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FREE

# VENTURA BREEZE

Established 2007

Your Hometown Paper

Vol. 8, No. 21 Published Every Other Wednesday www.venturabreeze.com July 22 – August 4, 2015



Officer's train for quick reactions to dangerous situations, especially to dangerous mail boxes.

## “Did you hear a gun shot?”

by Amber Hansen

Visitors at scenic Grant Park often hear gunshots echoing over the hills. Not to worry, not too far behind Grant Park is an old shooting range with a vibrant history. While it's currently only in use a few days out of the week, it used to be filled daily with avid shooters.

Grant Park was opened in 1918 and shortly after the original range was built. The earliest photos of the range in use date back to 1933. Some years later, the FBI began using the range to hold trainings. The earliest photos of these training sessions are from 1948.

In 1957 the old range was torn down and the current one was built. It was opened to both the public and various law enforcement agencies. The right side was partially enclosed and used for basic outdoor shooting. The left side of the range was an open area used for combat style training.

In 1990 the facility was turned over to the Parks and Recreation department, who then rented it to a private company.

*Continued on page 12*



Avenue Library, Foster Library and Saticoy Library TAG (Teen Advisory Group) members and workers.

Alan M. (student worker), Jason N., Jesus G., Fiona H., Gryphon S., Jane M. (Library Technician II), Juanito D., Axel D., Jairo G., Samantha P., Kevin G. and Viviana R., raised \$1045.00 for friends of the library, beating last year's amount during the 4th of July Downtown Walk and Fair.



This is a great way to stay healthy so bring your family, friends, and even your dog.

## The YMCA's 5K Run or Walk Event raises funds

The fundraiser for the Y's Open Doors program, the YMCA Run or Walk 5K event will begin at 8 a.m. on Saturday August 15 at the Ventura Family YMCA. Participants may register on-line, in person at the Ventura Family YMCA or on the morning of the race.

The Y works to ensure that everyone is given an equal opportunity at having membership regardless of income. With the help of the community, the YMCA Run or Walk 5K fundraiser will give others that opportunity, allowing them to participate in the Y's membership programs such as child care, summer camps and swim lessons. To apply for financial assistance, the Open Doors Scholarship Application can be found on-line.

The financial assistance comes  
*Continued on page 12*

## Breeze people in the news



Ventura Breeze contributing photographer John Ferritto has been selected as the second place winner in the 3rd Annual Pier Photo Contest with his spectacular photograph of the historic Ventura Pier.

**NATIONAL MUTT DAY**

While adopting a mix breed pooch on National Mutt Day (July 31), you can always catch up with the Breeze at [venturabreeze.com](http://venturabreeze.com)

[www.nationalmuttday.com](http://www.nationalmuttday.com)

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

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## SEE BETTER AT ANY AGE

### AUTHOR

- The Miracle of Pi in Eye
- LASIK in the 21st Century
- Cure for Keratoconus

### FOR PATIENTS 18-45

- Thin Flap Lasik
- ICL

### VOTED BEST

- Newsweek Showcase Top Doctor
- LA Daily News Readers
- VC Star Readers
- Consumer Research Council

### FOR PATIENTS 45-65

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- Pi in Eye

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# Hey Vendors!



THE VENTURA BREEZE, Professor Scamp and CABODOGZ are pleased to announce the **Third Annual Felix 'N Fido Bring Me Home Adoption Festival**

Sign up for booth space at this fun family day at the beautiful Ventura Harbor, main lawn on Sunday August 16th

The entire event is about the rescue and adoption of our Homeless Pets. This year will prove to be even better than last years, with many more local rescue groups, and other businesses participating. A beautiful lawn space, vendors, music and of course the Emceed Red Carpet Walk for all adoptees.

The event will be well advertised and attended. Booth space is only \$50 and can be up to 10'x10'.

Call Mindy @805 320-3203 to reserve your spot on the lawn.



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**MALI**  
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**WHITEY MORGAN**  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 15TH

**THE MOLLY RINGWALD PROJECT**  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 22ND

**LOS LONELY BOYS**  
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Artist and psychotherapist all in one.

## Dr. November presents a six week art based therapy group

Dr. Margaret November combined her two loves, art and psychotherapy in creating her art based therapy group- Studio Art Therapy This is a unique opportunity to participate in image making for therapy and wellness; and should you wish, bring your images into a fully realized piece of art. Those that work with her can feel the passion generated when a person can unite divergent aspects of their lives- in her case - psychotherapy and art.

Originally from New York, Dr. November has lived and practiced in California for over 30 years. She specializes in psychiatry, psychotherapy and psychopharmacology.

Her treatment is based upon her knowledge of biologic and social component of an individual which allows her to build a specialized treatment plan that is geared to her patient's lifestyles. Her specialties include diagnosis and treatment of various disorders such as mood disorders, addictive, emotional disorders, anxiety and others.

Because she is a medical doctor she can order diagnostic laboratory tests and prescribe necessary medications, evaluate and treat psychological and interpersonal problems and to intervene with families who are coping with stress, crises, and other problems in living .

She has impressive training with a medical degree from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, NY in 1978. Her internship was at Roosevelt Hospital in New York. Residency in psychiatry at Mount Sinai Hospital in NY, where she was Chief Resident. She then moved to Los Angeles in 1982 to complete a Fellowship in Psychopharmacology. She has lived in Ventura for the last 5 years,

She puts you immediately at ease despite those impressive degrees on her wall. She has an art for clearing her mind and heart of everything so she can be open to the person she is working with. It is this openness that enables her to use her excellent training skills to diagnose and treat her patients. This connectedness with her patients allows her intuition to also guide her psychotherapy.

She began drawing and painting while accompanying her then young son to his weekly art classes 20 years ago. Since then, she has attended as many art classes and workshops as a

## Business News



Shell started selling bouquets at age 6.

## Shell's Petals has moved!!

Michelle (Shell) Hirrel, owner and entrepreneur of Shell's Petals Florist, is an independent, local business owner proudly serving Ventura and surrounding areas for over a decade! Michelle is a proud graduate of the WEV (Women's Economic Ventures) program since 2003. Being a proud mother of two and having two grandsons as well, she attributes much of her success and refined skills to this program for women.

Shell grew up in Ojai and started trying to sell bouquets at age 6 in front of Bayless Market. "My high school sweetheart's family owned Loma Vista Florist and I worked for them from age 15-19. I worked at Von's in the floral department, and also as a freelance wedding designer in many established flower shops. It's a passion I fell into and have always loved."

She has 26 years in her profession

so far! Shell and her team are experts in design and will help you create beautiful memories! Shell's Petals specializes in weddings and events while always providing beautiful, individual arrangements for any occasion as well.

Shell's Petals moved from their location on Telegraph Road, into the Firehouse Plaza located at 4255 E. Main Street.

The flower shop is open now, but there will be a formal grand opening celebration soon and it will be open to the public, so come check out the newly remodeled shop and meet the crew!

Shell's Petals Florist will be more than happy to assist you with flower deliveries locally or anywhere around the world. Just give the friendly staff a call 659-4449 or visit their website shellspetals.com

busy doctor can . Her teachers have included Glenna Hartmannn, Albert Handell, Jorgen Hansen, ValoriFussel, Dorothy Bree, and Ray Strong.

Her art work hangs in Kiel, Germany and in numerous art collections in the USA. She also belongs to many art groups including the Buenaventura Art Association and the Ventura County Arts Program

Studio Art Therapy, her six week art based therapy group includes art instruction by award winning fine artist and teacher Colin Fraser Gray. It is ongoing and open to all skill levels. To register or for more information call 652-0543 or email

her at novembercare@gmail.com. You may also check out her website at MargaretNovember.com.

She lives in Ventura with her husband and her 15-year-old torte (cat) Sunrise. Sunrise would like you to know that she is the ruler of the household.

Dr. November loves mysteries and states that it was Sherlock Holmes who helped her get through medical school. "After all, it was Dr. Watson who wrote his adventures, and Sherlock did learn a thing or two in anatomy class."

In addition she loves movies and her favorite genre - film noir!!

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# VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

Member, Ventura Chamber of Commerce

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

## PUBLISHER

Sheldon (Governor) Brown  
publisher@venturabreeze.com

Assistant to the PUBLISHER

Ana Baker

## PET EDITOR

Professor Scamp  
scampclub@venturabreeze.com

## CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Rebecca Wicks · Richard Lieberman  
Carol Leish · Elizabeth Alvarez  
Veronica Johnson · James Spencer  
Shirley Lorraine · Sheli Ellsworth  
Victoria Usher · Danielle Peak  
Pam Baumgardner · Elizabeth Rodeno  
Mira Reverente · Amber Hanson  
Karen Helen Szatkowski · Barbie Lange  
Connie De La Rosa · Danielle Brubaker  
Eduardo Victoria

## CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

John Ferritto · Bernie Goldstein  
Richard Lieberman · Michael Gordon

## DISTRIBUTION

Jaime Baker · Fred Kastel  
Mary Thompson · Nicole Black

## SENIOR ADVISORS

Suz Montgomery  
Lori Harrasta

## ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

Staci Brown · Breezy Gledhill  
Cindy Summers

## PRODUCTION

Alfred J. Lewis/studioNothing  
alfred@studioothing.com

## PRINTING

American Foothill Publishing Co.

## CONTACT US:

EVENTS & HAPPENINGS  
events@venturabreeze.com

## OPINIONS

opinions@venturabreeze.com

## ARTICLES AND PHOTOS

editor@venturabreeze.com

## ADVERTISING

advertising@venturabreeze.com

## Ventura Breeze

1575 Spinnaker Drive, 105B, Box 393

Ventura, CA 93001

Phone/Fax 805.653.0791



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

Sheldon:

We were just interpreting the bible incorrectly. It all makes sense now. Gay marriage and marijuana being legalized almost simultaneously. Leviticus 20:13 – “if a man lays with another man, as with a woman, he should be stoned.”

Hugh McTernan

Hugh:

This is very funny, you must be a bible scholar.

## Opinion/Editorial



Sheldon (Governor) Brown  
Publisher

■ On the weekend of July 18th and 19th, Ventura offered many wonderful outside events (too many actually). Unfortunately, Saturday offered up just about every kind of weather that we see here throughout an entire year (except snow – though it did snow one-day in the 1940's). Luckily, Sunday saw nearly no rain so **Pirate Days, Art Walk and the Pooch Parade** had successful events. Ironically, the Pooch Parade was cut a little short because it was too hot and muggy (85 degrees with 50% humidity) especially for the dogs.

Even Porterhouse Bob, who was scheduled to play at the Olivas Adobe's Summer Under The Stars concert on Saturday night, was cancelled due to rain. Although it wasn't raining in the evening, and it turned out to be a beautiful night, the Olivas grounds were very wet and muddy. Unfortunately, it didn't appear that attendees were able to find out if the concert was cancelled – we checked the Concert's online page, by phone, and the Concert's Facebook page. I found out the concert was cancelled by going over to Olivas. The wonderful young volunteers that help with the events were passing out notices giving people the news. Lessons learned should we ever see rain again during the series.

Speaking of the Olivas concerts, the first featuring a Beatle's tribute band (Britain's Finest), was sold out with a crowd of 500 in attendance. It's great that it was sold out, but the legal capacity of 500 is too many people—we were crammed in like the perennial sardines.

■ On the same day that an historical event occurred, the removal of the **Confederate flag** at the Southern Carolina Statehouse, I turned on the Channel 5 news (I don't normally watch this). The lead story was about a hidden camera in a bathroom along with interviews with some of the victims. News coverage at its finest, so I switched channels.

■ The Ventura **Charter Review Committee** is working on their recommendations to be presented to the City Council for charter revisions later this year. Go to <http://www.cityofventura.net/meeting/charter-review-committee-meeting> to see their agenda and meeting dates. Citizens can attend their meetings to listen and to speak your mind. What

do you think should change in the City?

■ Once again (every year I complain), I am appalled that the State charges **\$10 for parking**, which is especially bad for non-profit events. The latest example was the Pooch Parade (presented by CARL for dog adoptions) at State Park next to the Marriott Hotel. But the same applies for cancer, MS and other non-profit events that are held at San Buenaventura State Beach. Perhaps governments should help communities by supporting groups who are trying to make a difference in the world. The parking fees certainly seem to negatively impact attendance.

And, I believe the park is large enough to provide some RV overnight spaces. There is great demand for these during the summer, and they would certainly bring in more money than \$10 parking fee.

■ I'm really shocked – and disappointed – that I didn't receive **letters of protest** regarding my comments about religion in my last editorial. Among other things, I said that Supreme Court Justices should be atheists so that their decisions are made on logic and not based upon biblical/religious beliefs. Maybe I still will.

And speaking of the bible, I thought it was pretty impressive launching a paper while in my seventies, but Noah built a forty foot boat, with 3 levels when he was 630 years old. And without power tools. What a show-off.

