

FREE



VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

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On April 21 Ventura Botanical Gardens presented their third annual Spring Garden Tour. The tour featured the gardens of 7 Ventura homes designed by both professionals and by creative homeowners. The tour is one of the major fundraisers for the development of the proposed Ventura Botanical Gardens to be located in Grant Park above city hall. Many of the homes also had local artisans and businesses showing and selling their fine products, art and jewelry.

City to save pension costs with new rule

by Rebecca Wicks

The City Council okayed a measure earlier this month to create a second tier of employees who will now follow separate guidelines as to when they can retire and what amount they will draw from the city upon retirement. The reduced benefits take effect this month. Police and non-safety personnel will need to work an additional five years to receive the same pensions as their more veteran peers. Sworn fire personnel pensions remain the same.

Unions representing city employees

approved all changes before the vote was taken by the city council who passed the new rules in a vote of 4-2.

Newly hired city employees will be part of a "Tier II" group. This newly formed Tier II group will receive 2 percent of their final salary multiplied by the number of their years of service to the city with eligibility beginning at age 60 or as it is commonly referred to as "2 at 60." The same employees hired before June 2011 will be classified as part of the Tier I group of employees receiving "2 at 55."

Tier I sworn police officers received "3 at 50." This means a 50-year-old officer who receives a \$100,000 salary can retire after working for the city for 30 years with a \$90,000-a-year pension. Going forward the newer hired Tier II police officers will need to work five additional years to earn

Continued on page 5

CED committee meets in Ventura

The National League of Cities' (NLC) prestigious Policy Steering Committee on Community and Economic Development (CED) met recently in Ventura at the invitation of its Vice Chair, Ventura City Councilman Neal Andrews. Fifty elected officials on this committee from across the United States prepare legislative recommendations for Congress and the Federal Administration on economic issues faced by cities. It is widely regarded as the most influential policy advisory body of the NLC.

The Ventura committee meetings were characterized by robust discussions of the partisan gridlock in Congress, the Federal budget, and the negative impacts that were being felt by cities all across the nation. The constant question was, if this bipartisan and highly diverse group representing all dimensions of the national political spectrum can work together productively to devise constructive solutions to our national problems, why can't Federal officials?

Much of the three day working session was devoted to reviewing the adverse effects of recent cuts in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, which are a vital part of most cities' financial resources. In Ventura these funds are critical to the City's ability to maintain the De Anza library and have been used to fund many of the supported housing programs for disadvantaged populations over the years. They have underwritten an effective small business loan program, a

Continued on page 5

Basketball coach found guilty

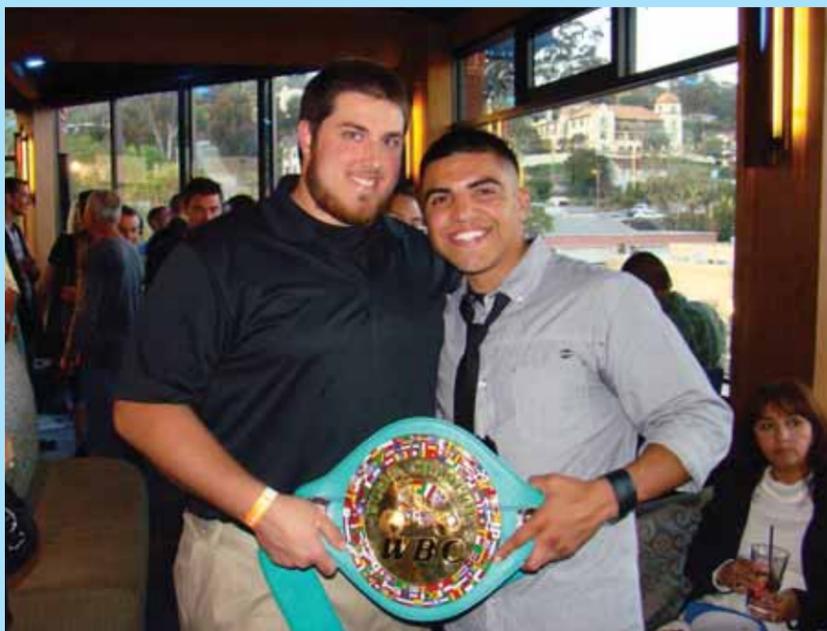
The former men's basketball coach at Ventura College Greg Winslow has been found guilty, by a Ventura County Superior Court jury of misappropriation of public funds and has been sentenced to a year in jail.

He was found guilty of three felony counts: misappropriation of public funds, failure to repay public money and grand theft, by Judge James Cloninger. The judge admonished him for cheating and felt that this was a very sad situation when winning is everything at any cost.

The prosecutors had asked for a three-year jail sentence. Besides the jail sentence he received five years' probation and must make restitution payments.

Coach Winslow must report to jail June 17 to start serving his sentence.

The amount of restitution that he must pay will be determined at a later date.



Breeze writer, and Occidental College student/athlete Ryan is sure that he could take the new welterweight champ Victor Ortiz in a wrestling match. The new champ was feted at a gala ceremony at the Watermark. See page 16 for the whole story.

For this issue's
**Face of
Ventura**

by Johanna Spinks

see page 10



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Opinion/Editorial



Sheldon Brown
Publisher

■ The opponents of the downtown parking meters have submitted over 10,000 signatures that signed the petition to put an initiative on probably the November ballot to vote on whether paid parking should not be allowed in Ventura. The signatures must be submitted to the county for approval. The county takes random verification of the signatures to determine if they should verify all of the signatures. At least 6,337 signatures must be valid, or 10 percent of Ventura's 63,367 registered voters, to qualify for the November ballot.

Even though the initiative is mainly meant to remove the parking meters downtown it actually will mandate that all future paid parking would need to be approved by a 2/3 majority vote. Parking fees in place prior to 2006 would be exempt (such as the parking structure at the Promenade).

City Attorney Ariel Calonne would not comment on the legality (and ramifications) of this measure until he is asked to do so by the city council if it makes the ballot.

At the moment I am opposed to the measure but will give you my opinion when, and if, it qualifies for the November elections and I get to read it. Sure would like to hear your opinions.

■ The Ventura Police Department con-

ducted a Sobriety Checkpoint on May 27 on Thompson Blvd. just east of Sanjon Rd. In an effort to advertise the Sobriety Checkpoint and market it as a deterrent to drunk driving, a large message board was placed in the downtown area of Ventura, indicating that there was a sobriety checkpoint in progress in Ventura.

Announcing it has always seemed



The Ventura Breeze will go to any lengths to cover a story as seen here at the recently started demolition at the future site of the proposed Community Memorial Hospital. Photo by John Ferritto

odd to me but they just want to get the message across that you could be stopped and checked so stay sober and it did result in the following:

- 1 DUI arrest (13 BAC)
- 15 Citations issued (2 for unlicensed driving)
- 13 Field Sobriety Tests conducted
- 2 vehicles impounded
- So perhaps Arnold Schwarzenegger

had the wrong thing terminated.

■ Because artwalk is no longer sponsored by Ventura City a privately funded and run artwalk is being planned July 23&24. For more information about the proposed ArtWalk (and how you can be involved) go to www.westsideartwalk.com and keep reading the Breeze.

■ So California "preacher" Howard Camping (his brain, and those of his followers must always be camping) is now predicting that the world will end on October 21 instead of a few weeks ago as he predicted. His didn't explain why he was off by 5 months but stated that "I feel so terrible that my doomsday prediction did not come true" which shows what a compassionate caring person that he is that he is concerned that most of us are not dead as he predicted.

So if any of you believe that this will happen in October please send me all of your money and I promise to give it back to you if it doesn't happen. Perhaps if he read Hebrew or Latin he would have been more accurate of his analysis of the Bible.

Speaking of religion (sort of) recently 4 seniors came to my door proselytizing their religion. I really resent this, our homes should be our sanctuary and they should keep their religion to themselves. I'm sure that they are already going to heaven, are they trying to get a better seat with a view by converting others? What's to see anyway?

Don't we Venturans already live in heaven?

Mailbox

Yes, I did appear 100+ times pleading for justice and fairplay before 6 councils, the first 5 of which vowed not to spend a buck on critical fix up of its property, but spent well over \$1/2 million out of the General Fund to fight me. I had high hopes for fair play from this council, but it played the same old "cat and mouse" game of delay and denial. It sold the lot in 2005, buyer defaulted in 2009, was "let off the hook" when the city chose, not to repossess, but allowed him to find a new buyer in early 2010, who is now doing the reported grading.

For a second time, the city successfully dodged its lawful duty to protect its neighbors, and erased its own liability to do so.

Preserving my property rights was paramount in my 13-year fight, which is why I challenged the council's adoption of an ordinance at its May 9th meeting that would eliminate grandfathering 23 years of granny flats.

I asked: What does the City plan to do with all the people who would be put out on the streets? No answer. Only a shouting reprisal from Mayor Bill Fulton that I was out of order.

Has the City considered expanding the river bottom area? Or, perhaps, leasing the Crowne Plaza??

Helen Yunker

To the City of Ventura,

In the grander scheme of things the City has belatedly gotten what it requested some 13 years ago – approval to do beach maintenance along Shore Drive. Sadly, instead of a permit approved by the Coastal Commission, it had to come via a court order, but all the same I view it as a win all around for the City and our community.

It will result in no more sand on the

stairs, or sand covering the storm drains or sand on the lanes. And no more sand damaging homeowners' property.

It's a win for the City because it can now finally manage the sand along the beachfront unimpeded by having to get Coastal Commission approval (and all of the superfluous nonsense that comes with their review – Globose dune beetles, legless lizard and the like). The City can now actually manage the sand at its source instead of constantly dealing with it on 29 different lanes. The City can now take the excess sand and deposit it where it is needed at Surfer's Point or on the tourist beach in front of the promenade.

It's also a win for the beachfront homeowners that have had their property damaged by the ever encroaching sand.

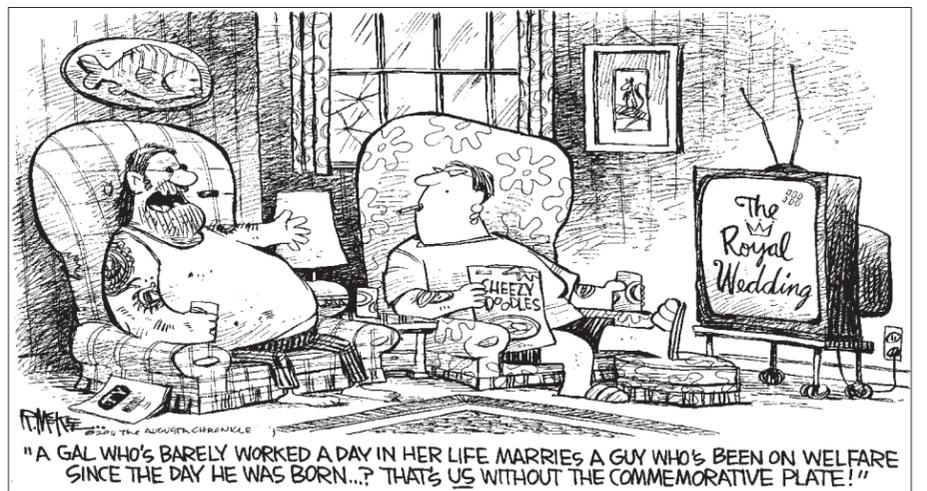
Plus it's a win for the rest of the folks

like me that live in Pierpont who simply want to be able to safely access the beach without fear of falling on the always sandy stairs.

And lastly it's a win for visitors to the Pierpont beach who at present could unknowingly fall off the beach into someone's yard or onto the pavement because the beach in many locations is higher than the City and beachfront homeowner's retaining walls.

Hopefully, the City will see this like I do and not seek to appeal this ruling. It's time to end this adversarial relationship. It's time that the City and its Pierpont constituents work toward a common goal of making our beaches a safer place to access and our community a better place to live.

Murray Robertson
A Very Concerned Pierpont Resident



"A GAL WHO'S BARELY WORKED A DAY IN HER LIFE MARRIES A GUY WHO'S BEEN ON WELFARE SINCE THE DAY HE WAS BORN...? THAT'S US WITHOUT THE COMMEMORATIVE PLATE!"

A man's value to the community primarily depends on how far his feelings, thoughts and actions are directed towards promoting the good of his fellows.

—Albert Einstein



City News

All aboard for East Ventura

by Mayor Bill Fulton

The other day, I boarded Metrolink Train 119 to return home from Downtown Los Angeles. The train was bound for a place called “East Ventura”.

Ever since Metrolink first came to Ventura a decade ago, the trains have stopped at a station in the Montalvo neighborhood, off of Victoria Avenue just north of Highway 101. This isn't necessarily the best location in town for a Metrolink station, though it is an easy drive for 50,000 residents who live east of Victoria. But the truth of the matter is that the Montalvo rail siding was where the trains were stored overnight after they finished their run in Oxnard. So it made sense to take place where they were stored and turn it into a formal station. It's also the starting point for a possible rail line through Santa Paula and Fillmore all the way to Santa Clarita.

The station has always been called “Montalvo”. Montalvo is a venerated neighborhood in Ventura; some of it is inside the Ventura city limits and some is not. And while Montalvo is a very important neighborhood, the name really doesn't convey a true sense of where the Ventura County Metrolink line goes. When you're standing at Union Station in Downtown L.A. looking at the board, you see the names of the bigger cities that define Southern California: Riverside, San Bernardino, Anaheim, Santa Ana, Burbank, Glendale, Santa Clarita and Oxnard. You can take an Amtrak train to Ventura (the stop is at the Fairgrounds) but traditionally there was no

way to decipher that if you got on the Montalvo train you were going anywhere near Ventura.

A couple of months ago, in my capacity as Chair of the Ventura County Transportation Commission, I asked Metrolink to change the name of the station from “Montalvo” to “East Ventura”. That way, riders in Downtown L.A. know that they're going to Ventura – but they also know they are not going to the “Ventura” stop on Amtrak, which of course is in a different location. Metrolink made the name change earlier this month. Right now, to avoid confusion, the boards at Union Station say: “East Ventura/Montalvo”.

Ventura is still the only City in the entire Metrolink system – 130 stops – where Amtrak and Metrolink stop in different places. I'd love to see Metrolink come downtown to the Fairgrounds, but there are quite a number of logistical difficulties. For one thing, the East Ventura stop is essentially on a different rail line, so Metrolink can't just start at the Fairgrounds, stop at East Ventura, and move on to Oxnard. In addition, the rail line is single track throughout Ventura, meaning Metrolink would have to get to the Fairgrounds and back without running into conflicts with Amtrak or freight trains run by Union Pacific (which owns the tracks). Still, I'm hopeful. The City is just starting on a new phase of our study looking at the possibility of capping the 101 Freeway at California (the study is being

paid for by the Southern California Association of Governments). We're hopeful that if the freeway were ever capped, we could create double-tracking or a siding that would form the basis for a multi-modal transit center, where trains and buses come together in one location.

For now, I'll take whatever small victories I can get. And taking the train to East Ventura is definitely a win.

Big picture small victories Rick Cole – Ventura City Manager

by Peter K. Godinez
Xerox Ambassador

If every citizen in Ventura had an opportunity to have a one-on-one conversation with Ventura City Manager Rick Cole, our city would be beaming in confidence in the future of our community.

