

VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

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Medical marijuana meeting at City Hall on April Fool's Day is no joke!

by Nanci Cone

At 5:30 pm on Thursday, April 1, approximately 150 people gathered at Ventura's City Hall to discuss whether outlets for medical marijuana should be opened. City representatives from Community Services, the Police Department and the City Attorney's office were present to listen and to update the public from the last meeting. City attorney Ariel Calonne began by passing out handouts from the March 11 meeting. It was noted that the City's municipal code and an interim-zoning ordinance currently prohibits the establishment of medical marijuana cooperatives, collectives or dispensaries. The handout was broken down into the main issues that came up at the last meeting that included Benefits of Regulations, Patients' Needs, Crime Issues, Social Issues, Regulatory Model, and Zoning Issues. As Calonne noted, "We're agents of the public and we're here to listen to what you have to say and respond accordingly."

Everyone in attendance was allowed



The Kingdom Center, a new transitional living center for the homeless, celebrated its grand opening on March 21. At the ribbon cutting ceremony were Pastors Sam Gallucci (holding mic) and Larry Reichardt, Supervisor Kathy Long, Mayor Bill Fulton, Councilmember Christy Weir, District Attorney Greg Totten and many other dignitaries. For the complete story see page 4.

to speak for two minutes and, as time allowed, could continue with their comments after the first round. The main concern was access to the medical marijuana - especially for patients who had to drive to places like Santa Barbara or Los Angeles to fill a prescription. Neil, Devin and Tommy stated that for extremely ill individuals, having to travel to these cities was often too much and took a toll on their already frail bodies.

Mary Beth would like to see Ventura embark on a cooperative (where workers, producers, and consumers have the rights of ownership) or collectives (where the individuals have the rights of management) alliance for those in need. She said, "It's really important to have real safety for the customers and to have consistent quality. With that said, we're talking about a medical facility here. Also,

Continued on page 5

New CMH construction moves forward

By Tim Pompey

After years of planning, a new Community Memorial Hospital (CMH) is becoming a reality in midtown Ventura.

Groundbreaking for the new cancer center located near CMH was held on March 25. If all goes as scheduled, the cancer center at the corner of Brent and Loma Vista will be completed by the end of this year. The 22,000 square foot 2-story structure will be the first of its kind in the west end of Ventura County to combine all cancer treatment options into one place: Radiation, medical, pathology, radiologists, surgeons, and a cancer resource center.

When the new center is finished, the big construction kicks off. Beginning in 2011, a 6-story building will be built directly in front of the old hospital. The circle of lots and streets surrounding Brent, Cabrillo, Main, and Loma Vista, will be completely redesigned. All that confusing spaghetti parking between



The new Community Memorial Hospital, planned for completion in 2014, will not only expand hospital services to Ventura, but will also be the catalyst for the planned redevelopment of midtown by the City of Ventura.

Brent and Main will be cleaned up. When it's finished, Cabrillo will be rerouted and two new streets will connect to Main. The additional street access will allow patients and family to park near the front entrance. As a clear point of entry, the new hospital's entrance will include a recognizable sandstone front. Add in some new landscaping, plus a small public park, and you have a hospital entryway that not only makes sense, but is more aesthetic. More grass, less asphalt, easier access.

The new hospital will face directly out toward the beautiful plains, oceans, and islands that make up our local coastal vistas. Some of the new upgrades will include: 1) All private rooms. 2) The expansion of emergency care and operating rooms. 3) Upgraded imaging capabilities. 4) A new pediatric care center.

The City is hopeful that the new hospital will be the beginning of a slate of plans for the redevelopment of midtown Ventura. No doubt it will serve the area as

Continued on page 15



See the wonderful art of Venturan Catherine Day Barroca on the 16th annual Artwalk

Venturans will revel in local art scene

by Rebecca Wicks

Whether your taste in art leans modern, eclectic, classical or otherwise, this year's Spring Artwalk event promises to have something for everyone. With more than 80 galleries, studios and gallery-for-a-day venues April's event will feature the work of 200 artists.

In its 16th year, Artwalk will take place the weekend of Apr. 17-18. It is a free, self-guided walking tour with the majority of art venues located in downtown.

Local Venturan Catherine Day Barroca is the event's featured artist. Barroca is best-known for her bas-relief sculptural

painting technique in which marks are cut into wood and then rubbed with oil color, a process which combines printmaking, painting and sculpture techniques.

A teacher in the Ventura College Art Department since 1998, Barroca was born in Panama. Her work has been featured by the Museum of Ventura County, the City of San Buenaventura, the City of Oxnard, and the Spencer Museum of Art in Lawrence, Kan.

Her "Portrait of a Neighborhood," a 100-foot long mural in the interior of the Casa de Anza library on Ventura Avenue is one of her most visibly prominent local works.

Barroca's art will be exhibited at Fox Fine Jewelry throughout the Artwalk weekend. On Saturday between 3 -5 p.m. she will be on-hand to sign posters and answer questions.

Special events throughout the city will take place all through the Artwalk weekend.

On Saturday morning a special Earth Day Beach Clean will take place from 9-11 a.m. with volunteers meeting on the beachfront Promenade where California Street ends.

An Earth Day Eco Festival will take place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Promenade Park next to Surfer's Point. The event is free and will include live music

and entertainment, children's activities and information on green living.

Dozens of artists' work will be featured at the Bell Arts Factory, a local hub of the Ventura art scene. The Factory will also host the "Out of Context" installation art project aimed to create awareness about green living. On Saturday, the site will also be the starting point for the Steampunk Art Ride, a bicycle ride which promises to feature everything from the traditional to the funky. Following the ride, the Project Green Runway Recycle Fashion Show will take place.

City Artwalk organizer Robin Elander is perhaps most excited about the public opening of the Working Artists Ventura (WAV) building.

"It's a celebration a long time coming," said Elander. "It's the final culmination and bringing together of a lot of people who have been involved with putting this project together."

The WAV residential building will be having a fundraiser benefit on Friday night and on Saturday at 6 p.m. there will be a public dedication ceremony followed by a performance by Bandloop, a cirque group. The building's gallery will feature work by residents of the 60 live/work spaces throughout Artwalk, and organizers say Venturans should watch for impromptu art at the corner of Ventura

Continued on page 10



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Your Hometown Paper

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Opinion/Editorial



Sheldon Brown
Publisher

A new group, spearheaded by Breeze Senior Advisor Suz Montgomery has been organized to consider revisions to the City of Ventura's Charter. We will be reporting on their progress. Suz has thought about this for many years and has decided that the time has come to take action.

Some of the revisions that will be considered will be the direct election of a mayor, a smaller city council and council member districts. Charter revisions must be approved by a vote of Ventura residents. The group has held their first "let's meet each other" meeting at city hall.

A second attempt to file recall papers against Mayor Bill Fulton has been rejected by the office of Ventura's City Clerk. The first filing of recall papers was also rejected because it was missing some required information. Clerk Mabi Plisky determined that the paperwork lacked some required wording.

The second filing was determined to be at fault for what seems to also be a very minor reason and was also rejected. The recall petitioners will need to correct the notice, re-serve Fulton and try to re-file one more time.

Recall provisions must meet the state election code that is very exact regarding the wording and requirements for filing.

Mailbox

Irish Pub, Agromin, and Georgino Development.

We also need to thank the media sponsors: Especially Capps who ran the parade live and all of the print media for their help in getting the word out—The Ventura Breeze, Ventura County Star, and The Reporter. All of our local radio stations also broadcast the parade information to help people know all of the logistics—thanks to Cumulous Broadcasting: 1450 AM the Boomer, B95.1 Radio, 100.7 KHAY, 103.3 the Vibe and also thanks to Gold Coast Broadcasting: KVTA News, Octopus 95.9, Live 105.5, and Q104.

It takes a village and we had one. There are so many elements that go into the parade and the needs of getting all of the requirements of an event permit organized and so the list is long for all of those that made the parade WORK.

The Elks Club marshals did a fabulous job keeping everything and everyone coordinated and the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee was out in full force—selling t-shirts, announcing the parade and just doing whatever was needed.

Thanks also to all of the parade participants a list to long to name but you were great and the people loved you. Our judges had a very tough time picking the winners, so thanks to Dan Frederickson, Trudy Arriega, Barbara Quaid, James Lockwood, Sheldon Brown and Anthony Romero.

And of course, our fabulous Grand Marshal Zack Levi, who was wonderful and gracious to all and was tireless in greeting fans and signing autographs—Grandma Pat would have been proud.

Put March 12, 2011 on your calendar—WE'LL BE BACK. Jim Monahan, Brian Brennan, Nan Drake—Co-chairs and Art Amelio Elks Parade Chairman

The Breeze:

The Ventura City Council is faced with a budget shortfall in the range of \$6 million to \$7 million next year on an \$85 million budget. The Council is look-

The Breeze had a booth at the recent Home & Garden Show, this was our first participation in the Show. Having never participated and without a way to evaluate the turnout, I asked previous vendors for their input. They all said that the attendees were the most in the last 3 or 4 shows but not really what it was several years ago. I still think that this was a sign that buyer's confidence might be on the rise, we all certainly hope so.

A second attempt to file recall papers against Mayor Bill Fulton has been rejected.

I want to congratulate the Ventura College women's basketball team for recently winning their sixth state championship. The 59-47 victory over Fullerton was their first championship since 2002 and a record sixth. In a strange offensive game Chanelle Brennan scored 33 of the team's 59 points, but it was their defense that won the championship for them.

I would like to thank the Ventura

Film Society and presenter Lorenzo DeStefano for again making the Breeze such an integral part of their recent Film Festival 2010.

I also want to thank our graphic designer and layout man Alfred J. Lewis, of studioNothing for putting together our special pull-out festival section under extreme deadlines and writer Tim Pompey for the many hours he spent looking at and writing his wonderful comments for 25 of the movies that were shown.

There is a new restaurant; Mi Tierra Mexican Restaurant & Bakery located 397 N. Ventura Ave. that has unique Mexican dishes that are not available at most other such restaurants, plus fresh dally baked bakery goods.

Two of their wonderful dishes are: Alambres – Choice of meats in bell peppers, onions and melted cheeses.

Camarones a la Diabla – Shrimp with hot salsa.

So check them out one day for a wonderful dining experience.

I'm sure that you noticed that we have dropped the "contents" from this, and future issues.

The reason is that a lot of our readers find where Scamp's article is and go right to his article so now they will need to go page by page looking for him.

ing at various options from "muddle through" to continued reductions in employee compensation. With all due respect, the Council (excepting Councilman Andrews) is ignoring the elephant in the room - police and firefighters unsustainable pension obligations.

The City of Ventura should look to the experience of Vallejo, California that two years ago declared bankruptcy. At the time, 74% of the city's general budget was consumed by police and firefighter salaries, overtime and pension obligations.

Leading up the bankruptcy the Vallejo City Council attempted the same budgetary cuts that are currently being discussed in Ventura: low priority services, personnel (including police) reductions, senior centers and art organizations funding - but not pensions.

When Vallejo finally declared bankruptcy in 2008, the City had the authority to void existing union contracts in its effort to achieve stable financial footing. Instead, as part of its workout plan approved in December 2009, the City simply cut staff and retiree health benefits but did not touch public employee pensions. The City blinked.

Rather than worry about the next election cycle, the Ventura City Council needs to worry about the struggling taxpayers, forced to foot the bill for gold-plated pension benefits that have been lavished upon public servants. Who among us receives 90% of our final salary in pension benefits for life?

Either stand up to the powerful unions (Ventura police union spent \$56,000 in a failed attempt to defeat Councilman Andrews) now, or prepare City taxpayers for increased fees and taxes, which will undermine the local economy and drive business away.

David P. Grau
Ventura

Breeze:

After reading the article regarding the new mermaid statue at Marina Park I went to have a look. I was quite shocked to see that the mermaid was topless and looks like she belongs in a Playboy magazine - not a children's park and certainly not in front of where we used to sit and look out over the unobstructed view of the ocean on benches that truly were memorials to people.

Parts 1 and 2 of Sam Povar's story seem noble and a truly nice way to enhance the city and honor his wife by adding park benches and picnic areas and upgrading landscaping around town but part 3, as your article calls it, goes way off track from the original intent and I am appalled that the City of Ventura agreed to this. Alec Benke had no ambitious plans to honor anyone; his wife wanted the naked 25 foot mermaid out of her backyard. Your article says originally the City said no to his generous donation so I'm not sure where that changed or why they suggested he call Povar. I'm not surprised that a bunch of men came to the conclusion that a naked mystical figure at a children's park was a good idea but I am disgusted that they used the deaths of two women to gain sympathy and support for this thing. I had to answer a lot of questions and explain to my children why this woman didn't wear a bathing suit to the beach. I think if the city is going to be doing these "private-public collaborations" there needs to be some serious public watch group over sight as obviously common sense and good judgment are severely lacking at City Hall.

What used to be a beautiful place to look over the ocean for miles has now become a place for boys to go look at boobs and make a mockery of woman - there were 3 there at the time I was and their

Continued on page 5

One of the simplest things about all the facts of life is to get where you want to go, you must keep on keeping on.

—Norman Vincent Peale

Letter to the Editor

The parade far exceeded our hopes for a great day and a great parade—the weather cooperated and the people came. Downtown Ventura Main Street was jammed with spectators and they weren't disappointed. The parade was the longest that we ever put on with well over 90 entries, and each was welcomed enthusiastically by a crowd that was ready to have fun.

We couldn't put this on without the Ventura Elks Lodge #1430, The City of Ventura's cooperation and our major sponsors—Rabobank, Wells Fargo Bank, Anderson, Kill, Wood & Bender, Dargans



City News

Our goal is a five minute response time 90% of the time

by Kevin Rennie

Fire Chief for the City of Ventura

The Ventura Fire Department's goal is to arrive at an emergency scene within five minutes from dispatch, 90 percent of the time – a recommendation set by the National Fire Protection Association. Many times our firefighter/paramedic men and women arrive sooner than that five-minute threshold.

