

Have a Happy Halloween!!

VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

Vol. 18, No. 3 Published Every Other Wednesday Established 2007 October 30 to November 12, 2024

Building a Safer Ventura Together: An Open Letter from the Deputy Director of Ventura Land Trust”

My name is Daniel Hulst and I am fortunate to serve as Deputy Director for Ventura Land Trust (VLT). I have grown concerned about some misinformation swirling during this year’s local City Council election and wanted to address it directly with facts.

VLT takes annual defensible space clearance very seriously and manages over 1.5 miles of Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) where fuel clearance is required. We work in conjunction with all public fire agencies and quickly remedy any issues that arise. VLT regularly invites Fire Personnel out to the field to confer and brainstorm on best practices to keep our preserves and neighbors safe. In one notable example, multiple fire agencies now have locks on the gates to our properties to provide access whenever needed for safety, something that did not exist in the past.

In addition to our work on annual fuel clearance, VLT has worked to reduce fire risk to adjacent residential neighbors by removing flammable eucalyptus trees and partnering with the Ventura County Fire Department to reinstate and maintain a fire road along a section of the property boundary impacted by the Thomas Fire. VLT has also partnered with fire agencies to graze areas of Harmon Canyon to reduce fire risk and utilized our properties for specialized Fire personnel training.

As an entity with nearly 100 residential neighbors, VLT regularly interacts
Continued on page 10



Image by @jseemayerphoto
Skateboarder catches big air at the thrilling 2024 Ventura X Games

X Games Ventura was EPIC. What’s Next?

by Visit Ventura

X Games Ventura - it brings a smile to our faces every time we hear it. Our hometown next to an international brand. On t-shirts, sweatshirts, hats, skateboards, and gold medals broadcasted on live TV repeatedly.

X Games brought so many memories, jaw-dropping action, and smiles. And there’s so much to be proud of. Our efforts brought X Games back to California, where skateboarding

Continued on page 6

City of Ventura Begins Next Phase of Surfers Point Restoration and Coastal Protection

by Patricia Schallert

The City of Ventura invited the media to commemorate the groundbreaking for the second phase of the Surfers Point Managed Retreat Project on Friday, October 11, 2024, at the end of Shoreline Drive, near the dunes at Surfers Point.

The morning event included a ceremony featuring remarks from Ventura Mayor Joe Schroeder, alongside local officials, key stakeholders, and community representatives.

Surfers Point, a beloved destination for swimming, surfing, windsurfing, and kayaking, boasts vital walking, running, and biking paths that benefit all Ventura residents. This \$16.2 million project, funded by the California State Coastal Conservancy, aims to enhance beachgoer safety and protect the shoreline from erosion, rising sea levels,
Continued on page 4



Image by Patricia Schallert

Ventura Mayor Joe Schroeder, alongside local officials and community leaders, breaks ground on the second phase of the Surfers Point Managed Retreat Project, a \$16.2 million coastal preservation initiative aimed at protecting the shoreline from erosion and rising sea levels.



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Your Hometown Paper

Member, Ventura Chamber of Commerce

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

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“I’ll stop wearing black when they make a darker color.”
—Wednesday Addams

City News



City Council Candidates

On November 5, 2024, voters in Ventura’s Districts 2, 3, and 7 will cast their ballots to elect three City Council members for four-year terms. Visit the candidates’ websites for more information. You can also watch the candidate forum sponsored by the League of Women Voters, Midtown Ventura Community Council, and the College Area Community Council: www.capsmedia.org.

District 2 Candidates:



Doug Halter
- www.DougHalter.com



Naz Madaen
- www.NazforVentura.com

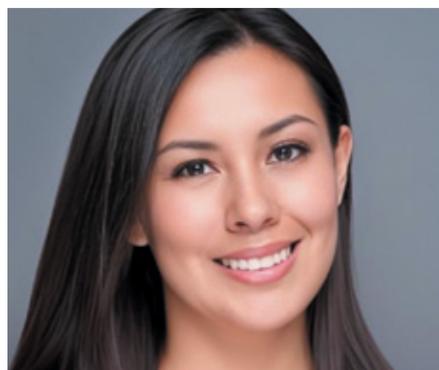
District 3 Candidates:



Heather May Ellinger
- www.heathermayforventura.com



Clint Garman
- www.electclintgarmanventura.com



Maricela Reyes
- www.MaricelaReyesForVentura.com

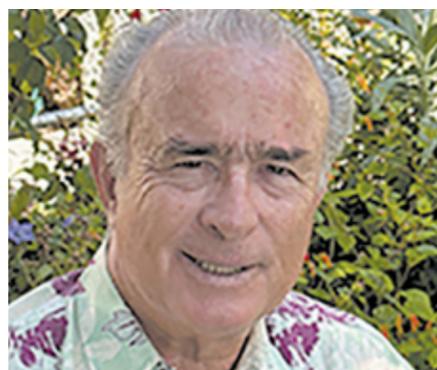


Rynn Schumacher
- www.ryynforventura.com

District 7 Candidates:



Mario “Alex” Mangone
- www.alexforventuracouncil.com



Brian Brennan
- www.brennan4ventura.com



Correction:

In our last issue, we mistakenly listed Rynn Schumacher as a candidate for Ventura City Council in District 7. He is, in fact, running for the District 3 seat. The correct web site for his campaign is www.ryynforventura.com.

Mailbox

Dear Editor,

As a homeowner in Oxnard, I understand the challenges of maintaining a property while ensuring it remains affordable for renters. Proposition 33 might seem like a quick fix, but in reality, it would create more problems for both renters and homeowners like me.

Expanding rent control to single-family homes would discourage homeowners from renting out their properties, reducing the already limited supply of rental homes. This means higher competition and rising prices for the few homes left available. Additionally, strict rent caps would make it difficult for homeowners to keep up with rising repair, maintenance, and tax costs. If we can’t cover these costs, properties will fall into disrepair, leaving fewer options for renters. We need real solutions that address the housing shortage, not policies that push homeowners out of the rental market

Sincerely,
Janet Sprissler

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



'Tis the Most Wonderful Time of the Year! 13th Annual Festive CAN-tree Food Drive

Ventura County comes together for the CAN-tree Food Drive – now in its 13th year. Figueroa Street transforms into a magical forest of creative CAN-trees - a fairyland of food! Gather your colleagues and friends, get creative, and help spread holiday cheer while fighting hunger in our community!

Thursday, December 5th

- 9 AM – 2 PM: Large tree building
- 2 PM – 4 PM: Community tree building
- 4 PM – 6 PM: Community tree building

Friday, December 6th

- 10 AM – 12 PM: Cumulus will be broadcasting LIVE from the event
- 10 AM – 6 PM: Tree building.
- 6 PM: Tree Lighting event at Figueroa Plaza

Saturday, December 7th

- 9 AM – 1 PM: Tree building
- 8:30AM – 12PM: Farmers Market
- 12 PM – 8PM: Holiday Street Fair on Main St.
- 4 PM – 8 PM: Winter Wine Walk

Sunday, December 8th

Trees will then be broken down and cans collected to feed our community. www.foodshare.com/cantree

cruitment of native species, lush growth of coast live oaks (*Quercus agrifolia*), and significant damage to the beloved roads and trails. After the wet season ended, Ventura Land Trust (VLT) conducted a thorough survey of the roads and trails, finding the most severe impacts in the upper canyon, north of the 1.5-mile gate.

Repairing the roads is complicated by their location within Southern California Edison's (SCE) easement area, which allows SCE access to high-tension power lines and requires them to maintain the roads to a certain standard. If VLT were to perform maintenance on the roads, and they subsequently failed, VLT would be held liable for any damages which poses great financial risk for VLT. As a result, VLT has refrained from maintaining the damaged roads in Upper Harmon Canyon.

With this in mind, VLT staff worked closely with SCE to expedite repairs to the roads in Harmon Canyon during 2024. Simultaneously a group of cycling enthusiasts approached VLT and volunteered to rebuild Ropersmith by hand. VLT agreed to support this volunteer initiative by providing supplies, hoping it would coincide with SCE's road repairs, leading to the reopening of Long Canyon Road and Ropersmith Family Trail at the same time. However, things rarely go as planned.

In early September VLT received news from SCE. They were reclassifying the Long Canyon Road "maintenance" project as an "improvement" project, placing it under the oversight of SCE's civil engineering department, which means there is no set completion date in sight. This sent VLT on the hunt for a new solution to opening trails in the Upper Canyon.

With Long Canyon Road remaining off-limits, VLT had to either pause volunteer efforts on Ropersmith or make the trail bi-directional. Given the nearly 300 hours of volunteer labor already invested, VLT decided to honor these volunteers' hard work and open Ropersmith Family Trail as a bi-directional trail on October 11, 2024.

The reopening is on a trial basis. If reports of user conflicts increase or if injuries strain Ventura's first responders, VLT will close the trail. To mitigate these issues, VLT encourages users to remember essential trail etiquette: go slow, be respectful, and keep in mind that Harmon Canyon is a nature preserve. We understand that Ropersmith Family Trail is important to many in the community, and we are excited to reopen it, but not at the expense of the plants, animals, and other visitors who deserve a safe, welcoming environment. We appreciate your help in making nature accessible for everyone!

If you have questions about the Ropersmith Family Trail or would like to learn more about VLT's work in Harmon Canyon, please reach out to info@venturalandtrust.org. To stay up to date on what's happening in our preserves, check the Preserves Update section of www.venturalandtrust.org.

Volunteers Revive Ropersmith Trail as VLT Seeks Long-Term Solutions

by Ventura Land Trust

The last few wet seasons were quite challenging for Harmon Canyon Preserve. The Preserve weather station recorded over 35 inches of rain during the 2023/2024 wet season, more than double the typical amount for a season. This rainfall resulted in the remarkable re-

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NO Delay in Trash, Recycling and Yard/Organics Waste Pick Up Due to the Veterans Day Holiday

The Veterans Day holiday falls on Monday, Nov. 11. The collection of trash, recycling and yard/organics waste will not be affected the week of Nov. 10-16 in the Cities of Ventura and Ojai and the unincorporated areas of Ventura County.

Thank you and Happy Holiday
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Bike Ventura C O U N T Y

Upcoming Bike Ventura Rides

Bike Ventura County (BikeVC) is an active, grass-roots non-profit, charitable 501(c)(3) corporation located in Ventura. BikeVentura incorporated in 2007 under the name VCCOOL and formally transitioned to BikeVentura in 2019, and then to Bike Ventura County (BikeVC) in 2021.

Mission Statement

Our mission at BikeVC is to grow a safe, healthy community through equitable bicycle education, empowerment, and advocacy.

Accomplishments

In 2018, we helped over 775 people fix their bikes, logged over 621 work-

trade hours, built and recycled nearly 346 bikes back into the community, thanks to donations.

- Winner of Ventura Chamber of Commerce's Non-Profit of the Year!
- Partnered with Epic in 2018 to host first-of-its-kind bicycle focused summer camp in Cabrillo Village.
- Continued partnership with City of Ventura to host Ride Ready course; join a FREE class and bikeventura.org/ events.
- Participated in January 2017 City Council meeting to support the successful approval of a grant funding The Ventura Avenue Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements Plan. The Grant includes bike lanes and sidewalks on Cedar St; bike lane, sidewalk and stop sign at DeAnza and curb extensions and better crosswalks on Ventura Ave.
- Partnered with Giant Bicycles and Channel Islands Bike Club to donate over 200 bikes and helmets to Thomas Fire Victims.
- Co-creator of Ventura's Master Bikeway Plan. Our on-going, community actions are creating a new bicycle feel to

the city of Ventura, including some of California's first green-bike-boxes.

- In 2012, opened the Ventura Bike HUB community shop supporting low-income cyclists in fixing their own bicycle.
- Provided 25 bicycles to farm-worker youth.
- Provide technical responses to city codes and plans, including 35 page of recommendations for the Westside code.
- Written \$1.5 million dollars of successful state/federal grants for Ventura City pay for bicycle safety and education.

Upcoming Rides:

- Sat., Nov 2
- Sat., Nov 16

These no drop rides are free and open to the public. Rides generally start at the Museum of Ventura County parking lot (100 East Main St.) at 8:30 am and are 15 to 25 miles in length with speeds of 10 to 12 mph. To register, volunteer or donate visit www.bikeventura.org.

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WELCOME!



