



VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

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Linda Taylor of TLC and Diane Rowley of P.A.P.A. attended the no-kill rally.

The case for no-kill shelters in Ventura County

by Nanci Cone

Ventura Cty Animal Services Commission held their quarterly meeting on Thursday, January 26th. When Linda Nelson of Tiny Loving Canines (TLC) heard about the meeting, she emailed everyone in her organization to show up and turn this into a rally. The word spread and more than 100 showed up—too many to fit inside the meeting room. Most of the people had to stand outside a window to hear what was being discussed. Diane Rowley, Director of Promote and Protect Animals (P.A.P.A.), said, “The purpose of holding this rally was to put the Commission on inquiry notice and to investigate changing policies so there would be less killing and more adoptions. If that shelter will not change, the animals will be taken away from Camarillo and sent to other no-kill shelters in the area.”

Activists like Diane and Linda are concerned about outdated rules that only allow one animal per kennel and there are definitely not enough kennels to go around. County officials contend that even if they allowed the kennels to be shared, there would be as many as 17 animals per kennel by the end of the year. They would like to see proponents of no-kill shelters focus on getting animals spayed and neutered instead.

Linda Nelson, who has been rescuing animals for more than 30 years, is hopeful that she will be able to institute a no-kill policy and that it will take effect in the near future. According to Nelson, “Animals do well when housed together as they are very social creatures. The Camarillo Shelter is the only one that only allows one dog per kennel and

Continued on page 3



Public safety and property damage by sand encroachment in front of Pierpont Beach properties have left many citizens in fear of injury and serious property damage. Photo by Murray Robertson

City reaches agreement with Pierpont over sand removal – Part 1

by Tim Pompey

If you stand in the living rooms of those Pierpont residents whose homes brush up against the beach, you will notice something unsettling. When they look out their front windows, there is a mountain of sand piled 15-20 feet high against their property walls.

It wasn't always this way. Rosemary Icardo, chair of the Pierpont Community Council Beach Committee, pulled out pictures she took in the mid 1990s showing the beach in its previous condition—flat straight out to the water. Now, residents and visitors have difficulty even accessing the beach. The sand looms large against homes and inundates the steps to every beach turnout.

What changed? The answer seems to point to one important fact: The City of Ventura Public Works Department stopped grading Pierpont Beach about 1998 or 1999. Mother Nature took its course and, thirteen years later, scores of beachfront properties are sitting below sand level.

According to Rick Raives, the city's director of public works, the Pierpont area, which runs along the beach from Marina Park to San Pedro Street, is unique. “The ownership is different because it's next to a state park beach,” he said.

And there's a second issue: a 40-foot street right of way known to the city and to local residents as Shore Drive. “Originally the tract was subdivided with the idea of building a street to connect all the smaller streets,” said Raives. “It was never built as a street but there is public access. It's a street right of way, an all-encompassing public easement.”

For Pierpont Beach residents, the

city's decision to stop sand maintenance has meant that over the years, they have nervously watched as walls of sand have grown. The important question for them was: Who should be responsible for removing it?

For Raives, the city's decision to stop sand removal resulted in part because of problems they encountered with the California Coastal Commission. “When we stopped doing the sand maintenance in the late 1990s,” said Raives, “it was because the Coastal Commission changed the permit requirements. They made it very difficult, if not impossible, to do sand removal.”

But for Pierpont Beach resident Murray Robertson, that response is very frustrating. “The city will tell you that the Coastal Commission denied them the permit,” said Robertson, “but if you talk to the Coastal Commission, the Coastal Commission said that they never denied the city a permit. They asked for additional information from the City, which was going to be expensive.”

Robertson believes that the responsibility for cleaning up Pierpont Beach rests squarely with the city. “From the property owners' perspective, the city owns the property,” he said. “It's the city's sand building up and damaging the beachfront homes and making it difficult to access the beach, so it's the city's responsibility.”

For Robertson and members of the Pierpont Community Council, agreeing on a solution with the city has been difficult. Their perception is that the city has been indifferent. Consequently, numerous meetings between Pierpont residents and the city have left the

Continued on page 3

The Breeze presents “The World Within Our City”

In collaboration with Star Soto, Children's Librarian at the E.P. Foster Library the Ventura Breeze is presenting “The World Within Our City” during the “Storytimes” featured at the library. On Wednesday, Jan. 25 to celebrate the Chinese New Year the Breeze invited Gary Cheng, the owner of the Golden China Restaurant, to teach the kids Chinese writing and words and he spoke to them about China. He also brought fortune cookies for the kids to enjoy and to read (not part of the library's normal reading program).

After he spoke, the kids, ranging in age from 2 to 12, prepared hand dragons and held a dragon parade around the library.

The E.P. Foster Library is located at 651 E. Main and there is plenty of free parking right in back of the library with direct access to the second floor children's library.

Other “The World Within Our City” events will be coming up.

The Golden China is located at 760 S. Seaward Ave. Be sure to tell Gary that you saw him in the Ventura Breeze.



Gary Cheng, the owner of the Golden China Restaurant, celebrating Chinese New Year



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

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No-kill shelters

Continued from page 1

healthy, adoptable dogs are euthanized to provide more space."

Director of Animals Services at the Camarillo Shelter, Monica Nolan, counters with "We enforce the one dog per kennel policy to help keep disease from spreading. We see that it also helps reduce stress and if possible, we occasionally do allow two dogs per cage if they meet guidelines such as size, health and ability to get along." She went on to say that, "The Camarillo Shelter contracts with nine out of 10 cities in Ventura County to provide rescue services and I feel we have a great working relationship with most of the individuals working to help these unfortunate animals. Joy Nadel of Woodland Hills, founder of Rescue Me, Inc., has been involved with us for 21 years and we work really well with her and her organization. She is looking for property to set up a no-kill shelter and we will certainly work hand-in-hand with her."

Diane Rowley contends that more than 2,000 dogs and 2,000 cats were killed last year – most of them able to be adopted. "These animals were destroyed because there was not enough room for them." She spoke for more than 15 minutes and suggested three steps to help reduce the kill rate:

Improve the shelter's website and marketing efforts

Vaccinate against kennel cough (Bordetella)

Keep multiple dogs in the same kennels to free up space

Nolan said that even though more animals were being accepted each year, the 16% kill rate has remained steady. She also said that the website has been upgraded but that funding

is a major problem and it would be hard to find the \$10-12,000 needed to vaccinate against kennel cough. "If more people would spay or neuter their companions, there would be less of a problem" she noted.

This isn't a problem that will be solved overnight and it's obvious that the Camarillo Shelter and Ventura County Animals Services Commission must work together with rescue groups if they are to find a way to make this a no-kill county. We would love to hear what our readers think about this. We will continue to follow this issue and report on it in the coming year.

Sand removal

Continued from page 1

problem unresolved. "What we said was that we were concerned about the safety on the stairs," said Robertson, "and we were concerned that if somebody got hurt, the city was going to be sued. When we told them this, Ron Calkins (the city's former public works director) said to us, 'We'll take our chances.' He even told me in one of our meetings that 'You're not in my budget and you're not going to be in my budget.'"

The breakdown in negotiations resulted in a lawsuit filed by Pierpont resident Ron Wilson against the city in December 2007. Wilson's suit was later consolidated by additional filed actions into a single lawsuit.

When the case went to trial, a jury found that the sand was indeed a nuisance and that the city had no immunity. In October 2011, as a result of a second trial, the judge in the case determined the sand was a nuisance caused by lack of city maintenance and ordered that the sand be abated and maintained by the city.

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7th Annual Kids Swap Meet applications.

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Continued on page 4



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City News

Recent city council actions

Event permit price structure examined

In an effort to increase the number of events held in the city, the Ventura City Council has asked the Parks, Recreation and Community Partnerships department to research the viability of employing a two-tier pricing structure as well as the possibility of creating a grants program to help finance special events. Other possible changes include lowering insurance requirements for lower liability events that don't serve alcohol or basing fees dependent on the level of amenities offered at each facility. Currently, there is a single standardized fee of \$45 an hour for holding an event at a city facility in Ventura whether it be a festival, 5K run or street fair.

The city approved 157 event permits in 2011, and would like to see that number grow equating more events to more money flowing into the coffers of restaurants, hotels and retail establishments in the city. A grants program would make it easier for groups to pay for a number of upfront costs events encounter including fees for park rentals, applications and emergency services. Money for a grants program could come from a number of sources including local hotel association marketing funds or the city's economic development general fund.

Redevelop responsibilities move to the city

As expected, the council approved taking over control of the redevelopment agency. Two councilmembers opposed the measure. Both Mayor Mike Tracy and Councilmember Jim Monahan voted against the city becoming the successor housing agency. A number of cities across the state of California have taken similar steps to take over redevelopment agencies, which were forced to close their doors when the state abolished the organizations. A few exceptions, including Los Angeles and nearby Santa Paula, decided against the move.

City officials have stated it may cost the city upwards of \$260,000 to run the development agency, which includes managing its public housing assets and overseeing projects. Ventura's redevelopment assets are tied to economic development projects or affordable housing undertakings. There are three redevelopment plans currently in the works, together called the Merged Redevelopment Plan, all of which are located in the downtown area.

According to Community Development Director Jeff Lambert, taking over the agency's duties gives the city greater control over its assets and debts. Tracy voiced his opinion that he wasn't sure if it wasn't better to let the agency fall to the hands of the Housing Authority, which is where it would have gone if the city did not adopt the agency. The city will be taking on a more than \$1 million debt, but may have the opportunity to receive funding from projects.

Council considers stepping into enforcement appeal process

Looking to provide another way to settle code enforcement issues before they elevate to the courts, the City Council is looking to possibly put itself into a mediator role. The council has expressed interest in being able to assist in hardship cases, for example, if a resident is being fined for parking on their grass, but can't afford to pave a driveway. Questions around how much the council may be able to legally help came into question as it was discovered that while state law requires the city to offer residents a way to appeal code violation decisions, financial hardship is not supposed to be a factor in the consideration.

In the end the council voted 4-2 to have City Attorney Ariel Calonne and his office undertake research to further examine the issue. Councilman Jim Monahan felt "we need to be more lenient and look into hardship."
- Rebecca Wicks

City of Ventura Classes

Continued from page 3

snacks, themed stories and crafts plus stuff a cuddly collectable friend. 2-5 years \$10 plus \$15 materials fees due at class.

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Classes takes place at Barranca Vista Center, 7050 Ralston St., Ventura. For more information call 654-7552.

This just in...

Today, Wednesday Feb. 8, city council member Neal Andrews will announce his entry into the race for County Board of Supervisors representing District One at a presentation at Ventura City Hall. He is the second city council member (with Christie Weir) to be running. KADY TV.com will be on hand to cover the event at noon. More about this in the next issue of the Breeze.

Correction

In the January 25 edition of the Breeze, the writer of the article "Ventura Film Director Creates Hot Film," incorrectly identified Chelsea St. John as Evan Glodell's girlfriend. She is in fact just a good friend, no more, no less. The writer apologizes for this error.

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Editor:

Surely the Council would not consider codifying more harsh enforcement procedures recommended by the staff, prior to any implementation of the 56 recommendations from the public and the Ventura Safe Housing Collaborative.

I have studied the Administrative Report for Item 7 in detail and I see none of the 56 recommendations of the public addressed in the staff's recommendations. In fact, the recommendations of the staff actually conflict with the recommendations of the public as presented by the VSHC.

Opinion/Editorial



Sheldon (Governor) Brown
Publisher

■ Southern California Edison has awarded Ventura membership in the Cool Planet Project for its efforts to combat climate change. Since 2007, the city has cut greenhouse gas emissions by 14%.

The award gives the city free membership for a year in the Climate Registry. Climate Registry provides ways to measure energy use and greenhouse gas emissions in California.

So the next time you use your gas lawn mower remember that the Climate Registry has their eye on you.

■ Ventura officials have met with residents of Montalvo about plans to bring the neighborhood into Ventura city limits. The area is mostly residential and a portion of it is already within the City of Ventura but most of Montalvo is in the unincorporated county surrounded by city territory. The state encourages cities to annex such "island" areas (Ventura County Medical Center is one of these "islands") and the Ventura Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) has ordered the city to annex its unincorporated areas before a planned residential development on Wells Road can be approved.

The Ventura Planning Commission will vote on the matter at their March 6 meeting. It would then go before the council and if they vote yes it would go to LAFCO for final approval.

The city's Community Development Director Jeff Lambert told the residents attending the meeting that they would be better off in many ways if their homes were in city limits because city police would have more patrols in the area and faster response times than the county. Fire service is now provided by the city per an agreement with the county so this would remain the same.

■ A new monitoring system will let the Ventura Police Department more efficiently review cameras throughout the city after

the City Council unanimously approved buying the \$93,000 system by using state and federal grants (good if true let's use their money, we don't have much, actually they don't either).

The system will integrate the different types of video streams that collect data in Ventura. And police say that they will be able to zero in on problem areas more quickly.

For example, police hope to integrate cameras from various schools into the command center.

Council members were told that the department will not be able to, or wish to monitor all cameras on a constant basis but



Ventura plans to install solar panels behind city hall this year. They will provide 75% percent of the building's electricity and reduce carbon dioxide emissions.

will review them as necessary after a crime has occurred.

At the meeting Councilman Brian Brennan tried to alleviate citizens concerns by saying "A few years ago, people saw such systems as "Big Brother" but they now are more acceptable. It has become a reality of living in this time."

Many in attendance did not agree with his assessment nor do many others living in Ventura including me.

Hopefully the city council will periodically review this to alleviate our fears.

Mailbox

We have a concern that without clear direction from the Council to the staff, the public will continue to be ignored. Respectfully,
Camille Harris

Breeze:

Ventura's General Plan sets clear standards for parks: two acres of neighborhood parks, three acres of community parks plus five acres of citywide parks for every 1,000 people.