The Ventura Fire Department is committed to protecting life, property, and the environment. We watch over our community 24 hours a day, and emergency response is one of the essential public safety functions we provide. Time is of the essence when we prevent a small fire from growing beyond its room of origin, or to deliver lifesaving medical care to someone who is not breathing.

Three elements are necessary in order for us to arrive at emergencies quickly: personnel, equipment and infrastructure. That is why we have six fire stations strategically positioned throughout our city, and sufficient staffing to perform multi-faceted services such as hazardous materials handling and treating patients who need immediate medical attention.

Another key component to rapid response are the mutual/automatic aid agreements with surrounding fire agencies. Mutual/automatic aid means that when City of Ventura firefighters are battling a structure fire, Ventura County's other fire agencies are not only assisting on-scene, but also backfilling Ventura City fire stations with their engine so that city fire protection and adequate response times are maintained across the community.

Council Contacts

These are the email addresses of your city council members. If you think that something in the city is wrong or right or needs improving, please email them and let them know. They are here to serve you.

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For example, if people are hurt in a car crash on Highway 101 in the Rincon area, County and City fire departments collaborate to share their resources – a fire engine from the county, a City medic-truck for extrication – while simultaneously shifting resources to ensure that coverage within City limits isn't compromised.

The Ventura Fire Department strives to provide the best service possible by responding to an emergency promptly and efficiently. As first responders, maintaining this framework of interconnectedness within our own department and with other agencies is crucial to response times and decreases the potential for life loss and property loss.

City of Ventura Police Activities League donates 20 computers to students at DeAnza Middle School

Ventura's Police Activities League (PAL), in conjunction with the City of Ventura Community Services Department and the Ventura Unified School District, presented computers to 20 students and their families with children enrolled at DeAnza Middle School on Wednesday, March 24 at the Westpark Community Center.

The children and their families took the computers home after the ceremony and a training session on how to set up, operate and maintain the computers was available.

Every year, volunteers from the PAL program called "Computers, Cops & Kids" collect used computers in good working order, then clean the hard drives, reformat and load them with licensed software applications for use by youths, 8 to 13 years of age.

The program began in 2006 through the efforts of Ventura PAL Advisory Board member Carolyn Cassavan. Since then, hundreds of free computers have been distributed to students selected by their school principals and teachers. The program continues to grow and extend to include other schools within the VUSD.

Sign up now for April Spring Break Camps & Volleyball Classes through the City of Ventura

There's still time to sign your child up for Spring Break Camps (April 5-9) as well as volleyball (April 15-May 23). To register, call 658-4726 (M-F, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) or visit City Hall, 501 Poli Street, Room 226 (10 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed alternate Fridays) or register at www.cityofventura.net/eRec-recreation anytime.

Here are some of the classes available:

Junior Lifeguard Academy

Aquatic Adventure Week

Jr. Golf Academy

Golf Academy

Coed Indoor Volleyball

Also reserve your space by April 30 for Kids' Swap Meet during Festival in the Park at Barranca Vista Center

Kids, it's time to clean your closets and make some money! Applications are now available for the fifth annual Kids' Swap Meet at Barranca Vista Park, 7050 Ralston St., on Saturday, May 8, from 9 am to 12 pm. The cost for a 10' x10' space is \$15. Download applications at www.cityofventura.net (search "swap meet") or call 644-6542. The deadline to apply is April 30.

"The swap meet is for kids by kids ages 5 to 18," says event organizer Kathryn Dippong-Lawson. It's a great place for parents to shop for secondhand children's items."

Parents must participate with children under 14. No items may be brand new or part of a business.

The swap meet anchors the seventh annual Family Festival in the Park, from 11 am to 2 pm, established to showcase the many artists who teach at the Barranca Vista Imagination Center.

The season opener for the Fairytales in the Park—the free summer performances for families on the second Saturday of each month through September—starts at a special time, 2 pm with The Frog Prince.

Admission to the full day of activities is free thanks to sponsorship from Buena Lanes and the City of Ventura Cultural Affairs Division.

News and Notes

Join a Book Club at Bank of Books

Bank of Books has launched 22 Book Clubs, which will be held in their downstairs meeting room. They are located at 748 E. Main St.

Book Clubs are a great place to meet people and possibly develop new friends for life.

There will be clubs for readers of mystery, romance, sports, adventure and many more subjects that will be age specific for both youth and adult.

Heather Rudd is the Director of Book Clubs. She is eager to develop clubs that meet the needs of many different individuals. Please contact her for further information at 643-0291 for meeting times and to sign up.

"Don't be surprised if the author of the book you are discussing shows up for that days discussion. We hope to have more book signings relating to the authors of the different Book Clubs" says Heather.

It is very important that everyone understand that each group will be limited in size, so it is important that if someone wants to be part of specific group, to reserve space. There is no cost to be part of the Book Clubs. All of the books will be available for purchase in advance of the group, if you don't already have one.

Botanical Garden Workshop draws big crowd

by John Burke,

Landscape Architect

Nearly a hundred people showed up on a Saturday morning for last months Botanical Garden Workshop. Over the course of two hours people shared their personal vision for the gardens. We were invited to become citizen-scientists, stargazers and bird watchers. Rose gardens were championed and so were sculpture gardens. Some wanted a place to reflect while others dreamed of cascading down waterfalls in inner tubes.

With all this diversity you might expect disagreements but I've never seen a crowd get along better. I think every person talked. People were polite, gracious even. They were clearly enjoying it. I spoke with one of the landscape architects run-

ning the workshop, Michelle Frier. She said, "Ventura is amazing. Everybody was so positive. In most cities people come mainly to complain. Here people really participated."

The Crowne Plaza provided a beautiful room and the festive atmosphere was aided by an outstanding array of snacks. You can attend the second workshop this Saturday April 10th. It will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel from 9:30 AM till Noon. The Hotel is on the beach at 450 East Harbor Boulevard. Come and bring your own vision for a Ventura Botanical Garden at Grant Park.

Grand Jury open house on April 16

Meet current jurors, learn about Grand Jury service and see the Grand Jury Chambers on Friday, April 16, during the Ventura County Grand Jury Open House.

The event runs from 12 noon to 2pm in the Grand Jury Chambers, located on the third floor of 646 County Square Drive, across from the County Government Center on Victoria Avenue. County Square Drive can be accessed via Thille Street.

During the event, find out about the history of Grand Jury's and learn what they do. A brief overview and discussion of their history and functions will be given at 12:30 and again at 1:30.

Refreshments will be served.

During the event you can also find out how to become a Grand Juror and how to file a citizen complaint.

For more information call the Grand Jury at 477-1600 or check the Internet at <http://grandjury.countyofventura.org>.

Kingdom Center has grand opening

by Tim Pompey

It had the upbeat vibe of a prayer meeting. On an overcast Sunday afternoon, a band warmed up the crowd with contemporary Christian songs. Many clapped, raised their hands, and openly praised the Lord. All in the presence of officials from the City and County of Ventura.

Proclaiming it a "miracle in the city of Ventura," Pastor Sam Gallucci from the Harbor Church presided over the grand

News and Notes

opening of the newly renovated City Center Motel (now renamed Kingdom Center), a transitional living center for the homeless near the corner of Thompson and Ash. Gallucci and supporters had worked for months to reach this point. Given all the fund raising, planning, and construction required over the past year to open the Center's doors, it seemed obvious they were ready to celebrate.

Calling the center "God's idea," Gallucci acknowledged the army of churches and faith-based partners who purchased individual rooms, volunteered with operations, and donated money. Churches and social service organizations like the Lighthouse Church, the Rescue Mission, Teen Challenge, Turning Point, Catholic Charities, and Project Understanding, have all agreed to refer the homeless for services at the Center and collaborate on sharing resources. Currently five families have moved in. When all is completed, Kingdom Center will house as many as eighty people.

Gallucci has been pivotal in pulling together local support for the Kingdom Center. At the grand opening, his partners showed up in droves. Several spoke to the crowd about their enthusiasm for the project, including key local political leaders like Mayor Bill Fulton, Councilmember Christy Weir, and County Supervisors Kathy Long and Steve Bennett. Long, closely involved with Gallucci in the development of the Center, enthusiastically proclaimed: "If you're looking for hope in our society, look around here."

From a law enforcement perspective, District Attorney Greg Totten, pointing out the motel's former seedy reputation, shared his own hopes for the Center: "This facility and what we have done defines us as a community, a community of believers, a community of government officials and leaders, a community of activists that care about its most needy members."

The strongest endorsement, however, came from Mayor Bill Fulton. Fulton, who placed the Center's opening in the context of the City's larger plan for ending homelessness, sounded very Kennedy like when he boldly stated: "We will end homelessness in this city in ten years. We will not stop until every congregation is participating in that effort. We will not stop until every person capable of helping is helping. And we will not stop until every homeless person in this city has a place to live."

Faith and collaboration seemed to be the key messages. No doubt, the celebration of the Center's opening is an experiment in partnering local government support with faith-based services. If the fervent enthusiasm expressed by both sides is any indication, there may yet be hope for more homeless housing in Ventura. As Weir remarked to the audience: "We are here today to witness an unprecedented collaboration that will bear fruit and change lives for years to come here in Ventura."

Famous author comes to Ventura

Bruce McNicol is a master at helping people understand the freedom of grace through metaphors and stories, which fill the best-selling TrueFaced resources. Bruce speaks internationally and leads the TrueFaced organization (truefaced.com), whose vision is to multiply tens of thousands of communities of grace around the world.

Bruce will be at The River Community Church, 1620 Mesa Verde Ave. in Ventura on Sunday, April 11. The doors

open at 5pm with the gathering beginning at 5:30, refreshments and childcare will be provided.

Bruce will be sharing his new book, *Bo's Café* an unusually powerful story of challenging one's fears and encouraging deep trust

The River Community is a church that was planted by Pastor Jim & Pam Duran and his team in June 2005. They have been serving families and the community unselfishly and the vision of the River community is to "Partner with others to help them enhance their quality of life." For More Information or to purchase a copy *Bo's Café* please visit their website at www.TheRiverCommunity.org or call 815-5795.

Medical marijuana in Ventura County

by Julie D. McCampbell

Answers to questions we have long waited to hear. I interviewed the manager of Mary Jane's Bud, one of Ventura County's medical marijuana dispensaries. The truth's and the necessities of why it is vitally important to keep Medical Marijuana dispensaries.

JDM-How and when did your company develop and it's goals?

Manager-The idea for our collective came almost 2 years ago. A good friend from childhood with cystic fibrosis over dosed on his prescription medications. He and his family wished they had been educated on cannabis prior to the overdose that left my friend disabled. With education on medical cannabis and safe access this life changing incident could have been avoided. We started this collective to provide not only safe discreet access but also education. We get calls daily from families with someone in hospice or individuals that have been told by their doctor it may help them to try cannabis but they have never tried marijuana and are nervous about being labeled as a "pot-head" and other social stigmas. Our goal was to create a professional collective to provide not only safe access but education to patient families.

JDM-What 'help' has marijuana dispensaries accomplished in VC?

Manager-We provide safe professional access to many retirement homes, convalescent hospitals and hospice and group home facilities in Ventura County. These patients would otherwise have no access without our collective and others like ours. These are people without the ability to drive or grow their own and are left to suffer without the medicine that works best for their ailment. We also have patients that use our home service as an alternative to driving into Los Angeles or Santa Barbara. These patients are mostly professionals that are nervous about being seen in a dispensary or concerned about the negative headlines they see and are looking for a more discreet, convenient way to access their medicine. It also keeps the money here at home. Although we are not-for-profit we do pay sales tax as well as employer taxes.

JDM-How has the laws of the VC, effected your company or the industry?

Manager-Currently the laws throughout the county are inconsistent and elusive. We rely on the state laws along with case law to operate here. We would

like a store front for patients that can't receive or do not want home service; a store would not replace our home services.

The United States FDA has acknowledged that there has been considerable interest in its use for the treatment of a number of conditions, including glaucoma, AIDS wasting, neuropathic and chemotherapy-induced nausea to name just a few. California Law-Prop 215, a measure voted into California law in 1996, the Compassionate Act, allows medical patients to choose and use cannabis legally as a treatment. Additionally Senate Bill 420 is statutory law creating HS 11362.7 and 11362.8 to establish a voluntary, confidential patient registry administered by the Department of Health. All patient medical records are kept strictly confidential by following the Federal Doctor-Patient Confidentiality (HIPPA) laws.

JDM-Does your company give to charity?

Manager-Yes, we have donated to D.A.R.E. and are looking into other local charities to donate to in the future.

Register online safe and securely at www.MaryJanesBud.com or call toll-free 1-800-768-0292 10am-8pm daily for registration via phone.

Medical marijuana

Continued from page 1

there's no real evidence of an increase or a decrease in crime at medical marijuana facilities in Santa Barbara. We're talking about hearsay!"

MedMike said, "Dial Security is very well trained and would help the police department. It's better to be taking as much off the streets as possible and regulating it for anyone who is 21 or older and has a prescription." Tim, a Viet Nam veteran and Ventura County resident for more than 45 years added, "People and veterans need it to help relieve pain. Let's have the people run a Ventura cooperative and have the city control and police it." James addressed the fact that, "ABC Liquor Licensing does full background checks already. It's a great way to handle licensing."

Jay, a local attorney, said, "I think that this has to be a local thing. We should start screening locals to operate these cooperatives or collectives. It is important that the city and the police be involved and that we should offer one year or 18 month permits in the beginning." Art added, "We need to think outside the box and be good neighbors." Landa wanted everyone to

be aware that, "there are already laws in place about how much a patient can have. No one has ever seen violent crime from someone on cannabis."

Over the course of several hours, more and more people took the microphone to plead for the city to seriously consider putting a program in place for medical marijuana patients. There was only one thing missing from the meeting - no one was there to talk about how they were against having medical marijuana available to those in need. The people there were those who were ill and using cannabis to deal with their pain or those interested in starting a collective or cooperative as opposed to a dispensary.