City of Ventura Begins Next Phase Continued from page 1

and climate change. Planned improvements involve a new multi-use path, redesigned parking with an attendant station, public art, enhanced lighting, upgraded drainage, improved landscaping, and electric vehicle charging stations, creating a safer and more enjoyable experience for all visitors.

Building upon a successful first phase completed in 2013, recognized globally for its innovative coastal resilience strategy, this second phase will also remove damaged infrastructure and introduce dunes, native plants, and a cobble berm to protect both City and Fairgrounds infrastructure.

Mayor Schroeder noted, "When agencies collaborate effectively, remarkable achievements occur," emphasizing that Ventura has become an international model for coastal

preservation. Supervisor Matt LaVere of District 1 expressed gratitude for the Phase 2 project, which aims to "safeguard the coastline from erosion, restore habitats, and address rising sea levels."

Dan Long, president of the Ventura County Fairgrounds, highlighted the project's community-focused vision, while Paul Jenkins, President of the Surfrider Foundation and Ventura Campaign Coordinator, acknowledged the earlier phase's recognition as a successful green infrastructure solution against climate change's challenges.

Chairman Matt Vestuto, a Cultural Specialist Consultant from the Band of Mission Indians, believes this project will help preserve the Ventura coastline as a sacred space for future generations and appreciates the collaboration of all involved agencies as they embark on this next chapter for Surfers Point.

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CITY OF VENTURA
PARKS & RECREATION

OLIVAS ADOBE
Historical Interpreters



2023 visitors enjoy a tractor ride at Prancers Farm.

Compost and Mulch Featured on Farm Day Tours

by David Goldstein, PWA, IWMD

Students for Eco-Education and Agriculture, SEEAG, a nonprofit organization primarily serving schools in Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties, are partnering with agriculturally related businesses for the upcoming Ventura County Farm Day on November 2, from 10 AM to 3 PM. The public is invited to register for tours at more than 15 sites. Not all events will take place on farms, and not all the focus will be on crops. In fact, some long-deserved attention will be focused on the compost and mulch that have long been an important input for productive farming in Ventura County.

In fact, one of the optional tour sites is the Agromin compost facility on Arnold Road. Owned by USA Petroleum, this site was a mushroom farm until 2002, when two recently graduated UC Santa Barbara Environmental Studies majors, one son of a USA Petroleum executive, decided to turn it into a compost facility called Shoreline Organics. By 2004, the two had begun compost operations, but they struggled with permitting, regulatory, and financial challenges.

Agromin bought the business, took over the lease, and turned the site into Ventura County's major composting facility. Although the facility has been successful for two decades, it likely has only a short future as a compost making operation. Competing land uses, including bird preservation related to the nearby Ormond Beach Wetland, have limited options and posed challenges for compost operations. Anticipated as an alternative, Agromin is currently expanding a compost facility on the Limoneira Farm, near Santa Paula. Agromin also operates a mulch-making and food-waste transferring facility at the Simi Valley Landfill and Recycling Center and expects an early 2025 opening for an in-vessel composting and food-waste-to-animal-feed facility on Mountain View Street in Oxnard.

One of the two entrepreneurs who started Shoreline Organics at Agromin's Ormond Beach site is now in a different role with another company that is also on the Farm Day tour list. Greg Lewis is now Vice President of Duda Farms Fresh Foods. The farm, near the ocean on the outskirts of Ventura, is a major

national producer of celery. Unsurprisingly, the farm uses a lot of compost, as Lewis is familiar with the benefits of the product.

The McGrath Farm is another site where SEEAG's agricultural education program will intersect with compost education. "I'm going to tell people there shouldn't be anything called 'waste,'" said Phil McGrath, an owner of the farm. "We feed what we can to people; anything left, we feed to animals; and after that, anything left we turn into compost."

McGrath recalled that his late father and grandfather, William and Joseph McGrath, relied heavily on compost, not just as a good agricultural practice for crop production, but also as an environmentally smart method of waste management. Until 1948, the McGrath Dairy on the site and at two other locations was the third largest milk producer in California. Dairy manure was an important input for composting.

Changing regulatory conditions and other factors led to the demise of the dairy, but Phil McGrath dreams of bringing it back with clever measures, including advanced composting, that could make it work again in Ventura County. In the meantime, the McGrath farm hosts the Rodale Institute California Organics Center, which helps farmers solve challenges, conducts research, and provides educational programs related to compost.

Petty Ranch, a fifth-generation farm in Saticoy, is an additional Farm Day site with significant compost connections. Serving as the Farm Day hub, this is the site where SEEAG hosts thousands of children each year for its Farm Lab program. It has an eight-foot-long worm box, where red worms eat food scraps, producing high quality soil amendment.

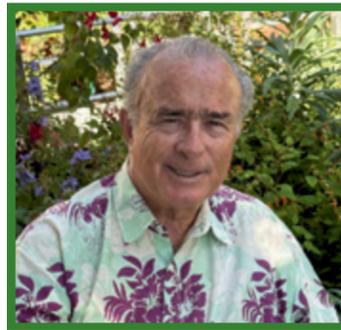
Sign up for free Farm Day tours at www.venturacountyfarmday.com, and use the farm day trail map to plan your day. "You can build your own farm and food adventure and also learn about compost," said Catilin Paulus-Case, Executive Director of SEEAG.

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

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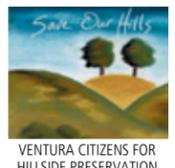
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"For decades, Brian Brennan has been dedicated to advocating for quality of life issues and the environment. Over and over I have seen his values and breadth of experience lead him to promoting common sense good government policies that will guide Ventura to a healthy, sustainable future. We will all benefit having him back on the city council!"

— California State Assemblymember **Steve Bennett**



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The Bookmark

About Libraries and Friends

by Mary Olson

25th Anniversary Reception for Sally Weber's "Matrix"

On Friday, November 15 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Enter E.P. Foster Library through the Main Street entrance and give some special attention to Sally Weber's stunning artwork, "Matrix". This iconic entrance has served as a beacon of color and inspiration for the community since its unveiling in 1999. On this 25th anniversary of its installation, meet the artist Sally Weber as she returns to the library for a special celebration. This event is hosted in partnership between Ventura County Library and Kelly Coty Design.

Nutcracker Storytime

This November, EP Foster Library and Ventura County Ballet present a magical Nutcracker Storytime. Families are invited to a special reading of the classic tale "The Nutcracker" on Saturday, November 16 at 11:00 am. The event will be held in the Topping Room.

In addition to the Storytime reading, there will be mini dance performances by Ventura County Ballet. Dancers will lead a dance demonstration where children can learn some basic ballet moves inspired by the story. It's a wonderful opportunity for aspiring young dancers to experience the magic of ballet firsthand. Attendees will also have the chance to participate

in a Q&A session with Kathie Noblin, Director of Ventura County Ballet, and the ballet dancers. Children and families can ask questions about what it's like to be a dancer, how ballet brings The Nutcracker to life on stage, and what it takes to prepare for a performance.

This event is free and open to the public. For additional information, please contact Sienna Sydlaske, Youth Librarian Specialist, at (805) 648 2716 or sienna.sydlaske@ventura.org.

Ventura Friends of the Library Bookstore - 2nd Look Books

The E.P. Foster Library is ready to welcome Christmas shoppers Monday through Saturday, 11:00 am to 4:00 pm and Sundays, 1:00 to 4:00 pm. You can find great bargains in gently used children's books, cooking and craft books, audio books and books with a seasonal theme. The items in our store are definitely worth a second look, from current novels to jigsaw puzzles to older books and vintage books to fill you with the nostalgia appropriate to the season!

Hill Road Library's Wise Owls Book Club holds its Fall meeting on Tuesday, November 19, from 5:00 to 6:00 pm.

Wise Owls is a Book Club for adults who enjoy reading children's literature. The Fall selection is Wings of Fire: The Dragonet Prophecy by Tui Sutherland. Clay and his friends have grown up under a mountain, secretly raised by the Talons of Peace to fulfill a mysterious prophecy. But not every dragonet wants a destiny. When one of their own is threatened, they decide to escape. Maybe they can break free and end the war that's been raging between the tribes of Pyrrhia. at the same time. Visit the Hill Road Library to pick up the latest selection. To join the mailing list for this Book Club please email Linda.Cherry@Ventura.org

sporting events line up in the coming years, it is amazing that Los Angeles has hosted the Olympics TWICE since 1932. In many ways, the X Games was our Olympics, and we hosted it twice back to back! That's sure something to be proud about!

Ventura was launched worldwide and earned media impressions grew from 5 billion to 9.3 billion in 2024 – yep, that is BILLIONS with a B! Seeing X Games Ventura replays on ESPN always captures our attention to watch again and say, "We all did that! That's our home!"

So...now what? What is next? We get this question daily.

What is next for the X Game brand is the X Games League (XGL), a new global, team-based format. The X Games competition is changing as a result of the XGL. This means no future X Games event will look like what we hosted in Ventura in 2023 or 2024.

XGL is a team-based format set to launch in 2026. X Games leadership is starting to build out their new path next year, 2025.

This means there will not be an X Games Ventura 2025. While we have made great friends with the X Games leadership, athletes, and sponsors, difficult decisions were made. XGL is taking X Games down a different path and we wholeheartedly cheer on their future business endeavors – and you never know what the future will hold! After all, we're stoked about the construction of the new Westpark skate park; we have been discussing this project with them since the City started the grant writing process.

As our partners, you are among the first to know. Our public announcement will be this Thursday, 10/10, through ads in our local publications, thanking our community at large for welcoming the X Games to our hometown and celebrating the history we made together. Our team has worked hard on the communication strategy to celebrate our community's accomplishments. We ask that you limit sharing this news so we can once again work on the plan. We appreciate your patience and support!

There are exciting times ahead for OUR Ventura! And we know what our community is capable of. We can own our own space on the global platform and collaborate to make incredible things happen, setting us apart from any other destination. We're capable of celebrating our community and embracing a variety of awesome ideas brought to the table.

X Games has changed the landscape of our business community and city for many years to come. We're proud of making history in our hometown. We did this TOGETHER as partners and as a community... and that's how the magic happens. And that's what Ventura is all about.



X Games Ventura was EPIC Continued from page 1

has its roots. X Games California 2023 turned into X Games Ventura because of OUR community and how we came together to celebrate the X Games - we heard so many times from X Games staff that "No other destination has ever done this for us!" Amid California's exciting



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Business Profile

The Greek

Last weekend, locals and visitors reveled in the Halloween festivities at Ventura Harbor. The celebration kicked off with the Annual Witches Paddle, followed by live music, the adorable HOWL-O-WEEN Dog Costume Contest, Seaside Trick-or-Treat, giant expertly carved pumpkins, and even a Thriller Zombie Dance.

Amidst all the fun, the iconic Greek Restaurant stood out. This family-friendly eatery has attracted patrons to the harbor for over 30 years.

Gerasimos (Makis) and Lynn Mikelatos began their culinary journey in 1980 with their first venture, "It's Greek To Me," at Centerpoint Mall. From delectable lamb chops

to hearty moussaka, their restaurants have offered a taste of Greece alongside lively belly dancing and Greek dance shows.

Adapting to the times, "The Greek" added Tango 2nd and 4th Tuesday and The Greek After Dark any night by prior arrangement, featuring specialty drinks and a virtual DJ spinning '80s hits from 9 pm to midnight. This fresh twist, combined with classic Greek flavors, showcases the restaurant's ability to evolve while honoring its roots.

Their commitment to the community extends beyond food, with active involvement in local schools, the Ventura Chamber, and nonprofits, blending flavors with a spirit of giving.

With some loyal employees marking over 30 years with "The Greek," it remains



a family affair, offering breathtaking views that transport diners to Greece's sunlit shores. Today, "The Greek" stands as a symbol of tradition, passion, and Mediterranean hospitality, inviting all to celebrate life, love, and fine cuisine.

Check out their full breakfast menu and spacious venue for your upcoming holiday gatherings. And with the holidays fast approaching, make reservations early for one of the best views in town to enjoy the Parade of Lights and New Year's Eve celebrations!

Paid for by Rryn Schumacher for Ventura City Council 2024 | FPPC #1472427

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Taste the Harbor with a Handcrafted Bowl
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- BAJA BAY SURF N' TACO
- BROPHY BROS. CLAM BAR RESTAURANT
- COASTAL CONE ICE CREAM
- MARGARITA VILLA MEXICAN RESTAURANT
- THE GREEK MEDITERRANEAN STEAK & SEAFOOD
- TOP THIS CHOCOLATE
- NEW! THE LOOSE CANNON

All Proceeds From This Event Will Go To

VENTURA HARBOR VILLAGE



Muay Thai competitors of all ages brought their energy and skill to Ventura's first 'Eat Sleep Teep' event.

