FREE

VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

Vol. 3, No. 23 | Published Every Other Wednesday | August 25 - September 7, 2010

Historic Ventura Pier

by Keith Fowler
Public Works Supervisor
City of Ventura

Whether it was your first fish or first kiss, the Ventura Pier has been making memories for the last 138 years. As with anything that old, the pier requires some tender loving care to keep it safe and maintained. This year was no exception. As a matter of fact, you could say that our beloved pier needed a lot of love and care this year. The City is putting the final touches on three maintenance and repair projects intended to preserve the pier.

The first of these projects started in November 2009. The $123,000 project included routine maintenance, as well as replacement of two new timber piles, plastic pile wrapping on two additional piles, repair or replacement of both steel and timber cross bracing and tightening of hardware. The nonprofit organization Pier into the Future graciously provided $75,000 from the $1 million endowment that was established to pay for ongoing preservation of the pier.

Maintenance and repair projects at the pier have been completed

In January 2010, before completing the first project, the pier sustained substantial damage during a winter storm. The most significant damage was caused when high surf snapped off a pile at the mud line. The wave action caused the loose pile to repeatedly slam against the pier causing further damage. Once the storm subsided and the damage was assessed, the second project required replacement of five piles and numerous cross bracings. The $178,000 cost of these storm related repairs was graciously funded by the Ventura Pier endowment.

The third project was a lighting retrofit project to install new energy efficient lamps and controllers in the existing fixtures. This project retained the historically accurate light fixtures, while vastly improving the reliability of the lighting system and providing regular savings on the monthly electrical bill.

In 1993 the City entered into a partnership with the Pier into the Future organization with one goal in mind – to preserve the pier for future generations.

This valued partnership ensures that Ventura's beloved and historic Pier can be properly maintained and enjoyed well into the future.

Reprinted from the Pierings, Summer 2010 with permission from the City of Ventura

A large turtle, council member Carl Morehouse (he's the one in the middle) and Gina Goodhill explaining the hazards of single-use plastic bags

35 foot turtle comes to Ventura

Ventura council member Carl Morehouse, Environmental California and other environmental groups gathered at the Ventura Promenade on August 18 to show support for AB 1998 (Brownley), a bill that if passed would ban single-use plastic bags in California. In order to stress the severe harm that plastic pollution often has on marine animals, the participants stood beside a 35 foot inflatable sea turtle.

"Litter from single use plastic bags is a big problem in Ventura. They are an eyesore along our roadways, neighborhoods and parks," said Council Member Carl Morehouse. "And as a coastal community, we have to consider the larger impact of how these plastic bags impact the ocean and marine life. Something needs to be done to cure California addiction to single use plastic bags."

The Senate is expected to vote on this bill in the next two weeks, if passed, the bill would make California the first state in the country to prohibit grocery stores, convenience stores and pharmacies from giving away single-use plastic bags. The Governor has already pledged to sign the bill if the Senate passes it.

"Every year in California, we use 19 billion bags – enough to get to the moon 15 times," said Gina Goodhill, ocean advocate for Environment California. "Nothing that we use for 5 minutes should pollute the ocean for 500 years," said Goodhill.

Plastic pollution like single-use bags affects 267 species every year. One of those animals is the Pacific Leatherback Sea Turtle. These species consume hundreds of jellyfish each day, and easily mistake plastic bags for their favorite food. In fact, one third of adult turtles have ingested plastic, according to a recent report by the Turtle Island Restoration Network. Pacific Leatherback Sea turtles have declined 95% in the last 2 decades.

"Last year, over 70,000 single-use plastic bags were found on our California beaches by volunteers in one day" said Katie Tannenbaum of The Surfrider Foundation. "Our consumption of single-use plastics is a growing problem that must be addressed now, and we urge our State Senate to do so."

The bill is supported by a wide range of groups, such as the California Grocers Association, the United Food and Commercial International Union, over 20 cities and counties and countless environmental groups.

The bill follows in the footsteps of five California municipalities that have already banned the bag, and countless more that are currently considering similar measures such as Los Angeles County. If the bill does not pass, counties and cities all across the state have pledged to pass their own ban. State agencies in California spend $25 million a year cleaning up single-use plastic bags that end up in our waste stream.

Parking program at Harbor Village ended early

by G. Scott Miller
Harbormaster
Ventura Port District

As you probably know, the Ventura Port District implemented a four-part parking program to increase the amount of parking available for visitors and customers at Harbor Village. Overall the Parking Program has been very successful. The paid parking portion of the program has allowed us to gather valuable information that will allow us to better manage parking in the future. Offsite or remote parking for employees has freed up 85 spaces for customers. Re-striping Spinnaker Drive has also increased the parking capacity in the Southwest Harbor by 160 spaces and provided parking for beach users outside of the Harbor Village parking lot.

Managing the parking program over the last 10 weeks has allowed District staff to make observations and gather information to make recommendations to the Board of Port Commissioners about future parking strategies.

In the planning meetings with business owners, we reported that we had the flexibility to make adjustments to the parking program. The Port District is choosing to end the paid parking portion of the program a few weeks early.

Business employees continue to park offsite; doing so maximizes the number of parking spaces that are available for Harbor Village visitors and customers.

We have been very satisfied with the services provided by Standard Parking. The Parking Ambassadors have greeted each customer with a smile and a pleasant personality from early morning to late afternoon. It has been a pleasure working with their entire team.

We will be examining all parking options for the future, and, as always, solicit your input. Ultimately, the Board will decide how to proceed in the future with a managed parking strategy.

These wonderful beautiful dancers were part of the fifth year birthday bash "Fandango" held at the Bell Arts Factory on Saturday, August 21. The all day event featured food, music, their always wonderful art and a birthday cake.

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Business

Andres "Andy" Fernandez (center w/ beret) is surrounded by friends and customers at his new wine bar, "Andres Wine and Tapas," at the Ventura Harbor.

Comedian turns entrepreneur

by Tim Pompey

Need a comedian? Ask Andy. Need a wine bar built? Ask Andy. Need a good chef? Ask . . . oh all right. You get the point. Andres "Andy" Fernandez is a jack of all trades. These days, he's also a very busy man. Along with Randy Lubas, he co-owns the "Ventura Harbor Comedy Club." He's the new owner of "Andres Wine and Tapas." And, if that isn't enough, he's just purchased "The Savory Café" in downtown Ventura.

Fernandez is a New York guy, from Queens and Brooklyn. He's been involved in standup comedy for more than twenty years. Ten years ago, he moved to Santa Clarita to pursue his career in acting. Still, despite settling near L.A., he found himself "traveling for the next eight years to support myself and my family."

While he loved show business, what he really wanted was to have his own business. "I've always wanted to be in business, and I've traveled a lot, so I think I know what people like."

He met Randy while doing shows at Randy's "J.R.'s Comedy Club" in Valencia. When "Hornblowers" became available in 2008, he and Randy decided to partner together and form the new "Ventura Harbor Comedy Club." The club has been very successful and is now celebrating its second year.

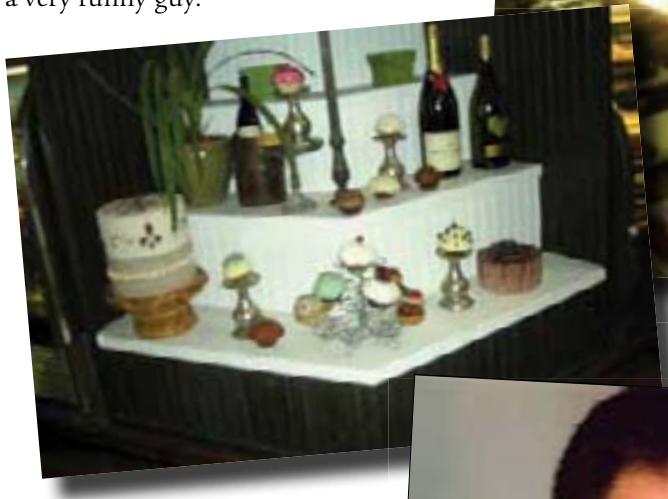
But wait. Fernandez isn't finished. He had his eye on a little shop across from Coastal Cone, primarily because of its beautiful location. And when the space became available, he jumped on it. Enter "Andres Wine and Tapas Bar." Did I mention Fernandez is a construction whiz? He did all the remodeling, with the exception of the beautiful fresco walls. "Courtesy of my friend Jeff Zimmerman," he graciously notes.

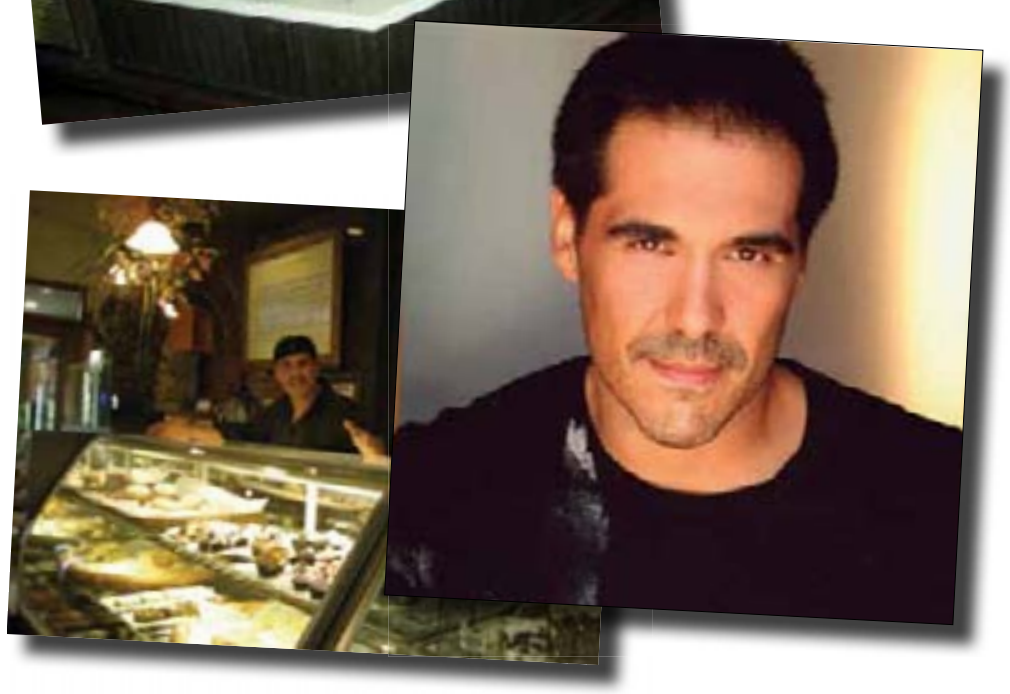
"Andres" is a great setting for wine tasting. With its gleaming bar and picturesque view of the harbor, it provides a casual sense of elegance. "It has a European feel," he says. "Now you can sit outside, enjoy the view, and with our weekend jazz band, you have everything you need at the harbor to enjoy yourself."

Next up - the recently purchased Savory Café. A favorite downtown hangout, Fernandez understands the legacy he is assuming. "I'm willing to take on the challenge," he says, "to add my name and continue the excellence of the current café." Something special he hopes to add: Bagels. Another of his many talents. He knows how to make them from scratch: "I was a bagel maker in New York. These will be homemade."

Fernandez knows his energy flies in the face of the country's economic downturn, but he feels it's important to nurture the spirit of entrepreneurship: "I would love to give people hope for the future and to say that we will come out of this."

While I sit in "Andres," he answers the phone and uses one of his many faux accents. This one Cuban. Yes, suddenly, from "I Love Lucy," he sounds like Ricky Ricardo. Is there no end to his talent? Well, what can I say? He *is* a comedian, and whether in business or in person, it turns out Fernandez really is a very funny guy.





VENTURA BREEZE
Your Hometown Paper

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

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

Correction

In our last issue the article regarding the burning down of the Foster residence said that "Sarah Kalvin, an artist and descendent of the Foster family".

Sarah is still a great artist but has informed us that she is not a descendent of the Foster family.

Opinion/Editorial

Sheldon Brown
Publisher

■ The paid parking experiment has ended at the Harbor (see separate article) but employees will still be required to park offsite to allow for more parking for customers. This program will now be evaluated to determine if it will be continued next summer.A good evaluation will be difficult because the chilly weather we had all summer certainly hurt attendance at the Harbor.

■ I would like to remind our seniors (including me) that we have two Ventura senior lunch programs that serve a hot nutritious entrée and sometimes even music.

Eastside Café, 650 Petit Ave., and the Westside Café, 550 N. Ventura Ave., for the friendliest lunch hour in Ventura. Lunch is served from 11:30-12:30. A donation of $3.00 is suggested for over 60, and $5.00 for everyone else. Call 648-3035 if you need more information.

■ Maybe it is because I read the Ventura Breeze and know what is going on, but there is just a lot happening in our city. Many events are free. I certainly hope that you are getting out and taking advantage of it.

Last Saturday the first annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer for Ventura County, a non-competitive 5k morning walk which began at 8:30 am, was held at the Ventura Harbor.

At 2 pm Voices Of The Homeless at the WAV Theater Courtyard had an event where people who have experienced homelessness told their stories backed by jazz improvisers.

Then from 3 to 10 pm the Bell Arts Factory (art gallery and studios) celebrated their fifth birthday with food, music and their always wonderful art.

And to round off Saturday, Lisa Haley & the Zydekats had the crowd on their feet all night at the wonderful Music Under the Stars at the Olivas Adobe.

If you haven't been to one of the Olivas concerts you must attend. Arrive early with your own food or buy dinner there for a wonderful evening.

These are my grand kids, Jolie and Evin, enjoying the night at the Music Under the Stars at the Olivas Adobe, aren't they adorable? Why don't you send me a photo of yours if you think that they are adorable also?

There are two more regular concerts in the series and a special benefit concert for "children's art" to raise money to make the arts an integral part of every public school education.

■ Personally I think that martial arts should be an integral part of every public school education also starting with the first grade.

■ And Tim Pompey celebrated his birthday (I didn't read this in the Breeze he told me).

■ And to continue the busy weekend we camped at Emma Woods for a few days to celebrate my granddaughter Jolie's seventh birthday.

■ My last AT&T bill had a 6 cent credit. I would have preferred getting a check for this so that I could go buy something nice.

■ So, Oxnard is trying to shore up its image by maybe renaming itself Oxnard Shores. Maybe we should change Ventura to San Buenaventura?

■ In order to cut costs the LA Times is now delivered by the Star. Occasionally the Times is wrapped in the Star plastic cover which I'm sure upsets some Times readers.

This would be like receiving the Breeze wrapped in a New York Times wrapper, now wouldn't that upset you?

Regarding the Star, I would like to congratulate them for their wonderful coverage of the recently completed County Fair.

