



# VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

Vol. 6, No. 13 Published Every Other Wednesday www.venturabreeze.com April 3 - April 16, 2013



Matthew and Vanessa Jensen are the new lieutenants at the Salvation Army of Ventura. Matthew is shown here in front of their downtown office with his favorite cup of coffee.

## New lieutenants arrive at Salvation Army

by Tim Pompey

The new lieutenants for the Salvation Army of Ventura arrived last summer to replace Bill and Tolani Finley. Matthew and Vanessa Jensen moved from the Salvation Army of Santa Maria to assume their responsibilities at the Salvation Army sites in downtown Ventura and on Petit Street.

For Matthew, the journey to get here has been very interesting. He points to 2003 as a particularly important turning point for him. Describing himself as a young man looking for a purpose in his life, he began to attend a local Salvation Army church in Los Angeles. "I had this realization of emptiness," he said. "Then I walked into a Salvation Army church and asked for help."

Matthew found the Salvation Army appealing because the gospel message seemed to resonate with his desire to help the poor and needy. In addition to his work as an ombudsman for Los Angeles County, he began to volunteer his nights and weekends with the Salvation Army in downtown Los Angeles. He worked tough places like the Sunset Strip and Hollywood Boulevard. "When I started

*Continued on page 4*

While in Germany for Frankfurt's Spring Dippemess at the Festplatz on Ratsweg you can always catch up with the Breeze at [venturabreeze.com](http://venturabreeze.com)



The only summer campers at McGrath State Beach might be ducks and the homeless.

## Another McGrath State Beach grand reopening will be necessary

On Saturday, June 30, 2012, in celebration of the grand reopening of McGrath State Beach a free all-day celebration was held to celebrate the completion to upgrade the sewer facilities at McGrath. The work was completed by early summer after many-many months of McGrath being closed because of the sewer problems.

Now, in an ironic twist of nature McGrath's 170 campsites are under 2-4 feet of water. Reservations for the summer that would be filling up for McGrath at this time of the year will not be happening and may not happen for a long time.

This is because the water that spills into the area during winter months from the Santa Clara River would be nearly gone as it drained into the ocean but has not drained this season.

So the irony is that it hasn't drained this year because the sandy berms that allow the water to leave are blocking the water from draining to the ocean. This is because there has not been enough strong rain water this season coming down the river to break through the berms for this to happen so the berms are keeping the water intact.

So a lack of rain has caused 2-4 feet of water to close McGrath.



## Museum's 100th birthday and other things

The Museum of Ventura County is inviting visitors of all ages to take a step back in time and join their free community celebration in honor of the Museum's 100th birthday. The festivities are from 1pm to 3pm, Sunday, April 7, and will include old-fashioned games and crafts, period costume dress-up, and more. Join in a sing-along with barbershop quartet, Take Four,

and play with dozens of handmade toys crafted by master woodworker, Gene West. Play areas include bean-bag toss, pick-up sticks, and craft materials for children to create their own keepsakes.

The Museum of Ventura County was founded in 1913 and will be featuring exhibits and events that celebrate the centennial throughout the year. The Museum's galleries will be open from 11am to 5pm and admission is free all day.

For more museum information go to [www.venturamuseum.org](http://www.venturamuseum.org) or call 653-0323.

And children take center stage with Woodland Tales, the latest event in the Museum of Ventura County's series, Family Fun at the Museum. In this performance, the Eckerd Theater Company (ETC) creates a theater-in-the-round atmosphere and shares animal tales based on Native American legends. Stories explain how the turkey got its gobble, why rabbits have long ears, and how frogs lost their teeth. This performance takes place at 3pm in the Martin V. and Martha K. Smith Pavilion, on Saturday, April 13. Admission to the performance is \$10 for adults, \$8 for children, and includes entry to all Museum galleries. For reservations, please call 653-0323 x7.



A pair of Great Horned Owls comes back each year to breed in the great eucalyptus trees at the Olivas Adobe.

## "Who" will be at the Olivas Adobe?

Just as the famous swallows return to Capistrano every spring, a pair of Great Horned Owls comes back each year to breed in the great eucalyptus trees at the Olivas Adobe Historical Park.

To celebrate them the annual Owl Festival at the Olivas Adobe will take place on Sunday, April 14 from 11am to 3pm. This free family event has something for everyone; at one o'clock the Ojai Raptor Center will have a presentation of several of their rescued birds; starting at 11am Leif Engeswick will be providing music on his antique Book Organ. The Channel Islands Gourd Society will have a selection of their lovely works. Noted wildlife photographer, Hal Epstein, will be showing his latest pictures of Olivia and her brood. LoveBirds Jewelry will present a large variety of beautiful handmade earrings and several other artists will be showcasing their work including paintings, pottery, hand sewn items and much more.

Youngsters will enjoy making a pine cone owl and playing games to win prizes. The "owl table" will have lots of information about owls including

*Continued on page 4*



"Okay, kids, I give up! I'll tell you where I hid the Easter eggs!" Photo by John Ferritto, taken at Cottontail Day at the Ventura Harbor Village.





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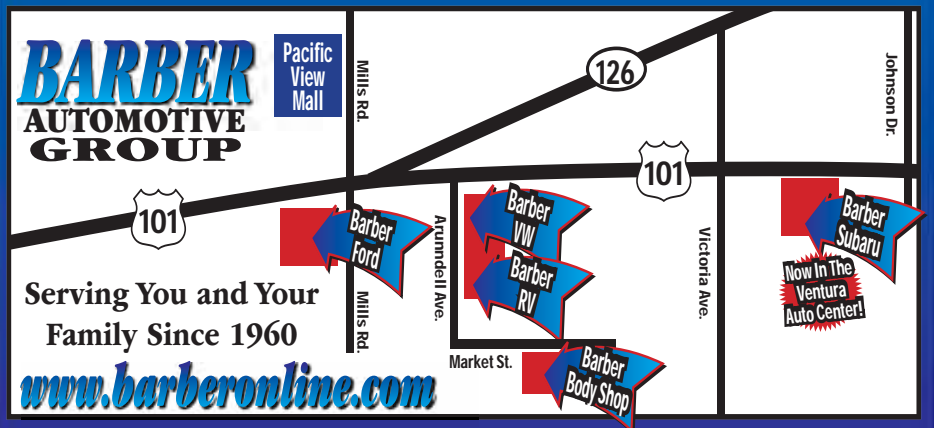
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BY GAETANO DONIZETTI

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## City News

**4/9-4/30 Tuesday 9:30-10:30 am**  
**\$35 + \$5 supply fee. Course# 33758.**

Come learn about fish in the ocean, lakes and your own fish tank through books, art activities, creative crafts & even snacks. Take home your own "special" fish on the last day of class! Instructor Sara Cameron.

**Evening Body Hoops in the Park 14 years - Adult**

**4/9-4/30 Tuesday 6:15-7:15 pm**  
**\$48. Course #33303.**

Hoop for fun while you flex and strengthen the core, burn calories and tone the entire body. Hoops available to use and for sale at the class. Wear comfortable attire to move in, bring water. We meet out on the grass in front of the Barranca Vista Center, 7050 Ralston St., Ventura. Instructor Lori Eckberg.

