the harbor through storm drains

Baker Tanks are typically made from heavy-duty materials to withstand harsh conditions and have a high capacity for holding significant volumes of water. The Baker tank makes it a convenient and efficient solution for construction projects, as it provides a readily available water source. Moreover, it aids in controlling groundwater levels, preventing excess water accumulation and potential flooding.

The Baker Tank on Anchors Way is being utilized to treat and test water before it is discharged into the ocean by providing a controlled environment for various water treatment processes. The tank

allows for the addition of treatment chemicals and allows any necessary reactions to occur. Furthermore, it enables the monitoring and testing of water quality parameters such as pH levels, turbidity, and contaminants. By using a Baker tank, water can be effectively treated and tested, ensuring compliance with environmental regulations before it is safely discharged back into the environment

Overall, Baker tanks play a pivotal role in construction and groundwater management, facilitating smoother operations and healthier environments.

# Bingo Night Fundraiser for The Parkinson's Foundation

It's time to mark your calendars! The Parkinson's Foundation and the Ventura County Neurofitness Center are hosting a Bingo/Talent Show to support fundraising efforts for the Parkinson's Foundation. The event will be held Friday, March 15th from 7-9pm at the Ventura Marina Community Clubhouse located at 1215 Anchors Way in Ventura. The event will include 5 regular games of Bingo, a talent show, desserts, coffee & water.

Doors open at 6:00pm with regular bingo games starting promptly at 7pm. Entry fee is \$10

per person plus \$5 buy-in for bingo. Every game has a minimum \$100 prize value (Amazon, Wood Ranch gift cards). Talent show starts at 8pm immediately following the bingo games and will feature the many talents of our local community.

This event is open to the public and 100% of the proceeds go directly to support the Parkinson's Foundation and its mission to improve care and advance research toward a cure.

"We are partnering with the Parkinson's Foundation to raise money for our relentless pursuit of a cure for Parkinson's," said Dr. Vanessa White, Director of the Ventura County Parkinson's Support Group. Dr. White added that she would love for you to be a part of this fun-filled night you won't want to miss," and she "hopes to make this an annual event" held in conjunction with the Foundation's Moving Day event (scheduled for Saturday, April 13th this year from 9-11am at the Ventura County Fairgrounds).

Seats are limited to 200 attendees and this exciting event will fill up fast—please arrive early with your friends and family and the bingo fun will start promptly at 7pm—all for a good time and an even better cause. For those unable to attend this event, but would still like to support the Parkinson's Foundation, please visit the A-Team page (on the Parkinson's Foundation website—Ventura County Moving Day—http://www3.parkinson.org/goto/ATeam\_2024) to make donations directly through the Parkinson's Foundation website.



No, it's not for old DVD's or CD's.

# The Red Box on Anchors Way

by Patricia Schallert

If you drive, walk or bike down Anchors Way, you might happen to see a big red box and no, it's not for old DVD's or CD's. It's called a Baker tank and it is commonly used in construction for the purpose of holding groundwater. It is large and durable





### by Pam Baumgardner VenturaRocks.com

March 17th is coming up and several venues will offer live music to entice patrons through their doors to celebrate St. Patrick's Day and the Irish culture. Of course, the City of Ventura will have their annual St. Patrick's Day parade; but, on the day before, Saturday, March 16. So, if you plan to head out for some rollicking fun on Sunday then may I suggest you celebrate the patron saint of Ireland along with a very special milestone? That would be the 15th anniversary of VenturaRocks.com. That's right! I launched the website on March 17, 2009, and have never charged the venues or the bands to be listed on the calendar of events, and it's always been free to the end users, so many of which swear it's their bible when it comes to live music in our town. Many thanks to Bruce Barrios for offering to host the party at Tony's Pizzeria from 3-7 pm with live music from the Brandon Ragan Project as well as special appearance by the Ventura City Firefighters Pipes and Drums. I hope you can swing by!