For more information on what took place at both meetings or to contact Ariel Calonne with comments, email him at acalonne@ci.ventura.ca.us.

Mailbox

Continued from page 3

comments are not appropriate for a newspaper so I won't print them. I hope you will print this and the people of Ventura will go see for themselves what an outrageous thing the City has allowed and write letters asking it to be removed or at the very least have the 2 inch nipples covered with a bathing suit - she looks cold. This is porn in a children's park, plain and simple, not "art". Povar apparently has 28 vacant lots you can put obscene objects on as well if you have enough money. The city can be bought and has been.

Sara Medina, Ventura Resident

Breeze: Sara also sent this letter to Rick Cole. Here is his response.

Ms. Medina:

Thanks for your expression of concern. I'm sorry that you did not find the statue appropriate for a public venue. Perhaps you've never seen the famous Mermaid of Copenhagen, a beloved international symbol of that city.

I'd be happy to discuss your concerns and answer your questions. Please give me a call at City Hall 805 901-4284.

Rick Cole, City Manager, City of Ventura

Response by Tim Pompey, writer of article:

Coincidentally, I just viewed a significant Renoir exhibit at the LA County Museum of Art featuring plenty of bare skin for which there were quite a few mothers and young children in attendance. I imagine more than a few spent time with their children discussing the relationship of art to the human body. I think if I had curious children wondering about a mermaid's breasts, that might be a good place to start. Plus, the purchase of some good books on renaissance art.

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News and Notes

Venturans invited to weigh in on code enforcement

by Camille Harris

If you have changed out a leaky faucet or water heater, your home can currently be cited by code enforcement as substandard. Venturans now have a chance to release themselves from flying under the radar and start over with a clean slate thanks to a collaborative effort between the community and the city staff.

This current effort, called Ventura Safe Housing Collaborative, is the silver lining following a public outcry after the city's change to "proactive" from "complaint based" code enforcement in January, 2009. A group of citizens and the city have come to agreement after months of meetings with the city's staff, to seat thirteen open minded citizens on a stakeholder committee. The committee, named Ventura's Safe Housing Collaborative will address the issue of Grandfathering/Amnesty, how to do it, permit fees, how to make them affordable, and perhaps even question what permits are truly necessary for our safety.

A substantial number of Ventura's property owners been anxious about code enforcement for years, because they live in properties with maintenance and improvements that likely weren't permitted. Code enforcement wants to find a way to dispel that anxiety and collaborate with the community.

The second meeting of Ventura's Safe Housing Collaborative is April 12, at 4 pm at City Hall at 501 Poli Street on the second floor in the Santa Cruz Room. All meetings will be public and citizens can speak to the committee with anonymity. Citizens can also weigh in on what they think should be added to or removed from code enforcement policies at the anonymous website www.grandfatherventura.com. The stakeholder group plans return to the city council with their recommendations after completing their work. What are your recommendations? You can attend the public meetings or leave your suggestions with complete anonymity at www.grandfatherventura.com. For information on future meetings, email grandfatherventura@gmail.com.

Does Ventura have a weak mayor?

by John Burke

Everyone that voted for mayor in the last election raise your hands. Liars. It's a trick question. The city council elects the mayor. So why did they elect a weak mayor? Because the City Charter requires it.

There is a movement afoot to change that. Suz Montgomery, a Ventura educator and civic activist wants to revise the City Charter, the city's equivalent of a constitution. She and other's like Councilmember Neal Andrews held a meeting at City Hall on February 23 to gauge public support for changing the mayor's role in Ventura. They would like to see the mayor elected directly.

Before you start asking Mayor Fulton about his bench press let me add that the weak-mayor system is among the most common forms of city government in the United States. There are variations on this theme (weak-mayor) but it basically means the council makes decisions. In a strong-mayor system like Los Angeles, the mayor has more power.

Councilmembers Christy Weir and Carl Morehouse both spoke eloquently on the subject of mayoral power and the role of the city manager. The meeting attracted artists, attorneys, a woman who took off work to be there, a wide array of Venturans. Many spoke with passion, others with trepidation about fiddling with the balance of power as it's defined in the Charter.

Suz Montgomery Chair of the City of Ventura Charter Revision Committee said the Charter has been changed many times over the years but not since 1986. It can only be changed by a vote of the people. "It's time." She says.

Suz plans a series of meetings to gather ideas and work toward a consensus on how to change local government. "I want everything done out in the open," she says. She's looking to gather opinions and ideas from the widest possible group of Ventura residents. She promises open access and focused meetings no more than fifty-five minutes long.

The Committee is preparing a website and when that is done we will announce it here. In the meantime if you want to be advised of upcoming meetings you can send an email to: suznoni@hotmail.com

For anyone interested in government, here's a chance to get a real education. For anyone interested in Ventura, here's a chance to make a difference.

Candles are responsible for over 170 deaths annually

by Kris McDonald, Captain

Ventura City Fire Fighters Association (VCFFA)

Candles were used for centuries as a means of lighting in the home. In modern times they exist mainly as a recreational or cultural item, and are also used in times of electrical outages. Unfortunately, however, candles are responsible for over 18,000 fires, 1,500 injuries, and 170 deaths annually. Most of these fires occurred during the holidays and the candles were left unattended. Candle related fires, injuries, and deaths have been on the increase during the last several decades as society becomes less and less accustomed to their proper use. Candle related fires are also on the increase due to the extremely flammable materials we surround ourselves with. Modern homes and furnishings are made of synthetic materials that act similar to gasoline when ignited.

Candles should be in a candleholder specifically designed for that use and placed on a stable, heat-resistant surface. Holders should be fire resistant, sturdy, and have the ability to collect dripping wax. Candles need to be at least 3 inches apart to avoid uneven burning, and they need to be at least 12 inches away from any object or surface that could ignite.

Each time you use a candle trim down the wick to a ¼ inch height, long or crooked wicks cause uneven burning and dripping of wax. If a candle flickers repeatedly, smokes, or has a high flame you should extinguish it, let it cool, trim the wick appropriately and check for drafts prior to relighting. Candles should burn evenly and steadily at all times. Avoid allowing a candle to burn all the way down, always extinguish it before it makes contact with the candleholder. A candle is fully extinguished when the wick is no longer glowing, and no longer smoking. Never use water to extinguish candles as the hot wax may splatter. If you blow out a candle, be sure to place your hand on the opposite side and avoid excessive force. You can purchase candle "snuffers", or "quencher", which safely and quickly extinguish candles. Also available are flameless, artificial candles, which come scented and look very realistic.

When candles are burning they should never be out of your site. Extinguish all candles before going to sleep or even leaving the room. Avoid carrying lit candles and use a flashlight instead. Never burn candles when there are flammable liquids, natural gas, or propane present or when oxygen in use in the immediate area. After an earthquake, when the electricity is out and there may be damage to your gas lines or appliances, do not use candles or any other open flame until you are positive that it is safe to do so. If you use candles, for any reason, please do so cautiously. Treat candles with the respect they deserve to lessen the chances of a tragic loss of life and property.

Essay contest

Straight Up Ventura County is hosting an essay contest on the effects of alcohol in the community. Youths aged 12-25 in Ventura County are allowed to enter the contest and must write an essay of 500 words or more. Prizes include \$100 and coupons from various entertainment venues in Ventura County. These will be awarded to two different age groups, for participants aged 12-17 and 18-25. The deadline for en-

tries is April 30. For guidelines and an entry form, visit www.straightupvc.org/contest.

Topics for a participant's essay include how youths acquire alcohol, peer pressure and its effect on drinking, adults providing or allowing alcohol in the house, and how communication between adults and youths can be improved.

Straight Up Ventura County is a program that promotes change in the community by addressing binge drinking and driving under influence in ages 12-25. More information can be found on the program at their website, www.straightupvc.org.

Coalition plans powerful conference

At a time when homeless veterans are wandering our streets and sometimes feeling abandoned by the communities in which they live, a new coalition has formed as a means of addressing these and many other related issues. Active duty military, vets, family members, those in the community who are in support services, and members of sponsoring groups will all be invited to attend and participate in the conference.

Also included will be a special Saturday evening event open to all members of the community. The three day conference will be held at the Pierpont Inn located at 550 San Jon Rd. on April 16, 17 and 18.

The conference is sponsored by the newly formed, California Coalition of Veterans and Military Families. Numerous thought provoking and informative workshops and presentations are planned with presenters and attendees coming from all over California and other states as well.

Workshops and presentations will address such issues as informed enlistment, post traumatic stress disorder and homeless Veterans.

The theme of the public Saturday evening event to begin at 7pm is "Empire, Veterans and the Road Home to Peace." A donation of \$20 will be requested at the door.

Active duty military, veterans, and their families can get further information on registering for the conference by calling 388-1542 or emailing: stevcrandall@verizon.net



Star's grandchildren answer questions after screening

After the showing of the stellar American classic White Heat, shown at the Ventura Film Society Film Festival and starring Virginia Mayo and Jimmy Cagney her grandchildren were there to answer questions from the audience regarding growing up with a famous grandmother.

The grandchildren present were Mary Johnston, Lucas Johnston, V.P.-Regional Relationship Manager at the downtown Pacific Western Bank and Evan Johnston.

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Community Events

Ventura celebrates the 40th anniversary of Earth Day April 17

Bring friends and family to celebrate the earth, green living and the 40th Anniversary of Earth Day at Ventura's Earth Day Eco Fest on Saturday, April 17 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Promenade Park. Visitors to this free eco-event can enjoy entertainment, children's activities and crafts, food and refreshments, project displays and exhibitor booths. This year promises to be the biggest event to date with over 50 eco-friendly exhibitors expected to attend.

Attendees can participate in a myriad of activities including storytelling, recycled crafts, face painting, a fun and educational scavenger hunt and non-competitive community building games and enjoy the wonderful entertainment.

In the afternoon the entertainment will be led by the School Of Rock - Ventura Charter School's garage band.

"This is one of the only Earth Day Festivals in this area that really focuses on the children. Since we are parents organizing this event, we wanted to make sure we not only provide engaging entertainment for the kids, we also educate them on how to treat our earth," says Toni Guy, festival chairperson.

Ventura's Earth Day Eco Fest is hosted by Ventura Charter School of Arts and Global Education, www.venturacharterschool.org, and the City of Ventura. Proceeds will support Ventura Charter School's art and music programs for students ages K through 8th grade.

"Like all public schools in California, we have experienced drastic cuts in education funding from Sacramento," said Mary Galvin, Director of Operations of Ventura Charter School. "We organize this event in order to create a community forum for earth-friendly practices, as well as to raise funds to sustain our rich project-based curriculum in arts and global education."

The event is preceded by Earth Day Beach Cleanup from 9am - 11am hosted the City of Ventura's volunteer program - Volunteer Ventura! at the California St. beach front promenade. To sign up go to volunteeventura@cityofventura.net.

FOTM to sponsor cellist interview

On April 10, Virginia Kron will be interviewed as part of the Focus on the Masters series "Saturday Artist Spotlight." Cellist Joseph Woodard calls Virginia an "accomplished cellist who has done her best to keep alive the music of our time." Virginia Kron received her Bachelor of Music degree in cello performance from the University of Wisconsin, and her Master's degree, with a prize in performance, from the University of Southern California. In 1997 she premiered John Biggs' Concerto for Cello and Chamber Orchestra with New West Symphony and recorded it in Prague with the Czech National Symphony for the Albany label. Critics have called her work "magical".

Change in venue for April only: 505 Poli Street, Fifth Floor in Ventura behind city hall 5 to 6:30 p.m.

Please use the parking lot behind City Hall. Audience members must arrive by 4:30. \$10 general admission. \$5 students and seniors (65 and older) with I.D.

Free to FOTM members and students under 18.

A world premiere by Ventura faculty Robert Lawson to be held in Oxnard (And, oh yeah, they'll play Brahms also)

A spectacular concert featuring two masterworks by Johannes Brahms and a world premier by Ventura faculty Robert Lawson will be held at the Oxnard Performing Arts Center on Saturday, April 17, at 8p.m. This showcase concert for the Ventura College Music Department will feature the Ventura College Symphony, the Ventura College Choirs, and Ventura College music faculty and soloists.

Professor Robert Lawson will conduct the premier of his own composition, Tumaini.

"Tumaini" is the Swahili word for "hope." Lawson, founder and longtime musical director of the Santa Clarita Youth Orchestra, originally conceived Tumaini as a work for youth orchestra. In the Ventura College Symphony World Premier performance, this now complex and challenging piece will use the vivid colors of each section of the orchestra, combined with the drive of complicated rhythms and percussion to express the hope of youth and a renewed sense of hope in the world.

The Double Concerto was composed late in Brahms' career as a "work of reconciliation" for a friend from whom he was estranged, the great violinist Josef Joachim.

The German Requiem was composed when Brahms was a young man in his thirties and is the work that made him famous. It includes the well known "How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place." The Ventura College Choirs will be joined by guests from the Gold Coast Concert Chorus and the Ventura Master Chorale as they perform the challenging and beautiful piece.

Tickets are priced \$20, \$15, \$10, and \$5, and are on sale at the OxPAC box office, 800 Hobson Way, Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., by telephone at 486-2424 or at www.Etix.com.

Free tickets are being made available to local high school music students through their music instructors. Music teachers interested in obtaining tickets for their students should call the Ventura College Music Department at 654-6309.

Ventura County Fairground events

(No, it hasn't been sold.)

