

FREE

VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

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July 13 - July 26, 2011



Ventura City Council Member Carl Morehouse and his dance instructor Jessica Morgan will be one of the featured acts during the upcoming Oxnard Salsa Festival's Dancing with Our Community Stars contest.

City council member can dance

by Tim Pompey

It's been said that when it comes to the issues, politicians must be good dancers. But for Ventura City Council Member Carl Morehouse, real dancing is no joke. You see, he's been selected by Turning Point Foundation as their "community star." Morehouse will represent Turning Point at the 5th annual Dancing with Our Community Stars contest and fundraiser at the upcoming Oxnard Salsa Festival July 30-31. The dance contest will be held on July 31 at 1:00 p.m. at Plaza Park in downtown Oxnard.

The contest is a twist on the hit TV show "Dancing with the Stars," except in this case, community "celebrities" from Ventura County have been paired with local professional dance instructors. It's a charitable fundraiser complete with online voting buttons. Pick your star, push the button, donate to your favorite charity (www.oxnardsalsafestival.com/dancing_stars.aspx).

While the idea sounds fun, the preparation is hard. Contestants go through 9 weeks of rehearsals to prepare for the contest. Still, Morehouse seems to be enjoying himself as he trains with Jessica Morgan, a dance instructor with Arthur Murray Dance Studios in Thousand Oaks and Ventura. "We're studying 2 days a week for two hours per day to work up our routine," he said. "It's not an easy process. Like anything else, there are a whole bunch of basic steps



The Ventura County Fair will be held from August 3-14 with this year's theme The Bounty of the County. There will be special admission days and wonderful grandstand entertainment. Photo by John Ferritto.

and moves that you eventually string together into the whole routine. I'm having to learn the basic pieces first, and then Jessica is linking them together."

No stranger to the arts, Morehouse has been involved in music and theater since he was a teenager. "I did theater in high school in West Lafayette, Indiana," he said. He's also played musical instruments since he was 10 years old, starting

with the trumpet, then trombone, and finally moving to guitar when he was 15.

He was initially approached by Clyde Reynolds, the Executive Director of Turning Point Foundation. "Clyde asked me to dance in the contest," said Morehouse. "I don't know why; maybe because he and his wife, Denise, had seen me and my wife dancing at social gatherings."

Continued on page 6



On Thursday, June 9, employees from the Ventura Police Department (VPD) once again participate in the annual Southern California Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) benefiting Ventura County Special Olympics. This was the twenty second year the VPD has participated in the annual LETR.

At 8am, Ventura Police Chief Ken Corney along with members of the VPD (both sworn and civilian), City of Ventura employees, law enforcement agents from the Secret Service and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and Special Olympics Athletes, met at the steps of Ventura City Hall and carried the Special Olympics' Torch, also known as the Flame of Hope, through the streets of Ventura.

The LETR is an international fundraising and public awareness campaign for the Special Olympics and is comprised of the Torch Run, Tip-A-Cop, and other fundraising events.

Parking meters—here today, gone tomorrow?

At the Ventura City Council meeting held on July 11 Ventura City Attorney Ariel Calonne and Community Development Department Director Jeff Lambert presented their analysis to the Council regarding the initiative that would force the removal of parking meters in downtown Ventura and also limit other paid parking without a 2/3 voter approval that will be on the November ballot.

Lambert's report spoke of the financial impact that the removal of the meters would have on the city. He stated that if the meters were removed and the revenue is lost that it would cost \$275,000 in general fund to maintain the new police security downtown and the public WI-FI system now in place in downtown because of the meters. He also pointed out that if the City has to sell the meters that we could expect to get back about 25% of what was spent on them.

He also stated that "No other city in California have ordinances which forbid charging for parking."

Attorney Ariel Calonne expressed his opinion that state law controls traffic regulation including parking meters and that clearly this is an illegal use of the initiative process. He went on to state that "Most of the ballot measure is potentially defective because the courts have ruled the power to install and remove parking meters is exclusively controlled by city government and not by the voters."

Some of his reasons for his opinion were:

The vehicle code controls the city's power to regulate parking.

The courts have determined that regulations regarding traffic, including parking meters, is too dynamic (con-

Continued on page 7

This issue's
Face of Ventura
by Johanna Spinks
is on page 10.

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Fair Poster winners Sam Coultas, Lauren Fairall, Amanda Zavala and fairgrounds Chief Executive Officer Barbara Quaid were a happy group at the unveiling

Ventura County Fair poster winners presented

Amanda Zavala, 15, of Thousand Oaks was the first place winner of the Ventura County Fair poster with her watercolor rendering of the fair's theme this year which is "Bounty of the County."

Amanda stated that "I am so amazed and honored." She went on to say "Seeing the ocean through the rides was gorgeous."

"Each artist has a different view

on what the Bounty of County represents," said Barbara Quaid. "The fair poster is about diversity and participation from the community."

The first-place winner received the grand prize of \$500, second place winner got \$250 and the third-place winner received \$100.

The second-place winner was Ventura's own 17-year-old Sam Coultas, who is also an accomplished balloon

artist and drummer. Sam provided his balloon art to excited kids who attended the fourth of July celebration at Ventura College at the Ventura Breeze booth. Sam has been drawing since age 3 and finds his art experience very relaxing and is a stickler to small details.

About 70 posters were submitted and all will be on display in the Youth Building during the fair.



Ventura County Fair

Special Admission Days

Youth Day- Friday, August 5- Kids 12 and under get in free all day

Dollar Day- Wednesday, August 3- \$1 entry until 3pm

Seniors and Persons with Disabilities Day- Open at 10am, Tuesday, August 9- Seniors (62+) and Persons with Disabilities get in free

Military Day- Thursday, August 11- Military with a current, valid ID get in free all day

Carnival Wristband Days- Thursday, August 4, Monday, August 8, Tuesday, August 9, Thursday, August

11- Wristbands are sold from 11am until 6pm for \$25. Good for unlimited Carnival Rides until 7pm

"Fair Cares" Food Drive- Thursday, August 4- Purchase your adult admission ticket and donate 5 cans of food for Food Share before 3pm and get a FREE return fair ticket. Return ticket valid Mon-Thurs, Aug 8-11

Grandstand Entertainment

Motorsports; Wednesday and Thursday, August 3 & 4, 6pm (\$5 Adults, 12 and under free with paid adult)

Pat Benatar and Neil Giraldo; Friday, August 5, 7:30 PM

Clay Walker with Matt Morris; Saturday, August 6, 7:30 PM

Dia De La Familia; Entertainment TBA

Three Days Grace; Monday, August 8, 7:30 PM

The Four Tops; Tuesday, August 9, 1pm

The Beach Boys; Tuesday, August 9, 7:30 PM

REO Speedwagon; Wednesday, August 10, 7:30PM

Lifhouse with Toy; Thursday, August 11, 7:30 PM

Trace Adkins; Friday, August 12, 7:30 PM

PRCA Rodeo; Saturday and Sunday, August 13 & 14, 2pm and 7pm

All schedules and artists are subject to change without notice

Transportation

Save gas and money and park at one of the convenient shuttles for an easy ride to the front gate! Shuttle stops at Ventura County Government Center, VUSD Lot on W. Stanley Ave at Hwy 33, Pacific View Mall, Harbor Blvd at Schooner Drive, and Oxnard Performing Arts Center on Hobson Way.



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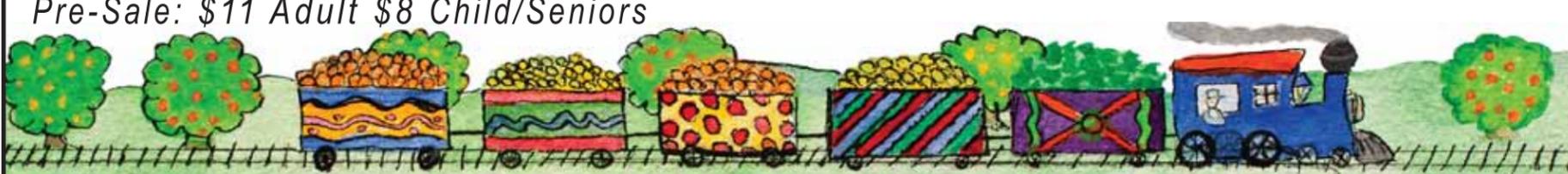
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City News

City council rejects midtown senior housing project

by Tim Pompey

After 5 years of planning, including review and approval by the City's Design Review Committee and the Planning Commission, the Planning Commission had anticipated bringing a proposed 36,000 square foot senior housing project before the City Council for possible approval.

The project, proposed by Robert and Linda Freeny, owners of California Oaks Realtor and Seaward Mortgage, was to be located on the south side of Telegraph Road at the intersection of Telegraph Road and Ivy.

However, an appeal of the Planning Committee's approval for the project was filed by local property owner Marisa Murphy and others. That appeal was finally brought before the City Council during their June 20 meeting and, in a 5-2 vote, the Council voted to uphold the appeal and deny approval of the project.

While some community support was expressed during public comments for the Freenys' idea, the argument against the size and location was summed up by Murphy herself. "Although we are not against the business," she said, "and we recognize that it may add value to the city, might clean up the area, we're simply attesting to the size of the structure in this small awkward lot." Murphy suggested that the Freenys scale down the size of the building "to fit the given area."

Linda Freeny responded that she and

her husband deserved consideration for going out of their way to comply with all city requests for changes. "All I ask is that you consider that we have done everything we were ever asked to do and then some," she said.

Responding to arguments that compliance to design changes may have implied City consent, Council Member Mike Tracy noted that no consent was ever intended in any previous meetings. "I don't think we said there's some guarantee that we're going to be back here tonight and if you meet the lot coverage of 45% and don't do anything with the Ivy lot, that we're going to be happy," he said. Tracy summed up his complaint by saying, "I just think we're trying to make something happen on these two properties that can't be done"

The Council's decision led to some frustrated comments from Council Members, particularly Neal Andrews and Brian Brennan.

Andrews openly expressed his disappointment with the City's vote. Calling the process and the Council's behavior "schizoid at best," he noted that "we seem not to know what we want or not to be able to communicate from one meeting to the next what ought to be." Andrews described the City's planning process as a "morass of indecisiveness" and implied that the Council's approach to planning was incompetent. Andrews called the denial a "travesty."

Brennan took exception to Andrews' comments. "The last meeting was to leave the variances in place, to leave all the opportunities there, to see how much we could soften the blow in the neighborhood that we were putting a pretty massive structure into," he said. "My vote is not going to folks here because it's not quite to their liking, it's because it didn't get where I wanted to go."

According to their most recent administrative report on this agenda item, the Council's vote means that the "project size combined with the uniqueness of the street-to-lot, in a transition from commercial to existing resident neighborhood provide site and surrounding conditions that make this project incompatible."

The Council left open the possibility that the Freenys could file a new application and start over, a task Linda Freeny admitted was overwhelming. "This has just been too long, too much, and too much stress," she said. "I can't even visualize going through this anytime after tonight."



Cheryl Heitmann announces candidacy

Ventura resident and current Executive Director of the Ventura Music Festival Cheryl Heitmann has announced her candidacy for the Ventura City Council. Stating her reasons for running Heitmann said "I love this city and am deeply committed to this community. It's a great place to live, work and raise a family and one of my biggest priorities is to do my part to help protect our unique quality of life."

Pointing to the tremendous challenges the City of Ventura is faced with during these challenging economic times, Heitmann identifies her experience in both the public and private sectors as an opportunity for her to contribute the kind of leadership she feels is needed on the council. "How we conduct the city's business and how we plan for a sustainable future will require creative thinking, community participation, and the right kind of leadership. I think my experience will prove invaluable," Heitmann said.

Citing her experience as past president on the Ventura County Community College District Board, Ms. Heitmann is no stranger to making tough budget de-

isions in the face of declining revenue.

She is the Executive Director of the highly successful Ventura Music Festival. She is currently a board member of the Ventura County United Way, Downtown Ventura Partners, Ventura Chamber of Commerce, and the Ventura Visitors and Convention Bureau. She is also a member of the downtown Rotary Club of Ventura.

Previously, she served as a board member on the Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance and the Ventura County Mental Health Board. Her work has led to numerous honors: Top 50 Women in Business (Pacific Coast Business Times), 2008; Top Non-profit Leaders, Pacific Coast Business Times, 2010; and Outstanding Citizen Gold Award from the California Teachers' Association, among others.

Ms. Heitmann lives in Ventura with her husband. Two of her three grown children and five-month-old grandson are also Ventura residents. To learn more or get involved, email Cheryl@cherylheitmann.com or visit www.CherylHeitmannForCityCouncil.com.

There will be many opportunities in the coming months to meet all of the City Council candidates in the Breeze and public forums.

Mayor not to seek re-election

Fifty-five-year-old Ventura Mayor Bill Fulton has announced that he will not seek re-election in the November elections. There will be 3 open seats up for election in November. He was voted by other City Council members to be mayor 2 years ago and has been on the Council since 2003.

Fulton said that he looks forward to spending more time on his personal and professional life and on his health because he is suffering from retinitis pigmentosa, an eye disease. You can read his entire announcement at <http://fulton4ventura.blogspot.com>.

On his blog he stated "Eight years ago, I stood on the steps of City Hall and announced that I was running for the City Council. Today I am writing to let you know that I have decided to step down and not run for a third term this fall. It's been a great ride. I love being on the City Council, and I especially love being Mayor. I am very grateful that you have given me the opportunity to serve you."

