

FREE



# VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

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## Merchants disagree on parking meters

by Rebecca Wicks

It's been approximately 45 days since parking meters have been installed in downtown Ventura, and the commotion, confusion and controversy continues. During a recent boisterous city council meeting a group of merchants complained the meters were hurting their business and asked the council to turn the meters off through the holiday season.

In an attempt to acknowledge and help those merchants, the city council agreed to cut the meters hours of operation, add some free spaces and reduce the cost for longer stays. However, they stopped short of invoking a six-month moratorium on the meters.

What is becoming clear is how bad the meters are for downtown merchants depends on who you ask.

"The meters are definitely affecting our business negatively," said Shaun Cozzens, owner of A Secret Place Salon & Day Spa on the 300 block of Main Street. "I've had one client say they liked them, everyone else is aggravated and annoyed."

Cozzens also believe the meters are to blame for his recent lack of walk-in business.

A group of merchants who planned a protest down Main St. for this week have sought to gather downtown support for their cause.

"They [parking meters] are unnecessary, inconvenient and hurting local businesses during this recession," their website reads at <http://www.removehemeters.com>.

Some have chastised the forceful-style the protesting group is using.

"I was really bummed to see the aggressiveness surrounding some people's

*Continued on page 7*



Star Soto, Children's Librarian for Foster Library, uses puppetry to entertain young Juliette Nasarenko as her brother Andrew and mother Juliette watch.

## Children's library alive and well at Foster

by Tim Pompey

When Wright closed last year, parents were worried. Where would they go to find another library this cozy and familiar? When they were informed that Wright would be absorbed by Foster, their response was: "All the way down there?"

Fortunately, when Wright moved, Star Soto went with it. And Soto, Wright's fabulous children's librarian, carried with her a strong determination to make Foster a fun place to hang out. "It's only about ten minutes from anywhere in Ventura," she says. "And once parents and children get down here, they feel very comfortable." That comfort level is due in no small part to the hard work that Soto and staff have put into recreating Foster as the new Wright.

No doubt, the second floor of Foster has already felt her influence. While it may appear like a big sea of bookshelves, a closer look reveals a huge transformation.

The first big change is that the sec-

ond floor is now all children all the time. The wide-open view a visitor sees from the front stairwell or the back door is nothing but kids' books, many of them brought over from Wright.

Soto has already added more children's services. The children's computer lab is now updated and open. There are new reference books, including an encyclopedia collection and a wildlife set. And many children and teens come here to work with Foster's onsite tutors.

There's also a noticeable change in the decor. Determined to make Foster a fun place, Soto has updated the west end to include a pony corral with padded seats, bright colored throw rugs, cozy nooks, and lots of stuffed animals. All of this is overseen and smiled upon by Cleo and Theo, the two large, friendly lions who guard the reading area.

*Continued on page 7*

## Boys & Girls Club 43rd Annual Great Auction

'Dancing with the Stars of Tomorrow' is the theme for the Boys & Girls Club of Ventura's 43rd Annual Great Auction, presented by E.J. Harrison & Sons, Inc. to be held November 6, 4:30pm at the Crowne Plaza Ventura Beach. The event features a champagne cocktail reception, live and silent auctions, gourmet dining, entertainment and an after-party.

Louis van Amstel dancer/choreographer from the hit show 'Dancing with the Stars' will serve as Master of Ceremonies.

The Silent Auction will feature over 200 items with a live music performance by Karl Keller's 'Sax and the City'. Dinner entertainment will include ballroom dancing performances by Club kids and a performance by Sandra Laby, the winner of this year's Salsa Festival Dance Competition.

For the first time there will be an after-party in the Aqua Lounge on the hotel's ground floor featuring Jodi Farrell and 'The Front Street Prophets'.

All funds raised from the auction benefit programs for the 6,500 kids and families served annually at the five Boys & Girls Club of Ventura sites in Ventura, Oak View and Saticoy.

Proof that Club programs change lives was revealed in a recent study by CLU Professor Jamshid Damooei, PhD who found that Club members had a 97% high school graduation rate (the county-wide graduation rate is only 70%) and a 0% rate of teen pregnancies.

For additional information, to donate auction items or make reservations (individual tickets are \$125 each) contact Joy Marin at [joym@bgclubventura.org](mailto:joym@bgclubventura.org); call 641-5585 or check their website at [www.bgclubventura.org](http://www.bgclubventura.org).



On Monday night, October 18, lightning lit up the skies of Ventura as shown in this wonderful photo by Erik Schiemann, Brooks Photography Student, taken from the pier.



First it was Samson and now it is Sheldon. Go to page 3 to find out why 25 years was gone with one snip.



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# 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.

Hi Sheldon,

Just picked up the Breeze and read about your 3rd Anniversary. The Ojai Valley Museum also sends their congratulations and our thank you for such great coverage you give to us and to other Ojai entities.

Best,  
Myrna Cambianica  
Publicity Coordinator, Ojai Valley Museum

# Opinion/Editorial



Sheldon Brown  
Publisher

■ So how come you wonder (or don't care at all) why I had my ponytail removed after many, many years?

1. It looked stupid
2. I'm too old to be a hippie

3. It was for a good cause
4. All of the above

On October 27 the "freddie b" Salon & Spa held a think pink fundraiser event to raise money for the Breast Cancer Foundation.

The main fundraiser was putting a pink strand of hair in the attendee's own hair for \$10.00.

So I had lovely beautician Sarah Minokus put the strand in my pony tail. I just didn't feel that I had accomplished much, so made the following announcement to the very large crowd that was there enjoying the wonderful food and entertainment: "If anyone here will donate \$100.00 for the evening's cause I will let Sarah cut off my pony tail."

And, just like that, Christine Cardoso-Moore (a broker with Keller Williams) whips out her checkbook and writes the check.

As millions looked on and cheered, Sarah (my Delilah) went "snip-snip" and it was gone, my pony tail with the pink strand still attached.

And if I hate it being gone I can just take another 25 (my hair grows very slowly) years to grow another one and when I am 100 have it cut off again to raise money for some worthwhile cause.

■ I went to the store the other day and

bought some invisible tape and when I got home I couldn't find it.

■ I want to clarify Ventura's new newspaper rack ordinance. The racks downtown have been combined into single uniform racks that the city had installed. Papers that want to be in the racks have to provide their own expensive inserts and pay a yearly fee (we are sharing inserts with Real Estate And Living to keep costs down).

They are much nicer than the multitude of different size and color racks that were in downtown. My only problem with them is

him to call City Hall and didn't come out.

So in bolting them down we are following the new rack ordinance. An interesting thing though is that the new racks downtown (that the city had installed) do not follow their own ordinance and are too close to the curb.

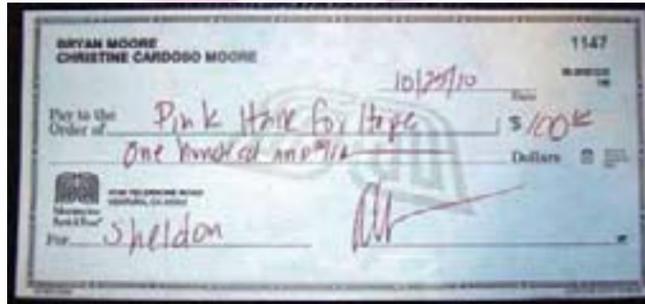
■ In this issue we have an article regarding the fairly new downtown parking meters and their controversy.

I have previously expressed the fact that I think that they are ugly (even if they are Ventura Breeze blue) and that I find them very easy to use, (and I'm not very bright; can't wait to see that quoted in another city's newspaper) but do understand that they are controversial.

I think merchants and customers really need to give them a chance to work, and they have freed up parking spaces downtown which is one of the things that they were supposed to accomplish.

UCLA urban planning professor Donald Shoup, who is considered to be a "parking rock star" believes that free parking is the main cause of congestion, sprawl, wasteful energy use and air pollution. He says, "When street parking is free, demand exceeds supply and people spend time, and fuel driving around looking for empty spaces. This encourages them to drive rather than walk, bicycle or take public transportation."

There are still many free parking opportunities downtown and walking a block or so is probably a very good idea anyway.



that they are very low to the ground (which makes them look somewhat like coffins) but I assume that is an ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) requirement.

Racks that are not in the designated downtown area can remain the same but must be bolted to the concrete and be 18" to 24" from the curb face. When I was out installing them with Rudy assisting me on Seaward, a gentleman came out of a restaurant and yelled at us about drilling in city property, and said if we didn't stop he would call the police—which he did. Just as a courtesy we waited about 15 minutes in case the police did come out. I'm sure that they told

# Mailbox

Hi Sheldon;

This is Shellie from the Building Department. Just wanted to send you a quick note of congratulations on your 3 years with the Breeze. I enjoy reading the paper very much. Thanks for the local news we don't get elsewhere. Keep up the good work and here's wishing you many, many more happy years as editor.

Shellie Roberts  
Senior Building Inspector, City of Ventura

Mayor, City Manager, City Council and Public Works;

Harbor Blvd. between Spinnaker and the bridge has become a dumping ground for trash from the campers that are illegally staying overnight along the roadside. This has become a real eyesore and something really needs to be done about it.

If the City is going to allow overnight camping then it should charge for it and put in the appropriate trash cans and maintain the area accordingly. If it doesn't allow overnight camping then these free loaders should be fined and roused and the appropriate signage should be put in place to restrict overnight parking.

If I am not mistaken it is against the law to sleep in a vehicle overnight.  
Murray Robertson  
A Very Concerned Ventura Resident  
Breeze:

Good job Murray. No parking signs have been posted and vehicles no longer park there.

If you attended the "Nightmare on the Hill" Rotary fundraiser held at the Poinsettia Pavilion on October 30 go to [www.venturabreeze.com](http://www.venturabreeze.com) and you just might see yourself.



Before



After



On October 11 hundreds of fire, police, city workers and friends and supporters gathered at Mission Park and marched to city hall to show their concerns for what they see as recent decisions made by the city council that they feel are taking the city in the wrong direction.

They temporarily marched into the City Council chambers which briefly held up the start of the meeting.

Real generosity toward the future consists in giving all to what is present.

– Albert Camus



## City News

### At the library crossroads

by Mayor Bill Fulton

The Ventura City Council took an important step toward resolving our long-standing library issues. On October 14, at a joint meeting with the Library Advisory Commission, we voted -- unanimously -- to take our first step toward considering the possibility of withdrawing from the county library system and contract with LSSI, a private company, for library services. If that sounds tentative, it is. Here's what we voted to do:

We voted to agendize an item in the near future to discuss the possibility of giving county the requisite six-month notice for withdrawing from the system this year (meaning July 1, 2011), and we directed staff to come up with a proposal to put library operations out to bid. The idea is to set up the possibility of withdrawing from the county system and seek bids for library operations.

We also directed the Library Advisory Commission to design a strategic planning process that will assist the community in deciding what vision of library service we want to pursue in Ventura. But the main event was the possible withdrawal from the county library system.

In the short run, we will be able to maintain our current level of service. However, I am not sure we will be able to maintain this same level of service in the coming years -- especially since the county is predicting a 50% increase in pension costs in the next five years. So it makes sense to begin looking at alternatives for operating our libraries.

A lot of Wright advocates around town have simply been saying that we should pull out of the system and contract with LSSI. But I'm concerned about that. Whenever cities issue big contracts, they almost always issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) and go through a competitive bid.

LSSI is the only company that provides library services to municipalities and the company is highly motivated to offer a good price in order to break into the Ventura County market. Yet we don't want to give up important things in the LSSI deal like staffing levels, library management techniques, or the added responsibility of maintaining our library buildings (possibly an increased cost to the city). The bottom line is that LSSI is a private company. You contract for a service and you get it; but you don't get to know much about the ins and outs of how that service gets provided, so the RFP process is a good way to figure out what the possibilities are.

In the end we might contract with LSSI or some other entity. Or we might not like any of the bids and decide that staying as part of the county system is well worth it. But the point is that we will have tested the market to see what's out there. At this point, I think that's worth it.

*Breeze:*

*Recently Camarillo has withdrawn from the Ventura County's library system and contracted with Library Systems and Services (LSSI) to run their public library.*

## News and Notes

### Bag ban part 2

by Sheli Ellsworth

Ventura City Councilmen Brian Brennan and Carl Morehouse proposed that the city consider the possibility of banning single-use plastic bags at the September council meeting. San Francisco was the first to pass the ban in 2007. The single use bags have also been banned in South Africa, Taiwan and Bangladesh. Ireland imposes a plastic-bag tax.

According to City Councilman Brian Brennan, the city of Ventura spends over \$100,000 a year on storm drain clean up. "This is turning into a real issue in most coastal cities and counties where civic leaders are having hard choices to make regarding levels of service." What the city spends on storm drain clean-up would pay for one-police officer for a year or keep Wright Library open for six months." A focused study of eight discharge points into the Ventura River found that over 75% of the trash coming out of the pipe was plastic, plastic bags and Styrofoam and there is no reason to believe that the discharges to the other water bodies would be any different," says Brennan.

The plastic industry is not accepting the shopping bag bans lying down. Several cities, which have passed the bans, have been sued by the plastics industry for not conducting Environmental Impact Studies beforehand. Manhattan Beach was required to re-

scind their ban on bags when a Los Angeles Superior Court Judge ruled in favor of the Save the Plastic Bag coalition because of the lack of a study. Manhattan Beach appealed, a decision is expected later this year. San Jose and Encinitas had objections filed by the same Plastic Bag coalition. Palo Alto was also sued in 2009 after banning single use bags. Los Angeles County converted to voluntary compliance after the Plastic Bag coalition filed suit against them. The city is reported to be pursuing the environmental impact study.

According to the plastics council, 85% of the plastic bags we use do not come from oil, they are actually a bi-product of natural gas called ethane. There is no other known use for ethane. The energy required to make and deliver paper bags is far more substantial than for plastic ones. Plastics websites claim the bans increase greenhouse emissions when plastics are replaced with paper. Plastic bags make up a mere .6% to 5% of the litter stream in a community and even less on the beaches. The Great Pacific Garbage Patch, an area of alleged plastic pollution about the size of Texas in the Horse Latitudes, is actually an exaggeration by environmentalist. Only minor amounts of plastic can be found there and only after extensive searching.

The Ventura City Council voted against the proposed ban. Councilwoman Christy Weir was the deciding vote. Weir stated, "I believe that right

## News and Notes



*Michele Foster and Stew Birbrower work on a scene for a series of public service commercials in support of ARTesia, a nonprofit organization that offers expressive art workshops to women and children recovering from domestic violence.*

### Public service ads to raise awareness about domestic violence

by Tim Pompey

Michele Foster, WÄV artist and director of the nonprofit group ARTesia ([www.artesiahealingarts.org](http://www.artesiahealingarts.org)), would like to spread the word. For those suffering from domestic violence, there is a way out. And with the help of fellow WÄV artist and film director Stew Birbrower, that message will soon be airing on local public access channels and other TV stations throughout Southern California.

Foster and Birbrower recently teamed up to produce a series of eight public service commercials aimed at bringing attention to the issue of domestic violence. The commercials were filmed at one of the empty penthouses at the WÄV.

Assistance was also provided by WÄV volunteers as well as two professionals from Hollywood -- a cinematographer and a gaffer -- who brought up camera equipment and donated their professional expertise.

