



# VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

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Ventura City Councilman Neal Andrews is one of four candidates running for the District 1 County Supervisor seat this June.

## District 1 supervisor candidates: Neal Andrews

by Tim Pompey

Ventura City Councilman Neal Andrews is one of four candidates running for the District 1 County Supervisor's seat. Andrews agreed to sit down with The Breeze and give our readers some insights about his professional background and political philosophy. *Some have identified you with the tea party movement, or thought of you as a fiscal conservative. How would you describe yourself in terms of public fiscal management?*

A: I am certainly a fiscal conservative. I hold onto a penny as long as I can on behalf of the taxpayer. I think I'm the most fiscally conservative member in this race. As far as the tea party is concerned, I welcome everybody's support and I make no bones about it. I have placed my name before every group from the tea party to each and every one of the unions that are interested in this election.

*In terms of public policy, what would you say is the difference between you and incumbent Bennett?*

A: I think that I am more focused than Mr. Bennett on the cost of government and on the impact of regulation and government intrusion on individual lives and livelihood. There's no question that I am very engaged in the preserva

*Continued on page 7*

While celebrating Festa Della Madre (Mother's Day) in Milan you can always catch up with the Breeze at [venturabreeze.com](http://venturabreeze.com)



When internationally renowned local success Nicole Cabell has time to be in Ventura she and mom, Teri enjoy the wonders of Ventura

## Renowned soprano and Venturan coming home

by Rebecca Wicks

A bit of a fairy tale, Nicole Cabell grew up humbly on the Westside of Ventura just north of Ventura Avenue but will return later this month as a well travelled and well-known rising star in the world of opera when she performs in Ventura Music Festival's 18th concert series.

"We are excited to have Ventura's own Nicole Cabell return to the Festival," said Ventura Music Festival Executive Director Cheryl Heitmann. "You really have to hear and see her live to appreciate why she is such a marvel."

Cabell, 34, of African American, Korean and Caucasian descent, had a limited musical background as a young girl. She played the flute in the De Anza Middle School band. Later urged on by her mother, she tried out for the Ventura High School choir where she began singing and excelled. Like a page out of a movie script, a young Cabell who had no musical connections cleaned her voice teacher's studio for discounted lessons as a teenager.

"Everyone always asks me if my mother or father sang and are surprised when I say no," said Cabell in an interview last year. "I always say a singing voice has to start somewhere."

Her voice earned her a scholarship to the Eastman School of Music in New York where she received her bachelor's

degree. She was then accepted to The Juilliard School of Music which she attended briefly before joining the Lyric Opera Center for American Artists at the Lyric Opera of Chicago.

In 2005, she won the BBC Cardiff "Singer of the World" competition which vaulted her career to the level of a sought after performer. Since then each season Cabell's calendar has been filled. Most recently, she has linked her voice with Mozart, singing the Countess in Mozart's Nozze di Figaro in Montreal, Pamina in Di Zaubernacht at the Lyric Opera in Chicago and Donna Elvira in Don Giovanni in Tokyo. In concert, she has appeared in London, Chicago, Cincinnati, Toronto, Atlanta, San Diego and St. Petersburg.

With a travel schedule that stretches her, Cabell has admitted to making a better effort at enjoying herself than she did when she was younger.

"What's the point of even travelling so much if you're not going to get out and see the world?" Cabell said in an interview in Atlanta. "I make a point now in taking some time to do that."

Prominent venues seem to be a mainstay for the young soprano who graced the stages of the Royal Opera House of London, Carnegie Hall, Deutsche Opera of Berlin and the Met

*Continued on page 4*

## Anniversary of Crowell, Weedon & Co.

2012 marks the 80th Anniversary of Southern California-based stock brokerage and money management firm Crowell, Weedon & Co. A significant milestone for a company that was established in 1932 during the grim economic days of the Great Depression, Crowell, Weedon & Co. is now the largest independent investment firm in the Western United States.

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The Ventura High School (VHS) String Quartet (composed of Sarah Jackson, Maya Tamang, Madeline Offerman and Danica Neuhaus) and the VHS Wind Ensemble and the VHS String Orchestra earned top honors at two adjudicated music competitions held in March. All groups are part of the Ventura High School instrumental music program, led by Music Director Paul Hunt.



This issue's Face of Ventura by Johanna Spinks is on page 12.



# Kids Carnival Silent Auction

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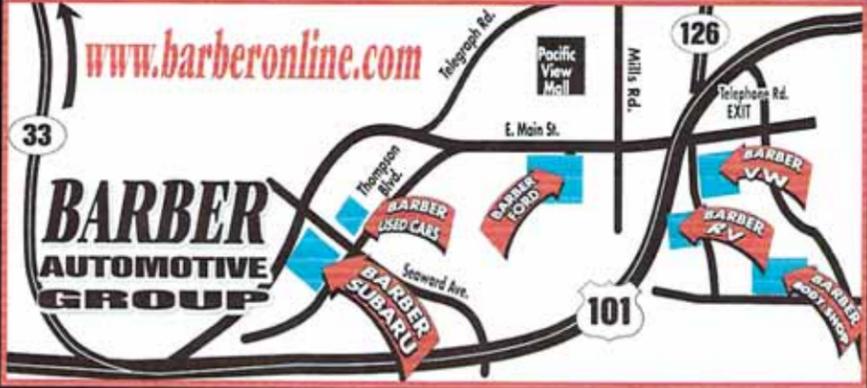


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Performances to Grow On presents: The Ojai Storytelling Festival

**May 4<sup>th</sup> through May 12<sup>th</sup>**  
Ventura Music Festival, Season 18 - multiple venues throughout Ventura

**Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>**  
"A Day in the Country" at Montessori School of Ojai

**Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup>**  
Family Festival in the Park at Barranca Vista Park - Come visit the ParentClickBooth!

**Wednesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>**  
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## City News A Safe and Clean Ventura

by Rick Cole  
City Manager

Each year, the City Manager submits a budget proposal to the City Council. This year, the focus of the recommended spending plan is “A Safe and Clean Ventura.”

That’s one of the four goals set by our City Council:

Prioritize Public Safety and Core Services

Promote Prosperity/Economic Development

Maintain a Safe and Clean Ventura

Restore Public Confidence.

Acting on the Council’s Public Safety priority, the City won a Federal SAFER grant to re-open Station Four last year, significantly improving emergency response times. The grant and local matching funding ensures this staffing through the next two years.

The most pressing threat to a Safe and Clean Ventura has been the rise in crime and fear of crime in our community. During better times, the City Council expanded sworn staffing in our Police Department to 134 officers. Over the past three years, however, we have been relying on just 122. The results are disturbing. In 2011, our city had a 24% increase in violent crime led by a nearly 60% increase in violent gang crime. There has also been increased criminal and anti-social behavior in some of our most visible public areas. To reverse these trends,

the Proposed Budget funds a “Crime Reduction Reinvestment Plan.”

It adds \$800,000 next year to fund five sworn police positions and another \$400,000 in FY 2013-14 to add an additional two sworn and one civilian police positions. Combined with the \$1.2 million annual funding from the SAFER grant, that totals nearly \$2.4 million in additional resources for public safety. To do this in the face of continuing hard times shows the Council’s commitment to a safe community.

We’ve also targeted making Ventura cleaner. The proposed budget includes new funding for keeping the railroad trestle free from graffiti and managing a higher level of sand maintenance along the Pierpont beach. Keeping Ventura clean is not just a priority for local government; it’s the goal of a growing alliance of volunteers, community councils, the Downtown Ventura Organization and many civic partnerships.

Sustaining these commitments, however, relies on accomplishing the Council’s goal of Promoting Prosperity. Last September’s groundbreaking for the new Community Memorial Hospital development has generated new construction jobs and the opportunity for expanded growth of the health care sector in Ventura. Downtown continues its strong performance, with several new businesses opening or moving in, including new office tenants. The Auto Center will gain another major brand in coming months and adjacent property owners have agreed on a plan for an extension of Olivas Park Drive to allow a major

destination retail expansion. The Ventura Ventures Technology Center continues as the leading edge of our city’s growing high tech entrepreneurship. “Buy Local” marketing efforts have highlighted the benefits of supporting local business, along with special events like Music and Restaurant Weeks. Hotel occupancies have improved and a new “Ventura County Lodging Association” will augment regional visitor marketing.

The City Council is working with our Prosperity Council partners on a 2012-17 Economic Development Strategy. It will emphasize retaining and growing our current businesses; developing new economic opportunities in growing sectors like healthcare and high tech; exploiting ways to leverage expansion of our existing agricultural, creative, visitor and other industries; and enhancing our local competitive edge via workforce training, greener business practices and creative marketing.

We’ve shown remarkable resilience during hard times. Drawing on the lessons we’ve learned and the resolve to move forward, we’re recommending a balanced budget plan for a “safe and clean Ventura.” Recognizing that “to govern is to choose,” it represents balanced choices – based on the City Council’s key goals and continuing to “live within our means.”

### Renowned Soprano

*Continued from page 1*

ropolitan Opera in New York City in recent months. Notably, she is scheduled to make her debut in a

leading role at the San Francisco Opera.

Now with her first solo debut album, “Soprano” under her belt she returns to fill the auditorium at Ventura High School with the sound of her voice which has been lauded by the likes of media critics from the Chicago Sun-Times who claimed her voice to be “lustrous” to The Times of London who called it “liquid gold.” High praise for a girl who at a young age would “imitate opera singers” when playing basketball.

For Cabell, she is happy with her chance to perform opera.

“The music can be so intense and beautiful and can connect deep in your heart and gut,” said Cabell. “Having the opportunity to perform this kind of music is a great and unique experience.”

Cabell admits her entrance into opera wasn’t necessarily a conventional one and laments more don’t have an opportunity to experience it.

According to Cabell, “Interest in opera is directly proportional to education and exposure.” With such a broad media spectrum available music has been fragmented and “people don’t always know what to listen to when it comes to opera, or what it means to listen to it.”

Cabell will be joined by tenor Shawn Mathey on May 12 for the Ventura Music Festival concert and will perform works by Mozart, Shubert, Britten and Gershwin. The festival’s own conductor Nuvi Mehta and the Ventura Music Festival Chamber Orchestra will be accompanying Cabell and Mathey.

# VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

Member, Ventura Chamber of Commerce  
and Oxnard Chamber of Commerce

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

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## Opinion/Editorial



Sheldon (Governor) Brown  
Publisher

going on please send me a photo of it.

■ A potentially wonderful summer concert series is being proposed to be held in a tent in the parking lot located above city hall. Two community meetings are being held to explain the proposal to Ventura residents and business owners. The first one was held on April 30 where concert event details and initial impact mitigation plans were presented. Supplementary information and resolutions will be discussed during the second meeting on Thursday, May 24 at 6pm in the Community Meeting Room at City Hall.

The purpose of the meetings is for the City and concert promoters to work closely with residents to address issues or concerns and impacts on the community, the public will have the opportunity to provide feedback.

Residents who cannot make the meeting, are welcome to call 654-7811 or email summerconcertseries@cityofventura.net to be heard.

The concert series is intended to raise awareness and funds for the proposed Ventura Botanical Gardens to be located in Grant Park above city hall.

Local music promoter, Mark Hartley and Nederlander Concerts, are proposing a series of up to twelve concerts beginning in July with the last show in October 2012. Attendance to the event is estimated to be up to 1,900

## Mailbox

requires transitional housing: a place to sleep, sit, fill out forms, and prepare yourself for a future with a home and all of its responsibilities.

In Ventura, some foundations created to help the homeless do exist: yet, there seem to be more desks than beds.

As a community, we must prioritize both transitional housing and an adequate year-round nighttime shelter where women can sleep separated from men.

We anticipate your next piece and hope the Ventura City Council will finally fund these needs.

Respectfully,  
Lawrence and Lori Anderson  
Board Members, Unified Homeless Persons,  
Ventura County Chapter

Editor Sheldon

I read with interest your comments on the "go/don't go" crosswalk signs. Absolutely many folks just walk when they feel like it no matter what the sign reflects.

Your concern also applies to many folks riding bicycles today. As I drive around Oxnard there is absolute ignorance/failure of most cyclists to follow basic traffic rules. They ride on the sidewalk whether or not there is a bike path; they ride against traffic; they ride in the crosswalk ignoring the go/no go signs and often delay traffic. It seems that only the cyclists that are hobbyists

per concert.

■ There is a controversy going on that is similar to deciding what lip stick color would make a platypus look the best (Diane thinks that they look good now). It is should the Foster Library be repainted the original color or the current



Before



After

color (it is in serious need of painting)? The Library Advisory Commission and the Historic Preservation Committee just can't agree.

In my opinion the original design review committee (I assume that they had to approve the design) should be ashamed to have ever let this addition be built to the existing library with this design.

I think that it should be painted beige and maybe no one will notice it.

Also did you know that the front entrance doors to the library (they look like phony stained glass) were commissioned by the City of San Buenaventura

Public Art Program and are actually digital images laminated within glass panels to evoke the design of integrated circuits in computer chips as well as sunlit colors of stained glass? And they contain poetry and quotations as well as intricate visual patterns that reflect how written language has evolved through human history as coded information? I'll bet that you didn't know that and didn't know that they cost "us" \$72,000 in 1999?

So the next time that you are at Foster be sure to read the front doors so that we get our monies worth!

■ Always a good sign when new businesses open in Ventura. In this case 2 restaurants and a marketing firm. The former Charlene's, on Main (which opened and closed many times) is now Amigo's Mexican Café and Cantina and Lure Fish House will be opening soon at 60. S. California the office building that now has some professional tenants (also a good sign).

I would like to compliment the Building and Safety Division for their new Express Plan Review for expediting the building permits for these projects. Maybe they are finally getting it.

Also the Du Puis Group has moved from Westlake Village to the downtown Bank of Italy building after doing extensive interior remodeling to their second floor space. The marketing firm employs over 20 workers.

■ It might be a good time for you to sell your Google stock because they have been fined \$25,000 by the FCC for bad things that they did. Hopefully this won't put Google in a very bad financial situation. (Oh, they make that in 18.5 seconds? Never mind!)

follow the normal traffic rules and utilize the bike path.

The police appear to ignore the issue, so why do we have traffic laws for bikes? Let's get rid of them too; however those same folks that don't follow the rules will sue us in a heartbeat if they are hit.  
Ted Hetherington  
Oxnard



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VenturaBotanicalGardens.com or write to us at P.O. Box 3127, Ventura, CA 93006-3127 to learn, how you can get involved.

Sincerely,  
The Ventura Botanical Gardens, a  
501(c)3 non-profit organization

Editor:

...has no one other than me done the math on what Rick Cole said about hiring 8 new police officers at a cost of \$2,000,000????? I did do the math, and that comes out to be \$162,500 per officer....wow...when did they start making that kind of money????? I would think that conservatively, they should be able to get 16 officers for that  
Richard Pillow  
Ventura

Rick Cole:

Mr. Pillow's concerns are based on an erroneous number -- which shows the problems with making assumptions from what you hear from the media.

