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# VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

Vol. 8, No. 12 Published Every Other Wednesday www.venturabreeze.com March 18 – March 31, 2015



Twenty-five domes at River Haven provide hope for the homeless.

## River Haven: Where hope and tough love abound (part 1 of 2 parts)

by Mira Reverente

There are no obvious indications that such a community exists. Not at all visible from Harbor Blvd., situated behind a chain link fence and some lush greenery, is a transitional housing project for the formerly homeless called River Haven.

Once living at the bottom of the Ventura River, close to 30 residents now call River Haven their home. The City of Ventura owns the over two-acre land while Turning Point Foundation, a non-profit mental health agency, runs the encampment.

What started out as a tent city in 2004, was converted to U-Domes one day in 2009 by a team of over 200 volunteers, in partnership with World Shelters, a California-based manufacturer and non-profit organization. U-Domes are geodesic polypropylene structures with locking doors, windows, vents and a treated wood foundation. Currently

*Continued on page 16*

Wherever in the world you happen to be celebrating the first day of Spring (March 20), you can always catch up with the Breeze at [venturabreeze.com](http://venturabreeze.com)



Anacapa Middle School competed for the top slot of the annual challenge event.

## Hitting the target

Article and photo by Richard Lieberman

The Naval Surface Warfare Center, Port Hueneme hosted the 15th annual “engineering Challenge” for local middle school students, held on the Ventura County Naval Base Thursday February 29th.

The middle school students are tasked with designing, and building a miniature projectile launcher. Ordinary office and household supplies including popsicle sticks, rubber bands, ping pong

*Continued on page 20*



Murals and elaborate lighting starts at the bottom of the stairwell.

## National Park celebrates anniversary

Article and photo by Eddie Bengston - Ocean Spirit Designs

The Channel Islands National Park celebrated its 35th anniversary with an opening of their new Ocean Exhibit and Photographic Collection on Thursday, March 5th. The Ocean Exhibit, with murals and elaborate lighting starts at the bottom of the stairwell and ascends

to the top of the lookout tower, taking you on a breathtaking journey from the bottom of the sea to a humpback whale breaching out of the water as you look out onto the sea and the Channel Islands that glistens over our horizon. As you

*Continued on page 20*



Stephanie Caldwell comes to Ventura from the San Jose Silicon Valley.

## Chamber names Stephanie Caldwell as new CEO

The Ventura Chamber of Commerce announced today the appointment of Stephanie Caldwell as President and Chief Executive Officer, effective April 20th 2015.

“We are very excited to have Stephanie Caldwell taking the helm of the Ventura Chamber”, said Saurabh Bajaj, Chair of the Board. “Over the past several years, the Chamber has been steadily growing its programs and becoming more proactive in working both visibly and behind the scenes to help build a more vibrant and stable economic future for Ventura. Stephanie has the skills and experience to take the Chamber to the next level in that effort.”

“My family and I are excited to become part of the community and make Ventura our home. I look forward to bringing my skills and experience to

*Continued on page 20*

For a complete Ventura Music Calendar and Ventura Music Scene with all of the local venues go to page 18.

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# YOU ARE INVITED!

## TO THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY ANNUAL MEETING!

Sunday, March 22, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., Topping Room, E.P. Foster Library, 651 East Main St.

Enjoy refreshments, a gathering of book lovers, Election of Board Members, and see sculpted, altered, fabricated and deconstructed books become works of art!

**All new members, volunteers, and prospective members are welcome to join us!**

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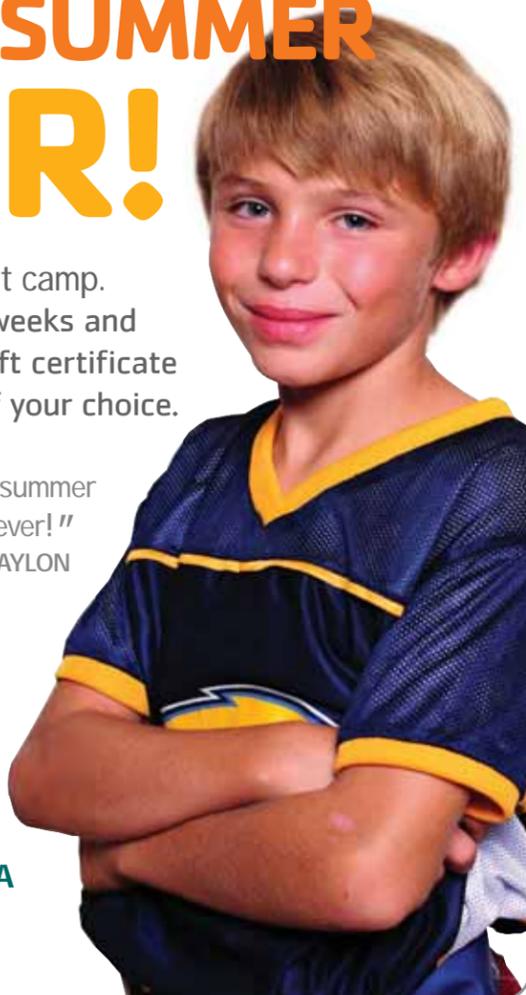
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## Business



Erik Haney has been helping to save our habitat since 2007.

## Moving Green

by Eddie Bengston

An environmentally conscious moving and storage company you ask? Why, yes!!! Chief Executive Officer Erik Haney of Movegreen devised this concept in 2007, and has been helping save our habitat by using bio-diesel trucks, hybrid service vehicles, paperless quotes and contracts and reusable boxes and materials. Not to mention Movegreen plants 10 trees with every move they conduct, 42,000 trees thus far, through a non-profit affiliate called "Trees For The Future".

Founded in Santa Barbara 13 years ago, Erik and his crew expanded to the Ventura area in December of 2014, located at 3112 Seaborg Ave., buying out Ventura Sheeler Moving (from Mel Sheeler, who retired after 12 years in the business) continuing Sheeler's commitment and great quality of service while adding a touch of green to it. Not only do they take the hassle of moving off your shoulders, they're making our future brighter with global awareness to our environment. No wonder they see a 20% growth in business each year! Erik immediately saw this as a great asset by purchasing Sheeler's business after seeing and ad that the business was for sale here in the Ventura area. Erik stated "It was an easy decision buying Sheeler, I saw new growth opportunity after purchasing the business and expanding our outstanding customer commitment into the Ventura area". Movegreen literally doubled their growth in business overnight, providing the same amazing level of service to all his customers.

Erik started his business in his small apartment in Santa Barbara, bidding quotes, having only one truck and one big dream. With his desire and passion to help people move, and help our environment at the same time, Erik saw this dream, and turned it into reality. He now has 7 trucks and 4 hybrid vehicles, with over 27,000 square footage space of warehouse in two full-service storage facilities, both in Santa Barbara and Ventura, and now offers a wide variety of storage options including self-storage, contributing to both interstate and international moves for businesses and residents being in the Top 25 agents for Stevens Worldwide Van Lines.

Having earned over a dozen "green" awards, Movegreen has also been named "Best Moving Company in Santa Barbara" five years in a row.

Erik goes on to say that "moving and growing into a new area such as Ventura, just a mile from where Sheeler's business

was originally located, is giving us more opportunity to expand our environmentally conscious residential and commercial business". Movegreen has raised over \$150,000 after hosting the annual Futures Golf Tournament alongside the Village Properties Teacher's Fund, and helping fund over 270 classrooms, benefiting over 8,000 local school children with school materials.

Being in business for 13 years, and adding 10 trees with each move, that is called "bringing beauty back into our neighborhood". What a great concept. I can't think of a better way to move, and add a little more "green" into our world! Thanks Erik!



Ventura City Manager Mark Watkins was a speaker at the VCG.

## Conversation group invites debate

by Sheli Ellsworth

Are you interested in lively discussion? Does the occasional heated debate draw you to its flame? If so, you might enjoy visiting the Ventura Conversation Group (VCG) that meets every Wednesday at 4 PM in the backroom of Yolanda's Mexican Café located at 2753 E. Main Street.

The informal club was founded eight years ago by Ventura residents Dahlia Riley and Sam Povar. Povar recently passed away, but Riley, an award winning artist, scientist and retired research and marketing executive continues to be active in the group along with six or seven other original members—all ripe for fresh debate. About 25 people participate in the conversations which range from the practical to the political.

The group occasionally hosts guest speakers. Breeze publisher Sheldon Brown recently arranged for City Manager Mark Watkins to answer

Continued on page 8

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# VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

Member, Ventura Chamber of Commerce

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The Ventura Breeze is printed with soy based ink on paper with minimum 40% recycled content.

We encourage you to send your opinions to [opinions@venturabreeze.com](mailto:opinions@venturabreeze.com). Please limit them to about 300 words.

Hello,

I am contacting you to express my outrage over the article in the Ventura Art Scene section of the vol. 8, no. 11 edition of the Ventura Breeze in which the exhibit "Expectation" is advertised with a sacrilegious photo along with it. The photo is of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Virgin Mother of Jesus, the most holy woman there ever was, is and shall be for all eternity, mocked by being publicly displayed as a someone who clearly has no intentions of being

## Opinion/Editorial



Sheldon (Governor) Brown  
Publisher

■ Last Saturday, it was **94 degrees** in Ventura and 93 in Death Valley. Who ever thought we could head over to Death Valley to cool off?

■ The latest

Ventura brush fire is completely out. The fire was near Brooks Institute off of Ventura Avenue. Fire officials acknowledged that it was by human activity but weren't sure if accidental or purposely started. But, we all know it was likely started by a **homeless person** living in and around the river bottom.

This is why it is so important to remove their encampments from the river bottoms. Plus, they contribute to polluting the ocean. When we remove their encampments they tend to go back to our parks, but this is the lesser of two evils.

The City and private non-profits are trying to solve the homeless situation but it is a tough one. Many are mentally ill and won't accept services or are alcoholics or drug addicts.

See the cover for one solution, if we could just provide hundreds of the domes a solution could be in hand.

■ The ban on **single-use plastic bag** might not occur if a referendum – slated to be voted on in the November 2016 ballot – passes. The referendum was put on the ballot by the efforts of the trade group American Progressive Bag Alliance (an out-of-state group representing bag manufacturers). In the meantime, our ban will remain in effect.

Most in California support the ban, so I can't see this passing.

■ The City Council has approved (6-0, with Andrews absent) a possible new **revised water contingency plan** and incentives for Venturan's to do away with lawns. "Simply" put, the ordinance would have 6 stages of compliance.

Stage 2 would call for a 10% mandatory water reduction, or maybe that is stage 3, (no, stage 3 calls for a 30% reduction), or maybe that is stage 4. Stage 6 happens if we have a catastrophe like a big earthquake or tornado. Or maybe that is 5?

Due to the complexity of the plan, I'm not so sure that all members of the Council really understood what they

were voting for.

People would get paid for replacing lawns with low water use materials. Someday, our golf courses could all be just sand-traps.

The Council will have the authority to move between stages, except in emergency cases. Don't know why that occurs. Maybe they aren't to be trusted in emergencies or would take too long to vote on it.

Ventura Water General Manger Shanna Epstein will return to the Council in June with the new proposed ordinance. If approved, customers would be notified in July of the new rate structure that would take effect in September. Got it?

Will there be exceptions? What if kids away at college come back home and take loads of showers? Or mother-in-law moves in? Obviously, water usage would probably increase. Who would handle the exceptions and make final decisions? More city employees?

But this proposed rate structure might never happen anyway. This is



Besides being hotter than Death Valley will we also look like it in the future?

because a group of San Juan Capistrano taxpayers has sued their local water provider arguing that tiered rates violate state law that prohibits agencies from charging more than water actually costs no matter how much is used.

A lower court has already decided that they are correct, so hold on to your hats (or old nozzles).

Perhaps, the City Council should hold off spending a lot of time and money drafting a new ordinance until the courts have resolved this matter.

In order to solve their water shortage, the Santa Barbara City Council has voted to modernize and reactivate an old desalination plant (turns salt water into wine or drinking

water). But before you get excited and think that this would be a good idea for Ventura, it will cost an estimated \$40M just to get the old facility running. If built from scratch, perhaps a billion dollars, so it certainly won't happen here unless someone in Ventura wants to donate a billion and have it named after them.

■ I have always feared that with the ability to create art on computers, young people would lose interest in hand drawing, but I was very mistaken. Look at one student's art work on page 19, just outstanding. As is most of the hand drawn art I see by young artists. Perhaps it is just part of our DNA that computers can't take away.

■ The **46 Republican Senators** who signed the Senator Tom Cotton letter that was sent to Iran's leadership basically telling them to just ignore any agreements with the President, should be impeached (I know it wasn't against the law, so they can't be).

Even signer John McCain basically said that he really didn't read the document because it was a snowy day in Washington and he wanted to get home. He also said that he signs lots of letters without paying much attention to what they say.