Billed as Jazz in the House, the Ventura Theater will host a Sunday afternoon concert, free to the public, featuring the award-winning jazz bands from Cabrillo Middle School and Ventura High School. It's truly inspiring that these schools continue to offer music programs when so many other schools cannot. Both programs are supported by the memberships of their Booster organizations (both 501(c)3 non-profits). This is a perfect way to support budding musicians by attending and showing them some

City of Ventura has announced this year's Music Under the Stars lineup for the summer of 2024; however, tickets do not go on sale until May 9, so you have plenty of time to map out which shows you plan to attend. Here now, the lineup: an 80s dance party with Identity Theft on July 13; the Smooth Sounds of Santana play on July 20; a Steely Dan revue with Pretzel Logic on July 27, it's a fun combo of Stones vs Rod Stewart with Start Me Up on August 3; a unique spin on blues, Rock & Americana with Dirty Cello on August 10; R&B, pop, jazz top-40 with Phazze One on August 17; an Eagles tribute with Dark Desert Highway on August 24 and a high-energy Latin dance band, Susie Hansen Latin Band to wrap up the series on August 31.

Quick Notes: tickets are on sale now for Todd Rugren's June 23rd concert at Libbey Bowl in Ojai; Jodi Farrel will hold a Master Class at Namba on Saturday, March 9; Spencer the Gardener plays the Ojai Underground on Saturday, March 9; it's the debut of Mick Stovers Blues Band at Margarita Villa on Saturday, March

Ventura BREEZE

9; and Save Ferris plays the Ventura Music Hall on Saturday, March 16.

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

**The Angry Ferret Brewery** 11990 Hertz St., Moorpark Fri 3/15: Whole Hog

### Aqua Beachfront Bar (Crowne Plaza) 450 E. Harbor Blvd., Ventura

Wed 3/6: Jerry Breiner (solo) Wed 3/13: Déjà vu Too

### **Boatyard Pub** 1583 Spinnaker Dr., Ventura

Music 6-9; except Thurs 4-9 Wednesdays: Frank Barajas Thursdays: Jim Friery (4 pm); Bluegrass Jam (6:30 pm)

Fri 3/15: Teresa Russell & Stephen Geyer Sat 3/16: Déjà vu Three

### **Bombay Bar and Grill** 143 S. California St., Ventura

Thursdays: Ventura Blues Night Sat 3/9: Hong Kong Frenzy, Vivant, No Idea, Wicked AR5, Punk Hazard

### Café Fiore

### 66 S. California St., Ventura

Fri 3/6: Bryan McCann Fri 3/8: Brittney & the B-Sides Tues 3/12: Open mic and jam Wed 3/13: Donna Butler Fri 3/15: Heathers on Fire Tues 3/19: Frank Barajas

### Cantara Cellars 126 N. Wood Rd., Camarillo

Fri 3/8: Chris Cain Thurs 3/14: Paul Byrom Fri 3/15: Ignition (unplugged) Sat 3/16: Bad Habit

### **Copper Blues**

### 591 Collection Blvd., Oxnard

Fri 3/8: Side Traccs Sat 3/9: On Tap Fri 3/15: Class X Sat 3/16: Corazon de Mana

### Deer Lodge

### 2261 Maricopa Hwy., Ojai

Fri 3/8: Windows, Marmalade Mountain, AI Lover Sat 3/9: Regina Ferguson

Fri 3/15: Buck Moon Sat 3/16: Early Moods, Ardi, Goner

### **Duke's Beach Grill** 1124 S. Seaward Ave., Ventura

Sat 3/9: Heavy Rotation Sat 3/16: Mark Masson

### **Four Brix**

### 2290 Eastman Ave., Ventura

Fri 3/8: On Tap Sun 3/10: Cary Park Fri 3/15: Heart and Soul Sun 3/17: Strummed Down