Actually, my budget proposes that we add \$762,440 this year and \$364,270 next year, a total of \$1,126,710 for additional Police staff, about 56% of the \$2 million number he cites. Also, as anyone who thinks about it will realize, the money you have to spend

Continued on page 7

Breeze:

Thanks to the Breeze and to Tim Pompey for the articles concerning homelessness (HLN) in the county.

There is only one solution to HLN, Homes. Moving towards transition

Think not so much of what thou hast not, as of what thou hast.  
-Marcus Aurelius

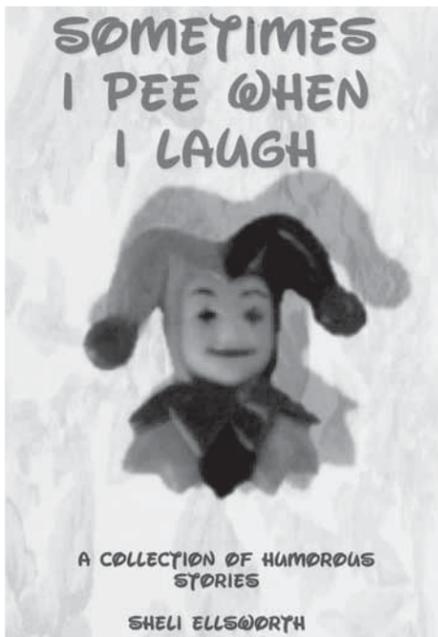


The Housing Authority of the City of San Buenaventura is currently accepting applications for its Non-Profit, Income Restricted Units: Encanto Del Mar, Chapel Lane Senior Apartments, Soho Apartments and Triad Properties.

The Developments are located in the City of San Buenaventura. If you are interested in applying to live in any of these developments, you may get on the waitlist by picking up an application at 11122 Snapdragon St. Ventura, CA 93004 or 995 Riverside St. Ventura, CA 93001 or visit [www.hacityventura.org](http://www.hacityventura.org). Direct questions to Diane V. Lopez at 805-648-5008 ext 2229 or Julia Terry at 805-647-5990 ext 3235.



## News and Notes



### Sheli Ellsworth's *Sometimes I Pee When I Laugh*

A review by Staci Brown

I was reading Sheli's book at the same time that I was reading Tina Fey's current book so the comparisons may have been on a subconscious level but I am pleased to say that I found Sheli's book more enjoyable to read and even funnier. My only regret is that it ended as quickly as it did. I want to read more!! Comprised of 19 very short stories, she tells such tales as her mother buying her underwear at a garage sale and the lingering housefly that

she named Bob. Her human attributes given to Bob's short life until he went quickly in her cup of coffee she had taken a sip of are touching, creative and delightful. In 3 short pages I had become fond of Bob.

Her tales of her husband's attempts to help out while she is bed-ridden with food poisoning will leave you relating, appreciating and chuckling with fondness. He leaves for an inordinate amount of time to get her antibiotics, upon returning with four boxes of diarrhea medication. She says "Where are the antibiotics?" "Oh!" he says slapping his head, "I left them at the store. Beer was on sale and I got sidetracked. Be right back." He brings his 13 year old shopping for school clothes and returns with a t-shirt that says "It's Happy Hour Somewhere", with a picture of a martini and a cigar on it. His willingness to help her while she is laid up is charming and endearing. His "male" slant on his duties makes it very entertaining.

Each chapter is filled with hilarious details from her life experiences from her drawer of shame in her nightstand to her father giving her an axe handle to hike with for safety. If you want to feel good and to smile, I recommend reading Sheli Ellsworth's *Sometimes I Pee When I Laugh*.

### The vision for theater at the Rubicon, Part 2

by Tim Pompey

Since 1998, the Rubicon Theatre Company in downtown Ventura has stood out as one of the best regional

## News and Notes

theater companies in Southern California. Some of its world premiere productions, including *Daddy Long Legs*, *Lonesome Traveler*, and *The Best is Yet to Come*, have gone on to have long successful runs at other theaters after being launched here in Ventura.

The Breeze decided to sit down with some of the current staff and volunteers of the Rubicon and find out what makes this very innovative theater company tick. First up, its founders: Karyl Lynn Burns and James O'Neil.

*Rubicon has been active in producing new works. How does that impact the field or the American stage as a whole?*

K: *Daddy Long Legs* was written by John Caird, a Tony and Olivier Award winner both for *Les Miserables* and for *Nicholas Nickleby*. It was also written by Paul Gordon who was a Tony nominee for *Jane Eyre*. We had the privilege of developing that piece with them over several years. The first stage was a reading through the Ann Deal Fashion Forms Plays in Progress program. And during that process *Daddy Long Legs* went from being a one-person musical to a two-person show. We premiered the show with TheatreWorks and Cincinnati Playhouse and it has since played in 14 cities, each of them for a minimum of 3-4 weeks. That show is opening in Tokyo in September.

The other is *The Best is Yet to Come*, conceived and directed by David Zippel, who won a Tony Award for *City of Angels*. It was the first review of Cy Coleman's work that was approved by his estate. And we got to premiere it here. Then it opened last summer Off-Broadway.

J: I conceived and wrote the book for *Lonesome Traveler*, which was a journey down the rivers and streams of American folk music. We're going to do a concert version of the show in September at the Laguna Playhouse. The full version already played at the Laguna last February, and we're going to bring it back here next year. Then in 2013, it will play at the Royal Manitoba Theatre Center in Canada.

*How has Rubicon managed to survive the current economic crisis?*

J: For fifty years, the financial model for non-profit regional theaters has been the same: roughly 50% of revenue comes from ticket sales and about 50% comes from donations. When the economy is hit hard and donors' incomes are affected, very often the arts are cut – it's sad, really. We continued to do well with ticket sales, but that's only half of the equation. So it became necessary to cut our budget in half. All of our staff took salary cuts, some positions were eliminated altogether and everyone has pulled together to work even harder. Programming was cut as well – our current show *Hello! My Baby* is the first big show we have done in four years.

K: Patricia Baldwin, our CFO, came out of retirement and worked with the board and the staff to put together a financial plan. Our current president, Roz Warner, and the board worked really hard to keep us mission-focused.

In addition, a lot of positive things have happened recently. We received a \$350,000 grant from the James Irvine Foundation. That grant has to do with the sustainability of our organization. We put forward ideas that would help to build our infrastructure and make us stronger as we move into the future. *What keeps you optimistic about Rubicon's future?*

J: The theater as we know it is presented now essentially in the same way as it was 5,000 years ago and continues

to survive because it puts us viscerally in touch with our fellow human beings.

K: I believe theater here in Ventura will survive for those same reasons – AND because of the fierce dedication and commitment of a handful of far-sighted donors and community leaders who want to ensure that Rubicon becomes a community institution that's here for future generations. So many people have given so much to make this happen now – but what we all want is for it to be a permanent part of Ventura's cultural life.

### From printing to book writing to play writing

by Sheli Ellsworth

James Francis Gray, owner of James Francis Gray Printing moved to Ventura in 1991 because of the wonderful weather. Why he stays is much more personal. "Everyone in Ventura is so friendly," says Gray. "I go hiking and walking, I can't imagine living any place else."

Gray studied printing when he was in high school at Lynn Trade High School, Lynn, Massachusetts. "I moved to California to get away from the harsh weather on the east coast," Gray explains that he moved to Los Angeles in 1962 and attended Los Angeles City College and eventually moved to the San Fernando Valley. He established Gray Printing at Canoga Park in 1973 before relocating the business to Ventura.

Printing may be Gray's profession, but writing has become his passion. Gray recently released his first e-book titled, "Kali is Your Code Name." Gray's book is about a high-dollar prostitute that goes by the name of Kali. A You Tube video trailer can be viewed by typing in the book's title.

What prompted Gray to write about the world's oldest profession? At a writing workshop, Gray was encouraged to write about something that was completely out of his comfort zone. "When I was in college, I lived close to some very busy young women. Eventually, I found out that they were upscale ladies of the evening who earned from affluent wealthy Beverly Hills businessmen. I was naive young man when I heard their sordid stories in 1964," says Gray. "I remember going to see a play in Boston in the early sixties, *The World of Susie Wong*. I've always wondered how a lady of the evening could sell her body for financial gain and yet discover and receive true love in the end." Kali's story takes place in Los Angeles, Hollywood, Beverly Hills, Catalina Island and Mussel Shoals in Ventura County.

Up until now, Gray's writing has been about some fairly common subjects. "I've written for newsletters—The Mantle for the Knights of Columbus, Canoga Park—the West Hills Chamber of Commerce—the West Hills Property Owner Association, and the Rheta's Reunion Newsletter.

I began writing short stories and my memoirs many years ago. Recently in the past four years I've been involved in a writer's critique group." Gray has written many short stories and five (unpublished) novels. Gray had his short story Alicia Jenkins is Missing published last year on [suspensemagazine.com](http://suspensemagazine.com).

Gray is currently working on a play called Tank and Tallulah about teen angst in Hollywood set in 1950.

## News and Notes



Kids made bird feeders and butterflies in Grant Park. Photo by Carter Friedman

### Garden Festival aids the Ventura Botanical Gardens

The First Annual Garden Festival was on April 21st at Grant Park. There were gardening workshops, children's gardening activities, food trucks, music, prizes, and an array of local vendors specializing in plants, garden-related arts, and other items with an emphasis on natural foods and renewable materials.

Among the topics were Learning to Love Succulents presented by Carol Haverty and Annette Dawson-Davis, Budget Gardening presented by Diane Beeler of Beeler Healthy Gardens and Rainwater Harvesting, Grey Water and Ocean Friendly Gardening, presented by Jill Sarick Santos of the City of Ventura. There were children's crafts that engaged young imaginations as they made bird feeders and decorative butterflies with the help of creative volunteers. To learn more about the proposed gardens visit [www.venturabotanicalgardens.com](http://www.venturabotanicalgardens.com).

#### Neal Andrews

*Continued from page 1*

tion of individual rights and liberties and that I believe that government often overreaches and intrudes unnecessarily in people's lives.

We are very similar in our approach to serving or assisting people with great disadvantages in our society. And I am also and always have been very strong in my concerns for our natural resources and environment. But I believe that Mr. Bennett and his associates carry the last part, the concern for the environment, to an extreme that violates fundamental constitutional rights of individuals and property owners.

*Given the diversity of personalities on the county board and the complexity of running a county government, what would you suggest the county do to help itself function more efficiently?*

A: I think that the single most important step initially is to reach agreement that the county should have a performance-based management system and that each department head under that system would have a set of performance obligations that had to be reported on systematically, quantitatively, and verifiably. When that is in place, policy makers can assess the effectiveness, the efficiency, and actuality of performance and can once again regain control of the administration of government. That's what we did in Ventura at my urging and today Ventura operates more efficiently than it ever did before.

*How would you encourage people within the county government system to cooperate?*

A: Politics is politics. It's always a matter of compromise, collaboration, cajoling, and trading. I'm a pretty good horse trader. In the 11 years that I've been

on the Ventura city council, lord knows that everybody understands that I've been in the minority. And yet, I have introduced more policy initiatives than any other councilman in those 11 years. I have had almost every one of them adopted by the council. There have been times when that was very controversial and there have been times when those initiatives were passed without a peep of controversy. I prefer the ones that have passed without a peep of controversy, but I'm equally proud of those that were controversial and yet were adopted by the council.

*Ultimately, what made you decide to run for County Supervisor?*

A: Well, first, when I decided to run, the seat was open. And second, my loyal following was very clear that they wanted me to move up. We did a survey that showed that I would be the likely victor in an open seat. Frankly, I also felt that the county needed a different direction on fiscal issues, on relations with its public safety unions, and in matters related to the way the County could contribute to economic prosperity. I did not think those issues were being served well for the taxpayer.

*Why should the voter consider you as their candidate to elect?*

I believe clearly that I have very strong credentials in the way of experience and training for this job. I won't need any on the job training. I also believe that I have earned a public trust and credibility that is vital to reestablishing people's faith in our government.

#### Mailbox

*Continued from page 5*

*to hire and equip a police officer is not the same amount he or she gets in their paycheck. Over the next two years, I'm recommending hiring six police officers, one sergeant and one civilian crime scene investigator. Starting salary for a Police Officer after graduation from the Police Academy is \$67,475. Sergeants start at \$91,915. However, we also budget for benefits, pension contributions and workers comp coverage. To be conservative, we figure the costs for an experienced officer or sergeant even though new hires start at or near the bottom of their ranges. The goal of those prudent estimates is not to "lowball" ongoing costs down the road.*

*So if Mr. Pillow's original \$2 million number was accurate, he'd be about right regarding the number we could afford to hire – remembering to count the total cost of adding a police officer, which involves more than just their salary.*

Dear Mr Brown:

We already have a year-round homeless shelter in the City of Ventura. It's called the Ventura river bottom. The quote about large shelters "can become problematic" is already happened here in the city. If you do not trust my opinion, on a sunny Saturday take a walk from the Starbucks in the Von's shopping center by Pierpont. Walk from there to City hall. Enjoy the views and count the "domestically displaced" along our beautiful boardwalk by the pier. Notice the people from out of town? Think of the raw sewage and waste that is piling up along our beaches. Loss of revenue can be directly focused on these "people". Pass a city ordinance no panhandling and begging. We all know you did not just run out of gas, or just lost your job. There's help out there go find it. I am sorry but enough is enough.

Respectfully,  
Paul Hartwell



*It was a family affair at "Dining with the Dogs" for Corporal Thomas Finnerty, Robin Finnerty, Shawna Finnerty, Courtney Finnerty, Jennifer Finnerty and of course Dozer Finnerty the K9 bomb dog*

### National Police Dog Foundation hosts *Dining with the Dogs*

Photos and story by Richard Lieberman

The National Police Dog Foundation, held its annual "Dining with the Dogs" charity event at the historic Camarillo Ranch House in Camarillo on Saturday April 21st.

Participants in the event included two canine units from the Ventura PD along with the Ventura County Sheriff's Department and other police departments.

This charity event, conducted in support of police and search and rescue dogs, their handlers, and trainers, presented an opportunity for the public to meet and learn about the important and diverse jobs these canine heroes perform every day.

Police and Search and Rescue dogs perform a wide variety of tasks including, patrol work, narcotics and explosive detection, detection and apprehension of suspects, missing person searches, and crime victim assistance, to mention just a few of the many tasks these canines are capable of performing. German shepherds, Bloodhounds, Labrador Retrievers, Border Collies, and Westphalia Terriers were all represented. Most of the dogs are owned by their respective agencies, but while the human partner is paid by their department, the dogs, including purchase, training, maintenance and equipment are funded mostly from public and private donations.