Hate to think that this is the way our government is run.

The Ventura Breeze is looking for advertising advisors to sell advertising space in the Ventura Breeze to businesses and professionals in Ventura. Part or full time. Contact [editor@venturabreeze.com](mailto:editor@venturabreeze.com) for more details.



## Mailbox

a virgin or having any purity whatsoever. She is shown laying down in an erotic manner and wearing minimal clothing. It's bad enough that you would choose to advertise this event at all, but you went even further than that. You deliberately chose this specific photograph out of all the many photographs from the exhibit you could've chosen to display with the article. You owe an apology to God, Our Lady of Guadalupe and all Catholics.

Sincerely,

MaryEllen Frazee

*Sorry that you were offended by this photo, this is the photo that was sent to us by the Museum and we saw no reason to not publish it.*

*As far as apologizing I don't think God, or Our Lady of Guadalupe read the Breeze (I'm glad that you do) but I, hereby apologize to any Catholics that may have been offended.*

Sheldon

*PS: On page 19 we have a very beautiful painting of the Lady, I hope that you enjoy it.*

Sheldon,

Recently you showed some photos of the graffiti here in Ventura along the railroad tracks. The city of Santa Clarita had a large graffiti problem for many years, and came up with a great solution. They passed an ordinance making it illegal to allow graffiti on your property. They give property owners 72 hours to clean up any reported graffiti; if it is not done the city has a crew that does it for them (for a fee).

It is great solution in many ways. It is practically self sustaining because the city already had a crew cleaning any graffiti on city property. Any extra they have to do is paid for by the negligent property owners, who have the option to never pay a dime by doing any clean up

themselves.

I implore our city leaders to emulate Santa Clarita as this solution has worked out very well for them.

Joey Waltz  
Ventura

Correction:

In a recent issue we had an article on Cats Cradle Rescue that we found out had some incorrect information in it. So we asked Cats Cradle to correct it.

"Dear Mr. Brown,

I want to thank you and Danielle Peak for the article about Cats Cradle Rescue. It does worry me that the article did have some misleading information, and I would like to clarify that informa-

*Continued on page 13*

Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts.

– Winston S. Churchill



## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION EVENTS

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**April 18**
**May 16**

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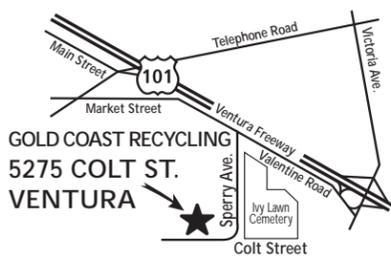


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## City News



This photo of the Mayor has very little to do with this article, but isn't it artistic?

## State of the City 2015: On the Right Track

by Vadim Teselkin

Ventura Chamber of Commerce

On March 12, the Ventura Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with the City of Ventura and Ventura County Credit Union presented the annual State of the City address at the top of the harbor ballroom at the Crowne Plaza Ventura Beach.

Almost 200 people, from Chamber board members, ambassadors, young professionals, and City officials came to hear Mayor Cheryl Heitmann's address, which was titled "On the Right Track." In her presentation, Mayor Heitmann presented a video which recapped the City's many accomplishments in 2014; in particular, four key priorities were identified: Creating and Maintaining Economic Development and Vitality, Delivering Core Services, A Safe and Clean Ventura, and Enhancing Public Trust.

Mayor Heitmann then spoke about the City's outlook for 2015. In the coming year, the City of Ventura has many goals including: Further developing the Residential Growth Management Strategy, Focus Area One – Developing on the land behind the Ventura Auto Center, Connecting Olivas Park Drive to Johnson Drive, Enhancing Ventura's economic strength in the construction industry by developing the Marriott Residence Inn, the Hilton, and the new Kaiser Permanente building, and finally, focusing on two of the biggest issues identified by Ventura residents – Water and Homelessness.

## City of Ventura Classes

Check out hundreds more on our web-site! Call 658-4726 or 654-7552 to register, or if you already have an account online, visit [www.cityofventura.net](http://www.cityofventura.net). Classes/Events held the Barranca Vista Center, 7050 Ralston Street, in Ventura unless otherwise noted.

Do you have your application for the 9th Annual Kids Swap Meet? Don't miss out on this opportunity to clean out your child's closet or garage. Booths are \$15. Children's items only this is a for kids by kids only swap meet. Saturday May 16th from 9am-1pm at Barranca Vista Park – 7050 Ralston Street in Ventura. Contact Kathryn at 654-7552 or [www.cityofventura.net](http://www.cityofventura.net).

**The Ghost Bus Adventure**  
Teen-adult

3/20 F 8-10:30 pm \$30

Meet the bus and your guide at the

front steps of City Hall for a supernatural tour of Ventura's "spirit" sites and "rumored" roads. Course #39900.

**Native Plant Walk**

8 years-adult

3/21 Sat 9-11 am \$12

Take a hike along the Arroyo Verde Park's trails with naturalist Kyle Te Poel who will ID its native plants and explain how the Chumash Native Americans used them. Meet at Arroyo Verde Park Nature Center. Parking fee. Course #39892.

**Line Dance with a Twist**

18 years-Adult

3/23 M/W 1-2 pm \$60

Line dance with a twist of salsa, ballroom and jazz. Great exercise, great fun. Some dance experience recommended. Instructor Jackie Ringhof. Classes held at Barranca Vista Center 7050 Ralston St. in Ventura. Course #39345.

**Video Game Design for Beginners**

9-13 years

3/30-5/18 M 3:30-4:45 pm \$115

Improve your design skills with multiple character animations, movement options, platform styles and game genres. Beginners work in pairs to learn basic elements of character creation, backgrounds and building a complete video game level. Classes held at Bible Fellowship Church, 6950 Ralston St. in Ventura. Course #39246.

## Easter weekend family fun at the Fairgrounds

Ventura County Fairgrounds Foundation is pleased to announce the first annual Spring Carnival which will take place April 3 – 5 (Easter weekend). Event hours will be Friday, April 3rd from 5 until 10 p.m., Saturday, April 4th from noon until 10 p.m. and Sunday, April 5th from noon until 7 p.m. Admission is free and Parking is \$5.

This exciting new event will feature a petting zoo, an Easter egg hunt, 15 carnival rides with something for everyone from the spectacular to the kiddie rides. Games of chance, traditional carnival foods, live entertainment and more family fun are all on tap for the Easter weekend!

"We are having this Spring Carnival because we want to be able to provide an event for families to attend over Easter weekend," said Barbara Quaid, Ventura County Fairgrounds CEO, adding "The Ventura County Fairgrounds is completely self-supporting and relies heavily on the Ventura County Fairgrounds Foundation to supplement capital projects and beautification of the Fairgrounds."

Presale carnival ride tickets (sheets of 40 tickets) are on sale for \$20 at the fairgrounds administration office Monday through Friday 9 – 5 p.m. as well as Saturday and Sunday at the fairgrounds Derby Club from 10 – 5 p.m. Presale tickets will be sold until 3 p.m. on April 3rd. Rides will take from 4-5 tickets each. Onsite tickets will be available during the event.

For more information please visit [www.venturacountyfair.org](http://www.venturacountyfair.org) or call 648-3376.

## Ventura events

by Ana Baker

Would you like to meet new friends? Whatever the reason, **Ventura's Conversation Group** is the right place for you. This eclectic group meets Wednesdays from 4p.m.



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## Community Events

to 5:45p.m. at Yolanda's Mexican Restaurant at 2753 Main St. Several people usually stay for a drink and a bite to eat afterward. Be sure to bring an interesting topic to discuss.

**Ventura Poinsettia Dance Club meets every Monday** from 7:30 p.m. to 9:45p.m. at the Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill. Ballroom, swing, Latin, mixers and line dancing. Members \$9, non-members \$11, first time dancers are free. Call 407-9971.

**DBSA Ventura, the local chapter of the Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA)** hosts two regular, confidential, peer-led, self-help support groups in the County. The evening meeting takes place **every Tuesday** from 6:30p.m. to 8p.m. Adults suffering from mood disorders can find hope for recovery at Bible Fellowship Church located at 6950 Ralston Street in Room 301 of Building 300. Attendees should enter the parking lot off Johnson Drive. Email DBSA\_Ventura@yahoo.com, visit facebook.com/DBSA.Ventura or call 253-3289.

The daytime meeting is held from 1p.m. to 3p.m. at the New Visions Center in Ventura on the first and third Saturdays of the month, located at 1065 E. Main Street. DBSA\_Ventura@yahoo.com, visit facebook.com/DBSA.Ventura or call 746-3106.

**March 19: Nina Danza, of the Sierra Club's Santa Clara River Campaign, will present an update on the River Parkway** and possible effects of recently proposed construction, at the next monthly meeting of the East Ventura Community Council, on Thursday. The Council will meet at 7 p.m. at the First Assembly of God Church, 346 N. Kimball Road. East Ventura Community Council represents all Venturans residing east of Victoria Avenue. For more information, call 804-7558.

**March 21: Documentary film, The Phenomenon Bruno Groening "There is no incurable, God is the greatest Physician."** Film will be held at the Place of Peace on Saturday from 12p.m. to 6p.m. at 2021 Sperry #22. Admission is free, donations are appreciated. Organized by, the Circle for Spiritual Aid to Life, Bruno Groening Circle of Friends. RSVP 570-6927, www.bruno-groening.org

**March 21: Ventura Audubon Society's field trip** 8:30 a.m. Ventura County Game Preserve. Leader Neil Ziegler 983-7207. Just in time for early spring migrants, the game preserve has generously opened their private grounds. Directions: Take Casper Rd. south from Hueneme Rd., between Saviers Rd. and Hwy.1. Follow the left curve to the barn house buildings and park on the road outside the buildings. To car pool, meet at the parking lot behind Carrows at the Vons Shopping Center at Harbor and Seaward at 7:45 a.m.

**March 22: The Channel Islands Chamber Orchestra will be performing "A Jazz and Ravel Pairing"** with Artistic Director KuanFen Liu conducting and two Ventura County soloists. The concert will feature the World Premiere of Ventura County composer Bevan Manson's Santa Monica Mountains, a concerto for Jazz Guitar and Chamber Orchestra, with guitarist Hans Ottsen as soloist. Sunday, at 7 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 1338 E. Santa Clara. Donation of \$20. Information is available at 643-8621 or check website, CHICOVC.org

**March 24: PFLAG (Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians and Gays)** provides support, education, and advocacy to the families and allies of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community. PFLAG's goal is to strengthen families and help them through the often difficult adjustment.

PFLAG meets the **4th Tuesday of every month** at 7:00pm at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura, 5654 Ralston St. Free to the community. Please spread the word. Contact Gary Zinik, 650-3327, pflag.ventura.ca@gmail.com

**March 26: Portuguese Fraternal Society of America** The local chapter of PFSA will hold its **monthly meeting** on Thursday, 11:30 a.m. for a 12p.m. no host luncheon. This meeting is open to any person of Portuguese descent or interested in the Portuguese culture. The meeting will be held at Main Street Restaurant and Steakhouse, 3159 East Main St. For more information and reservation, please call Cora Corella at 483-6285, or Yvonne Westervelt at 483-4168.

**March 27: The Ventura Jazz Orchestra and the Poinsettia Dance Club** Announces a **Mentor/Protégé Special event**. Top Ventura County teenage musicians paired up with VJO professional musicians to bring you the Spring Swing Big, Big Band Dance. Featuring the vocal styling of Donna Greene and protégé Emmy Hilgers. Friday from 8p.m. to 10:30p.m. at the Poinsettia Pavilion Ball Room, 3451 Foothill Road. \$15 admission at the door and free refreshments and parking. For more info call 648-1143

**March 27, 28: Masterpiece Series Concert No. 5, the Planets.** New West Symphony music director Marcelo Lehninger will lead orchestra in Sibelius Violin and Orchestra Concerto in D Minor. Performances will be Friday, March 27, 8p.m. at the Oxnard Performing Arts Center, 800 Hobson Way, Saturday, March 28, 8p.m. at the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza, 2100 Thousand Oaks Blvd. Tickets, priced from \$29 to \$102, are available by calling 866-776-8400 between 9a.m. and 5p.m. Monday through Friday; www.newwestsymphony.org; and at the respective concert hall box offices.