■ Most of our new, or proposed condo/apartment projects, include some retail space on the first floor. Perhaps this is required by planning, but usually it's a complete waste to require these spaces because they remain empty. The retail space at the WAV (built a little over 5-years ago) is still mostly empty (a yoga studio recently expanded into a portion of the space). The retail space in the recently built condo project on the Avenue, behind the Vons's shopping center, remains empty. Doesn't seem like a useful require-

ment when there is no call for them and **no parking** if they did move in?

■ Recently, planning department officials (Jeff Lambert and Dave Ward), gave the City Council an update on six major projects making their way through the city planning review process. They do this on occasion. This is not a formal presentation and is not seeking Council approval (that comes later), but just an informal discussion so that developers (oh no, **the dreaded “D” word**) will have an idea what to expect when the formal presentations are made to the Council.

Often times, Council members comment on the design elements of projects. I really don't think it is the Council's role to act as pseudo architects. They appoint a Design Review Committee (DRC) that manages this function through many meetings and presentations with the projects architects and developers. Typically, many design revisions are made during this process.

If the Council doesn't think that the **DRC** is doing a good job, then they should replace committee members.

■ I'm very upset after learning that Alexander Hamilton might be removed from the \$10 bill to be replaced by a woman. Not because it is a woman, of course, but because I went to Alexander Hamilton High School and it would just not seem as important to me as it was.

■ We have some odd street markings in Ventura, but the one experienced when you turn right from Thompson Ave. to Sanjon Rd., is certainly one of the oddest. Just after you make the turn, you find yourself in a left turn only lane that takes you into an alley. And if you don't turn into the alley, you'll find yourself in the left lane of a two lane street, so there doesn't seem to be a good reason for a left turn lane to be there to begin with.



Yet another strange Ventura street condition.

## Mailbox



From Next Door Vista Del Mar

It was the first time I was able to see the event (Surf Rodeo) due to my previous weekend work schedule. All of the accolades are true. A real Ventura/Pierpont event that had all of the pluses of local and social gathering with a true Ventura personality. Kudos again.

John Whitman

Pierpont

Drawing by George Robertson

Regarding our photo contest (See page 13). Nancy Farrar had the right answer but was not the first, so we sent her this:

“Good news, you are right; bad news, not the first (our readers are so smart).”

Would you like an embroidered Ventura Breeze visor for your efforts?”

Sheldon  
I don't wear visors, but thank you anyway. Just learning about the old town history was enough reward. I always count on the Breeze for fun reading and to learn what is really going on in town. You have the best newspaper available in Ventura!

Nancy Farrar

Hello Sir:

Over the past couple of years I've noticed that you have commented numerous times on plastic bag bans, usually noting that Ventura does not need one. In the June 10th edition you mention, “Many (Huntington Beach) residents felt that the ban was classic government intrusion. I don't think a plastic bag ban is warranted here. When I visit our parks at the end of the day I see paper plates, plastic utensils, napkins, fast food bags and cups littering the parks. So why not banish the use of all of those items and make people use fine dishes and silverware when they are out?”

Continued on page 12

I am no longer accepting the things I cannot change, I am changing the things I cannot accept.

– Angela Davis





## SUMMER CONCERTS AT THE OLIVAS ADOBE

# Music Under the Stars

## The Kings of 88



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## HACSB awards first scholarships

The Housing Authority of the City of San Buenaventura (HACSB) announced the awardees of its first Annual Scholarship Program competition. The HACSB Annual Scholarship Program is the result of a partnership with Pacific Western Bank, awarding two \$1,500 scholarships for students attending four year institutions and two \$750 scholarships for students attending two year institutions. Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher participants were asked to submit applications for the open, competitive selection process. The selected recipients are recent graduates of Foothill Technology High School, Ventura High School and Buena High School with plans to attend Ventura College, Azusa Pacific University and University of California San Diego starting in the fall.

The HACSB is simultaneously announcing a new partnership with SurePath Financial Solutions and the Ventura County Community Development Corporation (VCCDC) to establish a "Scholarship Savings Club" program that will support an additional ten (10) low-income students in the city of Ventura. HACSB Chief Executive Officer Denise Wise said, "This key new partnership gives the HACSB the opportunity to work with our residents to save for their education and meet critical education goals they have set for themselves."

The HACSB hosted its first Annual Scholarship event at the Westview Community Center on July 16. The event celebrated the first four scholarship

winners as well as the first ten "Scholarship Savings Club" Program participants.

VCCDC is the only nonprofit one stop Home Ownership Center in Ventura County with over 14 years of experience offering unbiased financial guidance. In addition to foreclosure prevention services, they offer assistance with financial management (youth and adult programs), pre-purchase education and counseling, realty, lending and down payment assistance.

SurePath is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing education, counseling and resources to individuals seeking to improve their financial situation, keep their homes, and improve their credit.

The HACSB is the largest residential landlord in the City of Ventura, with 471 public housing units, more than 1,500 Section 8 vouchers, and over 350 non-profit affordable rental units. The agency is actively working to increase the supply of affordable housing and to improve the quality of life for hundreds more of the low-income residents throughout the City of Ventura.

## Should you Solarize your house?

Solarize Ventura, the discounted solar installation program offered in partnership with the City of Ventura and The Community Environmental Council has been extended through August 15th. So far, 70 households in Ventura have gone solar through Solarize Ventura programs, saving

## City News

money on their electric bills, and generating clean electricity on their roofs.

2014 participant, explained that the economics of going solar through Solarize Ventura made sense for her. This July marks the year anniversary of her switch to solar, and she sees the benefits whenever she gets her electricity bill; she is saving about \$100 each month in electricity costs. Peggy shared her advice to homeowners that might be considering going solar, "Do it! At least explore it. I was surprised that I could actually do it."

The primary goals of Solarize Ventura are to increase the amount of solar in the City and to make it simpler and more affordable for Ventura residents to go solar. "The Solarize program offers Ventura homeowners a streamlined process and a discounted price for solar from vetted installers," explained Jefferson Litten, CEC's Solarize Program Manager. Litten noted that CEC's past Solarize programs have already helped more than 440 homeowners in Central Coast communities go solar.

Solarize Ventura features three vetted solar installers, Allen Energy, California Solar Electric and SunRun. These companies were selected for the program after evaluation and vetting by a committee of local experts. The companies have agreed to offer a fixed, discounted price to Ventura residents who sign up before the new deadline of August 15.

To learn more or to apply for Solarize Ventura, homeowners are invited to attend a free educational workshop on Monday, July 20th at The Ventura City Hall Community Meeting Room. The workshop will address the benefits of solar energy, and experts will be available to answer solar pricing, financing, and equipment questions. Interested parties may also visit [www.SolarizeVentura.org](http://www.SolarizeVentura.org) or call 963-0583 x 105.

## City of Ventura Camps

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). Camps are held the Barranca Vista Center, 7050 Ralston Street, in Ventura unless otherwise noted.

### Belly Boot Camp

18 years-adult

7/27-8/31 M 6:30-7:30 pm \$65

Our six-week diet and Belly Dance-4-Fitness cardio workout will help you lose weight and feel great as you shimmy, twist and tone. Dress in workout attire and optional hip sash. Bring 2 or 3 pound hand weights and a towel or mat. Instructor Anja Christy. Course #40795.

### Murder Mystery Drama Camp

9-14 years

7/27-7/31 M-F 9 am-4 pm

\$175+\$10 materials fee

Actors learn the art of interactive drama creating a stage character before an audience as they present a whodunit Friday performance. Course #41033.

### Animal Painting Art Camp

7-16 years

7/27-7/31 M-F 9 am-12 pm

\$150

Learn portrait skills to draw and create animals in acrylics inspired by two or three photographs. Course #41093.

### Glitter, Sparkle & Glow Art Camp

8-12 years

8/3-8/7 M-F 9 am-12 pm

\$115

Learn how chemical reactions create unique effects that glitter and shine making a unique art project led by Sloan Hoffman. Course #41090.

### Mad Science Red Hot Robots Camp

8-12 years

8/3-8/7 M-F 9 am-4 pm

\$319+\$40 materials fee

Explore circuits and experiment with sound-sensing, line-tracking, soccer-playing and amphibious robots to build your very own robot to take home. Course #41064.

## Community Events

### More fun in the library

beginners to experts are welcome.

#### Recurring Events

**8/5, 8/12, 8/19 & 8/26 Library LAB**

**4:30-6:30 p.m.** Come by the library on Wednesday evenings to learn more about our 3D printer and laser cutter—or to use them yourself! Ask the library staff about what you need to bring to print or engrave an item of your own, or just drop in to see what we're up to in our library makerspace.

**8/6, 8/13, 8/20 & 8/27 Open Mic**

**Night 7:30-9 p.m.** On these Thursday nights, come join this group of writers as they meet in the Topping Room to present their work.

**8/7, 8/14, 8/21 & 8/28 Lego Play**

**10:30 a.m. – noon.** Building fun at the library! Children of all ages welcome.

**8/10 & 8/24 Ukulele Jam Session**

**7-10 p.m.** Come play the ukulele with other local musicians in the Topping room! This event is free and open to the public. All skill levels are welcome to join in the fun!

**8/11 & 8/25 Lego LAB: Build, Learn,**

**and Play! 3 p.m.** New, exciting challenges every meeting. Bring your imagination and experiment with creative designs. Children of all ages welcome!



# Community Events

## 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. to 5:45p.m. Located at the 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.

**Free admission stage show**, 2p.m. to 4p.m. First Sunday of every month. **Old Time Country Bluegrass Gospel Music Assoc.** Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Rd. For more information call 517-1131.

**DBSA Ventura, the local chapter of the Depression & Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA) hosts two regular, confidential, peer-led, self-help support groups in the County.** One support group meets during the evening every Tuesday and one meets during the day on the first and third Saturdays of the month.

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 for more information.

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. Turning Point Foundation's New Vision Center is located at 1065 E. Main Street. Email DBSA\_Ventura@yahoo.com, visit facebook.com/DBSA.Ventura or call 746-3106 for more information.

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

**July 24: As part of its occasional Summer Movie Nights, the Museum of Ventura County will screen the 1998 Coen Brothers' quirky "Big Lebowski" on Friday, at 9 p.m.** It's the third year in a row that the museum hosts this irreverent night, comprising a Big Lebowski Trivia Contest. The doors open at 8 p.m., with dinner provided for sale by World Famous Franks Gourmet Hot Dog truck.

Bring your lawn chair and blanket and enjoy an evening of adult humor under the stars, \$10 per person/21 & over only. Food available for purchase. Reservations required: 653-0323 x315

**July 28: PFLAG 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 when a family member comes-out. The Ventura chapter of PFLAG has a core group of parents who are active in the community and committed to promoting the civil rights of the LGBT family members they love. PFLAG meets the 4th Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura, 5654 Ralston St. Free to the community. Contact Gary

Zinik, 650-3327, pflag.ventura.ca@gmail.com

**August 2: The 1892 Dudley Historic House Museum will be open for docent-led tours from 1 to 4 p.m.** accompanied by period music in the parlor and upstairs library landing. Well-known ghost hunter and local historian, Richard Senate, will guide tours that day and sign copies of his books. Admission is free. The museum is located at the corner of Loma Vista and Ashwood streets in Ventura. For information please call 642-3345 or visit the website at www.dudleyhouse.org.

**August 3, 17: The Ventura County Philatelic Society** will have Stamp trading and camaraderie on Mondays from 7:30p.m. to 9:30p.m. Located at the Church of the Foothills, 6279 Foothill Road. Admission and parking are free. Come for a great evening. Contact: vcpsforyou@lycos.com or 805-320-1601

**August 4: Ventura Retired Men's Group** will meet from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Ventura Elks Lodge, 2126 Knoll Drive. Dr. Richard Hatcher will speak on his Mended Hearts organization. Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month. For more information on VRMG & its future events, please visit <http://www.VenturaRetiredMen.org/fp.html> or call Gene Wink at 647-2513.

**August 4: Mended Hearts of Ventura meets the first Tuesday each month at the Community Memorial Hospital** - 8th floor from 7 to 9p.m. Come share if you have had heart surgery or stent implant. Contact: Richard Hatcher 644-2733

**August 5: 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, mah jong, cooking etc. For more information, please attend monthly meeting from 9:30a.m. to 11a.m. Meeting will be held at the Ventura Museum Pavilion 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. Speaker: Ken Owen, Title: Executive Director of the Channel Islands Restoration Project. Subject: "Channel Islands Restoration." For additional information, bcnnwomensclub.org 647-8105 or 985-8085

**August 8:** More computer tips will be the topic for the 9:15 workshop of **Ventura Beginners PC Users Group** on Saturday, held in the third floor lounge of Cypress Place Independent Living, 1220 Cypress Pl. The 11:00 program will be given by Rae Lee and Justin Ekema on Amazon and Google. All beginners and intermediates are welcome. Call 648-1368 for further information.

**August 12: The Ventura County Camera Club will hold a critique meeting on Wednesday** at 7 p.m. at the Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Rd. A professional photographer from the area will critique members' prints and digital images. Each month a special topic is chosen which features some interesting aspect of photography. August will feature the topic "Photojournalism". Anyone with an interest in photography is welcome and admission is free. See the club's web site for more information about the club and examples of member's work or call 908-5663. <http://www.venturacountycameraclub.com/>

## GIANT COMMUNITY YARD SALE

to help benefit the Claddagh Dance Company.