Regarding the elections incumbents Christy Weir and Carl Morehouse have stated that they will run for another term. So far Kenneth Cozzens, William Knox, Brian Lee Rencher, Ed Alamillo and Cheryl Heitmann have also announced their candidacy.

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Continued on page 9

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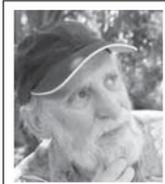
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Opinion/Editorial



Sheldon Brown
Publisher

■ As you now know Mayor Bill Fulton will not be running again for city council in the November election.

Absolutely nothing at all personal, but I like it when some incumbents don't re-run for office.

It is very difficult to beat the incumbents (it did happen in the last election) and I think that we should have some new city council members whenever possible to bring new perspectives to the council.

As always there are some outstanding candidates that have already announced that they are running, so you will have some very tough decisions to make.

■ In this issue is the second part of my article about taking golf lessons at the Olivas Links. The course is very beautiful and maybe the nicest "park" in Ventura with some old farm equipment laying around and wonderful birds and rabbits and some beautiful ponds. A wonderful place for a picnic if it wasn't a golf course.

So it got me thinking why not take one Sunday a month and close it as a golf course and let the non-golfing public be allowed to use it? "We" paid a very large sum to recently re-build this course so I think that "we" all should get to enjoy its beauty. Golfers make up a very small percentage of Venturans and one Sunday a month they can get their exercise by taking a walk at the Harbor.

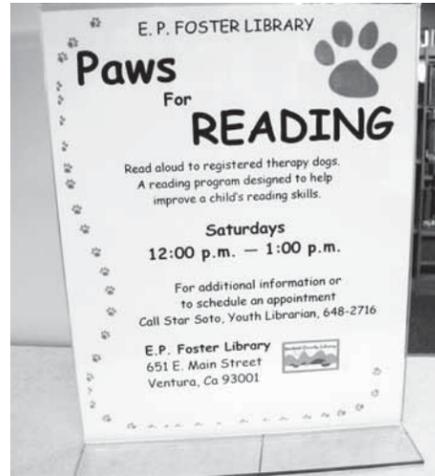
I know that there would be concern about the maintenance of the course for picnicking but I think that that can be sufficiently controlled and respected.

■ It is just so much fun to babble about the downtown parking meters that I will

do it one more time. People have told me that instead of using the meters they shop at the mall so I checked it out (I'm not a shopper so don't go there very often).

So I went to the mall, finally found a parking space after looking for 10 minutes and went up to the eating court.

The walk from my parking space to the court was 3 times (I walked both) the distance than parking my car for free on Poli (always open spaces) and walk-



Scamp asked me to include this photo so you know what wonderful things dogs can do (as if you didn't already know).

ing down the very short block to Main. Walking back up the hill is even a little good exercise.

But potential removal of the meters may be a moot point anyway. Recently I asked Ventura City Attorney Ariel Calonne if this initiative would even be legally binding and he told me that he wouldn't state an opinion until he was asked by the city council, on Monday (see article on page 1) he gave his opinion that the courts

have ruled that the power to install and remove parking meters is controlled by cities and not by voters. So even if this initiative passes it might not mean a thing.

■ This issue's Face Of Ventura portrait by Johanna Spinks (which she is doing for free if you didn't know that already) is of Youth Librarian Star Soto who is in charge of the second floor Children's Department at Foster Library downtown (you can read more about her at her portrait).

If you haven't taken your children to the second floor of the Foster Library lately you certainly should, it is wonderful and amazing. Entirely for children's books and events with story times, special programs (the Ojai Raptors will be there on July 20), music and much-much more. And at least 4 times the size of the children's area at Wright Library.

There's much easier free parking right behind the library (off of Chestnut or Poli) and a direct entrance right into the second floor. And a wonderful mural is being painted by MB Hanrahan (also a portrait sitter) at the entrance with a small portion painted by Girl Scout Troop 60186 (more about this in a future issue). Inside a mural is also being started and besides the zillions of books there is art and many play things for the little ones.

And it is also a great opportunity to walk downtown with your child and perhaps go to a movie or introduce them to food from many different countries that is available at the many restaurants. It might be fun to read about the countries first before eating their food.

You can call 648-2715 for more information regarding their hours and all of the programs available for the young ones at the library.

Mailbox

Sheldon,

Each California city's granny flat law must conform in spirit to AB1866, which went into effect June 1, 2003, and which all other cities have used as the date for implementation. To the extent each city exceeds these statewide granny flat parameters, that city's ordinance is null and void on its face and AB1866 prevails. Even Los Angeles' Planning Director, Michael LoGrande, has a one-page directive online listing the 12 steps involved. City Attorney Calonne and City Manager Rick Cole have known this, but never noted it in several years of discussion. It was after I mentioned this at the council meeting in question that Mr. Calonne acknowledged the issue for the first time publicly, prompting Councilmen Andrews to raise it as an issue and Councilmen Brennan, Tracy, Monahan and Councilwoman Weir to vote for a rewrite and a date change to 2004. The 1987 date was arbitrary unless one attributes the motive to potential city retro-revenues to be derived during the ensuing 17 years as a part of the equation.

AB1866 attempts to make the process of legalization as easy as possible. It encourages cities to regard these dwelling units as part of the regular and affordable housing inventory. The city of Santa Cruz has been in the forefront. Santa Cruz even arranges for low interest financing where needed.

I attended a meeting of 50-100 at the Bell Mattress Factory several months ago and they were a pathetic, sad, bewildered crowd. The city had definitely not treated them in the manner that Santa Cruz, Oroville and Marin County have. Marin County's amnesty plan seems the most equitable I've seen.

Regards,
John Stewart

Breeze:

The City of Ventura had a fabulous time celebrating Independence Day by presenting the 4th of July Street Fair. I want to thank the thousands of community members, tourists, vendors, entertainers, downtown merchants, volunteers and staff for contributing to the success of the event. I also want to apologize for the shuttle bus glitch. Although we had final confirmation with the shuttle bus company we have worked with in the past, they failed to show up to transport people from the County Government Center to the Street Fair, despite our numerous telephone calls.

Our thanks to Roadrunner Shuttle, who provided shuttle transportation for the remainder of the event. Thousands of people enjoyed a beautiful day of fun food, good entertainment and a variety of shopping opportunities, and together we celebrated and enjoyed the beautiful City of Ventura on our country's Independence Day.

Georgeanne Lees
Cultural Affairs Supervisor
City of Ventura

Dear Editor,

Per Ms. Carlson's comments dated June 29, 2011:

I invite Ms. Carlson to present us with some concrete evidence supporting the serious accusations made against petition volunteers. I look forward to reading her documentation in a future column that

shows no merchants have been negatively impacted by the parking meters since their installation and a promise from the city that permit parking will be restricted to areas where they are currently in place with no fee increases.

Hopefully the data provided will be complete unlike the downtown survey conducted by Kathleen Eriksen, Executive Director of the DVP(DVO), in which details were excluded from her May article. When questioned by Councilmember Andrews during a City Council meeting on June 13th, she revealed that only merchants open at the time the poll was taken were interviewed. While forty-two approved, more than fifty letters expressing opposition were submitted to the Councilman. This is by no means an "overwhelming consensus."

Personally, these tactics are offensive to informed voters and serve to further discredit proponents, including the organizations that supposedly exist to promote business. Taxpayers deserve better.

Sincerely,
M. Fidele

Because of lots of Ventura news the police reports and harbor blotter do not appear in this issue but they shall return.

Happiness doesn't depend on what we have, but it does depend on how we feel towards what we have. We can be happy with little and miserable with much.

—W.D. Hoard

Correction

Car show and fine food.

Car enthusiast Juan Aquilar, owner of The Cottage Café, located at 2611 E. Thompson presents a monthly car and bike show in the rear parking behind the Cottage from 9am-noon on every third SATURDAY (not Thursday) of the month.

Run by another car enthusiast C. Darryl Struth (we forgot the C) you are welcome to be part of the show whenever you wish.



News and Notes

Bonsall shares thoughts about Canada Larga annexation—part 2

by Tim Pompey

In a recent City Council meeting, the fiscal pros and cons were discussed regarding the annexation of the North Avenue and part of the Canada Larga property owned by the Bonsall family into the Westside Community Plan. It created a significant stir within the community and led to several hours of debate. In the end, Buz Bonsall himself requested that the City move forward on the plan as amended without including his property. His speech before the City Council was brief, but in this interview, Bonsall talks about some of the history behind the annexation proposal as well as his hopes for the future development of his Canada Larga property. This is part 2 of a 3-part interview.

T: Is it true that you've been discussing some type of development on this property with the City since the late 1990s?

B: Well, they are the ones who discussed it with me. Their current general plan was an outgrowth of the 1989 General Plan, which was called the Comprehensive Plan, and by state law they are supposed to update them every ten years. So in 1998 they started their update for a plan that was supposed to be updated by 1999. That plan didn't get done until 2005. During that process there was a Visioning Report that talked about what the City citizens'

vision was for the 10-year growth plan, or no growth, and in that study, they came up with a report that called for the annexation of the North Avenue and Canada Larga, and by Canada Larga they meant the valley floor of Canada Larga. The report called for "annexing the North Avenue area and Canada Larga to allow for more comprehensive planning on the west side." I've been a part of this plan since that beginning.

T: Why has it been so difficult to move this project forward?

B: Because it's been difficult for them to move their project forward. They didn't get their general plan update done until 2005. Then they decided they would address these different areas such as Canada Larga within the area plans that they are associated with. So, when they undertook the Westside Community Plan, it was originally called the Westside and North Avenue Community Plan. That included the incorporated area of the west side of the city limits and the North Ventura Avenue area that we're a part of for potential annexation to the city, and they haven't gotten done with that yet.

T: At the council meeting on April 19 there were concerns about infrastructure and public safety. Would you care to comment about what you feel can be adequately ad-

dressed at Canada Larga?

B: They had commissioned a fiscal impact study to find out what those infrastructure needs and costs might be, and in the case of Canada Larga as an addition to the North Ventura Avenue area—the valley floor—the addition of Canada Larga didn't need any additional police or fire because the addition of the North Avenue by itself is what requires the police and fire. So, the addition of this two-digit number of rural residential or equestrian type parcels wasn't significant. The fiscal study showed that the highest positive revenue to the city was the annexation of North Avenue and Canada Larga, and that surplus for annexing these areas was ultimately 1.6 million dollars a year.

T: But do you feel like their concerns can be adequately addressed?

B: I think, if they want to look at the facts, Canada Larga is the only interchange on the Highway 33 freeway that has two onramps and two offramps in the expected places that people normally look for. That's one infrastructure item—that Canada Larga freeway access as well as Ventura Avenue access is here. We're also adjacent to the City's water plant, so there are no infrastructure costs associated there. The water is next door to us. They are our neighbor and any development here would have to pay for the pipeline extensions for that. The sanitation district plant that would serve these parcels, that is also adjacent to our property. And so there is no additional cost of running any city services. Obviously any development here that would be annexed into the city would be paid for by the developer.

9-1-1 or visit the emergency department immediately.

When a swarm of bees is discovered the best course of action is to just give them a wide berth. Many swarms of bees are simply moving through an area, following their queen as she relocates. When the queen gets tired of flying and sets down on an object, such as a tree or a vehicle, the rest of the bees will also land, covering her in one large mass for protection. Once the queen decides to move on, which could be up to a couple days later, the other bees will follow. Eventually the bees will establish a new hive, and sometimes this can be in an undesirable location. When a bee hive becomes a nuisance due to its location the property owner can contact either an exterminator or a bee removal expert. A bee expert is preferred because the bees can be relocated to an area such as a farm, where they can pollinate orchards and produce honey.

Bees are a natural and necessary part of our environment, and this is why it is not standard procedure for the Fire Department to destroy them when we respond to a swarm. Generally speaking, offensive actions against bees are only taken when a true attack is taking place.

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

City council member

Continued from page 1

Morehouse agreed to be Turning Point's community celebrity because of the organization's good reputation for providing services like food, shelter, and housing to the mentally ill and homeless in Ventura County. "There's a good relationship between me and Turning Point," he said. "As a City Council member, I'm extremely grateful because they're stepping in and assuming a role. They are 'walking the walk' to get these people off the street."

He feels very supportive of Turning Point's role in the community. "Between Project Understanding and Turning Point there is for me a real affinity, mainly because of my own spiritual background, my belief in doing good for people, and my own political persuasions."

Morehouse has also worked with Turning Point through their annual Kinetic Sculpture Race at the Ventura Harbor. He even wrote the theme song for the race and recorded it with Big Bad Voodoo Daddy band leader Scotty Morris.

The contest will feature 6 community stars and their dance instructors playing in front of a panel of judges at the Festival. Supporters of each celebrity can provide donations to their favorite charities by voting online. In the past 4 years, more than \$150,000 has been raised for local nonprofits.

In addition to Morehouse, local contestants include Laurie Eberst, President/CEO of St. John's Regional Medical Center, Oxnard City Council Member Tim Flynn, Lisa Guerrero, Chief Investigative Correspondent for Inside Edition, Al Jones, Regional Vice President of First California Bank, and Danielle Navas, City Treasurer for the City of Oxnard.

For Morehouse, he views his involvement as a great opportunity. "I feel honored to have been asked," he said. "It's fun and it will be a good experience. I'm glad to be doing it because it kills two birds with one stone—doing something enjoyable like learning to dance salsa and doing something good for Turning Point."

