



VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

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Left to Right: Seventh graders Samantha Anter - Protos House, Feliz Vergeer - Altruisma, Rowan Gonzalez - Nukumori, Daisy Vergeer - Onraka; Noelle Brennan - Onraka.

Anacapa Student House Rally Rocks!

by Shirley Lorraine

Since 2022, Anacapa Middle School has adopted a “house” system that has resulted in a substantial increase in student enthusiasm, sense of belonging and academic achievement.

The students are divided into four houses (a la Hogwarts) when they enroll. They choose a plastic egg. Contained within is a rubber bracelet donating, by color, which house they will enter. They keep the same house throughout their tenure at the school. In this way, 6th, 7th and 8th graders can work together, with continuity, form new friendships and alliances and learn at new levels.

The four houses are Altruismo, House of Givers, Nukumori, House of Kindness, Protos, House of Success, and Onraka, House of Unity. Each house has its own crest, creed, color, mascot, symbol and focus.

At the high-spirited rally, many students and teachers alike dressed in their house colors, waving banners and cheering wildly. The atmosphere was electric with excitement. Students participated in trivia and obstacle competitions for their houses.

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Ventura Land Trust Seeks Community Input for Renaming Mariano Rancho Preserve



Ventura Land Trust (VLT) has announced the launch of a community-driven campaign to rename its newest preserve, currently known as Mariano Rancho Preserve. The 1,645-acre property, located in the hillsides behind the City of Ventura, holds significant importance to the organization, as it was the acquisition of this land in early 2020 that inspired the founding of VLT.

Since acquiring Mariano Rancho, VLT has focused on raising funds to pay off the acquisition loan and preparing the preserve for its public opening in 2025. A major milestone was achieved in 2022 when Assemblymember Steve Bennett secured \$7.2 million in state funding to support these efforts.

In anticipation of its public debut, the
Continued on page 3

California Misses Opportunity to Protect Ocean Animals from Dying in Set Gillnets

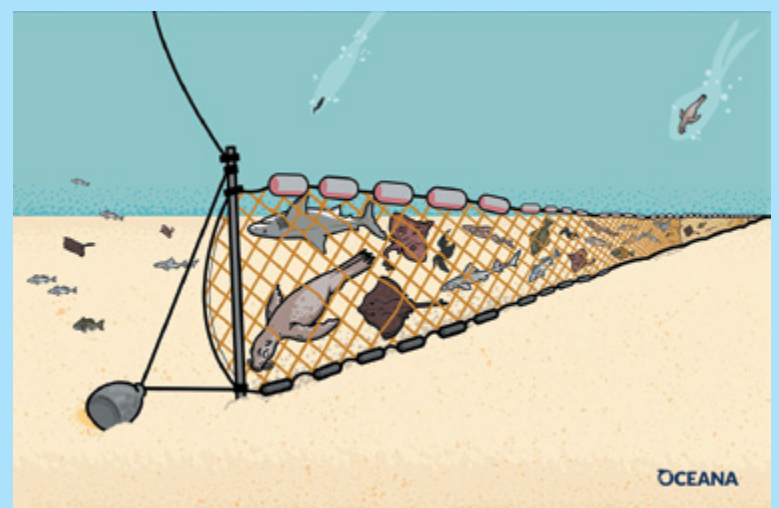
Stronger action is needed to clean up one of California’s dirtiest fisheries

by Oceana

The California Fish and Game Commission failed to address the high rate of discarded ocean animals – like sea lions, seabirds, sharks, and other fish – in the state’s set gillnet fishery. In a 3-2 vote, the Commission went against its Marine Resources Committee members and adopted weak fishery regulations that will continue to put California’s ocean biodiversity at risk.

The regulatory package the Commission voted on during its August 14 meeting included three management measures: setting maximum soak times for nets; setting net height; and requiring gear marking. In particular, changing the maximum soak time could have

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Channel Islands Wildlife Dying in Set Gillnets and Research Expedition to Protect Biodiversity



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Your Hometown Paper

Member, Ventura Chamber of Commerce

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“The reason I talk to myself is because I’m the only one whose answers I accept.”
– George Carlin

City News

15-20 cubic yards will fill about 1 bobtail truck – 1 cubic yard equals about 1 truck bed.

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Free Compost & Mulch Program

The City of Ventura is now offering the Free Compost and Mulch Program to City residents and businesses.

What is the program?

The program is a partnership with organic waste recycler, Agromin, to provide free mulch and compost to City residents and businesses. The program is a way to give back to residents for participating in the Food Waste Recycling Program and will help the City comply with Senate Bill 1383 regulations.

How do I participate?

Residents and businesses can pick up free compost at Cornucopia Community Gardens from sunrise to sunset OR order mulch and compost for pick-up or delivery directly from Agromin using the instructions below. Residents and businesses can place up to four orders of Compost 100 and up to four orders of Cover Mulch from Agromin using the respective coupon codes from January 1 to December 15, 2024. A delivery cost of \$135 per order applies.

Need a small amount of compost and have a way to shovel it into containers in your car/truck? Choose pickup at Cornucopia.

Have a truck /trailer and want the mulch or compost scooped in with a loader without extra costs? Choose pickup at Agromin.

Need a lot of mulch or compost, or don't have a truck? Choose delivery.

Only the end user of the mulch/compost can make an order. A landscape contractor cannot order on behalf of a client. Landscape contractors must have their client (resident or business)

place an order with Agromin and list the address where the mulch/compost will be used.

Businesses that need more material than the limits listed can call Agromin directly to place a larger order.

Pick-Up Instructions via Agromin (Free)

- Step 1: Visit shop.agromin.com to start your order.
- Step 2: Select your preferred material type (ES2 Mulch or Compost 100).
- Step 3: Select your preferred quantity and head to “My Cart” to checkout Note: The minimum amount for pickup is ½ cubic yard (covers about 50 square feet with a 3-inch depth). The maximum for Compost is 15 cubic yards, and the maximum for Mulch is 20 cubic yards.*
- Step 4: Enter “billing” info and select pickup.
- Step 5: At final checkout, enter the coupon code CITYVCOM24 for Compost 100 or CITYVES224 for Cover Mulch.
- Step 6: Bring proof of residency (I.D. or utility bill) and a pickup truck or open-top trailer to pick up your compost or mulch at Agromin (201 Kinetic Drive, Oxnard, CA, 93030) during business hours: M-F: 9 am – 3:00 pm, Saturday: 8 am – 11 am.
- Step 7: Show your paper or digital receipt at Agromin to collect material.

Delivery Instructions via Agromin

(Delivery fees apply)

- Step 1: Visit shop.agromin.com to start your order.
- Step 2: Select your preferred material type (ES2 Mulch or Compost 100).
- Step 3: Select your preferred quantity and head to “My Cart” to checkout Note: The minimum amount for delivery is 3 cubic yards. The maximum for Compost is 15 cubic yards, and the maximum for Mulch is 20 cubic yards.*
- Step 4: Enter “billing” info and select “ship to my address.” Note: deliveries are only available to zip codes 93001, 93003, and 93004.
- Step 5: At final checkout, enter the coupon code CITYVCOM24 for Compost 100 or CITYVES224 for Cover Mulch.
- Step 6: Pay the \$135 delivery fee. Note: An Agromin representative will contact you to schedule delivery. Each product within the minimum and maximum purchase amounts will incur a delivery charge. Products cannot be mixed together during delivery. Each product needs to be delivered in a separate Bobtail Truck.

*Agromin pick-up and delivery services are intended for residents who need larger product quantities. Smaller quantities may be picked up at Cornucopia Community Gardens and will still be available at pickup events throughout the year.

<https://www.cityofventura.ca.gov/2524/Free-Compost-Mulch-Program>

Amazon launches its first-ever Disaster Relief Hub in California

In response to the growing wildfire crisis across the state, Amazon is launching its first-ever Disaster Relief Hub in California, and first hub dedicated to wildfire relief in the U.S. Strategically located in San Bernardino Valley, this first-of-its kind disaster relief hub that leverages Amazon’s logistics to store and deliver critical supplies to impacted communities as quickly as possible.

As climate change accelerates the frequency and intensity of wildfires worldwide, Amazon is enhancing its disaster relief capabilities in the communities where we operate.

The United Nations projects a 14% increase in extreme wildfires by 2030 due to climate change. Having a dedicated facility where these items are ready to be shipped allows Amazon to send help in less than 72 hours, much faster than if teams had to pack and consolidate the products from different facilities across the country.

With the help of relief organizations working in wildfire-impacted regions, including American Red Cross, Good 360, After The Fire, and All Hands All Heart, we leveraged our data and their forecasts to stock the Hub with

products that households and individuals need as they return to their communities after a fire.

The more than 6,000 stored items include wildfire mitigation equipment such as axes, goggles, masks, rakes, shovels, smoke pumps, and soil sifters; and personal supplies including fire-safe rubber boots, high-particulate matter filtration respirators, hydration packets, neck gaiters, specialized gloves, trauma kits, and more.

The hub’s inventory has been meticulously curated in partnership with non-profit organizations working directly in wildfire-affected regions. www.aboutamazon.com/news/community/amazon-wildfire-disaster-relief.

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



The Mission Aqueduct: An Engineering Marvel

by Richard Senate

When Father Junipero Serra founded Mission San Buenaventura on March 31, 1782, he placed a padre with an engineering background in charge, with orders to secure a reliable water source for the Mission Settlement. Although the Mission was located near the mouth of the San Buenaventura River, Serra knew the river was mostly dry year-round, and a dependable water supply was essential for the new Mission to thrive.

The plan was ambitious: a seven-mile aqueduct that would connect a dam on the San Antonio Creek with the Mission, following the contours of the mountains as it gently descended to the settlement. This aqueduct would be the longest in California at the time. Built using river cobbles, tiles, and Roman cement, the construction was carried out by the Mission converts who would ultimately benefit from the project. Today, the dam is gone, destroyed during the construction of Highway 33 north of Casitas Springs. Only a few fragments of this early California engineering marvel remain, most notably off Canada Larga, where Roman-style arches once spanned a creek. What was once a vital structure now resembles little more than a stone wall.

Because the workers were laboring so far from the Mission Church, a temporary settlement of reed jakals (huts), the traditional housing of the Chumash people, was established. To meet their spiritual needs, a small adobe chapel was built and dedicated to Santa Gertrudis. According to legend, the project was attacked by Chumash who resisted conversion to the new religion and European ways. They swarmed the construction site, forcing the workers and padres to flee. The attackers tried to destroy the aqueduct but were largely unsuccessful until soldiers from the Mission dispersed them.

Despite these challenges, the work slowly progressed towards the Mission, where the aqueduct terminated at a hill behind the settlement. There, a red brick building was constructed to filter the water using charcoal and sand before diverting it via clay pipes to the five fountains that adorned the Mission. These fountains were not merely decorative; they provided the settlement with drinking water. Filtered through this

system, the water—always known for its peculiar taste in Ventura—became as clear as modern bottled water. From the hilltop structure, additional aqueducts carried water to the extensive gardens, vineyards, and orchards that supported the growing Mission community.

The aqueduct served what would eventually become Ventura for generations, providing water even after Mission times. It was only after a rainstorm partially demolished the aqueduct in the early 1860s that it ceased to function. There was once a proposal to erect a monument to honor this engineering feat and perhaps preserve the section at Canada Larga, but it was never realized. Nonetheless, the story of this unique structure deserves to be remembered as an integral part of our history.

The water building still stands today on Valdez Alley, once known as “El Caballo” due to a fountain that was believed to be shaped like a horse’s head. However, evidence suggests the fountain was actually shaped like a lamb. Despite this, the nickname “El Caballo” persisted through Mission times, adding yet another layer to this Mission mystery.

Anacapa Student House Rally Rocks Continued from page 1

According to Assistant Principal Petra McCullough, the need to find a way to re-invigorate students in the learning environment post-Covid was essential. This program, led by the Ron Clark Academy in Atlanta, Georgia, seemed to be just what the school needed – a new outlook and a stimulating way for students and faculty to reengage. Now in its third year at Anacapa, the program appears to be an overwhelming success.

The program emphasizes leadership and opportunities for all students. For the first time, in the near future, four student leaders, one from each house, have been chosen to attend a Leadership Academy session in Atlanta to further their skills.

Each of the student leaders I spoke with enthusiastically emphasized the value of the system that encourages working together, having fun and achieving academic success. Their excitement and pride were infectious.

To learn more, visit the school’s website at www.anacapa.venturausd.org

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Ventura Land Trust Seeks Input Continued from page 1

preserve is undergoing extensive evaluation and improvement. Biological studies are being conducted across the property to guide decisions on public access and ecological restoration, including the placement of trails, trailheads, restoration projects, and parking facilities.

“As a science-based organization, we are committed to making informed decisions that will ensure the long-term sustainability of the preserve,” said VLT Executive Director Melissa Baffa. “We plan to manage this land in perpetuity, and the choices we make now must be scientifically sound to protect the preserve and the land trust’s mission for generations to come.”

With the future in mind, the naming of the preserve has become a focal point of the organization’s efforts.

“We believe the preserve’s name should reflect cultural and historical relevance, inclusivity, and be worthy of its place in perpetuity,” Baffa explained. “While ‘Mariano’ may indeed be the right

name, we want to give our community the opportunity to contribute to this decision, as the chosen name will resonate throughout Ventura forever.”

The renaming campaign will unfold in phases. The first phase, now open, invites community members to submit up to three name suggestions per person. Nominations will be accepted through the end of October. VLT’s Board of Trustees will then review the submissions and select the top names for a final round of voting in December. The new name will be revealed in February, aligning with Ventura Land Trust’s anniversary.

To participate in the nomination process, visit the Ventura Land Trust website. Each individual may submit one nomination form with up to three name suggestions. Forms with incorrect contact information or exceeding the one-form-per-person limit will be excluded from consideration. The final decision rests with the Ventura Land Trust Board of Trustees.

For more information, visit: www.venturalandtrust.org/marianoranchopreserve/renaminge.

On Vacation – Italy



Eileen Doyle enjoying the Breeze in Venice, Italy



National Heirloom Expo returns “healthiest and happiest” event to Fairgrounds

Kenny Milton’s exquisite carvings will be on display

by David Goldstein

Kenny Milton says the “culture” of inmates at his workplace “isn’t always healthy.” His hobby, on the other hand, has taken him to a place of joy and community.

He is a maintenance worker at the Ventura County Jail, but every chance he gets, he pulls out a chainsaw, chisel, grinder, and paint, and he creates and paints wooden sculptures, often starting with a large tree stump. Milton’s work includes a 20-foot sculpture carved from a palm stump in Ventura, on the corner of Foothill Road and Seton Hall Avenue, and a large eagle in Ojai, near the corner of Ojai Avenue and Bryant Street. His “Abstract Humanoid” carving won Best of Show in the Professional category at the Ventura County Fair last month and will soon be on display, along with three 12-foot chickens, at an event he called “maybe the healthiest place I have ever been, and one of the happiest too.”