Rick uses every form of communication to share the big picture of the City of Ventura by posting to his blog, writing on Twitter, interviewing on YouTube, connecting on Linked In, contributing to traditional newsletters, speaking to several audiences in our community – and he has hundreds of well-known Facebook friends.

While Rick has no ambition to appear on the television program Undercover Boss, he feels he's more effective when he is out in the field observing and listening to the 575 employees who serve our city. Rick once helped a City maintenance employee to post flood control signs while wearing his regular business attire. He got a bit wet that day. He learns a lot in this way. Rick connects with people's stories and problems and makes real efforts to make it better.

To Rick, celebrating small victories is just as important as the big picture. There are so many that do not get recognized. The smallest ideas make this the bigger picture clearer as small victories are acknowledged. Rick looks for ways to celebrate small victories through his “Fish Award”. During his weekly department head meeting, part of Rick's agenda is to announce the winner of the “Fish Award” that goes to the department that has accomplished some big or small success that week. Staff members are proud to display the yellow plastic perch on their desk for the week. One crew supervisor even wore it around his neck.

Rick, having eight “direct reports,” who supervise the City's departments, believes in effective collaboration among people which allows them the empowerment they need to make decisions. This is allowed with one condition – they get the job done and get the desired results. Yes, Rick has seven people to report to, namely the City Council.

The most impressive action Rick does in all the opportunities of his day is go home at a reasonable time at the end of the day to be with his family. Rick has twin daughters and a son. It was a treat and a pleasant surprise to see one of our top leaders shopping just recently at a popular grocery store.

No matter what your view on Rick Cole is, there is no argument that he's an experienced leader, who desires to connect with all people in some form

or fashion. He works hard to respond appropriately to all different types of personalities.

Public encouraged to review plan

The public is encouraged to review Ventura's draft 2010 Urban Water Management Plan and provide comments to the City Council during a Public Hearing on Monday, June 6. The plan, prepared every five years, documents the progress of the Ventura community to conserve water since the drought in the early 1990s and evaluates the reliability of Ventura's drinking water sources to meet projected water needs over the next 25 years. The Plan covers a wide range of issues including growth projections, water supply health, emergency and drought planning as well as water recycling, conservation and system improvements. It is intended to provide a long-term planning framework to support strategic management of Ventura's diverse portfolio of 100% local water supplies.

Council considers Community Park on Westside

by Sheli Ellsworth

On May 17, the City Council surrendered the floor to Ventura Westside residents for over an hour. The meeting, at E.P. Foster Elementary, was a joint effort between the council and its Parks and Recreation Commission, the Planning Commission, and the Design Review Committee to discuss the Westside Community Plan's park proposal. The plan is still in the preliminary stages and residents are overwhelmingly in favor of improvements to the existing parks—Harry Lyons and West Park—and especially supportive to the establishment of new ones. According to Councilwoman Christy Weir, there is an opportunity for the city to acquire a 2.5-acre property on Kellogg Street that could be developed into a park.

The Council has already approved a \$186,000 environmental impact study on the area. Parks and Recreation Commission member James White says he is concerned about park maintenance and upkeep. According to Nancy O'Connor, the city's parks manager, maintenance on a city park can run between \$3500 to \$15,000 per acre, depending on the level of maintenance required. “Each site is individual to what the needs are, for example, are ball fields at the site? Tennis courts? Dog park? Playgrounds? Passive large turf areas? Skate park? Areas of hand mowing? High levels of vandalism and or graffiti? As you can see, each park will have their own identity and needs and as such, will have a differing cost structure,” said O'Connor.

Residents claim that Harry Lyons Park is too difficult to access and West Park is unsafe because of its proximity to the freeway. The 17-acre Westside area falls well below the city's standard

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City News

of 5 acres of park area for every 1,000 residents. The Westside area already has more than 14,000 residents. City officials have promised to meet with the school district about the possibility of allowing public access to school grounds when school is not in session. Councilman Brian Brennan says it is an idea that has been discussed for at least a decade.

The council also addressed building and zoning codes for the community plan. Several builders and developers were present for the regulation portion of the meeting along with local community activists.

The April City Council meeting foreshadowed the amount of community interest in the redevelopment project, when over 40 residents voiced concerns about bike paths, community swimming pools and the proposed annexation of Cañada Larga and North Avenue. The annexation proposal was not well received and has been tabled for future discussion.

Final approval for large development

by Sheli Ellsworth

The 499-unit Parklands project received final approval from the Ventura City Council at their May 9th council meeting. The Ventura City Council voted 6-1 in favor of the subdivision. Only Councilwoman Christy Weir voted against it.

Weir has opposed the large project since 2009. She has cited a problem with the small lot sizes being unsuitable for families and the establishment of such a large development so far from the Ventura job market. The project is located at Telegraph and Wells roads.

Weir says, "The density of the Parklands project is too high for the rural edge of Ventura. Compact neighborhoods like this make more sense toward the urban center of town, close to shopping and jobs; lower density is more compatible with the character of a rural area. In our new neighborhoods it's also important that we include homes for people who enjoy gardening and for families with children, with yards big enough for healthy outdoor play and gardens and trees. I'm concerned about the limited amount of green space in many of our recent developments."

Citizen bulletin boards on the VC Star's website seemed to support Weir's dissension. Residents have concerns about the rural area supporting such a large development. At a time when the city seems concerned about spending, many residents are worried about the impact of the development on schools and city services. The City of Ventura will be liable for half of the maintenance on the 11 acres of parks and open area. Some residents challenge the notion of building such a large development in an already depressed real estate market.

Westwood Communities has promised to pay \$200,000 toward radio improvements for police and fire departments and another \$3 million in unrestricted contributions to the city.

The 67-acre project, originally

proposed in 2005, will include 216 single-family homes, 110 condominiums, 173 apartments and 25,000 square feet of commercial property. The apartment units will be classified as affordable housing, and a portion of the condominiums will also be affordably priced.

Chuck Cohen, attorney for Westwood Communities, says, "The Corporation is in the process of preparing the final architectural renderings of the project." Cohen also says that Ventura is a familiar locale for his client. John Ashkar has developed Promontory Pointe off Moon Road and Weston Village on Telephone Road. Mr. Ashkar also does business under the names: 1263 Westwood Corp., Commons Corp., Pacific Heritage Communities Corp., Pacific Strand Apartments, Promontory Properties, Inc., Weston Communities, Weston Development, and Ventura Heritage Corporation in Ventura County.

City to save pension costs

Continued from page 1
the same pension, or "3 at 55."

Newly hired firefighters will get the same pension as their earlier-hired peers receiving a "3 at 55" deal.

The city's Chief Financial Officer Jay Panzica stated he could not attach a dollar amount in savings to the new measure as there is no way to know how many new hires the city will make in the future. Panzica did believe the savings would be significant.

Human resources officials at the city estimate it will take upwards of 10 years before there are enough Tier II employees and retirees to make a meaningful difference.

The movement was the second made recently to slim down the sizeable amount of money the city spends annually in pensions. Earlier this year the council passed a measure that required city employees to contribute 4.5% of their salaries toward their pensions.

According to Panzica the move to make employees contribute to their pensions will help the city's budget in two ways.

"Not only does the city pay less, the employee has to contribute longer to get the same dollar value," Panzica said. "And, the payout is much shorter, because you don't live for as many years on your pension."

Panzica estimates the new required pension contribution plan will save the city about \$1.3 million a year by next year.

The county of Ventura has already adopted a two-tiered system and a number of other government agencies have passed similar changes. No city or county has attempted to cut existing pensions, but conversation has been stirred in a number of public agencies around the state.

A number of taxpayer organizations have congratulated the city council for its beginning efforts but have voiced they want to see more cuts.

"While other cities struggle with public-sector pension reform, the approved labor contracts made progress," said David Grau a representative of the Ventura County Taxpayers Association. "The VCTA is disappointed City Hall may have missed an opportunity to address real pension reform."

Crowell, Weedon & Co. Welcomes Cheryl Gooss



Crowell, Weedon & Co. Ventura is pleased to introduce Cheryl A. Gooss, Associate Vice President - Investments. Gooss began her career in the financial services industry in 1997 for Dean Witter Oxnard, later acquired by Morgan Stanley. She served as an advisor for Morgan Stanley until they merged with Smith Barney in 2009, at which point she came on board with Crowell, Weedon in their Westlake Village office. Gooss is a long time Ventura County resident with a passion for the arts and animal rescue.

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CED committee meeting

Continued from page 1

home repair loan program for low income families, Meals on Wheels for fragile seniors, and vital infrastructure projects for which there is often insufficient local revenue. They have been a significant part of efforts to stabilize hundreds of families and businesses through the recession.

The Committee agreed on a new strategy of advocacy that stressed the economic value of CDBG programs. This approach will also be combined with an effort to encourage the many local groups in each community benefitting from CDBG to weigh in with Congress and the Administration.

Another significant issue concerned the problems facing local banks that inhibit lending to businesses that would help recover from the recession. It has traditionally been the small local banks that have been the key financial resource for local businesses and whose commitment to local invest-

ment is a major driver of local economies.

One of the most enthusiastic discussions dealt with a Congressional initiative proposed by Councilman Andrews to create a municipal investment insurance program to protect city investments in economic development against undue losses. The Committee voted unanimously to press the matter forward.

In addition to the working business sessions, the CED Policy Committee heard a presentation by Ventura City Manager, Rick Cole, that highlighted various programs and initiatives the City has adopted in recent years to support local economic development. The presentation placed major emphasis on the unique Ventura Jobs Investment Fund established at the urging of Councilman Andrews to provide capital for starting or expanding local businesses, and the business incubator, now the home of 16 new companies, which was a spin-off from that program.



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News and Notes



Breeze writer Tim Pompey recently self-published a book of short stories using the web publishing site Createspace, a division of Amazon.

So you want to write a book? Try self-publishing

In the past, getting a book published was an arduous task: finding an agent, finding a publisher, finding anyone interested in what you had to offer. With the tools now available on the web, that process has become easier, less painful, and more profitable.

For example, Tim Pompey, one of our own Breeze writers, recently had his first book of short stories titled "One Side Leads to the Other" published through a division of Amazon called Createspace.

Pompey has been writing for the Breeze since August 2008 and was previously active in Ventura County as a poet. In 2004, he used a local printer to publish a book of poetry called "Désarroi." As Pompey noted, "It's very time consuming, all the planning and design that goes into printing a book.

This time around, while I still had to plan out the graphic design, the process was so much easier and more cost efficient. I paid for a certain level of service and they took care of the rest."

Service that included important things like print on demand, a website through Amazon, distribution through book sellers like Ingram and Baker and Taylor, royalty payments, and good customer service. "If I had a question about my book," Pompey said, "all I had to do was pick up the phone."

Pompey began writing fiction about two and a half years ago as an alternative to the poetry scene. "I wanted to broaden my audience," he said. "Poetry is a small niche market. Fiction has more possibilities for sales and distribution."

His book includes ten short stories that range from family dramas to the supernatural. Several of them are set in Oxnard and Ventura. "What they all have in common is a sense of how reality as we perceive it can shift," Pompey said. "Even if you think you know what's real, the stories question your perceptions."

Pompey learned about self-publishing through his membership in the California Literary Arts Society, a nonprofit arts organization run by Ventura writer Mary Embree. Embree is also known as the sponsor of the Ventura Book Fair.

He decided to use Createspace on the recommendation of a friend who had her own book of stories published last year. "I had to learn by doing," he said, "but Createspace led me step by step through the process."

Pompey's book is sold locally at Bank of Books in downtown Ventura as well as through his web page at Amazon. He is currently scheduled to do a local book signing at Bank of Books on July 9 at 2:30.

Project Understanding to restructure services

On June 1 Project Understanding will temporarily close its homeless services center to restructure services directed towards the homeless population of Ventura County. On July 5th Project Understanding will reopen its homeless services center as a program called H2H (Homeless to Home).

Current homeless services include showers, mail pick up, and laundry. Project Understanding will be shifting this program from a daytime, drop in service to a transformative program called H2H (Homeless to Home).

Project Understanding is currently identifying homeless clients who are interested in participating in the new H2H Program and will be working with them on an individual basis to assist and facilitate their first steps out of homelessness with the ultimate goal of becoming housed.

To have a greater impact in the community, Project Understanding has also entered into a collaborative effort with three other local social service agencies who will participate in the H2H program. These agencies are Salvation Army, Turning Point and Catholic Charities. As the H2H program develops funding and staff, case workers from all four agencies will work together as a team facilitating change for homeless in the community.

Initial funding has been provided through the Ventura Social Services Task Force, City of Ventura and Meadowlark Service League. Depending on funding sources and amounts, H2H services will be expanded county wide.

For more information about Project Understanding go to www.projectunderstanding.org.

video for a nonprofit organization. During Session 2, July 18 – 22, students will write, shoot and edit their own newscast. During Session 3, July 25 – 29, students will produce their own videos that must include certain characters or elements. The classes are open to ages 12 – 16 years old. For more information on how to get your kid involved, visit www.capstv.org or call 658-0500.

The summer community production calendar kicks off in June with coverage of the Knowledge Bowl at the Ventura Townhouse followed by the Foothill Technology High School graduation ceremony held at Ventura College. In August, we continue our annual coverage of the Ventura County Fair Parade LIVE from downtown Ventura. This is always one of the most exciting community productions and a great opportunity for volunteers to help. We are also looking to start our own production on a new series about current events LIVE from the CAPS Studio. More details on that show are coming soon!

The last part of the summer at CAPS-TV is all about preparing for a busy fall election season! By August and September, CAPS will be in full election mode with "Video Voter", a CAPS studio production dedicated to giving all Ventura City Council and VUSD School Board candidates an equal opportunity to communicate with citizens directly and express their views on issues affecting our Ventura community. In addition to "Video Voter", CAPS goes on the road covering all the election forums around the city until Election Day. All election programming can be seen on Channel 6 as well as on our website. CAPS is proud to provide a voice to all candidates and help voters make more informed decisions when they go to the voting booth on November 8.

For more information about CAPS' summer activities, programming or how to be a part of community productions, stop by our media center at 65 Day Road in Ventura, visit us online at www.capstv.org, or call 658-0500. Don't forget to "like" our facebook page, www.facebook.com/capstv-ventura, and follow us on Twitter, www.twitter.com/CAPSTVtweets.

Champagne, the wine of Kings

by Eric Garnier

Mothers day at our house was started with mimosas. This fun light drink is traditionally made with sparkling wine and orange juice. Some folks in my family like to add a splash of grenadine to sweeten it up and give it color.

Sparkling wines come in several varieties from the classic champagnes of France to Prosecco from Italy, to California sparkling wine. In Spain, sparkling wine is called cava. I enjoy Prosecco for my mimosas because it is a lighter style and is slightly lower in alcohol.

With graduations and weddings just around the corner, sparkling wines are an important ingredient of these two occasions. But, it is important to remember that sparkling wines are not just for celebrating, they are also a great accompaniment with meals. Next time you are having a salad for lunch or dinner, try a sparkling wine. I especially like sparkling wine with seafood dishes. If you are an oyster lover, sparkling wine is a must.

There are different styles of sparkling wines. The driest of them all is called extra brut. This is the most popular because there is no dosage added and pairs well with most foods. Next is called brut, then extra-dry. Opposite to

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CAPS This Summer at CAPS

by Kirsten Ricketts

Summer is just around the corner! For many people in Ventura summer means taking a break from school, going on vacation, or just relaxing. For CAPS-TV, summer means preparing for great community productions and hosting our 5th annual CAPS4Kids Digital Storytelling Classes in July. We are hoping to see an increase of activity in our media center this summer along with an increase in public programming on Channel 6.