■ I was surprised to find out that this year's Fair attendance was a record. Again with the overcast weather I didn't expect this. The final attendance was 328,500 folks, up 7% over last year and more than the record 321,300 in 2008. The Fair, recognizing the poor economic times, instigated a new $25 WOW pass which certainly added to the attendance.

Mailbox

Editor:

As shocked as we are by the events unfolding in the City of Bell, we may want to look a little closer at the City of Ventura.

Last year, the City of Ventura and the City Council approved average payments to four retiring employees of $350,000 each in final compensation. These four individuals each "earned" an average salary of $181,000 and were awarded an additional $169,000 by cashing out unused sick pay and vacations. How is this possible?

To put it in perspective, the median City of Ventura Household income is $58,114 whereas these four city employees were paid $350,000 each! What was the City Council thinking when they committed the taxpayers to such outrageous obligations?

Now for the long-term payoff. It appears the average annual pension for these four will amount to a little over $159,000 each, plus cost of living for the rest of their lives. To fund this obligation of only four individuals, the City (taxpayers) will have to set aside over $11 million for 30 years in retirement.

The taxpayer, who is responsible (more taxes) for paying for these pensions, can look forward to an average Social Security benefit of $12,800 per year plus a 401k plan.

I am disappointed in members of the City Council for not anticipating serious pension issues such as these, as they approved labor contracts over the years. How many other deals were negotiated by the City Council in order to keep peace with the unions and get re-elected?

The taxpayers were not at the negotiating table, so we ended up on the menu.

David P. Grau
Ventura

Editor:

It's generous of you to offer Breeze space to highlight Kingdom Center's request for financial support for their homeless housing project in the old City Center Motel. To prevent misunderstandings, you should point out that the center's request for church support does not extend to all houses of worship. I have heard from several sources that some months ago, Pastor Gallucci rejected the financial aid offered--no strings attached--by at least one Ventura church.

Since Pastor Sam did not explain his reason for rejecting this church's financial assistance, I'm not sure how far his donation refusal extends. However, if your Buddhist, Hindi, Quaker, Unitarian, Mormon, and Jewish readers wonder why their own congregation is not involved in this project to aid the homeless, it may not be because an offer to participate has not been made.

Ted Hoople
Ventura

Breeze:

This is Pastor Gallucci's response to Ted

Ted:

Thanks for your message, I am not aware of rejecting any money that has been offered "no strings attached" to help us at the Kingdom Center, in fact at our Operation Embrace (the day time outreach center) we have gladly received donations from every Faith and have been very thankful!

The Kingdom Center has opened phase one of its transitional living for homeless men, woman and children, and so far has been blessed to provide housing for over 24 children, 8 single moms, 1 single woman, and 2 couples, with more being added! With Phase two scheduled to open in the next two months!

Thanks,
Sam

Breeze:

Re: "Could We Become Another Bell?" by Neal Andrews, August 11-24 Ventura Breeze, page 5

Thank you once again, Neal, for your rational and clear presentation of public sector compensation problems.

It seems, as you say, that at every one of our many levels of government -- federal, state, county, city, "districts", "boards", "commissions", etc. -- unreasonable salaries and benefits have been installed by greedy politicians with union encouragement in that vague name of "competitiveness".

It's puzzling to me that recent analyses have shown that unionized and elected public "servants" are paid on average from 130% (salaries only) to 200% (salaries plus all benefits) of private sector employees (taxpayers). Why do folks in City Hall or Sacramento earn such a handsome premium for their daily work?

I'm not able to Google measures of

Continued on page 5

The greatest achievement was at first and for a time a dream.

–James Allen

City News

Ask the Director

Ron Calkins is Public Works director for the city of Ventura

Q. Parking meters will soon be installed downtown. Will this help or hurt our downtown?

A. Customers want convenience. As downtown has continued to attract more customers, demand for parking has soared. That's caused heavy demand for the slots on Main Street and the nearby streets, while the much larger supply of nearby spaces remains under utilized.

The city and the Downtown Ventura Organization(DVO) have worked together through the Downtown Parking Advisory Committee to develop a comprehensive approach for balancing demand. The pay stations (a high-tech version of traditional parking meters) will manage the limited supply of on-street spaces where demand exceeds supply.

Q. What are the long-term benefits?

A. Customers who value convenience will find more open spaces near their destinations at a price. Customers needing free parking will continue to have a nearby alternative.

Revenue from the pay stations will fund a cleaner, safer downtown for everyone. All net revenue generated from the pay stations is dedicated to downtown

> The pay stations will go live on September 14. There will be plenty of parking ambassadors to answer questions.

to be used for improvements like downtown security, clean sidewalks, parking lot and alley improvements and landscape beautification.

That's why the elected organization representing downtown merchants and property owners strongly supports the parking management plan; it's one they participated in creating.

For customers, there will be plenty of options for parking downtown. Free All Day and Free 4 Hour parking will continue to be available in 2,500 public parking spaces at conveniently located lots throughout downtown. More than 70 new directional signs have been installed downtown to direct drivers to these free lots.

Customers looking for convenient curbside parking spots that are close to final destinations will pay a minimal fee. The parking rate will be $1 per hour for the first two hours and $1.50 for each hour after that with no time restrictions. Hours of operation are seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 10 a.m. to midnight Friday and Saturday. If you only need a few minutes, simply put in a nickel or dime; you don't have to pay for a whole hour. Pay stations are easy to use and give you the choice of paying with coins, Visa, MasterCard or debit card.

The pay stations will go live on September 14. There will be plenty of parking ambassadors downtown during the first several weeks to answer questions and help guide the public through the process of paying for parking while our community adjusts to these changes.

For more information visit www.cityofventura.net/parking.

By Right designation for homeless shelters

by Bill Knox

Is a homeless shelter going to open next to your home? It is possible, under a proposal sent to the city council, and you may not have a say about it. Ventura's Community Development Department (CDD) is pushing the city council to authorize homeless shelters "by right" in large areas of residential neighborhoods in addition to commercial and industrial areas.

In 2007, the California legislature passed SB-2, requiring cities to select a zone where homeless shelters will be allowed "by right," meaning shelters are allowed to open and operate without input from neighbors and without a conditional use or other discretionary permit.

Most cities have identified industrial, and sometimes commercial, zones as the appropriate location to allow homeless shelters "by right." Not in Ventura. Jeffery Lambert, Director of Community Development, supports the idea of allowing the "by right" designation over large swaths of Ventura. In an administrative report Lambert writes that while most agree that homeless shelters are necessary, residents disagree about proper placement: "The result is everyone agrees it should go somewhere, but most think the somewhere is not in their neighborhood...." Mr. Lambert's urges the city council to adopt his proposed resolution to allow "by right" homeless shelters in multifamily residential, commercial, industrial and urban areas of the city. Lambert's report requested the council to approve the plan by September 20, 2010. However, on August 2, 2010 the city council delayed action on the proposal as an undisclosed conflict of interest had arisen.

"Since a new State law requires that some area be so defined, one must be picked, but everywhere? No." Says Kioren Moss, a Ventura resident and an expert real estate appraiser/advisor. Moss is against hasty implementation of the CDD's plan. "[They] should be allowed in... industrial zones, because [they] have to be somewhere. They should be permitted in the commercial zones with a conditional use permit and not allowed in residential zones." In a letter sent to members of the city council, Mr. Moss suggested that the issue be placed on the ballot so that voters have a say on the appropriate location of a "by right" zone. Moss also lamented that the staff reports have failed to include a balanced look at both good and bad aspects of the plan. "They (planning staff) have privately told me that 'someone higher up' in the City government is pressuring them to make these reports 'sanitized' and [he or she is] overly pushy, but they are afraid to say who."

The City Council is anticipated to discuss, and possibly vote on, the matter in November. Each council member was asked for comment on this story. None had responded by the deadline.

Mailbox

Continued from page 4

"Competitiveness" for the public sector, such as "productivity" that is the comparable private sector norm. As you point out, the governmental measure is the simple comparison to some other (carefully chosen) government entity.

It's also puzzling that public "servants" retire at 50, with generous benefits that often are the sum of multiple fairly short-term positions. Private sector employees typically retire at 65-up with meager benefits and perhaps a single under funded pension that is increasingly forfeited. Why are our representatives working to raise the private sector retirement age, increasing the spread?

Some unions justify exorbitant benefits because their members were "in harm's way". Would their claim stand up to the injury and death statistics for workers in oil, mining, shipping, construction and other risky private sector employment sectors?

Apparently our governments' costs can no longer be supported by taxpayers, as we endure salary and benefit cuts, layoffs, foreclosures and even cuts in food stamps.

Thank you for pointing out the problem, and doing what you can to keep Ventura out of the looming financial trap.

Sincerely,
Karl B. Keller

Mayor, City Council, City Manager, and Pierpont Community Council

In June the City used Tenant Occupancy Tax monies to clean the sand off of the lanes and stairs in Pierpont. The Pierpont Community Council approved letting this money be spent in this manner; however, noted that the TOT monies are not supposed to be used for street and stair maintenance given it is part of Public Works normal duties.

The lanes and stairs stayed clean less than a month. Now the sand is back and the stairs are once again dangerous.

As everyone knows, the only way to solve the sand situation is to reduce the level of the sand along Shore DR to well below the level of the City's and beachfront homeowners' retaining walls. The City actually maintained Shore DR in the past but stopped a decade ago and the sand has built up ever since.

Last year 15 beachfront homeowners sued the City and won, but to date nothing has been done to rectify the situation. In the meantime, Pierpont residents and beachgoers continue to be exposed to a very dangerous environment – slippery stairs, and a beach that people can literally walk off of falling some 10+ feet onto the pavement below. This, of course, is because the sand in many locations along the beachfront is much higher that City's and homeowners' retaining walls.

The City has proposed an Assessment District be established in Pierpont to pay for the maintenance of the sand along their Shore Dr right of way. Basically, they want the Pierpont residents to pay for something that they should already be doing and did do until around 1999. To get this approved the City plans to ask the Pierpont homeowners to vote in favor of this assessment. This Assessment District will never pass. The last three tax issues failed, why would this one be any different, especially given that Public Works should be doing this as part of their normal job function.

If the City had been maintaining Shore DR all along, the beach would be lower than the retaining walls and as a result there would have never been sand on the stairs, in the storm drains or on the lanes, nor would there be a situation where beachgoers could fall off the beach onto the pavement.

Murray Robertson
A Very Concerned Pierpont Resident

Dear Murray,

Thank you, for your steadfast, Herculean effort and persistent work, in striving to make our beaches safe, clean and accessible for ALL the citizens of and VISITORS to, the city Ventura.

With deep gratitude and appreciation,
Staci Kaye-Carr

County Fair 2010

by Shirley Lorraine *© 2010*

It's starting out like any day
The fog helps me prepare.
The day will wake when I do too,
When I get to the county fair.

Soaking in enticing smells
From food booths spread around.
The barkers warm their pitches up
To help their wares be found.

I love the fair with all its sights,
From art to tractor pulls.
Homemade crafts and cakes and more.
Each building is quite full

Lost children have a place to go,
Souvenirs abound.
There's never a lack of things to do
When the county fair's around.

Ribbons won and bingo's called,
There are winners every day.
"Western Nights and Carnival Lights"
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Saturday, September 18
Morning Service 10:00 am *
Family Service 2:00 pm
Afternoon & Yiskor Service 3:00 pm

Rosh Hashanah
Wednesday, September 8, 8:00 pm *
Thursday, September 9
Morning Service, 10:00 am *
Family Service at Marina Park, 4:00 pm
Tashlich Service at Marina Park, 5:00 pm
Friday, September 10, Morning Service, 10 am

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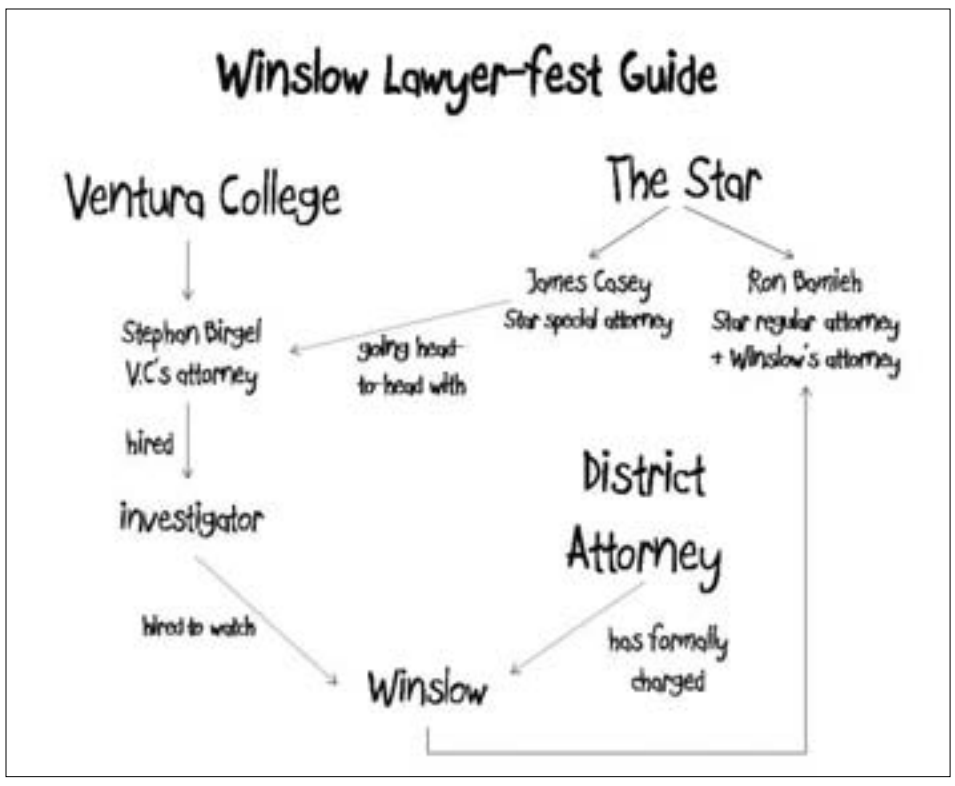
* These services require tickets, which can be obtained by calling 805-647-4181.
Guests are welcome. Active U.S. Military personnel will be admitted free with ID.

News and Notes



Winslow case turns into lawyer-fest

by Ventura Girl

While most have been fretting over back-to-school preparations in the past weeks, former Ventura College basketball coach Greg Winslow has been getting ready for trial. Or, at least a bunch of lawyers have.

Winslow for those of you who haven't been in the loop is the coach being accused of a number of crimes among them helping to register out-of-state players as in-state residents so as to avoid costly out-of-state fees and depositing donation and other monies intended for the basketball program into his personal bank account.

