



# VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

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Hillside cut without city permission by local attorney. Photo by Rick Ray

## City Attorney opens criminal investigation into hillside grading

Ventura City Attorney Ariel Calonne has announced that his office will be opening a criminal investigation into the recent hillside grading near Mint Lane in Ventura.

The grading, which commenced on Friday, February 15, without city permits, has left substantial scarring on the Ventura hillsides and serious potential damage to the health and safety of the area and is even visible from the 101 Freeway.

The city has issued a stop-work order on the parcels that are owned by Ventura attorney Peter Goldenring.

Calonne said, "We have an obligation to the community to investigate whether crimes have occurred."

For more information contact Ariel Calonne at 654-7818.



Presenting the award to dealership owner Barbara Meister and Barber General Manager Gil Alcalá was Ford Credit Regional Manager LA Greg Corise. Photo by Bernie Goldstein.

## Barber Ford honored by Ford Credit

On Thursday, Feb. 21, R.E. Barber Ford, located at 3440 E. Main St., received recognition from Ford Credit for their 40 years of business relationship by accepting a plaque commemorating this event.

The plaque stated in part "We take great pleasure in recognizing the valuable business relationship between R.E. Barber Ford and Ford Credit which has now been maintained for 40 years!"

Barber Ford has been part of Ventura since 1960 and states "The truth about Barber Ford is that our people make the difference. In an economic climate such as our nation

is experiencing now, customer loyalty is critical. We appreciate your confidence in us, which is demonstrated by your referrals. As a matter of fact, as we 'source' our customers, most are repeat or referral customers. That says a lot about our sales and support staff."

"We thank all of our customers for your kind words expressing your words of appreciation".

Franchises have come and gone but Ford remains. Today, with the leadership of Barbara Meister, Barber Ford and The Barber Auto Group is a company to be proud of and their people do make a difference at work and at home.



## Wow, how over-due was that book?

Kevin Clerici, director of the Downtown Ventura Partners (DVP) business improvement district, presents a check for \$3,589 to Kathy Thomson, President of the Friends of the Library to be used by the Friends of the Library on behalf of Ventura Filmmaker Michael O'Kelly. On his left is member of the Friends Berta Steele and E.P. Foster Senior City Librarian Sara Roberts. Next to Kathy is Gary Stevens, Friends of the Library Treasurer

O'Kelly's tribute film, *Live Forever: The Ray Bradbury Odyssey*, which he wrote and directed, screened before a full house at the Downtown Century 10 in November, including actors Joe Mantegna and Malcolm McDowell. Kelly agreed to donate all net proceeds from the benefit screening and a private after party, as part of collaborative effort between the DVP, the Friends of the Library and the Ventura Film Society, which also received funds. Since the recession and the closure of H.P. Wright Library, E.P. Foster Library has experienced near record use, particularly by job seekers and those who can no longer afford television or new books. The money will go toward materials and programming, officials said.

## City Council approves City Manager's contract 4-3

At their Feb.25 City Council meeting the Council approved the contract with new City Manager Mark Watkins on a 4-3 vote. Council members Neal Andrews, Brian Brennan and Carl Morehouse voted against the contract, considering it excessive with too many automatic increases.

Watkins, 51, received full council support to be hired as city manager so even though all council members supported his hiring (and expressed this at the meeting) some objected to the

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## Top classical and jazz musicians will appear in Ventura

If you like great music, classical, jazz, or both, you won't want to miss the 19th annual Ventura Music Festival! From the world-

renowned Academy of St. Martin in the Fields (who appeared on March 4) to the big band sounds of the legendary Count Basie Orchestra; from the award-winning classical piano of Haochen Zhang and guitar of Petrit Ceku to the infectious Afro-Cuban rhythms of Tito Puente, Jr., amazing technical virtuosity of jazz piano wunderkind Eldar Djangirov and pop-jazz a cappella vocals of M-Pact, the season weaves a tapestry of musical colors that define this year's theme of "Vivacity!"

Also on tap is the perennially popular Tea & Trumpets, an English High Tea with entertainment by the Festival Brass Quintet. Be sure to buy your tickets early, as the teas always sell out.

"Artistic excellence is our guide to selecting great musicians year after year, but 2013 will definitely stand out," said Nuvi Mehta, Ventura Music Festival's Artistic Director. "Our 19th season is truly exceptional."

**Friday, May 3 at 3 pm** - Tea & Trumpets, Ventura Masonic Center, 482 E. Santa Clara Street. Enjoy an English High Tea and entertainment by the Festival Brass Quintet.

**Friday, May 3 at 8 pm** - A jazz piano

wunderkind from Kyrgyzstan, Eldar Djangirov, performs in a solo show at the Community Presbyterian Church, 1555 Poli Street.

**Saturday, May 4 at 8 pm** - Petrit Ceku, classical guitar, winner of the Parkening International Guitar Competition of 2012, in a solo recital, Community Presbyterian Church, 1555 Poli Street.

**Sunday, May 5 at 3 pm** - the Legendary Count Basie Orchestra™® with Dennis Mackrel, conductor, and guest vocalist, Carmen Bradford. Attention hipsters! It's a party at the Majestic Ventura Theater for young and old, with seats for all and a dance floor too. 26 S. Chestnut Street.

**Tuesday, May 7 at 7:30 pm** - Rising Stars, Artists TBA. Two young, professional musicians from Southern California make their debut in Ventura. First United Methodist Church, 1338 E. Santa Clara Street.

**Thursday, May 9 at 7:30 pm** - Shanghai-born Haochen Zhang is the Gold Medalist of the Thirteenth International Van Cliburn Piano Competition. "A pianist with ample reserves of power whose imagination seems nonetheless most kindled by subtle delicacy" says the

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While in County Cork, Ireland, for Saint Patrick's Day (March 17) you can always catch up with the Breeze at [venturabreeze.com](http://venturabreeze.com)



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\* \$100 Aloha Days offer applies to new bookings for Hawai'i at select hotels made March 1-April 30, 2013 for travel March 1-December 15, 2013. Minimum 5-night hotel accommodations and roundtrip airfare required. Discount is per booking and taken at time of booking.  
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# NEWS TALK 1590 KVTA

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**The Kim Pagano Show, Saturday 2-4pm**  
Kim Pagano started her radio career on KKZZ and is now on 1590 KVTA every Saturday from 2-4pm. Kim brings you "Experts and Reality" in an effort to educate moms, dads, children, and the entire community in useful daily knowledge. If you would like to be a part of the Kim Pagano Show by sharing your journey, call or email Kim at 805-419-0008 or Kim@kimpaganoshow.com.

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## City News

# City update: progress on priorities

by Mike Tracy  
Mayor

A year ago I introduced four priorities adopted by the Council that would guide the City Council during my time as mayor:

Economic development and prosperity  
Prioritization of public safety and other core services  
Safe and Clean Ventura  
Restoring Public Trust

We have a lot of work to do for each of these priorities, but thanks to the teamwork between our city employees, volunteers, neighborhood councils, and many civic, business, government, and service organizations we have seen progress. Here are some of the highlights:

### Economic Development and Prosperity

Sales tax revenues are up 4% over last year for this fiscal year, property tax revenues increased 2.7%, and Transient Occupancy Tax is up 7%—the highest it's ever been historically

A City revenue enhancement loan to R.E. Barber Ford enabled the relocation of the Subaru dealership from midtown to the Auto Center

The Players Casino has increased its annual revenue to the City from \$250k to more than \$1.2 million

We are making progress on setting up the Auto Center and surrounding property for new "destination retail"

The City initiated an Expedited Plan Check Program

Next month the Council will adopt the 2013-18 Economic Development Strategy

### Prioritization of Public Safety and other Core Services

During the last year, we completed 2 miles of water projects and 2 miles of sewer projects; repaired more than 4,000 potholes; paved 6 lane miles of road and slurry sealed more than 50 lane miles of roadway

Repairs to the Promenade and the Beachfront Parking Structure will protect the structural integrity and mitigate further degradation

Bicycle safety was improved throughout our community and the new Harmon Barranca Bike Path is interconnecting the network of bike paths and routes

New upgrades to our water reclamation facility allow us to remain environmentally protective

Drilling on the new Saticoy Well is completed and construction on the enclosure portion will begin this summer

Efforts to address the Santa Clara River Estuary continue and are meeting the time frame of the settlement

### Safe and Clean

The allocation of additional resources to the Police Department reduced the monthly average of calls for service related to vagrancy from 600 to approximately 400 calls per month

Nearly 50 entrenched encampments have been removed from the Ventura River along with 250 tons of debris

The Debris Removal Hotline (677-3999), set up for citizens to report debris, has resolved more than 200 reports

An agreement with Caltrans and Union Pacific Railroad resulted in the repainting of the trestle over Highway 101 and other improvements to deter future vandalism

### Restoring Public Trust

The successes we have made this year are one step toward restoring public trust, which is admittedly a work in progress. We have a lot going for us:

A professional and dedicated city work force

Longstanding relationships with many segments of the community

Citizens who truly care for this community and demonstrate that by contributing their time, talent and resources to making it better

On behalf of the Ventura City Council, I want to thank our residents for their support and collaboration to make Ventura a community we are all proud of.

that budget and finagle it until everyone (okay, clearly not everyone) will be happy, having created a passable budget. The final budget will be voted on June 17.

Simple, right? Not really. As Ventura's Chief Financial Officer Jay Panzica explained, we have essentially been stealing from Peter to give to Paul for the past couple of years and it's catching up with us.

When the economy headed south the city opted not to borrow money or take money from its reserve fund (which is slated for catastrophic events, e.g., an earthquake). Instead, in order to pay for services councilmembers thought dire, it took money from internal department funds. These departments include those that take care of other departments such as the technology group, which fixes and supports computers used throughout the city, the maintenance group that cares for all of the city's vehicles and the facilities group, which maintains city buildings.

According to Panzica these internal groups have been neglected for too many years now, and are in somewhat critical need of funding. It is this point

among others Panzica has been working to illustrate to city council members who have been sitting through educational workshops run by Panzica. The workshop meetings focus on outlining what has been done budget-wise for the past four to five years.

Oh, and another thing, there is a discrepancy between forecasted revenues and our past fiscal year's budget. This means, if the city were to change nothing in its existing budget we would still be \$1.2 million short. That doesn't include funding those internal departments, which have been languishing the last 5 years.

All this means some serious decisions need to be made.

"The city council members are going to have to decide between a lot of important and conflicting priorities," said Panzica.

And, again it's not always as simple as picking one or two priorities. As Panzica points out, no one city service exists in a vacuum.

"You can't just say we want more police and say forget everything else," explained Panzica. "The police department is supported by other departments in the city and can't function alone."

What can you do? You can write a letter or email to councilmembers telling them what you want from your local government. You can attend a Monday night city council meeting where there is time for the public to come forward. Again, a crucial time period where council members will be actively hashing through what to spend money on will be between Apr. 22 and early June.

If you want to learn more about the city's budget, there are a number of resources to tap, almost all of them online. You can review what this year's budget included by viewing the Budget Book documents online or you can peruse last year's budget, a lengthy document entitled Comprehensive Financial Annual Financial Report (CFAFR), which reads similar to a traditional company's annual report.

The councilmembers have some tough decisions ahead of them. I'm suggesting we give them some help. They are, after all, supposed to be representing us. If we don't give them input on what we feel the priorities need to be, then we only have ourselves to blame.

These are the emails of your City Council members (and new city manager). They are there to serve you.

bbrennan@cityofventura.net;  
cheitmann@cityofventura.net;  
cmorehouse@cityofventura.net;  
cweir@cityofventura.net;  
jmonahan@cityofventura.net;  
nealandrews@cityofventura.net;  
mike.tracy@cityofventura.net;  
mwatkins@cityofventura.net

## The numbers don't lie

by Tom Marshall

The city of Ventura recently released its 2012 Part I crime statistics. The numbers are shocking and sobering if you are a Ventura resident.

In 2011 there were 34.1 crimes per 1000 city of Ventura residents and that figure jumped to 39.3 in 2012. The increase in reported crimes for 2012 is made even more shocking when comparing our town to other Ventura County cities of similar size. The city of

Oxnard reported 23.5 crimes per 1000 residents, Thousand Oaks reported 15.7, and the number was 16.5 for Simi Valley. These numbers represent reported crimes and don't take into account each city's reporting criteria or policies. Substantial resource reductions at the state and local levels may explain at least part of Ventura's increase in reported crime.

Property crimes increased by 574 reported incidents in 2012. The number that jumps off the page is the 45% increase in auto thefts. 282 auto thefts occurred in 2012 compared to 195 in 2011. Thieves were also busier on the home front as residential burglaries jumped 21% with almost 500 reported incidents. Non-residential burglaries totaled 284 in 2012 for a 14% increase. Larceny/thefts were easily the most common crime committed in Ventura as 2,825 such crimes were reported. This number includes thefts from vehicles. Arsons increased from 5 in 2011 to 14 in 2012.

A very dim bright spot was found in the report as the total of violent crimes decreased by 5%. Leading the way was a 15% reduction in felony assaults in 2012. That equates to 35 fewer assaults from the 170 reported in 2011. Reported rapes totaled 24 in 2012 compared to 20 in 2011 and there was 1 homicide in 2012.

The Post Release Offender Supervision program (PROS) began with state prison realignment in October 2011. There are roughly 102 individuals living in Ventura that have been granted early release through this program. They are supervised by the Ventura County Probation Agency in conjunction with local law enforcement. The Ventura Police Department has also assigned one officer to supervise the PROS program in Ventura. Approximately half of the individuals residing in Ventura in the PROS program have been arrested at least once since their early release. This controversial program is easy to blame for a portion of Ventura's increase in crime because without its implementation, these convicted criminals would still be in state prison and off our streets.

Property crimes represented the largest increase in reported crimes for 2012 in Ventura and these crimes of opportunity are often preventable. Law enforcement recommends locking windows and doors in vehicles and residences as well as keeping valuable items out of plain sight.

The Ventura Police Department has a 4 year strategic plan dubbed, "A crime fighting blueprint for our city" This strategic plan highlights resources the police department will utilize in its quest for a safer city. The plan also lists goals the department has set for itself.

The strategic plan can be reviewed here: [www.cityofventura.net/pd/about/strategicplan](http://www.cityofventura.net/pd/about/strategicplan)

## 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)

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*Continued on page 7*

## City budget decisions loom, time for you – yes, you – to get involved

by Rebecca Wicks

It's time.

It's time to think about what matters most to us as residents of the City of Ventura because city staff is starting to think about it. And, what's more soon enough the Ventura City Council will be making decisions about what will and will not be funded this next fiscal year. They will be making these decisions with or without your input, so I say, give them your input.

Here's the skinny. The fiscal year we are talking about goes from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014. City staff will present their recommended budget on Apr. 22. Then, throughout May and the first half of June, the council will take



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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  
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Breeze:

Transients are back in full force on the promenade and are working their way back into the Ventura Riverbed. This will continue to happen if the

## Opinion/Editorial



Sheldon (Governor) Brown  
Publisher

■ In our last issue we had an opinion regarding the coming concert series to be located above city hall (in the parking lot) and the sender had also included a picture of a deer that we chose not to print. The purpose of the photo was to call for an environmental impact study.