4/8 POULTRY MEETING Barn 300 Dave Anderson Seaside Feather Fanciers (805) 524-5588 Thurs. 5:30p-9p; Visitors welcome

4/10-11 SACRED CRAFT CONSUMER SURF EXPO San Miguel Hall Scott Bass Scott William Bass, Inc. McBride Hall (760) 445-9770

Sat. 10a-6p; Sun. 10a-4p; Admission: \$10 Adult; under 12 free www.sacredcraftexpo.com

4/10 POULTRY SHOW Santa Cruz Hall Dave Anderson Seaside Feather Fanciers (805) 524-5588 Sat. 7a-5p

4/11 ROSE MEETING The Greenhouse Barbara Schneider Fair Friends of Roses (805) 648-3376 x 136 Sun. 1p; Visitors welcome

4/12-15 VENTURA COUNTY SCIENCE FAIR San Miguel, Anacapa John Tarkany Ventura Co Supt of Schools Office San Nicolas & Santa Rosa (805) 388-4410 Open to Public - Wed., April 14, 4p-7p Halls

4/14 SWAP MEET Lot A Sue Adams SNA Designs (818) 590-5435 Wed. 7a-2p

4/17 VRA SPRINTS, SENIOR SPRINTS, IMCA Pacific Arena Jim Naylor MODIFIEDS, SPORT COMPACTS, CA LIGHTNING (805) 985-5433 SPRINTS & GO KARTS

Sat. 5p; Gates 3p; \$14 Adult; \$11 Senior/Military/Student; 12 & under free

4/17 GOLD DUST GALA FUNDRAISER San Miguel Hall CMH Healthcare Foundation (805) 667-2881

Sat. 6p-11p; \$95; featuring Phil Vassar in concert foundation@cmhhospital.org

4/17 ROLLER DERBY GAMES San Nicolas Hall

Ventura County Derby Darlins info@vcderbydarlins.com

4/18 RODEO Pacific Arena Valdivia Marketing Group (805) 487-6933

4/21 SWAP MEET Lot A Sue Adams SNA Designs (818) 590-5435 Wed. 7a-2p

4/21 FOOD SHOW San Miguel Hall Anna Gutierrez

SYSCO Foods of Ventura Anacapa Hall (805) 205-7410 Wed., 9a-5p

4/24-25 SURFING COMPETITION Lot D Gayline Clifford

NSSA (714) 378-0899 Sat.-Sun. 6a-dusk gclifford@

Ventura events

April 8: The **Ventura Unit of the League of Women Voters** will meet Thursday, at 2pm at the Topping Room, E.P. Foster Library. Speaking will be Barbara Fitzgerald, Vice President of the Ventura Unified School District, who will talk about the impact on the District of the current funding shortfalls. And also

Beverly Silsbee, retired Castaic School Superintendent, discussing the impact of federal interventions such as No child Left Behind on local public education. For further information call Nell at 658-0587. Public invited.

April 9: "Los Dudes", Ventura's hottest country-rock band will be rocking the Dume Room on Friday night, at 9 pm. About to produce their first CD, music-veterans Gary Best, Travis Greer, John Dwyer and "Sticks" Randall Richman are about to explode in this summer's music scene with 12 to 15 original tracks of dance-magic tunes.

They recently played at the Majestic Ventura Theater for a benefit which raised money for the Police Activities League and the Downtown Lions Club. Look for them on their fan site "Los Dudes on Facebook."

April 11: "Embarrassment and Death" and "Tales of Deepest Desires" will be served up by theatrical storytellers Steven Henegar and Elaine Muray at the next Ventura Village Voices Adult Storytelling Series. Sunday, from 4-6 p.m. at the Ventura Improv Theater Company, 34 N. Palm. Cost is \$10 at the door. To reserve seating in advance, contact Elaine at elaine@embodiedvoicestoryarts.com or call 407-2538.

April 17: Country recording star **Phil Vassar**, who has charted 19 singles on the Billboard Hot Country Songs - including four No. 1 hits - will return to the Ventura Fairgrounds to headline the 20th annual Gold Dust Gala benefit on Saturday.

Proceeds from the Gold Dust Gala are used for breast cancer detection and treatment, cervical cancer screening and vaccine, and needed diagnostic equipment benefiting women in our community who lack access to life-saving exams. These services are provided by Community Memorial Health System, and administered through the Healthy Women's Program.

Through past funds raised at the Gold Dust Gala the program was expanded in 2009, with the hiring of an Outreach Education Manager devoted to promoting this critical program by reaching out to women and encouraging them to utilize this vital service.

Tickets and sponsorship packages can be purchased online at www.golddustgala.org, or by calling the Community Memorial Healthcare Foundation office at 667-2881.

The Gold Dust Gala, sponsored by the Community Memorial Healthcare Foundation, begins at 6 p.m. with a silent auction, raffles and a barbecue dinner,

Continued on page 8

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Community Events

Ventura events

Continued from page 7

with Phil Vassar taking the stage at 8:30 p.m.

April 17: 27th Annual Southern CA Story Swap. Held this year in Ventura at the Dudley House (at Loma Vista and Ashwood in Ventura)! Workshops, performances and swaps, and much more. Meet and hear tellers from all over Southern California. Saturday, April 17, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. \$25. For more information, contact Elaine at elaine@embodiedvoicestoryarts.com or call 407-2538.

April 17: Country Lovers Western Dance Club will be holding a country western dance on Saturday, at The House of Dance, 3007 Bunsen Ave., Suite E, in Ventura. Theme will be "Hawaiian Luau". Open dancing from 7-11 p.m. A dance lesson begins at 7:30 p.m.

Music will be by deejay "Jammin' Country". Cost is \$7.00 per guest; \$6.00 per club member; kids under age 13 are free. All ages are welcome. Partners not necessary.

For more info contact Country Lovers Hotline 647-1893, or visit their website www.countrylovers.com.

April 18: The Ventura County Chapter of USA Dance will be holding their April Dance Party on Sunday at the Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Rd. The event begins with a rumba dance lesson by the Nielsen Dance Studio at 1:30pm followed by open dancing from 2 to 4:30pm. Included are refreshments, a 50/50 raffle and male dance hosts. Admissions: \$10 General, \$7 USA Dance members and \$5 Youth. Info: 646-6271

Ojai events

In the spirit of Earth Day 2010 in April, the Ojai Women's Committee will host the first **OJAI FARM TO TABLE TOUR** on

Saturday, April 17, 9 am to 3 pm. To provide a closer look at part of Ojai's farming community, three farms were chosen for their scenic location and the owners' expertise. Check the two available websites: www.friendsranches.com and www.ojaioliveoil.com.

The six chefs preparing the al fresco lunch that follows the tour are generously donating their services. Renowned for their dedication to cuisine based on locally grown, seasonal and organic ingredients, they will collaborate in preparing a menu inspired by the motto "Eat Local, Eat Fresh, Eat Well!" Most of the menu ingredients will be donated by local farmers and food vendors. Casa Barranca will set up a no-host wine bar. With his guitar music and songs, Ojai's own Alan Thornhill will provide a fitting musical ambiance during lunch.

Inspired by the annual "Holiday Home Look In" tour, the Ojai Festival Women's Committee is launching this new event with proceeds benefiting the BRAVO! Music Education Program run by the Ojai Music Festival. For more information go to <http://www.ojaifestival.org/support/farmtour.htm>.

Reservations need to be made by April 10. Tickets for the farm tour and lunch are \$60 per person. Tickets for lunch only (and parking) are \$35 per person. Space is limited. Tickets can be ordered on the website www.OjaiFestival.org/support or by contacting the Ojai Music Festival office, at 646-2094, ext. 106.

A self guided tour, on April 24 will feature six gardens including the Australian Native Plant Nursery and demonstration garden in Casitas Springs, the Old Creek Ranch Winery and four private residences, one of which is a Victorian country estate property of Saddle Mountain and owned

by Joan Kemper. Tours can be taken from 10am to 4 p.m. on Saturday.

The tour begins at the Oak View Park and Resource Center located at 555 Mahoney Ave.

Pre-sale tickets are \$12.00 and \$15.00 on the day of the event. Box lunches will be available for participants to purchase to take on the tour with them to enjoy. (must be pre-ordered)

Funds raised will be used to fund the landscape plans at the Oak View Park and Resource Center. Sponsorships are available!

Tickets are available at Green's Nursery & Rabobank of Oak View and the Oak View Park and Resource Center office. For more information please call 649-1463 or email info@friendsofoparc.org

Ojai's Earth Day celebration, to be held on the Ojai Meadows Preserve on **Saturday, April 24**, will offer plenty of fun for participants of any age. The community event is co-hosted by the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy, Oak Grove School, Ojai Rotary West, the Rotary Club of Ojai, and the Ojai Valley Green Coalition.

Starting at 10 a.m. at Rotary Park (near the "Y") with an alternative transportation exhibit, participants will then join in Ojai's traditional Earth Day EarthWalk, this year heading to the Ojai Meadows Preserve from Rotary Park. There, from 11 a.m. till p.m., "EarthPlay on the Meadow" will provide a whole day of fun. While the children are playing games, adults will be enjoying many presentations and exhibitions designed to raise awareness of nature in your own backyard.

Take a tour of the meadow restoration project, plant a family tree, learn about Ojai's local watershed, tour green-living exhibits, learn to plant a backyard bird habitat and to build a birdhouse and enjoy local and organic food and drinks. Bring your blanket or beach chairs, too, as from 1 to 4 p.m. Oak Grove School will present Oak Grove Unplugged, a free, off-the-grid concert powered by California Electric's Solar Roller.

Then take the kids home and come back at 8pm for "Howling at the Moon," a concert under the stars featuring Ojai's own Household Gods band, to be held on the St. Thomas Aquinas Church meadow as a ben-

efit for the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy. Concertgoers will sit at outdoor "bar tables" where local wines, fine coffees, and luscious desserts will be available for sale, and a spirited live auction will be offered. Tickets for the evening concert are \$25 for tickets in advance and \$30 at the door.

For further information, or to purchase tickets for "Howling at the Moon," visit www.ovlc.org or call 649-6852, ext. 2.

Fresh Roasted Concerts will present, Brazilian vocalist Claudia Villela and guitarist Richard Peixoto in the **The Sounds of Brazil** on Sat., **April 17** @ 7:30 pm at Matilija Auditorium, 703 El Paseo Rd., Ojai. Singer Claudia Villela's effortless voice moves like a bird, sometimes lingering over dense rhythms and haunting guitar melodies, sometimes whipping up a frenzy of improvised scattling.

Tickets in advance are \$20 for adults and \$15 for seniors and students, at the door tickets are \$3 more. Tickets are available at Ojai Coffee Roasting, by phone at 646-8907 or online at www.ptgo.org.

The 26th annual **Ojai Peddler's Fair** is being held from 9am - 4pm Saturday and Sunday, **April 17 & 18**. Located in the Chaparral Auditorium at 414 E. Ojai Ave., in downtown Ojai. Parking is free in the adjacent municipal parking lot, and admission is always free.

Held rain or shine, the Peddler's Fair is chock-full of quality antiques, collectibles, handcrafts and international crafts. This is a benefit for the Mira Monte PTO.

For more information, please contact Pat at 964-8915 or Jodie at 640-4384 x2284.

Channel Islands Harbor events

View the energy and imagination of young and up-coming student artists' work in the 19th Annual **Oxnard Union High School District Art Exhibit** at the Ventura County Maritime Museum through April 29. The museum, located at Fisherman's Wharf in Channel Islands Harbor, is open daily, 11-5 pm and ad-

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Community Events

mission is free.

An Awards Ceremony and reception will be held on Thursday, April 22, from 5:30- 7:00 pm. The program begins at 6 pm. Parents, friends and the public are invited. Vote for the People's Choice nomination and enjoy the refreshments.

Admission is free. For information call 984-6260.

The following special events will be taking place in Channel Islands Harbor. For more information on the events listed, call the Channel Islands Harbor Visitors Center at 985-4852.

14th Annual Celebration of the Whales - Whale Watching Excursions - The Channel Islands Harbor celebrates the migration of the Pacific Gray Whale with the 14th Annual "Celebration of the Whales." Whale watching excursions to the Channel Islands National Park are offered daily from Channel Islands Harbor. Island Packers offers half-day trips from December 26 through mid April. Call 805-642-1393. Channel Islands Sportfishing Center provides excursions from January through March. Call 805-382-1612.

Gypsies in a Trunk present, "Fairy Tales in the Park" - 2 p.m. - May 2, June 6, July 11, August 1 and Septem-

ber 5, 2010 - Harborview Park

Gypsies in a Trunk, an all-volunteer troupe of actors perform fairy tales for the young and young at heart. The troupe's love of children's theatre has led them to perform every May through September all over Ventura County. The shows are free with donations suggested. **5th Annual Channel Islands Harbor Safe Boating Day** - May 22 - Learning to be safe on the water is the focus of the 5th Annual Channel Islands Harbor Safe Boating Day. The event includes safety demonstrations on personal flotation devices, as well as air, sea and fire rescue demonstrations. Other highlights include tours, safety products on display and free hot dogs and soft drinks. Free event.

On Sundays from 10am to 2pm enjoy the wonderful **Channel Islands Harbor Farmer's Market**. This local farmers market is popular with neighborhood folks who stop by every week to stock up on fresh fruit and vegetables. Seafood, barbecue, baked goods, flowers, and arts and crafts are also for sale. A great place to find a small gift or the perfect ingredients for a delicious meal.