Inaugural 'Eat Sleep Teep' Semi-Contact Muay Thai Series Debuts in Ventura

On October 20, 2024, the first-ever Muay Thai event in Ventura made its mark in the Tuttle Gym at Ventura High School. The event, hosted by EatSleepTeep.com, featured 40 exciting semi-contact Muay Thai matches, drawing competitors from across California and as far away as New Mexico.

The term "teep," a defining front kick in Muay Thai. The event was created by Jonathan Puu, founder of Pu'u Muay Thai Academy in Ventura and Ryan and Carol Ughoc, owners of Pu'u Muay Thai Santa Barbara. The event welcomed over 500+ attendees throughout the day, establishing itself as a family-friendly celebration of martial arts.

Spencer Noren of Ventura Forward was the event's MC, bringing high energy and local flavor to the day's activities. Attendees also enjoyed a lively presentation of Thai and local Ventura culture, bringing a unique fusion of community spirit and martial arts tradition. Pizza Man Dan's even brought their food truck for

a curbside pizza experience during intermission, adding to the vibrant atmosphere.

"This was more than just a competition—it was a celebration of Muay Thai and community," said Jonathan Puu. "We're incredibly proud to bring the first Muay Thai event to Ventura, and we look forward to growing the sport not only here but throughout the Gold Coast and beyond."

Competitors and attendees can look forward to future events with the Eat Sleep Teep series, as the promoters—Jonathan, Ryan, and Carol—plan to continue promoting the sport in the region. The event garnered major sponsorships from local and national brands, including Gold Coast Toyota, 22 Tigers Barbershop, The U.S. Army and Kingdom Supply Co.

For more information and to stay updated on future events, visit www.EatSleepTeep.com and subscribe to the newsletter. Also available on Instagram @PuuMuayThai & @PuuMuayThaiSB.



Competitors face off in action-packed sparring matches.

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Senior Living



Image by Freepik

What is a Reverse Mortgage?

From the California Department of Real Estate

If you are 62 or older, reverse mortgages are a way to borrow against the equity in your home (the value of your home minus any mortgage debt you may have) to provide what may be tax-free income (often referred to as cash flow). A reverse mortgage requires no scheduled loan payments until the loan ends.

Potential Advantages of a Reverse Mortgage

- A reverse mortgage may help you continue your financial independence and maintain or improve your quality of life.
- A reverse mortgage allows you to remain in and keep the title to your home.
- The money you receive is generally not considered taxable income. You should consult with an independent tax professional to determine individual tax consequences of a reverse mortgage.
- You make no payments until the end of the term of the loan (defined to be when the last eligible borrower permanently leaves or sells the home, when you die, when a fixed due date occurs, or at the end of the loan term as it otherwise may be determined).
- You can eliminate mortgage payments by paying off existing loans through proceeds from the reverse mortgage.
- You can select from several different benefit payment plans/options to meet your needs.
- Your income or credit score is not a consideration in obtaining a reverse mortgage, since no payments are required until the loan ends. Independent counseling is required in advance.

Potential Drawbacks of a Reverse Mortgage

- They are more complicated than conventional mortgages, and the consequences of various plans/options are not always obvious.
- They are relatively expensive compared to other loans, including home equity loans, especially at the time the loan is originated.
- Although the money you receive is typically income tax-free, it may affect your eligibility under existing law for

“needs-based” public assistance benefits such as Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Medicaid/MediCal.

- They may reduce or eliminate the equity in your home, affecting the estate to be distributed to your heirs.
- When the product is other than an FHA-insured mortgage, you should confirm the reverse mortgage is entirely a non-recourse loan. This means the liability to repay the loan is limited to your home (its then market value or sales price) and would not subject any of your other assets or income, or the income and assets of your heirs, as sources for repayment.
- They are often not well understood by real estate, mortgage, tax, or legal professionals. Check out their experience with these mortgages before accepting their advice.

Important Questions to Ask Before Choosing a Reverse Mortgage

- How much money do I need?
- Is there a way to meet my needs that does not involve a reverse mortgage?
- Will a reverse mortgage make my partner or me ineligible for any “needs-based” public assistance benefits—now or in the future?
- Does my home qualify for a reverse mortgage?
- How much can I borrow through available reverse mortgage products?
- How much will it cost me in origination fees, closing costs, interest, monthly, or periodic fees?
- Will I have to sell my home before I die to pay off the reverse mortgage?
- If I die and my partner is still living in my home, will he or she have to leave or pay off the reverse mortgage?
- Will the reverse mortgage become due and payable if I require long-term care and move to an assisted-living facility, or to a nursing or convalescent home?
- Will there be anything left for my partner, my heirs, or me when the reverse mortgage is fully paid?
- Are there any fees, costs, or other charges due when the reverse mortgage is fully paid? (Regardless of product, prepayment penalties cannot be demanded

when the reverse mortgage is partially or fully prepaid.)

- What are my continuing financial obligations with a reverse mortgage, such as property maintenance, property taxes, insurance premiums, and homeowners’ association assessments or fees (as applicable)?

Types of Reverse Mortgages

- FHA-insured mortgage: A Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM) product.
- Lender or privately insured mortgages: These are known as “proprietary” products, but such products are not currently available.
- Uninsured mortgage products offered by a financial institution or a licensed lender: Again, proprietary products are currently not available.

Important Things to Do Before You Make a Decision

- Decide how long you expect to stay in the home.
- Consult with a Housing and Urban Development (HUD)-approved reverse mortgage counselor before you apply. A counselor can help you decide whether a reverse mortgage or some alternative is the best choice for you. To find a HUD-approved Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM) counselor near you, call (800) 569-4287.
- Decide if you really need a reverse mortgage. Another type of loan may be a less costly solution. Discuss this with a counselor.

- Include trusted family members in the decision-making process. If inheritance is an issue, adult children may be willing to help.

- Shop around and compare offerings. Not all reverse mortgages are the same; their terms vary substantially.

- Determine if a reverse mortgage will affect your ability for “needs-based” public assistance benefits.

- Review your mortgage broker’s license record. Call DRE for clarification on any discipline taken.

To contact the California Department of Real Estate, call (877) 373-4542 toll-free for assistance in English or Spanish. Visit www.dre.ca.gov.

CAUTION: This general information is NOT a substitution for the advice of an attorney, accountant, and/or financial planner. Before you decide to pursue a reverse mortgage, you should carefully consider your individual circumstances so you can make a wise decision about the most valuable asset you may own—your home. Factors to consider include whether the proposed reverse mortgage is a recourse or non-recourse loan, whether the loan would have a fixed or adjustable interest rate, and/or the current or projected market value of your home.



Volunteers Needed

Grief Support Group Facilitator Volunteers

Join Livingston in making a meaningful difference for Ventura County residents who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

- Co-facilitate a support group with a grief therapist
- Opportunities in Camarillo, Ojai, Oxnard, and Ventura
- Two-hour weekly time commitment, plus a quarterly meeting
- No experience is necessary; comprehensive training and support provided
- Bilingual group opportunities

If you’re passionate about giving back and making an impact, we’d love to hear from you. Whether you’re ready to volunteer or just want more information, please don’t hesitate to reach out!

Call (805) 389-6870

Visit lmvna.org/griefvolunteer

Scan





Senior Living



Image by Freepik

Bridging Generations: Volunteers Needed to Support Ventura County Seniors

by Debbie Lasley

As Volunteer Coordinator for CAREGIVERS: Volunteers Assisting the Elderly, I'm thrilled every day by the inspiring individuals I meet, all eager to make a difference in our community. The interviews I conduct with potential volunteers are truly eye-opening, each person sharing a unique story that fuels my passion for this work. It's amazing to hear the heartfelt reasons behind their desire to volunteer. Each has a meaningful reason to lend a hand to our elderly neighbors, and these inspiring stories highlight the powerful connections being forged within our community. Every interaction reminds me of the impact we can make on each other's lives, and I can't wait to see what unfolds as we work together to create a brighter future for our elders.

Our Building Bridges Intergenerational Program is one of the most magical parts of our organization, bringing together adult volunteers and enthusiastic students each week to serve seniors. This program

connects generations, shares wisdom, and creates lasting bonds. It enriches the lives of seniors while also empowering the next generation to carry forward a legacy of kindness and community spirit.

Currently, our program boasts 10 incredible teams across Ventura County, but we're on a mission to grow! We're always seeking passionate adults and students to join us in our goal of serving all 600 of our cherished seniors. Whether you're looking to make a meaningful impact, share your time, or learn from the rich experiences of our elders, we invite you to become part of this transformative journey. If you're interested in lending a hand or learning more about how you can contribute, don't hesitate—give us a call. Together, we can create even more magic and strengthen the bonds in our community. Your involvement can make a world of difference.

To learn more about CAREGIVERS: Volunteers Assisting the Elderly, call (805) 658-8530



Sue L.
I Volunteer Because...
I have empathy for elderly people that need a helping hand.

FIND YOUR NEXT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY AT www.vccaregivers.org

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




Ventura Botanical Gardens - Halloween Free Day

Thursday, October 31 - 9am - 5pm

Enjoy free admission to the Ventura Botanical Gardens this Halloween. Bring your family and friends to unwind, reconnect with nature, and enjoy the Gardens! Leashed dogs are welcome. Don't miss the Courtyard Garden Shop – browse our plants, pottery and get a head start on holiday shopping. Interested in supporting the Gardens? Ask about our plant sponsorships. www.venturabotanicalgardens.com.

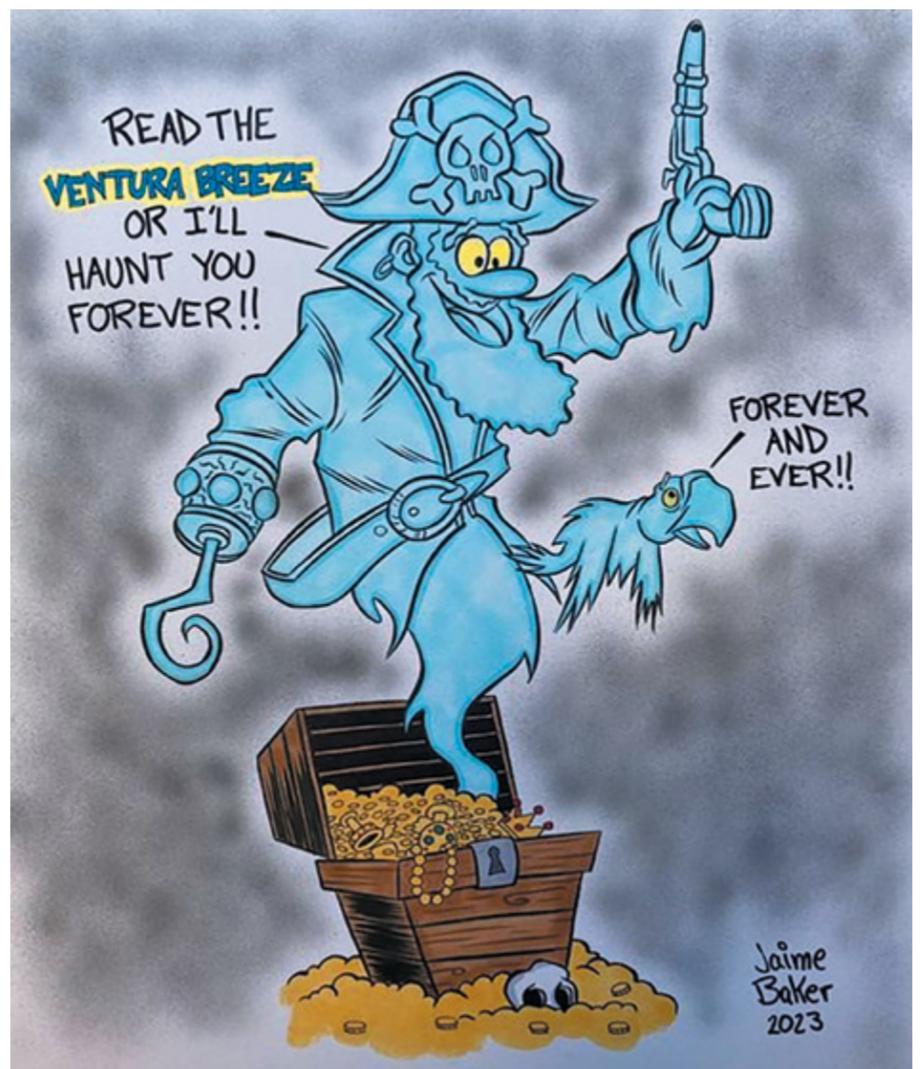
Building a Safer Ventura Together Continued from page 1

with neighboring landowners. Any neighboring landowner that reaches out to VLT about fuel clearance receives a prompt response from VLT staff, and frequently, a prompt solution to the fuel clearance issue they have raised. The notion that VLT has not communicated with neighbors, whether about fuel clearance or other plans, is simply not true. We understand that a few members of our community remain unhappy with our plans to open Mariano Rancho Preserve to the public. VLT has hosted five informational community meetings focused on developing plans for Mariano Rancho Preserve. Three of these meetings were recorded and are available on our website. The latest meeting was a roundtable discussion format, in which community members

could choose the topics they most wanted to weigh in on, with their input recorded by a facilitator and forms, with feedback provided directly to VLT staff and board. Additionally, VLT has met one-on-one in person and by phone with many of our preserve neighbors.