All proceeds will help send dancers to the **World Championships of Irish Dance.**

Kid's stuff, books, clothes, furniture and much more!

Saturday, July 25th and Sunday, July 26. 8 am - 12 pm. 1729 E. Main St.

## Ojai events

When Nordhoff High School student Audrey Hernandez is not working as a lifeguard at the Lake Casitas water park this summer, she can often be found in the studio of Ojai artist Vera Long, who is mentoring Hernandez as part of the **City of Ojai Arts Commission's summer arts-internship program.**

Hernandez is one of four local high school students currently participating in the city-funded Arts Mentor Program, now in its third year. The other students are Dylan Reed of the Oak Grove School Madeleine Bigger of Nordhoff and Felicity Evans of Villanova Prep.

For Long, a member of the Ojai Studio Artists group, the city's Artist Mentor Program is another example of the community's commitment to fostering the arts.

**The Ojai Valley Land Conservancy (OVLC) and Ventura County Public Works Agency's Watershed Protection District (VCPWA WPD)** will collaboratively improve the quality of urban runoff to the Ventura River through a Low Impact Development (LID) Retrofit Project at the Ojai Valley Meadows Preserve.

To meet state water quality objectives, a portion of the undeveloped parcel at the Ojai Valley Meadows Preserve on South Lomita in Meiners Oaks will be replaced

with a bioswale of drought tolerant shrubs, grasses and trees. Rock riprap will be constructed at the start and end of the bioswale to avoid erosion. The bioswale is designed to remove trash, sediment, bacteria and nutrients from polluting the Ventura River, treating polluted storm water runoff to ensure clean water is discharged to the watershed.

Additional construction activities will include reconstruction of portions of the sidewalk on the east side of South Lomita for storm drain improvements; excavation and grading for construction of the bioswale, as well as two treatment vaults at either end of the bioswale; vegetation planting; and establishment.

Funding for the project comes from a Proposition 84 Storm Water Grant and is one of approximately 40 projects throughout the state to have its full proposal selected.

A public education and outreach program is expected to be integrated into the project including Ocean Friendly Gardens™ Classes and hands-on workshops. The contract has been awarded to Shaw Contracting of Carpinteria. Construction is anticipated from July through October 2015.

**On Saturday, July 25, at 4:30 pm, Selma will be screened, a chronicle of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s campaign to secure equal voting rights via an epic**

*Continued on page 13*



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Volunteers joined the Conservancy for a major trail building and maintenance event.

## Hillsides Conservancy making news

Over a dozen volunteers joined the Ventura Hillsides Conservancy for a major trail building and maintenance event at the Conservancy's Big Rock Preserve on June 8, National Trails Day. A tremendous amount of work was accomplished, improving public access to the river.

REI has generously supported the creation of a Trail Maintenance Team for properties the Conservancy owns and manages. Trail volunteers receive an REI Steward t-shirt. This project is part of the work on the Ventura River Parkway, and integral to their mission to provide safe and accessible natural areas for the people of Ventura for recreation and enjoyment. No prior experience is required, all volunteers will be trained in proper tool use and trail maintenance techniques. The next trail day will be Saturday, August 1 from 9:00am-11:30am in the Ventura River Estuary. Meet along the bike path next to Main St Bridge near Downtown Ventura.



Tim Hughes, Rotary Club of Ventura East was honored by TCC.

## A "thank you" and dancing by Jim Duran

On Tuesday, June 30 the City Center (TCC) held their quarterly information meeting at The River Community Church. Jim Duran, TCC Executive Director,

presented Tim Hughes, Rotary Club of Ventura East, a plaque as a "thank you" for their partnership with TCC. The Rotary Club members donated \$10,000 to TCC in order to build a learning center on the campus.

The program consisted of introduction of staff and TCC board, messages and updates from Chief Deputy Public Defender Rod Kodman, Peter Brown, Naval Construction Training Center Acey Duecy Association, Camarillo Home Depot, Supervisor Steve Bennett, a construction update from Bob Wood, as well as testimonies and success stories by The City Center residents Laryn and Kristen.

The evening concluded with a special dance performance by Jimmy "Verde" Duran and Alethia Alvarez who are representing The City Center in the "Dancing With Our Community Stars" fundraiser in this year's Salsa Festival on July 25 & 26.

## Caterpillar helps to protect Coastal Wetlands

Marked by the sweeping visuals of shorebirds and the scurried nature of crabs on the sandy horizon, coastlines are among the most dynamic environments on earth – continually shaped and reshaped by waves, winds, tides and storms. These natural ecosystems thrive amidst the constant change, and have even developed the capacity to shape that change. Caterpillar is recognizing the brilliance and simplicity of Earth's "natural infrastructure" in a new investment with The Nature Conservancy.

Caterpillar Inc. has announced a \$250,000 investment in The Nature Conservancy's Coastal Resilience program, with specific efforts targeted to Ormond Beach. The program will demonstrate how using traditional build infrastructure along with the Earth's natural infrastructure – beach dunes, floodplains, estuaries, marshes, wetlands and reefs – can productively sequester carbon and effectively reduce the environmental and socioeconomic risks of sea level rise.

The investment will assess the vulnerabilities of human and natural resources related to rising sea levels and promote the use of natural infrastructure as part of an effective defense for protecting people and property from storms and floods.

"The Nature Conservancy has been successful by focusing on pragmatic, market-based solutions for conservation challenges, recognizing that the private sector is a vital partner in advancing our mission.

## News & Notes

Caterpillar Inc. and the Caterpillar Foundation have continued to be dedicated partners with The Nature Conservancy, and their support has had a ripple effect, improving and elevating the Conservancy's work around the world," said Diane Rudin, director of strategic partnerships for The Nature Conservancy.

Caterpillar Inc. and the Caterpillar Foundation have a long history with The Nature Conservancy, working together since 1979. Most recently, the Great Rivers Partnership between the Caterpillar Foundation and The Nature Conservancy furthered the preservation of river systems and the promotion of sustainable river usage practices on the Mississippi River in the United States, Brazil's Paraguay-Parana river system and the Yangtze River in China.



Ventura County District Attorney Greg Totten and Sue Chadwick installing a paving brick at the Ventura County Fairgrounds in 2011.

## "Main Entry Plaza Project" personalized bricks for sale

The Ventura County Fairgrounds Foundation still has some bricks left for Fairgrounds supporters to help beautify the Fairgrounds and become a permanent part of the county's most beloved gathering spot.

Before the project began the main entry to the Fairgrounds was weathered and cracked by the years of ocean air. To enhance and repair the main entrance to the fair a beautiful plaza was created. The Main Entry Plaza is constructed of beautiful paving stones. The stones are personally engraved with the names of special people and organizations.

There are still opportunities to purchase your very own beautifully inscribed brick to support the Ventura County Fairgrounds. Personalized bricks make ideal birthday and anniversary gifts, commendations and remembrances of loved ones. Corporations and organizations can inscribe their name to show public support for the Fairgrounds while promoting their business.

"These beautiful personalized bricks are selling fast," said Armando Lopez, President of the Ventura County Fairgrounds Foundation, "We are happy to offer this opportunity. Order today and be remembered in the Ventura County Fairgrounds Main Entry Plaza forever."

Letters are sand blasted in black for durability and beauty. For generations to come thousands of visitors to the Ventura County Fairgrounds will enjoy the unique-

ness and beauty of the Main Entry Plaza. Each engraved brick will be carefully placed in the Main Entry Plaza as part of the main entrance to the Ventura County Fairgrounds.

Each brick can have up to four lines of script with 15 characters per line. Spaces and punctuation are counted as a character. Each brick measures 8" x 8" and is available for \$250 to individuals and families and \$1,000 to corporations and businesses. To order an engraved paving stone please call 648-3376 or visit [www.venturacountyfair.org](http://www.venturacountyfair.org).

### CAPS Chat

## Digital Storytelling

by Elizabeth Rodeno

The first week of CAPS Digital Storytelling Summer program is in full swing. There are spaces available for week 2 beginning the 27th and week 3 beginning August 3. Your 10 to 16 year old aspiring filmmaker will learn the art of filmmaking using all the cool gear including HD cameras, the studio and green screen, and editing with Final Cut X utilizing music and effects. All films will be aired on channel 6, available for viewing on Vimeo and YouTube. By the end of the session, we hope they head out with a brain full of ideas and experience to share them.

Water, water, water. For the past three years Ventura Water has hosted a film festival of all things water. Our Digital Storytelling students created videos to submit to the Festival. It was great to have supported our local water company in showing how important water conservation is. Ventura and the many organizations involved are committed to educating people on the myriad of ways to save water and use what we have more efficiently. All filmmakers, young and old, members, amateurs and professionals are encouraged to produce and submit a water themed video to the festival. There has been great support internationally for this festival so let's get moving and show the world that Ventura cares about our environment.

CAPS and the county are exploring some of the important historic landmarks of the county. There are some fascinating ones you may not know of. One such mystery is the Foster Park Bowl, up Highway 33 just before Casitas Springs. In fact, it is such a mystery to us that we are asking if anyone who may have pictures or stories about the Bowl in its prime to call us or email us at the station. We want to know more.

CAPS is seeking nominees for two open board seats with terms of two years each. Nomination forms are due by July 31 before 5pm. Go to our website for more information and forms. New board members begin October 1st. Don't forget to submit your program for our CAPSIE Award, judging begins the 7th, entries of previously aired shows are due August 1st. We are the non-profit membership organization that is here to create an engaged and informed community through participation in electronic media.

A year membership at CAPS for only \$25. This fee includes training and the use of our equipment, studio and edit suites. So what are you waiting for? Share your story, about water perhaps, with over 20,000 Ventura residents on channel 6 and 15. Go to our website, [www.CAPSTV.org](http://www.CAPSTV.org) or stop by CAPS Media Center on 65 Day Road and schedule a tour. We are the non-profit membership organization that is here to create an engaged and informed community through participation in electronic media.





# Senior Living

Pull Out Section



Gill Surmont as the crusty LAPD detective, Gerald Murphy; the lovely Cena Johnson as femme fatale Abigail Wilson; Ralph Saccomano as John L. Peterman, Esq.; Cappi Patterson, the moderator and Gumshoe author James Francis Gray. Photo by Michael Gordon.

## Gumshoe re-enactment at the Ventura Townehouse

by James Francis Gray

In the film-noir tradition, the talented troop gave a stellar performance for the seniors at the Ventura Townehouse on a Saturday evening.

John L. Peterman, Esq., stereotypical down-on-his luck detective, sits in his Melrose Avenue office in Hollywood, California. Abigail Wilson appears before him. He rises to greet the lady, hoping she will not notice his unkempt appearance, rumpled suit, tie askew, sporting a five o'clock shadow at eleven in the morning. He snuffs out his cigarette...

The beautiful and alluring Beverly Hills socialite wants her philandering husband followed; she pours her heart out to Peterman.

The moderator moves the story forward with quips of the couple's she-

nanigans; is there any other kind?

Enter LA's finest, detective Murphy, to interrogate Peterman. The 300 pound man arrives breathless and perspiring from the walk up to the second floor, flops onto a chair, demanding a cup of John's whiskey stashed in the lower bottom desk drawer. Murphy downs a cup containing three fingers of whiskey and begins with heated banter, discussing Murphy's investigation of a recent murder.

The moderator continues; the characters advance the story with ease and the thirty-five minute production comes to a close with hearty applause.

For me, it was an exciting and accelerating experience, having my work performed live.

## A forum for seniors

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. They meet monthly to consider and gather input on local issues important to

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

The Ventura Avenue Adult Center is located at 550 North Ventura Avenue. Parking is available onsite.



"Are you sure that we need to dress like this to be heard?"

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Ginny & Jim Condy, Cypress Residents

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# Meet Our Team



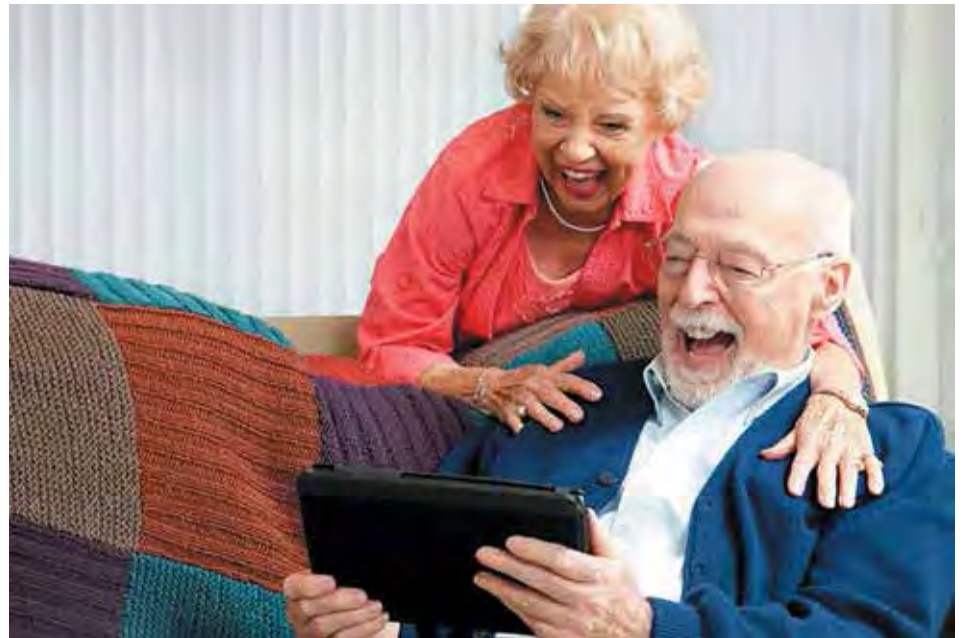
Whether you have visited us before or are hearing about us for the first time, we would love to have you as our guest to meet our amazing team. With our enriching activities, unparalleled services and endless opportunities we offer our residents the best of assisted living. At The Palms at Bonaventure, numerous amenities are included in one monthly rent, and there is never a lease or buy-in fee. We also offer additional personal services, and because we focus on individual needs and preferences you only pay for the services you need.