Foster came to this issue through her own personal experience. A longtime resident of Santa Barbara, she found herself in a very difficult situation. "I was in a bad marriage and suffered for several years from abuse," she says. "I just didn't have enough fight in me. It really was a messy tangle."

She believes it was her art that saved her. "I didn't have a voice for a long time," she says. "That was the only way I could do it, by getting back into my art."

After Foster left her husband, she volunteered at a battered women's shelter in Santa Barbara and eventually became its director. Encountering other victims of domestic violence, she decided to bring her artistic talents into play: "Witnessing

the trauma these women went through, I started art classes and saw first-hand the healing these women experienced."

ARTesia was started by Foster and her associate Michelle Honles in 2007 to fuse art and healing. It provides free 10-week art sessions to women, children, and teens who are in recovery from domestic violence. It is based on elements from "Art As A Healing Tool," a program developed by the organization A Window Between Worlds (<http://www.awbw.org/awbw/home.php>) in Venice, California.

Foster hopes to someday open a center that will house victims and give them access to nutrition, massage, art, and meditation in order to help them regain their physical and emotional strength. She would also like to encourage their artistic development and create future art exhibits.

Birbrower is a film director who has spent fifty years working on national ad campaigns with firms such as Johnson and Johnson and American Express. He previously directed a series of commercials about child abuse that won a Points of Light Award in 2002 from President George W. Bush.

The ARTesia commercials recreate various domestic violence scenarios and provide valuable information about where to get help. Foster hopes these ads will encourage those who are suffering from abuse to take the first step: "It's important to know that if they call a shelter, they will receive help."

For more information about ARTesia, contact Foster at 256-5315 or email her at [MichelleF@ARTesiaHealingArts.org](mailto:MichelleF@ARTesiaHealingArts.org).

now the appropriate government role is to help educate people about the environmental impacts and ways to reduce bag usage, rather than regulating retail stores." Weir went on to say, "Using reusable bags is good for our environment, plus it can help grocery stores lower costs by not having to provide paper or plastic bags."

Trader Joe's has implemented its own incentive program in the meantime, according to Tom Logan at the Victoria Store. "We roll dice in the

morning to select a register number and a time. Then when that time comes around, the first customer to bring their own bags receives a \$10 discount." Target will reduce the cost of your purchase by five cents for every bag you bring and use. The Buffalo Exchange will donate five cents to charity for every recycled bag used.

*Breeze:*

*Part 1 of this article was in the November 20 issue. You can go to [www.venturabreeze.com](http://www.venturabreeze.com) to read it again*



## News and Notes



Sandra Walker, President and CEO of the Ventura Chamber of Commerce taking care of business at Arts In The Park

## Harvest Art Walk

On October 16 & 17, the Harvest Art Walk brought an eclectic mix of art, music and community to Ventura.

The free, self-guided event featured the work of more than 200 fine artists and performers at fifty locations throughout Ventura's Downtown Cultural District and on Ventura Avenue. Two outdoor stages of live music, a variety of children's activities and a free shuttle bus.

"Ventura's sidewalks and businesses come alive with an exciting mix of art and music during Art Walk," said event coordinator Georgeanne Lees, with the City of Ventura Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Partnerships.

Art Walk showcased the work of visual artists, sculptors, painting demonstrations, environmental art exhibits, special installations, live music and great activities for youth, all in a celebration of Ventura's vibrant professional arts community.

Highlights included Arts In The Park, sponsored by the Ventura Chamber of Commerce, food samplers and fine wine by local restaurants, as well as live music in Plaza Park.

The WAV (Working Artists Ventura), a new live-work artists complex for more than 100 artists and their families at 175

S. Ventura Avenue, presented open studios and much music.

At the Museum Of Ventura County local artists demonstrated their techniques, and artist Dave Rivas showed his work in the courtyard.

At the Arts in the Park three local students won \$500 each for their school's art program. Mayor Bill Fulton and Craig Miller of Service Master by TA Russell gave congratulations to the winning students.

Jose Juan Mercado of Sheridan Way elementary, Clair Stockdill of Balboa middle, and Haley Paul of Ventura high were the top prize winners and all turned in amazing art pieces. In addition to the three winning students there were over 20 pieces on display at the event.

Renee Sutton, a teacher at Sheridan Way elementary, said that they were going to use the money to bring in more local artists to their school to teach and interact with the students.

This is exactly what the sponsors of the contest, Dominos Pizza and Service Master by TA Russell, hoped would be the result. The more community partnerships we can create between local businesses, schools, and our vibrant art community, the more we all win.

Calcutta, the event was modest, at best. Right then and there, I volunteered my professional public relations services, and vowed to help make this year's Cappies, a memorable event.

Well, the CAPPIE Awards were a big success! According to Kirsten Snyder, operations manager, "Every year the Cappies get bigger and better. This year's show was outstanding." Over 150 people were in attendance, including many VIPs, council members from The City of Ventura, the Mayor, Police Chief, publisher of the Breeze, radio and TV personalities, and members of the business community in Ventura County. The rest of Ventura got to watch the telecast over the weekend. Todd Thayer, CAPS-TV director, who hosted the event with Bonnie Weigal, said, "It's the seventh year for our Video Awards show. There's a revolutionary movement going on for Community Access Television."

Abtey's Limousine Service delivered VIPs, presenters and producers right up to the red carpet and spotlights outside of TDC Studios, where they were inter-

viewed, (by yours truly), for the extra "Bonus Footage" for the Cappies DVD. (Winners were interviewed afterwards.) Inside, behind the interview-wall donated by Ventura Signs and Xerox, attendees were met with gourmet chef-inspired food from Main Course CA, desserts from Savory Bakery & Café, handmade chocolates from Trufflehounds, snacks from Fresh & Easy, and drinks from Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf. Donald McConnell, member services, commented, "This year's Cappies has raised the bar for our producers. Looking forward to another sensational show." Evan Carpenter, production coordinator, readily agreed.

The comedian-owners of Ventura Harbor Comedy Club, Randy Lubas and Andres Fernandez, had the crowd in stitches. Even presenter, Sheldon Brown, tried his hand at some comic riffs! There were so many attendees an overflow viewing room was needed. Alex Uvari, production tech, piped up: "It's the best one ever!" Producer-level sponsors, including HairFreeForever, Albatros Recording Studios, My Wellness Navigator and Abtey's Limo, filled up the winners' 'Gift Bags' to accompany their Cappie trophies; while other generous sponsors, like The Wine Basket, Andres Wine & Tapas, Ventura Limoncello, Play It Again Sports, Oasis Wellness, EstrellaBrite, and Nicoll Insurance, donated all the fabulous door prizes.

Rich Burlingham, marketing and development manager, sums it all up: "It takes a small army to put on an awards show like this, but for us, fortunately, all we had was a 'Special Ops Unit' - Annie-Gabriel; Peter Godinez; the crew from TDC Studios; amazing sponsors; interns, Jairo and Brianna; and the best co-workers an event producer could ever wish for - all put in their expertise, connections, blood and guts to create an event and telecast that went beyond what any of us dreamed could happen. The only problem is that now, next year has to be bigger and better.... But, first, I need some sleep."

He can be reached for a DVD copy of CAPPIES 2010 at 658-0500.



Ventura council members Jim Monahan, Brian Brennan and Christy Weir and staffers joined Harrison brothers Jim, Myron and Ralph to help celebrate Gold Coast Recycling's 20th anniversary

## Gold Coast Recycling recognizes Ventura at 20th anniversary event

Gold Coast Recycling and Transfer Station honored the city of Ventura with a Certificate of Recognition for exceeding the state's stringent waste diversion mandates. Numerous elected and staff officials from the City of Ventura were on hand to accept the certificate from Harrison broth-

ers Jim, Myron and Ralph, owners of Gold Coast Recycling, at the recycling center's 20th anniversary celebration on October 27.

Representing the city of Ventura were council members Jim Monahan, Brian Brennan, Neal Andrews and Christy Weir and several city staffers.

Gold Coast Recycling opened for business in 1990 in response to California Assembly Bill 939, a 1989 law that required cities and counties statewide to cut the amount of trash they send to landfills in half by 2000.

Mark Leary, deputy director for Cal-Recycle's Waste Management programs, told the large audience that "Yeah, AB939 worked. Thanks for fulfilling the dream."

Afterward, guests feasted on tacos and a 20th anniversary cake and were treated to a tour of the state-of-the-art, 75,000-square-foot facility located at 5275 Colt St. in Ventura.

Gold Coast Recycling processes more than 80,000 tons of recyclable materials each year, working with Harrison Industries, which established a successful three-barrel residential curbside program for trash, recycling and green waste.

*Breeze:*

*Harrison Industries will maintain its regular trash and recycling or green waste collection schedule during the week of Veterans' Day, Nov. 8-13.*

## Soroptimist Club in the news

When members of the Ventura Soroptimist Club heard of the financial need being experienced by the county's Senior Nutrition Action Council individual members donated \$700 collectively for the club to contribute to the mission of the Council in providing meals to seniors who are housebound or otherwise need assistance.

The Senior Nutrition Action Council of VC can be contacted at 495-2482 or snacvc2@verizon.net.

President Sherry Cash and immediate past President Dena Rogers welcomed two new members to the Ventura Soroptimist Club, Adele Fergusson and Jill Martinez, at a recent meeting.

Soroptimist International is a volunteer service club for business and professional women dedicated to improving the lives of women and girls, locally and around the world.

For more information about Soroptimist International, visit [www.soroptimist.org](http://www.soroptimist.org) or email the Ventura club at [SVentura-club@gmail.com](mailto:SVentura-club@gmail.com).

## Kiwanis Club of Ventura installs new officers

On October 1, Div. 42 Lt. Gov. Don Medley installed the following Kiwanis Club of Ventura officers: Lou Cunningham-President; Mike Molloy-President-Elect; David Ring-Vice-President; Jan Schmutte-Treasurer and Gloria Casas-Secretary.

Also installed as the Board of Directors were: Kris Etzler, Dave Fetter, Matt Kohagen, Andrew Van Conas and Mike Wasgatt. City Council Member Neal Andrews was honored as the Kiwanian of the Year. The Installation Dinner was held at The Greek Restaurant in the harbor.

The Kiwanis Club is a community service club involved in service projects, fundraising for non-profits and kid's school clubs.

## Lights... Camera... Cappies-2010!!

by Annie-Gabriel, CHt

Hello, Ventura! What do you get when you mix a red carpet, limousines, cameras and lights with Ventura's "who's-who", gourmet food and comedians? The answer: The CAPPIE Awards-2010!

On October 21, all of these elements, and more, came together to solidify into Ventura's history, CAPS-TV's annual CAPPIE Awards; Ventura's own "Emmy-style" awards show. What started out in a conference room with fast-food, has now evolved into a bonafide "red carpet event"! CAPS-TV, a member-based, non-profit organization, started this in recognition of local producers' fare, for local programming. As one of last year's recipients of a CAPPIE for the documentary, "Mother Teresa And Me", based on my mom's travels with Mother Teresa of



## News and Notes



One day 200,000 “zombies” could be performing in “Thrill the World”

### Thrill the World 2010

by Mary Carbajal

Oh my goodness! Did Halloween arrive early this year? What are all these creatures in downtown Ventura doing at California and Santa Clara streets? These creatures were actually Zombies.

They were all participants in the annual “Thrill the World” dance. On Saturday October 23, at precisely 4pm “zombies” from around the world joined together to perform Michael Jackson’s “Thriller” dance simultaneously. In 2009 there were over 22,000 people from 32 countries! The goal is to one year have 200,000 “zombies” performing the dance.

I had never heard about “Thrill The World” day until I overheard a friend talking about it and she told me I should join. Since I do love to dance and I do enjoy Michael Jackson’s music, I thought why not, so I went to a practice session

at a local dance studio and attempted to learn the dance steps for “Thriller”. What I found interesting was the age mix. There were kids as young as six and then there were the more senior folks all the way up to about 70 years old! It was a lot of fun learning the dance. I found a young boy about 10 years old and he seemed to know the steps very well so I followed along with him.

I took my daughter Ciera with me to one of my practice sessions and she was surprised to see that I was not the oldest one in the class! I had a total of four practice sessions and then it was time to perform “Thriller”. I would have to say I did pretty well. But the best part is that I can keep practicing and perform even better at “Thrill The World” day in 2011. Go to thrill the world.com so that you can participate next year.



On Saturday, October 2 the first ever Veterans Appreciation Fundraiser, Barbecue and Concert was held at the Veterans Home of California—Ventura, located at 10900 Telephone Rd.

The Sweet County Band performed at the benefit to support Veterans at the home.

“This special event honored the brave men and women Veterans who reside at this new Veterans Home who have served our country so bravely,” said Brenda Manke, Administrator.

Currently, 29 men and women Veterans are residing at the Veterans Home. For additional information, please call 659-7502.

Enjoying the Appreciation Fundraiser were administrator Brenda Manke, Jeanne Bonfilio Public Information Officer and resident Jim Barrett. Photo by John Ferritto.

## Hot tub incident leads to more hot water for club leader

by Sheli Ellsworth

The president of the Ventura Chapter of the Hell’s Angels, carpenter Sabian Reynoso, will probably be serving his presidency from state prison. Reynoso, a 34-year-old felon was sentenced to 32 months after pleading guilty to possession of a firearm stemming from a jail visit.

The original felony conviction was from a 2000 stabbing incident. Reynoso was sentenced to two years in prison for stabbing a friend who accidentally fell asleep and failed to turn on the hot tub for a party. The victim later wrote

a letter to the court claiming that the incident was actually a drunken brawl between friends. And Reynoso appears to have hundreds of friends. He maintains MySpace and Facebook profiles with over 300 “Facebook friends.” He is also a sport angler, who occasionally travels to Mexico to fish, according to one friend George Christie. Reynoso’s prize catches have made several fishing news websites.

On February 1, 2008, Reynoso was spotted at the Ventura County Jail when he went to deposit money into an inmate’s account. Felons are not allowed to enter jail grounds without express written permission. The inmate, Jared Plomell, also a Hell’s Angel member, was being held on drug and firearm charges. Reynoso signed his own name to the receipt and showed his driver’s license as identification.

On February 2, 2008 deputies served a search warrant on Reynoso looking for evidence of the illegal jail visit. They found paperwork relating to Plomell’s location, a pump action

shotgun and “numerous items indicating that Reynoso was the president of the Ventura Chapter of the Hell’s Angels” according to the Ventura County District Attorney’s Office.

Christie, a Former Hell’s Angel leader himself, says Reynoso, the father of two toddlers, was out of town when the warrant was served. Reynoso claims his wife brings the shotgun to the house for personal protection when he is away. Christie, whose daughter Moriya Christie is Reynoso’s attorney, maintains that Reynoso may appeal the search warrant’s validity, since Ventura County Sheriff’s Gang Unit deputies already had enough evidence for “the jail grounds charge” that was later dismissed.

## Splitting public works may save \$175,000

Recently Ventura split its Public Works Department into two with the creation of a new water utility department to focus on increasingly complex city water, wastewater and storm water responsibilities. New environmental regulations have forced the city to look at ways to reduce the millions of gallons of treated effluent flowing daily from its wastewater treatment plant into the Santa Clara River. The city is studying ways to reuse the heavily treated water, possibly by reinjecting it into the ground to boost groundwater supplies. Currently, the city spends about half of

its annual \$80 million total operating budget on providing fresh water to homes and businesses, treating used water supplies, and dealing with runoff and trash that flows into the Pacific Ocean and Santa Clara and Ventura rivers.