The Westside has just over 20 acres for 13,700 people, when it should have 137 acres. With a pro-rated share of citywide parks in other neighborhoods there are about 68 of the 137 needed acres, or half of what should be available.

Westpark, the main park for the Westside, is sadly deficient and in disrepair compared to Ventura's other parks.

After spending more than half a million dollars studying the Westside the City now says it can't pay one penny for new parks.

City staff wants to make an agreement to use schools in the off hours and call that a park. The planners also want to count little concrete plazas by calling them parks.

After an outpouring of community support for more parks and playgrounds the City Council ordered staff to study three possible park locations. Yet every one of the three is designated for high

density residential in the proposed plan.

How can city staff decide they no longer have to follow the park standards in the General Plan?

I'm angry and will loudly protest this calculated abandonment and disregard of what makes neighborhoods livable, healthy and safe.

City staff needs to implement the adopted park standards and stop experimenting with big city ideas. New Urbanism development codes aren't working here in Ventura and it is time to change.

Suz Montgomery
Ventura
Breeze:

Suz Montgomery is a Ventura Parks and Recreation Commissioner. The mission of the Parks and Recreation Commission is to stimulate interest, recommend and promote public parks and recreation programs, facilities and events.

Opinion:

One of the ways that the homeless/transients/vagrants are "enabled" is by their stealing of recyclables out of the trash cans around town, especially in the State Park, on the promenade and rifling

■ In a past issue we reported that a local business owner was suing the city over a CUP ordinance.

After more than a decade practicing law as a civil litigation attorney, Kim Ungar decided that, in order to spend more time with her family, she wanted to leave law and open up a small business.

When an old liquor store site located in midtown behind Sizzler's became available she opened Oceanic Market and Select Spirits.

But according to Ungar, the process for opening Oceanic was extremely difficult and caused her many delays. The problem had to do with a dispute between her and the city regarding the site's grandfather clause and the issuance of her conditional use permit (CUP).

She eventually opened the store and sued the city because of the delays.

But I'm sorry to see that after all of her endeavors, and huge amount of money spent that the store has recently closed its doors. I really hate to see this happen to folks who are willing to spend their money and time to open a business to help our local economy only to see it close.

This is happening so much throughout the city. That's why it is so important that you support our local businesses and why they should advertise in the Ventura Breeze (had to throw that in).

■ The 4-deck parking structure at the Ventura Beach Marriott has remained mostly empty ever since it was built simply because it was never needed. But this could be changing.

The owners of the hotel are in the process of going through the various city departments to get the structure demolished to allow homes to be built on the site. So far they have obtained approvals from some city agencies and will be proceeding to pursue the various other approvals necessary to eventually build homes on the site.

This is a long process so won't happen for some time but anything there would be better than this ugly parking structure.

through Harrison's recyclable blue trash cans on the Pierpont lanes. Note that this is often done with the assistance of a stolen shopping cart. This is one way these individuals support their drug and drinking habits. If this robbing of Harrison could be eliminated/reduced it would be another enabler that goes by the wayside. Besides robbing from Harrison these individuals are coming

Continued on page 18

The Ventura Breeze is seeking an intern (that means you don't get paid but have lots of fun) to help us run our Facebook site and other stuff like that.

If interested please contact editor@venturabreeze.com and become part of Ventura's 2011 Small Business of the Year.



Every child should have 2 things. A dog and a mother who let them have one.

– Author unknown but it could have been Scamp



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News and Notes



CAPS Chat

Meet the CAPS staff

by Elizabeth Rodeno

Following our periodic piece "Meet the Board", now let us meet some of the CAPS staff.

Donald McConnell started working at CAPS as a Production Technician over 6 years ago. His duties included member services, program production and editing. After his promotion to Member Services Coordinator and then again to the Operations Supervisor position, he is now in charge of programming. He handles Member Services when he can, runs the Intern program with our local high schools and works with our all-important volunteers who help us in the studio and at events.

Donald spent 10 years working for Tyco International manufacturing circuit boards for major companies including NASA and the Military. After the company closed his division, he started teaching himself computer graphics and print design. When the opportunity became available to attend the Digital Multimedia Program at Ventura's Technology Development Center (TDC), he packed up and moved to the West Coast to begin his career in the graphic design and video production industry. As a transplant from Florida, he loves California for its varying terrain, with its beaches, mountains and perfect temperatures all year round. Getting outdoors, hiking and spending time with his friends is where you will find him during his free time.

Gary Roll has been at CAPS since July of 2011. His responsibilities include Member Services, including checking in and out camera and production equipment. He loves telling people about CAPS. Gary gets out and shoots video and edits segments and shows for Ventura's City Channel, VTV 15 as well as for CAPS-TV Channel 6. He has a degree in radio, TV, and film from Cal State Fullerton. He worked for Apple as a retail training instructor and ran the media department at an 8000 member mega church in the Inland Empire, producing large scale events and leading a volunteer staff of almost 50.

He really enjoys working with CAPS members, helping them, getting to know them, and seeing their projects "come to life." He also loves the opportunity to work closely with the City of Ventura promoting new programs and shedding light on issues that are important to all of us.

Gary enjoys living near the beach, listening to music, watching movies, and enjoying activities with his wife and 2 boys.

Don't forget to "Share your Story" with help from CAPS. For a small annual fee of \$25, you can take advantage of what Ventura's non-profit Community Access center has to offer you, your friends, family or organization. Join CAPS now, call us at 658-0500, check our site at www.capstv.org, and chat with us on Facebook at CAPSTV Ventura.

Compassionate Eating

The label GMO initiative

by Bianca Martinez

Do you care what you are putting in your mouth when you are eating? Would you want to know if there were hidden ingredients in your food besides what is on the label? I thought you might, and there is a movement underway to do just that. Volunteers for the label GMOs (genetically modified organisms) initiative will be hitting the streets in the next few weeks to get concerned folks to sign petitions to get this on the ballot. We have the right to know what we are eating and feeding our families.

As many of us struggle to get food on the table, along with busy schedules and long work days it can almost feel like a necessity to reach for quick meal fixes like microwave dinners, fast-food or restaurant take-out. The danger here is that we seldom think about what is going into our food and big food companies often slip in chemicals to replace actual seasonings under the guise of "natural flavors" and "spices". The cleverly disguised MSG found in yeast extract, magnesium glutamate and anything hydrolyzed, has been proven to cause depression, dizziness, mental confusion even seizures in sensitive people.

But it goes even deeper than food additives. GMOs have their actual genetic structure altered, so the plant along with the food growing on it can contain the DNA of a completely different species. Now this has been developed over many years and farmers have bred specific types of favorable vegetable crops and food animals with specific traits for centuries. But this is quite different. They weren't injecting tomatoes with the genes of Brazil nuts or systemic pesticides into their plant seeds. The result is that people can be prone to having allergic reactions to the foods they eat. A slow weakening of our immune systems can also result from eating GM foods that contain pesticides used to kill living organisms (hey guess what I'm a living organism!). This can lead to a whole host of other illnesses that are hard to pin down, creating a huge money stream for pharmaceutical companies in an attempt to "treat" symptoms.

This goes beyond human health risks and threatens to destroy fragile wildlife systems—ones that we need for survival and the ability to grow crops. If bee populations are diminished from eating pollen from genetically modified plants, guess what? We won't be able to grow food. Bees and other helpful pollinating insects are needed to keep the web of life intact. Once these GM crops are released into the environment there is no way to recall them and that is just what big seed companies want. Say if some of their GM seeds blow over into their neighbor's organic farm they can sue that farmer for violating a patent to grow their seeds and even take that farm away if they are unable to pay the fines. This is crazy folks. There are farmers around the world in crisis due to this type of activity. Lands they have worked for generations have been ruined by GM crops. Many of these seeds need all types of special pesticides and artificial fertilizers to grow making them more toxic and costly. Small farmers simply can't afford these types of intensive practices and many are forced to give up their

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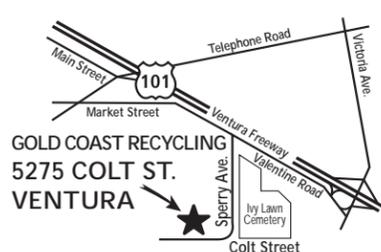
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News and Notes

land. We cannot let this happen, if we allow small farms to be taken over by this agenda we will not have a say in what goes in our mouths. The health of our families and our planet is in your hands, please educate yourself on the dangers of GM foods and sign the petitions at your local farmers markets and health food stores to label these dangerous organisms.

There will be a free information gathering at Community Roots Garden in Oxnard on Feb 9th at 6:30pm. Eric Herm, author, fourth generation farmer and one of America's leading voices against GM food and fiber crops, will discuss the science and the risk.

For more information on this event and recipes that don't contain GMO foods visit compassionateating.wordpress.com

Want to save lives?

by Kris McDonald
Captain Ventura City Fire Department

Simply put...smoke detectors save lives. Unfortunately, however, 33% of American homes are not adequately protected with them. One and two family dwellings are where 79% of all civilian fire deaths occur, at a staggering national rate of one death every 156 minutes. A properly functioning smoke detector provides the crucial time needed for you and your family to get out of the home when a fire occurs. Exposure to flame is rarely the cause of death in a house fire, the real culprit is exposure to toxic smoke. It takes mere minutes for a home to become charged with deadly smoke and for oxygen to drop below life sustaining levels.

While one smoke detector goes a long way in adding to your safety, multiple detectors located throughout the house is substantially safer. Placement of your detectors should be strategic. Avoid placing detectors near fireplaces, wood stoves, bathrooms, and kitchens.

Detectors can be activated not only by smoke, but by steam and dust as well. Ideally there should be one detector in every room that will be occupied, at the top of each stairwell, and in every hallway. At a minimum, however, one detector should be placed in the hallway adjacent to bedrooms. Avoid placing detectors within 18" of the corner area where walls and ceiling meet, this area is a dead air space where smoke accumulates last. Also avoid proximity to windows, doors, and ceiling fans.

Besides not being present to begin with, there are several common causes of smoke detectors not being successful in preventing tragedy. These causes are batteries being disconnected (to prevent nuisance alarms), dead batteries, obstruction of the detector by debris, or component failure due to age. Instead of removing the battery to silence a nuisance alarm, try fanning the detector with a towel until the air clears. Removing the battery, no matter how good your intentions are to replace it right away, is a recipe for disaster. A detector that is chirping periodically is trying to tell you that the battery is nearly depleted. If you replace the battery and the detector still chirps, it may be malfunctioning and should be replaced. Unless otherwise indicated by the manufacturer, smoke detectors should be replaced every ten years.

Smoke detectors should be tested regularly by pressing and holding the "test" button, the alarm should sound loudly within a few seconds. A good rule for battery replacement is to do so whenever you adjust your clocks for daylight savings, or every six months. Most smoke detectors that are hard-wired, meaning they operate on household electricity, also have a battery back up and that battery should be replaced on the same schedule.

A smoke detector is an inexpensive insurance policy that can save the lives of you and your loved ones. Take the time to see that your home is properly covered by functioning smoke detectors.

For more information visit us online at www.facebook.com/venturacityfire and www.youtube.com/user/VenturaCityFD.

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News and Notes



The home cook chefs came from all over Ventura to share their favorite and sometimes unique and eccentric recipes. Photo by John Hankins

“Ants on a log” at a potluck of foodies

by John Hankins

Tapping into a cultural pride of food, a diverse group of new and old friends shared what they've eaten in their lives during an unusual potluck of foodies.

“This was celebrating your family's cultural heritage,” said organizers Suz Montgomery and Gianna Cagliano, it turned into “a bizarre, fascinating mix of food and ancestry,” added DK Crawford.

The loosely formed Ventura Community Dining Group did the heritage theme perfectly, with food ranging from a snack (“ants on a log”), main dish (fried chicken and collard greens) and deathly desserts (New Orleans Chocolate Chess Pie).

Other tasty dishes included Cuban black beans, pasta fagoli, bacon-cheese ball, fresh vegetables and greens, an array of peanut butter treats (one with bacon), an Irish leek tart, meatballs and so much more, all washed down with Guatemalan horchata or wonderful wines and proseco.

The event on Sunday, Jan. 29 at the Bell Arts Factory, at 432 Ventura Ave. was the second of a series created by Montgomery who “wanted to foster a

better sense of community since we live in such a divisive time.”

While it started as a small group last year “it exploded on me,” Montgomery said. The first time was an Italian-themed potluck, to which Montgomery asserted, “it was the best Italian food I've ever had on the West Coast.” That is quite an endorsement, coming from an Italian chef.

“This large spinning ball called earth held still for just a few hours so we could shake hands and break bread; this is the beauty of food,” remarked Gianna Cagliano.

It was hard to choose among the dishes offered, so most people took a spoonful of this, or a fork of that. But everyone ended up stuffed and satisfied.

Montgomery will continue the event every quarter, celebrating the bounty of food in Ventura County was exceptional and “the camaraderie was simply wonderful.”

You too can get a taste of this group on Facebook, where recipes are shared; just search for the Ventura Community Dining Group.

City of Ventura 2011 crime statistics

For the year 2011 the City of Ventura continued to lead Ventura County in Per Capita Crime rate. The Part I Per Capita Crime Index for 2011 was 34.8 crimes

per one-thousand residents. Comparatively, 2010 data for the City of Oxnard reported 24.7, Thousand Oaks 16.8, and Simi Valley 18.5 crimes per one-thousand residents.

Most significantly was the rise in violent crime with 63 more felonious violent crimes reported in 2011, an increase of 24% over 2010. This includes 27 more reported Robberies and 34 ad-

ditional Felony Assaults. Violent Gang Crime increased by 59% with 73 crimes reported in 2011 versus 46 in 2010. One Homicide occurred in 2011 compared to 3 in 2010. Reported Rape increased from 16 in 2010 to 20 in 2011.