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Bees are natural and necessary to environment

by Kris McDonald
Captain, Ventura City Fire Department

African honeybees were imported to Brazil in 1956 and soon after combined with the existing European honeybee to produce a hybrid, the Africanized honeybee. This hybridization process has expanded ever since and now affects a large portion of North America. Commonly referred to as "killer bees" due to their more aggressive behavior, this reputation has been greatly exaggerated in the media.

Bees, in general, are not intimidated by people and may aggressively protect their hive. Once disturbed they may pursue a person up to ¼ mile. They are sensitive to vibration and noise disturbances, especially operation of power equipment. If you do receive a bee sting, or multiple stings, it is important to remain calm and remove the stingers as soon as possible. Care should be taken to not "squeeze" the stinger as you remove it, as this will further inject any remaining venom. An item such as a credit card or fingernail can be used to "scrape" stingers away. Self-treatment for a bee sting consists of washing the area, applying ice packs, using an appropriate anti-itch cream, and following up with your physician as needed. Should any symptoms of an allergic reaction begin to appear, such as difficulty breathing or hives, you should contact



News and Notes



CAPS CHAT

Summer Reading Program at E.P. Foster Library

by Susan Klipp

On a warm Wednesday afternoon, CAPS Production Technician, Jairo Brito, held the camera steady while the rhythmic thumping of a drum held a pint-sized audience spell-bound. The Saticoy Youth Turtle Clan Dancers danced, sang and beat their drums for the "One World Many Stories" Summer Reading Program at the E.P. Foster Library in downtown Ventura.

The Summer Reading Program kicked off June 12th and runs through August 13th. Currently there are 400 preschool to high school-aged children signed up for the program. "It is important to teach children to read for fun," said Star Soto, EP Foster Children's Librarian. To that end, the program gives prizes to children for the amount of time they read or are read to. Older children can earn double points by reading to younger children. "This program is made possible through the generous support of the Friends of the Library," said Soto. Book donations are accepted by the Friends of the Library and the sales of those books support the library and its programs.

All summer, children can join story hours, special programs and events all centered on the reading program's theme. "We want the library to be a place for kids to hang-out during the summer. The entire upper floor of the library is now a children's library. Even the computers are for children's use only. We encourage children to read to each other and to interact with the staff. It is a warm, friendly and relaxing place to be," said Soto.

CAPS plays an important role in the Summer program. Each Wednesday during the program, a special guest or group performs for the children and a CAPS Staff Member is there to capture it all. "We are all part of the same community," says Soto, "CAPS helps us to expand our reach in our community. The programs aired on CAPS help to draw people to both the library and to the CAPS stations. And there is the fact that the kids love to see themselves on TV."

Currently showing on Ventura Television (VTV) Channel 15 is the kick off performance for the Summer Reading Program, 'The Nifty Balloon Show'. Airtimes on Channel 15 are: Monday thru Friday @ 11AM and Saturday – Sunday @ 5PM. For additional programs and airtimes, check out programming schedules at www.capstv.org. Join magician, Shawn McMaster on Wednesday, July 13th as he performs for the Summer Reading Program at 3:30pm.

It's not too late to sign up for the Summer Reading Program. There are still plenty of summer hours left to spend with a good book and good friends at the E.P. Foster Library. For more, great library programs and to view the new murals

painted by Ventura's own MB Hanrahan and friends, visit the library at 651 E. Main Street or find them on the web at: <http://www.venturabreeze.org/locations/epfoster>. For questions about the Summer Reading Program, call Star Soto at 648-2716.

To find out how CAPS can help you expand your reach in your community, contact us at 658-0500 or visit www.capstv.org. Find us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/capstvventura) and follow us on Twitter (www.tiwtter.com/CAPSTVtweets)! What's your story – We can help you tell it!

Workshops on writing, publishing and selling your book

by Nanci Cone

Perhaps you have a great idea for a novel or a self-help book but you don't know where to start. If that's the case, these workshops are definitely for you!

Mary Embree, author, editor, literary consultant and founder of the California Literary Arts Society (CLAS) is presenting five 2-hour workshops that will take place July 30, August 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2011, 2-4 pm at Oxnard Performing Arts Center, 800 Hobson Way in Oxnard.

Each workshop is only \$29 or \$125 for the series. Mary says, "You will learn how to produce a book according to professional book publishing standards, and self-publish and sell it yourself. You will also receive detailed informational handouts during each session."

The first two classes (July 30/August 6), "Book Proposal/Business Plan, Part 1 and Part 2" offer a step-by-step guide to preparing your proposal, which is similar to a business plan, or project design. The handout for these classes is "How to Prepare a Book Proposal." It teaches you:

- How to focus on your subject
- How to describe your book to others
- How to organize your material
- Whether you have a salable idea
- How to sell yourself

Session 3 on August 13 is "Editing Your Book" and you will learn about book publishing standards, styles, and new rules of writing. By learning how to do your own editing, you will save time and money by following these guidelines. Students will receive "Book Editing Standards and Principles" handout.

Session 4 on August 20 is "The Business of Self-publishing" and this explains the choices you face such as finding a publisher, forming your own publishing company, or going with a company that will do some of the work for you at a price. The handout for this is "Self-publishing Information."

The final session on August 27th is "Marketing and Promotion" and this covers the various facets of promoting and selling your book from networking to speaking engagements, seminars and workshops to getting your book reviewed. Each student will receive the handout entitled "Promotional Ideas and Social Networks."

For more information or to sign up for any or all of these sessions, contact Ms. Embree at maryembree@gmail.com or call 985-1113.

A portion of the profits will be donated to the California Literary Arts Society (CLAS), a non profit organization.



Taking a break from their booth at the Rotary 4th of July events at Ventura College to read the Ventura Breeze is (top) balloon artist Sam Coultas, left is face painter Ana Baker, then you know whom, and on the right is Ana's mom Carmen Iraola and her friend Lourdes Urick. The day's events featured music, food, the Rubicon in Wright Library, kid's games and the always popular fireworks. Photo by Dan Holmes Photo

Parking meters

Continued from page 1

stantly changing) to be determined by the voters because of the cumbersome delay and large expense of the election process.

The parking meters, which were installed about a year ago in downtown Ventura have been very controversial and vehemently opposed by some merchants and downtown shoppers and supported by others. Opponents say the meters are confusing to use and bad for downtown business.

In discussing the initiative, before taking their final vote on how to proceed Councilmember Neal Andrews (who has always been opposed to the meters) said "Let's just take them out and solve this right now or let the ballot measure just proceed and let the voters determine what should be done."

Deputy Mayor Mike Tracy said that he supports the parking meters and feels that they have been a plus for the city and for downtown but supports the initiative pro-

cess and respects all of the effort that the initiative people have gone through to get it on the ballot (collecting 10,000 signatures). He does feel though that further study should be taken to determine the validity of the measure so he made the proposal that "We accept adding the measure to the November ballot and at the same time have the City Attorney further determine if it is valid under California law."

Councilmember Christy Weir, who stated that she is opposed to the initiative process said "It would be helpful to have a judge look at it before the elections."

Tracy's proposal passed 4-3 with Councilmembers Andrews, Monahan and Morehouse voting against it for a variety of reasons.

This basically means that it will probably be voted on in November but if it passes it may not mean anything except that Venturans will have had the opportunity to express their feelings either way.

Photo Contest



The winner of the photo contest in our last issue is Charlotte Cumming from Oxnard who correctly identified the photo as being from the old Peirano's Grocery on Main Street that is now Jonathan's Restaurant. Look for another photo contest in a future issue. She chose to receive her girt certificate from The Greek At The Harbor.

We asked her how someone from Oxnard identified this photo. She told us "Hey, man...just 'cause I live in Oxnard doesn't mean I don't move around. I spend a lot of time in Ventura proper...Farmers' Market, artsy-fartsy events, eating, spending time with friends who live there, watching the scenery, etc."

"Thanks for everything, Sheldon...the Breeze is a favorite of mine. Keep up the good work. Your entire crew is to be commended for all their contributions. Also appreciate the portraits by Johanna Spinks."

Charlotte



News and Notes



The downtown post office murals show Ventura's history

The man behind the murals

by Chloé Sehati

The post office in downtown Ventura isn't just a post office: it's a place exploding with history, and an interesting one, too. At the first glance walking in, almost every surrounding wall shows off its gleaming colors in a great mural; but how many people truly know of the glory they let their eyes pass every day? The mural – and the man who painted it – are actually remarkable parts of Ventura's history that are, unfortunately, not greatly known.

His name is Gordon Kenneth Grant,

an artist born in Oakland in the year of 1908. Knowing his entire life that he held a great talent and interest in art, he devoted his energy to becoming educated, attending the School of Architecture at U.C. Berkeley and the School of Arts and Crafts. It was shortly after this time of learning that he moved to the Santa Barbara area, becoming closer to the community of Ventura as well.

Grant's interests were majorly devoted to Indian subject matter, painting, sculpture, and etching; additionally, he held

the title of a silversmith. It wasn't until the 1930s when his profession starting becoming serious. Gordon Grant began receiving government grants to paint murals. This is when he painted a mural for Ventura's brand new post office – and for this, he chose a theme popular for murals in public buildings at the time: people at work. Although Grant portrayed the major industries of Ventura County in the 1930s (such as oil, citrus, packing, and dairy), he made two features pop out. The first is that the workers, although they are busily attending to their tasks, seem grave and unhappy as they do not converse or even show a smile. This brings up the assumption that Grant disapproved of the work that was forced in modern times. The second feature brings out his admiration of Indian cultures, as every feature of every worker looks the same.

The hobbies of Grant, however, were definitely not in the ordinary, affecting his career as a whole. His success came to a halt when his life was suddenly ended by a catastrophic incident. Grant, while constructing a model cannon, accidentally let the heat of his cigarette cause an explosion, killing him at the age of thirty-two.

McCune Foundation awards

The McCune Foundation recently made grants to 14 Santa Barbara and Ventura County organizations which support parents, bus riders, gay activists, youth, or others seeking to improve their lives and neighborhoods. More than \$350,000 in grants was made for the first of two grant cycles this year.

How will these grants transform local communities? Projects funded will work toward safer roads for cyclists, parental involvement in the classroom and in shaping school policy, protection of renter rights, more buses, juvenile justice reform, access to healthy food, better mental health care, and more.

Grassroots groups that meet the Foundation's funding guidelines may submit a letter of inquiry by the next deadline on July 11. For details on applying for a grant to be awarded in November, visit www.mccunefoundation.org.

The McCune Foundation was established in 1990 by Sara Miller McCune and the late George D. McCune. The Foundation makes grants in Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties. Its goal is to build social capital through empowerment and engagement of citizens at the grassroots level.

The Ventura Climate Care Options Organized Locally (VCCool) received \$25,000 to organize, mobilize, and sustain a diverse network of cyclists to advocate for bicycle route improvements and transform Ventura into a bicycle-commuter friendly city.

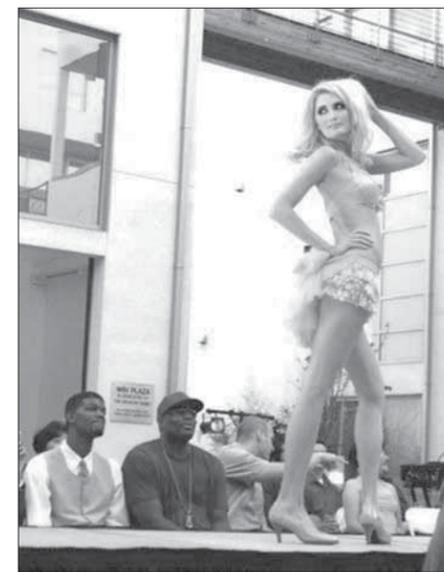
Soroptimist scholarship awards

Soroptimist International (SI), a local service club for business and professional women with the goal of making a difference in the lives of women and

girls, announced this year's scholarship award winners. Its members raise funds throughout the year to provide two scholarships each Spring and to provide additional awards to local community organizations serving women and girls.

The Violet Richardson Award honors young women for their volunteer efforts in their school or community. It is awarded annually to a teen, ages 14-17, and her volunteer organization to recognize the inspiration and dedication it takes to be a volunteer making a difference in the lives of others. This year's scholarship was awarded to Sarah Ortiz, a senior at Ventura High School. Sarah's award automatically makes her eligible for an additional award from Soroptimist International. Sarah has been accepted with honors to UC Riverside in the Fall.

Soroptimist International is a part of the world's largest classified service organization for executive and professional women. Headquartered in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, SI has more than 100,000 members in 1,500 clubs in 21 countries. For more information about Soroptimist and how you can become a member, please call Sherry at 701-1251.



Hawk-Hoops-Sports-Foundations founder, Jaquin 'Hawk' Hawkins and President Eric 'E-Class' Greyson are center stage as a Make-A-Mark Model works the Runway. Photo by Denise Jasura

Fashion - art and hoops

by: Annie-Gabriel, C.Ht.,C.At.

The WAV was lit up and in high gear, with the 1st Annual Hawk-Hoops-Sports-Foundation's Fundraiser for Foster Parents Association of Ventura County (FPAVC). It was a team effort on the part of many, including Make A Mark Productions, All Marie Lingerie, and A Shore Thing Salon.