The event offered food, drink, live music, raffles and auctions, as well as displays by the various departments. There were also booths and demonstrations, from the National Police Dog Foundation, Ventura County Sheriff's Department K-9 Unit and a search and rescue K-9 Unit.

The National Police Dog Foundation was founded to enhance local law enforcement efforts all over the country, by soliciting and raising funds, and by developing a national network of veterinarians to provide medical care to the canines. The foundation also engages in educational efforts to both the public, and law enforcement agencies to educate on the remarkable capabilities of these talented, selfless animals.

Demonstrations of the abilities of these animals to aid in law enforcement and, search and rescue activities were conducted all day through the event. Demonstrations of suspect apprehensions, obedience and, search operations were demonstrated.

The agility, speed and, strength in apprehension activities, thrilled the crowd, and demonstrated the ability of these amazing animals to aid their partners in capture, arrest, and detention. Chasing suspects by leaping through the air and, clamping down and, holding suspects until police officers are able to safely place the suspect into custody, is thrilling to watch, but still only a small part of the activities these animals are trained to do.

These talented dogs are a major asset to our community and, deserve our support and generosity. In a day where law enforcement budgets in the county have been drastically reduced and funding for canine programs hard to come by, citizens of Ventura must stand up and be counted. Donate, volunteer and support in any way you can the important work of these amazing animals.

*Scamp: If they ever need a dog to find illegally brought in food to the prisons then I am their man.*

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## Community Events

### Ventura Harbor Village offers serenity for Mother's Day

Ventura Harbor Village offers serenity and relaxation on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 13th from live entertainment, to Sunday brunch, to walks on the beach, or scrumptious seafood overlooking boats. Ventura Harbor Village is a sun-kissed destination for families to celebrate Mom.

Ventura Harbor Village showcases smooth country sounds of Crowfoot, a free concert at the Carousel Stage, from 1 to 4pm surrounded by local art galleries and boutique shops. Bring Mom to shop at the Harbor Village and select from jewelry, vintage home and garden, Spring apparel and accessories, home décor, swimwear and more. Afternoon and evening celebrations could include Special Mother's Day Show with Stephanie Blum at Ventura Harbor Comedy Club, live music at Blackbeard's BBQ, or wine and tapas overlooking the boats. Ventura Harbor Village also boasts harbor boat tours perfect for a day out with Mom.

Ventura Harbor Village, with 35 shops & restaurants, has free parking and is open for breakfast, lunch, or dinner. Visit their new website at [VenturaHarborVillage.com](http://VenturaHarborVillage.com) for ideas on treating Mom for Mother's Day.

The Ventura Harbor Village is located at 1583 Spinnaker Dr. For more information visit [www.VenturaHarborVillage.com](http://www.VenturaHarborVillage.com) or call 477-0470.

### Save the date!

Rock for a Cause, monthly charity concerts raising money for different local charities is proud to sponsor the May 19 concert benefiting River Haven on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce Leadership Development Team 3.

Rock for a Cause features 4 to 5 popular local bands and a featured

acoustic musician performing at a local Downtown Ventura venue. The showcases are filmed for review on YouTube and CAPS TV. For more info please go to [www.facebook.com/Rock4aCause](http://www.facebook.com/Rock4aCause) or call Carlos Landeros at 340-2401.

River Haven is home to a group of previously homeless county residents. They have created a self-sustaining tent community where their basic needs can be met in a stable, sanitary environment free of violence, drugs and alcohol until they are able to access housing. The Turning Point Foundation provides administrative and supportive services to ensure the ongoing success of this unique project. The Chamber Group is raising money to provide the recommended paint and painting of the Domes as well as purchasing three more Domes. For more information, you can call Staci Brown at 844-5374. Thank You!

### CMH honors mothers, daughters, sisters, grandmothers, aunts and friends

Community Memorial Healthcare Foundation's annual Gold Dust Gala is honoring "The Women We Love" – mothers, daughters, sisters, grandmothers, aunts and friends – the women who help shape and impact lives in a profound way.

This year, The Gold Dust Gala will be held on Saturday, May 12, in Camarillo at the Serra Center at 5205 Upland Road.

Doors open at 6 p.m. for Silent Auction bidding, cocktails, raffle and tribute tree. A dinner featuring Command Performance's Classic California Cuisine will be followed by the dance-inspiring music of "Platinum Groove."

Tickets and sponsorship packages may be purchased on line at [www.golddustgala.org](http://www.golddustgala.org) or call the Foundation Office at 667-2881.

### Project Understanding has Inaugural Fundraising Breakfast

On Thursday, May 10th, Project Understanding will have their Inaugural Fundraising Breakfast. The breakfast will take place at the Crowne Plaza Hotel located at 450 E. Harbor Blvd. The breakfast begins at 7:30am and ends at 9:00am. Proceeds from this fundraiser will go to support Project Understanding's H2H (Homeless to Home) Program and their Tender Life Maternity Home.

Seating is limited. To RSVP, please phone Kathy Donofrio at 652-1326 ext. 829 or email [kdonofrio@projectunderstanding.org](mailto:kdonofrio@projectunderstanding.org).

### Family Festival in the Park

The ninth annual Family Festival in the Park on Saturday, May 12, from 9 am to 5 pm, offers free daylong entertainment and activities for the whole family at the Barranca Vista Imagination Center and Park, located at 7050 Ralston Street, just east of Johnson Drive. Face painting, food and community booths, a volunteer fair, Buckaroo Express Train Rides, as well as a preview of summer camps with artist booths for arts, craft and science projects, will be capped with "The Adventures of Peter Pan" at 4 pm by the veteran troupe Gypsies in a Trunk, now in their 18th season of offering free "Fairy Tales in the Park" theater performances for families in Ventura County parks all summer long. Festival attendees are encouraged to bring a blanket, lawn chairs and picnic to spend the whole day at the Barranca Vista and stay for the day's performance finale.

### River Community Church hosts Family Fiesta

The River Community Church will be holding their annual Family Fiesta at the Ventura Family YMCA on Saturday, May 5.

The event will include:

- food and drinks served by the "Taco-Man"
- two live bands
- a dessert booth
- a pie and jalapeno eating contest
- balloon animals and balloon toss
- jolly jumpers
- a face painting booth
- piñatas loaded with candy
- raffles and prizes

Family Fiesta takes place from 1 pm to 4 pm and is free. The YMCA is located at 3760 Telegraph Rd.

The River Community Church is known for being "Your partners in life." For more information about The River Community Church and Family Fiesta, please visit their website at [www.TheRiverCommunity.org](http://www.TheRiverCommunity.org) or call the church office at 212-8240.

### Ventura events

by Ana Baker

**May 3:** from 8am to 10am, Vons executives, including Vons President Lori Raya, and the company's 278 store managers will meet at San Buenaventura State Park for a charitable **CANstruction competition**. The group will be randomly assigned to one of 20 teams and challenged to use canned food items to build a variety of large structures that replicate southern California landmarks. Vons is providing more than 8,000 canned items for the contest and will be donating the product to FOOD Share.

Judging the competition will be FOOD Share board members and management staff.

**May 4:** Keystone Club of the Boys & Girls Club of Ventura and The World We Want Foundation are partnering at Denny's Restaurant, 2148 East Harbor Blvd. 5p.m. to 8:30 p.m. This is a **fundraising event** to aid the victims of Oklahoma's Woodward Tornado Disaster.

Keystone Club teens from the Bill LeFevre Center will work at Denny's with 20% of all sales plus 100% of tips and 100% of any donations that evening going to benefit the victims. The Red Cross said that this was one of the hardest hit areas in the country. The goal is to make this project personal by connecting Ventura Club members with teenagers and their families in the Southwest. For additional information on the Keystone Disaster Relief project contact: [marthag@bgclubventura.org](mailto:marthag@bgclubventura.org) or [p davidson@theworldwewantfoundation.org](mailto:p davidson@theworldwewantfoundation.org).

**May 6:** Resonating tone and graceful movement will highlight appearances by **The Water Drum Percussion Musicians and De Anza Academy of Technology's Mariachi Ballet Folklorico** on Sunday, at the Museum of Ventura County. The two groups of students from De Anza Academy will perform free from 1p.m. until 2.30 p.m. during the museum's monthly free First Sunday. Instruction for the water drum percussion students has been provided by the Bell Arts Factory in conjunction with Luis Perez and the Vita Art Center.

**May 6:** A March 28, 1948 Sherlock Holmes broadcast and 1931 recordings of beguine band leader Stellio will be featured in the Dudley House historic recording series during the Dudley House open house. The house will be open from 1p.m. to 4p.m. Admission is free. The Dudley House is located at the corner of Ashwood and Loma Vista. Anyone interested in working on the docent tours of the house, call Steve Cummings at 644-3286.

**May 6: Professor Majorie Cohn discusses civil liberties, human rights and her latest book *The United States and Torture*** in which "she dissects America's long relationship with interrogation and torture, which roots back to the 1950s and has been applied, mostly in secret, to "enemies," ever since. This will be held at Foster Library's Topping Room, 651 E. Main St. on Sunday at 3:00 p.m. Marjorie Cohn, past president of the National Lawyers Guild, is a professor at Thomas Jefferson School of Law. This event is co-sponsored by Veterans for Peace, Chapter 112 and Cindy Piester of Pulse TV. Learn More about CPR: <http://c-p-r.net>

**May 5 and 6: Quilting by The Sea** presented by the Camarillo Quilters Association at the Ventura County Fair-



Heather Locayo, the Director of Operations for the Ventura Music Festival, Deputy Mayor Cheryl Heitmann, Executive Director of the Music Festival were the guests of host Annie-Gabriel on CAPS-TV Our Ventura TV show.

This year's Ventura Music Festival is from May 3-May 12 at various locations around the city. Visit [www.OurVentura.com](http://www.OurVentura.com) or [www.VenturaMusicFestival.org](http://www.VenturaMusicFestival.org) for more information. Photo by Our Ventura producer George Alger.



# Community Events



Lyn Fairly, host of the Lyn Fairly and Friends radio show on 1520 KVTA (heard on Saturdays from noon to 1pm) interviewed Certified Master Gardener Susan Crespi, co-chair for the Ventura Garden Tour, and Doug Halter, President Board of Directors, about the upcoming Garden Tour, which will be held from 9:30 am to 4:00 pm on Saturday May 5. The interview was held in front of the newly opened Villa Tasca Gardens located at 2057 Thompson.

grounds. Held in the Anacapa Building on May 5th from 10 a.m. to 5p.m. and on May 6th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The show will feature a boutique, vendors, mini quilts and a silent auction and quilts, quilts and more quilts. Admission at the door \$10 or \$8 advance at [www.camarilloquilters.org](http://www.camarilloquilters.org)

### Audubon field trips

**May 5:** Hedrick Ranch Nature Area, Santa Paula. Saturday, 8a.m. Leader: Sandy Hedrick 340-0478. We will bird this lovely area with the possibility of seeing Least Bells Vireos, Yellow-breasted Chats, & a Thick-billed Kingbird. Long pants and boots or closed shoes are suggested.

**May 7:** Lake Casitas. Monday, 8:30 a.m. Leader: Adele Fergusson 415-4304. We should see egrets, herons, and spring migrants.

**May 12:** Taft Gardens, Ojai, Saturday, 8:30 a.m. Leader: John Pavelko 640-9040. Rain-out Reschedule. Limit 25. VAS members are given preference. You will need to re-register. Registration begins Thurs. 5/3 at 9a.m. E-mail Judy catmai03@yahoo.com or call 642-0842.

**May 11: The General George S. Patton, Jr. Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution May meeting** will feature the visual program: *The SR-71 Blackbird*, presented by test pilot Mr. Robert J. "Bob" Gilliland, who spent much of his career in the development of this magnificent aircraft. The luncheon event will take place Friday at 11:30 a.m. in the Garden Room, Marie Callender's Restaurant, 1295 S. Victoria Ave. The self-pay luncheon cost is \$20 per person, which includes a slice of Marie Callender's pie. Call Bill Hurley 492-2583, Robert Taylor 216-7992, or Ron Risley 647-07511 for more information, and please visit the Chapter website <http://pattonpatriots.org> for more information on SAR Chapter activities.

**May 13:** Channel Islands Chamber Orchestra, KuanFen Liu, Artistic Director presence *Russian Romance*. Featuring Miraim Arichea, performing the *Piano Concerto in F sharp and minor* by Alexander Scriabin. The orchestra will perform *Chopiniana Suite, Op. 46* by Alexander Glazunov and Georges Bizet's *Symphony No. 1 in C Major*. Event will be held at First United Methodist Church, 1338

East Santa Clara Street, at 4 p.m. \$20 concert donation appreciated, child care provided. Information 643-8621 Website: [www.CHICOVC.org](http://www.CHICOVC.org)

**May 13:** On Sunday, beautiful murals painted by Marguerite Hardeman and depicting the early history of Ventura County will be displayed from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the rose garden at the Olivas Adobe, 4200 Olivas Park Dr. The Olivas Adobe Historical Park is a community treasure that takes you back in time to Ventura County's Rancho Period. This event is presented by the Olivas Adobe Historical Interpreters and admission is free.

**May 12:** The Ventura Buddhist Study Center will be hosting a **one-day retreat**. The retreat will be lead by Arinna Weisman, founding teacher of the Insight Meditation Center in Massachusetts. The one-day program will be held at the An Lac Mission located at 901 South Satcoy Avenue from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The program has a suggested donation of \$50, which includes a vegetarian lunch. However, like all programs at the An Lac Mission, no person will be turned away due to a lack of funds.

To register for the retreat, or for more information, contact the An Lac Mission at 659-9751 or [missionanlac@yahoo.com](mailto:missionanlac@yahoo.com).

**May 12: Tennis Clinics for kids 5 to 14.** Saturday at Camino Real Park Tennis Center located at Varsity and Dean Dr. from 1to 2 p.m.

**May 26:** Leo Robbins Community Sailing Center will be having a **Safe Boating Event** from 12 to 2p.m. Free sailboat, kayak rides and demo, boating safety and registration info. Located at the Marina Park Boat Dock 2952 Pierpont Blvd. Contact 643-3612 or [cityofventura.net/saillkayak](http://cityofventura.net/saillkayak)

## Ojai events

Rima Muna creates beautiful and evocative abstract paintings that speak to the soul. She will have a **show at Ojai Community Bank** from **May 21 - July 20**. You can meet the artist at an opening reception on Saturday May 26th, 5-7pm. The show is titled *Internal Spaces*, featuring never-before-seen work

The **Ojai Valley Museum** combines two fabulous shopping opportunities/fund raisers on Saturday, **May 12**, from



# Letter Carriers FOOD DRIVE

## Saturday, May 12th

**Thanks to the dedication of our local Letter Carriers - Now in their 20th year of this Food Drive!**

You can help by leaving a bag of food next to your mailbox prior to delivery.

