



# VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

Vol. 6, No. 2 Published Every Other Wednesday www.venturabreeze.com October 31 - November 13, 2012

## It's About Time!

No longer will you have to wonder what is going on in our beautiful, seaside town – just pick up your latest copy of the VENTURA BREEZE.

By Staci Brown  
BREEZE PUBLISHER

**W**ELCOME to the issue of the Ventura Breeze, the City of Ventura's only completely local newspaper dedicated to the people, businesses and community interests of Ventura. We are very excited about this publication and what it will bring to our city. With a focus on neighborhood news, local government, schools, service clubs, events, business happenings, activities and other updates about the changing city we live in, the Ventura Breeze is committed to covering news that is central to the people who want to stay in tune to what is happening in our beautiful city. The Breeze



will be published every other Wednesday and with a circulation of 10,000 copies will be available for free at various places throughout the city.

In this first issue we bring to you a variety of stories. You will find coverage of upcoming election issues that are pertinent to our city of Ventura. We also share with you the story of an amazing 107-year old Venturan, Mildred Thompson. These are just some of the interesting stories you'll see in this issue. In upcoming issues we'll be covering more including high school and college sports, real estate, entertainment, and much more. We also feature an opinions section, which I personally believe will be an important part of the paper.

The Breeze is dedicated to doing

more than just reporting on the happenings of this city. It will be an active participant in the community. We are dedicated to helping local businesses grow and thrive. As a resident of Ventura myself, my personal goal is to make the Breeze a central part of getting everyone to play a more active role in what happens in our city.

The Breeze staff believes our newspaper should be about information. Some of that information will be news, public notices, interesting stories of achievements and updates on the progress or setbacks of the community. We don't believe all news needs to be serious. We do believe our readers need to have an equal voice in order to be successful.

We want to make the Breeze a great publication and that means we'll need feedback from our readers—you.

Because the Breeze is for the community members of Ventura, a main goal is to make this publication a true forum for Venturans to express their thoughts.

This means, whether you agree or disagree, we want to hear from you. Please feel free to contact us to tell us what you think, what you see, what you want investigated and we promise to do our very best to deliver.

And please send your photos and stories regarding Ventura, we would like to print them also.

I hope you will enjoy our publication. I invite you to share it with your friends, colleagues and neighbors. Let us know what you think.

You can also meet us at booth 39 at the Ventura Business Marketplace & Conference on Oct. 26 at the Marriott Ventura Beach from 1-7 p.m.

Reprinted from Ventura Breeze issue of October 24, 2007



The land that houses the Kingdom Center, a ministry that provides transitional housing for the homeless in downtown Ventura, has been placed on the market by the current property owners.

### Kingdom Center property goes up for sale

by Tim Pompey

The property which houses The Kingdom Center, a renovated motel in downtown Ventura which provides transitional housing for the homeless, has been put up for sale by its owners.

According to property partners Harold and Julie Powell, it's become

a question of finances—too much overhead being provided by the property partners and not enough rent from the center. It's a problem that's been frequently discussed between the Kingdom Center board and the property owners. "For the last year and half we've been talking to the Kingdom Center about this," said Harold.

When the property was leased to the center back in 2009, the Powells had hoped that eventually a joint fundraising effort would help make up the dif-

ference between expense and income. That fundraising component was being led by Jeff Argend, one of the property partners, but Harold noted that Argend is no longer involved with that issue. "The Kingdom Center decided to let him go," he said. "So, they're in charge of their own fundraising."

According to the Powells, the key issue is that the property partners can no longer afford to pay out additional overhead on the property, estimated at

Continued on page 11



### Q & A with Ranger John Geno Lucich

by Mira Reverente

Have you ever wondered what the state park rangers do daily? Have you ever thought about their preparation and training for the job?

The Breeze sat down (strolled actually) with state park ranger John Geno Lucich one sunny day, along San Buenaventura State Park, as he went about his daily duties.

Continued on page 11



Michael Saleski, with "Horseless Carriage" was one of the 15 racers at the Kinetic Sculpture Race held at Ventura Harbor. 15 racers to help celebrate 15 years of the event in Ventura.

The human-powered "bikes" launched into the water at the boat ramp on Schooner Drive and finished in the "mud pit" in the Harbor Village lawn area.

The event helps raise funds for the Turning Point Foundation, which serves mentally ill adults in Ventura County. Photo by John Ferritto (for more photos visit Ventura Breeze Facebook).

While celebrating our fifth anniversary in any of the world's great cities, you can always catch up with the Breeze at [venturabreeze.com](http://venturabreeze.com)



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



## Grand Opening Celebration!

**Saturday, December 1st, 2012**

Ribbon cutting ceremony hosted by the Ventura Chamber of Commerce at 11 AM followed by refreshments and open house till 3 PM.  
*Hope to see you there!*

Dr. Jill Muraoka Lim  
Dr. Janis Shinkawa  
Dr. Nicci Quinn  
Dr. Kate Byrne



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• Oxnard departs 15 minutes later.  
• No departures: 7:30pm Vta, 7:45pm Oxn, on Saturdays only.

### Depart LAX

6:30am • 8:30am • 11:00am • 1:00pm • 3:15pm  
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• No departures 9:30pm Saturdays only.

Holiday Inn is charging \$5 a day for parking.

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## Fall Festival

Saturday, November 10

11 am – 4 pm

Join us for a day of family fun!

- Free admission
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- Food, wine & beer
- Carnival games & prizes
- Raffle
- Silent auction
- Bake sale

Presented by:

Holy Cross School at the San Buenaventura Mission  
211 E. Main Street, Ventura, CA 93001 805.643.1500

All proceeds will benefit the Holy Cross School Playground Project.

## The Pierpont Racquet Club

would like to welcome the **Ventura Breeze** newspaper!

**FREE 5 day pass**

for *Ventura Breeze* readers

Bring this ad to the club anytime before December 31, 2012 to receive a 5 day guest pass!  
(Must be at least 18 years of age to participate)

(Photo ID required.)

500 Sanjon Rd., Ventura, CA 93001 805-648-5161

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

This ad ran in the first Breeze issue and the PRC is honoring it until December 31, 2012 to help celebrate our anniversary



# Madame Butterfly

BY GIACOMO PUCCINI

NOV  
2+4  
2012

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1501 S Victoria Ave Ventura Ca 93003

## Family Calendar Highlights

Find a Full List of Events on [ventura-ca.parentclick.com](http://ventura-ca.parentclick.com)

**Wednesday, October 31st**  
Gull Wings Museum in Oxnard and Pacific View Mall in Ventura host safe trick-or-treating events.

**Friday, November 2nd**  
Sunny Smiles Dentistry and Main Street Dental Group will be offering kids cash for their candy.

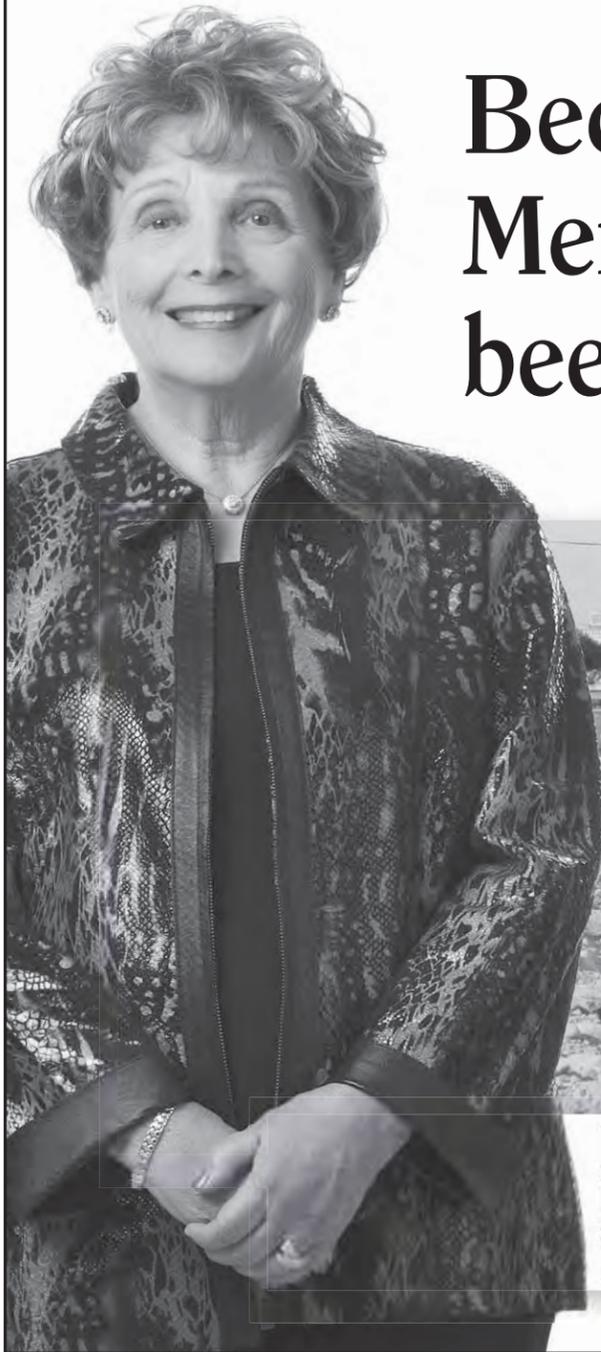
**Friday, November 2nd**  
Join the Museum of Ventura County for its Dia de los Muertos celebration, Night of the Living, Day of the Dead, for an evening of decadent delights, music, dancing and art.

**Tuesday, November 13th**  
"Standing Up To Bullying" Conference will be held in Ventura, focusing on bullying prevention through presentations, articles and information.

**Friday, November 16th**  
The Armory in Ventura will host the ThanksGaming event, a videogaming vlog-a-thon, to provide meals for needy families this Thanksgiving. The event is presented by Gamechurch.com and Verizon Fios.

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CEO, Barber Automotive Group

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**VENTURA**  
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY  
[www.cityofventura.net](http://www.cityofventura.net)

DOING GOOD BUSINESS CAN AND SHOULD INCLUDE DOING WHAT'S RIGHT TO PROTECT THE PLANET

## City News City Hall Chatter

by Ana Baker

■ The Ventura City Council has directed staff to prepare a water rights ordinance to address how new development will pay for its use of the resource. The goal is to develop a consistent process for working with developers and property owners on the true cost of usage, while ensuring a sustainable and stable supply of local water, Ventura Water General Manager Shana Epstein said. The city receives all its water locally, from three sources, the Ventura River, Lake Casitas, and groundwater.

■ Next summer, downtown Ventura's hillside will be home to an outdoor summer concert series. The City Council voted 7-0 to allow the concert promoters until November 30th to sign a final agreement with the city on parking, environmental impacts and other details regarding the use of a city-owned vacant parking lot behind city hall. Concerts would be held there under a large tent that would seat about 1,900 people. The concerts would end by 10 p.m. and parking would be forbidden in residential neighborhoods.

■ The Ventura City Council agreed to enter into a contract with the Trust for Public Land, a non-profit land conservancy, to buy 2.4 acres at Kellogg Street and Ventura Avenue, to convert into a park. The council agreed to pay the trust \$100,000 to assist with the process, which includes acquisition of the land and raising of money to help offset cost.

The Council committed \$600,000 from park fees to use for the site, but it falls short of the property's asking price of \$1.1 million. Under the agreement the trust will buy the land upfront and enter into a lease-purchase agreement with the city. The money will come from the city's Public Park Mitigation Fee, which has a balance of \$490,000, according to an administrative report prepared by city staff.

## New City of Ventura Classes

Call (805) 658-4726 or (805) 654-7552 to register, if you already have an account online, visit [www.cityofventura.net](http://www.cityofventura.net)

### Urban Style Hip Hop

7-18 years 11/3-12/15  
Saturday 12:30-1:30 pm \$60

Students will learn basic and intermediate "locking" techniques while grooving to 70s & 80s R & B funk music. New skills and routines will be taught every session. No class 11/24. Barranca Vista Center, 7050 Ralston.

### Dynamic Singers - Children's Choir

5-12 years 11/5-12/17  
Monday 3:30-4:30 pm  
5-8 years 11/5-12/17  
Monday 4:30-5:30 pm  
9-12 years \$75 + \$5 supply fee

Learn basic warm-ups, music fundamentals and music theory. Students will be introduced to different genres of music, languages, and some dance movement. Performance will be on the last class for family and friends. No class 11/12. Classes held at Bible Fellowship Church, 6950 Ralston.



# 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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The Ventura Breeze is printed with soy based ink on paper with minimum 40% recycled content.

# Opinion/Editorial



Sheldon (Governor) Brown  
Publisher

Wow, another year of publishing the Ventura Breeze has passed, quite amazing and wonderful for the Breeze and for Ventura as we start our sixth year bringing local news to Ventura.

When daughter Staci and I decided to launch Ventura's only local community based newspaper five years ago we didn't know what to expect or how it would be accepted in the community.

The admiration, acceptance and love of the paper have been simply wonderful and overwhelming, and it just continues to grow.

There are just so many people that I want to thank; my incredibly dedicated and extremely hard working staff, our wonderful writers, distribution folks, photographers, studioNothing, our

printer and our advertising advisers.

And, of course our much appreciated advertisers who make this whole thing possible.

Also wife Diane for still putting up with my nonsense and working seven days a week and going out so much to all of the wonderful events that are being presented in Ventura (and they just keep growing).

Thanks to Professor Scamp for his always interesting articles that are always on time; he still doesn't know that he is famous so still works for treats, dog food and being treated as if he owns the place (actually not bad pay).

Just a "very" few of the 5-year highlights are being named the Turning Point Foundation's Media Champions of Mental Health, the Ventura Chamber of Commerce Small Business of the Year, being recognized by Congresswoman Lois Capps, Assem-

blymember Das Williams, Senator Tony Strickland, Assemblymember Pedro Nava and County Supervisor Steve Bennett.

And the wonderful Face Of Ventura portrait series by Johanna Spinks has been very rewarding. And me winning the City of Ventura Digital Photography Contest several times (have to say something nice about me).

Our readership just keeps growing and our readers continue to tell us that they love reading the Breeze, either by a wonderful phone call, or I am stopped in the street by strangers, or by receiving an email letting me know how much the paper is loved, read and how much it means to Ventura. Especially rewarding was a 13-year-old that recently came up to me to tell me how much she enjoys reading the paper. A very special thanks to all of our readers.