Juaquin Hawkins, NBA Spokesperson and Founder of Hawk Hoops Sports Foundation (HHSF), were on hand with his organization's leaders, and delivered a speech that didn't leave a dry eye in the house. Mr. Hawkins, affectionately know as 'Hawk', talked genuinely, about how the organization got started, his shortened NBA career, and his stroke at 34 years old. Being an over-comer/survivor, he decided to do something to bring not only stroke-awareness to inner city and foster kids, but, also, nutritional guidance and the importance of being physically fit for health. He believes no one is too young to start. Hawk was passionate with his words and shared, "I had a stroke at 34, and while dealing with that, I realized I wanted to do something of value. Since I came from a single-working-parent home,

Continued on page 9

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION EVENTS

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August 20

September 17

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RESERVATION
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News and Notes



Umbrellas booted from beach

by Sheli Ellsworth

The cheery umbrella field on the beach, past Ventura Harbor, has been harvested for the last time. Owner, Donna Moore, who opened the umbrella rental company in 1998, says that the state's Department of Parks and Recreation has chosen not to renew her contract. However, Moore's umbrellas will still be available for special events like beach weddings.

Moore says she was told that her Yellow Umbrella Company contract was too much trouble for the already strained state agency to deal with. She admits that payments were late because the business did not produce revenue quite as she expected. Moore also works at the Cliff House Inn on special events to supplement her income. The Park and Rec agency reported that the forms required for the small business along with the late payments was more than the agency could manage at this time.

Moore originally started the business hoping she could encourage downtown

visitors to spend time near the water while emphasizing the need to keep the beaches clean and accessible. "In the future our state parks will no longer be able to sustain the cost of maintaining our parks," said Moore. "My solution is better and follows the European concept of beach preservation."

Moore's idea of a private and public collaboration is the sort that many communities encourage in the current economy. They bring money into the community with a minimal cost to the city or county—in this case, the state. Unfortunately, because of the state's budget crisis, it is no longer able to sustain the administration of all of these joint ventures.

At Moore's umbrella business, a person could rent two beach umbrellas and two fresh towels for \$20 a day. A catering trailer was also available for snacks, sun products, etc. Moore is planning to continue with the special events throughout the summer of 2011.

Fashion

Continued from page 8

I knew I wanted to help foster kids, street kids and at-risk kids do something productive with their time." He went on to say, "I want to make sure these kids feel special and wanted, and realize they can be a part of something bigger."

He now does events that benefit foster and at-risk kids via Youth & Celebrity Basketball Camps. He also partners with other organizations and sponsors to put these events on. As his Coordinator Amber Schwartz said, "It's all for the good of the kids."

Earlier in the day, Mr. Hawkins and his HHSF Hawk Hoops Sports Foundation's President and CEO of the Las Vegas HHSF branch, Eric Greyson, aka: 'E-Class', were at Ventura College, doing a Basketball Camp for the local kids with some TV celebs from 'The Bold & The Beautiful', 'The Ugly Truth' and 'The Game'.

Later that evening, they arrived with their entourage, at the WAV's (Working Artists Ventura) outdoor community amphitheater, to enjoy the professional runway show under the stars.

All Marie Design partners, Emilia Marie-Founder and DJ Divine-CMO, joined efforts with the other Designers and Co-Producers, Make-A-Mark's Danielle Viale (also one of the models) and Michelle Ranae, with some fashion extras by Tracy Hang.

Director/Choreographer of Ventura's Fashion Week, Kryztofr Kaine, diligently worked with the Models and lent his expertise to create a runway show to rival any in LA or NY. He announced from the stage, "100% of tonight's proceeds are going directly to Foster Parents Association of Ventura County (FPAVC). This was a labor

of love for all who donated their time and talents to make this a success."

Professional make-Up artists, Marlene Lopez, Kim Cowgill and Beatrice Najera showcased their artistic talents, to further dramatize the look and feel of the Runway. Publicist/Writer, Annie-G of Beatnik Entertainment, and her Photographer, Denise Jasura, were on board for Interviews and Photo-ops on and off the Runway, as well as Pete from Mister Industry Photo, G&W for the vibrant light and sound creations, while other volunteers served wine and coffee and kept everything flowing smoothly. The witty MC duties were done by Holly Silva.

After the Fashion Show, attendees were invited to stay for the Art Show in the WAV Theater, featuring Andrew Kosum, Verdell Wright and Grant Ensminger, as the live concert, featuring Making History, Coso Live and Soulfire took place on the runway stage.

City of Ventura classes

Continued from page 4

Arundell Circle
Class # 29571 Tu/Th
5-6 pm 7/19-7/28

Intro to Aikido for Teens & Adult
14 years-Adult \$60

Japanese martial art whose physical goal is to neutralize attacks via deflective techniques, pins and throws. 3669-J Arundell Circle
Class# 29573 Wednesdays
6:45-7:45 pm 7/20-8/10

Level 2 Hoop Habit HoopDance
14 years-Adult \$48

Take your Hooping to the next level! Learn how to layer combinations into jumps. Increase cardio & impact; prepare to sweat

Dance, dine & delight all summer for just a song!

**Great concerts at
Ventura's most historic party site!**

Barbara Morrison

July 16 Jazz & Blues
Presented by Barbara Meister: Barber Ford, Volkswagen, Subaru, RV
This peerless vocalist of sassy and swinging blues-drenched jazz, backed by piano, bass and drum virtuosos, radiates both humor and a storytelling intensity with an Ella-Billie-Dinah-Etta-Sarah stage presence. A real Jazz and Blues legend!

Upstream

July 23 Reggae & Soca
Presented by Santa Barbara Bank & Trust

This originals and covers band from Trinidad & Tobago will have dancers grooving to perfect vocals and sweet harmonies blending soca, reggae and Carib beats.

Olivas Adobe, 4200 Olivas Park Drive, Ventura
Reserve tickets \$20 and tables \$10 at 805-658-4726
Concerts 7:30 to 9:30 pm – Doors open 6:30 pm
Bring your own picnic or call 805-650-7559 by Friday
noon for a \$15 hot buffet dinner from Buena Ventura
Catering

with head to toe dance-fusion movement. At Ventura NIA Center, 2343 A Thompson Blvd. Instructor Andi
Class # 29530 Wednesdays
7-8 pm 7/20-8/10

Evening Body Hoops at Barranca Vista
14 years-Adult \$48

Hoop for fun while you flex and strengthen the core, burn calories and tone the entire body. Instructor Lori at Barranca Vista 7050 Ralston
Class#29537 Mondays
7:15-8:15 pm 7/25-8/15

Line Dance with a Twist
18 years-Adult \$60

Line dance with a twist of salsa, ballroom and jazz. Great exercise, great fun. Instructor Jackie Ringhof At Barranca Vista 7050 Ralston
Class # 29674 M/W
1-2 pm 7/25-8/24



Community Memorial Hospital's Auxiliary awarded four members of the hospital's Junior Volunteers program who plan to pursue careers in healthcare with scholarships totaling \$6,500 from its Maria Cavallo Scholarship Fund.

Sam O'Donnell (second from right), 2011's highest Maria Cavallo scholarship recipient, is with CMH Auxiliary President Judy Miller; Dan Rusthoi, nephew of Maria Cavallo; CMHS President and CEO Gary Wilde; and Junior Volunteer Chair Edie Marshall.

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The Ventura Breeze Presents The Face Of Ventura



Star Soto

Portrait by Johanna Spinks

Star Soto was born in Queens, New York, and traveled to the west coast as a young mother in the '70's. After first settling in Santa Barbara, she and her family soon decided that they would be happier in Ventura. She's been here ever since. Star has a daughter and two sons, and sent all three on to college. After that, she herself went back to school, earning a degree from the University of California, Northridge in Early Childhood Education. Star has always been deeply involved in children and education. Her work in local preschools lead to her job at the Ventura County Library, where she headed the highly popular Books To Grow On Project, a program geared to supplying preschools and home daycare providers with quality books, props and activities to use with the young children in their care. Also during this time, she was working behind the scenes with the library's Children's Services Division, designing and presenting summer reading programs, puppet shows, and storytelling workshops among other things. In 2001, she was transferred to the H.P. Wright Library and promoted to Children's Librarian. Happy in her element, she took over the worn collection, stumbling programs and brightened up the Wright library making it a welcoming and beneficial place for families and teens. Star started the popular Paws for Reading Program which matches therapy dogs with young readers to help enhance their confidence and reading skills. Paws for Reading just celebrated it's fifth year and has had over 600 children reading to canine volunteers and their owners.

In 2009 she transferred to the E. P. Foster Library where she began to revitalize the children's collection and the

second floor Children's Department. In a little over a year, she has managed to double the juvenile circulation with her story times and other programs. These programs have been a consistent opportunity for parents and children to enjoy educational time and discover the pleasure of reading together. Star has brightened and changed the lives of many children by encouraging them to read. She has made learning and reading an enjoyable experience with creativity and fun.

Star is greeted with squeals of joy and hugs by many children all over Ventura who recognize her from her work at the library. She loves seeing "her" kids growing up and introducing them to new authors and books in the juvenile and young adult collections in the library. Constantly roaming the 2nd floor of the E. P. Foster library, she isn't hard to spot. Just listen for the booming laugh, and look for a crowd of children, she'll probably be right in the middle of them.

Star's greatest loves are family, children, books and traveling. Her three children, who all attended Ventura High School, have blessed her with 10 grandchildren. Star loves to travel and collect music boxes from the places she visits. She has visited five of the seven continents, hopes to get to Africa but is not so sure about the Antarctic.

On July 11 she was recognized by County Supervisor Steve Bennett, and others in a "surprise" special ceremony held at Foster Library for her Paws For Reading Program. There will be an article regarding this event in the next issue of the Breeze.

You can call 648-2715 for more information regarding their hours and all of the programs available for the young ones at the library.

Star started the popular Paws for Reading Program which matches therapy dogs with young readers



Captain Bill Finley



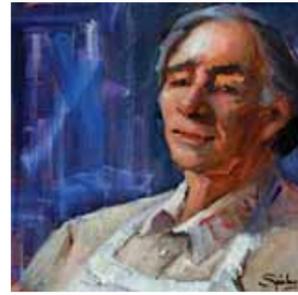
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Rachel Morris



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Jerry English



Bonnie Weigel



Manuel A. Valenzuela



MB Hanrahan



Emily Olszowy



Olivia Simonson



Lynn Mikelatos



Lorenzo DeStefano



Gene Dunn

The Breeze is proud to present "The Face of Ventura by Johanna Spinks", an on-going art project by award-winning portraitist Spinks to paint 55 worthy Venturans, each in a single sitting, painted directly from life at this artist's Bell Arts Factory studio in around two hours -and each captured by The Breeze. No photos are used, the direct interaction with the sitter, hearing and painting their story, is the purpose of the challenge, along with the artist's wish to showcase the relevant world of painterly portraiture today. This feature will run in the Breeze over the next two years. Readers are invited to nominate a special person for the series.

"The Face of Ventura By Johanna Spinks" : Images Copyright Johanna Spinks.



Westside ArtWalk

Re-imagined ArtWalk a summer highlight

The new Westside ArtWalk will unite Ventura's vibrant arts community in one weekend of coordinated events. The two-day celebration of the arts will run Saturday, July 23, 2011 from 1 to 9 p.m. and Sunday, July 24, from 12 to 5 p.m.

Westside Artwalk is a free, self-guided tour of dozens of galleries, studios and pop-up venues in Ventura's Westside Cultural District and Downtown. A signature event for Ventura for many years which brought in cultural tourists from all over, it is now being run by an all-volunteer group which has added new life to the event. ArtWalk was previously put on by the City of Ventura, but fell victim to budget cuts this year.

"We weren't about to let the momentum die. Instead we formed a creative team which is invigorating the event with new ideas," said Josh Addison, founder of the Bell Arts Factory and chair of the Westside ArtWalk Committee.

Venues include the Bell Arts Factory, Working Artists Ventura, Stoneworks Studio and Gallery, Vita Art Center, Art City, Arts on Main, Red Brick Gallery, San Buenaventura Gallery, Artists' Union Gallery, The Museum of Ventura County, and many more. New temporary galleries will be put together just for the event.

Westside ArtWalk organizers also established an Artist of Distinction award for an outstanding, distinguished body of work, combined with outstanding service to the arts and larger Ventura community. This year's recipient is Hiroko Yoshimoto, whose work is on exhibit at the Vita Art Center, 432

N. Ventura Ave., Studio 30.

A highlight of this year's event is a showing by Focus on the Masters of some of the area's most well-known artists, along with photographs by FOTM Founder Donna Granata which document their work. The exhibition will be housed in the Erle Stanley Gardner Building ground floor, on the corner of Main and California streets. The exhibition features rare objects from the FOTM archives, including artist's portraits, publications and original artwork by John Nava, Gary Lang, Joe Piasentin and Michael Rohde, among others.

"It is so exciting to have the opportunity to share with ArtWalk participants the historic significance of our archive – a treasure-trove of information about our fabulous Ventura County artists," Granata said. "We'll show amazing works rarely seen in a venue such as this and help the community realize that collecting museum-quality art is not as difficult as one would think."

Also new this year is the Bowl Hop. Buy a \$25 limited edition, hand-made ceramic bowl during Westside ArtWalk and your ceramic bowl and punch card can be taken to any or all of the participating restaurants. Proceeds benefit FOOD Share and ArtWalk. The bowls will be available for purchase at the Ventura Visitors Center, 101 South California St., and Vita Art Center, 432 North Ventura Ave., Studio 30.

Two terrific after-parties will round out the weekend's events. One is Saturday night at the Museum of Ventura County, 100 East Main St., Ventura. to honor the featured artists. It begins at 7 p.m. and will feature food and entertainment.

The ArtWalk map is available in this issue of the Ventura Breeze for you to carry with you, at www.westsideartwalk.org, the Ventura Visitors Center, Bell Arts Factory, and all participating venues.