Ventura Land Trust is here for the long term as owners and stewards of our large properties. VLT is a great neighbor but we also need our community to work together in good faith recognizing that these permanently protected preserves are of benefit to all of us.

For anyone with further questions about our work, I encourage you to visit our website, particularly our Frequently Asked Questions page at www.venturalandtrust.org/mariano-faqs where you can even submit a question. You can connect with me directly at dan@venturalandtrust.org.





On Vacation – England



Priscilla Holmes and Rob Schleef of Ventura display The Breeze to Stonehenge in Southern England, a UNESCO world heritage site that is 5000 years old. Scientists think that the stones were a way to tell the time of year.

Ventura Registrar Launches “Election Smart!” Online Resource Ahead of November 5th Election

One-stop education and information about the elections process now available on VenturaVote.org

Michelle Ascencion, Ventura County Clerk-Recorder & Registrar of Voters, announced the launch of Election Smart! and the Election Smart! Blog, a new online resource at VenturaVote.org, to help provide Ventura County voters with accurate, official information about local elections and the upcoming November 5, 2024 General Election. Election Smart! is part of the Registrar of Voters’ commitment to increase transparency around election laws and procedures while countering the spread of misinformation during election season.

Registrar Ascencion’s larger efforts in public outreach began with the Election Education Series, a four-part series presented from October 2023 to February 2024. The series covered different election topics, such as running for office, election integrity and security, and the unique features of Presidential primaries. Videos of the presentations are accessible on the Election Smart! page.

Ms. Ascencion decided to launch the Election Smart! Blog as a platform to further inform voters about election activities. The blog will cover some of the lesser-known aspects of the election process, including the rigorous checks and balances in place. It also provides insights into the laws at the federal and state level that govern election procedures and equipment, further ensuring the transparency and security of Ventura County’s elections.

“I’m proud to say no one works harder to protect our elections and ensure their security for every legitimate voter than we do in the Ventura County Elections Division,” said Ms. Ascencion. “We uphold over 2,000 pages of election laws to safeguard the integrity of our local elections, and we stand solidly against any form of voter fraud. We want voters to

understand that. I think having more access to accurate information will increase their confidence when they cast their ballots.”

Ojai Valley Trail Repaving Project

Ojai Valley Trail Repaving Project has kicked off Phase One – Casitas Vista Road at Foster Park to Santa Ana Blvd during the week of October 21, the contractor will continue tree maintenance for access to the path and begin pulverizing the existing asphalt. New asphalt will begin the week of November 4. Please be mindful of closures and construction equipment on the trail.

The Ojai Valley Trail, a cherished local asset that spans from the City of Ventura through the City of Ojai and provides a vital connection for walkers, cyclists, and nature enthusiasts, will receive significant upgrades. The project includes resurfacing existing paths, tree maintenance, and adding new signage to ensure a safer and more enjoyable experience for all users.

To ensure minimal disruption, the County will implement phased closures of the trail during construction, with closures clearly marked. Phase One will consist of the trail section from Casitas Vista Road at Foster Park to Santa Ana Road in Oak View. Community members are encouraged to stay informed through the County Parks Department website and social media channels for real-time updates on the project’s progress. These improvements will provide a lasting benefit to residents and visitors, making the Ojai Valley Trail an even more inviting destination.

For more information about the project or to sign up for updates, please visit ventura.org/parks-department/ or email County.Parks@Ventura.org.

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Events

VENTURA:

John M White's 5x5x5 Performance Art Show: Fri, Nov 1, 8 pm. Art City, 175-179 Dubbers St.

Featuring performances by: Tribal Me, Ciao Bella, Laura Mullen, Kevin Carmen and Marsha De La O. www.artcitystudios.com.

Día de los Muertos El Car show . Downtown

Lowriders, food vendors, outdoor cantinas, community altars, and more! It's all happening at Limón y Sal Massive celebration spending over 3 blocks! Bring the family for a day of fun. 3 Stages -Live Music -Performances -Community Altars -Street Market -Catrina contest -El Car Show by djdapechmode - Outdoor Cantinas.

Open House Tours - Dudley Musuem: Sun, Nov 3., 1 to 4 p.m. 197 N. Ashwood. St.

Open house tours of the 1892 Dudley Historic House Museum including a special visit by "Mrs. Dudley". Admission is free. For information call (805) 642-3345 or visit dudleyhouse.org.

HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE: Nov. 29 & 30; Dec. 1, 7, 8, 14 & 15. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Dudley House Holiday Boutique. Quality crafts, home décor, antiques and collectibles plus a silent auction and bargain "basement". This is the 30th year of the museum's popular fundraiser which is operated entirely by volunteers. Flea market added 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. outside on Sundays. Admission is free.

Olivas Adobe House Tours: Sun, Nov. 3,10,17, 24, 11 - 3pm. 4200 Olivas Park Drive.

The Olivas Adobe historic site features the original two-story adobe home of Don Raymundo Olivas built in 1847. Celebrating Ventura's Rancho and Latino heritage. Located at, Ventura. House tours are \$5 for Adults and \$3 for children and Seniors. More Information is available at www.cityofventura.ca.gov/648/Olivas-Adobe-Historical-Park.

Namba Performing Arts Space: Sat, Nov 23 7:00 - 9:00 pm. Namba Performing Arts Space, 47 S. Oak St.

Whole Hog. Rooted in tradition, Whole Hog pushes the boundaries of bluegrass, Irish, swing, country and old-time music. Lush vocal harmonies, instrumental mastery and fresh arrangements are at the forefront of their unique sound. For a rollicking good time - Go Whole Hog! Buy your tickets online in advance or \$25 at the door. www.Nambarts.com.

Conserving Ventura's Critical Wildlife Habitat with Trust for Public Land: Nov 12, from 7 - 9pm via Zoom.

The Ventura Audubon Society is hosting the Trust for Public Land's (TPL) presentation of their ongoing land conservation efforts in Ventura County. TPL's efforts focus on the unique ecosystems shaped by the Transverse Range. In the face of accelerating land loss - 6,000

acres disappearing daily to development - it's more urgent than ever to safeguard these spaces. Through strategic conservation, they're working to ensure vital wildlife corridors, enhancing community access to nature, and protecting key areas from climate risk. For more information and the zoom link go to www.venturaudubon.org/speakers.

House Farm Workers! Forum: Fri, Nov 22, 9 am - Noon: Westview II: 247 West Warner St.

As 2024 winds down, House Farm Workers! is convening speakers and panels to bring you up to date on the status of farmworker and affordable housing in Ventura County. Agenda includes Effects of the elections; Pro-housing opportunities; Funding opportunities and challenges; Results of Farmworker Housing Survey and more. www.housefarmworkers.org.

The Museum of Ventura County: The Curse of The Vampire. Tales from the Book of Nosferatu. Sep. 19 - Nov 17. 100 E Main St.

The artists have created a spine-tingling, comic-like experience that will thrill anyone fascinated by Dracula and occult storytelling. You'll be scared, amazed, and completely immersed in a world where imagination meets the supernatural! The Curse of The Vampire: Tales from The Book of Nosferatu is a collaborative exhibition that features seventeen George Stuart Historical Figures enhanced by blown up retro comic book style illustrations created by artists, Paula Pugh and Weshoyot Alvitre. The exhibition brings a fictional story to life, chronicling the rise and fall of a vampire dynasty from Vlad the Impaler (the first alleged vampire) to Dracula to Alexander Cepesi (one of the last vampires). The story unfolds through illustrations created by Pugh and Alvitre in a retro comic book style. www.venturamuseum.org/upcoming-exhibitions.

Patchwork Show: Nov 3, 2024, 11 - 5 pm, Downtown Ventura.

Over the past 16 years, Patchwork has grown from a small parking lot craft fair into multiple locations including street festivals and large indoor marketplaces. Each location is as unique as the venue and showcases different makers and collaborations that reflect the local environment and community. www.dear-handmadelife.com/patchwork-show/
10th Annual Candlelight Remembrance Service: Thurs, Nov 7, 6 - 8 pm. Joseph Reardon Funeral Home, 757 E. Main St.

Words of comfort and inspirational music. Candlelighting for those that have experienced a loss and wish to remember their loved one in a sacred space. Harpist, Ted Nicholson, 6 - 7 pm. Ceremony 7 - 8 pm. To rsvp, contact 805-653-8623. www.reardonfuneral.com.

Gold Coast Gem Show: Sat & Sun, 16 & 17.

Ventura County Fairgrounds

Explore over 30 vendors showcasing unique gems, minerals, beads,

jewelry, and lapidary supplies. Plus, enjoy live demonstrations and activities for the whole family hosted by local Gem and Mineral Societies..FREE Admission (Fairground parking additional). Show Hours: Sat, Nov 16: 10 AM - 5 PM, Sun, Nov 17: 10 am - 4 pm.

Holiday Craft & Gift Festival: Fri., Nov 22-24, 10 - 5 pm, Fri and Sat, and 10 - 4 pm Sun. Ventura County Fairgrounds.

Admission is free with ticket registration at <https://venturacraftfestival.com>

40th Annual Memorial Program Light Up a Life: Wed, Dec 11, 5:30 - 6:30 pm. Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Rd.

Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice's "Light Up a Life" events offer comfort and solace to those who have experienced loss, providing a meaningful opportunity to honor the memories of loved ones. Whether they were lost recently or long ago, near or far, "Light Up a Life" serves as a heartfelt tribute that brings joy and reflection during this holiday season. Join us for our 40th anniversary on the following dates and times:

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, Ventura. For more information, visit <https://venturacountyphilatelic.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:

Ojai Valley Woman's Club: Sun, Nov 10, 3 pm matinee Tickets only \$25: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/johnny-mercerc-concert-too-marvelous-for-words-tickets-1054346672279>

Please join us as American Songbook

Today, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, honors Johnny Mercer who wrote more songs that became "standards" than any other songwriter in history! They include Moon River, You Must Have Been a Beautiful Baby, Autumn Leaves, Dream, I Wanna Be Around, That Old Black Magic, Accentuate the Positive, Skylark, One for My Baby and One More for the Road, Blues in the Night, Something's Gotta Give, I'm an Old Cowhand, Jeepers Creepers, My Shining Hour, Too Marvelous for Words, Baby It's Cold Outside, In the Cool Cool Cool of the Evening, and about 975 more! (Yes, that number, 975 is correct!)

Our Singers: Ryan Beaghtler, Lauren Brown, Laura Dekkers, Jill Dolan, Renee Faia, Dr. Kenneth Haboush, Marcus Kettles, Laura Ring, and Gregg Stewart. Pianist - Gregory Spaulding. Hosted by Michael Estwanik
Wine/Beer/Waters available.

Chamber On The Mountain Presents Pianist Christopher Goodpasture: Sun, Nov 10, 3:00 pm. Logan House/Beatrice Wood Center for the Arts, 8585 Ojai-Santa Paula Rd.

Audience members are invited to meet the artist at an outdoor patio reception following the performance, while taking in a breathtaking view of Topa Topa Mountain. Tickets: \$35.00. www.ChamberOnTheMountain.com

OXNARD:

Día de los Muertos Celebration: Sat, Nov 2, 4-9 pm Oxnard Performing Arts Center, 800 Hobson Way.