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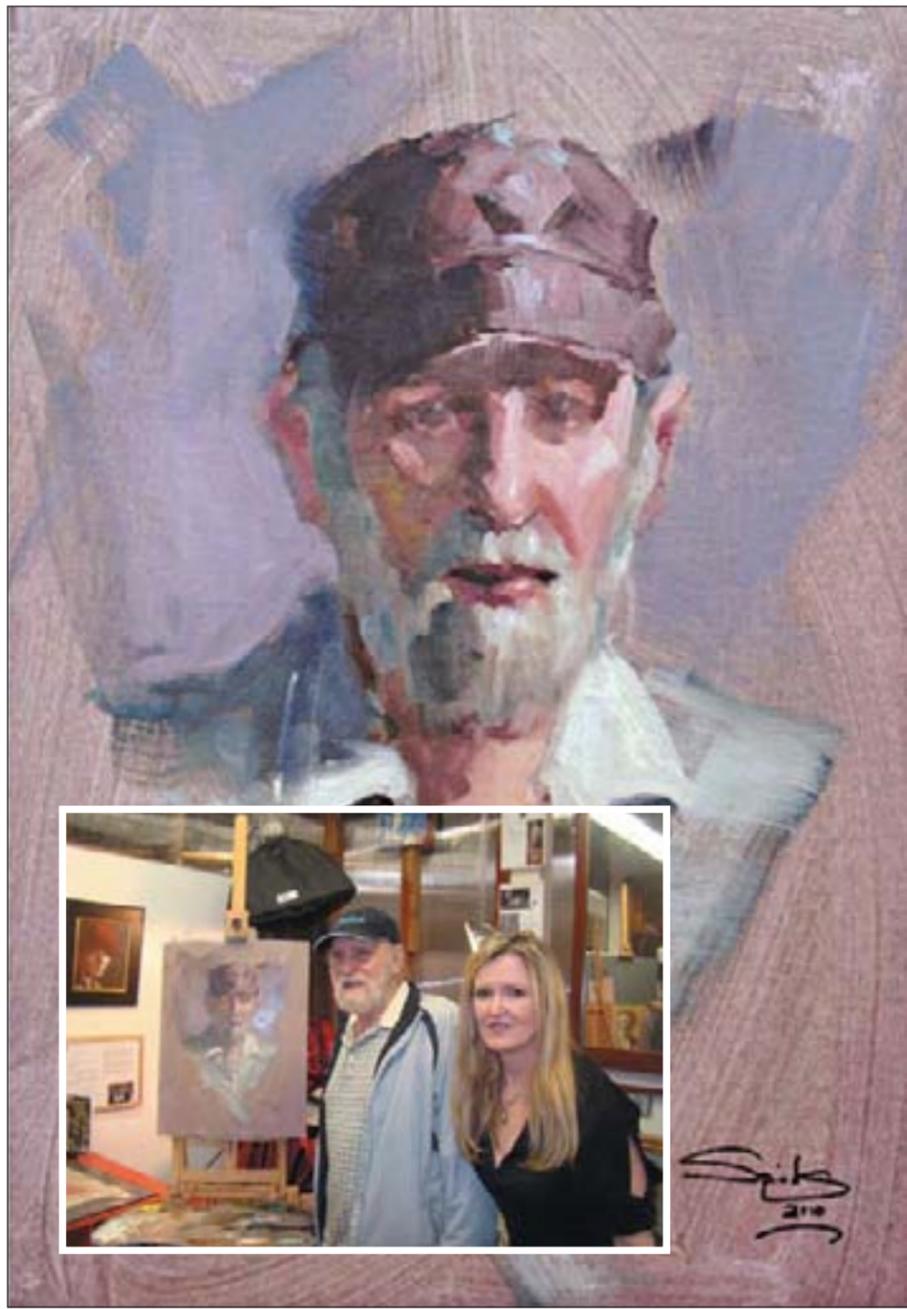



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Art Scene



If I ever become president perhaps Johanna Spinks will paint me again

Johanna Spinks knows faces inside and out

by Sheldon Brown

On "First Fridays" I try to stop at all of Ventura's wonderful art galleries that are open that evening including the Bell Arts Factory on Ventura Ave.

At the last such evening I was honored to meet award-winning portrait artist Johanna Spinks who for years worked as a top Hollywood makeup artist to the stars applying her artistry to many famous faces before they went under the lights and who recently opened her studio at Bell Arts.

I was privileged to have her ask me to sit to have her paint my portrait. When I asked her how many sittings it would take I was shocked to have her tell me "this will be one of my quick portraits that will take about 1 1/2 hours", which is what it took.

Her work, which also includes still life and landscape, has won her national acclaim being featured in the New York Times, and earning her juried recognition, awards and show acceptances from various art institutions including American Artist Magazine, Art Talk, Oil Painters of America and The California Art Club.

She stated that "No one wants to see a dull soulless portrait however well it is painted. There are plenty of those on museum walls already. That special spark which brings tears to the client's eyes on delivery has to be there or you haven't done your job as a portrait artist. I want people to say 'Wow, you really captured the person... and it's also a great painting. Then I know it is a job well done.'"

This became obvious to me as I sat posing and people would come into her studio, look at the painting in progress, then look at me and give me a thumbs up.

She steadfastly observes the grand tradition of oil portraiture after studying in museums around the world the works of the Old Masters from Frans Hal and Velasquez to John Singer Sargent and Lord Frederick Leighton.

She is particularly grateful for the inspiration and teachings of modern day master Everett Raymond Kinstler N.A. (painter of five U.S. presidents and over 50 cabinet members) with whom she has studied at The New York Art Stu-

dents' League and The National Academy of Design.

To find out much more about Johanna and see much more of her work (not just quickies) go to www.johannaspinks.com or stop in at her studio at Bell Arts and see her work first hand and meet this very talented and personable artist.

Maybe you can retain her to do your portrait.

The WĀV beckons you

The long awaited development known as WĀV -- Working Artists Ventura -- has been completed and artists and their families are now living and working from this state-of-the-art community designed for artists and creative businesses.

Located in the cultural district of Downtown Ventura, WĀV now offers affordable living and working space for over a hundred artists of every kind: painters, sculptors, dancers, poets, musicians, filmmakers and more.

The WĀV was recently showcased on KEYT. To see the video go to <http://www.keyt.com/news/local/84635802.html>.

The City of Ventura, PLACE, and WĀV invite you to two events at the WĀV

The first is an exclusive preview fundraising event on Friday, April 16 at the WĀV from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. The artists are eager to share with you what they are creating and how their lives have already been changed since they've moved in. It is sure to be a night of pride and inspiration for every supporter involved in bringing this amazing community alive. Tickets are \$50 each and proceeds go to support the WĀV. RSVP for the Fundraising Event online at www.placeonline.us.

You are also invited to join in for the exciting public WĀV dedication the next evening during ArtWalk Saturday, April 17 from 6 to 7 pm, followed by an "off the wall" cirque style performance by Project Bandaloop. The WĀV is located at 175 S. Ventura Ave.

Museum's Sunday Family Times features local quilters

Local quilters demonstrate their techniques at the Museum of Ventura County during the museum's free Sunday Family Times on April 18, May 16 and June 20 from 1-3 p.m. The museum's Sunday Family Times arts and crafts events are held on the third Sunday of the month.

Sunday, April 18 the art project involves making traditional quilt pieces out of paper

The quilters' visits and the quilt-themed art projects reflect the museum's current exhibit *Becoming Art at the Seams: a Juried Exhibition of Contemporary & Art Quilts* is running through June 20.

The Museum of Ventura County, still located at 89 S. California Street in downtown Ventura, is open Tuesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is free except for some events. For information, go to <http://www.venturamuseum.org> or call 653-0323.

Local art scene

Continued from page 1

Avenue and Thompson Boulevard.

Later that evening, the Ventura County Storytelling Guild will host green tales and personal stories in the City Hall Atrium.

Also on Saturday from 6 -9 p.m. a "Meet the Artists" event will take place at the Great Pacific Ironworks Patagonia store where designers of brand's T-shirts will be available to the public. Jason Stowell, a local Venturan will be one of the four artists available for the public to meet. The event will feature food, live music and giveaways.

Two additional spots in downtown will feature live music throughout Saturday and Sunday. The first stage will be at the corner of California and Santa Clara Streets. On Sunday, the same stage will feature blues music from noon until 5 p.m.

A second stage with live entertainment will be set up on the promenade where California Street ends near Aloha Steakhouse and the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

For information and details on more events and event locations go to <http://www.venturaartwalk.org>.



Postcard image by Ines Monguio

"Earth Show" at the Artists Union Gallery

The current Artists Union Gallery show is the Earth Show an open/juried exhibit juried by The Green Art People. This show challenges artists to re-imagine our relationship to nature, whether macro or micro, social or political, within or without. The Earth Show is a multi-media look at human nature and the wild.

The show runs until May 2 at the Artists Union Gallery, 330 California Street.

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Professor Scamp, Ph.D (Pretty Happy Dog)



Dear Scamp: We are outdoor kitties. We have been prowling our neighborhood territory for about five or six years, but have a new neighbor across the street. He has camera surveillance on

his house, and told our owner that he caught us doing our kitty business in his front yard. He called 911 and hung up. An officer was sent to his house and he "reported" us. After the officer left without doing anything, he went out and bought two 'large animal' traps and set them up-one in front, and one in back. If we were to get caught, can he legally take us away from our owners? We are very afraid to go outside now, and would very much appreciate your help in this matter!

*Sincerely Yours,
Salem & Felix*

Dear Salem & Felix,

It's a scary world out there and not everyone chooses to have or want cats around. Unfortunately I don't have great news for you and your brother. As you can imagine there are no "leash laws" for cats, but property owners do have the right to forbid roaming animals on their land.

According to my friend Kevin Jeffries at the Ventura Police Department the law states safe and humane traps can be used however only in the back yards of private properties. By law trappers of animals need to treat animals humanely and deliver trapped animals to a local shelter.

Here are steps I would take:

Have your human communicate with

your neighbor in an attempt to find common ground.

Get yourselves licensed. While this is not required by law in Ventura it is highly recommended.

Wear a collar with your contact information.

Stay indoors as much as you can. In addition to keeping you safe from being baited and trapped, staying indoors lowers your risk of getting hit by a car, attacked by coyotes, as well as exposure to FIV from a cat fight.

Stay safe my friends (some of my best friends are cats).

Scamp

And speaking of animal licenses the City of LA figures that there are enough unlicensed dogs in LA that if they were licensed it could bring in as much as \$3.6 million additional revenue. Only about 120,000 are licensed out of possibly 3 million dogs.

A license for a sterilized dog is \$15 and for an unaltered one it is \$100.00. Maybe marriage licenses should also have a similar fee structure.

"License the dogs, save the economy."

The West Hollywood City Council has unanimously approved an ordinance that prohibits most sales of cats and dogs in "companion animal" (pet) stores.

The city has always been a national leader in animal rights legislation.

I like this idea but I don't mind being called a "pet" (not a companion animal), I love being petted.

Scamp Club

Hi:

Even though we look like one big dog (kind of like Scamp) in this photo we are Spanky and Darla. We are 2 year old Shih Tzu's (also like Scamp but much younger). We live in Oxnard and like to eat treats and sleep (maybe we are Scamp).

You should send Scamp your photo and a little bit about yourself and maybe you will get your picture in the paper. He told us that even cats and elephants are welcome to do this.



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. You will be in the Breeze and receive a Scampclub Card that will get you the following discounts. Scampclub members can receive:

- 10% off dog wash at **Cameos Dog Grooming**, 1058 S. Seaward 648.3800
- \$3.00 off bathing at **Applause Four Paws**, 2008 Thompson 648.2757
- Wed. \$3.00 off Grooming, 10% off for all Seniors (Over 62) **Naturally for Paws**, 1766 Thompson 648.7297
- 50% off first grooming - 10% off following grooming at **Aloha Grooming**, 1076 Front Street, 643.4852
- 10% off pet sitting, dog training and MORE at **Prancing Pet Services**, 890.1406

Police Reports

Prowler on New Bedford Lane

On March 24, at approximately 6:45am the Ventura Police Department received a call from a resident on New Bedford Lane in regards to an individual who had broken into and was still inside her residence. Ventura police officers quickly responded to the residence and learned that the individual had fled prior to their arrival.

While still in the area, officers were advised from residents on Brunswick Lane that an individual, who was later identified as 21 year old David William Campus, was seen in the area walking up to the front doors of several residences. At this time an officer observed Campus jump a fence from the backyard of a nearby residence and flee from officers. Officers pursued Campus and subsequently apprehended him.

Campus was identified at the scene by residents as jumping fences to several backyards, walking up to front doors and at one point and running on the rooftop of a residence.

Campus was subsequently placed under arrest and booked at the Ventura County Jail for prowling and being under the influence of a controlled substance.

Fatal traffic accident on Jazmin Avenue

On March 29, Roseanne Beronio, 29 of Ventura was traveling westbound on Darling Rd. A 90 year old Ventura woman was driving southbound on Jazmin Ave. The two vehicles collided in the intersection resulting in fatal injuries to the driver of the southbound vehicle, Beronio was uninjured. The cause of the collision is under investigation by the Ventura Police Department Traffic Unit. Darling Rd was closed in both directions, between Saticoy Ave. and Wells Rd.

Fire on Shiloh Way

On March 29, at 9am Ventura City Fire units responded to a reported residential structure fire in the 5200 block of Shiloh Way. The fire was initially reported as a

sounding smoke detector but when the first arriving engine company got there they discovered a growing fire in a bathroom and the 84 year old female resident still inside, suffering from smoke inhalation. Crews rescued the occupant and made a very quick knock down on the fire. The fire was confined to the bathroom where it had started however there was smoke damage throughout a large portion of the home. The female resident was treated at the scene and transported to Community Memorial Hospital for further evaluation. A Fire Investigator at scene was able to determine that a discarded match that was not fully extinguished started the fire. Due to the extent of damage the resident was provided shelter assistance by the Red Cross while repairs are made to her home.

A smoke detector had alerted a neighbor.

Stabbing on Ralston Street

On March 31, at 1:55pm, VPD officers responded to a reported stabbing at 6626 Ralston St. The officers arrived on scene and found Luke McRedmond, 18 of Ventura lying on the living room floor with a knife lodged in his forearm.

Luke McRedmond was attending a party and got into a fight with one of the residents, Ryan Hannon, 24, also of Ventura. The two men were fighting in the front yard when Hannon pulled a knife out and stabbed McRedmond in the arm. McRedmond retreated into the house for help, and several of the roommates went to confront Hannon. The other roommates and guest were able to detain Hannon until the police arrived.

McRedmond was transported to VCMC for treatment. His injuries were not life threatening. Hannon was also treated at VCMC for minor injuries he sustained during the fight.

Hannon was booked at the Ventura County jail for assault with a deadly weapon.