The weekend culminates in an arts auction and party Sunday eve-

Hiroko Yoshimoto, Painter
Westside ArtWalk
"Artist of Distinction"
Exhibiting at Vita Art Center
July 2011

Photographer, Cole Smothers

Westside ArtWalk • Ventura's art evolution
 Saturday July 23, 1-9 p.m. & Sunday July 24, 12-5 p.m. • WestsideArtWalk.org
 Free, Self-Guided Art Phenomenon • Over 100 Galleries & Studios • After Parties • Live Music • Bowl Hop

ning from 5-8 p.m. at the Erle Stanley Gardner Building which will benefit Focus on the Masters and its arts education programs. The gallery auction highlights include original work by John Nava, Gerd Koch, Cheryl Ann Thomas, Sylvia Torres, and Christine Brennan. Silent auction items will

also be available. For more information on the FOTM after party, call 653-2501 or visit www.focusonthemasters.com.

For more information on Westside ArtWalk, visit www.westsideartwalk.org, email info@westsideartwalk.org, or call 746-2818 or 794-7670.

- FREE Self-Guided Art Tours
- Galleries
- After Parties
- Live Music
- Bowl Hop

WESTSIDE ARTWALK

Downtown Ventura & Westside Cultural District

Saturday, July 23 • 1-9 p.m.
 Sunday, July 24 • 12-5 p.m.

Bowl Hop! Buy handmade ceramic bowl for \$25 and fill it up at participating restaurants. Pick up bowls at: Ventura Visitors Center, 101 S. California St.; Vita Art Center, 432 N. Ventura Ave.

Artist Celebration After Party! Saturday, July 23 • 7 p.m. Museum of Ventura County, 100 E. Main St. • Music • Food • Drink

For info: www.westsideartwalk.org



Ventura Harbor Village



Ventura Arrrgghhbor Village
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1:00-4:00 p.m.

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Alastair Greene a man and his passion

Alastair Greene plays often at BlackBeard's Seaside BBQ. It sometimes, however, is a trick for Lorie Iversen (co-owner) to actually book him. It isn't that Alastair doesn't want to play; it is just that

he is that busy. It is always a treat to hear him and the rest of his band play.

When not playing at BlackBeard's Alastair is touring with The Alan Parsons Live Project. Recently, he returned from playing in Argentina and Chile. He has toured all over, even in Holland with 5 concerts in 5 days in December 2010.

Currently, he is quite busy with his new CD that will be coming out very soon entitled "Through The Rain." His last

release was "Walking In Circles." When playing at BlackBeard's you get to enjoy listening to a few of the cuts from that particular CD as well as other material.

Alastair's musical talent on lead guitar is truly amazing. It is no wonder why he is so busy. On May 15th his band played at the 2nd Annual Festival of Orange County. The Alastair Greene Band will be playing at The Savoy in Santa Barbara for Thursday Night Blues. They can also

be seen at the El Capitan Canyon Summer Concert Series as well.

In a nut shell, to see Alastair Greene and his band is truly a treat. And you can listen, dance and meet new and interesting people while enjoying the beautiful Ventura Harbor by visiting all of the other shops and wonderful restaurants, many of which also have music to enjoy. So check the entertainment out and some good food as well.

News and Notes



Fife Family Farms, based in Visalia, has participated in the downtown Ventura Farmers Market since 1986. Photo courtesy of Brenda Davis

Ventura Farmers Market: Going strong at 25

by Mira Reverente

Ryan Fife remembers a small farmers market with only 15 vendors. The year was 1986.

Twenty-five years later, the third generation farmer, now proudly counts himself among over 100 families who regularly participate in the downtown Ventura Farmers Market.

"They've done a really good job of taking care of the farmers so we have remained loyal," said Fife, who now runs the family business based in Visalia.

Secret to longevity

"We have such a great customer base and farmers who bring consistent, high-quality produce all the time," said Karen Schott, operations manager of the Ventura County Certified Farmers Market Association (VCCFMA).

According to Schott, the downtown Ventura Farmers Market has been around

the longest, in the entire county. There are other growers like Fife Family Farms who have been with the coop since day one.

The market averages 50 to 65 vendors each season, although there are over 100 families who participate. "It depends on the season and what they're growing, that's why they come and go," said Schott, who has been with the coop since 1989.

Extending product lines

The market has also become more encompassing, according to Schott. In the 1980s and 1990s, only food and agriculture products were being sold. "Farmers have become more creative in extending their product lines and using their crops more fully," said Schott, citing apples as an example.

When apples are not in season, the same farmer can be seen selling apple cider or apple chips. Fife Family Farms, which specializes in citrus and grapes, sells dried

fruit and raisins during its specialty fruits' off-seasons.

"We start drying nectarines, peaches and grapes in August so we can have dried fruit available in the fall," explained Fife.

The product lines of local vendors have also gotten more diverse and exciting, said Schott. There are more Asian vegetables lately. The farmers market is also increasingly being used as a testing ground for new items. "You can't find cilantro elsewhere except the West Coast," she said.

Birthday festivities

To toast its birthday and a quarter of a century's worth of success, the farmers market celebrated with good food and fun activities on June 25.

Themed "Going Veggie in Ventura," the event attracted government agencies, entertainers and local restaurants alike. The Ven-

tura Police Department offered free child fingerprinting, while the Ventura Water Department shared new information on water efficiency and drinking water quality. The City's Environmental Services Department and the City of Ventura Library Services were also on hand to disseminate valuable information to the community.

Country singer Steve Hill and toy-maker Gene West also regaled the crowd with their talents. Watermark on Main and Sidecar Restaurant provided cooking demonstrations and offered free samplings of their delectable dishes.

The Downtown Ventura Farmers' Market is held every Saturday morning from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon at the city parking lot on the corner of east Santa Clara & Palm Streets. For more information, please visit www.vccfarmersmarket.com.



The 7-day bike ride from San Francisco to Los Angeles "AIDS/LifeCycle is produced by the LA Gay & Lesbian Center and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and is designed to bring attention to and end the pandemic and human suffering caused by AIDS.

Ventura was honored to be one of their stops at San Buenaventura State Beach as dozens of trucks carried zillions of tents and gear and a full kitchen on wheels provided hot full dinners (the leftovers were donated to FOODShare) to the approximately 2,300 riders participating in the event. The food was served by many wonderful volunteers and staff totaling almost 600.



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Senior Living



Dr. Joan is currently on her third career as a mystery writer

Senior Cone-nection

Murder most wet!

by Nanci Cone

Former university professor and director of a counseling and guidance graduate program, Dr. Joan Blacher is currently a licensed psychotherapist in Ventura and a board member of the California Literary Arts Society (CLAS). While most of us would be happy having a successful second career and looking toward retirement, Joan launched a third career as a murder mystery writer.

Readers were first introduced to protagonists Ardis Jensen, a forensic psychologist turned campus counselor and detective Larry Hopkins when *Murder Canyon* was published in 2002. The book was so well reviewed that Joan brought her central characters back in the recently released *Lethal Lake*.

In this new adventure, Ardis is reluctantly drawn into the hunt for the murder of a professor on the campus where she works. Using her forensic skills, suspects begin to emerge including a violence-prone football player ousted from the team; an alcoholic professor denied tenure by the committee chaired by the victim; the victim's estranged second wife and her lover, a Beverly Hills chef; a mob-connected criminal attorney; a brother-in-law outraged about the professor marrying so quickly after his first wife's death; and an emotionally troubled student. As in her first book, you find yourself caught up in the suspense of this terrific whodunit!

Both books are well-crafted, fast-

paced and riveting. The characters are people you know and the settings are familiar since the action takes place in Ventura County. With her experience as a psychotherapist, Dr. Blacher crafts a heroine who misses nothing and is a worthy 21st Century successor to the marvelous Miss Marple!

When asked what inspired her to begin writing mysteries, Joan commented, "I've always enjoyed reading mysteries and I guess I like solving problems, too. So solving a mystery was very appealing. *Murder Canyon* was inspired by two murders that took place in my neighborhood in 1973 and 1974. *Lethal Lake* was inspired by a true event that occurred in Ventura County a number of years ago, but I can't tell you what it was because that would spoil the surprise ending."

Her next novel, *Death in the Sand*, reunites Ardis and Hopkins when a victim is found at one of the Ventura County beaches. Notes Joan, "All of my novels are set in Ventura County, although the city names might, as I said, be fictitious."

For aspiring writers, Joan advises, "Learn as much as you can about writing a novel. Take courses; go to conferences, read books. Mary Embree's *The Author's Tool Kit* and *The Birds and Bees of Words* are great resources. Also, talk to writers, because they can be a big help to you. Many people have wonderful ideas that they want to put down on paper, and I would say, don't let those go to waste. Take the time to learn about the craft of writing so that you can let people know about your ideas. And remember, you are never too old to start!"

To learn about upcoming lectures or take one of Joan's workshops, check her website at www.joanblacher.com. And watch for upcoming events in the local newspapers.

Joint Placement Classes at Cypress Place

Livingston Memorial VNA will be holding Joint Replacement Classes to prepare you for total knee or hip replacement surgery. Home preparation, exercises and information about your rehabilitation will be discussed. The classes will be held at Cypress Place, 1200 Cypress Point Lane, Ventura from 10-11am on July 20, August 17, September 21, October 19, November 30 and December 2

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Senior Living Checkup for senior drivers

The Veterans Home of California is teaming up with driving experts to hold a CarFit event, a unique, free education program designed to help mature drivers 55 and over understand how to improve driving safety by ensuring their cars are properly adjusted for them.

The event will be held on Saturday, July 16 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 10900 Telephone Rd. The check-up is free, but appointments are required and can be made by calling 659-7501.

CarFit is not a mechanical inspection of the car or a test of the driver's ability. In-

stead, during each 20-minute CarFit session, trained technicians recommend personal vehicle adjustments and adaptations and offer resources that could enhance senior driving safety. Occupational therapists will also be on hand to provide information on adaptive devices, such as pedal extenders and seat cushions.

The American Society on Aging created CarFit in collaboration with AARP, the American Automobile Association and the American Occupational Therapy Association.

In Ventura County, RSVP is the driving force behind bringing the program to the west county. RSVP is a volunteer program that helps people age 55 and older find meaningful opportunities to serve within their community. To learn more about CarFit, go to www.car-fit.org, or call 385-8019.

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Community Events

Ventura events

July 14: Ventura County Boat Show & Green Expo invites boating enthusiasts to find what they are looking for at this year's new location on the west side of the Channel Islands Harbor. There will be live entertainment each day of the four day celebration of the marina lifestyle along with raffles, food and sweets. Event times are Thursday and Friday at 12 p.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free on Thursday however Friday there is an entrance fee of \$1, \$1 Soda, \$1 Beer, \$1 Hot Dog. Saturday and Sunday entrance fee is \$12. Online tickets are available for \$7 at <http://ci-boatshow.com/tickets/> There is plenty of parking available and for more information please visit <http://ci-boatshow.com> or call 1-800-390-6694.

July 15: Jill Martinez, Zeta Chi member of Ventura will present their parliamentary lesson for the July meeting addressing **"Proper Wording For Parliamentary Procedures."** Zeta Chi is the local unit of the National Association of Parliamentarians (NAP). The Unit meets at 7 p.m. in the Topping Room at the E.P. Foster Library. Zeta Chi holds regular study meetings at the library on the third Monday evening of each month except December. Free parking is available behind the Library. Unit member dues are \$25.00 per year. For further information on Zeta Chi please contact Sandra Sanders at 643 -5928 or email sandy108@pacbell.net.

July 16: The Ventura County Genealogical Society, Inc. (VCGS) will be holding its regular monthly meeting

Saturday at 1 p.m. The meeting's guest speaker Gena Philibert Ortega holds a master's degree in interdisciplinary studies, psychology and women's studies and a master's degree in religion. She will be presenting on various subjects involving genealogy. This meeting will be held at the Ventura LDS Family History Center, 3501 Loma Vista Rd., at Mills Rd. Before the meeting begins and during the breaks genealogy books and supplies are available for purchase. Guests are always welcome to attend our free meeting. For more information call Gwenda at 485-7930.

July 16: Poets and lovers of poetry are welcome to join host Phil Taggart to hear featured poets and participate during the **open mic** that follows every Tuesday's readings at 7:30 p.m., as well as at the Artists Union Gallery on Friday, Saturday and a poetry series on the last Saturday of the month at 7:30 p.m. The hosts are as follows: on Friday Lubina, July 30 Holly Prado, August 27 TL Cabrera and September 24 Jeanette Clough. Both events are held at 330 South California Street. Email ptagga@aol.com to be added to Phil's literary events distribution list.

July 20: Ventura Executive Suites hosts their monthly networking mixer. This is an opportunity to meet other local business people and new clients. This is a free event held to encourage the growth of locally owned businesses. The event will be held from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. and complimentary beverages and hors d'oeuvres will be provided. VES holds mixers at least once a month. For more information call 653-2381 or info@venturaexecutivesuites.com. For a virtual tour of their facilities please visit their

website at www.venturaexecutivesuites.com

July 23: Charles Carroll Funeral Home, a Dignity® Memorial provider, announced it will host its first **"Christmas in July"** Craft Faire, Baked Goods Sale and Walk-A-Thon. The event, a fundraiser for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and will be held Saturday, July 23 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The community is encouraged to form teams or sign up as individuals for the Walk-A-Thon. Donations of \$10.00 per mile are requested and routes will be marked for one mile, two, five and 10 miles. Checks should be made out to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and brought to registration which will begin at 8:00 a.m. For more information on the Walk-A-Thon or booth spaces contact Diana Fahy or Charles Carroll at 642 -8134.