Overall reported Part I Property Crimes reduced by 140 crimes in 2011. Leading the reduction was reported thefts with 2,468 in 2011 versus 2,654 in 2010. Burglaries of homes and businesses increased slightly with 657 reported in 2011 versus 652 in 2010. The number of reported Auto Thefts rose significantly, increasing by 28%, from 152 in 2010 to 195 in 2011. Arson decreased by 2 with 5 reported crimes in 2011 versus 7 in 2010. Overall, violent crime solved in Ventura by arrest or arrest warrant continued to be above the most recent available national average data. The crime fighting efforts of the Ventura Police Department (VPD) resulted in an overall violent crime clearance rate of 56%, approximately 6% better than the 2009 national average for cities in the 100,000 to 250,000-population range. Comparatively, the VPD's violent crime clearance rate in previous years was 54% in 2010 and 58% in 2009. The overall Part I Property Crime clearance was 22%, down from 25% in 2010, but still above the most recent national average data of 18%.



Hawaiian Chieftain by Georgeanne Stewart

Sailing on the tall ships

by Georgeanne Stewart

On January 24 I had an opportunity to sail on the tall ships “Lady Washington” and “Hawaiian Chieftain” as they moved from the Channel Islands Harbor to the Ventura Harbor. I had taken the same voyage last year and enjoyed it so

much that I invited my friend Denise Dewire, to join me. We were excited to get behind the lens for some fantastic sailing shots on these unique vessels.

Unlike last year's trip, this sail was quite different. Upon leaving the Channel Islands Harbor, we encountered huge swells that literally rocked us out to sea. At the last minute I had made the decision to board the Lady Washington, even though I had sailed on her last year. That turned out to be a very wise decision since the Hawaiian Chieftain is shorter and does not sit as deep in the water, which causes the ship to pitch (rock) and roll more dramatically. Even aboard the “Lady Washington”, my sea legs would not allow me to stand right away, but from where I was sitting I could see the “Hawaiian Chieftain” rocking to the point where the bowsprit nearly dipped into the water several times.

At sea, the crew climbed the mast and hoisted the sails in light winds. Having the engines cut off and the sails take over are my favorite parts of a sail. The sounds of water lapping and the whoosh of the wind catching the sails are thrilling. But, soon the crew was aloft again since the wind had died and left us bobbing about, hardly making any headway. The Captain made the decision to fire up the engines, and they powered us along for a good portion of the way. What a shame that the wind did not cooperate.

Once the Captain turned the mighty ship toward the Ventura Harbor entrance, a whole new experience took over. Now instead of rocking (front/back), we were rolling (side-to-side). I learned then that rock and roll does not only pertain to the world of music!

The crew had kept us entertained along the way with sailing songs, their amazing abilities at climbing the rigging, hoisting the sails, all the while educating us about the history of the ship. The Captain had navigated into the Ventura Harbor with ease and now it was time to disembark and get our land legs back.

It was Denise's first sail on a tall ship, and might be her last. Lucky for me, I don't get seasick and if I get the chance to sail again next year, you can be sure I'll be there. I like the adventure of the experience being different each time. It's awesome fun!



2½ year old Donan Ford and 2½ year old best friend Annabelle Waggoner thoroughly enjoyed being on a “tall ship” at the Ventura Harbor but didn't like the loud noise from the cannon battles between the camp and the ships. The First Company Washington Artillery of New Orleans Civil War Reenactment Camp featured tents, hospital, artillery demonstrations, period costumes and entertainment. And President Abraham Lincoln. Photos by John Ferritto



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Community Events



The Ventura Music Festival presents its 18th year in 2012 by kicking off the season on Feb. 18. Photos by Jon Osumi (except for the Emerson String Quartet shown in the lower right hand corner who will be one of 11 performances that will highlight the Music Festival).

Festival previews 2012 concerts and art

by Tim Pompey

The Ventura Music Festival celebrated its 18th year on Monday, January 23 by premiering its 2012 lineup of musicians and singers as well as displaying the 7th Annual Ventura Music Festival Art Exhibition titled "Visions on Screen: Unfolding Art of 12 Women." The event was held in the atrium at Ventura City Hall.

Jump starting the evening were the Festival's artistic director Nuvi Mehta and accompanist Hiromi Tilsner playing a violin/piano duet of Gershwin's Prelude. Mehta described the Gershwin piece as representative of this year's Festival. "It's the very cornerstone of the classical tradition," he said, "which is Beethoven and Mozart, represented by some of their greatest works."

The Festival will kick off its events on Saturday, February 18, 8:00 p.m., at the Ventura High School Auditorium, with the Spanish Harlem Orchestra. Featuring the best of New York City jazz salsa, the Orchestra won a Grammy in 2011 and features a large ensemble of brass, percussion, and singers.

When the Festival officially kicks off on May 3, the lineup will feature everything from brass and saxophone to piano, guitar and Cuban jazz to opera. Highlights include: 2011 Cleveland International Piano Competition winner Alexander Schimpf, Saturday, May 5, 8:00 p.m., Ventura Missionary Church; the Emerson String Quartet, Tuesday, May 8, 7:30 p.m., Ventura Missionary Church; and guitarist Pablo Sáinz Villegas, Friday, May 11, 8:00 p.m., Community Presbyterian Church.

On Sunday, May 6, 2:00 p.m., the Festival's annual Ventura College Sunday concert will present Tiempo Libre, a three-time Grammy nominated Cuban jazz ensemble. Their music has been described as "a fierce intense mix of Latin jazz color and danceable afro-cuban rhythms." Opening for them will be jazz pianist Alfredo Rodriguez.

A special Festival highlight will feature Ventura hometown native Nicole Cabell, who will sing on Saturday, May 12, 8:00

p.m., at the Ventura High School Auditorium. Cabell was the 2005 winner of the BBC Cardiff "Singer of the World" competition and has previously appeared with the Festival.

The art exhibition, which featured 12 hand-painted screens, was coordinated by Festival volunteer Layla Hallberg, who made a deliberate choice to reach out to each featured artist. "If you look at these women and see what they've done," she said, "they're all very well traveled. I consider these women to be our art powerhouse."

The artists have lived and painted around the world—from countries such as Egypt, Poland, Russia, China, and Peru, to such large cities as Los Angeles and Washington, D.C., to local communities here in Ventura County.

Nina Bobrova was born in Russia but raised in Caracas, Venezuela. She described her inspiration as the impressionists, but has moved recently to more modern styles. "I really like Picasso, now," said Bobrova. Her screen displays an even different style. "Right now," she said, "I'm doing collages to make more abstract shapes."

Kay Zetlmaier has been painting for 25 years. Zetlmaier formerly taught art at Ventura High School. Now that she's retired, she paints full-time.

In the past, she has been inspired by Monet, but for Zetlmaier, the idea of painting a screen immediately led her to another artist. "This is really more decorative," she said. "It's inspired by the work of Gustav Klimt, a contemporary of Monet."

The screens will be on display at the Ventura City Hall atrium from January 23 to February 23. After that they will rotate around the city and eventually be auctioned off at the Festival's spring fundraiser on Saturday, March 31 at the Four Points by Sheraton.

For more information about the Festival's upcoming activities, including art displays and concert tickets, check out their website at venturamusicfestival.org or call 648-3146.

Local Rock Picnic

The Local Rock Picnic is a free all-ages music and community event produced by Saturday Night Sound in conjunction with Ventura Music Week, February 15-19. The event, held on Saturday, Feb. 18 consists of high school and college age local bands performing from 11am-6pm in the gazebo in Downtown Ventura's Plaza Park. Local

artists, organizations, and businesses will have booths to promote themselves while showing their support for all-ages music.

In the first year, the Local Rock Picnic drew an estimated 1,000 who enjoyed a wonderful day in the park, listened to talented local musicians while kids played on the playground and bounced in an inflatable jump house. Rock music lovers lounged in lawn

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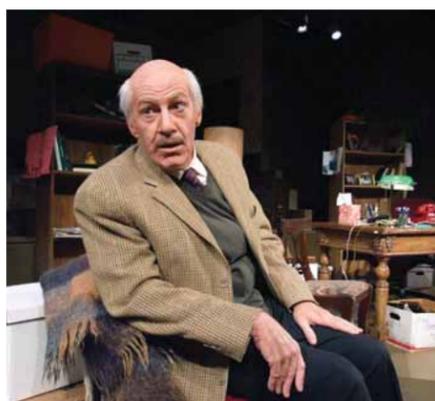
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chairs and danced to great tunes.

Saturday Night Sound's Brian Parra, is a long-time local promoter and all-ages music advocate. He believes that developing a vital local music scene in the city must include opportunities for young people to create music and perform locally in legitimate venues where they can be appreciated by their peers. The City of Ventura's willingness to support this type of event along with other local businesses and organizations sponsoring this event is a great show of support for young musicians and will translate into young talent becoming serious musicians and music professionals in the future.

For more information and to ask about sponsorship and vendor table opportunities contact Brian Parra at 794-4714.



Nazi Hunter Simon Wiesenthal at the Rubicon

Tom Dugan's one-man show brings the wisdom, courage and humor of the renowned Wiesenthal, who pledged his

life to seeing justice served in the wake of The Holocaust.

There's ancient wisdom in the adage that it's only with knowledge of darkness that we can truly know the light.

A product of that inspiration is Dugan's play, which frames Wiesenthal on the day of his retirement, attending one final group of students at his Jewish Documentation Center in Vienna, Austria. With warmth, wit and surprising humor the man known as "The Conscience of the Holocaust" and "the Jewish James Bond" recounts the remarkable story of how, after cheating death repeatedly in the clutches of the WWII Nazi war machine, he dedicated his life to pursuing and bringing to justice some of the greatest mass murderers in human history.

Wiesenthal was working in Poland when Hitler's Germany commenced operations that led to World War Two. His entire family was caught up in the Nazi machine, and interred in the dreaded concentration camp system. In August 1942, Wiesenthal's mother was sent to the Belzec death camp. By September, most of his and his wife's relatives were dead; a total of eighty-nine members of both families perished.

In November 1977, the Simon Wiesenthal Center was founded.

Nazi Hunter - Simon Wiesenthal previews at the Rubicon Theatre Company February 15-17, and opens February 18 in an engagement that runs through March 11. Regular performances run Wednesday at 2pm & 7pm, Thursday through Friday at 8pm, Saturday at 2pm and 8pm and Sunday at 2pm. Prices are \$39 to \$59, depending on the day of the week. Tickets for students are \$25.



The Ventura Breeze Presents The Face Of Ventura



Kat Merrick

Portrait by Johanna Spinks

Kat Merrick's million dollar smile and positive, straightforward approach towards life makes people feel instantly welcome. She has a deep love of the ocean and her other hobbies include listening to live music, traveling, hiking, cooking, writing, gardening, and enjoying her time with family and friends.

A mother of two children Nichole and Jesse and grandmother of one, many know Kat as the "Surf Chick" from her many years surfing and operating her wholesale apparel business Surf Chick (with business partner Patty Wagner). Her designs have been featured on runways worldwide, TV, movies and magazines.

Kat has owned and operated other successful local retail and wholesale operations such as Just Beachie Clothing, and was a partner in the popular Red Head Clothing line. She has assisted numerous businesses by providing workshops designed to help them.

She is a frequent guest on several of our local radio shows, works with KADYTV.com as a reporter, and recently started writing a live local column for VC Buzz magazine.

It was through her many years working in the apparel industry in the areas of design and sourcing that she saw firsthand the effects that outsourcing has had on our country's job market. She said, "This just killed me and I knew there had to be a better way". Well Kat being Kat she knew she had to find a way to help. She started working hard to find ways to keep work in the US. Her goal was to help companies to understand the true cost of outsourcing, and that by looking at the big picture and long-term effect jobs could be saved and some of the work was better placed in the US. She also worked with companies to market their products "US made". After so many years of working with business

and entrepreneur it was clear to her that a program needed to be created that could help small businesses and communities.

A Ventura County resident since 1978 and a long-standing advocate for support of local small business Kat decided to take her passion for helping small business and love of community by starting Totally Local VC that advocates a dynamic, sustainable community in all its aspects. She has been tagged as "the Shop Local girl".

Kat is a member of the Ventura and Santa Paula Chambers of Commerce, of Women in Ag and Women in the Industry. She has assisted EDC as a consultant and is a member of Linchpins. She sits on the Ag Summit committee and many other various committees countywide. Kat has also helped to raise money for many organizations.

We asked her what she likes the most about Ventura.

Ventura has this great vibe; you just feel it instantly. We really do have a bounty and are truly blessed to live in a place like this. From our ocean, hills, our amazing agriculture, to our great local businesses and so many talented musicians and artists. I have traveled all of the world but each and every time I get close to Ventura I say a prayer of thanks that I am home.

How was the experience of having your portrait painted by Johanna?

What an incredible experience. I was very nervous at first, as I prefer to not be the focus of the lens let alone an artist's brush but she instantly set me at ease and we had the most wonderful conversation. Watching her paint with such ease was magical. Johanna is not only an amazingly talented artist but wonderful person as well. This was an honor.



Captain Bill Finley



Howard Boroughs



Rachel Morris



Jolene McBee



Tony Barrios



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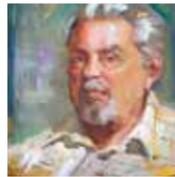
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Francisco Bracho, MD



Anita Diaz



Steve Robles



Laci Kay



Barbara Meister



Sandra Laby

Readers are invited to nominate a special person for the series.

"The Face of Ventura By Johanna Spinks":

Images Copyright Johanna Spinks.