Your mail carrier will pick it up and deliver it to FOOD Share to help feed people in desperate need.

**We especially need non-perishable items like:**  
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**Together We Can End Hunger in Ventura**  
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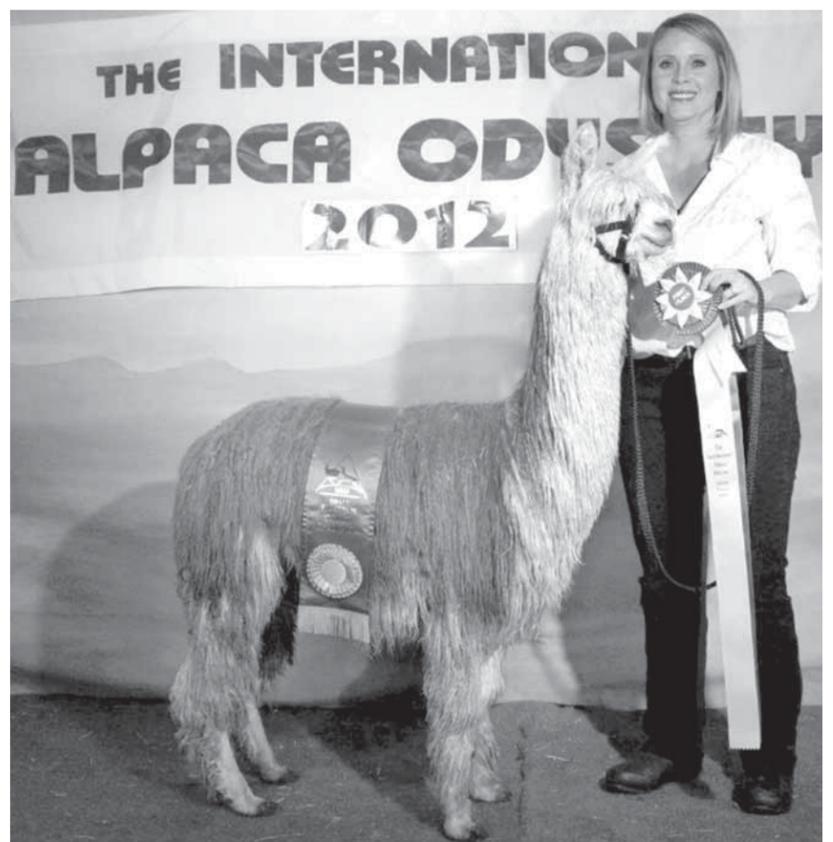
9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Help support the Exhibition and Outreach Programs of the museum as you "go native" buying plants in the Back Courtyard, and collecting Treasures in the Front Courtyard!!

For the first time, the Native Plant Sale will have Ojai Pixie and Tango Tangerine Trees available. Limit on this purchase will be two per family and the trees may not be transported outside of

the Ojai Valley.

The event will be held at the museum, 130 W. Ojai Ave. For additional information call the museum at 640-1390 - ext 203, or visit the museum website at: <http://www.ojavalleymuseum.org> and Facebook at: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Ojai-Valley-Museum/324606746779>.

*Continued on page 17*



At the recent International Alpaca Odyssey Show held at the fairgrounds "Two Trees Alpacas" owner Alison Marshchewski was there with three-time blue ribbon winner Jackson Pollack. Her group of alpaca "artists" named Edward Hopper, Cezanne, Frida Kahlo, and Van Gogh walked away with nine ribbons at the Alpaca Odyssey Show. Congratulations! Photo by Karlene Lang.



"Preservation of capital and planning for retirement are now more challenging than ever. While no one can predict the future, I can help you prepare and plan for it."

- Cheryl Gooss, Financial Advisor

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**June 2, 2012**  
9 am - 3 pm  
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Celebrating Our Healthy Community  
A Ventura Unified School District & Ventura Education Partnership Event

- Live Stage with entertainment and demonstrations to get you movin'
- Sports Clinics and free sports physicals for children of all ages
- VCCool Bike Safety Rodeo - repair, reflectors, traffic skills, fun
- Health, Gardening, & Fitness Vendors with a lot of cool give-aways and good ideas to keep you healthy
- Rock Climbing Wall, fun zone and lots more!
- 5K Run/Walk for all ages and 1 mile fun run - Register at [vep4vusd.org](http://vep4vusd.org)

VCMC Mobile Medical Clinic & Ventura County Public Health Immunization Program have partnered to offer low cost or no cost Tdap Vaccine for students entering 7th grade this year. Bring immunization record and insurance cards.

For more info visit [www.vep4vusd.org](http://www.vep4vusd.org) or call 641-5000 x1550 or email [info@vep4vusd.org](mailto:info@vep4vusd.org)

Ventura Education Partnership

# The Ventura Breeze Presents The Face Of Ventura



## Reverend Luther McCurtis

Portrait by Johanna Spinks

Born in Stonewall, Mississippi, in 1932, Reverend Luther McCurtis' was fascinated to grow up as a young boy in a state where Jim Crow laws forbade blacks and whites to socialize, but each Christmas, the owners of the Stonewall Cotton Mill near his home, erected a huge Christmas tree bedecked with gifts of all kinds for all of its employees, regardless of race. This memory contributed greatly to the growth and development of Luther's passion for equality, his humanitarian nature, and his love for all people.

At the tender age of five, Luther's mother died. By age 15, he left Mississippi to live with his brother in Oklahoma. Shortly thereafter, in 1951, he dropped out of high school to join the United States Air Force (USAF), and earned his high school diploma during his tour of duty.

Luther's superior officers in Guam noticed his leadership potential and appointed him to serve as a referee over racial and personal disputes. Through this experience Luther sharpened his leadership skills.

In 1953, while guarding a B-52 bomber, God called Luther into the ministry. After a deep internal struggle, he surrendered his will to God and accepted The Call. From the onset, he never planned to be just a "Sunday preacher" and challenged God to show him how to contribute to the spiritual, social, and economic well-being of "the least" in the community.

He married Oracia Lane, the youngest daughter of a poor, but prominent pastor and wife in Hobbs, New Mexico in 1954. By 1959, he became an ordained minister and moved through several states with four young children in tow, finally settling in Ventura.

With less than 10 members in 1962, Luther and Oracia founded the Church of God in Christ of Ventura in a small storefront. The following year, with a miniscule \$100.00 down payment, the Reverend purchased the property, which stands at 660 N. Ventura Ave.

In 1962, the Reverend realized his dream to provide free job placement services to the unemployed. Job Readiness

Aptitude & Testing (JRAT), later changed to Employment Aptitude & Placement Association (EAPA, would become the first non-profit, non-sectarian, non-government-funded free employment center of its kind in Ventura County.)

Further expanding his capacity to impact the community, Vetco Offshore Drilling Company president, Fritz Huntsinger built a full-capacity kitchen and fellowship hall next door to the church out of which, "Meals on Wheels," and "Family to Family" began serving meals to seniors and the homeless. Also, the Avenue Jaycees began in the fellowship hall and the Reverend was its first "Man of the Year" recipient.

In 1982, Congressman Lagomarsino's recommendation resulted in Reverend McCurtis receiving one of the United States of America's highest honors—the prestigious Presidential Volunteer Action Award from President Ronald Reagan.

Now 80 years old, Reverend McCurtis moves at a slower pace, but has by no means stopped his forward momentum. He is developing a pillow company and oversees the church where his son, Michael, a distinguished musician and playwright, now serves as the senior pastor. On December 17, 2010, the McCurtis family mourned the loss of Oracia, the sainted McCurtis matriarch. It was a devastating loss, but her spirit lives on through her family and the thousands of lives she touched.

*We asked him what he likes most about Ventura?*

Ventura helped to educate, develop, and shape the hearts and minds of the five McCurtis children and provided them a good life, so I have a deep and abiding love for the city of San Buenaventura.

*And how was the experience of having your portrait painted by Johanna?*

I met Johanna the day that she was scheduled to paint my portrait and I was excited about receiving this honor. Speaking to me in a deep English accent, Johanna was warm and made me feel at ease. I am impressed with her superb talent and how superbly her talent flowed onto the canvas.



**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](mailto:johanna@johannaspinks.com) Website: [www.johannaspinks.com](http://www.johannaspinks.com)  
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 the artist's 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.

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.



You can now see Johanna paint EACH Face Of Ventura live at The Ventura Executive Suites (VES) in front of The Face Of Ventura wall featuring the project's first year of Ventura sitters. Thanks to VES for its support of this project. VES is located at 701 E. Santa Clara Street.

Email Johanna for the schedule of "sitters". [johanna@johannaspinks.com](mailto:johanna@johannaspinks.com)

VENTURA BOTANICAL GARDENS  
PRESENTS THE 2012

# Spring Garden Tour

**SATURDAY, MAY 5th 9:30am – 4:00pm**

Tour eight private gardens including a Mediterranean villa with breathtaking views, an intimate and unusual specimen garden, a Japanese garden and a drought-tolerant hillside garden with mature trees. \$25 admission includes all 8 gardens.

Tickets available at [VenturaBotanicalGardens.com](http://VenturaBotanicalGardens.com), downtown at Palermo, the Ventura Visitors Center, Flora Gardens in Ojai, Oasis Nursery, Nopalito Native Plant Nursery, Green Thumb Nursery and Villa Tasca Gardens.



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8:30 am			8:30 – 9 am TURBO Express		8:30 AM ZUMBA	8:30 am BODYSCULPT	
9 am	9-9:30 AM BODYATTACK	FLIRTY GIRL DANCE	9 – 9:30 am STEP Express	BODY WORKS	9:30 AM 20/20/20	9:30-10 am CORE-LATES	9am BODYPUMP
10 am	9:30 -10 AM CARDIOSCULPT	YOGA STRETCH	9:30 am BOOTY-CAMP	GENTLE STRETCH		10 am ZUMBA	10 am Intro-2- BODYATTACK
	10-10:30 AM ARMS & ABS				10:30 AM PILATES STRETCH		11 am YOGA
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Please Join Cypress Place Senior Living

# Yesterday's Cafe

SUPPORTED BY THE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

The 1st Wednesday of Every Month

1:30-3:30pm

*Yesterday's Café, is an educational and social event. It provides information, emotional support, social support, informal consultations, encourages peer support and offers the opportunity to meet with professionals in a social setting.*

**A place where ALL are welcome!**

*Yesterday's Café is a monthly gathering for people affected by Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, along with families, caregivers, and professionals.*

*A time to exchange ideas, thoughts, and experiences; share laughter and each other's good company; munch on snacks, make art and music.*

**Free refreshments are available.**



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[www.cypressplaceseniorliving.com](http://www.cypressplaceseniorliving.com)

## Senior Living

Senior Cone-nection

### Working to transform Ventura's health

by Nanci Cone

Senior adults are invited to hear about two newly funded grants that will impact the health of all the residents of the City of Ventura on Wednesday, May 16th at the Ventura Avenue Adult Center, 550 Ventura Avenue from 12-2 pm. Come see how you can be part of this exciting endeavor.

The countywide grant will address Tobacco Free Living, Active Living and Healthy Eating, Clinical and other Preventive Services, Social and Emotional Wellness, and Healthy and Safe Physical Environment

The West Ventura grant will conduct a "photovoice" project, an annual large-scale community event engaging healthy eating and active living, after school/home programs encouraging more fruits and vegetables, certification of health promoting area restaurants

This event is sponsored by Ventura Senior Coordinating Council, Councilmember Neal Andrews, Ventura County Public Health, SCAN Senior Resource Center, City of Ventura Senior Services, Ventura County Area Agency on Aging & Kaiser Permanente. Marion Holzwarth, Member of the Ventura Senior Coordinating Council comments, "Choosing to live healthy is the beginning of wellness for an individual and a community"

All residents of the City of Ventura are welcome. According to Steve Lehman, Manager & Health and Resource Specialist from SCAN Senior Resource Center, "We are trying to get seniors to attend that want to be part of the solution. One of the goals of the CDC grant is to reduce chronic disease by 5% in 5 years and everyone knows seniors have the highest incidence of chronic health problems. Additionally, there will be a healthy lunch provided by Kaiser and SCAN free to all attendees."

The featured speaker will be Sella Saucedo, Manager, Ventura County Public Health. Ms. Saucedo is Director of both of these grant funded projects and will bring attendees up to date with both of these grants and point out

how everyone has a vital role to play in making them a success which means a healthier City of Ventura. Please call (805) 648-3035 to register – seating is limited.

After this seminar, a six-week seminar taught by Steve Lehman and Bob McCullagh, staff from the SCAN Senior Resource Center (Wednesdays, May 23-June 27, 9-11:30 am at the Ventura Avenue Adult Center) entitled "Healthier Living: Managing Ongoing Health Conditions" will be offered free to seniors (60+) with ongoing health conditions. The Healthier Living program offers participants effective and practical coping strategies to manage their health conditions.

The curriculum includes behavior modifications and coping strategies to enable participants to better cope with their chronic diseases, manage their medications, and increase physical activity levels. Participants also work on effective communication skills with family, friends, and health professionals. After completing the workshops, participants demonstrate significant improvement in their self-reported general health as well as in aspects such as improved attitude and gained skills.

This program is provided in partnership with Stanford University and Partners in Care Foundation as well as in cooperation with Ventura County Area Agency on Aging, Camarillo Health Care District, St. John's Regional Medical Center, Senior Concerns, SCAN Health Plan and Ventura County Public Health. Please call 658-0365 to register and to get directions.

## Grand opening and ribbon cutting

Loving Arms Family Care invites you to join founders Charlene Legohn, Brian Watnick and staff for their grand opening and ribbon cutting on Thursday, May 10 from 4:30-7:30pm. They are located at 290 Maple Court, Suite 118, Ventura.

Refreshments will be served and the ribbon cutting will be at 5 pm.

For further information (and to RSVP by May 5) call 248-6970. [info@LovingArmsFamilyCare.com](mailto:info@LovingArmsFamilyCare.com).

### Craftsman Style Triplex For Sale



Charming Hillside Craftsman Style Triplex that has character and an ocean view located in the Beautiful Downtown Ventura Cultural District at 793 Poli St.(corner of Ash). The main owner's unit has 2 bedrooms and 2.5 upgraded baths, an updated kitchen, hardwood floors, wood burning fireplace, laundry room and a large outdoor patio area perfect for entertaining. There are two additional legal rentals with private patios and a laundry room that have the rental potential of \$2,250 (or \$4,200 for all 3 units). This is a true gem. Walk to the beach and downtown. This is a standard sale and ready for you to call home. Please do not disturb tenants. Call Christine Cardoso-Moore 805-794-7904 Keller Williams DRE # 01181493



## Senior Prom—only if you're over 50

On Friday, May 11th, the Ventura High School Key Club will partner with the City of Ventura's Senior Services Division for the fifth annual "Senior" Prom. Local residents over 50 years of age are invited for an evening of music, dancing and refreshments. This is a free event to be held at the Senior Recreation Center, 420 E. Santa Clara Street. To RSVP or for more information please call 648-2829.