July 29: The Pacific View Mall will host the first installment of the **Can Film Festival** a ten-event series of free family movie nights to benefit Food Share Ventura County's regional food bank. The screenings will take place at 7 p.m. on Wednesday nights through August 31 in the Pacific View Mall's food court. Although there is no cost to attend, moviegoers are encouraged to bring canned food and cash donations for Food Share in exchange for a night of free family fun. The Can Film Festival is a great way to involve families in Food Share's mission to feed Ventura County's growing population of hungry friends and neighbors," said Bonnie Weigel CEO of FOOD Share.

July 29: Fresh & Easy will be hosting a **free barbecue** on Friday at the Fresh & Easy store at 5101 Telegraph Rd. from 5 - 7 p.m. Neil Strawder, a.k.a. Bigmista, an award-winning grilling expert, will be cooking up the Fresh & Easy Grill Pack. The Grill Pack was the company's number one selling grilling item last summer along with high quality sides for customers all free of charge.

August 3: The Beach Cities Neighbors and Newcomers Club, (BCNN) is a group of active women of all ages who live in Ventura, Oxnard or Port Hueneme who enjoy activities such as hiking, golf, dining, wine outings, reading, cooking etc. For more information please come to our monthly meeting on Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. This meetings guest speaker is Diane Sanson MFT, PHD. The subject will be on Women's Concerns. The meetings are held at The Greek Restaurant located at 1583 Spinnaker Drive in the Ventura Harbor. There will be no charge for meeting and Coffee or Tea is available at a nominal charge of \$1.

Ojai events

"Mother: She's With You Wherever You Go" performed by the playwright, Mary Beth Manning, comes to the Ojai Art Center Theater stage for one special performance only, 7 p.m. Wednesday, **July 20**. An award-winning one-woman show, it is an unabashed and eloquent tribute to a loving, feisty Irish mother. Ojai ACT, 113 S. Montgomery St. All tickets \$15 at the door, call 640-8797 or www.OjaiACT.org.

"Hello Dolly!" at Ojai Art Center Theater will prove yet again why critics and the public have showered it with sold-out houses and scores of major awards, including a Tony for Best Musical, when it performs from **July 15** through Aug. 14. Ojai ACT, 113 S. Montgomery, at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays. Bring your match to this captivating musical for only \$25 general or \$22 for seniors, students and Art Center members. Reservations strongly recommended at

640-8797 or www.OjaiACT.org.

Ojai Improv Group performance, Saturday, **July 30**, 8-10pm. Ventura County's newest Improv group hits the stage with more hilarious improvisational comedy. They have been reviewed as "Uncensored and spirited," "I can't believe they went there," "I laughed from beginning to end," "An emotional colonic." PG-13. \$10.00 The Dome at Soul Centered, 311 N. Montgomery. 640-8222. www.ojaiimprovgroup.com

The **27th annual Ojai Peddler's Fair** is being held from 9am - 4pm Saturday and Sunday, **July 16 & 17**. The bustling Peddler's Fair is located inside the Chapparal Auditorium at 414 E. Ojai Ave. 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. Vendors are sought.

Pat at 964-8915 or Jodie at 640-4384 x2284.

The Ojai Film Society is having a special screening of Beatles Stories on **July 17** at 4:30 pm at the Ojai Playhouse, 145 E Ojai Ave. There will be a Q & A with **Filmmaker Seth Swirsky** in the theater after the film. Tickets for the screening/Q & A: \$10 at the door.

There will be a reception to meet Swirsky after the film at the Osteria Monte Grappa Restaurant, 205 N. Signal St. The Screening and Reception are \$25 paid in advance, \$15 in advance for Summer Pass holders.

To purchase tickets call the OFS office 646-8946 or visit www.ojaifilmsociety.org

July 24 In a Better World Denmark 2010 Sunday, 4:30 pm, Ojai Playhouse, 145 E Ojai Ave. OFS Summer Fundraising Films: \$10 at the door

Winner of the 2011 Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film, The Danish film In a Better World poses the question as to whether violence is always wrong or is sometimes necessary. Anton, a Danish doctor who works in an African refugee camp, and his son Elias back home are both grappling with similar issues regarding violence.

Sports

Got aloha?

by Kenton Rivas

Much of surfing's history has Hawaiian roots where the sport originated and still flourishes as the Mecca of wave riding and surf culture to this day. The Hawaiian way of surfing and life embodies the spirit of aloha. Yes, aloha simply means "hello" and "goodbye", but to the Hawaiians and those that know, there is a much deeper meaning. To fully embody the spirit of aloha one is honest, truthful, patient, kind to all life forms and humble while joyfully sharing life. To the Hawaiian of old aloha meant "God in us". When I took a trip to visit my friend who lives on the Big Island I experienced firsthand what it is like to live the spirit of aloha every day, the Hawaiian way. Did the California surf culture forget to adopt this part of the sport?

My first trip to Hawaii was to the Big Island, and is one I will never forget. Ever since I began surfing as a kid and learned about Hawaii I knew it was a place I wanted to go. Amidst the June gloom of a summer ago I decided to visit my good friend Colin who had recently moved to the Big Island

Continued on page 20

Aegis of Ventura presents
Concerts in the Courtyard Series

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.

Dusty Boots

Enjoy country western boot tapping fun
 Please bring non perishable food for Food Share,
 Ventura County's regional food bank

Thursday
JULY 21st
 6:00-8:00 PM

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Travel to exotic islands through authentic music and dance. Luau to celebrate Aegis of Ventura's 10th birthday!

Thursday
August 25th
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Professor Scamp, Ph.D (Pretty Happy Dog)



Professor Scamp Ph.D

I recently received an email from two of my wonderful devoted animal readers (my animal readers are very intelligent) and they wanted to meet me because I am so famous

so we decided to meet at Blackbeard's BBQ located in the beautiful Ventura Harbor Village.

Well I was very surprised when I met them (and their human friends) because I have never seen a dog that looked quite like Mimzy before. A very large nose and a funny tail (kind of like mine actually) and a very funny bark. I have seen dogs like her housemate Morgan before (she is my Scampclub member this issue) but nothing like her.

But Mimzy was a very nice and friendly lady and then I was told that she isn't a dog at all but is a Vietnamese Pot Belly Pig (whatever that is). I know that I came from Fillmore, I guess that she came from Vietnam (wherever that is).

Her humans are Dr. Antje Groot and Brittany Wilson and they were very nice and we had a very good time. They told me that she is 2 years old and was purchased online and sent here via American Airlines Pet Cargo.

She is full sized and weighs about 50 pounds and likes to have her belly scratched and likes to eat (sounds like me) and she

even does tricks (unlike me). I was told that pigs are actually very smart animals and can be good house pets (I wonder if she sleeps in her human's bed like I do?) and that she poops outside in her favorite spot.

It did make me nervous that we were at a bar-b-q restaurant and Mark the owner kept looking at her with a funny look on his



Mimzy was a strange looking dog but was a lot of fun to hang out with

face. I was also surprised that she could go to a lot of restaurants with patios that accept dogs but why not? She was much better behaved than a lot of dogs that I know.

Brittany told me that Mimzy is accepted by other people when they take her places and everyone just wants to know all about her and are not

offended that she is eating with them. If you want to see more of Mimzy take a look at www.youtube.com/mimzy the pig/.

Remember the Canine Adoption & Rescue League's Pooch Parade is on Sunday July 24 from 9am-4pm at San Buenaventura State Park. The event is a fundraising dog walk and pet expo featuring a 3 mile dog walk, over 40 vendors, specialty foods and yummy treats, a silent auction, pet related displays and contests and dog demonstrations. For more information and to register your dog go to www.poochparade.org.

Forever home wanted



Hi:

I'm Desi, a one year old female very people friendly, but not dog friendly Catahoula / Pit Bull mix who loves to play. I was one of many dogs rescued from a raid in El Rio.

I'm grateful to be given a chance to know the true meaning of being a cherished member of a loving family. We've been through a lot and I hope we all find our forever homes really soon. The nice girl holding me is not available for adoption, she already has a nice family.

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

www.carlvc.org

Scamp Club

Hi:

I'm Morgan Lefay, I'm a one year old very handsome girl Chinese Crested dog and I live with my best friend Mimzy, a very handsome piggy.

I like to play fight with Mimzy by biting at her legs and I love staying under the covers. Sometimes people think that we are an odd looking couple but I think that we are beautiful and that they are jealous.



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.



Canine Adoption and Rescue League

2011

Pooch Parade

Fundraising Dog Walk & Pet Expo

"Prevent A Litter...Fix Your Critter"

July 24 9:00am-4:00pm

Ventura, CA

San Buenaventura State Beach Park

- Pooch Parade
- Silent Auction
- Demonstrations
- Contests
- Vendors
- Adoptions

Fun for the Entire Family



Contact: info@carlvc.org

www.poochparade.org

(805) 644-PETS (7387)



Youth



At the VCCA awards were Fred Penney, VCCA director, winners Francisco Cancino, Geoffrey Douglas, Benjamin Tunigold, Scott Raymond, Karina White, Eric Pinuelas, John Lopez, Chris Ponce, and Wayne Pendrey, VCCA director.

VCCA awards 12 Ventura County students

Recently the Ventura County Contractors Association's (VCCA) awarded \$6,775 to 12 Ventura County students through its 2011 Ray Prueter Memorial Career in Construction Program.

This is the ninth year VCCA membership has supported local students pursuing a career in the construction industry. Scholarships were financed through proceeds from the VCCA's annual Ted Flesher Memorial Golf Tournament.

Recipients included five high school students and seven individuals currently enrolled in college including Benjamin Tunigold, Ventura Community College and Christopher Waechter, Foothill Technology High School in Ventura.

Applicants were recommended by owners, partners, officers or employees of a local construction-oriented business for pursuing a construction-related career such as architecture, engineering, surveying, construction management or a building trade.

Established in 1946, the VCCA is a non-profit membership association of qualified general contractors, subcontractors, building material suppliers and many other leading construction industry businesses, current membership encompasses more than 750 members.

Foster parenting

Learn how you can become a partner in caring at a Foster Parenting Informational Meeting on Tuesday, July 26 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Human Services Agency of Ventura County located at 855 Partridge Dr. Over 600 children are currently in foster homes in Ventura

County, and every day, another child is removed from their home because they have been neglected, abused or abandoned. Discover how the healing, support and guidance of a loving foster home can offer a local child a better tomorrow. You could be the answer to a child in crisis in your community. For more information call the Human Services Agency at 654-3456 or go to <http://www.vchsa.org/foster>.

Ventura author teaching Youth Summer Writing Camp

For the fourth consecutive year, Ventura author Dallas Woodburn is teaching a writing camp for youth ages 8 to 18. The camp consists of four two-hour workshops held on consecutive weekends, July 30-31 and August 6-7 from 10 a.m. to noon, or 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. The camp will be held in the conference room at Jensen Design and Survey at 1672 Donlon St. The registration cost is \$150. Students are welcome to attend one, two, three or all four sessions; a price breakdown is available at www.writeonbooks.org. A portion of the money raised will go towards the youth organization "Write On! For Literacy".

This past spring, Woodburn released *Dancing With The Pen*, the first anthology from Write On! Books youth publishing company. The book is a collection of stories, essays and poetry written entirely by students in elementary school, middle school, and high school.

Woodburn, 24, is an acclaimed writer, speaker and teacher and is currently an instructor of undergraduate creative writing and composition classes at Purdue University.

To register for the camp, or for more information: visit www.writeonbooks.org, e-mail dallaswoodburn@aol.com or call 889-5570.

Ventura City Corps seeking school supply donations

Ventura Commerce & Education Foundation and Ventura City Corps have partnered to launch Ventura THRIVES. THRIVES stands for Together Helping Replenish Inventory for Ventura Educators and Students. Throughout the month of July, area businesses will have donation boxes in their lobbies or offices. Community members are invited to shop for items from the THRIVES Master Supply List and drop off at participating business. To receive a box for your business, contact Tina Hernandez at 384-1100 ext 234. For a full listing of accepted school supplies and participating businesses, please visit www.venturacitycorps.com.

Ventura City Corps is also currently seeking youth volunteer leaders, ages 21-30, to lead groups on projects throughout the summer. All youth 12-18 interested in making this an outstanding summer are encouraged to volunteer. Life skills, work skills, fun and relationships are all developed through Ventura City Corps. Applications can be found at www.venturacitycorps.com.

Aspiranet MTFC program transforms troubled teens

Sonia Estrada, Aspiranet's MTFC Program Supervisor, knows what a difference one year can make. Last year, when Aspiranet launched Ventura County's first-ever Multi-Dimensional Treatment Foster Care (MTFC) program designed to aid troubled foster teenagers, Estrada was hoping that she would be able to find special foster parents willing to work with at-risk teenagers. Not only did she find them, one year later she is celebrating the incredible transformation of her first two MTFC graduates.

Aspiranet, one of California's largest social service agencies, created MTFC for at-risk youths ages 12 - 17 who require intensive support and structure. MTFC teams foster parents with an Aspiranet program supervisor, individual and family therapists and a life skills coach to work collaboratively with troubled foster teens with the goal being to reunite them with their permanent families (birth, relative or foster) within six to nine months.

"I have seen dramatic transformations in all of the children in our MTFC program," said Estrada. "I am proud to be a part of a clinical team that is passionate, provides tremendous support and is dedicated to helping children realize their true potential."