The District Attorney's office has filed formal charges against Winslow, and his trial is expected to begin in September.

Pretty straightforward, right?

Here's where it gets convoluted (see chart if you get lost).

Now it's come out the college district, the former employers of Winslow have spent upwards of $800,000 investigating his alleged wrongdoings over the past three years. Yes the college, not the District Attorney's office who I'm guessing has also spent a lot of time and resources pulling their case together as well.

Apparently $638,660 has been spent on legal fees and $170,722 has gone to Walter Johnson, an investigator. Johnson was paid $66.95 an hour plus expenses which I suppose is reasonable. However, according to his billing statements he did take minimally three trips for the investigation, one a five-day trip to multiple cities.

The Ventura Star believes they smell a rat and are now trying to force the college district to provide further details regarding Johnson's expenses. They have questioned the college district's move to spend monies on lawyers and investigators all while severe cuts have been made including layoffs and the elimination of classes.

In order to do so, they have hired – you guessed it – another lawyer to go head-to-head with the college district's legal team who is citing client-attorney privilege.

Side note: Is anyone else bothered by the fact that no one is questioning the $600,000+ attorney fees?

Winslow's lawyer, Ron Bamieh – who also represents The Star (again, why we have a chart) – was quick to jump on the bandwagon criticizing the college district's seemingly large bill for the investigation of his client.

Bamieh questioned the justification for the expense and called it an "egregious use of funds for nothing."

Well, of course he thinks so, he counseled Winslow to plead not guilty to a litany of felony charges including grand theft, misappropriation of public funds, identity theft, filing false financial documents, embezzlement and failing to turn over public money to the college.

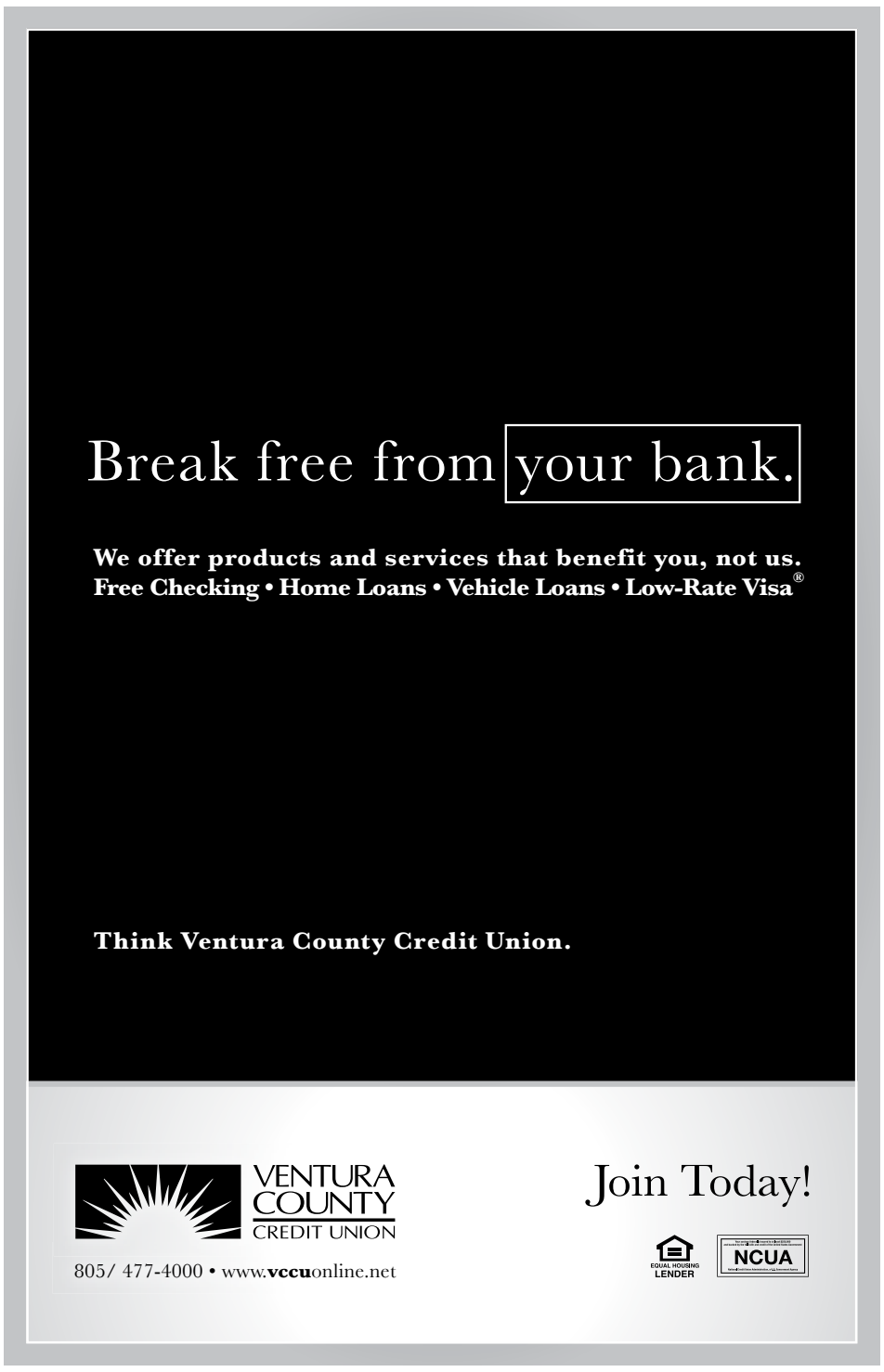
You all still with me?

The kicker of it all is the total estimated loss to the college district for all Winslow's alleged misdoings is in the ballpark of $100,000.

That's right one man's alleged crimes worth $100,000 plus arguably a really good basketball program has generated income and work for a number people including one investigator, and wide variety of attorneys including lawyers for Winslow, the college district, the district attorney's office and The Star.

I can only guess what the total legal resources spent on the Winslow case will be when it is all said and down. It's bound to be astronomical and easily $2 million or more.

Maybe we just need more Winslow cases to boost our local economy? Or, at least the local legal economy.



Paid parking issues at Ventura Harbor

by Karlene Lang

The verdict is still out on whether the newly instituted paid parking on weekends and holidays at Ventura Harbor is a help or hindrance to harbor businesses. The Breeze asked harbor business owners what they thought and here are some of their responses. By the way, all owners we spoke with asked that they remain anonymous.

"It's definitely hurting our business. Locals don't come in early like they used to so we've actually changed our hours and are open later in the morning. It just doesn't pay to staff our shop until late morning."

"I'm concerned about safety issues both for my employees and the public. Traffic choke points have been created on Spinnaker and there are no mirrors to alert parked cars (in the free parking zone) of on-coming traffic. Now my employees have to walk a great distance at night and I am concerned for their safety too."

"I'll wait till the end of summer and see what my numbers look like."

"Hard to tell if my business has been affected since this is our busy summer season anyway; but I have heard customers say they've been to lunch in the harbor and don't have any more time to shop before the two-hour free parking time expires. This certainly doesn't encourage visitors to linger in the harbor. They are watching the clock!"

"I hate it, my customers hate it, and it just slows down the entire parking process."

We also heard comments that most other harbors have paid parking but we have been spoiled. Everyone will just have to get used to it for now – I guess. *Breeze*

Paid parking has been discontinued for now, see the article on page 1.

Museum of Ventura County seeking new volunteers

The Museum of Ventura County relies on dedicated volunteers to support the museum staff, and they are currently seeking volunteers interested in working in Visitor Services and the Museum Store. Applications are being accepted through September 1. All new volunteers must go through the application process and attend all three upcoming training sessions, which will be held at the museum on Wednesdays, September 15, 22, 29, from 3-6 pm. The class will offer an overview of Ventura County history, museum history and collections, and visitor and retail services.

The Museum of Ventura County is also interested in learning from applicants about any special skills they think might be helpful to the museum. To complete a volunteer interest form, go to the volunteer page at www.venturamuseum.org or visit the Museum at 100 E. Main St. in Ventura; an application packet will follow. For more information, contact Director of Education Wendy VanHorn at education@venturamuseum.org or 653-0323 ext. 300.

Harrison refuse collection for Labor Day

In observance of the Labor Day holiday, employees of Harrison Industries will be taking the day off on Monday, September 6. As a result, Harrison will collect trash and recycling or green waste one day later than usual during the week of Sept. 6-11.

The regular schedule will resume the following week.

For more information, call 647-1414.

News and Notes

Gift of Otto Heino's work to Ojai

by Kate Sexton

In a surprise announcement, Helen Heino, niece of the late renown potter, Otto Heino, told a gathering at the "Made in Ojai VII" reception July 30 that she will donate all proceeds from the sale of her uncle's work on display equally between the Ojai Studio Artists and the Ojai Valley Museum. Helen loaned 22 of the Heino vessels for the retrospective.

"Aunt Vivika and Uncle Otto," said Heino, "were glazemasters, threw and trimmed all their pots, glazed and then fired the pots in one of their nine kilns. They readily gave of their time, energy and gifts to the Ojai Museum and the Ojai Studio Artists. I wish to continue the same generosity."

Otto and Vivika Heino were internationally known for their contributions to the art of ceramics. Their fame and fortune grew when they reformulated a long-lost buttery yellow glaze from the Chin dynasty. A piece with this glaze is part of the donated pieces.

A raffle for a bottle by Otto, valued at $1,200, is ongoing throughout the exhibition. This round piece with Applewood glaze, is a classic shape that Otto delighted in throwing. Tickets are $5 each or five for $20. The raffle ends September 19. Interested collectors should call Ojai Valley Museum Director, Michele Pracy at 640-1390.

Boys & Girls Club in the news

The Boys & Girls Club of Ventura has announced the addition of four new members to their Board of Director: Rhen C. Bass, CPA, CFO of the Housing Authority of the City of San Buenaventura; Tom Boucher, Vice President of County Commerce Bank; Joe Espino, Vice President of the Ventura Region for Community West Bank; and Douglas Wood, General Manager, Crowne Plaza Hotel.

The Club is also the recipient of a $15,000 grant from the Rabobank Foundation for their "Money Matters: Make It Count" financial literacy program targeted toward middle school and high school members with age-appropriate components for younger members.

In other news, over $68,000 was raised at the recent 27th Annual Boys & Girls Club of Ventura's Golf Classic held Monday, August 9 at the Saticoy Country Club. Sponsoring for the fourth year was C. D. Lyon Construction, Inc.

The proceeds for the Golf Classic go to help provide safe and positive year-round after-school and summertime programs for the community's youth.

The Club has a 72-year-old history of serving the youth of the community at five centers in Ventura, Oak View and Saticoy.

The Club offers its services to all youth, ages 6-18, regardless of race, religion, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, financial or any other consideration. They offer year-round, daily access to a broad range of programs in five core areas

For additional Club information, a schedule of special events and programs, or to book a tour, check the website at www.bgclubventura.org or call 641-5585.

VCWC invites short story entries

by Sheli Ellsworth

Have you ever wanted to be a published author? The Ventura County Writer's Club is accepting entries for its 11th annual short story contest. The winning stories will have the opportunity to be published in a local paper and at venturabreeze.com and the club's bi-annual anthology.

The VCWC was founded in 1933 and currently has 175 active members. "Many of us got our professional start by entering contests," according to president, Lee Wade. Wade, founder of Dreamlight Press, was published in Quintessence (VCWC Press, 2007) when her short story "Movin'," won first place in the 2006 VCWC short story contest.

The club will begin accepting contest entries on September 1. All entries must be postmarked by October 30. Short stories can be no longer than ten double-spaced pages. The entry fee for non-members is $25 per story. Members may enter for $15 per story. The top three winners will receive cash prizes: First place-$500, 2nd place-$250, and 3rd place $125. Go to www.venturacountywriters.com for submission applications and guidelines or send a self-addressed stamped envelope to VCWC Short Story Guidelines, P.O. Box 3373, Thousand Oaks, 91359.

How many freshmen does it take to clean a riverbed? 550

by Sheli Ellsworth

California Lutheran University takes freshman orientation seriously. So seriously, in fact, one of CLU's first lessons is about homelessness, environmental pollution and civic responsibility. On August 31, about 550 freshmen will join Ventura City employees from the departments of Parks, Recreation & Community Partnership, Public Works, Finance & Technology, and Community Development to remove mounds of trash along the Ventura riverbed. The area is known locally as "hobo jungle," because of the number of homeless people staying there. During the winter months, the rains wash trash into the river where it is eventually dumped into the ocean. Occasionally, the entire area is underwater. Fines may be levied against the City of Ventura, for a much as $25,000 per day, if pollution levels exceed discharge standards.

CLU President, Dr. Chris Kimbell, and other CLU faculty members will also join the students. All volunteers will don facemasks and gloves for the 10-ton trash removal. This will be the third consecutive year that CLU and Volunteer Ventura have collaborated for the event.

With colleges and universities placing more emphasis on community service as a requirement for admission, the clean-up effort sends a timely message: we are the community. We are the "we" in "We the people...." Civic responsibility is a personal one. The paper cup tossed out the window, the dirty diaper in the parking lot, and the mentally ill and disabled who can't work are everyone's responsibility.

Peter Brown the Community Services Manager for the city of Ventura wants everyone to remember "...there are hundreds of individuals living in {unfit} conditions...it is important for us to continually move forward toward a year-round emergency homeless shelter."

E. J. Harrison, a local waste disposal company and the Water Store will also be donating to the clean-up effort.

Community partnerships may be the only solution in the underfunded economic and political climate. The City of Ventura is a member of Cities of Service, an organization dedicated to solving local challenges with volunteers and measuring the impact. The Cities of Service distribute up to $200,000 in grant money to cities who will hire a Chief Service Officer dedicated to increase volunteerism and target volunteers to address the city's greatest needs.

Foster parenting informational meeting

Discover the rewards of foster parenting at a foster parenting information meeting, Tuesday, September 21 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Human Services Agency of Ventura County at 855 Partridge Dr., Ventura. Learn how you can provide the healing, support and guidance that can transform a child at risk into a self-assured, successful adult. Over 600 children are currently in foster homes in Ventura County, and every day, another child is removed from their home because they have been neglected, abused or abandoned. Open your heart and home to foster parenting and make a difference in the lives of children at risk. For more information call the County of Ventura Human Services Agency, 654-3456, or go to www.vchsa.org/foster.