So I received a call from a lady that couldn't believe that I didn't know that there were deer in the hills above city hall and was very upset that I didn't.

I explained to her, and now to you, that I know that there are deer, wild boars, bears, raccoons, possums, mountain lions, skunks and perhaps Bigfoot living in these hills but we chose not to print the photo only because we really couldn't confirm where it was taken, not because we didn't believe it.

And regarding the damage to wildlife caused by the concert on the parking lot the proposed Ventura Botanical Gardens would certainly have much more effect on the wildlife than these concerts and I haven't heard this concern expressed because of the proposed VBG.

■ Don't you just hate it when you have a doctor's appointment at say 2 o'clock and they tell you to get there at 1:45 and the doctor sees you at 2:30 (if you're lucky)?

■ If today's youth can't write "Writing" how are they going to sign checks? Oh, wait they will be doing all of their banking and paying bills from their wristwatches!

■ At a recent city council meeting Ventura City Attorney Ariel Calonne explained to the council what recent changes made to the state's Political Reform Act, which governs reporting requirements, ethics and ways to avoid conflicts of interest about gifts, etc. had upon them.

He felt that this was necessary after a Ventura County District Attorney's Office investigation found Oxnard officials failed to report gifts from companies doing business with the city.

A few things that are acceptable:

An elected official can go to an invitation-only event, eat a couple strawberries and not report the value of that snack (But stay away from the steak).

He or she can accept a ticket to a sporting event but need not report it if it

goes unused (probably a Laker fan).

Tickets to political fundraisers are deemed to have no value (Well, we only suspected that of politicians, except for our City Council of course).

No official can receive more than \$440.00 from someone in a single calendar year as well as in the 12 months before a city decision involving the giver.

Any gift of more than \$50 must be reported, including discounts or vouchers. Officials should also keep a tab of gifts that are less than \$50 in case the amount climbs to a reportable figure over time (A gift certificate of \$5.00 to McDonalds would therefore be acceptable up to \$50.00).

Travel rules were also explained. Transportation on a private jet or helicopter requires a report of the fair-market value of such a trip. For example, if a councilmember



Does this person live above city hall (or publish a local newspaper)?

takes a flight in the Ventura Breeze private jet because their plane was stolen, the flight would have no value so would not need to be reported.

If a company, organization or institution provides travel costs in exchange for a speaking engagement, an official can't be paid to speak (And they get 3 minutes to speak unless someone gives them their time).

Calonne told council members to check with his office if they have questions about the rules.

■ I don't think that U.S. presidents should be sworn into office with their hand on a Bible. Is the reason that they will be honest and forthcoming in running the

country?

No wonder all elected officials are honest. I would hope that they would be this without the fear of God.

The Constitution lays out the exact language to be used in the oath: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

Why doesn't he place his hand on the U.S. Constitution – the very document he's promising to "preserve, protect and defend".

Plainly stated in Article VI: "No religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States."

■ On March 2 Diane and I attended a play in Ojai that reminded me of a movie theater in West LA that I attended as a kid.

At this movie theater the person sold you the ticket, tore it in half, sold you candy and went upstairs to run the movie.

We attended *Zero Hour* at the Ojai Youth Entertainers Studio (OYES). Kind of "off Broadway" in downtown Ojai.

In this case theater manager Frank Eller met us when we came in, shook my hand and showed us how to enter the theater (very comfortable with seating for about 200) he didn't need to take us to our seats because it is "open seating". He introduced the play and at intermission he was selling wine and afterward he shook people's hands as they left.

The play had one actor (Howard Leader) playing Mostel on July, 1977 in his artist studio (art was his real love) being interviewed by a writer from the New York Times (that we don't meet).

Not a musical (some music played on occasion) or a comedy (a laugh now and then) but about Mostel's anger with his family, life and for being blacklisted during the McCarthy hearings (Sen. Eugene McCarthy, R, WI, during the 1950's Senate Hearings on UnAmerican Activities. He saw "communists everywhere," which ruined a lot of lives and eventually his own career.)

Played with great force by Leader it was an enjoyable excursion and evening.

*If you recently lost a Gymnast bracelet in a Denny's parking lot we can get it back for you. Email editor@venturabreeze.com*

## Mailbox

police are not proactive in these areas. Additionally, numbers of transients are living under the freeway near the fairground on CALTRANS property. Nothing has been done in a long while to remove them. And as we all know it is illegal to camp in the riverbed and along the freeway. Transients continue to illegally panhandle from cars at the corner of Harbor BL and Sanjon.

Note I called Police Dispatch in relation to the transients that were back in plain sight camping in the Ventura riverbed on the Ojai side of the Main ST Bridge. Hopefully, someone was sent out. We don't need another 300,000 lbs. of transient trash accumulating the riverbed.

A concerned Venturan

Sheldon:

I think the type of people that read your newspaper are the types that seek out what is real, simple, friendly, and local. The Ventura Breeze is a "down home-grassroots" newspaper with articles and columns that are a joy to

read. fun and informative. different than say... the Star. You have done a nice job with your paper in the few years that you have been running it. My husband and I eat at one of our favorite restaurants, Sharkey's a couple times a week and I always look forward to grabbing the newest edition on the way out.  
Pamela Howland

Good evening:

This is a late entry, but I'll make a stab at your photo contest featuring the telephone booth. There is a phone booth just like the photo at the corner of Main and Pacific in front of the H and H Liquor and the photo is taken facing west towards the Red Cove. I enjoy your news very much, especially this edition with Keith Wilkes, the article on Princess Kaiulani. Thank you so much, you really

do a fantastic job of "covering the waterfront".

In appreciation,  
Dorothy Jue Lee



Daylight savings starts March 10.

**To be where we are, and to become what we are capable of becoming is the only end in life.**

– Robert Louis Stevenson



## Community Events



Jeannie Opdyke Smith will be presenting the spellbinding story.

### The story of a Polish Catholic who hid and saved Jews

In a first-of-its-kind partnership, the San Buenaventura Mission is co-sponsoring an important speaker on Tuesday, March 12, with the Jewish Federation of Ventura County and Temple Beth Torah. Jeannie Opdyke Smith will be presenting the spellbinding story of her mother, a Polish Catholic who hid and saved 12 Jews from the death camps while serving as the housekeeper to a Nazi officer.

Irene Gut Opdyke's incredible true life story is told in her best-selling memoir, *In My Hands*, which was made into a Broadway play, *Irena's Vow* starring Tova Feldshuh.

The idea for bringing Smith to Ventura originated with Rabbi Lisa Hochberg-Miller of Temple Beth Torah, who heard Smith speak recently at a luncheon sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Ventura County. "Her mother's story is so moving and powerful, I felt there would be an audience for it in our community," Rabbi Hochberg-Miller said. "I was delighted that Father Tom offered to host the event."

The event is aimed at a broader audience than just Catholics and Jews. "Everyone who hears this extraordinary story of one woman's wrenching choices will identify with her courage and faith," said Father Tom Elewaut, Pastor of the San Buenaventura Mission.

The event will be held at the Mission's O'Brien Hall, behind the Mission Church, 211 E. Main Street, adjacent to the Mission parking lot, which is accessible from Palm Street. Smith's talk begins at 7 PM. The event is free and open to the public.

### Wild & Scenic Film Festival to feature national touring films

The Ventura Hillside Conservancy will present the 4th Annual Wild & Scenic Film Festival at Ventura's Poinsettia Pavilion over two evenings: Thursday and Friday, March 7th and 8th from 7 to 9:30 PM. Twenty films from around the world ranging in length from 3 to 25 minutes will be screened with a unique program each night.

Among the selections being screened at the festival will be *Streams of Consequence*, which documents the fight to protect the wild lands of Patagonia from

proposed dams that threaten two of the most pristine rivers in one of the world's most spectacular regions.

*Eviction Day* was filmed locally by students from UCSB's Carsey-Wolf Center and documents efforts to relocate the homeless encampments that have been a mainstay along the Ventura River in California for many years.

Local singer-songwriter Cole Citrenbaum will open the show each night with songs from his debut EP *Runaway Dream*, which was recorded with producer and songwriter Jeff Trott, best known for co-writing and producing multi-platinum albums with Sheryl Crow.

In addition to providing informative and engaging cinema, the Wild & Scenic Film Festival doubles as the Ventura-based land trust's annual membership drive. Festivalgoers who join the Conservancy with a minimum \$35 membership receive two free film festival tickets. A \$50 or greater membership yields four free tickets.

Filmgoers can purchase tickets from the Conservancy's website at [www.venturahillside.org](http://www.venturahillside.org). Tickets for one night are \$10 each, or \$15 for both Thursday and Friday.



### Easter's hopping at the Ventura Harbor Village

Enjoy Easter Sunday, March 31 at the Ventura Harbor Village and a delicious breakfast or lunch with family at one of the many harbor-view restaurants. Afterwards grab a sweet treat from Coastal Cone Ice Cream, Coffee Dock & Post, or Le Petit French Bakery. Hop into the Village Arcade, spot the bunny character on the Carousel and go for a ride or challenge family to an exciting game of skee-ball and air-hockey.

Main Street Jazz Band plays Dixieland tunes and kids can create a free craft to add to their brimming baskets. The Cottontail Bunny makes an appearance for hugs all around and free photos (bring your camera). Happy Rainbow Face Painting creates festive spring flowers or beautiful butterfly designs to liven up Easter outfits. Stroll along the scenic Promenade for holiday shopping and gifts. Harbor Village boutiques and galleries are open and celebrating the season with spring décor, kites to fly, or spring break style necessities. Rent a kayak or pedal boat to explore springtime sea-life.

Ventura Harbor Village offers year-round free parking and free admission.

### Ventura events

by Ana Baker

Nosh, schmooze and make business connections within the growing community of Jewish business people,

professionals, trades people and corporate executives at non-profit JNET. No charge to attend 2 meetings and \$65 yearly dues. The meetings are held at Temple Beth Torah on the **last Thursday of each month** at 6:30 p.m. to 9p.m. Go to [www.JNetOnline.org](http://www.JNetOnline.org) or [JNetVentura@gmail.com](mailto:JNetVentura@gmail.com) for further information.

Would you like to meet new friends? Do you need more than tweeting or blogging to express what's on your mind? Whatever the reason, **Ventura's Conversation Group** is the right outlet for you. This eclectic group meets **Wednesdays** from 4p.m. to 6p.m. at the Adult Recreation Center, 420 E. Santa Clara Street. People of all ethnicities, education, incomes, personalities, and interests are welcome. No topic is off limits. There is only one rule that applies to the Conversation Group: don't lecture and don't bore.

**Mar. 8: The General George S. Patton, Jr. Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution March luncheon** meeting will feature the special program *Colonial Coinage* presented by Dane Nielsen. The luncheon event will take place at 11:30a.m., in the Garden Room, Marie Callender's Restaurant, 1295 S.Victoria Ave. All SAR Compatriots, friends, coin collectors and visitors are welcome to join us. The self-pay luncheon cost is \$20 per person, and includes a slice of Marie Callender's pie. For additional information, please call Bill Hurley 492-2583 or Robert Taylor 216-7992, and please visit the chapter website <http://pattonpatriots.org> for information regarding SAR membership and chapter.

**Mar. 9: The Knights of Columbus of San Buenaventura** is sponsoring a **St. Patrick's Day Dinner and Dance** with all proceeds to benefit Catholic Charities Ventura County on Saturday from 5p.m. to 11p.m. Tickets are available for \$20 per person. The evening will include a performance by Irish Dancers from the Claddagh School of Dance, a bagpipe musical performance by Joe Thayer, the Harvey Girls will give a lively fiddle performance and Leo Raab's Rhythm Repertoire will play music for dancing. A dinner of Irish Stew and trimmings will be served. The evening also includes a silent auction and a drawing for a one week vacation package to Maui for two. The event will take place at the Knights of Columbus Hall at 36 Figueroa St. For more information call Pat at 650-9492.

**Mar. 9: Audubon** meets at 8:30 a.m., Canada Larga Road. Leader: Linda Easter 482-7537. Directions: Take Hwy 33 toward Ojai. Exit Canada Larga Rd. Meet near the beginning of the road, looking for raptors, bluebirds, orioles and other early migrants. Beginners are welcome on all field trips. Light drizzle does not necessarily cancel trips, but heavier rain will. If in doubt, call the leader. More information is available at [www.VenturaAudubon.org](http://www.VenturaAudubon.org)

**Mar. 9: 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, Ventura. A Tips and Tricks workshop by Marcie Malony will begin at 9:15 a.m., followed by a Q&A session, and presentation at 11a.m. by David Holifield on Pinterest, an online pinboard. Everyone who would like to know more about their computer is welcome to attend any or all sessions. For more information, call 648-1368.

**Mar. 15: Designated Drivers Win Prizes** in Downtown Ventura from 10p.m. until 1:30a.m. The Be the DD and Win Prize Posse will be visiting Anacapa, Bombay, Café Fiore, Dargan's,

El Rey, Paddy's, Rookees, Tavern and Winchesters to give awesome prizes to sober designated drivers. The prizes include t-shirts, gift-certificates, oil changes, hotel stays and concert tickets! So, designate a driver, get home safe and win prizes!

**Mar. 16: Ventura High School PTSA and Ventura Downtown Lions Club** present **St. Patrick's Day Pancake Breakfast** Saturday, from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Cost is \$5.00 per person (kids under 5 eat free) your ticket also includes a discount coupon for Red Brick Pizza. Event will be at Ventura High School West. Net proceeds will benefit the Ventura High School Academic Awards and Lions Club charities such as City PEAK/Westpark Backpacks, Cottage Home for Foster Children, Food Share, Boys and Girls Club, Youth Exchange and Fred W. Smith Scholarship Programs. Tickets available from: Mario Robinson 654-7807, Rosie Ornelas 652-4555, Don Greenberg 642-2915, Ventura High School Student Store 641-5116 x 2431

**Mar. 16: The Ventura Poinsettia Dance Club** and the Ventura Jazz Orchestra invites you to a **Spring Swing Big Band Dance** featuring the vocal styling of Donna Greene and Glenn Novack.

Join them as they Swing Dance to a traditional 19 piece Big Band performing music from the Great American Song Book Saturday, 8p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at the Poinsettia Pavilion Ballroom, 3451 Foothill Road, \$15 admission at the door, free refreshments and parking. For more info call 648-1143.

**Mar. 16:** Over 600 children in Ventura County need a foster home where they can thrive, develop and achieve dreams that once might have seemed impossible. 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 Saturday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the **Human Services Agency of Ventura County** at 855 Partridge Dr. Programs will be provided in both English and Spanish. Call 654-3456 or go to <http://www.vchsa.org/foster> for more dates and an online meeting option.