### Garage

### 1091 Scandia Ave., Ventura

Fri 3/8: Brittney & the B-Sides Sat 3/9: The Renegades Fri 3/15: Faultline

Sat 3/16: Duncan and the Dragonslayers Gigi's Cocktails

### 2493 Grand Ave., Ventura

Sat 3/9: Disrupted Euphoria, I Greater than He, Hung Bunny

### The Grape 2733 E. Main St., Ventura

Tues: The Gratitude Jazz Jam Wed 3/6: RJ Mischo Blues Showcase Thurs 3/7: Idiomatiques Fri 3/8: Special EFX All Stars feat. Chieli Minucci, Karen Briggs, Lao Tizer, Joel Rosenblatt & Dave Livolsi

Sat 3/9: Rob Rio (2 pm); One Shot Deal pays Zappa (8 pm)

Thurs 3/14: The Angelo Velasquez Trio

Fri 3/15: Barrelhouse Wailers Sat 3/16: RJ Mischo (2 pm); Paul Peress Project (8 pm)

### **Keynote Lounge**

### 10245 Telephone Rd., Ventura

Thursdays: Open Mic Fri 3/8: Vinyl Gypsies Sat 3/9: Ventu Park Band

### **Leashless Brewing** 585 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura

Fri 3/8: Ashtiani

Sun 3/10: Mark Masson's Jam Grass Experience

Thurs 3/14: Heavy Rotation (acoustic) Sun 3/17: Animo Cruz

### **Libbey Bowl**

### 210 S. Signal St., Ojai

Fri 3/8: Norman Foote Everyone Sings!

### Limon y Sal

598 E. Main St., Ventura

Music 1-4 pm Sundays: In Stone

### Majestic Ventura Theater

### 26 S. Chestnut St., Ventura

3/6: 311, Sitting on Stacy Sat 3/9: The Brook & the Bluff Sun 3/10: Jazz in the House Thurs 3/14: Reverend Horton Heat, Dale Watson, Jason D. Williams Fri 3/15: Frank Turner & the Sleeping

### Souls, Skinny Lister Manhattan

### 5800 Santa Rosa Rd., Camarillo

Thursdays: Tom McMorran Wed 3/6: Robert Van Fri 3/8: Tour Support Sat 3/9: Jeanne Tatum Trio Wed 3/13: Warren Takahashi Fri 3/15: Jeanne Tatum Trio

### Sat 3/16: Pam and Hollywood Margarita Villa

### 1567 Spinnaker Dr., Ventura

Fri 3/8: Colette Lovejoy Band Sat 3/9: Mick Stover Blues Band Sun 3/10: Smokey & Friends Fri 3/15: Brittney and the B-Sides Sat 3/16: Operation 90s

### Sun 3/17: CRV Mrs. Olson's

### 2800 Harbor Blvd., Oxnard

Sun 3/10: Teresa Russell Sat 3/16: Pat Todd & the Rankousiders, The Robot Uprising, Seirens, Garry Dunn

### Namba Arts

### 47 S. Oak St., Ventura

Sun 3/10: The Listening Room Fri 3/15: Hiroya Tsukamoto Sat 3/16: Lauren Hulbert

### The Ojai Pub

914 E. Ojai Ave., Ojai Sun 3/17: Whole Hog

Ojai Underground Exchange

### 616 Pearl St., Ojai

Thurs 3/7: Elisabeth Carlisle w/ Shanti Kettles Sat 3/9: Spencer the Gardener

Fri 3/15: James Lee Stanley Sat 3/16: Jay Dudes

### Ojai Valley Brewing 307 Bryant St., Ojai

Sat 3/16: TD Lind & the Avaitors Sun 3.17: Cliff Beach

### **Onyx Bistro**

### 2390 Las Posas Rd., Camarillo

Fri 3/8: Jack Keough Sat 3/9: Raw Honey Band Fri 3/15: Natalie Wattre Sat 3/16: George Krikes

### The Raven Tavern

### 1651 S. Victoria Ave., Oxnard

Fri & Sat 7 pm; Sundays 2 pm Fri 3/8: Looking West Sat 3/9: Teresa Russell Sun 3/10: Tyler Blair Fri 3/15: The Dirty Lowdown Sat 3/16: Vinyl Gypsies