Milton was referring to the National Heirloom Exposition, a three-day festival with more than 150 vendors and exhibitors, 5 stages of speakers and entertainment, a farmers’ market and a food court with free samples. Promoted as “the world’s largest pure food fair,” the expo is coming back to the Ventura County Fairgrounds for a second year, 9 AM to 9 PM daily from Tuesday, September 10, to

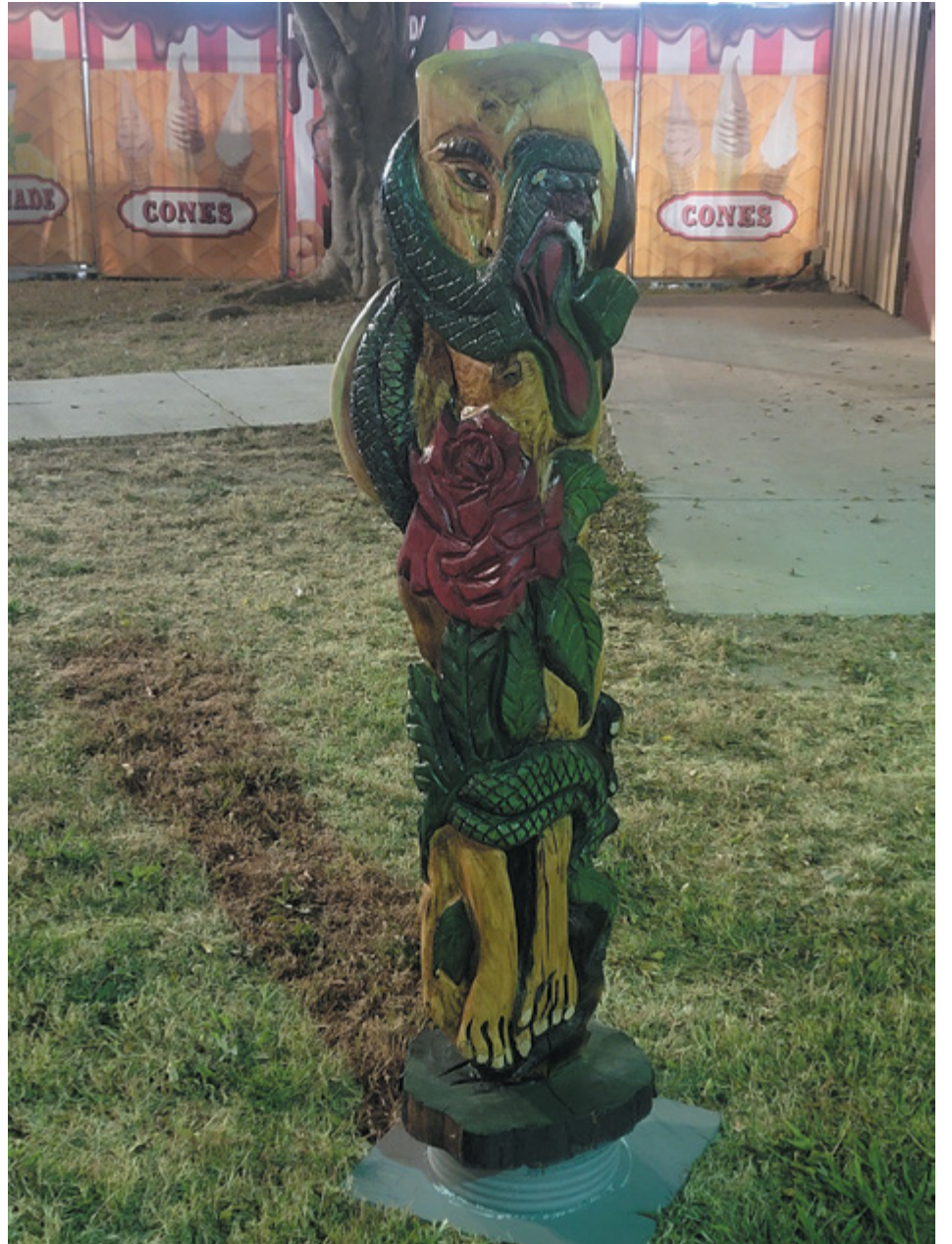
Thursday, September 12.

Last year, Milton and about 10,000 others enjoyed sampling unusual varieties of fruits and vegetables, marveled at a giant squash tower, learned about gardening and farming, and brought home seeds. Baker Creek Heirloom Seed Company is the primary sponsor and organizer of the event, and the company will sell seeds in both Vendors’ Halls, but one of the biggest attractions last year, and scheduled again this year, seems to be in direct competition with the company’s sales. A seed exchange offers participants heirloom varieties of free seeds.

“The culture of seed swap,” said Milton, “is what it’s all about.”

Event organizer Eric Werbalowsky, a Ventura-based eco-business consultant, agreed the seed swap is the heart of the gathering and further explained, saying, “This is not like a commercial event or an insider’s group; newbies are especially welcomed.” Experienced gardeners put seeds in labeled envelopes, place them in the share area, and anyone can come and take some. This “giving without expectation” is “radical outside of families or close-knit communities,” he continued, “and the benevolence of it leads people to ask, ‘What can I do to help?’”

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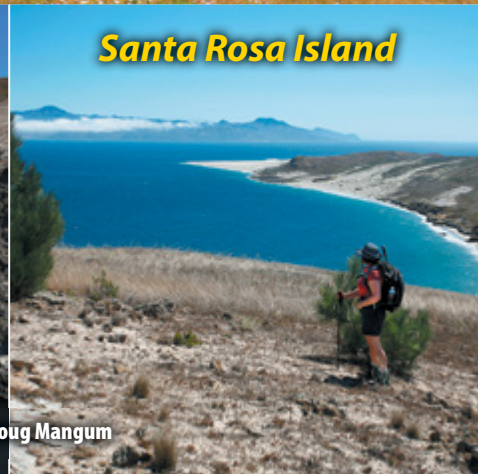
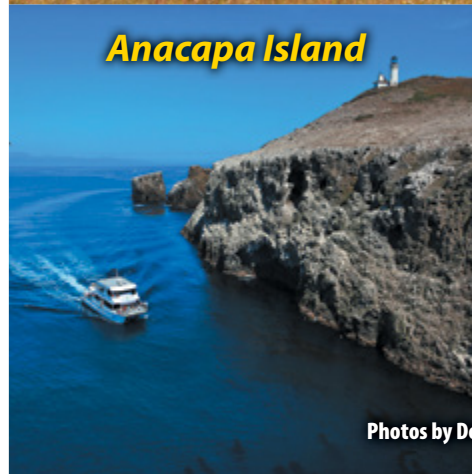
Best of Show in Professional category at VC Fair. Abstract Humanoid for sale - \$5,000. Photo by Kenneth “Kenny” Milton.

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Santa Cruz Island Photo by Diane Edmonds



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Twenty foot sculpture carved from a palm stump on the corner of Foothill Road and Seton Hall Avenue in Ventura. Photo by Kenneth “Kenny” Milton.



California Misses Opportunity
Continued from page 1

reduced the number of animals killed by this fishery. Soak time, or service interval, is the amount of time set gillnets are fishing just off the ocean floor. The longer these set gillnets, stretching up to 20 football fields in length (or 6,000 feet) are passively fishing on the ocean floor, the more animals that die. A 24-hour service interval would have reduced the mortality of incidentally entangled wildlife by 22-33%. Instead of taking the opportunity to reduce wildlife mortality caused by the nets – with minimal impacts to the fishing fleet – by reducing soak times to 24-36 hours, the Commission enshrined the status quo in regulation, allowing set gillnets to remain in the water for 48 hours. The soak time adopted by the Commission runs counter to the recommendation from the Commission’s own Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) for a soak time of less than 48 hours to reduce mortality of dozens of species of ocean animals. Similarly, the Commission voted to maintain the current net height.

Additionally, the Commission adopted insufficient gear marking for the nets, creating a harmful precedent that may perpetuate the issue of unknown gillnet entanglements. Often when whales are entangled, the origin of the gear remains unknown because very little gear is uniquely marked. Whale entanglement sightings have increased across fisheries along the West Coast over the last several years, and robust fishing gear marking is an important part of reducing these incidences. If fishery managers know exactly which gear is entangling whales, they can adjust fisheries to reduce interactions. In this case the Commission voted to mark the gear with a simple tracer-line, or streamer, every 120 feet on the top line of the gillnet, leaving most of the gear unmarked and not able to be uniquely identified.

In 2018, the Department and independent scientists determined that the set gillnet fishery poses the highest risk to ocean ecosystems of all state managed fisheries. The Commission’s actions follow years of work by the Commission’s Marine Resource Committee, Department, Oceana and other environmental

groups, wildlife rescue centers, and sport fishermen to instate management that could have resulted in tangible protections for wildlife in one of California’s dirtiest fisheries.

“The California Fish and Game Commission missed the mark by failing to implement reasonable measures to reduce injury and death to ocean wildlife in one of California’s most harmful gear-types,” said Caitlynn Birch, Oceana’s Pacific Marine Scientist. “Set gillnets pose threats to the recovery of protected and previously overexploited species such as great white sharks, depleted giant seabass, and tope sharks. Californians have already established they don’t want these nets off our coast and this fishery is among the only California fisheries now on Monterey Bay Aquarium’s Seafood Watch Red List. Yet, the Commission voted not to select a commonsense measure that could have reduced the injury and mortality of countless animals in these nets. Our fisheries must be managed with a precautionary approach, true to the sustainability standards of the state’s guiding fishery management law that protects biodiversity and supports healthy and resilient ecosystems.”

“Impacts to ocean life from the set gillnet fishery in Southern California’s waters have been out-of-sight, out-of-mind for far too long,” said Assemblymember Steve Bennett (D-Ventura). “Current practices are simply not sustainable. It’s time to broaden the protections in place for ocean life from the impacts of set gillnets. The Channel Islands are ecologically and culturally significant. We benefit from its biodiversity and beauty, and it is under threat. California must continue to lead on sustainable fishing practices for all who enjoy and make a living from our ocean.”

Background

Set gillnets are used to catch California halibut and white seabass and have the highest bycatch rates of any California fishery by number of animals, catching more than 100 different species such as vulnerable sharks and marine mammals. California set gillnets were originally banned in Northern California waters back in 1915 due to bycatch concerns. California voters passed Proposition 132 in 1990 due to continued bycatch concerns, which prohibited the use of set gillnets



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within state waters off the Southern California mainland (0-3 nautical miles) and within one mile of offshore islands. In the late 1990s, scientists discovered set gillnets were also killing an alarming number of federally protected marine mammals and seabirds. In response, the California Fish and Game Commission banned the use of these nets off the Central California Coast in 2002. Due to the complexities of these various actions, most Californians are unaware that while set gillnets are banned in state waters off the Southern California mainland (0-3 nautical miles), they are still being used in federal waters, offshore banks, and in state waters from 1-3 nautical miles around California’s Channel Islands, with continued high rates of bycatch.

Set gillnets are the only fishery allowed to incidentally catch and sell great white sharks and giant seabass. These nets also entangle gray whales and endangered humpback whales migrating along the California coast. Last month, the Monterey Bay Aquarium’s Seafood Watch program downgraded the California white seabass set gillnet fishery to its Red List due to bycatch and management concerns, urging businesses and consumers to avoid white seabass or yellowtail caught with set gillnets. More selective hook and line fishing methods are already well-established for catching California halibut and white seabass that have significantly less bycatch and yield higher prices for fish considered better quality seafood than gillnet caught fish.

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What the Ventura Foghorn Tells Us

by Nella Nelson

Ventura's fog often rolls in during May and lingers well into July, giving rise to the familiar terms "May Grey" and "June Gloom." Sometimes the fog burns off by afternoon, while other times, the marine layer persists, turning into a light drizzle that clings to the coast throughout the day. On particularly dense fog days, windshield wipers are a must during early mornings or late evenings.

The simple explanation is that inland heat causes an increase in coastal fog, commonly known as our marine layer. William Patzert, a retired climatologist with NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, explains, "The marine layer develops offshore, where low clouds form as air sinks over the cold ocean water. A contrast in temperature—between hot inland air and cool ocean air—tends to draw the marine layer onto land. The bigger the contrast, the stronger the marine layer moving onshore."

During the summer, the cooling effect of the marine layer attracts visitors from inland areas, eager to escape the scorching temperatures.

"In everything from kayaks to large boats, you've got to go slow and use your equipment to avoid a collision," advises John Higgins, Ventura Harbor's Harbormaster.

The familiar "boop boop" sound echoing across the ocean and fields is the comforting call of Ventura's foghorn, located at the tip of the

south jetty.

"It's basically just a raised stick on a horn with a red marker," says Brendan Donohue of the Ventura Harbor Patrol. Interestingly, the foghorn can be activated by the public. Boaters can tune to VHF Channel 81 and "cue it five times," Donohue instructs, "and it will sound for half an hour."

But how foggy is Ventura compared to other places? According to the Farmers' Almanac, Point Reyes, California, takes the top spot with 200 foggy days per year, where visibility is often reduced to mere feet. The foggiest place in the world is Grand Banks, Newfoundland, which endures 206 days of dense fog annually, thanks to the collision of the chilly Labrador Current with the Gulf Stream. In comparison, Ventura averages 92 foggy days per year, according to Business Forward Ventura County—putting our fog into perspective.

Ventura Harbor's microclimate tends to gather most of the area's fog, as the shore cools it immediately. So, the next time you hear the fog horn's signal, remember the inland heat you're happily escaping.

Sources:
"Why Is There So Much Fog Lately in Ventura County?" by Gretchen Wenner, Ventura County Star, August 17, 2019.
"5 Foggiest Places in North America," Farmers' Almanac.



A Passion for Growing and Protecting Our Agriculture

“Life begins the day you start a garden.” – Deb Larmon

by Leon Rousso

When I first met Debbie Larmon, she and her husband, Baxter, had just moved in next door. Little did I know that I was living next to someone who would soon become a local legend.

It wasn't long before I discovered that Debbie worked in the wine-growing regions of Ventura County, where she focused on improving soil health and protecting crops from pests. Her expertise eventually led her to co-found Buena Ventura Farms, a business that has flourished not only because of her talent but also due to the vital importance of their work.

Buena Ventura Farms has since expanded its services, shifting focus from wineries to managing citrus and avocado farms. The company handles everything from installation and pest control to fertilization and harvest. Under Debbie's leadership, they've been instrumental in eradicating harmful insects while

promoting beneficial ones, playing a key role in keeping the Asian Citrus Psyllid (ACP) under control.

Since starting her business, Debbie has been a vital asset to Ventura County farmers and neighboring communities, ensuring that our fruits and vegetables remain healthy and safe for consumption now and in the future. Her efforts have also contributed to the strength of our agriculture industry.

Debbie's passion for this line of work began in childhood. An avid insect collector, her interest in bugs blossomed into a career that now benefits not only the agricultural industry but also her personal gardening hobby.

What's remarkable is that Debbie cultivates her thriving garden in just a 144-square-foot plot behind her College Terrace home. Her efforts have earned her an impressive array of awards at the Ventura County Fair, including 16 first-place prizes, eight

second-place, and three third-place ribbons for her vegetable entries this year alone. This continues a six-year streak of winning first-place awards, with a collection that grows each year.

In addition to her gardening accolades, Debbie is a licensed Pest Control Advisor for Ventura County's agricultural sector. Her research and expertise also extend to other counties across California. Her favorite vegetables to grow include tomatoes, peppers, zucchini, and squash, but she has also won medals for her jams, jellies, and canned vegetables. As her neighbor, I can vouch for how delicious her produce is—and her jams and jellies

are nothing short of amazing. Sadly, they're not for sale!

Debbie's company partners with local agricultural giants like Limoneira and AGRX to maintain healthy crops year after year. Her work has helped keep Ventura County's agriculture industry thriving, even as states like Florida and Texas struggle with pest devastation, particularly from the Psyllid.

We are incredibly fortunate to have someone like Debbie standing guard over our agricultural resources. Thank you, Debbie, for all you do for our community, and here's wishing you luck in making it seven years in a row!

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Local military families gifted stunning playhouses by Habitat for Humanity volunteers.

Habitat for Humanity Volunteers Build Playhouses for Local Military Families

by Patricia Schallert

Habitat for Humanity of Ventura County is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing affordable housing for those in need, with a special emphasis on supporting veterans and their families. By partnering with local communities, Habitat organizes impactful initiatives to benefit these groups.

On Saturday, Aug. 24, hundreds of community members and organiza-

tions came together, eager to connect, volunteer, and enjoy a fun-filled day. The Ventura County Volunteer Fair, organized by Habitat for Humanity of Ventura County in partnership with Portside Ventura Harbor—event sponsor and host—turned into an inspiring day of unity, service, and celebration. Market by the Sea, a nonprofit organization that hosts markets and events, showcased more than 50 local

vendors presenting their homemade goods in support of the initiative. Local nonprofit organizations also set up booths, offering information and engaging visitors to promote various opportunities for community involvement, aiming to inspire residents to volunteer and actively contribute to the community's enrichment.