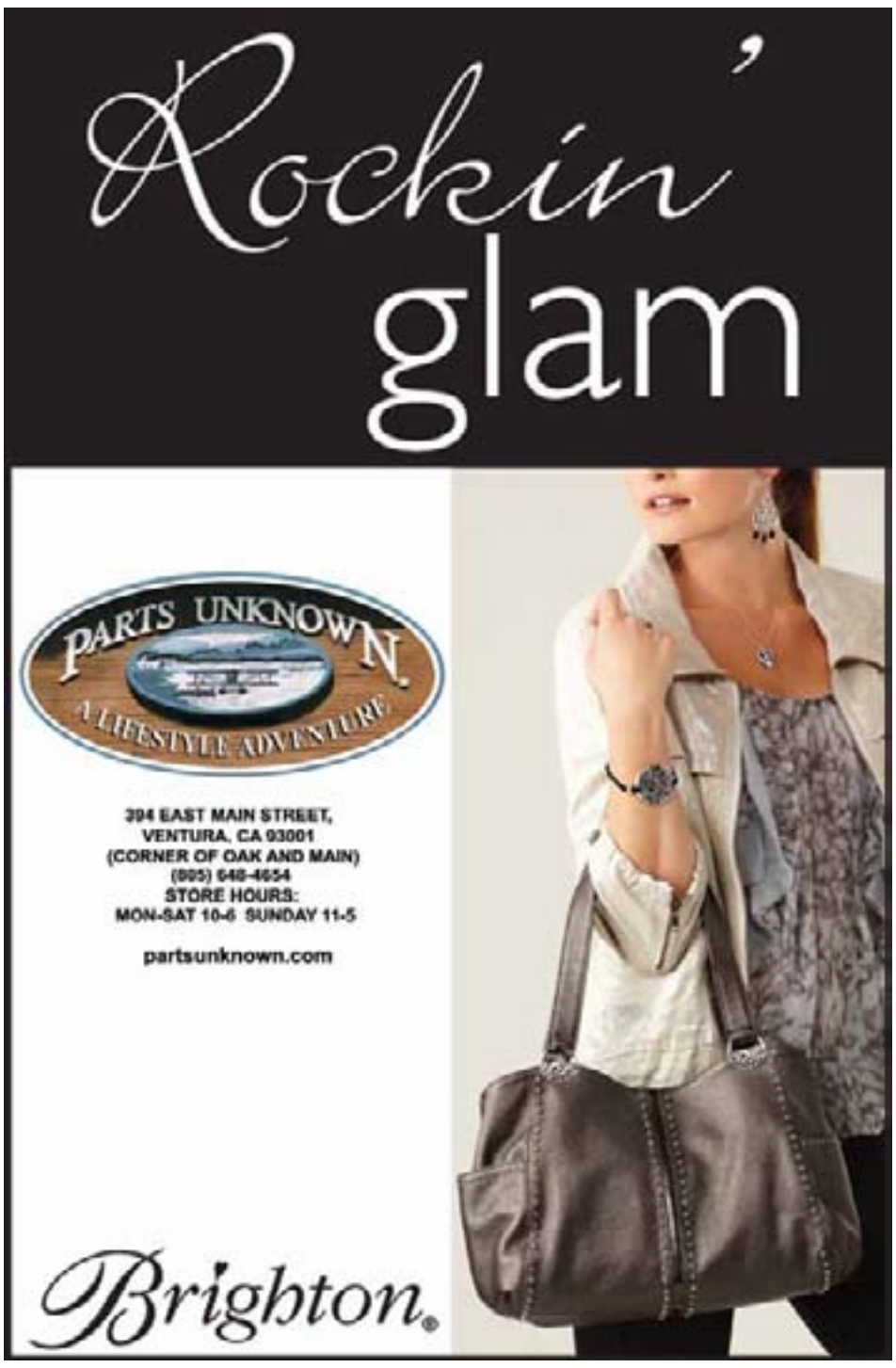
Back to school means good nutrition too

In order to help families take an active role in promoting healthy eating and help spark a nutritional interest among children, the Ventura Farmers' Market invites parents and school aged kids to come to the Market, sample their items and talk to the many farmers who bring the food directly from the field to the table.

"We feel it's very important to help educate families about good, wholesome nutrition," stated Karen Wetzel Schott, Operations Manager for the Ventura County Farmers' Market Association. "Families will find a number of lunch bag favorites with ample amounts of fruits & vegetables available now through the Fall," she added.

We are served with two Certified Farmers' Markets – Wednesdays at the Pacific View Mall, front west parking lot on Main Street from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and on Saturdays in Downtown Ventura on the corners of East Santa Clara and Palm Streets from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon.

For more information on the Ventura County Certified Farmers' Market Association, call 529-6266 or visit the website at www.vccfarmersmarket.com or follow the Farmers' Market on Facebook at www.facebook.com/vccfm.



Community Events

Audubon Field Trips

Beginners are welcome on all field trips and a light drizzle does not necessarily cancel trips, but heavier rain will. If in doubt, call the trip leader. More information about VAS is available at www.VenturaAudubon.org

Sunday, Sept. 12, 8 a.m. Santa Clara River Estuary/Surfers' Knoll. Leader: Eric Waian (630-0100). Hope to see a variety of shorebirds including Snowy Plovers, terns & phalaropes. Take Harbor Blvd to Spinnaker and enter Ventura Harbor. Follow Spinnaker as it curves around to the right. Surfers' Knoll is on the left. Please bring scopes. Note: If you would like to bird with Eric before the walk, he will start around 7:20 a.m. and briefly bird the marina from the dirt lot at the very end of Spinnaker.

Tuesday, Sept. 14, 7:30 p.m. Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Rd. Stephen Whitaker, marine biologist at Channel Islands National Park, will present a program on the Gulf Oil Spill and the National Park Service's role. Mr. Whitaker assisted with wildlife surveys, damage assessments, and protection of resources in the spill area this summer.

Saturday, Sept. 18, Beginners' Bird Walk, 8:30-10:30 a.m. Emma Wood and Ventura River Estuary. Leader: Allen Bertke (640-9037). A good area for shorebirds- herons, egrets, sandpipers, ducks and also riparian species. Park at the far west end of Main St. beyond the bridge over the Ventura River. The Beginners' Walks are designed to acquaint you with common birds in a specific area. Bring binoculars, hat and water. A field guide is helpful.

Saturday, Sept. 25, 9:00 a.m. Beach Cleanup, Emma Wood State Beach. Information: Reed Smith (652-0706). California Coastal Cleanup Day is the premier volunteer event focused on the marine environment in the country. Join fellow Audubon members to help clean up one of our birding sites. Park at the far west end of Main St. beyond the bridge over the Ventura River. Meet inside the Group Camp. Bring gloves and wear old clothes.

BBQ cook off adds new flavor to the California Beer Festival

Grills and smokers will fill the air with the aroma of competition BBQ at this year's event!

The second annual California Beer Festival returns to Mission Park in downtown Ventura September 18 with the addition of America's favorite backyard cuisine: Barbecue! The California Beer Festival will host Ventura County's first BBQ Cook Off competition.

In addition to over 100 beers on tap, the event will feature a BBQ Cook Off with teams competing to win $800 and a new Globe Café Ceramic smoker. "We have had great response to the addition of a BBQ Cook Off this year," said CBF President Vincenzo Giammanco. "It just seems like the perfect combination."

Teams of up to 4 people may enter the non-sanctioned cook-off event. There will be four categories: chicken, pork, ribs, beef and one open category. The open category will be judged based on using beer as an ingredient. Competitors must cook with wood and/or charcoal.

Both professional and amateur teams were invited to participate in this year's event. Teams entered include Marshall's Bodacious BBQ of Ventura, In The Sauce of Ventura, Smokey's Barbecue of Oxnard, J.C. Smokehouse of Oxnard, BBQ Boyz Santa Maria, Meat Wagon Grille of Live Oak, Red, Hot & Blue of Monterey, and All Hogs Go To Heaven of Lancaster.

The festival grounds have been expanded to a parking lot adjacent to Mission Park where the BBQ Cook Off will be staged. "The space only allows us to have 7-10 competitors in the Cook Off this year," said Giammanco.

California Beer Festival tickets are $40 for samplings of over 100 beers and a limited sampling of competition barbecue. Barbecue vendors and other local restaurants will offer food for sale at the event. Tickets and exhibitor information are available on their website www.californiabeerfestival.com.

For Information on the California Beer Festival and BBQ Cook Off please call or email: info@californiabeerfestival.com or 765-4295

Benefit concert for VCCool

Join the party and fuel VCCool's climate-care work on bicycle safety, local food, public transit, natural building, sustainable community planning, the fight against Texas oil companies' dirty energy bill and so much more! Mark your calendar for this local concert of heartfelt music, refreshments, and a chance to hang out with a wonderful group of friends – old and new. In addition to a memorable evening, the price of admission buys you effective action protecting our planet, our climate, and our community.

On Saturday, August 28, 7- 9:30 pm or so at ZanZilla, 2750 E. Main (Next to Smart and Final, underneath Crystal Cleaners. Enter on Thompson.)

Little Big Band: Folk rock, with original works by VCCool Executive Director, Rachel Morris including Earth Day, Burnt, and White Trash Boy, The Jug or Nots: Featuring old-time Jug Band music and genre-bending covers.

Cost at the door is $20 – to benefit VCCool a Ventura County global warming action group. Their mission is to engage all people of Ventura County in promoting a healthy climate.

Visit www.vccool.org for more good stuff.

Two day *End of Summer Blast*

Spencer Makenzie's Fish Company is giving back to the community with their "End of Summer Blast", a free, family friendly, two day, block party set to take place Saturday, August 28 and Sunday, August 29.

Being held outside of the restaurant and covering over a full city block, the event will feature something for everyone including a musical line up that's a who's who of the local music scene, headlined by the enormously popular groove rockers, Rey Fresco on Saturday and famed surfer, singer songwriter, Timmy Curran on Sunday.

"We've had such a tremendous response from the community that we wanted to give a big thank you to all our customers", explains Spencer Makenzie owner, John Karayan.

Along with over 20 musical artists, the event will have over 40 local vendors, a skate ramp, beer garden, kids games and activities and Spencer Makenzie's full menu of food.

The event starts at 11 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday and is completely free . All ages are welcome. Spencer Makenzie's is located on the corner of Ash Street and Thompson.

Saturday's Music Line Up... Rey Fresco, Army of Freshmen, Jeff Hershey and the Heartbeats, Le Meu Le Purr, Franklin For Short, Shades of Day, Kyle Hunt and the King Gypsy, Amanda and Travis Marsh, Tommy and the High Pilots, Frank Barajas, Soft Silence and New Liberty.

Sunday's Music Line Up...Timmy Curran, Phil Cody, Delaney Gibson, Heather Rae and Rumbleweed, Lee Koch and the Grinders, Sarah Ashleigh and Joel Levin, Big Tweed and Evan Sula-Goff.

Fillmore & Western events

September 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 25, 26 – "Weekend Scenic Excursions Train Rides" - Take this daytime train ride Saturday between Fillmore & Santa Paula. Have lunch in the diner or sit in the fresh air observation car; 3 ½ hour round trip train ride through the beautiful citrus and avocado groves of the Heritage Valley includes a brief layover in Santa Paula. Depart Fillmore at 12:00 pm, return at 3:30-3:45 pm. (rain or shine). On Sundays, with the purchase of a meal in the 1928 Powhatan Parlor Car or the San Cayetano Diner, passengers will receive complimentary wine tasting Adults $24, Seniors $22, Youth 4-12, $14, Child 2-3 $10. Cab Rides available for $50 per segment

September 3 – "Shake, Rattle and Rail Family Dinner Train" – 50's Revue Night Family Dinner Train. A zoot suited DJ plays the tunes of the 50's and 60's in the onboard dance car. Diner food is served before you stroll downtown Santa Paula's popular classic car show. Adults $47, 4-12 $32, Child 2-3 $24, Under 2 free on lap, ride only, no dinner included.

September 4 – "Bugle Boy Murders of Company C" –Murder Mystery Dinner Theater—It is 1942 and "Big Band" leader Johnny Fontaine is en route to his next USO show. He is broadcasting by radio and selling War Bonds as he returns to Hollywood with his celebrities in tow. A special contest is about to be unveiled when mystery and intrigue takes this train to its next pit stop at murder. Get out your old uniforms or period costumes and participate in the fun. $89 per person, adults over 18 years old only.

September 18 – "Main Street Murders-Murder Mystery Dinner Theater Train" –The year is 1935 in Ventura, California, where the young, hot shot attorney, Mason Perry, is earning his reputation as a smart, aggressive defender of the less fortunate. Madame Fong, a local proprietress who runs the "Lucky You" Casino, has been targeted by the DA's office as the prime suspect in the murder of Henry McCrew. Three-course dinner is served with your choice of Prime Rib, Chicken Cordon Bleu, Grilled Salmon or a Vegetarian Pasta.

September 25 – "Margarita Madness" – Viva 'la Margarita. Take our vintage train on a three-hour journey through the Heritage Valley while you enjoy a Mexican dinner and a Margarita. After dinner, stroll out to the open-air dance car where you can dance the night away under the stars to a live band. Departs: 6:30pm Returns: 9:30pm Adults only: $53

Call Fillmore & Western Railway at 524-2546 for information or reservations. www.fwry.com

Community Events

Enjoy the vocal offerings of Donna Greene singing with the Ventura Jazz Orchestra

The big band era has returned to Ventura

The Ventura Jazz Orchestra is the featured band at the Poinsettia Pavilion's September Swing Big Band Dance. The Pavilion is a beautiful ballroom with genuine hardwood floors for your dancing pleasure.

Swing, waltz, foxtrot, cha cha and tango with the leading big band in Ventura County. Ella Fitzgerald, Louis Prima, Les Brown and Benny Goodman will be some of the music featured in the evening concert.

The vocal styling of Donna Greene adds to the magic when this band takes the stage. One of Donna's favorites is Mambo Italiano; Rosemary Clooney is reborn. This is the real deal with that unbelievable big band sound.

The Ventura Jazz Orchestra was founded in 2008 by Dean Adams. He stated, "My vision was to start a high energy 18 piece show band." He is also the managing director and lead trombonist of the orchestra.

Four trumpets, four trombones, five saxes, a pianist, stand up bass, electric guitar, drummer and a headliner vocalist, Donna Greene, will keep you rocking all night.