CAPS4Kids is an amazing opportunity for youth in our community to get hands-on training with the latest video production technology and learn how to script, shoot and edit their own digital stories. The program began in 2007 as a one week class and has now expanded into 3 weeklong sessions. During Session 1, July 11 – 15, students will create a promotional



News and Notes

what it says, extra dry is less dry than a brut, with a slight amount of dosage added. Dosage is the amount of sugar added after the second fermentation and the amount added will dictate the sweetness of the finished product. A fairly new style that has emerged in recent years is a sparkling wine with an addition of the moscato grape. This style is fun to drink, especially in the hot summer months.

Be sure to check out the following tastings coming up in June. Several of the wines from the Wine Trail will be pouring their wines, and some local restaurants will also be serving some of their great dishes.

<http://www.cpwineandfoodfestival.com>. Sunday June 5

<http://www.wineinthepines.com>. Saturday June 11

<http://www.ojaiwinefestival.com>. Sunday June 12

Cheers! Questions or comments contact me at Wineoeric@gmail.com

2,000 deaths from CO exposure

by **Kris McDonald**
Captain, Ventura City Fire Department

Carbon Monoxide (CO) is the leading cause of poisoning related deaths in the nation. Approximately 2,000 deaths and 10,000 injuries occur nationwide from CO exposure every year. These injuries and deaths can occur rapidly, or over several hours, depending on the levels of CO present and the intensity of the exposure.

CO is a natural bi-product of combustion. It can originate from any gas appliance in your home, fixed or portable, if not operating properly or vented correctly. CO can also enter your home from a BBQ or vehicle exhaust placed in close proximity to door and window openings. A blocked chimney can accumulate CO in your home very quickly. Service your appliances and your chimney regularly to ensure that they function safely and correctly.

Due to its chemical properties, CO is referred to as the "silent killer." CO is an odorless, colorless gas and is virtually unnoticeable. Modern CO detectors alert residents with an audible alarm when even small levels are present. They operate on batteries, household electricity, or both. Most units plug into a wall outlet, have a battery back-up, and are designed to alert you when the battery is in need of replacement. They have a "test" button, and need the same regular attention as your smoke detectors. Change the battery every six months, and test regularly. While they are very similar in appearance, and some combination smoke/CO detecting units do exist, care should be taken not to confuse the two. A smoke detector will not protect you from CO.

One detector placed on each level of the home, preferably in a common area near the bedrooms, is generally sufficient. CO is nearly the same density as air and therefore it is not critical that the detector be installed at any certain height. CO detectors have a limited lifespan, which can range from 2 to 10 years, depending on the manufacturer. You should always read and follow the manufacturer's instructions for placement and maintenance of your CO detector. If you are in doubt as to the exact age of your detector you should replace it.

Symptoms of exposure to CO are very similar to the common flu, but without the fever. They include dizziness, weakness, headache, vomiting, difficulty breathing, sleepiness, and confusion. CO poisoning has these effects due to its tenacious ability to displace oxygen in your blood. Once these symptoms are recognized, moving to fresh air may not be sufficient to correct the problem; extended oxygen therapy may be necessary. Pregnant women, young children, senior citizens and people with heart or respiratory problems are especially vulnerable and are at the highest risk for death or serious injury from CO poisoning.

If you have a CO detector that is in the alert mode, or if you feel the symptoms of CO poisoning, leave the immediate area and call 9-1-1 right away.

Visit us online at www.facebook.com/venturacityfire, www.youtube.com/user/VenturaCityFD, and www.cityofventura.net/emergencyprep.



Bianca Martinez is at the City of Ventura's Environmental Sustainability booth at the Green Business Expo.

Community event introduces a wide variety of local green-businesses

At the recent Green Business Expo, held at the WAV Elisha Mistretta, Bianca Martinez, Susan Bardsley and Kendra Gonzales organized a community event to introduce a wide variety of local green-businesses who were on hand to talk about their products and services. Why they are good for the planet, and why that is important. There were on-going presentations, demonstrations, prize raffles, and Ventura artist Bianca Martinez found a way to incorporate her paintings with a cause in her book "Compassionate Eating" that were sold at the expo.

Many of the WAV artists' studios were also open at the event so it was also a good opportunity to spend time with them and to enjoy their work.

In addition Bianca Martinez presented "Compassionate Eating - Conscious Consumption for Mind, Body, Spirit & Planet", Susan Bardsley, Vice President of GLOBAL Encasement, Inc. presented "Innovative Green Super Compliant Low VOC Coatings and Their Surprising Uses", Kendra Gonzales "Climate Change 101 - How VCCool Can Help You Lower Your Carbon Footprint" and Borbala Arvai conducted a workshop where folks created their own magical dolls.

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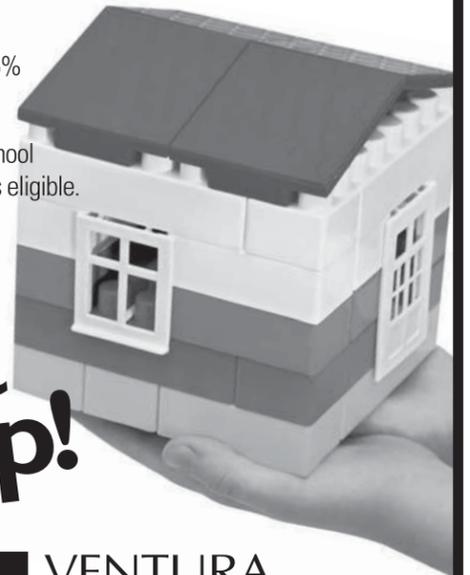
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Mayor Bill Fulton, Ed Wehan and Tom Spence from the KVTA morning show competed in the 5K race at the recent Summerfest. The Mayor and Spence tied in the actual race as the battle was fought on Facebook all week. The importance of this is that both of these guys are great role models for our kids. For young students to know that their Mayor and local radio talk show host (and Ed Wehan) can run and run, then they can.



The recent fundraiser for the proposed Westside ArtWalk, held at Jonathan's at Peirano's featured a performance at Mission Park by AiRealistic, an aerial flying group that has a school in Ventura that teaches adults and children how to fly from trees (and other things).

More than 200 enthusiastic supporters attended the dinner and show.

Because artwalk is no longer sponsored by Ventura City a group of volunteer Venturans is planning a privately funded and run artwalk on July 23& 24. For more information about the proposed ArtWalk go to www.westsideartwalk.com.



News and Notes



Team Braga with the Goncalves family on the last day of the Habitat build in Braga, Portugal

One brick at a time

by Mira Reverente

“Your mission, if you choose to accept it, is to build a home in Portugal for a family of four.”

Mission impossible? Not at all.

Six months ago, I accepted “the mission” and volunteered to join a Habitat for Humanity team. Images of myself wielding a hammer, operating power tools and sweating it out under the heat of the European sun flashed before me. The first two didn't quite happen but more on that later.

The destination was Braga located in the northwestern part of Portugal. Proliferated by churches and buildings reminiscent of Baroque architecture, the population of this historic town is approximately 175,000.

Team Braga

We got acquainted with the family even before we left, establishing a much-needed connection prior to departure. Through Habitat for Humanity Portugal, we found out that Jose and Fatima Goncalves have two children – Tiago, 15 and Claudia, 12, and that Claudia has cerebral palsy.

For the moment, home is a 35-square meter (377 square feet) shed with a thin door separating the kitchen-dining room area from the bedroom where all four of them slept.

I found a more profound sense of purpose knowing that an actual family of four will benefit from the build. After the requi-

site paperwork, travel bookings and ensuring my family's survival for two weeks, I was out of Ventura County and on a plane out of LA.

Team Braga converged at the airport, where volunteer coordinator Joao, sunny like the local weather, welcomed us. What an interesting mix of would-be builders, led by our team leader Sully, who is a veteran of over a dozen builds.

There's Tim, our youngest team member from Maine, who is college-bound this fall. We also had a married couple amongst us - Peter and Judith, who both work for the Canadian government. Mom of four Liz, a nurse-turned-organic-farmer, is from Ojai. We also met Rodney, a Portuguese-American based in Massachusetts. He was our alternate interpreter by default, much to his chagrin.

Ready, set, build!

The construction site was a sight to behold. Situated on top of a hill, amidst picturesque vineyards and lush mountains, the 99-square meter (1,065 square feet) house seemed to beckon to us, waiting to be worked on.

So back to the hammer and power tools. On our first day, we were told to work on the interior and exterior walls. So I gave up on the hammer thought and got acquainted with the trowel and board. I spent most of my time laying bricks, neat row upon neat row.

Nothing is ever perfect and the bricks had to be trimmed at some point. Being power tool-challenged, I deferred to my teammate Kari, schoolteacher by training and carpenter by birth. Like a saint, Kari taught me and fellow California girl Vanessa, the intricacies of brick laying.

Day after day, we worked on the brick walls, until the interior walls were all done. Some “specialized” like Ray, an ex-Navy guy from Pennsylvania and Yasmin, my Canadian roommate, who tirelessly mixed cement. Some chose to work on the exterior walls like Hilary, a native New Yorker, who is headed to medical school this fall and Jennifer, who works in a resort in Orange County.

Fatima and her two children came on our last day and we had an informal ceremony, right there and then amidst all the construction debris. Team Braga presented the family with an apple tree and a photo album of the build. Emotions were on overdrive. The family was in tears and so were we. On the bus back to our hotel, I looked

back and saw Fatima, Tiago and Claudia waving. I waved back and silently promised to return one day.

Mission accomplished

It is true what some say about an experience changing you. In my case, it happened one brick at a time.

I came back with a deeper appreciation and gratitude for the tangible things I have, like a house and a car. At the same time, it is the intangible things like newly formed friendships and a sense of accomplishment that will give you a new perspective.

*For more information about local and international builds, please visit: www.habitat.org

Meniere's Disease & Trigeminal Neuralgia Lyceum symposium

The 11th Annual Meniere's Disease & Trigeminal Neuralgia Lyceum symposium, sponsored by www.MenieresResearch.com is on Saturday, June 18 at 9 am at the Academic Auditorium, Family Residency Center, 3291 Loma Vista Rd, #340.

The principal speaker, Michael T. Burcon, DC started researching Meniere's disease (MD) ten years ago after having three MD patients quickly recover from their vertigo under upper cervical specific chiropractic care. His papers have been published in the Journal of Vertebral Subluxation Research and the textbook, Upper Cervical Subluxation Complex.

Burcon has established a link between both Meniere's disease and Trigeminal neuralgia (TN) with whiplash injuries that misalign the base of the skull with the top of the neck creating a lesion affecting the Eustachian tube and/or the Trigeminal ganglion

The fee is \$300 for doctors, patients \$200 and students or caregivers \$50 and seating is limited. Call (616) 575-9990, (805)642-6565 or E-mail DrBurcon@yahoo.com to register for the event. All attendees will receive lunch, and free copies of Dr. Tomasi's book on surviving T.N. which he will be signing.

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June 18

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- Household Cleaners
- Motor Oil/Filters Other Auto Fluids
- Paint, Polishes & Varnishes
- Pesticides



Limit of 15 gallons or 125 pounds per visit.

MATERIALS NOT ACCEPTED

- 55 Gallon Drums of Material
- Commercial/Industrial Waste
- Compressed Gas Cylinders
- Electronic Waste
- Explosives, Ammunition, Fireworks
- Radioactive Material
- Smoke Detectors



The digging at the old Top Hat site (on Main) has unearthed the Mission Quadrangle rooms in intimate detail (last seen 121 years ago), and the almost complete foundation of the Anacapa Hotel with kitchen and basement. And, as expected the dig has also uncovered the foundations of the mission wing, along with the remains of a bowling alley, a hotel and other more recent buildings.

It's long been known that this lot, which was recently a city parking lot with the Top Hat Burger Palace in one corner was once home to the easternmost wing of San Buenaventura Mission. This wing was added sometime after the original mission was built in 1792, and it was torn down in the 1880s.

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Community Events

Here come the fireworks!

by Nanci Cone

It's that time again when the Rotary Club of Ventura and the Ventura College Foundation presents its popular yearly 4th of July Family Fun Festival. And this year it will be bigger and better than ever according to the two co-chairs, Ellyn Dembowski and Lynda Girtsman.

"This year's event will feature a market place with booths, activities, live music, art, food and fun," says Ellyn. "And don't miss the fabulous fireworks show with live entertainment - it's the best way I can think for a family to spend a really enjoyable as well as a safe Fourth of July," adds Lynda!

Vendor reservations are open on a first-come, first-served basis. Vendors selling new goods only will be accepted and children and family-friendly booths are encouraged. Vendors selling food are required to have a health permit filed with the Ventura County Health Department and all vendors must have a seller's permit. Booth space rates range from \$150-\$400 depending on size and location and non-profit organizations receive a 25% discount.

Sponsorships are also available. All sponsors receive free admission to the event plus a map of events with your company name highlighted and newspaper, poster, and additional print media coverage. Ellyn notes, "Sponsors are already on board for the Muscle Car Show and the day of music that features some outstanding talent that will keep everyone dancing till they drop!"

The Rotary Club of Ventura uses the money to fund hundreds of backpacks loaded with school supplies for Ventura school children; dictionaries to every third-grader in Ventura schools, public or private; literacy programs to adults; swimming lessons to seniors and medicine and supplies to people in third-world countries.

For space reservations and complete rules/regulations, please call: Ventura College Foundation Marketplace Office at 648-8962 or email ejuares@vcccd.edu with "4th of July space reservation" in the subject line.

Lynda added "And you won't want to miss the Push-em, Pull-em Parade and Street Fair in downtown Ventura before the Rotary event! These two programs will keep you going all day."

Tickets for the Fireworks show can be purchased from local retailers throughout the area and during the day at a vendor booth on campus. For more information call Ellyn at 320-1206, communicator@email.com or Lynda at 320-2562, lynda-girts@gmail.com.

Ventura events

June 3: The DeAnza Academy of Technology and the Arts will present **Spring Showcase** at 5pm. Musical performances, artwalk, renaissance characters and a silent auction. Bring the family and a blanket to enjoy an evening of fun. Dinner will be available or bring a picnic.

June 4: From 9:00 a.m. -noon, the Volunteer Ventura! Program will team up with the Westside Community Council and the Westside Community Development Corporation to provide Westside residents an opportunity to **discard e-waste and unwanted household items free of charge**; funded by a Community Development block grant.

The collection site, located at the corner of N. Ventura Ave. and Kellogg St., will accept items such as metal, wood, furniture, appliances, computers and cell phones. Household hazardous waste such as motor oil, batteries and paint will not be accepted. For more information visit www.cityofventura.net or contact the Volunteer Ventura! Program at 652-4555 or ornelas@cityofventura.net.

June 4: The Ventura Rhineland Club is having their **46th anniversary dance with dinner** at 6:30 p.m. The dinner will consist of veal loaf with scalloped potatoes, or sauer kraut and roll plus cake and coffee for \$10.00. Entertainment supplied by John Borowitz and Band will be playing from 7:15 to 11:30. The location of the concert will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall at 36 South Figueroa Street. Admission charge for the dance will be \$10 and the cost of dinner is \$10. For reservations call 642-7931 or 985-7253.