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## Senior Living



*"By George, I think we have figured out how to turn it on!"*

### iPad basics for Seniors

Seniors learn how to use your iPad August 26th at the SCAN Health & Wellness Center.

Trying to figure out how to use your new iPad? Need help navigating the many applications and features of your tablet? Join a free "iPad Basics for Seniors" class Wednesday, at 9 a.m. at the SCAN Health & Wellness Center in

Ventura. During this two-hour, entry-level class, seniors will learn basic tablet terminology, initial set-up procedures, the features and gestures of their iPad, and more. The iPad Basics class is open to seniors 55+ who are new to the Center. Please bring your iPad. To register for this class, please call 658-0365 as space is limited.

smartphone use".

Whether you are younger or older, there are reports of pain in the thumb, hand and shoulder area. Receiving a hand massage can provide you with significant health benefits. Your hands contain many acupressure and reflexology points which are associated with your organs and certain parts of your body. So relaxing with a 15 minute hand and arm massage can improve circulation as well as helping in feeling good.

Benefits:

- Physically relaxes the body
- Calms the Nervous System
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- Loosens tight muscles
- Reduces chronic pain
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- Slows Respiration

- Relieves tired and aching muscles
- Increases blood and Lymphatic circulation
- Speeds recovery from injuries and illness (colds)
- Reduces swelling and scarring
- Reduces tension, mental and physical
- Increases flexibility and range of motion
- Strengthens the Immune System
- Reduces mental stress
- Increases mental relaxation
- Promotes better sleep
- Improves concentration
- Reduces Anxiety
- Provides a feeling of well being
- Balances self image and awareness
- Is good for overall health
- Questions on where you can get your free hand and arm massaged? Call 200-7756.



*A hand massage can provide you with significant health benefits.*

#### A Tender Touch Senior Placement

### Benefits of arm/hand massage

by **Connie De La Rosa**

"We use our hands and arms probably more than any other part of our body" states certified massage therapist, Rosemary Fields. "People are now reporting repetitive stress injury RSI from texting, Ipad and



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Email: ploss@tds.net  
www.elderlawventura.com



*Please join the fun on July 23rd, Thursday from 5:30 to 7 p.m. and have some fine wine, great food, fun raffles, some laughs and see the second coming (First showing was at Very Ventura) of the photographic exhibit by photographers from the Ventura Breeze (and some of the photographers). All this at the newly renovated All-Care Senior Support Center, at 2991 Loma Vista, formerly the All-Care Medical Supply. Also meet dancer Mary Jo Fuentes Leste of Loving Heart Hospice who will be dancing in this year's Oxnard Salsa Festival and meet the lovely ladies in this photograph.*



## Senior Living



Ventura County Sheriff Geoff Dean thanked the veteran's for their service to the country.

## Area veterans honored

On Wednesday July 1, Cypress Place Senior Living hosted a special "Salute To Our Veterans" celebration with a ceremony recognizing residents of Cypress Place, as well as members of the public, who served their country. Over 300 people attended the powerful tribute.

"The freedoms we all enjoy today are only possible due to the great service and sacrifice of so many Veterans throughout the years," said Mike Macke, one of the marketing directors of the senior community. "We want to honor them, and make sure we don't forget what they have done for their country."

A military Color Guard presentation by the 1st Memorial Honors Detail led off the tribute, followed by a special Veteran recognition and recognition of widows and parents of Veterans. Captain Chris Janke, Commanding Officer of Naval Base Ventura County, made the keynote presentation.

Ventura City Fire Chief David Endaya, and Sheriff Geoff Dean, who later recognized Fallen Heroes, thanked the Veterans for their service. Sheriff Dean said he could not do his job of protecting citizens without the men and

women in the Armed Services protecting our Country first.

Stephanie Caldwell, president and CEO of the Ventura chamber of commerce gave words of thanks. Veterans living at Cypress Place received Certificates of Recognition from the office of State Assembly member Jacqui Irwin.

TAPS was played after the Recognition of Fallen Heroes, leaving many in tears, and a flag was folded and presented to Cypress Place resident and retired United States Marine Corp. Lt. Colonel Irv Wasserberg, on behalf of all those who have bravely served.

Special recognition was also given to Cypress Place resident Ann Meagher, widow of Congressional Medal of Honor recipient John W. Meagher, Technical Sergeant, U.S. Army.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ventura City Fire Assistant Chief Matt Brock. April Davis led the audience in the National Anthem. Live musical entertainment and a free BBQ lunch followed the tribute, along with a special Veterans memorabilia display inside the community.

The human and financial consequences of housing loss are catastrophic. It can cost as much as \$20,000 in services by the time a

## Preventing homelessness

by Jill Forman

Board member of Ventura Homeless Prevention Inc.

Marie (not her real name) was desperate. Her car had broken down, and fixing it had used up her rent money. The rent was already late, and the landlord wasn't willing to give her an extension - again. Living on the edge of poverty, she had paid rent late too many times. If she didn't get help fast, she and her family - her mother, sister, and two children - would be homeless.

Luckily for Marie and her family, a group of Ventura citizens had acted on a dream they had back in 2007 that they could help families like hers. Employees and volunteers from many social services agencies, churches, and individual residents concerned with the issue of homelessness came together to form and sustain the Ventura Homeless Prevention Fund (HPF). That fund is still helping tenants like Marie who have a one-time financial crisis that can make them lose their housing.

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\* Studies conducted at University of Northern Colorado (2014) and Oldenburg Horzentrum (2013) showed that Speech Reception Thresholds (SRT) in cocktail-party situations improved up to 2.9dB for wearers with mild to moderate hearing loss using the latest BestSound™ Technology with Narrow Directionality, compared to people with normal hearing. This corresponds to over 25% improvement in speech understanding.

family is restored to housing, or, for an average cost of \$700 in one-time rental assistance we can keep them in their home. And the mental and emotional stress of losing one's housing are not quantifiable. How much better to prevent the loss in the first place?

Since its inception in 2007, the fund has helped 356 households and 945 individuals, over half of them children, stay in their homes (by the time this is printed, those numbers will have grown!) Case managers at Project Understanding and the Salvation Army provide assistance with budgeting, and work to make

sure those receiving help from HPF will be able to stay housed. And over 90% of those who have been helped by HPF were still in their homes when contacted nine months later.

The HPF is financed 100% by donations from individuals, faith communities, and service organizations. Every penny donated goes directly to preventing individuals and families from losing their homes because this 501(c)(3) non-profit is entirely volunteer-run.

For more information, to access the fund or to donate, go to [venturahomelessprevention.org](http://venturahomelessprevention.org), or call 626-0363.

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and the City Council voted that it be off limits to the public due to safety concerns.

Since 2006 the range has been used solely by the Ventura Police Department. They use the facility for both combat style training and individual target practice.

The range is currently maintained by retired officers who volunteer a few hours during the week to make sure the facility is properly maintained and suitable for trainings.

One of these volunteers stressed the importance of the range. "I believe the police range serves a critical training function for the officers of the Ventura Police Department. In this day and age it is imperative that our men and women are able to safely do their jobs, and be as technically skilled with their tools of the job as we can make them. Having a training facility in the City provides close, quality, and well supervised training for those officers, insuring the quality of life for our residents is maintained."

While some people regret that the range is now closed to the public, the police department is thankful there is a place for our officers to train at right here in Ventura.

### YMCA's 5K Run or Walk Event

Continued from page 1

from community members, donors and fundraisers like the YMCA Run or Walk 5K event. At approximately 3.1 miles, this event not only raises money for the Open Doors program, but is also a great form of exercise. Marketing and Communications Director, Alicia Cattoni, says "We love our community so we're encouraging people of all ages, backgrounds, and walks of life to join us. This is a great way to stay healthy, while also considering the importance of helping others because every donation goes back into the community. So bring your family, friends, and even your dog!"

Participants have the option of signing up individually or as a family, which would include two adults and any dependent children (up to six total). From now through August 1, the individual cost will be \$35 and the family cost will be \$75. However, from August 2 through August 14 the individual cost will be \$40 and the family cost will be \$85. The first 100 registrants will receive a T-shirt and goodie bag! There will also be over 20 raffle prizes, a breakfast, and live music. The race will start and end at the on-site location of the Ventura Family YMCA and participants will be given a continental breakfast before the race begins.

For more information about the YMCA Run or Walk 5K race, please contact Health and Wellness Director, Philipp Roye, at philipp.roye@ciymca.org or by calling 642.2131, ext. 20.

## Book and Toy Drive

SIGMA Services has partnered with Lighthouse for Women and Children, Ventura County Rescue Mission, and Coalition for Family Harmony in order to create the SIGMA Summer Stars Book and Toy Drive. You should bring new or used books and toys to the SIGMA office, 2140 Eastman between 8 am - 4:30 pm. The last day to bring donations will be July 31st, and shortly afterward a ceremony will be held in which donations will be presented to the children. Donation suggestions include picture books, puzzles, stuffed animals, coloring books, sketchbooks/journals, board games, and learning toys. For more information please contact Amanda Edwardson at 642-8377.

### Mailbox

Continued from page 5

Why do you only mention parks? I bike around Ventura on a regular basis and am saddened by the amount of litter all over town. Sure, it's not just plastic bags, but plastic bags are problematic and there is an easy solution with reusable bags. Please review my slideshows and photos of plastic bag litter in Ventura to see that this is an issue that warrants our attention. In addition to bags that are littered, plastic bags have a design flaw that can allow them to 'float away' from trash trucks when emptying garbage or birds can pull them from trash cans near the beach.

Plastic does not biodegrade in our lifetimes when littered. We are never going to ban all plastics but we must use plastic responsibly. That means durable products rather than disposable products. As plastic litter enters the watershed and then the ocean it accumulates over time in an ocean gyre if it floats. Scientists are finding alarming amounts of plastic in the gyres and in many cases there is more plastic than plankton.

Plastic pollution is turning into a tragedy of the commons and we need to take simple steps to help solve the problem. Banning plastic bags and requiring reusable bags is a big first step. The voters

will decide on the statewide checkout bag bill in November 2016 while for now we need to encourage everyone to choose to reuse.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BUrsbQ1so64>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YgLPsjXCmxI>

Thank You,  
Bill Hickman

### "Did you hear a gun shot?"

Continued from page 1

Between 1993 and 2006 it was still open to the public. However, in 2006 the lease ended



## News & Notes



Donna Nelson, Treasurer; Lorie Balzer, Two-Year Director; Cyndi Damron, Vice President; Kay Armstrong, President; Kellye Patterson, Corresponding Secretary; Trevor Summerlin, Two-Year Director; Karen Flock, One-Year Director; Cindy Daly, One-Year Director. Missing – Gina Jaeger, Treasurer; Pam Pecarich and Ann Hewitt, Recording Secretary at installation.

### Soroptimist International installs officers and directors

The Soroptimist Club of Ventura installed new Officers and Directors at the end of June. The Incoming President, Kay Armstrong, thanked outgoing President Lorie Balzer for her service this past year. She welcomed the incoming Officers and Directors and expressed her appreciation for their willingness to serve. She announced a club theme for the year of “We’ve got your back!”

The installation of the new Officers and Directors was conducted by Sherry Cash, District 1 Director of the Camino Real Region of Soroptimist International. Officers and Directors include: Kay Armstrong as President, Cyndi Damron as Vice President, Pam Pecarich and Ann Hewitt as Recording Secretary, Kellye Patterson as Corresponding Secretary, Donna Nelson and Gina Jaeger as Treasurer, Lorie Balzer and Trevor

Summerlin as Two-Year Directors, Cindy Daly and Karen Flock as One-Year Directors – all of Ventura.

Soroptimist International is a part of the world’s largest classified service organization for executive and professional women. Headquartered in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, SI has more than 100,000 members in 1,500 clubs in 21 countries. In addition to supporting international projects, Soroptimist clubs accomplish their service goals based on individual community needs. The mission of the Soroptimist Club is to improve the lives of women and girls in their community and throughout the world. For more information about Soroptimist of Ventura go to [www.soroptimistventura.org](http://www.soroptimistventura.org). To find out how you can become a member, please call Cindy Daly at 701-0882 or email [siventura@soroptimist.net](mailto:siventura@soroptimist.net).