## Opinion: LETTERS & EDITORIALS

# Why, oh why?

**W**HY DID WE decide to publish a local, community-based newspaper in San Buenaventura?

Well, we did it for very personal reasons. We moved here from Los Angeles about seven years ago. We loved the unique, small-town atmosphere and sense of community, which was so very different from the urban sprawl of the cold, impersonal metropolis we'd left behind. We looked forward to becoming involved in community events and local activities, the kind of lifestyle you associate with smaller, coastal communities. This, however, has not been the

case. Why? Because we don't have a community newspaper.

We realize, of course, that there are two other papers that are distributed in Ventura, but feel that while they do a fine job of serving the entire population of 800,000 and 1,700 square miles of Ventura County we needed a newspaper that serves our 22 square miles and our population of 106,000.

We often stroll past a local event and don't have a clue what it is. Shops open and close without us ever knowing about them. New restaurants and bars hold grand openings we would

have attended—had we been aware of them. Local news just isn't easily accessible.

Most small cities have a local community newspaper. It's about time that Ventura had one also. That is why we are launching the Ventura Breeze. With a few exceptions, we will only publish articles and information relevant to our city.

Thank you for reading the first edition of the Ventura Breeze. We welcome your feedback and hope that you'll find it to be a very enjoyable and valuable resource for many years to come.

SHELDON BROWN, Publisher



Sheldon Brown  
Publisher

Reprinted from Ventura Breeze  
issue of October 24, 2007

# Mailbox

sified as a "food" it must be labeled if it is GMO. The cow has yet to be genetically engineered, in the future, if it does become a GMO it would indeed then require a label.

Personally, sometimes I do believe, dogs are more important than people. I love my two adopted Labradors.

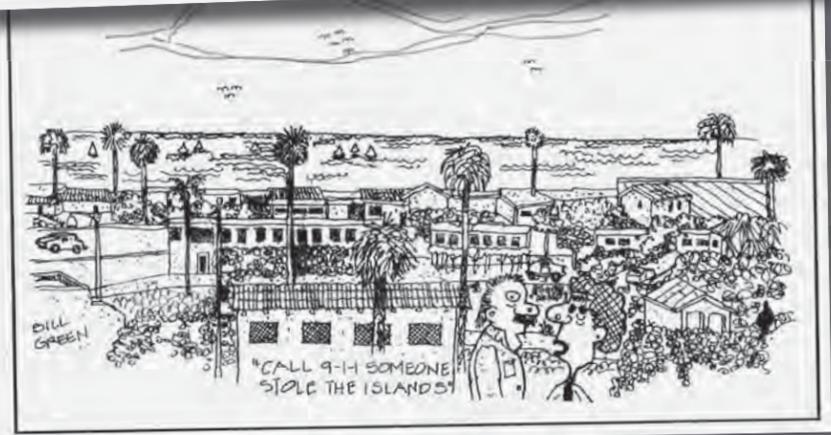
Thank you for your time!

Louise Cayard

Scamp: We all know that dogs are more important than people but thanks for pointing it out.



This is Staci Brown with Breeze issue number one at the Artz Gallery in downtown Ventura on Oct. 27, 2007. This photo was sent to us by reader Bill Spicer (don't we have the most incredible readers?).



## Letters

Because this is our first issue we, obviously, don't have letters from our readers except for a few regarding the candidates so we have made up a few.

Dear Breeze:

How did you get a picture in Paris for the first issue?

EVIN BROWN

Very easily, we e-mailed the cover to our correspondent in Dublin who drove his bike to Paris took a picture of Christine drove back to Madrid and e-mailed it back to us.

Dear Breeze:

In Bill Green's cartoon there is a palm tree growing through a house. Isn't that unusual?

JOLI SEEMAYER

You are very observant. Actually the tree is not growing through the house. The house was built around the tree and Bill is an environmentalist and refuse to erase it in order to draw the house.

Dear Breeze?

Will you have crossword puzzles and sudoku? I need something to do when I have dinner with my husband.

DIANE RUBIN

Yes we will in the next issue. Perhaps we should also have a marriage counselor column.

Dear Breeze:

Is Scamp really a professor?

FUZZY FIDO

Yes he is. He obtained his degrees from Furrey State.

Experience is the best of school masters, only the school fees are heavy.

—Thomas Carlyle

Sheldon

I always enjoy reading your short Editor comments and was reading your paper on line this morning and noticed your comments regarding Scamp.

"Scamp made me write this. Proposition 37, which calls for..."

I just wanted you to know that Prop. 37 would require the labeling of fresh meat if it was indeed genetically engineered. The opposition is trying to confuse the public (and doing a great job of it) by comparing dog food to your steak (the cow). They are stating that the meat in dog food is requiring a label and this is not true, it is the corn and soy in the dog food that is GMO and thus requires the label. Since dog food is clas-



# Birthday Greetings

I found The Breeze and then I found a great friend. Sheldon! Thanks for all you have done for my art project The Face of Ventura – and for all the laughs along the way.  
Johanna Spinks

Congratulations to The Breeze on your fifth anniversary of service to Ventura! Under Sheldon's leadership you have become part of the community and one of the leading sources of information on events, people, politics, and other local issues. On behalf of the City Council best wishes for your continued success!  
Mike Tracy-Mayor  
City of San Buenaventura

The Ventura Breeze launched by Sheldon Brown, and his daughter Staci 5 years ago has filled a serious need that was missing in our community. With a lot of hard work and time spent making a difference and supporting so many, they certainly achieved their purpose in launching the paper. I read it every issue and take it with me when I travel. Love the Breeze & the Browns  
Thanks, Sheldon...xoxo  
Patti Channer

Congratulations Sheldon and The Breeze staff. You are my favorite newspaper!! Well done!  
Ann Romero

You came, you saw, you contributed. You came to Ventura. You saw a unique city with a need for a real community oriented newspaper. You contributed your own capital and time to create the Ventura Breeze and make it an astounding success. In doing so you also contributed to the enhancement of the quality of life for an entire town. Kudos and thanks.  
Jim Spencer & Shirley Lorraine

Congratulations on your Fifth Anniversary! We are so lucky here in Ventura to have Sheldon and the Breeze keeping us up on all the wonderful things happening in our fair City.

I am so much looking forward to the next five years of seeing Sheldon showing up at all our local venues. Thank you also for encouraging and promoting our local events and issues. Congratulations again, love reading each and every issue.  
Star Soto  
Children's Librarian  
E.P. Foster Library

Congratulations on your five years of success with The Breeze! I have enjoyed watching you keep your pulse on Ventura and reporting our community's important issues. I especially want to thank you for all of your support for the arts. You are doing a great job!!! Here is to another five years!  
Donna Granata

Congratulations Sheldon on this great milestone. I like the local emphasis you give.  
Andy Collins, My Chief Information Officer

Congratulations to you and the Breeze on its fifth anniversary. You were as right five years ago as you still are today when you say Ventura needs its own local paper. I applaud you for your undertaking (and of course, for hiring me) and making your aspirations a reality. I know the Breeze takes quite a bit of your time and effort and as a staff member and Breeze reader myself, wanted to tell you I appreciate it. Long live the Ventura Breeze!  
Rebecca Wicks

Your formula of reporting on local news was often ignored in other print media but is exactly what we need in our vibrant city. As other newspapers struggle to survive, your coverage of local news stories, local gossip, and local businesses fills the need for the additional communication outlet for our community. Your stories and editorials are told in a down-

to-earth, common sense manner that offers another view of reporting and another ear to the ground. It's amazing how many people read The Breeze and comment on its content. I am particularly fond of the coverage you give to our seniors.

Happy Fifth Anniversary!  
Suz Montgomery

Congratulations to the Breeze for your first five years. Not only are you my favorite newspaper, but my livelihood. The city of Ventura and myself are improved and better off for having the Breeze in our community. I hope the Breeze is around for a long time to come. Thank you Sheldon.  
Marc Ansalone

Ventura is blessed to have three presses providing solid local coverage; with the Ventura Breeze presenting home-town news front and center. The "Face of Ventura" was above and beyond expectation of a newspaper, collaborating with a wholly different media to depict a community and bring people together. The project was infused with Sheldon's generosity and caring for the people of this town, as is his newspaper.  
Rachel Morris

Congratulations to Sheldon and The Breeze staff on your fifth anniversary. The Breeze has really become a part of the fabric of the community during the last five years, being named the Ventura Chamber's Small Business of the Year, sponsoring and covering so many local events and bringing us The Face of Ventura portrait series. Thank you for your unique and valuable contributions to the Ventura news scene.  
Randy and Barbara Hinton

Five years-Congratulations!!  
Thank you for all the coverage you give museum exhibits and events, and the support you always give to the arts and nonprofits.  
Susan L. Gerrard  
Director of Marketing  
Museum of Ventura County

Sandra Laby loves the Breeze newspaper because it is extremely innovative and just plain fun to read while drinking anything.

Sheldon and his staff, working hard, have been more than just your hometown newspaper; covering stories from shore to sea-they bring the real news. In this (tragic) age of print media "dying", imagine what it takes to print a newspaper with local news, the stuff we care about that affects our lives.

Thanks very much Sheldon Brown and all dedicated staff for that gumption, toil and charm. Without Sheldon Brown the original "face" in Ventura, we would be uninformed, and not at all entertained by a very cool breeze. Congratulations on 5 years! Oh yeah, and for winning the small business award of the year.  
Lyn Fairly – KVTA radio host

Congratulations Ventura Breeze on your fifth year anniversary. This accomplishment says a lot about customer satisfaction and your commitment to reporting and supporting our local community. All of us at Totally Local VC appreciate your hard work and dedication and look forward to celebrating your continued success.  
Kat Merrick – Founder, Totally Local VC

The Ventura Breeze is a great community paper, always an interesting read and supportive of our city's programs, special events and classes in the arts. Thank you, Breeze, for five years of community service and congrats on achieving this important benchmark anniversary!  
Richard Newsham, City of Ventura Parks & Recreation Marketing Specialist

A community truly thrives when its members commit to daily efforts towards the betterment of all who dwell there. The Ventura Breeze is a perfect demonstration of collaborative efforts made by some to enhance the lives of many through community service. I am grateful to have the opportunity to contribute to this cause and be a part of such a wonderful team! Congratulations Ventura Breeze on five wonderful years of outstanding service to the city of Ventura!

Dillon Patrick

5 years? Impossible! The Ventura Breeze has woven itself into the fabric of our city as if it's been here for over 20 years. The Breeze gives a voice to its people and shines a light on local issues in a way that no other publication ever has. Thanks again for everything Sheldon.  
Michael Mendelson and Angela, Fun-in-Ventura.com

Happy 5th Anniversary Ventura Breeze! You are an essential member of our awesome Ventura community. Thank you for your continued support of education programs and services for our youth through Ventura Education Partnership. I'm always looking forward to the next issue!  
Adela S. Trainor

Happy Five Year Anniversary! Thank you for the outstanding coverage of the events and programs of the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Ventura. The Breeze reflects the best of local journalism. Your photographers and reporters have done an excellent job of keeping the community aware of the impact of our 5 centers. I'm always eager to read each new edition to discover the vast array of activities and interesting community events taking place. Without the Breeze there would be no comprehensive news and event coverage of the Ventura community. I especially enjoy your reviews, spotlights of local folks, the portraits, event calendar and seeing your smiling face at every event. Thank you for creating The Breeze and your devotion to the Ventura community.  
Nancy Gregg-Keller  
Director of Development & Marketing  
Boys & Girls Club of Ventura

Congratulations to the Ventura Breeze on your 5 year anniversary.

The management and staff of the Ventura County Fairgrounds, the Derby Club, and all of the Fairgrounds events are proud and pleased to be a part of your local coverage. We look forward to many more years of reading the insightful and important news delivered as only the Ventura Breeze can do.  
Barbara Quaid  
Chief Executive Officer  
Ventura County Fairgrounds

The Ventura Breeze is the best paper for local news in Ventura. I read it on line as soon as it comes out every other week. Sheldon has done a great job in creating this local newspaper as evidenced by its being around for 5 years and also winning the Chamber of Commerce award for best small business last year. I look forward to the next 5 years. Keep up the good work.  
Murray Robertson  
A Very Concerned Ventura Resident

We look in mirrors to see not ourselves as we are, but how we differ from stars who dance on distant stages. Our bright youth flock to commercial and intellectual cosmopolises. And yet Ventura remains strong, brave, and hopeful, thanks to institutions such as the Ventura Breeze, which faithfully pays attention to what is happening in our own community. I am so thankful for the Breeze, which exclusively reports on political, economic, artistic, educational, commercial and personal realities which stem from ourselves, citizens of Ventura, as a community.  
Sophia Kidd, Contributing Writer, Currently

Researching Ph.D. at Sichuan University, China

Congratulations on the 5th Anniversary of the Ventura Breeze. I look forward to picking up the latest edition and reading a local perspective on local issues. The whole "Faces of Ventura" project was an outstanding collaboration between the media, the artist, and the community. It is just one example of the quality of the material found in The Breeze and one of the reasons it was recognized as Small Business of the Year.