Email: johanna@johannaspinks.com Website: www.johannaspinks.com

On the Lyn Fairly show, "Lyn Fairly & Friends", heard every Saturday from noon to 1pm on News Talk KVTA 1520 AM you can hear one of "The Face Of Ventura By Johanna Spinks" portrait sitters interviewed. So listen in to find out what their experience sitting for this ongoing art project was like.

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.



Come and see Johanna Spinks paint a portrait of jazz singer Martha B at the Executive Suites, located at 701 E. Santa Clara from 5pm to 7pm on Thursday Feb. 9. You can also see all of the portraits done to date.

Community Events

Ventura events

Feb. 9, 10, 11, 12: Ventura College Theatre Arts Department is proud to present its spring **2012 Student One Act Play Festival**. Featuring *The Wedding Story*, *The Fourth Wall*, *Smokes Scenes*, and *Drugs are Bad*. All four plays will be presented at each performance. The Festival showcases the writing, performance, and production skills of numerous Ventura College Theatre students. Show times are 9th, 10th, and 11th at 8 p.m., and a Sunday matinee on the 12th at 3 p.m. All performances will be held in the Wright Library, 57 Day Road, Ventura. Tickets: \$7 general admission, \$5 students, staff and seniors. Tickets will be available at door only. For more information, contact Judy Garey, Ventura College Theatre Arts Department, jgarey@vcccd.edu or 654-6400 (ext. 3236).

Feb. 10: The General George S. Patton, Jr. Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution May meeting will feature the program: **"Pierre Cruzatte: A Musical Journey Along the Lewis & Clark Trail"**, presented by fiddler Pierre Cruzatte as portrayed by Daniel Slosberg (please see his website at <http://www.fiddlingwithhistory.com>). The luncheon event will take place at 11:30 a.m., in the Garden Room, Marie Callender's Restaurant, 1295 S. Victoria Ave. All SAR compatriots, American Revolutionary War history buffs, friends and visitors are welcome at this special event, which is also especially appropriate for children! The self-pay luncheon cost is \$20 per person, which includes a slice of Marie Callender's pie. For more information call Bill Hurley 492-2583, Robert Taylor 216-7992, or Ron Risley 647-0751. Please visit the Chapter website <http://pattonpatriots.org> for more information on SAR Chapter activities.

Feb. 11: On Saturday, at 1p.m. at the Bell Arts Factory we will be interviewing **Mr. Leo Butts**. At 96 years old, Mr. Butts is still vibrant and has many stories to share about Ventura, the town he came to love and call home. From the mid 1940's to the mid 1950's Mr. Butts was the principal at May Henning Elementary School. Also on hand to be interviewed is a former student Jimmy Chan who came to May Henning School as a mono-lingual Chinese speaker and who eventually had a successful career as an architect. This compelling story and many others will be shared and collected for the Tortilla Flats Archives. This interview will be moderated by Jim Capito.

Feb. 11: Visit the Ventura Harbor Village on Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. to check out **an intimate display of El Caminos and more** on the Main Lawn! Produced by El Caminos Club and Presented by RL Associates. Free admission and parking. For further information www.ElCaminosClub.com

Feb. 11, 12: Shop for bargain-priced books, music CDs and movie DVDs on all subjects. Donations were by Adobe supporters as a fundraiser.

Function will be held on Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Olivas Adobe, 4200 Olivas Park Dr. Enjoy a delicious history lesson about making tortillas—from pre-Conquest Montezuma to 19th century Californian techniques to present modern methods. In addition to these free events, historical tours of the Olivas Adobe and grounds are available every weekend from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., as well as a unique gift shop, where tickets for tours can be purchased.

Ventura County's only remaining Monterey-style adobe home from the Rancho era, built by the Olivas family in the 1840s, is a California Historical Landmark.

Feb. 12: Camerata Pacifica will be performing at the Temple Beth Torah on Sunday at 3:00 p.m.

For more information go to www.cameratapacific.org or call 884-8410.

Program:

Harbison, Variations, for Clarinet, Violin and Piano

Sheng Seven, Tunes Heard in China for Cello

Schumann, Märchenbilder (Fairy Tale Pictures), for Viola and Piano, Op. 113

Beethoven Trio for Clarinet, Cello and Piano No. 4 in B-flat Major, Op. 11, "Gassenhauer"

Feb. 12: A concert in support of the Harmony Project of Ventura County. Phil Salazar and the Rincon Ramblers will be playing their own brand of bluegrass and Americana music at Zoey's Cafe, 185 East Santa Clara Street at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$20.00, all going to benefit the Harmony Project. Come on out and have a good time supporting a great cause. Info 652-1137

Feb. 17, 18, 19, 25, 26: Performance Theatre for Young Artists is proud to present **"Pride and Prejudice"**; performances are on Fri. Feb. 17 at 7pm, Sat., Feb. 18, 7pm; Sun., Feb. 19, 4pm "High Tea" Buffet, show begins at 5; Sat., Feb. 25, 2 pm matinee & 7pm; Sun., Feb. 26 6pm. All performances will be at the Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Rd. \$15.00/\$12.00 Ticket plus extra \$10/8 for High Tea Buffet. Information 653-1962 or www.ptya.org

Feb. 18: The Ventura County Genealogical Society, Inc. (VCGS) will be holding our free general meeting, Saturday at 1:00 p.m. The program will be held at the Family History Center of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 3501 Loma Vista Rd., at Mills Rd. Guests are always welcome. For more information call Gayle Wolcott at 987-8614.

Guest Speaker: Dr. Joel Weintraub, Subject: Here Comes the 1940 Census!

Audubon February Field Trips

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

Feb. 18: Beginners' Walk and Backyard Bird Count, Lake Casitas from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. The Beginners' Walk will be combined with the Great Backyard Bird Count sponsored by the National Audubon Society & Cornell Laboratory. Leader: Allen Bertke 640-9037

Feb. 19: Ventura County Game Preserve. Always a very special trip! We will see ducks, peeps, ibis, raptors, and more. We cannot drive the grounds so there will be considerable walking. Trip starts at 8:00 a.m. Directions: Take Casper Rd. south from Hueneme Rd. (between Saviers Rd. and Hwy.1). Follow the left curve to the barn/house buildings and park on the road outside the buildings. Leader: Eric Waian 630-0100.

Feb. 19: Ventura Baroque presents **The Baroque Chamber Players in concert** at The Dudley House Museum, corner of Ashwood and Loma Vista on Sunday, at 4:30PM with a program of the Chamber Concerto Series "La Pastorella" Op12 by Antonio Vivaldi.

The admission is free with a \$20 donation suggested at the door. There is



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ample free parking. Refreshments will be served at the end. For more information, please call 827-8722 or email southdesigns@yahoo.com

Feb. 20: Liz Wong, of Westlake Village, will present information about the Professional Presiders at the meeting of the Zeta Chi Unit of the **National Association of Parliamentarians (NAP)** on Monday at 7 p.m. in the Topping Room of E.P. Foster Library in Ventura. A professional presider is a parliamentarian who is hired by an organization that doubts the ability of its elected officers to preside in a competent or fair manner or because it expects a meeting to be particularly contentious.

Unit member dues are \$25 per year. For more information about the organization please contact Sandra Sanders at 643-5928 or sandy108@pacbell.net

Feb. 21: Ventura Sail and Power Squadron is offering an eight week **Safe Boating Class** at the Ventura Yacht Club, 1755 Spinnaker Drive, at 7 p.m. Instructors will provide an introduction to safe boating, boat types and handling, Coast Guard and state regulations, use of marine radio, weather and other maritime topics. The cost of the textbook and materials is \$45. Contact venturapowersquadron@gmail.com for more information.

Ojai events

On Sun., **Feb. 12**, the Ojai Film Society will screen **Martha Marcy May Marlene**, a powerful psychological drama starring Elizabeth Olsen as Martha, a young woman attempting to reclaim a normal life after fleeing from a

Continued on page 20

JOIN US FOR VALENTINE'S DAY AT THE GREEK AT THE HARBOR



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Cypress Place Senior Living

Welcome to Cypress Place Senior Living. Cypress Place is designed for resident comfort and convenience. Two communities, Active Senior Living and Assisted Living/Memory Care, are located on one senior living campus. Come see why Cypress Place is *the* place Ventura area seniors call home. It's time for you to enjoy the life you deserve. Call to schedule a complimentary lunch and tour.

Senior Living

Senior Cone-nection

Joint replacement surgery

by Nanci Cone

With more than one million hip and knee replacements performed yearly in the United States, the number of joint replacement surgery will continue to skyrocket in the next few years. Several reasons are the dramatic strides in life expectancy, an increase in severe debilitating arthritis, the obesity rate, and gains in patient acceptance for joint replacement surgery. In addition, because of improved technology and techniques, younger patients are also seeking artificial knees and hips, rather than enduring years of discomfort.

According to Sandy Morse, Director of Community and Professional Relations at, Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurse Association (LMVNA), "As physically active baby boomers age and place further demands on mature joints, the need will continue to increase every year. The American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons projects a huge spike in knee and hip replacements due to our very active population that is getting older."

"The more we use our joints, the more quickly they wear out. When people experience pain that limits their ability to move, they seek help; and joint replacement surgery is the recommended treatment. With more and more people getting this surgery LMVNA provides ongoing free monthly Joint Replacement education programs throughout Ventura County."

Classes are taught by Livingston's

physical therapist and are designed to prepare and help patient's have a smooth transition from surgery to recuperation. Participants learn pre- and post-surgery exercises, what to expect during hospitalization, medication management, how to use adaptive equipment, and how rehabilitation helps to maximize healing and speed recovery. When the patient does not follow through with the exercises, they can end up wheelchair-bound because the joints lock up.

My friend, Dave Naiva, who lives in the area, had hip replacement surgery on January 24th at St. John's Hospital. He said, "They had me up the same day and I was able to take around 15 steps before I had to lie down again. The next day I walked about 100 steps in the morning and then quite a bit more in the evening." A few days later, Dave was transferred to The Venturan Convalescent Home where he underwent much more intense physical therapy. They would get him up several times each day and get him to walk and then to exercise the hip area.

"At first it was a bit painful but they gave me something that helped take the edge off," Dave admitted. "And each time I got up, I found it was much easier to get around and to do the exercises," he added. After a week, he was able to go up and down stairs so he was released from The Venturan where he would continue to do physical therapy with a visiting nurse from LMVNA. "All in all, it was a lot less painful than I expected and I felt immediate relief. I had been walking with a cane and experiencing intense pain for months – much less than what I felt after the surgery. If I have to have the other hip done, you won't have to drag me into the hospital," said Dave. Dave – we can't wait until you're back at our weekly card game!

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The usual large crowd attended and enjoyed the Cypress Place Senior Living Annual Health & Wealth Expo held on Wednesday, January 25. It featured many vendor booths that provided free blood pressure and mini-stroke screenings, free body mass index screenings and wealth management consultations. Former professional figure skater and local celebrity Sheila Cluff was the featured speaker. A free healthy gourmet lunch was also provided.

Isle Of Plight – Loma Vista Ave.

by Es Cole

Start a conversation with anyone and the first topic will be organ recitals. You say, "How are you?" You'll hear about her heart, her gall bladder. In turn, you talk about your acid reflux. The atonal concert goes on and on. I don't know when we became so obsessed with our bodies.

Loma Vista Avenue is our Isle of Plight. From prenatal to geriatrics to hospice to post mortems – this Island provides the words and music of our organ recitals.

The big kids on the block are the hospitals. The ER's are open 24 hours and service is free. (if you're poor). Can't

beat that. Try to avoid weekends.

Gary Wilde is CEO of Ventura Community Hospital and works on the top floor. I thought he decided the fate of patients because when Les, my husband, was in the ICU, I asked his doctor if Les would survive. Dr. Handley said that was up to the man upstairs.

Les survived thanks to a lot of doctors and ICU nurses: Theresa English, Wendy Lee, Pilar. Plus dozens of specialists and techs. Les was the patient but everyone looked after me, too.

One day I was so stressed and thirsty I went down to the cafeteria, longing for an ice cream bar. Alicia, the cashier found the bar for me, and I found I didn't have enough money. Alicia said, no problem and treated me. I can still taste the delicious ice cream bar and feel the comfort of Alicia.

Senior Living

Our Long Island of Medicine is arrayed with almost every medical specialty from anesthetics to zygotes. Between Les and me, we've met most of them. Lisa, a dental hygienist, has fingers light as butterflies. (She's also an artist – isn't everyone in Ventura?)

Dr. Klope is a urologist. He was responsible for removing Les' catheter. For all the men readers, I'll not say another word.

Further along this Island is the apnea clinic. This is the only office that's lit up at night. The patient arrives about 9:00 p.m. Gets his hair smeared with gel. Electrodes are attached like old-fashioned permanent wave machines. The patient goes to sleep. The tech watches the readouts. At dawn, the test ends. Results are shipped to a pulmonologist who then prescribes a CPAP – a mask attached to a machine that helps the patient breathe.

Apnea is one of those sneaky ailments that helps kill people. It almost killed Les. If you have wild dreams or snore a lot, you may need checking.

So now you've heard some of my organ recitals. Your turn.

2.5 billion children in 122 countries. The resulting money will fund polio eradication activities in the remaining endemic and high-risk countries. The public is encouraged to participate at www.rotary.org/endpolio.

Rotary is an organization of business and professional leaders united worldwide to provide humanitarian service and help to build goodwill and peace in the world.

The Global Polio Eradication Initiative is spearheaded by the World Health Organization, Rotary International, The U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

For further information visit www.rotary.org/endpolio or www.polioeradication.org.



Community Memorial Healthcare Foundation board officers (left to right): Barbara Rose, Vice President; Kay Woodburn, Immediate Past President; William Kearney, President; Lydia Hopps, Secretary; and Mel Sheeler, Treasurer.