### Ric's Restaurant Sports Lounge 2500 Las Posas Rd., Camarillo

Tuesdays: Tour Support Wed 3/6: Karyn 805

### **Rincon Brewery**

### 4100 Telegraph Rd., Ventura

Fri 3/8: Vanisse Terry Band

### Sam's Place

### 308 E. Ojai Ave., Ojai

Sun 3/16: D.on Darox and the Melody Joy **Bakers** 

### The Shores

### 1031 Harbor Blvd., Oxnard

Fri & Sat: 9 pm; Sundays 1 pm Fri 3/8: CRV Sun 3/10: Adrian Floy & THC Sun 3/17: Doc Rogers Band

### The Six

### 419 E. Main St., Ventura

Thurs 3/7: Morrison Drive Fri 3/8: Led Tasso Sat 3/9: Irie Nature Fri 3/15: Skeleton Keys Sat 3/16: The Uproots

### The Star Lounge 343 E. Main St., Ventura

Sat 3/9: The Caverns

### **Strey Cellars**

951 N. Rice Ave., Oxnard Sat 3/9: Operation 90s

### Sat 3/16: Caught Red Handed Tierra Rejada Golf Club

15187 Tierra Rejada Rd., Moorpark Fri 3/8: Recharged Sat 3/9: Nightlife Tues 3/12: Beer Choir

### Tony's Pizzeria

### 186 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura

Sun 3/10: House Arrest Sun 3/17: Brandon Ragan Project

### The Twist on Main 454 E. Main St., Ventura

Tuesdays: Tuesday Blues Day w/ Hot Roux & guests

### Fri 3/8: JD & Friends Vaquero y Mar

### 435 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura

Sundays: Mariachi

Tuesdays: The Sea Hunter, Lowered Expectations

Wednesdays: The Jelly Jam Band

### Ventura Coast Brewing Co.

76 S. Oak St., Ventura

Sat 3/16: Casual Business, The Brasscals

### Ventura Music Hall

### 1888 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura

Wed 3/6: Enjambre Thurs 3/7: Badfish, Grieves, The Kaleido-

scope Kid Sun 3/10: Veeze, Talibando Fri 3/15: Blackstar, U2 Experience

### Winchesters

### 632 E. Main St., Ventura

Sat 3/16: Save Ferris

Music Thurs 5:30; Fri 7 pm; Sat 3 pm; Sun 3 pm Thurs 3/7: Frank Barajas & Joe

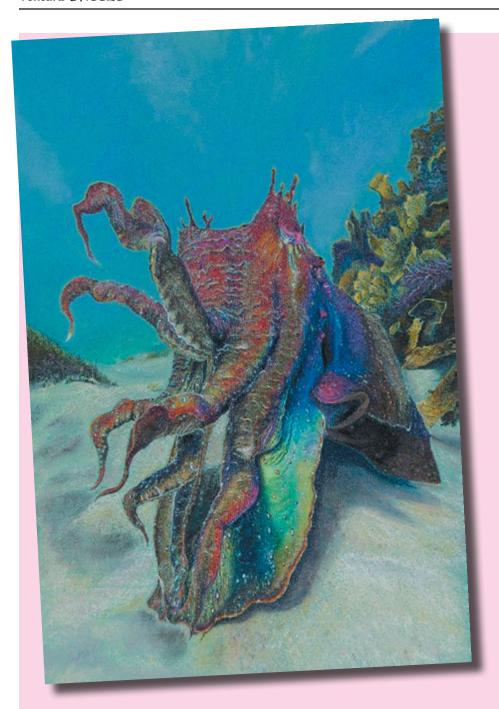
Hamilton Fri 3/8: Steve & Sally Williams

Sat 3/9: Blown Over Sun 3/10: Chris Murphy & Friends

Thurs 3/14: Brandon Ragan Fri 3/15: Dianne Miller Trio Sat 3/16: Doc Ventura

Sun 3/17: The Pipes





Enjoy the art of Carrie Bezler.