**Mar. 16: The Ventura County Genealogical Society** presents, *Ten Steps to Better Genealogy* presentation with Eric W. Siess, Ph.D. Family History Center Portal workshop with Bonnie Petrovich. The meetings are open to everyone, come and mingle with fellow family researchers and learn something new to help you in your family history research. Event will be on Saturday from 1p.m. to 4p.m. at 3501 Loma Vista Road. For more info: email publicity at [venturacogensoc.org](mailto:venturacogensoc.org) or visit [venturacogensoc.org](http://venturacogensoc.org)

**Mar. 17: Channel Islands Chamber Orchestra** performs the **Spring Concert** of its 10th season with KuanFen Liu, Artistic Director. Presents: Choral Majesty Featuring: Sophie Wingland, Soprano and combined voices of CSU Channel Islands Choir and First Methodist Church Chancel Choir performing *Kyrie k.341* by W. A. Mozart and *Gloria* by Francis Poulenc. The Chamber Orchestra will also present *Egmont Overture* by Beethoven. Sunday, at 4 p.m. in Ventura at Ventura 1st United Methodist Church at 1338 E. Santa Clara Street. Tickets: \$20 Donation appreciated, child care provided. Information: 643-8621 Website: [www.CHICO.org](http://www.CHICO.org)

**Mar. 17: Audubon** 8:30 a.m. **Santa Clara River Estuary/Surfers' Knoll.** Leader: Alexis Frangis 217-4833. See a good variety of shorebirds. Take Harbor Boulevard to Spinnaker and enter the Ventura Harbor. Follow Spinnaker



## Community Events

as it curves around to the right. Surfers' Knoll is on the left.

**Mar. 18: The Ventura/Westlake Lyme Disease Support Group** is hosting a public event on Monday, at 7p.m. with best-selling author **Katina Makris**. Katina is the author of the award winning book, *Out of the Woods: Healing Lyme Disease - Body, Mind & Spirit*. Katina will share her inspiring story and hard earned wisdom on what it takes to beat this treacherous illness and how to attain better diagnostics, manage prevention and mend fully - body, mind and spirit. Location of event: Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf, 4360 E Main St #3. For more information: <http://katinamakris.wordpress.com/2013/02/13/lyme-author-speaking-in-ventura-california/>.

**Mar. 17: Yoga Jones** will be celebrating the **Tenth Anniversary** of its opening on Sunday, from 7:30am to 9pm, with a day-long benefit for FOOD Share. Yoga Jones is a yoga center located at 105 S. Oak. FOOD Share provides food and support for the hungry of Ventura County.

The event features 20-minute yoga classes, given by the Yoga Jones teaching staff, starting on the half-hour from 8am to 4pm. A Yoga Lounge with snacks, conversation, and a silent auction, will take place at the same time. In the evening, from 6:30 9 pm, master musician Tony Khalife and friends will lead Kirtan (call-and-response chanting).

The complete event schedule can be found on the Yoga Jones website: [www.yogajones.com](http://www.yogajones.com)

## Ojai events

**South Pacific** is one of America's most honored musicals, mixing love, war, prejudice and culture conflicts to the brilliant creations of Rodgers and Hammerstein. Produced by the **Nordhoff High Music Department**, it plays at the Matilija Junior High Auditorium, 703 El Paseo Rd. at 7 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays March 7-9 and 14-16 and 2 p.m. Sundays, March 10 and 17. Tickets are \$20 adults, \$15 seniors (65+) and \$10 students, college and younger. It is best to get tickets early and online at [www.nhsmusic.com](http://www.nhsmusic.com), but those without internet access may call 640-4343, x1861. No refunds or exchanges.

It's easy to guess what's going on inside the **Ojai Valley Museum** just by glancing at the outside entrance in relation to the banners in the courtyard corners. **The Yarn Bombers of Ojai** – otherwise known as the Naughty Nitters or Guerilla Grannies – arrived surreptitiously on the night of January 31st and installed a riot of crocheted street art. Yarn bombing, or yarnstorming, is a spontaneous international movement of secretive and anonymous fiber artists (what happened to teepeeing?). *Fiber Art Master Pieces*, runs through March 31. The yarn party outside celebrates the occasion.

The museum is located at 130 W. Ojai Ave. Admission: free for current 2013 members, adults - \$4.00, children 6-18 - \$1.00 and children 5 and under - free. Gallery hours are Tuesday – Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday, noon to 4 p.m. Tours are available by appointment. Free parking is available off Blanche Street at back of museum.

For more information, call the museum at 640-1390, ext. 203, e-mail [ojaimuseum@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ojaimuseum@sbcglobal.net) or visit the museum website at: [OjaiValleyMuseum.org](http://OjaiValleyMuseum.org).

**Scotland's Battlefield Band** will be playing at the Ojai Valley Women's Club @ 7pm on **March 27**. Tickets: [www.ojaiconcertseries.com](http://www.ojaiconcertseries.com). Email: [booking@ojaiconcertseries.com](mailto:booking@ojaiconcertseries.com). 665 8852

[www.ojaiconcertseries.com](http://www.ojaiconcertseries.com). Email: [booking@ojaiconcertseries.com](mailto:booking@ojaiconcertseries.com). 665 8852

The third annual Ojai WordFest will host *A Celebration of Words* at Libbey Bowl on Saturday, **April 13**. The event will be the highlight to the 8-day Ojai WordFest, which runs Saturday **April 6** through Saturday April 13. Scheduled festivities will include stage readings and performances by authors, poets, playwrights, songwriters, and other word-artists. A Book Fair at the Bowl will be held on the lawn above the bowl featuring authors and poets with books and other literary items for sale. The event is free to the public and will run from 10 am to 5 pm.

The family-friendly event is open to authors, poets, playwrights, songwriters and word-artists, representing all genres and ages wishing to participate. For consideration, please submit a copy of what you wish to read to Catelyn Howard at [Catelyn@zaziepress.com](mailto:Catelyn@zaziepress.com). To reserve a booth at the Book Fair or share a space, please contact Kate Sexton at [Kate@KateSexton.com](mailto:Kate@KateSexton.com) or register at [www.WordFestBookFair.com](http://www.WordFestBookFair.com).

**Dying Consciously: The Greatest Journey** is a two-day workshop offering the shamanic perspective on death – compatible with all spiritual traditions – which is that the soul or spirit of a person does not die; it simply leaves the body. The workshop gives participants essential skills for assisting a dying person. Understanding the changes that take place in the Luminous Energy Field as an individual prepares for the Great Journey home. Tomas Bostrom, staff teacher with the Four Winds Society, will lead the Dying Consciously workshop **March 23-24**, in Ojai. The cost is \$215 and pre-registration is required. For more information, visit <http://inkamedicinewheel.com/dying-consciously.html>, or contact Bostrom at [tomas@inkamedicinewheel.com](mailto:tomas@inkamedicinewheel.com), or 798.5648.

Five women of various ages are needed at **Ojai ACT** to spring to life the Pulitzer award winning play, *The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-In-The-Moon Marigolds*, and auditions are set for **March 9 and 10**.

This Best American Play is a powerful and moving study of an embittered widow who badgers her two young daughters because of her own disappointments in life. But one daughter's science project illustrates how beauty and hope can emerge from "barren soil".

Director Steve Grumette said the actors will read from the script at 1 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, March 9 and 10 at the Ojai Art Center, 113 S. Montgomery St. Callbacks will be at 7 p.m. Monday, March 11, and rehearsals start April 1 for the run from May 17 to June 16.

More details about the characters are on the website: [www.OjaiACT.org](http://www.OjaiACT.org), or call Producer Frank Malle at 646-8406.

The **Ojai Film Society** will participate in *Ojai Celebrates Chess* with a screening of the documentary *Brooklyn Castle* on Sat., **March 9**, 4:30 pm at the Ojai Playhouse. *Brooklyn Castle* tells the inspirational stories of five members of an inner city junior high school chess team that has won more national championships than any other in the country. General Admission is \$10/Seniors & Students \$7. During the month of March Ojai will plunge into chess mania at venues throughout the city.

On Sun., **Mar. 10**, the Ojai Film Society will screen *The Other Son*, a thought-provoking drama about two families, Israeli and Palestinian, who

## VENTURA COUNTY

# JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

Presented By Temple Beth Torah

<b>Saturday, March 9 @ Regency Buenaventura, 7PM – HAVA NAGILA</b> Guest Speaker: Sophie Sartain, writer/producer	<b>Thursday, March 14 @ Roxy Stadium 11, 7PM – THROUGH THE EYE OF THE NEEDLE and VIOLINS IN WARTIME</b> Guest Speakers: Producer of <i>Violins in Wartime</i> , Ravit Markus & Director of <i>Through the Eye of the Needle</i> , Nina Shapiro Perl
<b>Sunday, March 10 @ Plaza Stadium 14, 4PM – 55 SOCKS and BESA: THE PROMISE</b> Films Followed by Dinner with Christine Romero, BESA's producer at "the Kitchen" restaurant across the street from the theater. Dinner \$20	<b>Saturday, March 16 @ Regency Buenaventura, 7PM – SIMON AND THE OAKS</b>
<b>Tuesday, March 12 @ Plaza Stadium 14, 7 PM – ORCHESTRA OF EXILES</b> Guest speaker: Danielle Spivak, Representative from American Friends of Israel's Philharmonic Orchestra	<b>Sunday, March 17 @ Temple Beth Torah – B-BOY and SHALOM IRELAND</b> Lunch at 12 Noon, followed by films around 1:30PM. Guest Speaker: Ivor Davis. Dessert provided by WRJ.

## Celebrating 10 Years!

All Tickets are \$11 advance purchase or \$15 at the door • Season Pass For All Films \$62.50

<b>VENTURA</b> Regency Buenaventura 6 1440 Eastman Avenue	<b>VENTURA</b> Temple Beth Torah 7620 Foothill Road	<b>OXNARD</b> Plaza Stadium 14 255 W. 5th Street	<b>CAMARILLO</b> Roxy Stadium 11 5001 Verdugo Way
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FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT US AT [WWW.VCJFF.ORG](http://WWW.VCJFF.ORG) OR CALL 805-647-4181

discover years later that their sons were switched at birth.

On Sun., **Mar. 17**, the Ojai Film Society will screen *The Ambassador*, a revealing and darkly comedic documentary from gonzo journalist Mads Brügger, who traveled to the Central African Republic under a guise to acquire blood diamonds and smuggle them out of the country.

### City of Ventura classes

*Continued from page 4*

every session. No class 4/2. Instructor Steven Quintin. Course #33692.

**Zumba "Gold" 16 years-Adult**  
**3/14-5/2 Thursday 5:10-6:10 pm \$50**

A great intro to Zumba's invigorating dance fitness to meringue, salsa, cumbia and other Latin dance rhythms. Wear smooth-soled shoes, clothes to move in, bring towel and water. No class 3/28, 4/4. Certified Zumba Gold Instructor Mary Macias. Course #33331.

**Zumba for Beginners**  
**3/18-4/29 Monday 5:15-6pm \$50**

Join certified and licensed ZUMBA® instructor Norma Lyons as she takes you through the ZUMBA® Latin dance inspired work-out.

Basics in salsa, cumbia and other dances are the calorie burners, then add a 10 minute ab session.

Bring mat, towel, dress comfortably. No class on 4/1. Course #33984.

**Lunchtime Belly Dance for All Levels**  
**16 years-Adult**  
**3/19-5/2 T/Th 12-1 pm \$70**

Spend your lunch hour learning choreography that will teach you rhythm, movement, transitions, timing, style and grace. Props and history of the dances will be introduced. No class 4/2, 4/4. Instructor Marion Kennedy. Course #33679.

**Polynesian Dance for Youth**

**6-12 years**

**3/19-5/14 Tuesday 3-4 pm \$60**

**6-8 years Course #33685.**

**3/19-5/14 Tuesday 4-5 pm \$60**

**9-12 years Course #33686.**

Learn the dances of Hawaii and Tahiti, and the use of Maori "poi" balls. Please bring a skirt and/or sarong to class. Poi balls (\$10), and "hand tassels" (\$15) are for purchase at class. No class 4/2. Instructor Elaine Tavares.

## Jane Doe seeking damages

On Tuesday, February 5, 2013, the Law Office of Ron Bamieh served the City with a claim seeking damages on behalf of a "Jane Doe" minor. The claim alleges the minor was "sexually assaulted" by deceased VPD officer Ricky Payne. To this point the claim provides no information as to the circumstance surrounding the allegations or the identity of "Jane Doe."

In the early morning of October 16, 2011 Officer Payne committed suicide while on duty. His body was located by the Ventura Police Department.

Subsequent to learning of Officer Payne's death, an independent investigation was completed by the Ventura County Sheriff's Department that included interviews with a minor female as well as numerous VPD personnel.

As in any case of potential litigation, the City is restricted on the information it may release concerning this claim. The Ventura City Attorney's office is reviewing the claim and will respond within the statutory requirements.



## Feed Bag



At the end they were too full to eat another thing.

## Ventura Food Tour

by Staci Brown

I attended the walking food tour on one beautiful Saturday afternoon. We met at the Bella Maggiore Inn because it is the oldest hotel in the City of Ventura and every aspect of the tour is done purposefully and with some information or historical fact which makes this a fascinating and fun event!

After introductions, the 8 of us plodded to Spencer Mackenzie's via Plaza Park, observing the oldest fig tree in California and a row of Victorian homes which were original tract homes built in the 19th century. Walking grants you a new awareness of your surroundings.

We arrived at Spencer Mackenzie's to a table bearing our first course of ceviche and fresh chips, followed by tempura fish and clam chowder. Unanimously, we loved everything we ate with a strong affinity to the most delicious clam chowder. We could have ended with that and we would have been happy. We were then off to our next stop at Paradise Pantry for 2 wine samples and their fresh delicious cheeses, fruit, nuts and the olives that I can't get enough of. You can't go wrong at Paradise Pantry.

Feeling perfectly plump, we strode over to Marie Shannon's for Empanadas. We stopped for some Watermark history and carried on. Marie Shannon's carries not just delicious baked goods, but breakfast items and Empanadas. We had a delicious spinach and mushroom

delight and one aficionado raved about the light, flaky crust.

We were then off to Spice-Topia, another one of my favorites. Infused salts and sugars, teas, coffees, spices, chocolates and excellent kitchen items. We tried 4 different salts (on popcorn) and chocolates hand made in the store. We tried chocolate covered bacon, a few times, and got to dip and take home truffles.

And then, off to We Olive. "We are too full to eat another thing" we complained, as we stuffed bread with dips and olive oils into our mouths. There is nothing like a good olive oil to add flavor to your food. Go in for a tasting, you will be happy that you did!

Not done yet...last stop, Palermo's for Gelato. It is so fresh and fluffy. We got to sample any and all flavors and then pick a cup of our choosing. Some people decided to buy a larger bowl because it was so delicious.

One of the best parts of the tour is that you get a discount if you shop that day so take advantage and do a little shopping. It was with much regret that the tour came to an end. You become very close to your foodie friends in three hours and are excited to go on another tour. For more information on this and other tours, and to learn about owner, Allison Costa, go to [www.venturafoodtours.com](http://www.venturafoodtours.com) or call 295.8687.