Health



Rotary volunteers are committed to ending polio in the few countries where it still remains

Rotary travels to India

Rotary members from Ventura, Thousand Oaks, Moorpark, Burbank and Vancouver, Washington will travel to India, where they will immunize children against polio – a crippling disease that still paralyzes and sometimes kills children in parts of the world. The 25-member team will depart for India on February 14.

These volunteers are members of Rotary, a worldwide humanitarian service organization that has polio eradication as its main philanthropic goal. The Rotary members will join other volunteers and health workers to administer drops of oral polio vaccine during an immunization campaign that will target over 175 million children under age five.

Larry Emrich, Rotary Club member of Ventura and polio survivor, said, "Until polio is eradicated worldwide, every child remains at risk. Although polio is 99% eliminated, the final 1% is the most difficult."

"We are committed to ending polio now," said Emrich. "We have a unique opportunity to stop this disease. We will do everything we can to ensure that no child is missed."

Tremendous progress has been made overall in India. The number of polio-endemic countries, those which have never stopped indigenous WPV transmission, will then be reduced to a historical low of three: Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria.

A highly infectious disease, polio can cause paralysis and sometimes death. As there is no cure, the best protection is prevention. For as little as U.S. 60 cents worth of vaccine, a child can be protected against this crippling disease for life.

Since 1985, Rotary has contributed more than US \$1 billion to help immunize

CMHF names 2012 Officers

William J. Kearney, Senior Vice President/Investment and Senior Resident Director of the Ventura Coast Office of Merrill Lynch Wealth Management, has been elected President of the Community Memorial Healthcare Foundation.

Kay Woodburn, the Foundation's prior President, will remain an officer and serve as Immediate Past President. Others elected as officers are: Barbara Rose, Vice President; Mel Sheeler, Treasurer; and Lydia Hopps, Secretary. Rose is a longtime member of the Foundation and an active volunteer; Sheeler is President of Sheeler Moving and Storage and Hopps is a Senior Vice President and Investment Consultant at Morgan Stanley Smith Barney.

The Community Memorial Healthcare Foundation, formed in 1984, is a nonprofit, charitable organization with the basic mission of providing meaningful ways to educate the community regarding the service capabilities of Community Memorial Hospital; to work with the community to facilitate support of Community Memorial Hospital; and to raise funds for the development, operation and maintenance of programs and services.

The Foundation was organized under the Nonprofit Public Benefit Laws of the State of California and has a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status under the Internal Revenue Code.

Through the activities and programs of this nonprofit, charitable organization, area residents are ensured that the latest advances in medicine, leading-edge technologies and state-of-the-art equipment are available at Community Memorial Hospital. The Foundation is the manifestation of the belief that the efforts of many citizens working together can positively affect the quality of care in Ventura County.

Please join us at our

Valentine's Day Dance!

Tuesday, February 14th ♡ 1:30 - 3:30 pm

Please join us for a fun afternoon! Enjoy delicious homemade desserts, special musical entertainment, friendly conversation and more. Please call for more information and to RSVP.

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The Palms
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On Jan. 30, at 5:27am Ventura City firefighters responded to a structure fire in the 1300 block of Beachmont Ave. Firefighters arrived to find an attached three-car garage fully engulfed in flames. Ventura City Fire Department investigators determined the cause of this fire to be from a boat battery charging operation on a work-bench in the garage.

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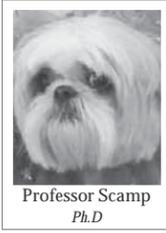
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Professor Scamp, Ph.D (Pretty Happy Dog)



Professor Scamp
Ph.D

Dear Scamp:

In the last issue of the Breeze I read your article and you suggested (well actually stated) that dogs are smarter than cats.

Even though we are new roommates and sometime bed partners I must take exception to that and point out just a few of the things that show that I am smarter than dogs (even you with the PhD).

To teach you the proper place to poop it takes a long time and bribing you with treats until you get it. With me just show me the proper place one time and that is it.

Look at the way that you eat. By the time food is put in my dish you have already scarfed down your food without taking a breath or possibly enjoying it. I, on the other hand sniff it, maybe take a little nibble and eat it in a relaxed manner not like some stupid animal.

If you manage to get out of the yard you will just keep walking and have absolutely no idea how to find you way back home. But I can roam (if I was an outdoor cat which I'm not) for hours (sometimes days) and find my way back home.

I can open things like our walk-in closet door and find wonderful places to take a nap like the big basket full of clothes, and you can't.

I can twist my body so my head faces one direction and my behind faces another. You could never figure out how to do that.

I have my own TV set (see the photo) even though it only gets one channel.

I can make this wonderful purring sound that humans can't resist so they always are petting me. All you can do is bark and aggravate them.

I can spend hours playing with a rolled up ball of aluminum foil and you need stuffed animals that squeak to play with.

When they allow me I can jump on the dining room table (see photo) and watch people eat and you can only sit on the floor staring at them and bugging them.

If I fall off a balcony I'm smart enough to land on my feet and you will probably land on your head, at the very least.

I hope that we are still good friends after this and that you won't kick me out of bed.

Lovingly
Savana

Forever home wanted,



Hi: I'm Andrey a cute 12 year old male Papillon mix. I'm looking for a new home as I was found as a stray and no one came to claim me. I'm an elderly dog who is completely deaf and has only 4 teeth. I'm in a foster home with other dogs and cats. I ignore the cats and don't pay much attention to the adult dogs. I play with the puppies if they want to play. I'm a less active dog who knows how to use the doggie door. Even though I'm an older dog, I still have lots of love to give and I'm eager to get love in return. I hope you'll stop by to meet me. I'll be waiting.

The Canine Adoption & Rescue League, Sam's Place,
3203 E. Main St.
644-7387 www.carlvorg

Scamp Club

Hi Professor Scamp:

I am Kobe, or Mr. Dog. I have lots of humans. The adults are Mom (Alison), Dad, David (Dad2), Kelly, Julie, and Jacob. I love Mom the best. I am nine years old. I have been told I am a Shih Tzu-Chihuahua mix. My job is to protect the family which I do by barking at everything that comes near the house. I like to go outside and say hi to the neighborhood, sleep with my humans, and hang out under the table when they are eating. You never know when you might get lucky. I like your column!



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.



"Are you sure that this is Finding Nemo?"



"Don't you dare give her my food, I was here first."

Police Reports

by Veronica Johnson

Police reports are provided to us by the Ventura Police Department and are not the opinions of the Ventura Breeze. All suspects mentioned are assumed to be innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Multiple Armed Robberies

Over the last three weeks, Ventura experienced several armed robberies.

The first armed robbery occurred on Friday, December 30th, at Munoz Wireless Communications located at 9278 Telephone Rd. A suspect entered the store with a bandana covering his face. He pistol-whipped the clerk with a handgun and demanded money. When the clerk didn't respond, the suspect hit the clerk several more times, then fled the store without money or merchandise and ran to a waiting vehicle.

On Monday, January 9th, at Hungry Howies Pizza, 1087 Scandia, a suspect entered the restaurant and simulated having a gun under his jacket. He demanded money from the clerk, who gave him an undisclosed amount of cash.

The third robbery happened in the Pierpont area near Marina Park on Friday, January 20th. Two suspects approached a man walking a dog. One of the suspects demanded money from him, while the other pointed a handgun at his face. The victim turned over an undisclosed amount of money.

On Saturday, January 21st, at 9:30 a.m., the VPD received calls regarding a possible domestic dispute at a specific room at The Shores Motel. Officers contacted Spencer Irish, a 21-year-old parolee from Ventura. Officers found Irish in possession of a concealed dagger and ammunition, both felonies. They arrested him without incident.

Officers noticed a pickup truck parked in The Shores parking lot that closely matched the description of the getaway truck from the Marina Park robbery the previous night. The truck was registered to Spencer Irish.

Officers searched Irish's vehicle pursuant to his parole terms and found four handguns, two replica handguns, and hundreds of rounds of ammunition. Officers also located other evidence indicating Irish was involved in all

three robberies.

Officers were able to develop information and identify the second robbery suspect from the Marina Park robbery. This suspect was identified as Brent Theriault.

Officers went to a residence in the 1800 block of Sunridge Drive and were able to take Theriault into custody without incident.

Later in the evening of Sunday, January 22nd, officers responded to the 8000 block of Denver Street regarding a residential burglary. Officers learned that several guns were taken, some matching the description of the ones used in the robberies. Officers believe the guns taken during this burglary were used in at least one of the robberies.

Robbery

On Thursday, January 26th, at 7:24 p.m., VPD responded to a robbery that had just occurred at the Radio Shack at 4756 Telephone Road.

The clerk was approached by the suspect, who displayed a black handgun in his waistband and demanded money. The suspect took an undisclosed amount of cash from the clerk, placed it in a

blue bag and fled the area. Responding officers searched the surrounding area but were unable to locate the suspect.

Felony Hit and Run

On Friday, January 27th, at 6:45 p.m., VPD responded to an injury hit and run traffic collision that had just occurred in the Village Wine and Spirits parking lot located at 1449 South Victoria Avenue. The suspect had backed into an occupied parked vehicle and fled the scene. The occupant of the parked vehicle sustained non-life threatening injuries as a result and was transported to VCMC.

At 7:20 p.m., the VPD received several calls reporting a hit and run traffic collision had just occurred on Telephone Road. The description of the suspect vehicle in this second collision matched that of the initial hit and run.

Officers located the suspect vehicle fleeing the scene eastbound. The driver, Puneet Singh was taken into custody and was identified as being the driver in both collisions. Singh was later booked into VC Jail.

Minor Decoy Operation

On Thursday, January 26th, the VPD conducted a Minor Decoy operation.

Police Reports

During the operation, the decoys attempted to purchase alcohol at 18 different on and off sale locations. Of those 18 locations, 3 businesses sold alcohol to the 18 and 19 year old minor decoys. These businesses included Chipotle, located on 1145 South Victoria Avenue, AM/PM, located on 605 South Mills Road, and El Rey Cantina, located on 294 East Main Street.

Residential Structure Fire

On Friday, January 27th, at 8:21 a.m., Ventura City Fire Department responded to a reported structure fire in the 300 block of Jordan Avenue. A bystander shopping at a nearby market saw smoke and alerted 911. Firefighters found a single story residence with smoke emitting from the structure. A combustible object had been placed over the heater. Firefighters forced entry, attacked the fire, searched for victims and investigated for extension into concealed areas.

Harbor Patrol Blotter

Just a few of the things the Harbor Patrol tends to.

1-19 12:45 a.m. Patrol observed a man in a running vehicle at the end of Navigator. Patrol contacted PD and found the subject was on Probation. PD took over the contact and suspended the subject's driver's license on the spot.

11:20 p.m. Patrol observed three people loitering in a car at Harbor Village. Patrol contacted PD and found that all subjects were on Probation. PD took over the contact, arrested the driver for an outstanding warrant, and ensured that the other subjects

would leave the Harbor in an expedited manner.

1-21 1:50 p.m. Patrol observed a sailboat in distress in large surf near the Greenock Jetty. Patrol responded, took a large wave at the Harbor entrance, recovered, and took the sailboat into tow just outside the surfline. Patrol towed the vessel into the Harbor without further incident.

1-22 9:20 a.m. FCC reports a surfer in trouble off Solimar Beach. Patrol responded with the RWC and transported the surfer back to the Harbor.

1-23 2:39 p.m. FCC dispatched Patrol and others to a bicyclist down on Schooner and Harbor. Upon arrival, the cyclist had fallen on her own. AMR transported her to the hospital. Patrol took possession of her bicycle for safe keeping.

1-24 12:00 p.m. FCC dispatched Patrol and others to an unconscious person at Harbor Cove. Upon arrival, the patient had regained consciousness, but was still disoriented. AMR transported the patient to the hospital.

1-26 1:20 a.m. Patrol observed a locked restroom at the launch ramp with no vehicles in the lot. Patrol knocked on the door, received no response, unlocked the restroom and found a long-time transient had set up camp inside the restrooms.

1-27 10:20 a.m. Patrol observed a large log in the Pierpont Basin, took it into tow, and disposed of the hazard to navigation at the launch ramp.

1-28 7:50 p.m. Patrol observed a vehicle stop for an extended period of time at a stop sign. When the driver contacted Patrol to ask directions, the Officer determined that the subject was intoxicated. Patrol made arrangements at a hotel and a taxi ride for the subject.

Sports

Don't let a Ventura Black Widow bite you

The Ventura Black Widows women's football team is pleased to announce a partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of Ventura. The Ventura Black Widows will lead a series of workshops for youth on football at the Boys and Girls Club of Ventura in Spring 2012. As part of their commitment to fostering good sportsmanship, providing opportunities for women to play sports and serving as leaders in their community, the Ventura Black Widows will teach youth about the dynamics of team sports, non-contact football skills, how to win on and off the field and provide an opportunity for youth to interact with players one on one.

Entering its fourth season, the Ventura Black Widows is a full contact football team. Players represent all cities within Ventura County and come from a diverse range of backgrounds. The team includes Marine Corps veterans, professional boxers, college athletes and local professionals. This season the Ventura Black Widows will represent the county in games in Las Vegas, Salt Lake City, St. Louis and Atlanta, among other cities.

For more information about this partnership please contact Ahmad Newton (Owner, Ventura Black Widows) at venturablackwidowsfootball@gmail.com or visit <http://www.blackwidowsfootball.com/>



Eleven year old Adam Stefany (who attends De Anza Academy of Technology & the Arts) competed in the Ventura County Junior Tennis Association (VCJTA) tournament recently played at the Pierpont Racquet Club. Adam has been coached by Pierpont Tennis Director Greg Haywood since September of last year and looks forward to beating his mom.