# Art Based Scholarship for VUSD 12th Graders Due March 27

Rotary Club of Ventura is excited to offer the Staci Johnson Ingram Memorial Perspectives on Peace Scholarship for Ventura Unified 12th graders who will be pursuing higher education and/or career training. In the 6th year, the scholarship asks students to provide an artistic response for their thoughts on peace.

The Perspectives on Peace Scholarship embraces a broad spectrum of artistic expression, inviting students to submit entries in various formats such as video, photography, dance, music, poetry, digital art, industrial art, paintings, sketches, multimedia work, and more. According to Ken Leandro, Youth Services Director for the Club, "Past submissions have showcased the diverse talents and innovative approaches of students in envisioning and advocating for peace."

This year, the first place award is \$5,000 scholarship with 5 additional Artist of Distinction Awards available at \$1000 each.

Applications for the Staci Johnson Ingram Memorial Perspectives on Peace Scholarship are open now through March 27, 2024. For application and more information please visit perspectivesonpeace.org.

# At Studio 99 @ The Bell Arts Factory

Our next solo exhibitions in Studio 99, Buenaventura Art Association's gallery and headquarters at Bell Arts Factory in Ventura, will feature two artists' viewpoints on the wonder—and increasing volatility—of humanity's relationship to our world.

Eva Montealegre will present oil paintings on canvas she says draw from "ancient charts and cave drawings and tribal characterizations" to explore "our life's blood connection to all that is." "Blood Mandala" is what Montealegre names her show.

Carrie Bezler, who signs her work REY, will display selected pastel drawings in "Returned to the Sea," a title alluding to her recent California return after a dozen years in Germany. The show will include pieces from her "ocean-inspired ... mostly realistic" Sea Creatures series, she said.

Art lovers can meet and talk with the artists during First Friday open gallery receptions from 6-9 p.m. April 5. Exhibit Runs until April 27, 2024.

# Ojai events

Dance Ojai, a newly established dance arts organization, proudly announces the inaugural Ojai World Dance Festival, celebrating cultural diversity and artistic creativity. The festival will take place on Saturday, April 20th, 2024, from 7-9 PM at the iconic Libbey Bowl in Ojai, California.

The Ojai World Dance Festival promises to be a mesmerizing evening of vibrant and magnetic multicultural dance performances featuring highly acclaimed artists from around southern California. Audiences will be treated to diverse dance styles, including Indian classical dance, flamenco, samba, contemporary, and more, showcasing the rich tapestry of global dance traditions.

Join Dance Ojai for an unforgettable evening of celebration and unity at the Ojai World Dance Festival. Tickets are available online at www.OjaiDanceFestival.org.

For more information about Dance Ojai and the Ojai World Dance Festival, please visit www.DanceOjai.org or contact their team at contact@danceojai.org.

Visit the Ojai Library at 2:30pm on Sundays in March, April, and May to participate in the library's new Wonder Workshop craft program!

Calling all curious minds and creative souls! The Ojai Library is thrilled to announce the launch of its newest event series, the Wonder Workshop, designed specifically for adults eager to explore the world of fiber arts. Led by Library Technician Tawny, each month will bring a unique focus on a different topic, promising an enriching and hands-on experience for participants.

The Wonder Workshop series aims to provide a welcoming and engaging environment where adults can delve into various fiber arts methodologies, learn new skills, and unleash their creativity. Whether you're a seasoned crafter or a complete beginner, there's

something for everyone in this exciting lineup.

These events are free and open to the public. For additional information, contact Ron Solórzano, Regional Librarian, at (805) 218-9146 or ron.solorzano@ventura.org.

The Ojai Library is located at 111 East Ojai Avenue in Ojai, CA. Hours of service are 10am to 8pm Monday through Thursday and 12pm to 5pm Friday through Sunday.