Poinsettia Pavilion stage, 3451 Foothill Rd., Ventura, at 7:30 pm on Friday, September 10. $12.00 admission at the door. Free refreshments and free parking and all ages are welcome. For more information, call 648-1143 or visit their Facebook page: www.facebook.com/venturajazzorchestra

VC Fairgrounds events

8/27 DANCE Lot C Valdivia Marketing Group (805) 487-6933
Fri. 7p-1a; Admission: $35-$40 presale

8/28 VRA SPRINTS, SENIOR SPRINTS, DWARF Pacific Arena Jim Naylor
CARS, IMCA MODIFIEDS, JR MIDGETS & MINI DWARFS (805) 985-5433
Sat. 5p; Gates 3p; $14 Adult; $11 Senior/Military/Student; 12 & under free

8/29 VENTURA COUNTY WEDDING EXPO San Miguel Hall David Beherns
Sun. 11a-4p; $8 Admission (805) 660-7742

9/1 SWAP MEET Lot A Sue Adams
SNA Designs (818) 590-5435
Wed. 7a-2p

9/4-5 PRIMER NATIONALS CAR SHOW San Miguel Hall John Parker
John Parker Grounds (805) 599-8030
Sat.-Sun. 7:30a-3:30p; $10 Admission; $5 Military w/id; under 12 free

9/4 FLAT TRACK MOTORCYCLES Pacific Arena Jim Naylor
Ventura Raceway (805) 985-5433
Sat. 5p; Gates 3p; $18 Adult; $15 Senior/Military/Student; 12 & under free

9/8 SWAP MEET Lot A Sue Adams
SNA Designs (818) 590-5435
Wed. 7a-2p

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

9/11-12 GUN SHOW San Miguel Hall Lori McMann, McManns Roadrunner Anacapa Hall (602) 843-5303
Sat. 9a-5p; Sun 9a-4p; $9 Adult; under 12 free San Nicolas Hall

9/11 VRA SPRINTS, SENIOR SPRINTS, DWARF Pacific Arena Jim Naylor, CARS, CA LIGHTNING SPRINTS, JR MIDGETS & MINI DWARFS (805) 985-5433
Sat. 5p; Gates 3p; $14 Adult; $11 Senior/Military/Student; 12 & under free

Rotary Club South programs

August 16 Kim Woods will outline the Rotary 'Potential Rotary Leaders Seminars'.

August 23 Ventura County Chief Executive Officer Marty Robinson will speak on the 'State of the County'.

August 30 Club members self-introductions.

September 6 Labor Day, No meeting

September 13 Mediator, Rita Frayer will speak on, "Now that you've won a court judgment, how do you enforce your order and get your money?"

September 20 Attorney, Karen Gabler's topic is "Are you and your employees blogging your company into bankruptcy?"

September 27 Howard Smith's talk is "When China Ruled the Seas: The Treasure Fleets of the Ming Dynasty."

Rotary is an organization of business and professional men and women united world-wide to provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations and help build goodwill both nationally and internationally.

The Rotary Club of Ventura South meets Monday's at noon at the Wedgewood Banquet and Wedding Center, 5880 Olivas Park Dr . Guests are welcome. For additional information and directions to the Wedgewood call 647-7612.

Art Scene

Todd Collart, Chairman of the Visual Arts Committee for the Ventura County Arts Council, poses in front of his kinetic sculpture "Wall Mobile 2," which he displayed in the recent VCAC exhibition entitled "Whimsy and Delight."

Government employees maintain artistic output

by Tim Pompey

It's a standard stereotype. Government employees go to work, live in square cubicles, learn the rules, process paperwork, and survive a mountain of bureaucratic mumbo jumbo.

As stereotypes go, however, local City and County employees have proved that, despite some of the professional challenges they face, there's plenty of room for artistic creativity. Proof of that will appear at the County Government Center starting August 27, when the annual County Employees' Exhibition, sponsored by the National Arts Program and the Ventura County Arts Council (www.venturacountyartscouncil.org), will go on display.

Todd Collart is a good example. Collart worked in the County Planning Department for 35 years and became interested in art late in his career. He now serves as the Chairperson for the VCAC's Visual Arts Committee. When Collart entered a piece of kinetic sculpture into an employee exhibition, he surprised himself by winning First Place in the amateur category. "That was a key moment," he explains. "After entering and winning, then selling some work, it gave me the confidence to join another gallery."

Silvia Huerta works as a graphic artist with the City of Ventura. She agrees that having art as a daily part of her work life "inspires me – just having it around and knowing events are coming." In addition, Huerta feels her involvement with ArtWalk and other City-sponsored activities has helped her develop important artistic contacts. "Meeting other artists is exciting," she says. "I look forward to going to work."

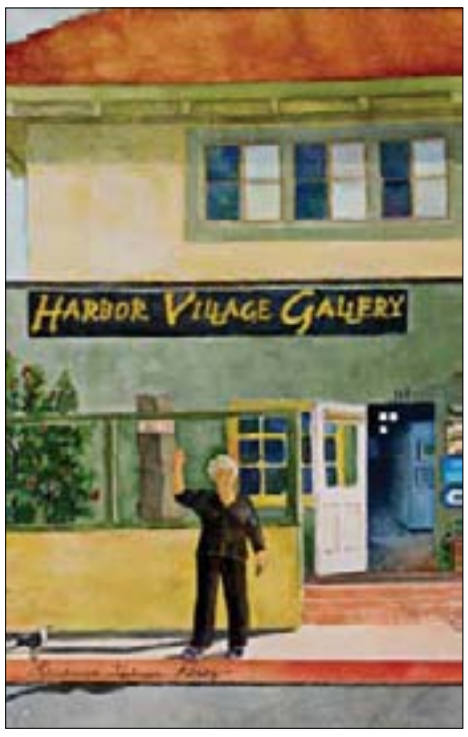
For photographers Chris Maclean and Debra Scantlin, having their own exhibition keeps them motivated as artists. Maclean and Scantlin work together in the basement of the County Sheriff's Department processing crime-related photos. Knowing they have an annual outlet for their photographic interests helps them stay creative, and sometimes they encounter on-the-job art in surprising ways. As Scantlin explains: "When a CSI goes out, sometimes, without realizing it, they take photos that are really interesting."

For Barbara Hynes, working with art helped preserve her sanity during some of the more stressful moments she had as a social worker for the Ventura County Area Agency on Aging. Hynes specializes in fiber art, mixed media with textiles, and wearable art. She admits that "sometimes the job will drain you. I usually carried a caseload of 50 people." Hynes deliberately brought art into her office to offset stress. "I made my space fun," she says. "I tried to create an artsy cubicle environment."

For retired public defender Duane Dammeyer, having an artistic outlet was an important alternative to his busy legal life: "Being a public defender is all about paperwork and talking. The results, outside of a verdict, are not tangible." Art also provided Dammeyer with a means to release his stress and relax his mind. "It gave me time to think," he states. "Especially during the finishing stages, when there was a lot of sanding and polishing, I would sometimes go over my cases in my head."

The County Employees' Art Exhibit and events like ArtWalk prove that bureaucracy is no barrier when it comes to art. Creativity exists where people are compelled to be expressive. As Dammeyer succinctly explains: "Art is something I have to do. Without it, my life is not complete."

Happily, art lives within our government and Government helps support art. And for those artists who work inside government, having a venue for displaying and selling their work is even better.



"This is the Place" watercolor by Luanne Hebner Perez

Watercolor paintings at harbor village gallery

Luanne Hebner Perez's collection of original watercolor paintings "A Sense of Place" will be exhibiting at the Harbor Village Gallery from Wednesday, September 8 to Sunday, October 10, 2010. An Artist Reception will be held on Friday, September 10, 2010 from 5 – 8pm.

With the heart of a true local, Perez captures the views of Ventura and bring them to life. Take a tour around Ventura right here in this exhibit! Her images are reminders of what a blessing and inspiration the beautiful town of Ventura is. She paints in vivid watercolors, representational with a warm touch. Each painting aims to give you a "sense of place" making one fall-in-love once again with this county.

Fill your heart with a "sense of place" in this warm exhibit of original watercolors.

Open Monday through Thursday (closed on Tuesdays) from 12 to 5 p.m. and Friday, through Sunday from 11a.m. to 6p.m. For more information, call the gallery at 644-2750 or visit www.harborvillagegallery.com or www.buenaventuragallery.org

You can easily image a little story that goes along with each piece Kim Clarke creates

The Heart of the Artist

Kim Clarke, Ceramist

by Emily Thiroux

Kim Clarke has a unique relationship with the ceramics she creates. She started out creating artsy fairy females and green men, but she discovered interesting little faces coming though the clay. Now she allows those faces to express how they want to be seen. While this may seem a little odd, Michelangelo first expressed this concept when he said that his job as a sculptor was to free the form that was already inside the stone.

Kim's whimsical, fantasy figures are not created to be commercial images though people often say her works remind them of Lewis Carroll's Alice in Wonderland. She sees them as evolving and continuing to get better. The individual works speak to the eye of the beholder, such as the one with an opening in the top of her head with a bird sitting inside. I heard one observer say, "Oh that's me. A birdbrain!" She told of one person observing one of her people who was sure it was his chiropractor.

Lately Kim's figures have found their way into different modes of transportation, frequently in groups. You may find one on a fish or a snail, or several figures together in a sled or a wagon. You can easily image a little story that goes along with each piece.

Kim's stories come to her as she is sculpting her little guys, but she generally likes the viewers to conjure their own stories to reflect the feelings they have when they see where the figures are and what they are up to.

Kim uses whatever clay she has on hand when she's working that will fire to a white color. Then she uses glazes to create the beautiful colors on her pieces, but since her work is strictly decorative, she also sometimes uses acrylic paint or sharpies to enhance how they look. Her favorite tool to create with is a wooden bamboo skewer. She fires her work to cone five, which means that they will last forever. She smiles as she contemplates what some future archeologists will think about how what our culture must have been like when they did up her work.

Kim loves to pay it forward by teaching classes at the Simi Valley Senior Center. There she teaches a technique to her students, and then encourages them to use that technique to make their unique individual projects.

Kim has studio space at Art and Soul Studios on Laurel Street in Ventura, and as an active member of the Ventura County Potter's Guild, she is currently featured at the Guild's store at Harbor Village. The Guild features 14 juried ceramists in their store with a rich variety of works from plates, bowls, and mugs to creative ceramic masks and figures. The store is close to the carousel and the hat store at the village and is open Thursday's through Sunday's. The Potter's Guild has been around since 1957 and has 150 members. Stop by the store to see a rich variety of beautiful work.

I hope you'll introduce me to artists you want to learn more about. Contact me through Facebook at The Heart of the Artist. Or email me at emily@theheartoftheartist. And I hope that you'll read my blog and support the artists I feature. http://www.theheartoftheartist.com/category/Blog/

The Hindu goddess Kali gets her own Tarot card in a painting by artist, photographer, and healing arts therapist Nancy DeLucrezia.

WĀV Artist Interviews: Nancy DeLucrezia

by Tim Pompey

Nancy DeLucrezia is inspired by Kali, the Hindu goddess associated with eternal energy. "I'm fascinated with that energy," she says.

Raised in Rochester, New York, DeLucrezia majored in photography and lithography from the State University of New York. After graduation, she ran a Japanese art gallery and became involved with a group known as the "Taborton Environmental Arts Community."

In the 1980s, after suffering from a case of professional burnout, DeLucrezia went to Europe to rediscover herself: "I was at a point where I didn't like having a body. I knew that I had to make a choice." Upon returning, she decided to leave corporate life and study massage.

DeLucrezia moved to L.A. and then Santa Barbara where, in 1993, she set aside photography and returned to painting to "get out of my safety zone." She also founded the "Kali Institute of Massage." Three years later, she found a partner in Ventura and moved the school to the downtown area.

Currently, DeLucrezia is painting her own Tarot series and has recreated 10 of the 22 major arcana cards. "I've been interested in Tarot readings since I was 15," she says. For her, Tarot is a "stimulus to tap into information someone already has inside them." She avoids the term "fortune telling" and prefers to focus on

Continued on page 14

Professor Scamp, Ph.D (Pretty Happy Dog)

Professor Scamp
Ph.D

Romeo the NUISANCE

As told to Scamp by Danielle Peak

In the summer of 2009, Ventura resident Georgia Peak received an unexpected phone call from the Ventura County Animal Regulation Department. She had recently sent in for new tags for Romeo, a Maltese she took in from a co-worker. Peak was told that at his previous residence Romeo had been taken to court for excessive barking. As his current owner, Peak was now obligated to comply with the court order that had been issued. She would be required to pay $100 a year for Romeo's license (as opposed to the regular $20). And, instead of a standard dog's license tag, he would be issued a special nuisance license.

The tag was bright red with the word "NUISANCE" stamped across it in bold print.

The only way around the order was to move Romeo out of the county.

Romeo landed a hearing in 2007 when he lived with previous owners in Camarillo. Romeo was not the only dog in this household, nor was he the only one deemed a nuisance. Two other tiny dogs living with him suffered the same fate.

The court order plainly states that "the finding of nuisance" is permanent, only to terminate with the death of the dog. But Peak protested. When Romeo moved into her residence in late 2008, he was not an avid barker, nor did he sink back into the habit. With her, he lives with older dogs (one of which is diabetic) and has mellowed out much in their presence. Peak knew nothing of his delinquency until the phone call, and she was determined to revoke the order. She asked her immediate neighbors if Romeo caused disturbance by barking, and their responses only affirmed her conviction that he, in fact, was not a nuisance.

In addition to the special license and the fine, the court order also stated that an adult must be present (to control the barking) when Romeo is outside the owner's house and/or garage. The "Failure to Comply with Order" portion states, "The Poundmaster may seize and summarily destroy any animal being kept or maintained in violation of such order of the Poundmaster."

Peak wrote a letter to Animal Services, in which she stated, "I should not have to pay $100 for a 'nuisance license' when the dog is no longer a nuisance! He is a darling little dog and it should not be a financial burden for me to license him."

Two months later, in May 2010, Peak received a reply. Romeo's sentence had been revoked. No longer a "nuisance," the Maltese's record is now clean, and he didn't even have to leave our wonderful county.

Scamp:

It is a good thing dogs can't be deemed to be a nuisance if they eat too much because I would need to wear 5 red licenses.

The Wellness Community Valley/Ventura invites dog lovers to make their pets paws-itively happy by joining the 2010Paws 4 Hopewalk to support those affected by cancer on September 12 at 11:00 a.m. at Berniece Bennett Park in Westlake Village.

The event will include a dog walk and doggie contests including Most Creative Costume, Funniest Trick, Best Smile, and more. Donations raised by walk participants and their beloved canines will support the local cancer support programs of The Wellness Community Valley/Ventura. This is the first year participants will be able to create personalized online fundraising pages. Registration required; visit www.TwcVv.org or call 379-4777.

For more information, to volunteer, or to make a donation, please visit www.TwcVv.org or call 379-4777.

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.

Dog to Adopt

Hi:

I'm Cheech an affectionate 9 month old Chihuahua boy mix who has lots of energy. I'm good with other dogs and children, but since I'm just a puppy, children in the home must be 6 years or older. I'm an active dog who loves to play and I enjoy sitting in your lap. Puppy classes are a great way for me to learn right from wrong and grow up to be a well behaved adult dog. I'm house and crate trained and I know how to use a doggie door. I come when called, sit on command and walk well on a leash. I'd make a great addition to any family. Stop by and meet me, I can't wait to be a cherished member of a loving family.