Religion

Celebrate the magic of Purim

Temple Beth Torah will be celebrating Purim with a "Magic of Purim" dinner and magic show on Saturday, March 10th at 6:00 p.m. Purim is not just for kids but for the adults to remember how it is to be a kid. Shawn McMasters, from the Magic Castle, will be entertaining after the appetizers, activities, drinks and dinner. Shawn McMaster doesn't play by the rules. He uses no live animals, magic wands, or cheesy-looking props.

FINANCIAL STRESS?

- **Foreclosure Pending?** Payments too high? Owe more than value? Frustrated loan modification?
- **Overwhelming Bills?** Unreasonable collection calls? Threats/harassment? Taxes? Student loans?
- **Lawsuits?** Eviction demand? Wages garnished? Bank account levied? Served summons?
- **Business Struggling?** Behind on the lease? Negative ca\$h flow? **Protect yourself!**

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805-676-3571
Arrive early to avoid long lines!

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Instead he offers sophisticated, high energy interactive programs punctuated with astonishments and hilarity that have made him a highly regarded professional who is constantly working in clubs, private engagements and the corporate world.

The early evening starts with appetiz-

ers, activities, and an MC with laughter to start the evening. Your \$50 includes a catered dinner, drinks, activities and a fabulous show by Shawn McMaster. Please call Temple Beth Torah to reserve a place, or a table for this great event. Call 647-4181 and tell them you are coming. They are at 7620 Foothill Rd. in Ventura.



Show Time

Where The Music Flows

Music flows in February

by Michael Kohli

Once an 80's pop star, Martika ("Toy Soldiers") is unveiling a new dance/pop album this month. Launching a new single titled, "Flow With The Go." Her new album titled, The Mirror Ball, will be released on Feb. 12 everywhere. On this album, she's gone back to her dance/pop roots she says! Look her new music and video up online. Rock on, Martika.

The Venaustin Tour

Local music legends team up to head to the SXSW music festival in Texas. 8Stops7, Jeff Hershey & the Heartbeats, New Liberty & Aaron Orbit will gather 20 people in two vans and do a mini tour, with all roads pointing to Texas. They are doing a kick-off party on March 9, at Bombay! You can also make a donation to their tour on the road at PledgeMusic.com.

Angie's Curse at Cirque De L'Estrange

On the heels of their recently released music video for, "Slow Decay," local band, Angie's Curse will unveil their live show at the next Cirque De L'estrange party. Taking place at Crave Lounge on Feb. 11. And, they are bringing local drag performer, Dita McEvel. Should be an awesome party!

Whiskey Glass Eye new video

Be on the lookout for a music video coming from local band, Whiskey Glass Eye. The band teamed up with Flicker Pictures. They plan on releasing the video online around Valentine's Day. Ed Kasper (lead vocals) has been a "scene" friend of mine for many years. The music video showcases his own acting skills as well. Stay tuned!

Thank you for reading!

Michael Kohli

Kohlismusicpit.com

VenturaLiveWire@gmail.com

PS: my next show booking will take place on Feb. 26 @ Zoey's Cafe. Titled, "The...eat. drink. rock..." Sunday Music Showcase. Featuring Two Minute Hero, Via Marina, & 10AM Movement. 7pm. All ages! More info? Kohlismusicpit.com. Hooooahh!

The Entertainment Report

Silver screen

by Linde Carlson

Hello Ventura

We are in Oscar season, a time when movies start to mean something to people. Whether one has the same fervor other times of the year; I don't know, that's a personal passion, but for me as a film passionista and film critic, it has the same momentum all year long. Film is art, and art comes in so many varieties and that is the beauty about film.

With such a variety of film concepts produced today, they cater to people in so many different ways. We connect with the story and characters as it transports us out of our lives for just a minute. Film educates us, enlightens us, awakens our senses and sends vital messages although somewhat subliminal at times, but the experience is there for us to take in what we need out of it and have fun. Everyone takes away a different experience with each film and that's why variety is the spice of life.

The race is on and the contenders for this year's winners are fierce. There are so many good movies out there, one better than the next. Even for me

it's going to be hard to pick which one I think is the winner, because they were all enjoyed differently for different reasons. I've seen *The Artist*, *The Descendents*, *The Help*, *Moneyball*, *The Tree of Life*, *Warhorse*, and *Midnight in Paris*, all of which were fine films as a whole. Now it's a popularity contest, so we will just have to see. My favorites for this week are:



Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close

It wasn't as much the idea of 911, even though it was a full blown emotional roller coaster in the beginning, as the movie progressed, the story became more about the closeness of Oskar's (Thomas Horn) relationship with his father (Tom Hanks). Thomas Horn's performance blew me away for a break out actor. A raw, unpretentious, seemingly unplanned and improvised, multi-level acting ability proved this young star has natural given talent for delivering high octane emotion and believability.

Thomas Horn's performance captivated me. The emotional attachment I felt from him impacted my whole experience and the fact that the unique concept of the story creatively spoke for itself and pinned my attention to the screen. I praise Stephen Daldry for his ambitions and skill in directing this film. It should have received many more accolades than it did.

Rated PG-13 Running time 129 minutes



Albert Nobbs

I loved this movie. I was fascinated by the fact Glenn Close could maintain such a stiff character for so long, void of almost any emotion. But what the key thing is here, it didn't call for high energy animated acting. This was the character of Albert Nobbs, purposefully stoic on the outside but you could look into her eyes, or in this case his eyes, and see and feel everything that was going on inside Albert's heart, mind and soul. It was superb. Her supporting cast was a perfect match for the need to convey passion, drive, and repression. Janet McTeer was surprisingly outstanding, and complimented Glenn Close in truly helping one to see the beauty in innocent disguise. Each scene drips with visually stunning history and nostalgia and it made for a fascinating piece of historical archive. It was almost spellbinding. A must see!

Rated R Running time 113 minutes

Two on the Aisle

Ted Neeley show is rock solid

By Jim Spencer & Shirley Lorraine

When you spend an evening with "Ted Neeley and the Little Big Band" you get more than a rock concert, more than a show and more than a look into the touring life of a rocker. You get all that, plus you experience the phenomenon of a personality with the ability to communicate on an intimate level with each person in his audience. He sings and speaks directly to you.

A giant presence with a powerful voice, Ted Neeley is personally soft spoken. He is a quiet rocker whose artistic and personal integrity, along with his articulated respect for

VFS@420EAST

Revenge Of The Electric Car

By 2006 thousands of new electric cars, most notably GM's breakthrough EV1, were purposely destroyed by the same car companies that built them. Today, less than 5 years later, the electric car is back with a vengeance. In "Revenge of the Electric Car", director Chris Paine and his film crew are given unprecedented access behind the closed doors of Nissan, GM, and the bold Silicon Valley start-up, Tesla Motors, to chronicle the story of the global resurgence of electric cars. Without using a single drop of foreign oil, this new generation of car is America's future, with almost every major car maker now jumping to produce new electric models. Revenge

others, permeate his persona and performances.

Neeley was a lead performer in the four most successful rock operas in the last half century, including "Jesus Christ, Superstar." He went on to play Jesus in the film version of "Superstar." He also composed music for other films and became an established figure in the entertainment industry as both a musician and an actor.

For this show Neeley has returned to his roots as he shares the music and events of his career. The musical selections in the show are commanding and eclectic, ranging from a medley of major selections from "Hair", "Tommy," and "Jesus Christ, Superstar" to the thoughtful, introspective observations of "Crazy Heart" – a new song with a memorable melody, rhythm and lyrics that focus on the depth of relationships.

The old rocking chair hasn't gotten Neeley, although there is one on stage that becomes an interesting prop when he performs "One by One," a song Neeley penned for the film "Blame It on the Night." It is a number that deals with respecting the people who take care of you.

A significant and endearing part of the show has Neeley sharing personal stories and anecdotes about being on the road, life changing moments in his career and the like. He calls the interludes "yammering," but they are quintessential Neeley making a personal connection with his audience.

Some say lightening can't strike the same place twice, but it does more than once in this show, as evidenced by Neeley's rendition of "Gethsemane" – which is as electrifying now as when he performed it in the movie version of "Jesus Christ, Superstar."

"Ted Neeley and the Little Big Band" debuted as the second offering in Rubicon Theatre Company's 2011-12 season, dubbed the season of Magic, Mystery and Music. From its inception as Ventura's full professional theater company, the Rubicon became known for consistent quality, freshness and outstanding production values. The Neeley show continued this legacy.

Although the show's limited run just ended, the word is a broader tour is in the works for "Ted Neeley and the Little Big Band." So, everyone will again have the chance to experience the power, the presence and the music of this iconic, yet uncommon, rocker.

follows the race to be the first, the best, and to win the hearts and minds of the public around the world.

The film is narrated by Tim Robbins. The primary cast includes CEO and President of Renault and Nissan Carlos Ghosn, CEO of Tesla Motors Elon Musk, Former Vice Chairman of GM Bob Lutz and EV do-it-yourselfer Greg "Gadget" Abbott. Mr. Abbott and director Chris Paine will attend this VFS screening.

The Ventura Film Society is proud to screen "Revenge Of The Electric Car" as the 2nd of 21 feature films screening @ 7:15pm on 1st & 3rd Tuesdays between February 7 and December 4 at our new venue at 420 E. Santa Clara St.

Screening, membership and advance ticket information – www.venturafilmsoociety.com / 628-2299 / venturafilmsociety@gmail.com.

Music Calendar 2/8 to 2/21

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

Andre's Wine Bar

1575 Spinnaker Dr., 805-642-9463

Live Music every Tues, Thur & Fri

Blackbeards Seaside BBQ

1591 Spinnaker Dr. #115, 805-650-7773

Karaoke every Wed 6-9pm

Blue Grass Jam featuring: The Bottom Feeders every Thur

Fri 2/10 - Live Bait 7-11pm

Sat 2/11 - The Magnificent Bastards 6-10pm

Sun 2/12 - Blue Stew 2-6pm

Fri 2/17 - Masters of the Past 7-11pm

Sat 2/18 - Jodi Farell & the Front St. Prophets 6-10pm

Sun 2/19 - Blue Stew 2-6pm

Bombay's Bar & Grill

143 S. California St., 805-643-4404

All Star Blues every Wed

Local Live Music every Thur, Fri & Sat

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 2/8 - Big Adventure

Thur 2/9 - Coso Live

Fri 2/10 - Little Alice

Sat 2/11 - Copy Cats

Tue 2/14 - Bernie Meisinger

Wed 2/15 - TBA

Thur 2/16 - Bongo Town

Fri 2/17 - Red Ball Jets

Sat 2/18 - Copy Cats

Tue 2/21 - Bernie Meisinger

It's All Good Bar & Grill

533 E. Main St., 805-641-9951

Open Mike Night every Wed

Majestic Theater

26 S. Chestnut St., 805-653-0721

Thur 2/16 - Social Distortion, Frank Turner & the Sleeping Souls

Fri 2/17 - Big Jugs, Iron Outlaws, Alligator Dave

Sat 2/18 - Preachers and Pornstars, New Liberty, Strand Quentin, Kyle Hunt & the Gypsies

Sun 2/19 - Bliss, Miles Dyson

Tutti's Off Main

34 N. Palm Ave., 805-643-0880

Every Fri - Chris Wooley (guitar) 6:30-9:30pm

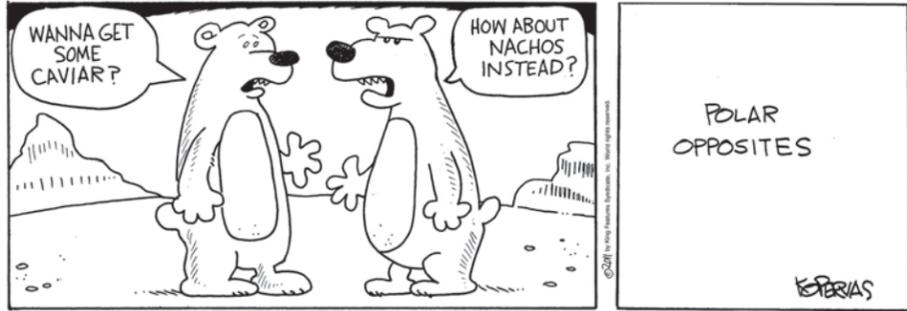
Every Sat - Steve Williams (guitar) 12-3pm, 6:30-9:30pm

Every Sun - Frank Barajas (guitar) 12-3pm

Continued on page 20

The Lighter Breeze

Out on a Limb



Zits



Mother Goose and Grimm



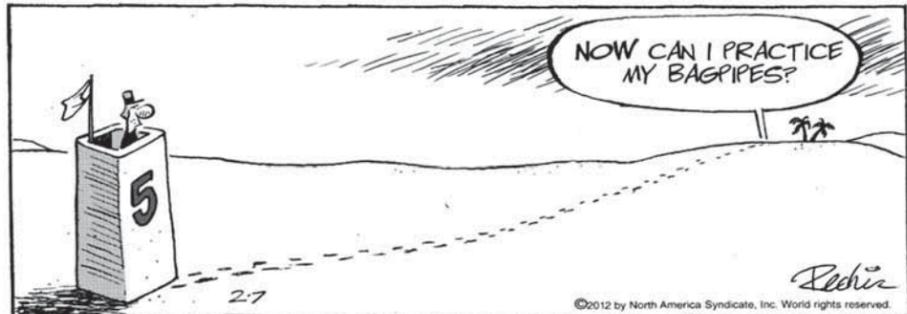
Dustin



Hagar the Horrible



Crock



Solutions on page 15

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

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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Solutions on page 15

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Six-pack muscles
- 4 "Huh?"
- 8 Slender
- 12 Speck
- 13 Ginormous
- 14 Last few notes
- 15 Good poker hand
- 17 Stead
- 18 Possess
- 19 Weapon collection
- 21 San Fernando, for one
- 24 Melody
- 25 Have a bug
- 26 Witnessed
- 28 Stickum
- 32 March 15, e.g.
- 34 Central
- 36 Bring to a halt
- 37 Bold
- 39 Roscoe
- 41 Regret
- 42 Conger, e.g.
- 44 Coy
- 46 Puts in the wrong place
- 50 Tatter
- 51 Help slyly
- 52 Vigor
- 56 Paddock
- 57 "My bad"

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		
59					60					61		

- 7 Aquarium fish
- 8 Eyeball coats
- 9 Pork cut
- 10 Concept
- 11 Manhandle
- 16 Piercing tool
- 20 Taste
- 21 Futile
- 22 Staffer
- 23 Sweet potato kin
- 27 Peruke
- 29 Fight
- 30 Go
- 31 sightseeing
- 33 Less
- 35 Old man
- 38 Verily
- 40 Singer
- 43 Disinfectant brand
- 45 Chap
- 46 Spar
- 47 Wading bird
- 48 Antitoxins
- 49 Old portico
- 53 Spinning stat
- 54 Coffee break hour
- 55 Scuttle
- 58 Writer Buscaglia
- 59 Despot
- 60 Dalai —
- 61 Tackle's teammate

DOWN

- 1 Billboards
- 2 Automaton, for short
- 3 Modern-day pram
- 4 Complains feebly
- 5 Embrace
- 6 Ottoman bigwig

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LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A problem delays the recognition that you hoped to receive for your hard work. But all will soon be resolved. Remember to make patience your watchword this week.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Those wonderful ideas could expand your workplace prospects and ultimately lead you on a new career path. Your personal life also opens up new vistas.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) So much seems to be swirling around you these days that you might find it hard to focus on priorities. Best advice: Take things one at a time, and you'll get through them all.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Work out situations with what you have, and avoid the temptation to create complications where they don't exist. This applies both at home and in the workplace.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Keep your keen senses open to possible changes in personal and/or professional situations. Knowing what might lie ahead gives you an edge on how to handle it.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Personal pressures at work could create a problem with your performance. Best advice: Focus on the job ahead of you. If necessary, you can deal with the other issue later.