The Playhouse Build Day, organized by Habitat for Humanity of Ventura County, was a vibrant community event focused on constructing three custom playhouses. The event united volunteers, local residents, veterans, and families in a collaborative effort to build, decorate, and deliver these playhouses directly to the military families' homes. Volunteers worked on the Playhouse Build in Portside's plaza, constructing three playhouses for the children of military families. These playhouses were designed not only as safe and imaginative spaces for children but also to foster a sense of community and support for families who have made significant sacrifices for the country. Through the commitment of volunteers and generous donations, Habitat for Humanity transforms lives by building homes, instilling hope, and creating cherished memories for veterans and their children.

Support for military families during these events goes beyond the physical structures. Crystal Star, volunteer director for Habitat for Humanity of Ventura County, said, "The playhouses symbolize appreciation and respect for the sacrifices made by the military community. Building

and decorating these playhouses create joyful and creative spaces for families." Habitat for Humanity underscores the significance of fostering connections and establishing a supportive network for military families, ensuring they feel valued and embraced by the wider community. These initiatives highlight the importance of stability, comfort, and happiness for children, ultimately enhancing the lives of those who have served our country.

Teams of all kinds participated in building playhouses, including corporate groups, faith communities, youth and school organizations, community associations, and groups of friends. Each playhouse required 3-4 hours to build and paint, with support from 8-10 volunteers. All materials were pre-cut and delivered to the location, making it easy for teams to build and decorate. Multiple playhouses were constructed simultaneously, engaging even more participants in this rewarding experience.

"It was heartening to bring together so many local organizations doing incredible work throughout Ventura County," said Habitat Ventura's CEO, Darcy Taylor. "This event provided a fantastic opportunity for all of us to attract new volunteers and amplify our causes. We also extend a special thank you to Portside Ventura Harbor, our sponsor and co-host, for generously providing the space and helping make this event such a success."

For more information about Habitat for Humanity of Ventura County, visit www.HabitatVentura.org or call (805) 485-6065.

NAMBA PERFORMING ARTS SPACE
UNITING COMMUNITIES THROUGH THE POWER OF PERFORMANCE

Playwrights' **SPLASH** WEEKEND **2**
4th Annual Festival

NAMBA's Top Picks of the 2024 Hollywood Fringe Festival

Young playwrights are making a Splash at NAMBA!



THE GODMOTHER
Friday, Sept 20, 8 pm

This play explores the life of Griselda Blanco, one of the most notorious drug lords of the late 70s, during the height of the cocaine boom. Witness Griselda's ruthless decisions and the twisted morals that defined her reign, as she battles to provide a better future for her family amidst fierce competition with figures like Pablo Escobar.



MERMAID
Saturday, Sept 21, 8 pm

An evocative, personal story that intertwines themes of culture, memory, and mythology, bringing a unique blend of humor, tragedy, and magical realism to the stage. The narrative follows an American bridesmaid with her Nigerian relatives at a family wedding who discovers that her deteriorating health is linked to an ancient mermaid goddess and a mysterious drowning ceremony.



MAGIC FOR ANIMALS
Sunday, Sept 22, 7 pm

Prepare to be dazzled and enlightened by this unique one-woman magic show written and performed by the talented Liz Toonkel. "Magic for Animals" combines humor, magic, and activism to address pressing issues such as animal welfare, climate change, and sexism.

47 SOUTH OAK STREET, VENTURA, CA
Buy Tickets Online at NambaArts.com
\$20 online, \$25 at the door
Want to come to more than one show? Packages available!

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SPLASH MORE ON WEEKEND 3!
THE FUNNY THING ABOUT
A PANIC ATTACK: OCT 18
RESILIENT AF: OCT 19
MICTLAN: OCT 20



In Loving Memory of Norman Thomas George: A Life of Service, Family, and Joy

With heavy hearts, we announce the passing of Norman Thomas George, a beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, uncle, and friend. Norm peacefully passed away at home on August 1, 2024, into the arms of the Lord.

Born on July 20, 1931, in Santa Barbara to Willis and Agatha George, Norm was raised in Ventura, California. He graduated from Ventura High School in 1949 and enlisted in the Coast Guard, where he served honorably from 1951 to 1954. During his service, he met his first wife, Doris, in Louisiana. They later returned to Ventura, where Norm earned his degree from Ventura Community College in 1956. He went on to graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo in 1958.

Norm began a long and successful career with Shell Oil Company, working there for thirty-one years until his retirement in 1989. It was during his time at Shell that he met and married Joan, his loving wife of forty-two years. Together, they traveled ex-

tensively, exploring the U.S. and abroad.

Family was at the heart of Norm's life. He cherished camping and boating vacations with his large family and delighted in playing Santa Claus for loved ones, organizations, and his local daycare center. A man of many memberships, Norm was involved with the American Petroleum Institute, Petroleum Pioneers, Shell Retirement Club, and Ventura Retired Businessmen's Club. His dedication to serving others extended to feeding the homeless with Catholic Charities for twenty-five years.

Norm was preceded in death by his parents, his brothers Willis George (Varene) and Arnold George (Jean), his sisters Claire Northon and Diane George, his ex-wife Doris, and his daughter-in-law Tina Allen. He is survived by his devoted wife Joan, his sons Gary George (Diane), Steve George, and Craig George (Debbie), his daughter Sandra Verdoorn, and his stepdaughters Joanne Bohnert (Gene) and Jeanette Yanez (Jim). He also leaves behind thirteen grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren.



Moby's on Main enjoyed a Chamber Ribbon Cutting and Public Open House on Aug. 22. See their Business Profile on page 11 of the 6/26 issue: venturabreeze.com/volume-17. Photo by Ashley Pope.

Visit Ventura Honored with U.S. Travel Association Award for Collaboration with Key Stakeholders and Local Community

For the first time, Visit Ventura received the U.S. Travel Association ESTO Destiny Award for Community Engagement during X Games 2023

Visit Ventura is extremely proud to announce that they are a recipient of the U.S. Travel Association 2024 ESTO Destiny Award, winning the Community Engagement award for their creativity and collaboration with key stakeholders, small business owners, and the community to celebrate the X Games across Ventura, weaving the international sports event into the fabric of the town. This is the first ESTO Destiny Award Visit Ventura has received.

The award was presented at the U.S. Travel Association's 40th annual ESTO conference—which recognizes U.S. Travel destination and state tourism office members for excellence and creative accomplishment in destination marketing—where over 1,000 attendees representing states, regions, and cities from all over the nation attended.

"Judges noted that this campaign was a success story to rival all others with all of the tactics precisely on target. Building a foundation with a partnership between the X Games, the city, county, and state, they had local businesses embrace the games," said ESTO awards emcee Sally Hogshead at the ceremony.

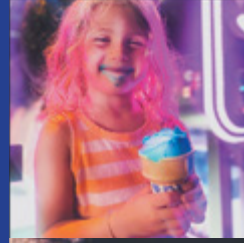
Visit Ventura was the only California destination in its category, among the other finalists for the Community Engagement award included Visit Austin, Visit

Mesquite, and Travel South USA. Visit Ventura was one of only three California destinations that won an ESTO Destiny award this year.

The Community Engagement category was judged on how the destination marketing organization demonstrated its value to stakeholders, how local businesses and tourist attractions were supported by the tourism office, and how the tourism office collaborated with and involved smaller attractions and local businesses.

Visit Ventura worked with over 40 local businesses in a city-wide initiative creating limited beer—that was sold on Amtrak trains—and cocktails releases, food items, and other products to showcase the creativity and passion of local businesses to locals, visitors, and X Games athletes alike. Members of the Chumash tribe performed X Games' first-ever traditional blessing in front of athletes and media, and local events brought the entire community together to celebrate the X Games.

"These two words—Community Engagement—have guided our daily drive to build economic vitality for Ventura while supporting our local businesses and celebrating a global event happening in OUR Ventura!" said Visit Ventura President and CEO Marlyss Auster. "I am so proud that the U.S. Travel Association has recognized our efforts to collaborate with our partners on the state, county, and local level to host a successful international event on our slice of the California coast playground."



Nestled amongst downtown Main Street's colorful collection of boutique businesses is Ventura's **FIRST** family friendly arcade bar experience **Moby's On Main**, a concept from local entrepreneurs Mitch and Mary Masoner, provides a curated collection of **video** and **merchandise** games for all ages and abilities! The newly opened space also boasts an impressive lineup of **Stern machines** sure to excite all pinball enthusiasts!

We're a little old school and a little new school, with plenty of bites and brews to fuel!

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

Mon - Tues 12pm to 10pm

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Business Profile



Corrales celebrates 50 years with a Chamber Ribbon Cutting on Aug 23rd. Photo by Ashley Pope

Corrales Mexican Food Celebrates 50 Years!

WOW! Half a century of authentic Mexican flavors and serving the Ventura community! On August 23rd and 24th, Corrales Mexican Food celebrated its 50th anniversary with a special Ribbon Cutting with the Ventura Chamber of Commerce and Mariachi, DJ, fun games, and good food!

Since 1974, Corrales has become not just a beloved to-go Mexican food spot, but an iconic establishment in the city of Ventura! The restaurant was founded by Leonor Corrales, on August 24, 1974. She brought her rich Mexican heritage from Zacatecas Mexico and her culinary expertise to Ventura. From its humble beginnings, Corrales set out

to offer an authentic taste of Mexican dishes, blending traditional recipes with fresh, high-quality ingredients—all made from scratch!

Over the decades, Corrales Mexican Food has grown from a small, shared space in a local tortilleria on Ventura Avenue into a staple in the community. Known for delicious/authentic Mexican dishes and friendly service, the restaurant quickly became a favorite among both locals and visitors.

The menu at Corrales features a range of classic Tex-Mex dishes, including the local favorite corn burritos, enchiladas, 4-way burritos, and more. The restaurant is particularly renowned for its flavorful

red salsa and expertly crafted dishes that honor traditional Mexican recipes. Every dish is prepared from scratch with care, using fresh ingredients daily and time-honored techniques.

Did you know that the burritos are made with ribeye steaks? There are also plans to include new seasonal items—so don't hesitate to ask about the secret menu that's in the works!

Today, Corrales Mexican Food stands as a testament to the enduring appeal of classic Mexican cuisine and the strength of family-run business-

es. Thanks to the dedicated local cooks who have been with us for over 30 years, Corrales continues to be celebrated not only for its delicious food, loyal employees, and patrons but also for its vital role in the Ventura community. It remains a cherished landmark of local culture and culinary tradition.

Come visit Corrales Mexican Food at 795 E Thompson Blvd. at the corner of Ash and Thompson! For more information, visit www.corralesmexicanfood.com.



1st Annual Government and Disability Summit: Sept 24 – Sept 27

Government and Disability Summit. This groundbreaking event held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel aims to shape the future of access and inclusion in California and beyond!

Representatives from local government agencies, non-profit organizations, and companies across the state are invited to:

- Explore innovative solutions addressing access barriers across various aspects of life.
- Engage in collaborative dialogues

with diverse stakeholders to co-create a more inclusive future for communities throughout California.

- Learn from leading experts in accessibility, policies, programs, and new and innovative ideas to increase and disability inclusion.
- Be part of a historic event shaping the future of access in California and beyond.

Don't miss this historic opportunity to make a difference! Register at govdisabilitysummit.org.



Senior Living

Don't Wait! Start Planning Medicare Coverage at 64

by Gregory Wright, CEO, United Healthcare Medicare & Retirement, California

If you're retiring soon or know someone who is, you're not alone. In 2024, a record 4.1 million Americans are expected to retire, with over 11,000 turning 65 every day. This phenomenon is sometimes referred to as "Peak 65" or the "Silver Tsunami" and will continue for the next several years - meaning a lot of people and their families are looking for answers about Medicare.

Companies advertising Medicare

plans and Medicare enrollment opportunities may open their commercials with a person asking - "I just turned 65. What are my coverage options?" With all the coverage options and first-time enrollment deadlines, people should begin

Continued on page 12



Gregory Wright



2024 Senior Expo of Santa Barbara - Active Aging for Seniors & Caregivers

Save the date for Santa Barbara's premier event for seniors and caregivers! Offering a plethora of activities and resources for active aging, the 2024 Senior Expo will take place on Thursday, October 17, from 9am - 12pm at the Earl

Warren Show Grounds in Santa Barbara. For over 30 years, Santa Barbara's Senior Expo has been a premier health fair and services exposition for older adults and caregivers. The 2024 Expo offers an exciting array of health screen-

ings and fun activities for seniors and those who care for them. More than 1,000 seniors attended the 2023 Senior Expo, which featured health screenings, exhibits, music, food, and activities for seniors and their caregivers. Flu shots were provided by Rite-Aid, including the senior dose for those 65+. Exhibitors included financial services, residential facilities, travel clubs, health care providers, home care services, government agencies, local nonprofits, Caregiver Café, and many more.

Highlights include:

- Live Music, 110+ Exhibits, Free parking, \$5 admission
- Free Haircuts, Photo Booth, Music...

and much more!!!

- Caregivers' Café - a relaxing place to receive support and information
- Blood Pressure Screening by VNA Health Loan Closet
- Glaucoma Screening by Lions Sight & Hearing Center
- Eye tests courtesy of SEE International
- Hearing Screening by Hearing of Santa Barbara
- Sansum Diabetes Testing & Counseling

For more information about the 2024 Senior Expo, email seniorexpo@fsacares.org or visit www.fsacares.org/senior-expo.



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Call (805) 491-9687 or visit ThePalmsBonaventureSeniorLiving.com today to schedule a tour and get a sneak peek of our renovations.



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Senior Living



Image by pch.vector on Freepik

The Beauty of Aging

by Leslie Sokol

Aging is one of life's greatest gifts, bringing with it a wealth of experiences, opportunities, and wisdom. As we enter our golden years, we find ourselves in a new phase filled with potential and strength. Over the years, we've learned resilience, patience, and determination, and we gain a deeper sense of acceptance and awareness.

Our accomplishments throughout life shape who we are, and with age comes a sense of calm and wisdom. We discover that aging opens up new choices and opportunities to live our best lives, especially when we stay active and engaged.

Being mindful about aging posi-

tively impacts our physical, mental, and emotional health. Staying connected to our inner selves fosters contentment, confidence, and happiness. Aging is a beautiful process, and there are countless reasons to embrace it with optimism and hope.

Here are just a few reasons to celebrate getting older:

- We have more choices
- Our relationships are richer
- We receive more discounts
- We're now the grown-ups with answers
- We worry less
- We have more free time

No matter our age, our bodies are designed to move. It's never too late to improve your health. Staying active and exercising are essential as we age, offering endless benefits. The best advice for healthy aging includes physical activity, eating well, and maintaining strong connections with friends and family. Your chronological age doesn't define how old you really are. For example, I have students in their 70s, 80s, and 90s—some of whom, in their 90s, are in the best shape of all my students, proving that everyone ages differently.

Exercise can help us age gracefully. Aerobic activity improves heart health, circulation, strengthens the immune system, burns calories, and releases natural feel-good endorphins. Weight-bearing exercises strengthen muscles and joints, help prevent bone loss, and promote the creation of new tissue.

So, how do we let our inner beauty shine through as we age? We embrace self-acceptance, nurture our physical and mental well-being, commit to lifelong learning, and maintain a positive outlook despite challenges. We treat others with kindness, explore new passions, practice gratitude, and reflect on what truly matters in life.

The goal of optimal aging is to achieve a higher level of function and slow the rate of decline as we age. We all strive to live longer while maintaining independence and quality of life in our later years. That's the true beauty of aging—being healthy, happy, and thriving.