OPAC's Dia de los Muertos expands in 2024 with month-long Community Altar in partnership with The Collection. This year, the celebration extends with a month-long Día de los Muertos Community Altar at The Collection at RiverPark in Oxnard, running from Oct 1 - Nov 2. This vibrant display titled "Recuérdame" (Remember Me) is hosted in partnership with The Collection and will be located between Lazy Dog and the Cheesecake Factory. The community is invited to honor their loved ones by participating in a heartfelt tribute to those who have passed. Admission is free and open to the public. We invite the public to contribute to the Community Altar by sharing photos of loved ones they wish to honor. www.theopac.org.

CAMARILLO:

The Camarillo Quilters Association: Tue, Nov 12, Pleasant Valley Community Center, 1605 E. Burnley Dr.

Doors open at 9:00 am and the meeting begins at 9:30. Jean Impey, a well-known and prolific artist and teacher who began quilting in 2007 will have an in-person lecture called: "Creativity: Has Someone Stolen Quilts?". She has been featured in many quilt magazines. Jean's workshop on Wednesday is called "The Magic of Fabulous Faces." Visit www.camarilloquilters.com for more information.

Genealogy Workshops: Wed, Nov 6,10:30-11:30 am. Camarillo Public Library, 4101 Las Posas Rd.

Help offered with family history and genealogy questions. Doors open at 10:00 am. and Wednesday, Dec 4, 10:30-11:30 am. Doors open at 10:00 am. Registration not required. Free and open to the public. Suitable for all levels, including beginners. Get help or offer help to others. General questions and topics for discussion are always welcome. For more information visit www.venturacogensoc.org

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BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY | CALIFORNIA
HOMESERVICES | PROPERTIES

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Events

Channel Islands PC User Group (CIPCUG): Sat, Nov 16., 9:30 am. Online and Live at our temporary location, Ventura County Computers, 2175 Goodyear Ave., Unit 117.

Discussion, Tutorial, and Q&A sessions centered around Computers, email, the Internet, AI, and social media brokers such as X, Facebook, and Google (due to limited space live attendance is reserved for members). Details for connecting to online events are emailed prior to the event. To receive connection instructions, sign at www.cipcug.org.

SANTA BARBARA:
Santa Barbara Botanic Garden: Sat, Nov 9, 10 - 4:30 pm.
1212 Mission Canyon Rd.

To make it easier for the community to grow native plants, the Garden's annual kick-off planting weekend opens to the public. Throughout fall, the Garden's Nursery is stocked with the largest array of unique and fan-fa-

vorite native plants, ready to grow in home landscapes. During the opening weekend, staff and volunteers will be on-site to help guide visitors through plant selection and offer tips and tricks to ensure gardening success. www.SBBotanicGarden.org.

SANTA PAULA:
The Ventura County Garden Club:
Wed, Nov 6, 11:30 am, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 117 N. 7th St.

Announcing the beginning of its 101st Season with its 3rd meeting. Event followed by a luncheon at noon, provided by Fillmore/Piru Co-Directors/Organizers: Jeannie Westling and Michele Smith. Following lunch will be a discussion concerning Monarch Butterflies. Bring items to share/sell at the plant table. Board Meeting at 10:30 a.m. We welcome new members. For more information, email VenturaCountyGardenClub@yahoo.com, or visit Facebook.com/VenturaCountyGardenClubVCGC/



Turning Point Foundation's Winter Magic Fundraiser: Supporting Mental Health and Horticultural Therapy Programs

by Carol Leish, MA

The Turning Point Foundation invites the community to join a series of meaningful events this fall and winter to support their Growing Works Nursery and horticultural therapy program, which provide essential resources for those experiencing mental health challenges. All proceeds from these events will go directly toward the Growing Works program and nursery operations, enhancing the foundation's efforts to improve the lives of Ventura County residents.

Upcoming Events at Growing Works Nursery
Fall Festival (November 9th, 10:00am-2:00pm)

The Growing Works Fall Festival offers an opportunity for visitors to explore a diverse selection of native plants for sale, enjoy live music by the Orchard Bluegrass Band, admire an antique tractor exhibit by Topa Topa Flywheelers, and browse unique local vendors. Admission is free, and community members interested in becoming a vendor or sponsor can learn more at Fall Festival Registration.

Winter Magic Fundraiser (December 21st, 6:00pm-9:00pm)

This new indoor event will bring "Winter Magic" to all ages with an enchanting evening of entertainment. Attendees will enjoy a catered buffet by Flight 126 Café, magic and comedy by renowned performer Andy Gross, and stand-up comedy by Big Tom McCain. In addition, guests can participate in a holiday wreath-making workshop for a creative seasonal touch. Tickets and workshop registration are available at Winter Magic Tickets and Holiday Wreath Workshop.

About Turning Point Foundation and Growing Works Nursery

Growing Works, an innovative program launched by Turning Point Foundation in 2018, is a wholesale plant nursery dedicated to mental wellness through horticultural therapy. It provides job training, volunteer opportunities, and a nurturing environment for recovery. Since its inception, Growing Works has helped over 200 adults, leading more than 30 participants to competitive employment and over 10 to pursue higher education.

"Learn more about our thriving horticultural program and how it positively impacts the lives of individuals with mental health challenges," says Program Manager Jenn Rodriguez. For details, visit Growing Works or reach out at jenn.rodriguez@turningpointfoundation.org.

Turning Point Foundation's Mission and Services

For over 35 years, Turning Point Foundation has been dedicated to improving the quality of life for adults facing serious mental illness, addiction, housing insecurity, and inadequate health care. The foundation provides health navigation, rehabilitation, wellness programs, and supportive housing across Ventura County. Programs and services are available in Ventura, Oxnard, and Camarillo, with 11 locations supporting over 3,000 people each year.

Recently, the foundation acquired its third board-and-care facility, which offers 55 beds for seniors with severe mental illness. Turning Point works closely with Ventura County Behavioral Health and the Veterans Administration to ensure those in need receive referrals to this critical program.

To learn more about Turning Point's programs and how you can support this vital cause, visit Turning Point Foundation. By donating, you're contributing to transformative services that help individuals with mental health challenges lead more fulfilling lives.

THE
Gold Coast
GEM SHOW

Opal - Spencer, Idaho

VENTURA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
SATURDAY & SUNDAY • NOV 16 -17
SAT - 10am to 5pm • SUN - 10am to 4pm

Free Admission

Gems • Minerals • Fossils • Beads • Jewelry
Lapidary Supplies • Demonstrations

GoldCoastGemShow.com

A Free & Fun Community Ride

EASY RIDER

Are you an Easy Rider?
These no drop rides are free and open to the public. Rides generally start at the Museum of Ventura County parking lot (100 East Main St.) at 8:30am. Rides are 15 to 25 miles in length with speeds of 10 to 12 mph.

REGISTER NOW!
www.bikeventura.org/events

SATURDAY
OCT 19
RIDE

SATURDAY
NOV 2
RIDE

SATURDAY
NOV 16
RIDE

Please register in advance. We would like at least six participants. If you have questions, please contact: easyrider@bikeventura.org
Register at www.bikeventura.org/events



The Pet Page



Image by Freepik

How can we make Halloween safer for pets?

From the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)

Costumes and masks, lights and decorations, and a constant parade of strangers coming to your door—Halloween can be a downright spooky experience for pets. You can protect your pets by taking these steps to reduce the risk of them being hurt, poisoned, or lost.

Don't feed pets Halloween treats. Raisins can cause your pet's kidneys to fail, and candy may contain substances

toxic to pets, such as chocolate or xylitol (a common sugar substitute found in sugar-free candies and gum). Often, you won't be able to tell what a treat or piece of candy contains just by looking at it.

Make sure your pets have identification (microchip, collar, and ID tag) that will make it easy for someone to contact you and return them home in case they escape through an open door while you're distracted with trick-or-treaters.

Keep lit candles, jack-o-lanterns, and other Halloween decorations out of reach of pets.

Keep all human costume pieces away from pets, along with glow sticks, decorations, batteries, and other holiday items. When chewed, glow stick items can release liquid that tastes really bad and can make pets drool excessively or act strangely (though it isn't likely to be harmful). Other costume parts and decorations might cause choking, internal injury, or illness.

If you plan to put a costume on your pet, make sure it follows these guidelines:

- Fits properly and is comfortable
- Doesn't have any pieces that easily can be chewed off or cause choking
- Doesn't block your pet's sight, hearing, breathing, mouth, or movement
- Take time before Halloween to get your pet accustomed to the costume, and never leave a costumed pet unsupervised.
- If your pet is wary of strangers or has a tendency to bite, put them in a room away from the front door during trick-or-treating hours, or provide them with a safe hiding place.



Image by Freepik

HSVC Offers Free Pet Food to Keep Animals Out of Shelters

The Humane Society of Ventura County (HSVC) is dedicated to keeping pets out of shelters and in their homes. A key initiative in achieving this goal is providing free pet food to those in need through various free pet food programs.

The HSVC Pet Food Bank, located at 402 Bryant St. in Ojai, offers free dry and wet dog and cat food Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Additionally, the Pantry 4 Paws program provides pet food directly from HSVC's remote pet food banks throughout Ventura County. The newest program, DoorDash PET, partners with DoorDash to deliver free dog and cat food to pet owners within a 10-mile radius of an HSVC host location.

The Pet Food Bank assists low-income pet guardians by supplying free pet food. Financial hardship is a leading reason for pet relinquishment, and HSVC's Pet Food Bank aims to help those struggling to feed their beloved animals. The program is fully

funded by community donations, and HSVC's Pet Food Banks are always in need of dry and wet dog and cat food. Donations of unopened pet food can be dropped off at 402 Bryant St. in Ojai.

As a private nonprofit, HSVC relies entirely on community support and receives no government funding or assistance from national animal welfare organizations. Your donations to their free pet food programs help keep pets in their homes and out of the shelter.

For more information, visit hsvc.org/food.

Safe Haven: Help for Pets of Victims of Domestic Violence

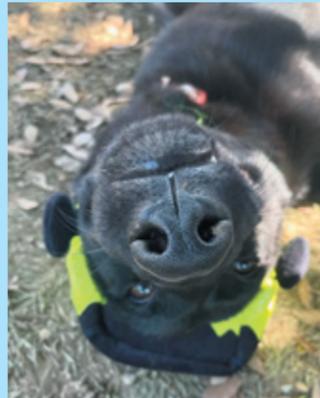
If you are in an abusive relationship and fear for your pet's safety if you leave, Ventura County Animal Services (VCAS) can help. First, please contact Ventura County's Interface Program (VCIP) by dialing '211' or (805) 485-6114. VCIP personnel are aware of the VCAS Safe Haven program. When the time is right, you will bring your pet to the Camarillo Shelter, where they will be placed in a temporary foster home with a loving and caring VCAS foster family. Your animal will not be listed anywhere online.

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 Aurora, a beautiful 6-year-old Boxer/Pit Bull mix. I was rescued from a shelter while giving birth. While I may not be the best with other dogs or cats, I make up for it with my love for people—who knows, I may even give you a kiss! I've won over the hearts of CARL staff and volunteers, and I'm sure to win yours too. I'm a great walker and stay calm on the leash. I know I'll love every adventure we share, and I have so much love to give. I hope to find my forever home very soon.



Hi, I'm Pippa, the most adorable 6-month-old Labrador/German Shepherd mix puppy you'll ever meet! I'm friendly, playful, and full of energy. I love exploring and making new friends. I'm still working on my leash training so I can grow up to be a big girl who walks nicely. If you're looking for a loving, playful, and adorable puppy, look no further—I'm your new best friend! Because I'm still a puppy, children in my new home should be at least six years old. Everyone thinks I'm cute, but please be sure you're ready for a puppy, as it's like having a newborn (the two-legged kind). This is a lifetime commitment, not a temporary one.



Hi, I'm Shef, a strong and incredibly handsome 7-year-old Pit Bull mix. I was rescued from a shelter just in time, and I'm so grateful for a second chance at finding my forever home. I could use some leash training, but I'm a quick learner and eager to please. I need a home where I can get plenty of exercise. I may do best as the only dog in the household, though since coming to CARL, I've shown no issues with other dogs, but I only reacted defensively when another dog aggressively charged at me. It's unknown how I'd do with children or cats.



Hi, I'm Gunner, a 5-year-old Australian Cattle Dog mix who needs a new home because of something called "divorce." I'm good with other dogs and even cats, though I might chase a cat to play. I'm active and good with older children, but I'm not a match for younger kids. I love chasing tennis balls and going for walks. I need people to go slowly with me, giving me time to settle into my new home. Too much petting and attention all at once can overwhelm me, so a gentle approach is best.