Scott Miller, Harbormaster,  
Ventura Port District

The Ventura Breeze is a wonderful resource for the Ventura community. And Sheldon offers funny insights that add a unique character to the newspaper.  
Vina Lustado

When considering moving to Ventura, I ran across a copy of Ventura Breeze. I was so impressed with all the paper offered about what to do in Ventura, and I loved the positive stories. Picking up that issue helped me to decide to move here, so I keeping reading and writing for the Breeze!  
Emily Thiroux

The Ventura Breeze has both the hometown feel and the commitment to in-depth news coverage that ensures it will stand out in this time of generic content and screaming opinions. I hope it continues to grow in both maturity and readership in the years ahead.  
Rick Cole-Retired City Manager

Congratulations on a successful five years and hopefully many more. It's such a pleasure to read the Breeze and see that everyone's voice is heard and many of the events occurring throughout our area are covered. It's not only a Breeze; it's a breath of fresh air! Good luck.  
Ken Cozzens

Congratulations to the Breeze on its five-year anniversary of making Ventura more of a community.  
Danielle Peak

Island Packer Cruises congratulates Ventura Breeze for your anniversary! Your paper is a great resource for local news and upcoming things in the community. Best wishes for continued success in your business!  
Cheryl Connally  
Co-owner / Island Packer Cruises

Congratulations on your upcoming 5th year anniversary. Keep doing a great job of covering the local Ventura scene and keeping Venturans informed. Continued success in the next five years.  
Carl Morehouse, Councilmember  
City of San Buenaventura

Congratulations to you Sheldon and Ventura Breeze. I wish you continued success for many years to come. Best,  
Kim Pagano – Kim Pagano Show

Ventura Highway and CABODOGZ would like to congratulate the Breeze on its upcoming 5th Anniversary. We are proud to say that many lucky dogs have been placed into loving homes because of Sheldon, Scamp and The Breeze!! Thank you from us and all the fur-babies!!  
Mindy Benezra

Congrats to the Ventura Breeze on its five year anniversary. The Breeze serves as the most valuable service to the Ventura community. Where else can you find the latest and greatest information on everything going on in our beautiful city by the sea?  
Barbie Lange

Thank you and the Breeze for following the tradition and foundation of our Country



# We promised ourselves we wouldn't cry (sniff!)...

by offering a local forum for the voices and concerns that are important to the everyday lives of the citizens of our City. You are a rarity in this technological world.  
John and Carmel Whitman

Congratulations on the Ventura Breeze's fifth anniversary. The Ventura Breeze is the best community-based newspaper in Ventura. Cheers to many more years of publishing and keep up the good work.  
Sincerely, Doug Horwith,  
American Foothill Publishing

Thank you so much for your work and creativity at the BREEZE. You've given the City of Ventura an irreplaceable gift. Congratulations on the Breeze's anniversary. They should give you a parade because the paper is a shining example of all the good things in Ventura. And all my love to Professor Scamp.  
Fondly, Lucille Montague

Whenever I tell someone I am with The Breeze, they always say "I love the Breeze." In just a few short years Sheldon has turned The Breeze into the official hometown newspaper, quite a feat considering some of our best stories are written by Scamp.  
Sheli Ellsworth

Congratulations Sheldon & the "Ventura Breeze" for five years of reporting our city's local happenings in an easy to read format. The news and editorial comments are always interesting and informative. A special thank you for featuring Johanna Spinks' "Face of Ventura".  
Most sincerely,  
Barbara Meister

Congratulations on 5 wonderful years of bringing "Hometown News" about our beautiful City of Ventura to your enthusiastic readers. From one side of town to the other so many great things get covered in the paper. I look forward to reading every edition.  
Nola Grunden

Sheldon- Congrats on your 5th year anniversary and "Thank you" for all you do for our great community!  
Eric Terrill  
Executive Director, The Lexington

Happy fifth anniversary to the Breeze! I enjoy reading the Breeze for a quick catch-up on local news and events. The Breeze provides a great service by giving the community a free paper of this caliber. Best wishes for many more years.  
Cheers,  
Steve Bennett – County Supervisor

Congratulations Sheldon, on your fifth year of producing a great news publication that zeros in on news of happenings and upcoming events in the immediate Ventura area. The Breeze is well accepted by all folks and is truly a good representative for the people, by the people that live here. Keep up the wonderful job.  
Bernie Goldstein

Congratulations on your 5th anniversary of the Ventura Breeze. This newspaper has really grown since its inception. I have really enjoyed being part of the contributing writers for the last 18 months and hope that you continue to grow in the next five years. Keep it up!  
Eric Garnier – Writer, "Grape Expectations"

Congratulations on your 5 year anniversary. The Breeze is such an asset for Ventura. And thank you for your vision and support for the 57 faces of Ventura project. I always look forward to reading the Breeze to get all the local news!  
Cheryl Heitmann  
Carl Morehouse, Councilmember  
City of San Buenaventura

The Ventura Breeze is simply amazing. I just love reading about the stories that deal with our community. The Breeze takes news to a much more personal and caring level.  
Ana Baker

Five years – I can't believe it! Almost from the beginning, I've been writing the Senior Cone-nection – more than 100 articles and I hope to be able to still be writing them when the 10th anniversary rolls around! Congrats to the Ventura Breeze - the best neighborhood paper around!!  
Nanci Cone

I've enjoyed delivering The Breeze just to see the joy on people's faces as I deliver the latest edition to them!  
Fred Kastel

Sheldon, congratulations on your fifth year anniversary. You have brought together our community in spirit and connection. Wish you many more  
Mark Hartley

Congratulations Sheldon and team on your 5 year anniversary and thanks for all your support for local artists. Here's to the next fabulous 5!  
Sara Smelt

I moved to Ventura in 2008 and the Ventura Breeze was the first paper I noticed, could be because we have the same name, but I really think it is because of the wealth of information in each issue you can't get anywhere else. Sheldon and Staci really started something special with the Breeze, and with joint efforts from everyone involved, each issue is perfect, fun, beautiful and educational. I love looking at the advertisements too!! Congrats on the 5th year in publication and keep 'em coming!!  
Breezy Gledhill-Advertising Advisor  
Ventura Breeze Newspaper

Congratulations to Sheldon Brown and the Ventura Breeze on your 5th Anniversary! The best community newspaper exclusively serving the City of Ventura, providing up-to-the minute coverage about what is going on in our community. I read each issue. I even read Angel and Precious each issue (her dogs). They love Scamp! We love The Ventura Breeze!  
Best wishes from  
Dr. Bunny Vreeland

Congratulations Ventura Breeze! You guys are amazing and doing an excellent job informing Ventura about all the events taking/taken place around the city. Keep up the hard work and dedication.  
Maelynn Dickson

Sheldon and the Ventura Breeze team, congrats on your five year mark! Thanks for being such a great local paper covering the issues we care about in the City of Ventura.  
Jeffrey Lambert, AICP  
Community Development Director

Sheldon...I look forward to your Breeze for the latest news in what really goes on in Ventura. Thanks for your humor and help in so many local issues and charities...Here's wishing for many more years of the Breeze!  
Lynda Girtsman

Congratulations! Sheldon and the Ventura Breeze for an unforgettable 5 years in bringing to the community-at-large, an informative, well written, interesting and successful vehicle for assisting businesses in their quest for promoting their brand, and bringing to light the many facets of cultural life Ventura has to offer. Sheldon, and his generous spirit, has also been instrumental in offering opportunities to its staff which have inspired goals and created careers. We thank you for that.

Wishing you continued success, growth and exploration,  
Linde Carlson – Film Critic, The Ventura Breeze

Congratulations on your 5th Anniversary! Thank you for giving our dogs additional exposure by posting them in the Breeze!  
Canine Adoption and Rescue League

The Ventura Breeze is a great additional news media which generously covers our wealth of local art, music, dance and items of interest in our Ventura city community. We always look forward to Sheldon's columns and look forward to continuing our relationship with the Ventura Breeze. Congratulations on your 5th anniversary!  
Denise Hodgson-Office Manager and Media Coordinator  
Consortium Media Services

You have brought a breath of fresh air to readers for five years. Congratulations  
Tracy Lehr-KEYT

Happy Birthday. Wow 5 years. The Ventura Breeze has informed me on more issues than most of our local "news" papers combined. Your approach to controversial issues is applauded for we have such a unique community and the Ventura Breeze just brings out the best and not so best in all of us. Thank you for providing thoughtful content in your Opinion/Editorial page and your consistency in celebration to our local nonprofit groups over the last 5 years.  
Chipper Bro

Let's all give a round of applause for the Ventura Breeze. In today's ever changing world, there is one thing we can count on and that is our local paper, The Ventura Breeze. The Breeze keeps our town connected, gives us a local view of our town and is located at many convenient places for our viewing and reading pleasure. I always look forward to my Ventura Breeze and wish continued success for the team there so I can continue to enjoy my little paper. Thank you Ventura Breeze for keeping our little town together and congratulations on a 5th year!  
George Tidd

We at Swift Chip would like to congratulate the Ventura Breeze on 5 excellent years of providing community news and events. Keep up the great work, Sheldon!  
Ken May

Congratulations to the Ventura Breeze on its fifth anniversary. This is a true community newspaper that reflects the warmth, creativity, intelligence and vigor of Ventura. Sheldon Brown, man about town, reveals his intimate knowledge of the humanistic side of Ventura through his articles, showing an enthusiasm, humor and support that make him a Ventura cheerleader. I appreciate the Ventura Breeze's continued support of such events as the City of Ventura "Music Under the Stars" summer concert series, and so many other vibrant events, and look forward to enjoying this wonderful newspaper for many years to come.  
Georgianne Lees  
Cultural Affairs Supervisor  
City of Ventura

A big congratulations to you on the 5th anniversary of the Ventura Breeze. The Breeze, as the only newspaper that really serves Ventura, is a wonderful community paper and you've done an excellent job in developing it and bringing it to where it is today. I read it avidly and appreciate the coverage of events and happenings in our fair city. You've created a great vehicle that serves the readers well. I'm looking forward to sending you congratulations on your 10th anniversary!  
Regards, Marion Phalan

The Ventura Breeze is a pleasure and joy to read. It is so nice to have a paper that covers

local Ventura issues and events that my family and I are interested in. I look forward to each new issue. Thank you for giving Ventura its own paper and congratulations on 5 years of success!!!

Christine Cardoso-Moore-Keller  
Williams Realty West Ventura County

I have been associated with the Ventura Breeze for the past three years, which I have thoroughly enjoyed. As a photographer, I have had the opportunity to cover quite a number of interesting events in our community. This has given me a chance to meet some of our city's leading citizens. He has given me the freedom and opportunity to express my creativity which I appreciate although he has rejected my idea for a photo centerfold of the ladies of the City. In any event, I extend my congratulations to Sheldon and all the other staff members for their outstanding contribution in informing the community.  
John Ferritto

I want to thank you Sheldon for allowing me the opportunity to be your Social Media Intern. I love doing what I do. Thank you.  
Justin Shelton

Our community has come to depend on the Breeze for entertainment and information over the past five years. Keep up the great work, Sheldon! Your paper is very much appreciated!  
Christy Weir- Councilmember  
City of San Buenaventura

Congratulations to Sheldon and the entire Breeze family. We appreciate your support of Turning Point Foundation and our work with the homeless, many of whom suffer from mental illness. It's been a great five years!  
Jane Lax

The normal fifth year anniversary gift is wood. How shall we celebrate the Ventura Breeze's 5th year?

Five major highlights are not enough for a dream that turned into an idea that tuned into an award-winning business, an award-winning newspaper that thousands of Venturans look forward to reading. The Ventura Breeze is Sheldon Brown and Sheldon Brown is the Breeze. I love the idea of a bright colored totem pole celebrating 5 years. We need a talented artist to design the Sheldon/Breeze totem pole. The rest of us will dance around the pole in homage to our very own newspaper and our own Sheldon who has kept it going for 5 years. And will keep it going and going and going.  
Es Cole

"The Ventura Film Society has worked in partnership with Sheldon Brown and the Breeze since the VFS's founding in 2008. As we have both grown and become integral parts of Ventura's emergence as an arts and culture destination, it's a pleasure to once again say thank you and happy birthday to a very special guy, and the informative bi-weekly paper he and his dedicated colleagues have created for our community."  
Lorenzo DeStefano & the Board, staff and volunteers of the Ventura Film Society

The entrepreneurial spirit lives and breathes with the Ventura Breeze! A great small town newspaper with a big heart...proud to be a charter staff member. Looking forward to another five or ten years.  
Karlene Lang

The coverage of local news, highlighting our great students is greatly appreciated by Ventura Unified School District! Here's to another five successful years!  
Trudy Tuttle Arriaga, VUSD Superintendent

Honestly, you don't look a day over 4.  
Alfred J. Lewis, studioNothing



## News and Notes

Part Two

### The Ventura River cleanup: interview with Rob Orth

by Tim Pompey

As the cleanup of the Ventura River moves forward, the question of what to do with the residents who have moved out of the Ventura River Bottom still remains an important issue.

One of the local community leaders addressing that issue is Rob Orth, Director of Social Services for the Salvation Army in downtown Ventura. Orth has participated in a coordinated effort among local government and nonprofit agencies to provide extended services and ensure that river residents receive adequate help making the transition.

As Orth observed, helping these individuals does not come with a one-size-fits-all formula. "You have a blend of people removed two weeks ago that are older and have been there anywhere from 5 to 15 years," he said. "Then, you have a younger much more transient population that moves around more, and a lot of the younger members are very active in drug use in both use and sales and distribution, and that creates a set of crimes including theft, robbery, and violent crimes."

The most pressing need for river residents is housing. Orth estimated that so far about 125 individuals have been displaced by the river cleanup. Some have moved to other homeless encampments around the county or gone back to their original hometowns. But many remain in need of local housing.

To help with the increased demand for low-cost housing, Orth noted that the County has provided \$100,000 as a one-time payment for temporary housing in local hotels and motels. Other former

river residents have been housed with help from the newly formed Homeless to Home Project. And for temporary overnight shelter, the Winter Shelter will open at the Oxnard Armory on December 1. While the winter shelter is open, the county plans to come onsite and offer their full array of social services.

Orth is also part of a preliminary team called 100K Homes that is looking at a national model that identifies and engages with the most vulnerable homeless.

So far, in the last year and a half, the Homeless to Home project has been able to find housing for 50 homeless individuals and many others are in the process of working with case management toward housing.

So far, a massive cleanup has taken place in the river from Surfer's Point to Stanley Street, but there is still work to be completed. "There are pockets that haven't been done yet," said Orth. "This will occur in grid zones over the next few months to remove the existing camps, new startup camps, and to reinforce those that have already been cleared out."

Orth estimates that, given the massive cleanup effort, there are still about 40-50 people who remain in transition. "The challenge now," he noted, "is that most of the entry level extremely low income housing has been filled up. So, if we have another 50, where are we going to house them?"

Doing the work in grids will allow the agencies involved in the cleanup to try and keep up with the new demand for housing. As Orth explained, "Two weeks ago, we encountered 41 people in the Stanley area of the Ventura River. Half of them took us up on our housing offers and agreed to the case management process."

Orth believes the key to successfully finding homeless housing is community distribution. "Communities have learned that housing homeless people all in one place is not healthy for them or the community they are in," he said. "There is more success in sprinkling the housing

throughout a community and making use of lower income housing wherever it might be, not just in the downtown or westside."