# Health

## Bereavement support groups

Livingston Hospice conducts several adult bereavement support groups to help those who have experienced a loss. Explore and express feeling, understand the grief process and receive emotional support. Open to the public, free of charge, all are welcome.

The groups are held:  
**Weekly:** Wednesday; 3:00 – 4:30 pm @ The First Presbyterian Church, 850 Ivywood Drive, Oxnard  
**Weekly:** Wednesday; 6:30 – 8:00 pm @ Livingston Memorial VNA, 1996 Eastman Ave (#106), Ventura  
**Bi-Monthly:** 2nd & 4th Tuesday; 3:00 – 4:00pm @ The Townhouse, 4900 Telegraph Rd, (7th floor), Ventura  
**Monthly:** For the newly bereaved; 2nd Thursday; 6:00 – 7:30 pm @ Livingston Memorial VNA, 1996 Eastman Ave (#106), Ventura. For more information call 642-1608.

hip replacement surgery. Home preparation, exercises and rehabilitation information will be discussed. Open to the public and free of charge, the class is held:

First Wednesday of the month, 10:00 – 11:00 am @ Cypress Place, 1st floor private dining room, 1200 Cypress Point Lane. RSVP Diana Davis 642-0239 x 739.



*Teddy Bear Cancer Foundation (TBCF) has announced the hiring of Lindsey Guerrero as its new executive director. Guerrero comes to TBCF from her role as a non-profit professional. The focus of Teddy Bear Cancer Foundation is to ensure that all children with cancer receive the undivided comfort of their parents during treatment and recovery by providing families with emotional and financial support. To learn more about Teddy Bear Cancer Foundation visit [www.teddybearcancerfoundation.org](http://www.teddybearcancerfoundation.org) or contact 962-7466.*

## How are your joints?

Livingston Visiting Nurse Association will hold the following Joint Replacement Class to prepare you for total knee or

THIS SPACE FOR WRITING MESSAGE

POST CARD

This photo of Angela and Ed Lindahl was taken in Key West, Florida. The large buoy marks the southernmost point in the continental USA. From that point, it is 90 miles across the ocean to Cuba. They don't go anywhere without their copy of the Breeze.

**GOING ON VACATION? BE SURE TO TAKE THE VENTURA BREEZE WITH YOU AND SEND US A PHOTO WITH A LITTLE INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR TRIP AND EMAIL TO EDITOR@VENTURABREEZE.COM**



On Thursday April 19th, the Ventura City Firefighters Association, and the Ventura City Firefighters Auxiliary presented two checks totaling \$1,000 to two local nonprofit organizations in Ventura. The recipients were the Tenderlife Maternity Home and the Douglas Penfield Special Education School program. The Tenderlife Maternity Home takes in pregnant women who are homeless and or who are in unsafe surroundings. The Douglas Penfield Special education program serves several locations throughout Ventura.

The Ventura City Firefighters Association strives to be involved in many local charities and fund-raising efforts. Photo by Doug Miser.



## WE ♥ MOM

Women & Heart Disease ♥ A Day of Health & Shopping

- Free Health Screenings • Door Prizes
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Guest speaker, Dr. Andrew Lee will discuss women's health & heart disease

THURSDAY, MAY 17TH ♥ 9:30-11:30 AM

111 North Wells Road, Ventura, CA

For more information, please call 805-647-0616

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## Celebrating Mama

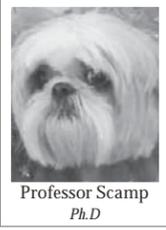
One free pillow to each of the first two oldest mothers. Chiropractor approved, hand made to order Cervicle neck pillows. 17" x 6 1/2", 100% washable, 100% polyester fill. \$35.00 each. Sales tax and shipping to be included. Allow 2 weeks for shipping. For more information, email: [mypillowandme4u@yahoo.com](mailto:mypillowandme4u@yahoo.com)

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**Reverend Luther McCurtis**, owner of **My Pillow and Me** and founder of **Total Life Christian Center**



## Professor Scamp, Ph.D. (Pretty Happy Dog)



Professor Scamp  
Ph.D

■ “Be Kind to Animals Day”, Saturday, May 5th, from 11am - 3pm will highlight the wonderful artwork produced when Focus on the Masters Learning to See Youth Outreach students from Elmhurst Elementary School encountered the Humane Society of Ventura County in their classroom for a lesson in contour line drawing. The drawings and other imaginative student expressions will be on display at the Humane Society Shelter and Adoption Center in Ojai at 402 Bryant St. from May 2- June 1.

Families will learn about respect for wild animals and the responsibilities of owning a pet through special visitors. Of course, the adoptable dogs and cats will all be excited to say “hi” to everyone, also. Hands-on animal-related arts and crafts activities will round out the “Be Kind” experience.

As always, the dogs and cats at the Shelter appreciate donations of old towels and blankets to help keep them comfortable while they wait for their forever families. Old t-shirts may also be donated to help them make dog leashes and toys (We are easy to please so it doesn't take a lot of effort).

■ Over the past year, Canine Adoption and Rescue League (CARL) has been running at full steam to save the lives of dogs in need. They have taken in over 12 mama dogs with their large litters (that is almost 100 puppies!!!) had them all spayed, neutered, vaccinated, micro-chipped and then adopted out in to loving homes.

They have saved 11 Catahoula Hound Dog and American Staffordshire Terrier mixes on death row from the Camarillo Animal Shelter. The group had been held for several months as evidence in an animal abuse case. They even have their own YouTube video called: “C.A.R.L.Evidence Dogs: A New Beginning”. Please check it out! You might just fall in love with one who needs a sponsor!

With all of these dogs, come enormous expenses. Some of the dogs pulled from the shelter develop kennel cough, upper respiratory in-

fections, Giardia and Valley Fever. The majority were treated and released with antibiotics to take home.

They are always looking for animal lovers to sponsor a dog who is at the sanctuary to help out with the costs of running the facility (food, water, electricity staff, maintenance, etc.) and you can always adopt one of the dogs that I feature in my column.

This past weekend, they took in three owner returns, in addition to a stray puppy named Vienna who has Parvo and is currently staying at Buena Animal Hospital for treatment. They also rescued a shaggy mama from death row at the Camarillo Shelter. She is days away from giving birth to 4 to 5 puppies. They will need to pay to have all of these new puppies spayed, neutered and vaccinated along with the mama.

As a non-profit rescue, Canine Adoption and Rescue League relies on donations to keep itself afloat. Right now, they are amongst the charitable groups hurting financially. With the increase in owner relinquishments (Because of the economy), veterinary expenses and operating the sanctuary 24/7 in Santa Paula, they have fallen upon tough times.

So I am asking our rescue friends and animal lovers to help out in any way that they can. They are in need of foster families, volunteers and of course, monetary donations which are tax deductible.

Checks can be made to: C.A.R.L., P.O. Box 5022, Ventura, CA 93005

Or you can donate via PayPal at their website: [www.carlvc.org](http://www.carlvc.org) (click on the dog with the wagging tail!) It is amazing that even dogs that are being abused still wag their tails in hopes that they will be loved.

■ In this issue we have a wonderful article on The National Police Dog (K9) Foundation which held its annual “Dining with the Dogs” charity event at the historic Camarillo Ranch House in Camarillo on Saturday April 21.

Only K9 dogs could attend so I wasn't there but I have seen these dogs and it is really amazing to see them never take their eyes off of their handlers just waiting for their next command (I'm like that sitting next to the dining room table at meal time).

Lindsey inside until police arrived. Lindsey was taken into custody and was later booked into the VC Jail.

### Shooting

On Tuesday, April 17th, at 6:50 p.m., the VPD received a 911 call of a shooting that had occurred at Ventura Avenue and McFarlane Avenue. The victim was located at the scene.

The Ventura Police Department arrested Ricardo Juarez and Jesus Rodriguez during the commission of this crime. The crime might have been gang motivated.

Juarez was booked into the VC Jail after he was medically cleared due to an injury suffered during his fleeing from the police. Rodriguez was booked into the VC Jail after he was medically cleared for a police K9 bite to his arm while he resisted arrest.

The victim was in critical condition and was stabbed and suffered multiple

gunshot wounds.

### Gang Related Shooting

On Saturday, April 21st, at 11:55 p.m., the VPD received numerous calls in the vicinity of the 1500 block of South Saticoy Street in regards to shots being fired.

Officers located several shell casing in the area as well as several vehicles that were involved in a hit and run vehicular accident. The vehicle involved in the hit and run was also the vehicle that was involved in the shooting, which occurred in the 11000 block of Nardo Street. The vehicle involved in the incident was impounded.

Santiago Gomez was transported to the VPD. He was booked into VC Jail. This incident is a gang-motivated crime.

### Criminal Threats

On Monday, April 23rd, at 6:30 p.m., officers were contacted by the victim who stated Ralph Morales had

made threats to harm the victim with a handgun. Officers developed reason to arrest Morales for criminal threats made towards the victim and learned Morales was on parole for assault with a deadly weapon.

At 9:30 p.m., officers responded to Morales' residence, located at 624 Kirk Avenue, in attempt to contact him and take him into custody. Officers received a call that Morales had discharged a weapon from inside his residence. Officers established communication with Morales who surrendered after several hours of negotiation.

A search of Morales residence was conducted where a stolen handgun, ammunition, and controlled substances were located. Morales was booked at VC Jail.

### Stolen Vehicle Arrest

On Tuesday, April 24th, at 5:48 p.m.,

*Continued on page 17*

## Forever home wanted



I need a nice home.

“I'm Ellie a beautiful grey tabby about 5 years old. I am a bit shy at first (like most cats) but once I get settled I am very sociable and polite. I like to rest quietly next to you and give you “head buds” if you are in bed or on the sofa. I need a peaceful home preferably without young children as I can be startled easily. I need lots of love and petting therapy and I would love to have a nice home with a yard to go outside and be with nature and I enjoy a good brushing. I come with everything else that you will need, kitty bed, brush, litter box, bowls, toys, catnip and my favorite food.”

Please if you can give my sweet tabby girl a good home call me! I can't bear the thought of taking her to the shelter. She is very healthy, has been spayed, had all her shots, has been wormed and has no fleas.

Bianca Rose Martinez, 340.8137

[www.biancaroseart.com](http://www.biancaroseart.com)

[www.compassionateating.wordpress.com](http://www.compassionateating.wordpress.com)

## Scamp Club

Hi: I'm J.K. Drooling, a lady dog and I attended Journalism School at Furry State University with Scamp. I am 8 years old and could never understand why Scamp has been such a successful writer and I just can't get a break (do you know why?). Some say that I am too dogmatic but I think that I am always doggone right.

I use the very latest equipment to write my articles and mail them right away to publishers from

the post office but never hear back. Perhaps this will be my big chance if Scamp prints my photo and information.



## Join Scamp Club

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

## 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.*

### Burglary

On Sunday, April 15th, at 3:00 a.m., VPD officers were dispatched to 1300 Saratoga Avenue in regard to a burglary. The suspect, Christopher Lindsey, had entered into a locked, detached garage and was in the process of removing property when an alert citizen noticed the crime and contacted the police. Lindsey fled prior to police arrival.

At 5:30 a.m., the victim realized he had not secured his garage and returned to place a lock on the exterior when he heard someone inside. The victim quickly locked the garage detaining

# Community Events

## Ojai events

*Continued from page 9*

**No More Nylons** sponsors the Women's Business Socials to promote vibrant, worthwhile conversations between women in business. The Socials are a free, professional network, to bring amazing women together to talk, support, connect and promote the work they love to do. You're invited to meet up with women who run big and small companies or that just have a creative entrepreneurial spirit to do what they love in this world. The gatherings bring together an amazing resource of women who have attended from as far as Corona, Thousand Oaks, Simi Valley, Santa Monica, Santa Barbara, Pasadena, Carpinteria, and Los Angeles. Drink specials and food! Please join them on **May 15**, 6pm to 8pm at the Lavender Inn - 210 E Matilija St. More information at 646-6635. [Nomorenylons.com](http://Nomorenylons.com).

The prestigious **Ojai Studio Artists** celebrate ten years of showing together with the next exhibition at the Ojai Valley Museum. The show, entitled *Hang 10*, is based on how the artists perceive the last ten years of making their respective art. Visitors will view a photograph of each artist's work created 10 years ago. The exhibit runs through June 10, at the museum. Artist Reception and Student Scholarship Awards Presentation will be on June 2, from 5 to 7 pm.

The museum is located at 130 W. Ojai AvE. Admission: free for current 2012 members, adults - \$4.00, students - 18 and under - \$1.00, children 6-18 - \$1.00 and children 5 and under - free. Gallery Hours are Tuesday - Saturday 10 to 4 pm; Sunday, noon to 4 pm. Tours are available by appointment.

Sunday, **May 6**, from 1:00-2:00 at the Ojai Library; 111 E. Ojai Ave., The Polecat Ramblers will play traditional old-timey music on Sunday. David Roine plays fiddle, guitar, mandolin and accordion; and Christian Gallo plays guitar and five- and six-string banjos.

On Sunday, **May 6**, the Ojai Film Society will screen *My Week with Marilyn*, a fascinating and nuanced portrait of the pop culture icon starring Michelle Williams in an Oscar-nominated performance. The film centers on the struggles between Marilyn and director Laurence Olivier during the filming of *The Prince and the Showgirl*.

And on Sun., **May 13**, 4:30 pm, the Ojai Film Society will screen *My Afternoons with Marguerite*, a sweet French film starring two veteran actors, Gerard Depardieu and 96-year-old Gisele Casadesus, who strike up an unlikely friendship. Ojai Playhouse, 145 E Ojai Ave. [www.ojaifilmsociety.org](http://www.ojaifilmsociety.org).

The **28th annual Ojai Peddler's Fair** is being held from 9am - 4pm, Saturday and Sunday, **May 19 & 20**. The bustling Peddler's Fair is located inside the Chapparal Auditorium at 414 E. Ojai Ave. Parking is free in the adjacent municipal parking lot, and admission is always free.

Held rain or shine, the Peddler's Fair is chock-full of quality antiques, collectibles, jewelry, handcrafts and international crafts. This is a benefit for the Mira Monte PTO. Vendors are sought. For more information, please contact Pat at 964-8915 or Jodie at

640-4384 x2.