# Valdez Alley echoes Ventura's history

by Richard Senate

Perhaps a simple instructive sign should be installed on Main Street to let visitors and local residents know the importance of this small walkway, Just down from the Old Mission, it dates back long before the coming of the Spanish Padres. It was used by the Chumash people. It is named for Ramon Valdez, a Spanish soldier who built an adobe home here for his young Chumash bride in 1820. Remarkably the structure stood for many years and served many purposes. It was a livery stable and for some time a Mexican Restaurant called "El Viejo Adobe,"

Here Santiago Olivas, the son of Raymundo Olivas, worked as a cook. Before that it was our first polling place where, in the historic election of 1860, all nine eligible voters cast their ballots for Abraham Lincoln (he didn't carry the county because all of Santa Barbara went for his rival Stephen Douglas). At that time Ventura was part of Santa Barbara, a union that mixed like oil and water. Then the alley went to a small brick building built by the Spanish to purify the local water and repurposed by the Americans into our first jail. It served as the local lock-up from 1866 to 1869. Perhaps a few signs could tell of the unique history of this narrow walkway in Ventura's early years.



March 6 to March 19, 2024

# Lighter Breeze















The Spats







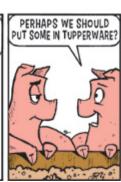
Out on a Limb

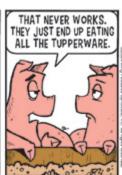


**Amber Waves** 

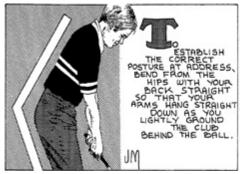








Play Better Golf with Jack Nicklaus





Solutions on page 13

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

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

by Linda Thistle

Price a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each sina: 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one la nine

### DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

 Moderate → ◆ Challenging ♦ ♦ ♦ HOO BOY¹ трудия вестиональной

Solutions on page 13

# King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1. Not so hot?
- 5 Dog tags, e.g. Quick look
- 12 Antioxidant berry
- 13 French vine-
- yard 14 Impetuous.
- 15 Dungeon's quality
- 17 Actress Rae 18 Small batteries
- 19 Detroit hoopster
- Like a neglected lawn
- 24 Coop group 25 Within (Pref.)
- 26 Foppish behavior
- 30 Caustic
- cleaner 31 Loud
- 32 Dean's list stat
- 33 Writer Steel 35 Three- -
- sloth.
- 36 Barn birds 37 Travesty 38 "Jane Eyre"
- author Tofu source
- 42 Chicago's Mayor Lightfoot
- 43 Hanging loosely 48 Location

- emperor.
- forte
- - 5, 2024 King Features Syndi, Inc.

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51					52				53			

- 49 Swiss canton 10 Canadian gas 35 "Fearless" brand
  - Roasting spot
  - Church song
- 52 Domino spot 53 Harvest
- DOWN
- Bankroll 2 Obamacare
- acronym. Scooted
- Japanese
- 5 Frosts a cake 26 Prettified
- Hitchcock
- Bridge posi-
- 21 Use a blowtorch 22 New Age

villain.

20

16 Aye undoer

"500" race

"Star Trek II"

- singer 23. Genesis gar-
- den. 24 Salutes
- 6 Hosp, workers 27 Composer Stravinsky
  - 28 Detail, briefly Overly proper 29 Created
    - 31 Salamander 34 Sea off Sicily

- singer Swift 37 Boating hazard
- 38 Humdrum
- 39 "Gilmore Girls" daugh-
- 40 Utah city 41 Use scissors
- 44 'Exodus' hero
- 45 ' had it!" 46 Museum-
- funding org. 47 Econ, measure

WITH THE CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR ADVERTISERS, DONORS AND READERS, WE CONTINUE TO BRING LOCAL NEWS AND IN-FORMATION TO VENTURA (NOW IN OUR 14TH YEAR). THE COVID PANDEMIC HAS AFFECTED ALL SMALL BUSINESSES, AND LOCAL NEWSPAPERS HAVE BEEN DEEPLY IMPACTED AS WELL AS THEY ARE SOLELY DEPENDENT ON ADVERTISING REVENUE. WE CONTINUE TO ASK OUR LOYAL READERS TO HELP SUPPORT THE BREEZE. WE LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING OUR MISSION OF BRINGING YOU THE INFORMATION IMPACTING VENTURA.