As for what it might cost to provide additional homeless housing, Orth believes that issue remains an open question. "We're discussing these questions as we work with both the river homeless populations and the many other homeless in our community," he said.

For Orth, the key to solving the problem is community participation, not just social services and government. "There is a collective group of people, including city, county, business and nonprofit agencies, working together and looking at national best practices around creative low cost housing initiatives," he said. "As the collaboration identifies what we believe to be practical and sustainable solutions for our community, and as we present them to the public, we know that it will take the entire community engaged in the process to ultimately resolve our homeless situation."

### Local filmmaker receives award

by Sheli Ellsworth

On October 13th, Citizens for a Peaceful Resolution awarded Toni Jannotta with the Earth Charter Award for her film "Voices of the Homeless."

Ask anyone what their deepest fear is and homelessness will make the top five, especially in the current recession and mortgage foreclosures. But what if your greatest fear had stared you down and you were already homeless? Toni Jannotta wanted to know.

The local legal secretary/jazz singer began to serve coffee to the homeless at the Sarah Center at Project Understanding. What she found was a group of intelligent, interesting and talented individuals. "Little by little I got to know them and I found that many of them were people who had just had some really hard luck and were ashamed of being homeless." According to the Ventura County Homeless and Housing Coalition, almost 2,000 people

are homeless in Ventura at any given time. "I served a lot of coffee," says Jannotta, "I wanted to hear their stories. I knew that the Arts Council was offering a grant for the exploration of social problems using the arts so I decided to give it try."

Armed with a grant from the Ventura County Arts Council, Jannotta became producer, director, and creator of a performance piece in which she fused jazz into the individual stories of four local homeless people. The 33-minute documentary explores the stories of 3 Dogs, who fishes the pier with his three dogs; Donna Rogers, a pretty blonde poet; Donnie Holmes, an ex-drug dealer who became a stalwart positive thinker; and Dan Flowers who plays an awesomely wicked guitar. Along with local jazz artists: Kevin Fukagawa on keyboards, Danny Young on basses, Chris Wabich on percussion and drums and Scheila Gonzalez on sax, Jannotta grounded the stories in the soulful strength that is improvised jazz. The storytelling is more than just an honest portrayal; it is a mesmerizing reality in an area that is home to millionaires, movie stars and malls.

Jannotta's job did not end with the filming at The Wave in August 2010. She became the film editor, sound engineer and post-production technician. "Thanks to my membership at CAPS TV, I was able to turn the raw footage into something coherent. And I'm still tweaking it." Jannotta says the most important aspect of her film is the individuality of the storytellers. "We tend to want to classify them as mentally challenged or addicts or alcoholics—it gives us a reason to look away or ignore them—but that's not the case."

What does Jannotta see as the answer to the problem of homelessness? "Some people are just going to choose to live the homeless lifestyle. The problem with 'helping the homeless' is that organizations have rules. They all have their idea of what 'help' is. The reality is that there is no one single answer. The solutions are as individual as the people."

In honor of Homeless Prevention Month, "Voices of the Homeless" will be shown on November 17 at the Universalist Unitarian Church, 5654 Ralston, at 7:00 PM. For more information contact Kent at 818.281.6245

**Prop 37 Exemptions for Dummies: A Reference for the Opposition**

The propaganda centered around Prop 37's exemptions are designed solely to steer voters away from the central issue, that we have the right to know what's in our food.

**beer, wine, and liquor** Section 1100809.2 (d)  
Alcohol is regulated under a special set of federal laws so we can't touch it. It also doesn't have an ingredients list.

**cow's milk** Section 1100809.2 (a)  
**meat for human consumption from animals fed GE grains or silage** Section 1100809.2 (a)

**Article 2 Section 8 (D) of the California Constitution stipulates that ballot initiatives cannot be about multiple subjects.** In the case of Prop 37, any first generation plant, animal, insect et cetera that had its DNA genetically engineered will be labeled vs. 2nd generation GMO, the by-products of an animal that ate genetically engineered feed: meat, milk, eggs et cetera would not be labeled. The AquaBounty Salmon is the only first generation animal awaiting FDA approval for human consumption. If/when it's approved, it will be labeled under Prop 37.

**What about pet food?** Pet food containing genetically engineered crops such as corn or soy would have to be labeled under Prop 37 because the standard definition of food under the Sherman Act, passed by the legislature, includes pet food.

**restaurant food** Section 1100809.2 (h)  
Restaurants are not required to list the ingredients in their products. Requiring labeling for GMOs would have required tracking all the ingredients in restaurant meals, and since no other laws require that, it didn't make sense for this one to.

**NOTE: The opposition is telling you that animals are YES GMO because they eat GMO feed. What does that make you when you eat GMOs? Vote YES on 37 so you can decide if you want to be genetically modified or not. 37**

Paid for by The Committee for the Right to Know. Vote YES on 37! PPL #333743

**Designated Drivers are winning!**

Be the DD for your group and you can win amazing prizes!

Watch for the **Be the DD Prize Posse** in Thousand Oaks on November 9 & Ventura on November 21!

**facebook.com/BeTheDD • BeTheDD.com**



"Sailathon", a benefit for Caregivers, which helps Ventura County seniors, attracted approximately 45 kayaks, powerboats, sailboats and catamarans. The event helps raise awareness, and funds for Caregivers.

Caregivers also host a St. Patrick's Day Wearing of the Green golf event at the Buenaventura Golf Course in March.

Participants gathered later at the Anacapa Yacht Club in Channel Islands Harbor for a dinner and awards ceremony.

For information about Caregivers, call 658-8530 or visit <http://www.vccaregivers.org>.

Photo by John Ferritto.



# News and Notes

## Inside city hall: a five-year journey with the Breeze

by Rebecca Wicks

Five years ago I met a man named Sheldon Brown at Starbucks on Main Street. A retired architect with a grey-streaked beard, he had asked me there to talk about writing for his new venture – a local newspaper focused solely on Ventura.

It was 2007, and the economy wasn't great. I thought it was an ambitious project, but jumped at the chance to write about Ventura, a city I was still fairly new to. Five years later, The Breeze charges on, and I'm continuing to learn about this big "little" beach town we all call home.

City Hall issues are central to TheBreeze's content, so following is a perspective of the past five years and perhaps a glimpse of what is coming.

Having to do the same with less has been a seemingly central theme for city staff employees since the inception of The Breeze. With anemic income and property taxes, the city has been forced to make difficult and often heartbreaking decisions to close doors and end services many of which to borrow from poet Dylan Thomas did "not go gentle into that good night."

One of the saddest endings we saw was the closing of the Helen P. Wright Library in 2009 leaving behind the grant-funded Avenue Library and the downtown E.P. Foster Library. Recently, the city has expressed interest in possibly breaking from the county library system in an effort to save money. A second blow took place in 2010 with the closing of Fire Station 4 and the end of Medic-engine 10 also known as the city's "roving fire engine." Fire Station 4 was reopened in January this year thanks to a two-year federal grant.

The city also saw the termination of its Redevelopment Agency as part of the statewide effort to abolish these agencies. All responsibilities were moved into the care of the city as

projects wind down and properties are divested.

The city has not been without its share of hot button issues. Two of which managed to garner a great deal of attention included the approval of a 911 fee and the decision to install parking meters downtown. The controversial \$1.49 a month charge was voted in by the city council in 2008 as part of means to pay for the 911 call center freeing up monies for police officers and firefighters. After a sizeable uprising, the measure was repealed a year later in 2009. Parking meter stations were put in place in September 2010. Support has been mixed, and controversy around the meters still runs high.

Ventura is a city that struggles like many others with how to grow business and development while preserving its historical core and unique personality. And, also like other cities there is often disagreement as to how this task should be undertaken.

Almost all Venturans agree in general that new business is good for the city. But questions surrounding how, when, where and especially who can stir up all sorts of mixed feelings among residents. Enter Walmart.

When it was announced Walmart had leased the space on the 1700 block of Victoria Avenue where the closed Kmart once resided, contingencies immediately began to form to block the retail giant from coming to Ventura. Anti-Walmart signs popped up around town, and in 2009 Measure C, which aimed to limit the size of specific types of big box stores, appeared on our ballots. The measure was ultimately defeated and Walmart has since slowly moved through the city's approval process. While an opening date has not been set, renovations are in place to begin this fall.

Another example of this ongoing struggle was in 2009 when a group of



On October 11 Community Memorial Health System held an event celebrating the First Phase completion of the new Community Memorial Hospital. The first phase included clearing the property, moving the utilities, digging the hole, strengthening the earth and installing the foundation anchors.

The event took place on the front lawn of CMH on Brent Street and included light refreshments.

Michael Ellingson, VP Marketing Development, was on hand to answer any questions and to boast about how well the project is going.

Photo by John Ferritto.

residents sought to cap the height of new buildings in downtown and parts of midtown citing the buildings dwarfed older residential neighborhoods and blocked views of the hillsides. Ventura voters overwhelmingly struck down Measure B.

The backdrop for virtually all City Hall news stories in Ventura over the past five years has been the slacking economy. Blamed for much of the slow progress or altogether failure of a number of projects those that have made it to their ribbon-cutting have been taken note of. Success stories include the opening of CMH's Coastal Communities Cancer Center, the newly remodeled Ventura County Museum, the WAV project, Sixty California and two Fresh and Easy stores. New life was breathed into the north end of the Pacific View Mall anchored by a new Target, Trader Joe's, Staples and BevMo.

Also a bright spot was the rehabilitation and reopening of the Surfer's Point bike and walking path. The second phase of the project, which will further beautify the path with sand dunes, overflow parking lot and extending the concrete berm is now

in the works. The city has also seen recent success by the coast with clean up of the riverbed area which included the clearing of longtime homeless encampments and tons of trash.

Which brings us to the future and the next five years.

With private and public property owners aligned, the vision to make the paths along the boardwalk continue through the riverbed all the way to Ojai seems like a possibility. Other projects that have been stalled by the economy or other funding issues which may come to fruition include the construction of a 152-room Hyatt Place off Seaward behind the Golden China Restaurant and a sizeable Parklands project, a prominently residential neighborhood planned for the east end.

Ideas for Ventura development are plenty, with a number of projects – hotels, mixed use buildings, housing and more – in their infancy. For many a better economy may be one of the biggest enablers for some of these concepts to turn into actual projects.

And, if that's not enough, there is always the city's lofty dream of connecting the downtown to the beach.



Barbara Olsson came from San Diego for the book signing at Fox Fine Jewelry in downtown Ventura on Saturday, October 20 by local author (And Breeze contributing writer) Tim Pompey. The event celebrated the release of his first novel "Freeland." Mr. Pompey, whose previous books of short stories include "One Side Leads to the Other" and "Burnt by Sun," has been working on this project for three years.

Fox Jewelry is known for hosting exhibits by local visual artists, but this was their first book signing event. "It was a great venue," said Pompey. "George and Debbie went out of their way to make me feel welcome."

"Freeland," along with Pompey's other two books, is published by Createspace and being sold at Bank of Books and through Amazon and Kindle.

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# The Ventura Breeze Presents The Face Of Ventura



## Karyl Lynn Burns

Portrait by Johanna Spinks

Karyl Lynn Burns is known to Venturans as the Producing Artistic Director of Rubicon Theatre Company, an organization she co-founded with husband James O'Neil, then-Board President Clair Bowman and the company's Honorary Chair Rosa Lee Measures almost 15 years ago.

Burns grew up in Overland Park, Kansas, where she graduated from Shawnee Mission South High School. There she was on the honor roll, editor of the school newspaper and on the yearbook staff. She was active in the theatre department, student government, drill team, choir, and was Homecoming and Sweetheart Princess. Throughout high school and in summers, she was involved in youth outreach on the staff of Colonial Presbyterian Church.

She began her theatrical career producing shows in the neighborhood and at school – musical extravaganzas, variety shows, dramas, dinner theatre, haunted houses and puppet shows. While still in grade school, she began working backstage, and continued onstage at the Barn Players, Jewish Community Center's Resident Theatre and Loose Park's "Summer in the Park" in Kansas City.

After high school, Burns received a theatre scholarship to attend the University of Kansas and then Bowling Green State University in Ohio. While in college, she played leading roles in *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Importance of Being Earnest* and others. She continued her acting studies at American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco.

Burns played Nellie on the NBC series "Against the Grain," (which starred John Terry, Donna Bullock, Stephen Tobolowsky and Ben Affleck). She received her Equity card at Santa Barbara Theatre Group; her first Equity lead was in *Oklahoma!* at San Jose CLO and she played many leads for SBCLO and Ensemble Theatre over a decade. While in SB, she met future husband James O'Neil.

Karyl Lynn and Jim wed in October of 1985. They have been privileged to be partners in life, behind-the-scenes, and occasionally, onstage.

Favorite roles include Catherine in *The Heiress*, Shirley Valentine, Martha in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* (with Joe Spano), and Rosie in *Dancing a Lughnasa* (with Stephanie Zimbalist).

Karyl Lynn owned and operated State of the Arts for 15 years, a firm which represented clients ranging from Ensemble Theatre, New West Symphony and PCPA Theaterfest on the Central Coast, to Tony winners Dale Wasserman and Normand Kurtz. She was the first Executive Director of the Ventura Chamber Music Festival (now Ventura Music Festival), a post she held for the four years prior to starting Rubicon.

On behalf of Rubicon, she has received a New York Drama Desk Award; the Los Angeles Drama Critics' Circle Award for Sustained Excellence; and multiple Ovation Awards.

*We asked her what she likes most about Ventura.*

The people – without question. I come from the Midwest – and from people who have agricultural roots. When you work the land, you understand community. You can't farm successfully without helping and being helped by your neighbor. That sense of community is a part of our DNA in Ventura, and that feels like home to me. Of course there's also the beautiful weather, the mountains, the ocean and the blend of small-town and proximity to a major metropolitan city. We have it all!

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

What a beautiful, soulful person! I so enjoyed hearing about Johanna's background, and about her philosophy related to this project – and to art in general. What an amazing thing to try to find the essence of a community through a diverse mix of people. I was floored that she could paint and converse at the same time – she's clearly someone who can multi-task successfully and remain focused. And she has extraordinary artistic abilities. Thanks – it was a joy!



Images copyright by Johanna Spinks  
johanna@johannaspinks.com www.johannaspinks.com  
www.thefaceofventura.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 until January after two years of wonderful portraits by Johanna.