About the Author

Leslie Sokol is the creator and founder of the adult dance and fitness program For the Young at Heart. She has been teaching adults and children for forty-five years. You can watch For the Young at Heart on her YouTube channel or on TVSB. Leslie also teaches in retirement communities throughout Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties.

For more information, contact Leslie at leslie@lesliesokolsdance.com, call 805-312-8089, or visit her website: www.LeslieSokolsDance.com.

Don't Wait! Medicare Planning Continued from page 11

planning early – and not wait until their 65th birthday to start thinking about their retirement health insurance needs and options.

Following are some tips to help you, a loved one, or an employee to plan for post-retirement health care and to enroll in Medicare:

- Think 3-1-3 – You are eligible to apply for Medicare coverage between the three months before you turn 65 – the month you turn 65 – and the three months after turning 65. This is referred to as your Initial Enrollment Period.

- Understand consequences of your choices – While you are not required to get Medicare, if you decide not to enroll at age 65 and do not qualify for a Special Enrollment Period, there may be penalties when you do enroll – and these can be costly.

- Celebrate your 64th birthday – Thinking about retiring and what is next can be stressful so take time to enjoy your birthday, relax and then start planning.

Begin planning right after your 64th birthday – Following are some questions to get you started.

- Am I required to get Medicare coverage?
- Are you planning to work past 65?
- Do you have coverage through your employer or spouse?
- Can I get dental, vision and drug coverage in addition to medical coverage?
- What if I cannot afford Medicare?
- What if my birthday falls during the Annual Enrollment Period? Or just before? Do I need to enroll twice? How long am I covered under my Initial Enrollment plan?
- What if I do not enroll on time?

While beginning to plan early should avoid having to contemplate the consequences of not enrolling on time, choosing the right Medicare plan may still seem confusing. Many pre-retirees may never have shopped for their own health insurance. They chose between plans offered through their employers – if in fact, they were offered options.

However, there are lots of resources that can help guide one's decisions. One good place to start is www.Medicare.com. You can also visit www.uhc.com/medicare/medicare-education/medicare-guide.html for information on plan benefits, details on various enrollment periods, and other resources to answer your questions.

Medicare plays an important role in the lives of people as they age. Making the right decisions right from the start can have long-term financial and health consequences so plan early – and you can fully enjoy a stress-free 65th birthday.

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Business Profile



Asiatique Eatery – Downtown Ventura

Dee began her career in the restaurant industry in her early 20s in Bangkok, apprenticing under her brother, who co-owned a Michelin-starred restaurant at the time. She comes from a family of restaurateurs, with four family-owned establishments currently thriving in Seattle, all of which remain well-known in the community.

Before marrying, Dee and her husband, Yak—who is also a chef—each owned and operated their own Thai restaurants in Bangkok. Over 16 years ago, they joined forces to open a successful joint establishment in Bangkok, @ 17 Garden Cafe, which they operated for more than seven years. Both Dee and Yak were often invited by various food networks to demonstrate their popular dishes on Thai television.

Driven by their deep-rooted passion for

authentic Thai cuisine, Dee and Yak stepped in to save Original Rice Thai Cuisine from a family ownership breakdown over 10 years ago. When Dee relocated from Bangkok to California in 2015 to take over the restaurant, she gradually diversified the menu, enhancing the offerings with signature dishes like coconut Tom Yum noodles and Khao Soi—a yellow noodle dish in creamy coconut curry broth topped with crispy fried noodles, green onions, red onions, and lime.

In 2021, Dee and her husband opened Asiatique Eatery to further showcase their culinary craft and expertise. Despite delays caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the restaurant officially launched in January 2022. The success of Asiatique Eatery can be attributed to their dedication to bringing the best dishes from various Asian cuisines to local patrons,

EST. 2021

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🌐 asiatiqueonmain.com

📍 546 E. Main Street, Ventura, CA 93001



including Pho noodle soups, various ramen, and unique shave ice combinations that just melt in your mouth. Some of the most popular dishes at Asiatique Eatery—favorites from their Bangkok restaurant—include Woon Sen Pad Horapa, Spaghetti Kung Pao, Spaghetti Pad Kiew Wan, and Spaghetti Tom Yum.

Earlier this year, Asiatique Eatery was recognized with 2nd place in the Vegan Challenge West, which led to the addition of a dedicated Vegan Menu section at the restaurant.

For your culinary adventures check out their menu and website at www.asiatiqueonmain.com.



Namba Performing Arts Space's 4th Annual Playwrights' SPLASH Festival Weekend #2

September 20 - 22

Namba Performing Arts Space is thrilled to announce the second weekend of its 4th Annual Playwrights' SPLASH Festival, a three-weekend celebration of innovative theater that will run from August 30th through October 20th. This year's festival brings to Ventura the

best of the Hollywood Fringe Festival, featuring eight carefully curated shows that highlight new voices in theater.

"Our first weekend was nothing short of spectacular!" states Executive Director, Tamara Varney. "Weekend Two's women's solo performances are

full of drama, myth, and magic. They are sure to make a splash with you."

Friday, September 20 at 8 PM, The Godmother

Kicking off the second weekend, we are proud to present "The Godmother," which brings to life the story of Griselda Blanco, one of the most notorious drug lords of her era. Melina Farahani's solo performance is guided by the intricate direction of the piece, offering a tale of power, sacrifice, and the indomitable bond between mother and son. This show is a profound exploration of family and the human condition.

Saturday, September 21, 8 PM, Mermaid

"Mermaid" intertwines a personal narrative with African mythology. Italomé Ohikhuare's solo show follows a Nigerian-American woman discovering a link between her health and an ancient mermaid goddess. This poignant and magical performance explores themes of identity, heritage, and healing.

Sunday, September 22, 7 PM, Magic For Animals

"Magic For Animals" closes weekend two on Sunday, September 22, at 7 PM, with Liz Toonkel's witty and insightful one-woman show that blends magic, humor, and activism. Toonkel, who is the actor, writer, and producer, uses allusions to explore pressing issues like animal welfare and climate

change, delivering a heartwarming and thought-provoking narrative.

Weekend #3 (October 18 - October 20) -

Mental Health Awareness/Poetry Weekend with "The Funny Thing About A Panic Attack" by Ben Kasso, "Resilient AF" by Kamakshi Hart, and "Mictlan" by Cristina Glezoro and Martin Arreola, with shows in Spanish and English.

The 2024 Playwrights' Splash Festival brings new playwrights to Ventura and provides a platform for emerging artists to share their stories. Support for the festival is provided by the City of Ventura Cultural Funding Grant Program and Ventura County Behavioral Health.

Learn more on NambaArts.com. Namba Performing Arts Space, 47 S. Oak Street, Ventura. Tickets for each show are \$20 online or \$25 at the door. Or purchase a "SPLASH Pass" and see all three shows for \$60! Includes a complimentary drink for each show and waives ticket fees. Join us at the SPLASH Festival and support the flourishing performing arts scene in Ventura!

About Namba Performing Arts Space

Namba Performing Arts Space, Inc provides an intimate theater for residents and visitors in the Ventura area to be immersed in a variety of performing arts and education programs.



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Business Profile



Rowan Boutique

Rowan Boutique is an upscale women's clothing boutique nestled in the Pierpont neighborhood of Ventura, California. Located by the ocean, we offer a carefully curated collection of apparel, accessories, shoes, and home decor that embody the essence of the quintessential California woman—a carefree lifestyle that's both effortless and chic. The Rowan babe is someone who embraces the beach life, with salty hair and sun-kissed skin from sunrise to sunset.

Gina Chadbourne, the owner of Rowan Boutique, first opened her store in Carpinteria in 2014. After commuting from Santa Clarita to Carpinteria for over seven years, Gina made the decision to relocate both her life and her store to the beloved beach town of Ventura. Her vision for this space is inspired by years of retail experience and a deep desire to fully embrace Ventura's coastal lifestyle.

Gina's background as a former buyer for Nordstrom has given her an acute

eye for fashion. She is passionate about empowering women to look their best, regardless of any "problem areas," by helping them find pieces that complement their body type and boost their confidence. Her focus is on serving mature women who still want to look trendy and have fun with fashion.

Some of the store's highlights include everyday wear from Z Supply and premium quality jeans from Mother Denim, which are among her best-selling items. These jeans, made in the USA, are known for their flattering fit and high quality. The store also features custom jewelry and gifts crafted by local artists.

It would mean the world to Gina to have you visit the shop, whether in person or online. As a proud woman-owned and operated retail establishment, Rowan Boutique serves the community with both a physical and e-commerce presence, reaching from Santa Barbara to Los Angeles and everywhere in between.

CONGREGATION AM HAYAM INVITES YOU TO WELCOME THE JEWISH NEW YEAR 5785 with Rabbi Ben Goldstein



Erev Rosh HaShannah, Wednesday, October 2
 1st Day Rosh HaShannah, Thursday, October 3
 2nd Day Rosh HaShannah, Friday, October 4
 Kol Nidre, Friday, October 11
 Yom Kippur, Saturday, October 12

A time for self-reflection and prayers for peace and understanding throughout the world

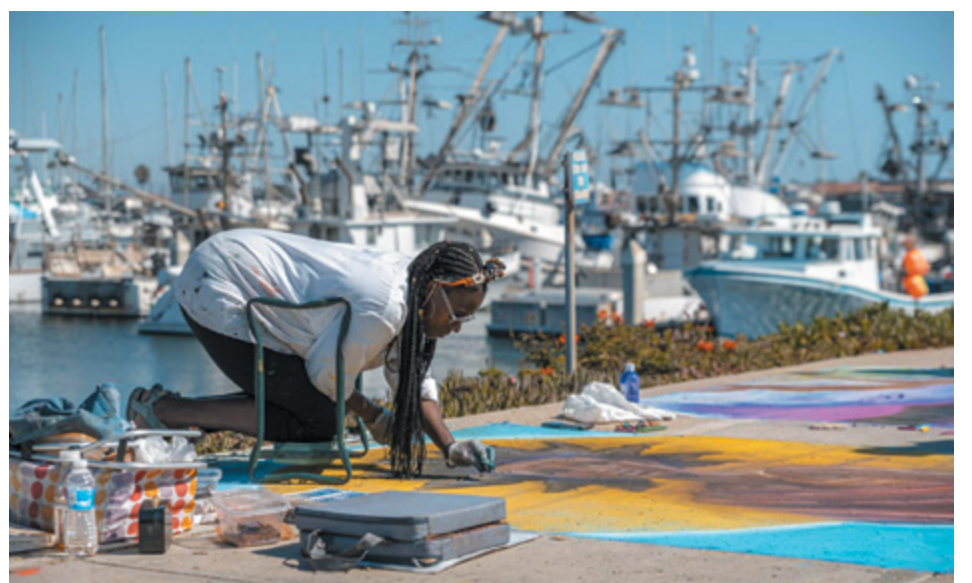
Annual Dues, which include tickets to High Holiday services, are waived for first time members

www.congregationamhayam.com

805 644-2899



Events



The Ventura Art & Chalk Festival.

Ventura
September Fly Fishing Event: Sat., Sept 7. Chumash Park, Petitt and Waco, 9:00 to 11:00 am.

Sespe Fly Fishers of Ventura is conducting their first monthly introductory

Fly Rod Casting and Intro to Fly Fishing clinic. There is no charge and all are welcome. Whether you are an experienced fly fisher or a complete novice we want to help you improve your casting and learn to enjoy this great sport. If



you don't yet have a fly rod, don't worry, you can use one of theirs. For more information contact Casting Program Coordinator, Thomas Hall thomasfoley-hall@gmail.com. (805) 377-5249. www.sespeflyfishers.org

The Ventura Art & Chalk Festival 2024: Sat & Sun, Sept 14-15, 10 am - 5 pm. Ventura Harbor Village.

Ventura County Art Events, Inc. & Rotary Club of Ventura Present The Ventura Art & Chalk Festival, a signature event in Ventura County. More than 50 talented chalk artists and crafts people will transform Harbor Village with vibrant color along the waterfront. The festival is a family-friendly event that invites visitors to watch as expert chalk artists from across California and beyond create vivid, large-scale murals along a seaside promenade. venturaartfestival.com.

The Assisted Home Health & Hospice Foundation Fundraiser: Thurs, Sept 5, 6:00 - 9:00 pm, Golf N' Stuff, Ventura.

Engage in the spirit of friendly competition and help support access to in-home healthcare for the underserved. The foundation provides assistance to individuals and families across Ventura County that range from short-term caregiving, hospital beds, refrigerators, pet care, etc. The money raised at the event stays in Ventura County to ensure that assistance is provided to families in need. Assistedcares.com/foundation.

Beautiful Blue Sky - Poetry and Piano by Oxnard artist Tim Pompey: Sat, Sept 7, 7 pm. NAMBA Performing Arts Space, 47 South Oak Street.

Accompanied by guest pianist Miriam Arichea. The poems are featured in his poetry book "Beautiful Blue Sky" - www.timpompey.com/poetry. "They're each a combination of spirituality, personal reflection, and nature," says Tim. Tickets \$20 at nambaarts.com. The event is co-sponsored by Ventura County Realtor Rosa Carbajal (EXP Realty) and will feature a pre-show appetizer and cocktail reception prior to and during the concert.

Rancho Days - Olivas Adobe Sunday: Sun, Sept 8, 11am-3 pm. Olivas Adobe.

Enjoy this Free event with hands-on activities such as corn grinding, panning for gold, roping, Chumas crafts, quilting and more. Garden and house tours. Lectures by Oxnard Garden Farm, Richard Senate and others. Join us for a day of family activities as we explore the Rancho San Miguel and the people who lived here. www.cityofventura.ca.gov/OlivasAdobe

National Heirloom Expo: Tues - Thur, Sept 10-12, 9am - 9pm. Ventura County Fairgrounds

The National Heirloom Expo is America's largest celebration of pure food and heirloom gardening. The Expo offers an unparalleled opportunity to learn from some of the best minds working in gardening, health, non-GMO activism, heirloom seed protection and preservation, permaculture, and regenerative soil practices. Produce is the real star of the show at the expo, and a trip around the fairgrounds is like an international adventure in heirloom seeds and vegetables. The Expo Hall features hundreds of heirloom vegetables, fruits, herbs, and flowers, plus exhibits, fruit carvers, and more! A one-day pass is \$15. Three-day passes are available for \$30. All profits benefit school garden and food programs. School groups are admitted free, and assistance is available to defray transportation costs for school

groups. For more information, visit theheirloomexpo.com or www.rareseeds.com/national-heirloom-expo.

Santa Clara River Estuary update from VenturaWaterPure: Sep 10, 7 - 9 pm. Poinsettia Pavilion and Via Zoom.

Program by The Ventura Audubon Society. The VenturaWaterPure team will provide project updates, focusing on environmental stewardship of the Santa Clara River Estuary and ongoing partnerships with Heal the Bay, Ventura Coastkeeper / Wishtoyo Chumash Foundation. They will highlight key initiatives like the estuary monitoring programs to ensure sustainable development of the project. Additionally, VenturaWaterPure will discuss efforts to protect endangered species, advancements in water purification technology, and provide the latest updates on grants, funding, and treatment pond access. This presentation reflects their commitment to balancing infrastructure progress with ecological preservation. www.venturaaudubon.org/speakers.

Museum of Ventura County Announces an Evening of Refined Taste and Unexpected Histories: Sept 12, 6:00 - 9:00 pm. Museum of Ventura County.

The Museum of Ventura County (MVC) invites the community to an unforgettable evening of refined taste and unexpected histories at the Taste of History Dinner. The event will take guests on a nostalgic journey to the early mid-century, beginning with a sophisticated cocktail hour featuring classic specialty drinks, a red-carpet welcome, keepsake Polaroids, and live jazz music. The evening will feature a cooking demonstration by Chef Adam Hart of Oxnard College and an artifact gallery showcasing treasures from MVC's historic collection. www.venturamuseum.org/events.