Under the change, the estimated savings are about \$175,000, to be shared between the city’s general fund and the water and wastewater enterprise funds.

One of the two deputy director positions of the Public Works Department will be eliminated and the other reclassified as the water department director, a position the city hopes to fill in coming months. The existing position of department director will remain.

## Brett William Jordan-leaving his mark in the most humble way

If there is one thing that we all know about Ventura it is that this community completely embraces and supports the arts. Ventura thrives on the creative influence prominent here. Artist/furniture designer Brett William Jordan of “B William Design” has been an influential part of our artistic movement now for 10 years.

After moving from Los Angeles where he was the artistic director of a prominent showroom in the Design Center, Brett embarked upon his path to create some-



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## News and Notes

thing of his own .. story-telling through design. To be more specific, Brett began the tedious process of taking his passion for wood to designing and building contemporary works of art.

Working with architects and designers Brett brings to life the story they would like to tell through their furniture. His passion for his art is evident .. all one has to do is talk with Brett for a short while as he speaks of the very tree that each piece came from. He is quite proud to say that most of his lumber comes from local and downed trees .. the trees have their own story to tell.

He will be hosting an open house on November 12 in honor of taking his vision one step further by introducing and celebrating the "B William Design" collaborative team. Comprised of himself, Elayne Jordan and Courtney Ellzey the team now offers a full design spectrum in interiors, project management, photography, event planning, stylizing and representation of local artisans.

The BWILLIAMDESIGN 2011 Fall/Winter Opening show will be on Friday from 6:30 – 10 pm at 1631 N. Ventura Avenue. They can be reached at 477-8356.

## Foster parenting information

On Tuesday, November 16, from 6-8pm you can learn how to become a partner in caring at a Foster Parenting Information Meeting at the Ventura County Human Services Agency (855 Partridge Dr.).

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. Discover how the healing, support and guidance of a loving foster home can offer a local child a better tomorrow. You could be the answer to a child in crisis in your community. For more information call the Ventura County Human Services Agency at 654-3456 or go to [www.vchsa.org/foster](http://www.vchsa.org/foster).

## Self publishing: new opportunities

On November 18, 7 to 9pm, at Bank of Books, located at 748 E. Main St. the California Literary Arts Society (CLAS) will present how to self publish your book.

With many established publishing houses going out of business, it is harder than ever for authors to get published. However, it's not all bad; the new face of book publishing is smaller publishing companies and more self-publishers. With digital printing and e-books it isn't so expensive to publish a book now. Authors and small publishers have opportunities they never had before.

Mary Embree, author, editor, and literary consultant is presenting a seminar covering the following: (1) forming a publishing company, (2) preparing a book for publication, (3) promoting and selling books, and (4) using self-publishing companies versus doing it all yourself. The two-hour seminar is

\$20 and includes handouts.

Embree is the founder and President of the CLAS Board of Directors. She is also the author of several books including *The Birds and Bees of Words: A Guide to the Most Common Errors in Usage, Spelling, and Grammar*. That book as well as her popular Author's Toolkit: A Step-by-Step Guide to Writing and Publishing Your Book, now in its third edition, will be available for purchase at the seminar.

For more information or to make a reservation go to the CLAS website [www.literaryarts-ca.org](http://www.literaryarts-ca.org) or email CLAS Administrative Director, Kay Ito at [kayi@literaryarts-ca.org](mailto:kayi@literaryarts-ca.org).

### Children's library

*Continued from page 1*

Since kids are welcome, some noise is expected. For Soto, it's delightful noise. This is not your father or mother's library, where librarians rule over a quiet kingdom with an iron fist and a stern stare. "The kids get to play here," Soto says. "The library is not a 'shhhh' place any more."

Of course, what would a Soto library be without creative programming? Paws for Reading is still alive and well and "storytimes" remain a vital part of Foster's schedule. Soto also plans on hiring a specialist for the Homework Center so that children can receive more help with homework and research.

Soto believes the library can be a great place for art. A large display of art from a local school hangs next to a painting of Mrs. Wright (wearing a Halloween mask). In the near future, a large mural is being planned outside the back entrance. The Girl Scouts, supervised by local artist M.B. Hanrahan, will be the featured artists. The theme is yet to be determined, but one thing is certain. It will be big ... and bold.

Soto has gone to great lengths to assure parents that Foster is a safe place for children. Security cameras have been installed in the back halls and around the side of the building. The bathrooms are always locked and the second floor is well-supervised. In fact, when Soto is at work, she spends a good deal of time visiting. "I just do a lot of walking around the floor," she says. "Just the presence of someone cruising around makes the parents and children feel better."

Additionally, if parents visit Foster, they may well discover more about the downtown area and return to enjoy themselves. Soto thinks that coming downtown is really just a process of parental planning. As she explains: "What parents need to do is to include it in their loop."

There is no doubt, as one talks to her, that Soto thoroughly enjoys her work: "My favorite part is helping a child find books to read, encouraging them to find different things to read, finding something that they will enjoy."

Most important, however, she wants the community to know that Foster is a great place for kids. She's confident about this because it's the way she's designed it. "I try to plan my programs to meet the needs of the community," she says. "We're working to give people the best library we can offer. This is, after all, our city library."

For more information about Foster Library, visit their website at [www.ventcolibrary.org/locations/epfoster](http://www.ventcolibrary.org/locations/epfoster).

### Parking meters

*Continued from page 1*

"disdain for the meters," said a local merchant who asked not to be named. "All the yelling, and threats - it's almost militant, and truly unnecessary, how is being belligerent about it going to help?"

David Armstrong, chair of Downtown Ventura Partners (DVP) has similar fears.

"I'm concerned a vocal minority is trying to intimidate other people," said Armstrong. "A lot of people are not wild about the new meters, but they are okay with them."

Armstrong stresses his organization is working to ameliorate the underlying issue of a lack of sales.

"Businesses are struggling here and all over the country," said Armstrong. "Business is down, but not just because of parking meters."

The DVP has committed all its discretionary funds toward programs focused on getting people downtown to shop according to Armstrong. In addition to running radio and print advertising, the group is organizing events including a downtown "Restaurant Week" the first week of November where restaurants will be offering multiple-course fixed menus for either \$20 per couple or \$20 per person depending on the establishment. A December 4 tree lighting event is also being coordinated for the holiday season.

Many worry about the impact of all the off-putting news that has spread around the parking meters.

"I really worry this could all get worse, especially by all the negative press," said Claudia Gilman, owner of Truffle Hound, a chocolate store on the 600 block of Main Street. "I know change is hard for everyone, I just try to help people use them."

Gilman who has even entertained the thought of giving away a free piece of chocolate in return for a parking receipt is optimistic about the meters.

"To be honest, it's too early to judge," said Gilman who has not seen a decrease in her business. "I have not felt tremendous impact with the new meters in place."

All meter revenue will be spent downtown. Current monies pay for a dedicated police officer. Revenues are projected to be \$1.1 million a year and will be slated for other local improvements. Gilman along with a number of other merchants are eager to see cleaner streets and sidewalks, prettier landscaping and a safer neighborhood.

"I love having our sidewalks clean all the time," said Gilman. "So, if meters are going to help support that, I'm willing to give them a chance."

Patrick Mullins, owner of Celtic Karma on the 400 block of Main St. agrees.

"More planter boxes, extra police, these are all things we want downtown," said Mullins who said he and his staff have run outside often to help patrons with the meters. "I've actually had someone come inside and buy product after we helped her with her parking meter."

"A lot of wonderful businesses downtown are struggling," said Mullins. "I just don't think it's all because of the meters."

While Mullins and others have not seen a negative impact on their businesses others are adamant they have.

## Fall back



On Sunday, November 7, when daylight savings time ends also remember to check and change the batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors.

Leslie Schatzberg who purchased American Home & Garden on Oak Street last September said she had seen month-over-month increases until the meters were put in.

"Our business practically stopped dead on when the meters were put in on September 15," said Schatzberg. "I step out in front of our store and all I see are empty spaces, we are going to be struggling."

With 400 metered spaces downtown, city officials are eager to remind patrons a number of free spaces do still exist. According to city Transportation Manager Tom Mericle there are still 4,200 free spaces downtown.

"The whole reason for the parking meters was so we could better direct all-day parkers to outer-lying lots freeing up closer parking for shoppers," explained Kathleen Eriksen, the newly minted executive director of the DVP. "The second part of that equation was to reinvest the meter revenue to pay for things like police officers, improved lighting and to help with issues such as panhandling."

George Fox, owner of Fox Fine Jewelry has witnessed that the meters are doing what they are supposed to do.

"Before the meters were installed a lot of people would tell me there was no parking and I would tell them there was free parking behind us," said Fox. "Now there are spaces available in front."

He recognizes the many differing opinions about the meters both from the merchant and patron points-of-view.

"Some people have been disgruntled about how they work saying they are complicated, others have told me how innovative and neat they are," said Fox who along with many merchants are waiting for the hype around the meters to pass.

"I think people will get used to them," said Fox. "Give the public time."



## Community Events

### Stop letting your eyes have all of the fun

The beautiful world of native plants ... with all of their showy flowers and growth patterns, they are, without a doubt, beautiful to look at. But stop letting your eyes have all of the fun! In this unique lecture, Nopalito Native Plant Nursery (located at 4107 E. Main) presents the highly respected Carol Bornstein who will take you on a journey for the senses, complete with slides to show you how to design a garden with smell, sound, touch and taste!

Carol Bornstein is one of Southern California's most highly respected native plant specialists, having co-authored, with Dave Fross and Bart O'Brien, the award-winning book *California Native Plants for the Garden*. Carol has made some remarkable native plant selections that are widely used around the state, including Verbena 'De la Mina' and Lessingia 'Silver Carpet'.

Carol earned her B.S. in Botany from the University of Michigan and her M.S. in Horticulture from Michigan State University, and served as horticulturist at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden for 28 years. She is currently working as a garden designer and horticultural consultant at carolbornstein.com.

On Saturday November 6 from 9:30am-10:45am. Free but must call to reserve a space at 844-7449.

### "The Streets of OZ"

Get ready for a night of Hip Hop and drama on November 10 at 6pm at Ventura High School's Main Auditorium for "The Streets of OZ".

This live drama and hip hop dance performance will rock your world!

For those of you who remember the "Wizard of OZ", MGM's 1939 milestone motion picture that broke attendance records across America, you will be blown away at this live performance. "The Streets of OZ" is more than a modern day version of the "Wizard of OZ". It will move you like you have never been moved before as professional dancers and actors deliver a message that will give you hope and excitement for the future.

This performance is for middle school and high school students and their parents. (Please no children under middle school ages). You will want to arrive by 5:30pm for the pre show festivities. There will be many prizes given away before the show and a grand prize after the production.

The YMCA, Miracle Media and The River Community are proud to bring you "The Streets of OZ". Please invite all your middle school and high school friends - it's free!

For more information contact Jim Duran at 302-7711 or visit [www.TheRiverCommunity.org](http://www.TheRiverCommunity.org).

### Ventura events

Audubon filed trips. More information on Ventura Audubon is available at [www.VenturaAudubon.org](http://www.VenturaAudubon.org).

**Tuesday, Nov. 9, 7:30 p.m.** Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Rd., Ventura. David Pereksta will speak on "**Pelagic Birding off Southern California: What You See when You Go to Sea.**"

David Pereksta is an Avian Biologist with the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management and a premier Ventura birder.

**Saturday, Nov. 13, 8:30 a.m.** Soule Park, Ojai. Leader: Jack Gillooly (646-3867). Birds are a bonus amid the autumn colors & the rugged Topa Topas rising above. Brisk mornings bring out winter feeding flocks: sparrows, bluebirds, & warblers. To car pool, meet at the Museum of Ventura Co, 100 E. Main St. (side parking lot) at 8 a.m.

**November 5: "Man from Magdalena,"** a play with music based on an actual incident, will be presented at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura, 5654 Ralston Street, on Friday, at 7 p.m.

This inspirational musical drama was suggested by the decision of a migrant worker, crossing the border at night, to sacrifice his dream of finding work in the U.S. in order to save an injured nine-year old boy whose mother had just been killed in an auto accident.

Learning of the event, author-actress Patty Willis and composer-pianist Mary Lou Prince were moved to create "Man from Magdalena."

Tickets are \$20, with a portion of the proceeds helping to establish micro-loans in Mexico and other parts of Latin America. So far, performances of "Man from Magdalena" have raised over \$9,000 for loans to carpenters, embroiderers, and farmers in various countries.

**November 7: At "Remembering Betty Eagle: A Demand for Peace and Justice,"** long time Ventura County resident and lifetime peace and justice activist, Betty Eagle, will be remembered and commemorated in a variety of events to be held on Sunday, beginning at 3pm. Betty passed away unexpectedly on July 26 leaving her family, friends, and the environmental, peace, and justice community grieving for her loss.

Those wishing to participate will gather at the Peace Pole in Plaza Park (corner of Chestnut and Santa Clara Streets). Dr. Robert Dodge will begin the event with the dedication of a beautiful eight-foot park bench in Betty's honor. This will be followed by a peace and justice march through downtown Ventura and conclude with a commemoration ceremony and potluck dinner to be held at the Topping Room of the Foster Library.

**November 7: A February 22, 1948** broadcast of Sherlock Holmes in "The Adventure of the Wooden Claw" and 1908 to 1913 recordings of soprano Geraldine Farrar will be featured in the Dudley House historic recording series during the Dudley House open house. The house with its newly completed roof will be open from 1pm to 4pm. The Dudley Docents will give tours of the history of the house with

its Dudley family Admission is free.

Also on **November 26, 27, 28; December 3, 4, 5, 10, 11 & 12**, the 17th year of the boutique begins the day after Thanksgiving and continues for three consecutive weekends from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. with a Flea Market added on Sundays. Shop for collectibles, crafts and unique gifts made by talented crafters in a turn-of-the-century Victorian farmhouse.

Located on the corner of Loma Vista and Ashwood in Ventura, proceeds benefit the historic house museum. Admission is free; call 654-8381 for information or visit their website at [www.dudleyhouse.org](http://www.dudleyhouse.org).

**November 9:** Some consider there to be a worldwide threat to your medical freedom of choice! Come and learn about this threat by attending the Ventura Chapter of the National Health Federation (NHF) monthly meeting at 5:30 p.m. Movie; 6:30 p.m. at 1590 East Main St., (Ventura Spinal Care Center)

From the award-winning director of Vaccine Nation, The Drugging of Our Children, and Prescription for Disaster, comes a documentary exploring the causes and solutions for the recent epidemic of autism in our children will be shown.