## News and Notes



CAPS Chat

### 2012 in review

by Elizabeth Rodeno

CAPS-TV has had a wonderful 2012 covering many city meetings live as well as community events such as the annual Ventura County Fair Parade. We were present at The Ventura Botanical Gardens groundbreaking, in the mix at the Ventura Riverbottom clean-up and had the opportunity to interview the congressional, assembly and local candidates on our famous Video Voter program. The educational community shared their views on the propositions.

There were lively debates on the many issues affecting our community. Our Digital Storytelling program taught many young people the fascinating world of video production with thanks to the school district, Ventura College, and kids and their families. We keep expanding our reach in Ventura County and are pleased to be so well received by everyone. This year we saw a great increase in new and enthusiastic members. We are proud to showcase the powerful, entertaining and moving work our members produce for Channel 6 and VTV Channel 15.

Thanks to Sheldon and the Breeze staff for working together with CAPS to be important voices in the Ventura Community and congratulations on their 5 years.

## Foster Parenting Informational Meeting

Recent changes in the law now support fostering young people up to their 21st birthday. Come to this month's informational meeting to learn about the difference you can make to a child as they start their journey as a young adult.

Over 600 children in Ventura County need a foster home where they can thrive, develop and achieve dreams that once might have seemed impossible. And it's not all one-sided: their youthful enthusiasm and gratitude can bring new spirit to your life while you keep them on the path to a happy, productive life. That's the power of foster care.

Become a foster parent; it's quite possibly the best thing one human can do for another. This month's event is Tuesday, November 13 at 6:00 p.m. at the Human Services Agency of Ventura County (855 Partridge Dr., Ventura). Call 654-3456 or go to [vchsa.org/foster](http://vchsa.org/foster) for more dates and an online meeting option.

### Kingdom Center

Continued from page 1

about \$15,000 a month. But neither the property's partners nor the Kingdom Center board have been able to reach a consensus on a fair rent rate. "I think it's a difference of opinion as to what they ought to pay," said Julie. "We have established what fair rent looks like based on several appraisals and we've requested that they move into a fair rent contract."

But Sam Gallucci, president and CEO of the Kingdom Center, insisted that the lease they signed is the lease they are honoring. "We have a lease agreement," said Gallucci. "Whatever gap there is of any nature, we pray for them, but we have a lease agreement and we're fulfilling that agreement."

Gallucci acknowledged that there have been discussions regarding the lease. "There certainly has been dialogue," he said, "but the reality of the dialogue is that we're fulfilling our lease obligations."

The Powells insist that they are committed to the work of the Kingdom Center. "Our intention is to have a ministry there," said Julie. "We still truly believe in what this ministry is about."

Harold described the decision to sell the property as "gut wrenching" and expressed his appreciation for the center's staff and volunteers. "We want to thank all the churches, Lutheran Social Services, the volunteers, the staff, and the communities who have given their time and money to make this program run," he said.

The Kingdom Center's lease runs through June 2013. If no agreement is reached and the property is sold, it would be up to the new property owners to decide what they would like to do with the center. "Even though the property is on the market, we'd still like to reach a solution," said Julie. "But if somebody were to buy the property, unless they chose to keep the Kingdom Center as tenants, then the Kingdom Center would have to move out after next June."

But even if somebody did make an offer on the property, the Powells noted that the Kingdom Center would have the first right to match the terms of the offer.

As for Gallucci, his focus remains on the center's ministry. "We started this project with no money," he said, "and we've watched God continue the miracle."

He hopes that if someone does buy the property, they will allow them to stay and continue helping the homeless: "I'm praying that someone will buy the property, either for us, or will allow us to stay and in the process will bless the owners with what they need."

### Q & A

Continued from page 1

We learned quite a few things from Geno, as he prefers to be called. When he is not on duty, the Yuba County native likes to go spear fishing, big and small game hunting, gardening, cooking, paddling and painting.

This 36-year-old's interests may be diverse, but his passion since he became a ranger in 2009 is not: to make the parks safe and secure for all. *Ventura Breeze: How did you become a state park peace officer? What sparked*



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*your interest?*

John Geno Lucich: I have always loved the outdoors and parks, and the state park peace officer/ranger is a steward of natural resources, recreation and the environment.

However, I spent most of my previous career offshore as a mariner, including a tour of duty in the Navy. I served on board the USS Thomas S. Gates (CG-51) and on various types and classes of vessels as a merchant marine officer, dive boat captain, harbor patrol officer and safety technician/medic on oil platforms. The Harbor Patrol inspired me to continue in public safety. Working as a dive boat captain in Santa Barbara helped me learn the trade of a naturalist. My experiences with these islands along with my public safety stint inspired me to serve my community and to become a state park ranger.

Being a ranger is an ongoing learning experience, which requires equal proficiencies in being a peace officer, emergency medical responder, outdoor recreation specialist and nature/local history interpreter. That was very appealing to me – to have a job that has high expectations for such diverse skill sets.

*VB: What does your job entail? Describe a normal workday.*

JCL: As a ranger working the parks and beaches of Ventura, work is never dull and I meet new people everyday. On a daily basis, rangers and our peace officer lifeguard counterparts deal with public safety. That is our primary responsibility. This includes resource protection, providing access to high quality outdoor recreation, interpretation at a naturalist level, general law enforcement and emergency medical services.

However, we are not always out there saving pelicans and arresting bad guys. I spend a lot of time managing volunteers, assisting with directions, answering messages, filing reports, talking to people about almost anything and working on projects to enhance the parks. In the course of a day, I have gone from making a felony arrest, to presenting an interpretive campfire program to park visitors. We just get used to wearing a few different hats throughout the day.

*VB: Where are you usually stationed?*

JCL: I am assigned to the Ventura sector of the Channel Coast District. My primary area of responsibility includes Mandalay, McGrath, San Buenaventura and Emma Wood State Beaches. In addition, the state park boundaries include portions of the Ventura and Santa Clara rivers. As a peace officer of the state, rangers also assist other law enforcement and emergency services agencies outside of the park boundaries.

*VB: What issues do you face as a ranger?*

JCL: Every state park has different issues and obstacles. As a whole, the state parks have issues including the budget, park closures and major environmental destruction. However, the biggest obstacle in my case is getting the public to understand that these parks and beaches are theirs. Without their support and participation, it is a lot more challenging for us to make the state parks a safe, fun and inspiring place.

I feel it is important that the public understands they are welcome to their state parks but to tread lightly. They can be empowered to take action and place a personal stewardship towards the support and development of state parks.

Please Join Cypress Place Senior Living

# Yesterday's Cafe

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1:30-3:30pm

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*Yesterday's Cafe 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.*

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## Senior Living

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### Skin cancer and you

by Nanci Cone

Skin cancer is the most common form of human cancer with an estimated one million new cases occurring annually. The annual rates of all forms of skin cancer are increasing each year, representing a growing public concern. It has also been estimated that nearly half of all Americans who live to age 65 will develop skin cancer at least once.

The most common warning sign of skin cancer is a change in the appearance of the skin, such as a new growth or a sore that will not heal. The term "skin cancer" refers to three different conditions. From the least to the most dangerous, they are basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma and melanoma.

Basal cell carcinoma may appear as a pearly or waxy bump or a flat, flesh-colored or brown scar-like lesion.

Squamous cell carcinoma occurs on sun-exposed areas of your body, such as your face, ears and hands and may appear as a firm, red nodule or a flat lesion with a scaly, crusted surface. People with darker skin are more likely to develop squamous cell carcinoma on areas that aren't often exposed to sun, such as the legs and feet.

Melanoma can develop anywhere on your body, in otherwise normal skin or in an existing mole that becomes cancerous. In both men and women, melanoma can occur on skin that hasn't

been exposed to the sun. Signs include a large brownish spot with darker speckles, a mole that changes in color, size or feel or that bleeds, a small lesion with an irregular border and portions that appear red, white, blue or blue-black or dark lesions on your palms, soles, fingertips or toes, or on mucous membranes.

To make a proper diagnosis, doctors usually remove all or part of the growth by performing a biopsy. The skin that is removed is then examined under a microscope to check for cancer cells.

Treatment for skin cancer varies, depending on the size, type, depth and location of the lesions. Small skin cancers limited to the surface of the skin may not require treatment beyond an initial skin biopsy that removes the entire growth. If additional treatment is needed, options may include freezing, excisional surgery, laser therapy, Mohs surgery (skin growth is removed layer by layer until no abnormal cells remain), curettage and electrodesiccation (layers of cancer cells are scraped away using a circular blade and an electric needle), radiation therapy, chemotherapy, photodynamic therapy (skin cancer is destroyed with a combination of laser light and drugs that makes the cells sensitive to light) and biological therapy which stimulates your immune system.

To help prevent skin cancer, avoid sun exposure and use a sunscreen with UVA protection and an SPF rating of 30 or higher. Avoid tanning beds and wear broad rimmed hats and invest in decent sunglasses with a high UVA rating. Regular surveillance of susceptible individuals, both by self-examination and regular physical examination, is also

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# Senior Living

a good idea for people at higher risk. People who have already had any form of skin cancer should ask for a referral to a dermatologist.



Rosemary Flores-Gordon, the Alzheimer's Association's area director for Ventura County, addresses the crowd at a recent Yesterday's Café support group.

## Cypress Place also celebrates an anniversary

In September 2011 Cypress Place Senior Living launched an innovative program in conjunction with the Alzheimer's Association called Yesterday's Café.

Yesterday's Café is a monthly gathering for people affected by Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, along with families, caregivers, and professionals. It is open to the public and free of charge. Cypress Place hosts the gathering at their senior living community the first Wednesday of each month.

"We think it is wonderful for people with dementia and their families, and are thrilled to offer it as a resource for

the community," said Yvonne Knepper, one of the marketing directors at Cypress Place.

The program came about when a representative for the Alzheimer's Association Central Coast Chapter presented this new concept to the managers at Cypress Place. The response was positive.

The program is unique in having caregivers attending at the same time with those they care for who are afflicted with Alzheimer's and dementia. The caregivers gain support at the meetings, and yet there are a variety of activities for those in attendance with Alzheimer's and dementia.

"What they are doing at Cypress Place is fabulous," said Rosemary Flores-Gordon, the Alzheimer's Association's area director for Ventura County.

With a special area for residents with Alzheimer's and dementia built right into the assisted living community at Cypress Place, it was a perfect fit for the staff at the senior community as well.

"We pride ourselves on the outstanding living environment we provide to not only our independent and assisted living residents, but also our Generations residents" said Robert Goldberg, executive director at Cypress Place.

The next Yesterday's Café meeting will be held on Wednesday November 7th from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Cypress Place Senior Living located at 1200 Cypress Point Lane in Ventura. For more information or to RSVP, please call 650-8000.

To learn more about Cypress Place Senior Living of Ventura, visit their web site at [www.cypressplaceseniorliving.com](http://www.cypressplaceseniorliving.com).

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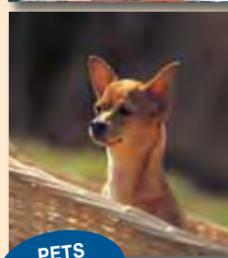
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# Professor Scamp, Ph.D

(Pretty Happy Dog)



Professor Scamp  
Ph.D

■ Here are some excerpts from my first column from Oct. 24, 2007.

"Hello, I'm Dr. Scamp. Well, actually, I'm not really a doctor but neither was

Dr. Seuess but he got away with it. To introduce myself I am the pet editor and an investigative reporter for the Breeze. I am a Shih Tzu dog.

"I might even write about cats if I can think of anything interesting about them (just how do they get away without doing anything anyway?) (Of course I didn't know then that I would have my own cat now and that she would actually lay next to me in bed, go figure.)

"PS: I hope that my writing is okay, remember I'm only a dog."

What I didn't tell you in my first column is that I have a PhD (Pretty happy Dog) from Furry State University and type using the "hunt and paw" technique. My major was "Dogmatic Studies".

With that being said I want to thank all of my wonderful readers (both human and dogs). It has been a great 5 years (That's about 25-30 years for me).

And a thanks to all of the cats and dogs that I have shown to adopt and the many of them that have been adopted. This makes me very happy. And to all of the Scampclub animals that have sent me their photos to put in the paper. Please keep them coming.

And a big thanks to my publisher/editor who has given me the opportunity to write for the Breeze and besides dog food sometimes gives me people food (Maybe that is why I am big boned?).

Ventura just keeps getting better and better with more restaurants being dog friendly and the new trail at our future Ventura Botanical Gardens is dog friendly and great exercise for all of us with wonderful views of Ventura.

I would love to meet more of you in person so if you would ever like to join me for lunch that would be wonderful, just email me at scampclub@venturabreeze.com.

■ Purrs 'n Paws, a new holiday boutique. A crafts boutique to benefit the Humane Society of Ventura County's animals is being held on Saturday, November 10, from 8am to 4pm at the Balboa Middle School

Cafeteria located at 247 S. Hill Road.

It will be a great way to get a head-start on holiday shopping and help our furry friends. Local craft vendors will display a variety of handmade items that make wonderful holiday gifts!

For vendor information, please visit [www.hsvc.org](http://www.hsvc.org) email [humanescietyboutique@gmail.com](mailto:humanescietyboutique@gmail.com) or call 646-6505.

And admission is Free.

■ License ambassadors from Ventura County Animal Services (VCAS) will be going door to door in Ventura until Sun., Nov. 11, to check on animal licensing compliance. VCAS teams will check with pet humans to ensure that they are up-to-date with current State of California animal licensing requirements.

To help prevent the spread of rabies, the State of California requires pet owners to vaccinate against rabies and purchase a license within 30 days of acquiring a new dog, or with a puppy, after it is four months of age.

The fees for purchasing a Ventura County animal license are \$20.00 for spayed/neutered animals (with proof of sterility) or \$75.00 for unaltered animals. A 100% penalty applies to all delinquent licenses.

To obtain a new license you can:

1. Visit the Camarillo shelter at 600 Aviation Drive or call: (805) 388-4341 Option 6
2. Go to [www.vcas.us/](http://www.vcas.us/) and print the application and mail it in.
3. Go to your local veterinarian to complete the paperwork. Check [www.vcas.us/](http://www.vcas.us/) for a list of participating vet clinics.