BORN THIS WEEK: Like your fellow Aquarian Abraham Lincoln, you have a way of handling the most difficult situations with grace and conviction.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You don't like rejection. But instead of trying to "ram" your ideas through to an unreceptive audience, stand back and wait for a more favorable environment later this month.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Job commitments call for the tidy Taurean to charge into those problem-plagued projects and get them into shape. Then go ahead and enjoy the fun and friendships of your expanding social life.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) The pressures of the workplace are beginning to ease. While you still need to stay connected to your ongoing commitments, you'll be able to take more time to relax with family and friends.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You might feel that you need to prove how much you can do. But be careful not to take on more than you can handle, or you risk being bogged down. An Aries has a message for you.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Financially it could be a little tight for a while. So resist the urge to splurge on things you don't really need. There will be time enough to indulge yourself when the money squeeze eases later this month.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) You demand trust from others. But someone is creating a situation that could put your own trustworthiness in question. Be sure to keep all lines of communication open.

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Business

Covered Calls

by Jacques Bellesiles

Partner at Crowell, Weedon & Co. Ventura

Covered calls are a way to earn additional income on your stock portfolio. For conservative investors, selling calls against a long stock position can be an excellent way to generate income.

For example, imagine that you'd like to purchase 100 shares of Disney stock at a price of \$38.00 per share. Satisfied with the overall growth rate, you would like to hold on to the stock rather than sell it. Rather than simply sitting back and collecting Disney dividends, you can use options to generate additional income at minimal risk to you. This can all be done in one transaction using our Covered Call screen.

With the stock at \$38.00, you could sell one 42 call in the near month at \$1.50. As each call is valid for 100 shares you're only able to sell one call.

DIS trading @ \$38.00
Buy 100 DIS @ \$38.00
\$3,800.00
Sell 1 JULY 42 Call @ \$1.50
(\$150)
Cost of Trade
\$3,650.00

Given that the stock price has not varied much, you may be confident that it's not going to move higher than \$42.00 in the short term. After all, that would be a more than 10% move. At expiration, if the stock is

still below \$42.00, you keep the \$150 you received by selling the calls and the 100 shares of stock. At that point, you might decide to write another call for a future month.

Should the stock rise unexpectedly above \$42.00, you'll have two choices. You can either buy the calls back and keep the stock, or you can let the stock be called away and sell your 100 shares (1 contract x 100 shares) at the strike price of \$42.00. The good news, in this case, is that you participated in the rise from \$38.00 to \$42.00 on the 100 shares you sold at 42, and locked in an additional \$400 in profit. However, you may have a capital gains tax issue to deal with, especially if you've owned the stock for a long time and your cost basis is low.

Using Near Month Options

When writing covered calls, most investors tend to sell near month options for two reasons. First, the earlier the expiration, the less opportunity the stock has to trade through the strike price. Second, and equally important, is the role time decay plays in the value of the options. Like all out-of-the-money options, the call in the example above has no intrinsic value. As such, the only value is the time premium or time value which, in the final month before expiration, decays more and more rapidly. Given these reasons, investors often sell options that have two to four months remaining until expiration.

Crowell, Weedon & Co. Ventura office is located at 5740 Ralston Street, Suite 301, Ventura at 620-4700 or visit www.crowellweedon.com. Member: FINRA/SIPC.

Local gold buyer promises integrity

Ventura GoldFellow manager, Anel Loranzo, loves her job, "Sometimes I feel like Santa Claus."

One time, Lozano had a woman come in with some things she purchased at a yard sale. "At first she was afraid she paid too much for a bunch of junk. There was a jewelry box, some sunglasses and a couple of bags. After I assessed everything, she ended up with over \$4,000. She couldn't wait to tell her husband. Evidently, he'd been giving her a hard time for years about buying stuff at garage sales," Lozano said.

Lozano has been managing the store at 1746 S. Victoria Avenue since October of 2010 when, "A GoldFellow employee came to me and asked if I would be interested in changing jobs. They liked my customer service skills and wanted to turn the local store into a place that fit into Ventura's close-knit community."

Lozano is originally from Fillmore where she graduated from high school. "But I love Ventura. I love the beach, the downtown and the restaurants. My boyfriend and I go salsa dancing at least once a week."

She also has a couple of volunteers that help at the store. "I have two dogs, Spider is my multipoo and Magic is a Staffordshire terrier. Sometimes they hang-out here in the store. I always tell people to bring their dogs in our store."

Technically, Lozano buys gold. "But sometimes it is like getting a part of someone's life. Every piece has a story, especially class rings and wedding rings. Sometimes I get the story of a marriage or a past relationship."

For example, if you purchased a gold wedding ring in 1977, you probably paid between \$135-\$165 per ounce for the gold, which recently reached an all time high of over \$1700 per ounce. You may even have bought something manufactured by Robin and Michael Gusky the founders of GoldFellow. The Guskys sold their jewelry manufacturing business to Warren Buffett's Berkshire-Hathaway in 2007. Along with several original employees, they established GoldFellow, which is headquartered in Weston, FL, to give consumers a safe way to sell precious metals and coins.

The biggest obstacle for sellers is an understanding of how the value of an item is determined. With different karat weights, grams and pennyweights it is easy to become confused, but GoldFellow has tried to eliminate the guesswork with its Gold Payments Gallery found on its website www.GoldFellow.com. You can see photos of items purchased everyday and what was paid for them. There is also an estimator matrix for calculating value based on pennyweight and karat. Lozano says that she has three different tests for determining the type of gold she buys.

GoldFellow maintains that the thing that keeps them in business is integrity and customer service. "Everyone at GoldFellow is customer oriented," says Lozano.

GoldFellow buys sterling silver in the form of flatware, trays, tea sets and punchbowls as well as coins. With silver prices now in the \$30-\$35 per ounce range, coins manufactured in 1964 or earlier are worth more than their face value. One-ounce gold coins

like US Eagles, Canadian Maple Leafs, and South African Krugerrands are purchased for some of the highest prices in the industry according to GoldFellow CEO Stephen Hansen.

The most interesting thing Lozano has purchased was a gold Mickey Mouse statue. She also bought a gold sword handle one time.

Mailbox

Continued from page 5

onto private property and going into people's side yards illegally.

I know that this will be difficult to resolve but may I suggest that the police volunteers be used to canvas the Pierpont area the day before and day of the recyclable pickup in Pierpont and warn/cite these individuals. Parking enforcement could also be used on the day the lanes are cleaned. Keeping up the pressure is just another way to reduce funds going to drink and drugs. Last but not least, the recycling centers, like the one at Von's on Seaward/Harbor should be instructed not to take recyclables from anyone bringing them in in a stolen shopping cart.

George Robertson
Ventura

Hi Sheldon:

I just wanted to let you know that in the January 25 article, "High school student creates fun volunteer based eco organization," there is a line that reads:

One of the main donators for Ventura Eco Renewal is Agronim; a local soil company owned by Harrison and Sons trash company.

The correct name is Agromin. It is a privately-owned company and not owned by Harrison and Sons. It is the organic materials recycler for the City of Ventura as well as all the other cities and unincorporated areas of Ventura County. Here's a description:

Agromin manufactures earth-friendly soil products for farmers, landscapers and gardeners. Agromin is also the organics recycler for over 50 Southern California communities. Each month, Agromin receives more than 30,000 tons of organic material and then uses a safe, natural and sustainable process to transform the material into premium soil products. The results are more vigorous and healthier plants and gardens, and on the conservation side, the opportunity to close the recycling loop, allow more room in landfills and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

More on Agromin can be found at www.agromin.com. Thank you!

Diane Rumbaugh
Rumbaugh Public Relations

Swing dance the night away

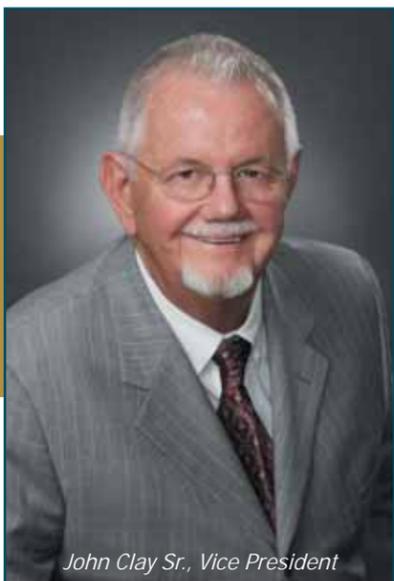
The Ventura Poinsettia Dance Club and the Ventura Jazz Orchestra invites you to a Spring Swing Big Band Dance featuring the vocal styling of Donna Greene and Glenn Novack

Come Swing dance to traditional 19-piece show band. Smiles and fun are guaranteed!

Saturday, March 3rd from 8:00-10:30pm at the Poinsettia Pavilion Ball Room 3451 Foothill Road, Ventura. \$12 admission at the door with free refreshments and parking

For more information call 648-1143.

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Art Scene

Museum happenings

The rich textile tradition of Teotitlán del Valle, a Zapotec community in Oaxaca, Mexico, is on exhibition February 25 through May 27, when the Museum of Ventura County presents *Hilos de la Vida / Threads of Life*, featuring woven pieces from the Bii Daüü Zapotec Arts Center. Work by local Zapotec weaver and artist Porfirio Gutierrez of Ventura is also featured. Gutierrez uses traditional methods but applies a more modern interpretation to Zapotec-inspired designs. Included with the exhibit is a demonstration of the techniques of the foot loom and a look at how textiles are used in everyday life.

The opening reception is Friday, February 24th from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Admission to the event is \$5 for the general public, free for museum members, and includes admission to all galleries. For reservations, call (805) 653-0323 x 7.

Established in 2004, the Bii Daüü Zapotec Arts Center is a cooperative dedicated to the production of textiles using only natural dyes and original designs. It makes a commitment to cultural sustainability by teaching young people in Teotitlán del Valle traditional methods, in order to preserve the ancient Zapotec techniques.

Other exhibits opening at the Museum during the same time period include *Music before Columbus: the Collection of Luis Perez*, featuring Pre-Columbian musical instruments from Mesoamerica, and *The White Instruments: Recent Creations by Luis Perez*.

A newly created historical figure by artist and historian George Stuart will join *Renaissance and Reformation: George Stuart Historical Figures®*, on exhibit at the Museum of Ventura County from February 7 through May 20. The figure of Machiavelli will be added after its March 6 unveiling at the first of three accompanying George Stuart monologues held at 3:00 p.m. The other monologues are April 3 and May 1.

The ¼ life-size sculptural figures are renowned for their expressiveness and intricately detailed costumes. Among the 28 on exhibit are Lucrezia and Cesare Borgia, Lorenzo de Medici, Popes Alexander VI and Leo X, Martin Luther, John Calvin, St. Ignatius de Loyola, Teresa of Avila, King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella, Henry VIII, Anne Boleyn, and Mary Stuart. A life-size costume of Juan Borgia, created by Robert Lamarche of Ojai, will be included as well. The exhibition covers the 15th and 16th centuries, which brought remarkable change to Europe, including the Renaissance flowering of the arts and sciences, the religious Reformation, and competition among its rulers to control not only their continent, but the New World.

The three Tuesday monologues by artist and historian George Stuart are at the new time of 3:00 p.m. The *High Renaissance* is March 6, *Christendom Divided* on April 3, and *The Wars of Religion* on May 1. At the March 6 monologue, the figure of Machiavelli will be unveiled to join the exhibition. Admission to each monologue is \$15 for general public, \$10 for museum members. Pre-paid reservations for all three monologues are discounted by \$5 (general public \$40 for all three monologues, museum members \$25). For reservations call (805) 653.0323 x 7.

The Museum of Ventura County is located at 100 East Main Street in downtown Ventura. Hours are 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. For more museum information go to www.venturamuseum.org or call 805-653-0323.