Please RSVP to 648-7987

**November 10: The Ventura County Camera Club** will hold a competition meeting on Wednesday, at 7pm at the Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Rd. A professional photographer from the area will critique members' prints and digital images. The topic for the month is "Edge/Edgy" which features some interesting photographs. Anyone with an interest in photography is welcome and admission is free. See the club's web site for more information about the club and examples of member's works or call 908-5663. [WWW.VenturaCountyCameraClub.com](http://WWW.VenturaCountyCameraClub.com)

**November 11:** The November meeting of the Ventura unit of the League of Women Voters will feature a staff member of Community Memorial Hospital explaining the future plans for expansion of the hospital. The public is invited to attend, on Thursday, at 2:00 p.m. in the Topping Room of the Foster Library. Light refreshments will be served. Contact person: Eunice Koch 644-3153

**November 12:** The General George S. Patton, Jr. Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution October meeting will feature the visual slide program: "**General George C. Marshall, Architect of Victory in World War II**", presented by Dr. Robert Colbern, California Society Sons of the American Revolution (CASSAR). The luncheon event will take place at 11:30, in the Garden Room, Marie Callender's Restaurant, 1295 S. Victoria Ave. All SAR compatriots, war history buffs, friends and visitors are welcome at this special free event! The self-pay luncheon cost is \$16 per person, with a slice of pie an additional \$1. Call Robert Taylor 216-7992 or Ron Risley 647-0751 if you have questions, and please visit the Chapter website <http://pattonpatriots.org> for more information on SAR Chapter activities.

**November 13:** The League of Women Voters Ventura County invites you to a **Forum on Homelessness in Ventura County**.

The agenda will include: Issues, Myths, Strategies, Legislation, Achievements, Challenges on Saturday from 9am-noon at the Ventura County Of-

## Victorian Holiday Boutique At The Dudley House

Celebrate the spirit of holiday's past at Ventura's historic Dudley House. This unique event, held over three weekends, will feature:

- High-quality crafts
- Home decorating items
- Antiques and collectibles
- Home-made candies
- Tearoom with silent auction, refreshments, bargain items & kids' crafts table

**Place:** Historic Dudley House, corner of Loma Vista and Ashwood Street in Ventura.

**Dates:** Nov. 26, 27, 28; Dec. 3, 4, 5; Dec. 10, 11, 12

**Time:** 10am to 6pm

Flea market on the grounds every Sunday during the Boutique, 9 - 4pm

Bring in this ad for a free cookie in our Tearoom. One per customer, please!



# Community Events

Office of Education, 5100 Adolfo Road Camarillo. Open to the public at no charge, Free parking and refreshments provided.

**November 13:** Performances To Grow On is proud to present internationally acclaimed children's singer Norman Foote in a special concert, at 7 pm at Ventura High School Auditorium, 2155 E. Main. Norman Foote will be joined by the Ventura Unified School District Choir, under the direction of Heidi House. Norman recently received the Juno, Canada's highest music award. Tickets are \$12 for children and \$15 for adults and are available by phone at 646-8907 and online at [www.ptgo.org](http://www.ptgo.org). Five or more tickets are just \$10.

Norman Foote is an award winning entertainer from Vancouver, Canada who has received international acclaim for his song writing, outrageous props and off beat sense of humor.

**November 13:** In conjunction with National Homeless Awareness Month, Lift Up Your Voice, Turning Point Foundation and Ventura Film Society are presenting Views From The Street, 2 films about life, art, and homelessness at 7 p.m.

The event features the documentaries Humble Beauty: Skid Row Artists, the story of a talented group of homeless and formerly homeless men and women who create art in the worst area of L.A. known as Skid Row, and River Haven 2010, a short documentary by local film maker Phil Taggart chronicling the lives of past and current residents of the River Haven Transitional Dome Community. Admission is free. Donations are welcome. For more information contact Lift Up Your Voice 644-3898 x101 or [www.liftupyourvoice.org](http://www.liftupyourvoice.org) or Tim Pompey at 479-3485.

Also join like-minded community members and hit the streets to end homelessness! Make your own cardboard sign -- one that promotes positive messages about the efforts to end homelessness in Ventura. Then hit the streets with your message of community involvement and caring. Join in at 2pm. This event is part of the activities scheduled for Homeless Awareness Month during the month of November. Go to [www.vsstf.org](http://www.vsstf.org) for more information.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura is located at 5654 Ralston St. **November 13:** Join in on the first **Open House** at the Ojai Raptor Center's new Rehabilitation Center at 370 Baldwin Rd Ojai from noon to 4pm.

The Center's main purpose is bird rehabilitation and is usually not open for viewing to the public, (rehabilitating birds are very sensitive, and require very little contact with people). This is a unique opportunity for the public to see the vision for Ventura Counties leading Rehabilitation Center.

Come meet the non-releasable "ambassador" raptors at this free event! Hawks, eagles, and owls will be on hand to greet guests on this informative afternoon. Light refreshments will be served and Ojai Raptor Center merchandise will be available for purchase. All proceeds benefit the Ojai Raptor Center.

The Ojai Raptor Center, (ORC) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that is dedicated to the rehabilitation and release of birds of prey and all wildlife and to providing educational programs to teach about raptors and our shared environment. ORC takes in

over 1,300 native birds annually from the Tri County area.

**November 14:** Channel Islands Chamber Orchestra "Celebrating Youth and Music" Concert at 4:00 p.m. will feature three youth soloists playing with the orchestra: Will Duke, violin, playing the first movement of Mozart's Violin Concerto #4; Joseph Vielbig, piano, playing the first movement of Mozart's Piano Concerto #23; and Brian Ibarra, vocalist, singing Schubert's Ave Maria and di Capua's O Sole Mio. The second half of the concert will present Peter and the Wolf by Prokofiev with Steven Perren narrating. The concert will be presented at the First United Methodist Church, Ventura.

For additional information, please contact Henning Ottsen at [Hennin-gOttsen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Hennin-gOttsen@sbcglobal.net).

**November 14:** Partake in the Aloha Turkey Roundup run as the Ventura Hillside Conservancy presents two cross-country races: a kids' run and a family fun run at the 5th Annual Aloha Turkey Roundup which will take place Sunday, at Arroyo Verde Park.

The event consists of an 8K, 4k, and kids 1K run and the \$25 for adults, \$20 for youth/senior and \$10 for the kids run and includes a pancake breakfast before beginning and T-shirts. (Add \$10 if registering on the day of the race.) Kids run begins at 8:30am, with the 8K run and 4K run/walk at 9am. Proceeds benefit the Ventura Hillside Conservancy.

Packet pickup will be available on Tuesday, Nov. 9 at Inside Track, located at 38 W. Main St. Call 643-8044 to volunteer at the event, and don't forget the Volunteer Appreciation Picnic, to be held November 7, 12-4 pm at Arroyo Verde's Redwood Glen. Enjoy food, drink, music, awards, and raffle!

Please remember that parking is limited and walk, run or pedal to the park if you can.

## Ojai events

Ojai ACT is kicking off its 2011 season with the Tony Award-winning musical "Annie," and dozens of actors of all ages (and dogs) are invited to audition Monday or Tuesday evenings, **Nov. 15 and 16**, with callbacks on **Wednesday, Nov. 17**.

"Annie" will run from **Feb. 5 -27** and rehearsals start Nov. 18, but will not conflict with either Thanksgiving or Christmas holiday dates.

Prospective participants must schedule an audition time on either Monday or Tuesday with Director Gai Jones by Friday, Nov. 12. To schedule a time and gather information about the roles and rules, contact Jones at 640-6472 or email her (preferred method) at [gai.jones@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gai.jones@sbcglobal.net).

Actors are required to sing 16 bars of memorized music to show vocal range and many will also be asked to execute dance steps learned during the audition.

Auditions will be held at the Ojai Art Center Theater, 113 S. Montgomery St., starting at 5 p.m.

On **Sunday, Nov. 14** at 4:30 pm the Ojai Film Society will screen the documentary, **The Tillman Story**, about the U.S. military's cover-up of the friendly-fire death of NFL star, Pat Tillman. Rolling Stone's Peter Travers writes, "This documentary succeeds triumphantly on so many levels that its full impact doesn't hit you until you have time to register its aftershocks."

The public is welcome. General Admission \$10, Seniors & Students \$7 and 2010 Subscribers free. Ojai Playhouse, 145 E Ojai Ave. View screening schedule at [www.ojaifilmsociety.org](http://www.ojaifilmsociety.org)

**Performances To Grow On** will present Faustwork Mask Theatre in "The Mask Messenger" on **Sat., Nov. 20** at 7 pm at Matilija Auditorium, 703 El Paseo Rd. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$12 for children and are available at Ojai Coffee Roasting Company, by phone at 646-8907 or online at [www.ptgo.org](http://www.ptgo.org). Purchase 4 or more tickets by phone for \$10 each.

In a series of delightful vignettes ranging from comic to bizarre to poignant, The Mask Messenger is a tour de force. A variety of characters spring to life, including some who speak dialogue, wearing Commedia Dell'Arte style half-masks. Full masks are worn on top or back of the head, creating distortions that baffle the eye and tickle the funny bone.

Ojai Library and Amy Hagen, the Artistic Director of the Ojai Youth Symphony present a small string ensemble at the Ojai Library for the first Sunday on **November 7** at 1pm. [www.ojaiyouthsymphony.org](http://www.ojaiyouthsymphony.org)

[www.ojaiyouthsymphony.org](http://www.ojaiyouthsymphony.org)

The **26th annual Ojai Peddler's Fair** is being held from 9am - 4pm **Saturday and Sunday, November 13 & 14**. Located inside the Chapparral Auditorium at 414 E. Ojai Ave. Parking is free in the adjacent municipal parking lot, and admission is always free.

This is a benefit for the Mira Monte PTO. For more information, please contact Pat at 964-8915 or Jodie at 640-4384 x2284.

The Ojai Art Center presents a showing of psychologist/photographer **JoAnne Avnet's images** photographed on her tours of four continents, **November 5-December 1** in the Center's gallery at 113 South Montgomery St. The reception with the artist will be on Saturday, November 13, 1-3 pm.

Though since childhood JoAnne Avnet has been engaged with art, from creation to collection, she's been a psychotherapist and educational psychologist in for thirty-six years.

Over the past 5 years Avnet's work has been on exhibit in Studio City and Universal City, where it has been well received.



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## Art Scene



Pete Ippel describes himself as both an artist and an athlete. He is surrounded here by examples of his life in both fields

### WAV artist interviews: Pete Ippel

by Tim Pompey

For Pete Ippel, an artistic home life was the norm. “I never took an art class,” he says, “because I did them at home.” And no wonder. His father ran the Academy of Movement and Music in Oak Park Illinois, and his mother was a folk musician.

In high school, however, Ippel preferred other things like science and sports. He was a record-setting high jumper who went to Cornell to compete on their varsity track & field team.

As a freshman, Ippel’s artistic interests soared after he took a sculpture class. It so wowed him, he actually enrolled in two separate Cornell colleges, maintained a grueling schedule, and finished in 2002 with dual degrees in photography and psychology.

While doing grad studies at the San Francisco Art Institute, Pete fell in love with life in the golden gate city. “The energy that was there was in flux,” he says. “Things downtown got affordable again

and artists came back to the neighborhoods.” At the Institute, he developed a passion for performance art, which focuses on the action rather than the presentation of the art. He describes it as “the injecting of the physical self into the art process.”

Ippel believes his art “develops out of an idea, or a scientific experiment, or a hypothesis, iterated over time and distributed over many channels.” He’s coined a term for this - hypermodern.

He describes his art as a “synthesis of things that aren’t usually considered in the arts.” More important, his art almost always includes some form of human participation. “I practice art as a citizen of the world,” he says, “so that there is a movement toward the empathic, human experience.”

For more information about Ippel’s art, go to <http://peteippel.com> or his blog <http://hypermodern.net>.



Art works on paper can be seen at 643 Project Space

### Ventura art events

■ Debby Sutton will teach the elements of creative wire wrapping for a piece of your choosing, ring, bracelet or pendant. Workshop is on Saturday, November 6, from 9 a.m. -12 pm at the Harbor Village Gallery in the Ventura Harbor Village.

Instructor will provide written instructions and pattern, polishing cloth and sanding block and her expert knowledge of the craft of jewelry making. Please bring your own tools, beads and wire. Materials will be available for purchase on the day of the workshop for a nominal price.

Cost is \$30 for Buena Ventura Art Association (BAA) members, \$36 for

non-BAA members.

■ Gail Pidduck’s solo exhibition “A Place in the Choir” is at the Buena Ventura Gallery from November 9 to December 4. Opening reception is Saturday, November 13 from 4-7pm

Inspired by a folk song of the 1970’s by Bill Staines “A Place in the Choir,” creatures of the farm and home snuggle, squawk, waddle, bark and purr themselves into Pidduck’s oil paintings.

■ 643 Project Space is pleased to exhibit works on paper.

The exhibition is free and open to the public. 643 A Project Space is an alternative contemporary art gallery exhibiting emerging and established national and international artists. The gallery is located at 643 N. Ventura Av. For more information, call 218-1434 or visit [www.643projectspace.com](http://www.643projectspace.com).

■ Meet metal sculptor David Rivas when the Museum of Ventura County holds a reception for the artist on Saturday, November 6 from 6- 8:00 p.m. in the museum’s Sculpture Gallery. His current exhibition Transformed: Titanium Sculpture by David Rivas, continues there through December 5.

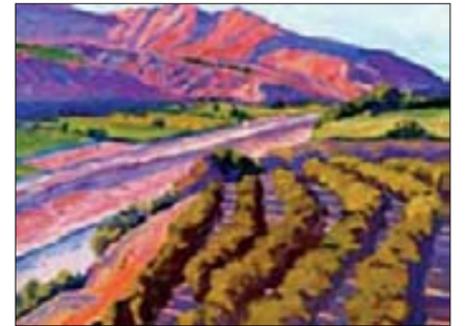
Professional welding skills have become artistic tools for Rivas, as he recycles scrap titanium left from the manufacture of hypersonic spacecraft, into sculptures of motion and whimsy

■ The WAV Theater/Gallery presents an exhibit entitled Brooklyn and

Brazil meets in Ventura, with featured paintings by WAV artists Julinya Vidigal De Vince and Stew Birbrower. De Vince’s paintings have received awards from Europe, Brazil, and the U.S., and are currently featured in the permanent collection of several art museums in Sao Paulo.

The exhibit runs from November 5 to 24. Opening receptions will be held on Friday, November 5, from 5-7pm and Saturday, November 6, from 2-5 pm at the WAV Gallery, located at 175 S. Ventura Ave.

For more information about the artists, please visit their websites: [www.julinya.com](http://www.julinya.com) and [www.stew-art-ventura.com](http://www.stew-art-ventura.com)



“Sespe Canyon with Groves,” by Raymond Cuevas can be seen at the Crowne Plaza.

The Heart of the Artist

### Art, food and business

by Emily Thiroux

What do Art, Food, and Business have in common? The Gallery at the Crowne at the Crowne Plaza Ventura Beach. Terry Bray, curator for The Gallery, saw a natural connection with Ventura County FOOD Share and has worked with Jeanne Benitez, Development Manager for FOOD Share, to ensure that part of the proceeds from each art sale goes to food share. In less than a year, this means that over \$23,000 of food purchasing power has been contributed to FOOD Share from the sale of this art. I think that is pretty amazing.

When you contribute to something, do you always know where that contribution goes? In the case of The Gallery at the Crowne, when you buy a work of art by a local artist, a portion of the sale goes to the curator, the Crowne Plaza, and to FOOD Share, and the bulk of the price goes to the artist. So, you are supporting the opportunity for local artists to be able to sell their work which ensures more artwork can be created for us all to enjoy as well as ensuring food on the table of the artist. You are supporting a great business concept of the Crowne Plaza using wall space to showcase artists, and for each \$1 contributed to FOOD Share, they are able to have \$7.15 of food purchasing power to feed hungry people in our county of Ventura. This sounds like a win, win, win to me.