June 5: The Dudley House open house, presents a **flea market and collectibles fair** beginning at 9 a.m. The flea market and collectibles fair and a December 7, 1955 X-Minus One radio program and 1917-20 recordings of early Jazz will be played during the open house. Anyone interested in working on the docent tours of the house, call Steve Cummings at 644-3286.

Aegis of Ventura presents
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Join us in our spacious courtyard for an evening of live music and dancing. Enjoy performances from popular local bands in our elegant garden surroundings.

The Ventura Jazz Sextet with Donna Greene Thursday
JUNE 16th
6:00-8:00 PM
Dance to the music of the swing era with salute to VC Fire Department Engine 3

Dusty Boots Thursday
JULY 21st
6:00-8:00 PM
Enjoy country western boot tapping fun. Please bring non perishable food for Food Share, Ventura County's regional food bank

Sisi's Touch of Polynesia Thursday
August 25th
6:00-8:00 PM
Travel to exotic islands through authentic music and dance. Luau to celebrate Aegis of Ventura's 10th birthday!

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June 5: The all American Ballet Company (AAB) will present a **Spring Gala Dance** in concert at 2:00 p.m. The dance's location will be at Buena High School in the auditorium at 5670 Telegraph Rd. Featured will be AAB school students and alumni performing exciting and new works choreographed by AAB's talented staff, including renowned AAB founder and artistic director, Clarissa Boeriu, and award-winning contemporary choreographer Jason Coosner. Families with children of all ages are encouraged to attend. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for children 12 years old or younger. The tickets can be purchased online at www.AllAmericanBallet.org or by calling 650-6316.

June 5: A free screening and discussion of "The Economics of Happiness," a film by Helena Norberg-Hodge, Steven Gorelick & John Page. The film's central idea is "going local, it's a powerful strategy to repair our fractured world, our ecosystems, our societies and our selves." The screening will be at 3 p.m. at the Foster Library's Topping Room, 651 E. Main St. In "The Economics of Happiness" we hear voices from six continents including, Samdhong Rinpoche, the Prime Minister of Tibet's government in exile, Vandana Shiva, Bill McKibben, David Korten and Zac Goldsmith. To learn more about the film at <http://www.theeconomicsofhappiness.org/>

June 10: The meeting of **The General George S. Patton, Jr. Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution**, will feature the program "A Light in Darkness: Sullivans Island," presented by Robert Taylor, Chapter President. The luncheon event will take place at 11:30 a.m. in the Garden Room of Marie Callender's Restaurant, 1295 S. Victoria Ave. All SAR compatriots, American Revolutionary War history buffs, friends and visitors are welcome at this special free event. In addition, the self-pay luncheon cost is \$20 per person, and includes a slice

of Marie Callender's pie. Call Robert Taylor 216-7992, Bill Hurley 492-2583, or Ron Risley 647-0751 if you desire more information, and please visit the Chapter website <http://pattonpatriots.org>.

June 11: The Ventura Beginners Personal Computers Users Group will meet Saturday, in the 3rd floor lounge of the Cypress Place Active Senior Living building, 1220 Cypress Place. The meeting will begin at 9:15 a.m. Velma Lomax, an instructor who teaches Computer Security at Ventura High School will present "Virus' and Other Malware". For more information, call Marcie Malony at 648-1368.

June 12: A Concert, The Unbroken Circle will be held at the First United Methodist Church of Ventura, 1338 East Santa Clara St. The Music genre featured at the concert will consist of Country, Bluegrass, and Contemporary. The concert will be held at 3 - 6 p.m. Plus singing, dancing, praising, face painting, balloons, clowns and more.

June 14: Join The City of Ventura Senior Services. Council Member Jim Monahan and Gary Parker of American Flags and Cutlery will be leading a **patriotic event** to honor and recognize our American Flag. This free event will include, color guard, pledge of allegiance, presentation on proper flag display and condition. Also, there is an opportunity to bring your old or tattered flags to be retired, free gift and refreshments are offered as well. The event will be held at the Senior Recreation Center, 420 E. Santa Clara Street. For more information or to RSVP call 648-2829.

June 24: A Symphony of Ten Guitars Concert and art show will be held at The WAV Theater Gallery. There will be two show times 7 p.m. & 9 p.m. The show's main feature performance will be by Manuel Rodriguez and his ensemble of gifted musicians in a sea of wonderful stringed instruments. Carlos Gonzales, the godfather of

Continued on page 11



Dear Miss Betty,

This time of year, my husband and I get a lot of graduation announcements. We are on a fixed income and can't afford to send gifts to all of them. Is it expected? I would like to do something for them.
Flat Broke Folk

Dear Flat Broke,

Sometimes people just want to share their accomplishments and have them acknowledged. You are under no obligation to eat cat food in order to have the money to send graduation gifts (even though, technically, it is safe for human, and Scamp's consumption.)

Greeting cards for graduates can be purchased at several Ventura stores—some for even 50 cents at the right store. A poem, or a story about your own graduation or high school experience

could be an invaluable gift. Do you have any graduation photos of family or friends you could share? Words of wisdom for the graduate, or a paragraph about how proud you are of them—and why—will be greatly appreciated.

Dear Miss Betty,

I fly a plane out of a local airport near Ventura. Sometimes I fly over my house in the Ventura Keys and see strange cars parked in front of my house while I'm at work. Should I ask my wife about them? Then she will know I spy on her.
Pitiful Pilot

Dear Pitiful Pilot,

Increase altitude to 12,000 feet or take a different route that doesn't take you over Ventura.

The Ventura Breeze Presents The Face Of Ventura



Lynn Mikelatos

Portrait by Johanna Spinks

Born and raised in the small Texas town of Bonham (70 miles NE of Dallas), Lynn is the youngest of four girls. Two sisters live in California and two still in Texas. In high school Lynn was a cheerleader, football queen and school favorite in the yearbook. Most of her graduating class of only 88 attended college. Lynn graduated with a BA in Art Education from the University of North Texas in Denton. Lynn taught art for two years in Grapevine, near DFW Airport. She joined sister Patti in California in the mid 70s and became a Realtor in Oxnard, getting involved in the Board of Realtors, attending state conventions and leading the Women's Council Division.

It was on a California Association of Realtors' sponsored cruise from Venice to Athens, that Lynn met future husband Makis (Gerasimos Mikelatos) from Keffalonia, Greece. Their first date was on the island of Mykonos at Spiros Restaurant. They met in Mexico twice and in February of 1979 Makis arrived in California. The two married on March 10 of that year. They opened their first restaurant, It's Greek to Me, in 1980. At one time they had three restaurants, but then moved to a larger facility in North Oxnard in 1991. Economic conditions were hard at that time, and the couple were fortunate to move to the Ventura Harbor in 1994, opening The Greek at the Harbor. In 2003, Makis and Lynn opened Margarita Villa, also in the Harbor.

Now grown, son Darius manages Margarita Villa. Son Aris and daughter Marika both help manage The Greek and are a big part of the entertainment. Marika dances a variety of traditional Greek folk dances and Aris has developed a unique wine dance and his famous Table Dance where he picks up three tables with his teeth.

She recently started a new business selling Water Ionizer machines,

and is having a lot of fun sharing this product with friends and family. She even uses the re-structured water in the restaurant for cleaning, sanitizing, cooking and drinking and is looking forward to traveling to many new countries to share this product.

Lynn serves on the Board of Directors of the Ventura Chamber of Commerce, chair of the Ventura Commerce and Education Foundation, chair of the Ventura Harbor Community Council and on the Board of Ventura City Corps, a youth organization providing community service opportunities for Ventura's teenagers. Lynn graduated from the Ventura County Masters Gardeners in 2010. She has been very involved in the Annual Ventura County Greek Festival, sponsored by her Greek Orthodox Parish, St. Demetrios in Camarillo.

Lynn and Makis enjoy annual trips to Mexico and Greece, and have also traveled to Australia, Fiji, Costa Rica, Bali, China, and Germany. They have two granddaughters Sofia and Dafni, six and four.

What do you like about living in Ventura?
I love Ventura because it is like a small town but is very close to go into the city and to the airport. Everyone is so friendly and supportive of each other here. Ventura is a very giving community and the arts are very much a way of life here. The Harbor is wonderful and we really are happy having our businesses located there. The way the area is growing in a very structured way is making our lifestyle even better. We love to travel but we also love to return home to Ventura.

And how was the experience of having your portrait painted by Johanna?
I so enjoyed spending time with Johanna as she painted my portrait. It was amazing how fast she works. She is truly a professional and I am so honored to be a part of this collection. Thank you Sheldon for allowing me to be a Face of Ventura.



Captain Bill Finley



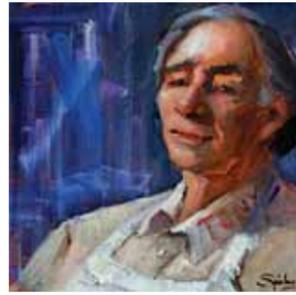
Howard Boroughs



Rachel Morris



Jolene McBee



Tony Barrios



Jerry English



Bonnie Weigel



Manuel A. Valenzuela



MB Hanrahan



Emily Olszowy



Oliva Simonson

Portrait artist Johanna Spinks teamed up with the Breeze to take on a new challenge "The Face of Ventura". Aiming to paint 52 worthy Venturans, each in a single sitting painted directly from life at her Bell Arts Factory studio in around two hours. No photos are used, the direct interaction with the sitter is the purpose of the challenge. This feature will run in the Breeze over the next two years.

Face of Ventura Images Copyright Johanna Spinks

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Community Events

Ojai events

Continued from page 9
classical guitar, will make a special guest appearance. This starts the summer season series of "open door" shows. A special dinner menu and reserved tables are offered with this cool summer evening of pure pleasure.

Ojai events

Ojai has been attracting authors and writers to its mountain valley for centuries. A new writers conference the first weekend of June is hoping to attract writers back to Ojai, or for the first time.

Writers can attend a **1-Day Writers' Conference** (19 teachers, a selection of 13 classes, lunch and a tea social) on Saturday, **June 4** - or stay the entire weekend to take in pre and post-conference writing classes such as small group mentoring on Friday, June 3 and a **Writers Workshop & Sunday Brunch** on **June 5** at The Ranch House.

The 1-day writers' conference boasts of internationally distinguished writing teachers from some of the nation's best writing programs.

Local Ojai authors will also be featured including Gay Hendricks, PhD, author of more than 30 books, who will teach "How To Take Your Big Leap by Writing Effortlessly from the Heart."

There will be high-caliber writing classes, the unveiling of the Libbey Bowl, Byron Katie's benefit for Ojai WordFest on Sunday June 5th and a free Day of Music in the park."

Writers can attend the 1-Day Writers Conference on Saturday, June 4th or create their own weekend package from à la carte menu of choices. Event costs range from

\$49-\$149.

For details, call 669-7373 or visit www.OjaiWritersConference.com.

A dance to benefit **The Wounded Warrior Project** will be held on Friday Night **June 10**, 2011, at the Chapparral Auditorium, 414 E. Ojai Ave. in Ojai. Dancing from 7:30 to 10:30 will feature musical renditions of the Ventura Jazz Orchestra Septet and the Vocal Stylings of Donna Greene. Admission: \$15 general.

Call 646-6271 for further information. **Solitude** is the theme of this year's **photography exhibition** at the Ojai Center for the Arts. The eighth annual juried show depicting moments of peace, calmness, singularity, loneliness or isolation encourages any photographic style including landscape, documentary, manipulative, etc. The show opens **June 11** and runs through July 6, 2011.

Photographers are invited to submit their work on June 9 or June 10. Detailed submission information can be found on the Photography Branch page at the Art Center website at <http://www.ojaiartcenter.org/photography.htm>

The Art Center is located in downtown Ojai at 113 South Montgomery Street.

The 27th annual **Ojai Peddler's Fair** is being held from 9am - 4pm Saturday and Sunday, **June 18 & 19**. The bustling Peddler's Fair is located inside the Chapparral Auditorium at 414 E. Ojai Ave., in downtown Ojai CA. Parking is free in the adjacent municipal parking lot, and admission is always free. Held rain or shine, the Peddler's Fair is chock-full of quality antiques, collectibles, handcrafts and international crafts. This is a benefit for the Mira Monte PTO.

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

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Art Scene



The Billboard Project will be coming our way

The work of Ventura visual artist Janice Tieken, is being featured in the Billboard Project. Janice's work in this project is from two series: Variations: Tree and Sky, and Orchid Requiem. The work was selected by a jury panel including Nobel Laureates and other internationally celebrated scientists and art professionals.

The Billboard Art Project is taking over roadside digital LED billboards to turn them into free public art venues for 24 hours and will be coming to Southern California.

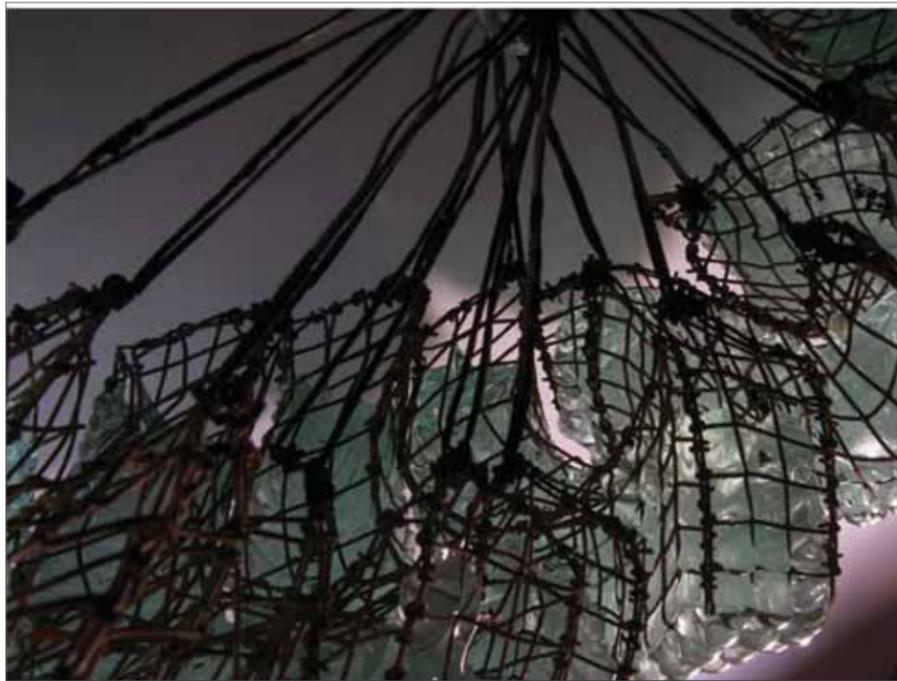
The in-your-face and colorful canvases that you see as you sit stuck in traffic are turned over to local and international artists for a little break from everyday advertising, larger-than-life art in glowing colors.

You won't know what is coming next as different artists explore this medium. Janice and her husband Leigh Peffer moved to Ventura in '06 after many years of visiting a friend here. The Orchid Requiem series began with digi-

tally altering dead orchids with surreal supra-real color. A second project, Naked Lunch, based on Crane flies and cobwebs employs similar methods. Both suggest there is beauty in disintegration, aging and the broken.