5th Annual Marvelous Mug Marketplace at the Ventura Pottery Gallery: Sat, Sep 14 & Sun, Sept 15, 11 am to 6 pm. Ventura Harbor Village, 1567 Spinnaker Drive, #105.

Over 40 talented local potters have poured their creativity and craftsmanship into producing an array of unique, functional mugs designed to brighten your daily routine. From short to tall, wide to slender, and vibrant to whimsical, our selection is sure to have something for everyone. Each mug is not only a work of art but also practical for everyday use - all are lead-free, microwave-safe, and dishwasher-safe. As a special treat, the first twenty purchases each day will receive a complimentary cup of coffee from Top This Chocolate, located just around the corner from the Gallery. While you're here, don't miss the colorful Harbor Art and Street Painting Festival. It's the perfect opportunity to enjoy a weekend full of art, creativity and community spirit. For more information, visit www.vcp.org. Can't make it to the Gallery. Online Store. www.venturapotteryonline.com.

Focus on the Masters, For the Love of Art - 30th Anniversary Celebration: Sun, Sept 15, 3 to 6pm (Sponsor & Member Preview, 2 to 3 p.m.). The Victorian House, 211 E. Santa Clara St.

Point Broadcasting presents, Focus on the Masters (FOTM) Arts Archive & Library, For the Love of Art 30th Anniversary Celebration Benefit for the Arts Education. All proceeds benefit FOTM's award-winning arts education programs

including the Learning To See Outreach, a sequential in-school and community outreach art program for at-risk youth and Title 1 schools. FOTM has served the community for over thirty years through their educational arts programming. The Learning To See program has brought compelling lessons to over 275,000 students throughout Ventura County. The integrative lessons are inspired by the artwork and life stories of extraordinary FOTM documented artists. The FUNdraising garden party will be full of "art for all" including FOTM's famed \$30 Mystery Boxes filled with all kinds of art related treasures worth at least \$50, a fine art raffle, silent auction, and fun activities including a photo booth, hat decorating contest, scavenger hunt, quick draw, and more. Tickets for the event are available at www.FocusOnTheMasters.com or by calling 805.653.2501. Members \$150, non-members \$175.

Free Family History Lectures: Sat, Sept 21, 1:00 to 4:00 pm. Online via Zoom.

The Ventura County Genealogical Society will present two speakers. The first is Jennifer Zinck, speaking on "Connecting with Cousins: Using Tools & Technology for Genealogical Collaboration," followed by Kenneth R. Marks on "How to Develop Critical Online Newspaper Research Skills." 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. VCGS cannot respond to same-day requests.

Ventura Artwalk: Sat, Sept. 21, 12

- 5 pm and Sun, Sept. 22, 11 am - 4 pm. Downtown.

The family-friendly event will feature hundreds of artists in local galleries, businesses, restaurants and on the grounds of Mission Park and the Albinger Museum. Artist booths, popular local bands, aerialists, poetry, dance, a film festival, street painting, puppetry and a children's area will all be a part of this event run by an enthusiastic all-volunteer team. Live painting and pottery demonstrations will also be featured. This huge, free event unites Ventura's west side neighborhoods, businesses and arts community in a two-day celebration of the creative spirit. Transit to ArtWalk Ventura and along the route will again be at no cost through the generosity of Gold Coast Transit. Register to participate at www.artwalkventura.org.

Ventura Botanical Gardens Dual Healer Sound Bath: Tues, Sept 17, 4 - 5pm. South African gardens at Summit Plateau.

We all need healing. Join Zach at this dual healer sound bath in our South African gardens at Summit Plateau. The vibrations of the gong restore balance to the nervous system; healing emotional wounds and encouraging angelic thoughts. Don't forget your water, shade umbrellas and mats. Namaste. www.venturabotanicalgardens.com/events.

*The Ventura Botanical Gardens will be closed on September 17, 18 & 19 for construction.

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's Out of the Darkness Community Walk: Sat, Sept. 21, Promenade Park near the Ventura Pier.

Continued on next page

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Events

Continued from previous page

Join the walk to promote the importance of suicide prevention. In 2021, over 420 Out of the Darkness Walks took place in communities and on campuses across the United States, attended by over 80,000 dedicated people who shared their passion for a growing movement. The goal is to spread awareness of what is currently a leading cause of death in the U.S., and let others know they are not alone. Help ensure that mental health is looked upon with equal importance to physical health and continue to bring hope to those affected by suicide. Register: afsp.org/vc.

VACE CAREER and EDUCATION EXPO: Tues, Sept 24, 2:00 - 5:00 pm, VACE Campus 5200 Valentine Road.

This FREE event, open to the public, is a great opportunity to meet local business owners and representatives. Someone might need someone with your exact skill set or might know someone else who does. Scan the QR code to register. <https://workforceventuracounty.org/> <https://www.facebook.com/WDBVC/>

Channel Islands Chamber Orchestra "Season Opener!": Sun, Sept 22, 3 pm. First United Methodist Church, 1338 E Santa Clara St.

Sinfonia concertante in B-flat major by Joseph Haydn (Kimaree Gilad, Oboe; Cavit Celayir-Monezis, Bassoon; Sharon Cooper, Violin; John Fare, Cello)

Concerto in G minor for Organ, Strings and Timpani Francis Poulenc

A Midsummer Night's Dream by Felix Mendelssohn. Performs with David Wheatley, organist. \$20 online in advance, \$25 at the door. Students and children under 12 are free. cichamberorchestra.org/general-admission/p/september22. info@cichamberorchestra.org. 805-742-1811.

Ventura County Cultural Heritage Board hosts Speaker Session Q&A: Mon, Sept 23, 1:15 pm. Multi-Purpose Conference Room, Hall of Administration, Ventura County Government Center.

Ventura County Cultural Heritage Board Speaker Series. Speaker: Dr. José M. Alamillo. Dr. Alamillo will discuss his research on Farmworker Labor Camps and Farmworker Movements in Ventura County, including the nation's largest bracero camp, Buena Vista Camp, in Oxnard. Don't miss this insightful presentation!

Ongoing: Social Golf Club

Actively recruiting new members

Men's golf club. Set Tee times a year in advance for every Tuesday and Thursday at 9 different courses in Ventura County. <https://challengergolfclub.com>

Ventura Senior Men's Group: First and Third Tues each month: 11:30 am - 1:30 pm at Poinsettia Pavilion.

Any man who considers himself in the "senior" category (and many who don't) might benefit from a visit to the Ventura Senior Men's Group. Buffet luncheon with interesting speakers and good friends. Your first lunch is free. We talk about everything except religion and politics. Eligible to all men 50 plus. Call Tom at 805-657-1071 for more information or visit VSMG.net to find out who our speakers will be.

Play Bridge: Every Tues, Wed and Thurs at 12:30 pm.

ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge games. All levels of play, and we will guarantee to have a partner for you if you need one. Lessons are available. Tuesday, Wed and Thursday games are held at Temple Beth Torah, Foothill & Kimball Rd, Ventura. Every Saturday at the Ventura Townhouse. For additional info visit our website at www.vcbridge.org. Contact Rose at buckleyrose357@gmail.com.

Ventura County Philatelic Society: First and third Mon each month - 7:30 pm. Church of the Foothills.

For more information, visit <https://venturacountyphilatelicsoc.org>.

Beach Cleanup: First Sat of every month - 8:30 -10:30 am.

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). Arrive any time during the timeframe. Fun for the whole family! Supplies provided - BYO water.

Ojai:

10th Annual Mountain Film On-Tour: Sat, Sept 21, Ojai Valley School (Lower Campus Sports Field). Gates open at 5 pm – Films start at 7:15 pm

OVLC celebrates 25 years of work at the Ojai Meadows Preserve! Bring your blankets and low-back chairs and join the festivities on the field at Ojai Valley School's Lower Campus Sports Field for another fantastic year of films and fun! Experience the beauty of nature, the thrill of wild adventures, and the power of environmental storytelling through a carefully curated selection of films from the Mountainfilm Festival in Telluride. ovlc.org/mountainfilm.

Make it a weekend - Friday,

September 20, at Under the Open Sky—a locally sourced farm-to-table dinner by Seasons Catering with live music, a photo booth, beer, wine, a virtual auction, and a paddle raise at our historic Ventura River Steelhead Preserve. When the sun sets, we will enjoy a collection of films selected for this special event that will not be shown on Saturday night. <https://ovlc.org/events>

Oxnard:

2024 Walk to End Alzheimer's: Sat., Sep 21. Registration at 8 am, Ceremony at 9 am. Walk at 9:30 am.

The Park at The Collection To learn more and register, visit https://act.alz.org/site/SPageServer?pagename=walk_homepage.

Camarillo:

Camarillo Quilters Association: Tues, Sept 10 at 9 am. Pleasant Valley Community Center, 1605 E. Burnley Drive.

This month will present Annette Ornelas of South Wind Quilts. Her Lecture is: "Dimensional Curved Piecing". Annette's unique approach to quilting has led her to design numerous Dimensional Curved piecing patterns and books. Annette is the owner and creator of Southwind Designs patterns. Guest fee is \$5 and everyone is welcome. Visit camarilloquilters.com.

Livingston Free Grief Support Groups

For reservations, contact 805-389-6870 or online at lmvna.org/grief. Space is limited. All support groups are free for the community.

Santa Barbara:

Santa Babara Museum of Art: Sun,

Sept 8. Free Community Day. Santa Barbara Museum of Art.

Celebrate the exhibition A Legacy of Giving: The Lady Leslie and Lord Paul Ridley-Tree Collection with free admission for all (1 – 4 pm) with related art activities, family gallery guides, docent tours, music, and refreshments. www.sbma.net.

Santa Barbara Botanic Garden Celebrates Latino Conservation Week: Sat, Sept 14 – Sept 22.

Bilingual Outdoor Events Starting, guests invited to bilingual Garden Tours, Guadalupe Island Conservation Talk with "GECI" speaker, "CNPLC" Open House, Story Walk with Santa Barbara Public Library, and Native Plant Bike Tour. These events are an invitation for the Latino community and others to enjoy the outdoors together and participate in activities that help preserve our natural resources. Among the week's highlights are a free 6.5-mile native plant bike tour through downtown Santa Barbara, led by Gardener Lead Abraham Lizama in partnership with local business Boom Boom Bike Room, and a bilingual Open House for the Garden's California Native Plant Landscape Certification (CNPLC) program. www.sbbotanicgarden.org.

Ensemble Theatre Company: 2024 – 2025 Season Announced: The New Vic, 33 W. Victoria St.

We are thrilled to unveil a rich array of plays in Santa Barbara that promise to deliver unforgettable experiences. Explore our productions and discover the magic of live performances. www.etsb.org



Honorees Judge Back and Dr. Duncan

Voices of Hope Gala caps 2024 fundraising at nearly \$275,000 ahead of Camp HOPE

At the recent second annual Voices of Hope Gala, the Ventura County Family Justice Center Foundation (VCFJC Foundation) successfully concluded their 2024 fundraising campaign ahead of August's Camp HOPE, raising nearly \$275,000. During the Gala, held at the scenic Zachari Dunes, three local honorees were awarded for their contributions to family justice in Ventura County - Hero of the Year, Co-Director of Anacapa Surgery Associates, Dr. Thomas Duncan; Champion of the Year, Ventura County Superior Court Judge, the Honorable Brian J. Back (ret.); and Community Advocate of the Year, Ventura County Community Foundation. During a particularly memorable moment, survivors of family violence and

trauma shared their stories of resilience in their own voices, an emotional and inspiring reminder of hope for an audience that included local leaders, elected officials, and community changemakers.

The funds raised provide support and resources for all seeking justice in support of children and families impacted by violence and trauma in Ventura County, including sponsorships for Ventura County children to attend the Camp HOPE America - Ventura County (Camp HOPE) program, an evidence-based camping and mentoring program for children exposed to trauma. Other resources provided by VCFJC Foundation to survivors experiencing trauma after violent crimes include clothing, toys,



backpacks, books, medical equipment, wheelchair and mobility aids, cell phones, gift cards and other essentials.

“Our goal is to support survivors as they navigate what, for many, can be the most difficult moment of their lives,” said Vanessa Melendrez Jimenez, Executive Development Officer of Ventura County Family Justice Center Foundation. “The funds raised at this year’s Gala will go far to secure essential items for survivors while also ensuring that we can provide even more children the opportunity to attend Camp HOPE.” The cost to send one child to Camp Hope is approximately \$2,000.

Guests arriving at Zachari Dunes were welcomed with a performance by American Idol alumnus Bella Lucareli. The evening commenced with welcome remarks from Ventura County District Attorney, Erik Nasarenko followed by recognition of the evening’s honorees. Local first responders and law-enforcement officers also showed their support for family justice with Oxnard Police Department providing an exclusive look behind the wheel of their fleet vehicles before the event and Ventura County Fire volunteering a dinner for six as part of the live auction.

Emotions were high as spotlights appeared revealing survivors sharing their stories of hope and resilience and how Ventura County Family Justice Center supported their journey of healing. The moment was a surprise for those in attendance, with stories emerging from throughout the crowd, demonstrating that the need for support can come from anywhere. Voices of Hope Gala was made possible in part by generous sponsors including California Commercial Investment Companies and Housing Opportunities for People Everywhere (HOPE). Ventura County Family Justice Center Foundation – a tax-exempt non-profit 501(c) (3) that was formed to provide funding and resources for victims and survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, elder and dependent adult abuse, hate crimes, human trafficking, and other violent crimes in Ventura County. www.vcfjcfoundation.org.

National Heirloom Expo Returns Continued from page 4

Werbalowsky told beneficiaries last year to plant the seeds, grow and eat the crops, and bring back the resulting seeds for this year’s exchange.

Seeds are key to the value of heirloom varieties. Most commercially available seeds are hybrids, producing new seeds with unpredictable results and requiring purchase of new seeds every year. Heirloom varieties, in contrast, “breed true,” said Werbalowsky, producing seeds that will grow the same plant type again. “Heirlooms can be kept and handed down generation-to-generation, so they become holders of the culture, signifying how people come together,” he said.

A local speakers’ stage at the event is coordinated by Jan Dietrick and Ron Whitehurst, owners of Rincon-Vitova Insectaries, which grows beneficial insects for agricultural pest control. They will also staff a volunteer welcome committee booth in the Expo Hall. On September 11, from 11 to 11:30 am, I will speak about food rescue – the process of collecting good food before it is discarded and providing it to hungry people, while composting the food that cannot be rescued.

Compost will also be the focus of presentations on another stage, near the poultry show area, and Ventura County composting companies Agromin and Peach Hill Soils will distribute free sample bags of soil products.

Michele Lopez, President of the Ojai Community Farmers’ Market organized a miniature version of her regular market for this event. Reminiscent of Iron Chef competitions, chefs will make delicious dishes using fresh, locally grown organic ingredients available from on-site vendors.

Attendees on the final evening should bring a wagon; produce and displays, including some of Milton’s art, will be sold at bargain prices. Kenny can be reached at kennystumpart@gmail.com

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

Electric Vehicle Ownership Webinar: Navigating EV Roadblocks



Making the switch to an electric vehicle (EV) can be daunting. Join the Community Environmental Council (CEC) to learn why it’s a great time to lease or purchase an EV. They’ll address the most common concerns that keep people on the fence, including:

- Navigating incentives and rebates
 - Understanding lease agreements
 - Finding the right charging solution
 - Buying a used EV
- This Free webinar is for individuals

who understand the basics of driving electric but need more information before taking the leap. CEC’s Electrify Your Life team and community members who drive an EV will be on hand to answer questions and help clarify concerns so you can start saving money and join the movement to reduce carbon emissions. Monday, September 30, 6:00 - 7:00 pm via Zoom. To learn more, visit www.cecsb.org/events/navigating-ev-roadblocks.