Buenaventura Art Association's 26th Annual Open Competition brought entries from all over Ventura County. Juror Gary Lang, Ojai artist and adjunct professor at Claremont Graduate University said he could have curated ten exhibits from all the wonderful entries he received.

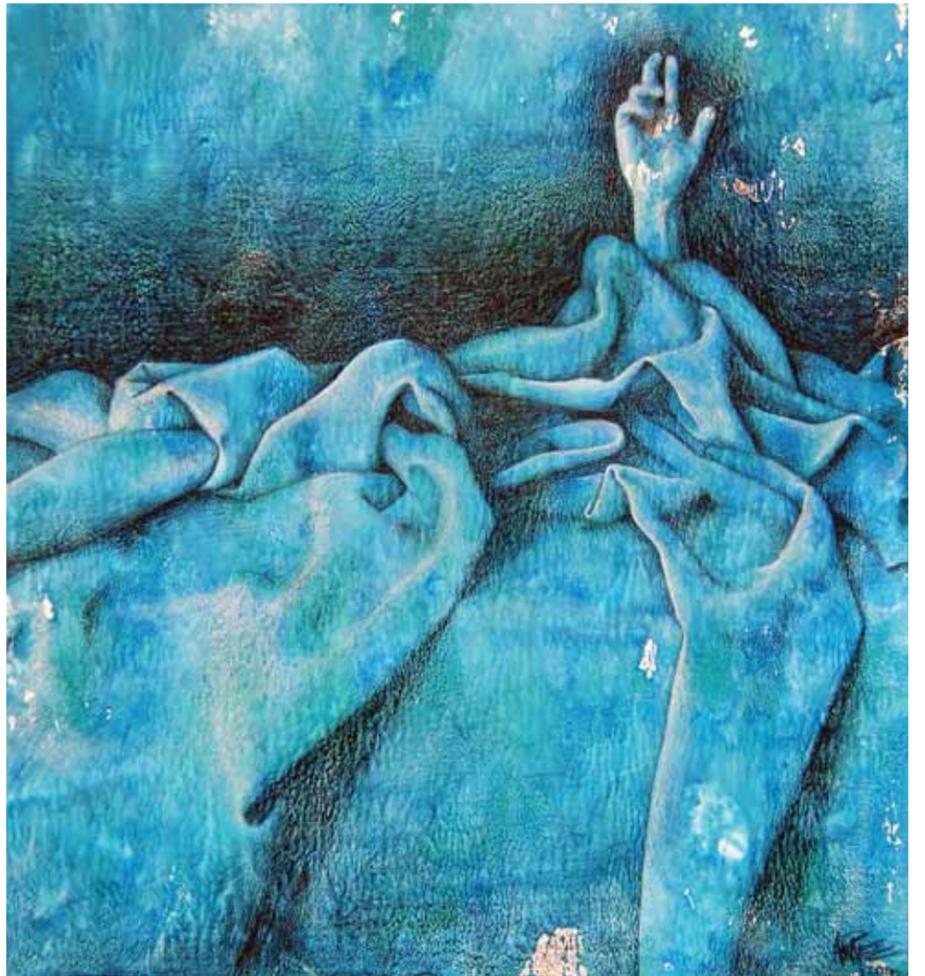
Jack Halbert of Ventura won "Best of Show" for his "On the Midway" oil painting.

Buenaventura Gallery is located at 700 E Santa Clara St. in downtown Ventura. Hours are Tues – Friday from noon – 5 pm and Saturday from 11 am to 5 pm. For more information, visit their website at www.BuenaventuraGallery.org.



Nan Kane (CSUCI), Shabnam Farahani (Ventura College) and Hanna McMaster (Moorpark College) are pursuing art degrees, and they are winners from Buenaventura Art Association's "Collegiate Competition Exhibit" from 2011. One of their prizes, in addition to scholarship money and free membership to Buenaventura Art Association, is a show paid for by Buenaventura Art Association at the Harbor Village Gallery. Their exhibit, "Kane Farahani McMaster" will be at the Harbor Village Gallery from February 8 through March 5 with an artist reception on Friday, February 10 from 5 – 8pm.

The Harbor Village Gallery is located at 1591 Spinnaker Dr. in the Ventura Harbor Village. Open every day except Tuesday from 12 to 5 pm. For more information, call the gallery at 644-2750 or visit their website at www.harborvillagegallery.com.



Are you Really Living? by Alexandra Phelps, Foothill Technology High School was the 1st Place Tamima Al-Awar Scholarship recipient 2011

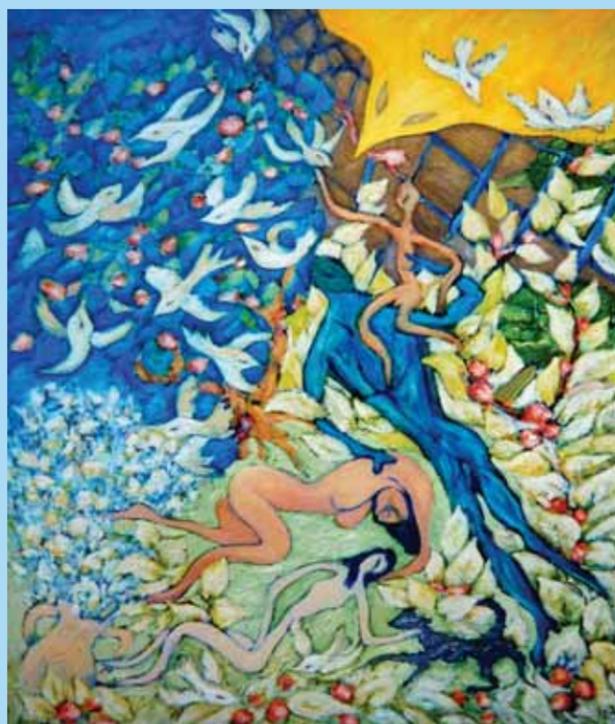
Applications available for Tamima Al-Awar Memorial Scholarship

Focus on the Masters and the Ventura County Arts Council are now accepting applications for the annual Tamima Al-Awar Memorial Scholarship for 2012. Over \$3,400 in scholarships are available for current high school seniors who are planning on pursuing art studies in their college career. This scholarship fund was created in honor of Tamima Michele Al-Awar, a passionate artist who was focused on pursuing a degree in fine arts before her death in 2002.

Now Focus on the Masters and the Ventura County Arts Council make it possible for high school seniors to pursue their art in college. The competition is open to high school seniors who reside in Ventura County and have a serious commitment to studying visual arts in college. Appli-

cations are available to pick up at the Ventura County Arts Council's office located at 646 County Square Drive, or the application can be downloaded at www.FocusOnTheMasters.com or www.VenturaCountyArtsCouncil.org.

Applications must be received by Friday, February 17, by 4:00 p.m. Applications will be reviewed by a panel of professional artists, professors, gallery owners and board members. In addition each student submitting an application will be invited to show their work in Expressions of Our Youth, a group exhibition at the Ventura County Government Center shown from March 8-April 10. For more information about applications or the Expressions of Our Youth exhibition please visit www.FocusOnTheMasters.com.



This painting by Don Ulrich can be seen at Sxxxx (an erotic art exhibit) Feb. 11 through March 18. A look at the sensual and erotic, distilled through the muse and onto the many enticing visual palates of the arts community. At the Artists Union Gallery, 330 South California Street. www.VenturaArtistsUnion.org

This 'n' That

Ojai events

Continued from page 11

cult and its charismatic leader.

On Sun., **Feb. 19**, the Ojai Film Society will screen **Toast**. Take a journey into the world of the culinary arts through the eyes of British celebrity chef/writer Nigel Slater. *Toast*, based on his bestselling memoir, is a delicious love letter to the tastes and smells of a young boy's journey into adulthood.

The screening of *Toast* will be followed by a special culinary event at Azu Restaurant with Chef Laurel Moore. *Toast* screening & Azu reception: \$30 for 2012 Subscribers and \$35 for Nonsubscribers. Paid reservations required. Please visit the OFS website at www.ojaifilmsociety.org for payment information.

Toast screening only: General \$10, Seniors/Students \$7, Subscribers Free.

OFS films are shown at the Ojai Playhouse, 145 E Ojai Ave. and begin at 4:30 pm.

The **Ojai Art Center Theater** is presenting **Agatha Christie's And Then There Were None** on Friday and Saturdays at 8pm and Sundays at 2pm through **February 26**. The play is directed by James Castle Stevens and produced by Frank James Malle. Tickets are \$18 and \$15 for seniors, students and Art Center members. For groups of ten or more, the price is just \$10. Those wishing to see the show a second time will be admitted free with a paying guest. The Art Center is located at 113 S. Montgomery St. For reservations call 646-8406 or order on line at [Ojai ACT.org](http://OjaiACT.org)

The SENG Classic Stage Company is casting *Women Of Troy* – from Euripides adapted and directed by Francisca Beach.

10 Actors (age 7-60). 7 Actors/Singers (age 18-60).

For story and character breakdown, go to www.franciscabeach.com.

Auditions: Thurs. Feb. 9th, 7:00 pm - 9 pm. Saturday, Feb. 11th, 10:30 am - 1:00 pm. Performs month of April.

Ojai Valley Grange, 381 Cruzero St. 646-4885.

The **Ojai Valley Green Coalition** invites you to its winter community gathering on Friday, **Feb. 10**. Mingle with neighbors, share a potluck supper and start the new year right with the evening's program focused on "How to Save Energy, Save Money and Save the Planet".

Hosted by the Coalition at the Chaparral

Auditorium, 414 E. Ojai Ave., the evening will begin with a meet and greet from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m., food sharing from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m., followed by the energy presentation. There will also be information tables to learn about many of the Coalition's activities. To reduce landfill waste, please bring your own table service (plate, silverware, mug, and cloth napkin). To RSVP or for more information email ojaiculinaryclub@gmail.com or call 669-8445.

The 28th annual Ojai Peddler's Fair is being held from 9am – 4pm Saturday and Sunday, **February 18 & 19**. The bustling Peddler's Fair is located inside the Chapparal Auditorium. 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, jewelry, handcrafts and international crafts. This is a benefit for the Mira Monte PTO. Vendors are always sought. For more information, please contact Pat at 964-8915 or Jodie at 640-4384 x2284.

Support Group for Adult Children Caring for Parents will be held near downtown Ojai on Monday, Feb. 13 from 6 to 7:30 pm. Members share, brainstorm, and explore thoughts, feelings, stories and challenges faced as caregivers. Call Kathy Leary-Wilde, MFT for more information and to register 218-9798.

On **Feb. 18** the Ojai Jazz Concerts presents **Grammy Award Winning Pianist Bill Cunliffe**. He will perform at 7:30 pm at The Ojai Valley Community Church, 907 El Centro. This is a fund raising concert benefiting The Nordhoff High School Jazz Band. 10% of all ticket sales will go to the NHS Jazz Band.

Tickets are available at the door, online at www.tinyurl.com/ojaিজazz8, and at The Ojai Roasting Co. in Ojai. General Admission is \$25./door & \$28.online. Students (under 25 yrs. old w/ID at door only) - \$15. For more info call 805-746-0936.

Bill Cunliffe has received two Emmy nominations and 4 Grammy nominations, one of which resulted in his Grammy Award.

Music calendar

Continued from page 16

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Friday Dance Party every Fri 9pm

Thur 2/9 - 4 On The Floor

Fri 2/10 - Coso Live

Sat 2/11 - Bomb

Sun 2/12 - Raw Silk

Thur 2/16 - Raw Hides (Country Night)

Fri 2/17 - Legalizers

Sat 2/18 - LA Soul Project

Sun 2/19 - Shawn Jones

Yolies/Hi Hat Entertainment

138 W. Main St., 805-816-9663

Fri 2/10 - Dona Hanck "Greasey Soul Rockin' Blues" 8pm

Fri 2/17 - Hot Roux featuring Albert Lee 8pm

Zoey's Café

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

Songwriter's Round every Wed 8pm

Thur 2/9 - Garrison Starr and Jake Newton 8pm

Fri 2/10 - Jon Swift and the Lonesome Heroes 8pm

Sat 2/11 - Shane Alexander and Ian Tepper 8pm, 11pm Alt Inie Band Night

Mon 2/13 - Matt Zeltzer & The Gears, Owen Plant, Jade Hendrix 8pm

Tue 2/14 - Emy Reynolds Band & Ian Tepper 8pm

Wed 2/15 - Nicole Eva Emery & Mike Gleeson 8pm

Thur 2/16 - Dave Palmer & Friends (variety show) 8pm

Fri 2/17 - The White Buffalo and Lee Koch 8pm, Micah Schnabel 11pm



The Poinsettia Euphorbia pulcherrima is the official flower of the City of Ventura. The country of origin is Mexico and Ventura is well suited for this plant to grow outdoors with proper care. The photo seen here was taken in the yard of a home near Ventura College. This plant usually blooms in early winter and lasts until late winter depending on the weather. Bright red (sometimes yellow) "bloom" on the plant is actually not a flower but petal-like bracts; the true flower is yellowish, inconspicuously located in the center of the bracts. The Poinsettia bush in the photo has lost most of its leaves but still looks beautiful in spite of cold nights and windy days. After the plant has finished its display it will be pruned back until the days are short again and the bush is ready to "bloom" again.

Photo and story by Tom Johnston.

Ventura Breeze Service Directory

Yoga



Valerie's Yoga for Kids
Mommy and Me Yoga and Kid's Yoga
Karma Kid's Yoga Birthday Parties

www.valeriesyogaforkids.vpweb.com
Oxnard, Ca 93035

Valerie Pike
Mini Yogis Yoga Instructor

805-263-0459
805-236-5422 Cell
valeriepike1@hotmail.com
www.meetup.com

Custom Embroidery



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