**Introduction to Digital Animation 7-12 years**

**4/9-5/14 Tuesday 3:30-5:00 pm \$115.**  
**Course #33614.**

Students are introduced to fundamental 3D animation while learning skills in computer drawing, character movement, frame layering and dialogue matching.

**First Time Sewing for Youth & Adults 12 years-Adult**

**4/10-5/15 Wed. 6:00-7:30 pm**  
**\$50. Course #33274**

Learn hand-stitch and machine sewing basics including knots, zigzag and buttons. Make patches, bags and hats. Bring 2 yards of cotton fabric and matching thread; all other supplies provided. Return students welcome. Instructor Angel Jones.

**Dance Mob Workshops 16 years-Adult**

**4/12-5/17 Fri. 1:00-1:45 pm**  
**\$30 Course #33651.**

Do you love to dance and love to perform? These "mobs" prepare for performances at community events to promote dance and a healthy lifestyle. We build on and learn new dances each session. Join Ventura's own style of Dance Mob Nation. No sandals or flip-flops. Instructor Jackie Ringhof.

**Red-Hot Robots 8-12 years**  
**4/13-5/18 Saturday 12:00-3:00 pm**

**\$179 + \$35 supply fee.**  
**Course #33953**

Experiment with sound sensing robots, and robots that can even play soccer! Discover the nuts and bolts of robots while learning the science of circuits. Make your own robot to take home. No class 5/11.

## Ventura Job & Career Center

Career Shops are offered at no cost to Job Seekers. Space is limited. 4651 Telephone Road. Call 654-3435 to enroll.

**Wednesday, April 10 – 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.

**Wednesday, April 17 – Winning Interviews, 9:00 am – 12:00 noon**

Supplies the tools to make a lasting first impression when interviewing. Career Shops are presented in partnership with Ventura County Job & Career Centers and are sponsored by the Human Services Agency and the Workforce Investment Board. Equal Opportunity Employer/Program/Service – TDD/TT. Inquiries call 1 (800) 735-2922. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

### New lieutenants

*Continued from page 1*

to see lives turning around with my simple actions, I just wanted to keep on doing it," he said.

In 2005, someone suggested that he could do this for a living. He admitted that the idea of working full-time with the Army came as a surprise: "I said 'You've got to be kidding me. It sounds too good to be true.'"

In 2008, he married his wife Vanessa, who now serves as his fellow Salvation Army partner. They went through officer training together and graduated in June 2011. They currently have two daughters, ages three and one.

In terms of managing the Ventura Army sites, Matthew handles the downtown center and Vanessa handles the church on Petit Street. He preaches on Sundays and takes care of public relations, counseling, spiritual development, community relations, and case management. She deals with the Army's business affairs, human resources, music programs for their youth, their women's ministries, and their partnership with the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts.

Matthew is beginning to understand the problems that face Ventura as residents and agencies deal with the local homeless population. He's heard about the issue from many different viewpoints, both from the homeless and the non-homeless, and he knows that it's a vexing problem to solve. "I can see the frustration and heartache on each end," he said. "I see many looking for an easy answer and quick fix, but because of the years of frustration, I think it's more of a complex issue that demands grace and patience."

As the local face of the Army, he would like to make clear the Army's central message—that it exists to share the love of God. As he explained: "Because the Salvation Army is about the love of Christ, I feel that many should know why we do what we do, that everything we do is because of our faith."

He's encouraged by the existence of such programs as Homeless to Home and would like to develop similar partnerships that provide for the needs of the poor in holistic and sustainable ways.

He's also impressed by the quality of the Army's staff in Ventura. "I've seen a lot of Salvation Army staff in our days, in our work and with volunteers, but the quality of staff that we see here in Ventura is by far the most professional and compassionate that we've seen, and as the days go on, we consider it more of an honor that we can serve on the team."

Matthew encourages anyone who wants to work with the Salvation Army to give him a call at their downtown office at 648-4977, or email them at matthew.jensen@usw.salvationarmy.org or vanessa.jensen@usw.salvationarmy.org. They hope to develop some strong links between their ministry and the surrounding area's social service agencies. "Call me or come down to my office," he said, "because we exist for the community."

### "Who" will be at the Olivas Adobe?

*Continued from page 1*

feathers and pellets which are full of undigested prey parts – always a favorite with the small fry. Bring your binoculars or borrow some of theirs for an up close and personal look at our own Great Horned Owl family.

Sugar Beets restaurant will have delicious food available for purchase. Join the fun at the Olivas Adobe, 4200 Olivas Park Drive.

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## City of Ventura Classes

Call 658-4726 or 654-7552 to register, if you already have an account online, visit [www.cityofventura.net](http://www.cityofventura.net). Classes held at the Barranca Vista Center, 7050 Ralston Street unless otherwise stated.

**Jazz & Contemporary Dance 13 years-Adult**

**4/8-5/13 Monday 7:15-8:15 pm**  
**\$60 Course# 33698.**

Learn beginning and intermediate jazz and contemporary moves and choreography. This class is specifically designed for each age group to help improve coordination, flexibility, and musicality. Instructor Kerri Krizer.

**Cartooning 8-12 years**

**4/8-5/13 Monday 4:15-5:15 pm**  
**\$50 Course #33744.**

Draw wonderful characters with Mr. Scott, a cartoon master.

**Music-Baby and Me Infant-2 years**  
**4/8-5/20 Monday 10:30-11:15 am**

**\$50 Course #33646.**

**4/10-5/22 Wed. 10:30-11:15 am**

**\$50 Course #33647.**

Early child development research has shown that immersion in music acts as a "nutrient" for the developing mind by stimulating both emotions and the body, and giving children time to bond. This class includes drumming and interactive activities. Instructor Sloan Hoffman.

**Basic Guitar 9 years-Adult 4/9-5/14 Tuesday 7:00-8:30 pm \$55 Course #33637**

Learn folk and pop strums, patterns and chord progressions. Students provide own acoustic or electric guitars. Instructor Randy Covington. Classes held at Dudley House, 197 N. Ashwood St.

**Fish Are Friends 3-5 years**





# VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

Member, Ventura Chamber of Commerce  
and Oxnard Chamber of Commerce

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

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Editor:

More of the same...transients dumping trash onto the street, transients camping illegally, transients stealing shopping carts and recyclables, transients aggressively panhandling cars, transients milling around residen-

## Opinion/Editorial



Sheldon (Governor) Brown  
Publisher

■ The development at the site of the former Wagon Wheel Motel and Restaurant in Oxnard has finally broken ground. Whereas I think that Ventura could certainly use more new development Oxnard is absurd.

The Riverpark Development (just up the freeway) where even now more new construction has started will have 8,000 – 10,000 residents and almost a million square feet of commercial space when completed and occupied.

The 64 acre Wagon Wheel project will include about 1,500 homes, two 25-floor apartment towers, affordable housing, a transportation center and office space.

When these 2 developments are completed, and occupied as many as 30,000-40,000 people will be concentrated in this area and most using the freeway. When this happens we Venturans had better find a new way to go south.

■ Also Wal-Mart doesn't seem to be making much progress at its proposed Victoria Avenue location. The city issued permits to Wal-Mart late last year but it doesn't appear that there is any progress being made in their remodel.

A story in our first issue was titled "Is the devil really coming to Ventura?" that asked are they really coming and that was over 5 years ago so they are sure taking their time.

When they do open I am going to be there with a hidden camera and photograph all of the people that were opposed to them coming to Ventura.