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The Pet Page



Woofs, Hooves, and Whiskers 2025 Calendar Contest

Entries and voting close on Friday, September 20, 2024, at 5:00 PM (Pacific Time)

Your pet could be featured in the Humane Society of Ventura County (HSVC) 2025 Calendar! Enter your pet now for a chance to win some amazing prizes, all while supporting HSVC's vital programs and services! There are three categories to choose from: Cats, Dogs, and Other Pets. You may enter multiple pets in the same category or different categories.

When this issue of the Breeze went to print, the HSVC Calendar Contest had raised \$4,797. Let's help them reach their \$10,000 goal! Each photo

entry is \$25 and votes are a minimum of \$1 per vote. To be eligible for the photo contest, each entry needs to receive a minimum donation of \$5 (5 votes) or more. Submit your pet today for a chance to be featured in the calendar. All entrants will receive a 2025 calendar by mail in the Fall of 2024.

To enter your pet, visit www.hsvc.org/woofs_hooves_whiskers

PRIZES:

- Grand Prize Winner: the pet with the most votes!
- Two (2) tickets to 2025 HSVC Birthday Bash Dinner *
- Customized pet gift basket
- All first-place prizes listed below
- 1st Place in each category (Cats, Dogs, and Other Pets)
- Month spread in the 2025 HSVC Calendar
- Original photo entry featured on HSVC website
- Special HSVC swag bag delivered to your home
- 2nd and 3rd Place in each category (Cats, Dogs, and Other Pets)
- Month spread in the 2025 HSVC Calendar
- Original photo entry featured on our website
- Set of two HSVC mugs

*If winner is unable to attend the 2025 Birthday Bash Dinner, the HSVC will offer a \$100 PetSmart Gift card

** Please note: all prizes are not transferable and may not be redeemed for cash

Upload your pet's photo and ask all your friends and family to vote! Entries and voting close at 5:00 PM (Pacific Time) on Friday, September 20, 2024.

If you have questions, contact animals@hsvc.org or 805-646-6505.



Image by Freepik

Clear the Shelters is almost here!

Ventura County Animal Shelter (VCAS) Waves Adoption Fees in Annual, One-Day Event

Adopt your next best friend at CLEAR THE SHELTERS on Saturday, September 7th, 2024, from 11:00am - 5:00pm at both the Camarillo and Simi Valley Animal Shelters! This FEE-WAIVED pet adoption event comes around only once a year, so mark your calendars and get ready to bring home a new furry friend! Animals go home spayed or neutered, vaccinated, micro-chipped, flea-treated, and come with a

voucher for a free vet visit. Every adopter will also go home with several adoption gifts courtesy of event sponsors!

Please note that promotions do not guarantee the adoption of a shelter pet and that all interested parties must participate in the full adoption process to ensure the best possible matches are made.

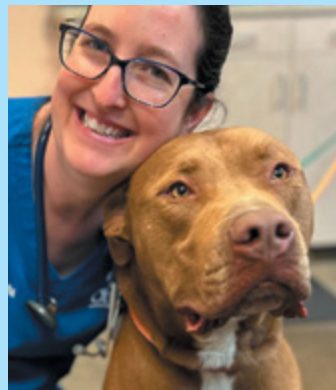
Questions? Contact CAS at info@vcas.us or (805) 388-4341.

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

Forever homes wanted



Hi, I'm Anubis! I'm a beautiful 6-year-old Pit Bull mix, named after the Egyptian god. I'm great on a leash and not fazed by any people or animals I meet while hiking. I think I'd make a fantastic adventure buddy! I'm very sweet and social with people, always excited to see a friendly face and make new friends. Volunteers say I'm a great walker who doesn't pull and loves to sniff around the walking route—though I can't resist chasing a lizard or two! I know commands like "sit," "paw," and "lay down." I'm looking for an active home where I can be your one and only. Please consider adopting me!



Hi, I'm Aries! I'm a friendly, 3-year-old Pit Bull mix in search of a new home. I was left behind at a relative's house, and they can't keep me. I'm a big, active boy who loves playing fetch and cooling off in the kiddie pools at the kennel. I'm a lap dog if you let me and love giving and receiving affection. I'm good with older children, but I'm not sure how I'd do with younger ones. I enjoy playing with other dogs and do well in playgroups with other active pups. I'm also good on pack walks. My experience with cats is unknown, and I don't love being left alone for long periods. While I know some basic commands, I could use a bit of work on my leash training. Come meet me and see what a great guy I am—I'm such a good boy that the vet had to take a picture with me during my checkup! She said I was amazing!



Hi, I'm Guero! I'm a big, strong, and active Labrador-Pit Bull mix, almost 4 years old. I'm looking for a new home because my owner thinks I'd do better in a household without small children, although I did live with a 5-year-old and did just fine. I love to run, so I might make a great running buddy. I play well with other dogs and do great on pack walks with the volunteers. I haven't been around cats, but I got along well with birds, rabbits, and a hamster in my previous home. I ride well in the car and love affection and being around my people. I don't enjoy being left alone, so I'd need someone who rarely leaves me or can take me along. I know "sit" and "paw" and will sit nicely for treats, but I could use some leash training, as I tend to pull. Training in general would benefit me.



Hi, I'm Leche! I'm a 6-year-old mix of mostly Boxer, Siberian Husky, and German Shepherd. I was found as a stray with an injured front leg, but I've since had surgery, and now I'm ready for my forever home. I'd do best in a home with older children or adults and as the only dog. I need lots of physical and mental stimulation—I love car rides, running, walking, and, most of all, snuggling! If you're looking for a sweet shadow, that's me! I'll follow you to the end of time.

All of these amazing pets are being cared for by the Canine Adoption and Rescue League (CARL). Could you provide a forever home for one of these wonderful animals? To read full pet bios and submit an application, visit www.CARLDogs.org or call 805-644-7387.

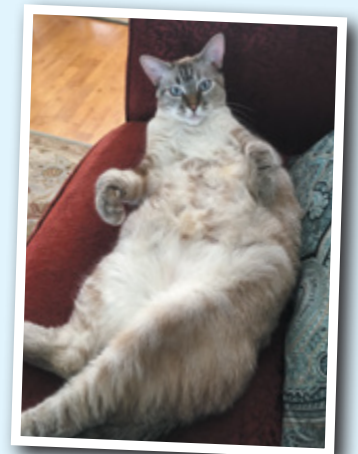
Dedicated
to Scamp



Scamp Club

(Scamp Club pets are not for adoption.)

Meet Izzie Brown! Izzie loves two things in life: eating and sleeping. She's never known a day of hunger in her life but she's an obsessive food thief with no shame. She'll literally swipe the food from your fork before it reaches your mouth—no hesitation, no remorse. Not particularly friendly or affectionate, Izzie enjoys rolling on her back, flaunting her irresistibly plump, fluffy belly to her human family – a ruthless and cunning trap that inevitably ends in tears and Band-Aids.



Join Scamp Club

Pets of all sorts can join the Scamp Club! Email your picture and a little about yourself to Scampclub@venturabreeze.com. You'll be in the Breeze and become world famous.



Harbor Patrol Blotter

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



Thursday 8/22

10:00am, Officers checking out Ventura County Sheriff's Office dive team conducting training on a submerged vehicle next to the Fish offloading pier.

5:15pm, dispatched to a medical at Anchors Way/Navigator Dr. Officers responded with VFD/AMR to assist with patient care.

7:18pm, receiving reports of the problematic motor vessel at the launch ramp is departing. Officers responded and confirmed the reports.

Friday 8/23

6:30am, observed NWS issued Small Craft Advisory for winds gusting to 25kts in the Western Portion of SB channel. Officers raised warning pennant.

9:00am, officers attending regional water training at Fifth street with multiple agencies. Rescue swimmers practicing water rescue skills.

4:20pm, received a request for a tow from an electric boat disabled in the Pierpont Basin. Officers responded in Fireboat, towed vessel to rental dock.

10:03pm, dispatched to a fire near the Marina Park promenade. Officers responded in the Fireboat, unable to locate a fire, searched area from water.

Saturday 8/24

6:30am, observed NWS issued a Small Craft Advisory, raised warning pennant.

9:12am, received a request for a radio check on

VHF 12 from SUP'er "Larry"

9:33am, while on patrol in the Fireboat, officers observed the "problem" motor vessel that has frequented the launch ramp, securing w/o permission, outbound.

11:56am, dispatched to an unconscious person on the Portside Promenade. Officers responded with multiple agencies to assist with patient treatment.

Sunday 8/25

3-4pm, received three dispatches, two medicals and a traffic accident. Officers responded with VFD/AMR to all three and assisted with treatment of patients.

4:01pm, dispatched to an Ocean Rescue, disabled 55ft motor vessel outside the harbor, near the South Jetty. Officers responded in Rescue B19 and Fireboat to assist. RB19 deployed an officer to the disabled vessel to assist with anchor retrieval. The vessel was safely towed to the longdock, TowBoat US took over.

Monday 8/26

8:00am, observed a vessel working on engine at the launch ramp. Officers offered assistance, but the skipper was going to retrieve the vessel with trailer.

10:00am, officers training new Marine Safety Officers with towing techniques.

6:10pm, received a walk-in request at Patrol Office for medical treatment. Officers assisted and contacted Fire dispatch for medics to assist the patient.

Tuesday 8/27

10:05am, dispatched to trauma patient, bike accident. Officers responded with VFD/AMR to assist the patient with treatment and transport prep.

6:55pm, received report of a suspicious person in a skiff dressed in all black, securing to a sailboat in VWM, climbing onboard. Officers responded to investigate, found the reported person, it was a commercial boat bottom cleaner.

victim and attempted to rob the second. Lomeli was arrested and transported to the Ventura County Jail, where he was booked for Battery and Attempted Robbery.

If you have any information about this crime, you can make an anonymous call to Crime Stoppers at VenturaCountyCrimeStoppers.org. If your information leads to an arrest, you could receive a cash reward of up to \$1,000.

Decades-Old Mystery Unraveled: Suspect Charged in 1970s Ventura County Murders

Warren Luther Alexander, 73, was arrested and charged with the strangulation deaths of three Southern California women from 1977, following a breakthrough DNA match by cold case detectives. Authorities suspect there may be additional victims.

The three victims, Kimberly Fritz, 18, Velvet Sanchez, 31, and Lorraine Rodriguez, 21, were all sex workers in Ventura County. Fritz was found dead in a motel room in Port Hueneme on May 29, 1977. Sanchez was discovered at the Villa Motor Court in nearby Oxnard on September 8, 1977. Rodriguez's body was found on December 27, 1977, on a bridge in an unincorporated area. All three women were killed by "ligature strangulation," said District Attorney Erik Nasarenko.

"While investigators believed these crimes were connected, leads ran cold, and detectives

were unable to identify who was responsible for these horrific murders," Nasarenko said.

The Ventura County cold case unit revisited the murders last year, uploading DNA evidence into a national database. Although a 2006 search had yielded no results, this time, they found a match.

Investigative genealogy linked Alexander to the 1992 killing of 29-year-old Nona Cobb, whose body was found along Interstate 77 in North Carolina.

Alexander had lived in Oxnard during the late 1950s and 60s, attending local schools, and returned to the area in the 1970s, Nasarenko said. From the 1970s through the early 1990s, he worked as a long-haul, cross-country truck driver, leading authorities to suspect there may be more victims in other states as well.

"This investigation is ongoing, and we will continue to pursue all leads. This case is far from closed," Nasarenko emphasized.

Alexander's case has been assigned to the county public defender's office, which has not yet commented on the case.

Alexander pleaded not guilty to all charges at his August 21 arraignment, a spokesperson for the Ventura County District Attorney's Office said. He is being held without bail, according to county jail records. Alexander's defense attorney, Rebekah Mathis, told CNN on August 21 she had "no comment at this time."

The killings happened over the span of seven months in three different jurisdictions of Ventura County, according to the news release.

Prosecutors have decided not to seek the death penalty against Alexander due to the age of the witnesses and evidence and in an attempt to move through the trial process more quickly and efficiently.

Police Reports



Battery and Attempted Robbery Arrest

Ventura Police Report #: 24-55202

On 8/22/23 at about 7:26 pm, the suspect, later identified as 24-year-old Gabriel Lomeli, a Santa Paula resident, approached a victim who was walking in the breezeway between the Crowne Plaza and the Harbor Parking Structure.

Lomeli asked to use the victim's cell

phone, and when the victim refused and turned to walk away, Lomeli punched him several times in the head and face before walking up to an additional victim. This victim was seated in the breezeway with his cell phone in his hand. Lomeli demanded to use his phone, but the second victim refused. Lomeli attempted to take the phone by force but could not do so. Lomeli did pull the victim to the ground, but the victim was able to fight him off, and Lomeli let go of the phone and ran away. At the same time Lomeli was struggling with the second victim, a witness called 911.

Officers arrived in under five minutes, but Lomeli had already fled. Both victims were treated at the scene for minor injuries. Based on the victims' and witnesses' statements, officers searched for Lomeli and located him in the area. He was identified as the suspect who had battered the first

SEPTEMBER 15TH, 8AM-10AM

3RD
SUN.
OF
EVERY
MONTH

CROWN
CARS &
COFFEE

8^{AM}
-10
FREE
DONUTS
& COFFEE

6100 KING DRIVE IN THE
VENTURA AUTO CENTER

ALL CLASSIC & COLLECTOR
CARS & TRUCKS WELCOME!

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 22 mins.

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



by Pam Baumgardner
VenturaRocks.com

The 7th annual Oxnard Jazz Festival falls over the weekend of September 14 – 15 at Ololko Beach Park, which is at 1601 Harbor Blvd in Oxnard. The two-day music event will bring world class artists such as Sheila E, Loose Ends featuring Jane Eugene, Lin Rountree, Ambrosia, Louie Cruz Beltran and a whole lot more. Though “jazz” is in the name of the festival, do know there will be a whole lot of Latin groove going on to get you on feet. For tickets and information regarding how to get there and parking, go to OxnardJazzFestival.com.

Leading up to the jazz festival, there will be a kick-off celebration the night before at Heritage Square featuring Munnyungo Jackson's Jungle Jazz with four-time Grammy Winner, Munnyungo Jackson. This one is free; however, since space is limited, you will need to secure tickets at VenturaMusicFestival.org.

Another Candlelight Concert is coming up on Thursday, September 5, at the Majestic Ventura Theater with two shows. At 6:30 they'll feature Queen vs Abba and then at 9 pm it's the Best of Hans Zimmer. Oh! And don't forget Dogstar (featuring Keanu Reeves on bass) returns to town playing the Majestic on Tuesday, September 17. The band played August, 2023, at the Ventura Music Hall to a full house.

And speaking of the Ventura Music Hall, they've recently added The Philharmonic, Macy Gray, Brett Dennen, and the Mad Caddies. But meanwhile, I can't wait to catch the 25th anniversary show of Army of Freshmen on Saturday, September 14 with Nerf Herder opening.

Libbey Bowl summer concert season is winding down, but there are a number of awesome shows still on the docket with Thievery Corporation on Thursday, September 5; Chris Isaak on Friday, September 6; Angel Olsen on Wednesday September 11; the Temptations on Thursday, September 12; July Collins on Friday, September 15; and the Ojai Pops Concert will offer a free show on Sunday, September 15. Do note, the Poncho Sanchez and Ozomatli show for October 5, has been cancelled which chaps my hide as I had amazing tickets for the fourth row.

On Saturday, September 7, a dual venue event presented by Poison Well Records will start at Vaquero y Mar (Noon – 6 pm) and then move over Sans Souci (7 pm – 1 am). The mostly punk rock sets will feature a whole of local legends including a reunion of Power Chicken. See listings for rundown of who is playing where.

Quick Notes: Jen Staves and the Bluzfish play Margarita Villa on Sunday, September 8; Twisted Gypsy is the featured tribute band for Thursday, September 12, at the Collection in Oxnard; Bloody Mary Morning plays Rincon Brewery on Friday, September 13; and Mrs. Olson's hosts the Roots 805 Jam on Saturday, September 14.