The art shows at The Gallery at the Crowne change three times a year, and with each change, Terry and the hotel hosts a reception where Chef Nic, voted the best in Ventura County, serves up appetizers and the public and hotel guests have a chance to meet the artists. Auctions are held during the reception with proceeds going to FOOD Share.

A new feature at the Crowne is the California Banquet room which will be featuring local wines, so Terry found lovely artwork of Ventura County wine and agricultural views. All this shows a tremendous commitment from the General Manager at the Crowne, Doug Wood. I’d love to see his example followed at more businesses that have space that could be featuring the work of local talent. Terry Bray is a bronze artist, though none of her beautiful work is on display at the Crowne. She is spending her time now working with other artists to help them learn the business of art. Terry works to teach her artists about how to value their work. She also created a no-interest lay-away program because she wants everyone to be able to own art.

All this works together to support Terry’s philosophy: “Never, ever underestimate to power of art.”

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.com](mailto:emily@theheartoftheartist.com). And I hope that you’ll read my blog and support the artists I feature. <http://www.theheartoftheartist.com/category/Blog/>



Donna Granata, Founder/Executive Director of Focus On The Masters working in the archive with summer interns Derek Bazan and Chris Stormbringer

### Focus on the Masters Open House & Holiday Marketplace

Focus on the Masters (FOTM) is opening its doors to the public on November 14 from 1 to 4 p.m., inviting the community to visit their new offices at 505 Poli Street, Suite 405 (located behind City Hall - free parking) and enjoy a rare glimpse behind-the-scenes of one of Ventura’s premier arts organizations. Attendees will have the opportunity to mix and mingle with fellow art lovers, tour the archive and enjoy refreshments.

Earlier this year FOTM moved its archive, library and executive offices to this new space. An integral part of their reorganization is their newly redesigned website, [www.FocusontheMasters.com](http://www.FocusontheMasters.com).

FOTM is a non-profit arts education group that documents and celebrates the wealth of artistic talent in our midst. Founded in 1994, FOTM has dedicated itself to being a unique repository of information about all artists living or working in Ventura County.

Ten artists are selected yearly for formal documentation whose biographies have the power to inspire young and old. These one-of-a-kind biographies delve deeply into the personal life of artists, demonstrating how their development as an artist is influenced by their life’s story and how the roots of creativity are forged deep within the artist’s soul.

The Open House also presents an opportunity for early holiday shopping. A number of local artists and artisans will be selling their works, from jewelry to greeting cards to ceramic and glass objects and much more. For more information, call 653-2501 or email [mary.galbraith@focusonthemasters.com](mailto:mary.galbraith@focusonthemasters.com).

Proceeds will benefit FOTM and the participating artists. Pot-luck refreshments will be served at the free event.

# Professor Scamp, Ph.D

(Pretty Happy Dog)



Professor Scamp  
Ph.D

To continue with my questions to my friend Diana Edwards, APDT, professional dog trainer, I asked her what foods should us dogs not eat.

I am really disappointed to see that we shouldn't drink alcoholic beverages. What am I going to drink during Monday Night Football if not a beer?

Also even if it wasn't dangerous we should never eat onions and garlic, our breath is bad enough without making it worse.

Alcoholic beverages (can cause intoxication and death)

Avocado (contains persin, which can cause vomiting, diarrhea)

Baby food (can contain onion powder which can be toxic)

Bones from beef, pork, poultry and fish (can obstruct and cause laceration in digestive tract)

Cat food (high levels of protein and fat, can cause diarrhea)

Coffee, tea and chocolate (caffeine can be toxic and have a bad effect on heart and nervous system)

Dough with yeast (can expand and cause gas, pain and rupture stomach)

Eggs, raw (contain salmonella which causes diarrhea and vomiting)

Fat trimmings (can cause pancreatic problems)

Grapes and raisins (contains toxins which can effect digestive and nervous system and liver)

Human vitamins with iron (can have toxic effect on organs and possible damage on digestive and nervous system)

Liver, excessive amounts (can cause Vitamin A toxicity, affecting muscle and bones)

Milk and dairy products (cause diarrhea)

Mushrooms (my contain toxins which can affect different systems causing possible shock or death)

Onions and Garlic, any form, even in seasoning (contain sulfoxides and disulfides which can effect blood and cause anemia, also can cause nausea, diarrhea)

Salt, large amounts (can cause electrolyte problems)

Sugary foods (can cause obesity, dental problems and diabetes)

Walnuts (contains toxins, which can affect digestive and nervous system)

Xylitol, a artificial sweetener, found often in sugarless gum can cause very low blood sugar (hypoglycemia), vomiting. High doses can cause liver failure and diarrhea)

Everyone should cut this list out and hang it on the refrigerator to remind all family members which foods not to give to us.

Some dogs might also have allergies so ask your vet if anything should be added to this list.

■ Pulling For Paws, in Ojai, recently has joined other animal welfare organizations in the area that list their homeless pets on Petfinder.com, the oldest and largest database of adoptable animals on the Internet. The site currently has over 355,500 homeless pets listed, and it is updated continuously.

More than 13,500 animal welfare organizations in the U.S., Canada, and other countries post their pets on the site.

Pulling For Paws pets may be viewed at [www.petfinder.com/shelters/CA1788.html](http://www.petfinder.com/shelters/CA1788.html). A potential adopter enters search criteria for the kind of pet he or she wants, and a list is returned that ranks the pets in proximity to the Zip code entered. Adoptions are handled by the animal placement group where the pet is housed, and each group has its own policies.

Petfinder.com was created in early 1996 as a grassroots project by Jared and Betsy Saul to end the euthanasia of adoptable pets. Since its inception, the site has facilitated approximately 20 million adoptions, making it the most life-saving initiative in animal welfare.

## Join Scamp Club

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

## Dog to Adopt



Hi:

I'm Coco a very shy female Shepherd mix. I was found running in the streets of Los Angeles. A good Samaritan stopped and took me in. I'm crate trained and sit on command. I'm good with older children, but no cats please. I need a patient and loving family who will give me all the love and attention that I deserve. I hope it's not long before I'm a cherished member of a family.

Check out more pictures of me in my very own photo gallery at [http://billsolis.smugmug.com/PetsCoco/12130837\\_4ffeW](http://billsolis.smugmug.com/PetsCoco/12130837_4ffeW)

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

[www.carlvc.org](http://www.carlvc.org)

## Scamp Club

Today's Scampclub member is an art piece by Cherie Smith from a real dog. This is what Cherie has to say about her art and being a "dog junkie":

*"O.K., call me Snow White. I love all Gods creatures, and my art studio welcomes them—wild birds have zipped in and out the open door, my tortoise hibernates under my desk, and my one-eyed cat loves sleeping on the pile of paint cloths.*

*But I confess I am a "dog junkie", and have always had a dog (or two or three). They are an important part of my life, and often my muses. My current dog, Miki, is a two year old Goldendoodle—a big, loveable shaggy dog with a crazy personality. She is always ready for action, and was my inspiration for the Einstein piece.*

*I am a traditional artist, and have been drawing and painting ever since I could scribble crayon on the wall. But my style took on a new twist last year when I had a request for a Pop Art image. I studied the style, and worked on creating my own technique. Although I use the computer, I spend hours adding my own line work before the image is ready for color. Once it is finished, I print it on aluminum panels. The combination of metal glowing through the vivid colors is what makes this Pop Art really "Pop"!*

*Although I use a variety of subjects, the dog images are my favorite because they make me laugh. I bring my camera everywhere, and always see inspiration in the dogs I meet.*

*If you would like to see more of my images, please visit Studio 6 gallery, downtown Ventura. And yes, I do take custom orders."*



## Police Reports

by Veronica Johnson

### Custom designed Kiosk

The VPD recently took delivery of a custom designed Kiosk which is accessible within the front lobby of the department's headquarters on Dowell Drive. The goal of the Kiosk is to provide yet another tool for the public that allows individuals easy access to a variety of services the Ventura Police Department offers, while also keeping pace with the public's expectations of being able to complete services via the Internet.

The Kiosk is touch screen but also has a familiar trackball and keyboard for increased ease of use and accessibility of items. Items can also be printed directly from the Kiosk.

The introduction of the Kiosk comes on the heels of the department's recent implementation of a web-based online police reporting option for the public which can also be accessed through the department's website at [www.venturapd.org](http://www.venturapd.org). Similarly with the Kiosk, the goal of the online reporting system was to better provide access to police services in a more timely, convenient, and efficient manner.

### Shooting at Occupied Vehicle

On Saturday, October 16th, at 1:52

a.m., the VPD received calls from citizens who reported hearing gunshots in the 200 block of North Ventura Avenue. A male had fired a handgun at a passing vehicle and had fled the area with another unidentified male.

With a description of the suspects, officers contacted Martin Fierros, 19 years old, and another male one block from the crime scene. Fierros was the suspect who fired at the vehicle and was arrested for shooting at an occupied vehicle and for being in possession of a controlled substance.

### Community Crime Alert

On Sunday, October 17th, at 2:00 a.m., the VPD received a call of a car alarm sounding in the area of Sandberg Lane. The caller witnessed two subjects running away from the vehicle with the sounding alarm. The vehicle's window was smashed and the contents ransacked. Officers were unable to find the suspects, but found 9 vehicles, which had been broken into on the surrounding streets of Tennyson, Murdock and Sandburg.

At 7:00 a.m., officers responded to a stolen vehicle investigation in the Lemonwood Mobile Home Park, directly across from the earlier vehicle burglaries. Officers located 14 vehi-

cles, which were entered and ransacked. All victim vehicles located in the mobile home park were left unlocked.

### Hit and Run Traffic Collision

On Sunday, October 17th, at 2:38 p.m., the VPD received calls about a vehicle that had just crashed into a house, in the 3100 block of Channel Drive.

Timothy Westlake, 50 years old, failed to negotiate through a bend in the road and drove across the front lawn of one residence and struck the garage of a second residence. Westlake failed to stop and continued onto the street before he pulled over.

Officers found Westlake next to his stopped truck with front-end damage and debris from the garage. Westlake was driving the vehicle while intoxicated. He was taken into custody and arrested.

### Injury Traffic Accident

On Thursday, October 21st, at 2:37 a.m., the VPD received a 911 call of a single vehicle traffic collision. Officers located an overturned vehicle with two subjects nearby that had been inside the vehicle at the time of the collision. The driver of the vehicle was seriously injured and transported to VCMC for treatment. The passenger walked away from the incident with only minor injuries.

The driver, David Evans, 41 years old and from Ventura, was traveling on Kimball Road when he lost control of his vehicle in the intersection at Telephone Road.

### Accidental Shooting

On Saturday, October 23rd, at 9:07 p.m., Erick Hunsaker, 37 years old, and

*Continued on page 19*

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**2011 EVENTS**




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<b>JUNE 30</b> <b>Salute to Our Veterans</b> 11:00am	<b>AUGUST 24</b> <b>A Taste of Cypress Classic Car Show &amp; 50's Party</b> 5:30 – 7:30pm	<b>OCTOBER 15</b> <b>Country Hoe Down</b> 12:00 – 2:00pm
<b>NOVEMBER</b> <b>Thanksgiving Celebration</b> Exclusive to Cypress Place Residents	<b>DECEMBER</b> <b>Holiday Dance &amp; Dinner</b> Exclusive to Cypress Place Residents	




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## Senior Living

The Senior Cone-nection

### Disaster preparedness - what seniors need to know - part 2

(This is part 2 of an interview with new American Red Cross President James Mcgee)

NC: What should seniors always have on hand in the event of an emergency?

JM: General Emergency Supplies:

- Water supply - one gallon per person per day stored in sealed, unbreakable containers that are easy to handle. Identify the storage date and replace every six months.
  - Non perishable food supply- including any special foods required for medical care
  - Battery-powered radio and flashlight with extra batteries
  - Change of clothing, rain gear, and sturdy shoes
  - Blanket or sleeping bag
  - Extra set of keys
  - Cash, credit cards, and change for pay phones
  - Personal hygiene supplies
  - Phone numbers of local and non-local relatives or friends
  - Insurance agent's name and number
- Supplies for Medical Needs:
- First-aid kit
  - Clearly labeled prescription medicines, list of medications including dosage, and a list of any allergies
  - Extra eye glasses
  - Extra hearing aid batteries
  - List of style and serial numbers of medical devices such as pacemakers
  - Medical insurance and Medicare cards
  - List of doctors and relative or friend who should be notified if you are injured
  - Manual back-ups for all electric equipment (such as electric wheelchairs)

NC: What phone numbers are important to list on their refrigerator?

JM: Seniors should keep the numbers of the following people and organizations on their refrigerator or somewhere very visible:

- 911
- Non-emergency police
- Poison control center: 1-800-222-1222
- Hospital emergency room
- Fire department
- Police department
- Emergency personal contact: Both local and out of the area

NC: If a senior is unable to drive and must get to an emergency shelter, what should they do?

JM: Seniors should prepare for disaster by organizing a network of friends, relatives, and neighbors that can be contacted for help and create a plan for disaster evacuation with members of the network. They should look into Ventura County emergency assistance programs where people with disabilities can register so needed help can be provided in the case of an emergency.

NC: If seniors have animal companions, what do they do with them in case they must evacuate?

JM: Seniors should take their pets with them if evacuated. Because animals aren't always allowed in emergency shelters unless it is a service animal, they should prepare a list of family, friends, boarding facilities, veterinarians, and pet-friendly hotels that can shelter pets in an emergency.

NC: Any final advice or comments?

JM: My best advice to seniors is this: Always ask for what you need. If there are family members and friends nearby, let them support you and let the American Red Cross or other agencies assist you. Don't worry about not appearing independent - everyone needs help when disaster strikes. The American Red Cross, Ventura County Chapter is here to help you - no matter what time of day or night - and we will always offer all our services to every community member, including seniors, free of charge. The Red Cross is not a governmental organization; we depend on our community for support. Find us on the web at [www.arcventura.org](http://www.arcventura.org) or call us at (805) 987-1514.



Cypress resident Kevin Hartman enjoyed dancing with the chicken at the Oktoberfest, but the chicken wanted to lead

## Cypress Place celebrated Oktoberfest and will present a free seminar

Bratwurst and beer were in abundance at the recently held Oktoberfest celebration at Cypress Place Senior Living. The annual event was open to the public and attendees enjoyed great food and live entertainment.

The performing band, aptly named Der Sauerkrauts, was dressed in authentic period costumes, and included band member Jim Wade on the 8 foot long Alp Horn.

"We believe we provide the best care around, as well as provide the most fun," said co-marketing Director Mike Macke. "I can't tell you how rewarding it is to see our seniors enjoying the time of their lives, and all in such a beautiful environment."

On Saturday November 13 join Cypress for an important and informative seminar and learn from the experts about the Aid & Attendance Benefit. This little known VA administered benefit can help pay for increasing medical costs associated with aging.

Seminar topics will include:

Understanding VA benefits and the application process, how to become eligible and what benefits you are entitled to for residing at an assisted living community.

Wartime Veterans may qualify for up to \$1,644 monthly and Surviving Spouses may receive up to \$1,056 monthly. Learn about this vital information for loved ones and those you care for.