The Canine Adoption & Rescue League, Sam's Place
3203 East Main St., Ventura, 644-PETS (7387)
www.carlvc.org

Scamp Club

Hi:

I'm Romeo, a very sweet dog in spite of my criminal record.

Read Scamp's column to learn more about me.

Police Reports

by Veronica Johnson

Shooting at an Inhabited Dwelling

On Tuesday, August 3rd, at 10:28 p.m., the VPD received several calls, of gunshots heard in the area of Cabrillo Village. The victim, who lives in the 1400 block of Ficus Way, informed operators that someone had just fired several shots at her home.

Officers discovered that an unknown suspect fired several shots from a vehicle at the front of the victim's home. The suspect is described as a white male in his 20's, slender build, wearing a baseball cap. The vehicle the suspect was driving is described as a white Ford pickup with large rims and tires. After firing the shots the suspect drove away at a high rate of speed and is still outstanding. No one was injured as a result of the incident.

Vehicle Tampering

On Wednesday, August 4th, at 2:45 a.m., the VPD received a call of subjects looking into vehicle windows and checking door handles in the underground parking structure at The Country Inn.

Riley Whipkey, 21 years old, and Thomas Escallier, 19 years old, were seen walking in the underground parking structure checking vehicle door handles, attempting to locate unlocked vehicles. VPD officers arrived on-scene and set up a perimeter around the parking structure. As the two left the parking structure, they were contacted and detained.

The suspects' actions were captured on video surveillance. At this time it does not appear that any vehicles were broken into or any property taken. Both suspects were arrested and booked into VC Jail.

Commercial Burglary

On Friday, August 13th, at 10:00 a.m., VPD responded to a commercial burglary from the victim, "MacTalk" computer store, located at 228 East Thompson Boulevard. An unknown suspect smashed a store window and had stolen a number of "I pad" covers. Later the same morning, a person hailed the officer who took the original report. The witness stated that a suspicious subject had just sold him an "I pad" cover. The officer found the suspect, later identified as Alvin Gehrts, 48 years old and from Ventura. Gehrts had additional "I pad" covers on his person and was identified as the subject who sold a cover to the witness. Gehrts was arrested and booked at the VC Jail.

Suspicious Package

On Wednesday, August 11th, at 11:20 a.m., the VPD received a call of suspicious package, found in the Arundell flood channel, located near the intersection of Dean Drive and Estates Drive. The reporting party was a County of Ventura employee public works inspector.

The inspector found a black pouch inside the flood channel and when the he opened the pouch he noticed two cylindrical objects inside that were connected by wires. He suspected that the items inside the pouch were explosive devices. He was able to put the pouch in a safe area, after which he contacted the police department.

Officers from the VPD and VC Fire Department personnel responded to the scene and established a perimeter around the area and evacuated several nearby residences. The VC Sheriff's Bomb Squad personnel examined the object and determined that the items inside the pouch were in fact commercial grade explosives or pyrotechnics. The Bomb Squad was able to use a water cannon to render the device safe and seized the explosive parts.

Harbor Patrol Blotter

7-19, 11:40 a.m. Patrol observed a thresher shark swimming near the beach. It did not react when the boat approached. In order to prevent fear on the beach, patrol captured the shark, transported it three miles offshore and released it..

12:30 p.m. A woman from VIM reported that her blue kayak was stolen last night. After receiving an adequate description, Patrol towed the kayak back to VIM D-dock.

6:57 p.m. Island Packers reports that they just called FD because of a strange odor. Patrol responded. Upon arrival, there was smoke in the restroom from a fire in the dryer. Patrol cleared the building.

9:31 p.m. Patrol received a report that someone broke a bottle in the Harbor Village Parking lot. Patrol responded and found that there was a major beach party on the beach. Patrol issued 18 parking tickets to cars believed to be parked on the beach, while PD cleared the beach.

7-27, 8:20 a.m. Patrol observed a transient riding a bicycle while carrying a bicycle. Patrol determined that a bicycle that matched this description had been stolen from VIM two weeks ago. However, the report had not been filed with PD, so there was no way to confirm that this was the bicycle. Patrol took possession of

Continued on page 15

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Senior Living

The Senior Cone-nection

Insight into the Braille Institute

by Nanci Cone

The Braille Institute offers a wide array of services designed to help people with vision loss lead enriched and fulfilling lives. A leader in the field since 1919, Braille Institute provides on-site services at five regional centers as well as more than 350 Community Outreach locations throughout Southern California.

Funded entirely by private donations, all services provided by The Braille Institute are completely free of charge! Their mission is to eliminate barriers to a fulfilling life caused by blindness and severe sight loss. The Institute provides an environment of hope and encouragement for people who are blind and visually impaired through integrated educational, social and recreational programs and services.

According to Field Services Manager, Mary Camarillo, "Each year we provide services to more than 75,000 people who run the gamut from low vision to completely blind. The Institute is operated and funded almost entirely through private individual and foundation sources. Generous donors and dedicated efforts by more than 4,000 volunteers enable staff to provide training, programs and services without charge. And I can't emphasize enough that you do not have to be blind to take advantage of our services."

If you can't get to our regional centers, we can bring some of Braille Institute's free services closer to you through our three traveling Mobile Solutions vehicles. This vehicle travels around Santa Barbara, Ventura and San Luis Obispo counties, stopping at various locations to offer information about Braille Institute's many programs and to provide a few of our services. On board the vehicles you can schedule a Low Vision Rehabilitation consultation, see demonstrations of several kinds of assistive technology, purchase adaptive items, and sign up for Library Services. Our next visit will be Tuesday, September 21, 10 am to 2 pm at the Ventura Senior Recreation Center, 420 E. Santa Clara Street. For more information about this ongoing program, contact Bonnie at (805) 648-2829.

Mary goes on to say, "Many who are blind or visually impaired—or who have reading or other physical disabilities—often cannot use printed materials,depriving them of reading materials that most take for granted. Braille Institute's Library Services—the Southern California branch of the National Library Service (NLS), a network coordinated by the Library of Congress—provides free books, periodicals and other texts in Braille and recorded formats. With a Reader Advisor's help, patrons select from more than 100,000 titles and 1.2 million volumes accessible from the Library's collection. The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) has begun issuing digital talking books. Similar to the move from records to cassettes, this process will be gradual. NLS is distributing digital players and digital talking book titles. The new technology will mean less hassle, more precise navigation and no rewinding."

To learn more about the services offered through the Braille Institute including facts about vision loss and how to cope with it, to become a patron, or to schedule an appointment, please contact them at www.brailleinstitute.org or call them at 682-6222.

The Lexington celebrated the anniversary of VJ Day

Recently the Lexington in Ventura marked the 65th anniversary of VJ Day with speeches, 1940s music and eating from the buffet food line. The facility was decorated with red, white and blue balloons and old time American flags.

Resident Bachich, 91, said "History is not dead. History lives on if you look for it." Residents of the home, families and friends attended the event which was held in their lovely courtyard.

Executive Director Sharon Bates stated "This is perhaps the last time America can say thank you to our greatest generation for preserving our democracy and establishing the gold standard of service that would inspire future generations."

Three members of the California Air National Guard presented the colors in military fashion in which the U.S. flag is unfolded in front of the seated veterans, then folded back up. A very moving experience.

Ventura Councilmember Jim Monahan, a Korean War veteran, presented a resolution from the council honoring the Lexington for the "Spirit of '45 Program".

Cypress Place Senior Living offers *Seniors Gone Wired*

Cypress Place Senior Living is helping seniors get hip to the wired world on Wednesday September 1 with a "Seniors Gone Wired" educational event.

During the all day event at the senior community, a broad range of topics and interactive workshops will take place in an atmosphere set up exclusively for seniors.

At the event, seniors of all ages and degree of computer literacy can find the information they are looking for. Computer stations and technician support will be available to teach seniors tips on using a computer, how to master their cell phone, finding information online, using email, and the latest technological innovations. Workshops on these topics, and many more, will be offered throughout the day, every half hour.

If you've even been curious about how to tour a museum online half way around the world, or want to discover how to send and receive pictures and video of your kids and grandkids across the country, this event is for you.

The event takes place from 10a.m. to 4p.m. and is free and open to the public. A free gourmet buffet will be served all day.

Cypress Place Senior Living is located at 1200/1220 Cypress Point Lane in Ventura. For more information or to RSVP please call 650-8000.

To learn more about Cypress Place Senior Living of Ventura, visit their web site at www.cypressplaceseniorliving.com.

Senior Living

On August 19 Cypress Place Senior Living held its sixth annual "A Taste of Cypress Classic Car Show and '50s Party". Vintage cars were featured along with wonderful food served by several local restaurants and lots of dancing. All of this to benefit the Boys & Girls Club of Ventura. Cypress Place Executive Director Jim Duran always has a full schedule of events for the residents and in the process has raised money for many groups and causes.

Enjoying themselves at Cypress Place Senior Living event "A Taste of Cypress Classic Car Show and '50s Party" are the present and future Boys & Girls Club of Ventura presidents. The two handsome gentlemen are Bonaventure Wakam, BGCV president elect and Leon Rousso, current president.

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Community Events continued

Ventura events

Arts & Crafts by the Sea is sponsored by the San Buenaventura Artists' Union and is located in the California Street Plaza next to the beach, between the Crowne Plaza and the Artists' Union Gallery. Every Saturday and Sunday between 10am - 4pm handcrafts, home and garden art, jewelry, clothing and much more is available for purchase. All items are hand-made and sold by the artists. Need a gift? Or just looking for something different? Here's the Place to Shop.

For more information or for a vendor application call Ann at 659-3352

August 26: While many are out shopping for fall styles or back-to-school clothing, there are still many others that simply can not. During **"The Great Denim BeneFIT"** at Pacific View, attendees will have the opportunity to choose an individual in need from off the "giving tree" style donation rack and wrap up a pair of previously donated denim.

All packaged denim will later be delivered to one of three local non-profits, to under resourced men, women and children: Project Understanding, Ventura County Rescue Mission, Lighthouse for Women and Children

Snacks and entertainment will be provided for volunteers as they individually package denim during this family friendly chance to give back to those in need within the community.

Thursday from 6-8pm at the Pacific View Shopping Center

August 28: Project Understanding, in conjunction with Global E-recyclers, will be holding an **e-waste recycling** event that will benefit their organization. The event will be in their parking lot at 43 E. Vince Street , Ventura. Items that can be recycled are all types of computer components, printers, cell phones, telephones, fax machines, DVD/VCR's, shredders and televisions. No household or kitchen appliances.

Project Understanding is a faith based non-profit which has been serving families of Ventura County since 1977. For more general information or to donate, contact Project Understanding at 652-1326 or visit www.projectunderstanding.org.

August 28: The Ventura County Libertarians invite you to their first annual **Freedom Barbeque** on Saturday from 1pm to 4pm at Arroyo Verde Park, 5101 Foothill Road, in the Redwood Glen BBQ area. Tri-tip, chicken, ribs, beans, and soda will be served. Side dishes are welcome. Donation $10.00. Parking fee. For more information call 652-0290.

August 29: Learn about **"Designer to the Stars" Howard Greer**, one of Hollywood's earliest celebrity designers, when costume historian Shelly Foote gives a presentation of his life and work on Sunday, at 3 p.m. at the Museum of Ventura County. Admission is $5 general public, free for museum members. For reservations, call 653-0323 x 315.

Foote's 30-year career with The National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, included supervision and development of their 1700-1920 Costume Collection. She is presently the president elect of the Western Region of the Costume Society of America.

August 29: At 4pm the **Sedalia Ragtime Orchestra** will play the closing concert in the eclectic summer series of free musical performances at Barranca Vista Park, 7050 Ralston Street. Patrons are encouraged to bring a picnic basket, blanket or low lawn chair to this free, family-friendly concert.

The Sedalia Ragtime Orchestra, comprised of Southern California musicians, plays authentic ragtime style music from the 1890s through 1917 as pioneered by pianist and prolific Ragtime composer Scott Joplin. The orchestra takes its name from Sedalia, Missouri, recognized as the birthplace of Ragtime music.

September 1: Ventura Film Society @ The WAV (www.venturafilmsociety.com) 175 S. Ventura Ave. 628-2299

7pm- "Turtles Can Fly" (Iran / France / IRAQ 2004 - a film by Bhaman Ghobadi - 98 mins). One of the most beautiful movies ever made about children caught in the crossfire of war. An unforgettable look at young survivors for whom peace is a rare and precious thing.

Preceded by "Tasmim" ("Decision"), a powerful new short by local Iranian filmmaker and Brooks graduate Tara Motamedi, who will attend.

September 1: The Beach Cities Neighbors and Newcomers Club, (BCNN) is a group of active women of all ages who live in Ventura, Oxnard or Port Hueneme and enjoy activities such as hiking, golf, dining, wine outings, reading, biking, etc.

For more information join them at their monthly meeting at 9:30 at The Greek Restaurant located at 1583 Spinnaker Dr. in the Ventura Harbor No charge for the meeting. Coffee or tea is available at a nominal charge of $1.00.

Guest Speaker: Bob Quinn, Retired Navy Captain Subject: Port Hueneme Harbor

September 5: A June 22, 1948 broadcast of "Zero Hour" from The Mysterious Traveler and 1917 to 1930 recordings of soprano Amelita Galli-Curci will be featured in the Dudley House historic recording series during the **Dudley House open house**. The house will be open from 1- 4pm. Admission is free. The Dudley House is located at the corner of Ashwood and Loma Vista.

September 5: "A Labor Day of Love" a Citizens for Peaceful Resolutions (CPR) potluck and Council Circle meeting. An opportunity for all CPR members and friends to compassionately communicate their concerns and aspirations for the progressive movement. Where are we? What matters? Where do we go from here?

About once a year CPR holds a Council Circle meeting in which the public is encouraged to listen compassionately and share thoughts and feelings, taking turns and speaking from the heart. CPR invites you to bring a potluck dish of your choice and encourages you to include at least one locally-produced ingredient.

Held Sunday, at 3p.m. at the Foster Library's Topping Room, 651 E. Main St.

For more on Council Circle: http://www.ojaifoundation.org/Council Learn more about CPR and find out how you can get involved at www.c-p-r.net or 850-5849.

September 8: The Ventura County Camera Club will hold a competition meeting on Wednesday, at 7pm at the Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Rd in Ventura. Matt Hanes, a professional photographer, will critique members' prints and digital images. The topic for the month is "Balance" which features some interesting photographs. Anyone with an interest in photography is welcome and admission is free. See the club's web site www.VenturaCountyCameraClub.com. for more information about the club and examples of member's works or call 908-5663.