**March 28: The Ventura College Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Robert Lawson will present its Spring Concert** on Saturday, at 8:00p.m. in the Ventura College's Performing Arts Center. The program will feature Ludwig Van Beethoven's Coriolan Overture; Wolfgang A. Mozart's Bassoon Concerto; and Joseph Haydn's Symphony #100, also called The Military Symphony. Tickets will be sold at the door. General admission \$10.00 - students, faculty and seniors \$5.00 - free parking. Contact information at 654-6400, x 2281

**March 28: Ventura Audubon Society's field trip 8:30 a.m. Beginners Bird Walk at Ormond Beach/Arnold Rd.** Leader is Allen Bertke 640-9037. At this excellent coastal location look for a variety of waterfowl. Please bring a scope if you have one. There are restrooms at the entrance to the beach. Call Allen for directions. To car pool, meet at the parking lot behind Carrows at the Vons Shopping Center at Harbor and Seaward at 7:50 a.m.

**March 28: The Ventura County Genealogical Society DNA Special Interest Group** will meet at the LDS Church, 3501 Loma Vista Rd from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Topic: "What is the Next Step? From Beginner to Advanced". Check website http://www.VenturaCoGenSoc.org for more.

**March 28: Ventura County Genealogical Society Monthly Program** presents Cheri Mello, who will discussing, "Tracing Your Immigrant Ancestors". This lecture has something for all levels of genealogical experience. Saturday, from 1p.m. to 4p.m. Located at the Ventura County Public Health Center, 3147 Loma Vista Rd.

**April 1: The Beach Cities Neighbors and Newcomers Club, (BCNN)** is a group of active women of all ages who live in Ventura, Oxnard, or Port Hueneme and enjoy activities such as hiking, bridge, dining, wine outings, reading, cooking etc. For more information, please attend monthly meeting on Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. to 11a.m. The meeting will be held at the Ventura Museum Pavilion located at 100 E. Main Street. No charge for meeting and no reservation is required. Coffee or Tea is available at a nominal charge of \$1.00.

**April 4: La Estrella Dance Club dinner dance** at 6:45 p.m. at Poinsettia Pavilion. The Dean Adams Jazz band, featuring a 7 piece

band will be performing. Charges for the dinner dance are \$130 per couple for guests. A champagne welcome reception, buffet dinner, wine, dessert, coffee, and the cost of the band are included. The dress is black tie preferred, but a dark suit and tie is acceptable for the men. For the ladies, floor or tea length dresses are permitted. Reservations are required by March 24. Please contact Co-Presidents, Doug and Julie Hahn 659-4542 or email at julie.hahn@att.net. www.laestrel.ladanceclub.com

**April 6, 20: The Ventura County Philatelic Society meets on Mondays** from 7:30p.m. to 9:30p.m. Located at the

*Continued on page 8*



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## News and Notes

Wisdom" will run from February 9 – March 27, with an opening reception Wednesday, March 18th from 5:30-7 p.m. The exhibition will feature paintings of wild life through various expressions. A portion of all proceeds from this show will be donated to the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy.

Located at 402 W. Ojai Ave. For additional information please contact Jane Shanahan, 707.266.2502. janeshanahan.com.

**The Ojai Storytelling Festival, April 30-May 3 will be celebrating its 16th year with a stellar lineup of acclaimed storytellers from around the world in the beautiful Libbey Bowl and the Ojai Art Center.** The line-up includes Donald Davis, Clare Murphy, Andy Irwin, Diane Ferlatte, Minton Sparks, Vijai Nathan and Regi Carpenter. Tickets for individual performances as well as weekend passes are available. Discounted passes are available until March 28, after that they go up \$10. Tickets and information about the festival are available by phoning 646-8907 or online at [www.storyfest.org](http://www.storyfest.org)

**On March 28th, at 2 p.m., Dawn Reilly from the Ventura County Humane Society will be speaking about the importance of basic pet care, including spaying and neutering your pets, the important work the humane society does for animals throughout our community, and adopting one of the wonderful animals waiting for a home instead of purchasing a purebred.** The event will be at the Ojai Library, located at 111 East Ojai Avenue.

Ojai Raptor Center, (ORC) a non-profit 501(c) (3) organization, located on 370 Baldwin Road, is dedicated to the rehabilitation and release of birds of prey and other wildlife, and to providing educational programs to teach communities about wildlife and our shared environment.

**Sunday April 12th ORC will open its doors to the public from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. for a rare opportunity to meet our non-releasable "ambassador" raptors, and tour the Center and the largest flight aviary in CA.** The Center is closed to the public year-round due to the sensitive nature of wildlife in rehabilitation.

Hawks, falcons, and owls will be on hand to greet guests along with stage presentations. Meet the newest ambassador to the ORC educational team; a Broad-Winged Hawk for his debut. In addition, Dolly, resident Condor from the L.A. Zoo will be there for a very special appearance on the ORC stage with her handler, Mike Clark.

Drinks and snacks will be available for purchase as well as creative activities for children, a silent auction, and a chance on participating on a release of a raptor with ORC staff.

Ojai Raptor Center Open House will be a free event with a suggested donation of five dollars. This is a dog-free event. Handicapped parking will be available. Additional parking will be located 1 mile from the Center with a Pegasus shuttle running every 10 minutes, follow signage. Visit [www.ojairaptorcenter.org](http://www.ojairaptorcenter.org) for more info.

**The Ojai Valley Green Coalition invites the Ventura River Watershed community and beyond to a gathering on Friday, March 27.** Mingle with neighbors, share a potluck supper, and learn more about the Ventura River Watershed.

Lorraine Walter, Ventura River Watershed Council Coordinator, will give an overview of the just finalized and approved Ventura River Watershed Management Plan. The plan is a guide for future planning and a tool to assist our watershed in obtaining funding to accomplish watershed enhancement projects. Michael Doran of A&M

Plumbing and Renee Roth of Rainscape Designs will walk the audience through a 'Laundry to Landscape' graywater system.

"The idea is an evening out with good food and good people," says Deborah Pendrey, Coalition executive director, "while giving community members a better understanding of how we each have a part in keeping our watershed recharged and healthy." The Green Coalition is also offering a Graywater Home Tour Saturday, March 28 and a "Laundry to Landscape" Graywater Installation Workshop - date to be announced.

Hosted by the Green Coalition at the Chaparral Auditorium, 414 E. Ojai Ave., the evening will begin with a meet and greet from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m., food sharing from 7:00 to 7:30 p.m., followed by the program. For more information go to [ojavalleygreencoalition.org](http://ojavalleygreencoalition.org) or call 669-8445.

### Conversation group invites debate

*Continued from page 4*

questions about the city's budget and the reduction in fire and police personnel. Watkins, who has been city manager for two years, is a long time Ventura resident and hopes to succeed in his post, "My wife said, 'Don't screw this up. I don't want to move.'"

Watkins says the city budget is funded by tax revenue which is currently low and the easiest fix would be the passing of a new sales tax initiative which residents have twice voted down. Watkins reviewed the city council's goals for 2015 and answered questions about Ventura's homeless, the water shortage and executive housing.

The group's debaters pay a dollar a meeting and the funds go towards the facility fee. Anyone joining the group is welcome to bring in a non-alcoholic beverage from the restaurant's bar. The group's conversation usually ends at 5:30, but participants often relocate to the dining room to enjoy dinner and conversation afterwards.

Topics range from locating the right retirement lifestyle to stopping global terrorism (some participants noted the similarity between the two issues). Gail Taback, a retired anthropologist, introduced the topic of IBM (I've Been Moved!) at one of the recent meetings by lamenting the lies told by marketing representatives at retirement communities and the overuse of medication in facilities. "Why would you want to sit around and watch people die?" she concluded.

The topic of global terrorism brought several participants to their feet. "Terrorism is spawned by weakness. It is not something empires or nations resort to...it comes from a feeling of powerlessness and poverty," said one participant. "We need to end hunger to end terrorism."

Most of the group agreed that the world is without a common unifying goal like the "goal of exploration" which once sent men in ships out into the world in search of wealth and the goal of "making the world safe for democracy" as in Woodrow Wilson's day. The launch of the current war in the Ukraine was of concern to one participant. "We started this war... we thought we could get the Ukrainians on our side."

Participants are usually evenly divided between men and women and many are retirees. A variety of professions make up the group's demographic, fueling the different points of view. The diverse group includes: a pharmacist, a barber, a minister, a flight attendant, an investment counselor and many others.

Anyone wishing for more information can contact Paul Swanson at 642.7053 or [pswanson@pacbell.net](mailto:pswanson@pacbell.net).



In our last issue we had a ribbon cutting for a UPS store with a slight (maybe major) error. We had the address wrong. It is on 4744 Telephone Road!

### Ventura events

*Continued from page 7*

Church of the Foothills, 6279 Foothill Road. Admission and parking are free. Stamp trading and camaraderie. Come for a great evening. Contact: [vcpsforyou@lycos.com](mailto:vcpsforyou@lycos.com) or 320-1601.

**April 7: Mended Hearts of Ventura-** Dr. Richard Hatcher, Optometrist, will present "What you need to know about maturing eyes." Dr. Hatcher will explain and clarify with demonstrations what happens to our eyes as we mature with both the normal "aging" process as well as the more common diseases and other complications to our eyes and vision. Come share if you have had heart surgery or stent implant. The group meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Community Memorial Hospital, 8th

floor fro, 7p.m. to 9p.m. Contact Richard Hatcher 644-2733.

### Ojai events

"As You Like It" is Shakespeare's most optimistic, musical, magical and accessible comedy, directed by veteran actor and expert on the Bard, Laurie Walters Slade, at Ojai ACT. It runs from March 27 to April 19 at the Ojai Art Center, 113 S. Montgomery St., at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday nights, and 2 p.m. Sundays. Cost is \$18 general, \$15 for seniors and Art Center members, and \$8 for students. Reservations are available by calling 640-8797 or via [www.OjaiACT.org](http://www.OjaiACT.org).

**The Ojai Community Bank is pleased to present an exhibition of new works by Jane Shanahan.** The "Wild for



# Senior Living

Pull Out Section



Don Haskell is surrounded by his many friends, relatives and admirers who honored him. Photo by John Ferritto.

## VUSD Teacher Award – Don Haskell

by Victoria Usher

On Tuesday, February 24th there was a truly meaningful event that took place in Ventura at the City Hall at the meeting of the VUSD. This was an event that was put together in order to honor Don Haskell with a Ventura Unified School District Teacher Award. Don Haskell was a teacher for thirty-six years and he taught at Ventura High School. People who are close to Don and have known him for many years decided that he more than deserved this award.

However, this award being given to Don is not just because of the quantity of years he spent as a teacher but because of his efforts as a teacher and also because who he is as a person has clearly made a difference in many people's lives over the years. Being an educator is something that someone must have a strong passion for if

they want to not only enjoy what they do for a living but also have their students become excited about what is being taught.

There are many different traits that make up a great teacher but passion for what you do is key and it is beyond clear that Don Haskell had a passion for teaching. At the event Don had the opportunity to make his own speech to everyone who was there and also thank the people who have made a difference in his life. After everything he received a standing ovation from everyone in the room. It was an evening that Don will always remember very fondly.

To be able to see someone so passionate about teaching and then to also see people acknowledge that passion is wonderful and extremely inspiring. I had the opportunity to speak to Don myself when I sat in

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on a class that Suz Montgomery facilitates at the Coastal View Healthcare Center in Ventura; he is a very kind man. He told me about how amazed and how thankful he was for being given such a special award.

The class that I sat in on at the healthcare center is one that is greatly educational for senior citizens, just like any college class would be, while also managing to be fun at the same time. "Nursing homes should be places where people come and get help to keep on really living", said Suz Montgomery. During the class everyone in the room has discussions and even debates about all types of current events and social issues happening in our world today. It is a highly stimulating, exciting, and fun atmosphere. This class proved even more that when there is a strong passion for teaching in one person there is potential to create even more passion in other people as well.

## Write stories of your life!

Preserving Your Past is an easy memoir writing class offered through Ventura Adult Continuing Education. It's fun! Putting the memories of your life down on paper will leave a priceless legacy to your kids, grandkids and all those who follow. We do one, simple story at a time...like a story of your mom's kitchen, or a family trip, or a fire. No grades, just friendly sharing and discussion. No prior writing experience necessary! Start any week-the class is ongoing!