Randee Vasilakos, Agape licensed spiritual practitioner, will lead **Symphony of Life's Spring Meditation and Visioning Retreat** at Meditation Mount on Saturday, **May 5**. The morning will begin at 8 a.m. with an outdoor ceremony honoring the still-visible full moon. Vasilakos has more than 20 years of experience as a counselor, retreat facilitator, and meditation instructor. \$30 at the door. For more information, contact Randee Vasilakos at 310-722-1933, or [writespiritualtourguide@gmail.com](mailto:writespiritualtourguide@gmail.com).

Archbishop José Horacio Gomez will be visiting Villanova Prep School on **May 9**. He will be celebrating Mass for students and staff in the Clark Gymnasium at 11 a.m. on Wednesday. He is the fifth Archbishop of Los Angeles and the first Hispanic to serve in that capacity, as well as the highest-ranking Hispanic bishop in the United States.

**The Ojai Storytelling Festival** returns to the newly rebuilt Libbey Bowl with the 13th annual festival in downtown Ojai, **May 3-6**. Celebrating the oral tradition with some of the nation's best known purveyors of the craft, this year's line-up includes returnees Bill Harley, Jim Cogan, Kevin Kling, and Baba Jamal Koram. The Ojai Storytelling Festival blends the old with the new and expands the boundaries of traditional storytelling with music, movement, theatre, and plenty of mirth. A complete schedule is posted online at [www.ojaistoryfest.org](http://www.ojaistoryfest.org). Tickets for individual events as well as passes for the whole festival are available for adults, families and seniors and can be purchased at [www.ojaistoryfest.org](http://www.ojaistoryfest.org) or by phone at 646-8907.

## Police reports

*Continued from page 16*

the victim reported his vehicle as stolen to the Port Hueneme PD. The vehicle, was equipped with a Lojack transmitter, and was entered into the LoJack database. An officer was in the area of Ralston Street and Gaviota Street, driving a patrol car equipped with a LoJack tracking device. The device received a signal indicating a stolen vehicle was in the area.

Officers tracked the signal to Camino Real Park and located the vehicle. The suspect, Anthony Tovar, was observed near the vehicle and was contacted and detained. Tovar was arrested and booked at VC Jail.

# Harbor Patrol Blotter

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

**4-26** 5:13 p.m. Patrol received a report of a small sailboat capsized in the Turning Basin. Patrol responded, righted and dewatered the vessel, and towed it to the launch ramp.

**4-28** 8:10 p.m. FCC dispatched Patrol and others to a medical assist at Harbor Village. Patrol responded and assisted an elderly man who had fallen. AMR transported the patient to the hospital.

**4-29** Patrol received a report of a possibly disabled paddle boat by VWM. Patrol responded and towed the vessel back to Ventura Boat Rentals.



*The Iron Mountain Boys are always a great crowd pleaser at the Ventura County Fair*

# The Iron Mountain Boys band was started in 1986

The Iron Mountain Boys are the oldest surviving bluegrass band playing in Ventura County. The band was started in 1986 and played at the Frullati Ristorante with original members Patrick Musone (banjo and string bass), Carl Blevins (fiddle and mandolin) and Steve Colby (guitar). They appear regularly at the Ojai Farmers' Market every Sunday morning from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The band does a multitude of public and private venues many in Ventura.

Patrick, the band's leader and co-founder, brings to the table a broad musical background, including piano, guitar, upright bass, harmonica, and 5-string banjo. He started playing bluegrass back in the early 70's when he was teaching English in his home state of Connecticut. After coming to California in '75, he continued teaching, shod horses, drove trucks, got his pilot's license, became a deputy sheriff and eventually retired from Ventura County Animal Services after 20 years as the department's humane educator, school programs director and senior field officer. After retiring, he found a little time to do background work in films, playing mostly doctors, cops, and mob guys. He's currently finishing up his first book, and is the creative trickster behind the band's hijinx and many sight gags.

Carl Blevins, co-founder of the group, can really saw a fiddle! He has a long history of bluegrass musicianship and knows just about every song ever written. He was also one of the mainstays of Santa Barbara's Floyd County Boys before joining up with

Patrick and Steve Colby, the original guitar player for the Iron Mountain Boys.

Upper Ojai's Jack Jobes, also a former actor and professional musician, holds down the guitar position. He also sings harmony, along with Carl. Jack is currently building a barn on his land, to the delight of the local owls, 'possums, raccoons and field mice.

Dave Hatfield (You may know him as "Gil" at Ace Hardware in Meiners Oaks) is a retired engineer who splits his musical talent between the upright bass and the tuba. He loves to regale with his outrageous stories, like the time he blew a B flat and propelled a frog (which had apparently crawled down the bell into the tuba) right out of the horn and onto his pastor's wife's head at a church Spring social.

Greg Patterson, a Santa Paula ranch foreman, plays guitar and mandolin with the band.

He, unfortunately, suffers from newly-discovered Van Gogh's Syndrome and will talk your ear off if given the opportunity.

Ray Magee, a bass player is multi-talented musically, as well, and plays with equal ease and style: the acoustic- and electric guitars; the upright bass; and the pedal-steel guitar.

Ray is a finish carpenter by trade, having earned that title by doing all of the kitchen cabinets, stairways and library bookshelves for a 30-home housing development near Solvang.

The "boys" can be contacted at Patrick Musone 649-9111 or [patrickmusone@sbcglobal.net](mailto:patrickmusone@sbcglobal.net) to play at your next garden party.

## Weekly SUDOKU Answer

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

## King Crossword Answers

**Solution time: 27 mins.**

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



## Youth



Youth can learn about our indigenous Indian culture

## Registration opens for Chumash Youth 2012 Summer Program

The Museum of Ventura County is now accepting registration for its summer Chumash Youth program, which gives youngsters hands-on learning about Ventura County's indigenous Indian culture.

Sessions will be held at the museum the weeks of June 18 - 22 and June 25 - 29, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Chumash Youth is open to students currently in 3rd and 4th grades, and sessions are limited to 15 participants.

The Chumash Youth junior anthropology program teaches children about the culture of the Chumash through their songs, stories and games, as well as through instruc-

tion in making their own arrowhead, plant fiber string, a clapper stick instrument and other projects using traditional methods and materials. T-shirt, snacks and all materials are included in the registration fee, which is \$50 for the general public, \$40 for museum members. Partial scholarships are available.

Registration forms may be downloaded under education resources/summer programs, at [www.ventura-museum.org](http://www.ventura-museum.org), or picked up in the lobby of the Museum of Ventura County, 100 East Main St., from 11 a.m. to 5 pm, Tuesday through Sunday. For further information contact [education@venturamuseum.org](mailto:education@venturamuseum.org) or call 653-0323 ext. 300.



Opening day of the National Boys & Girls Club Week celebration, held at the Bill LeFevre Center featured a musical presentation by world-famous violinist and Artistic Director of the Ventura Music Festival, Nuvi Mehta (in the center) accompanied by Hiromi Tilsner on piano and Dominic Ortega (one of BGCV's Addison Center Staff members) playing violin's to a room full of excited youngsters.

Mehta has been quoted as saying, "Our goal is to reach out to youth through music. To see a child's eyes light up when they understand the music or to see a child's self-esteem and self-confidence grow when he embraces music is very powerful." The Ventura Music Festival's outreach program reaches more than 3,000 youth each year. Photo by Bernie Goldstein

## Vagabond

A poem by Jeremy Brooks  
a senior at El Camino High School

Why am I afraid of being alone?  
Do I feel useless on my own;  
Like a vagabond wandering without a home?  
A reliance on others has grown.

Should I run and hide in the crowds?  
I say no, please listen why.  
My voice will no longer be as loud.  
I won't stand out to the naked eye.

So pressured to act a certain way,  
My personality is no longer seen.  
I know that letting go is okay,  
But I'm influenced by taunting teens.

Today I took a moment alone.  
And sorry I had not done it before.  
I could hear the breeze and the leaves blown.  
I saw and felt magically more.

Was I so concerned with fitting in,  
That I overlooked the beauty around me?  
Like a man so determined to win,  
To see I had already achieved victory.

As I sit and write I notice now,  
The sun shining and the birds singing.  
Without my anxiety or furrowed brow,  
To companionship I am no longer clinging.

Being at peace with who you are,  
Is essential in our society.  
Without established confidence you won't go far.  
You will be lost in today's impropriety.

I implore you to take time for yourself.  
I can't stress its importance enough.  
In the things you learn there is wealth.  
Even though sometimes the going is rough.

Just remember the freedom given to you.  
You are a valiant voice to be heard.  
When you are alone and feeling blue,  
There remains powerful purpose in your words.



## Cornucopia project

The City of Ventura is collaborating with City Corps along with FOOD Share and the Saticoy Council Food Pantry, to grow fresh vegetables at the Cornucopia Community Garden on Telephone Road. Under the direction of Ken Cozzens (handling the "heavy" equipment), Site Manager and volunteers Kathleen Herriott and Peggy Ledbetter, three vacant plots have been transformed into 20 raised beds filled with tomatoes, zucchini, and broccoli among many other vegetables. Ventura City Corps develops local teens into civic minded citizens providing Community Service projects to benefit all residents. Visit [VenturaCityCorps.com](http://VenturaCityCorps.com) to learn more of the good works of our local Youth.

To learn more about the Cornucopia project contact Kathleen Herriott at 714-737-0517

## School

### Principal for a day program a great success!

by Kenneth May  
<http://kenmay.net>

The Ventura Commerce and Education Foundation along with the Ventura City Chamber of Commerce set up a wonderful event called "Principal for a Day" on April 12th, and I was honored to be asked to be the Principal for Ventura High School. Part of the purpose was to open a dialogue between the business and education community, and to share challenges and knowledge to find solutions. I have to say, I was incredibly impressed! Val Wyatt is the Principal for VHS and has really done some amazing work. I had no idea how broad the education is at VHS. There are classes that involve education in Automotive Repair, Sewing, Dressmaking, Computer Repair, Gardening, Robotics and more!

Val took me on an extensive tour of the campus, and we spoke at length about all the challenges they face, from keeping the campus clean, to ensuring the safety of the students, and counseling. There had been a fight the day before - a fairly uncommon event. We spoke to one of the girls involved to check up and make sure she was ok. I was surprised to see that, of the 2,100 or so students, Val seemed to know most of their names! She was continually checking in with students and faculty to see that they were doing okay, and seeing if they needed anything. I don't think I saw a single dirty glance at her as we explored the grounds - a far cry from the types of principals you see on TV and movies. It's really clear to the students, I believe, that she takes a personal interest in their well-being - and it shows.

I also got to chat with my friend, Velma Lomax, about her exciting new robotics program. They've done so well with their basketball throwing 'bot, that the student team is on the road with it in St. Louis. I can't wait to see how that develops and look forward to working with them in the future.

Clearly, VHS and the VUSD have some big challenges ahead with funding cuts and furlough days, but they are making the most of it and thriving in the process. I plan to be more involved with helping our educators with their mission, and I hope you will, too.

## Sports

### Diane Loring wins big

Diane Loring, Executive Director of WISE, Women Involved in Sports Evolution and Owner of Spa by Diane Loring, Inc. was a Gold Medal winner in Ultra Sparring and a Bronze Medal winner in 3rd Master, Poomsae/Forms.

On Feb. 21 Diane represented, Master Thu Huynh, Owner of, Double Dragon Taekwondo and the United States of America, at the 2012 U.S. Open Taekwondo Championships, in Las Vegas!

The U.S. Open Taekwondo Championships, is the largest of all Taekwondo tournaments put on in the U.S. and is

open to competitors from all over the world

Diane also had an opportunity to observe other matches, with competitors in the 18-32 age category, part of the U.S. National Team, on their way to the, 2012 London Olympics

Diane, as the Executive Director and Founder of WISE, feels a strong sense of commitment to a healthy, vital, excellent level of performance and as a role model.

“As the Executive Director and Founder of WISE, Women Involved in Sports Evolution, it gives me a great deal of confidence to know over the years how well our WISE, Athletic Training program works.”

Diane previously, won a Gold, Silver and Bronze Medal at, 2011 U.S. National Taekwondo Championships.

## Business WEV to the rescue!

While empty storefronts are still a common sight on the south coast, a number of businesses bolstered with the help of nonprofit Women's Economic Ventures (WEV) are contributing to the local economic recovery. In an effort to build community and energize area businesses, WEV and WEV client business, Red Brick Gallery will host a free networking event on Main Street on Thursday, May 3rd from 6:00pm to 8:00pm.

In the heart of downtown Ventura, Main Street is home to a roster of WEV client businesses. WEV encourages all clients, alumni, and local business owners to stop by, connect with other entrepreneurs and learn more about the services WEV provides for all stages of the small business continuum.

Attendees will be able to enjoy wine and light hors d'oeuvres and have the opportunity to win prizes donated by WEV business clients. Free goodie bags will be handed out to the first 10 attendees

The event is free and open to the public. The Gallery is located at 315 East Main St.

RSVP preferred, but not required. To RSVP online, go to <http://wevonline.givezooks.com/events/wev-connects-on-main-street>.



Dick Baldwin was as happy as could be after beating Breeze Publisher Governor Brown in doubles at the Pierpont Racquet Club (a very rare event indeed).

## Don't miss the League of Women Voters Forum for supervisor

If you missed the last forum for candidates in the District 1 Supervisor's race, you get a second chance very soon. Attend this upcoming forum and ask questions of all the 4 candidates, important issues need to be addressed.

This is a very competitive race so get involved as 2 Ventura council members (and an ex one) are running. Wednesday, May 9 at 7 p.m. at Balboa Middle School, 247 South Hill Rd.

## Celebrate Mother's Day at Olivas Adobe's

Where else can you celebrate Mom on her special day with flowers, beautiful images and a tribute—all for free? The Olivas Adobe, located at 4200 Olivas Park Drive, will showcase an outdoor courtyard exhibit of the large colorful murals by Marguerite Hardeman depicting the history of Ventura, as well as its beautiful rose garden in full spring bloom plus a pictorial tribute to mothers on Sunday, May 13, 11 am to 3 pm.

California muralist Marguerite Hardeman (1911-1990) - a member of the Realistic Painters Group in Ojai who taught at Ventura College in the 1960s - created fifteen large murals, now in the Olivas Adobe art collection, that depict different moments from the founding of the city of Ventura and its early history, including the Olivas Adobe and Rancho San Miguel, the Mexican land grant of the Olivas family. Each year, the murals are displayed around the park grounds and rose garden in celebration of spring.

Members of the public can view the murals and learn the history they depict from costumed docents, then tour the Olivas rose garden. Visitors will enjoy the tribute to mothers, some famous, others unsung and even a mother owl named Olivia (who returns to the adobe for breeding each spring) on display in the Richard Senate Exhibit Hall.