■ The District Attorney's Office has filed misdemeanor involuntary manslaughter charges against a Ventura school bus driver Joanne Maudaule, 53, who is accused of hitting and killing a 75-year-old pedestrian last year. Her arraignment is scheduled this week and because it is a misdemeanor she only faces up to a year in jail.

Maudaule was turning left from Brookshire Avenue onto Woodland Street when her bus struck Marguerita McIntosh on Sept. 26, 2012 as McIntosh was legally crossing Woodland.

## Mailbox

tial and playground areas, graffiti, etc.

Of great concern to me, and I am sure my neighbors, are all of the Calls for Service in the area in which I live. I pulled a month's worth of VPD Calls for Service records and was surprised to find 33 Incidents along Harbor BL between the Marriott and the Ventura Harbor and 18 Incidents on Seaward between the freeway and the beach. In all there were 101 Calls for Service in the Pierpont and Keys area. 10 rounds were fired in an officer involved shooting at the Motel 6, hopefully none ended up in our residential area. Plus we learned that on average ten transients are living at the Motel 6 on any one day and that the neighbors complain about the Motel 6 tenants on a regular basis describing the place as a zoo. Is it really safe to walk our streets at night...maybe not. If tourists knew about all these incidents would they be reluctant to visit our fair city...probably not. This to me is downright scary.

Murray Robertson

A Very Concerned Ventura/Pierpont Resident

Breeze

On behalf of the Libertarian Party of Ventura County let me say that I

This is such a very sad thing that I am not sure it was the correct thing to do.

■ Ventura County Superior Court Judge Charles Campbell has sentenced Edward Burgess to 36 months of probation for the theft of relics from the San Buenaventura Mission. The judge also ordered Burgess to a residential treatment center and said he will be sent to prison if he violates the terms of his probation which I assume are that he can't steal items from another church for a certain period of time and can only go to church on Sundays.

A Ventura transient Burgess, 26, broke into the Mission Oct. 12 and took nine items, 8 of which have been found and returned.

■ The 2013 Corporate Games, hosted by the city of Ventura, has begun with a record number of businesses participating this year. The 6 week competition is presented



Discount (employee owned) grocery chain WinCo Foods has started hiring employees in preparation for its soon to be opened store in Ventura. They have 86 stores in 7 states.

by the City of Ventura and pits employee teams against each other in many sporting events and is in its 24th year.

Eric Burton, the city's Parks and Recreation Supervisor, stated that almost 80 businesses from Ventura and Santa Barbara counties are taking part. The games end May 11 at a daylong celebration at Harbor Cove Beach that includes a tug-o-war and awards ceremony. For more information, visit [www.cityofventura.net/corporategames](http://www.cityofventura.net/corporategames).

■ I would like to thank R. Ellis Smith for being one of our most dedicated readers. He was a contributing writer (Ron Rellis Smith) in our very first issue of Oct. 24, 2007 with a riveting article titled "What's a Rabobank?" And after all these years I know that he is still reading the Breeze

because he sends letters to other newspapers commenting on us. So, besides being an avid reader he also gives us nice publicity in other newspapers.

■ I have been told that the Fire Marshall has made some exiting requirements for the proposed summer concert series (above city hall) that may put it in jeopardy of happening. I certainly hope that it can proceed because it will bring major entertainers, and tourists here and would be a big shot in the arm for our downtown businesses.

■ Our new city manager Mark Watkins will receive a salary of approximately \$260,000. Even though all City Council members approved of his hiring they only approved his contract 4-3.

When invitations for applicants were first published the City Council set the salary rate range of \$160,000 to \$214,000. The salary of previous City Manager Rick Cole was of \$174,000.

The Ventura County Taxpayers Association spoke against approval of the contract because the starting salary was simply too high for an entry level manager and stated that the salary should be started lower and then increased to provide performance incentives and that the contract providing automatic annual Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) increases during the 3 year term of the contract was wrong.

Many others (including some council members) feel that the automatic COLA adjustments would set a bad precedent when other public union contracts came up for renewal.

Mayor Tracy, Councilman Monahan, Councilwomen Weir and Deputy Mayor Heitmann approved the contract. They stated that this was what needed to be paid to attract a qualified City Manager who would focus on the basics of operations of city government and that the additional expense can be justified by the savings that the new Manager will bring to our budget.

Then interim City Manager Johnny Johnston commented that Mr. Watkins was a good choice.

I certainly hope that the Council is right in saying that he will more than pay for this higher amount. In the meantime we must keep a close eye on how the City Council spends our money.

per the CDC (Alzheimer's disease is the first). It costs the United States \$14.4 Billion per year in health care costs. My mother died as a result of this awful disease after living with it for 19 years. During the last eight years of her life, our family faced numerous obstacles from medical bureaucracies to finding better treatment, physical and mental therapy and addressing multiple symptoms and

Continued on page 19

## Correction

The Senior Recreation Center's Senior Prom is on May 10 and not May 19 as reported in our last issue.

Ventura High School's Key Club presents the fifth annual Senior Prom with music, dancing and refreshments from 6-8pm. Admission is free.

Be not afraid of life. Believe that life is worth living, and your belief will help create the fact.

– William James





# Community Events

## Events at E.P. Foster Library for all ages

**April 4: Computer classes @ Foster, Basic Training** – Doug's five step method for navigating the internet: In this class you will learn how to log onto the internet as well as the five necessary functions for doing a successful internet search. Signup is required for this class. Level: Beginner 10:00-10:45 for more info call 648-2716.

**April 8: Computer classes @ Foster, Yahoo** - Getting the most out of your Yahoo mail account. In this session we will create a Yahoo account, add a contact, write an email and attach a picture to it. Level: Beginner. 11:00-11:45 for more info call 648-2716.

**City Speakers Series noon-1 p.m.**

Come and learn about the different ways in which Ventura Water helps our community – everything from Ocean Friendly Gardens, the Pasteurization project, to water conservation. You will hear about a variety of topics including environmental stewardship, water sustainability and how the city of Ventura has been delivering drinking water from local sources since 1923.

**2:00-4:00 What is Family Legacy?** Each of us has a story from our ancestors or even our own story to tell. If these stories are unwritten, then how are your children going to know of their heritage?

It's up to us to write these experiences down. Special speaker Linda Weaver Clark will show you how to write your very own family legacy.

**April 10: College Planning 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.** Local librarian Linda Kapala will help you get your child into college! Parents and students in 10th-11th grade are welcome to come to this free session in the Topping Room at Foster Library. This workshop will focus on college selection, visits, applications and much more! Free and open to the public.

**April 14: Road Scholar presentation 2:00 - 3:30** Go where others can't, learn from inspiring instructors and make lifelong friends through Elderhostel's Road Scholar Program. The world's leading not-for-profit organization is dedicated to providing learning opportunities for older adults across the globe. Learn about the many travel programs that are offered.

**April 15: Computer classes @ Foster, Please hold!** – Use World Cat to request books from other libraries. Best for those that love books and want more! Level: Intermediate Classes are free and open to the public, 11:00-11:45 for more info call 648-2716.

## Ventura events

by Ana Baker

Nosh, schmooze and make business connections within the growing community of Jewish business people 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? Then **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.