A rabies certificate is valid for a minimum of 12 months and is required to receive an actual license tag. License ambassadors are able to license dogs at the door. They will also have information on dog spay/neuter vouchers that will help reduce the cost of pet sterilization.

For more information on licensing and VCAS low cost rabies clinics, please visit [www.vcas.us/](http://www.vcas.us/) or call (805) 388-4341 Option 6.

Also if your dog does not have a tag with contact information this would be good time to add that to their leash with their license.

And even consider having an identifying chip installed by your vet.

I have one and now I have a chip on my shoulder and in my shoulder.

## Forever home wanted



Hi: I'm Nikki, a 6 month old independent Torbie. I am curious and very playful. Check out the "M" on my forehead. It is a sign of beauty.

I'm a little shy when I meet new people (hey, I'm a cat not a dog), but am quick to purr. Good with other active cats, "cat friendly" dogs and older kids - kids must be 10 years and older. I am looking for a family who will give me lots of love and attention, and an indoor home.

Call 649.2844 or email [greyfootcat@gmail.com](mailto:greyfootcat@gmail.com) to find out more about me and to take me home.

## Scamp Club

Hi: I'm Licky, a Maine Coon mix - one of the largest breeds cats (I may be bigger than Scamp).

I am 16 years young. I love to go for rides in the car as long as I can sit shotgun in my raised car seat so I can see out. And I enjoy walks and picnics at local parks and at the beach.

My companion is an artist so I like going to art fairs and hanging around her booth (you may have seen me). And I know commands like "wave goodbye", give high fives, sit, come, get in the car, stand up and stop (I may be smarter than Scamp also).



## 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.



Five years of Professor Scamp.

## 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.

### Armed Robbery

On Monday, October 15th, at 3:10 p.m., the VPD received a 911 call of an armed robbery occurring at Scandia Liquor, located in the 10200 block of Telephone Road.

The suspect entered the business brandishing a knife at the clerk, demanding money. The suspect then opened the cash register and took an undisclosed amount of money. The suspect fled after a brief struggle with the clerk.

Officers stopped the suspect's vehicle a few blocks from the scene of the crime.

The suspect, John Lopez, would not comply with Officers' commands. Lopez was taken into custody after a brief struggle with the K-9. Lopez was transported to VCMC where he received medical treatment for his injuries.

### Attempted Burglary

On Wednesday, October 17th, at 3:00 a.m., the victim was in her bedroom sleeping when she was awakened by a noise outside her bedroom window. She looked out her window and noticed a male subject attempting to pry open her window with a knife. She immediately called the VPD.

In the 2600 block of Lexington Drive, officers checked the area and found a subject, Ryan Ramos, only a few blocks from the victim's residence. Ramos matched the description provided by the victim.

### Robbery

On Friday, September 21st, at 8:14

p.m., officers responded to a report of a robbery that had just occurred at Simone's Coffee.

The suspect entered the coffee shop and asked for a drink. The suspect approached the counter again and demanded the employee give him all the money from the cash register. The suspect said he had a gun, although no gun was seen. The employee complied and gave the suspect an undisclosed amount of cash. The suspect took the money and fled.

Investigators noticed similarities with the suspect, Tyrone Marsaw, when he was arrested on 10-15-12 after a short standoff with police on a city bus.

Further investigation into the robbery led investigators to positively identifying the suspect. Marsaw who is

currently in custody was subsequently booked and remains in VC Jail.

### Shooting

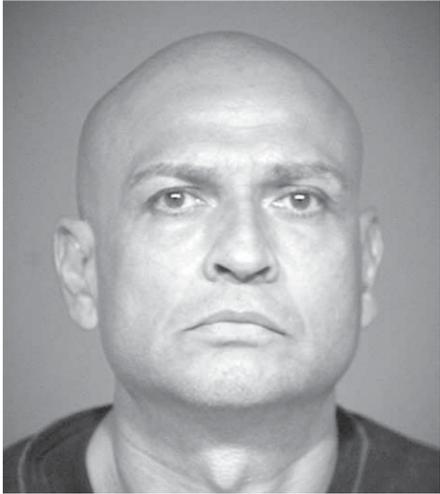
On Thursday, October 4th, at 9:45 p.m., the VPD responded to a report of a shooting victim in the 1100 block of Carlsbad Plaza. Erica Landeros was transported to VCMC for treatment of a gunshot wound.

Landeros had acquaintances at her residence. A verbal altercation ensued and Landeros brandished a handgun and prevented Kenneth Young from leaving the house.

Young pushed furniture at Landeros knocking her to the floor, which caused Landeros to discharge one round in her leg as she fell. Young jumped through a window as Landeros fired another round at him.

Young was not injured. Landeros was booked into VC Jail.

# Police Reports



## “Wigout Bandit” identified

The Ventura Police Department has identified the “Wigout Bandit” who is responsible for three robberies within the City of Ventura and may be linked to several other violent crimes through out the city.

The first robbery occurred at the US Bank on Victoria Av, the second took place on 8/23/12 at the Chase Bank on Victoria Av, and the third robbery took place at RaboBank on Mills Rd.

VPD is requesting the public’s assistance in locating Lopez. He is known to frequent hotels and motels in Ventura, Oxnard, and the Santa Barbara area and is considered armed and dangerous. If anyone knows the whereabouts of Lopez they are urged to contact the Ventura Police Department, FBI or crime stoppers.

## Helping to Bring Hollywood Home

As the economic impact of nearly two decades of runaway production has cost California billions of dollars in lost jobs in the entertainment industry, Artisfactions.com Tracy Saunders is leading an event to benefit the Bring Hollywood Home Foundation and The Boys & Girls Club of Camarillo and Ventura, as well as, to honor veterans to bring community expression together. The Veterans Day art show and music concert will be held at the Pierpont Inn on Sunday, November 11 from 4-9 p.m.

Fine artist Julia Diller, daughter-in-law of Phyllis Diller, and guest star artist, U.S. Veteran and two time Olympian Gary Visconti, a co-founder and board member of Bring Hollywood Home Foundation, are the featured artists. In 2010, Visconti brought the leadership of the grassroots group to the attention of former California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger who called the leadership “people’s power” to save Hollywood.

“My main motivation in bringing together veterans and artists is to benefit Bring Hollywood Home Foundation and the Boys & Girls Club of Camarillo and Ventura, where dreamers can meet achievers. Our cocktail celebration (black tie optional) and red carpet will include many celebrities including Ms. California 2013 Shanna Olson and many veterans to make this day come alive for the whole community. Thank you to our sponsors and supporters.” says Tracy Saunders, Founder and CEO of www.Artisfactions.com

With a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Fine Arts and over 25 years experience in business, sales and marketing, Saunders has combined her local to international interests of art with business to increase community awareness for non-profit organizations, artists and business networking. Saunders will also be producing and hosting her own TV show on student leadership and development starting in November.

RSVP is required. Tickets are available at [www.ArtisfactionsCelebrityEvents100.eventbrite.com](http://www.ArtisfactionsCelebrityEvents100.eventbrite.com) or [www.Artisfactions.com](http://www.Artisfactions.com). Contact Tracy Saunders at 641-0824 or [artisfactions@gmail.com](mailto:artisfactions@gmail.com) for more information.

## Youth Auction for the Boys & Girls Club

“CE SOIR du PARIS” is the theme of the 45th Annual Great Auction of the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Ventura presented by E. J. Harrison & Sons, Inc., November 3, 4:30 PM at the Crowne Plaza Ventura Beach Hotel.

This year’s Parisian theme gala features a champagne reception, live and silent auctions, gourmet dining and entertainment. Todd Ventura of “Poor Richard Press” will be the evening’s auctioneer. Entertainment will feature music plus Chef Didier of 71 Palm Restaurant leading a crème brulee demonstration with Club kids.

Among many items the live auction features an original design \$10,000 diamond ring designed by famous jeweler and former Club member, Bob Lynn of Lynn’s Jewelry.

All funds raised by the auction benefit the on-going year-round programs for the 3500 members and families of the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Ventura’s five centers located in Ventura (one in public housing), Oak View and Saticoy.

For additional information, to donate auction items or to make reservations please visit their website [www.bgclubventura.org](http://www.bgclubventura.org), place cursor on Special Events and click on 45th Annual Great Auction or call Leilani at 641-5585.

### Deckers Outlet

**10,000 Pairs of Shoes Must Go!** **Footwear for Men, Women and Kids!**

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**Happy Birthday, Breeze!**

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*Linda's*  
**CLAWS & PAWS**

Ventura's Health Food Store for Dogs & Cats

**No Delay in Trash & Recycling or Green Waste Pick Up Due to the Veterans' Day Holiday**

The Veterans' Day holiday falls on Sunday, November 11. The collection of trash and recyclables or green waste will not be affected in the cities of Ventura and Ojai during the week of Veterans' Day, Nov. 11-17.

**Thank you and Happy Holiday**  
**E. J. Harrison & Sons**

For information & to pay bills online go to [www.ejharrison.com](http://www.ejharrison.com) **647-1414**

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The Ventura Commerce and Education Foundation (VCEF) named Jan Brovold October’s Teacher of the Month. Ms. Brovold is a third grade teacher at Loma Vista Elementary School, and has been teaching for 30 years.

**Weekly SUDOKU**

Answer

6	9	4	7	3	5	8	1	2
1	3	8	2	4	6	7	5	9
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## Show Time

Where The Music Flows

### Favorite gigs

by Michael Kohli

In honor of the Ventura Breeze celebrating five years; I asked a few local musicians to reveal what their favorite gig memory is within the past five years; **Ed Kasper / Whiskey Glass Eye**

"My favorite memory would have to be when we (Whiskey Glass Eye) were able to play with Kathleen Edwards at the Ventura Theater. Two cool things happened: Two of my band members had never played there before so I was stoked to be able to make that happen for them and Kathleen's band told us that they were stoked for us to open for them. Being a more folk/country band, they had not seen a really good rock band in a long time! RAD!"

**Joey Juarez / Facing The Fallen**

"I played guitar for Facing The Fallen for 3 years and being in the band was a great experience for me because I learned what it is like to be on stage and having that stage experience helps me become confident with my music. My favorite gig that I have played is this past year when I played the Whiskey A Go Go, because I felt like a true rockstar with the professional PA system and getting to meet a celebrity was a true experience for me."

**Spinz / from the band, "Spinz."**

"My fondest concert memory is travelling to Srebrenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina for the first hip hop concert there. This is a city with no life, a town that was robbed of its character by war Mongols and where over 5,000 men and children were killed in 3 days in 1995 while NATO stood by and watched. It was great to see the people full of life and energy simply through the music. I have been the only American to perform there since the Balkan war and it was great to make a difference in people's lives."

**Gio Murillo / Two Minute Hero**

"My favorite gig memory was playing at Borderline in Thousand Oaks. I was the lead singer for Two Minute Hero at the time."

PS: On a sad note, I'd like to take a moment to remember a friend in the scene. Wil Evans, Jr. RIP. He worked at many of my endless long-hour Nicholby's shows and always made me laugh. And, there were times when the night ran way long, but he was always an awesome sport about it. Always a fun spirit about him. I'll miss you my friend.

Two on the Aisle

## Rubicon represents professional pinnacle

by Jim Spencer & Shirley Lorraine

As the Ventura Breeze celebrates its fifth anniversary as Your Hometown Paper, the Rubicon Theatre Company starts its 15th season as your hometown professional theatre with a season appropriately entitled *Our Town, Your Theatre*.

Like everyone, over the past five years the Rubicon has faced economic and other challenges. Yet, through artistic and other innovation, it has continued its rise to achieve a pinnacle as our local, non-profit professional theater with an

international reputation.

On-stage productions have ranged from frothy to thought-provoking and everything in between. Each season had something sure to please everyone, although possibly not all at the same time. The Rubicon mounted and is committed to staging not only proven scripts, but unknown or little-known and original works to enrich our world.

In the realm of the new, during our five year look back period the Rubicon presented 11 new works, five of which were world premiers. One, *Daddy Long Legs*, was a new musical about an orphan and her mystery patron, who she called Daddy Long Legs. Since its world premier here in Ventura 14 companies have staged the show, including in Japan. The show opens in London on November 8 and a sizable contingent of our Ventura neighbors are there right now for the festivities.

Two other original pieces, one by Rubicon Artistic Director James O'Neil, *Lonesome Traveler* and *The Best is Yet to Come: The Music of Cy Coleman*, have enjoyed great further success, too. The Rubicon's production of the latter show played in New York and recently received a New York Drama Desk award.

During the same period the Company has also mounted stellar productions of many classics, including *The Tempest*, *The Miracle Worker*, *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Steel Magnolias*.

The web of the Rubicon's artistic directors and founders, the husband and wife team extraordinaire of Karyl Lynn Burns and James O'Neil, is widely cast. Both professional actors themselves, Burns and O'Neil entice well known and soon-to-be-well known artists onto our local stage. Some of the many who graced Rubicon shows in the last five years include Emmy winner Joe Spano, Stephanie Zimbalist, Ted Neeley, Bonnie Franklin, Susan Clark and Melissa Manchester. All are part of a very long list of notable luminaries who have leant their talents to our community's theater. Both John Ritter and Jack Lemmon made their final stage appearances at the Rubicon.

In addition to innovation on stage, Burns and O'Neil have been pioneers in co-producing shows with other nonprofit theater companies. In this collaborative process each group contributes a portion of the initial production expenditures and receives a full blown, quality show for its own season. The approach saves money, gives new works greater exposure, provides audiences with high quality offerings and permits rolling world premiers.

As an adjunct to its stellar productions, the Rubicon also promotes the arts by providing youth workshops, performances for school groups, weekend and summer theater program and intern opportunities for those wishing to learn various crafts of dramaturgy. Students and adult audiences alike benefit from "talk-back" sessions – discussion sessions held after some plays – in which characterizations, motivations and intents are questioned, examined and explored.

Why travel to Los Angeles for entertainment when the finest quality professional productions with renowned actors are right here in town? There are matinees available, as well as new "local's night" pricing on Fridays. Single tickets as well as season tickets in a variety of packages are available. Check out your theatre in our town at [www.rubicontheatre.org](http://www.rubicontheatre.org) or (805) 667-2900.