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# **Show Time**

# Eisenhower: this Piece of Ground

### by Patricia Schallert and Yana Khiyod

"A perfectly cast John Rubinstein, brings our 34th president back to life in a drama filled with timely political lessons from a leader who put country over party."

Los Angeles Times

Introducing "Eisenhower: This Piece of Ground"! Prepare to be captivated and provoked by this remarkable theater production that delves into the life and achievements of the iconic Dwight D. Eisenhower. With meticulous research, author Richard Hellesen has crafted a truly engaging narrative, bringing to life the incredible journey of this renowned

Presidential figure.

Through vivid storytelling, Eisenhower, takes a transformative journey from military general to President and the lasting impact he had on the nation. Tony award winning, Broadway and Hollywood star, John Rubinstein is a fascinating and charismatic actor, with perfect comedic timing. John Rubinstein's portrayal of Eisenhower is nothing short of a masterpiece. His uncanny comedic tempo combined with his captivating presence, truly brings this historical figure to life on stage. As he delves into the life and achievements of the

iconic Dwight D. Eisenhower. his performance was both stimulating and thought

Set in 1962, one year after Eisenhower's presidency, the show depicts him diligently working on his memoirs at home, while stinging under the recent low presidential ranking given to him by historians in New York Magazine. He intimately shares with the audience, the great and small moments of his life, the things he is immensely proud of (creating NASA, signing Civil Rights legislation, balancing the budget, leading the Cold War, and modernizing US transportation by creating the Interstate Highway System), the things he is conflicted about (all the soldiers who died under his command in the Normandy invasion on D-Day), and

his most painful moments (the guilt he feels over the death of his three year old

Doug Halter, Councilman from District 2 said, "This masterpiece performance is thought provoking and timely to today issues and not to be missed and it is hoped that Eisenhower's legacy will continue to inspire generations."

Eisenhower: This Piece of Ground brings us vibrantly into the past while commenting and gaining insights into current issues today. This performance runs through March 10th at the Rubicon Theater in Ventura.

Catch this sensational performance, Eisenhower: This Piece of Ground at the Rubicon Theater is running through March 10th. Don't miss out!

# 96th Annual Academy **Awards**

### **Oscars submitted by Cindy Summers**

Hosted by Jimmy Kimmel Sunday, March 10 on ABC Dolby Theatre, Hollywood

### **2024 Oscar Nominations Most Categories:**

Oppenheimer

13 nominations Poor Things

11 nominations

Killers of the Flower Moon

10 nominations

Barbie

8 nominations American Fiction

5 nominations

### **Best Picture**

American Fiction Anatomy of a Fall

Barbie

The Holdovers

Killers of the Flower Moon

Maestro Oppenheimer

Past Lives

Poor Things

The Zone of Interest

Annette Bening, Nyad

### **Best Actress**

Lily Gladstone, Killers of the Flower Moon (\*1st Native American woman ever nominated for Best Actress) Sandra Hüller, Anatomy of a Fall

Carey Mulligan, Maestro Emma Stone, Poor Things

### **Best Actor**

Bradley Cooper, Maestro Colman Domingo, Rustin Paul Giamatti, The Holdovers Cillian Murphy, Oppenheimer Jeffrey Wright, American Fiction

### **Best Supporting Actress**

Emily Blunt, Oppenheimer Danielle Brooks, The Color Purple America Ferrera, Barbie Jodie Foster, Nyad Da'Vine Joy Randolph, The Holdovers

### **Best Supporting Actor**

Sterling K. Brown, American Fiction Robert De Niro, Killers of the Flower Moon Robert Downey Jr., Oppenheimer Ryan Gosling, Barbie

### Mark Ruffalo, Poor Things **Best Director**

Justine Triet, Anatomy of a Fall Martin Scorsese, Killers of the Flower Moon

Christopher Nolan, Oppenheimer Yorgos Lanthimos, Poor Things Jonathan Glazer, The Zone of Interest