**Apr. 4: The 4th annual Ventura College Holistic Health Festival** will be on Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Ventura College Quad. There will be 25 holistic health practitioners on hand giving demos and information regarding their holistic practice, workshops, lectures as well as several vendors. Entertainment will be provided throughout the day with music, Aztec dancers, belly dancers and singers. The festival is sponsored by the Ventura College Holistic Health Club. The event is free and open to the public. (However, parking requires a parking permit.) For more information, go to the Facebook [HolisticHealthandWellnessClub](http://HolisticHealthandWellnessClub).

**Apr. 6: FlutterVision presents Flutterby's Fairytales.**

Fairy Queen Flutterby will be honoring our teachers and librarians at her show for **Reading Awareness Month**. An Encore performance at the Pacific View Mall Ventura on Saturday from 2p.m. to 4p.m. Jean Hooper will be following with her spectacular Hula Hoop demonstration! The fairy will be passing out tickets all around the mall an hour before show time for a free surprise for the children that stay and watch the show. For more information go to [www.littleedwintriumph.com](http://www.littleedwintriumph.com) or 616-6921

**Apr. 7 & 9: Audubon Restoration Work Day**, in Santa Paula from 9a.m. to 12p.m. Hedrick Ranch Nature Area Restoration Program. Sandy Hedrick: 340-0478. Arrive at 8 a.m. for birding, assisting in restoration on an adjacent property. Long pants and boots or closed shoes are required. More information is available at [www.VenturaAudubon.org](http://www.VenturaAudubon.org). On Tue., April 9, 7:30 p.m., the general membership meeting will be held at, 3451 Foothill Rd., Ventura. The public is welcome to meet Max the owl and his multitalented guardian, Gabrille Drozdowski. Ms. Drozdowski will discuss the "Eyes in the Sky Wildlife Program".

**Apr. 7: Citizens for Peaceful Resolutions** will hold its monthly meeting from 3p.m. to 5p.m. Larry Yee, co-founder and coordinating committee member of The Food Commons, will present and discuss The Food Commons. The Food Commons is a nonprofit organization that has developed a model for actualizing the food "revolution" in communities everywhere by creating the physical, financial and organizational infrastructure necessary for thriving regional food systems. If you are interested in food, justice, environmental sustainability, equitable and functional social systems, join in for a great talk and lively conversation! Held in the Topping Room of E.P. Foster Library and admission is free.

**Apr. 10: The community is invited to a dedication ceremony on Wednesday, at 4pm at the newly renovated tennis courts at Buena High School.** As part of a two year long community work effort, volunteers partnered with the Ventura Unified School District, City of Ventura and the Ojai Valley Tennis Club to raise

over \$50,000 to renovate eight tennis courts at Buena High School. Due to lack of funding available through VUSD, a community fundraising campaign, led by community volunteer and tennis advocate Wayne Bruce, was put into place to raise the much needed funds to assist the District in resurfacing the courts and installing fencing.

**Apr. 12: GREASE** is the word and it's back in an all-new production for Cabrillo Music Theatre at the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza! The musical will be guided by Director Barry Pearl and Musical Director David O. GREASE provides a showcase for 16 talented young people in this classic rock n' roll musical. GREASE opens on Friday, and plays until Sunday, April 21, at the Kavli Theatre at the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza. Adrian Zmed will star as the "Teen Angel," and will be joined by a slew of young performers, including three from the Ventura County area.

With book, music and lyrics by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey, GREASE contains mature behavior and language and simulated onstage cigarette smoking, and is recommended for pre-teens and up. Combining rousing music and an onstage rockin' band, GREASE will raise the roof. So slick back your hair, grab your pom-poms and let GREASE send you over the moon!

**Apr. 13: The Ventura Beginners PC Users Group** will meet at Cypress Place Living, 1220 Cypress Lane. *Computer Tips & Tricks* will be the 9:15 a.m. workshop topic, followed by a Q&A session. Michael Shalkey will talk on *Surfing the Web Safely* at 11a.m. Everyone is welcome. For more information, call 648-1368.

**Apr. 14: Camerata Pacifica's April program** focuses on three of classical music's master composers, writing from the geographical heart and foundation of the European classical tradition.

The program opens with Catherine Leonard and Richard Yongjae O'Neill presenting Mozart's *Duo in B-flat Major*, K. 424, for Violin and Viola, the duo will be joined by cellist Ani Aznavoorian for Beethoven's *Op. 9, No 1, String Trio in G Major*. Event will be held at the Temple Beth Torah, Ventura at 3p.m. Ticket prices: \$40 single tickets. For tickets and information: [www.cameratapacifica.org](http://www.cameratapacifica.org) or call 884-8410.

**Apr. 14: The Ventura High School auditorium stage presents *In Memoriam*.** You are invited to a free concert at 3 p.m. in the Ventura High School Auditorium. Conductor, Ms. Julie Judd, has planned an afternoon performance dedicated to two of our long time members, Mr. John Bailey and Conductor Emeritus, Larry Weiss, who recently passed away. Performing some of Larry's all time favorites, show tunes, marches and some new tunes as well. Donations raised at this concert will be donated to the "Larry Weiss Scholarship Fund" at Ventura High School. The Ventura County Concert Band always brings you the best band music on the planet.

**Apr. 20: Join San Buenaventura Friends of the Library** on a trip to the LA Times Festival of Books.

Reservations are being taken for a chartered bus excursion to the LA Times Festival of Books at USC. Enjoy snacks and conversation on the bus as you look forward to seeing your favorite authors. The cost is \$50 for SBFOL members and \$60 for non-members. The sign-up deadline is Friday, April 12. Make checks payable to SBFOL and mail to P.O. Box 403, Ventura 93002. Note on check: LA Festival of Books.

### 2013 SEMINAR SERIES

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#### Session 1 8:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

"Going Farther while Staying Closer"

##### TOPICS:

What is the sound of E. Pluribus Unum?

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or call 805/652-5385



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## Community Events

Please include email address to receive details on time, place of departure and return. For more information call Joanne at 650-5266.

**Apr. 20: Bargain Box**, a resale shop sponsored by Assistance League of Ventura County, will be featuring a **Spring Madness** event Saturday, from noon to four. An eclectic collection of whimsical and unusual items saved for this event including teapots, hats and much more. Bargain Box is located at 1975 E. Main St. All proceeds benefit Assistance League of Ventura's philanthropic programs. For more information call 643-5593.

## Ojai events

While a new 3-D movie about the legend of Oz is out on big, flat screens, **Ojai ACT** is presenting a more familiar version of *The Wizard of Oz* without CG in real three dimensions using live actors singing its wonderful songs without lip sync.

This stage version of the wonderful and wacky world of Oz with all its crazy characters is a fond and tuneful version of L. Frank Baum's classic tale of Dorothy Gale whisked away over the rainbow by a tornado to Munchkinland, a place of dangers and strangers.

It runs **April 5-28**, at Ojai ACT; 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Tickets are \$20 general, \$18 for seniors, students and Art Center members and \$10 for youth 12 and under at the theater, 113 S. Montgomery St. Reservations strongly recommended at 640-8797 or [www.OjaiACT.org](http://www.OjaiACT.org)

On Sun., **April 7**, the **Ojai Film Society** will screen *Promised Land*, a character-driven drama about two natural gas company sales execs who face unexpected opposition while attempting to convince landowners in a rural community to sign over the drilling rights on their property; stars Matt Damon, Frances McDormand and John Krasinski.