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Senior Living



Piano playing Bob Long (and his wife Cheryl) performed at the St. Patrick's Day Parade on the award winning Cypress Place "float"

Claddagh Irish dancers delight residents at Cypress Place Senior Living

The Claddagh School of Irish Dancers had a busy day on St. Patrick's Day. First they performed in Ventura's St. Patrick's Day parade, delighting the crowd along the parade route. As soon

as the parade ended, they hustled over to Cypress Place Senior Living to perform at the senior community's St. Patrick's Day celebration, which began right after the parade.

"The Claddagh Irish Dancers performed for us last year and were wonderful," said Mike Macke, co-marketing director at Cypress Place. "Our residents loved their costumes and performance so much, they requested them back again this year."

The celebration at the senior community was open to the public and included a free lunch buffet, including corned beef and cabbage, green beer and live entertainment.

"We put on exciting special events throughout the year that focus on enjoying life with music - whether it be a jazz band at our Senior Winter Ball, line dancing at our Country Hoe Down, live Mariachis at our upcoming Cinco de Mayo celebration, or professional entertainment at our weekly Happy Hour," said Executive Director Jim Duran. Duran estimated close to 350 people at their St. Patrick's Day celebration.

The senior community also participated in the parade with their entry in the commercial division - and won first place. "The theme of this year's parade was 'Music Makes the World Go Round', and that's exactly how we feel at Cypress Place," said activities director Tricia Yates. "In addition to our decorated bus, filled with our residents, we put a piano in the back of a truck and had one of our favorite piano entertainers, Bob Long, performing along the parade route."

Cypress Place Senior Living is located at 1200/1220 Cypress Point Lane in Ventura. For more information about the community, or their upcoming Cinco de Mayo Celebration, please call 650-8000 or visit www.cypressplaceseniorliving.com.



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Join us on April 17 to find out how the Veterans Aid and Attendance program can help pay for accommodations in an assisted living community. Learn about specific benefits, eligibility requirements and how The Lexington can assist with the application process. Mark Lizer from War Era Veterans Alliance will be on hand with all the details. If you're a veteran, or the spouse of a veteran, this is one presentation you cannot afford to miss. Make plans now to be here!

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YMCA Healthy Kids Day

As part of a nationwide effort to encourage kids to get moving, the Ventura Family YMCA will host YMCA Healthy Kids Day, the nation's largest health day for kids and families on April 17 from 10am- 2pm. YMCA Healthy Kids Day is filled with fun, engaging and creative activities.

Healthy Kids Day will also be the first day for summer registrations at

the Ventura Family YMCA including summer child care, after school child care, youth sports classes and leagues and swim lessons.

The cost is \$10 for each participant and \$40 for family. Registration begins at 10am and race starts at 10:30am.

More than 700,000 kids and families are expected to participate in YMCA Healthy Kids Day events at nearly 1,500 YMCA. For more information about YMCA Healthy Kids Day, call 642-2131 or visit www.ciyymca.org.



Patti Channer and her Ohana goin' with the flow-readin' the breeze at Brodda George (Red's) home on Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii



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Senior Living

Senior Cone-nection

HEAP can help!

by Nanci Cone

The holidays are over and the gifts have been opened, used or exchanged. The only thing left to remind us of our generosity is the constant influx of bills. In some cases, this requires a larger payment to department stores and credit agencies leaving many of us with not enough money to pay our utility bills.

Qualified individuals can get either a gas or electric bill paid once yearly through the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP). Each year, Community Action of Ventura County receives government funding to provide assistance to those with low-income households to meet their home energy costs.

Federal law requires that priority be given to low-income households with children under age 6, veterans, the frail elderly, those who can document a significant loss of income, those with high energy burdens (12% of income or higher), and families with dependent children who pay 45% or more of their income for housing.

There are two sites in Ventura and one in Ojai to help fill out forms to receive utility assistance. They offer help on a first come, first served basis: Also, intake interviews are by appointment at Community Action of Ventura County and other locations or call for an application packet to be mailed to you.

Senior Recreation Center, 420 E Santa Clara Street, 648-2829, 2nd Thursday of every month, 9-11 am.

Ventura Avenue Adult Center, 550 N. Ventura Avenue, 648-3035, 4th Thursday of every month, 9-11 am.

Community Assistance Program, 212 Fox Street, Ojai, 640-3320. By appointment only

To prevent a delay in processing your request, please bring picture Identification, Social Security card, verification of date of birth for children under age 6, current gas and electric bill detailing terms and kilowatt usages (yes, both are required), income documentation for ALL house members from ALL sources during the last 4 weeks (paycheck stubs must show gross amounts received), and rental or house payment receipt for the current month. If possible, please bring copies of all documentation that can be submitted with the HEAP form.

If you have any questions regarding HEAP eligibility, you may contact Community Action of Ventura County directly at 436-4000.

Joint replacement and seniors

by Micki Rickard,
Aegis of Ventura

Artificial joints and the surgical techniques to implant them continue to evolve. The medical community and

patients hold out hope for joint replacements that cause fewer problems, last longer, and are more like a healthy natural joint.

What is Joint Replacement?

Joints are formed by the ends of two or more bones connected by tissue called cartilage. Healthy cartilage serves as a protective cushion, allowing smooth, low friction movement of the joint. If the cartilage becomes damaged by disease or injury, the tissues around the joint become inflamed, causing pain. With time the cartilage wears away, allowing the rough edges of bone to rub against each other. This action causes more pain.

When only some of the joint is damaged a surgeon may be able to repair or replace just the damaged parts. When the entire joint is damaged, a total joint replacement is done. To replace a total hip or knee joint, a surgeon removes the diseased or damaged parts and inserts artificial parts called prostheses or implants. These prostheses are considered medical devices, which are regulated by the Food and Drug Administration.

Why Joint Replacement?

The most common reason for having a hip or knee replacement is osteoarthritis. This degenerative joint disease is not limited to older people it most commonly affects people over the age of 45. Younger men and woman may also get this disease.

Some people are born with a deformed joint or defective cartilage. Excess weight, joint fracture, ligament tears, or other injury can cause osteoarthritis.

Loss of bone caused by poor blood supply (vascular necrosis) and bone tumors may be other reasons for joint replacement.

Joint replacement is becoming more common. About 435,000 Americans have a hip or knee replaced each year. Then benefits can be life changing for many who have lived with chronic pain. Any surgery has risks. Risks of joint surgery will depend on your health before surgery and the severity of your particular situation. A doctor specializing in joint replacement will work with you before, during and after surgery to guide you through this process.

With hip or knee surgery you may be able to go home in 3-5 days. Having additional handicaps may extend your hospital stay or transferring to a care facility before going home. How long you stay in the hospital will be determined by you and your team of doctors.

Physical therapy can usually begin the day after surgery to help strengthen the muscles around the new joint. Regaining a full range of motion is always the hopeful outcome. As you move your new joint and let your muscles grow strong again, pain will lessen and flexibility increase. Joint replacement is usually a success in more than 90 percent of people who have it.

Experiencing knee, hip or any other joint pain can be life altering. Not being able to do the things you enjoy or even the task of walking can become difficult. If you are experiencing joint pain that is

Continued on page 14

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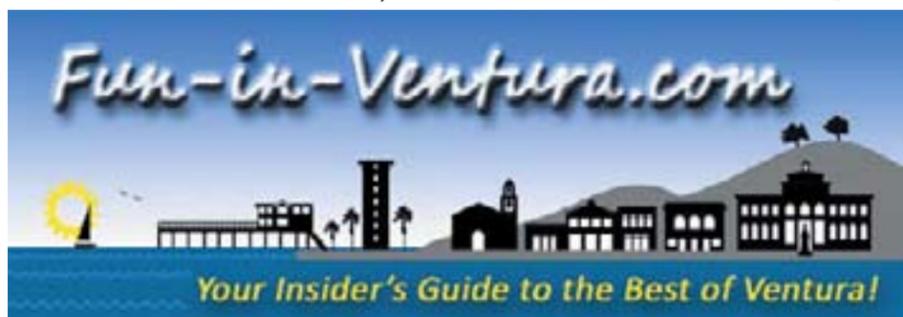
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- * Understand VA benefits and the application process.
- * How to become eligible even if you exceed the limits.
- * What benefits you are entitled to for residing at an assisted living community.

The American Association for Wartime Veterans



800-850-5504



School

Pressure to score highly on tests bears down on students

by **Kathryne Duckwitz**
Ventura High School

As we VHS students approach our fourth and final quarter of the school year, we are fully aware that this is no time to get too comfortable in our studies. March marks the beginning of the testing season: about a three month period where it is crucial we perform to the best of our capabilities. A vast variety of school and state-required tests are issued including Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR testing), the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE), final exams and Benchmark tests. All of these tests are added to whatever other assessments our teachers have prepared for us as a part of our regular curriculum. It's not too surprising that some students accumulate an overwhelming amount of stress during this time.

A lot of what makes these tests such a heavy load is not simply the studying or preparation prior to taking them. Administrators and teachers have insisted from fairly early on in our education that our scores, grades and placements will play a very large role in our success academically, especially when viewed by colleges. This information firmly places a burdening, if not ominous, notion that our statistics will always follow us while we are in school. For those who are concerned with scoring well, they must be sure to really make an effort to function at their full potential. Unfortunately, when it comes to the state tests no second chances or retakes will be given. If a student is ill, exhausted or basically in any way not in top condition, the score they receive is final. Of course make up testing days are available to those who were absent, although it is highly recommended the student do all they can to be present at the original time. That is partially because most of these exams take up about four hours of the average six hour long school day. Having to make up these tests at later times has a tendency to put students behind in their other courses.

Schools benefit from the state tests through the average scores of their students. This is a key method in comparing schools to others in the school districts. Another major motive for administrators to ensure that their students will score as highly as possible is (to no huge surprise) the money. The better the test results, the more funding the schools will receive. Especially in today's difficult economy, the extra income can prove pretty rewarding. That is why many teachers must dedicate most of their instruction according to the tests so that we are given the best possible opportunity for success. Sadly, due to this we often don't have time to learn other things of value if they are not featured on the tests. Educating on material based on the content of the exams is the first priority.

This time of year, when the weather is improving and students are beginning to anticipate their beloved summer vacation, they must remain focused knowing that how they score on these tests could later affect whether they are admitted into their first choice of college or not. Not only do our results impact college entry, but they also affect our options for enrollment in the next year of high school. With higher scores, a student is able to be placed in more advanced classes. With the stakes this high, and only one shot to get it right, it is absolutely essential that we stay on track and do our best.



Mallory McPherson-Wehan, Amber Pupa and Gina Randazzo selling their home made cookies to raise money for the Relay for Life

Cabrillo students raise money for Relay for Life

Cabrillo Middle School Students Mallory McPherson-Wehan, Amber Pupa and Gina Randazzo spent their Saturday baking up a storm of goodies for their Sunday Bake Sale to benefit their team for the upcoming Relay For Life. The girls set up on a corner near Ventura High School and in two hours raised over \$150.

One man stopped but said he didn't need any food and dropped a \$20 bill into the money canister. A City of Ventura Fire Truck made a brief stop to hand out a quick \$20 donation to Gina Randazzo who approached the firemen.

The girls represent the Cabrillo Middle School leadership team that will participate in the event which will be held at Buena High School on May 15 - 16. Relay for Life is sponsored by the American Cancer Society to increase awareness of cancer and to raise funds for research.

The three girls were impressed by how friendly everyone was and how supportive people were to their cause. Mallory McPherson-Wehan said that they look forward to passing the Ventura Breeze team many times while they are on the track participating in Relay for Life.

Breeze: We are up to the challenge

High School to host annual fundraiser

Foothill Technology High School will host the Starry, Starry Night Online Auction and a dinner, raffle, silent and live auction on April 23. From 6-9 p.m. at Saticoy Country Club, Foothill Technology High School will hold its annual fundraiser, Starry, Starry Night. The auction will be celebrating Foothill Technology High School's Astronomical Achievements.

The reception, dinner, raffle and live and silent auction will help to support the many programs of Foothill, including Renaissance, an academic reward

program. Additionally, funds raised by Starry, Starry Night will help to support programs and services provided by the Associated Student Body (ASB) as well as provide opportunities for the Parent, Faculty, Student Organization (PFSO) to provide grants as needed to Foothill students.

Foothill Technology High School will add an online auction to Starry, Starry Night as well. Prizes include golf packages, wine country experiences, travel packages, and even special items for the teens. Travel packages and experiences will be included in the prizes, such as a NASCAR driving experience, a shopping getaway, a French laundry dining experience, and teen baskets. The items in this online auction are in addition to the live & silent auction items available at the event on the evening of April 23. All proceeds directly benefit Foothill Technology High School. Visit the online auction at <http://auctions.readysetauction.com/foothilltechnologyhi/>. Click on the "View Auction Catalog" button to start bidding.

Participants are encouraged to invite friends and family to the online auction. If you have questions, please feel free to email the auction committee by clicking the "Contact Us" button.

To attend this event, tickets are \$50 per person. For more information or to purchase tickets please visit www.foothilltech.org or call Foothill Technology High School at 289-0023.

Sports



Local team competes in the AYSO Section

The Ventura AYSO Region 39 Boys U12 Allstar team coached by Arthur Lindahl and Tim May recently competed in the AYSO Section 10 All Star tournament in Bakersfield. Having competed in February in the Area 10 W All Star tournament they became the 2nd place team in their division for Area 10 W.

Golf Tournament seeking sponsorships

In order to help meet the needs of those serving our country, the American Red Cross of Ventura County is holding the Red Cross Classic Golf Tournament on Friday, April 23 at the Seabee Golf Course of Port Hueneme.

Sponsorships are currently being sought to help support the event designed to aid the military and their families. Sponsorship levels range from Tee Sponsor for \$100; Military Foursome Sponsor Salute at \$400; Corporate Package, \$500; Tournament Lunch Sponsor, \$2,800 and

Tournament Sponsor, \$5,000. Sponsorship benefits vary for each level of support. All sponsors will be publicly recognized in the tournament promotion.