### Ida Ruth Curtis

Do you remember Mound Nursery at the corner of Telegraph and Day Road? Many natives of Ventura and lovers of beautiful plants spent hours enjoying their nursery. Ida Ruth Curtis wrapped hundreds of Poinsettias. Ralph Curtis trucked Pyracantha plants all over the state of California. Families took time there to enjoy the birds and ducks in cages and we all loved the peacocks. Mound Nursery was a favorite meeting place. Ruth passed away on June 28, 2015.

She was the first woman president of the Tri-county Nursery Association and volunteered as a den mother of the local cub scouts.

Ruth’s family lived on the Ventura Avenue. She went to school and joined Girl Scouts. One of her favorite stories was as a girl scout she and others planted trees in Grant Park.

She was one of the first Charter Members of the New Botanical Gardens at Grant Park, behind City Hall. Now, a beautiful garden will follow her footprints and more trees will thrive and grow tall there.

Their home, behind the nursery, was a botanical garden. The avocado tree was dangerous to be under! Each weighed so much that when they hit the ground you had instant guacamole. The Camellia bushes all had names and were of every color. Ruth shared them proudly with the whole community. Ralph had some advice. He said “Let your dog pee on the camellias because they love acid. No need to buy fertilizer.”

Lemons, oranges, peaches, apples were stuffed in all their visitor’s pockets to take home. A guest house in the back was the meeting and eating place for many organizations, such as the Lions. Ruth loved cooking. At age 94 she still wanted to share cooking recipes for Christmas.

Ruth loved Ralph and gardens!

The Curtis family left a trail of fond memories for the citizens of Ventura County. Ruth passed away at age 97.

#### Ojai events

*Continued from page 7*

#### **march from Selma to Montgomery, in Alabama 1965.**

On Saturday, August 1, at 4:30 pm, *Dior and I* will be screened, an intriguing documentary that looks inside the storied world of the Christian Dior fashion house as artistic director Raf Simons creates its first haute couture collection.

The films will be shown at Matilija Auditorium, located at 703 El Paseo in Ojai.

**Join us at the Ojai Library for a fast-paced program that will inspire and empower writers of fiction and nonfiction alike. Laurie Gibson will offer a quick peek at the book business** (including traditional, electronic, and self-publishing), followed by ideas for connect-



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## HANDBAG TRADE-IN

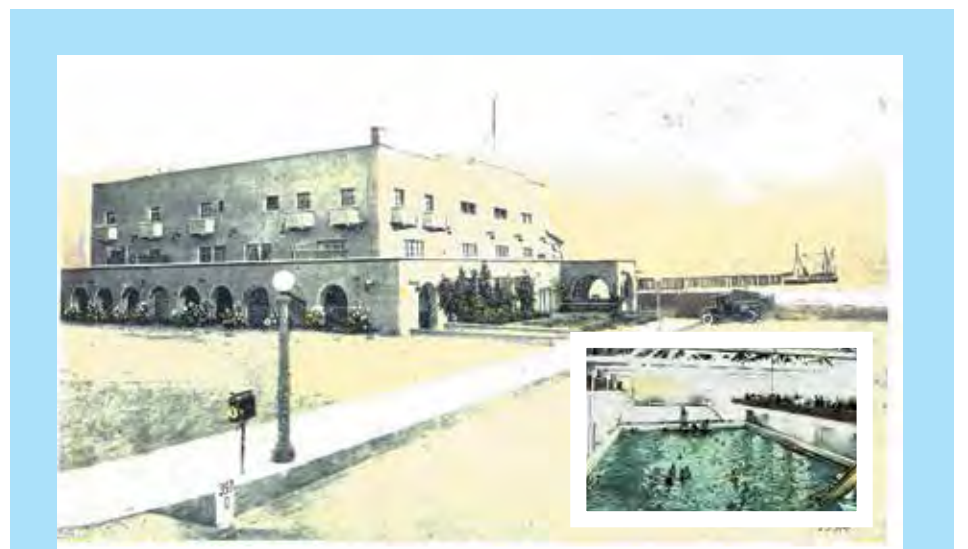
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*In our last issue we asked where was this old photo taken? Lara Britt was the first correct answer and won a \$25 gift certificate, and her name in the Breeze.*

*“I believe the answer to this question is that the photo was taken at what once was the Ventura Public Bath house. This place was located at the end of California Street and is now where the parking structure/Aloha Steakhouse resides.”*

*Photos courtesy of Moses Mora and the Tortilla Flats Reunion Committee*

ing with literary agents and suggestions to help writers refine their craft.

Laurie Gibson is an editor and proof-reader whose work for publishers includes Mrs. Dalloway (1998 edition) and The Color Purple (2003 edition.) Laurie also taught editing classes at both UCLA and UC San Diego extension programs for several years. The event will be held on Thursday, July 30, at 6:30 p.m. The Ojai Library is located at 111 E. Ojai Avenue and for more information, call (805) 646-1639.

The Ojai Valley Museum’s latest exhibition is sure to make people smile. Explore the world of cartoons through the personal collection of Ojai’s own Sergio Aragonés, famous MAD Magazine cartoonist.

Over a century of cartoons are included in the eclectic exhibition, each acquired by Aragonés because of its humorous qualities. He searched for examples from

the most influential cartoonists from his boyhood and beyond.

The opening reception, with Sergio in attendance, is Saturday, August 1 from 5 to 7pm. The cost is \$20 (\$15 for members) and includes hors d’oeuvres and a no host wine bar.

The museum is located at 130 W. Ojai Avenue, Ojai, CA. Regular museum admission is: adults \$5.00, children 6–18 \$1.00, children 5 and under free, and current 2015 members free. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday 10 am to 4 pm and Sunday noon to 4 p.m. Tours available by appointment. Free parking is available behind the museum, off Blanche Street.

For more information, call the museum at 640-1390, ext. 203, e-mail [ojaimuseum@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ojaimuseum@sbcglobal.net), or visit the museum website at [OjaiValleyMuseum.org](http://OjaiValleyMuseum.org).



# Professor Scamp, Ph.D



Professor Scamp Ph.D

It's a dogs world after all!

When I look out from my rear patio I can see the Marriott Hotel and always wondered of it was dog friendly so I emailed them and found out that it is (there is a \$75 non-refundable cost though, which seems to be standard) so I made a reservation for three, I needed someone to drive me there and take me for walks.

When we arrived at the hotel a nice lady greeted us and I registered. I had to give her my credit card (Barka) to cover what we spent.

We were given the key (which is no longer a key but a card that looks like

a credit card).

We went up to the room in a little cubicle that moved up and down after I pushed some buttons. We stayed on the fourth floor and it was very nice with a patio. There was a nice bowl in the room with all kinds of doggie treats including big bones and smaller treats that I like to eat. I make a real mess with the big bones and don't like them much.

After we settled in we took a walk around the first floor. There is a nice bar and restaurant and beautiful outdoor pond with a waterfall and big rocks, a swimming pool and spa. I have a little pond at home but this one was real big. I'm not much for water so didn't go swimming (and maybe it

isn't allowed).

There is also a little room where you buy stuff and snacks and there was a rack with the Ventura Breeze in it but I had already read that issue.

We took a little walk outside so that I could do my thing.

We must have had a really special room (luckily I put it on my credit card) because right near our room was a concierge lounge that we could use. They had afternoon snacks and stuff and a nice breakfast the next morning. Wine was also for sale there but I'm only 13 so can't drink wine.

After my afternoon nap we went downstairs and had dinner. We can't eat in the restaurant because that is against health department rules but

could eat right next to the restaurant. I sat on the floor as I usually do at home and get some table food (I know I'm not supposed to but when I look at people with my big "cow" eyes I'm irresistible).

After dinner we took a little walk over to the State Beach but not a very long one because the Ventura breeze (not the Ventura Breeze) was blowing so it was a little chilly.

My buddies were concerned what would happen if I had to do my thing in the middle of the night and were not sure if I would use the patio, but I was terrific and slept all night.

We had a very good time. It is nice that many hotels, and restaurants are dog friendly these days, it's nice to get out of the house now and then.

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"Ana at the concierge lounge made me feel very welcome and even fed me."

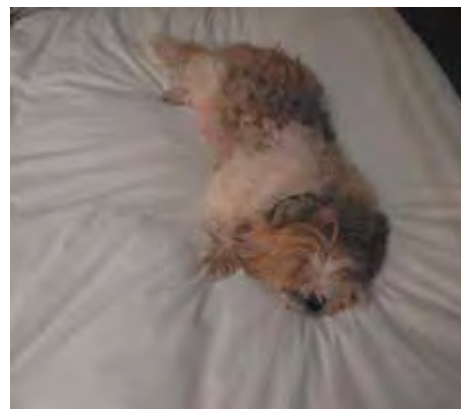
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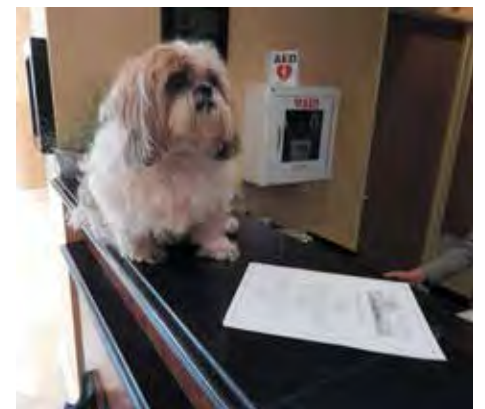
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"These dogs were at the 4th Street Fair. Aren't they adorable, especially the one on the right?"



# Forever homes wanted



Hi, I'm Nami, an all-around great family dog who was found as a stray. They think I'm a 1-year-old, Chihuahua, maybe Shiba Inu X. My rescuer tried to find my owner, but no one came to claim me. My rescuer would have kept me, but she got a job out-of-state and I could not go along too. Her grandmother is taking care of me until I find my forever home. She'd keep me, but thinks I'd do best in a home with a yard and preferably another dog. She took

me to her friend's house who has a backyard and a dog and I loved to romp and play with the other dog.

I'm an active little guy who loves to play with toys. I enjoy a comfy lap to sit in and I'm good with children and cats too. I'm also house and crate trained and will let you know when I have to go out.

If you're an active and loving family who has room in their heart and home for a sweet little guy, stop by and meet me. C.A.R.L. Adoption Center, 644-PETS(7387).

## Scamp Club

(Scampclub pets are not for adoption.)

Hi: I'm Sophie a very dignified 7-year-old lady Australian Shepard. I love to play with other dogs (and know when not to), romp in the waves, get shampooed at the beach, but my favorite thing is sitting in the back of our van patiently waiting while Rosa Lee works out at the Pierpont Racquet Club and having the other members say hi and some even pet me.



## 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.

### Assault with Deadly Weapon

On Thursday, July 9th, at 10:39 a.m., the VPD received a call regarding a subject armed with a knife threatening another individual at the Bus Depot, located at 3330 Telegraph Road.

The victim, Arthur Munoz, was at the Bus Depot sitting in his wheel chair and was attempting to collect his money that had fallen to the ground from his pocket. The suspect, Gerald McIntock, started picking up Munoz's money off of the ground and was claiming it as his own. An argument ensued between the two men when McIntock brandished a knife and threatened to kill Munoz. McIntock attempted to stab Munoz but was unsuccessful.

Officers responding to the area apprehended McIntock. He was taken into custody without incident and booked at the county jail for an assault with a deadly weapon and attempted robbery. Munoz was not injured and his money was returned to him.

### Armed Robbery

On Sunday, July 12th, at 3:18 p.m., the VPD received a call from the victim of an armed robbery. The victim was walking in the vicinity of California Street and Thompson Boulevard when two suspects approached him, and one of the suspects brandished a knife. The suspects demanded money and made off with the victim's wallet and cell phone. The victim was not harmed during this incident and the investigation into this incident is ongoing.

### Assault with Deadly Weapon

On Sunday, July 12th, at 5:33 p.m., the VPD received a call of a stabbing victim inside Scandia Liquor in the 10200 block of Telephone Road. Officers, along with

# Police Reports

Ventura City Fire and AMR personnel, responded to the call and found the victim, Frank Reyes, suffering from multiple stab wounds to the upper torso. He was immediately transported to VCMC for treatment of his injuries.

Officers learned that Reyes had just left the liquor store and saw a subject vandalizing his vehicle that was parked in the parking lot. A second subject confronted Reyes and stabbed him. After the stabbing, both subjects fled from the scene.

Officers checked the area, but were unable to locate the suspects. Reyes is in serious condition, but his injuries are considered non-life threatening. No one else was injured as a result of this incident.

### Vehicle Pursuit

On Monday, July 17th, at 7:15 a.m., a Ventura police officer on patrol attempted to stop Shane Dumas, driving his vehicle for expired registration in the area of Seaward Avenue and Thompson Boulevard. The officer activated his emergency lights to initiate the traffic stop, but Dumas failed to yield and a pursuit was initiated.