Although this is a free event, a donation of a non-perishable food item for Food Share would be appreciated.

## Boys & Girls Club speaker series

Boys & Girls Club of Ventura schedule for the Community Speakers Series for Club teens held weekly at two of the five Club centers.

Speakers scheduled for 4pm Monday's at the Robert Addison Center on Olive Street:

May 7, 2012 - James Jordan, insurance man, returns by popular demand to talk to the teens about 'life'

May 14, 2012 - Albert de la Rocha, National University Center Director and



Karen Flock and Pam Berstler test Dan's soil for permeability

## Saving the ocean one garden at a time

by John Burke  
Landscape architect

On a recent Sunday, two dozen people gathered at Dan Long's midtown bungalow trying to clean up our local beaches. Meanwhile, half a mile away, volunteers formed up at Harbor Cove for a beach clean up. The group in Dan's front yard wasn't lost; they were just taking a different path. They were participating in a gardening workshop aimed at cleaning up pollution before it gets flushed into the ocean.

Surfrider Foundation and the City of Ventura teamed up to present the program called Ocean Friendly Gardens. It's a nationwide landscape-training program. To learn more go to the Surfrider Foundation website, the City of Ventura website or call Jill Sarick at 652-4501.

The program shows people how their front yard can be beautiful and fight pollution. It includes classroom sessions and practical workshops in sustainable gardening.

Volunteer Cynthia Hartley spearheads Surfrider's local OFG program. Although she does surf Cynthia said it was her love of sea birds that led her to get involved. By helping Dan Long recreate his front yard landscape she can make the storm water in the Sanjon watershed just a little bit cleaner.

Pam Berstler, from Green Gardens Group in Los Angeles taught the workshop. As an arborist I attend a lot

of horticultural workshops. They can be deadly. This one was fun plus they had pizza.

Last month, workshop participants attended a class taught by Ms Berstler. Sunday they put their classroom knowledge to work poking and prodding Dan Long's front yard. They made mud pies and scoured the ground for mushrooms.

By getting their hands muddy they hoped to turn this typical city lot into a pollution fighter. An OFG certified designer will now work with the Long's to create a plan. On May 12th the group will reconvene to install the garden.

It's just one lot but for Cynthia it's a start. She thinks once people see how beautiful these gardens can be they will want one too. It takes cooperation and Cynthia has reached out to local leaders like the Midtown Council, which was represented at Sunday's workshop by Pamela Hazard, Karen Flock and Dan Long.

Dan plans to lead by example. By turning his lot into an Ocean Friendly Garden he can begin to repair the many insults to the old Sanjon watershed. If enough of his neighbors follow suite the old Sanjon Barranca may flow once again. In time it could become a beautiful natural amenity instead of a sad little concrete ditch that floods Harbor Boulevard every time it rains.

former assistant director of Boys & Girls Club of San Diego.

May 21, 2012 - Ron Hargrave, actor, professional musician, Lana Antione and a drummer will perform and tell stories of early Hollywood.

Speakers scheduled for 4pm Tuesday's at the Bill LeFevre Center on Johnson Drive:

May 8, 2012 - Tim Jones, Founder & President of Jones & Maulding Insurance Co.

May 15, 2012 - Lisa Ragone, retired Oxnard Police Dept. Sergeant on preparation for law enforcement as a career.

May 22, 2012 - Donna Roff, Librarian at Ventura College.

May 29, 2012 - Shaun Tomson, World Champion Surfer, best-selling author

For additional information and involvement opportunities call 641-5585 or check the website at

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

## S.P.U.H.S. reunion looking for you

Santa Paula Union High School class of 1972's 40-year Reunion Dinner & Dance will be held on Friday, Aug. 10 at Ventura's Pierpont Inn and Spa, 4:30-11:00 p.m. Join the fun and reconnect with old friends. \$50.00 per person for more great memories. Overnight group room rates of \$85.00 per night. For room reservations, call the Pierpont 643-6144. For more details, and payment options, visit [www.spuhs72.org](http://www.spuhs72.org) or contact Craig Seabaugh at E-mail: [craig.seabaugh@gmail.com](mailto:craig.seabaugh@gmail.com).



## Show Time

Where The Music Flows

### iPod, doesn't everybody?

by Michael Kohli

VenturaLiveWire@gmail.com  
kohlismusicpit.com

(Current ipod song: Say You Will by Evanescence)

Hello, and welcome to my iPod pop music and rock music debate. It's been rumored that this year people are betting that record labels won't be releasing any physical albums anymore. The obvious future shift of music will all be online digital music soon, where people have the option to download a full album or just buy one or two songs off an album. With the growing decline of full album sales and the increasing number of people buying a few songs from an album for their iPod/iTunes accounts, the music industry is struggling big time right now to stay alive. In 2011, it became the pop diva year (Lady Gaga, Britney Spears, and Rihanna.) However, full album sales dropped compared to their previous breakthrough full albums. But the singles released from the albums have been highly successful. The one exception though is Katy Perry. Her 2010 album, *Teenage Dream*, has outsold her previous 2008 breakthrough debut album and her 5 of her 6 singles from her latest album peaked at #1. In 2012, the pop industry was banking on the new Madonna album. Although her latest, *MDNA*, debuted at #1, the album dropped out of the top 10 within the album's third week. As of this writing, the album lands at #34, not even going to Gold status yet. Now that people have the option to just buy a few songs, it's becoming a huge struggle for record labels. Do pop music fans still purchase the full length albums?

In recent months, rock music all of a sudden has been playing a very active role. Van Halen, Bruce Springsteen, Soundgarden, The Cult, Aerosmith, Motley Crue, Kiss, Guns N Roses have been creating a stir either with their new music, tours, or just a mention of their name. Earlier this year, on the heels of their Rock And Roll Hall Of Fame induction, Guns N Roses saw a huge increase of their Greatest Hits album. The album went on sale for one day only for 25 cents, landing at #3 on the Billboard Charts. Van Halen kicked off 2012 with a brand new single/video -- and is currently on a tour. Soundgarden released a new single last week for free for the new Avengers movie. Aerosmith announced next month they will release a song for the new GI Joe 2 movie. Motley Crue & Kiss are lining up for a tour. And, as of this writing, I'm watching the brand new video from The Cult! Is there a reason why there is more rock music activity this year? Perhaps if the music industry is smart, they will focus more attention on these bands and their albums & tours. Most die hard rock music fans like to collect and listen to every song these artists release. Bands like AC/DC, Kiss, Motley Crue, Iron Maiden, the loyal fanbase have a hunger for their music and will purchase any music they release. And, they will follow every note and sound on that entire album.

What do you think? What was the last full album you bought? Was it pop, dance, rock or ?. Of course, you also have hip-hop and country music. Which also has artists with a loyal fanbase as well. But do fans buy their full albums as much as they did before the iPod era? Hit me up on my email and let me know what you

think: VenturaLiveWire@gmail.com.

#### Local music happens:

The Kill Junkies just rocked out at The Red Cove as of this writing. It had been awhile since I'd gone to a Kill Junkies/Red Cove show, so I figured I'd stop by. Good to see one band that you can still count on. They deliver the music that is welcomed warmly at The Red Cove. It's good to still have a rock/metal hangout bar. The band played tracks from their recent album, "Steamroller." This album you can either buy from the band or check out their iTunes page. I love the album cover! It tastes, feels, looks like a good solid metal album.

Local band, 10am Movement, (whom I had the honor of booking at The Wine Rack in April) just scored a gig on May 3 at The Hard Rock Cafe in Hollywood. This band is currently on the rise here in Ventura. Recently performed at Zoey's Cafe, Golden China, Borderline (Thousand Oaks), and just released a demo CD to fans. The band has a Bob Dylan bluegrass folk rock type of vibe. My favorite song of theirs so far is titled, "Iceberg." Check them out online on Facebook, YouTube and more.

#### The Entertainment Report

### Silver screen

by Linde Carlson

Hello Ventura, These are my picks of the week:



#### Bully

Bully is a true story covering events of five families over the course of one school year. The documentary chronicles parents who have lost children to bullies. One mother's grief is a portrait who awaits the news of her 14 years old daughter's fate, incarcerated for bringing a gun onto her school bus to scare the bullies on the bus.

Cameras are installed on buses and in homes following the behaviors and conversations taking place. You hear the frustration in the parent's voices, quivering as they speak with school officials and in assemblies, pleading their cases with the principals and authorities, begging them to take action.

There is a minimal statistic of the children who manage to stay strong and face their abusers. I commend them for the strength and assertion. This gives others a ray of hope to learn how to stand up to people who verbally abuse and tease you. It's an ugly reality but adults are guilty of bullying as well, so bullies are not just children.

The documentary is not staged, or actors used in the making of this poignant drama. True to life events will pull at your heart strings in gripping scenes that will leave a mark on your heart and in your mind forever. It will make you stand up and scream and want to shout out and become an advocate for these kids.

A documentary everyone should see whether you have children or grandchildren or not. You may have a bully in the house, or next door, but the most prolific of bullies are children ages 10-18. With this said, everyone must take responsibility if you recognize this type of behavior in anyone. It's a worldwide crisis and as a society that measures peace with harmony and humility, we must all stand together and stop this behavior. The ultimate result, it saves lives. Rated PG-13 Running time 98 minutes

## VFS@420EAST

### Cave of Forgotten Dreams

Reviewed by Steve Falconer

The Ventura Film Society

It has been said that the drawing and painting of images from the inner world, the making of art, marks the dawn of the spirit of man. The art in Chauvet Cave in Southern France is 32,000 years old. As featured in Werner Herzog's *Cave of Forgotten Dreams*, which the Ventura Film Society screen on Tuesday May 15th @ 7:15pm, this was a time and place where mammoths, woolly rhinos, reindeer, lions, great bulls were trotting about. None of these creatures drew or painted, but their contemporaries, human beings one

scientist in the film called *Homo Spiritualis*, were rock art painters of the first order. The people who enter this cave are clearly filled with awe and wonder at the sight of these paintings. Some of them attempt to describe the experience, but are unable to really put their emotions into words. What does come consistently through, however, is that they all felt a deep connection with the ancient artists. When one sees this film one can wonder if these "Forgotten Dreams" are not forgotten at all, but are still being dreamed by we moderns today.

The Ventura Film Society is proud to screen *Cave of Forgotten Dreams* as the 8th of 21 feature films screening @ 7:15pm on 1st & 3rd Tuesdays through December 4, 2012. At 420 E. Santa Clara Street. Screening, Membership & Advance Ticket Information -www.venturafilmsociety.com / 628-2299 / venturafilmsociety@gmail.com.



#### The Lucky One

Based on the novel by Nicholas Sparks (*The Notebook*, *Message in a Bottle*), *The Lucky One* is a romantic drama, the story of a U.S. Marine Logan Thibault (Zac Efron) who finds a photograph of a woman in the rubble of a fire while fighting in Iraq. Logan unequivocally credits his survival to having this picture with him during this ambush. He sets out on a quest to find the woman he calls his "Lucky charm".

He reaches Green Kennels, a dog training and boarding house owned by Beth (Taylor Schilling). Trying to find the words to tell her why he is there, instead he accepts a job as a handyman in the kennel. A romantic chemistry ensues and despite complications with her ex-husband, the two fight to stay together. Logan, still withholding his intentions draws you in, wanting more.

In this coastal setting, the two damaged souls dish up some heat and melodramatic obstacles turn around edging toward bravery and emotional defeat.

The book was full of detail, and the film followed very closely in the footsteps of the book. The film adaptation was well directed, and each scene brought us closer and closer to the end result, love. Somewhat predictable I know, but I appreciated the efforts of Efron's performance and the likeability of the characters. If you like Nicholas Sparks novels adapted to film and his on-going themes of rough tribulations of life. You'll like this one. Sweet film.

Rated PG -13 101 minutes

#### Two On The Aisle

### Pippin does its magic in Simi

By Jim Spencer & Shirley Lorraine

*Pippin*, the Tony award winning musical travelogue following one young man's journey of life, is currently playing on stage at the Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center. The Stephen Schwartz/Roger Hirson (*Wicked*, *Godspell* and more) offering features memorable music, thought-provoking concepts and a host of innovative stagings.

*Pippin* adds another jewel to the crown of the SVCAC, which consistently mounts outstanding productions. Director Fred

Helsel and musical director Gary Poirot have pulled out all the stops, updating the look of the piece to Steampunk Carnivale (which works exceptionally well in this case), all the while maintaining the now near-classic songs and musical styles. Using an updated alternate ending furthers the depth of meaning inherent in the script.

The choreography by Becky Castells fits the talents of the players well, maintaining Fosse-like overtones throughout. Dance Captain and Player Tori Cusack deftly leads the dancers through their intricate moves. Creative costuming enhances the theatrical flair and visual cacophony that is essential to the plot.

The story is at once simple, yet wickedly complicated. Promising a magical experience, a traveling troupe of theatrical players invites the audience to participate in a story of a young man's quest for fulfillment (*Pippin*, played by Brenden Kyle MacDonald). The Leading Player (Keenon Hooks) acts as narrator and conductor of the story moving the action along as needed, as well as adding touches of whimsy and a few practical jokes along the way. Both actors play off each other well, displaying their vocal and dancing skills to full advantage.

Diverse key characters emerge from the troupe, play their parts and then fade back into the chorus, accenting the changing nature of life and our ultimate inability to completely control our destiny. Among those who stand out are Charlemagne, played by Bart Sumner; Catherine, played by Jamie Whittington Studer; Fastrada, played by Carolyn Freeman Champ; and Lewis, played by Andrew Allen. All the players appear to be fully immersed in their various roles.

*Pippin* is a genre all to itself. It is not a classic musical, nor a full-on rock musical - although it contains touches of each style. Adult themes of love and sexuality are performed tastefully and with an ample dose of humor. The cast performs at a level equal to what one would expect at the Ahmanson or Pantages theaters. Imagine such talent in our own back yard. Although originally written for continuous action, this production does have one intermission. Even so, the performance was over before the audience was ready to let it go.

*Pippin* continues through Sunday, May 20. Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$22 for adults, \$18 for seniors and students, and \$16 for those under 12. Call the box office at 583-7900 or reserve seats online at www.simi-arts.org.