The Red Cross Classic kicks off with a putting contest at 11am followed by a Texas Scramble, shotgun start at 12:30 pm. The \$90 donation per player includes green fees, cart, awards, lunch, drink and appetizers. The entry deadline is April 12.

To receive an entry form or sponsorship information for the Red Cross Classic, call the American Red Cross of Ventura County at 987-1514.

During the past fiscal year, the American Red Cross of Ventura County supported over 14,440 military personnel and their families when they deployed or returned from active duty.

Each year, more than 1,200 local volunteers respond to more than 50 local disasters, teach tens of thousands of individual's vital lifesaving skills, and support the men and women in the U.S. Armed Forces. The American Red Cross is not a government agency.

Joint replacement

Continued from page 13

making your life less enjoyable than it could be, please consult your doctor with any questions you may have. Help is out there than can make these challenges more manageable.

Aegis of Ventura offers short term stays after surgery in gracious furnished apartments. Everything is provided including care. Please call Micki Rickard at -650-1114 for details. Aegis of Ventura is located at 4964 Telegraph Road in Ventura.

Free caregiving workshop offered at Aegis of Ventura

On Saturday, April 24 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Aegis of Ventura, 4964 Telegraph Rd, and co-sponsored by Alzheimer's Association, Central Coast and Coast Caregiver Resource Center Joanne Reynolds, a caregiving coach and author of "Search for Light: Ten Crucial Lessons for Caregivers" and the Blueprint for caregiving series.

Caregivers who attend this free workshop will learn 12 indispensable keys for maintaining their own health while caring for a family member or friend including:

- How to spot Caregiver Mentality and replace it with healthy behaviors.
- What to add to your to-do list and what to take off while you are caregiving.
- Simple and practical ideas for self-care while caring for someone else.

Please call (805) 484-6028 to make a reservation.

Investment Group

The "Investment Group" meets at the Senior Recreation Center located at 420 East Santa Clara Street in Ventura on Mondays from 10:00 to 11:30 am. Activities include a review of the week's economic events, viewing investment-related videos, review of relevant articles, discussions about potential investments for seniors, and may include presentations by guest speakers. Membership is free and all are welcome.

Business



Steve Yapp owns PODS in Ventura and has decided to celebrate their fifth birthday by throwing a huge chamber mega mixer

Mixing business with charity: An interview with Steve Yapp

by Tim Pompey

Steve Yapp is the owner of the local PODS moving and storage company that services Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties. He feels a strong commitment to each of these communities and is looking forward to celebrating PODS fifth birthday by throwing a huge charity event called "Full House for Charity" on April 22 at his storage center in Ventura (see party info at www.mylocalpods.com). The event will benefit five local nonprofits. The Breeze asked for an interview to discuss why, as a businessman, he feels it is important to be involved with this type of local community service.

T: I guess we'd all like to know: Why did you feel moved to do this particular event?

S: I view this as an opportunity to share how other businesses owners can become involved in the community. Often times businesses are asked to get involved with a monetary commitment that may not fit into their budget. What they need to understand is that there are many different ways a donation can be given whether that is through time, talent, or business resources.

T: What is it about connecting PODS to the local community that's important to you?

S: To me it's a connection of resources. So whether it's PODS, or you're a food company, or you manufacture steel, or whatever it is, there's something in your business that can be used by someone out there. What I've been given as a tool is a vehicle for storage. There isn't a charitable group we've spoken to that couldn't use it. We give PODS away for auction items. People love them and they raise a lot of money, since typically they're a \$750 to \$1,000 value.

T: Different companies have different philosophies about giving, and I'm interested in your philosophy from a business perspective. Why do you feel that sense of responsibility?

S: Bottom line, it is the right thing to do. As a business owner I rely on the community to use our services, allowing us to survive and even prosper. In turn I need to support our communities. In my eyes, one of the best and most rewarding ways to do this is to support numerous non-profit organizations. Often times these groups are the last stop gap to catch someone that has fallen, and in these uncertain economic times, I am reminded constantly that it could be any one of us that may someday need the help.

T: It's no secret, this is a tough time to be in business and business people are struggling to make ends meet. What would you say to other businesses to keep them involved?

S: One of the challenges nonprofits face is a consistent need for monetary donations, which at times could scare a business owner away, knowing that they themselves are trying to keep their doors open. However, there are needs beyond monetary. These nonprofits would love to have your staff join them for a volunteer day or organize a work party that can help build a home or simply put your assets to work. For example, we assist FOOD Share during its holiday food drives by providing storage and pickup of donated goods in our PODS containers. Ultimately, we've saved them over \$42,000 in labor and material costs. They were able to turn this savings into \$280,000 of buying power to feed many people in need. Just remember it is time, talent and resources that are needed beyond the straight monetary request.

T: Is there anything you would like to say about this particular event?

S: While it will be a fun celebration of our 5-year achievement. More important, it's a recognition of five key charities (though there are so many more) that support our communities in such a profound way. The challenge we want to share with everyone who attends our event is to simply ask "What can I do to support you?" We all need to realize it is the right thing to do, and who knows? Someday you, a family member or a friend may need the services of one of these charities.

Shred a few pounds at the County Schools Federal Credit Union

On April 22 the County Schools Federal Credit Union will be celebrating Earth Day by providing a free Shred Day at 4591 Market St.

This event is open to their membership as well as anyone else in the community who needs to shred their personal documents. They are trying to promote ID theft prevention, as well as Earth Day. For further information please call them at 644-4657.

New CMH construction

Continued from page 1

a high profile landmark. "It's meant to be a distinct focal point for this area," Gary Wilde, CMHS President & CEO, explains. "Architecturally, the city wanted it to create a visual center point. It fits right in with the city's plan for revitalizing mid-town."

The approval process is in its final stages. If all goes as expected, City approval is slated for some time late spring, perhaps early June. That will be the catalyst that triggers the final stages of State approval through the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development. Administrators at CMHS are hopeful that could take place mid to late summer.

Even with a national financial crisis sweeping the country, Adam Thunell, Vice President of Operations, and Haady Lashkari, Assistant Vice President, seem optimistic about financing and fund raising for the new hospital. They're hopeful to use a combination of borrowing, fund raising via a capital campaign, and accessing fund reserves. By fall, their funding should be in place. As of this point, everything is moving toward groundbreaking in early January. Completion is estimated some time in 2014.



Steve and Polly Hoganson pose in the new patio seating area that will be part of Zoey's new location. Patio art is being provided by MB Hanrahan.

Zoey's art scene moves to new location

by Tim Pompey

Remember the tiny upstairs café in the back of the El Jardin? How you had to climb those stairs and sit packed in like sardines? Welcome to the new Zoey's (www.zoeyscfe.com) located next to the Clocktower Inn near the corner of Santa Clara and Figueroa. Formerly the nightclub Hush, it's being renovated and prepared for their grand opening on April 17 (during Ventura's Art-Walk). It's bigger. It's all on one level. And, best of all, there's parking.

It's still owned by Steve and Polly Hoganson, who have managed Zoey's for the last four years. But what used to be a small café and music joint will now include a patio area with seating for 30, an expanded bar, and a music room large enough to hold 60 guests comfortably.

For most Venturans, however, what has set Zoey's apart is their strong connection to the local arts scene. As an example, local artist MB Hanrahan is painting their patio walls. With her characteristic zest for design and love of color, she has added a touch of '60s fluorescence and whimsy to Zoey's outdoor dining.

Their main focus, however, is on music: original singer/songwriter music. In the past, they have featured some of the best folk, bluegrass, and indy rock in the region. Innumerable budding musicians and singers have come to Zoey's to get a leg up on their careers. Will that style of music change?

No, says Polly, but, perhaps "a bigger venue means we might be able to attract the next level of singer/songwriter." They already have a good repu-

tation. They've attracted notables like Grant Lee Phillips, Glen Phillips from Toad the Wet Sprocket, and Sara Watkins from Nickle Creek. Upcoming shows will feature a tribute to Hank Williams and the Quebe Sisters.

And, as things have worked out, the opening of Zoey's in this area adds to the development of a unique arts and entertainment community in west Ventura. Consider this. On a typical first Friday of the month, park in one of Ventura's public parking lots by the County Museum. Take a late afternoon stroll and browse through the remodeled Museum of Ventura County. For your early evening pleasure, walk a couple of blocks south and take in First Fridays at WÄV. Chat with an artist, a sculptor, or a musician. Perhaps even buy a beautiful piece of artwork. Then, walk a couple blocks east, have dinner at Zoey's, and take in some original music. If you're looking to top off a special evening, you can breeze next door and spend the night at the Clocktower Inn. When you wake up in the morning, Zoey's will provide you room service.

For those who appreciate Zoey's support of the arts, this move will put them square in the center of the action. It's where the Hoganson's like to be, providing their customary good food and good music. "We're very welcoming at Zoey's. We're a family environment and we hope people will come visit us to see some art and music."

No problem here. Any place that serves up hot food and Hank Williams sounds good to me.



Kati Escallier, Assistant Manager and Dennis Jenks, Social Events Coordinator, both from the Pierpont Racquet Club were recent guests on the Ventura Breeze portion of the Coach Ron Tunick radio show on local radio station AM1400KKZZ.

The Pierpont Racquet Club is located at 500 Sanjon Rd. in Ventura.



King Crossword — Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

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Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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Health



Lars and Trevelyn Yahr and their sons Torsten and Hans on the deck of the Islander during a recent whale watching trip with members of their group Diabetes Outdoors.

Diabetes motivates parents to get outdoors

by Tim Pompey

You're the parent of a normal healthy child. Then one day, you take that child to the doctor and discover they've been diagnosed with diabetes. Type I. Suddenly everything changes. Insulin, diet, sugar monitoring. It can be very bewildering.

That was the case with Lars and Trevelyn Yahr from east Ventura. Their oldest son, Torsten, was diagnosed with type I diabetes at age four. Lars, who also has the disease, has maintained his outdoor activity in the twenty-five years since his own diagnosis, including surfing, kayaking, SCUBA diving, and hiking.

As parents, however, they discovered that information and resources about keeping a child active as a diabetic were scarce. "The mechanics we know. It was more the support we needed," says Lars. "We tried all the standard sources of information and there wasn't much out there." In response to this, they decided to form their own nonprofit group called Diabetes Outdoors (www.diabetesoutdoors.org).

Trevelyn describes a parent's typical reaction when their child is diagnosed. "Usually parents are stunned dealing with the emotional and daily living." That was certainly their experience. All the adjustments to lifestyle, diet, and medications. "So," she continues, "we try to show that exercise is vital and then combine this with fun, adventure, and a support system."

That would explain why they're out today on Island Packer's charter boat Islander, twenty miles off the coast of Ventura, looking for whales. A group of twenty-six people - families, adults, and children dealing with diabetes - has gathered, some from as far away as San Bernardino, to be together, play with their kids, and enjoy the beautiful islands. You can understand their joy and concern as they ride the boat while simultaneously doling out snack foods and counting carbs. It's a juggling act, combining medicine and nutrition with recreation, but, like trained clinicians, the Yahrs seem comfortable with the routine.

It's all part of the purpose of Diabetes Outdoors. The organization sponsors monthly events like hikes and beach days to encourage people with diabetes to be active. As a part of their gatherings, the group tries to include some tips on nutrition and calorie counting. People who attend also spend time casually talking together and sharing bits of knowledge. For Lars and Trevelyn and the many families they help, it's become a tight-knit community.

Today, for instance, in between whale sightings, friends sit in the galley and chat while their kids run around and play to-

gether. It's fun. It's educational. It's important. "I'm surprised at how little knowledge doctors tend to give about these kinds of issues," Trevelyn says. She knows there's a hole in the medical system regarding diabetes and an active lifestyle. Diabetes Outdoors tries to fill that gap.

The Captain of the Islander locates a pod of grey whales. Four of them curiously swim around a circle of boats. For a couple of hours, everyone gets to watch them surface, spout, and roll on their sides. It's an amazing experience. Their size, their friendliness.

It only serves to demonstrate that having diabetes doesn't have to limit recreational activity. Lars and Trevelyn know this from personal experience and hope to get the word out. Lars smiles when he says, "We're showing other people that living with diabetes can be fun." If getting on a boat and watching whales is proof of this experience, he's certainly made his point.



Get healthy while enjoying the wonderful Ventura Harbor and the sounds of the water

Refresh your mind and body with Gentle Yoga

Refresh your mind, body and soul and get healthy with Gentle Yoga every Saturday from 10-10:30 a.m. on the Ventura Harbor Village main lawn; April through October. The public is welcome to drop in for classes each week to learn and practice yoga in a serene outdoor setting overlooking boats with the sound of waves crashing in the distance for just \$5 per 30 minute session.

"What could be more relaxing and real than sunshine, fresh air, the sounds of the sea and the surrounding views plus the benefits of yoga? It's a great way to start your Saturday or leave a busy week behind," said Lisa Bever, a regular attendee from 2009 who is back this year for a new season of Gentle Yoga at the Ventura Harbor Village. Bever said she most enjoys doing yoga at the harbor outdoors and appreciates a follow-up walk in the dog-friendly Harbor after the class.

Practicing yoga is a great way to get healthy and is a low impact exercise routine for most any age or skill level. Yoga is known to not only improve muscle tone, flexibility and strength but it can reduce stress and help clear ones mind. Gentle Yoga at the Ventura Harbor Village will replenish ones body and soul in a one-of-a-kind calming outdoor setting just steps from the Pacific Ocean.

Participants are encouraged to wear comfortable clothing and a mat will be provided if needed. Parking is free, no reservations required. Class instructor, Pamela, serves as a yoga instructor at several locations including Bally Total Fitness, Ventura West Marina, LA Fitness, and at Yoga Soup and Coral Casino in Santa Barbara.

As an added value or extension to your workout, Gentle Yoga participants can take advantage of a discounted cou-

pon for a one-hour kayak rental with Ventura Boat Rentals to compliment the morning; kayaking in the Harbor to Harbor Cove Beach, amongst the marinas, or through the Ventura Keys.