Horseracing
Live via Satellite
The DERBY CLUB
AT VENTURA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
Pari-Mutuel Wagering with Instant Payoffs at Track Odds
10 W. Harbor Blvd., Ventura
(805) 653-2533
www.venturacountyfair.org/derby
·Free Admission and Parking Wednesdays & Thursdays
·Full Service Bars and Restaurant
·Must be 18+ to enter

Nancy DeLucrezia

Continued from page 10

helping people to become aware of their choices.

The fascination with Kali and Tarot feeds into DeLucrezia's art and vice versa. They both explore self-expression and self-realization. You can see this colorfully illustrated in the cards she has completed: universal themes painted with a spiritual sense of feminine awareness; each picture a vivid reminder of human consciousness and energy. For more information on DeLucrezia's art, visit her website at www.kalischild.com

See local artists create in Museum Courtyard

Four local artists will demonstrate their work and techniques in the Museum of Ventura County's courtyard on Sunday, August 29, from 1 – 4 p.m. The artists are Michele Chapin, painter Sarah Kalvin; leatherworker Steve Stewart; and textile artist Lorna Morck. All the artists will have work available for purchase through the Museum Store. This is the first in a series of Museum Store events to be held throughout the year to highlight Ventura County artists.

The Museum of Ventura County is located at 100 E. Main. For more information go to www.venturamuseum.org.

The Inkspots of Ventura

The Inkspots, Ventura County's only fine art printmaking group, will be exhibiting at Gallery 255 from September 2 - 25. Gallery 255 is located at 255 Laurel St. and is adjacent to Sea Breeze Art Studios.

Printmaking is the process of making original artworks by running a prepared surface through a printing press. These works of art are not photographic reproductions of a painting but original works of art in and of themselves.

In addition to the pieces in the exhibit, the Inkspots will offer a folio for sale. The folio, entitled the Red and the Black will include a limited edition print by nine of the participating artists.

A reception will be held in conjunction with Ventura's 1st Friday on September 3, from 5 to 8 p.m. Gallery Hours are Thursday, Friday and Saturday 12 to 5 pm. For further information see inkspotsVentura.Blogspot.com or www.gallery255.com.

Visit fine art galleries on *First Friday*

Make your Friday evening an artistic one on September 3, when fine art spaces throughout downtown and midtown Ventura stay open as part of the monthly First Fridays Ventura event.

The featured gallery for September's First Fridays Ventura is Buenaventura Gallery, exhibiting Regina Vorgang and Scott Miles's Origins- Rugs in Inspirational Places.

Every first Friday, participating fine art venues in Ventura offer evening hours so that the public can appreciate and buy art in a relaxed, supportive and fun environment. Many locations also offer opening art receptions, demonstrations, lectures, performances, or music as part of the experience; most remain open until 8:00, some until 9:00 pm.

Please go to www.FirstFridaysVentura.com for the participating galleries.

SCRAMBLERS
solution
1. Defer; 2. Score;
3. Clarify; 4. Excel
Today's Word:
COFFEE

King Crossword
Answers
Solution time: 21 mins.

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

Weekly SUDOKU
Answer

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

Business

Mark and Lorie Iversen have renamed Hi Cees Café Blackbeard's BBQ

Blackbeard's BBQ: Embarking on a new voyage

by Mira Reverente

"We found a steering wheel, anchor and some pirate effects. The place also had a rustic, ship-like ambience," explains Mark Iversen, on his decision to name his new restaurant venture Blackbeard, after the most notorious English pirate of the early 1700s.

Located at the Ventura Harbor, Blackbeard's BBQ is the former Hi Cees Café. New owners Mark and Lorie Iversen took over on July 1, renamed it and wasted no time making it their own.

Aye-Aye, Captain!

As the newly installed captain of the ship, Iversen's first order of business was getting to know his crew. He retained most of the café's employees and spent considerable time re-training them.

With the crew in place, Iversen decided to step things up and revamped the menu next. "Pirates like their meat, so we upgraded the quality of the meat and made the portions larger," says Iversen.

The meat is smoked daily using a high-end outdoor smoker and red oak wood, favored by many pit masters for producing a heavy smoke flavor. The smoker makes popular menu items such as the pulled pork and beef ribs more flavorful and tenderer. Iversen is also experimenting with a new recipe for hot chicken wings, which he hopes will be a best seller, like the others.

Iversen also added vegetables, potatoes and other new side items to complement the meat. Most of the ingredients are locally sourced or purchased from a local distributor. He is also excited about discovering a local bakery that they can buy fresh bread bowls from daily, to use for items such as the tri-tip stew and chili.

Rocking the boat

Iversen also acquired the space adjacent to the restaurant, giving him a larger dining room. Just like Blackbeard, Iversen was fearless when it comes to making enhancements. "We knocked some walls down. We also did a lot of improvements here and there to achieve that pirate-like ambience," says Iversen.

He also recognizes that meat-eating pirates like to have a good time in between voyages. Wednesdays have been designated karaoke nights. Then there's live blues entertainment on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays featuring different bands. On Friday, July 30, Western Swing is on the schedule, followed by Artwork Jamal on Saturday, July 31.

Iversen is optimistic because the restaurant has many good things going. He proudly states, "We have a gorgeous ocean view that we want guests to take advantage of in our outdoor patio. We also want to be recognized not only as a source of entertainment, but also of great food."

Pirate-speak

When the dust has settled, the self-taught entrepreneur thinks that they will eventually branch out and offer catering. "I think that's included in every restaurateur's plans. But if we do it, we want to do it well. We want the food to be memorably good," says Iversen.

School

Career Shops

Wednesday, September 1 - Computer Basics for Job Seekers, 8:30 am – 3:30 pm - become familiar with Windows desktop programs to enhance your job skills.

Wednesday, September 8 - Power of VOS (Virtual OneStop), 1 pm – 4 pm – Learn about the Virtual OneStop website and how you can use the various tools in the system to build your resume and customize your job search to a specific location and occupation. Must have basic computer skills.

Thursday, September 9 - Resumes that Sell, 8:30 am – 3:30 pm - hands-on workshop providing assistance in completing a resume, cover and thank-you letters.

Tuesday, September 14 - Explore Your Future, 8:30 am – 2:30 pm - complete a self-evaluation to help identify your skills and aspirations. Gain insight into the hidden labor market and develop a career strategy based on high-demand occupations.

Wednesday, September 15 - Dollars and Sense, 1 pm – 4 pm - gain a basic understanding of good/bad debt, credit, spending triggers, budgeting and financial goals. Take control of your financial future.

Tuesday, September 21 - Winning Interviews, 8:30 am – 3:30 pm - supplies the tools to make a lasting first impression when interviewing.

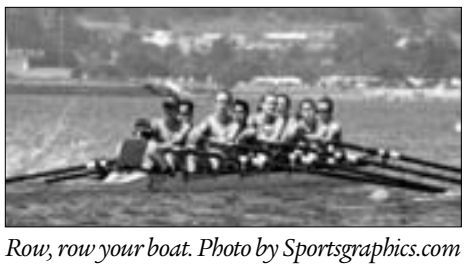
Tuesday, September 28 - Online Job Search Strategies, 8:30 am – 3:30 pm - teaches useful and successful methods of surfing the Internet for job leads, and how to properly respond. Must have basic computer skills. Bring your completed resume on 3 ½" floppy disk.

Thursday, September 30 - Job Retention, 8:30 am – 11:30 am - learn how to succeed at your new job. This mini-career shop will help you discover what employers are really looking for in their employees and how to make yourself more valuable.

Thursday, September 30 - Tap into the Hidden Job Market, 1 pm – 4 pm - learn how to initiate contacts and job leads and why networking is so important. Gain important insight and tools for finding job leads before they are advertised.

Career Shops are offered at no cost to Job Seekers. Space is limited. Prior registration required by calling the Ventura Job & Career Center at 654-3435 to enroll. Location: 4651 Telephone Road, Ventura

Sports



Row, row your boat. Photo by Sportsgraphics.com

Become part of the rowing team

The Lake Casitas Rowing Association has announced try outs for their high school rowing team for the upcoming 2010-2011season.

High school students from all schools are welcome to attend and try rowing for free on Saturday September 4 or Saturday September 11 from 8:30-10:30am.

Interested teens should call 642.2288 to reserve a space. Check out their website www.CasitasRowing.org to get more information and location.

Hi, soccer fans

Ranbir Shergill
General Manager
Ventura County Fusion

Please sign up for our English Premier League Fantasy League. The season has begun and we just started the league so get your teams in.

If you aren't already playing the game then you can register at http://fantasy.premierleague.com

Once you have logged in and entered your team, click on the 'Leagues' link you can find on the right of the page. Now enter the code 1227534-254723 to join the private league.

Enjoy the game and good luck. Let me know if you have any questions.

rshergill@vcfusion.com
http://www.venturacountyfusion.com

Health

Receiving the Breastfeeding Friendly Workplace Award for Community Memorial Hospital are Sheila Dedrick, Megan Meeker, Bobbie McCaffrey, Estelle Brutton, Paris Maloof-Bury and Sarah Dinkler.

CMH earns Coalition's friendly award

Community Memorial Hospital has been recognized for its support of employees who are nursing newborns.

The Breastfeeding Coalition of Ventura County honored CMH with its 2010 Breastfeeding Friendly Award. Megan Meeker, CMH's director of Maternal Child Health Services, accepted the award during a ceremony held at the Ventura County Board of Supervisors meeting on Aug. 3.

CMH earned the countywide honor in the nonprofit employer category. The Breastfeeding Coalition cited the hospital for the services it provides employees while on pregnancy and maternity leave, its breastfeeding support group and its employee "Lactation Lounge" that is equipped with a high-quality, hospital-grade pump.

Nursing CMH employees also have access to supplies and services offered by the hospital's New Parent Resource Center for patients who are new mothers. They include childbirth and new parent classes; support groups; consultations; bra fittings; and a "Breastfeeding Boutique" that stocks breast pump kits, nursing bras and breastfeeding supplies for sale. Breast pumps are also available for rent.

"We're honored with the award and excited to serve the needs of both our employees and our patients," Meeker said.

Harbor Patrol blotter

Continued from page 11

the bicycle and filed a "Lost and Found" report on it.

7-30, 10:00 a.m. Patrol assisted with a Junior Lifeguard swim by the pier. They picked up two swimmers who were mildly hypothermic and transported them to the beach.

1:50 p.m. Patrol received a request for assistance from a new boater who was having trouble with his 30-foot sailboat. Patrol took the vessel into tow and released it at its slip at VWM.

7-31, 11:21 p.m. PD relayed a report of a vessel on fire two miles outside of the Harbor. The people have abandoned the boat onto kayaks. Patrol responded to assist the people and arranged to have the Fire Boat staffed to fight the fire. The fire was extinguished, but the boat sunk soon thereafter in 60 feet of water. The people were returned to the dock uninjured.

8-1, 4:46 p.m. Patrol observed a small sailboat capsized outside of the Harbor. Patrol took the occupants of the vessel aboard the Patrol boat and then towed the vessel to the Launch Ramp.

5:19 p.m. Patrol received a report of a vessel capsized by the South Jettty. Patrol was able to right the vessel and release it under its own power to the Patrol dock so the skipper could make the necessary repairs.

The Music Connection

Where The Music Flows

by Michael Kohli

Greetings fellow music fans, this week I'm honored to write about the return of a one-of-a-kind pop sensation. Her name is Kim Kuzma. Voted as Canada's Best Independent Artist in 2001, her music has been reaching out to quite a number of people. She will be performing two exclusive nights at Paddy's Ventura August 27 and 28. This will be her fourth August in a row visiting our Ventura world. Her performance is in celebration of Ventura County Pride 2010. Performing both the kick-off night and closing night. Check out her brand new single, "I Am Alive," and her other hit albums on iTunes, CD Baby, and Best Buy.

As for the actual Ventura County Pride 2010 festival – check out www.vcpride.org for line-up and times. Bands such as The Electric Liberaces (featuring members of PONG), Champagne Sunday, Fearmia, Delaney Gibson, and more have been added to the August 28 festival taking place at Mission Park 12-4, Pride March 4-5, WAV 5-9pm. The LGBT festival will include a picnic in the park, live music, art painting & art displays and more.

Shoddy Cons are currently making quite a name for themselves here in the music scene of Ventura. Recently performing at Bombay Bar & Grill, San Souci, and El Rey Cantina, the band also has new upcoming gigs at Zoey's Cafe, J.J. Brewskys and more. You can find the band on Facebook, Myspace and at http://www.shoddycons.com.

Local music legends, Army Of Freshmen have just returned to Ventura from touring in the UK. Performing at the Sonisphere in Knebworth, UK among the likes of Iron Maiden, Motley Crue, Alice Cooper, Alice In Chains, Iggy And The Stooges and more. The band already has a huge gig lined up after they've returned home to Ventura. August 28 and 29, Army Of Freshmen will join their friends Le Meu Le Purr, Franklin For Short, Rey Fresco, Soft Silence and more at Spencer Mackenzie's End Of Summer Blast.

There's a hot concert that has just been announced at the Santa Barbara Bowl on October 6; Maroon 5, One Republic, and Bruno Mars will take on the evening together. One hot rock ticket you do not want to miss. Some may remember Maroon 5 performing at the VC Fair opening up for Dishwalla years ago under their former band name, Kara's Flowers. This band has come a very long way. Maroon 5 is getting ready to release 3rd major label album, "Hands All Over," this September.

The band already has two hit singles off the upcoming album, "Misery" and "Give A Little More." Mary J. Blige and Rihanna have both recently collaborated with Maroon 5 on their remix album. Along with the success of One Republic, singer Ryan Tedder has made quite a name for himself as a songwriter in recent years. Writing hit singles for Beyonce "Halo", Kelly Clarkson "Already Gone", Natasha Bedingfield "Love Like This", Chris Cornell "Arms Around Your Love", and more. In addition to his own band's hit singles, "All The Right Moves", "Apologize", "Stop and Stare," and the recently released, "Marching On," featured on Timbaland's new-ish album. Solo artist, Bruno Mars will be opening the night (known for his collaborations with Flo-Rida, B.o.B, & Travie McCoy.) More info on this concert? Http://www.sb-bowl.com.

Thank you for reading my column! Feel free to write to me about all things music!

-Michael Kohli / Kohli Rocks Entertainment

VenturaLiveWire@gmail.com

Ventura Live Wire

compiled by Michael Kohli

Greetings, again fellow music fans! If you are a venue or band that would like to be listed in the future - please add to your online calendars or email me at VenturaLiveWire@gmail.com. Thank you.