Using photography as her primary medium of artistic expression for 40 years, she also has published poetry, stories and essays. She has had her poems published locally - The Ventura Breeze, the VCReporter, and Town Biz 101 - about the IRS and about the Wright Library. Her subject matter is a celebration of light and color and often includes ironic social commentary. She has a BFA from Otis Art Institute in Los Angeles, a Master's in psychology from Pacific Oaks College and a California MFT license. More of Janice's work can be seen at www.janicetieken.com

The Billboard Project will have a showing in Southern California later this year. More about this exciting project can be found at www.billboardartproject.com.



Elissa Batchley melted glass sculpture is shaped by gravity

The Vita Art Center presents "Compulsion" by Elissa Batchley a Melted Glass sculpture installation from June 3-26 with an opening reception on Friday, June 3 from 6-9pm.

The artist stated "As far back as I can remember art has been my vocation. Visual art is my language, my best tool to communicate, and to cope. My work is a direct acknowledgement of this, my goal; to start a dialogue, to distract, to give the viewer a moment to step back, and reflect. I primarily use kiln formed glass in this installation, taking advantage of both the glass's inherent qualities and the viewers' innate response to the medium. Glass is

transcendent, it has the ability to bend, absorb, and play with light, to distort, and to magnify. At the core of this site specific installation is one idea that has been a common thread throughout my body of work, gravity. Gravity shapes my work not only on a physical level, but also figuratively, it is the underlying theme of my exploration. Being deeply moved by emotions can be overwhelming. I start to feel as if I am ruminating, like I am deeply thinking about something until it is all I can think about."

Vita Art Center is located at the Bells Arts Factory at 432 N. Ventura Ave. 901-4677

Ventura art happenings

The Museum of Ventura County's Art Start program returns this summer and is now open for registration. The July 11-15, and July 18 - 22 sessions from 9 am to noon, are designed for students currently in 3rd to 5th grades, of all artistic abilities and interests. The Art Start program is designed to encourage students to discover and experiment with different art media and techniques. Local artists visit several days during each session to discuss their art and demonstrate, while the museum's exhibitions and art collection provide inspiration.

T-shirt, snacks and all art materials are included in the registration fee, which is \$85 for the general public, \$70 for museum members. Scholarships are available. Registration forms may be downloaded under education resources at www.venturamuseum.org, or picked up in the Museum of Ventura County lobby, 100 East Main St. from 11 a.m. to 5 pm, Tuesday through Sunday. For further information contact education@venturamuseum.org or call 653-0323 ext. 300.

Temple Beth Torah will be presenting their 2nd Invitational Art Show and Sale fundraiser "A Taste Of Art", on Saturday, June 11th with a sneak preview party starting at 6:00pm., and Sunday, June 12th from 11:00 am. -

5:00 pm. 30 award winning artists, primarily from Ventura County, will be featured in this exhibit.

The Saturday evening event will give the attending guests the opportunity to meet the artists, preview and purchase their work, enjoy hearty appetizers, desserts and beverages in addition to an evening of musical entertainment and a spectacular silent art auction featuring a piece donated by each of the participating artists. The cost for Saturday's event is \$20, and the event on Sunday is free admission with surprises and prizes throughout the day. Visitors may purchase food on Sunday. This is a wonderful opportunity for all Ventura art lovers to attend an art show in East Ventura.

Temple Beth Torah is located at 7620 Foothill Rd. (corner of Kimball) For more information, or to make your reservations, please contact Temple Beth Torah at 647-4181.

You are cordially invited to Barnes Beanery, an exhibit in which Colin Gray creates an exceptional installation composed of drawings, paintings directly to the walls of the space, and objects. This unique installation will be on exhibit at the Tool Room Gallery at Bell Arts Factory.

Colin Gray departed England's shores for Santa Barbara 26 years ago, and since that time has exhibited in solo shows locally as well as in New York, San Francisco, and Los Angeles as well as places in between. June 3 - June 25, 2011 opening June 3 6-9pm



The Ventura Unified School District is attacking the problem of childhood obesity, poor dietary habits and lack of exercise with its nationally recognized Healthy Schools Program. In keeping with that mission the Ventura Education Partnership presented SummerFest on May 21, in partnership with our health, school and business communities.

The free, family-friendly event was held at the VUSD Education Service Center, on Stanley Avenue and brought together our children and community in a day-long event of fun, physical fitness events, music and healthy foods. This event celebrates our healthy community and also raises funds for nutrition and exercise programs through sponsorships.

In 2010 SummerFest received the Gold Medal Award and a \$10,000 prize from the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

Professor Scamp, Ph.D (Pretty Happy Dog)



Arnold, a 12 pound white poodle, prances around Provincetown like he owns it. He kind of does. Like many of the canines there, Arnold has his own following. The town which lies at the tip of Cape Cod, is known for its love of dogs, and the numbers prove it. About one out of every five residents has one. "They've made a pretty concerted effort there to be the ultimate canine resort," said Ernie Stone, the editor of Dog Fancy magazine, which recently voted Provincetown "DogTown USA." They beat out 94 other entries in the annual competition, which evaluates cities based on the number of dog friendly open spaces and dog parks, events celebrating



Besides being a world famous writer I now have my own wine label thanks to Squashed Grapes in Ventura. I don't drink alcohol myself because it makes me roll around on the floor and act silly.

back to shore, and unlike their human counterparts, they can easily jump from helicopters and speeding boats to reach swimmers in trouble (I can jump about 2 feet to reach food). It takes three years for the canines to reach expert rescue status, and currently 300 dogs are fully trained for duty, said Roberto Gasbarri. "The dog becomes a sort of intelligent lifebuoy. It is a buoy that goes by itself to a person in need of help, and comes back to the shore also by himself, choosing the best landing point and swimming through the safest currents." The school will train any breed as long as it weighs at least 66 pounds (I was heading there before I went on a diet). But Labradors, Newfoundlands and Golden Retrievers are most commonly used because of their natural instinct for swimming. Each dog works in tandem with a human lifeguard, who also acts as the animal's trainer.

The USPS provided me with information about which cities where the most dog attacks occur nationwide. Houston tops the list with 62 letter carriers attacked in 2010. Nationwide last year, 5,669 postal employees were attacked in more than 1,400 cities, yet that pales in comparison to the 4.7 million Americans bitten annually, the majority of whom are children.

Because of this the Postal Service recognized National Dog Bite Prevention Week, May 15-21. The annual event provides dog attack prevention tips and information on responsible pet ownership.

According to the Insurance Information Institute, dog attacks accounted for more than one-third of all homeowners' insurance liability claims paid out in 2010, costing nearly \$413 million.

Given the right circumstances, any dog can bite. Dog attacks are a nationwide issue and not just a postal problem.

Here are some tips for humans and dogs to prevent biting.

How to avoid being bitten

- Don't run past a dog. Our natural instinct is to chase and catch you which is why we chase cats even if we like them (and cars that we never catch).

- If a dog threatens you, don't scream, it scares us. Avoid eye contact (I know that it is very hard to not look at my big beautiful eyes) but I don't bite anyway. Try to remain motionless until the dog leaves, then back away slowly until the dog is out of sight.

employees, and demanded money. The employees complied and handed the suspect a quantity of cash from the register. The suspect grabbed the money and fled from the store. He was last seen running north towards Telephone Road.

Officers searched for the suspect, but were not able to locate him. No employees inside the store were injured during the robbery.

Vehicle Pursuit

On Wednesday, May 18th, at 9:47 p.m., Officer Kline observed a motorcycle driving at night without taillights on Telephone Road and Petit Avenue. Officer Kline attempted to conduct an enforcement stop but the driver, James Baker Jr., would not yield to Officer Kline's attempts.

Baker was driving at 80 mph without concern for public safety. On Northbank Drive, Baker attempted to take his dirt bike into the Ventura river bottom. Baker jumped a curb and collided with a tree, knocking him over.

Baker was transported to VCMC where he was treated for minor injuries obtained from the collision. Baker was found to be driving under the influence of alcohol. He

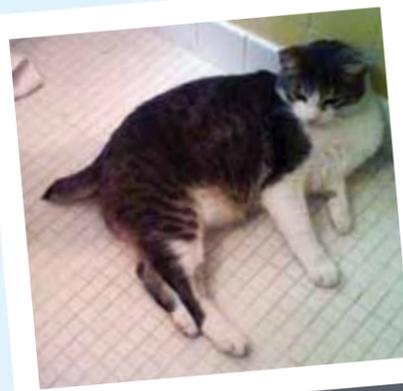
Forever home wanted



Hi, I'm Tiny an affectionate and playful Chihuahua mix. I'm an active dog who is good with other dogs and children, but since I'm just a puppy, children in the home must be 6 years or older. I'm house and paper trained and I'll even let you know when I have to go out. I know the basics - come when called, sit on command and walk well on a leash. I love to cuddle, playing with other dogs and squeaky toys. I'm looking for a new home because my ex-owner is moving and cannot take me

along. Please stop by and meet me as I really want to be part of a family that will love and take care of me for the rest of my life.

Additional information: *Housetrained *Needs home with no small children *Current on shots



Lost Kitty

Male Domestic Short Hair: 9 years old: 14 pounds: Color gray and white with a bobtail. Please call Vanessa at 766-1123 or e-mail: nessa_dean@hotmail.com if you find me. When you've lost or found a cat in Ventura County go to LostCatVentura.com

Join Scamp Club

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

- Don't approach a strange dog, especially one that's tethered or confined even if our tails are wagging.

- People choosing to pet dogs should obtain permission from the owner first and always let a dog see and sniff them before petting the animal (and giving us a treat won't hurt).

- If you believe a dog is about to attack you, try to place something between yourself and the dog, such as a backpack or a bicycle (or a hotdog).

How to be a responsible dog owner

- Obedience training can teach dogs

proper behavior and help owners control their dogs.

- Dogs can be protective of their territory and may interpret the actions of letter carriers as a threat. Please take precautions when accepting mail in the presence of your pet.

- Spay or neuter your dog. Neutered dogs are less likely to roam and bite (or have any fun).

- Dogs that receive little attention or handling, or are left tied up for long periods of time, frequently turn into biters (and we are not very happy either).

Police Reports

by Veronica Johnson

Vehicle Pursuit

On Friday, May 13th, at 12:03 a.m., Sergeant Payne was on patrol and saw a black PT Cruiser, driving with its high beam headlights on. Sergeant Payne attempted to stop the vehicle, which immediately made an attempt to evade by turning off all of its exterior lights and accelerated through the parking lot of the businesses at Telephone and Cachuma. Sergeant Payne followed the vehicle and continued north on Cachuma to Darling where it ran the stop sign and turned. The vehicle ran past the stop sign at Saticoy. The driver, later identified as Andrew Owens, 34 years old, lost control of the vehicle. Owens skidded off the roadway and collided into a tree.

Owens was admitted to VCMC for injuries sustained in the accident and criminal charges are pending.

Armed Robbery

On Wednesday, May 18th, at 8:30 p.m., the VPD received a call about an armed robbery that had just occurred. The suspect, whose face and head were covered, entered the store, displayed a handgun to the em-

was booked into VC Jail.

Brush Fire

On Saturday, May 21st, at 3:33 p.m., units from multiple fire agencies responded to a 5-acre brush fire in the Santa Clara

river bottom near Surfer's Knoll. Crews encountered a wind-driven fire in mixed brush with flame lengths up to 20 feet. Firefighters launched an aggressive attack on

Continued on page 15

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Hey Boomers, Where's the Box?



You know, the box where Mom and Dad keep all of their important papers. **Where is it and what's in it?**

We Baby Boomers are at that point in our lives where we need to have that conversation with our parents. As uncomfortable as it might seem, it is the responsible thing to do.

SATURDAY • June 18, 2011 • 11AM - 2PM

SPEAKERS:

Jim Duran Executive Director, Cypress Place
David-Michael Kenney Community Service Counselor
Lynn Ryder Attorney at Law
Christine Sztukowski Financial Services Specialist

Here are some questions that need answers:

- Is there a Will? Has it been updated?*
- Is there a Power of Attorney? Is it for Financial or Health related matters?*
- Is there a Long Term Care insurance policy?*
- Is there a Living Trust protecting your parents' assets?*
- Are the assets all accounted for?*
- Who's liable for Estate Taxes?*
- Who's the beneficiary, the Living Trust or you?*
- What is an inherited IRA, and how does that effect paying income taxes?*
- Is there an Advance Funeral Plan? Is it pre-paid?*
- Is there a DD-214 (Discharge Papers) needed for VA benefits?*
- If we do not have this conversation, what can happen?*

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Senior Living



Senior Cone-nection Eating Right – Part II (Part I appeared in May 18 issue)

by Nanci Cone

Registered Dietitian Patti Jaeger from the Area Agency on Aging Senior Nutrition program discusses some key nutrients seniors should focus on daily. To learn more, visit the website at www.aaa.countyofventura.org.

What should a senior include in his/her diet? Even though our nutritional requirements do not change much throughout our life cycle, as we age our bodies become less efficient at absorbing and processing some nutrients, therefore some nutrients become more important to focus on such as:

Protein: Approximately 60% of seniors fail to consume adequate amounts of protein and by middle age we begin to lose muscle mass due to aging and a more sedentary lifestyle. Protein helps build muscle tissue and thus minimize muscle loss. Too little, the muscles get weaker and smaller. One should strive for about 0.40 grams of protein per pound per day.

B-12: People over 50 tend to have reduced absorption of B-12 that can cause cognitive impairment, other neurological problems, and anemia in older adults. We should strive for 6-15 micrograms daily. We can get the recommended amount of this vitamin by including 5-9 fruits and vegetables, fortified whole grain products, and small servings of lean meat, poultry and fish.

Calcium: This is the most abundant mineral in our body – stored primarily in our bones and teeth and, along with Vitamin D, helps to build strong bones. Throughout our life cycle, bones go through a constant state of loss and re-growth. As we age, the loss accelerates making us vulnerable to osteoporosis if we don't consume adequate calcium and engage in weight bearing exercises. The recommended intake for seniors 50+ is 1,200 mg. daily.

Vitamin D: Vitamin D helps the body use calcium. It takes the two of these nutrients as a team to help prevent fractures. One cannot work well without the other. In addition to the benefits of Vitamin D for bone health, there is growing evidence of the benefits of this vitamin in muscle function, and possibly even prevention of some cancers and other illnesses. Our best source of Vitamin D is from the sun and best

source of calcium in our diet is from fortified milk and dairy products and other fortified foods. The recommended daily intake for the vitamin for 71+ is 600 IU, although many experts believe it should be much higher.

Fiber: As we age and become more sedentary, our digestive tract slows down as well. In youth, our bodies are more forgiving if we do not get adequate daily intake. Americans consume about half of the suggested 25-30 grams a day. As you slowly increase the fiber in your daily diet, also increase your fluid intake as well.

Multivitamins: These are a good idea if you don't include all the food groups in your daily meal plan, or if you have a problem with absorbing a particular nutrient. Patti notes, "I like to think of supplements as a small insurance policy for our bodies. It is recommended that you get all your nutrients from food sources and then make up for the shortfall from a supplement. A less expensive generic brand is typically just as good as an expensive name brand because you are not paying for the name."

There's a lot of pride at stake during the Knowledge Bowl on June 6

During the packed inaugural event last year that pitted older adults versus high school kids in a battle of wits and wisdom, featuring experience versus youthful agility (created by Suz Montgomery of the Extended Learning Academy and an adult education instructor) 4 Ventura High School students beat the 4 seniors in a Jeopardy-like contest, but not by much.