On Sun., **April 14**, the **Ojai Film Society** will screen *The Gatekeepers*, an incisive documentary featuring candid interviews with six former heads of Shin Bet, Israel's internal security agency, as they reflect on and share their honest assessments of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Ojai Playhouse, 4:30 pm.

**WordFest Literary Potpourri: Five Writers, Five Works in Progress** presented by the Literary Branch of the Ojai Art Center. Monday, **April 8**, at 7:00 pm, 113 South Montgomery St, Ojai, Ca.

Five authors read from a captivating sample of novels and memoirs currently being workshopped in Doc and Zoe Murdock's Ojai Writing Workshop. A \$5 dollar donation is requested. Refreshments will be served.

The **Ojai Youth Entertainers Studio** is proud to present *Nonna*, a new play by Arthur Kornhaber; produced by Grandparent Productions in association with The Foundation For Grandparenting on the main stage at OYES, 316 E. Matilija Street.

The Foundation For Grandparenting is producing the show and donating all proceeds to the Ojai Youth Entertainers Studio. Theater Manager, Frank Eller, said, "Arthur approached us last fall during our annual fundraiser and offered to produce the show as a benefit for us." Eller added, "We couldn't be more excited."

Directed by OYES co-artistic

director Rich Kuhlman, *Nonna* is an inter-generational drama centered around an unexpected event that overturns a family's hopes, dreams and expectations – casting them into unknown and turbulent emotional waters.

*Nonna* opens **Friday, April 12 and runs through Sunday, April 28**, with Friday and Saturday performances at 8 pm and Sunday matinees at 2 pm. Tickets are available on-line at [BrownPaperTickets.com](http://BrownPaperTickets.com) or by phone at 1-800-838-3006. Due to the subject matter, *Nonna* is recommended for audience members age 16 and over.

**Performances To Grow On** will present *A Thousand Cranes* from the Eckerd Theatre of Florida on Sunday, **April 14 @ 4 pm** at Matilija Auditorium. A 2 for 1 ticket offer is available until April 11 by phoning 646-8907, the regular price for tickets is \$10 for children and \$15 for adults, the play is best suited for children ages 8 and above. The special 2 for 1 ticket offer is only available by phone and is only available

## Making the Ventura River habitat publicly accessible

On March 21 the Conservation Alliance and member companies Deckers Outdoor, Horny Toad, Patagonia, REI and Vapur, partnered with Ventura Hillside Conservancy, to remove Arundo and plant Arroyo Willow cuttings to help make the Ventura River habitat publicly accessible. The event marked the first of eight nationwide Backyard Collective events in 2013, providing Conservation Alliance member companies' employees with the opportunity to take action in support of the organization and to get their hands dirty for the sake of conservation.

"The Conservancy has been working with local partners including conservation groups, our city government and social service agencies for over a year to reconnect our community to its river," said Lee Sherman, Development Manager, Ventura Hillside Conservancy. "The work done by volunteers participating in the Backyard Collective to restore this property will help provide our community with access to some great scenic areas for bird-watching, picnicking and trail running, all within a five minute walk of downtown Ventura."

The Conservation Alliance is an organization of outdoor businesses whose collective contributions support grassroots environmental organizations and their efforts to protect wild places where outdoor enthusiasts recreate. Alliance funds have played a key role in protecting rivers, trails, wildlands and climbing areas.

Since its inception in 1989, the Alliance has contributed more than \$11 million to grassroots conservation groups. Alliance funding has helped save more than 41 million acres of wildlands; protect 2,700 miles of rivers; stop or remove 25 dams; designate five marine reserves; and purchase nine climbing areas.

For complete information on the Conservation Alliance, see [www.conservationalliance.com](http://www.conservationalliance.com).

The Ventura Hillside Conservancy is a land trust operating in the

The City of Ventura invites you to a **FREE**

# COMPOSTING WORKSHOP

– Saturday –  
**April 6, 2013 • 10 am**

**Refreshments!** **Cornucopia Community Garden** **Prizes!**  
(on Telephone Rd between Johnson Dr and Ramelli Ave)

**Hands-on Composting / Vermiculture Techniques**  
**Creating Edible Landscapes**

**For more info call 805/652-4525 or [www.cityofventura.net/greenventura](http://www.cityofventura.net/greenventura)**

CITY OF VENTURA  
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Ventura region to protect and conserve open space resources through acquisition of land and easements, stewardship of protected lands, and public education.

## Listen to our kids about saving the Ventura River

D.A.T.A. Middle School, under the direction of teacher Amanda Lynch-Thorpe have just completed a two week investigation on "protecting and preserving our natural resources" using the Ventura River for inspiration. Students did art with the Santa Barbara Museum of Art based on what they saw at the Ventura River and prepared essays for the community to learn more about what is happening to our river. These are just 3 of the essays.

Dear Residents of Ventura,

Have you ever been to the Ventura River? I was there yesterday and it was great until I saw the trash. At first I thought it was going to be beautiful, but further along the river I saw trash. This river has been abandoned by the people of Ventura. Some people never will forget how beautiful the river once was. We should help the river to be a place for families to enjoy. If you have the time to help out our community that goal can be real. In conclusion, you should help the Ventura River because it's connected

to all the people of Ventura Ashley DATA Middle School 6th grade

To the Citizens of Ventura,

Have you been to the Ventura River? Have you seen all the trash? I have been many times. At first it was clean and full of water and trout. Now, it is full of dry spots and trash. Also, an invasive species called Arundo has been using the water and killing off other plants. That is why I highly suggest that we do something about our river to protect its natural beauty. The river was our water source years ago and we are ignoring it today. When our class went to the Ventura River I didn't find any fish or crayfish anywhere and there weren't very many insects either. The balance is off and we need to try our best to restore it and then leave it in peace.

People might say that it's too expensive to restore. I would respond that if only one person is paying than yah it is for them, but if we all work (and pay) together I believe that we can make a difference. All of the river can be saved if we put our heart into it, team up, and try. I am just one middle school student out of many who has faith in nature and our community. Please find the courage to protect it. No matter what anyone says, all you have to do is trust your soul, follow your dreams, and collaborate by joining hearts. Nothing is impossible which is why we will never, ever give up. Charlotte B.

To: Citizens of Ventura

Have you ever been to the Ventura River? I went yesterday and what I saw was not very good. What I saw was graffiti on river walls, littering, and dead animals and plants. I think that we should all really take care of our river. If we want to we can make it a beautiful

*Continued on page 20*





## News and Notes

# A few words about smoke detectors

by Kris McDonald

Captain, Ventura City Fire Department

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

While one smoke detector goes a long way in adding to your safety, multiple detectors located throughout the house is substantially safer. Placement of your detectors should be strategic. Avoid placing detectors near fireplaces, wood stoves, bathrooms, and kitchens. Detectors can be activated not only by smoke, but by steam and dust as well. Ideally there should be one detector in every room that will be occupied, at the top of each stairwell, and in every hallway. At a minimum, however, one detector should be placed in the hallway adjacent to bedrooms. Avoid placing detectors within 18" of the corner area where walls and ceiling meet, this area is a dead air space where smoke accumulates last. Also avoid proximity to windows, doors, and ceiling fans.