Next month, the two teens, their foster parents and the Aspiranet's MTFC team will gather together at a MTFC graduation ceremony to celebrate their joint accomplishments. After the two teens transition back to home, Aspiranet will provide continued support to ensure that their placement is stable and to monitor their ongoing progress.

"The program was very hard to get used to but now, as I am getting ready to graduate, I can see how much my life has changed," said a 17-year old MTFC youth. "I thank my MTFC team and my foster parents for all of their hard work and support. If it weren't for them, I do not know where I'd be right now. Thanks to MTFC, I have a bright future ahead of me and know that I can do anything I want."

Estrada reports that there is a waiting list of children wanting to participate in the MTFC program and an ongoing need to recruit more MTFC foster parents. For more information, call 877-380-HERO.

For more information, please visit www.aspiranet.org.

Make-A-Wish Foundation speakers available

The Make-A-Wish Foundation of the Tri-Counties Outreach team welcomes invitations from all members of the community who are interested in learning more about service provided and how to get involved. Clubs, companies, schools and professional associations can request a speaker by contacting them. For more information please contact CEO, Shanna Wasson Taylor at staylor@tri-counties.wish.org.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation

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Youth

grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength, and joy. With a staff of only five and the help of more than 100 volunteers, the Make-A-Wish Foundation of the Tri-Counties has granted over 1,000 special wishes to children in Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties. If you want to refer a child to the Make-A-Wish Foundation, call (888)899-9474. Donations may be sent to Make-A-Wish at 4222 Market Street, Suite D, Ventura, 93001. To donate your vehicle or your airline miles call 676-9974. For more information on these or other ways to help visit their website at www.tri-counties.wish.org.

to work closely with the administration and parents towards safe, healthy, high performing schools. We accept and look forward to the challenge of education reform and will continue to tirelessly lobby the state for adequate funding. As board members, we believe we must carry the credibility and trust of the community and staff as caretakers of fairness and equity. We want to carry on with this important work for four more years. Children are the future. It takes the experience and dedication that we possess to strengthen working relationships between VUSD parents, staff and the entire community. This will result in a higher quality of education for our children."

School



Dr. Robin Calote, President, Ventura College, at the dedication of the new Health Science building at VC. Photo by John Feritto

Ventura College grows again

Ventura College held its Health Sciences Center, Multidisciplinary Center East, Multidisciplinary Center West building dedication on Wednesday, June 29.

These facilities will provide general purpose classrooms; specialty class labs for computer sciences, geographic information systems, architectural technology, business, nursing, emergency medical training, and paramedic skills; faculty offices; learning and building support space; and education, administration, and faculty support space. The project was funded using Measure S Bond funds, and full occupancy is expected by August 2011.

The building dedication included a large appreciative crowd including the Ventura County Community College District Board of Trustees, Chancellor, Ventura College President, employees, and students.

Fitzgerald and Golden run for School Board

They stated "As members of the Ventura Unified School District Board, we have enjoyed the opportunity to work on a team that makes a difference in the lives of our school children. We have worked hard to maneuver through a very difficult budget crisis in our state to keep \$20 million worth of cuts as far away from the classroom as possible. During these trying times we feel it is important to have an experienced team dealing with these cuts and representing the children, families and staff of Ventura Unified. That is why we have decided to run again for school board on November 8."

"We are ready and able to continue

Sports



I can't find my ball shall we let them play through?

5 lessons and I still can't break 150—part two

by Sheldon Brown

I have now completed my 5 golf lessons that The City of Ventura offers at the Olivas Links Golf Course located at 3750 Olivas Park Dr. and taught by Ernie Hutchins

The Get Golf Ready in 5 Days program presents 5 lessons of two hours each for only \$99 or about \$10 per hour for almost private lessons, my class had 3 students.

We learned the techniques of chipping, putting, full swing, half swing and bunker play (also good if you are a cat).

I thoroughly enjoyed it and even if you don't plan to keep playing golf (like me, sorry Ernie not your fault) it is a really wonderful way to learn the fundamentals of golf for TV watching and just a fun 10 hours to be in an absolutely beautiful setting and Ernie is a delight to be with. And I even enjoyed the mother duck with her family in one of the beautiful ponds.

Kelly Flanders, Civic Engagement Specialist for the City of Ventura was one of the other students in the class (not on government time).

She had this to say about the lessons "Some people are natural-born teachers and Ernie is one of them. He explains things perfectly, offers insightful feedback, and is incredibly patient and encouraging. I'm only a beginner, but the instruction provided me with a solid foundation to crush a gorgeous shot straight down the middle of the fairway."

"Being on the Olivas Links golf course really makes you feel connected to the environment, and that's an amazing feeling."

"I definitely have a new appreciation and respect for the game. Golf is extremely challenging and it's also a lot of fun, I plan to stick with it. And probably take another series of lessons."

The only scary part of the lessons was having Kelly drive me around in the golf cart, she almost ran over a duck crossing the road (only kidding I had my eyes closed the entire time.)



Are you struggling to feed yourself or your family?

CalFresh benefits help stretch food budgets.

If you have limited income and are a parent, single adult, senior or anyone else who is struggling financially, CalFresh can help lower your grocery expenses and make you feel more secure about feeding your family.

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www.foodshare.com

To apply for CalFresh online or to learn about options for applying in person or by mail, visit:

County of Ventura Human Services Agency
www.vchsa.org



Venturan Kerry Luna Jiroch won a "triple crown" in Taekwondo championships

Ventura ATA Martial Arts studio produces champions

June marked the end of the American Taekwondo Association (ATA) tournament year with the Ventura ATA

Martial Arts studio producing 5 California State Champions with a combined 9 state titles.

School owner and chief instructor Kerry Luna Jiroch lead the pack with a Triple Crown, which is State Champion in the 3 traditional categories of sparring, forms and weapons.

The title of "State Champion" is earned solely through the accumulation of points earned throughout the tournament season. Points are awarded in rings by placing 1st, 2nd or 3rd in tournaments that are held all over the county from the end of June through May 31st of each year. Rings are divided up by sex, age, and rank and Jiroch's state titles were earned in Women's 30 -39 year olds, 2nd & 3rd Degree Black Belts.

Taekwondo developed from its earliest beginnings over 1,000 years ago and has since spread internationally to become one of the world's most successful and popular martial arts. Its practitioners of all ages enjoy physical and mental discipline, as well as excellent fitness and the ability to defend themselves if necessary.

Ventura ATA Martial Arts is located at 1449 S. Victoria Ave., 650-5425

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 27 mins.

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

Show Time

Music Calendar 7/13 to 7/26

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
Live bands every Thur thru Sun
Karaoke every Wed 6-9pm
Thur 7/14 - Bottom Feeders 6:30-9:30pm
Sun 7/17 - Blue Stew 2-6pm
Thur 7/21 - Bottom Feeders 6:30-9:30pm
Sun 7/24 - Blue Stew 2-6pm

Bombay's Bar & Grill
143 S. California St., 805-643-4404
Live Bands every Wed thru Sun
All Star Blues Night every Wed 8pm
Afternoon Concerts every Sun 4pm

Cafe Fiore
66 California St., 805-653-1266
Live Bands every Tue thru Sat
DJ in the TreeHouse Lounge every Fri & Sat
Wed 6/29 - Big Adventure
Thur 6/30 - Bongo Town
Wed 7/6 - Big Adventure
Thur 7/7 - Coso Live

GiGi's Cocktail Lounge
2493 Grand Ave., 805-642-2411
Karaoke with Steve Luke every Sun & Wed 7pm-12am
Fri 7/15 - Ray Jay Band 9pm
Sat 7/16 - Brian Faith Band 9pm
Fri 7/22 - What The Funk 9pm
Sat 7/23 - Red Rhythm 9pm

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
Sat 7/23 - Takeover featuring Peace Treaty, Bones, Digital Product, Casino Gold

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
Thur 7/14 - Shawn Jones
Fri 7/15 - Mini Driver
Sat 7/16 - The Legalizers
Sun 7/17 - Verdigo Blend
Thur 7/21 - Caught Red Handed
Fri 7/22 - Midnight Band
Sat 7/23 - Dr. M
Sun 7/24 - Tex Pistols

Zoey's Café
185 E. Santa Clara St., 805-652-1137
Songwriter's Round every Wed 8pm
Thur 7/14 - Meiko with Toni Ferrari 8pm
Fri 7/15 - Jay Nash, Garrison Starr 8pm
Sat 7/16 - Woody Guthrie Tribute Show 6:30pm
Sun 7/17 - Lee Koch and the Grinders 12:30pm, Coliseum, TFW, Lumber Lung, Suburban Moms
Wed 7/20 - Pistolera 8pm
Fri 7/22 - A.J. Croce, Adan Levy 8pm
Sat 7/23 - Clark CD Release 7pm



The entertainment report Silver screen

by Linde Carlson

Bad Teacher



Hello Ventura, these are my picks of the week

This adult comedy; funny, bawdy, and raunchy stars Cameron Diaz as Elizabeth Halsey, a scheming gold digging, foul mouthed, ruthless, inappropriate middle school teacher with a bad attitude, gets dumped by her fiancée. Halsey sets out to find a meal ticket, wealthy mate so she doesn't have to work. Ridiculously bored with teaching; and it shows, she meets a suitable stand-in Scott Delacort, a substitute teacher, played by Justin Timberlake. Elizabeth tries to woo him after she finds out he is the heir to a designer watch empire. But she has some competition, Amy Squirrel (Lucy Punch) another teacher, an over achiever, obviously caddy, two-faced, prissy, goody two shoes, and she will stop at nothing to make sure Elizabeth doesn't interfere. But the sparks fly anyway, and Scott and Elizabeth have their fair share of attractions and outrageously playful moments.

Bad Teacher and most importantly Cameron Diaz never disappoints. It was entertaining, and what I found was even more entertaining were the young men in the audience having a stroke fest over Cameron's every move. Granted she plays many a vixen, but this particular role had them fixated.

I thought the dialogue was clever, a bit of The Office-esque type humor which was served up by actress Phyllis Smith. Just a lot of giggles, Bad Teacher rated R, running time: 1 hour 29 minutes. Now playing at Century Theatres

Mr. Popper's Penguins



In this live-action adaptation of the classic children's book by Richard and Florence Atwater, and a 1957 play, Jim Carrey takes on the role of Mr. Popper, a high stake real estate broker – businessman who is hired by some moguls to try to buy the Tavern on the Green in New York, owned by Angela Lansbury's character Mrs. Van Gundy.

When Popper's long lost father, a sailor dies, Popper is sent a crate from the attorney in charge of his late Father's will, only to discover it's a penguin, but not just one penguin, 6 penguins. Turning his Manhattan apartment into an Arctic Habitat, Popper's fatherly instincts ignite when he grows very fond of his little monsters. While visiting, his children also grow fond of them, and beg for him to keep them. A sneaky pseudo zoo keeper threatens to take them away, and all heck breaks loose in the interim. Needless to say chaos ensues and his apartment is turned into a refuge for the 6 zany creatures.

With the emergence of animatronics, the penguins take on personalities and do tricks that are adorable and clever. Jim Carrey brilliantly adapts to the challenge of their shenanigans.

With the exception of some foul language, the palate is pretty clean.

A fun movie. It brought back memories for me as a little girl. Rated PG-13 running time: 1 hour 34 minutes Now playing at Century Theatres

Enjoy, and have a reel-y great week.

VFS@THE MUSEUM 2011

War Dance

Tuesday, July 19 at 7pm
USA 2007 – Sean Fine and Andrew Nix-Fine
105 mins

Reviewed by Cole Smothers

Ventura Film Society

"War Dance" tells the story of three children living in a refugee displacement camp in Patongo, a town in Northern Uganda where their families and homes have been torn apart by an ongoing civil war. Although these orphans live in constant fear of abduction from rebel forces, their passion for music and dance brings them the strength and courage to proudly represent the community and region of Patongo at the country's national music and dance festival in the capital city of Kampala.

Two on the Aisle

Shakespeare shines under the stars

by Jim Spencer & Shirley Lorraine

Among the many joys of summer is the opportunity to attend a professional staging of a Shakespearean play presented under the stars. Over the last 15 years some of the finest have been the productions of the Kingsmen Shakespeare Festival held on the California Lutheran University campus in Thousand Oaks. This year is no exception.

This weekend's offering is the comedy "The Taming of the Shrew." The central story revolves around the tactics of a nobleman, Petruchio, in selecting and winning over Katherina, a contrary and headstrong young woman he has chosen to be his wife. She is initially an unwilling bride but, as result of Petruchio's tricks and torments (the "taming"), in the end she becomes a model 16th Century spouse. As in all Shakespeare's plays there are a number of subplots. In this script the most prominent is the competition between the suitors of Katherina's more desirable younger sister, Bianca.

The 20 member cast features a cadre of acting pros. Many have been associated with the Kingsmen Shakespeare Festival for numerous seasons, like the versatile Terry Fishman and the engaging Brett Elliott, who is now the Company's Associate Artistic Director. Others are newer to the ensemble. However, the balance director Jan Powell achieves in weaving the team together produces a remarkable theatrical experience.

Particularly notable performances are given by Andy Babinski as Biondello, Brett Elliot as Petruchio and Caroline Kinsolving as Kate. They are ably accented by the contributions of Terry Fishman (Vincenzio), Hannah Mae Sturges (Bianca) and Michael Faulkner (Hortensio).