The free seminar begins at 1pm and is open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

Cypress Place Senior Living is located at 1200 Cypress Point Lane in Ventura. Seating is limited so please call to reserve a seat. For more information or to RSVP, please call 650-8000.

# Senior Living



Albert Okuma and Suz Montgomery pose together during a session of Montgomery's "This is your Life" held at the Venturan. The event recognized and honored Okuma's many friendships and contributions to community life here in Ventura

## Okuma honored with *This is your Life*

by Tim Pompey

Mention Albert Okuma to his friends and family and the first things they mention are his smile, his gentle nature, and his sense of dignity. That was certainly evident today as folks gathered to celebrate Al's life during Suz Montgomery's monthly celebration called "This is Your Life" at the Venturan Convalescent Center. As his life, his family, his accomplishments were mentioned, Al sat quietly beaming from ear to ear.

After graduating from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo with a degree in architectural engineering, Al married his wife Janice in 1971 and served in the military for several years.

He went back to Cal Poly and graduated (a second time) in 1975 with a degree in architecture. In 1976, he moved to Ventura and started his career as an architect. Shortly after he arrived in Ventura, he also joined the Baha'i community. Work, faith, family. He settled in.

Al worked for the U.S. Navy and several other architectural firms around the County. In 1985, he established his own firm, Conrad and Okuma. In 1996 he went to work for Edison as an architect in their construction division and in 2004, he was hired by Leach Mounce Architects where, as a LEED-Certified architect, he specialized in energy efficient engineering.

Al has served on many local committees, including the Ventura Unified School District's gifted education committee and the adult education citizens budget advisory committee. He was also part of the multicultural community heritage task force, the cultural arts plan committee, and the strategic planning citizens advisory committee. In the 1990s, he served on the City of Ventura's Planning Commission, the Historic Preservation Committee, and the Design Review Committee.

It turns out that Al is also a very talented artist. He is particularly fond of watercolors, pen and ink, and photography, which he learned while working in the photo lab at Cal Poly SLO. Al is noted for taking photographs of family and friends and spending hours working with Photoshop.

Those gathered to honor Al remember him fondly. Fellow architect Curtis Cormane recalls working with him: "Al is the consummate gentleman. He made it easy to respect him because of his quiet dignity."

Don Haskell, one of Al's friends at the Venturan, has been inspired by Al's determination to stay positive. As he tells

it: "Al is an example of determination to do the best we can with what we have."

Instructor Suz Montgomery talks about working with Al in her classes at the Venturan. "Al speaks with his eyes," she says. "When Al joined our morning class, it gave it a deeper meaning because of his integrity and sweet soul."

For Al Okuma, life in Ventura is good. His life force is quiet and gentle. Everyone who knows Al or has worked with Al knows that. And anyone who meets Al for the first time knows it too because, well, that's just the way he is. You can see it in his face. When Al Okuma smiles, you know immediately. He really is a very nice guy.

## An Interview with Katharine J. Raley, HICAP Program Manager

Continuation of September 22 Ventura Breeze HICAP article.

Q: How does HICAP help people?

A: Through community education presentations, One-Stop workshops, health fairs and one-on-one counseling sessions for Medicare-eligible people, all free to the public.

Q: What's involved with the education presentations?

A: At a presentation, handouts are given out and there is a question and answer session.

Topics range from "Welcome to Medicare" to long term care, new laws, fraud, prevention, health care reform and a new series of two workshops entitled "The Road to Medicare" and "Retirement and Long Term Care". Presentations begin with when one should or should not sign up for Medicare, are they employed or are they going to retire, which benefits may be best and should they prepare for long term care, advance health care directives, and education on POLST.

We do about 300 presentations a year throughout Ventura County, in senior centers, senior housing facilities, faith-based organizations, hospitals, health care facilities, and private organizations. Typically 5 to 100 people turn out for each presentation. The duration is usually about 2 hours, with a question and answer period.

Q: Please describe the One-Stop workshop.

A: I am so glad you have asked that question. Medicare is now approaching the Annual Election Period known as Fall Open Enrollment Period. This is the time all Medicare Beneficiaries may make a change in their health insurance or Part D Plans. The One Stops are conducted during this time to serve as many Medicare Beneficiaries that is possible. They are designed to counsel several Medicare Beneficiaries at a time. People can make appointments or walk in. A counselor will help with their Medicare Part D comparison, enrollment options, and advise a client on how they may qualify for other benefits that the Medicare Beneficiary did not know about. One Stops begin on November 15th through December 31st. During this Open Enrollment period, people can change their Medicare Health Insurance Plan and their Prescription Drug coverage.

To best prepare for the one-stop, people should bring a list of their medi-

Continued on page 19

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This event marks the focal point to promote proper detection and intervention for those concerned about memory loss as well as education about successful aging.

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## School

### High School students outraged by budget cuts

by Brooke Demchuck  
Ventura High School

It has been no secret to the students of Ventura High School that schools have been struggling with budgets and money over the past few years. And while every student has known that it has been an issue for a significant amount of time, this school year it has become even more apparent. Class sizes average from 30 to 40 students, teachers have been fired, classes have been canceled, and classroom supplies have become more than scarce. These are clearly less than ideal learning conditions, and both the administration and students are now suffering from it.

Many students are becoming increasingly upset over the lack of elective classes now offered, and the small amount of attention that they receive in their core classes. Even foreign language classes that were once small are now filled to the brim with over 30 kids in each class. Because each teacher has so many pupils to teach at one time, the quality of learning and attention for each individual student has gone down dramatically. As students, our education and opportunities to succeed in the classroom are now beginning to wither away.

It is quite fair to say that the lack of attention and funding for public schools in the state of California both shocks and angers my peers, professors, and myself. Teenagers today are the face of tomorrow; and proper education, as well as attention, opportunities, and guidance are what will build a bright future for our country.

The whole idea of Measure H is that it proposes that \$96 dollars a year per parcel will be given just to Ventura Unified School District. That equals to about \$4.5 million dollars a year that Ventura can use on anything school-related, including classes, teachers, extra-curriculars, and the school campus itself.

Due to this fact, Measure H has given the student body hope. The idea that Ventura Unified School District could wind up having approximately \$4.5 million dollars more a year is incredible. Think about it: our drama department that receives no funding from the school district could flourish, our foreign language programs that are more than suf-

fering can strengthen, our core classes can become more effective, and other classes can be brought back or invented in order for every student to participate in something that they love. If we can achieve as much as we do already in these departments without funding, imagine what we can do with it.

Measure H is more than a tax for the people of California--it's a way of nurturing students' futures and allowing them to reach their full potential. It's a way of allowing every single student to receive that high quality education that they have a right to. It's a way of ensuring that our future generation has what our country itself is made of--education. But most importantly, it's a way of guiding and taking care of the newest generation, otherwise known as the future of America.

Breeze:

*The elections were held yesterday (hopefully we will know the results)*

### Fresh & Easy shopping nights raise funds for schools

The local Fresh & Easy Neighborhood Market is hosting fundraising Shopping Nights to benefit local schools between now and the end of the year.

Shopping Nights allow local schools to raise 5% of a local Fresh & Easy store's total sales from 4 – 8 pm on a designated evening. The neighborhood is encouraged to support its local schools by shopping on these nights.

Shopping Nights are part of Fresh & Easy's Shop for Schools fundraising program which provides a \$1 donation to participating schools for every \$20 receipt collected.

Upcoming Shopping Nights at the Fresh & Easy Neighborhood Market, located at 5101 Telegraph Rd are benefiting the following local schools:

Nov. 3: Elmhurst Elementary School  
Nov. 8: Portola Elementary School  
Nov. 10: Ventura Missionary School  
Nov. 15: Blanche Reynolds Elementary School  
Nov. 17: Loma Vista Elementary School

More information regarding Shop for Schools can be found at [www.freshandeasy.com/shopforschools](http://www.freshandeasy.com/shopforschools).

Breeze:

*See page 18 for the new Fresh & Easy coming soon.*

### Community Education offers holiday treats

Ventura College Community Education is serving up a tasty variety of new classes, seminars and workshops this winter for individuals desiring learning opportunities for both personal enrichment and professional development.

Celtic Cuisine will be held at Gorman's Restaurant and Irish Pub on Tuesday, November 9, from 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm in Santa Paula, featuring instruction on how to make Irish potato pancakes, Irish soup, and shepherd's pie, accompanied by a variety of Irish beers. Over 21 please.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren is a seminar scheduled for Saturday, November 6, from 9:00 am – noon in Ventura, which will focus on the joys and challenges for grandparents who are raising their grandchildren, especially during the holiday season.

For individuals who want to learn how to tweet, blog and use other social media, Social Networking for Beginners will be conducted on Saturday, November 20 from 9:00 am – noon in Ventura.

Diamonds and Gemstones 101 will be conducted by Graduate Gemologist Kara Erickson at Jewelry Couture in Ventura on Wednesday, November 3, from 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm.

All nonprofit organizations will want to send their volunteer coordinator to Volunteer Superstars on Saturday and Sunday, November 13 and 14, from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm or Tuesday and Thursday, January 11 and 13, from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. This new training program will be conducted by professional volunteer trainer Tiffany Hill in Ventura.

Additional personal enrichment classes include Holiday Table Runners, Nightclub Two-Step, Knock Off Your Favorite Pair of Pants, Beginning Mosaic Art, Floral Design for Beginners, Introduction to Chess, I've Always Wanted to Play the Harp, and Dogs and Cats and Horses -- Oh My!

Professional development classes beginning this winter include Sales Drama 101, LEED® Green Associate Preparation, Medical Terminology Boot Camp, Introduction to Veterinary Assistant Training, Physical Therapy Aide Training, How to Become a Professional Organizer, Start Your Own Pet Sitting Business, Money-making Using Your Home Computer, Online Spanish for Health Care Workers, and many others.

Community Education classes are self-supporting and do not confer college credit. Enroll early to ensure a seat in the class of your choice. For more information about these and other lifelong learning opportunities, please call the Community Education office at 654-6459, or visit the Community Education website at [www.communityed.venturacollege.edu](http://www.communityed.venturacollege.edu).

## Religion

### Hanukkah Boutique

Temple Beth Torah, Ventura's Reform synagogue, will be holding their annual Hanukkah Boutique on November 14, from 9am to 1:30pm. Shoppers will be able to get a jump on holiday purchases, as they browse through a beautiful variety of gifts, including menorahs, jewelry, toys, books, Judaica, and other fine specialty items.

Latkes and other delicacies will also be available for purchase at the WRJ Deli during the boutique.

Temple Beth Torah is located on the corner of Foothill and Kimball, at 7620 Foothill Road in Ventura. For more information about the Hanukkah boutique, or other upcoming events, please call 647-4181 or visit [www.templebethtorah.com](http://www.templebethtorah.com).

### New building at Methodist Church

College United Methodist Church will dedicate a new building on Sunday, November 7, following the worship service according to Bob Horne, Church Lay Leader. The late Leroy Andrews was the lead architect followed by Gary Harcourt, GFH from Atascadero. Staples Construction Co. was the builder under the direction of Joe Fitzgeorge, Construction Chairman. The project was delivered on time and within budget.

The new building, named Wesley Hall will be used for church meetings, classes and community activities according to Todd Collart, Chairman of the Board of Trustees. The current Minister is Rev. Anna Lee Mulford. This is the fourth building added to the complex since the church moved to its current site, 4300 Telegraph Rd. Ventura in 1959.

College United Methodist Church can be reached at 643-8811.

## Youth Story Fest

Local celebrities and volunteers will be reading to children in many story tents at the 4th Annual Story Fest presented at the Ventura Unified School District Education Service Center on November 6, from 9am to 2pm. Readings will be in English, Spanish and American Sign Language.

There will also be performances by Bob Baker Marionettes and Dan Crow, as well as children's activities and a free book for every child. The Ventura County Library will be signing children up for library cards.

There will also be a buy one get one free scholastic book fair for families to purchase books for the holidays.

Last year over 1,000 people attended, 800 books were distributed to children, and 68 children received library cards.

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# Health



New state-of-the-art medical facility opens at the Ventura County Medical Center Campus. Photo by John Ferritto

## County Healthcare serves anyone in need

by Sheli Ellsworth

Ventura County Healthcare Agency is opening a new state-of-the-art medical facility. The 16-year project, aimed at consolidating healthcare services previously scattered at various locations, opened its first clinic October 18. The five-story medical building is about 75,000 square-feet and will house a diagnostic center, urgent care facility, family care center and women's health, urology, children and adult oncology clinics.

The bright, clean \$50 million project known as the Family Medicine Residency and Specialty Care Center is located on the Ventura County Medical Center Campus at 3291 Loma Vista Road, Ventura. About half the cost of the center was funded through the state's Safety Net Hospital Program. Safety Net hospitals provide care to individuals with limited or no access to medical care due to financial, insurance or health difficulties.

With so many people finding themselves out of work and without medical resources, referral to the county's healthcare clinics by local physicians is common. But

anyone can contact a clinic or urgent care facility directly.

Dr. Robert Gonzalez, medical director of Ventura County Healthcare Agency says, "Our agency administered over a half a million medical visits in the last year. Our policy is never to turn anyone away. Our primary mission is care for anyone who needs it."

The agency is also currently upgrading their website to make it more user friendly. By the end of the week, [vchca.org](http://vchca.org) should be up and running with program information, agency and clinic phone numbers and general healthcare information.

**Primary Care Clinics in Ventura:**  
3291 Loma Vista Road, Bldg 340 Suite 201-652-6100

Faculty Medical Center  
133 W. Santa Clara Street, 641-6300

West Ventura Medical Center  
133 W. Santa Clara Street, 641-5600

**Urgent Care Clinics:**  
West Ventura Urgent Care  
133 W. Santa Clara Avenue, 641-5620

## Nearly one-third of people with diabetes aren't aware of it

Community Memorial Hospital has announced the launch of DiabetesAware, a screening program to help individuals determine if they have or are at risk for diabetes.

About 20.8 million people in the United States have diabetes. Yet nearly one-third of those people are unaware that they have this serious and chronic disease. If the condition is left untreated, it can cause very serious complications, including heart and vascular disease, and kidney, eye and nerve damage.

"DiabetesAware can help effectively identify people with risk symptoms for diabetes," said Dr. Stan Frochtz-wajg, CMH Chief Medical Officer and family practice physician.

In celebration of the launch of this program a Diabetes Health Fair will

take place on Saturday, November 6, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., in the Nichols Auditorium at Community Memorial Hospital. Screenings, expert speakers, information booths, giveaways, refreshments and information on diabetes will be available. Space is limited and registration is required. To make reservations call 585-3055 or go to [cmhshealth.org/rsvp](http://cmhshealth.org/rsvp).

## Dancing With Angels

A book by Elizabeth Pratt about her transplant experience

by Nanci Cone

Local resident Elizabeth Pratt first heard she needed a heart transplant she was devastated. At first she was in denial. She thought to herself, "I am an extremely athletic, health conscious woman, never taking my health for granted and, as a professional ballet dancer, I was in great shape." She didn't smoke or use recreational drugs, rarely drank and was extremely weight conscious.

Unfortunately, her problem wasn't congenital. She had had viral meningitis which weakened the heart and it became harder and harder to breathe. Without a transplant, she would experience heart failure and die – there was no other alternative. Today, she celebrates two birthdays: February 6th – the day she received her new heart and was "reborn" and February 12th – her original date of birth.