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.

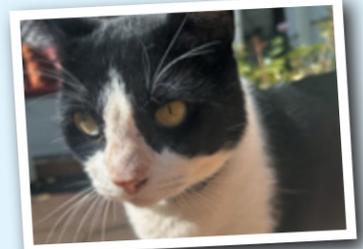
Dedicated to Scamp



Scamp Club

(Scamp Club pets are not for adoption.)

Meet Keshi, a beautiful black-and-white "cow cat" adopted by the Borrás family from his original owner, who could no longer keep him. Keshi is playful—he loves exploring the neighborhood and chasing cat laser toys. Still a youngster at just four years old, Keshi is a bit of a lazy chonk who will happily nap and do absolutely nothing for hours.



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



Wednesday 10/2

10:31am, while on patrol, officers observed a petroleum sheen at VHV. Officers investigated, talked to a witness but were unable to ascertain a source.

8:29pm, dispatched to a medical at the holiday Inn. Officers responded with AMR/VFD to assist with treatment and transportation prep.

Thursday 10/3

12:00pm, officers training and preparing for EMT testing.

1:50pm, while on patrol in the truck,

officers monitoring 3 children boogie boarding near the South Jetty. Contacted and moved to safer water.

8:05pm, contacting several small vessels engaged in hoop netting outside the breakwall within the 250ft buffer zone. Issued warnings and moved traps.

Friday 10/4

10:30am, officers conducting dock line maintenance on the patrol dock. Training new Marine Safety Officers with splicing/whipping etcetera.

3:00pm, dispatched to a stingray strike at Harbor Cove beach. Officers responded with VFD/AMR to assist the patient with treatment/transport prep.

6:03pm, while on patrol in the Fireboat, officers conducting hoop net ordinance enforcement. Contacted 6 fisherman for illegal placement of hoop nets, issued warnings and educated legal areas for fishing for lobster.

Saturday 10/5

12:40pm, officers training new Marine Safety Officers with Fireboat operations:

monitor, induction line, electronics, specifically radar and audio direction finder.

5:35pm, dispatched to an unconscious person at Brophy Brothers. Officers responded with VFD/AMR to assist the patient with treatment and transport prep

6:42pm, received an inquiry from a Ventura Marina Community tenant concerned that the fog signal hasn't been activated when the fog has come in lately. Officers advised signal is turned on by keying mic on VHF 81a 5 times.

11:10pm, officers training new Marine Safety Officers on nighttime operations onboard the Fireboat, radar & navigating to the harbor in restricted visibility.

Sunday 10/6

10:01am, officers training Marine Safety Officers with Fireboat 1 and Rescue Boat 19 operations and electronics operations, also coastal navigation.

4:20pm, received report of illegal fishing near the Harbor Cove Café. Officers responded in the truck and educated 10 young adults of legal areas to fish. The crew

left the scene on their electric bikes.

5:03pm, observed a heavy thick fog bank roll in, visibility less than 100ft. Officers activated the fog signal on the South Jetty by keying mic on VHF 81a.

Monday 10/7

10:00am, received report of an RV on Spinnaker Drive dumping black water onto the street. Officers responded with VPD, owner was cited for the pollution.

12:03pm, received report of a Hazard-to-Navigation at the Harbor Entrance. Officers responded in Rescue B19, removed a large log, deposited at the L/R.

7:20pm, received request for an escort from the #2 navigation buoy from a large sailboat with malfunctioning radar. Officers responded in Fireboat to assist.

Tuesday 10/8

8:50pm, received a Mayday call on VHF 16, large sailboat with a fouled prop just outside the harbor. Officers responded in Fireboat, found the vessel anchored just outside the surfline near the Surfers Knoll groin. Towed to harbor.

Pedestrian safety starts with you: Stay alert to protect people walking

October is National Pedestrian Safety Month



October was National Pedestrian Safety Month. The Ventura Police Department reminds drivers to slow down and be alert for people walking on our roads. By taking extra precautions, you can help protect pedestrians and reduce the risk of crashes and injuries.

Since January 1, 2023, the Ventura Police Department has responded to 2,470 traffic collisions, including 106 involving pedestrians. These incidents resulted in 915 injuries and five fatalities. Of the pedestrian collisions, three were fatal, and 99 resulted in injury. The high number of pedestrian casualties underscores the urgent need for improved awareness and safety measures for those walking in Ventura.

“Every step we take towards greater pedestrian safety is a step towards saving lives,” said Corporal David Curtis. “We remind all residents and travelers that safety begins with you, whether you’re behind the wheel or on foot. Small actions, like slowing down, putting away distractions, and yielding at crosswalks, can make a life-saving difference.”

To promote the safety of people walking, the Ventura Police Department will conduct traffic safety operations throughout this grant cycle focused on the most dangerous driver behaviors that put the safety of pedestrians at risk. These violations include speeding, making illegal turns, failing to yield and running

stop signs or signals.

The Ventura Police Department offers safe driving and walking tips, including staying off the phone when behind the wheel or walking.

Drivers

Do not speed and slow down at intersections. Be prepared to stop for pedestrians at marked and unmarked crosswalks.

Avoid blocking crosswalks while waiting to make a right-hand turn.

Never drive impaired.

Pedestrians

Be predictable. Use signalized crosswalks where drivers may anticipate foot traffic.

Watch for approaching vehicles and practice due care crossing the street. At 30 mph, a driver needs at least 90 feet to stop.

Make it easier for drivers to see you at night – wear bright colors, reflective material, or use a flashlight.

Share your thoughts about pedestrian safety by participating in the Go Safely Movement, a call-to-action traffic safety survey from the California Office of Traffic Safety. Take the survey at gosafelyca.org. Funding for this program is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.



— Weekly SUDOKU —
Answer

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

— King Crossword —
Answers
Solution time: 24 mins.

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



by Pam Baumgardner
VenturaRocks.com

Go Dodgers! Thanks for indulging me; now on to taking a look at live music in and around Ventura, first focusing on Halloween. Yes, there were several parties this past weekend, and there will continue to be a few past the official day, but I don't hear any complaining and if you invested time and some expense in a costume, why not get your bang for the buck and wear it out more than once?

The night before, Wednesday, October 30, the Ventura Music Factory will host a hardcore Halloween party with an EP release of Evil Dead, along with sets from Pito Pakeeto, Spider Baby and So Gnar.

Now let's look at the official Halloween date, Thursday, October 31. As you should know by now, I cover live music, so if a venue is not listed, they'll most likely feature DJs or were sadly delinquent in promoting their event. So, in no particular order: Duke's Beach Grill has Dead Set featuring Grateful Dead covers; it's all reggae at Tony's Pizzeria featuring the Heavy Hitters; The Grape hosts Freda Ramey and House Arrest; it's the Monsters of Pop along with a special set from Wyldsnake at The Garage; and the Raven Tavern hosts Vinyl Gypsies.

The party continues on Friday, November 1st at Ric's in Camarillo with Operation 90s and the Keynote Lodge welcomes Lowered Expectations on Saturday, November 2.

Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) is a holiday traditionally celebrated on November 1 or 2nd involving family and friends gathering to pay respects to those who have died. This year, it will be quite the celebration downtown Ventura on Saturday afternoon (11-6 pm) with Limon y Sal spearheading the effort featuring traditional dancers, mariachi bands and a car show.

The Ventura Music Festival hosts The King's Singers at Ventura Center for Spiritual Living on Saturday, December 14. For over fifty years the group has garnered several accolades for a cappella performances around the world including two Grammy Awards and an Emmy. Yes, it's two months away, but I would be sorely remiss if you missed out because it sold out before you even heard about it. Tickets and more information available at VenturaMusicFestival.org.

Quick Notes: The Musical Box, a tribute to Genesis and Phil Collins lands at the Oxnard Performing Arts Center for a concert on Thursday, October 31; The Deer Lodge in Ojai hosts a Hurricane Relief concert benefit featuring Hot Rise on Friday, November 1; Maya Burns with her unique blend of folk, Ranchero, world music jazz, Bolero and classic rock plays an intimate show at Namba on Friday, November 1; and the Ojai Pops Concert offers a free family-friendly show at the Libbey Bowl

on Sunday, November 3 featuring the Junction Jazz Band.

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

Anna's Cider

801 E. Main St., Santa Paula

Fri 11/8: Shay Moulder

Aqua Beachfront Bar (Crowne Plaza)

450 E. Harbor Blvd., Ventura

Wed 10/30: Big Adventure Duo

Sat 11/2: Colette Lovejoy Band

Wed 11/6: Jerry Breiner

Beatrice Wood Center for the Arts

8585 N. Ojai Rd., Ojai

Sun 11/10: Chamber on the Mountain w/ Christopher Goodpasture

Boatyard Pub

1583 Spinnaker Dr., Ventura

Music 6-9; except Thurs 4-9

Wednesdays: Frank Barajas

Thursdays: Jim Friery (4 pm);

Bluegrass Jam (6:30 pm)

Fri 11/1: Teresa Russell & Stephen Geyer

Bombay Bar and Grill

143 S. California St., Ventura

Thursdays: Ventura Blues Night

Sat 11/2: Duncan and the Dragonslayers, Rachel Sedacca

Café Fiore

66 California St., Ventura

Wed 10/30: Donna Greene

Wed 11/6: Bryan McCann

Cantara Cellars

126 Wood Rd., Camarillo

Sat 11/2: Crosscut 805

Sun 11/3: What She Said

Fri 11/8: Buena Onda

Sat 11/9: Old School Band

Deer Lodge

2261 Maricopa Hwy., Ojai

Fri 11/1: Hurricane Relief w/ Hot Rise

Sat 11/2: Jazzmen Suites

Sat 11/9: Joe Kaplow

Sun 11/10: Blues Bullet

Duke's Beach Grill

1124 S. Seaward Ave., Ventura

Thurs 10/31: Dead Set

Sat 11/2: Brittney and the Brides

Sat 11/9: Cold Shot

Feros Ferio Winery

310 E. Ojai Ave., Ojai

Wednesdays: Hump Day Jams

Sun 11/10: Two Tossers

Four Brix

2290 Eastman Ave., Ventura

Fri 11/1: Nautical Thrust

Sun 11/3: Strummed Down

Fri 11/8: Caught Red Handed

Sun 11/10: Blues Ramblers

Garage

1091 Scandia Ave., Ventura

Thurs 10/31: Monsters of Pop, Wyldsnake

Fri 11/1: The Centuries

Sat 11/2: We are the 80s

Fri 11/8: Cinnamon Whiskey

Sat 11/9: What the Funk

Gigi's Cocktails

2493 Grand Ave., Ventura

Sat 11/9: FSKD, All-a-Blur, Sunnie Daze, Pito Pakeeto

The Grape

2733 E. Main St., Ventura

Tuesdays: The Gratitude Jazz Jam

Wed 10/30: Simon Phillips

Thurs 10/31: House Arrest

Fri 11/1: Tony Ybarra

Sat 11/2: Dennis Jones Band (2p);

Phoenix Big Band (8p)

Wed 11/6: RJ Mischo Blues Showcase

Fri 11/8: The Sure Fire Soul Ensemble

Sat 11/9: Celso Salim & Darryl

Carriere (2p); Barrelhouse Wailers (8p)