Call VACE with questions or to enroll 289-7925. [www.adulatedventura.edu](http://www.adulatedventura.edu)

Chapel Lane Senior Apts, 11122 Snapdragon Drive (near Wells and Telephone) Every Tuesday 1:00 - 4:00 pm

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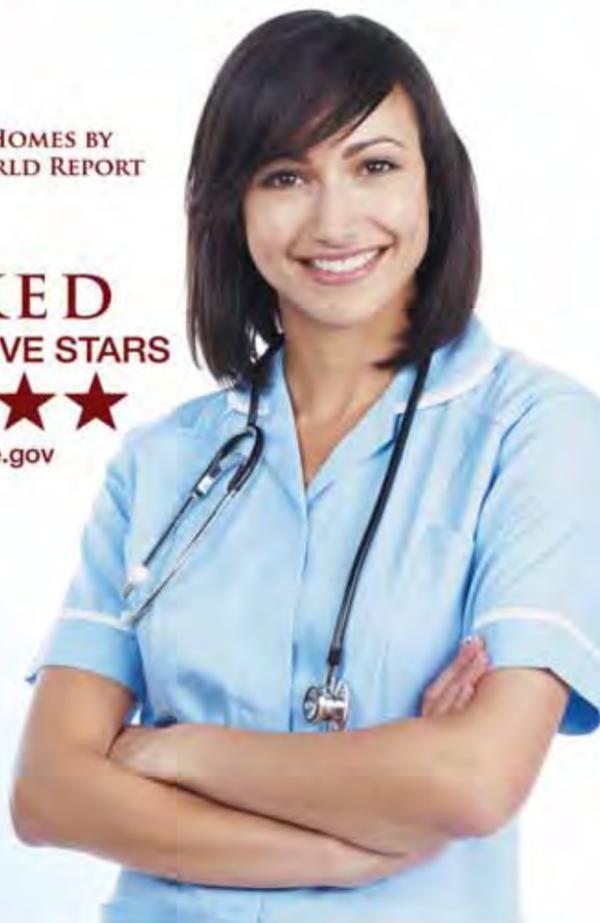
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## Senior Living

A Tender Touch Senior Placement

### Coping with Alzheimer's in your family?

by Connie De La Rosa

Having a loved one with Alzheimer's can be one of the greatest challenges especially when they live with you as well as trying to understand what is working or not working towards safety and peace in your home.

As I visited many of the communities throughout the County, I have seen memory care units that have dolls, baby changing tables, rocking chairs next to the changing tables and clothing for the dolls. Many of the memory care residents enjoy the dolls as if it were a baby which seems to sooth residents. Other memory care units offer soothing rooms when a memory care resident becomes agitated in which the caregivers will go with the resident into the soothing room and normally is equipped with a comfortable chair, nice lighting, soft music, miniature waterfalls and the caregiver may do some hand massaging/rubbing to help in soothing the resident. In situations when the loved one is pacing or wanting to leave, I have worked with

Alzheimer's clients in redirecting to do some watering of the plants as we walk around together choosing the plants they wanted to water, singing songs they grew up with is a great way of redirecting. You would be surprised at how many of them will remember the entire song! These are some ideas you may want to consider if your loved one is staying in the home.

In approaching your loved one, try to get their attention by standing in front and not coming behind them-it may startle them and you want them to feel safe. Remember that its o.k. when your loved one tells you, "I have to leave to find my wife" when you know they passed away. It may be better for you to respond, "O.k. we will go find her in a little bit, I need you to first come with me to check the mail". It is more confusing to your loved one by telling them "She has passed away remember"? It will be less frustrating for both of you by just agreeing but also redirecting them to do something else.

## Welcome to the Ventura Avenue Adult Center

by Carol Leish

According to Hans Hormann, the director of the Ventura Avenue Adult Center, "Since the focus of this past year has been to get more people and programs into the center, which is continuing in 2015, we are continuing that focus by creating new programs out in the community to serve more of the population of older adults and seniors." He mentioned that these programs include various things that are listed in the monthly, "Silver Tsunami," which is a newsletter of the programs, activities; and, community services available to adult residents.

Some of the activities mentioned in the current March, 2015 "Silver Tsunami" include:

Tours by bus and on foot (Huntington Library & Gardens; and, the Native Plant Walk);

Art Classes (Pottery for Adults; and, the Readers Theatre;

Exercise (International Folk Dance; and, Gentle Yoga);

Services (Free Tax Preparation Assistance; and, Mature Drivers Safety Program);

Nutrition (Senior Lunch Program; and, the Senior Pancake Breakfast.

According to Hormann, "Future plans include, adding more and more programs, such as, Tai Chi."

Regarding the question of why the pool table at the center was removed recently, Hormann said that "After the pool tables were relocated here from the old center (Senior Recreation Center on Santa Clara) we did a comparison of how many people/community members used the pool tables compared to how many people were served without the pool tables. We compared 2013 to 2014." He continued to state that, "The pool tables served an average of the same 15-20 people versus. thousands of other people

served by the overall center. And, each one of the players paid \$1 per day; and, we had to have staff in that room, too. Now, the room has Mah Jong, dancing in the A.M.; and various informative sessions dealing with social security and exercise classes.

Barry Rotter, who has been calling bingo at the center for a year said that, "It's a lot of fun. And, the people who come, which averages to be about thirty, are wonderful people." He said that there are prizes of usually \$5 for each game. For another game, Rotter said that "You can win 1/2 of the total. For example on February 13, we took in a total of \$56 for the last game. The person who hit bingo won \$28!" He mentioned that the bingo sheets cost \$1 for 4 cards. And, according to Rotter, "You can come anytime. You don't have to be a senior to come and enjoy it."

Therefore, Hormann encourages people to enjoy the activities that the Ventura Avenue Adult Center provides. It's located at 550 N. Ventura Avenue at Center St. The hours are, Monday-Friday 9am-3pm. The phone number is 648-3035. Contact Hormann at [hhormann@cityofventura.net](mailto:hhormann@cityofventura.net) for more information.

## The VCS develops recommendations for City Council

The Ventura Council for Seniors (VCS) meets at the Ventura Avenue Adult Center (VAAC) on the third Wednesday of every month from 9:30-11:00 AM. This organization is designed to provide a forum to discuss issues and initiatives and to develop recommendations for City Council consideration. The VCS is designated by the Ventura City Council as the representative organization of all seniors in the City of Ventura. We meet monthly to consider and gather input on local issues important to all seniors.

## Senior Living

Please come to network and contribute valuable information with your peers.

The VAAC is located at 550 N. Ventura Ave. Parking is available on-site.

The upcoming meetings schedule:

Wednesday, March 18 (too late for this one)

Wednesday, April 15 (VCS Transportation Summit 2:00-4:00 PM).



Dorcas Thille to be honored at luncheon.

## Annual Mother's Day Luncheon honors and remembers

In recognition of mothers being the primary caregivers in our lives and the community, Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurse Association will honor Dorcas Thille and remember Jeanne Maulhardt-Sweeney at a Mother's Day Luncheon, Friday, April 24 at the Las Posas Country Club in Camarillo.

Proceeds from the event support Livingston's home healthcare programs and services throughout Ventura County.

For ticket and sponsorship information, please contact Stephanie Montenegro at 642-0239 x793, smontenegro@lmvna.org, or visit the agency website: www.lmvna.org.

Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurse Association provides healthcare in the home for the sick, handicapped, elderly and homebound. Livingston is a community-supported non-profit agency, which provides professional, licensed home

health and hospice care. Livingston is sensitive to the financial circumstances of its patients and provides needed services, including those at reduced or no charge to indigent patients.

## Tips to prevent slips and falls in your bathroom

(StatePoint) Roughly 234,000 injuries occur in the bathroom annually, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. And while children and adults over 70 are most at risk, more than half of all injuries involve people between ages 25 and 64.

A few safety prevention measures can make your bathroom safer:

- **Grab bars:** Gripping things like shower doors or towel bars can lead to injury. Reduce your risk of failing in the tub or shower by installing a grab bar.
- **Seats:** For those with balance concerns, a seat, chair or bench in the shower can be a good idea, as shower floors can become particularly slick. Also, remember to use a shower mat.
- **Toilet safety:** Elevated toilet seats can help those with mobility issues ease onto the seat. Safety bars are another smart addition.

If aesthetics are a priority, check out manufacturers who put a premium on design, and whose products meet American with Disability Act safety requirements.

With a few additions to your bathrooms, you can make them serene, stylish and safe.



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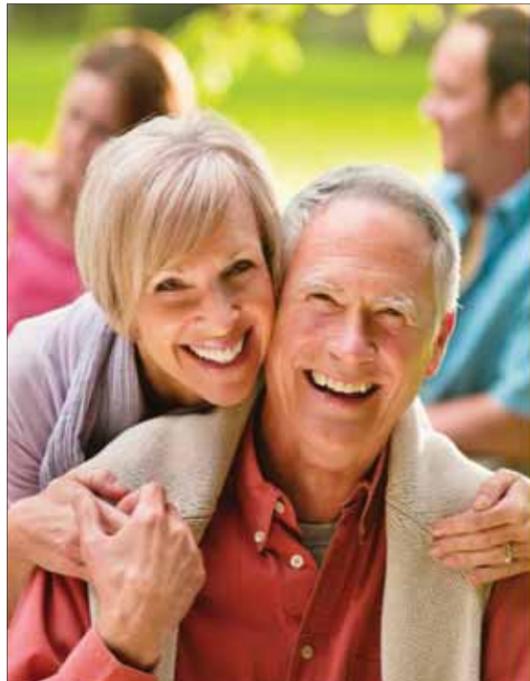
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HEALTHCARE

## This 'n' That Celebrating Farm to School

by Alise Echele

RDN, Healthy Schools Project  
Coordinator Food and Nutrition Services,  
Ventura Unified School District (VUSD)

Local, juicy oranges flooded 250 classrooms in thirteen Ventura Unified schools last month. As 4,300 students used their five senses to explore locally grown navel and blood oranges, produced by featured farmers Allen Harthorn at Harpos Organics and Emily Thatcher Alaya at Friends Ranch, respectively, hands were enthusiastically raised to share creative adjectives that described their tasting experiences. This Harvest of the Month tasting lesson is one of many program components coordinated by VUSD's Healthy Schools Project.

Housed within the District's Food and Nutrition Services department, this educational arm of the Farm to School program supports students in developing a healthy relationship with food through hands-on, standards-aligned nutrition, cooking, agricultural, and garden-based education. Nutrition Specialists provide resources, technical assistance, and professional development to support educators in implementing this Common Core-aligned education in school and after-school programs.

Following the February orange tasting experience, approximately 1,300 students participated in hands-on cooking classes and prepared the featured recipe, Pucker-Up Citrus Cups. This celebration of local food and farming didn't end there. Every month a

different locally grown fruit or vegetable, along with a local farmer who grows the crop, and the highlighted recipe item are all featured on lunch menus and Farm to School salad bars within the District.

In celebration of March's National Nutrition Month, Farmer Erynn Smith from The Abundant Table/Join the Farm will visit elementary school classrooms to teach engaging lessons about local agriculture and its ties to our health. Over 3,700 students will discover the importance of Ventura County's rich agricultural community and taste farm-fresh produce during these annual Farmer in the Classroom lessons.

Research strongly links youth academic success with health. The mission at Ventura Unified is to educate all students in safe, healthy, and high performing schools. For over ten years, the Healthy School Project has evolved into an instrumental program, among many others, that actively lives this mission, so that youth can grow into healthy, active, and successful adults.

During the 10th Annual Summerfest, a free healthy living event, VUSD looks forward to celebrating all the programs, community partner organizations, and people who support healthy school and community environments. VUSD is a dedicated Summerfest partner along with the Ventura Education Partnership and the City of Ventura. Mark your calendar for May 30, and be sure to stop by the Demonstration Garden to meet Healthy Schools Project educators, taste delicious farm fresh produce, and tour the outdoor garden classroom. For more information about the VUSD Healthy Schools Project, contact 641-5000 ext. 1310.



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VenturaBreeze12/14

## News and Notes

### Mailbox

*Continued from page 5*

tion. Debra Polk is a paid employee for the organization as our Thrift Store Manager; however, she is also a member of the board of directors and a foster volunteer.

This statement is incorrect in the article, "In 2014, over 1,200 kittens and cats between Ventura and Thousand Oaks were neutered through CCR's Trap, Neuter, and Return (TNR) initiative." In 2013, Cats Cradle Rescue participated with other organizations to trap, neuter, and return over 1200 cats and kittens throughout Ventura County. CCR does not have a TNR initiative, and sadly that word initiative and the incorrect year has caused the organization some grief. Regarding statistical numbers for TNR in 2014, currently we do not have any of the numbers tabulated. Again, thank you for the wonderful article, and I hope I was able to clarify some of the inaccurate information."

Sincerely,  
Karen Ryan  
Cats Cradle Rescue President/Volunteer

Debra Polk also explained "I am a paid employee since August, 2014. All my accounting work for Cats Cradle is on my free time and has been for 8 years. I also foster cats as a volunteer."

on snowflakes and homelessness

In San Buenaventura recently there has been a good deal of discussion and commentary addressing those who are without homes in our community. From my own involvement, working with others and listening to others, here are some of my observations

1) Let's start at the beginning. That is to see these those who are without

homes as our brothers and sisters, or even if falling short of that recognition, to see them as full members of our community

2) There is no single reason for people being without proper housing. As no two snowflakes are identical, also no two people are identical. One person's reason for being without housing, and their path to changing their circumstances, can be different from the next person.