**Imported German Beer!**

**Lots of German market items**

sausages • sauerkraut • sandwiches • soups

**best bratwurst in town**

325 S. Borchard Drive, Ventura, (805) 653-1388

## New Restaurants in Ventura

If you know of a new restaurant in Ventura let us know at [editor@venturabreeze.com](mailto:editor@venturabreeze.com)



### Las Delicias-Classic Mexican Taqueria

Located where the Cottage Café was they feature the "usual" Mexican dishes plus many of their own creations. Including a large selection of Seafood/Mariscos dishes that include Blue Coast Shrimp, 7 Sea Soup, Fish Burrito and Shrimp in Garlic Sauce.

Other offerings include family meals that serve from 10 (\$49.99) to 50 (219.99) people.

All served in a relaxed atmosphere from \$4.49 to \$11.99.

2611 Thompson-643-0701.



### Social Tap American Eatery & Bar

After it seems like forever the empty restaurant on Seaward finally has a new owner, the entirely remodeled Social Tap. Social Tap features a wonderful bar, outdoor dining and overhead doors that open to Seaward on lovely days.

They feature a wide selection of wonderful beers and food. The foods include sumptuous sandwiches from huge burgers (almost too big to fit in the mouth) to a Turkey & Havarti Melt and a wide selection of salads. Their dinner plates include a filet mignon dinner, crusted fish & chips and herb marinated chicken breast.

They also have many TV's for your sports viewing pleasure.

1105 Seaward (A short walk to the beach), 667-8485



### Lure Fish House and Oyster Bar

Located in downtown the Lure features seafood, wonderful salads and a fantastic oyster bar. Appetizers include New England and Vera Cruz clam chowder, ceviche and smoked albacore crostini. The oysters can come from Canada, Washington, the East Coast and other locations.

Up to 15 charbroiled fish, shrimp and scallops are available plus pastes, lobster and, of course fish & chips.

A special treat is happy hour all day on Sunday and their own parking is available in the adjacent city parking lot located on Santa Clara

60 California St., 567-4400.



Every time I open a bottle of wine, I use a different opener.

### Grape Expectations

## The opening act!

by Eric Garnier

Some 30 years ago, while visiting the Christian Brothers Winery in Napa Valley, I was mesmerized by a collection of wine openers that was on display at the winery. After the big San Francisco earthquake in the 80's the building was condemned and later refurbished into the Culinary Institute at Greystone. Since then, I have been on a quest to collect wine openers. Though my collection is small by some standards, I have over one hundred that I have gathered at different wineries and in my travels to Europe.

The exhibition at the Culinary Institute of America's Greystone facility in Napa is the first class collection of the legendary Brother Timothy of the Christian Brothers winery fame. His corkscrews are on a permanent display at the CIA West and if you are in California it is a must see.

The collection was started in 1949, the year before the Christian Brothers purchased the Greystone property. But by the time they were ready to open the facility to visitors, about the beginning of 1955, Brother Tim had about 200 or more pieces in his collection. They displayed the corkscrews for visitors to see while they were waiting to take a tour of the wine operations – to keep them occupied, you might say. And today, they are displayed in cases and cabinets, almost returning to the early days of the collection keeping visitors occupied while they wait for the tours.

Every time I open a bottle of wine, I use a different opener. The opener brings back memories of when or where I was when I acquired that opener. They come in all shapes and sizes. They have names like, wing, oso, travelers, boomerang, butterfly and rabbit just to name a few. Electric and battery operated openers are also popular now. The famous Laguiole knife making company in the south of France also make beautiful openers.

So, whatever your fancy, they all open a bottle of wine. But it's the memories that I enjoy when I use a different opener each time I open a bottle of wine! What's your next opening act going to be? Cheers!

Eric  
[wineoeric@gmail.com](mailto:wineoeric@gmail.com)



# Senior Living

Pull Out Section



The six brave finalists for Miss Senior Ventura were Thea Schlosser, Joy Braden, Carol Jo Adams, Mary Johnston, Diane Mautner and Bea Haitz. Photo by Bernie Goldstein.

## A crowning at the Ventura Townehouse

On Feb. 23, at a standing room only crowd, the First Annual Miss Senior Ventura Pageant was held at the Ventura Townehouse. The Pageant featured music by Susan Huff on piano and the crowning of Miss Senior Ventura and her court.

The judges, Breeze publisher Sheldon Brown, Townehouse Executive Chef Thomas Dado (who was a late replacement for Executive Director Regina McAuley who was called away on family business), Townehouse Chief Engineer

Mark Mullen and Marion Grieve had a most difficult time choosing amongst the wonderful contestants before crowning Bea Haitz as Miss Senior Ventura and her court consisting of Diane Mautner and Joy Braden.

In accepting her crown Bea stated "I need to hold my head up or I'll lose my crown." And she thanked all of her friends who were there to cheer her on. Besides her crown she was given a \$500 charge card and a stay at a local spa.

*Continued on page 12*



Jack Tingstrom and Shane Morger to be honored at gold tournament

## CAREGIVERS honors locals for 20 years of service

CAREGIVERS: Volunteers Assisting the Elderly celebrates the 21st Annual "Wearin' o' the Green" Golf Tournament on Monday, March 18 at Buenaventura

Golf Course when Jack Tingstrom, former Ventura Mayor, and Shane Morger, Public Relations Director for Alexander of Oxnard, will be honored for their years of service to the organization.

"Both Shane Morger and Jack Tingstrom have been extremely generous with their time and efforts over the last several years to help ensure that both CAREGIVERS and this great annual golf tournament continue to succeed," said Bob Knudsen, CAREGIVERS' chairman of the board.

CAREGIVERS, which was established in 1984 as an interfaith non-profit, has paired thousands of volunteers in the community with frail and homebound seniors who are in need of non-medical care. "Ventura County is a national leader when it comes to community-based, volunteer care giving," said CAREGIVERS Executive Director Tammy Glenn.

The Wearin' o' the Green Golf Tournament to benefit CAREGIVERS was founded by Jack Collings of Collings and Associates and Norm Weitzel, retired from Southern California Edison, both of whom have served in leader-

*Continued on page 12*

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# County Ventura

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## Senior Living

Senior Cone-nection

### The most vulnerable population

by Nanci Cone

Typically seniors are most vulnerable to virtually every type of crime from a wide variety of criminals. Many seniors own their own homes and have bank accounts and credit cards which make them targets for innumerable confidence crimes and fraudulent schemes. Seniors grew up in an era when business was done with a handshake. They are quicker to believe promises and slower to take steps to protect their legal rights.

Home improvement fraud against seniors is a large problem in California. First, persons 66 and older have higher rates of home ownership and they tend to own older homes that are more likely to need repair. Second, as homeowners age, they are less likely to undertake home repairs themselves. The victimization of older Americans, especially in connection with consumer fraud, is attributable to certain generation specific attitudes, economic factors, and physical characteristics that make seniors especially vulnerable. Most of the fraud committed against the elderly is perpetrated against elderly females.

Deputy District Attorney Karen Wold took time to answer some essential questions about scam artists. **Nanci:** How many of these people get caught?

**Karen:** It's impossible to state how many people get caught but we can tell you that no one will be caught if it's not reported.

**N:** Are the scams always perpetrated by strangers?

**K:** No! The criminals that perpetrate crimes can be family members, friends, neighborhood predators, caregivers or the non-traditional organized crime groups that travel throughout the U.S. targeting the elderly.

**N:** What can seniors do if they feel they've been a victim of fraud?

**K:** First, if you believe you've been a victim of a crime, please call your local police agency at 805-339-4400 in Ventura. They can direct you to the proper agency, as necessary.

**N:** What can seniors do to protect themselves from these grifters?

**K:** Don't open your door to strangers. Be very wary of unsolicited phone calls. Don't give anyone blank checks or provide personal information. Always discuss investments with a trusted family member or friend. Don't leave your purse unattended and especially don't leave it in your shopping cart and then turn around to get more groceries. Be sure not to leave your purse in your car when you go into the house or anywhere else.

**N:** Where can seniors find more information about this problem?

**K:** [http://da.countyofventura.org/special\\_prosecution/consumer\\_support/consumer\\_protection\\_brochure.htm](http://da.countyofventura.org/special_prosecution/consumer_support/consumer_protection_brochure.htm)

[www.cityofventura.net/pd](http://www.cityofventura.net/pd)  
[www.fbi.gov/scams-safety/fraud/seniors](http://www.fbi.gov/scams-safety/fraud/seniors)

[www.fraud.org](http://www.fraud.org) (National Consumer League's Fraud Center)

[www.ic3.gov/default.aspx](http://www.ic3.gov/default.aspx) (Internet Crime Complaint Center)

[www.idtheftcenter.org](http://www.idtheftcenter.org) (Nonprofit ID Theft Center)

[www.scambusters.org](http://www.scambusters.org) (Helpful Scam Buster Website)

[www.dca.ca.gov](http://www.dca.ca.gov) (Department of Consumer Affairs)

[www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov) (Federal Trade Commission)

[www.fraudsandscams.com](http://www.fraudsandscams.com) (Use the drop down link to check out many common scams and frauds)

[www.cskb.ca.gov](http://www.cskb.ca.gov) (Contractor's State License Board)

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

[www.santabarbara.bbb.org/home.aspx](http://www.santabarbara.bbb.org/home.aspx) (Tri-Counties Better Business Bureau)

Ms. Wold notes, "One common scam begins with an unsolicited visit to the consumer's home. The offenders may tell the victim they were doing work in the area and were left with extra materials. They often will give the name of an alleged neighbor and say that the neighbor suggested they contact the individual. They will offer to do work for you using leftover materials or to sell you leftover product at a great price. Sometimes they work together in teams using a female as the initial contact which allows one individual to distract you while the other asks to use the bathroom or get some water. While the senior's attention is on the one person, the accomplice attempts to take jewelry, cash, credit cards or other items of value. If you do not know them, do not open your door and do not let them into your home!"

When in doubt, contact the District Attorney's office or visit one of the websites listed above. And if it sounds too good to be true, it is!



Ms Pavan started her nursing career as an Oncology nurse.

### New VPCEO at LMVNA

Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice is pleased to announce the appointment of Teresa (Tree) Pavan, BSHS, RN, as Livingston Memorial's Vice President/Chief Operating Officer. Ms Pavan started her nursing career as an Oncology nurse and joined Livingston Hospice many years ago. She held a supervisory role in Livingston's Home Health division, moved to the Hospice Director of Patient Care Services and now takes the helm as VP and COO. Mrs. Pavan brings 18 years of nursing and leadership experience to this position and will have administrative oversight for Livingston's clinical services in Home Health, Hospice and CareGivers.

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The newly-designed Post-Acute Rehab Center helps people recover from surgery, illness or injury and return home as quickly and safely as possible. Blending time-honored therapies with innovative programs, the PARC's team of nurses and therapists create an individualized rehabilitation plan tailored to each patient's unique needs.

The newly-designed Post-Acute Rehab Center helps people recover from surgery, illness or injury and return home as quickly and safely as possible. Blending time-honored therapies with innovative programs, the PARC's team of nurses and therapists create an individualized rehabilitation plan tailored to each patient's unique needs.



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## Senior Living



### Ventura music man passes on

Larry Weiss, who conducted the Ventura County Concert Band for 34 years, peacefully passed away in his sleep early Thursday, Feb. 21, 2013, born in Chicago he was 81.

Weiss had lived at the Ventura Townhouse for several years after he had developed Alzheimer's some 5 years ago.

Kimm Bryan, Director of Activities at The Ventura Townhouse, remembers Larry Weiss as "the man who was always smiling and happy. Larry greeted everyone with a smile and a joke. He was always joking around with residents and staff. I will always remember he and Ginny when they were on their walks around the building and grounds hand in hand. The two of them beamed with friendship.

"Residents always commented on how they loved going to the Ventura Concerts and watch Larry conduct. Larry's sweet nature and big smile will be terribly missed by all who knew him. We know he is now walking hand in hand with Ginny again."

Although born in Chicago he has lived in Ventura almost his entire professional life, which was filled with music.

Weiss was a music director at Ventura High from 1961 to 1992 and played many-many instruments, playing as a guest soloist with both the Chicago Symphony and the NY Metropolitan Opera by the time he was 18.

Larry served in the U.S. Army's 5th Armored Division Band, at Fort Smith, Ark., before heading to California to launch his career as a music teacher. After years of recognition for his contributions to the musical arts, from local, state and national leaders, the Ventura Unified School District, in 2009, placed a permanent bronze tribute to him in VHS Auditorium that was for many years his second home.

He was also an avid biker, walker, swimmer, world traveler, and lover of wildlife and nature. He was a constant student of history and proud member of the Toastmasters.

Memorial Services were held for him at Temple Beth Torah and he was buried at Ivy Lawn Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requested that donations can be made to the Ventura High School Band Boosters, VHS Music Boosters, P.O. Box 3051, Ventura 93006, in support of the Larry Weiss Scholarship Fund.

### Read the fine print

Sometimes brochures and cards that come in the mail look like something real and legitimate. I received a card that at first glance appeared to have come from Social Security.

It invited me to send back the card (postage paid) to receive a free brochure entitled *New Social Security Changes and Benefits*. It was only when I looked at the very bottom at the fine print (and yes, I had to use a magnifying glass because it was so tiny) that I learned the sender was not affiliated with the government: It was a sales pitch! When I traced down the person named on the card, it turned out he's selling investments. I found the same card on a marketing site on the Internet. Marketing companies sell the cards as a direct mail piece, part of a lead-generation program for salespeople.

Somehow they got my name and address, and hoped I'd fill out even more information on the card (date of birth, home phone number and email address) and mail it back to them. With that information, they could start calling me to push whatever they're selling. I found a similar website, one that deals with promotional mailers, with this banner streaming across the top: *Social Security Leads are HOT...mailers pulling 5 percent-plus*. That means that one in every 20 people who receive the mailing piece will respond. The lesson in all this is to hesitate before you fill out something you get in the mail, even if it appears to be legitimate. Get out your magnifying glass and look carefully. You might find a line or two of the truth at the bottom.

From King Features

### Help is available at The Bonaventure

**Downsizing Seminar at The Bonaventure!**  
**Friday, March 8th, 11:00 am**

Make your next move your simplest one yet! Join The Bonaventure for a downsizing, organization and relocation seminar sponsored by Gentle Transitions Special Relocation Services. Lorine Stoikowitz will present and answer your questions. All are welcome to join us for lunch in our dining room immediately following the event. Please RSVP to The Bonaventure at 671-9700.

**Best Buy Technology Tools Seminar at The Bonaventure!**  
**Monday, March 11th, 10:00 am**

Do you have questions about the latest technology? Come to The Bonaventure and get some answers from the experts at Best Buy who will be on site. Learn the latest technology tools and tricks or just master the basics. All are welcome to join us for lunch immediately following the event in our dining room. Please RSVP to The Bonaventure at 671-9700.