The Hangar Bar & Grille

824 E. Santa Maria St., Santa

Paula

Sun 11/3: Frank Barajas

Keynote

10245 Telephone Rd., Ventura

Thursdays: Open Mic

Sat 11/2: Lowered Expectations

Leashless Brewing

585 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura

Sat 11/2: The Brandywine Buskers

Sat 11/9: the Shaky Trio

Sun 11/10: Brandon Ragan Project

Libbey Bowl

210 S. Signal St., Ojai

Sun 11/3: Ojai Pops Concert w/

Tuxedo Junction Jazz Band

Magnavino Cellars

961 Rice Ave., Oxnard

Fri 11/1: The Outpatients

Sun 11/3: Lance Allyn

Fri 11/8: Breaking Bored

Sun 11/10: Natalie Wattre

Majestic Ventura Theater

26 S. Chestnut St., Ventura

Wed 10/30: Asking Alexandria,

Memphis Fire

Sun 11/3: Chicano Batman with

Xiuhtezcatl

Fri 11/8: Nekromantix

Manhattan

5800 Santa Rosa Rd., Camarillo

Wed 10/30: Mary White

Thurs 10/31: Tom McCorran

Margarita Villa

1567 Spinnaker Dr., Ventura

Fri 11/1: Brittney and the Brides

Sat 11/2: Vinyl Gypsies

Sun 11/3: Doc Rogers Band

Sat 11/9: Cinnamon Whiskey

Sun 11/10: Smokey and Friends

Moofish Café

450 E. Harbor Blvd (Crowne Plaza)

Ventura

Thursdays: Seth Andre Oster &

Michael Velasquez

Mrs. Olson's

2800 Harbor Blvd., Oxnard

Sat 11/2: Bow River

Sun 11/3: Teresa Russell

Fri 11/8: UnterKlub - One, From Many

Namba

47 S. Oak St., Ventura

Fri 11/1: Maya Burns

Sun 11/10: The Listening Room

Ojai Underground Exchange

616 Pearl St., Ojai

Wed 10/30: Nathan McEuen

Fri 11/8: Splendid Torch

Sat 11/9: Shawn Jones

Ojai Valley Brewing

307 Bryant St., Ojai

Fri 11/9: Adrian Floy & THC

Sun 11/10: Milo Sledge

Oxnard Performing Arts Center

800 Hobson Way, Oxnard

Thurs 10/31: The Musical Box

Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar

2209 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura

Tuesdays: Danny D

The Raven Tavern

1651 S. Victoria Ave., Oxnard

Fri & Sat 7:30 pm; Sundays 2 pm

Thurs 10/31: Vinyl Gypsies

Fri 11/1: FamDamly

Sat 11/2: NDR CVR SPR GRP

Fri 11/8: Duke Fame

Sat 11/9: Rhythm 805

Ric's

2500 Las Posas Rd., Camarillo

Tuesdays: Tour Support

Fri 11/1: Operation 90s

The Shores

1031 Harbor Blvd., Oxnard

Wednesdays: Jake McClelland

Sat 11/2: CRV

Strey Cellars

951 N. Rice Ave., Oxnard

Sat 11/2: The Renegades

Sun 11/3: Heathers on Fire

Sat 11/9: Operation 90s

Sun 11/10: The Dirty Lowdown

Taqueria Jalisco Restaurant

4275 Tierra Rejada Rd., Moorpark

Tuesdays and Fridays: Jim Friery

Tony's Pizzeria

186 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura

Thurs 10/31: Heavy Hitters

Fri 11/1: The Renegades

Sat 11/2: Midlife Crisis

Sun 11/3: Brandon Ragan Project

Fri 11/8: Shaky Feelin', Groove Session

Sun 11/20: House Arrest

Topa Institute

9739 N. Ojai Rd., Ojai

Sat 11/2: Songs from the Wilderness

Topa Topa Brewing

4880 Colt St., Ventura

Fri 11/1: Billy King and the Bad, Bad,

Bad

Tues 11/12: Ventura Music James

Topa Topa Brewing

2024 Ventura Blvd., Camarillo

Sat 11/2: Teresa Russell

Twist on Main

454 E. Main St., Ventura

Vaquero y Mar

435 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura

Tuesdays: The Sea Hunter, Lowered

Expectations

Wed 10/30: Tribal Me

Sat 11/2: Spider Baby, Pito Pakeeto,

Plot, Johnny Young

Ventura College Performing Arts

Center

4700 Loma Vista Rd., Ventura

Tues 11/12: Alastair Edmonstone

Ventura High Auditorium

2 N. Catalina, Ventura

Sun 11/3: Ventura County Concert

Band Veterans Day Concert

Ventura Music Factory

4531 Market St., Ventura

Wed 10/30: Pito Pakeeto, Spider Baby,

So Gnar, Evil Dead

Ventura Music Hall

1888 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura

Fri 11/1: Blackwater Holylight, LA

Witch, Moonily

Fri 11/8: Wild Child, Susto

Sat 11/9: Ripe, Hembree

Sun 11/10: The Record Company, Nat

Myers

Waterside Restaurant & Wine Bar

3500 Harbor Blvd., Oxnard

Sun 11/10: Teresa Russell

Winchesters

632 E. Main St., Ventura

Music Fri 7 pm; Sat 3 pm; Sun 3 pm

Fri 11/1: Hot Roux

Sat 11/2: Nautical Thrust

Sun 11/3: Karen Eden & the Bad

Apples

Fri 11/8: Steph's Rockin' Roadshow

Revival

Sat 11/9: Brittany and Ben

Sun 11/10: Karyn



Painting by Patricia Schallert

Second annual Art Show, Sale and Gift Boutique - Marina Mobile Home Park

On November 3rd from 12:00 to 5 pm, the Marina Mobile Home Park will host the second annual Art Show, Sale and Gift Boutique, celebrating the incredible talent of local artists from across Ventura. Explore a beautiful array of stunning paintings, photography, captivating sculptures, jewelry and unique gifts and crafts showcased by Ventura's talented artists. In the lobby of the art venue, you'll find an exhibition featuring works from many local artists, ranging from watercolor to acrylic paintings, and photography with several artists on hand to discuss their creative process and inspirations. The setting will be enhanced by ambient music, creative lighting, and a selection of refreshments for your enjoyment. Additionally, various vendors from the Ventura community have generously donated gifts that will be auctioned off during the event. Free event.
1215 Anchors Way Dr. - Club House.

Witches Enchant Ventura Harbor in Annual Paddle Event

by Patricia Schallert

On Friday, October 25, Ventura Harbor was spellbound by the sixth annual Witches Paddle, a whimsical event that transformed the harbor into a magical scene of paddlers, kayakers, canoers, and Duffy boaters—all dressed as witches and warlocks, many with their dogs by their side. Adding to the charm, some paddlers glided across the water on colorful swan, duck, and dragon pedal boats.



A loyal dog joins a festive witch for Halloween fun at the harbor.

What began as a small, local gathering has blossomed into a beloved community tradition, attracting a growing crowd of participants and spectators each year. The 90-minute paddle began at 4 p.m. on a pleasantly mild afternoon, bringing over 200 spirited participants eager to cruise the scenic harbor. Afterward, many witches and warlocks enjoyed meals at the inviting waterfront restaurants in Ventura Harbor Village.

As Halloween approached, Ventura Harbor Village introduced a full lineup of festive events for the weekend, including a dog costume contest, pumpkin carving, trick-or-treating, and an electrifying zombie "Thriller" dance party—promising a spook-tacular celebration for all!



Images by Patricia Schallert

Witches filled the harbor on October 25th, enchanting Ventura with Halloween spirit.

A BAA Showcase: Artwork from some of our 2025 lineup of Workshop Instructors

November 1 - November 23, 2024

First Friday reception: Friday, November 1, 6 - 9 pm

Buenaventura Art Association has some exciting news coming up! A landmark move which stands out even among 70 years of notable moves meant to better serve our community. This Workshop Instructors' Showcase is a hint and preview of what's to come as BAA will move on from Studio 99 to a new headquarters in the Ventura Harbor Village, creating an Art Center.

The artwork in this show represents the work of several of the instructors we have lined up in 2025 for an exciting schedule of monthly workshops. Instructors include Anette Power, Jim Darin, Gary Friedman, Ed Terpening, Didi Martin, and more!

Come to First Friday on November 1st to see the schedule of workshops, starting in January, a floor plan of the new space, and more plans to make BAA's upcoming Art Center a warm gathering place and vibrant asset for our community! www.buenaventuraartassociation.org.



2009 FOTM Documented Artist Tesi Sanchez stands in front of her image and work featured in the Focus on the Masters Anniversary Timeline.

30 Years in FOCUS – FOTM at Vita Art Center

On November 3 from 2 to 5 pm, the public is invited to take a journey inside Focus on the Masters art's archive Library's 30-year history. Through historic photographs, participants will experience highlights from the inspiring artists FOTM has documented along with unique events FOTM has produced and seminal exhibitions that helped to shape our cultural community. The timeline will be on display for one day only. Some might wonder why the FOTM saves paintbrushes, caps, journals with handwritten entries, announcement cards, historic photographs, tee shirts, newspaper articles, envelopes, and paper napkins. Each object stored away in our 40+ fire-resistant filing cabinets tells a story. A story of dedication and inspiration. A story of remembrance and a vision of the future. A true story of the arts and the artists who help us interpret the world around us.

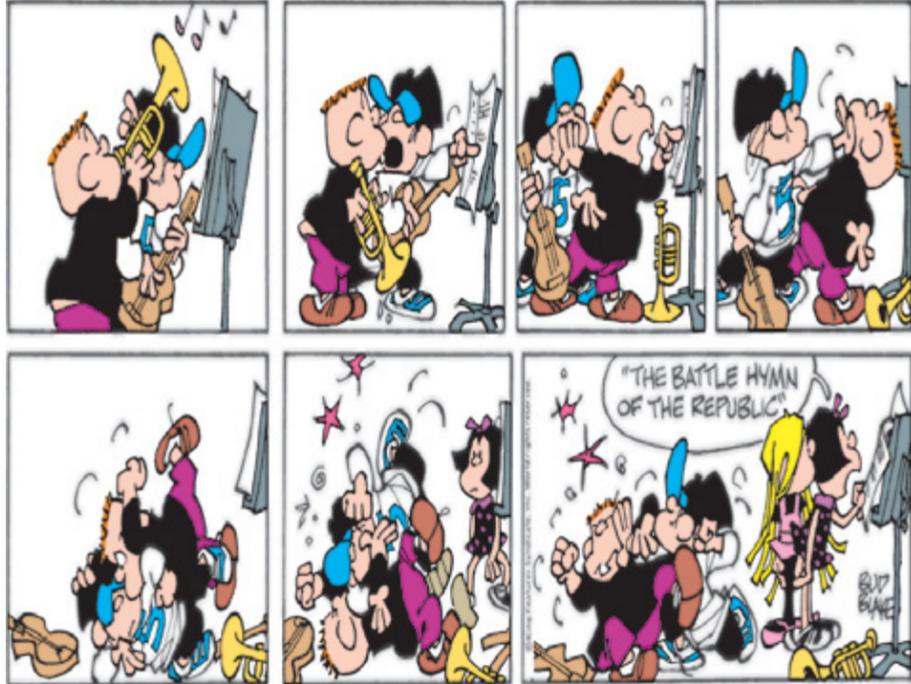
While sipping wine and sampling hors d'oeuvres, while chatting with old friends and making new friends, we can walk the Focus on the Masters timeline. We will find out where we've been and lay the groundwork for our future. Focus is 30 years old and like any other thirty-something, Focus is at an inflection point. Where do we go from here? We want to share our ideas for the future with the community. Together we have built an amazing legacy, and together we will continue to capture history. RSVP www.FocusontheMasters.com. Vita Art Center is located at 28 W Main St.