3) For those organizations and groups that are working to assist those without homes, I am all for the concept of results-based accountability. At the same time I am concerned that at times we reduce people in need to mere numbers on spreadsheets. Yes, with limited funding and resources it is important both are utilized judiciously. However we should be mindful so we remember to see others as our brothers and sisters.

John S. Jones

Dear Sheldon,

It was nice to see my communication with you printed in the last issue. It's encouraging when a newspaper editor finds something that I have to say interesting enough.

You challenged me last time to find something to "complain about" and bring to everyone's attention.

Well, what I found is the Ventura Fairgrounds Speedway. Wow, have you ever been outside while those cars are tearing around the track? The loudness is too much for a nice Promenade along the beach. The Jim Hall speedway is much quieter than

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the track.

What does our City want: patrons for a noisy sport or patrons enjoying the beauty of the ocean...can there be both?

Actually, it would be great if The Doubletree Hotel Corporation would go ahead and build on the corner of Harbor and Figueroa where that ugly vacant lot has stood for years. That would help block some noise.

Suzanna Ballmer

On the cover of the March 4 issue there was a mistake regarding a number. The first 5 readers that tell us what it was will receive an embroidered Ventura Breeze cap or visor.

Send your answer to [editor@venturabreeze.com](mailto:editor@venturabreeze.com)



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## Professor Scamp, Ph.D



Professor Scamp  
Ph.D

A couple of wonderful things that make me happy and a dreadful one that I just don't understand. How could people treat us dogs with such malice when we give such unconditional love?

■ Community Memorial Health System unveiled its Dr. Peter Gaal Dog Therapy Program during a ceremony on Monday, March 9, at Community Memorial Hospital's Huntsinger Garden.

The ceremony provided the public the opportunity to meet the therapy teams, including the dogs and their handlers. CMHS President and CEO Gary Wilde and a representative of the Gaal family gave short remarks.

The program is named in honor of Dr. Gaal, a much loved cardiovascular surgeon at CMHS. A therapy dog is a dog trained to provide affection and comfort to people in hospitals, retirement homes, nursing homes, schools, hospices, disaster areas, and to people with learning difficulties.

■ The Ventura Police Department K-9, Rover, has been awarded a ballistic vest thanks to a nonprofit organization, Vested Interest in K9s, Inc., and a generous donation from The Hausman Family Foundation. \$15,000 was donated to the charity to provide bullet and stab protective vests for K9s in the state of California.

Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. is a 501c (3) charity located in East Taunton, MA. whose mission is to provide bullet and stab protective vests and other assistance to dogs of law enforcement and related agencies throughout the United States. Each vest costs \$950.00 and has a 5 year warranty. The nonprofit was established in 2009 to assist law enforcement agencies with this potentially lifesaving body armor for their four legged K9 Officers. Through private and corporate sponsorships, Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. provided over 1292 law enforcement dogs in 40 states with protective vests since 2009 at a cost of over \$1.2 million.

Ventura Police Department K-9 Officer Rodriguez would like to thank the Hausman Family Foundation for their donation, and to Vested Interest in K9's for making this type of vest, which will help protect several K-9's throughout the state. He said, "I appreciate the donation. Like a vest protects a police officer, it is just as important for the protection of Rover to have a similar type of vest, especially during high-risk situations."

Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. announces their 7" plush stuffed German Shepherd K9 Hero, "Cesar", and company ambassador of Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. is now for sale online for \$15.00 at [www.vik9s.org](http://www.vik9s.org). Proceeds from the sales will provide bullet and stab protective vests, for police dogs actively working without the potentially lifesaving equipment.

New K9 graduates as well as K9's with expired vests are eligible to participate. The program is open to law enforcement dogs who are US employed, certified and at least 19 months of age.

For more information or to learn about volunteer opportunities, please call 508-824-6978. Tax deductible donations accepted via mail to Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. P.O. Box 9 East Taunton, MA 02718 or via [www.vik9s.org](http://www.vik9s.org).

■ The Humane Society of the United States is still offering a \$5,000 reward to anyone who can provide information leading to the identification, arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for leaving two emaciated dogs dead by the side of the road in Santa Paula in early January.

On January 5, 2015, Ventura County Animal Services (VCAS) received an anonymous call reporting two dead dogs, laying side by side, inside a discarded dog igloo on the side of South Mountain Rd. A VCAS Animal Control Officer dispatched to the scene found two adult pit bull terrier type dogs not only dead, but extremely emaciated with their ribs and hip bones protruding from underneath their skin. One dog was wearing a collar.

"Our hearts break for these poor dogs that suffered tremendously and then were thrown by the side of the road like pieces of trash," said Tara Diller, VCAS Director. "No animal should ever be subjected to such inhumane treatment and conditions."

VCAS hopes that the reward will encourage anyone with information about the crime to speak out and help them find the person(s) responsible. Information should be directed to VCAS Animal Control Officer, Bryan Bray at 383-4717 or [bryan.bray@vcas.org](mailto:bryan.bray@vcas.org). Spanish speaking VCAS officers are available.

Under California Penal Code § 597(a) any person convicted of maliciously and intentionally maiming or killing an animal can be imprisoned for up to three years in county jail and/or fined \$20,000 for felony animal cruelty.

From my friend Victoria Usher:

Hartsdale Pet Cemetery, located north of New York City is known to be the world's largest pet cemetery. Many different animals including dogs, cats, guinea pigs, goldfish, horses, rabbits, turtles, a lion cub, lizards, and many others are buried at this cemetery. Human remains do rest at this cemetery as well. Beneath a heart shaped pink granite headstone a 16-year-old tuxedo cat by the name of Twinkie now lays to rest at Hartsdale Pet Cemetery. Twinkie's owner, Levy, will someday join Twinkie and her other three pets: cats Pumpkin and Putschke, and a pup named Snow. Levy's wish is to spread her ashes equally so that half are with Twinkie and half are with her other three pets in their plot. The bond between a human and their animal is a truly special one.



Pat Halverson-Hines with dog Herby, Leslie Selfridge with dog Posy and Pan Schuman with dog Olivi are new therapy teams at CMC. Photo by John Ferritto.

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Ventura Police K-9 Officer Juan Rodriguez and K-9 Partner, Rover.

# Forever homes wanted

Meet Mandy: She is a young Bull Terrier mix from Cabo San Lucas, Mexico. She's very sweet and athletic. She's learning obedience training (and English) and also how to be spoiled rotten. She's a great dog, looking for her forever home!

Stop by to see her at Ventura Highway Luxury Boarding for Dogs, 4692 Ventura Ave. Or Call 643-3647. Be A Hero...Adopt A Homeless Dog Today!



Hi: I'm McGee, an almost 2-year-old melting pot of sorts (I had genetic testing done) - 1/4 Australian Cattle Dog, 1/4 Pit Bull, 1/4 wire hair and 1/4 mix. I'm a sweet girl who hasn't received much socialization so I get scared easily. Two trainers have said I am not aggressive and could use socialization.

I walk well on a leash and can easily run 3 1/2 miles without stopping. I'm very submissive, smart and well trained. Some of the things I know are sit, stay, play dead, stand and catch. They say I chased a cat through the yard once, so they don't recommend I go to a home with cats. They also say I'm not good with large dogs, probably because they scare me.

Until I get more confident, I would do best in a home where I was rarely left alone or with someone who works part time who can not only give me love and attention, but is able to socialize me in real world situations. C.A.R.L. Adoption Center, 644-PETS(7387).

Here is Prince Henry. He's a handsome snow-white male. He is vocal in his demands for attention and clearly wants to come out of his cage and play right now! He is an active boy who will need some room to run, jump and some playtime every day with his new guardians. Prince Henry had some eye issues, but they are clearing up nicely and he will soon be back to his usual princely good looks! Prince Henry is currently residing in the Kitty Kottage at 600 Aviation Drive, Camarillo. Is animal ID is A596816.



## Scamp Club

(Scampclub pets are not for adoption.)



Cute little Massie with bright pink ribbons in here hair is in love with the beach (and her tennis balls), digging in the sand and just enjoying life. Such a cute character this poodle is! Troy was "dog sitting" for his sister Karley this day, as they played carefree with the ball, the beach sand and enjoying the sights of our breathtaking ocean waves.

Photo by Eddie Bengston - Ocean Spirit Designs

## Join Scamp Club

Animals of all sorts can join the ScampClub. Email me your picture and a little about yourself, including your address, to [Scampclub@venturabreeze.com](mailto:Scampclub@venturabreeze.com). You will be in the Breeze and become world famous.

# Police Reports

by Veronica Johnson

Police reports are provided to us by the Ventura Police Department and are not the opinions of the Ventura Breeze. All suspects mentioned are assumed to be innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

### Battery on Police Officer

On Monday, March 9th, at 5:50 p.m., Officer R. Nunez was sitting in stopped traffic on Telephone Road across from Barnes and Noble when he was alerted by citizens in the area that there was a 40-year-old, later identified as Anthony Partida, who was trying to fight people in their cars and was causing a disturbance.

Officer Nunez was actively calling in the disturbance when Partida came up to his patrol unit and tried to open the passenger door. Officer Nunez's passenger window was open and when Partida could not open the door, he reached inside the patrol car and tried to open it from the inside. Officer Nunez yelled at Partida to step back from the patrol car. Partida refused any order that Officer Nunez gave him and continued to try and get in his patrol car.

Officer Nunez jumped out of his car and confronted Partida who then rushed Officer Nunez and bear hugged him. Officer Nunez began to fight with Partida trying to push him away. Partida then used his forehead and hit Officer Nunez in the chin. Officer Nunez was able to take Partida to the ground where the struggle continued before the officer was able to get him into custody.

Partida told officers that he needed a ride and had places to go and this was the reason he was trying to get into cars and Officer Nunez's patrol unit.

Partida was treated at VCMC for his minor injuries and was later booked at VC Jail. Officer Nunez sustained minor injuries that were treated at the scene by paramedics.

It was suggested that next time he takes a cab.

### Stolen Vehicle Arrest

On Tuesday, March 10th, at 4:02 p.m., officers responded to a report of a hit and run traffic accident that just occurred near the intersection of Laurel Street and Thompson Boulevard. While officers were still responding to the call, citizens reported having chased one of the drivers, later identified as Henry Olivo, who fled on foot from one of the involved vehicles after the collision. Olivo was being detained at the corner of Laurel Street and Santa Clara Street. Officers responded to that location, at which time Olivo was taken into custody.

During the course of the investigation officers learned the vehicle Olivo had been driving was a reported stolen vehicle out of

Ventura. Additionally, he refused to give officers his correct name during the investigation. He was arrested and booked into the VC Jail.

The driver of the other vehicle was not injured as a result of the accident.

### Resisting Arrest

On Thursday, March 12th, at 5:55 a.m., the VPD received a call from a female resident in the 1200 block of Via Arroyo reporting that her adult son was inside the residence and involved in a physical altercation with another adult male guest. That adult guest, later identified as Julio Delgado, had also physically assaulted the female caller before leaving the residence.

Two officers encountered Delgado in the front yard of a neighboring residence down the street. Delgado was nude and displaying signs of being under the influence of hallucinating drugs. As one of the officers attempted to contact Delgado, he became combative and tried to hit the officer and a struggle ensued. Delgado grabbed at the second officer's handgun, which was in the holster. The officer punched Delgado several times in the face. Delgado released his hold of the handgun and was taken into custody.

Delgado remained combative and had to be secured in leg restraints prior to being transported by ambulance to the hospital. He was booked into the VC Jail.

As a result of the physical altercation with Delgado, one of the officers sustained an injury to his wrist and hand.

Delgado was arrested for having a very bad body.

### Stabbing

On March 14, a male ( 23 - Oxnard resident) and a male (21- Oxnard resident ) names withheld, were with a group of friends in the parking lot at Surfer's Point. As the group was getting ready to leave the parking lot, they got into an argument with a different group that had also gathered in the parking lot. During the argument, the suspect (white male-early twenties)used a knife and stabbed both of the victims. The victim's friends then drove them to Community Memorial Hospital (CMH). A staff member at the hospital called 911 to report the incident.

Officers responded to CMH and conducted interviews. Shortly thereafter, both victims were transported to the Ventura County Medical Center (VCMC) and received treatment for serious, but non-life threatening stab wounds. Once it was determined where the stabbing occurred, officers went to Surfer's Point and located the crime scene. Other officers canvassed the area for the suspect but did not locate him. The investigation into this incident is ongoing. Anyone with information related to this crime is urged to call the Ventura Police Department at 339-4309.

For more police reports go to Ventura Breeze Facebook

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

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

# Show Time

## Run All Night



by Eduardo Victoria  
eduardovictory@yahoo.com

*Run All Night* is the type of action film that hangs on by a thread for its entire runtime. It imitates various Landmark films in the action genre, however never strives to be something of its own. Liam Neeson plays Jimmy Conlon, a former mafia hitman who is now past his prime. His son Michael (Joel Kinnaman) is a father of two children with the third on the way and a happy yet troubled marriage.