**Free Health Screenings at The Bonaventure!**  
**Tuesday, March 12th, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm**

All are welcome to join us at The Bonaventure for 2 hours of free basic health screenings. The Salvation Army will have two RNs on hand to do the

*Continued on page 12*

## The Palms at Bonaventure Assisted Living Community



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## Senior Living

**Help is available at The Bonaventure**  
*Continued from page 11*  
screenings and to answer your health questions. Make it a day and stay for a delicious and nutritionally balanced lunch in our dining room beginning at 12:30. Please RSVP to The Bonaventure at 671-9700.

**Irish Feast and More at The Bonaventure!**

**Friday, March 15th, 12:30 pm**

Irish eyes are smiling at The Bonaventure! Join us for an Irish Feast of corned beef and cabbage and stay for some fabulous live entertainment by Rob Hoffman. All are welcome, Irish or not! Space is limited so RSVP to The Bonaventure today to reserve your table. 671-9700.

The Bonaventure is located at 10949 Telegraph (near Wells)

**Omelette Bar and Breakfast at The Bonaventure!**

**Wednesday, March 20th, 8:00 am**

Start your day out right with a fabulous breakfast at The Bonaventure! Breakfast will feature an omelette bar where your favorite omelette will be made to order as you watch. RSVP to The Bonaventure at (805) 671-9700 to reserve your table today!

**Happy Hour and More at The Bonaventure!**

**Friday, March 22nd, 3:00 pm**

Grab a friend or two and join us for Happy Hour and more at The Bonaventure on Friday, March 22nd at 3:00 pm. Live entertainment will include the fun and excitement of the Traveling Game Show! Appetizers, wine and other beverages will be provided. Space is limited, so please RSVP to The Bonaventure at (805) 671-9700.

**CAREGIVERS honors locals**

*Continued from page 9*

ship positions under the organization's original founders, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet.

"Not unlike today, the organization depended on contributions from the community to sustain its services," said Norm Weitzel. Jack Tingstrom and Shane Morger not only recognize the growing needs of our elders, they step up to the challenge and have carried the torch for an event that is now a tradition in Ventura County."

For the third consecutive year, CAREGIVERS is proudly joined by the members of the Ventura South Rotary Club for the presentation of the golf tournament. The Rotary members have been active participants in the tournament since its inception 21 years ago.

For more information or to volunteer, visit [www.vccaregivers.org](http://www.vccaregivers.org) or call 658-8530.

**Crowning at the Ventura Townhouse**

*Continued from page 9*

The competition consisted of a talent showcase, evening gown competition and the response to several questions and answers that were asked by the master of ceremonies Denise Carter.

Bea's talent was the reading of some of her original poetry and Diane Mautner performed Schubert on the piano.

Sheldon Brown stated "All of the wonderful ladies expressed their enjoyment in competing and for being a part of the first pageant at the Townhouse. I'm sure that we will see some of them back next year. (And maybe even me as a judge)."

The Ventura Townhouse is located at 4900 Telegraph Rd., 642-3263.



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## News and Notes

# This type of tragedy continues

by Kris McDonald,  
Fire Captain, Ventura City Fire Department

The deadly night club fire in Brazil this past January took the lives of over 245 partygoers. Despite laws and regulations that increase public safety during assemblies and events such as these, this type of tragedy continues to be repeated around the World. This most recent event serves as a harsh reminder of how quickly large gatherings anywhere, not just night clubs, can turn deadly. Keeping a few safety reminders in the back of your mind, when entering into a large assembly of people, can help keep you, your friends, and your family safe.

First, before ever entering a crowded building or area, establish a location to meet should your group have to evacuate. Take a good look around as you enter and consider how you are going to get out in a hurry. Ask yourself if you feel safe. Does the building or area appear overcrowded? Are there potential ignition sources in the general area, such as open flames or pyrotechnics? Do you see alternative exits available? Do you see safety systems such as sprinklers or smoke alarms? Are exit paths clear of debris or storage? Are designated exit doors blocked or locked? Any safety concerns should be brought to the attention of the management, and if not remedied immediately you should remove yourself from the building or area.

As is the case with any of these night club fires, when you are trying to escape the conditions may be dark, smoky, and very congested. Is the main entrance large enough to accommodate large masses of people exiting in a panic? What other emergency and non-emergency exits are available? Human nature during an emergency is to exit at the same location that you entered. In an emergency situation, however, you should utilize the nearest exit available. Take a moment to recognize where these emergency exits are before you need them. When you are trying to exit during a fire, be sure to stay low and avoid breathing smoke.

It is very important to remember that you have a limited time to get out safely, and evacuation should occur at the first sign of emergency. Any alarm sounding, smoke or fire visible, or any other unusual disturbance should be your cue to leave the area right away and in an orderly fashion. Once you leave a dangerous area or situation, do not return for any reason. If you are separated from your family or friends do not go back inside looking for them, let trained responders conduct any necessary rescue operations.

Unfortunately accidents and disasters will continue to occur. Give yourself the upper hand to remain safe and get out alive when they happen.

Follow us anytime at facebook.com/venturacityfire or youtube.com/VenturaCityFD

## Passing of retired Fire Captain John Duff

Retired Ventura City Fire Department Fire Captain John Duff passed away on Saturday, February 16, following a

hard fought battle with cancer. His family was at his side. John was a member of the Department for nearly 30 years coming to us from Fallbrook, CA.

John Duff was hired in 1981 as a Firefighter, promoted to Fire Engineer in 1991 and Fire Captain in 1997. In 2010, he retired to battle his cancer. He is survived by his wife Diana, children Ben, Hanna, and Caleb.

Captain Duff was an outstanding member of the Department. He had a deep interest and raw talent in providing better and safer emergency services to the public. John was one of our first water rescue technicians, was on the forefront of handling hazardous materials incidents, and furthered the Ventura Fire Department's role in rescuing people from difficult places as part of the Urban Search and Rescue team. He was a member of many department committees that shaped how we provide service today. He especially enjoyed the Apparatus Committee which designs new fire engines.

His talents were not used only in the City of Ventura. He interacted with many partner fire agencies in Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties. He was a Training Captain to the fire academy, assisted other fire agencies in proctoring promotional exams and taught many specialty courses.

John received several commendations for his work performance in emergency operations and public education.

John served his Department and his peers as an active board member of the Ventura City Firefighters Association, having been elected President for several terms.

## E.P. Foster Library to host an open house and more

Members of the community can learn more about the library's programs and celebrate at E.P. Foster's open house on Saturday, March 16. The event will take place directly after the local parade from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. This is an event for all ages and a chance for families and friends to learn more about everything the library can offer in the coming months.

There will be live music, food and much to learn during this community get-together. Stations will be set up throughout the library to inform attendees about upcoming programs, ranging from Children's Summer Reading to Story Time to Open Mic Nights.

"This will be a great time for the community to learn about the exciting programs Foster is offering," said Sara Roberts, Senior City Librarian. "From poetry readings to eAudiobooks, we have a lot to show off."

Attendees over the age of 18 will have the chance to win a Kindle through a raffle by visiting each station, sponsored by Friends of the Library.

For more information on E.P. Library visit [www.ventcolibrary.org/locations/epfoster](http://www.ventcolibrary.org/locations/epfoster) or Facebook [www.facebook.com/epfosterlibrary](http://www.facebook.com/epfosterlibrary).

**Classes at the the library:** For more info call 648-2716. Classes are free and open to the public.

**3/4 Computer classes @ Foster Basic Training** – Doug's five step method for navigating the internet. Level: Beginner. 11:00-11:45

JOIN US FOR THE GRAND OPENING OF THE RIVER COMMUNITY  
"BUILDING ON A STRONG FOUNDATION"



Come join us as we celebrate being in our "NEW" Building as well as honor the people that have gone before us who assisted in building the strong foundation.

**9:15AM** — The River Cafe opens w/ fresh Gourmet Coffee & Pastries from Panera Bread

**10:00AM** — Service Begins:  
- Opening Comments by Mayor Mike Tracy  
- Live Music by TRC Worship Team  
- Keynote Speaker: Pastor Dennis Easter

**RedBrickPizza** Lunch will be served after service.

**MARCH 10, 2013**  
THE RIVER COMMUNITY  
889 E. SANTA CLARA STREET, VENTURA, CA 93001  
[www.TheRiverCommunity.org](http://www.TheRiverCommunity.org)



**3/11 Computer classes @ Foster Microsoft Word** – Creating a document, using a template to make a flyer/resume/calendar Level: Beginner. 11:00-11:45

**3/11 - City Speakers Series** - Rosie Ornelas, City of Ventura Volunteer Coordinator, will discuss various volunteer opportunities in our community. Special guests from around town will stop by. In the Topping Room from noon-1:00.

**3/13 Free Positive Parenting Seminar** - A representative of Triple P will host a one time session covering: how to provide a positive learning environment for kids, using assertive discipline and finding the balance in it all. In the Topping Room from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Free and open to the public, call (805) 983-3636 for registration.

**3/16 - Teens Teaching Tech** - bring your gadgets and gizmos and receive one-on-one attention. 10 a.m. - noon.

**3/18 Computer classes @ Foster Searching the catalog** – Search for books, use advanced searching and place a request by logging in to your account. 11:00-11:45

**3/25 Computer classes @ Foster Q&A** – A drop in session focused on helping with computer skills. Level: Any. 11:00-11:45

**Ongoing:**  
**Open Mic Night** - every Thursday

except the fourth Thursday of the month. Hosted by Phil Taggart. Come share your work, or sit and listen to local artists. 7:30-9 at the Topping Room.

**3/7 Yoga time/Story time** - every Wednesday from 3:30-4 parents are welcome to attend a free yoga session while kids go to story time.

## Ventura Job & Career Center

**Wednesday, March 13 – Resumes that Sell, 9:00 am – 12:00 noon**

Hands-on workshop providing assistance in completing a resume, cover and thank-you letters. Walk away with a portfolio that shows off professional skills and experience. Career Shops are offered at no cost to Job Seekers. Prior registration required by calling the Ventura Job & Career Center at 805-654-3435 to enroll.

**Wednesday, March 20 – Winning Interviews, 9:00 am – 12:00 noon**

Supplies the tools to make a lasting first impression when interviewing. Career Shops are offered at no cost to Job Seekers. Space is limited. Prior registration required by calling the Ventura Job & Career Center at 805-654-3435 to enroll.

**SPAY AND NEUTER YOUR PET: SAVE A LIFE**

**DID YOU KNOW** that breeding, no matter what the lineage, contributes to pet overpopulation? 1 out of 4 dogs that arrive at shelters are purebreds!



**BE A HERO...ADOPT A PET**

[cabodogz.com](http://cabodogz.com)





# Professor Scamp, Ph.D

(Pretty Happy Dog)



Professor Scamp  
Ph.D

■ On Feb. 23, Foster Library celebrated 7-years of Paws for Reading of Ventura where dogs and humans volunteer at the library once a week to have children read

to them.

About the celebration Children's Librarian Star Soto said, "We had a great time celebrating 7 years of Paws for Reading in Ventura. The celebration brought together present owners and dogs in the program as well as past owners, many that have been with us since the beginning, readers and their families and many visitors from our community.

"I was very excited that these volunteers were recognized for their devotion to our community and the children they show up every week to hear read. Denise Sindelar, the Community Partnership Manager, Ron D'Incau from the City of Ventura Library Advisory Council, Steve Bennett from the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors and Senator Hanna-Beth Jackson all



The wonderful CARL volunteers were at the Thousand Oaks Performing Arts Center during the production of You're a Good Man Charlie Brown with some of their wonderful dogs to adopt.

This is Milo (black and white dog), Marley (the white and brown dog) and wonderful volunteer Toni Kamm holding Cleo.

handed out certificates of appreciation and recognition. I mean, how many dogs do you know that get Special Congressional Recognition? Each and every one of them deserves it, besides certificates to the owners, our canine volunteers got to enjoy homemade doggie treats. We all had a great time and are looking forward to helping another 750 children in the next seven years."

I was there also to meet these wonderful dogs and have a treat. In a future issue I will show you pictures of some of them.

■ On Saturday, March 9th Santa Paula Animal Rescue Center (S.P.A.R.C.) will be partnering with Jewelry Couture and Land

Rover Jaguar Ventura to help raise funds and awareness for Ventura County's first no kill, non-profit animal shelter between 1 pm and 5 pm. Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be provided. Come save a life and adopt one of the many rescue pets (cats and dogs) who will be on site eagerly waiting to meet you!

Special guest photographer and author Frank Bruynbroek will be signing copies of his book, *Compassion: Portraits Of Rescued Dogs*.

For more information on adopting a rescue pet, please visit S.P.A.R.C.'s website at [www.santapaulaarc.org](http://www.santapaulaarc.org) or call 525-8609.

■ Shelters and rescue groups throughout Ventura County have seen a huge increase in the number of Chihuahuas or Chihuahua mixes in the past few years. These dogs typically make up about a third of the population residing in Ventura County shelters. The Humane Society of Ventura County, located in Ojai, reports that approximately 36% of the dogs sheltered by them are Chihuahuas or mixed breed Chihuahuas. Although they make wonderful pets, there are unfortunately many more of them than homes available.

In an effort to help reduce the overpopulation of this breed and mixed breed Chihuahuas, the Humane Society of Ventura County is currently offering free spay and neuter services to Ventura County residents. For a limited time, any Chihuahua or mixed breed Chihuahua weighing five to fifteen pounds qualifies for this service. Surgeries are performed by appointment only. For information call 646-6505 or 656-5031.

With the recent expansion of its spay and neuter clinic, the Humane Society of Ventura County hopes to reduce this population of homeless dogs by offering free spay/neuter services for a limited time. All other spay and neuter services remain low cost, cats \$30-\$40 and dogs up to 100 pounds, \$60 to \$80 depending upon size. Appointments required. Call 656-5043 or 646-7849.

■ The 3rd Annual Dining With The Dogs event will take place Saturday, April 6th, from 2:00pm to 7:00pm, at the Camarillo Ranch House at 201 Camarillo Ranch Road, in Camarillo. This event supports the working dogs of the Ventura County Sheriff's K-9 Search and Rescue Team, the Ventura County Sheriff's Department K-9 Unit, and the National Police Dog Foundation.

Sponsorship opportunities are available and tables may be purchased and reserved. Individual tickets are \$60 per person, and can be purchased by calling Dani Delpit at 947-8128 or Ernie Cox at 630-2531.



Pam Shuman is with Chad and Nina, State Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, Star Soto and her granddaughter Ava and her granddog Bailey were all there to help celebrate Paws for Reading. Photo by Jane Middleton

## Forever home wanted



Hi: Our names are Bebe (I'm the baby) and Lilly (I'm the mom). We are yorkiepoos and cockapoo mixes. We are 8 and 5 years old.

We come from a loving home. Unfortunately, our human got sick and could not care for us any longer.