Bombay Bar & Grill
Fri. Aug. 27: Benefit for Gavin Peters, Featuring live music by Mountain Poppies, Gentlemen
Sat. Aug. 28: Ventura All Star Rock Jam at 9:00 (no cover) featuring members of rey fresco, jeff hershey and the heatbeats, le meu le purr, army of feshmen, Kyle hunt and the king gypsy, Franklin for short, shades of day. Full set by LOCAL SECRET GUEST.
Sun. Aug. 29: Turn 9 at 12:30
Dynamo jump at 4:30

Cafe Fiore, 66 California St.
http://www.fiorarestaurant.com
Fri. Aug. 27 / 28: Scott Carter
Sun. Aug. 29: Reggae Sunday
Tue. Aug. 31: Jeanne Tatum

Epic Ventura, 2844 Johnson Dr.
Ventura 650-1213
http://www.epicventura.com
Sun. Aug. 29: Catalyst - 10am, Lee Koch 7:30pm

Zoey's Cafe
185 E. Santa Clara St., 652-1137
http://www.zoeyscafe.com
Thur. Aug 26: MK & The Gentlemen, Shoddy Cons
Fri. Aug 27: Chris Pierce, Joel Eckels
Sat. Aug 28: Aaron Beaumont, JT Spangler, Shannon Curtis
Wed. Sept. 1: Ones To Watch Singer Songwriters Open Mic
Thur. Sept. 2: Chris Cairns Band
Fri. Sept. 3: Jason Reeves, Brendan James, Todd Carey
Sat. Sept. 4: Tribute to Woody Guthrie w/ Frankie Fuchs, Robin Wiley & Friends

WAV theater Ventura :
Friday August 27 at 7pm, Saint Pierre Music Variety & Art Show, Dinner & Drinks, "New Age Folk Style" with Minstrel Streams, dance artists: Pamela Lourant "Flamenco", La Jenia Matt, Michael Murphy, master classical guitar, "Lady Monica Ramos" Persian cultural dance. 9pm late show Saint Pierre & friends easy rock performance. Donation: $12.50, $10 advance tickets
Saturday September 4, 7pm, Labor Day Weekend. World Music & Dance Party, Art Show, Dinner & Drinks. Ventura Debut of the 20 piece high-energy party band "Burn" with lead vocalist Andrea Ballard, R&B, funk, and dancing to smooth soulful original songs (styled like Earth, Wind and Fire, James Brown, Sly and The Family Stone). donation: $12.50, $10 advance tickets.

Call 479-4000 or go to WAVartists.com

Show Time

Two on the Aisle

Taking stock with *Other People's Money*

by Jim Spencer & Shirley Lorraine

"Other People's Money," now playing at the Ojai Art Center Theater, examines the moral fabric of big business – the world of corporate take-overs, stock-options and greed. Written in the early 1980s, the story is as relevant now as it ever was.

The drama centers around a time-honored small manufacturing company, New England Wire and Cable, that is struggling to keep its place in the rapidly changing world. Led by Andrew Jorgenson (W. David Wright), many of its products are becoming obsolete, replaced by more advanced technology. Jorgensen is assisted by his right-hand man, William Coles (Buddy Wilds) and his assistant/long-time companion Bea Sullivan (Linda MacNeal). The handwriting seems to be on the wall for the ailing enterprise.

Along comes New York capitalist Lawrence ("Larry the Liquidator") Garfinkle (Robert Sabotka), the embodiment of all that is slimy about big business. He is an opportunist who shows interest in buying up the stock of the dwindling company. His pushy style is clearly at odds with the laid-back, down-home style of the folks at New England W & C. Bea asks her attorney daughter Kate (Jennifer Brown) to fight for the company, resulting in a war of wits.

Garfinkle and Sullivan seem intrinsically matched jab-for-jab. They each push each other's buttons and attempt to validate their attitudes and actions.

The dramatic action is complicated and fast-paced. The material is thoughtful and insightful. While the script offers occasional, widely spaced amusing moments and several unrealized opportunities for humor, it is primarily a drama and the actors carry the heavy material in a methodically paced manner. Some verbal hesitations will no doubt smooth out as the run continues.

The show is filled with stock exchange and investment jargon that appeared to leave many audience members who were unfamiliar with the world of stocks and bonds scratching their heads at intermission.

The play exposes a raw side of corporate stock manipulations. In addition, the language is also raw at times. The material is rated R for sexual references. True, it's nothing we haven't heard before. But, given a choice, in our experience an entertaining evening for the age group that regularly attends community theater rarely includes unnecessary expletives.

The set design by Michael V. Smith and director Steve Grumette is simple yet effective with the contrasting corporate offices of the Rhode Island cable company and the opulent digs of the Manhattan manipulator on opposite sides of the stage, while the center stage is reserved for spotlighted narratives.

Buddy Wilds and Jennifer Brown showcase their acting acumen to good effect, with deft delivery. Robert Sabotka is appropriately unlikeable as the "big guy" in more ways than one. Lending an air of small-town authenticity, MacNeal and Wright round out the cast.

"Other People's Money" runs weekends at the Ojai Art Center Theater through September 11, 2010. Curtain time is 8:00 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and 7:00 p.m. on Sundays. Tickets: $15-$18, Reservations: 640-9797 or ojaiACT.org.

Review of *Turtles Can Fly*

by Tim Pompey

Starring Soran Ebrahim, Avaz Latif, Hiresh Feysal Rahman

★ ★ ★

VFS @ The WĀV
Sponsored by The Ventura Film Society
Wednesday, September 1, 7 PM

This movie will break your heart. Stitched together by Iranian Director Bahman Ghobadi, it's loosely based on his experiences in Iraq after the American invasion. But this is no documentary. It's a work of fiction filled with grim symbolism. However, unlike other recent apocalyptic movies like "The Road" and "The Book of Eli," this film is all too real.

Set in Kurdish Iraq in the months leading up to the American/Iraq war, a group of villagers, refugees, and orphaned children eke out an existence in an area ravaged by Saddam Hussein's brutal invasions. The survivors are serviced by a 13-year-old boy nicknamed Satellite (Ebrahim). In addition to being the villagers' TV expert, he directs a large group of children in retrieving land mines from local farmers' fields to sell on the black market.

Satellite is pushy and yells constantly. The village tolerates him because, unlike the government, he's effective. He knows where the mines are, who is buying them, and what bargains can be made. Whether it's rope, guns, or a satellite dish, he can barter with the best and he has an army of orphans to serve as his work crew.

What he really wants, however, is the affection of a young girl named Agrin (Latif), who has wandered into town with her armless brother Hengov and a blind toddler strapped to her back. Satellite is smitten. Yet, despite his best efforts, she gives him the cold shoulder, and, for reasons I will not give away, grows increasingly distant and distressed. The result is an aching progression of events in which Satellite pulls every string he knows to win her heart. What he fails to realize is that she is already dead.

Filmed on location in Iraq, this film takes a barren setting filled with desperate people and transforms it into a compelling story about the human search for hope, love, and a bit of nightly news. The actors (really non-actors) are people that Ghobadi located to fill roles that seem all too real. In particular, the children become the aching pulse of this movie as they play the role of small victims of a war in which they really are victims.

Barbed wire and land mines serve as fitting metaphors in this film. As the story closes, maimed children watch as American soldiers hurry past. Satellite gives a long look into the camera. It's raining and miserable. His eyes say it all. War is coming.

Six years after the fact, you can't help but ask the same question Ghobadi raised in this film. When the human toll of war is added up, who really bears the cost? Ghobadi asks this question via his camera. As you follow this story to its tragic conclusion, you'll also wonder why innocent children within such close range of death are forced to ask that same question.

The Lighter Breeze

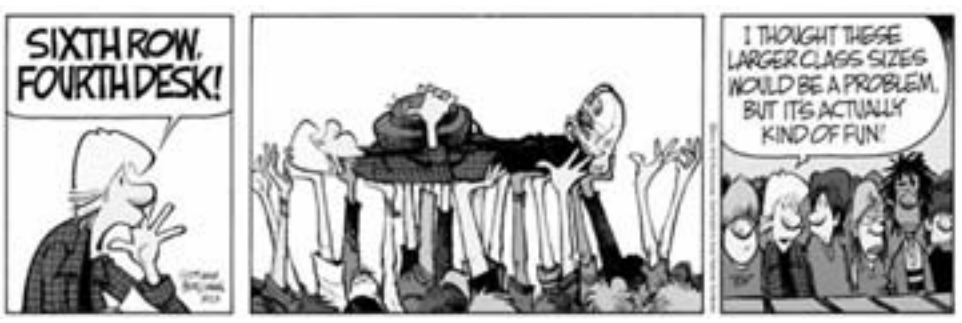
The Spats

Mama's Boyz

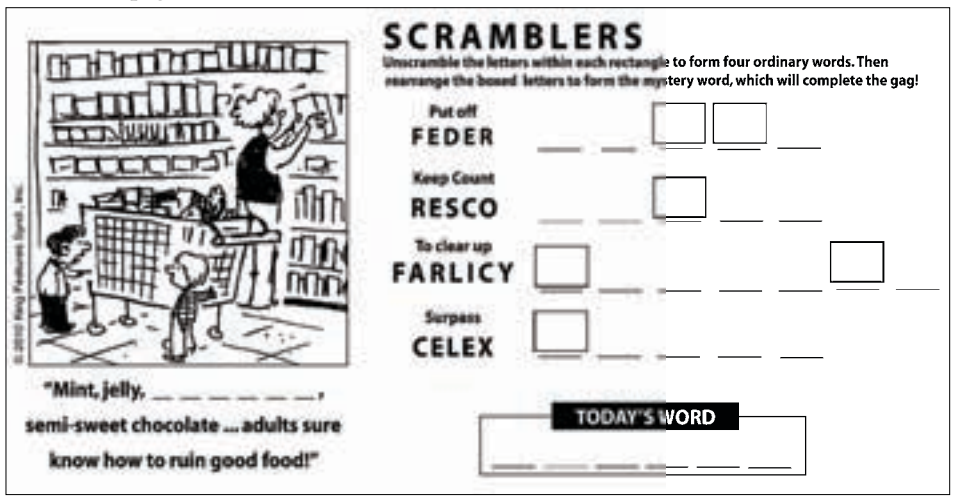
Baby Blues

Crock

Zits



Solutions on page 14



Solutions on page 14

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.

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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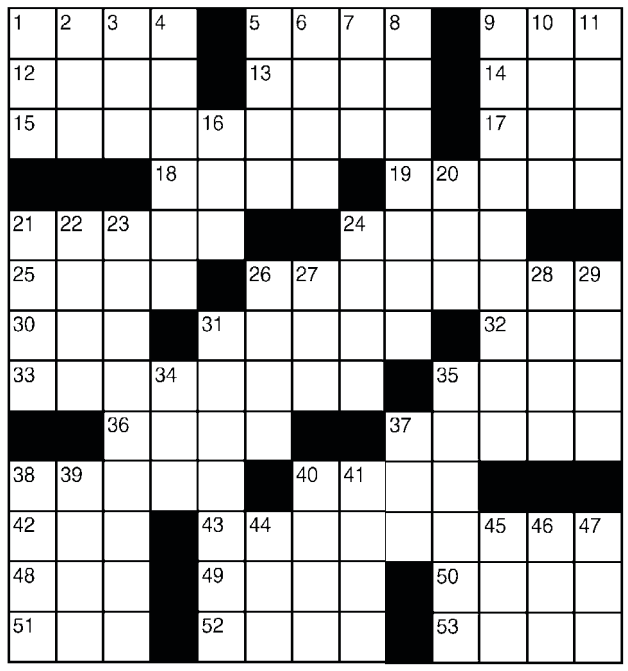
Solutions on page 14

King Crossword



ACROSS
1 Antelope's playmate
5 Stinging insect
9 Police officer
12 Leer at
13 Cake topper
14 Sapporo sash
15 Group with a job
17 Swab the decks
18 Picnic Invaders
19 Hamstrings
21 Doesn't have
24 Staffer
25 Lotion additive
26 Non-noble
30 Doctrine
31 Lions' prides
32 Spy novel org.
33 Subway patron
35 Actress Gilpin
36 Lhasa —
37 Burdened
38 Mold and mildew
40 Yoked team
42 Moreover
43 Town
48 Altar affirmative
49 Neighborhood
50 A Great Lake
51 Angeles preceder
52 Eye part
53 Lairs

DOWN
1 "What's up, —?"
2 Id counter part
3 Shady tree
4 Unoriginal movie?
5 Skater Katarina
6 Performances
7 Witness
8 Earlier bouts
9 Began
10 Reed Instrument
11 Gladys Knight's backup
16 — and outs
20 Commotion
21 Secular
22 As well
23 Shock troops
24 U.S.
26 Censor of old Rome
27 Inseparable
28 Green land
29 Reason for a tarp
31 Rodgers & Hammerstein creation
34 Gasoline stat
35 Gave a bad review to
37 Romanian money
38 Go belly up
39 Destroy
40 Portent
41 Opening day?
44 Raw rock
45 Anger
46 Sardine container
47 "Absolutely"

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Salome's Stars

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) This could be the time to try soothing whatever bad feelings might be lingering 'twixt and among colleagues, friends or family members. But be sure you do so without favoring any side.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) An idea is only an idea until you put that clever Bovine mind to work to develop it from concept to substance. This could lead to something rewarding, both emotionally and monetarily.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) The early part of the week could have some disconcerting moments, but approaching them with a calm, unruffled attitude goes a long way toward helping to get things nicely settled down.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Getting used to change continues to mark much of the week. But accepting what you have to do makes adapting that much easier. A welcome visitor could turn up sooner than expected.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Learning how to live with a decision is a challenge, but one you Leos and Leonas could really enjoy. You'll also be pleased to see your social life take that upsurge you've been hoping for.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Use your perceptive Virgo instinct to help you see the positive aspects of what, at first, appears to be a disappointment. You could find that it proves to be quite the contrary.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Your ability to maintain a balance between sense and sentiment once again helps you sort through apparently conflicting choices and ultimately arrive at the right decision.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Before you seek the advice of colleagues about a potential career move, you might be better off getting counsel from someone who won't be affected by the choices you make.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) It can be a challenging week for some relationships if the normal give-and-take flow changes with one side doing most of the giving and the other the taking.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) A new opportunity could bring with it much anticipation along with some anxiety. Take time to sort out your options as well as your emotional considerations.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Are you sure you have all the facts you need to let that matter move to another level? Don't be rushed into a decision unless and until you feel it's the right thing to do.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Pace yourself as you prepare to take on that more demanding project. Be careful not to let your energy reserves drain away. Take time to relax with people close to you.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have the ability to see both sides of a situation. You would do well as a counselor or a judge.

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Remembering the Fair, the Fair costume 2 mile run/ walk and the Fair parade 2010

Last day of the Ventura County Fair, Sunday, August 15th, 2010 at sunset
Photo by WAV artist Mark Mollgard

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