The calm, yet demeaning status quo for Neeson's character is thrown off balance when when Jimmy has to kill the son of Sean Maguire (Ed Harris), one of Jimmy's childhood friends and New York City's top crime bosses. Pursued by a deadly hitman, a New York City detective, and pretty much everyone that can be thrown at them, the pair must put their father son relationship troubles aside in an attempt to stay alive.

The pairing of composer Thomas Holkenborg's (a.k.a. junkie XL) terrible score with the sweeping cityscapes New York instantly conjured images of Christopher Nolan's Dark Knight Trilogy. It is quite possibly the most obvious homage in the film and the ultimate reason for its downfall. The script takes itself so seriously that it forgets to follow the action movie tropes that make this genre fun!

The holes in Brad Ingelsby weak script shine through at the end of the film's second act when a plot twist meant to shock the audience really does nothing but cause a groan when the audience gets treated to a flashback which contains an eyeful of Liam Neeson's bad hair piece. Interestingly, the scene also has Nick Nolte in a very small supporting role.

Ed Harris isn't given much to do and neither is Common who acts more like a robot than a human being. But with that said, the film does have some very impressive action sequences such as one taking place in an apartment complex. The film gives one "cat and mouse scenario" after the next and this is the only one that really shines.

*Run All Night* would not work if it weren't for Neeson's performance. The man has become a modern day Charles Bronson bringing a grizzled exterior to roles, which really need a stellar actor to play them because they aren't that great to begin with. Conlon is aged, tired, cold, and is drowning in his own sorrows. No

one else would fit the role and Neeson is the highlight of the entire movie. A ho-hum fight in a men's bathroom becomes exciting as Jimmy Conlon doubles over in pain, creaks like an old door getting back up, and uses some great dialogue to get under his opponent's skin.

All signs point to a very predictable ending, however it was still unsatisfying. The quick movement of the script, over dramatic score, and lack of a fun atmosphere make *Run All Night* a bit of a chore to watch. However, Liam Neeson's chemistry with the supporting cast and all around gravitas in these types of roles do warrant an eventual watch once the film hits home video or streaming services.

114 minutes. Rated R. Action. Viewed at the Cinemark Downtown 10.

### Two on the Aisle

## The Bard, the Bold and the Beautiful

by Jim Spencer and Shirley Lorraine

"All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players; They have their exits and their entrances; And one man in his time plays many parts, His acts being seven ages." William Shakespeare.

Three men with courageous and fertile imaginations are being given fairly free reign to do what they will with Will on the stage of the Elite Theatre Company. *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)* has been delighting audiences with its off-beat hilarity since its debut in 1987. Its revised version is currently garnering the same audience responses in the Elite's venue located in the Channel Islands harbor.

Director Will Shupe (coincidence? We think not...) pulls out all the stops onstage with his two cohorts of comedy, Evan Patrick Smith and Austin Robert Miller. (Note to Director Shupe – adopt a middle name like the other players.)

Shupe, a seasoned professional actor and director with extensive on-stage time performing a wide variety of the Bard's works, shows his extensive knowledge of the Shakespeare's plays through his creative direction. He clearly has a marvelous time bringing an amalgam of the complete works to life in just a few hours.

He is ably assisted by Smith and Miller as they romp and cavort their way through the comedies, the dramas and

# VFS 2015 Season 7

## Match

Please join the VFS and prolific independent film producer Rick Rosenthal (director of *DRONES*, VFS 2014) at 7:15pm on Thursday April 9th at the Century 10 Downtown Ventura to see the 2015 comedy/drama *Match*, starring Patrick Stewart, Carla Gugino and Matthew Lillard. *Match* opens with an assured Mr. Stewart instructing a group of female ballet dancers at the Gloria Kaufman Dance Studio at Julliard. The windows give a splendid view of some distinguished architecture in wintry Manhattan.

One might be apt to wonder, as one watches, what the title *Match* has to do with ballet or winter cityscapes. Smartly adapted by writer/director Stephen Belber from his own play, *Match* has enough meaty and engaging character material to effectively sidestep the very theatrical contrivance of its plot premise. The Julliard professor is interviewed by a woman and her husband

(the excellent Gugino & Lillard) for the woman's dissertation on the history of dance in 1960s New York. The dynamic between these three characters builds into an increasingly tense choreographed ballet of its own.

As things evolve, it becomes clear that this couple have more on their minds than the art of dance. Producer Rick Rosenthal will participate in a post-screening discussion about the evolution of this remarkable project. The VFS is proud to bring you *Match*, the 3rd of 12 films in our 2015 season. Advance tickets strongly suggested, available at [www.venturafilmsociety.com/tickets.html](http://www.venturafilmsociety.com/tickets.html). Visit [www.venturafilmsociety.com](http://www.venturafilmsociety.com) for more screening information, to see the film's trailer, and for VFS 2015 Membership information. Info Line 628-2299. Thanks to the sponsors of this film, Claudio & Maggie de Medeiros/Selling Your Estate, and to all of our donors, volunteers, patrons, and supporters, especially the Ventura Breeze. The Ventura Film Society – We bring people together in the dark.

even the poetry of Shakespeare. One hundred fifty sonnets condensed into a Haiku is quite a commendable feat.

As the actors employ improvisational techniques and theater games during the performance. Within the scripted framework, each performance is unique, in every possible sense of the word.

The three actors play multiple parts with gleeful abandon, all the while keeping up with clear enunciation and interpretation. Different dramatic styles are used to present the spoofs of Shakespeare's plays, including portraying Titus Andronicus as a cooking show, Othello as a rap event, and all of the histories are played through a sports analogy.

While the First Act speeds through most of the Bard's works, Act Two takes on Hamlet, and incorporates an audience member into the action. In true improv fashion, the play is repeated in more rapid versions, to finally produce "the world's fastest rendition" of the entire play – in less than 50 seconds.

The actors have a ball twisting the Bard's words with infectious enthusiasm. At one point Shupe observes Shakespeare was "known for borrowing and adapting theatrical styles," which is exactly what is being done to The Master in return. As one player says, "We don't have to do it justice – we just have to do it!"

Due to its shape-shifting nature and madcap pace, it is a production for all ages. In addition to the non-stop hilarity, it is easy to become caught up in the poetry of the words, the action and the fervor of presentation. Catch it – and remember, "The play's the thing!"

*The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged) [Revised]* plays through March 29 at the Elite Theatre Company, 2731 S Victoria Ave, Oxnard. General admission - \$18. Seniors/students - \$15. 805-483-5118, [info@elitetheatre.org](mailto:info@elitetheatre.org). Tickets are also available online and paid through PayPal at [www.elitetheatre.org](http://www.elitetheatre.org).

### River Haven

*Continued from page 1*  
River Haven has 25 domes.

"We've had incredible successes at River Haven," said Jason Meek, executive director of the Ventura-based Turning Point Foundation. "We've had a 66 percent success rate, meaning our residents have

been able to transition out of River Haven, find jobs, double their incomes and find permanent housing."

Meek pointed out that two years is the typical length of residence at River Haven. Within that period, residents have access to on-site case management and therapy services. "They need to come up with a plan, with the help of their case manager," said Meek, who has over 20 years' experience as a mental health administrator.

Typically, residents attend support groups for various issues including alcohol abuse, narcotics abuse, other addictions, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other mental health disorders and related conditions.

Becky Spring is the shelter and housing program manager, who oversees River Haven and other shelters and housing programs in Ventura. A handful of case managers under Spring handle the individual cases at River Haven. "The case managers meet with the residents regularly, to check on individual progress, re-assess and support their goals," said Spring.

Spring rattled off some interesting statistics. The average age of River Haven residents is 45 years old. Males make up 60 percent of the population. Approximately 75 percent are white. Roughly 76 percent have substance abuse problems, as well as mental health issues.

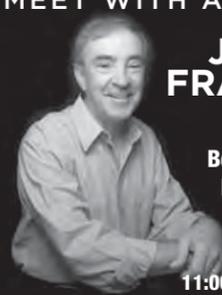
Most of the residents find out about River Haven and other programs through One Stop, a twice-a-week resource center of sorts for the poor and homeless. In Ventura on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Ventura Public Health Auditorium along Loma Vista Rd., Spring, her associates and other county agencies provide assistance, referrals, help with food stamp applications, medical tests and even sack lunches for those in desperate need.

Some walk in with a sliver of hope then walk out with a bounty of options. Spring said, "We do assessments right there and then and identify those who are in immediate need for housing like women and children. Then we make referrals and send them over to the appropriate agencies or programs."

Typically, if walk-ins are homeless and mentally ill, they would be referred to River Haven, where both their housing and mental health issues can be addressed at the same time.

(To be continued in the next issue (part 2 of 2), let's meet some River Haven residents)

**MEET WITH AUTHOR**



**JAMES FRANCIS GRAY**

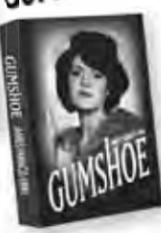
Book Signing Event On — Saturday, March 21 11:00am - 1:00pm

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# Lighter Breeze

## Baby Blues



## Tiger



## Rhymes With Orange



## Mother Goose and Grimm



## Arctic Circle



## Blondie



Solutions on page 15

(For a beginners guide to playing Sudoku go to [venturabreeze.com](http://venturabreeze.com))

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

**Weekly SUDOKU**  
by Linda Thistle

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★**

★ Moderate   ★★ Challenging  
★★★ HOO BOY!

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Solutions on page 15

## King Crossword

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			

**ACROSS**

1 Actor Cobb  
5 One  
9 Upper limit  
12 City of India  
13 Forbidden act  
14 In vitro cells  
15 Standard  
16 Solidarity symbol  
17 Archaeological site  
18 Being, to Brutus  
19 Illustrations  
20 Green stone  
21 Tackle moguls  
23 Ostrich's cousin  
25 Woodsy shout  
28 1983 Michener bestseller  
32 The sort who'll court  
33 Leg bone  
34 Ahead  
36 Swell  
37 Catcher's place?  
38 List-ending abbr.  
39 Play area  
42 Meadow  
44 "Phooey!"  
48 Praise in verse  
49 Boring

**DOWN**

1 Highway division  
2 Hollywood clasher  
3 Blunders  
4 Chef with an eponymous award  
5 Prejudiced  
6 Bleak

7 film-wise  
8 Youngster  
9 Last few notes  
10 Enthusiastic, plus  
11 Senate staffer  
20 TV's "French Chef"  
22 Massachusetts politico John  
24 Sacred composition  
25 Low card  
26 Charged bit  
27 Tend the grass  
29 "The View"

30 Medical research org.  
31 Rotation duration  
35 Flood  
36 Rang out  
39 Prolonged cry of grief  
40 Fusses  
41 Tear asunder  
43 Hebrew month  
45 Biblical brother  
46 Advertising award  
47 Kesey and Follett  
49 Beavers' creation

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it out. Don't let anyone rush you.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) You should be back on schedule and heading in the right direction after clearing up a misunderstanding. But there could still be some setbacks. If so, correct them immediately.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) A business matter keeps you pretty busy, but try to squeeze in time to be with family as well as close friends. You need the good vibrations you get from people who care for you.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) Investing in an attractive prospect (business or personal) with little or no information can be risky. Avoid future problems by getting all the facts before you act.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) Someone close to you might have an unexpected reaction to a decision you feel you're prepared to make. Listen to his or her point of view. It could prove to be surprisingly helpful.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) Don't give up yet. That once warm, personal relationship that seems to be cooling off fast could recover with some tender, loving care, and who better than you to provide it?

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) Career matters are strong this week. You might want to enter a training program to enhance your skills. Also, consider getting professional help in preparing a brilliant resume.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** You have a way of respecting the feelings of others, which is one reason people feel comfortable having you in their lives.

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Fundraiser for Jim Monahan Sunday, March 22, at Bombay's.

### Ventura Music Scene

## Ventura just continues to rock!

by Pam Baumgardner  
VenturaRocks.com

With spring upon us the Ventura Harbor Village brings back music to the Carousel stage; look for Unkle Monkey on March 22 and Smokey & Friends on March 29.

Speaking of the Harbor, we got wind that Andres (805 Wine and Grill Cheese fame) has snatch up more space and will be opening an Ameri-Cubano restaurant featuring live musical entertainment most days of the week. We'll keep you posted, but we hear the ETA is early summer.

Tickets are on sale now for Aaron Carter at Discovery Ventura for Friday, April 24th. There are a limited number of VIP Meet & Greet tickets as well.

The Bluegrass jam which originally started at Zoey's over twelve years ago, then migrated to Milano's for the past year has landed at Golden China on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month. Gene Rubin told me, "Phil Salazar and I are usually there and the rest is any combination of the 400 who might show up to jam. Typically we get 20 to 30 musicians at any jam, which means they usually break up into 2 or three jam circles. Summers are always even busier."