In the area of Preble Avenue and Rexford Avenue, Dumas exited the vehicle while it was still moving and fled on foot. A female passenger that was in the vehicle was able to stop it before in collided into anything. Dumas was able to elude officers, who quickly set up a perimeter of the area. Dumas was found hiding in a storage closet that he had broken into and barricaded himself. He was taken into custody without incident in the 3300 block of Rexford Avenue.

Prior to being booked into the VC Jail, Dumas was transported to VCMC for treatment of a medical issue unrelated to the arrest and admitted. Once he is medically cleared, Dumas will be booked into jail.

### Assault with Deadly Weapon

On Monday, July 13th, at 3:46 p.m., officers responded to a call at a residence in the 10400 block of New Haven in reference to a possible brandishing of a firearm.

During the investigation, officers learned that Hector Revelez was doing yard work in the area when Cezar Puica exited his residence and confronted him about the loud noise. Puica returned to his residence and Revelez continued working. Upset that Revelez, who is a landscaper, had not stopped working, Puica exited his residence a second time with a rifle. Puica pointed the rifle at Revelez and threatened to kill him. He then returned to his residence.

Officers attempted to make contact with Puica at his residence, but he refused to come out. After 45 minutes of negotiating with Puica, he finally exited his residence and was taken into custody.

After being cleared from VCMC for an unrelated medical issue, Puica was booked into VC Jail. No one was injured as a result of the incident. The weapon used by Puica was determined to be a replica firearm.

### Purse theft

On July, at approximately 1:00 pm VPD officers responded to a report of a purse theft that had occurred at Pump it Up on Ralston St.

The victim, Michelle Burt, had set her purse on a table during a child's party when a male suspect from another party group took the purse, concealed it under his shirt and fled the area.

Approximately two hours later the Ventura Police Department Command Center received a report of a theft in progress at Kevin Jewelers inside the Pacific View Mall.

The business reported that a male suspect had asked to see some merchandise and when the sales person showed the suspect the items he took them and fled the

mall on foot.

An employee was able to see the vehicle that the suspect fled in and provided that information the responding officers. During this investigation several discarded items belonging to Burt were located near the mall and the description of the suspect matched that of the theft suspect from Pump it Up.

VPD detectives conducted additional follow up investigation and identified the suspect in both thefts as Matthew Rico, 29 Ventura resident.

On July 18 VPD detectives served a search warrant at Rico's residence and arrested him for the thefts. During the search of his residence stolen property from Burt and Kevin Jewelers was located and recovered.

Rico was later transported the Ventura County Main Jail and booked on two counts of 487(a) PC - Felony Grand Theft.

# Harbor Patrol Blotter

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

**7-07** 8:21am Patrol received a report of an injured sea turtle in the mid harbor area from a fisherman. Officers responded and located the turtle and contacted Channel Islands Marine Mammal Institute and NOAA to gain authorization to capture the injured animal. The animal was transported to Sea World in San Diego to be rehabilitated.

**7-08** 6:55am A Ventura Isle Marina tenant reported that his vessel was entered and all of his belongings had been gone through thoroughly. He further reported that nothing was stolen but was sure everything had been disturbed. Officers advised the individual report the crime to Ventura PD online report system.

**7-09** 10:10am While on boat patrol, officers observed one of the purse seiners dumping stickwater (squid ink) into the harbor. Contacted the captain who claimed ignorance to the ordinance and was issued a stern warning for the violation.

**7-09** 11:03am Harbor Patrol checked on the wellness of one of the local transients and discovered their condition had severely worsened. Officers had tried for weeks to have the transient address many medical and hygiene issues, but he refused to receive help. But, due to the abrupt change in condition, the individual agreed to seek treatment and was transported to a local hospital.

**7-11** 1:30pm Lifeguards at Harbor Cove requested assistance for a water rescue of four swimmers in the South Jetty rip current. Officers responded by boat and vehicle to assist. All victims were rescued and released without incident.

**7-11** 3:52pm Lifeguards at Surfers Knoll requested assistance with an eight person water rescue at South Beach. Officers where on the boat in the area and launched a rescue swimmer to assist. All eight victims were rescued from a large rip current and returned to the shore without incident.

**7-12** 1:39pm to 4:00pm Assisted State Parks lifeguards with multiple rescues at South Beach. Approximately 20 people were rescued from rip currents. All were returned to the beach without incident.

Weekly SUDOKU Answer

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

King Crossword Answers  
Solution time: 24 mins.

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



# Show Time

## Jurassic World



by Eduardo Victoria  
eduardovictory@yahoo.com

Universal Pictures opened *Jurassic World* 22 years to the date of the original film's release. Yes, they are trying to tap into those nostalgic feelings you had growing up, watching the original films. At its core, *World* is a fun, campy, and exciting ride that plays into the moral of the prior films (life finds a way) and a new one: people would live a lot more comfortably if they accepted the fact that they are not in control over their lives. An interesting premise indeed.

22 years after the events of the original film, InGen has managed to get a hold on those pesky electric fences, feeding schedules, and the creation of new animals. Every few years, Claire (Bryce Dallas Howard) explains that the park must introduce a new attraction to spike attendance. This time around, it is a new dinosaur called the Indominus Rex, a hybrid of a variety of different species. Owen Grady (Chris Pratt) is horrified by not only the creation of a new animal, but also Hoskins' (Vincent D'Nofrio) desires of training raptors for the purposes of military weapons. When Claire's nephews come to visit, as expected, all goes wrong.

My main problem with *Jurassic World* is the lifeless nature of the plot's motion. It feels like this was written with the purpose of churning out another entry in the JP franchise so as to capitalize on people's nostalgia. The idea of an operating and fully functioning park actually came from Steven Spielberg. Though only Colin Trevorrow and Derek Connelly are credited, the two are just half of the amount of people who worked on the script and it seems like there were lots of versions combined into what was made.

Though both Howard and Pratt were excellent in their roles, their past romance (which creates trouble for them both) feels completely forced. On the opposite end,

Jake Johnson and Lauren Lapkus end up stealing the show with all of the moments that they share on screen, including the biggest laugh in the movie. The rest of the supporting cast varies from irritating to annoying with Irrfan Khan's Masrani (who took over the reins from John Hammond) confusing me because I was never certain if we were supposed to take him seriously or not.

One unexpected surprise *World* was able to deliver was a surprising amount of violence. Some of the kills in this are particularly brutal, even for a Jurassic Park sequel. The films overall bleak take on the genetic modification of animals was easily the movie's most interesting element. This does play into Vincent D' Onofrio's plan to try and tame raptors to militarize them. In a movie about dinosaurs on a dinosaur tour, I just wasn't buying it.

I did, however, buy Michael Giacchino's brilliant score. At times, the usage of John Williams' original themes feels like we're supposed to be having feelings of nostalgia shoved down our eyes and ear ports. They don't always work, but it's amazing when they do.

PG-13 Century 10

Two on the Aisle

## Commotion in the country

by Jim Spencer & Shirley Lorraine

Santa Paula Theatre Center brings to the stage *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*, a summer comedy, designed by noted playwright Christopher Durang to delight, plus simultaneously ignite recognition. The 2013 Tony and Drama Desk award winning work garnered raves for its absurdist style.

Fans of Anton Chekov plays will be amused by both the subtle and outright references to numerous Chekov's works, both in characterizations and through the play within the play. If unfamiliar with the classic works, audiences will still find the humor in the by-play

between the characters - and what characters they are!

In the piece we meet Vanya (Raymond Mastrovito), a middle-aged, sedentary, half in the closet gentleman who lives in the family home with Sonia, his adopted sister. Sonia (Peggy Steketeer) is an insecure matron who is still finding her place within the family, despite the fact she is not new to the situation. Enter Vanya's blood sister Masha (Aileen-Marie Scott), a flamboyant star of stage and screen, in search of being the center of attention every moment. The cougar is accompanied by her current boy toy, Spike (Andrew Garrett), an awkward, young, insincere egotist whose acting claim to fame is almost landing a bit part in a movie.

The family's cleaning lady, Cassandra (Francine Daniels), uses her clairvoyant powers to constantly predict dire circumstances that tend to come true, and voodoo magic to ease the complications that subsequently arise. An additional dynamic is added when Spike meets Nina (Rachel Addington), a young and vibrant summer visitor from next door who happens to be an aspiring actress and admirer of Masha.

Masha makes her grand entrance into the family home in Pennsylvania, quickly disrupting the staid routine life that Vanya and Sonia lead. She has big news - although she has been supporting her brother and sister, as well as underwriting the costs of their family home for years, she has decided to sell. This meets with great dismay from the two non-working siblings. In addition, she has been invited to a costume party where she will portray Snow White and has decreed that everyone else don the roles of Snow White's entourage in order that she remain the star. The result is an unpredictable maelstrom of events.

Despite several lengthy discourses of questionable value (in our opinions) and some flagging energy in the second act, the absurdity of each characters' self-focus kept the audience at least chuckling throughout.

To veteran director Fred Helsel's credit, all the characterizations were broad and played with abandon by all the actors. Watching actors relish what they are presenting is a joy. Well-earned applause goes to the Santa Paula Theater Center for keeping their audiences involved and intellectually stimulated with unusual material.

*Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike* runs through August 16, 2015. Friday and Saturday shows at 8 p.m., special summer Sunday matinees at 4 p.m. Santa Paula Theater Center, 125 S. Seventh Street, Santa Paula. Tickets are adult \$20, Seniors and Students \$18, 525-4645 or www.santapaulatheatercenter.org. Reservations are recommended.

This is the second of Sabrina's Samplings

## Sabrina's Samplings

by Sabrina Ramirez

Danny's Deli & Grill  
3263 Telegraph Road

Breakfast all day...yes please! I love a place that allows me to have breakfast for lunch or dinner and when it is also delicious it doesn't get any better! Danny's Deli has a loyal fan base of regulars that are known by name and have their favorite seating spots. Each

person I encountered exuded warmth, familiarity, and was truly glad to see you. This fast paced, American diner (NY Style) with booths and pickles on the tables, serves very hearty portions and the prices are right on point. The pickles are huge and free; just a nice added touch and talking point! I of course had breakfast and the French toast was perfectly breaded with the right touch of cinnamon. While there wasn't anything special about the hash browns or the eggs, it was the balanced all American breakfast I hoped for. There is also beer, wine, and mimosas on the menu and it is an easy place to order for pickup. While it bodes as mostly a sit down family restaurant you can also walk in for espresso drinks and eye catching bakery goods. An overall good energy feel and a great place to go even if your company wants something other than breakfast as their menu is very extensive. The icing on the cake for this place was that they even make the UPS man feel like family as he was given an iced cold soda to continue his route...you can't train that genuineness!

El Jarocho  
819 N. Ventura Avenue

What is the saying...never judge a book by its cover, this would be the same for El Jarocho. Located inconspicuously in a random strip mall next to a liquor store lies a very small, clean, Mexican restaurant. They do have a couple tables outside but it is not a dedicated patio. I ordered the Huevos Rancheros which comes with rice, beans, and flour tortillas. While my breakfast was good it is obvious that breakfast is not what is attracting all the customers that were dining and or picking up orders while I was there. It is the seafood! My curiosity had me notice what was being ordered and it was all from the ocean-shrimp cocktail, fish tacos, oysters, and ceviche. Since I was full from my breakfast I didn't try it but my eyes and nose are telling me to return and give it a try. I would say hang on the beach in the morning and when you get hungry head to the Avenue for some seafood.



Oklahoma: A headstrong cowboy. A stubborn young woman. A territory destined for statehood. Rodgers and Hammerstein's first collaboration revolutionized musical theatre into the art form it is today, and Cabrillo Music Theatre's all-new production marks a return to the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza stage for the first time in nearly 20 years. Featuring, among others, "Oh, What A Beautiful Mornin'," "People Will Say We're In Love," "I Cain't Say No," "The Surrey With The Fringe On Top," and the title tune. 2015 marks the 60th Anniversary of the classic movie, and there isn't a better time for all generations to discover - or revisit - the perfect American musical, Oklahoma, closing July 26. So hurry to get your tickets. Photo by Ed Krieger.