Besides not being present to begin with, there are several common causes of smoke detectors not being successful

in preventing tragedy. These causes are batteries being disconnected (to prevent nuisance alarms), dead batteries, obstruction of the detector by debris, or component failure due to age. Instead of removing the battery to silence a nuisance alarm, try fanning the detector with a towel until the air clears. Removing the battery, no matter how good your intentions are to replace it right away, is a recipe for disaster. A detector that is chirping periodically is trying to tell you that the battery is nearly depleted. If you replace the battery and the detector still chirps, it may be malfunctioning and should be replaced. Unless otherwise indicated by the manufacturer, smoke detectors should be replaced every ten years.

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

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

For more information visit us online at [www.facebook.com/venturacityfire](http://www.facebook.com/venturacityfire) and [www.youtube.com/user/VenturaCityFD](http://www.youtube.com/user/VenturaCityFD).

Orientation is on the 1st Thursday, followed by the HD Camera class the 2nd Thursday and Editing training on the 3rd Thursday. We have a wonderful Studio class that runs two Saturdays. You can create, produce and deliver a real studio show in no time. Members can call us at the first of the month to register for our classes.

Learn to use our cameras, editing bays and studio to produce your own show and submit it to the 2013 CAPPIE Awards. You could be a winner! Call (805)658-0500 for more information about joining. Check out our website at [www.capstv.org](http://www.capstv.org), Facebook at CAPS-TV Ventura and our Vimeo page [www.vimeo.com/capstv](http://www.vimeo.com/capstv).



*Distress Signal is a sea-going romantic adventure, set on the tiny island of Nantucket.*

## Emmy winner docks in Ventura

by Sheli Ellsworth

Jack Comeau loves the sea. Originally from Boston, Comeau says that people think Bostonians all talk like the Kennedys. "They could afford their own accent. Boston is different. We save our 'Rs' to use in places where they really count, like at the end of words like 'idea'."

Comeau began his career in New England as a grip on the lighting crew for Jimmy Carter's 1980 presidential campaign. Comeau went on to work with two other presidents: George Bush, Sr., and Bill Clinton. He was also Matt Lauer's lighting director in Boston for a year. Then Comeau worked for WWOR-TV in New York City where he received an Emmy for a nationally syndicated show called New York at Night and was nominated two other times.

Eventually, "like so many other bewildered souls" Comeau moved to LA. "It seemed like the next logical step for my lighting career but, more importantly, it was the place to pursue my true passion of screenwriting." Comeau has written seven screenplays. "I often liken my screenwriting experiences to living the life of Ralph Kramden from The Honeymooners...a 'sure thing, can't miss' adventure would fail spectacularly at the last minute." Comeau was certain that his 1994 epic telling of an historical saga was his ticket to the big leagues. He was even in negotiations with Clint Eastwood's company, Malpasco. Needless to say, 1994 turned into 1995 when James Cameron's *Titanic* filming began.

Three years ago, Comeau and his wife, Terry, moved to Ventura with their two dogs, Leo and Gina. Together, the couple has five grown children. This was the first place we thought of when it came to moving. Comeau says Ventura has become his favorite place to live because he can hear

the sea from his bed at night and watch it with each morning's coffee. "I like looking out across at the Channel Islands and the constantly changing weather."

Comeau has not given up on writing. His first book, *Distress Signal*, came out in 2012. "It is a sea-going romantic adventure, set on the tiny island of Nantucket. Half of it is set in the present and half in the 1840s. I try to capture the romance and love I feel for the sea." Comeau's book does indulge the salty dog and his knowledge of sailing did not come from the internet. "I come from a long line of Nova Scotia, Grand Banks fishermen. My grandfather made his living under sail on fishing schooners. I grew up with tales of the sea. I started crewing on a schooner and a square-rigged ship out of Newport Beach and Dana Point. Our wedding took place on the schooner."

Even though Comeau describes Nantucket as "magical and frozen in time," he also thinks downtown Ventura is one of the most charming little cities he's known. For anyone else in Ventura who loves shopping downtown, Comeau's novel, *Distress Signal*, can be purchased at Bank of Books on Main Street. *Distress Signal* can also be ordered through Amazon as a hard copy or Kindle download and from Barnes and Noble as a hard copy or Nook download. Go to <http://www.facebook.com/distresssignal> for more information.

## BBM&D snags silver and bronze at "ADDY" Awards

BBM&D Strategic Branding has been honored once again by the American Advertising Federation for outstanding creative in the annual AAF Coastal California competition. Judged by a panel of distinguished industry professionals, the ADDYs recognize exemplary work in the field of advertising.

The Ventura-based firm has been a frequent ADDY winner in the past, and this year took home six awards for creativity—one silver ADDY and five bronze ADDYs. BBM&D received the silver ADDY for a re-branding of their own stationery and sales collateral, and a bronze ADDY for their own redesigned website.

BBM&D netted more bronze ADDYs in the following categories: sales collateral (35th Anniversary branding for Children's Dental Group), advertising (multiple cross-media ads for Ojai Community Bank), and website development (a redesigned responsive site for Malibu construction firm Castle and Gray).

"We are honored and proud to be recognized by our industry peers," said BBM&D President Barbara Brown. "Having our work acknowledged with these awards reinforces the creative and professional effort we put into it."

"Winning for our work on responsive websites was especially gratifying," said BBM&D Chief Creative Officer Keir DuBois. "Responsive sites have become the new standard in web development for working well and looking great on desktops, laptops, tablets, and smartphones."

BBM&D Strategic Branding is a full service agency that helps position successful companies into higher levels of profitability and visibility. BBM&D has worked with such diverse clients as WellPoint Foundation, the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation, the Santa Barbara Museum of Art and Interface Children & Family Services. Their award-winning designs can be seen at [bbmd-inc.com](http://bbmd-inc.com).



CAPS Chat

## Time flies

by Elizabeth Rodeno

The first quarter of 2013 is over. The CAPS crew has been out and about in the Ventura community. Each year we provide coverage of the VEP Festival of Talent, a great show that highlights talented members of our community. We had the opportunity to work with the Ventura Chamber filming the "Working Together" Breakfast with Mayor Mike Tracy and Dr. Trudy Arriaga, who provided an in-depth

look at the state of Ventura and education. Lights, Camera, Action, our intensive career explorations program for middle school students sponsored by Ventura College, wrapped up one session, with the next one starting in May. Members of the CAPS staff were present at the Parent Click Expo at the Pacific View Mall, where we spoke about CAPS, what we do and the programs we offer to interested parents and kids. It's great to get out in the community and share the CAPS story. These shows and events air on Channel 6. Check the broadcast schedule on our website. We continue to provide live coverage of your local city and school district meetings on VTV Channel 15.

We are announcing our Summer Digital Storytelling Video Bootcamps. This is one of our programs that teaches youths, ages 12 to 16, how to create a video from start to finish in one week. Classes begin July 29 and run through August 16. For more information click on CAPSTV.org

We have expanded our training classes due to a great influx of new members. It is obvious that they found the best kept secret in Ventura, to quote a member.

Classes are Thursday nights at 6pm.

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<p><b>TACO \$4.00</b> with any purchase! Must bring coupon.</p>	<p><b>LAS DELICIAS</b> MEXICAN RESTAURANT 2611 E. THOMPSON BLVD. <b>643-0701</b> OPEN EVERYDAY 9AM - 9PM</p>		<p><b>SPECIAL BURRITO \$5.99</b> Includes Drink Valid with coupon only. Expires 4/16/13</p>
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# News and Notes



CMHS President and CEO, Gary Wilde, and CMHS CFO, David Glycer, receive donation check from the CMH Auxiliary.