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

Aqua Beachfront Bar (Crown Plaza)

450 E. Harbor Blvd., Ventura

Wed 9/4: Big Adventure Duo

Sat 9/7: Colette Lovejoy Band

Wed 9/11: Déjà vu Too

Boatyard Pub

1583 Spinnaker Dr., Ventura

Music 6-9; except Thurs 4-9; Sundays 4-7

Wednesdays: Frank Barajas

Thursdays: Jim Friery (4 pm); Bluegrass

Jam (6:30 pm)

Fri 9/6: Teresa Russell & Stephen Geyer

Sat 9/7: Epitome of Dreams

Fri 9/13: Karen Eden and the Bad Apples

Sat 9/14: Guy & Dave

Bombay Bar and Grill

143 S. California St., Ventura

Thursdays: Ventura Blues Night

Café Fiore

66 California St., Ventura

Wed 9/4: Bryan McCann

Fri 9/6: Brittney and the Bsides

Wed 9/11: Edgar Thatcher

Fri 9/13: Instone

Sat 9/14: The High Revival

Cantara Cellars

126 N. Wood Rd., Camarillo

Fri 9/6: Katie Shorey

Sat 9/7: Out of the Blue

Fri 9/13: Caliente 805

Sat 9/14: Runaway

The Collection

2751 Park View Ct., Oxnard

Thurs 9/12: Twisted Gypsy

Copper Blues

591 Collection Blvd., Oxnard

Fri 9/6: Kimera

Sat 9/7: Siempre Selena

Fri 9/13: Guilty Pleasure Makers

Deer Lodge

2261 Maricopa Hwy., Ojai

Thurs 9/5: Dougie Poole

Fri 9/6: Beau Red and the Street Bread

Sat 9/7: Rival Cults, the Slags

Sun 9/8: The Messthetics and James

Brandon

Duke's Beach Grill

1124 S. Seaward Ave., Ventura

Sat 9/7: Top Shelf

Sat 9/14: The Bob Bishop Band

Four Brix

2290 Eastman Ave., Ventura

Fri 9/6: Ignition

Sat 9/7: Token Rhyme

Sun 9/8: Mack and D

Fri 9/13: Heathers on Fire

Sat 9/14: Midlife Crisis

Sun 9/15: Terrell Edwards

Garage

1091 Scandia Ave., Ventura

Fri 9/6: Zepp Heads

Sat 9/7: The Rayford Brothers

Fri 9/13: Steph's Rockin' Roadshow

Sat 9/14: What the Funk

The Grape

2733 E. Main St., Ventura

Tues: The Gratitude Jazz Jam

Wed 9/4: RJ Mischo Blues Showcase

Thurs 9/5: Antonio Artese West

Coast Trio

Fri 9/6: Phatback, Earl & Me!

Sat 9/7: Ray Jaurique Band (2p);

Sonic Rooster (8p)

Wed 9/11: The WoRK Quintet

Thurs 9/12: YOCOYA

Fri 9/13: Barrelhouse Wailers

Sat 9/14: Guy Martin (2p); David

Gorospe & Friends (8p)

Heritage Square

725 S. A St., Oxnard

Fri 9/13: Munnyungo Jackson's Jungle Jazz

Leashless Brewing

585 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura

Fri 9/6: Katie Skene Band

Sat 9/7: The Brandon Ragan Project

Sun 9/8: Mestizo Beats

Thurs 9/12: Heavy Rotation

Fri 9/13: Highest Intentions

Sun 9/15: Boom Duo

Libbey Bowl

210 S. Signal St., Ojai

Thurs 9/5: Thievery Corporation

Fri 9/6: Chris Isaak

Wed 9/11: Angel Olsen

Thurs 9/12: The Temptations

Fri 9/13: Judy Collins

Sun 9/15: Ojai Pops Concert

Lucas Sellers Wine

330 Zachary St., Moorpark

Sat 9/7: Jon Ranger

Sat 9/14: Shay Moulder

Magnavino Cellars

961 Rice Ave., Oxnard

Fri 9/6: Inna Rude Mood

Sat 9/7: The Mary White Duo

Majestic Ventura Theater

26 S. Chestnut St., Ventura

Thurs 9/5: Candlelight Concert,

Queen vs Abba (6:30p); Best of Hans

Zimmer (9p)

Sat 9/14: Voz de Mando

Tues 9/17: Dogstar

Manhattan

5800 Santa Rosa Rd., Camarillo

Thursdays: Tom McMorran

Wed 9/4: Monte Montgomery

Fri 9/6: Tour Support

Sat 9/7: Jeanne Tatum Trio

Sun 9/8: Robert Van

Wed 9/11: Robert Van

Fri 9/13: Jeanne Tatum Trio

Sat 9/14: Tony Maddox

Sun 9/15: Robert Van

Margarita Villa

1567 Spinnaker Dr., Ventura

Fri 9/6: Joe Delia

Sat 9/7: Vinyl Gypsies

Sun 9/8: Jen Stave's Bluzfish

Tues 9/10: Two Tossers

Fri 9/13: Colette Lovejoy Band

Sat 9/14: Cinnamon Whiskey

Sun 9/15: Karen Eden, Smokey & Bill

MooFish Café

450 E. Harbor Blvd., Ventura

Thursdays: Seth Andre Oster &

Michael Velasquez

Mrs. Olson's

2800 Harbor Blvd., Oxnard

Sat 9/14: Roots 805 Jam

Namba

47 S. Oak St., Ventura

Sun 9/8: The Listening Room

Sun 9/15: Iona Fyfe

Ojai Underground Exchange

616 Pearl St., Ojai

Fri 9/6: Jackie Bristow

Sat 9/7: Petty Chavez with Tom

Corbett

Sun 9/8: Alejandro Brittes

Fri 9/13: Whole Hog

Ojai Valley Brewing

307 Bryant St., Ojai

Fri 9/7: Adrian Floy and THC

Sat 9/14: Jared Ne;S

Onyx Bistro

2390 Las Posas Rd., Camarillo

Sat 9/14: Steve and Sally Williams

Oxnard Jazz Festival

Olol Koy Beach Park, 1601

Harbor Blvd., Oxnard

Sat 9/14: Loose Ends, Julian Vaughn,

Lin Rountree, Marcus Anderson...

Sun 9/15: Sheila E, Louie Cruz

Beltran, After 7, Illya Serov...

Oxnard Performing Arts Center

800 Hobson Way, Oxnard

Sat 9/14: Bone Thugs-n-Harmony

The Raven Tavern

1651 S. Victoria Ave., Oxnard

Fri & Sat 8 pm; Sundays 2 pm

Fri 9/6: FamDamly

Sat 9/7: Hogers Hereos

Sun 9/8: Adam and Dave

Fri 9/13: Wheeler Road

Sat 9/14: Doc Rogers Band

Sun 9/15: Jake McClelland

Rincon Brewery

4100 Telegraph Rd., Ventura

Fri 9/13: Bloody Mary Morning

Rock the Collection

2751 Park View St., Oxnard

Thurs 9/12: Twisted Gypsy

Sans Souci

21 S. Chestnut St., Ventura

Sat 9/7: iDecline, Cycotic Youth,

James Hoover, Tribute, Sim Come

Quick, Juan Dinero...

Fri 9/13: Jason and the Newly Feds

The Shores

1031 Harbor Blvd., Oxnard

Fri 9/6: Breaking Bored

Sat 9/7: CRV

Strey Cellars

951 N. Rice Ave., Oxnard

Sat 9/7: Pull the Trigger

Sun 9/8: The Dirty Lowdown

Sat 9/14: The Renegades

Sun 9/15: The Brandon Ragan Project

Tony's Pizzeria

186 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura

Thurs 8/22: OnePeople

Wed 9/4: Caught Red Handed

Thurs 9/5: Widom Tree

Fri 9/6: The Filthy Rotters

Sun 9/8: Ignition

Thurs 9/12: Wisdom Tree

Fri 9/13: Shaky Feelin'

Sat 9/14: Heathers on Fire

Sun 9/15: Mini Driver

Twist on Main

454 E. Main St., Ventura

Tuesdays: 805 The Shakedown

Vaquero y Mar

435 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura

Sundays: Mariachi

Tuesdays: The Sea Hunter, Lowered

Expectations

Sat 9/7: Ruberband, Narthex

Structure, RAW, Power Chicken,

Jackass, more...

Wed 9/11: Up Country

Ventura Coast Brew Co.

76 S. Oak St., Ventura

Fri 9/13: Dylan Brehm solo acoustic

Ventura Harbor Village

1559 Spinnaker Dr., Ventura

Sat 9/7: Elektrik Love In

Sat 9/14: Teka

Ventura Music Hall

1888 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura

Sat 9/14: Army of Freshmen, Nerf



Uniting Ventura Through Art: The Ventura Mandala Project

The Ventura Mandala Project is set to transform the intersection of Main St. and Figueroa St. during the upcoming ArtWalk Ventura festival, creating a lasting legacy for the city. This collaborative endeavor, led by Ojai community artist River Sauvageau, is designed to captivate hearts and minds while fostering connection, inclusivity, and pride within Ventura.

What is the Ventura Mandala Project?

Inspired by the ancient tradition of mandala-making and the 30+ years of Ojai Day Mandalas, the Ventura Mandala Project invites residents of all ages and backgrounds to come together to co-create a stunning 40-foot diameter mandala on the streets of downtown Ventura.

Key Features:

- **Location:** Main St. at Figueroa St., a bustling intersection that anchors Ventura's vibrant arts scene.
- **Timing:** Painting will take place on Thursday and Friday, September 19 & 20, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., coinciding with the ArtWalk Ventura Festival 2024 and tapping into the event's energy and excitement.
- **Collaboration:** Residents, artists, visitors, community leaders, and festival-goers will join forces to paint the mandala, infusing it with diverse perspectives, stories, and symbols.
- **Symbolism:** The mandala will symbolize unity, diversity, and shared identity, reflecting Ventura's rich cultural heritage.

Why Participate?

- **Community Engagement:**

Connect with fellow residents through a meaningful and collaborative art-making experience.

• **Cultural Celebration:** Honor Ventura's diversity and heritage by contributing to a visual masterpiece that represents our collective story.

• **Artistic Expression:** Unleash your creativity and leave your mark on the city's streetscape, turning ordinary pavement into a vibrant work of art.

• **Legacy Building:** Create a lasting legacy for future generations, embodying the spirit of unity and creativity that defines our community.

• **Family Unity:** Bring your family to paint together, continuing a tradition where multiple generations collabo-

rate on the mandala.

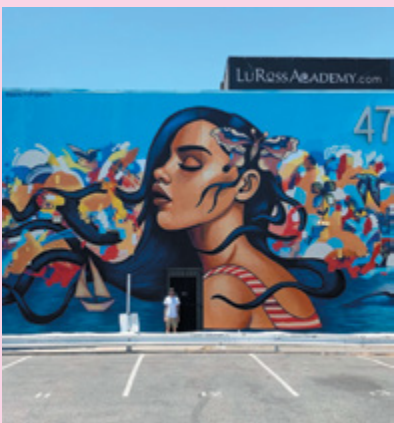
How to Get Involved:

• **Join Our Team:** Email River at MandalaMedicineMovement@gmail.com or text 805-669-8058 to contribute your unique vision to Ventura's Mandala Project. Whether you want to paint, assist at the paint table, or support the team with your presence, there's a role for everyone.

• **Spread the Word:** Invite friends, family, and neighbors to join in, amplifying the impact of this community-driven initiative.

• **Check In:** On the day of the event, visit the paint table to be welcomed and guided into the painting process.

For more information, visit <https://studio-sauvageau.myshopify.com/pages/mandala-movement>



Interested in Painting a Public Art Mural? Here's How to Get Started

Ventura's vibrant public art scene is constantly evolving, with more murals being added each year. If you're planning to install a mural, you'll need to obtain a City permit in the following cases:

- The mural will be on private property and visible from public areas (e.g., sidewalks, streets).
- The mural will be on or inside City-owned property.
- The mural will be in a Historic District or on a Historic Landmark.

The permitting process is outlined in the Public Art Mural Application Packet, which you can access below. The Community Partnerships Division within the Parks & Recreation Department is also available to assist you through the review and approval process.

Learn more and get started by completing the online form: <https://www.cityofventura.ca.gov/1778/Public-Art-Murals>

Call to Artists: Beautifying Trash Bins Public Art Project

The City invites artists and artistic teams to participate in the Beautifying Trash Bins Public Art Project, an initiative to transform four new "bear box" style trash receptacles into vibrant works of art. This project aims to deter vandalism, enhance the visitor experience at the beach, pier, and promenade, promote cleanliness, and celebrate Ventura's natural beauty and historical coastal landmarks. It also seeks to foster a sense of community and environmental stewardship.

This project is a collaboration between the City's Environmental Sustainability

Division and the Arts & Culture section.

Key Dates:

Call to Artists Opens: Tuesday, August 27, 2024

Application Submission Deadline: Friday, September 13, 2024, by 5:00 p.m.

Panel Review of Applications: Mid to Late September 2024

Arts & Culture Commission Shortlist Review & Selection: October 10, 2024

Project Execution: TBD

Don't miss this unique opportunity to contribute to Ventura's public art landscape!

<https://www.cityofventura.ca.gov/2537/Public-Art-Opportunities>

Fantastical Blues: Solo Show by Deborah Paulsen

Longtime artist and art instructor Deborah Paulsen will present her first Buena Ventura Art Association solo exhibition Sept. 6 - Oct. 26 in Studio 99, BAA's Ventura headquarters in Bell Arts Factory, 432 N. Ventura Ave.

Using hot beeswax and damar resin with added shellac, oil paints and pigment sticks, she creates encaustic paintings on cradled wooden panels and will display about 18 works in a show titled "Fantastical Blues."

Paulsen will be on hand to discuss her art and the encaustic process at First Friday receptions 6 - 9 p.m. Sept. 6 and Oct. 4 and during Ventura's annual weekend ArtWalk, noon-5 p.m. Sept. 21 and 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sept. 22. <https://www.buenaventuraartassociation.org>.

Ventura Artwalk: Sat, Sept. 21, 12 - 5 pm and Sun, Sept. 22, 11 am - 4 pm. Downtown.

The family-friendly event will feature hundreds of artists in local galleries, businesses, restaurants and on the grounds of Mission Park and the Albinger Museum. Artist booths, popular local bands, aerialists, poetry, dance, a film festival, street painting, puppetry and a children's area will all be a part of this event run by an enthusiastic all-volunteer team. Live painting and pottery demonstrations will also be featured. This huge, free event unites Ventura's west side neighborhoods, businesses and arts community in a two-day celebration of the creative spirit. Transit to ArtWalk Ventura and along the route will again be at no cost through the generosity of Gold Coast Transit. Register to participate at www.artwalkventura.org.