## VFS@420EAST

### Someplace With A Mountain

(Filmmaker Steve Goodall will attend)

Reviewed by Pattie Ridenour  
Ventura Film Society

Narrated by Chevy Chase, *Someplace With A Mountain* (Tuesday, Nov. 6th @ 7:15pm), tells the story of a small group of atolls in the South Pacific that are disappearing. A group of islanders whose forefathers navigated the vast ocean and settled here, are losing their homes and crops to the combined effects of climate change and sea level rise. Filmmaker Steve Goodall, a skilled and experienced sailor himself, came across the home of

the Lapita Navigators on his travels and discovered they knew nothing about the current forecasts for sea level rise. Once informed, they asked for Steve's help. He documented their stories, filmed their lifestyles and traveled to the Island of Yap to scout for a new beginning for the Lapita. Global warming skeptics need to see this! It will remind all of us that the actions of one person can make a big difference to a lot of people.

*Someplace With A Mountain* is the 19th of 21 feature films screening @ 7:15pm on 1st & 3rd Tuesdays through December 4, 2012, at 420 E. Santa Clara Street (@ Oak Street) in Downtown Ventura. Screening, Membership & Advance Ticket Information – [www.venturafilmsociety.com](http://www.venturafilmsociety.com) or 628-2299/info@venturafilmsociety.com.

The Entertainment Report

## Five Years of The Ventura Breeze in review

by Linde Carlson

Congratulations are in order to Sheldon Brown and his genuine dedication to making The Ventura Breeze a true hometown paper. Covering everything from community news events, police blotters, new business announcements, and cultural event promotions. Not to mention the diversity of staff and excellent journalism that makes The Breeze a paper you can't wait to open to see what's next.

We have come a long way in five years. We have reached an unparalleled audience of new readers, increasing our distribution, with impressive numbers. The Breeze has produced more cultural event articles paving the way for Ventura artists and the community, showcasing a vast array of entertainment choices in the city.

In 2010, The Breeze added a film column, another cultural amenity to the already diverse entertainment pages, reviews featuring films playing at the Century Theatre in Downtown, Ventura.

Before I get to the films highlighting the last five years, I want to thank Sheldon for giving me the opportunity to write the film reviews; as a long time entertainment professional, film has been a passion of mine for over 30 years, and it's been a pleasure to write for The Breeze, thank you.

As the film critic for Ventura, and The Ventura Breeze, it gives me great pleasure to bring to you Five Years of Film In Review; from 2007 to our current 2012 winners thus far, a compilation of outstanding cinematic art that warrants its own soapbox.

**2007** – *Harry Potter & The Order of the Phoenix*, which needs no commentary as it speaks for itself. This blockbuster trilogy just gets better with age.

**2008** – *Slumdog Millionaire*, a poor and uneducated teen (Dev Patel) accused of cheating on *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire* recounts how he was able to answer each question via a flashback to his childhood. Set in India.

**2009** – Michael Jackson's *This Is It*, is a hard one to swallow given the sudden death of the world's iconic pop star, but it's a must if you are a Jackson fan.

**2010** – *The King's Speech*. One of the longest running films and widest theatrical distribution since *Gone with The Wind* and *Casablanca*. Winning Best Picture and Colin Firth winning

Actor in a Leading Role, *The King's Speech* leaves you speechless. An historical account of King Henry the VIIIth, the story is told through the eyes of a stammering brother of the King.

**2011** – *The Artist*. Romantic-Comedy-Drama. Another widely viewed film winning "Best Picture", and Jean Dujardin winning Actor in a Leading Role, brought us back to the silent film era. Modern, animated, method acting conveys a story board of emotion where visuals and mannerisms replace word which becomes a silent playground.

2011 also brought us the Swedish thriller-trilogy, *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*, *The Girl Who Played with Fire*, and *The Girl Who Kicked the Hornets Nest*. Written by the late Stieg Larsson. This thrice-the-thrill trilogy was captivating, and intriguing.

*The Twilight* – a teen phenomenon, even captivating adults.

**2012** – *The Intouchables*. An independent French film that surprises even the French. In this heartwarming dramedy, an aristocrat who becomes a quadriplegic played by Francois Cluzet hires a young man from the projects (Omar Sy) to take care of him. The relationship grows to an unprecedented closeness.

**Argo** – Directed by Ben Affleck. In this political thriller, a dramatization based on real life events takes place in 1979. Iranian militants seize the American embassy. A must see! A definite Oscar contender for "Best Picture".

**Pitch Perfect** – Is a "Glee-esque" comedy, Anna Henriks plays Beca, a self assured, independent, music passionista, a freshman who tries to find her way at Barden University. She is urged by her peers to join The Bellas, a cappella singing group. The girls take on the male rival singing groups, and love is at the end of the tunnel for Beca.

Great music. Uplifting! Humorously enjoyable.

In closing, wishing Sheldon and The Ventura Breeze many more years of success and great journalism.

Until next time, enjoy Ventura, and have a reel-y great week.

## Music Calendar 10/31 to 11/13

For more events go to [Fun-in-Ventura.com](http://Fun-in-Ventura.com)

**Amigos Cafe & Cantina**

546 E. Main St., 805-874-2232

Live Bands and Musicians every Wed thru Sun

Continued on page 20

# Lighter Breeze

Zits



Snuffy Smith



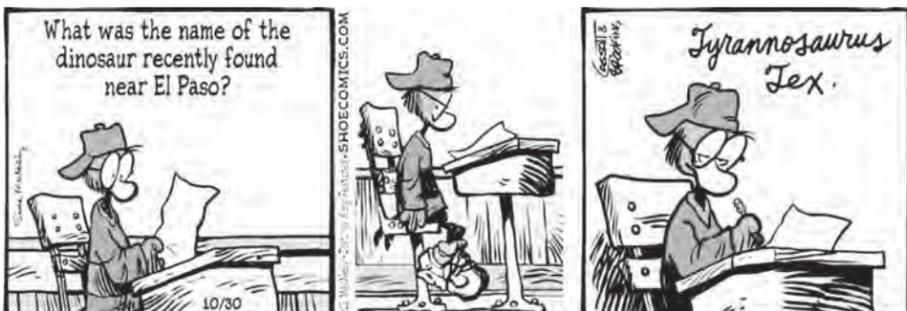
Dustin



Todd the Dinosaur



Shoe



Blondie



Solutions on page 15

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## Weekly SUDOKU

bv 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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## Labeling GMOs In Your Food WHICH SIDE ARE YOU ON?

YES IN FAVOR OF PROP 37	NO AGAINST INFORMING
<b>Consumers Union</b>	<b>Monsanto:</b> \$7,100,500
<b>The Center For Food Safety</b>	<b>DuPont:</b> \$4,900,000
<b>California Council of Churches</b>	<b>BASF:</b> \$2,000,000
<b>American Public Health Association</b>	<b>Bayer:</b> \$2,000,000
<b>Organic Consumers Association</b>	<b>DOW:</b> \$2,000,000
<b>California Nurses Association</b>	<b>Syngenta:</b> \$2,000,000
<b>Sierra Club</b>	<b>Pepsi:</b> \$1,716,300
<b>Public Citizen</b>	<b>Coca-Cola:</b> \$1,164,446
<b>Environmental Working Group</b>	<b>Nestle:</b> \$1,169,400
<b>Food Democracy NOW!</b>	
<b>United Farm Workers</b>	

Paid for by the Committee for the Right to Know: Vote YES on 37! FPPC #1337480

Sorry, no crossword, but it will return next issue.



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

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

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

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

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

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

revealed later.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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# Community Events

## Ventura events

by Ana Baker

**Nov. 4: Annual holiday arts and crafts show** presented by Wild Spirit Road Show, Boutique featuring unique well crafted and custom products for the home and personal use. From beautiful copper jewelry to glass gifts, art, bath and body products, exotic paper beads for jewelry making and more. Sunday from 10a.m. to 5p.m. located at mini park on Palm and Main. Credit cards accepted.

**Nov. 4: Ash Street North Salon** at 12 N. Ash St. will be hosting a **fundraiser to benefit Assistance League of Ventura County** on Sunday, from 9a.m. to 4p.m. Four experienced hairdressers will be offering haircuts for \$25, shampoo and style for \$20 and mini facials for \$25. Refreshments will be provided and 100% of the proceeds will go to Assistance League of Ventura County. Walk ins will be welcome but to assure a time call 643-4362 for an appointment.

**Nov. 4: Former City Manager of Ventura Rick Cole speaks** on the patron saint of the environment: *St. Francis of Assisi and the Path to Peace*. at 3p.m. Foster Library's Topping Room, 651 E. Main St.

**Nov. 9: The General George S. Patton, Jr. Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution.** November meeting will feature the multi-visual program "War of 1812 Bicentennial" presented by Ward White, who will summarize highlights of the War of 1812 and describe the bicentennial celebration events planned across America through 2014.

The luncheon event will take place 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. For additional information, please call Bill Hurley 492-2583 or Robert Taylor 216-7992, and please visit the chapter website <http://pattonpatriots.org>.

**Nov. 10: The Ventura Beginners Personal Computer Users Group** will meet Saturday, in the third floor lounge of the Cypress Place Active Senior Living building, 1220 Cypress Place, from 9:15a.m. to noon. Uses and Functions of the Spreadsheet will be discussed. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions about computer problems for beginners and intermediates. Everyone who would like to know more about their computer is welcome to attend any or all sessions. For more information,

call Marcie 648-1368.

**Nov. 10:** Holy Cross Catholic School at the San Buenaventura Mission will be hosting its first **Fall Festival** from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free for this highly anticipated family event, which will feature live music and DJ, dancing, food, wine, beer, games, prizes, a raffle, silent auction and much more.

This initial fundraiser will funnel all much-needed proceeds to the Holy Cross School Playground Project.

For additional information about the Holy Cross School Festival, please contact [hcsfallfestival@gmail.com](mailto:hcsfallfestival@gmail.com) or call 643-1500.

**Nov. 11:** The pre-release screening of *Live Forever; The Ray Bradbury Odyssey* by local artist Michael O'Kelly will be shown at 4p.m., Sunday, at the Century 10 Theatre in downtown Ventura.

This special presentation is in honor of the American iconic author and a continuation of Bradbury's commitment to give back to the community. Purchasing the tickets for this event the San Buenaventura Friends of the Library will fulfill the wish list submitted by the Children's Librarian for their library programs. The filmgoer will partake in a joyful after party at the Watermark on Main. Library Benefit tickets are \$90 and will be available at these Main Street Merchants: Celtic Carma, Trufflehounds, Palermo, Refill Shop, B on Main, Marie Shannon Bakery or online at [www.venturafilmsociety.com](http://www.venturafilmsociety.com). Limited \$20 Reading Reward tickets for premiere only are available and benefit both the SBFOL and the VFS

## Ojai events

On Sun., Nov. 4, the Ojai Film Society will be screening *Safety Not Guaranteed*, an engaging, heartfelt romantic comedy about a mysterious outsider who claims to have discovered how to time travel and a reporter who gets caught up in him and his plans to go back in time. And on Sun., Nov. 11, the Ojai Film Society will be screening *The Well Digger's Daughter*, the celebrated remake of the 1940s French classic about love and class conflict set in the beautiful Provence countryside at the start of World War I. 4:30 pm, Ojai Playhouse, 145 E Ojai Ave.

Rummage Sale Saturday November 10th at the Ojai Valley Woman's Club 441 East Ojai Ave. from 8am until noon. Money raised will benefit the Girl's Scholarship Fund.

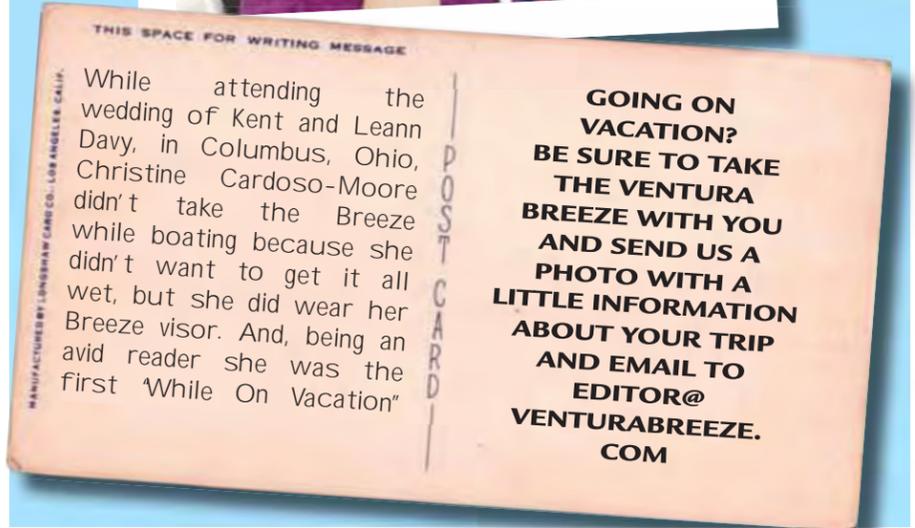


### Going on vacation?

Be sure to take the Ventura Breeze with you. Take a photo and tell us a little bit about your trip and e-mail to [breezehappenings@sbcglobal.net](mailto:breezehappenings@sbcglobal.net)

This is Christine Cardoso, of Ventura, in front of some structure on her recent three-week sojourn to Europe. She had a great time but really missed little 2 year old Carter.

Did you know that Gustave Alexandre Eiffel designed this famous landmark for the Paris World's Fair in 1889? And he certainly would have read the Breeze if it was in French.



"Winter Solstice 2012"-Uplifting, joyful and warm-hearted original holiday music at the Ojai Valley Woman's Club, 441 East Ojai Ave., on Sunday Dec. 2nd at 7pm.

Costs:\$20 in advance, \$23 at the door (under 15 years are half price at the door) [www.ojaiconcertseries.com](http://www.ojaiconcertseries.com)

The Ojai Concert Series wants to invite you to their 5th annual Holiday Season Concert. This year they will feature some of the most celebrated artists in acoustic music. Three master musicians who made their name on the Windham Hill label, pianist Liz Story, singer and multi-instrumentalist Barbara Higbie and Celtic harpist Lisa Lynne, along with master of world

flutes George Tortorelli and multi-instrumentalist Aryeh Frankfurter.