Winchesters Grill will host a fundraiser, donating 20% of food sales to Ventura Music Week on Tuesday, March 31. Get out and support!

Brothers Fortune is the new project from Kyle Hunt. I reached out to Kyle to find out more and he told me, "I began working on this project over a year ago and it's been a slow process. Life gets in the way sometimes and it's taken a long time to say that a new full length album is just round the corner! March 28th (at Bombay's) will be our first show with a permanent full line up including Jayce Flauding, Marco Perez, John Sagar, Sean Tauber and myself. We've only been playing as a whole for a short while, but I'm really looking forward to gigging with these guys!"

Oh! Just a quick follow up after hanging with the crew on their Squashed Grapes float for the St. Patrick's Day parade on March 14th; we took two trophies, Best in Category and Best in Show!! The band rocked it with Trey O'Toole, Franklin Murphy, Rj Root, Jacob Scesny and Guil Juliao (who saved the day), but I can't help to think us dancers helped as well (wink wink).

And finally, The Have a Heart Fundraiser for local musician Jim Monahan will be held at Bombay's on Sunday, March 22, to help pay for the overwhelming medical bills as he recuperates from cancer and cardiovascular surgery. Just

a few of the musicians on hand to help out will be: the Jimmy Calire Trio, the Vonettes, National Cat, Restless Hillfillies, Alan Thornhill and Martin Young, Solimar, J Peter Boles & Friends and Fishfry.

If you have any music related news or upcoming shows you want help publicizing? Send all information short or long to Pam@VenturaRocks.com.

## Music Calendar

For more events go to VenturaRocks.com

### Amigos Cafe & Cantina

546 E. Main St.  
805-874-2232

Mondays: 6 pm Barajas & Johnson; 8:30 pm Joey's Blues Jam

Tuesdays: 6 pm McEuens; 8:30 Beers Brothers open mic

Wednesdays: 6 pm Jazz on Main Street; 9 pm Mark Masson and Friends

Thursday: 7 pm The Gypsy Blues Band

Fri 3/20: Pacific Coast Blues Band

Sat 3/21: 6 pm Rachel Sedacca & Steve Temmel; 9 pm Uptown Brothers

Sun 3/22: pm Teresa Russell

Fri 3/27: Caliente 805

Sat 3/28: 6 pm Camp Franco; 9 pm Fishfry

Sun 3/29: 7 pm Gypsy Blues Band

### Bombay Bar & Grill

143 S. California St.

805-643-4404

Live Music every Wed thru Sun

Wednesdays - Tommy Marsh Host the

Session blues jam

Fri 3/20: Spartacus, Grit Harbour, King

Cole, Only Ocean

Sun 3/22: Have a Heart Concert including:

Alan Thornhill & Martin Young, Young

Restless Hillfillies, Jimmy Calire Trio, La

Vonettes and others

Sat 3/28: 5:30 pm Janine DeWitt, Seth

Petterson, The Vonettes

Sat 3/28: 9 pm Max Kasch, Brothers

Fortune, Honey Owl

### Café Fiore

66 S. California Street

805-653-1266

Wed 3/18: Donna Butler

Thurs 3/19: Brandon Ragan

Fri 3/20: Sound Effect

Sat 3/21: Instone

Tues 3/24: Instone

Wed 3/25: Big Adventure

Thurs 3/26: Rick Whitfield

Fri 3/27: Soul Infusion

Sat 3/28: Mojo Box

### The Cave

4435 McGrath Street

(805) 642-9449

Thurs 3/19: Warren Takashaki

Sat 3/21: Warren Takashaki

Thurs 3/26: Warren Takashi

Sat 3/28: Varon Thomas

### Discover Ventura

1888 Thompson Blvd

Fri 3/20: Through the Roots, Thrive!,

Natural Incense

Sat 3/21: The Seaside Band, Simple Times

Sat 3/28: Hollywood U2

### El Rey Cantina

294 E. Main Street

Fridays 4 pm

Xoco Moraza and Friends

### The Garage

1091 Scandia Ave

(805) 647-9681

Thurs 3/19: It Came from the Suburbs

Fri 3/20: Mitchell Partin, Lara Britt, Daniel

Hawks

Sat 3/21: Tim Barry

Fri 3/27: Shannon & the Clams, Massenger

### Gigi's Cocktails

2493 Grand Avenue

(805) 642-2411

Mondays: Maggie's Drawers open mic

Thurs & Fri: Karaoke

Sat 3/21: Jane's Dough

Fri 3/27: Naked Aggression, Conquer the

Martians

Sat 3/28: Robert Heft Band

### Golden China

760 S. Seaward

(805) 652-0688

Karaoke seven nights a week

Bluegrass Jam 2nd & 4th Wednesdays

Swing night Thursdays 6:30 pm

Cumbia music Fridays with DJ Carlos at 9:30

pm

Reggae Sundays 8:30 pm

### Gone West Cellars

5963 Olivas Park Drive

(805) 206-7651

Fri 3/20: National Cat

Fri 3/27: Karen & Bill

### Grapes & Hops

454 E. Main Street

Thurs 3/19: Camp Franco

Fri 3/20: Alan Peterson & Joe Baugh

Sat 3/21: Ebony Blaze

Sun 3/22: Jade Hendrix

Tues 3/24: Hot Roux

Fri 3/27: Shawn Jones

Sat 3/28: Hot Roux

Sun 3/29: Tri B.A.D.

### The Greek Restaurant

Ventura Harbor

Sat & Sun 7:30 pm

Belly Dancing, Greek music and show; DJ

dancing

Sat 3/21: Crosscut

### Green Art People

1408 Ventura Avenue

(805) 729-2361

Wed 3/18: Mojo Filter

Wed 3/25: Marty O'Reilly & the Old Soul

Orchestra

### Hong Kong Inn

435 E. Thompson Blvd

Mon - Fri 5-7 pm Kenny Devoe

Thurs 3/19: CRV

Fri 3/20: The Corsican Brothers

Sun 3/22: Meridian

Thurs 3/26: DJ

Fri 3/27: Smokey & Friends

Sun 3/28 noon: Native Vibe

Sun 3/28 6 pm: Rob Correll

### The Keynote Lounge

10245 E. Telephone Road

805-647-9390

Tues & Weds - Karaoke

Thurs - Open mic jam

Fri 3/20: Forbidden Fruit

Sat 3/21: Red Rhythm

Fri 3/27: Tex Pistols

Sat 3/28: Cruise Knights

### Majestic Ventura Theater

26 S. Chestnut Street

Thurs 3/19: Jake Shimabukuro

Sun 3/29: Crown the Empire, Dance Gavin

Dance, Palisades

### Megasound Studios

2789 E. Main Street

Sat 3/28: Prophets of Addiction, The Pretty

Uglys, L.A.M.F., Mind Warp

### Paddy's

2 W. Main Street

(805) 652-1071

Fri & Sats

DJs

### Padrino's Ristorante

185 E. Santa Clara St

Fri 3/20: Del Franklin

Sat 3/21: John Stanewick

Fri 3/27: Del Franklin

Sat 3/28: Paul Tafoya & Bevan Mason

### The Patio at Player's Casino

6580 Auto Center Drive

805-643-1392

Fri 3/20: Smokey & Friends

Sat 3/21: The Bomb

Sun 3/22: Tim Buley

Fri 3/27: Jeanne Tatum Band

Sat 3/28: Sound Effect

Sun 3/29: Irene Cathaway

### Peirano's

204 E. Main Street

Fri 3/20: Colene & Co.

Fri 3/27: Latin Touch Jazz

### Pierpont Inn

550 San Jon Road

(805) 643-6144

Fridays 7-9 pm: Ken Minardi

Saturdays 6-9 pm: Mark Anthony

### Poinsettia Pavillion

3451 Foothill Road

(805) 648-1143

Fri 3/27: Spring Swing Big Band - Ventura

Jazz Orchestra with

Donna Greene

### Red Cove

1809 E. Main Street

Thurs 3/19: Music Club open jam

Sat 3/21: Rocket 68, Flat Tire

Thurs 3/26: Music Club open jam

Sun 3/29: Noon - F.S.K.D., Cupcake, The

NaVaNaX, S.R.A

### Rookees Sports Bar & Grill

419 E. Main Street

(805) 648-6862

Friday and Saturdays

10 pm Rotating DJs

### Saloon BBQ

456 E. Main Street

Fri 3/20: Solimar

Sat 3/21: Franky Boots & the County Line

Thurs 3/26: Matt Sayles

Fri 3/27: DOWNTOWN All Stars

Sat 3/28: Big Adventure

Sun 3/29: Steve & Sally Williams

### Sandbox Coffeehouse

204 E. Thompson Blvd

(805) 641-1025

Thurs 6pm: Open mic

Sat 3/28 noon: Lori Flynn

### Sans Souci

21 S. Chestnut

(805) 643-4539

Mondays - Karaoke

Tuesdays - Twisted Tuesday

Wednesdays - Open mic w/ Sin Chonies

Thursdays - DJ Spinobi

Sundays - DJ Darko

Thurs 3/19: Rafael Langa & Ngoma band

Fri 3/20: Alligator Dave & the Fifties

Sat 3/21: Bloody Reunion

Fri 3/27: Cursed Bastards, Barnyard

Stompers

Sat 3/28: Royalush

### Shanghai Beer Garden

34 N. Palm

(805) 677-8118

Sat 3/21: JJ Frank Acoustic Duo

Fri 3/27: Hans Ottsen

Sat 3/28: JJ Frank Acoustic Duo

### Squashed Grapes

2351 E. Main St.

805-643-7300

Live Jazz 7-10 pm

Wed 3/18: Oui' 3

Thurs 3/19: Lett, Mancini & Dutz

Fri 3/20: LJ & the Boyz

Sat 3/21: Hans Ottsen Trio

Wed 3/25: The Jazz Police

Thurs 3/26: Equinox

Fri 3/27: The Doug Webb Group with Danny

Carey (TOOL)

Sat 3/28: Comfort Zone

### Star Lounge

343 E. Main Street

# Ventura Art Scene

## Art, a la Carte



Focus on the Masters and the Ventura County Arts Council is proud to announce the 2015 Tamima Al-Awar Memorial Scholarship Program award winning students. All awards were presented at the Expressions of our Youth 2015 Opening Reception and Award Ceremony at the Ventura County Government Center. All students participating are high school seniors from Ventura County schools. Heather Riutzel, Buena High School was the first place \$2,500 Tamima Al-Awar Memorial Scholarship Award winner. Awards are based on artistic merit and commitment as demonstrated by the application, a portfolio, and essay. All applications were reviewed by the distinguished panel of jurors.

This year the Tamima Al-Awar Memorial Scholarship Program provided \$4,400 in scholarships to high school seniors who plan to pursue art in college. The Scholarships are made possible through the generosity of patrons Paula Spellman, the Theodore Miller family and the Al-Awar family. In addition, all the students exhibit their work at the Ventura County Government Center in Ventura. The exhibition Expressions of Our Youth 2015 with run through April 7.



**An Evening with Leslie Rinchen-Wongmo** Saturday, March 28, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., **Brooks Institute Screening Room, 5301 N. Ventura Ave.**

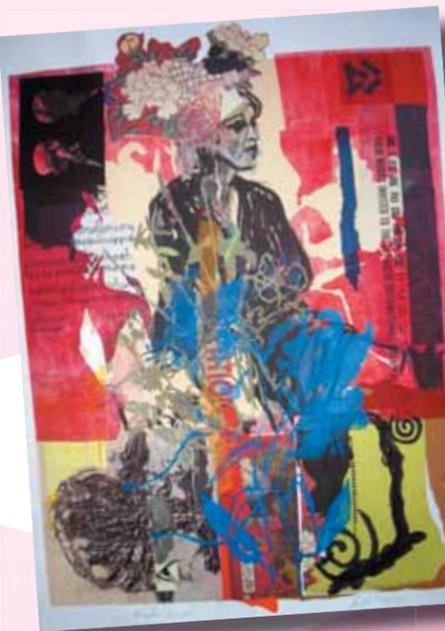
When Leslie Freilich's name was changed by a Tibetan lama to Rinchen-Wongmo it was not done to deny her past but rather to catalyze a spirituality that she had been seeking. This Tibetan name means Precious Empowered Woman and reflects Leslie's embrace of life and the philosophy of Buddhism. Free to FOTM Members - \$10 General public, \$5 students and seniors.

AfterGLOW Fundraising Event, celebratory supper immediately following the interview at the Ojai home of Paula Spellman. Seats are limited, so reserve your seat early! The AfterGLOW dinner is \$20 for FOTM members, \$30 for non-members. Paid reservations are required prior to March 23.