The pace is quick and the action is lively as the play progresses. A natural drawback in any outdoor setting is inconsistent sound projection. Although the stage is amplified in places, dialogue does get lost in the cool night air. Nonetheless, the action carries the day with all the actors giving it their broad Shakespearean best.

The Kingsmen Shakespeare Festival continues each weekend into August. Starting July 22 the same troupe will be performing "The Merchant of Venice." The money lender Shylock is perhaps the most well known figure from this, Shake-

speare's most often produced play. The title character is Antonio, a merchant, who guarantees to Shylock the debt of another. The tale deals with the multiple complications that arise in creating and then attempting to repay the debt. The show is directed by Michael Arndt, the Kingsmen Shakespeare Festival's award winning artistic director and a founding principal of group.

So, pack the cooler, grab a jacket, lawn chair and a blanket and head for Kingsmen Park at Cal Lutheran University, 60 W. Olsen Rd., Thousand Oaks. The festival grounds open at 5:30 p.m. for picnicking. Pre-show entertainment featuring Renaissance music, comic Shakespearean improvisations and wandering performers begins at 6:45 p.m., and the professional stage production starts at 8:00 p.m. Admission is free for those under 17 and just \$15 for adults. Information and reservations for box seating at www.kingsmenshakespeare.org or 493-3455.

Got aloha?
Continued from page 16
with his fiancé.

I got lucky that my friends on the Island had family and many ties within the local community and surfing world on the Big Island. I was a bit wary about how it might be surfing being that I am a "haole" and would be a new face at some localized spots. Even when I surfed by myself while Colin was at work in Hilo I encountered nothing but the friendly aloha spirit of smiling faces and having fun while surfing. I couldn't help but think this is how it is supposed to be! This same vibe is felt in the stores and restaurants around town. It is said that if Pele; the island goddess, does not want you on the island you will have to leave one way or another. Maybe if you don't embody the aloha spirit?

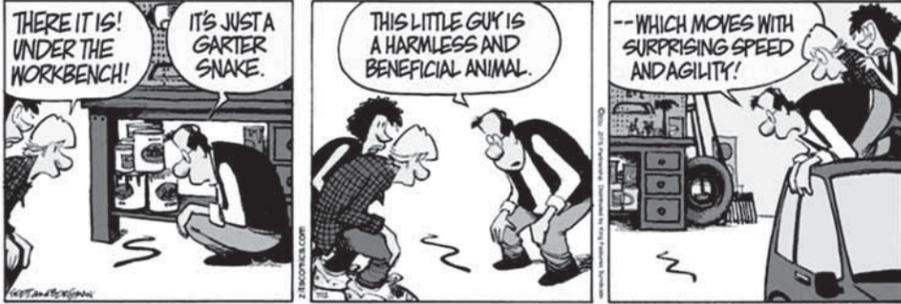
Got aloha?

Continued from page 16
with his fiancé.

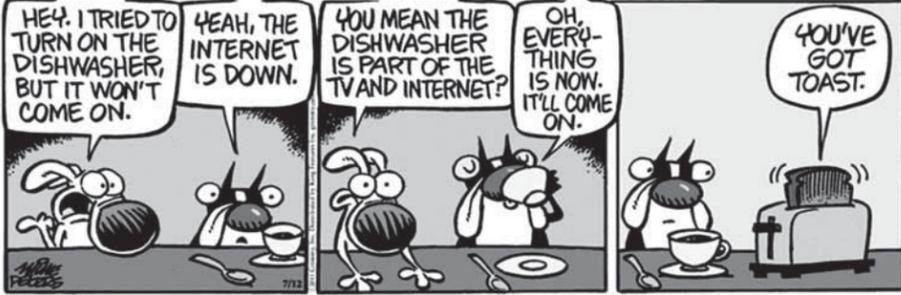
Is the spirit of aloha part of surfing? I believe so. Isn't that what surfing is about? Having fun and feeling better when you leave the water than when you entered, and in turn a better person? Did California forget to adopt this part of the sport? In my opinion it is definitely something that is lacking in the water and on land here in California. It isn't just a Hawaii thing! It's a surfing thing! If you are having a hard time channeling your inner aloha think about it this way: we have front row all access passes to the Pacific Ocean and the rest of the nation is in line behind us wanting our pass. Give up that stink eye or give up your pass! Each of us contributes to the vibe in the water and good here on land. Surfing is a gift. Treat it as such. Share the waves! Share the stoke! Share the love of surfing! Aloha!

The Lighter Breeze

Zits



Mother Goose and Grimm



Hagar the Horrible



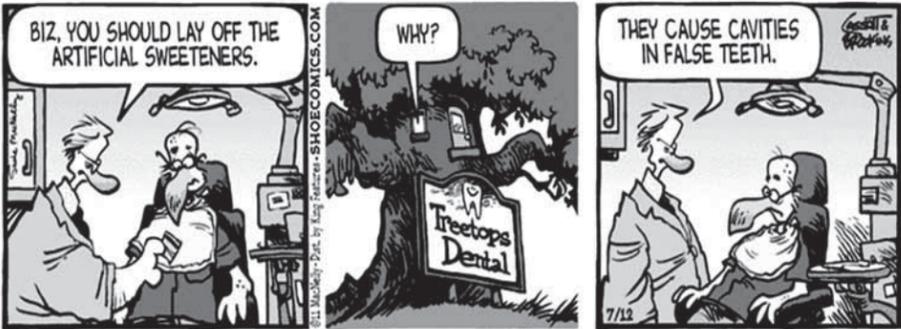
Mutts



Hi and Lois



Shoe



Solutions on page 19

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

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 19

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Rd.
- 4 Write a P.S.
- 7 Standish stand-in
- 12 "Great Expectations" lad
- 13 Mainlander's memento
- 14 Break in the action
- 15 Big fuss
- 16 Whitsunday
- 18 Critic Reed
- 19 Masts
- 20 Santa's sackful
- 22 Detergent brand
- 23 Brothers and sisters
- 27 Has the skills
- 29 Confined
- 31 Pizza topping
- 34 Impudent
- 35 Quintet
- 37 List-ending abbr.
- 38 Bivouac structure
- 39 Listener
- 41 Recognized
- 45 "Get lost!"
- 47 Leading lady?
- 48 Ritzly apartment
- 52 Marry
- 53 Nebraska city

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13			14				
15			16			17				
18			19							
20			21		22		23	24	25	26
			27	28		29	30			
31	32	33					34			
35					36	37				
38				39	40		41	42	43	44
				45			46		47	
48	49	50	51						52	
53						54			55	
56						57			58	

- 8 Fond du —
- 9 Twosome
- 10 Curvy character
- 11 Profit
- 17 Snare
- 21 "Gladiator" director
- 23 Nosh
- 24 "Monty Python" opener
- 25 Clear the tables
- 26 Agent
- 28 Santa — winds
- 30 NYC hrs.
- 31 Make up your mind
- 32 Born
- 33 Hostel
- 36 Erte's style
- 37 Chalkboard accessory
- 40 Tourist spot off Venezuela
- 42 Staircase post
- 43 Each
- 44 Golf club type
- 45 Roe provider
- 46 Timid
- 48 Spacecraft compartment
- 49 Ostrich's kin
- 50 Siesta
- 51 Definite article

DOWN

- 1 In two places at once?
- 2 YouTube offering
- 3 Strong adhesive
- 4 Heidi's territory
- 5 Drill further
- 6 Money of Bahrain
- 7 Tarzan's clique

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You're not Sheepish when it comes to asserting your opinions on what you think is right or wrong. Be assured that you're being heard, and something positive will follow.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Your sense of justice makes it difficult not to speak up about a recurring matter involving a co-worker. But, once again, you need facts to back you up before you can act.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Romance is still dominant, and if Cupid misfired before, don't worry. He'll take better aim at someone new this time around. Expect favorable news about a financial matter.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) The zodiac's Moon Children can expect things to work out pretty much as planned. One negative note involves a minor relationship problem that suddenly turns serious.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) You're suddenly being asked to make choices between two practically equal offers. Which one to choose? Easy. The one most likely to gladden your Lion's heart.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Once again, you're confronted by a workplace problem you thought you'd already resolved. This time, you might need to go higher up to find a just resolution.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Good for you: You're determined to stick with your goals and ignore those naysayers who might try to discourage you. You're on the right track. The challenge now is to stay on it.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You'll soon get news that is supposed to help you with a troublesome situation. Use your sharp Scorpion instincts to determine if the information is reliable.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) If you learn someone has betrayed your trust, don't just accept it and walk away. You need to know why that person decided to do what he or she did.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) A painful family relationship problem could finally begin to heal. Be prepared to show more flexibility than you might like. But it could be worth it.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) It's a good idea to enhance your career skills so you'll be prepared to accept a more responsible position when it's offered. A friend returns a favor just when you need it.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Show that strong, steely backbone that you usually hide, and demand to be included in any family decision-making that could affect the well-being of a loved one.

BORN THIS WEEK: You can be happy being alone at home. But you also love exploring the world outside and meeting new people and sharing new ideas.

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Art Scene



Cheryl Gooss, Associate Vice President – Investments for Crowell, Weedon and Dan LaVigne enjoying his exhibit at the Crowell, Weedon offices

Local Ventura artists showcased

In an effort to support the local arts community, Ventura financial services firm Crowell, Weedon & Co. has begun a program to showcase various artists by exhibiting their artwork throughout their office, located at 5740 Ralston Street. This is an opportunity for local Ventura artists to promote their talent, and be on display for the local businesses and community at large to enjoy. The artwork will remain on display in the Crowell Weedon office for a set period of time, along with informational materials about the artist, and featured pieces. Crowell Weedon is regularly seeking local artists to display work in their office. For artists interested in displaying please contact Cheryl Gooss, 620-4700 or cgooss@crowellweedon.com.

Crowell Weedon's most recent artist on exhibit was Dan LaVigne, who has been a professional artist since receiving his bachelor's in fine arts in 1981. Dan has presented his work in numerous group and one man shows up and down the west coast. Since moving to Ventura in 2001, he has become a prominent fixture in the arts community.

Ventura art happenings

Artist Adrienne Burk will be featured from July 19 - August 13 at The Buenaventura Gallery, 700 E. Santa Clara 648-1235 with a reception on Saturday, July 23 from 4-7 pm

Ms. Burk's show is a series of paintings based on photos she has taken of window displays in Downtown Ventura. It's an alternative view of Ventura; instead of landscapes and street scenes, she zooms in on details that catch her eye. Downtown Ventura has it all – antique stores, thrift shops, bars, cafes, jewelry stores, clothing stores – and what you find inside them runs the gamut from kitschy to trendy, from modern to memory lane.

The Red Brick Gallery is currently seeking emerging and mid-career visual artists who are working in most 2D and 3 D mediums for exhibits this fall and winter, each show is on display for 6-8 weeks. They are seeking art of a professional quality with a local (Ventura County), natural or abstract theme.

For all artists wishing to submit please send an email with a sampling of 7-9 pieces of a cohesive body of work (pieces that have a similar theme and look nice together), a price list including sizes and a short artists statement or bio to Jen@redbrickart.com.



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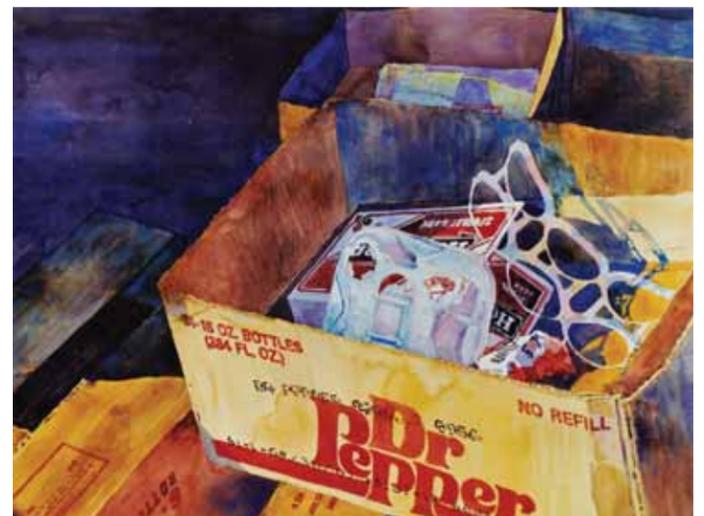


Adrienne Burk's "Windows of Downtown Ventura" is based on her own photos

Submission deadline for late summer/ fall exhibits is July 31 and for winter exhibits is September 15.

Red Brick Gallery is located in downtown Ventura, and changes their exhibits every 6-8 weeks and include about 20 different artists in each exhibit.

An Evening with Jacquelyn Cavish will be held on Saturday, July 16, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at Brooks Institute, 5301 N. Ventura Ave., Ventura.



Meet artist Jacquelyn Cavish at Brooks Institute on July 16

\$10 General Admission - \$5 Students and Seniors. Free to FOTM members, Brooks Students, faculty & students under 18.

Please RSVP at 653-2501 or by emailing Mary.Galbraith@FocusOnTheMasters.com.

The AfterGLOW Special Event will be held immediately following the interview at the Ventura home of Karen Hoffberg. Early reservations a must! FOTM Members \$20,

non-members \$30. Purchase tickets online at www.FocusOnTheMasters.com.

And visit Focus on the Masters during the Westside ArtWalk July 23 and 24 at the Erle Stanley Gardner Building, located at 494 E. Main and stay for their Arts Education Benefit Auction, Sunday evening, July 24 from 5 to 8 p.m. Enjoy fine art, wine, great food, music and auction items while helping to build a better future for our youth through the arts!

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