In February of 2003, Elizabeth made the trip to UCLA and received a transplant just six days before her birthday. When she awoke, she knew she had to share her experiences as well as the journeys others had made from receiving and donating organs so others could live.

Their stories are poignantly captured in her book, "Dancing With Angels – a Transplant Odyssey." It took years to amass these stories but it was well worth it. By the time you read what the doctors, the patients, and the donors' families tales, you feel as if you know each one of them personally. Their stories cover the gamut from pain and fear to joy and transformation and everything in between. "I tried to help those who have lost loved ones and donated their organs to understand how much of a difference it has made in the recipients' lives," says Elizabeth. "And everyone in this book who shared their stories really needed to be heard," she continues.

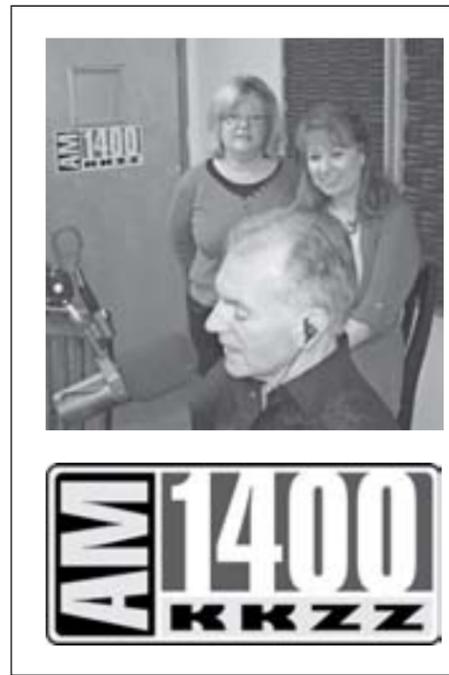
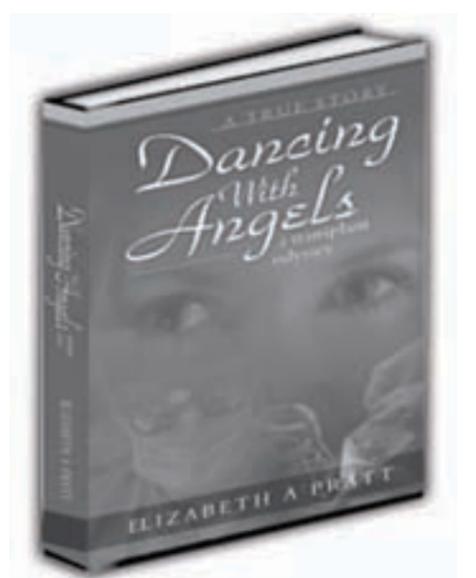
In the second half of the book, Ms. Pratt explores all the essentials that someone facing a transplant needs to know. "I couldn't find anything this comprehensive and I wanted people to know what to expect before, during and after a transplant. There is so much to consider and it can be overwhelming not knowing what to expect. This book addresses every possible question a potential recipient might have and, hopefully, will help alleviate

some of their fears," notes Elizabeth.

Chapters in the second half of the book cover such topics as cost, immunosuppressants, dental issues, blood donation, diet and nutrition, and rehabilitation plus much more. "Once someone has had an organ transplant," says Elizabeth, it is essential they follow the complete regimen set up by the surgical team and specialists for the rest of their lives. It is also important to know all warning signs with regard to drug reactions or transplant rejection to avoid further problems."

Elizabeth created the non-profit foundation "My Angel of Life" for the purpose of educating individuals and families who have experienced a catastrophic illness or transplantation and makes regular visits to UCLA Medical Center and other Southern California hospitals. "I've been there," notes Elizabeth, "so I can help allay some of the patients' fears and, hopefully, make their journey a little easier."

To learn more about "Dancing With Angels – a Transplant Odyssey" by Elizabeth Pratt, or to purchase a copy of the book, visit her website at [www.dancing-with-angels.org](http://www.dancing-with-angels.org)



Sitting in as host of the Coach Ron Tunick show on KKZZ was Jim Cathcart (the coach was in Oregon watching his beloved Ducks) speaking to Ronni Fryman (of Ventura's Kitchen Places) and Kris Calahane (a kitchen designer with Home Depot in Santa Maria) who discussed the 2010 NKBA Tour of Kitchens recently held on October 27. Chris was Chairperson for the Tour of Kitchens

The tour featured 17 recently remodeled kitchens located in homes from Santa Barbara to Agoura Hills.

— King Crossword —  
Answers  
Solution time: 27 mins.

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

Weekly SUDOKU —  
Answer

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



## The Music Connection

Where The Music Flows

### Another milestone

by Michael Kohli

Greetings fellow music freaks. I am truly honored to have been a promoter for the scene these past 15 years. As of this writing, my creation known as Kohli Rocks Entertainment has just turned 15! This career path has been a very odd one I'd have to say. So many stories and memories to share. One day -- I hope to retell the best and worst moments of KRE. But for now -- how about a reflection.

I grew up listening to hair metal, Michael Jackson and Andrew Lloyd Webber musicals. The most exciting thing about music to me is to watch how a song effects someone's day. All it takes in life, is a 3 or 4 minute song to change a person's whole state of mind. The creation, the energy, and the music takes the listener on a journey. For me, I've always wanted to be the DJ, to play the songs for people, and to entertain!

My career began on October 27, 1995 at Ventura College. I remember going to Student Orientation -- my friend Lynn and I had gone together. I took one look at the outdoor stage there and said to her, "I have to do a show there!" On that day -- with permission I borrowed the ASVC's sound system and wheeled it out to the stage. During the first song, "Aerosmith - The Movie," it felt like an invisible gunshot had gone off. And, all these doors started opening up. Within my first hour of talking on the microphone between songs, I got offered a real radio station internship at 96.7 The Bus KXBS. It was through one of the DJ's that I started to study the local music scene of Ventura. Before I knew it, I was playing DJ at Nicholby's Nightclub, booking countless clubs, and writing music columns.

My true highlights; 1) when Bret Michaels handed me \$20 one time, and another backed off two security guards for me, asked me how my writing and music stuff was going, then invited me to walk with him. 2) When infamous music industry John Kalodner stopped by my desk on my first day interning at Sony Music. 3) when my parents finally came to a KRE show at VC Pride in 2006. 4) Booking Riki Rachtman's Cathouse in 2001. 5) Dee Snider calling me at 7am one morning for an interview. 6) When I started writing articles for the Ventura Breeze.

Thank you to all the bands, to all the readers, and everyone (good or bad) that I've crossed paths with over the years. Whether it was friendship, love, turmoil, or other -- these are things that taught me how to learn and love all that is around you. Thank you all!

Michael Kohli at [www.kohlimusicpit.com](http://www.kohlimusicpit.com).

#### Andres Wine & Tapas Bar

1575 Spinnaker Dr  
Thursday ~ November 4: Brad Rabuchin  
Friday ~ November 5: Tilford Jackson  
Saturday ~ November 6: Ric Fierabracci, Hans Z, Davie Miller  
Sunday ~ November 7: Cat Fish  
Thursday ~ November 11: Hans Z  
Friday ~ November 12: Ric Fierabracci, Hans Z, Davey Miller  
Saturday ~ November 13: Ashun  
Sunday ~ November 14: Fransisco

#### GiGi's Cocktail Lounge

2493 Grand Ave  
Friday ~ November 5: What The Funk  
Saturday ~ November 6: Agents of Kaos  
Sunday ~ November 7: Karaoke with Steve Luke @ 7pm  
Friday ~ November 12: Red Rhythm  
Saturday ~ November 13: Teresa Russell  
Sunday ~ November 14: Karaoke with Steve Luke @ 7pm

#### Zoey's Cafe

Thursday ~ November 4: Katie Costello, Greg Holden  
Friday ~ November 5: Garrison Starr & Northstar Session  
Saturday ~ November 6: Craig's Brother & Joe Nixon  
Monday ~ November 8: Pee Wee Moore and The Awful Dreadful Snakes  
Tuesday ~ November 9: Blue Grass Jam  
Wednesday ~ November 10: Kris Gruen & Syd  
Thursday ~ November 11: Joey Ryan & The Spring Standards  
Friday ~ November 12: Rain Perry  
Saturday ~ November 13: Shades of Day (CD Release Party!)



On 10-10-10 the WAV presented a fashion show and concert featuring Jade Hendrix and many other wonderful local musicians including WAV resident and producer Saint Pierre. The event was well attended by several hundred music lovers and was held to help support events at the WAV Theater Gallery.

Besides three fashion shows and the music, the red carpet event included food by Yolies Fine Mexican Grill, wine tasting, gift boutiques, loft tours and wearable art presented by resident WAV artists.

For future events at the WAV visit [www.wavartists.com](http://www.wavartists.com).

## Show Time

Two on the Aisle

### Footloose proves Ventura County's got talent

by Jim Spencer and Shirley Lorraine

Community theater is a training ground. So, community presentations are sometimes uneven due to the varying skills and experience levels in the local talent pool.

Once in a great while the stars will align resulting in a truly outstanding and memorable community theater production. "Footloose, The Musical," now on stage at the Camarillo Community Theatre through November 21, is one of those special events.

The story revolves around the challenges faced by high school senior and transplanted Chicagoan Ren McCormick after he and his mother move to a small rural town. He struggles to fit in as he also tries to change the law enacted by the town council, led by a well-meaning pastor, that prohibits school dances.

Kudos go to the production staff, headed by director Shawn W. Lanz, choreographer Arryck Adams and music director John Gaston, for smoothly fusing the gifts of a cast of 20-plus into a standout theatrical experience.

A musical features singing and dance and this production showcases some great examples. The vocal work across the board is of high quality and the vocal blending is consistently remarkable. Especially enjoyable is the clear, pristine vocal sound of the female lead, Lilli Babb as Ariel, the pastor's daughter, whose voice is particularly well suited to musical theater. The range, energy and vocal maturity of Ella Bowen, as Rusty, is astounding. When she is joined in song by Janelle Phaneuf and Jenna Musgrove, as Urleen and Wendy Jo, it is a real treat. Michael Byrne, as bad boy Chuck Cranston, and Adam Rayzor, in the lead role of Ren McCormick, also demonstrate advanced musical abilities.

Choreographer Adams has captured the vivid pent-up teen energy required and turned each dance number into an impressive display of footwork. It is evident there are a few dance "ringers," Kelyla Nelson and Nikko Arce in particular, although everyone in the cast holds their own admirably. Still more impressive, the players all seem comfortable with the intricate moves and make them look natural. Even with almost everyone on stage at one time, the action is consistently blocked for maximum effect. Together with highly choreographed set changes of the minimal, yet effective, "doorways", the action moves swiftly.

Leading the adult portion of the cast, Paul Panico, in the pivotal role of Reverend Shaw Moore is excellent. His strong, clear voice carries the ring of truth in both song and the spoken word. Lissa Grafton as his wife Vi, is also a vocal standout.

"Footloose" features familiar, well-known songs that made it to the top of the charts some years ago, causing many in the audience to tap their feet and sing along. Overall, the musical is a feel-good delight. An added bonus -- keeping your ticket stub gets you in a second time for a reduced price.

"Footloose, The Musical" continues until November 21 on Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets: General-\$18. Students and Seniors-\$13. Children 12 & under-\$10. 330 Skyway Dr., at the Camarillo airport. 388-5716. [www.camarillotheatre.org](http://www.camarillotheatre.org).

## Ventura County Fair-ground events

**11/3 SWAP MEET** Lot A Sue Adams  
SNA Designs (818) 590-5435  
Wed. 7a-2p

**11/7 VENTURA FLEA MARKET** Full Grounds  
R.G. Canning Enterprises, Inc. (323) 560-7469

Sun. 9a-2p; Admission \$5; Early bird \$10

**11/10 SWAP MEET** Lot A Sue Adams

SNA Designs (818) 590-5435 Wed. 7a-2p

**11/11 POULTRY MEETING** Barn 300

Dave Anderson

Seaside Feather Fanciers (805) 524-5588

Thurs. 5:30p-9p; Visitors welcome

**11/13-14 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

**11/14 ROSE MEETING** The Green-

house Barbara Schneider

Fair Friends of Roses (805) 648-3376 x

136 Sun. 1p; Visitors welcome

## Holiday Swing Big Band Dance

On December 4 the Ventura Poinsettia Dance Club and The Ventura Jazz Orchestra invites you to a Holiday Swing Big Band Dance featuring the vocal styling of Donna Greene and Glenn Novak. Swing dance with a traditional 19-piece big band to your favorite Christmas music, along with tangos, foxtrots, waltzes, and much more. Saturday from 7:30-10:00pm at the Poinsettia Pavilion Ball Room, 3451 Foothill Rd.

\$12 admission at the door. Free refreshments and parking. For more info call 648-1143.

## Cooking Donna's Dishes

by Donna Mac Bride

For all you foodies out there, I've started a new recipe column based on home cooking by local Ventura cooks. We'll emphasize entree's or side dishes, salads for now. Just send me your simple recipe ideas to [Vtafoodie@yahoo.com](mailto:Vtafoodie@yahoo.com) include name, and picture if you like. Open to Ventura residents only. Share what works for your family and friends.

## Banana French Toast

by John White, Ventura

Mash an overripe banana (you can put them in the freezer when they go black and use the microwave to defrost them when you get ready to make Fresh Toast.)

Mix with 4 eggs, milk and a dash of vanilla. Use frozen sourdough bread. (The frozen bread makes the outside of the French toast crispy and the inside nice and soft.)

Heat butter in a skillet and wait for it to bubble. Dip the frozen bread in the egg mixture and cook on each side for about 2 minutes, until brown and crispy.

Enjoy with syrup and a side of sliced fresh bananas and yogurt. Breakfast will never be the same, at least that's what his wife Sylvia says.



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# The Lighter Breeze

## Out on a Limb



## The Spats



## Shoe



## Zits



## Mother Goose and Grimm



## Beagle Bailey



Solutions on page 15

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

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

Place numbers in the empty squares so that each row, column and 3x3 square contains all the numbers from 1 to 9.