We are healthy, fluffy, non-shedding, house trained and sweet as candy. We have been

together since Bebe was born, and are very bonded. We really need a home where we can stay together. We promise to be good girls and love our new family for the rest of our lives. Currently, we are staying at Ventura Highway Luxury Boarding for Dogs, at 4692 Ventura Avenue, 643-3647...call today or stop by to visit us.....Be a hero.....adopt a dog (or 2).

Hi: I'm Tag about a 3-year old male Chihuahua mix who according to my foster mom is a very good boy and I don't bark. I only give a little yap when I have to go out. I was rescued from Animal Regulation and I'll always be grateful for being given a chance to know what it means to be a cherished member of a loving family.

Could that family be yours? Stop by and meet me, I'll be waiting. The Canine Adoption & Rescue League, Sam's Place, 3203 E. Main Street, 644-7387. [www.carlvc.org](http://www.carlvc.org)



Jackie, an energetic, spayed female rabbit, is full of exuberance and will bring much joy to her future family. To get attention, Jackie runs up to the side of her pen and shoves her nose through the bars. She would be happiest living indoors, inside the house and as part of a family. Jackie would fit in best in a home with older, gentle children.

The public is invited to come

to the Ventura County Animal Shelter, 600 Aviation Drive in Camarillo. While there, they can also meet the many other shelter rabbits, learn about proper rabbit care, and find out if a house rabbit is right for their home.

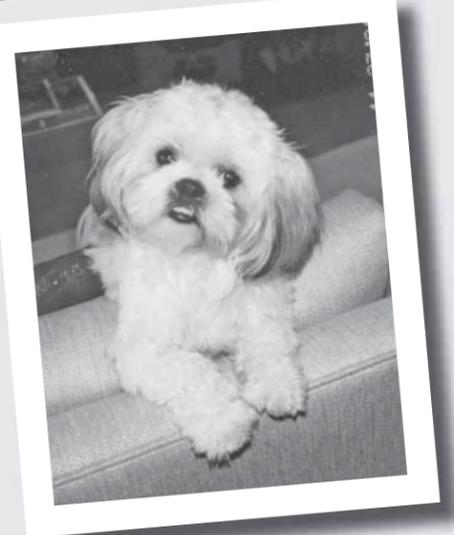
Jackie is in kennel # 426, her ID is A562470 and her adoption fee is \$50.

Scamp: This is the oddest looking dog that I ever saw.

## Scamp Club

Hi: I'm Scooter and I'm a 12-year old boy, aren't I cute? I go on two walks a day with my dad. We have done over 7,000 walks!

I love to play with toys that squeak. All of my toys are in a toy box and occasionally I tip the box over and pull them all out looking for just the right one. And I like digging in the empty box.



## Join Scamp Club

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

# Police Reports

by Veronica Johnson

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

## Residential Burglary

On Friday, February 22nd, at 11:10 a.m., the VPD received a call from an alert citizen who saw an unknown male subject exiting a neighbor's house, located on the 3500 block of Grand Avenue, carrying property.

Officers found the suspect, Michael Palafox, walking a few blocks away from where the crime had been committed. He was found to be in possession of drugs and paraphernalia and was arrested. Some of the property taken was recovered at the scene.

## Resisting Arrest

On Friday, February 22nd, at 8:56 a.m., the VPD received a call in reference of a subject with a felony PROS warrant that was disturbing the 2300 block of Grand Avenue. Upon seeing officers, Nicomedes Watts refused verbal commands and took off running.

Several times, Watts was sighted inside the perimeter and each time he ran and refused to comply with officer's orders. Watts was eventually spotted in the rear yard of a residence on Clinton. While attempting to flee again, he broke through the roof of an outdoor structure and was captured attempting to climb over a fence. After a brief struggle, he was taken into custody.

Watts was taken to VCMC and treated for minor injuries.

## Resisting a Police Officer

On Saturday, February 23rd, at 5:40 p.m., the VPD received a call of a suspicious subject loitering in front of a business in the 6300 Block of Ventura Boulevard. Officers contacted the suspect, Michael Hernandez, as he was leaving the area.

Several hours prior to the suspicious subject call, officers had responded to a call in the 2500 Block of Johnson Drive to a report of Hernandez, who was known to be wanted for an outstanding warrant, being seen in the area. Officers were unable to locate Hernandez during that call.

Upon being contacted, Hernandez refused orders to stop and led the officer on a pursuit along the railroad tracks. Officers were able to catch Hernandez, but he resisted being taken into custody. One of the officers deployed a taser on Hernandez, which had no effect. Hernandez grabbed an officer's firearm and tried removing it from its holster. Fearing for their safety, one of the officers deployed his baton and struck Hernandez. Officers were able to take Hernandez into custody.

One officer sustained a minor cut to his hand. Hernandez was transported to VCMC for a medical clearance for minor injuries and was later booked at VC Jail.

## Stolen Vehicle

On Monday, February 25th, at 1:14 p.m., the VPD received a call from the victim of a stolen vehicle, reporting that their vehicle was seen in the parking lot of the Mission Bell Motel in the 3200 Block of Main Street.

While officers watched the vehicle, Jordan Chavez and a 15-year-old male

juvenile were seen getting into the vehicle. Chavez saw patrol units on Telegraph Road and attempted to flee, but lost control and collided into a palm tree. After the vehicle came to a stop, Chavez fled on foot and was apprehended by officers. He was taken into custody without further incident.

As the vehicle was still coming to a stop, the male juvenile attempted to flee from the passenger's side. The still-moving vehicle pinned him between the opened door and the tree. The male juvenile's leg had to be freed by VC Fire personnel. He was later transported to VCMC and treated for moderate injuries.

## Vehicle Burglary

On Wednesday, February 27th, at 1:08 a.m., an officer was driving in the area of Harbor Boulevard and Sanjon Road. The officer noticed a vehicle parked to the side of the road with no lights on and appeared to be abandoned.

As the officer pulled behind the vehicle and used his lights to illuminate the vehicle, the suspect, Terry Wysel, jumped out. The officer proceeded to ask Wysel questions and was able to determine that Wysel was not being truthful with his answers. The officer continued his investigation and learned that Wysel had broken into the vehicle and was in the process of stealing property.

Wysel was arrested and booked into the VC Jail. No one was injured and the owner of the vehicle recovered his property.

# Health



## Feeling a draft for a good cause

A group of at least 30 Ventura residents will gather together at Ventura's Sacred Heart church on Sunday, March 17 to shave their heads and show their support for children afflicted with childhood cancer.

Led by Benjamin Martinez, office manager with Ventura County Public Health's Women, Infant and Children (WIC) program, the group will participate in the St. Baldrick's Foundation's annual head-shaving event designed to raise awareness of and funding for childhood cancer research.

This is the 6th year Martinez has supported St. Baldrick's and his second as a team leader. Last year, his team raised nearly \$11,000.

"I come from a large, close-knit family," said Martinez. "I am especially thankful for the good health of each of my 15 nieces and nephews. When

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 Make it your New Years Resolution to read—  
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I was asked for the first time to participate with St. Baldricks, I knew this was an opportunity to show just that."

Martinez's team is looking for more members, financial donations and cheerleaders to visit Sacred Heart church on March 17 at 10 a.m. and support them while they have their heads shaved.

For more information or to donate, go to <http://www.stbaldricks.org/events/mypage/7959/2013>

## Women's self care issues – Women 2 Women

Join the the Brite Institute for a Free Seminar by Miok Spencer, M.S., as she discusses Women's Self-Care and Helping to Change Lives for the Better. Topics will include: "How to Build Connections with Fans, Friends, Family, and Foes"; "Exploring The Power of the Mind"; "How to Create Healthy Habits" and "Finding Inner Peace". Space is limited so make your reservations for March 7th, 6-8pm. Seminars are conducted at the Brite Institute's Ventura office, 1068 E. Main Street, Ste. 140E. Call 758- 3528 to place your reservation.

The Brite Institute, a professional corporation, provides affordable therapy/counseling and psycho educational services to individuals, couples, children, adolescents, and families in Ventura County. Their staff of practitioners include Marriage and Family Therapists (MFT's), supervised MFT Interns and Doctoral Students who hold degrees from accredited schools. The Brite Institute maintains offices in Ventura and Thousand Oaks. Brite Institute Directors include Andrea Sallee LMFT and Dr. Ruth Lever, Ph.D. Visit [www.brite-institute.org](http://www.brite-institute.org) for ore information.

## COPD to be focus of free CMHS Seminar

Living with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease – COPD – will be the focus of a free seminar the Community Memorial Health System is holding on Tuesday, March 19.

Robert Bernstein, M.D. who specializes in pulmonary diseases and critical care medicine, will lead the seminar to be held from 6 to 8 p.m. in the eighth-floor Nichols Auditorium at Community Memorial Hospital at 147 Brent St.

COPD affects an estimated 24 million people in the U.S., with half of those cases remaining undiagnosed. Dr. Bernstein will discuss COPD's symptoms – including shortness of breath, wheezing and coughing – and how early diagnosis and treatment help manage this serious lung disease.

Dr. Bernstein received his medical degree from Temple University in Philadelphia and completed his Internal Medicine residency at UCLA. He is a member of the medical staff at Community Memorial Hospital.

Admission is free, but space is limited, so reservations are required. Call 652-5436, or visit [www.cmhhealth.org/rsvp](http://www.cmhhealth.org/rsvp).

## Ventura Music Festival

Continued from page 1

Boston Globe.

**Friday, May 10 at 3 pm** – Tea & Trumpets, Ventura Masonic Center, 482 E. Santa Clara St. Enjoy an English High Tea and entertainment by the Festival Brass Quintet.

**Saturday, May 11 at 8 pm** – M-Pact, an a cappella pop-jazz sextet from Los Angeles whose wonderful voices comprise the sound of an entire band. "One of the best pop-jazz vocal groups in the world" says the San Francisco Chronicle.

To receive a free color brochure, or for more information, call the Ventura Music Festival at 648-3146 or go to [www.venturamusicfestival.org](http://www.venturamusicfestival.org).

**Weekly SUDOKU**  
 Answer

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

**King Crossword**  
 Answers  
 Solution time: 25 mins.

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



## Show Time

# Lisa Haley & the Zydekats are coming to town!

by Nanci Cone

World-renowned, Grammy-nominated Zydeco band, Lisa Haley & the Zydekats will be at Yolie's, 138 W. Main, on Friday, March 8 from 8-10:30 pm to help celebrate a very tardy Mardi Gras.

According to Wikipedia, "Zydeco combines elements of an older American style that began in the 1700s – Cajun music, a style that consists of French fiddle tunes, Irish Celtic fiddle tunes, German button accordion, Latin rhythms, and Appalachian styles."

When Lisa and the Zydekats get onstage, it's impossible to stay seated for long. She is known for her bright blue fiddle and the talented individuals with whom she surrounds herself. They'll be performing cuts from their new 8th album, *Joy Ride*, along with many of their well-known, foot stomping, get-up-and-dance compositions that their audiences have come to love.

*Joy Ride* is getting radio play throughout the United States and Europe, and one of their music videos is featured on AOL.com, ESPN, FoxNews and YouTube (613,000 hits so far!) so you will want to check it out to get a feel for who they are.

Lisa Haley puts it best when she says, "We are so excited to visit our fans in Ventura this spring! We love you all, and we love the feel of easy, gracious living we find in Ventura. Come celebrate 'Tardy Mardi Gras!' with us!"

"There are new songs, and a new show. This is joyful music, and people need joy – especially now! Prepare to catch Zydecosis – there is no cure – all you can do is dance until the symptoms pass!!" How can you pass up an offer like that?

To learn more about the band, visit [www.lisahaley.com](http://www.lisahaley.com). And to hear cuts from their latest album, check out [www.reverbnation.com/lisahaley2](http://www.reverbnation.com/lisahaley2). I'll see you at Yolie's!

Two on the Aisle

## Time bends both ways

by Jim Spencer & Shirley Lorraine

Relationships often run a rocky course, both in real time and through reminiscence. Such is the premise of *The Last 5 Years*, currently running in Channel Islands Harbor at the newly relocated Elite Theatre Company.

Billed as a pop/rock musical, the piece follows a couple, Jamie and Cathy, through their budding love, marriage and subsequent breakup in an unusual and often confusing manner. Her side of the tale is told from the breakup backward, chronicling what has been. Simultaneously, his side is told from the beginning to current time. Without the synopsis provided, we may have spent valuable time trying to understand the action instead of enjoying the dichotomy.

The story is done almost entirely in song, with only snippets of dialogue. Technically an opera then, the piece takes itself into another realm – one that

makes a valiant effort but ultimately seems to need more refinement.

Musically the score is challenging, especially for the actors. We found it to have melodic moments but, in general, to be unimaginative. The hammering left hand "rock" beat, at times overwhelming and repetitive, often obscured the melody line the actors appeared to be rendering. The musical content seemed to be counter-balanced with the husband having the rock-out sounds and the wife carrying the sweeter parts. For our money, in order to be billed as a pop/rock musical the style should be consistent throughout. We didn't find this to be so.

In addition, there were several musical numbers that, to us, added nothing to the story line. However, this is not to take anything away from pianist David Gorospe who performed the score superbly, playing essentially nonstop for the entire 90 minute show with no intermission.

Rena Petrello played Cathy in this performance. She carried her part beautifully, giving her character dimension and verve. Her voice was clear and easily understood.

Portraying Jamie was Kyle Caldwell, an excellent actor. However, he does not have the quality of singing voice usually required for musical theater and tended to substitute volume for pitch in the more rock moments.

As the play features only two actors and is dual cast, the performers we saw may not be the ones you'll see when you attend.

Director Andrew James took on the task of directing this complex material and did so with precision. The movements of the actors accented their message without distraction. Minimal adjustments to costume or character painted the right picture.

Bob Decker's inventive set incorporates a highly effective turntable, aptly painted as a clock face, on which single set pieces are moved on and off stage.

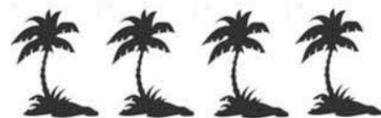
*The Last 5 Years* runs Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. through March 30 at the Elite Theatre Company's new home in the Fisherman's Wharf area, 2731 S. Victoria, Oxnard. It features a larger stage, more audience seating, ground-floor restrooms and room for expansion. Tickets are \$18 for students/seniors, \$20 general admission. Reservations: 805-483-5118 or [info@elitetheatre.org](mailto:info@elitetheatre.org).

The Entertainment Report

## Silver screen

by Linde Carlson

Hello Ventura, these are my picks of the week:



Side Effects

*Side Effects* takes us on a psychological journey in the manic, ominous, psych-thriller directed by Steven Soderbergh (Magic Mike). Just when you think he can't bring us anything other than skin and great biceps, Soderbergh surprises. How can you go wrong with Jude Law in any cast. He brings the emotion, the juice, the upheaval and intelligence into almost any role he plays.