"Both teams are students of lifelong learning and have a thirst for knowledge and self-improvement, so the participants are more closely matched than you might think, despite a gap of about 60 years," Montgomery said.

To join in on the excitement, be at the Ventura TowneHouse, 4900 Telegraph Rd. (across the street from Ventura College) at 3 p.m. Monday, June 6. The free event will again be filmed by CAPS-TV and rebroadcast.

Last year's event had over 125 in the audience.

The contestants on the senior side are all retired: Don Haskell, a 36-year Ventura High School teacher; Ethel Johnduff, kindergarten teacher; Mary Ayres, who taught third grade and Bill Reach, who worked in New York City's garment district doing business in retail and wholesale.

From Ventura High School: Doug Petree, history senior; Matt Roberts, ready to graduate in geography; Madeya Talmadge, a junior who thrives on biology, literature and history, and Philip Angelo, junior in science.

Vice Principal Lorelle Dawes will moderate the game, asking questions about history, literature, civics and current events. The students were chosen by AP teacher Linda Brug.

Returning students Petree and Roberts admitted to feeling a certain pressure in last year's contest going against the people who are old enough to be their grandparents.

As for the seniors, they yearn for a rematch.

When is it time for...?

A Symposium on Senior Living

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15TH • STARTING AT 6:30 PM

Hosted at The Palms at Bonaventure, along with Assisted Home Care and Assisted Home Hospice and California Senior Living, this informative session will cover:

How to decide when it is time for a lifestyle change...

Important questions to ask the physician...

Who can help with the transition into a retirement community...

What does Medicare cover, and more.

Hear from experts in senior lifestyle choices including assisted living and memory care options, real estate, finances, Medicare, and senior health.

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Bruce Woodling

For more information, and to RSVP call 805-647-0616.

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Police report

Police reports

Continued from page 13

this fire and engines were placed to protect a structure in the city water treatment plant. A Ventura County helicopter and hand crews were used to support firefighters with extinguishment. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

Gang Stabbing

The VPD has been investigating a gang related stabbing that occurred on Saturday, May 14th.

The victim was involved in a fistfight with Jordan Patterson, 21 years old, near the intersection of Hummingbird Street and Peacock Avenue. Patterson then left the area, but returned with Richard Rodriguez and Anthony Trejo. The victim was cornered in a carport and stabbed several times.

The suspects fled. The victim was transported to the VCMC and was treated for his injuries which were not life threatening.

Both Patterson and Rodriguez were arrested without incident on May 18th and booked into VC Jail. On May 21st, officers located Trejo in an apartment complex on Hummingbird Street. Trejo was apprehended and booked at VC Jail.

On May 25th, officers went to the 100 block of College Drive to continue the investigation. The police officers' presence was known due to a surveillance camera. The suspect and other friends exited a detached garage after viewing the officers.

An officer nearby ordered the suspect and his friends to stop. The occupants complied but a pit bull ran at the officer. The officer fired one round from his service weapon, killing the dog.

The suspect Hovanes Sarkissyan was arrested and booked into VC Jail.

Attempted murder on police officer results in suspect's death

On Friday, May 20th, at 10:30 p.m., VPD received a call about a physical domestic abuse incident on Leighton Drive.

Officer Erick Jackson arrived and immediately heard screaming from the residence. The suspect, Mario Lopez, 44 years old, armed himself with a knife and took an aggressive stance.

Lopez refused to comply with the Jackson's instructions and began to challenge him. Lopez rushed Jackson with the knife coming in very close proximity to the officer. Jackson, in fear of his life, discharged his service weapon several times until the suspect stopped advancing on him.

Lopez was pronounced dead at the scene.

Ventura police have stated that the officer was acting within the department's policy when he fatally shot the knife wielding man. The findings were made by an internal review board who determined that the officer was in fear for his life.

The incident occurred during what police fear the most, a domestic violence call.

As is standard policy the incident will be investigated by the Ventura County District Attorney's Office and Officer Jackson was put on administrative leave.

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Over 80 rake, shovel and yard tool wielding Keller Williams West Ventura Realtors recently descended on Elmhurst Elementary School for a clean up project that removed weeds, trash and debris from four different areas of the school. The Realtors weeded, trimmed and clipped overgrown vegetation, raked leaves and dried brush, added new mulch and restored the sites to manicured condition. The project was part of a nationwide community volunteer effort called RED Day which Keller Williams Realty sponsors every year in May.

The Ventura based Turning Point Foundation is presenting their Champions of Mental Health Gala on June 5 at 4pm at the Crowne Plaza.

The event will honor distinguished community members and organizations for their commitment to mental illness and homeless programs throughout Ventura County.

Honorees will be:

- Funder/Foundation -**
Montecito Bank & Trust
Family Advocate-Pam Roach
- Consumer Advocate -**
Anthony Marron
- Community Organization -**
National Alliance On Mental Illness(NAMI)
- Community Volunteer -**
Dr. Joan Blacher

For further information please contact Jane Lax at 652-0000 x.102



Oscar Cupio, from Ojai was a real "artist" being able to catch this very large fish with a thin fishing line and a gaff hook and rope. Caught at the end of the pier as a large crowd cheered him on.

Saint Pierre (from the WAV) said "In my decades on the pier I have not seen a catch like this. It surprised the fisherman and the crowd too. Not sure your readers know that big ones exist at the pier."

Photo by Saint Pierre

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Sports



"Stickboy" had a convincing victory over his rival "Madness" while benefiting the Fillmore Little League

Learning the ropes: "Stickboy" tries his hand at wrestling

by Ryan Graff

At five feet eight inches tall and 150 pounds after a trip to the late night buffet, Jedediah Johnson doesn't fit the archetype of a physically imposing wrestler. In fact, Johnson was given his nickname of "Stickboy" by a group of childhood friends who poked fun at his smaller stature. Despite this, however, the 1520 KVTA sports radio personality is making a name for himself in the ring as of late.

Johnson is fresh off a commanding May 14 victory over his rival Joe "Madness" Golson that was part of an Impact Wres-

ling Association charity event for the benefit of Fillmore Little League. The bout between Stickboy and Madness was the grudge match between the two competitors as their previous two matches ended with a Madness victory and a no contest, respectively. "I really enjoyed beating Madness in front of everyone in Fillmore. The event was really important to me because it was for charity. I get my charitable side from my mom, who has fed the homeless in Ventura for fifteen years now. She has taught me to care about my fellow man,"

said Johnson.

Johnson has always been infatuated with wrestling, and his career path has been a direct result of this passion. He earned his first radio job when he called in to fellow radio host Tom Spence's station and won tickets to an Xtreme Pro Wrestling (XPW) event. Spence recognized Johnson's passion for wrestling and appointed him as the XPW correspondent for the station. Presently, Johnson works alongside Spence on KVTA and his segment "Sports with Stick" has earned Johnson two Golden Mike Awards (2006 and 2007) and an Associated Press Mark Twain Award (2006). "When you're Stickboy, everything you touch turns to gold," said Johnson.

Another opportunity fell into Johnson's lap in 2003-2004 when he was working as a halftime entertainer for Underground Empire Wrestling (UEW). He found out that he was connected to one of his idols, professional wrestler Gary "Krusher" Key. Johnson's family owns BFD Bodyshop, and he learned that Key is a custom painter when he is not grappling with opponents. When Johnson wanted to start charity wrestling, he naturally chose Key as his trainer.

The team has set up rings in Johnson's backyard and in Key's shop and has been training together for about two years. Key is proud of Johnson's development thus far. "Stickboy is a hard worker and is serious about being a competitive wrestler. He makes up for his size with passion and his boisterous personality. I enjoy working with him and seeing him develop as a wrestler and entertainer," said Key.

When he is not wrestling, Johnson hopes to make a career as a manager. After his aforementioned victory, Johnson owns the rights to Madness and is also working as the official manager for his client simply named "Tool" in the Empire Wrestling Federation (EWF). "My goal as a manager is to work promotion to promotion, bring Tool a title belt, my brother Levi "Triple L" Johnson a cruiser belt, and run Madness into the ground," said Johnson. Tool was unavailable for comment as he was a mysterious no-show to his interview.

As he progresses as both a wrestler and radio personality, Johnson dedicates his career to Allison "Stickgirl" Luft, his girlfriend of ten years. "Stickgirl has made it possible for me to be who I am today," said Johnson.

Ortiz presented with key to Ventura

by Ryan Graff

Ventura mayor Bill Fulton couldn't have said it better when he made the claim that "San Buenaventura is the capital of boxing in Ventura County, and Victor Ortiz is the king." Ortiz joined an elite class of athletes at the Foxwoods Resort Casino in Mashantucket, Connecticut on April 16 when he earned a unanimous decision victory (115-110, 114-112, 114-111) over Andre Berto to become the new World Boxing Council (WBC) Welterweight Champion of the world. For his hard fought title win, Mayor Fulton awarded Ortiz with a key to the city of Ventura. The key ceremony was part of a large reception held in Ortiz's honor at The Watermark restaurant in downtown Ventura. The event was invitation-only and was attended by many of Ortiz's family members, friends, and the media.

"It feels awesome. I have nothing but close friends here and it's just a very great cause. They actually all came out and made some time to just come hang, including the media. I'm very appreciative," said Ortiz.

The reception for Ortiz was very warm, and he spent over an hour talking to the media, signing autographs, posing for pictures with his title belt, and expressing his gratitude to his fans and attendees before accepting a key to the city and an award as one of the most historical people to hail from Ventura. His agent Roland Arellano was there to support him and expressed his pride in the 24-year-old prodigy. "I am really proud to be Victor's agent and to see him being so successful in his young career. This is a wonderful event and I wish him the best in the future," said Arellano.

A long time Ventura resident, Ortiz has been closely connected with the members of the local band Rey Fresco. Mark Hartley, owner of The Watermark and boxing enthusiast, met Ortiz through Rey Fresco. Hartley and his two sons, Jamie and Nick, manage the band and share a bond with Ortiz. When Ortiz earned the prestigious WBC belt, Hartley made every effort to promote the young boxer. "The fight was an amazing fight, I was really proud that Ortiz was from here. I saw so little in the press, and felt that people should know we have a world champion and very dedicated athlete who lives in downtown Ventura. I decided to throw a party and invite people to come up and give Victor some exposure," said Hartley.

Ortiz is an enthusiastic, world-class fighter who can often be found running all over the city of Ventura, including his typical five-mile route up the coast. He trains and spars at Knuckleheadz Boxing Gym, and is grateful for the opportunities his camp has given him and the skills they have helped him to develop. "I want to give a shout out to all of my buddies from Rey Fresco band, all the guys from Knuckleheadz Boxing gym, and all the MMA guys. There is a lot of love in Ventura from this end. I especially want to thank my coaches Daniel Garcia, Mario Aguiniga, and Joe Janik. If it weren't for them, I wouldn't be in this position," said Ortiz.

There has been a lot of talk concerning the legitimacy of Ortiz's win over Berto, who is considered by many to be one of the best pound-for-pound fighters in the world. Ortiz was quick to silence the negative buzz by discussing how a victory of the former champion was possible. "Berto wasn't bad for not having heart or courage. Berto claims he didn't have his best day, but I've seen him at his best, and that was one of his best days. I was just better. I don't know if this shuts anybody up. I really doubt it. Everyone has their own opinion. But as far as that goes, I performed at my very best and obeyed my corner. I'm happy and I'm content," said Ortiz.

After a vacation to the Caribbean, Ortiz will return to Ventura and begin training for his title defense. Although he did not comment on the date or opponent for his next fight, Ortiz said that his next athletic endeavor will be an Ironman Triathlon in Idaho. The event will consist of biking 112 miles, swimming 2.5 miles, and running a 26.2-mile marathon. Ortiz also claimed that while there is no calendar for his first defense that he will certainly be ready for whoever stands across the ring. It will be exciting to see what comes to Ortiz's career as he continues to make a name for himself and represents the city of Ventura.

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Youth



What could be better than running along our beautiful Promenade?

Boogie Nights Summer 5K Run/Walk Series

The inaugural Boogie Nights Summer 5K Run/Walk Series will kick off at 6:15 pm on Wednesday evening, June 1st on the Ventura Promenade at the bottom of California Street. This new and exciting 12 event series is intended to provide a hard workout in one of Ventura's great natural setting, along with a fun social setting after the run/walk and to raise funds for Buena High School Cross Country teams. The event will be on Wednesday nights until August 24.

The first eight weeks will take place

along the Ventura Promenade and the last four will be on the beautiful trails of Arroyo Verde Park in Ventura. All nights will also include a free kids run starting at 5:55pm.

The series is directed by Josh Spiker and hosted by the 101 Running Tribe. For more information please call Josh Spiker at 258-7018, e-mail JoshSpiker@Gmail.com or visit www.TribeRunning.com.

The cost is \$120 for all 12 nights plus free event shirt or \$15 for each individual night.

Annual Bike Rodeo has shaped me into the cyclist that I am

by Ashley Vanhuis-Somis Academy Charter High Scholl

The VCCool 5th Annual Bike Rodeo, a part of VUSD's Summerfest event held on May 21st is over; the tents are folded, essays written, chalk lines faded from the crossing of many little tires, helmets and sandwiches have disappeared, and I am left exhausted after a long day in the sun. This particular exhaustion is a pleasant sensation, however, when paired with the satisfaction of hundreds of kids that are more excited and informed about bikes than ever before. The bike rodeo was a hit, and in the aftermath, I am left with much to contemplate.

My primary position at the bike rodeo was interacting with kids and parents as they wrote nomination essays for new bicycles. The essays, written in Spanish and English, are new to the rodeo this year. Previously, bicycles have been raffled off by random drawing. Many kids and parents were a bit confused by this new style of nominating friends and relatives, but many were impressed and believed that it did fit with the altruistic theme of 2011: "Bikes Build Friendships." Parents nominated children, and children nominated one another. Children mainly wrote in simple sentences about the friends that they showed up with, many reading as little as, "Thank you for being my friend." Other essays written by children were touching descriptions of siblings' personal hardships that I cannot fathom experiencing. The parent and guardian essays were equally ranging in depth and complexity, some containing descriptions of their child's great passion for bike tricks, others explaining a tough financial situation, and a few that just said that their nominees deserved a new bike because they "rock!"

The essays were a much more personal way to find the kids in Ventura's community that need new bicycles. The bicycles that are being given are not brand new, save for two specialized bicycles, but will be much appreciated by kids in Ventura who cannot obtain a bicycle through other means. My first two bicycles in life were won through a raffle, and that changed the course of my life. Knowing someone thought that a child was special enough to nominate him or her for a new bicycle adds a double punch of altruism to that experience.

The bicycle rodeo was an incredibly rewarding opportunity to give a little something back to the community that has shaped me into the cyclist that I am. Events such as these, that give children something that they could easily have gone without but will benefit from immensely, can be life-changing. Although we may not see the results immediately, that special feeling of "I won?!" sticks with people. For the rodeo's organizers and volunteers, that winning feeling is mutual.

Aspiranet is holding an open house today

Nearly 100 times a day, a child in California is placed in foster care according to the Children's Law Center of Los Angeles. Once there, he or she joins over 58,000 other children in the state who, for no fault of their own, have also been removed from their homes.

Throughout the month of June, Aspiranet, one of California's most innovative social services agencies, hopes to increase awareness about the huge need that exists for more foster parents in California.