## Happenings at CMH

Community Memorial Hospital and nearly all of its Auxiliary members recently honored 71 women and men who together have donated thousands of hours of service to hospital patients and their families.

Volunteers who have reached levels ranging from 100 hours to 45 years over the course of their years of service for CMH were celebrated at the annual Auxiliary Meeting and Awards Luncheon.

Special honors went to Genevieve Basso for 45 years of volunteer service, Judy Franklin for 30 years of service and Shelby Bauer for 20 years of service.

Auxiliary members also raise money from souvenir birth certificate sales, fundraisers and gift shop sales. At this year's luncheon, the Auxiliary presented CMHS President and CEO Gary Wilde with a check for \$90,000 from earnings in the last year. The Auxiliary is excited to again designate the funds this year towards the building of the new Community Memorial Hospital, meeting a goal set to provide \$500,000 to the fund. Since 1962 the Auxiliary at CMH has donated \$3,283,868.91.

And on April 15, Community Memorial Hospital's Cancer Resource Center is offering a free class on how to help insured cancer patients and their families understand their insurance benefits and assure they are being billed correctly by hospitals, doctors and labs.

Wendy Gorrell, a certified public accountant and cancer survivor, along with Jody Giacomuzzi, a licensed clinical social worker, will conduct the class. Wendy learned by experience how to keep the financial stress under control while undergoing cancer treatment and will share that knowledge. The class will be held from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the CMH Cancer Resource Center.

Teaching points include: Understanding your Explanation of Benefits (EOB's) Not paying more than required What to keep and for how long How to organize your medical bills and information The Cancer Resource Center is located at 2900 Loma Vista Road, Suite 105. For more information or to RSVP, call 652-5459.



## Teacher of the Month

On March 4, the Ventura Commerce and Education Foundation (VCEF) named Melanie Lindsey March's Teacher of the Month. Mrs. Lindsey teaches 12th grade AP Psychology and AP English at Foothill Technology High School. She has been teaching for 15 years.

"Melanie has been a huge part of our school's success," says Joe Bova, Principal of Foothill Technology High School. "Her leadership on campus creates an inspirational, motivational

atmosphere for her students to succeed." Mrs. Lindsey is in charge of the "Hero Project," where seniors complete community service and present to the community what service means to them.

Mrs. Lindsey organizes the Senior Renaissance, a program that rewards and recognizes seniors for their academic achievements. She started the school's Psychology program, as well.

Principals and parent-teacher organizations from schools within the Ventura Unified School District are all eligible to nominate any teacher. Nominees must be a credentialed teacher, and should display certain qualities, including the demonstration of an outstanding dedication to students, service on school or district committees.

The VCEF, under the auspices of the Ventura Chamber of Commerce, works to provide a business link to the economic, educational, cultural and environmental interests of the Ventura regional community.

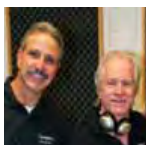
For more information about the Teacher of the Month program, please contact Pattie Braga, Chair, at PBraga@VCCUonline.net or 477-4052.

### NEWS TALK 1590 KVTA



#### Lyn Fairly and Friends, Saturday 12-1pm

I call my live radio show the "Lyn Fairly and Fabulous Friends Show"-because YOU are the fabulous part friends. Without you intelligent, informed, loyal listeners, I'd be talkin' to myself! I want to thank you for listening and contributing so much to the show. As you may know I look for stories among you. Everyone has an interesting story. If you want to tell yours, contact me on Facebook/Lyn Fairly. Remember we are on KVTA @1590 AM. Tune in Saturday at Noon, thanks!



#### Horsepower For An Hour, Saturday 1-2pm

The Hottest Automotive Talk Radio Show in the Nation. Horsepower for an Hour "We are Your Ultimate Stop in Automotive Radio" Saturdays @ 1pm



#### 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.



Lisa Rizzo of Ventura and Vita Franco of Ojai, members of the Gold Coast Lady Anglers fished on Tuesday March 19 along with more than 300 anglers in the 4th Annual Fish 4 Food Charity Event. The day's total catch - 550 lbs of fish were donated to FOOD Share. Organizers included: Gold Coast Lady Anglers, Jerry Stussman, Karen Jensen, FOOD Share and Channel Islands Sports Fishing (CISCO).

There were 11 charter boats with captain and crew donating their time and gas! And one of the kids on board was even getting credit for school - community service hours.

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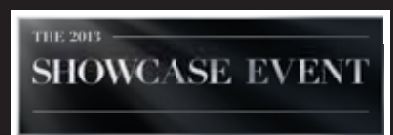
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# Senior Living

Pull Out Section



Marion Woods thought she'd never again see her beloved dogs. Photo by Suz Montgomery.

## “A serendipitous confluence of events,” said one wag

When the two mother/daughter dogs scampered into the classroom, the woman in the wheelchair suddenly became animated: “Those are my two dogs!”

The dogs wagged with unbridled joy and were let upon her lap, causing kisses all around in delight for this unexpected reunion.

“It’s beyond incredible...it’s a miracle...sweet dogs, sweet woman...,” said various witnesses from Suz Montgomery’s class where the average age is 90, held every morning at the Coastal View Care facility in Ventura.

The dogs are all rescues, and were invited to the class by Montgomery, a Ventura Unified Adult Education teacher who created the Extended Learning Academy. The ELA challenges its senior classes every day on anything from politics to pooches.

This was pooches day when Mindy Benezra of CaboDogz rescue service told the class about the efforts of finding

homes for the dogs.

The two dogs are Lilly, the mom at 3 years of age, and Bebe, just a pup, and Lilly lived her whole life with Marion Woods of Ventura, until she became a resident of Coastal View. Her family sold the house and gave the dogs to CaboDogz instead of the pound to find a new home.

And it was dogs who introduced Suz Montgomery to Mindy Benezra while walking her dog Rodie, who pulled her over to Mindy’s dogs for a session of play.

“It’s yet another miracle in our class, as it should be,” Montgomery said, who can cite scores of similar heartwarming stories.

The Extended Learning classes are free and open to the public from 9 - 11:30 a.m. Monday through Friday at Coastal View; 1 - 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at The Californian and 1 - 4 p.m. Monday and Friday at the Salvation Army’s Silvercrest independent living facility.

## Alzheimer’s conference

New and innovative biomarkers being developed to diagnose Alzheimer’s disease is the subject of the opening keynote address of the 2013 Alzheimer’s Association California Central Chapter conference slated for April 18 at Montecito Country Club in Santa

Barbara.

The annual, day-long conference features keynote speakers and workshop presentations about all aspects of dementia including estate planning; progress in state and national public policy; behaviors; caregiving; and end-of-life decision making, among others.

Gil D. Rabinovici, MD, assistant professor of neurology in the department of neurology at UC-San Francisco, will

*Continued on page 14*

New technology for people who want to hear better.



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## Senior Living



Diane Mautner is not just another pretty face  
**Senior Cone-nection**

### A passion for life!

by Nanci Cone

As first runner up at the Ms. Senior Ventura Pageant (held at the Ventura Townehouse), you might think Diane Mautner is just another pretty face. Well, you're only partly right – she is pretty, but also very deep. About her experience at the pageant, she says, "An acquaintance suggested I try out, and I was very pleased to be first runner up. The day at the Ojai Valley Inn and Spa, that I won was incredible."