Tickets available online at [www.FocusOnTheMasters.com](http://www.FocusOnTheMasters.com) or call 653.2501. To learn more about Leslie visit [www.ThreadsofAwakening.com](http://www.ThreadsofAwakening.com)

**Vita Art Center, 432 North Ventura Ave. Studio 30, [www.vitaartcenter.com](http://www.vitaartcenter.com) Presents Peter Liashkov The Printed Image** Opening reception: Friday, April 3 from 6-9 p.m. Exhibit until April 26.

Vita Art Center will feature work from Liashkov's series, Homosapiens, the interior of the human bodies is imprinted with fragmented narratives. These tales are part of a fictionalized past-work of the person who is actually depicted. Born of Russian parents in France in 1939, and raised in Argentina, Liashkov immigrated to Los Angeles in 1955 where he studied Slavic languages at the University of California and completed his MFA at Otis Art Institute in 1967.



**Valerie Freeman and Linda Taylor** will display their art in the show **Al di La: Surge of Expressions** at **Fox Fine Jewelry** from March 19 through May 10, 2015. An artists' reception will be Saturday, March 21, from 6 - 9pm. Fox Jewelry is located at 560 E. Main, Downtown.

**Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mixed media on canvas by Natalia Montoya.** Exhibit at **Tatiana's Coffee & Tea, 2470 E. Main, 901-7620. Monday-Saturday 7:30am-5:30pm. On exhibit until March 31.**



**Ventura County Potters' Guild** presents ceramists **Sandra Torres and Christopher Bates** at the Ventura Avenue Adult Center, 550 N Ventura Avenue. Monday, March 23, doors open at 7 pm program begins at 7:45 pm. Originally trained as an architect Sandra Torres had an apprenticeship in Belgium and an artist residency at ICSHU in Hungary. Her work explores the effect of small but significant variations of shape, size and patterns. Sandra will focus on her journey from hand building/throwing to slip casting.

April 19, 12pm- 2pm Quick Draw Painting Competition - Grab your art supplies and join in the all-inclusive Quick Draw Paint Out where you have 2 hours to create your work of art from start to finish. Open to all subjects, all mediums and all ages.

New to 2015 Paint Ventura is selecting one featured artist to represent Paint Ventura in all press publications, on our poster, postcard, web-site and prime booth location. For more information [www.PaintVentura.com](http://www.PaintVentura.com).



**A Focus on the Masters Benefit Event dm Spaulding Collection Sale.**

A rare opportunity to purchase original art works directly from the estate of **dm Spaulding** and support arts education in our community. Saturday, March 21, 2-5 p.m. 5617 Pembroke St., Ventura

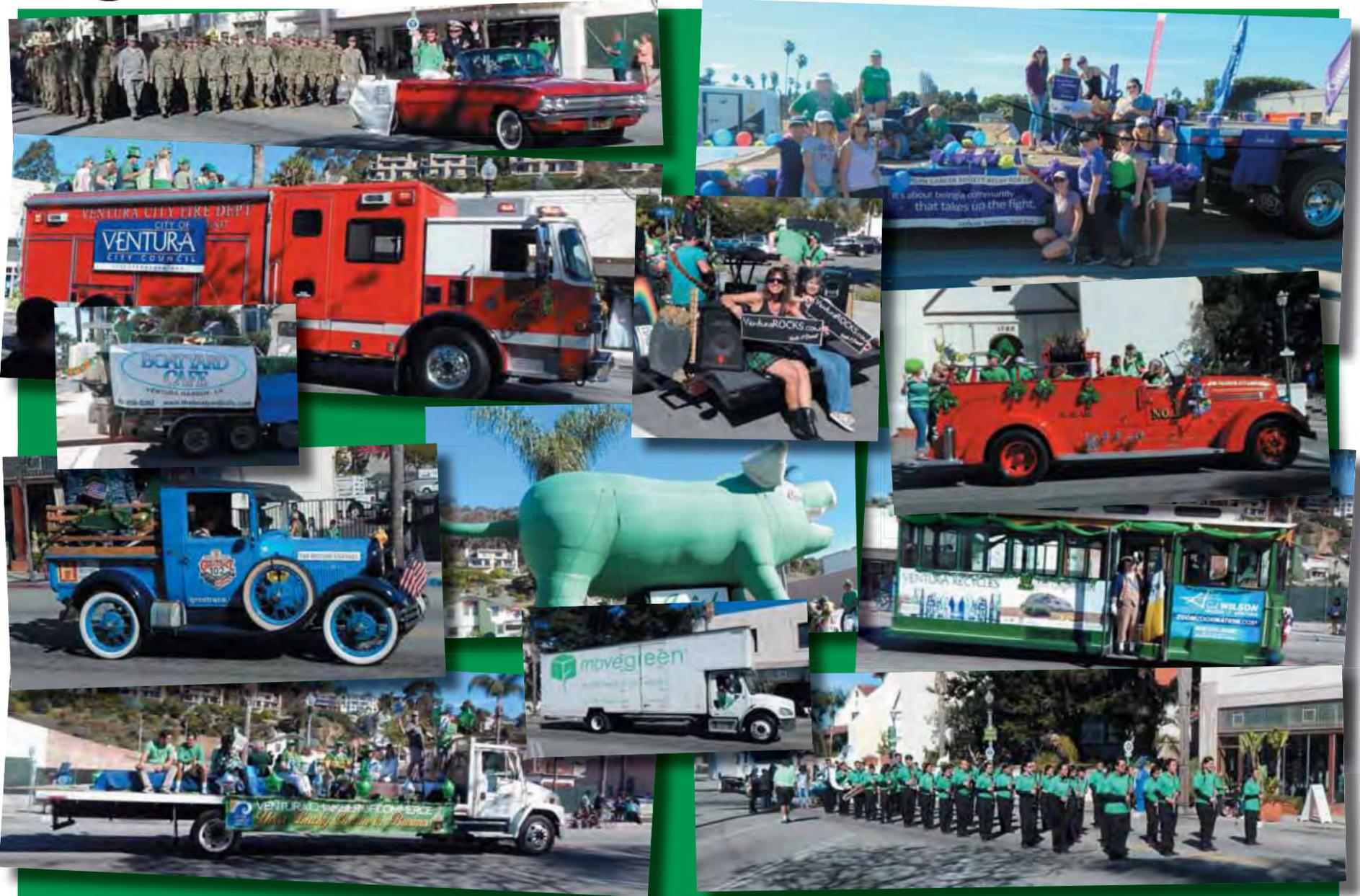
The public is invited to join Focus on the Masters for an extraordinary afternoon of art and conversation! This very special sale of important art works from the estate of the late, celebrated sculptor dm Spaulding is not to be missed. More than 100 items are available for purchase, with a generous percentage of the sales to be donated to Focus on the Masters educational programing. Light refreshments will be served. This will be the last opportunity to purchase Spaulding's work before the collection is moved. This is the first in a series of exciting fundraising efforts in celebration of FOTM 20th Anniversary. RSVP to Focus on the Masters at [www.FocusOnTheMasters.com](http://www.FocusOnTheMasters.com) or 653.2501



**Paint Ventura** is seeking artists for their 8th Spring Art Fair, Featured Artist, Paint Out and Quick Draw Painting Competition April 16-19 throughout Downtown accompanied by live music and more.

Set up your easel and join in the local paint out. You choose the subject and medium, peoples' choice awards will be given for 5 categories.

April 19, 10am-5pm Spring Art Fair - Paint Ventura is seeking local arts to create and sell their art in booths along the 300 block of Main St. More than 100 fine artists and crafts persons in all mediums will be displaying and sell their original work amid a street festival.



On March 14, a little warm weather didn't keep millions from lining up on Main Street to watch the St. Patrick's Day Parade, presented by Elk's Lodge #1430. The Parade theme was "Honoring our Troops." The parade Grand Marshal was Jeff Gorell: Commander, U.S. Navy Intelligence Reserve and veteran of the Afghanistan War, in honor of his service to our country. The Perpetual Arnold Hubbard Award (Best in Parade) went to Squashed Grapes Winery and Jazz House; The Mayor's Award (presented by City of Ventura Mayor Cheryl Heitmann) went to the McGrath Family.

**Hitting the target**

*Continued from page 1*

balls and other simple supplies were the only materials the students had to accomplish the mission.

Participating Ventura schools included Anacapa Middle School, Balboa Middle School, Cabrillo Middle School, Ocean View Junior High School and DeAnza Academy of Technology & the Arts. Also participating were Hueneme School District, Oxnard School District, Pleasant Valley School District, Rio School District, Mesa Union School, and Ocean View School District.

A total of 80 students competed for the top slot of the annual challenge event. Los Primeros School in Camarillo took top honors at the event. Second place went to Ventura's Anacapa School and third place was awarded to Camarillo's Las Colinas School.

The annual competition requires students to design, build, test and troubleshoot a miniature launcher. The "Launcher" launches a ping-pong ball at a designated target. Judged by a panel of Navy and civilian engineers the students garnered experience in a variety of rocket science concepts, which included aerodynamics, trajectory, and gravity effects. The activities are designed to expose students to the types of engineering challenges faced by engineers.

Students with an aptitude for math and science are selected to participate and learn the types of problem solving challenges

engineers face daily.

Working in groups the students start with a tour of an engineering facility at the base where they are able to see how engineers use math and science to solve every day engineering challenges, develop concepts, and solve problems.

Each group is assigned a math or science teacher along with an NSWC Port Hueneme Division Engineer to guide them through the process and help them conceptualize, and build their design.

The student's designated mentors help the students with conducting test launches, and help with perfecting their design concepts and aid in their concept presentations to the judging panel.

The criteria employed by the judging panel to score the student projects included creativity, conceptual design, application, testing procedure, and results. Students were also judged on what they had learned from the engineering facility tour.

Ventura's Anacapa Middle School placed second overall in the competition with their "Annihilator" design that utilized a plastic spoon, and rubber bands to launch and guide the projectile to its assigned target.

The Port Hueneme Division of the Naval Surface Warfare Center developed the competition to aid local students with an aptitude for science and math discover the world of engineering, and how to apply problem solving strategies using math and science skills.

**National Park celebrates anniversary**

*Continued from page 1*

walk up the tower, you are greeted by many different sea creatures, giving you a perspective of what our ocean is really like, without actually diving into it. The park also turned the elevator into an amazing aquatic experience for those who cannot use the stairwell for any reason, thus making it an enjoyable journey for all to reach the lookout tower and overlook these beautiful island and ocean in person.

Superintendent Russell Galipeau, who started with the park in 2003, said "our goal is to focus on helping protect our ocean and making people aware by bringing the ocean to each person through our park." Which is exactly what they did. This amazing exhibit is filled with exciting new videos on each floor, teaching us about the ocean life that lives in our backyard. The park worked with Van Sickle & Roller, Ltd., to design this new exhibit which displays were fabricated and installed by Formations, Inc., then the detailed design of the beautiful murals was created digitally by Karen Carr, a wildlife and natural history artist from New Mexico, bringing realistic sea life to each step you take up to the tower, as you almost feel you are actually underwater, slowly surfacing, seeing each sea creature along the way, and learning about them with each step.

The Channel Island National Park, which was established as our 40th national park on March 5, 1980, envelops five of eight islands, which include Anacapa, Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa, San Miguel and Santa Barbara. The Channel Islands are part of one of the richest marine biospheres of the world. Many unique species of plants and animals are endemic to these islands, giving it a very rich habitat that draws visitors from around the world.

The Photographic Collection, located in the auditorium, is a wall filled with beautiful images from many well-known

Channel Islands photographers. Two of the photographers were present at the opening, Richard Salas and Tim Hauf, who both explained their passion of taking photos of the islands and underwater and the joy of teaching people more about the life that surrounds the islands with each photo they've taken. Richard stated "Many people are afraid of the sea, the unknown, and what is down there. By showing them through my photography what is down there, it drops their fear of underwater a bit more." Tim's photography is on land and has taken many photos of these islands adding "It rejuvenates your spirit, underwater and on the islands." All the photos that are on exhibit gives you a chance to explore what these islands and our sea have to offer us, their beauty and gracefulness. There is so much tranquility to be seen both on land and under the waves, and these two men, along with all of the photographers, brought it to life with the click of their cameras.

The park is bringing out your childlike enthusiasm, as you learn about the ocean life and what it has to offer us all. It's a beautiful place, our sea, and the Channel Islands Park did one perfect job bringing it to life for all of us to enjoy.

**Chamber names Stephanie Caldwell**

*Continued from page 1*

the Ventura Chamber of Commerce and continue to build on the good work that has already been done on behalf of the business community," commented Caldwell.

Stephanie Caldwell joins the Chamber from the San Jose Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce where she worked for nine years, most recently as its Chief Operating Officer. Stephanie will be relocating to Ventura with her husband, Michael, and their 12-year-old son.

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