Emily Hawkins (Rooney Mara) is in constant fear because her husband has

## VFS @ 420 East 2013

### 56 UP

Reviewed by Lorenzo DeStefano  
Ventura Film Society

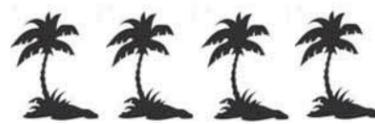
*56 UP* (Tuesday March 19th @ 7:15pm). Director Michael Apted (*Amazing Grace* - VFS 2012, *Chronicles of Narnia*, *Coal Miner's Daughter*, *Gorky Park*, *Gorillas In The Mist*) revisits, in this eighth in a series of films, the same group of British-born adults he first chronicled in 1964. Every seven years since *7 UP*, the original film, Apted has interviewed the same collection of ordinary Britons from all backgrounds as to the changes that have occurred in their lives during the previous seven years. Partly a survey

of contemporary British life, partly a work of sociology. Among them are an upper class boy whose life has followed the expectations he had at seven, and a farm boy who became a nuclear physicist. Every one of these people has a story, unique and commonplace at the same time, some happy, some sad, all resonating with the stuff of life so uniquely captured in this remarkable film.

The Ventura Film Society is proud to present *56 UP*, sponsored by Barbara Meister/Barber Automotive Group, as the 4th of 21 feature films of our 5th season. More information available at [www.venturafilmsociety.com](http://www.venturafilmsociety.com) or 628-2299 / [info@venturafilmsociety.com](mailto:info@venturafilmsociety.com).

been released from prison and she knows he is still harboring a vendetta on her for attempted murder on him. Mara plays a twisted, confused, and malignant mental patient of Dr. Banks (Jude Law), a psychiatrist whose honest attempt at helping Emily cope with her spiraling state of being, prescribing her an experimental drug, to help her depression which inadvertently causes more upheaval than he bargained for and almost loses his own mind in the process.

There are many twists and turns in this multi-level mystery, the script is excellent and all the performances are top notch! Rated R Running time 106 minutes



Safe Haven

Directed by the highly respected Lasse Hallstrom, who also directed *Dear John*, this suspenseful fantastical romantic drama set in the beautiful coastal town of Southport, South Carolina is written by Nicholas Sparks (*The Lucky One*, *Dear John*, *The Notebook*) finds Alex, a shop keeper and father of two, meets Katie, a wayward mysterious visitor who is haunted by a secret.

Katie falls in love with Alex, but the anxiety never leaves her as she fears her detective husband will hunt her down and kill her.

Hough and Dumel have incredible chemistry, and the storyline never disappoints as it takes you through a roller coaster ride of thrills and edge of your seat surprises, not to mention the incredible scenery.

Superbly crafted, Dumel, mostly known for his action films (*Transformer* franchise) delivers a fine romantic performance. Julianne Hough has multi-talented chops, warmth and sincerity in her delivery. This is only her second leading role as she is mostly known for her singing career.

Two other outstanding characters are Cobie Smulders as Jo, who befriends Katie, and David Lyons as Kevin, Katie's abusive husband, who relentlessly pursues her during the film, trying to infringe on her safe haven. I thoroughly enjoyed this film and I think you will too.

Rated PG-13 Running time 115 minutes

## Music Calendar 3/6 to 3/19

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

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 3/8 - Masters of the Past 7-11pm

Sat 3/9 - Fish Fry 6-10pm

Sun 3/10 - Blue Stew 2-6pm

Fri 3/15 - Addicts Attic 7-11pm

Sat 3/16 - 4XL 6-10pm

Sun 3/18 - Blue Stew 2-6pm

Bombay Bar & Grill

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

Local Live Music every Thur thru Sun

Wed 3/6 - Ventura Jazz Collective

Thur 3/7 - Bullet Made Statue & Bite the Buffalo (From the UK)

Fri 3/8 - Alexander & the Starlight Band

Sat 3/9 - Aaron Orbit & 8 Stops 7

Sun 3/10 - Shoemaker Brothers

Fri 3/16 - Rey Fresco

Sat 3/17 - Hindsite

Sun 3/18 - Shoemaker Brothers

GiGi's Cocktail Lounge

2493 Grand Ave., 805-642-2411

Karaoke with Steve Luke every Sun & Wed 7pm-12am

Live Bands every Fri & Sat 9pm

It's All Good Bar & Grill

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

Open Mike Night every Wed

Majestic Theater

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

Fri 3/8 - Pennywise, Lagwagon, death by stereo 7:30pm

Sat 3/9 - Jeffrie's 21st B-day Bash with Nipsey Hustle 8pm

Sun 3/10 - Platanito Show 7:30pm

Thur 3/14 - Rebelution - J Boog, Hot Rain 8:30pm

Fri 3/15 - Rebelution - J Boog, Hot Rain 8:30pm

Sandbox Coffeehouse

204 E. Thompson Blvd., 805-641-1025

March 9 & 10 - 1 year anniversary celebration with LIVE MUSIC, ART EXHIBITS, & BEER & WINE TASTING

Thur 3/7 - Open Mic Night Hosted by Jammin' Joe 7:30pm - 9:30pm

Sat 3/9 - Walk Upright 12pm - 2pm, Catfish Fry 3pm - 5pm

Sun 3/10 - Megan Gage 12pm - 2pm,

Hard Times Band 3pm-5pm

Thur 3/14 - Open Mic Night Hosted by Jammin' Joe 7:30pm - 9:30pm

Sat 3/16 - Roux 42 12pm - 3pm

Squashed Grapes

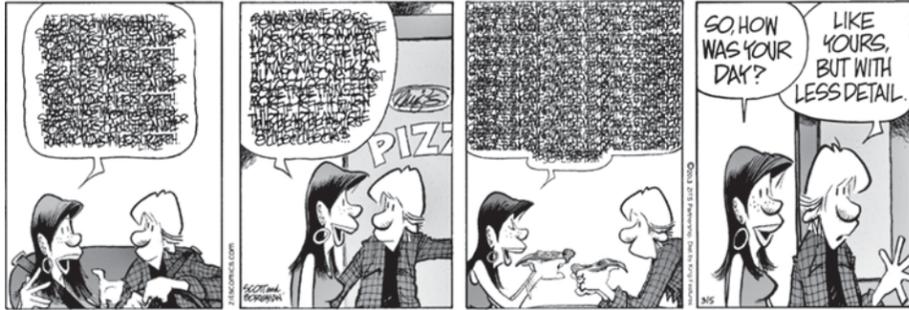
2351 E. Main St., 805-643-7300

Vocal Jazz Night every Tue 6:30-10pm

Continued on page 20

# Lighter Breeze

Zits



Tiger



Beetle Bailey



Mother Goose and Grimm



Crock



Snuffy Smith



Solutions on page 15

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

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★**

★ Moderate   ★★ Challenging  
★★★ HOO BOY!

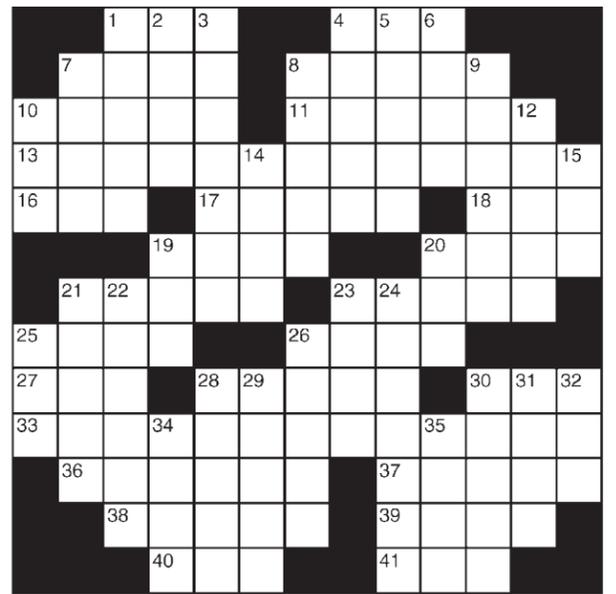
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Solutions on page 15

## King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Suitable
- 4 Young boxer?
- 7 Litigious sort
- 8 Middle Eastern dish
- 10 Bethlehem's region
- 11 Ball game segment
- 13 New Orleans neighborhood
- 16 Barbie's companion
- 17 Hosiery shade
- 18 Shaft of light
- 19 "An Inconvenient Truth" narrator
- 20 Enticement
- 21 Chris of tennis lore
- 23 19th President
- 25 Leave out
- 26 Cartoonist Goldberg
- 27 Help
- 28 Inscribed pillar
- 30 "Suburgatory"



- airer
- 33 Ice cream flavor
- 36 Evening affair
- 37 Sorrow
- 38 Slow critter
- 39 Ear-related
- 40 Spring mo.
- 41 A Bobbsey twin
- 5 Arm bones
- 6 Twosome
- 7 Confident
- 8 Sharp irritation
- 9 False
- 10 NYC airport
- 12 Toothed wheels
- 14 Rodgers partner
- 15 "Catcher in the —"
- 19 Obtain
- 20 Caustic solution
- 21 Eastern potates
- 22 "America's Funniest Home —"
- 23 Island dance
- 24 Desert
- 25 LummoX
- 26 Carouse
- 28 Discard
- 29 Alternative to "his/her"
- 30 Texas Hold'em declaration
- 31 United nations
- 32 Automobile
- 34 1492 vessel
- 35 Tittle

DOWN

- 1 Poet W.H.
- 2 Hammer-head part
- 3 Farm vehicle
- 4 Piece of cheesecake?
- 22 "America's

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**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) You could have some problems with doubters who don't share your enthusiasm for that new project you're supporting. But use the facts to win them over to your side.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) Someone is impressed by how you managed to get your case to the right people, despite attempts to keep you on the outside looking in. Expect to hear more about this.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) Good for you — your gift for seeing both sides of a dispute helps cool down a potentially explosive workplace situation. Some family-related tensions also begin to ease.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) Your determination to prove yourself is put to the test by midweek. Counting all the positive factors you have going for you will help you get over your self-doubt. Good luck.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) Several co-workers are still determined to resist coming over to your side. But don't let that stop you from presenting your proposal to the people who count. Stay the course.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) You might prefer to be taken on faith and not have to prove yourself. But the truth is, you need to offer more facts if you hope to persuade people to

accept what you say.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) A family situation takes an unwelcome turn. While others might be looking around for answers, you'll soon sort it all out logically, and the matter will be resolved.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Someone might try to create doubt about your reliability for his or her own agenda. But your reputation and your colleagues' long-standing faith in you saves the day.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) An unexpected change of plans forces you to come up with an alternative by the end of the week. Look for colleagues to offer valuable suggestions.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) Nothing upsets the Goat as much as broken promises. But before you vent your anger, consider that this could ultimately prove to be a blessing in disguise.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) An old workplace problem you thought you had solved for good resurfaces. But this time, co-workers will take a more active role in helping you deal with it.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) Be careful not to be misled by a negative reaction to one of your more important projects. If you believe in it, then it has worth and is, therefore, worth staying with.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** Everyone appreciates your gift for finding beauty, even where it seems least likely to exist.

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# Business

## Sandbox Coffeehouse celebrating one year anniversary

Sandbox Coffeehouse was opened March 12, 2012 and will be celebrating their one year anniversary on March 9th and 10th with live music, beer and wine tastings and art exhibits! They are a true full service café, developed by Todd Ryzow to be a connecting place for the community of Ventura. The Sandbox offers world coffees and teas, hand assembled fresh sandwiches and salads, blended drinks, beer and wine, and fresh locally baked pastries. They also have live music, art openings and a continuous

revolving local art gallery. Sandbox also brews and bottles their own Kombucha tea on site.

Todd studied photo journalism at Moorpark College and in 1995 he acquired his first coffee shop with a partner who shared the same desire to open a café and serve healthy food. Since then he has owned three other cafes.

When not at the coffeehouse, Todd enjoys spending time with his beautiful daughter Sofia, scuba diving, and working with his staff developing Sandbox Coffeehouse to in turn, help the community of Ventura.

For a fresh affordable meal and beverage and friendly service, visit the relaxing and inviting Sandbox Coffeehouse and don't forget about the one year anniversary celebration! 204 E Thompson Blvd, 641-1025.



Marlow and Janis Barger, owners of Plan B Wine Cellars in Ventura, started their business after deciding that looking back at life with regret was less desirable than taking a risk. Their "Plan B" was to open their own winery. The couple shares the duties of harvest, winemaking and the tasting room and recently celebrated their "official" grand opening hosted by the Ventura Chamber of Commerce.

A working winery located off Market Street in Mid-Town Ventura, Plan B Wine Cellars offers wine tasting, wine by the glass or bottle, as well as private group tastings and events by appointment. For more information and tasting room hours visit [www.planbwinecellars.com](http://www.planbwinecellars.com).

# Religion

## Building on a strong foundation

Join The River Community Church as they celebrate moving into their "New" building and honoring the people that have gone before them who assisted in building the strong foundation that currently exists at TRC.

The Grand Opening for TRC will be on Sunday, March 10. The River Cafe will offer complimentary fresh gourmet coffee and pastries from Panera Bread at 9:15 a.m.

The program will begin 10 a.m. with an address from Ventura Mayor Mike Tracy. This will be followed by live music from TRC Worship Team, exciting videos and keynote speaker Pastor Dennis Easter. Pastors Dennis and Patsy Easter helped build the foundation of this church as Senior Pastors

for over 15 years.

A very tasty lunch will be served after the program hosted and sponsored by RedBrick Pizza of Ventura.

"This is a very exciting season for TRC since we now have a permanent location! There is so much history on this property that people need to know about. 80 years ago, this church was the hub of Ventura and our goal is to be that resource again, to partner with the city in serving our community," says Jim Duran, Lead Pastor of TRC.

On March 7, the Ventura Chamber of Commerce will hold a Ribbon Cutting at TRC at 9am. All are invited and The Greek at the Harbor, The Pierpont Inn and Domino's will provide lunch. Historical tours will be given throughout the day.

Come join the celebration at 889 East Santa Clara Street. Classes are available for children of all ages, as well as a nursery for infants and toddlers. To RSVP for this event please call 648-7944 or visit [www.TheRiverCommunity.org](http://www.TheRiverCommunity.org).

### City Manager's contract

Continued from page 1

terms of his contract.

Watkins will earn a base salary of \$222,000, and other benefits including a \$500 monthly vehicle allowance, retirement contributions and annual automatic cost-of-living increases.

Morehouse and Brennan took issue with the automatic pay increases called for in the contract.

Morehouse said the contract sent the wrong message to other city employees and department heads and that the rank and file would bargain for similar contracts in the future.

Fiscal conservative Andrews in voting against it said "This compensation package is simply too rich. This is not a reflection whatsoever regarding his hiring or qualifications."

Councilmember Christy Weir stated "Good management paid for itself,

Watkins will be an excellent city manager. Even as a fiscal conservative I fully support this contract."

Councilman Jim Monahan said, "I'm sure that he's not going to bring his own personal agenda into this city."

Mayor Mike Tracy stated, "He was our number one choice. He knows the city and our city government well." He also reminded all that (Unlike the previous city manager) that Watkins now lives in Ventura and would not need the \$325,000 housing "loan" made to Rick Cole.