### **Best Original Song**

"The Fire Inside," Flamin' Hot "I'm Just Ken," Barbie "It Never Went Away," American Symphony "Wahzhazhe (A Song for My

People)," Killers of the Flower Moon "What Was I Made For?" Barbie

### **Best International Feature**

Io Capitano Perfect Days Society of the Snow The Teachers' Lounge The Zone of Interest

### **Best Animated Feature**

The Boy and the Heron Elemental Nimona Robot Dreams

Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse

### **Best Animated Short**

Letter to a Pig Ninety-Five Senses Our Uniform Pachyderme War Is Over! Inspired by the Music of John & Yoko

### **Best Live-Action Short**

The After Invincible Knight of Fortune Red, White and Blue The Wonderful Story of Henry

### **Best Documentary Feature**

Bobi Wine: The People's President The Eternal Memory Four Daughters To Kill a Tiger 20 Days in Mariupol

### **Best Documentary Short**

The ABCs of Book Banning The Barber of Little Rock Island in Between The Last Repair Shop Ni Nai and Wài Pó

The list of nominations for the following categories, as well as a playlist of trailers for the primary categories can be found on our website: www.venturabreeze.com/ showtime/

2024 Oscar Nominations Best Original Screenplay Best Adapted Screenplay Best Cinematography Best Original Score Best Editing

Best Production Design Best Costume Design

Best Makeup and Hairstyling Best Sound

Best Visual Effects



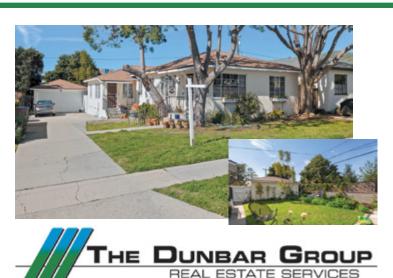
The St. Bonaventure football team was recognized at the February 13 City Council Meeting for their recent season, where they secured a 12-4 overall record for 2023.

This past September, the Seraphs took home the CIF Division 3 Champions title in a dramatic win for the first time in 15 years.







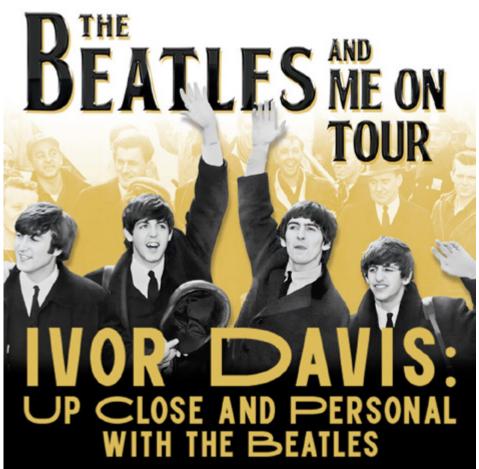


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# "The British are coming! The British are coming!"

On March 23, at 1pm, Ventura "historian" and author Ivor Davis will introduce his new 60th anniversary "Beatles and Me On Tour" book—and promises to reveal all-despite the consequences. The true story behind the story. The presentation will be at the Portside Ventura Harbor located at 1196 Portside and Schooner Dr. His presentation is free (when presented at the museum it cost \$20.00).

Sixty years ago an unlikely quartet from England-Liverpool to be precise-invaded America-and conquered the nation in what turned out to be a bloodless revolution.

We are talking, of course, about 1964, the historic year that John Paul George and Ringo showed up in America—and without spilling a drop of blood were triumphant as they re-wrote rock and roll history. And in doing so, thousands of young women—from sea to shining sea-- fell at their feet as the Beatles offered to hold their hand!

Ivor Davis had an exclusive front

On March 23, at 1pm, Ventura row seat as this invasion exploded. Embedded with the raiders, he will reveal behind the scenes details of this astonishing coup.

How the USA surrendered to these four lads from Britain, without a single shot being fired!

Breeze publisher Sheldon Brown will be the moderator for the presentation and would love to have you attend. There will be a Q&A after. And wine and snacks will be served.









CityofVentura.ca.gov/EmailNewsletters