Ventura Art Scene



Lighter Breeze

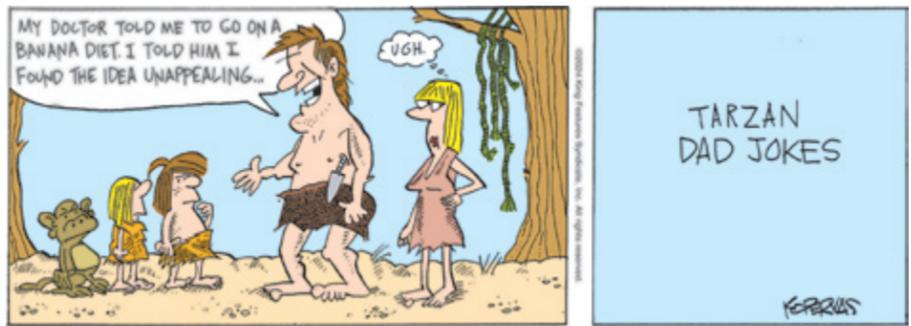
Tiger



The Spats



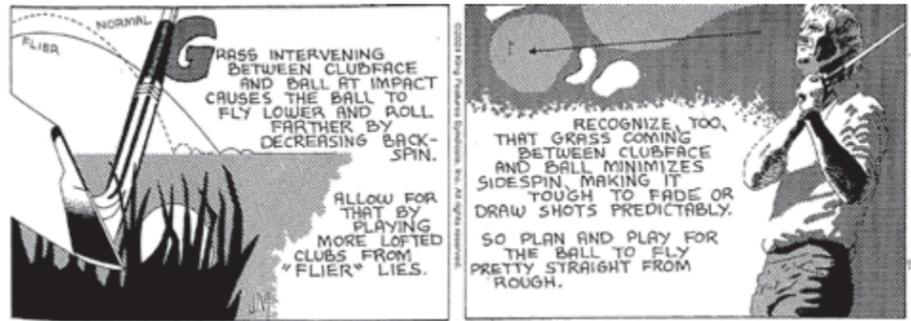
Out on a Limb



Amber Waves



Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS



Solutions on page 15

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

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

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains a 1 of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

Solutions on page 15

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Fringe benefit
- 5 "I tumbug!"
- 8 Rocky out-crop
- 12 Jai —
- 13 Swelled head
- 14 Valentine border
- 15 Cooking area
- 17 Gray's subj.
- 18 Wedding setting
- 19 Riyadh residents
- 21 Pride parade letters
- 24 GI entertainers
- 25 Ganges wrap
- 28 Incursion
- 30 "Tasty!"
- 33 Actress Thurman
- 34 Orchestral strings
- 35 Director Ang
- 36 Prohibit
- 37 Gas co., for one
- 38 Printer's blue
- 39 Corn core
- 41 Cruising
- 43 Drag
- 46 New York's — Island
- 50 Pundit's picc
- 51 Causing annoyance

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	52	53				
54				55				56		
57				58				59		

- 54 Stallion's mate
- 55 Flightless bird
- 56 Revise
- 57 Org.
- 58 Trench
- 59 Pixels
- 8 Santa —
- 9 Not by design
- 10 "Superfood" berry
- 11 Understands
- 16 Work unit
- 20 German car name
- 22 Author Harte
- 23 Shire of "Rocky"
- 25 Long lunch?
- 26 Docs' org.
- 27 Cattle farm workers
- 29 Misfortunes
- 31 — culpa
- 32 Gents
- 34 Rubik's brain-teaser
- 38 Phoned
- 40 From days of yore
- 42 'A mouse!'
- 43 'Brave New World' drug
- 44 IRS employees
- 45 Get ready, briefly
- 47 Chic beach resort
- 48 Monogram pt.
- 49 Pvt.'s superiors
- 52 Parisian pal
- 53 Fanatic

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Show Time

A View from House Seats

60's Get Revisited in Simi

by Shirley Lorraine

A welcome trip to nostalgia-ville is in store for all at the Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center. Currently running is Beehive, the 60's Musical, a fast-paced trip back in time to the era of Kennedy, Nixon, Woodstock and the eternal quest for peace.

Five fabulous females lead the audience through the evolution of soul-baring music that epitomized the rise of female consciousness in that era. From searing laments of love to statements of empowerment to high energy, let it all out renditions, the audience thoroughly enjoyed reliving the specialness of the music that guided our formative years.

The ensemble is tight, talented and tender. Each gets numerous opportunities to shine throughout. The cast includes Jodi Marks, Kiana Hamzehi, Amaya J, Caroline Hines, Dallas Dudley and Maddie Worth, whose alternate Annie Claire Hudson performed the day I attended. All performers were top-notch.

The first act features little dialogue as the ladies sing out the anthems of the era. Audience participation is encouraged in some parts, adding to the feeling of total inclusion. The songs became more meaningful to me as they progressed, as I relived my teendom through them.

The second act adds the cherries on top with stand-out show-stopping performances.

Replete with costume changes, wig changes, recognizable choreography of the era and a marvelous live band to assist, the ladies provide a powerhouse of emotion, sentiment and just pure joy in their presentations. At times it seemed

that the band was competing with them for volume, but in the end the focus was all on the individual renditions.

Dig out some fringe, bell bottoms, and put flowers in your hair to accentuate the total immersion of the peace-love-statement era.

Running Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. through November 10. www.svcac.org. It's a great trip. Get your groove on and go.

Every Now and Then Theatre Annual Radio Show Hits the Air!

The multi-award-winning broadcasting company will be presenting "We the People - 1700s Boston" with celebrity guest host Bruce Belland. Involving a large cast of seasoned performers, the presentation will reveal the truth of how the Boston Tea Party and the Declaration of Independence really came to be, not how modern historians have reshaped history leaving it full of holes. The 57-minute broadcast is commercial free.

A joint presentation from Every Now and Then Theatre and Conejo Players Theatre, the special streams nationwide, Pacific Times, on Saturday November 2nd at 6 a.m., 1 p.m. and 9 p.m.; Sunday November 3rd at 11 a.m.; and Monday November 4th at 7 p.m. Click on "Listen Live" at www.kvta.com. Also streams on www.ktms.com.

Now in their 35th year with 68 awards in their pockets, the all-volunteer Every Now and Then Theatre productions benefit foster children by providing broadcast CD copies to cast, crew and fans in trade for donations to foster children of all ages. Find out more at www.everynowandthentheatre.com. Tune in, learn support and enjoy!

Streaming Spotlight by Cindy Summers

Woman of the Hour

- Netflix



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

"Woman of the Hour" is based on a true story about struggling actress Sheryl Bradshaw (Anna Kendrick) who got involved with serial killer Rodney Alcala (Daniel Zovatto) after meeting on the popular 70s TV game show "The Dating Game". For years Alcala crimes had been reported to law enforcement by survivors and other private citizens without consequence. Anna Kendrick also directed the movie and created a great portrayal of the culture of sexism and misogyny in the 70s.

Alcala would pose a photographer looking for vulnerable young women and would lure them out to remote areas for photo shoots then strangle or suffocate them, bring them back to life through CPR and then rape and kill them. In 1977 Alcala was visited by the police at the Los Angeles Times where he worked as a photographer, who questioned him

but were fooled by his charisma.

Most of the auditions Sheryl went on wanted her to do nude scenes and talked down to her for refusing. Sheryl was contacted by her agent who had booked her a no-audition guest spot on "The Dating Game" TV show in 1978. Sheryl felt it was beneath her but knew the show could give her some much needed exposure and boost her visibility in Hollywood.

Sheryl had to read pre-written questions from cue cards, but they were very sexist in nature. The makeup artist encouraged Sheryl to be herself, as she wasn't on a sitcom or would be around to be reprimanded, so Sheryl made her own questions for the second part of the show. Things flowed much better and Sheryl was a hit with the audience. She chose number three, but was warned by number two to watch out for him when he hugged her before leaving.

While they were filming the show, a woman in the audience recognized Alcala and fled the station, knocking over some studio equipment as she left. She had been at a beach party Alcala attended where a good friend of hers was murdered. She knew something was off about Alcala and felt guilty for leaving early. She had even given the police a description, but when she tried to tell her boyfriend he questioned her saying that if she wasn't absolutely sure she shouldn't say anything.

Continued on page 20

DECEMBER 5-22

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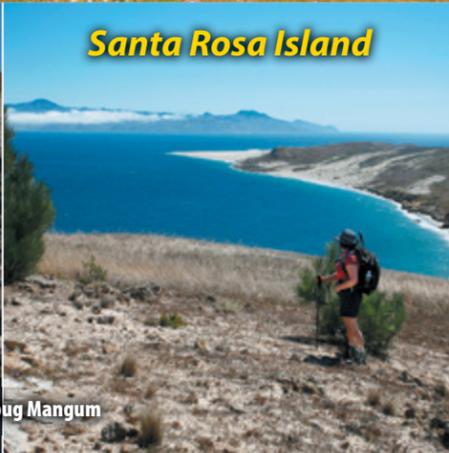
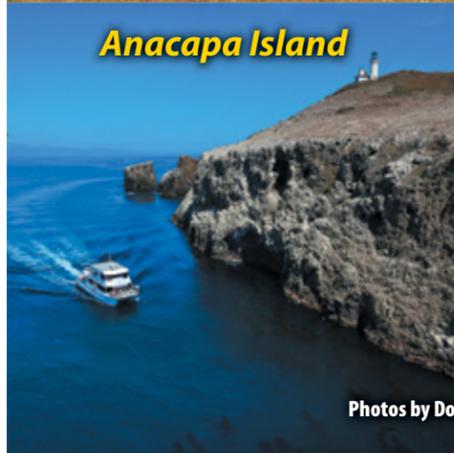
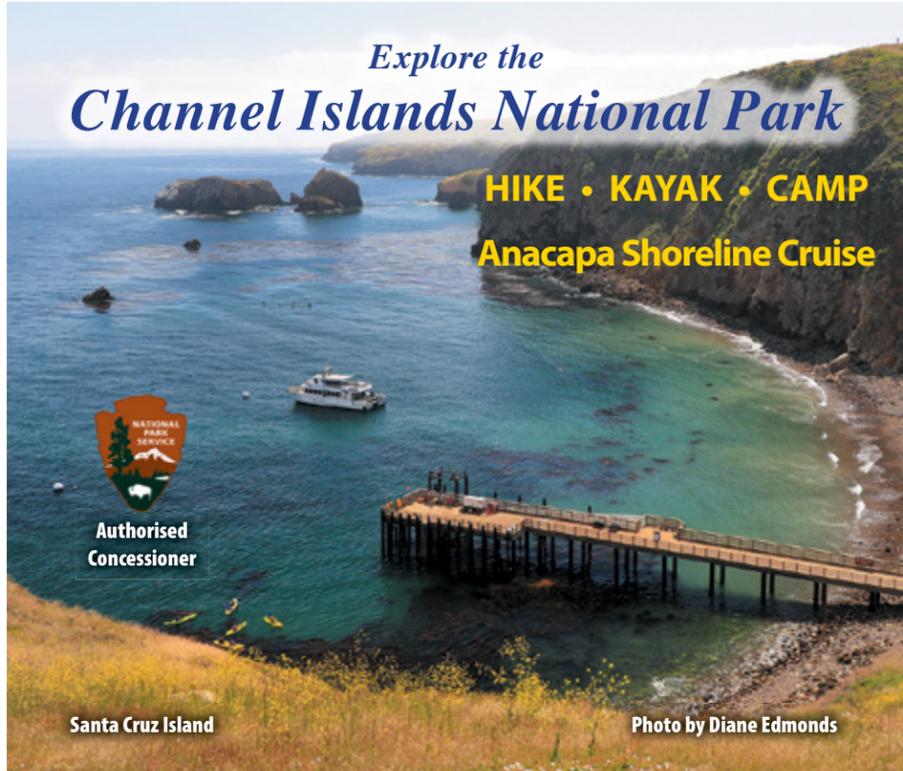
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Woman of the Hour
Continued from page 19

She reported to a network security guard that she thought number three was the man that raped and murdered her friend, asking to speak to an executive. She was left in an office and told she would be meeting with series producer George Elliot, but George was actually the janitor and while waiting in the office for George the show ended and Alcala had left. Later her boyfriend apologized and went with her to the police department, but the detective she saw just blew her off.

Sheryl and Alcala won a trip to Carmel, so after the show they went to dinner to learn more about each other. He made her feel uncomfortable and she tried to end the dinner, but he walked out with her. Alcala asked for her number but she gave him a

wrong number and when he confronted her she said she was not going anywhere with him. As Sheryl turned to walk away, Alcala mentioned bashing her head in under his breath. She headed to her car but he followed her and caught her before she could get in but some guys came out the door so he walked away.

On February 14, 1979, a teenage runaway escaped Rodney Alcala by asking him to keep the encounter a secret. While awaiting trial he was released on bail. Once freed he murdered a 21 year old woman and a 12 year old girl. Alcala was rearrested in 1979. Only then did the authorities begin to uncover the scope of his crimes. He was eventually convicted of the murders of seven women and girls. Some authorities estimate that the true number of victims to be as high as 130. Runtime: 1h 29m

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

& Protection & Detection

Mammograms are your best defense — early detection saves lives.

National guidelines suggest that all women 40 and older get an annual mammogram. It's a powerful tool that has made a significant impact on cancer outcomes, because early detection is your best protection. Breast cancer deaths are down 30% since yearly screening mammograms became a routine part of wellness care for women 40 and older. The difference is due to a combination of testing frequency and advanced technology. At Community Memorial, we use the latest 3D digital tomosynthesis for all screening mammograms. This sophisticated imaging system shows fine detail for greater diagnostic confidence. It has been proven to detect 20 to 65% more incidences of invasive cancer than 2D mammography alone. What's more, it provides a faster experience for all patients, including women with dense breasts.

Schedule your mammogram today! Learn more at mycmh.org/mammo.

Community Memorial Breast Center
805-948-5093

Community Memorial Hospital – Ojai
805-948-1401



Camarillo ~ Fillmore ~ Oak View ~ Ojai ~ Oxnard ~ Port Hueneme ~ Santa Paula ~ Ventura