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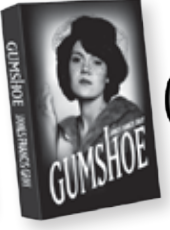
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# Lighter Breeze

## Shoe



## Pros & Cons



## The Brilliant Mind of Edison Lee



## Crock



## Hagar the Horrible



## Moose and Molly



Solutions on page 15

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

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

**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!

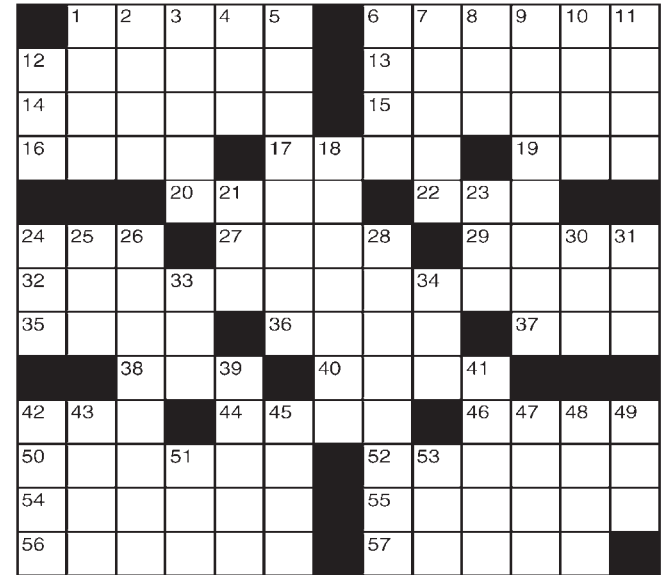
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Solutions on page 15

## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Abacus components
- 6 America's Cup contenders
- 12 Cyclist's need
- 13 Ottoman, for one
- 14 Ill will
- 15 Perfectly
- 16 Touse
- 17 Eastern potentate
- 19 Conditions
- 20 Ganges garment
- 22 Corrode
- 24 Citric quaff
- 27 Smooch
- 29 Unrivaled
- 32 Quick pick-me-up?
- 35 Information
- 36 Cheshire countenance
- 37 Supporting
- 38 Mid-afternoon, in a way
- 40 "The Thin Man" pooch
- 42 Green machine?
- 44 Wire measures
- 46 Author Uris
- 50 Clutches
- 52 Using the Web
- 54 Give the



- same old story
- 9 Become friends
- 10 Not kosher
- 11 Witnesses
- 12 "Let me think ..."
- 18 Strong wind of southern France
- 21 Wanted-poster abbr.
- 23 Alien of TV lore
- 24 Help
- 25 "CSI" evidence
- 26 Rough guess
- 28 Collagist's tool
- 30 "The Matrix"
- (Abbr.)
- 31 Always, in verse
- 33 Skater
- 34 Can. prov.
- 39 Suggest
- 41 Soothe
- 42 City of India
- 43 Deuce defeater
- 45 Land in the water
- 47 Green acres?
- 48 Change for a five
- 49 Homer's neighbor
- 51 Vast expanse
- 53 Trawler need

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path between emotion and common sense.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) Dealing with someone who has let you down is never easy. But the sooner you're able to clear up this problem, the sooner other problems can be successfully handled.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) A "friend" who is willing to bend the rules to gain an advantage for both of you is no friend. Reject the offer and stay on your usual straight and narrow path.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) After all the effort you've been putting in both on the job and for friends and family, it's a good time to indulge your own needs. The weekend could bring a pleasant surprise.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) You might want to do something new this weekend. Close your eyes and imagine what it could be, and then do it, or come up with the closest practical alternative.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) Your good deeds bring you the appreciation you so well deserve. But, once again, be careful of those who might want to exploit your generous nature for their own purposes.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) Trolling for compliments isn't necessary. You earned them, and you'll get them. Concentrate this week on moving ahead into the next phase of your program.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** Meeting new people usually means you're making new friends. People want to be reflected in your shining light.

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) A bit of Arian contrariness could be keeping you from getting all the facts. Turn it off, and tune in to what you need to hear. It could make all the difference this week.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) Getting an answer to a vital question involving financial matters might take longer than you'd expected. A new factor might have to be dealt with before anything can move forward. Be patient.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) Use your good sense to see what might really be driving a colleague's workplace agenda. What you learn could lead to a new way of handling some old problems.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) A change of mind might once again turn out to be a good thing. True, most of your co-workers might not like the delay, but as before, they might appreciate what follows from it.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) You revel in golden opportunities this week. One cautionary note, though: Be careful to separate the gold from the glitter before you make a choice. Someone you trust can help.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) Marriage is important this week, as are other partnerships. Don't let yourself be overwhelmed by sentiment. Instead, try to steer a

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Jon Reese of Amigos with columnist Pam Baumgardner of the Ventura Breeze celebrating Cinco de Mayo earlier this year.

## Ventura Music Scene

# No need to panic!

by Pam Baumgardner  
VenturaRocks.com

Just so you know, notices have gone up on a couple of key venues in town indicating ownership changes. I thought it prudent to go to the source before I panicked, so I spoke to Diego at Bombay's and he said they had to post behind-the-scenes changes for legal reasons, but nothing changes in the bar and all the same familiar faces will continue to keep things popping (thank God!); but there will be a change of ownership in the next month or so at Amigo's when Jon Reese hands over the keys to new owner, Mike Toler (barring any major roadblocks). Toler has asked Jon to stay involved and to continue to book bands nightly, which is why Jon loves Amigos in the first place and why we love Jon.

Todd Hannigan and Xoco Moraza returned recently from Japan where they performed while supporting screenings of the film *The Fisherman's Son*. The short film was scored by Todd Hannigan, Xocoyotzin Moraza, Dave Palmer and Jesse Siebenburg. I asked Xoco about performing in Japan and he told me that the coolest thing he experienced was being able to share his musical art with such an appreciative country. He said, "It was a great feeling. It reminds me that music is a universal language that transcends any borders. It was a great cross cultural experience."

There are a number of CD and EP release parties to support over the next few weeks: Sleepercub, July 25, at Bombays; Hy Brasil, August 1, at Bombays; Medicine Hat, August 2, at Saloon BBQ; and Crooked Eye Tommy, August 7, at the Plaza Playhouse Theater in Carpinteria.

The Mighty Cash Cats will team up with Island Packers on Saturday, July 25 for a musical dinner cruise out of the Ventura Harbor.

The Ventura Fair kicks off August 5. Pre-sale tickets are available through the 4th. Don't forget that all concerts are included in the price of admission.

Spencer MacKenzie's annual end-of-summer block party falls on August 29 and 30. This year there will be no cover charge. Bands will be lined up both days with performances from the Guy Martin Band, Mandex, Brothers Fortune, Bloody Mary Morning, Honey Owl, and more including new comer on the scene, André. Get out, enjoy the free music,

but be sure to support the event by buying some delicious fish tacos and cool beverages.

And finally, the third annual Key to the Highway Blues Benefit will be held at Rookees Sports Bar on Saturday, August 1 from 6 til 9 pm starring Tommy Castro and the Painkillers supported by Guy Martin. Proceeds benefit the Khepera House rehab and recovery program.

If you have any music related news or upcoming shows you want help publicizing? Send all information short or long to Pam@VenturaRocks.com, and for updated music listings daily, go to [www.VenturaRocks.com](http://www.VenturaRocks.com).

## Music Calendar

For more events go to [VenturaRocks.com](http://VenturaRocks.com)

### Amigos Cafe & Cantina

546 E. Main St.  
805-874-2232

Mondays: 6 pm Karen Eden; 8 pm Joey's Acoustic Blues Jam  
Tuesdays: 6 pm JJ Frank; 8 pm Beer Brothers open mic  
Wednesdays: 6 pm Chelsea Williams; 9 pm Grateful Jams  
Thursdays: 7:30 pm The Gypsy Blues Band

Fri 7/24: 9 pm Ashford Gordon Band  
Sat 7/25: 6 pm Catfish Fry;  
Sun 7/26: 6 pm Shawn Jones  
Fri 7/31: 6 pm Downtown Allstars; 9 pm The Divebar Messiahs  
Sat 8/1: Live music  
Sun 8/2: 6 pm The Tossers

### Bombay Bar & Grill

143 S. California St.

805-643-4404

Weds: Tommy Marsh hosts the Session  
Sat 7/25: 9 pm Sleepercub CD Release Party, La Mer, Bend to Blue, Jjames  
Sat 8/1: Hy Brasil CD Release Party

### Café Fiore

66 S. California Street

805-653-1266

Wed 7/22: Cosolive  
Thurs 7/23: Sound Effect  
Fri 7/24: Instone  
Sat 7/25: Little Alice & the Cats  
Sun 7/26: Soul Shakers  
Tues 7/28: Instone  
Wed 7/29: Tony Ybarra  
Thurs 7/30: Rick Whitfield

### Discovery Ventura

1888 Thompson Blvd

Thurs 7/23: Herbal Rootz, Irie

### Essence

Fri 7/24: Red Not Chili Peppers  
Wed 7/29: Emmanuel Jal, Tanika Charles

Fri 7/31: The Stone Foxes, Rubberneck Lions

Sat 8/1: Hollywood U2

### The Garage

1091 Scandia Avenue

Thurs 7/23: Loose Nerves, Messenger, Sin Quinces

Fri 7/24: The Freeze, The Bad Samaritans, Skaal, Crazy D & the Nutz

Fri 7/31: Green Jelly, Ahh Da Beeyas, SixPackofDoom

### Gigi's Cocktails

2493 Grand Avenue

Mondays: Jam Night with Maggie's Drawers

Thurs & Fri: Karaoke

Sat 7/25: Deaf Pilots

### Golden China

760 S. Seaward

(805) 652-0688

Karaoke seven nights a week  
Bluegrass Jam 2nd & 4th Wednesdays

Swing night Thursdays 6:30 pm

Friday and Saturday: 7 pm Polynesian Revue

Cumbia music Fridays with DJ Carlos at 9:30 pm

Reggae Sundays 8:30 pm

### The Greek Restaurant

Ventura Harbor

Sat & Sun 7:30 pm

Belly Dancing, Greek music and show; DJ dancing

### Green Art People

140B Ventura Avenue

Wed 7/22: The Soulutionaries, Julian

Wed 7/29: Papa Bear and Friends

### Hong Kong Inn

435 E. Thompson Blvd

Mon - Fri 5-7 pm Kenny Devoe

Sun: 6 pm Rob Correll

### Island Packers

(805) 642-1393

Sat 7/25: Dinner Cruise with The Mighty Cash Cats

### Keynote Lounge

10245 Telephone Road

Tuesday and Wednesday: Karaoke

Thursday: Open Mic

Sunday: Karaoke

Fri 7/24: Forbidden Fruit

Sat 7/25: Black Canyon Band

Fri 7/31: Licorice Pizza

### Margarita Villa

Ventura Harbor

Fri 7/24: Natural Incense (acoustic set)

Sat 7/25: Natural Incense

Sun 7/26: The Hellhounds

### Montalvo Square Shopping Center

1746 S. Victoria Avenue

Saturday's 6-8 pm

7/25: Nuestro

8/1: The Ravelers

### Olivas Adobe

4200 Olivas Park Drive

Music Under the Stars series

Sat 7/25: The Kings of 88

Sat 8/1: The Platinum Groove

### The Patio at Player's Casino

6580 Auto Center Drive

805-643-1392

Fri 7/24: Teresa Russell duo

Sat 7/25: Tim Buley Band

Sun 7/26: Sean Wiggins duo

Fri 7/31: Sound Effect

### Peirano's

204 E. Main Street

Fri 7/24: Frank Barajas

Fri 7/31: Latin Touch

### Rookees Sports Bar & Grill

### 419 E. Main Street

(805) 648-6862

Friday and Saturdays

10 pm Rotating DJs

Sun 8/1: 6 pm Tommy Castro and the Painkillers with Guy Martin

### Saloon BBQ

456 E. Main Street

Fri 7/24: Uptown Brothers

Sat 7/25: Barrelhouse Wailers

Thurs 7/30: Matt Sayles

Fri 7/31: Solimar

### Sandbox Coffeehouse

204 E. Thompson Blvd

(805) 641-1025

Thurs 6pm: Open mic;

Weekends noon

Sat 7/25: Walt Dunlop

Sun 7/26: Seamus Turner

Sat 8/1: Licity Collins

### Sans Souci

21 S. Chestnut

Sundays: DJ Darko

Mondays: Karaoke

Tuesdays: Twisted Tuesday

Wednesdays: Open mic with Sin

Chonies

Thursdays: DJ Spinobi

Fri 7/24: Hard Six

### Squashed Grapes

2351 E. Main St.

805-643-7300

Live music 7-10 pm

Wed 7/22: The 818 Project

Thurs 7/23: Innerstate

Fri 7/24: Jerry Vivino & Friends

Sat 7/25: Tom Buckner & Friends

Wed 7/29: Hans Ottsen Trio

Thurs 7/30: Greg Spaulding Piano Trio

Fri 7/31: Mitch Forman Piano Trio

Tues 8/4: Open Jazz Jam

### Star Lounge

343 E. Main Street

(805) 643-4709

Fri 7/24: CRV

Sat 7/25: Arockolypse Now

Fri 7/31: Back Track

### Surf Brewery

4561 Market Street

805-644-2739

Sat 7/25: Nani Edgar & Danny

Carvalho

### The Tavern

211 E. Santa Clara Street

Sunday open mics

Karaoke Tuesdays

DJs every Thursday college night

Sat 7/25: The Book of Curtis

Sun 7/26: 1-7 pm The Rubberneck

Lions; DJ Steezy Steve

Fri 7/31: 6 pm Alastair Greene

### Ventura Beach Club

281 W. Main Street

Hi Hat Entertainment Presents:

Fri 7/31: Laurie Morvan Band

### Ventura Harbor Carousel Stage

Ventura Harbor - Sundays 1-4 pm

7/26: Smokey & Friends

8/2: The Downtown Allstars

### W20 at the Watermark

598 E. Main Street

Thurs 7/23: Jade Hendrix

Fri 7/24: The Bomb

Sat 7/25: Ashford Gordon

Sun 7/26: Divebar Messiahs

Fri 7/31: Instone

Sat 8/1: The Bomb

Sun 8/2: Shawn Jones

### The Wine Rack

14 S. California Street

Music runs 8-11 pm, Sundays at 4 pm

Tuesdays: Heard of Kats

Fri 7/24: JJ Frank

Sat 7/25: Soul Machine

Sun 7/26: The Swilley's

Fri 7/31: Richard Sheldon

Sat 8/1: Herbal Rootz





Spring Hollow Gallery emits good energy and an appetite for creativity and imagination.