"In 2010, we placed more than 700 children and teens with safe and loving foster families but we know that on any given day there are thousands more young people in California waiting for a foster family to call their own," said Vernon Brown, Aspiranet CEO.

"There are always, children in Ventura County waiting for foster parents to love and care for them. The need is especially great for teens," said Kris Bennett, District Director for Aspiranet Ventura County. "For a child or teen who has to be in foster care, the guidance of loving foster parents can help make the difference between success and failure.

Aspiranet's inventive approach requires that all foster children are thoughtfully placed with a family that best suits their individual needs. Once placement occurs, foster parents receive comprehensive compulsory training, educational programs, one-on-one counseling and ongoing 24/7 support and guidance.

They will be holding a Foster Care open house today from 4-7pm at Aspiranet Ventura, 1838 Eastman Avenue, Suite #100. Please RSVP at 289-0120 or www.aspiranetheroes.org.

School Ventura Job & Career Center

Ventura Job & Career Center June classes-4651 Telephone Road, Ventura - 654-3435

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

Tuesday, June 7 - Resumes that Sell, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm - Hands-on workshop providing assistance in completing a resume, cover and thank-you letters. Walk away with a portfolio that shows off professional skills and experience.

Wednesday, June 15 - Explore Your Future, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm - Complete a self-evaluation to help identify your skills and aspirations. Gain insight into the hidden labor market and develop a career strategy based on high-demand occupations.

Tuesday, June 21 - Winning Interviews, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm - Supplies the tools to make a lasting first impression when interviewing.

Career Shops are offered at no cost to Job Seekers. Space is limited. Prior registration required by calling the Ventura Job & Career Center at 805-654-3435 to enroll.

This'n'That Robert Bell pleads guilty to felony

Robert Jack Bell, the former owner of Ventura's closed Top Hat Burger Palace has pleaded guilty to a felony hit-and-run charge in connection with a fatal accident last month that occurred in the alley behind Foster Library.

In April he was arrested on suspicion of gross vehicular manslaughter and leaving the scene of an accident which resulted in the death of 24 year old Ryan Tremearne.

Judge Kevin McGee indicated that Bell will face some jail time when he is sentenced on June 24. Much less than family feared after his arrest.

Tremearne, was a senior at CSU Channel Islands and it could not be determined if he was walking or sleeping in the alley when he was struck. The alley was not on his way home so there was some confusion why he was even there.

Because of the way that the alley is situated prosecutors could not prove that Bell did anything negligent while driving down the alley except for leaving the crime scene.

Because the alley is dark and steep it was hard to prove that Bell actually saw the victim.

CMS represents PODS

Consortium Media Services, a marketing and media relations firm in Ventura was recently awarded representation of 21 PODS® franchises owned by Storage Mobility, Inc.

The announcement brings Consortium Media Services (CMS) representation of independent and corporate PODS franchises to a total of 30 locations in 12 U.S. states. The firm also handles public relations for PODS Enterprises, Inc. with corporate headquarters in Clearwater, Florida.

CMS works with national and local businesses and nonprofits including Aspiranet, one of California's largest nonprofit social service agencies, FOOD Share and others.

Storage Mobility, Inc. was founded in 2004 and is the largest independent provider of PODS moving and storage in the world with 21 franchise locations across the U.S.

For further information www.Consortium-Media.com and www.PODSUS.com.

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

A	M	I	S	S	P	A	S	E	T	H
B	A	T	H	E	R	G	P	Y	R	E
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Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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



Business



Brother and sister team Felipe and Jackie have all the right floorings for you

Formula 1 Flooring

by Sloan Rouberick

Ventura's home team in floor design and installation sector fills in the gaps using cutting edge technology with experience you can trust.

Felipe and Jackie Bermudez of Formula 1 Flooring created a business solution for Ventura that is just what the commercial business and home owner ordered. The Formula 1 team has been serving Ventura County for 20 years, offering an entire solution to floor remodeling along with experienced installers and educated designers to get the entire job done.

Formula 1 has added their expert craftsmanship to buildings such as the Water Mark, the Crown Plaza Hotel and many other areas in Downtown and throughout Ventura.

Felipe, Formula 1 floor contractor and installation team leader, started his career out as an inside sales representative. As an entrepreneur he saw some areas for improvement and development in customer

service. Efficiency, he said, in installation at his old jobs was lacking so Bermudez decided to make a business for himself. He explained that improvements in quality and production with an innovative entrepreneurial spirit is how to keep the referrals coming.

"We do everything," said Bermudez. "We offer many products that other companies won't."

Jackie, Felipe's sister, is the administrative and colorist side of the team. Jackie, who graduated from The Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandise in L.A., explained the formula that she uses when producing a final product for her customers. It lies in the clash of textile and color coordination, she said. Jackie also spoke about being a colorist and implied how her job at Formula 1 is a delicate balance between design and production. The desired product from the original orders do not always come out as intended, she said. Clients Change their minds and desires in the process of installation all the time, we have to be versatile.

Both Jackie and Felipe elaborated about the different methods they use to create a finished project. However, in the end, they agreed that not all projects are the same or created equal and flexibility is the key to customer satisfaction.

"I like to call myself the home therapist," said Jackie.

As an extra bonus, Formula 1 includes many perks that increase product value in the eyes of the customers, such as free Design Consultations along with monthly discounts from the manufacture and free estimates.

Felipe went more in depth into what his customers are looking for. Customers give us an idea and then we do the designing and

proposal. He added, we are good at what we do and feel that we are versatile enough to provide a quick and accurate estimate to meet any customer's qualifications." What we do is specialize in service."

Apart from the team's game strategy, Felipe says that another part of Formula 1's advantage lies in the product differentiation. We do things that other companies just won't do, like Static Dissipation flooring for rooms that store computers and servers, Sports Flooring, Commercial Flooring, and Eco Friendly Flooring, as well as Hospitality Flooring. A big energy saver in these tough economic times is heated tile, he added. You can pay off the price a heated tile installation within 5 years, just from the energy savings. These are specialization products that our competitors just don't offer.

Formula 1 has an extensive show room and has been at their current location, 1833 Portola Rd. unit J in the second building from the corner of Portola Road for 8 years. For more information please visit their web site at <http://www.formula1flooring.com/> or call 644 - 3346.

And look for their ad in the Breeze to receive a 10% discount.

Entrepreneurs Professionals

Lynn Sarkany is an active participant working for economic development in the Ventura area as a business owner, entrepreneur, and a college professor. She has an MBA in Marketing from the Claremont Graduate University of Claremont, CA. Since 1994, she has had a marketing consulting firm MarketFinders, that is based in Thousand Oaks and actively helps businesses in Ventura to grow.

As the recession has deepened, Lynn has been searching for ways to help small business to survive and thrive. This is why Lynn has decided to start Entrepreneurs Professionals, an organization where small business owners and decision-makers can connect to grow their businesses, become stronger business owners, and give back to their communities. She is looking to start a chapter in Ventura.

"I have been working to grow small businesses for a few years now, and what I started to notice the minute that the economic downturn hit, was that small business owners and decision-makers were feeling that they had fewer and fewer options left out there to grow a successful business. As the recession has deepened, these entrepreneurs have begun to not know what to do to maintain their competitive edge." Lynn also started to notice something else. "I have also noticed how many people have been laid off, can't find work, and are given the suggestion to start their own business. This is something that these people may be very excited about doing, but many don't have a clue as to where to start."

Lynn feels that the solution lies in the small business sector itself. "Small business cannot rely on the Government to help—we have to learn to be each other's 'Safety Net.' If America is going to bounce back from this economic turmoil, we need a new generation of entrepreneurship, innovation and stewardship to grow. We need to foster this not only in ourselves, but in our children as well."

The meeting format is simple, fun and interesting: Because Lynn is a Professor of Marketing and Public Relations at both the University of Phoenix and California Lutheran University, this experience enabled her to create a Business Development Curriculum for use by the members. This

allows them to work together in a workshop setting on modules that enable them to do everything from developing their business introductions, to creating strategy for how they can co-market their businesses and effectively utilize media. Every other week the group uses a "Meet and Greet" format that allows them to give a more detailed introduction for their business, as well as highlight one of the members as a speaker for the group. Every other week the group does a shorter introduction and then breaks into groups to complete one of the modules in the Business Development Curriculum. Through this program, members create their own business opportunities together.

For more information on how you and Ventura can get involved please visit their website at www.entrepreneursprofessionals.com, or call their toll-free message service, (888) 653-7810.

Hair-Free Forever

by Annie-Gabriel
Cht., LLHC

Nowadays there are so many ads and services offering hair removal, it could be confusing to someone who is new to it. Cheryl Conway, R.E. owner and operator of Ventura's 'Hair-Free Forever' knows the ins-and-outs of Permanent Hair Removal and has offered to inform and educate us.

Cheryl, originally a 'Philly-Girl', chose Ventura and harbor-living as her home base some years back and now, Philadelphia's loss is Ventura's gain! She lives here with her husband, David and puppy, Sara, who can be seen walking on the sandy beachfront most mornings. She studied and practiced in Philadelphia, working with The University of Pennsylvania and Children's Hospital. After relocating to Beverly Hills in 1997, she started specializing in eyebrow design. With this expertise she will analyze and execute proper corrections to achieve the perfect shape for each individual patient. After her years in Ventura, Cheryl is now known as The Eyebrow Queen! "Well-designed eyebrows are not trendy...they are one of the most important aspects of overall style and beauty, enhancing the eyes to make them the main focus of the face." Cheryl was quick to interject, "You can achieve a timeless, custom shape that will stay that way forever without the need to tweeze, wax, or worry about messing up the shape. By having a specialist analyze and execute the proper shape corrections, you will have the confidence of knowing you will always look your best."

Ms. Conway is also an Expert Consultant for the California State Board of Cosmetology and has her teaching credential in Vocational Education, Designated Subjects. She pioneered the creation of California's first apprenticeship program for Permanent Hair Removal.

The most common questions: "What is Thermolysis?" and "How does it differ from electrolysis and laser hair removal?" Thermolysis is not new technology, but most people have yet to hear about it and don't realize it is completely safe and effective on all skin types and hair color and is approved by the FDA for permanency. It is also safe to use on any area of the body.

Ms. Conway volunteered, "Though electrolysis had its place in 'hair-removal-history', Thermolysis now meets the high standards of today due to advances in science and technology. In layman's terms, Thermolysis is very fast, creating less sensation to the patient, so there is minimal discomfort and no skin damage! Conway added, "Once a hair is treated with Ther-

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Business

molysis using the proper technique, the follicle is unable to produce another hair... meaning the hair is now gone forever and will not grow back."

Though laser hair-removal has become a popular method, it is not the safest and is not permanent. It is also not for everyone, as it requires specific hair and skin color, as well as restrictions afterward, such as sunlight exposure and certain skin product interactions. The FDA does not approve laser hair removal for permanency, as the hair does grow back. So after spending a lot of money, investing a lot of time and enduring much pain, in some cases, the patient is left with the same amount of hair they started out with!

When choosing a Thermolysis technician, looking for qualifications and expertise is key. Advanced training and experience, along with the proper technique and tools, are necessary elements for healthy, hair-free skin.

Cheryl Conway, R.E., is a CA licensed electrologist and has been performing and teaching Thermolysis for more than 20 years. She can be reached in at 644-3900 and at www.hairfreeforever.net.

An interview with John Distad, Crowell Weedon & Co. Ventura

VB: What sets Crowell, Weedon & Co. apart from other firms in Ventura County - what appealed to you, that would benefit your clients?
 JD: "As a General Partnership, Crowell,

Weedon & Co. is a relatively small investment house, and as a result we're able to offer a much more personalized experience for my clients and myself. The firm has an unwavering focus on the individual investor and their needs. This is unique and provides the assurance that the Crowell Weedon independent research team will not create any conflict of interest as they provide recommendations aimed only at enhancing my clients' investment needs. I've often asked savvy investors, and experienced investment advisor colleagues to think of all the investment firms they know by name. Then I ask how many of those firms are still in business now, or have maintained the same name for at least 79 years of operations? Crowell Weedon is quite unique in that regard."

VB: What is your approach to financial planning for your clients?

JD: "My partner, John Clay, and I first assess the current investments held by our clients or prospects. We pick apart that asset allocation and contrast it with our own model asset allocations, tailored to the client's risk tolerance, age, experience and a host of specific personal future needs. Then we suggest reallocating assets in an efficient manner to achieve a more ideal mix of investments, which should better serve them in the future. We meet with our clients at appropriate intervals to assess the plan, its results, and our clients changing situations."

VB: Why did you choose to join Crowell, Weedon & Co.

JD: "I found that the big investment firms across the country were becoming

disconnected with my clients' investment needs, while being more and more driven by their hunger for greater profitability. The excessive fees and higher commissions were reducing my clients' investment performance. I have client relationships that go back more than 30 years, and span generations, but if those accounts weren't of a certain arbitrary size they were subject to onerous fees and minimum charges. I was forced to give up accounts to a call center, or just close them since it was just too expensive to maintain. It's against my philosophy to turn my back on loyal long-term clients. With Crowell Weedon I can be the authority in choosing who I serve."

VB: In these times of economic uncertainty, everyone has witnessed the effects of the recession. What general advice do you offer for your clients and readers about the future of our economy?

JD: "I've seen enough bull and bear markets, and good and bad economies, to have formulated some ways of coping with them as they arise. I see investment cycles, and economic patterns as a series of interconnected pendulum-like movements. Some swings are very short; maybe just minutes, for example, daily trading moves in an active commodity. Those shouldn't influence me, or my investors. I try to identify the longer duration swings and take positions accordingly, but I never get 100% out or even 100% in, because the biggest swing of momentum from my perspective is still taking place and is quite positive. I began my career with the Dow below 500 and now we are above 12,000. I believe it is going to move higher, so I

want my investors to own companies that will be participating in this future growth."

I invite you to visit our new Ventura office located at 5740 Ralston Street, Suite 301. Call 620-4700 or visit www.crowellweedon.com to contact me personally.



A recent guest on the Ventura Breeze portion of the Coach Ron Tunick radio show, on Ventura County radio station 1400AM KKZZ was former Ventura City Councilmember and current banker Ed Summers. They discussed both local events and the financial market. Coach Ron is on daily from 4-6pm with many wonderful guests, including publisher Sheldon on Monday's from 4-4:30.



Going Veggie in Ventura

1986-2011
for 25 Years



Ventura County Certified FARMERS' MARKET

We invite you to join us in a day of great food, fun & entertainment as we celebrate 25 years of bringing the freshest California produce straight from the farm to your table.

SATURDAY, JUNE 25TH, 2011
 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
 Main Street Mini Park



Downtown Ventura Certified Farmers' Market

Market Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

City Parking Lot
 Santa Clara & Palm Streets

www.vccfarmersmarkets.com



Show Time

Where The Music Flows

Summer is here!

by DJ Kohli Rocks

As of this writing, I'm anxious to unveil my latest live music spectacular! Titled, Ventura Music & Art Expo. A festival to help kick the summer music season off! Crossing my fingers that all goes well!