Ojai Jazz Concerts presents the Jonathan Dane Trio featuring Jonathan Dane (trumpet & vocals), Karen Hammack (piano), and the Legendary Putter Smith (bass). They will perform at 7:00 pm, Sunday night, November 11th at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 409 Topa Topa Dr. Wine and bottled water will be available.

Tickets are available only at the door (starting at 6:15 pm). General Admission is \$20. Student Admission is \$10.(under 25 yrs. old w/ID at door only). For more info call Rich Tell Presents! 746-0936. or go to [www.tinyurl.com/ojaijazz13](http://www.tinyurl.com/ojaijazz13).

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# Art Scene



Ellen Williams' ceramics strike a chord of some distant need.

## The Heart of the Artist

# The artistic appeal of Ellen Williams

by Emily Thiroux

Do you remember a time when you were compelled by a work of art? Have you purchased a piece of art because it struck a profound chord in you? What appeals to you in that work? What leads you to purchase art?

Ellen Williams creates ceramic art that people, especially women, want to, or in many cases have to buy. For me her painted porcelain ladies strike a chord of some distant need or unfulfilled recognition somewhere within my soul. Maybe the appeal comes from a facial expression that reminds the viewer of a characteristic she would like to have, or maybe the appeal is from a memory of a special time both real and imagined. Maybe the figure is a reminder of a mother, aunt, sister, daughter, or special friend. Maybe the figure reflects a quality for the viewer that serves a higher purpose. Or maybe the pastel colors and the soft, feminine quality of her work allows the viewer to fanaticize about a lovely, peaceful place where she can escape her hectic daily life. However they appeal to the

viewer, people are compelled to own Ellen's works.

Each of Ellen's pieces tells a different story. As she creates each piece, the story evolves for her, but the viewer may experience a different story entirely. Her art works, because of its accessibility. Her characters appear ageless somehow, and the different colors of their hair, or their smiles, or their rosy cheeks can indicate a feeling, an emotion, or a characteristic that you'd like to look at and experience every day. My husband told me that each time he visits the Ventura County Potters' Guild Harbor Gallery at the Ventura Harbor Village where her work is available, he is drawn to look at her work, to see what is new and different about each of her pieces. Each piece is unique just like every leaf on a tree. She has collectors and followers who always want more of her work.

Ellen is one of the few working artists in Ventura who actually supports herself by selling the artwork she creates. She is, therefore, in a position that most artists would love to be.

Ellen also paints and works with fused glass, creating pictures and scenes with a special glass ink and the lovely colors and textures of glass. Recently she has been experimenting using the same painting and sculpting techniques with high fire clay and glazes resulting in rich, warm almost metallic colors on beautiful vases and trays. She creates her art in her home studio and she exhibits at twelve to fifteen art shows each year throughout southern California. Her work is on display at the Ventura County Potters' Guild Harbor Gallery at the Ventura Harbor Village and you can see some of her artwork at her website: [www.ellensart.net](http://www.ellensart.net). You can contact her at [ellenbensnonwilliams@yahoo.com](mailto:ellenbensnonwilliams@yahoo.com). Take the opportunity to experience her work and let me know what you think.

I hope you'll introduce me to artists you want to learn more about. Contact me through Facebook at The Heart of the Artist. Or email me at [emily@theheartoftheartist.com](mailto:emily@theheartoftheartist.com). And I hope that you'll read my blog and support the artists I feature. <http://www.theheartoftheartist.com/category/Blog/>



The Buenaventura Art Association will present *Home and Beyond*, a solo exhibition of landscape oil paintings by Ventura artist Gina Niebergall, at its downtown Ventura gallery. The show will open Nov. 6 and run through Dec. 1. Niebergall will attend an opening reception from 4-7 p.m. on Nov. 10. A prolific painter on canvas or panels, she creates "mostly landscapes with a smattering of people, animals and buildings" using daubs of strong pigment that resolve into complex views of familiar vistas.

# Art, a la Carte

It's hard to believe that this is a pumpkin carving of Grinch. Dawn Reily carved it at the McGrath Brothers Great Pacific Pumpkins patch.



Larissa Strauss and Deborah Jarchow will display their art in a show titled *Meditations* at Fox Fine Jewelry from November 8 through January 12, 2013. An artists' reception will be Saturday, November 10th, 6 – 9 pm.

Larissa Strauss, a local mosaic artist, is known for her 26-foot mosaic wall that welcomes visitors to Ventura's Marina Beach Park.

The Ventura County Potters' Guild Gallery is presenting Richard and Yvette Franklin as the featured artists for November. The Franklins have explored many mediums in the art world but have stayed constant with their love of clay.

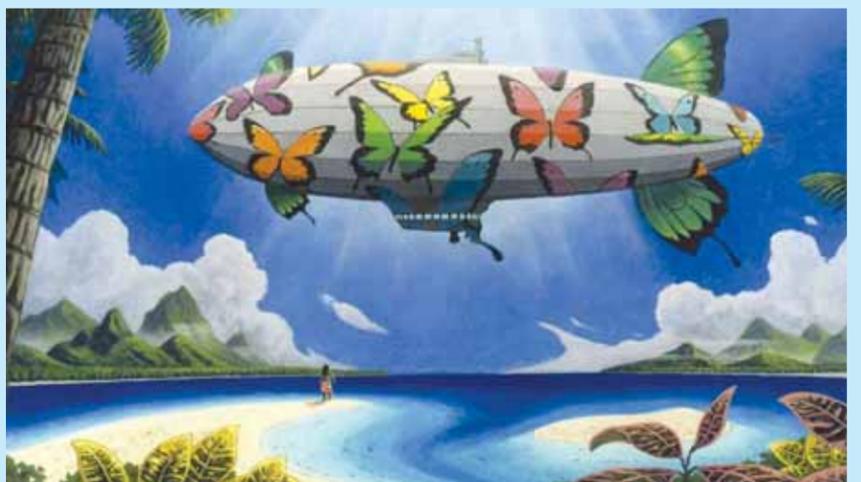
Their love of travel and the richness of other cultures have culminated in a great love for the simplicity and essence of Asian culture and art.

A special artist reception is Sunday, November 3, 3 pm to 6 pm at the Pottery Gallery in the Ventura Harbor Village.



Art, altars, and a Free First Sunday of music, dance and crafts highlight the Museum of Ventura County's Day of the Dead weekend on Saturday and Sunday, November 3 & 4.

Saturday, November 3 begins a special two-day exhibit of artist-created retablo shadow boxes and Day of the Dead altars.



The E.P.Foster Library is pleased to present Bruce Birkland. The show is now open and will run through January. We think you'll find Mr. Birkland's paintings inventive, fun and appreciated by children of all ages! Bruce Birkland is a painter of fantasy and surrealistic landscapes.



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## This 'n' That

### Minor preparation makes all the difference

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

September was National Emergency Preparedness month. From wildfires to earthquakes, living in California creates the potential for major devastation. Some minor preparation ahead of time can make all the difference to you and your loved ones in the event of a disaster. Under extreme conditions, normal everyday services such as electricity, gas, water, and telephones may not be available. Fire/Rescue/EMS and Police services will certainly be overwhelmed by the tremendous volume of emergency responses. Being self sufficient for at least 72 hours is key to survival. A disaster kit containing essential survival items should be kept in a central location within the home.

In your disaster kit, you should have non-perishable food, such as canned goods or freeze dried items, and pet food if needed. Have enough water to provide one gallon per person per day, replacing it every 6 months. Chlorine bleach can be used in an emergency to purify water, at a dosage of 8 drops per gallon. Maintain a first aid kit with plenty of bandages and antiseptics, as well as any essential medications or baby items. Have flashlights and a portable AM/FM radio, with plenty of fresh batteries. A fire extinguisher, and tools suitable to turn off water, gas, and electrical sources, will be needed in case of leaks. An alternate cooking source, such as a BBQ or camping stove is a great item to have, but should be used with extreme caution. Always make sure that no gas leaks exist before using any open flame device, including candles. Have extra blankets, clothing, shoes, and money available.

After an earthquake or similar event, stay calm. Immediately check for gas, water, or electrical problems and shut off

those utilities as appropriate. Evaluate damage to your home or business and whether or not there is a potential for structural collapse. If you are unsure about the stability of a structure, do not occupy it. Turn on your portable radio for instructions and updates. If you evacuate, leave a message at your home telling family and friends where you can be found. Be prepared for aftershocks and assist your neighbors if needed. Choosing to not use your vehicle will help keep the streets clear for emergency vehicles.

Visit us online at [cityofventura.net/fire/emergencyprep](http://cityofventura.net/fire/emergencyprep) for additional safety information and web links, including details about our CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) classes. CERT training is a no-cost, comprehensive course in basic disaster and emergency preparedness that concludes with a live disaster simulation drill.

Also, take the time to register or update all of your phones, your family's phones and your neighbor's phones at [www.vcalert.org](http://www.vcalert.org). VCalert is our countywide emergency alerting system that is used to provide quick notification of evacuations, “Amber” alerts and other important information. Please remember...If We Can't Reach You...We Can't Alert You!

Don't be caught off guard. Preparation can mean the difference between life and death in a major disaster. Are you ready?

Follow us at [facebook.com/venturacityfire](http://facebook.com/venturacityfire) or [youtube.com/VenturaCityFD](http://youtube.com/VenturaCityFD)

## Chamber of Commerce hosts “TASTE”

The Ventura Chamber of Commerce will host its 2nd annual “TASTE” (formerly known as Taste of the Chamber) event on Thursday, November 1, from 5:30pm – 9:00pm at The Pierpont Inn! The event will feature top chefs from Chamber businesses exhibiting their culinary skills.

“The Ventura Chamber is excited about the opportunity to showcase the

## This 'n' That

talents of our local chefs as well as the exciting cuisine of our participating restaurants. Ventura is fortunate to have some great culinary talent and we hope that this event will allow them to share their expertise with our community,” stated Ed Summers, CEO.

In addition to cooking demonstrations by top chefs, guests at the event will have an opportunity to sample the foods and wines of other local restaurants and wineries. There will be a no host bar and live entertainment as well. The event is open to the public. General admission is \$35 for Chamber members and \$50 for non-Chamber members.



*MK's are concerned about women's issues*

## Make a difference at the MK5K® Fun Walk-Run

Across the country, Mary Kay Independent Beauty Consultants are raising money and awareness about issues that affect women. You can help by attending their local event!

Come join the fun at the 1st Southern California MK5K® Fun Walk-Run and make a difference in the lives of women impacted by cancer and domestic violence. Enjoy refreshments, prize giveaways, and a So Cal MK5K T-shirt!

Proceeds from this event benefit The Mary Kay Foundation, whose mission is to fund research of cancers affecting women and to help prevent domestic violence while raising awareness of the issue.

More than 97 cents of every donated dollar goes directly to these two issues. The Southern California MK5K will take place Saturday, Nov. 10, 2012, 8:00am –11:30am at the Ventura Community Park, 901 South Kimball Rd.

A non-refundable entry fee of \$35 must accompany registration entries. For more information and to register on-line go to [www.SoCalMK5K.com](http://www.SoCalMK5K.com) or email [info@SoCalMK5K.com](mailto:info@SoCalMK5K.com).

Thank you for choosing to be part of this important cause!

### Music Calendar

*Continued from page 16*

Brian Nicolette from 3 Man Weave every Wed

### Andre's Wine & Tapas Bar

**1575 Spinnaker Dr., 805-642-9463**  
Acoustic Tuesday with Bill McPherson & Friends every Tues 7-10pm  
Jazz Jam every Wed

### Blackbeards Seaside BBQ

**1591 Spinnaker Dr. #115, 805-650-7773**  
Open Mic/Jam Night with “Shure Thing” every Mon 6-9pm  
Blue Grass Jam featuring: The Bottom Feeders every Thur 6-9pm

Acoustic Jams with “Ken Kong” every Fri, Sat & Sun 12pm  
Fri 11/2 - Ray Jay Band 7-11pm  
Sat 11/3 - Barstool Pigeons 6-10pm  
Sun 11/4 - Blue Stew 2-6pm  
Fri 11/9 - Brian Faith Band 7-11pm  
Sat 11/10 - Fish Fry 6pm-10pm  
Sun 11/11 - Blue Stew 2-6pm

### GiGi's Coctail 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**  
Fri 11/2 - Boys Like Girls, The All American Rejects 8pm

### Squashed Grapes

**2351 E. Main St., 805-643-7300**  
Vocal Jazz Night every Tue 6:30-10pm  
House Jazz Band every Fri 6:30-10pm

### The Tavern

**211 Santa Clara St., 805-643-3264**  
Live Bands every Tue thru Sat  
“Honky Tonk Tuesdays” Country Night, Live Country Band every Tue 8pm  
Ventura County Blues Society Jam session hosted by Tommy Marsh every Wed 8pm  
Wed 10/31 - Halloween Party  
Thur 11/1 - Howlin Woods 9pm  
Fri 11/2 - Dub Thiefs 9pm  
Sat 11/3 - Mini Driver 9pm  
Tue 11/6 - Zeltzer And The Tortise 9pm  
Wed 11/7 - Blues Jam Band 9pm  
Thur 11/8 - Tina Michelle and The Rhinestone Cowboys 8pm  
Fri 11/9 - Big Juggs 9pm  
Sat 11/10 - Gumbo Brothers 9pm

### Watermark On Main

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

### W2O Rooftop Lounge

**598 E. Main St. (above Watermark) 805-643-6800**  
Live Bands every Wed thru Sun  
Friday Dance Party every Fri 9pm  
Thur 11/1 - Bonner Goudelis & Clark (Nu Jazz)

### Yolies/Hi Hat Entertainment

**138 W. Main St., 805-816-9663**  
Top Notch Musicians and Bands every Fri 8pm  
Fri 11/2 - Oxford Blues (Featuring  
Fri 11/9 - Dave Gleason Band (High Octane Honky Tonk)

### Zoey's Café

**185 E. Santa Clara St., 805-652-1137**  
Blue Grass Jam every Tue 6pm  
Songwriter's Round every Wed 8pm  
Live Musicians & Bands every Wed thru Sat 8pm  
Wed 10/31 - Halloween with Dr. Surf Zombie Band 8pm  
Fri 11/2 - Caravan of Thieves (Rocking Gypsy Circus Band) 8pm  
Sat 11/3 - Chris Pierce & Band, B. Willing James 8pm



*Vista Del Mar Dr. is narrow enough without trees falling down.*