In the event of large public events on the main lawn, the alternate location for Gentle Yoga is at Harbor Cove Beach directly across from the Main Lawn on Spinnaker Drive. For more information, visit www.venturaharborvillage.com, or call 477-0470.

NAMI Ventura County "NAMI-WALKS for the Mind of America" is on May 1

The mission of NAMI Ventura County is to provide emotional support, education and resources for families affected by mental illness. Through community collaboration and education, they advocate for a life of quality and dignity—one without discrimination—for all people affected by this illness.

The purpose of NAMI Ventura County is to advocate for and provide support and crisis resources to those affected by neurological disorders including schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, bipolar disorder, major depression, borderline personality disorder, OCD, panic disorder, severe anxiety disorder and co-occurring brain disorders and addictive disorders.

They believe (as do all mental health professionals) that mental illness is a neurobiological disorder requiring and responding to comprehensive treatment.

People with mental illness have the right to access and participate in the latest and most effective medications, treatments available, health insurance and the right to be treated with dignity and respect—free from discrimination and stigma.

The development of all resources is essential to support the compassionate delivery of mental health services and the continued success of NAMI Ventura County. Pursuant to this NAMI will present a 5K walk at the San Buenaventura Beach Promenade.

This nationwide fundraising and mental health awareness program is being held in more than 80 communities around the country. It is expected that these walks will raise approximately 9 million dollars in 2010 for NAMI and the mental health services it provides to thousands of families across the country.

There is no walker registration fee for the Walk. All participants are encouraged to collect donations from family members, friends, co workers and business associates in support of their participation in the Walk.

All the funds collected by walkers will be used to fund NAMI's programs here in Ventura County.

All walkers raising \$100 or more will receive a NAMIWALKS for the Mind of America event T-shirt. Companies, organizations and families are encouraged to organize teams of walkers made up of employees, organization members, relatives and friends to take part in the Walk.

Anyone interested in information on how his or her company or organization can sponsor the Walk should contact the NAMI Ventura County office at 641-2426 or go to Walk Web Site www.nami.org/namiwalks/CA/Ventura for more information.

Movie Time Spring DVD selections

by Tim Pompey

Spring is upon us - that tweener season, post-Academy Awards, pre-summer blockbuster. You're looking at the movie selections in the paper and going . . . eh . . . \$10? For this? Well, maybe I can catch you in the mood for some independent films in your local video store. Something a little off the beaten path. Did I read your mind or what? Here are a few psychic suggestions. Like a good smorgasbord, you get to pick your favorites.

For those who like TV dramas, there's Season Three of "Mad Men," in which we find ad man Don Draper plowing through 1963, struggling to get along with the new British owners of Sterling and Cooper, and . . . he's started a love affair with one of his children's teachers. Bad Don. Brilliant Don. Sexy Don. Good drama.

How about an academy award nominated film that you might have missed? "An Education," with a brilliant performance by newcomer Carey Mulligan. Think British education is all about dreary repetition? Well, yes, but not for Jenny - enrolled in a strict girl's academy, introduced to the joy and pain of sex by mysterious boyfriend David. Sandra Bullock? Really? Mulligan deserved to win the Oscar for Best Actress.

How about something international? "Lemon Tree" deals with the current political and cultural division between Jews and Palestinians. A Palestinian widow finds that her lemon grove abuts the estate of the newly appointed Israeli Defense Minister. When security concerns by the state of Israel lead to the grove's destruction, widow Salma does not go quietly. A great performance by Hiam Abbass, most recently of "The Visitor."

And don't think I'm ignoring the kids. For those younguns who are, say, 8-12 years old, check out "The Fantastic Mr. Fox." Lovingly developed by director Wes Anderson (remember "The Royal Tenenbaums"?) from the book by Roald Dahl, it stars George Clooney, Meryl Streep, and a host of others in a wonderful tale about a reformed chicken stealing fox who gets back his old yen for hen. Great art. Great music. Very charming.

And finally, I would be remiss not to mention one of the best romances of last summer, "(500) Days of Summer." Ladies, even as a guy, I take your yen for love seriously. And if you want your man to watch love and kisses, this is the one to pick. Who says romance can't be funny? Who says Hall and Oates are old fashioned? Baby, this film has groove.

There's so much more, but my time is up. Don't think my list is complete. There's the dark and twisted "Big Fan" for football junkies, the poignant "S raphine" for art lovers, and much, much more. So, hold on. Summer's coming. Meanwhile, take some time to browse the shelves. It's much more entertaining and it saves a popcorn bag full of money. You'll need that dough this summer to pay for all that 3D.

The Lighter Breeze

Hagar the Horrible



Shoe



Zits



Mother Goose and Grimm



Bizarro



Grin and Bear It



Solutions on page 15

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
 ★★★ HOO BOY!

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Solutions on page 15

King Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11	
12					13				14				
15					16				17				
18				19			20	21					
			22			23					24	25	
26	27	28				29				30			
31					32				33				
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37			38					39					
		40						41			42	43	44
45	46					47	48			49			
50						51				52			
53						54				55			

ACROSS

1 Read quickly
 5 The whole shebang
 8 Eastern potentate
 12 Author Morrison
 13 Halloween shout
 14 Easter emblem
 15 Winged
 16 Early bird?
 17 Gilligan's home
 18 Bicycle-seat style
 20 Restaurant chain acronym
 22 "Dilbert" or "Garfield"
 26 Face-to-face exams
 29 Cistern
 30 Altar affirmative
 31 Jackknife, for one
 32 Crony
 33 Had more than a hunch
 34 Female deer
 35 Roscoe
 36 Falafel holders
 37 Meccas for shoppers
 40 Break suddenly
 41 Pearl's home
 45 \$50, in

DOWN

1 Impale
 2 Caffeine-rich nut
 3 — instant
 4 Sainthood prerequisite
 5 Perpendicular to the keel
 6 Journal
 7 Sane
 8 "Cats" inspirer
 9 Typo
 10 Ailing
 11 Pumpernickel alternative
 19 Ph. bk. data predecessor
 23 Ex of The Donald
 24 Notion
 25 "Hogan's Heroes" group
 26 Probability

27 Laugh-a-minute
 28 Distaste
 32 Cinderella's coach, really
 33 Casual dismissal
 35 Coll. transcript stat
 36 Thickness
 38 Cove
 39 Bank transactions
 42 Genealogy chart
 43 Morays, e.g.
 44 Deteriorates
 45 Satchel
 46 Hearty brew
 48 Debtor's letters

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Salome's Stars

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Your sense of justice makes you the likely person to help deal with a work- or family-related grievance. But you need to have any doubts about anyone's true agenda resolved first.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) The Scorpio passion for getting things done right and on time might rankle some folks. Never mind them. Others will be impressed, and they're the ones you want in your corner.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Finances could be a mite tight this week. And, while things will ease up soon enough, you savvy Sagittarians will want to keep a prudent eye on your expenses at this time.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Although a technical malfunction could cause a temporary delay in getting things up and running, you could use the time to recheck your operation and make changes where necessary.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You might find it difficult to resist making a snap judgment about a colleague's behavior. But stick with your usual way of assessing situations and wait for the facts to come out.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Asking for help with a family situation might be the wisest course to take right now. Just be sure you turn to someone you can trust to do and say the right thing for the right reasons.

BORN THIS WEEK: People see in you a born leader whom they can follow and put their trust in.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) A problem in getting a workplace project up and moving might upset the Lamb, who likes things done on time. But be patient. The delay could turn out to be a blessing in disguise.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Your instincts are usually on the mark, so if you feel uneasy about being asked for advice on a certain matter, it's probably a good idea that you opt not to comply with the request.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You might have two minds about a proposed change (which often happens with the Twins), but once all the facts are in, you'll be able to make a definitive decision. Good luck.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) The Crab's frugal aspect dominates, so while you might be reluctant to pay for technical repairs, the time you save in getting things back on track could be well worth the expense.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) While you Leos and Leonas continue to concentrate on doing well in your work-related ventures this week, consider reserving the weekend for sharing good times with family and friends.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) This is a good week to take stock of the important personal, professional or familial relationships in your life and see where you might need to do some intense shoring up.

**JOIN US FOR
YMCA HEALTHY
KIDS' DAY**

April 17th 10 am - 1 pm

Enjoy a FREE day with...

- Healthy snacks and treats
- Games and activities
- Bounce houses
- Exciting prizes and giveaways
- Representatives from health, safety, and educational organizations

The YMCA will be open to the community all day and will also be kicking off **REGISTRATION** for...

- swim lessons
- youth classes
- sports leagues
- summer camps
- 2010 school year child care

Sign up for Summer Camp before April 30th and get **EARLY BIRD PRICING** (save up to \$150)

GIVE YOUR CHILD THE BEST SUMMER EVER!



Ventura Family YMCA
a branch of the Channel Islands YMCA

3760 Telegraph Road • Ventura, CA 93003 • (805) 642-2131 • www.dymca.org/ventura

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Ventura
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Monday and Tuesday – Extra Large Pizza, one topping, \$10.99 or Spaghetti, \$4.95

GLUTEN FREE PIZZA Starting March 1st!

<p>\$18.99 for 2 Medium Pizzas, 2 toppings!</p>	<p><i>Buy 1 pizza, get 2nd pizza 1/2 price!</i></p>
<p>\$21.99 for 2 Large Pizzas, 2 toppings!</p>	<p>Family Deal 1 Extra Large, 2 toppings & any large salad & 6 chicken wings, \$24.95</p>

Harbor and Beaches

DIAL-A-RIDE!

805.207.0699

Everyone welcome!



Service Area inside green area.

\$2.00 Adults
\$1.50 Seniors (65+)
\$1.50 Disabled (with ADA Card)

Additional Service to:

- Oxnard Airport Terminal • Oxnard Tranist Center (OTC) • Gold Coast "C" Street Transfer Center

Ventura Automotive Repair

Complete Auto, Truck Repair and Service
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Smog Check, Certificate Extra (Most Vehicles) In & Out Quickly!
Must present Coupon Expires 3/31/10

Oil Change \$29.95
Filter, oil included.

Power Steering Flush \$50.00
Fluid included.

Brake Fluid Flush \$50.00
Fluid included.

Clean Injectors \$79.95
Chemicals included, fuel filter additional.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Avoid expensive repairs: do oil changes on **ALL fluids!**

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Are you ready for some football?

Come on out and cheer on the Ventura County Hogs as they battle the California Blue Knights at the 1st Annual Ventura Police Activities League (PAL) Football Bowl.

This charity football game prom-

ises to be a great family event and a lot of fun. Even better, all proceeds stay local and benefit Ventura PAL's youth charity programs as they continue their mission of guiding our youth to a brighter future.

Tickets are \$5 at the door or for pre-sale please contact Corporal Jon Castellanos at jcastellanos@venturapd.org or at 797-8847.

The Hogs Team (which is comprised of police officers from the Ven-

tura Police Department, Oxnard Police Department, Ventura County Sheriff's Office, Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office, Santa Barbara Police Department, and officers from the California Youth Authority) will be playing against the California Blue Knights (composed of officers from throughout various Southern California law enforcement agencies).

Ventura PAL is a non-profit 501c3 organization and is funded primarily

through community donations. The cornerstone of Ventura PAL is to provide our youth with meaningful recreational, athletic, educational, and cultural activities.

To learn more about Ventura PAL and the Hogs please visit www.ventura-pal.org, Ventura Police Department's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/venturapd, or the Hogs Facebook page at www.facebook.com and search for Ventura County Police Hogs Football.

Ventura Breeze Service Directory

Mail Boxes

Attract Attention!

Place your business card here for only **\$33.33 per issue!**

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Pest Control

Art, Design, Printing

Children's Therapy

Would you like new and more customers? Then place your horizontal business card in the Ventura Breeze Service Directory. Only \$200 for 6 issues. Just contact advertising@venturabreeze.com or call 653-0791 for further information and to place your ad.



Planning An Estate Sale?
Call Sue Adams for a Free Consultation.

Ventura County Fairgrounds

Swap Meet

Every Wednesday

7am to 2pm

Free Parking and Admission

Antiques • Collectibles

Farmers' Market

Vendor Space Available

For Information call Sue Adams

818.590.5435

10 West Harbor Boulevard

www.snauctions.com



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*All offers valid with purchase of smog check

4624 Telephone Road, Ventura 805.644.5152

How Much Should A Good Kitchen Cost?

Wednesday

April 14, 2010

6:00 - 8:00 pm

RESERVATIONS

ARE REQUIRED

805-658-0440

• Refreshments

• Free gift bag

• Discounts

• Door prizes

\$20 reservation fee, refunded upon arrival.

BELLMONT



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Attention Ventura City Residents!

April is Resident Appreciation Month!

ENTER RAFFLE EACH TIME YOU PLAY!



Play Olivas Links and/or Buena Ventura in April! Bring a guest and he/she will receive your City Resident Rate all month. Also every time you play golf you will receive a raffle ticket to be entered to win great prizes! You will also get a raffle ticket for each guest you bring. The more guests you bring, the more times you play, the more chances to WIN!!!



GRAND PRIZE:
Golfer's Getaway Overnight VIP Package for 4 to Award-Winning Desert Willow Golf Resort in Palm Desert, CA. Hotel accommodations included.

RUNNER-UP PRIZE:
A Central Coast Day Trip for 4 to Award-Winning Monarch Dunes Golf Course in Nipomo, CA

MORE CHANCES TO WIN!
Golf rounds at Black Gold Golf Club, Yorba Linda, CA
Golf rounds at The Crossings at Carlsbad, Carlsbad, CA
Taylormade Drivers And More!

RAFFLE DRAWINGS | DEMO DAY
Saturday-May 1, from 12:00-2:00 pm @ Olivas Links

COMPLIMENTARY HOTDOG & DRINK*
CLUB FITTING | DEMO | PRIZES

*while supplies last. Raffle winners not required to be present.
Resident must accompany guest in order for guest to receive resident rate.

For more details visit www.BuenaVenturaGolf.com/Residents