# Lighter Breeze

Zits



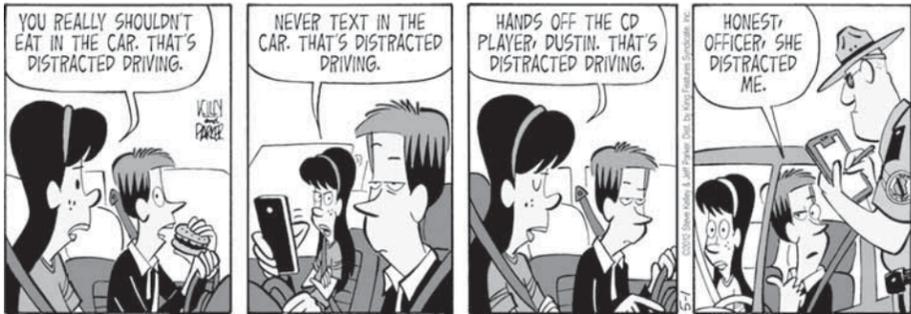
The Brilliant Mind of Edison Lee



Mother Goose and Grimm



Dustin



Hagar the Horrible



Baby Blues



Solutions on page 17

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

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★**

★ Moderate   ★★ Challenging  
 ★★★ HOO BOY!

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Solutions on page 17

## King Crossword

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
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**ACROSS**

1 Pod occupant  
 4 Pedestal part  
 8 Rug type  
 12 Hosp. hookups  
 13 Satan's specialty  
 14 Inlet  
 15 Old-style music provider  
 17 Destruction  
 18 Incessantly  
 19 Chutzpah  
 20 Piece of hardware  
 22 Jane Lynch's show  
 24 Pork cut  
 25 Sweater with a rounded collar  
 29 Qty.  
 30 Accordion feature  
 31 Noon, in a way  
 32 Worker's compensation  
 34 Bridge  
 35 Wheels of fortune?  
 36 Got up  
 37 Oust  
 40 Friend of Dorothy  
 41 Met melody  
 42 Insignificant bit

**DOWN**

1 Stone  
 2 Actress Longoria  
 3 Harshness  
 4 Moist  
 5 State with conviction  
 6 Bracketed word  
 7 Wapiti  
 8 Mosquito thwarter

9 Session with a shrink  
 10 Tel —  
 11 Heredity component  
 16 Still  
 19 Mr. Gingrich  
 20 Hit Stooge-style  
 21 Prolonged sleep  
 22 — -Roman wrestling  
 23 Plumbing problem  
 25 Skelton's Kaddish-hopper  
 26 Champion of a cause  
 27 "Arrivederci"  
 28 Benevolent

30 Dr. McGraw  
 33 Baseball shoes  
 34 Put an end to  
 36 Twine fiber  
 37 Count counterpart  
 38 Picture of health?  
 39 Christmas tree, often  
 40 Muse's instrument  
 42 Air safety org.  
 43 Illumination measure  
 44 Spy novel grp.  
 45 Airline to Amsterdam

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**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) The often skeptical Aries might find that an answer to a question is hard to believe. But check it out before you chuck it out. You might well be surprised at what you could learn.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) Your resolute determination to stick by a position might make some people uncomfortable. But if you're proved right (as I expect you to be), a lot of changes will tilt in your favor.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) You might feel conflicted between what you want to do and what you should do. Best advice: Honor your obligations first. Then go ahead and enjoy your well-earned rewards.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) That financial matter still needs to be sorted out before you can consider any major monetary moves. Pressures ease mid-week, with news about a potential career change.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) A workplace problem threatens to derail your well-planned project. But your quick mind should lead you to a solution and get you back on track without too much delay.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) An opportunity opens up but could quickly close down if you allow pessimism to override enthusiasm. A trusted friend can offer the encouragement

you need.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) You've come through a difficult period of helping others deal with their problems. Now you can concentrate on putting your energy to work on your own projects.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Forget about who's to blame and, instead, make the first move toward patching up a misunderstanding before it creates a rift that you'll never be able to cross.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) Good news for the travel-loving Sagittarian who enjoys galloping off to new places: That trip you put off will soon be back on your schedule.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) A mood change could make the gregarious Goat seek the company of just a few friends. But you charge back into the crowd for weekend fun and games.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) A decision you made in good faith could come under fire. Best advice: Open your mind to other possibilities by listening to your challenger's point of view.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) You can avoid being swamped by all those tasks dangling from your line this week by tackling them one by one, according to priority. The weekend brings good news.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** You have a fine business sense and a love of the arts. You enjoy living life to its fullest.

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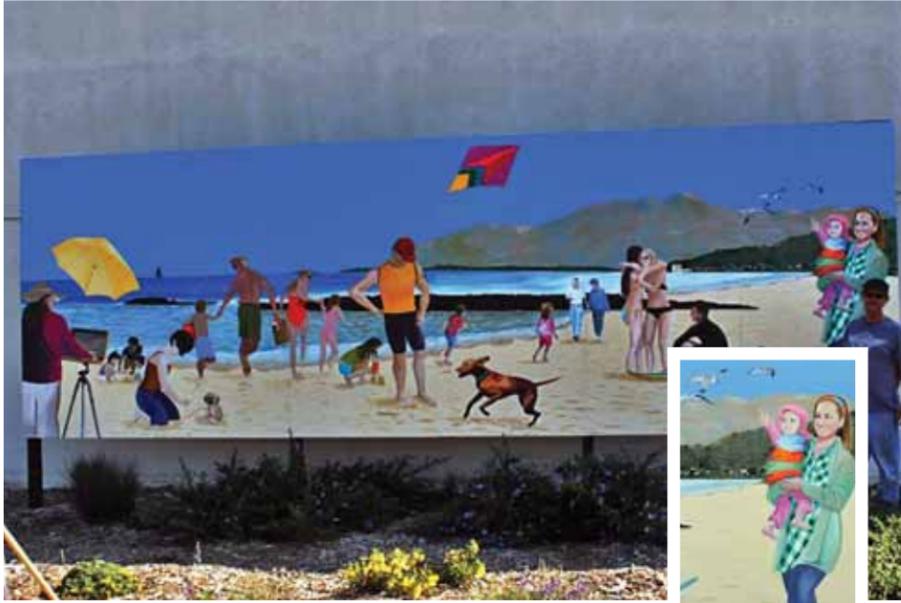
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# Art Scene



## Mural artist missing in action

Article and photo by Richard Lieberman

Delilah a mural artist, designed, solicited donations, and painted a large mural in South Seaward Park located on Seaward near the beach. The mural is nearly done, but Delilah is missing.

Last year at an Arts and Crafts Fair held at the gardens, Christopher King Shertzer who manages, maintains and, directs events at the garden, was approached by mural artist Delilah. Delilah volunteered, to paint a mural on the wall of the building, adjacent to the garden. Shertzer agreed, and presented the idea to the building owner. The owner denied permission saying "murals are tacky." Shertzer had an idea, "why not build our own wall" and, Delilah enthusiastically agreed.

Delilah, approached, and presented the idea to the public relations department of Home Depot. They agreed to donate the lumber, materials, and manpower to cut and, assemble the panels on site. Behar paints was also approached and agreed to donate the painting materials.

The artist and, a partner from Art by DeOro, began the project, and worked on painting the panels that took from 30-60 days. The artist's design intended the completed mural

to be 3-Dimensional. The mural depicts a Ventura Beach scene, and at the right hand corner of the painting, a self portrait of Delilah holding a small child is depicted.

The mural was assembled, nearly a year ago and Shertzer is still waiting for the artists to come back and complete the piece.

"We don't know much about the artists, and finding them has proven difficult" Shertzer said. "We are expanding operations to include a small farmers market next summer, and making the space available for local musicians", the mural is integral to the garden project, and finding the artists, and finishing the project, makes this garden an important asset to the revitalization of South Seaward.

Just as the mural depicts "we hope more families will visit and use the garden as intended from the beginning."

Shertzer rents the space utilizing a non-profit corporation. The garden is leased from an anonymous owner, for \$1.00 per year paid by Shertzer.

"Maybe she will be back this summer" said Shertzer.

*Breeze: Does anyone out there know how to contact Delilah?*

Has anyone seen this lady?



The Bell Arts Factory has a new resident!

Matt Lieberman has joined the Bell Arts community. Matt, 24, has recently graduated with a BA in Illustration from the Academy of Arts University in San Francisco. He has taken aim at creating a new life and career for himself in Ventura County and beyond.

Matt specializes in illustrating children's books, scientific illustration and comic books. Speaking about himself and his work, he says that his goal as an illustrator is to bridge the divide between the seemingly disparate fields he specializes in, while avoiding simply, "muddying his own artistic waters." Animals are usually a feature of his art (especially the Hippopotamus) and a propensity for black ink and bright colors. His work can be described as both cosmic and meditative, and is often rich in detail. Currently, Matt is at work developing his portfolio and working on his newest comic. He can be found hard at work almost every day in his corner studio, slaving over his work, faithful dog and companion, Henri, by his side. You can see Matt's work by logging onto his website, [www.Mattpocalypse.com](http://www.Mattpocalypse.com), paying him a visit at his studio any "First Friday". You will find several of his folded paper 'mini-comics' floating around the county, most notably on the evolution of the eye, so keep your eyes peeled! This new talent is excited to be a part of the Ventura community and of its art scene, hoping to add his own zany brand of art and illustration to the mixed bag that is Ventura County.



Eastern and Western influences intertwine in Christine Leong's artwork, which is the subject of the next exhibition at the Buenaventura Gallery.

Palette of Nature will be on view until May 19 in the downtown Ventura gallery. In addition, Leong will be on hand during First Friday Gallery Crawl on Friday, May 4 from 5-8 p.m.

Examples of her work can be found at [www.artofchristineleong.com](http://www.artofchristineleong.com) and [www.asianartstrokes.com](http://www.asianartstrokes.com).

The Buenaventura Gallery is at 700 E. Santa Clara St. Hours are noon-5 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays. For more information, visit their website at [www.BuenaventuraGallery.org](http://www.BuenaventuraGallery.org).



In both the bold colors of his acrylic paintings and his immersion in the creative process, saturation is the key to Brent Hanson's art, so that's what he's calling his solo show at the Harbor Village Gallery.

The exhibition will open May 2 and run through May 28, with an opening reception from 5-8 p.m. May 4.

The Harbor Village Gallery is located at 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 [www.BuenaventuraGallery.org](http://www.BuenaventuraGallery.org) for more information.

# Paint Ventura 2012

On April 28 & 29 the Red Brick Gallery (located at 315 E. Main) presented Paint Ventura, a free Downtown Ventura art event featuring local artists painting, teaching and selling, kid's activities, music, workshops and more. The Ventura Breeze was there featuring face painting by the Baker family and selling Breeze T-shirts for only \$12.00.

Shown (on the top row) is Red Brick co-owner (with mom Phyllis) Jenn Livia and felt artist Sara Smelt and on the piano Randall Richman. On the bottom row (in the middle) is 5-year-old Brigit Fitzgerald (of Quick Printing Plus fame) getting her face painted at the Breeze booth. And on the left, if you look real closely, you will see city council member Christy Weir dancing the day away (can you find her?).

# Show Time

## Music Calendar 5/2 to 5/15

For more events go to [Fun-in-Ventura.com](http://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  
Open Mic/Jam Night with "Shure Thing" every Mon 6-9pm  
Karaoke every Wed 6-9pm  
Blue Grass Jam featuring: The Bottom Feeders every Thur 6-9pm  
Fri 5/4 - The Ray Jay Band 6-10pm  
Sat 5/5 - TBA  
Sun 5/6 - Blue Stew 2-6pm  
Fri 5/11- Masters of the Past 7-11pm  
Sat 5/12 - Live Bait 6-10pm  
Sun 5/13 - Blue Stew 2-6pm

**Bombay's Bar & Grill**  
143 S. California St., 805-643-4404  
All Star Blues Hosted by Tommy Marsh every Wed  
Local Live Music every Thur, Fri & Sat  
Afternoon Concerts every Sun 4pm  
Wed 5/2 - Alastair Greene & Friends/Cinco De Mayo Weekend Party  
Thur 5/3 - Brian Micassa & The Rubberneck Lions  
Fri 5/4 - La Vonettes, Pep talk, Sea Lions, Zoila  
Sat 5/5 - The Reall Deall Band  
Sun 5/6 - The R&B Bombers  
Wed 5/9 - Orlando Napier  
Thur 5/10 - Irie Army, Inevitable, Mantis  
Sat 5/12 - Hindsite  
Sun 5/13 - Live Bait

**Cafe Fiore**  
66 California St., 805-653-1266  
Live Bands every Tue thru Sat  
DJ in the TreeHouse Lounge every Fri & Sat  
Wed 5/2 -Big Adventure

Thur 5/3 - Coso Live  
Wed 5/9 -Big Adventure  
Thur 5/10 - Bongo Town

**Gigi's Cocktail Lounge**  
2493 Grand Ave., 805-642-2411  
Karaoke with Steve Luke every Sun & Wed 7pm- 12am  
Live Bands every Fri & Sat 9pm

**It's All Good Bar & Grill**  
533 E. Main St., 805-641-9951  
Open Mike Night every Wed

**Majestic Theater**  
26 S. Chestnut St., 805-653-0721  
Sun 5/6 - Death Angel, Truceline, 13, Preachers & Pornstars 8pm  
Fri 5/11 - Pennywise, Guttermouth 8pm

**The Tavern**  
211 Santa Clara St., 805-643-3264  
DJ's - Classic Rock, 80's, 90's, Top 40's every Fri & Sat at 10pm  
Thur 5/3 - The Americans 9pm  
Fri 5/4 - The Honey Pie Jones 9pm  
Sat 5/5 - For the Kings 9pm

**Tutti's Off Main**  
34 N. Palm Ave., 805-643-0880  
Every Fri - Chris Wooley 6:30-9:30pm  
Every Sat - Steve Williams (guitar) 12-3pm, 6:30-9:30pm  
Every Sun - Frank Barajas (guitar) 12-3pm

**Watermark On Main**  
598 E. Main St., 805-643-6800  
Intimate Acoustic with Dano every Tue  
Jazz at the Mark every Wed

**W20 Rooftop Lounge**  
598 E. Main St. (above Watermark)  
805-643-6800  
Friday Dance Party every Fri 9pm  
Thur 5/3 - Emilbus  
Fri 5/4 - R&B Bombers  
Sat 5/5 - In Stone  
Sun 5/6 - Raw Silk  
Thur 5/10 - Shawn Jones

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Fri 5/11 - Hot Roux

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Thur 5/3 - Tommy Marsh & Bad Dog 8pm  
Fri 5/4 - Mia Dyson & Band, B Willing James 8pm  
Sat 5/5 - Alexandra & the Starlight Band, Sea Lions 8pm  
Sun 5/6 - King Washington 8pm  
Mon 5/7 - Chris Pureka & Emy Reynolds Band 8pm  
Tue 5/8 - Blue Grass Jam 6pm, Jason Reeves, Amber Rubarth 8pm  
Wed 5/9 - John Fullbright on tour 7:30pm  
Thur 5/10 - Jay Nash & Jesse Thomas 8pm  
Fri 5/11 - Jen Foster 8pm  
Sun 5/13 - Ukele Master Herb Ohta Jr 6pm

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