There were also 4 speakers who opposed the terms of the contract.

Watkins spoke very briefly after the vote, and said, "I will work very hard to honor that trust." He went on to say that the only person more excited by his hiring was Johnston (Working for nothing as interim city manager), who's scheduled to end his position on March 31. Watkins will assume his position on March 18.

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3160 Telegraph Road Suite 200 805.633.1280  
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Ventura, CA 93001

805-643-0072  
matthew.jones@edwardjones.com  
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## Art Scene



No wonder Staci Brown looks so happy, being kidnapped by four good looking guys! Photo by Peacockphotography.com.

## The Shoemaker Brothers

by Staci Brown

Relaxed, humorous, fun, forthright, raw, real, unified.

Those are some of the words I think of when describing the Shoemakers Brothers...besides immensely talented, charming and handsome. The Shoemaker brothers consist of Sam, Nate, Daniel and Gabe descending in order of age. They brought to the table their own individual personalities and nuances. Gabe liked to joke that he was the most innocent but no one revealed if that was the truth and I suspected it wasn't. They did emphasize that they were a team and decisions were made together. It was refreshing to hear.

Home schooled in Washington, the boys were grateful for their upbringing in the Pacific Northwest and have fond memories of building forts and shooting guns, bonding and exploring in the woods behind their house. As a family, they played classical music as well as sang folk songs, Christmas songs and traditional ballads. When they were brought to malls to perform with their other siblings, you would find them identically dressed in matching costumes such as sailor outfits, wearing knickers and all! Instruments and music saturated the Shoemakers upbringing; they can all play multiple instruments and sing. The talent bestowed upon this family is truly magnificent. They had a few private lessons but the musical aptitude seems to be an innate trait for the Shoemaker family. They considered themselves a string quartet; a Chamber orchestra if you will.

The brothers all write songs and contribute equally. I was very impressed with the consistent proclamation that there are four people in the group and that they are a democracy and are equal. They are only two years apart and have lived together their entire lives besides the four years Sam spent in the Marine Corps. Although, admittedly, their egos are present, they give each other respect, fairness and support. This is a foursome, a team and a true example of brotherly love; nobody more dominant than the other. Amazingly, when asked how they decide who will sing or play what instrument on each song, they stated that it happens organically. When asked how they described their music, I got a variety of answers; alternative rock with string instruments, folk, rock, blues, Celtic, classical blues.... However stated, it is very easy to listen to.

I recommended merchandise and we all joked about possibilities; however some of the ideas are unprintable.

Surprisingly, they haven't found the right situation to sign a contract yet but their goal is to play professionally and to go as far as they can go. They would like to tour with another band and play on the road. Only performing live in Ventura

for two and a half years, the boys made it very clear that they love playing in our charming beach community and are so appreciative of the reception that they receive here calling Ventura a "Special little place in the world with cool people." They have played in L.A. but find Ventura to be much more relaxing which is great for us and we are so appreciative to have them performing so frequently in Ventura.

When they are playing a show, let's just say that their music inspires the ladies to get up and groove! You can't help but be happy when watching them perform. One of their favorite quotes by the Grateful Dead is "You don't play music, it plays you." If you haven't seen them, their show calendar is posted on [www.shoemakerbrothers.com](http://www.shoemakerbrothers.com) where you can also purchase one of their 3 CD's. You will not be disappointed. See you at a show.



## Names added to the new mural at Buena High School

Grants, donors and students allowed this mural to become a reality.

On February 17, 2013, Ventura artist MB Hanrahan added sponsors' names to the colorful new Aquatic Sports Mural at Buena High School. This 137'x11' mural features water sports athletes, including an image of Buena alumni and Olympic medalist Troy Dumais. This mural was painted by MB, with the help of Buena students, from August through November, 2012.

The location of this mural is a wall that borders the swimming pool, and faces the ball courts and field. It is visible from the 126 freeway exit and northbound Victoria Avenue. MB stated "The story of the mural is that I was approached by John Siman, former Olympiad (Men's Water Polo silver medalist) PE coach at Buena High, and the Principal Jesus Vaca, of Buena High School to paint this mural celebrating Aquatic Sports.

"At the same time, I learned of a Ventura County Arts Council Grant, available to artists who could partner with a community organization, and get matching funds, to create an art project. From this I was awarded a successful grant, matching \$1,500.00 from VCAC money with \$1,500.00 from Buena Associated Student Body funds, and \$1,500.00 from Buena Aquatic sports.

"The mural was designed by me and approved by the Ventura Unified School District. The mural was started in August, 2012, and completed in November, 2012. Ms. Mann's 3-D art class helped paint the mural.

"In January, 2013, I launched a Kickstarter project (internet crowd funding site) to give sponsors an opportunity to donate to the project also, and to get their name on the wall. I had one month to raise \$1,500.00 and was successful. It was an amazing experience to put together the video, and the project site, to maintain the project, and to successfully raise the funds!"

## Art, a la Carte



Flowers by Shula Singer Arbel

Featured artists Shula Singer Arbel, Jim Martin, Fred Whitman, Jim Harris and Joe Cibere are on display in Nature's Mosaic at Red Brick Gallery, running March 12th through May 7. An artists' reception will be on Saturday, March 23rd, 6 – 9 pm and during Paint Ventura on April 27.

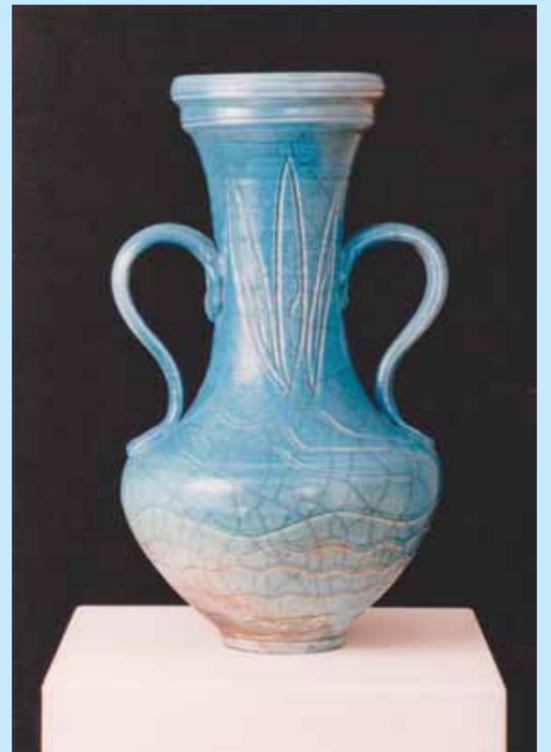
Joe Cibere's nature-scapes represent bold graphic elements within his watercolors exploring nature with both subtle forms and bold strokes. Jim Martin's over under water photographs capture the movement of the ocean pulling the viewer into the scene. Each artist adds to the experience of nature in its multifaceted forms and layers while expressing its complexity and intrigue.

Red Brick Gallery is located at 315 East Main St., 643-6400. Hours are Monday – Friday, 11a.m. – 6p.m., Saturdays 10a.m. – 8 p.m. and Sunday, 11a.m. – 5p.m.

Ceramic artist, Steve (Sol) Ramirez, will be the featured artist at the Ventura County Potters' Guild Gallery through March 31.

After returning from a trip to the National Museum in Athens, Ramirez was inspired by the ancient vessel forms and the desire to keep those ancient shapes alive in our modern day. Raku firing is Ramirez's specialty and his work has been shown and admired throughout Ventura County. There will be a reception March 9, from 12 – 5 pm. With a potter's wheel demonstration and ad-lib entertainment by Steve Ramirez.

Gallery Hours 11 am – 6 pm daily. Located across from the Carousel Emporium in the Ventura Harbor.



An Evening with Elyn Zimmerman will be held on March 12, from 6 to 7:30p.m. at The Comedy Club at The Harbor.

In different ways, Elyn Zimmerman's works on paper and site specific installations explore conditions of the natural world and celebrate images and materials of nature.

Elyn divides her time between New York and Ojai. You won't want to miss this conversation between Elyn Zimmerman and Donna Granata. Please reserve your seat today!

Purchase tickets online at [www.FocusOnTheMasters.com](http://www.FocusOnTheMasters.com) or call 653-2501.

# School

## Lincoln Elementary to host annual Green Dragon Carnival

On Saturday, March 16, Lincoln Elementary will host its annual Green Dragon Carnival from 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. immediately following the downtown St. Patrick's Day Parade. Funds raised from the carnival will be used for important enrichment programs including art and music education, additional library books, cultural assemblies and field trips. These programs are only made possible by donations they receive from families, friends, and members of the community.

Admission to the Carnival is free and will be fun for the whole family. There will be an iPad Raffle, Cake Walk, Football Toss, Dunk Tank, Bubble Rollers, Balloon Pop, Face Painting, Duck Pool, Guess a Scent, Pitch a Penny, Jui Jitsu, Basketball Challenge, Soccer Shootout, Super Twister, Corn Toss,

Fusion Soccer, Climbing Tower, Dragon Lasso, Giant Slide, Goldfish game, Henna Tattoos, Toilet Toss, Surf & Turf, and much more!

Lincoln Elementary School is located in the heart of downtown Ventura and provides a very high-quality educational environment for over 310 students. Lincoln has received California's Title I Academic Award and was recognized by Disney as the "Best Green School in America", plus was honored as the City of Ventura's "Greenest School". In addition, it holds "The Golden Carrot" award for commitment to healthy eating and maintaining an organic garden to teach children about good eating habits. Through their on-site recycling program, the school's families have recycled more than 7 tons of glass, plastic and cans into money for the school. Lincoln's successful recycling program is now a model for schools within the Ventura Unified School District.

At Lincoln, they believe through participation from families, the community and their amazing teachers, they are able to give their students the best possible education.

For more information or to volunteer contact LincolnSchool@rocketmail.com



The Ventura Commerce and Education Foundation (VCEF) named Carolyn Gleisberg February's Teacher of the Month. Mrs. Gleisberg teaches first and second grade at Pierpont Elementary School, and has been teaching for more than 25 years.

"Carolyn shares her passion for reading and writing with all her students," says Susan Martinez, Principal of Pierpont Elementary School. "She often spends lunches and after-school time with those that are struggling."

Mrs. Gleisberg involves her students in many reading events, including the Young Authors' Faire. She is the area director for the Ventura County Reading Association, where she spends her evenings and weekends at workshops. She has also taken on the role of second grade math liaison, and was previously the school district's language arts liaison.

For more information about the Teacher of the Month program, please contact Pattie Braga, Chair, at VCCUonline.net or 477-4052.

## This 'n' That Entries being accepted for St. Patrick's Day Parade

St. Patrick's Day Parade wants you! Entries are now being accepted for the annual County Ventura St. Patrick's Day Parade which will march down Main Street in downtown Ventura for the 25th time on St. Patrick's Day, Saturday, March 17, at 10 a.m. Presented by the Ventura Elks Lodge 1430, the parade with some 100 entries begins at the San Buenaventura Mission and moves east past the reviewing stand at Chestnut Street and on to the end at Fir Street.

The parade's theme is "Everyone's Irish on St. Patrick's Day!"

Parade entries are being accepted until March 8. Parade organizers invite businesses, bands, dancers, acrobats, clowns, horses and organizations to participate in the county's greenest event! Entry forms can be downloaded from the Parade's website, www.venturastpatricksdaysparade.com or obtained by calling Jim Monahan, Parade Co-Chairman at 643-4275.

### Music events

Continued from page 16

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 3/6 - Ventura County Blues Society 9pm

Thur 3/7 - Gypsy Death Star 9pm

Fri 3/8 - Dork, Matt Zeltzer 10pm

Sat 3/9 - The Shieks, We Funk 10pm

Sun 3/10 - Charles Law & Jagged 8pm

Tue 3/12 - Brian Nicolet 9pm

Wed 3/13 - Ventura County Blues Society 9pm

Thur 3/14 - Smooth Hound Smith 9pm

Fri 3/15 - Rich Sheldon, Red Muffs 10pm

Sat 3/16 - Big Jugs, Mini Driver 10pm

Sun 3/17 - Cutthroat Reef 10pm

#### 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 3/7 - Pure Joy

Fri 3/8 - Midnight Band

Sat 3/9 - The Bomb

Sun 3/10 - Drunken Monkeys

Thur 3/14 - Shawn Jones

Fri 3/15 - Mini Driver

Sat 3/16 - INSTONE

Sun 3/17 - The Bomb

#### Yolies/Hi Hat Entertainment

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

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Fri 8pm

Fri 3/8 - Lisa Haley & The Zydecats

(Zydeco/Cajun)

Fri 3/15 - Big Jay McNeely with Raffi

Arto (Legendary Blues Sax)

#### Zoey's Café

185 E. Santa Clara St.,

805-652-1137

Wed 3/6 - Joshua James, Isaac Russel

7pm, Tom O'Conner, Aaron Orbit,

Ada

McDonough, Evan Suligoff 9pm

Fri 3/8 - Shane Alexander, Omar

Velasco & Friends 8pm

Sat 3/9 - Brian Travis Band - CD

Releas 7:30pm

Sun 3/10 - George Krikes with Michael

Westley Hughes 7pm

Mon 3/11 - Catfish Fry & Friends 6pm

Tue 3/12 - Bluegrass Jam 6pm, Dread

Crew of Oddwood Pirate Band 8:30pm

Wed 3/13 - Sideshow Preachers

Country Blues Band 9:30pm

Sat 3/16 - Brother Sal & Band 10pm

Tue 3/19 - Bluegrass Jam 6pm, Dread

Crew of Oddwood Pirate Band 8:30pm

## You can play even if it's raining

A new 4,000 square foot indoor golf instruction, lounge, and practice facility that features Titleist Performance Institute (TPI) fitness trainers has recently opened in Ventura. The Bunker Indoor Golf Center is an indoor driving range with 6 hitting stalls and a 1,500 square foot putting/chipping green that specializes in high tech golf instruction using ball flight simulator and video analysis, Open Practice, Golf Simulators, Membership Options and weekly events like Friday Night Putting Tourna-

ment, Ladies nights and Junior Saturdays are featured, as is golf club repair including: re-gripping, re-shafting, loft and lie angles, and custom wedge grinds is a service offered as well. Located at 1891 Goodyear Avenue.

Livingston Hospice conducts several adult bereavement support groups to help those who have experienced a loss.

Explore and express feeling, understand the grief process and receive emotional support. In Ventura the groups are held at:

Livingston Memorial VNA, 1996 Eastman Avenue (#112), Ventura; Every Wednesday (March 6, 13, 20, 27); from 6:30 – 8:00

For the newly bereaved: On Thursday, March 14, 6:00 – 7:30 pm

## We have a winner!

The winners of the last issue's *Where Was This Photo Taken* were Veronica and Paula, who were the first ones to identify this as being at H&H Liquor at Main and Pacific.

They are the owners of Bark Avenue Grooming, located at 2041 E. Main Street in Mid-Town Ventura. Paula and Veronica have been grooming in the Ventura area for over 20 years combined.