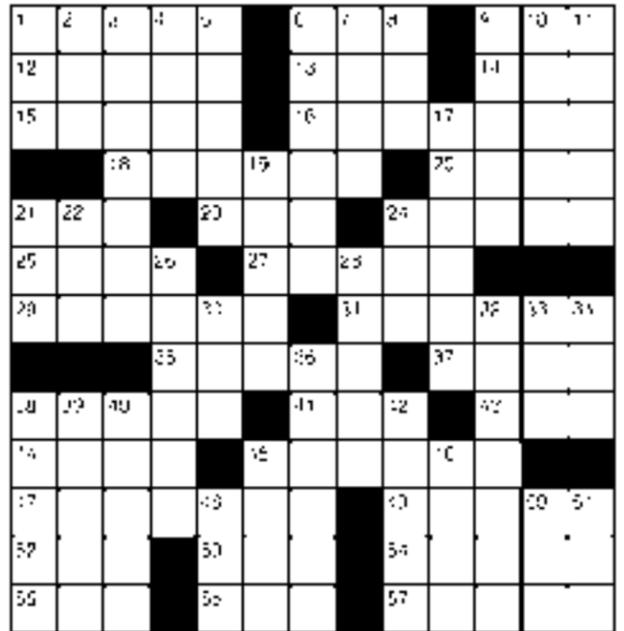
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

Solutions on page 15

## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Army rank
- 6 Huge
- 9 Matterhorn for one
- 12 Eat away
- 13 Tram car contents
- 14 Knightly address
- 15 Trapshooting
- 16 "Alas!"
- 18 Motivated
- 20 Urban fleet
- 21 Tackle moguls
- 23 Listening device
- 24 Wheels of fortune?
- 25 Skull lineup
- 27 Fostery fabric



- 29 Large constrictor
- 31 Zeroes
- 35 Precise
- 37 Campbell's product
- 38 Analyze
- 41 "Wiedersehen"
- 43 Greek II
- 44 Undo a delete
- 45 Followed
- 47 Slight fooling
- 49 Staffordshire ceramicware
- 52 Shade provider
- 53 Latin 101 word

- 54 Norton's workplace
- 55 In medias —
- 56 Supporting
- 57 Meccle-

### DOWN

- 1 Month (Sp.)
- 2 Deluge refuge
- 3 200' Dave Space movie
- 4 Baltic Sea feeder
- 5 Fix a stubborn knot
- 6 Section of NYC, with "The"
- 7 Unyielding

- 8 "Golly!" brand
- 9 Black tea of India
- 10 People will bend over backward to do it
- 11 Fourth estate
- 17 Cupcake enhance-ments
- 19 Woman of letters?
- 21 Bribe
- 22 Bard leader Kyser
- 24 Singer Rawls
- 26 Scabbard
- 28 Yoga position
- 30 Anti-acne
- 32 Square-dance party
- 33 Historic boy king
- 34 Resort
- 36 Frankness
- 38 Autumn bloom
- 39 Filched
- 40 Appears to be
- 42 Persnickety
- 45 Ticklish Muppet
- 46 Duel tool
- 48 LummoX
- 50 P.I.
- 51 Geological period

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**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) Your honesty continues to impress everyone who needs reassurance about a project. But be careful you don't lose patience with those who are still not ready to act.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) Pushing others too hard to do things your way could cause resentment and raise more doubts. Instead, take more time to explain why your methods will work.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) Be more considerate of those close to you before making a decision that could have a serious effect on their lives. Explain your intentions and ask for their advice.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) You might have to defend a workplace decision you plan to make. Colleagues might back you up on this, but it's the facts that will ultimately win the day for you. Good luck.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) The Big Cat's co-workers might not be doing enough to help get that project finished. Your roars might stir things up, but gentle purrr-suasion will prove to be more effective.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) Someone you care for needs help with a problem. Give it lovingly and without judging the situation. Whatever you feel you should know will be

revealed later.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) While you're to be admired for how you handled recent workplace problems, be careful not to react the same way to a new situation until all the facts are in.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Rely on your keen instincts as well as the facts at hand when dealing with a troubling situation. Be patient. Take things one step at a time as you work through it.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) Your curiosity leads you to ask questions. However, the answers might not be what you hoped to hear. Don't reject them without checking them out.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) Be careful not to tackle a problem without sufficient facts. Even sure-footed Goats need to know where they'll land before leaping off a mountain path.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) Appearances can be deceiving. You need to do more investigating before investing your time, let alone your money, in something that might have some hidden flaws.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) Your recent stand on an issue could make you the focus of more attention than you would like. But you'll regain your privacy, as well as more time with loved ones, by week's end.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** You're a good friend and a trusted confidante. You would be a wonderful teacher and a respected member of the clergy.

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## Business



Even though they have been in business for a few months the Sugar Bear's Cupcake Shack, located at 451 E. Main in downtown recently held their official grand opening.

Kayla Hernandez, Executive Baker is very proud of the many original cupcake recipes that she has created for the Shack. She is a professionally trained pastry chef.

## Mother and daughter buy local closet and cabinet shop

The local Closet Crafters, an independently owned custom closet remodeling company has been purchased by the mother-daughter team of Joyce Hardison and Kathryn Hardison.

Joyce stated, "Our goals include further integrating stained wood cabinetry

into wardrobe spaces and expanding our product offering while continuing to provide the stellar customer service that the company has been known for."

"We are very excited to be able to work together and feel that we are a perfect match of business knowledge and design experience," commented Joyce Hardison, who has been a designer in the closet and cabinet industry for the past 17 years. Daughter, Kathryn Hardison, has a degree in business administration and eight years of experience in business management and financial analysis.

"After being an employee of Closet Crafters for the past seven years, I am thrilled to take on this new role as owner and continue working with the many referral and repeat clients we have established." Joyce commented.

"This is such an exciting adventure for us," Kathryn continued. "We couldn't do it without each other, and without the amazing team of employees we have working for us. Every day brings new opportunities to serve our company, employees and the community, and that is so satisfying."

Closet Crafters manufactures and installs custom closet systems, garage organizers, home offices, media centers, wall beds, kitchens and fine cabinetry.

Closet Crafters is located at 6250 Inez St #4 in Ventura.

## Rincon Consultants named Hot Firm 2010

Rincon Consultants, Inc., a Ventura-based environmental sciences and planning firm, was recently named to The Zweig Letter Hot Firm 2010 List. ZweigWhite, a management consulting and research firm for the architecture, engineering, and environmental consulting industry, publishes the list annually.

Stephen Svete, President and CEO of Rincon Consultants, was pleased with the recognition. "All 56 professionals have worked hard to deliver excellent consulting products to government and industry during our 16-year history. This recognition is a testament to each of them, and confirms that quality is rewarded in the marketplace. We intend to continue this excellence as we expand the depth of our expertise in consulting

during the next 16 years."

Rincon Consultants, Inc. is an environmental sciences, planning, and engineering consulting firm with offices in Ventura, San Luis Obispo, Carlsbad and Monterey, California. The firm was founded in 1994 and has emerged as a statewide leader in environmental impact assessment, planning, biological resources, and soil assessment and remediation.

## Alert Communications earns third straight Canadian Call Award

Alert Communications of Ventura has been honored with the Canadian Call Management Association's Award of Excellence for the third consecutive year.

Kim Starr, Alert Communication's president, accepted the award at CAM-X's 46th Annual Convention and Trade Show in Las Vegas on Oct. 6. CAM-X is Canada's trade association for providers of call center services, including telephone answering and message delivery.

"Participation in the AOE helps create a focus on service quality that runs levels deep throughout an organization and not just during the program period, but each and every day of the year," said CAM-X President Gary Blair. "We congratulate Alert Communications for their achievements."

Alert Communications, located at 2437 Grand Ave., is a nationwide bilingual call center with more than 40 years of experience. It delivers 24/7 live service for clients of all sizes across all industries with customized account management and opportunities for business growth.

Looking for some extra \$\$ for the holidays?  
Do you enjoy meeting others and spreading some holiday cheer?

**Then Bell Ringing for The Salvation Army may be just what you are looking for!**



The Salvaton Army is now hiring seasonal Bell Ringers for Ventura and Oxnard locations.

Please call:

805-485-9235 (Oxnard and Camarillo)

805-648-4977 (Ventura and Santa Paula)



There will soon be two Fresh & Easy Neighborhood Markets in Ventura. This one (located at Thompson and Seaward) will be completed early next year. Photo by Erik Schiemann, Brooks photography student



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**Police reports**

*Continued from page 11*

his wife Rebecca were inside their residence, in the 200 block of South Santa Rosa Street, and had just purchased a new handgun. Thinking it was unloaded, Rebecca pulled the trigger and discharged the handgun. The bullet struck Hunsaker, hitting him in the abdomen. Officers responded to the scene, allowing fire and paramedics to respond and treat Hunsaker, who was transported to VCMC.

The handgun was seized and booked as evidence. It appears that alcohol and unfamiliarity with handguns contributed to the incident, which officers determined was accidental.

**Shooting Homicide**

On Saturday, October 23rd, at 9:00 p.m., the VPD responded to a shooting victim in the 2300 block of Peacock Avenue. Officers arrived on scene and determined the victim, Juan Reyes, 21 years old and from Ventura, had suffered multiple gunshot wounds. Reyes was pronounced dead by fire personnel on scene.

**Vandalism Arrests**

On Thursday, October 21st, at 8:22 p.m., on Figueroa Street, a witness driving through the area called the VPD and reported seeing three suspects using a marker to graffiti an electrical box under the bridge.

Officers observed two subjects walking into a nearby liquor store. Officers contacted the subjects and determined Albert Viramontes, 22 years old, was the suspect.

Another incident involving vandalism occurred on October 22nd, at 2:48 p.m., at Barranca Vista Park. An employee watched the suspect go inside a park restroom he had just cleaned. After the 14 year old male suspect left, the employee went back in and found new damage on the walls.

The parks employee called the VPD and said the suspect was still inside the park. The suspect attempted to flee, but was detained by officers.

**Battery at Surfers Point**

On Sunday, October 24th, at 12:00 p.m., the VPD received a call of a battery that had just occurred between two surfers at Surfers Point, on 399 Figueroa Street.

Officers discovered that the Western Surfer Association was sponsoring a surf competition at the location. The victim, a 14-year-old juvenile male, was entered in the event as a competitor. Mark Frame, 54 years old, caught the same wave as the juvenile. Once they got within 10 yards of the shoreline, Frame then jumped on the back of the victim, who fell into the water.

Several spectators and event coordinators detained Frame until the police arrived.

**Felon with a Firearm**

On Wednesday, October 27th, at 12:55 a.m., VPD received a call of a man, armed with a gun, at the front door of his ex-girlfriend's residence in the 10500 block of Nopalito Street. The suspect was threatening to shoot Bernice Avila, 47 years old, and her current boyfriend.

A sergeant saw the suspect, Alvaro Guajardo, 45 years old, discard an item in a nearby trashcan and then attempt to flee. After a brief struggle, Guajardo was taken into custody. A search of the trashcan revealed a shotgun with additional rounds of ammunition attached via a sling.

**Robbery**

On Tuesday, October 26th, at 7:02 p.m., a seventeen year old male juvenile was walking on Catalina, just south of Main Street, when the three suspects ordered him to empty his pockets. When the victim refused to comply, the suspects began punching him.

Another male juvenile, a friend of the victim, saw the attack and came to help. A Hispanic male, 18-20 years old, confronted the victim's friend and removed an iPhone from the friend's pocket. The suspect then began pummeling the victim with fists. All three suspects fled the scene. A passerby witnessed the attack and followed the suspects, losing sight of them on Anacapa Street.

Both victims sustained abrasions and lacerations to their faces. The first victim was treated at VCMC and then released.

saw the suspect walking several blocks away on Bristol Road.



**"I thought that it was a drive through mall"**

Ventura City Fire and Police units responded to a vehicle into a structure at the Pacific View Mall. Upon arrival, units found a pickup truck with a single occupant still inside. The truck had collided with a wall at the Pacific View Mall.

The driver was assessed by Ventura City Firefighter/Paramedics while Urban Search & Rescue trained firefighters evaluated the building for its structural integrity. A water line had been severed inside the business, causing flooding inside the structure. The vehicle caused major damage to the business. The business was yellow-tagged for occupancy by Ventura City Building & Safety. The driver of the vehicle suffered only minor scrapes, bruises and embarrassment.

**AM/PM license revocation**

by Veronica Johnson

AM/PM Market, located at 605 South Mills Road, had its license revoked on October 18. Due to continual stings, in which AM/PM clerks sold alcohol to minors, and requiring excessive police resources to handle incidents, the City of Ventura Planning Commission revoked AM/PM's license to sell liquor.

The VPD administered a Minor Decoy operation in August of 2009 and May of 2010. Different clerks sold alcohol to minors during both of the operations. In August, the clerk was cited and fined \$435. In May, the clerk was cited as well and fined \$505. Both were found guilty of furnishing alcohol to a minor.

Excessive police calls were made

from July 1, 2009 to 2010. 23 calls were made during the year, requesting police assistance on incidents such as intoxicated subjects, thefts, and robberies. The amount of calls made requiring a law enforcement response was considered disproportionate.

The VPD requested a license revocation through the City of Ventura Planning Commission and on August 31, 2010, AM/PM's approved status was revoked. They were required to file for a Conditional Use Permit, but AM/PM filed an appeal to the decision.

The appeal was taken to Ventura City Council on October 18, where the council voted to have AM/PM's approved status revoked. They are required to file for a Conditional Use Permit in the next 30 days.

If AM/PM files for a Conditional Use Permit, they will have to follow conditions placed upon their business by the City Planning Commission. These conditions could include no single beer sales, locked beer coolers, documented surveillance, and mandatory employee training, which will be done through the California Alcohol Beverage Control Office.

Minor decoy operations are conducted periodically through Ventura's 300 alcohol retainer licensees. The operation is a method to stop minors from consuming alcohol and unlawful purchase.

**Katharine J. Raley**

*Continued from page 13*

cations and dosages, and how often do they take the medication. They also need to bring their Medicare card, Prescription drug card and any other insurance card they may have. In addition we need to know the gross income and what assets they have.

HICAP now offers One Stop workshops throughout the year on different subjects; usually we partner with other organizations to participate. Counselors look at the entire picture and advise and help people with different applications that address all their needs.

*Q: What happens in a one-on-one session?*

A: It is where a person will have individualized counseling.

*Q: When is your busiest time?*

A: September through the end of December. In January through March we help clients with problems that may have occurred in the AEP.

*Q: How many volunteer counselors do you have?*

A: Around 25 to 30. We find that volunteers enjoy helping people and find that counseling is a very rewarding experience. Most of the counselors have been with HICAP over 5 years to 18 years.

*Q: For baby-boomers, can you recommend the steps needed to get the Medicare program that's right for them?*

A: They should make a HICAP appointment to go over what Medicare products they may want/need, and have comparisons completed for Medigap, Medicare Advantage and Medicare Prescription Drug Plans. HICAP explains when they should sign up with Social Security for Medicare, and the comparisons of Medicare Products vs. Employer Group vs. retiree benefits. Many will retire with their employer benefits; however premiums are skyrocketing and Medicare is more affordable. They may decide they need to stay working. Once individuals have looked at all options, they will have a good understanding of what all the products are and they will be able to make an informed decision on their healthcare.

*Q: Where should boomers start the process?*

A: Age 64 1/2 is a good time frame for one to start investigating what to do and what are their choices. One of the easiest ways to learn good information is to visit our website at <http://www.medicareroute66.com>

HICAP / Ventura County Area Agency on Aging, 646 County Square Dr., Suite #100, Ventura, CA 93003, 477-7310 or (800) 434-0222. [www.medicareroute66.com](http://www.medicareroute66.com)

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# This 'n' That



4 1/2 year old Malia Gray could hardly wait to join the other dancers from the "Dance With Aloha" at the Polynesian Festival held on October 9&10 at the Promenade. The Festival included food, gifts and much music and was a fundraiser for "Youth Intervention".



The weather was perfect for the Ninth Annual Sailathon held on Sunday, October 10 off of the Ventura Pier. The race was held to raise funds and awareness for CAREGIVERS (Volunteers Assisting the Elderly).

For more information, and to find out how you can become a CAREGIVER visit [www.vccaregivers.org](http://www.vccaregivers.org).

THIS SPACE FOR WRITING MESSAGE

Deedee Calderwood,  
Carolyn Hoffman,  
Patti Channer, Doris  
Capra, Diane Gordon  
on Catalina celebrat-  
ing Kathy Hartley's  
birthday and  
enjoying reading the  
Breeze

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