June 4th: Indie West Fest hits the Ventura Fairgrounds. Multiple stages of live bands; including: Cracker, Camper Van Beethoven, Redd Kross, Taylor Locke of Rooney, Jeff Hershey & The Heartbeats, Jackass, We Govern We, Jetstream, Gypsy Death Star, Lovebird, 50 Sticks of Dynamite, The Calamity, Happens Again and more! More info?: indiewestfest.com

Delaney Gibson will be visiting soon and has announced a show at Zoey's Cafe on June 17th. This will be her first show since she relocated to New York! Local Delaney fans seem quite excited! Her latest music video for La Di Da, currently had 2931 hits on YouTube!

Thanks for reading, and keep on rocking!

--DJ Kohli Rocks!

Kohlismusicpit.com

PS: be sure to check out my new music blog: www.theroadtoladygaga.info. I recently interviewed movie star/comedian, Coco Peru (Girls Will Be Girls, Trick, Too Wong Foo...!) I recently caught her new show, "There Comes A Time," She's soooo good! Find out on my blog, just what Coco Peru thinks of Lady Gaga! :)



Delaney Gibson will be visiting soon and has announced a show at Zoey's Cafe on June 17th.

Music Calendar 6/1 to 6/14

For more events go to Fun-in-Ventura.com

Andre's Wine Bar

1575 Spinnaker Dr. 805-642-9463

Live Music every Tues, Thur & Fri

Blackbeards Seaside BBQ

1591 Spinnaker Dr. #115 805- 650-7773

Karaoke every Wed 6-9pm

Live Bands every Thur thru Sun

Thur 6/2 - Bottom Feeders 6:30-9:30pm

Fri 6/3 - Ray Jay Band 7-11pm

Sat 6/4 - Barstool Pigeons 6-10pm

Sun 6/5 - Blue Stew 2-6pm

Thur 6/9 - Bottom Feeders 6:30-9:30pm

Fri 6/10 - The Preachers 7-11pm

Sat 6/11 - "710" 1-5pm, Live Bait with Jen Staves 6-10pm

Sun 6/12 - Blue Stew 2-6pm

Bombay's Bar & Grill

143 S. California St. 805-643-4404

All Star Blues Night every Wed 8pm

Afternoon Concerts every Sun 4pm

Thur 6/2 - Heavy (House Dance Party)
Fri 6/3 - Alexandra and the Starlite Band (Official Video Shoot), Ska Daddyz
Sat 6/4 - Jen Staves Band 5:30pm, Hind-site 9:30pm

Sun 6/5 - The Shoemaker Brothers

Cafe Fiore

66 California St. 805-653-1266

Live Music every Tue thru Sat

DJ in the TreeHouse Lounge every Fri & Sat

Wed 6/1 - Big Adventure

Thur 6/2 - Coso Live

Wed 6/8 - Big Adventure

Thur 6/9 - Bongo Town

It's All Good Bar & Grill

533 E. Main St. 805-641-9951

Open Mike Night every Wed

Majestic Theater

26 S. Chestnut St. 805-653-0118

Wed 6/8 - Stephen Marley

Fri 6/10 - The Skatalites, The Ska Daddyz, Elevator Ska

Tue 6/14 - Jack's Mannequin, Steel Train, Lady Danville

Watermark On Main

598 E. Main St. 805-643-6800

Intimate Acoustic with Dano every Tue

Jazz at the Mark every Wed

W2O Rooftop Lounge

598 E. Main St. (above Watermark)

805-643-6800

Friday Dance Party every Fri 9pm

Fri 6/3 - Midnight Band

Sat 6/4 - The Bomb

Sun 6/5 - Raw Silk

Zoey's Café

185 E. Santa Clara St. 805-652-1137

Songwriter's Round every Wed 8pm

Thur 6/2 - Seth Petersen with Rad Cloud & The Spires 8pm

Fri 6/3 - Jamie Drake & J.T. Spangler 8pm

Sat 6/4 - Amy Kuney & Neal Casal 8pm, Elevator Ska - Slinky Dress Martini Party 10pm

Sun 6/5 - Paul McCallum with Special Guest - an afternoon of Jazz 12:30pm

Fri 6/10 - Highbird Takeover 8pm

Sat 6/11 - Birdfeeder CD release 8pm

Tue 6/14 - Blue Grass Jam 6pm

The entertainment report

Silver screen

by Linde Carlson

Bridesmaids



Hello Ventura, these are my picks of the week

Bridesmaids is one of those hysterically, laugh out loud, non-stop rare comedies you see once in a lifetime. Written by Kristen Wigg of Saturday Night Live brings her character (s) right back into play in this female "Hang-over-esque" romp.

When Annie, (Kristen Wiig) is asked to be in Lillian's wedding (Maya Rudolph) reluctantly she accepts. The fun begins on the airplane on the way to Vegas to celebrate Lillian's bachelorette party, where Annie's fear of flying becomes apparent in an in-flight cavalcade of escapes escapades unveiling a catastrophic mess. Secrets are exposed from out of the blue, and friendships are tested under the stress of an impending wedding.

The characters were perfectly cast for this comedy. Raunchy in parts but not overly foul, unexpected and full of cleverly constructed naughty she-

VFS@THE MUSEUM 2011

The Bandit Queen

by Aricia Lee

Ventura Film Society

What becomes a legend most? A beautiful woman who knows what she wants and won't stop at anything to get it. As a precocious young Indian girl, Phoolan Devi was married off for the price of one bicycle and a goat. Her only apparent crime? Being an opinionated woman born into a low-caste family, for which she suffered a great deal. She was a "nobody" until she attempted to escape her destiny and be with the man she loved. Now she is a legend, known throughout India as the "Bandit Queen."

What makes "Bandit Queen" a true-grit Schwarzenegger-style "roaring action adventure," as The New York Times called it, is the way this

heroine seeks vigilante justice against her attackers—relentlessly, one by one, and often hiding in plain view. What makes this beautiful film a love story in a historical drama Phoolan Devi's innocent quest for love within a system that won't allow her that freedom. For her crimes of the heart, she spent 11 years in prison before becoming the first low-caste woman ever elected to the Indian Parliament, only to be assassinated in 2001. Still feared and revered, this rare and relevant woman's story comes to life on the screen in a searing performance by the great Indian actress Seema Biswas

The Ventura Film Society is proud to present this powerful film as part of our VFS @ the Museum 2011 Film Series, held the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of every month through December 6 at the Museum of Ventura County's Martin V. & Martha K. Smith Pavilion, 100 E. Main Street, Downtown Ventura. For advance tickets & information - www.venturafilmsociety.com / 628-2299.

nanigans, which will keep you reeling in a wave of outrageous circumstances that just get funnier and funnier. Don't miss it!

Pirates of the Caribbean – Stranger Tides



Johnny Depp returns in his iconic role as ditsy Buccaneer Jack Sparrow, the 4th film of the "Pirates" trilogy franchise. His comedic clumsy swash-buckling character plays host to a high seas cast, including Geoffrey Rush, and femme fatale Angela, (Penelope Cruz) who ignites the scene with her mysterious prowess. Luring Jack Sparrow into a frenzy of a trust me, trust me not dilemma she fervently tries to coax him onto the ship of fearsome pirate Blackbeard (Ian McShane) to search for the Fountain of Youth.

Hang on to the mast ropes Matey's, you are in for turbulent laughs aboard this high sea's adventure.

Two on the Aisle

Two Paws Up for Ojai's "Sylvia"

by Jim Spencer and Shirley Lorraine

he true kings and queens of our castles are...our pets. (Just ask Professor Scamp.) That's just one of the messages veteran playwright A.R. Gurney shares with audiences in "Sylvia," a funny, touching and unusual comedy now playing at the Ojai Art Center Theatre.

While wandering in New York's Central Park a disenchanted, middle aged stockbroker by the name of Greg (Buddy Wilds) is adopted by an adorable dog (Kimberly Denmarry). Her tag says her name is Sylvia.

Greg brings Sylvia home. His wife, Kate (Deborah Bertling), is not as enamored with Sylvia and Sylvia becomes the catalyst for the emergence of some underlying stresses in the marriage of empty-nesters Greg and Kate.

Greg discusses the Sylvia situation with Tom, another dog owner. Kate complains to her friend Phyllis and Leslie, her therapist. (All three parts are played by Matthew Talbott). But

Sylvia seems to fill a void in Greg's life, so she stays.

Both Greg and Kate carry on conversations with Sylvia as though there is full comprehension on both sides and, through Sylvia's responses, we find there is more understanding than the humans expect. Along the way the author offers all sorts of amusing observations about pets and pet ownership.

The first act is hilarious, as Sylvia and her owners jockey for position of "top dog" in the household. But, as is often the case with scripts based on an unusual or exaggerated plot device, the premise becomes less sustainable in the second act. While there are laughs, the momentum of hilarity is diminished.

The play ends somewhat abruptly with a brief narrative covering a period of 12 years. Nevertheless, the show's perspective is generally fresh, which accounts for its success as a community theater staple for the last 15 years.

The Ojai Art Center Theater's production is blessed with a very capable cast, which is critical to making the script work well. Buddy Wilds, with his likeable, down-to-earth sincerity and spot-on delivery and timing, makes the character of Greg a true everyman with whom we all identify.

Kimberly Denmarry imbues Sylvia with the right proportions of energy, exuberance, enthusiasm and pet independence.

One of the hardest portrayls is that of Kate. Although not a true villain, the character is the antagonist who generates the conflict of the piece. But the audience must still like and identify with her for both the plot and comedy to work. Deborah Bertling does an admirable job of meeting the challenges of the part.

Matthew Talbott plays all three of his roles - Tom, Phyllis and Leslie - with distinct, over-the-top demeanors that heighten the contrast with the real world characterizations of Greg and Kate by Wilds and Bertling.

"Sylvia" plays until June 19, 2011 at the Ojai Art Center Theatre, 113 S. Montgomery St., Ojai. Fridays & Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 7 p.m. Tickets: \$18 general. \$15 for seniors, students and Art Center members 640-8797. www.OjaiACT.org.

The Lighter Breeze

Zits



Shoe



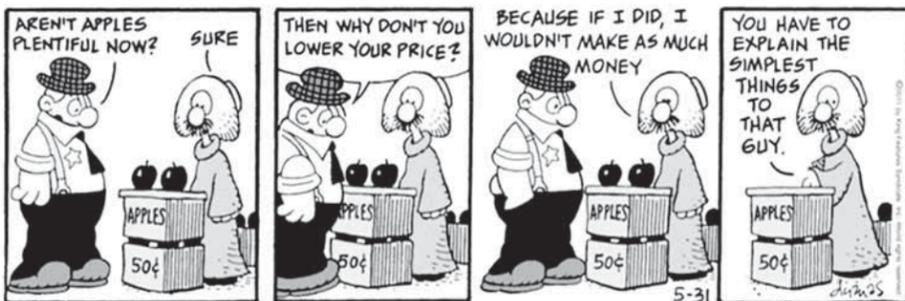
Mother Goose and Grimm



Crock



Sam and Silo



Vintage Crazy Kat (3/20/19)



Solutions on page 17

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

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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Solutions on page 17

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Writer Kingsley
- 5 Hot tub
- 8 Adam and Eve's son
- 12 Dog owner's chore
- 13 Work unit
- 14 Burning heap
- 15 High score in darts
- 17 Ogler's look
- 18 Apportion
- 19 Kitchen rack fillers
- 21 "Memory" musical
- 24 Greek vowel
- 25 Hoist
- 28 Beams of light
- 30 Agree silently
- 33 — Khan
- 34 "Likewise"
- 35 Rotation duration
- 36 Thither
- 37 Fine
- 38 Information unit
- 39 "— Kapital"
- 41 Christmas refrain
- 43 Father Time's prop
- 46 Festive parties
- 50 Exile isle
- 51 "Who Wants

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
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15					16				17			
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36				37					38			
		39	40			41		42				
43	44				45			46		47	48	49
50					51	52	53					
54					55				56			
57					58				59			

- 6 Crowbar
- 7 Census statistics
- 8 Gymnastic maneuver
- 9 Something superficially attractive
- 10 Genealogy chart
- 11 Divorce settlement portion
- 16 Depot (Abbr.)
- 20 Mexican money
- 22 "Star —"
- 23 Beelzebub
- 25 Funny Leno
- 26 Back when
- 27 Wonka creation
- 29 Vacillate
- 31 Feedbag morsel
- 32 Coloring agent
- 34 Slam-dance
- 38 Trumpet sounds
- 40 "— of Two Cities"
- 42 Early bird?
- 43 Lily variety
- 44 Stop up
- 45 Recedes
- 47 Caprice
- 48 "... baked in —"
- 49 Molt
- 52 Exist
- 53 Uncivilized

DOWN

- 1 "Mamma Mia" group
- 2 Manhandle
- 3 "— do for now"
- 4 Cheap merchandise
- 5 Witness

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Lots of possibilities begin to open up by midweek. Some seem more appealing than others. But wait for more facts to emerge later on before you consider which to choose.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Bravo to the determined Bovine. While others might give up, you continue to search for answers. Expect your Tauran tenacity to begin paying off by week's end.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You might want to consider stepping back from the task at hand for a while. This could help you get a better perspective on what you've done and what still needs to be done.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Your keen Cancerian insight should help you determine whether a new offer is solid or just more fluff 'n' stuff. The clues are all there, waiting for you to find them.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Being ignored is difficult for any proud Leo or Leona. But pushing yourself back into the spotlight might be unwise. Instead, let things work themselves out at their own pace.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Trying to uncover a colleague's secret under the pretext of showing concern is ill-advised. Control your curiosity in order to avoid raising

resentment in the workplace. **LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) Expect to hear good news about a loved one. Also, be prepared for some changes in several family relationships that could develop from this lucky turn of events.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Some surprises are expected to accompany a number of changes that will continue through part of next week. At least one could involve a romantic situation.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) You might be upset by some of your critics. But most of your associates continue to have faith in your ability to get the job done, and done well.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) A workplace goal that suddenly seems out of reach is no problem for the sure-footed Goat, who moves steadily forward despite any obstacles placed in his or her way.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Uncertainty about who is right and who isn't might keep you from making a clear-cut decision. Wait until you know more about what you're being asked to decide.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Be careful to keep your emotions in check when dealing with a demanding personal situation. You need to set an example of strength for others to follow.

BORN THIS WEEK: You have an extraordinary ability to rally people to do their best. You would be a treasure as a teacher.

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Tourism

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643-0963

Auto Zone
2610 E. Main St.
648-3592

Auto Zone
9459 Telephone Rd.
659-9662

Dave's Marine Fuel Service
1404 Anchors Way Dr.
644-6776

Firestone Tire & Service
200 S. California St.
643-6101

Gold Coast Recycling
5275 Colt St.
642-9236

Jiffy Lube
1098 E. Thompson Blvd.
652-0173

O'Reilly Auto Parts
4225 E. Main St.
289-9250

O'Reilly Auto Parts
147 E. Main St.
653-0774

Pep Boys
4001 E. Main St.
658-7333

Pep Boys
2705 E. Thompson Blvd.
652-0653

Texaco Xpress Lube
4624 Telephone Rd.
639-0144



City of Ventura
Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event
Next Event, June 18

FREE, and open to all City of Ventura residents
Bring your oil, filters, coolant and batteries.
Collections accepted the third Saturday of each month except December.
Call 652-4525 M-Th 8 am-5 pm for appointment.
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- Spilled oil from just one oil change can pollute one million gallons of water – a year's supply for 50 people
- Don't mix ANYTHING with the oil you collect
- Allow your filter to drain overnight and place in a zip-top bag



This ad paid for by a grant from Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle).

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