## From Tennessee native to California local

by Danielle Brubaker

Katherine Ratliff isn't your typical Ventura resident. Although she does love the beach community and fair weather, she finds her roots in Nashville, Tennessee. In 1997, she even started a school in Franklin, TN, called the Spring Hollow Early Learning Center.

However, that isn't the only school that Ratliff has started in the world—she also started a school in Bangkok, Thailand. She clearly used her doctorate in early childhood education to kickstart a longtime career in teaching children.

"Whatever you want to call it, be it the grace of God or fate or the universe," Ratliff said. "Sometimes things just fall right into your lap and you have to listen to your heart."

Only recently opened this past May, the Spring Hollow Gallery already emits good energy and an appetite for creativity and imagination. Ratliff worked at various studios throughout Ventura, but eventually came to the decision she needed a bigger space.

She views this gallery as an extension of a studio, and has even transformed the basement into her pottery studio. Ratliff spends hundreds of hours making pottery, as well as making most of the jewelry displayed in the gallery.

Known as the Spring Hollow Approach, Ratliff incorporates the idea of sharing ideas and feelings together in

a collaborative effort. This particular way of thinking involves encouraging children to have their own feelings/opinions without any judgment and to encourage and facilitate artistic acceptance.

"Art is about the heart," Ratliff said. "It's about doing things to make those creative juices flow and expressing your true feelings and creativity."

The story behind the logo of the gallery is quite interesting. Named the inuksuk, the stone landmark was used by the Inuit Indians across the Arctic region of North America for communication and survival, as well as for navigational purposes. It was a sign that someone was on the right path. Ratliff credits watercolorist Janice Chan for designing the logo vision for the gallery.

Ratliff displays a plethora of artwork, pottery, and jewelry. She exhibits creations not only from local artists, but from out of state artists as well, such as those from Tennessee and North Carolina, where she was born. In fact, the first two people she represented in her gallery were Bill and Liz Kidwell, who remain two of her closest friends to this day.

Ratliff hosts a variety of weekly classes at her gallery: every Friday from 6-9 pm there is Bead Circle, every Tuesday from 4-6 pm there is Watercolor Class, every Wednesday @ 5pm there is Meditation, and every Thursday @ 10 am there is Clay Class.

## Art, a la Carte



Buenaventura Art Association recently debuted the ongoing California Heritage Collection of early 20th-century regional art and will feature a July 28-Aug. 22 retrospective of works by noted Northwest abstract expressionist painter **Kathleen Gemberling Adkison**, the late mother of BAA member John VanDewerker.

VanDewerker, executor of Adkison's estate, is owner-curator of ArtworksONE, a Ventura studio that does large-format art documentation digital scanning and fine art giclée reproduction. It also holds copyright privileges for Adkison's paintings, many which can be viewed at [artworksone.com](http://artworksone.com).

Adkison (1917-2010) enjoyed a long career as a professional artist and art educator.

Buenaventura Gallery, 700 E. Santa Clara St., is open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays until August 22.. For more about the nonprofit Buenaventura Art Association and its programs, visit [www.buenaventuragallery.org](http://www.buenaventuragallery.org).

Although she has studied in Italy, taught in Thailand, lived in Pakistan for 4 years and traveled to Afghanistan her senior year of high school, the coastal community of Ventura has become Ratliff's home. Combining both her love for art and her passion for children, she has succeeded in getting on the right path, just as the logo indicates.

Spring Hollow Art Gallery and Studio is located at 1224 E. Main Street. 628-3648 or visit [www.springhollow-gallery.com](http://www.springhollow-gallery.com) for more information. The gallery is open every day except Monday and Tuesday. Furthermore, visit [www.springhollowschool.com](http://www.springhollowschool.com) or [elc-bangkok.com](http://elc-bangkok.com) for more information regarding the two schools that Ratliff started.



An Evening with **Laddie John Dill** Friday, July 24 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Brooks Institute Screening Room, 5301 N. Ventura Ave. To learn more about Laddie John Dill visit [www.LaddieJohnDill.com](http://www.LaddieJohnDill.com)

Taking its place in the reception area of the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation headquarters in Agoura Hills, Laddie John Dill's sculpture swoops and curls, reflects the light, and evokes the power and beauty of California surf. The sculpture is both eye-catching and a perfect work of art in a building that is itself a work of art. A Los Angeles native, Laddie graduated from Chouinard Art Institute and worked as an apprentice printer at Gemini G.E.L. in West Hollywood where he had the opportunity to work closely with Rauschenberg, Jasper Johns, and Roy Lichtenstein, among others. His art is seemingly full of energy, spontaneous and joyful as though something magical going on. Please reserve your seat today!

Free to FOTM Members - \$10 General public, \$5 students and seniors.



In celebration of Ventura Artwalk and its theme "Havana to Cuba," the Museum of Ventura County will exhibit photographs by **Lorenzo DeStefano**, created during his several journeys to Cuba, between 1993 and 1998. DeStefano crisscrossed the island, traversing its urban centers as well as lesser known rural provinces, using every opportunity to capture intimate portraits of its inhabitants.

Through his photographs we see glimpses of everyday life in Cuba from 20 years ago. Lorenzo DeStefano said, "As someone born and raised in Hawai'i I felt an immediate affinity for the Cuban people and their island landscape. These pictures are part of my ongoing search for those moments when the lens reveals people's lives, and their gaze meets mine."

A Ventura-based photographer born and raised in Honolulu, Lorenzo began working during and after high school as a Hawaii location scout and stills man for local and national commercials. He photographed extensively in the islands and in Europe before completing "Rest Homes - Hawaii", his first large-scale project as a photojournalist.

After freelancing in Hollywood as a photographer he turned his attention to film editing and later to writing and directing for theater and film.



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Youths perform many services around the fairgrounds

## Junior Fair Board

The Junior Fair Board was established in the 1970's to provide young adults with an opportunity to develop leadership skills, perform community service, and become aware of the business and operations of District Agricultural Fairs. The 20 member board is eager to put on contests such as pie eating, karaoke, watermelon eating, adult showmanship and apple bobbing. The Junior Fair Board term starts in January and continues throughout the year and represents six cities across the county. The members are between the ages of 15-20 and compete for a spot on the board starting

with an application, letter of recommendation, and an interview. They meet once a month from January until July, then meet daily at the Ventura County Fair to conduct their contests that they have worked long and hard to perfect.

Along with conducting daily contests at the fair, the Junior Fair Board performs community service around the fairgrounds such as beach clean-ups, assisting at various functions, and serving as ambassadors to the fairgrounds. You might have seen this group around the fair in the past in their bright red shirts!

## DUI Checkpoint

On Friday July 10 between the hours of 9:00 PM to 2:15 AM the Ventura Police Department conducted a DUI/CDL Checkpoint in the area of Harbor Blvd and Schooner Dr. The deterrent effect of DUI checkpoints is a proven resource in reducing the number of persons killed and injured in alcohol or drug involved crashes. Research shows that crashes involving an impaired driver can be reduced by up to 20 percent when well-publicized DUI checkpoints and proactive DUI patrols are conducted routinely.

As a result of the checkpoint the following enforcement action was

taken: No DUI arrests were made.

4 drivers were cited for 14601 VC, Driving on a suspended license and had their vehicles towed.

5 drivers were cited for 12500(a) VC, Driving without a driver's license.

1 driver was cited for 23247(f) VC, Driving without an interlock device.

1 driver was given a DMV Re-Exam for driving under the influence of marijuana.

1 Felony warrant arrest.

Funding for this checkpoint is provided to Ventura Police Department by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, reminding everyone to 'Report Drunk Driver - Call 9-1-1'.

**CASITAS Municipal Water District**

State Mandated Water Demand Reductions	
Water Agency	% of Water Reduction
Casitas MWD	32%
City of Ventura	16%
Golden State Water Co. Ojai	36%
Small Water Agencies	25%

**Due to the current historic drought, the state has proclaimed a state of emergency and put into effect a MANDATORY water reduction of 32% for direct urban customers of Casitas Municipal Water District.**

Current RESTRICTIONS Include	Ways to SAVE on water use
NO watering from 10am-6pm & limited to 2 days per week	Replace grass areas with native/drought tolerant plants
NO wasting water including using hoses without a shut-off nozzle	Run full loads of laundry & dishes
NO washing sidewalks or driveways	Install efficient fixtures & appliances
	Rebates available on Casitas website
	Use sink aerators, available at Casitas

Spending a lot on your water bill? Contact us for a survey & recommendations

To Report Water Waste or Find More Ways to SAVE Water  
Call 805-649-2251x118 or Visit [www.casitaswater.org](http://www.casitaswater.org)

## This 'n' That



Residents voice their opposition to oil trains moving through Ventura County. Photo by Food & Water Watch.

## Many residents of Ventura County live in the "blast zone"

Dozens of residents recently gathered in Downtown and marched to the Amtrak station on Harbor Blvd to voice their opposition to oil trains moving through Ventura County. The rally, organized by Food & Water Watch and Ventura County Climate Hub, was part of the Stop Oil Trains Week of Action coordinated across North America by ForestEthics and Center for Biological Diversity.

Many residents of Ventura County live in the "blast zone," which is the one-mile evacuation zone recommended by safety officials in the case of an oil train derailment and fire. ForestEthics calculates that nationwide, 25 million Americans live in the blast zone.

Residents marched dressed as oil train cars and held signs opposing the oil industry's proposal to move millions of gallons of highly toxic, potentially explosive crude oil through Ventura County in unsafe rail cars over tracks that were never designed for this dangerous cargo. Phillips 66 is attempting to build a rail spur that will result in millions of gallons of this crude coming through our Ventura County communities. Dozens of communities along the tracks have written letters to the San Luis Obispo Planning Commission requesting that they deny this dangerous proposal. Ventura County is a leader in this opposition with almost every major city (Moorpark, Ventura, Oxnard, Camarillo, Simi Valley), several school boards (Ventura Unified School District, Pleasant Valley School District) and the County itself sending letters of opposition.

"Many of our major cities in Ventura County are in the oil train Blast Zone, including Ventura, Oxnard, Moorpark, Camarillo, and Simi Valley," said Camarillo resident Todd Shuman, who

is a CFROG Advisory Board Member. (CFROG is the Ojai-based Citizens for Responsible Oil and Gas.)

Oxnard and Ventura County recently saw the devastation of a train derailment when an Amtrak train plowed into a truck as it headed south out of Oxnard the morning of February 24, 2015. The collision knocked passenger cars off the tracks and the truck burst into flames, injured thirty people and took the life of the engineer Glenn Steele. One can only imagine the devastation that Oxnard would have experienced if the train had been filled with explosive crude.

## Answer in a Breeze

Have a question? Send it to editor@venturabreeze.com and we will try to get an answer.

Question: I have seen WEEDDUI signs in Ventura. I know how alcohol is checked but how is marijuana checked?

Brad Drabinsky-Ventura

Brad:

We asked Ofc. Jason Kohagen of the Ventura Police Department to answer your question.

As far as determining if someone has used marijuana, the basics are very similar to alcohol. Like alcohol, marijuana impairs judgment, balance, decision making, and ability to follow instructions. All of these tasks are vital to safely operate a motor vehicle. Determining if someone is impaired by marijuana for the purpose of driving is very similar to alcohol in many ways. In regards to usage, a person may use a small amount of marijuana, similar to having a small amount of alcohol, and not be impaired to drive. That being said, just like with alcohol, the more marijuana a person ingests, the more impaired they will be. Determining the level of impairment is done using the same standardized field sobriety tests used for alcohol, supplemental eye exams and pulse rates. After an officer determines based on their training, experience, and what they have observed, that there is probable cause to arrest a driver, a blood sample is obtained to confirm the presence of marijuana.

The state Office of Traffic Safety is funding several schools to improve the average officer's ability to detect impairment from substances other than alcohol. What is known as drugged driving or D.U.I.D. is becoming an increasingly dangerous occurrence throughout our country. More and more people are injured and killed every year across the country and our state as the result of people driving under the influence of both illicit controlled substances and even prescription medications. If I can Stress one point, at no time should anyone use marijuana and drive. Since it is not a legal substance, the potency and purity are not regulated and can fluctuate from dealer to dealer, and grower to grower.

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