DRACULA:

A COMEDY OF TERRORS

OCTOBER 10-27

BY **Gordon Greenberg and Steve Rosen**

DIRECTED BY **Jamie Torcellini**

Tickets starting at \$40!
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AT THE NEW VIC

SANTA BARBARA'S PROFESSIONAL THEATER COMPANY

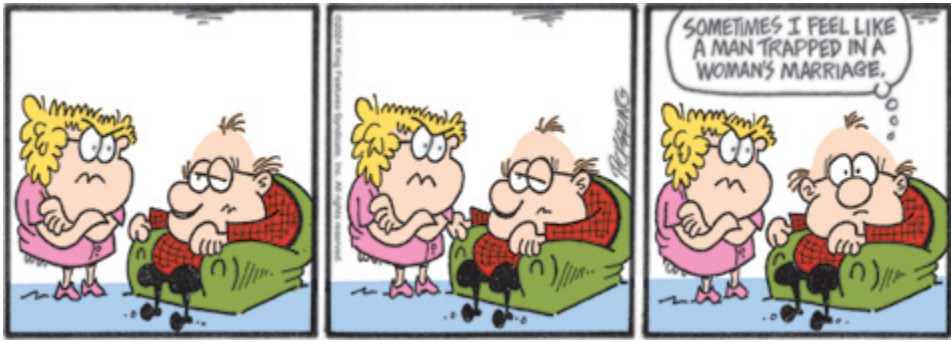


Lighter Breeze

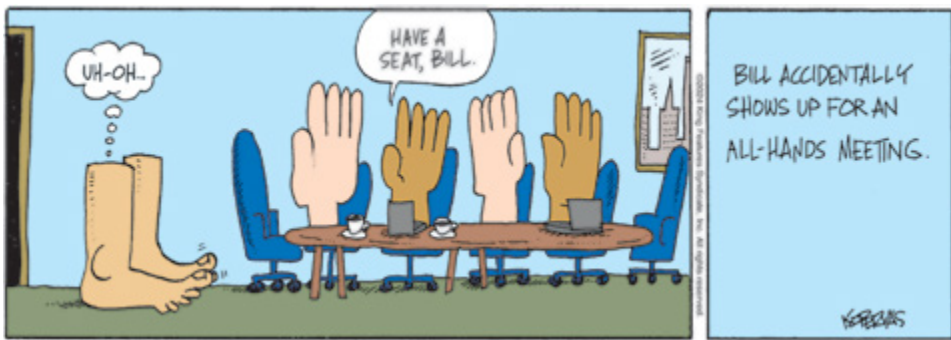
Tiger



The Spats



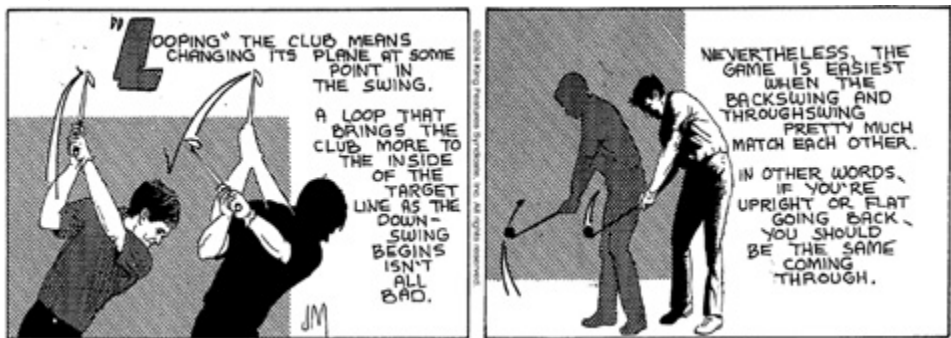
Out on a Limb



Amber Waves



Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS



Solutions on page 19

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

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

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 3x3 box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

Solutions on page 19

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Sch. supporters
- 5 White House monogram
- 8 Young cow
- 12 Stellar musician
- 14 Hodgepodge
- 15 Soften
- 16 Harvest
- 17 Auction signal
- 18 Calif. NFL team
- 20 Harmful gas
- 23 Batting practice area
- 24 "Lucky Jim" author
- 25 With gusto
- 28 - de deux
- 29 Sports bar fixture
- 30 Candied veggie
- 32 Gullets
- 34 Knuckle-head
- 35 Grecian vessels
- 36 Walking sticks
- 37 Radiator sounds
- 40 Soap unit
- 41 "Rhyme Pays" rapper
- 42 Playwright Wilder
- 47 Stadium top

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12				13				14			
15								16			
				17			18	19			
20	21	22			23						
24					25				26	27	
28				29					30	31	
	32		33					34			
			35				36				
37	38	39				40					
41					42	43			44	45	46
47					48						
49					50				51		

DOWN

- 1 USMC rank
- 2 Uncle (Sp.)
- 3 Prince
- 4 Valiant's son
- 4 Shorthand pros
- 5 Cobra feature
- 6 Away from NNE
- 7 Freight weights
- 8 Intersection
- 9 Downwind
- 10 Tale teller
- 11 Dandies
- 13 Japanese noodle
- 19 "- a Kick Out of You"
- 20 Knock
- 21 Latin 101 word
- 22 Platter
- 23 Broadway rosters
- 25 Chicago suburb
- 26 Rhone city
- 27 Harvard rival
- 29 Ripped
- 31 Peaks (Abbr.)
- 33 Oxidized
- 34 'Rats!'
- 36 Poet Sandburg
- 37 Conceal
- 38 PC picture
- 39 Big rig
- 40 This and that
- 43 Grass shack
- 44 Chai, e.g.
- 45 Leftover bit
- 46 Code-breaking gp.

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Ventura County Civil Grand Jurors Available for Speaking Events

The Ventura County Civil Grand Jury seeks opportunities to speak to community organizations, non-profit organizations, and similar groups as part of its education outreach program.

The Civil Grand Jury investigates matters affecting aspects of government in Ventura County. The Jury comprises 19 citizens who are impaneled by the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court and serve as a "voice and conscience" of Ventura County residents concerning their local governments.

The impaneled Civil Grand Jury does not pursue criminal cases or hear evidence in courtrooms. It serves as an independent investigatory panel on behalf of the citizens of Ventura County. It investigates

complaints from the public, writes reports and makes recommendations to local governments and agencies such as city councils, school districts, hospitals, harbors and water districts. Investigative areas include alleged government violations of city and county codes, disaster preparedness, contracting procedures, and health and safety matters among others.

To learn more about the Civil Grand Jury and how it serves the community, how to become a juror, or request speakers to meet with your group or class, you can contact the Civil Grand Jury at (805) 477-1600 or complete a speaker request form available on the Civil Grand Jury website at www.ventura.org/grand-jury.



Show Time

Streaming Spotlight by Cindy Summers

French Girl

- Prime Video



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

Middle school teacher Gordon Kinski (Zach Braff) was excited for the last day of school as he had planned a romantic getaway with his girlfriend Sophie Tremblay (Evelyne Brochu) where unbeknownst to her he was going to propose. Sophie, who was a gourmet chef in New York, had just gotten a rave review in the New York Times that caught the eye of her past head chef Ruby Collins (Vanessa Hudgens) who showed up out of the blue after several years apart to ask Sophie to interview for the

executive chef position in Ruby's new Michelin 3-star restaurant in Quebec.

Sophie knew that would mean she would have to postpone her trip with Gordon, but Gordon knew it was Sophie's dream so supported her choice to go and decided to join her on the trip to Canada. Sophie was originally from Canada and her parents Ginette (Isabelle Vincent) and Alphonse (Luc Picard) were looking forward to her visit and meeting her new boyfriend. Unfortunately, Gordon had taken a pill on the plane that his father gave him for nerves that caused him to be quite incapacitated which made a bad first impression with Sophie's parents.

The first night with the family Gordon didn't do well, accidentally kissed grandma on the the lips and revealing Sophie's brother Junior's secret to learn English and become a cop. Ruby arrived at dinner unexpectedly with Sophie's dad's favorite wine and took over for the rest of the evening. The next day Sophie headed off the begin her training for the job with Ruby, while Gordon was left home alone and decided to look through Sophie's room to learn more about her and her past.

To his surprise, Gordon found photos of Sophie and Ruby from a past lesbian relationship and in his shock called his dad Peter for advise, who told him to propose to Sophie before she switched teams again. Gordon was found by Alphonse in the yard who invited him into the barn where he slaughtered a lamb, making Gordon very uncomfortable. Then Gordon went to talk to Junior to apologize for accidentally sharing their arrangement, and in asking about Ruby and Sophie learned Sophie broke up with Ruby because Ruby cheated numerous times and broke her heart.

At the restaurant Ruby didn't favor Sophie, rather seemed to be even harder on her than the other two candidates. Meanwhile, Junior took Gordon to a MMA match and discovered Junior was and actual local MMA champion. After Junior beat the first challenger that was twice his size, he was challenged by his father Alphonse. Alphonse made a deal with Junior that if he won that Junior had to work on the farm and if Junior won he could take English lessons and pursue being a cop. Gordon jumped in the ring and in trying to keep them apart

accidentally knocked out Alphonse.

Back at the farm Ruby offered to film her cooking show at the farm to highlight their lamb and help save the farm. The show was a great success and Ruby committed to using Tremblay lamb at her restaurant. Then Ruby offered Sophie the job in front of her family and friends, and Gordon got drunk and due to his extreme jealousy made several offensive comments about Ruby and Sophie, including that Sophie slept her way into the job so she asked him to leave, backed up by Ruby.

Gordon booked a flight home but his dad told him he needed to fight, so he decided to surprise Sophie in the most extreme way by dawning some pantaloons and headed for the restaurant. There he saw Ruby kiss Sophie, then took off and stole Ruby's car not knowing that Sophie had punched Ruby in the face. Gordon crashed Ruby's car, but after coming to Sophie asked him to marry her having found the ring when he ended up unconscious in the hospital after the crash.

Runtime: 1h 50m



A View from House Seats

Glass Menagerie Classic Endures

by Shirley Lorraine

Some writings stand the test of time by tackling ongoing themes of life that do not seem to change significantly from era to era. Such a play is *The Glass Menagerie* by Tennessee Williams. Now on stage at the Conejo Players Theater, the emotional strength of this classic play clearly translates to any time or situation.

Set in 1944, the character Tom (Tanner Redman) narrates this story of his recollections of circumstances within his family. His mother, Amanda Wingfield (Dana Marley-Kolb), harbors many resentments that manifest in her emotional treatment of son Tom and daughter Laura (Timorah Brown). Tom is the family breadwinner, enduring a factory job that he dislikes. Laura lives in a world of her own, impaired by a childhood illness that left her with a limp and debilitating shyness. Instead of leaving the house, she creates her own idyll with her menagerie of glass figurines.

Tom's dreams of striking out on his own are hampered by his guilt at wanting to leave the ladies to fend for themselves. Amanda tries desperately to encourage Laura to expand her world by bringing up

her own memories of days gone by. As a unit, they are all dysfunctional, deluded and emotionally wounded.

Amanda asks Tom to find a "gentleman caller" to spark Laura. He does so, asking a co-worker Jim O'Connor (Rayve Tay) to come to dinner, not knowing that Laura pined over Jim in high school. Amanda is ecstatic at what she considers to be a matchmaking opportunity, putting all her Southern charm to work in her attempts. Despite her high hopes however, the evening is a failure, and despair once again enfolds the meager apartment.

Director Elena Mills has assembled a quite capable cast to bring this classic to life. The setting is impeccable, employing clever scrims to highlight certain memories. All four of the actors are excellent in their roles. Pacing is rapid and dialogue is crisp. The tone of frustration, anger and impatience bubbles to the surface throughout. Even the gentleman caller, who is often seen as the most empathetic character in his gentle approach to Laura's shy demeanor, is played with an abundance of bravado that kept the anxiety level high.

The play is reportedly autobi-

ographical of Williams' own life, at least in many areas. The author's emotional pain is clearly felt, with easily identifiable themes that are as pertinent today as they were decades ago. Some things don't change - our desire to have more than we do, to be happier than we are, and to have our dreams of what we consider a better life fulfilled.

The play offers a stark reminder

that our successes and failures are within our control, and our control alone. We bring to the table what we have, and it is up to us to reshape it into what we desire.

The Glass Menagerie continues through September 14. Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm, Sundays at 2 pm, Saturday Sept. 7 and 14 offer 2 pm performances. (805) 495-3715, www.conejoplayers.org/upcoming-shows.



SEPT. 14 & 15

Ventura Harbor Village

10AM - 5PM | FREE ENTRY

Event presented by VC Art Events Inc. + Rotary Club of Ventura

CRAFTSMAN VENDORS

CHALK MURALS

CHILDRENS ART

MUSIC & MORE





Notice of public hearings in Rulemaking 23-04-006 regarding the Order Instituting Rulemaking Proceeding to Consider Changes to Requirements on Video Franchisees Under the Digital Infrastructure and Video Competition Act, and Revisions to General Order 169.

In-Person Public Participation Hearings		
The in-person PPHs will be held as follows:		
Date	Time	Meeting & Location
August 14, 2024	1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	Sacramento County Board of Supervisors 700 H Street, Suite 1450 Sacramento, CA 95814
August 14, 2024	5:00 pm to 7:00 pm	Sacramento County Board of Supervisors 700 H Street, Suite 1450 Sacramento, CA 95814
September 5, 2024	1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	Monterey Park City Council Chambers 320 W Newmark Ave Monterey, CA 91754
September 5, 2024	5:00 pm to 7:00 pm	Monterey Park City Council Chambers 320 W Newmark Ave Monterey, CA 91754
Persons seeking to make a public comment will be directed to sign up at the Public Advisor's Office's table at the entrance to the hearing.		
Remote Public Participation Hearings		
The remote/virtual PPHs will be held as follows:		
Date	Time	Meeting Access Information
September 19, 2024	1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	Phone Number: 1-800-857-1917 Passcode: 6032788#
Webcast: https://Adminmonitor.com/ca/cpuc/		
September 19, 2024	5:00 pm to 7:00 pm	Phone Number: 1-800-857-1917 Passcode: 6032788#
Webcast: https://Adminmonitor.com/ca/cpuc/		

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) wants to hear from you. In-person and virtual public participation hearings (PPHs) have been scheduled to hear your comments, concerns, and opinions regarding changes to the Commission's licensing and oversight of video franchisees under the Digital Infrastructure and Video Competition Act of 2006 (DIVCA).

Among other items, Senate Bill (SB) 28 (Stats. 2021, Chap. 673) revises DIVCA to require that the Commission adopt customer service requirements for a holder of a state video franchise and to adjudicate customer complaints regarding these services. Your participation by providing comments can help in the development of the new rules.

You can attend the in-person hearings. You can also watch a livestream of the remote hearings. You can state your comments and participate either at the in-person or remote hearing. You can also submit comments by mail or post them on the CPUC's public comment portal. The CPUC invites you to a Commission webpage maintained by the Public Advisor's Office about this proceeding and your participation. You may access that webpage via this link: <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/pph>. The CPUC also invites you to a Commission webpage on video franchising at the following link: <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/videofranchising>.

The remote PPHs may be observed using the live video broadcast AdminMonitor webcast link <https://adminmonitor.com/ca/cpuc/> or heard on the toll-free telephone number. The AdminMonitor broadcast has English or Spanish captions that can be accessed by clicking the green button below the video screen. To provide public comment, participants should use the toll-free telephone number and participant code noted above. Participants who wish to speak must then press "star one" and record their first and last name when prompted. This will alert the operator who will then queue the speakers one-at-a-time and announce each speaker's name at the allotted time. When it is time for public comment, the ALJ will make an announcement through the telephone line for those who wish to speak.

Public officials wishing to speak at the PPHs should provide the telephone operator with their name, title, and governmental entity.

Written public comments may be provided at any time during this proceeding through the Add Public Comment tab on the Commission's website at apps.cpuc.ca.gov/c/R2304006.

How does this process work?

This rulemaking is considering changes to DIVCA that require the Commission to adopt customer service requirements for a holder of a state video franchise and to adjudicate customer service complaints regarding these services. The rulemaking is assigned to a CPUC Administrative Law Judge and a Commissioner, who will consider proposals and evidence presented during formal processes, and then issue a proposed decision. Any CPUC Commissioner may sponsor an alternate decision with a different outcome. The proposed decision, and any alternate decisions, will be discussed and voted upon by the CPUC Commissioners at a public CPUC Voting Meeting.

Contact the CPUC:

Please visit the Commission website at apps.cpuc.ca.gov/c/R2304006 to submit a public comment about this rulemaking to the CPUC. You may also mail written comments to the CPUC's Public Advisor's address below. For more information on participating in the public hearing, submitting comments, to request special assistance, or to request a non-English or Spanish language interpreter, please contact the CPUC's Public Advisor's Office at least five days prior to the hearings.

CPUC Public Advisor's Office

505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102

Phone: **1-866-849-8390** (toll-free) or **1-415-703-2074**

Email: Public.Advisor@cpuc.ca.gov

Please reference **Rulemaking 23-04-006** in any communications you have with the CPUC regarding this matter.