As a proud mother of three daughters and seven adorable grandchildren, she belongs to Congregation AmHaYam in Ventura and also works part time for Children's Therapy Network in Ventura as a speech pathologist. Additionally, Diane and her husband are members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary. She is also a docent at Heritage Square in Oxnard.

As a graduate from UCLA with honors, majoring in English, and California State Northridge, with an MA in Communication Disorders, she met her husband, Ray, through his cousin who was teaching at the same school as she was. As Diane notes, "Cousin Sam showed him the faculty photos, and he pointed to my picture, saying, 'I'm going to marry that girl!' We have

traveled extensively, participated in Volunteers for Israel and worked on an army base. I have been a teacher, a speech pathologist, and now I am an author."

She goes on to add, "My first book, *Draw Me a Story*, was published in 1994. My other writing credits include, *Close Encounters of the Pinniped Kind*, a guest editorial in the L.A. Times about the Channel Islands, writing curriculum and consulting for the auditory materials for Disney English Language Learning Schools in Shanghai, China, workbooks for the Cartoon Network, and workbooks for Vox Box, Inc., a non-profit organization creating and promoting literacy programs.

"My latest book *WordFLIPS: Spanish*, was published in 2012 by Super Duper Publications, Inc. The book is for speech therapists and parents to use with young children, 3-7 years of age who have speech delays. This newest project is a collection of Spanish songs and rhymes. I also wrote curriculum for the Disney English language learning schools in Shanghai, China."

As if Diane didn't have enough going on in her life, she started a publishing company, Grass Harp Press, at the suggestion of her oldest daughter. She is hoping to publish picture books and nonfiction books to reach more children and, hopefully, get them interested in literature. "I'd like to reach those who never learned how to read and talk them into taking the plunge and changing their lives forever by introducing them to books," she comments.

Diane has worked as a speech pathologist for over 30 years with "kids" from 2 to 92. She worked for the Los Angeles Unified School District for 20 years. She gave presentations on the advantages of music on language development. She is a pianist, as is her husband, who is a retired music teacher. "When I competed at the Ms. Senior Ventura pageant, I played a Schubert "Moment Musical," she notes. Currently, she is working with toddlers who have delayed speech and their families. For more information on Diane's publications, visit [www.superduperinc.com](http://www.superduperinc.com).

*Sheldon: I was a judge at the Ms. Senior Pageant and I selected Diane as number one.*

## Don't be scammed

While we are all taught to use good manners when answering the telephone, not everyone who calls you necessarily has good intentions.

According to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, a recent spate of lottery scams or advance fee frauds originating in Jamaica are targeting seniors and other Americans by telephone.

While the Jamaican and U.S. governments have teamed to tighten laws and combat the problem, it's important to guard against becoming the next victim.

Knowing the difference between legitimate telemarketers and scammers is crucial. Protect yourself by taking the following precautions:

- Never pay money to collect supposed sweepstakes winnings. Legitimate operations won't require you to pay to collect winnings. It's against

U.S. law to play foreign lotteries. If you get a call saying you've won one, it's probably a scam.

- Never wire money to anyone you don't know.
- Ignore unsolicited calls from anyone, even charities and companies with whom you already do business. You have no way to confirm the caller is legitimate. Even caller ID can be faked. When in doubt, just hang up.
- Place your telephone number on the National Do Not Call Registry. It's fast and free. Visit [www.DoNotCall.gov](http://www.DoNotCall.gov) or add your number to the registry by calling 888-382-1222 from the phone you wish to register.
- Check unfamiliar area codes before returning calls. Be aware that there are many three digit area codes that connect callers to international telephone numbers.
- If you don't make international calls, ask your telephone provider to block incoming and outgoing international calls.
- Never provide anyone with personal information, such as bank



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## Senior Living

accounts, pin numbers or Social Security numbers.

- Prevent criminals from accessing your money. Contact your bank, brokerages, as well as the Social Security Administration to add a password to your accounts.

- If callers insist on speaking with you, tell them you'll call them directly. Don't take a number offered by a potential fraudster. You're safer looking up the number independently.
- Scammers often create false deadlines. If you feel pressured, hang up. You've spent a lifetime earning your money. You deserve time to choose how to spend it.

- Help others from falling victim to scammers by warning friends and family. If you've received a call, mail or email you think might be from a scammer, report it to the Federal Trade Commission by calling at 877-FTC-HELP (877-382-4357) or contact local authorities.

You don't have to live in fear to avoid being a victim. By becoming informed of the latest tactics used by scammers to defraud consumers, you can protect yourself and your finances.

## Programs and Services offered

Programs are offered at the Ventura Avenue Adult Center (VAAC) located at 550 N. Ventura Avenue and the Senior Recreation Center (SRC) located at 420 E. Santa Clara St. For more information contact SRC at 648-2829 or VAAC at 648-3035

### EXERCISE AND FITNESS

#### Bone Builders

Participants over 50 years of age lift light weights to increase bone density and improve muscle strength and better their balance.

Tu/Th 9am-10 am  
VAAC Free

#### Thursday Walks

Adults 50+. Join volunteer Pat Jump for a social, exercise walk. Meet at the Senior Recreation Center, 420 E. Santa Clara Street.

2nd Th 9-11 am 6/13, 7/11, 8/8, 9/12  
Free

#### Qigong

The ancient Chinese movement of body and mind stretching exercises to help achieve and maintain health and harmony.

F 2pm-3 pm  
VAAC Free

### EDUCATION

#### Mature Drivers Safety Program

AARP course may help lower vehicle insurance rates. Call VAAC for reservation 648.3035.

Th 4/4 & 4/11 10:45am-2:45pm  
VAAC

Th 5/2 & 5/9 9:15am-1:15pm  
VAAC

Th 6/6 & 6/13 10:45am-2:45pm  
VAAC

#### "Eat To Beat Cancer" Seminar

Adults 60 years of age and over join us for fun, food and learning. You'll receive nutrition information in a lively conversational mode. RSVP to 648-2829 by 5/6.

M 5/6 1-3pm SRC Free

### Social

#### Ventura Supper Club

Just the thing for the adventurous 50+ adult that is interested in a pleasant group dining experience at local restaurants.

3rd Th 5pm-7pm

### Community Brunch

Catered Thursday Luncheons  
Adults 50+ years

Join us for a special catered meal at the Westside Café. A donation accepted at event but weekly advanced registration is required. For more details and to register call 648-3035.

Th 11:30am-1pm  
Westside Café

### VENTURA TRAVEL PROGRAMS Offers Theater, Sports, Nature and More

#### Travel opportunities include:

Theater performances at the Solvang PCPA Theaterfest

*Fiddler on the Roof* (June 14)

*Monty Python's Spamalot* (July 13)

*"The King and I"* at the Candlelight Theater (8/3)

Pageant of the Masters (July 30)

Hollywood Bowl with Josh Groban (July 2),

## April events at The Bonaventure

Please RSVP for all events at 671-9700. Located at 10949 Telegraph.

Open house on Saturday, April 6th, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. All are welcome to come in and see what we are all about. Stay for a meal and a tour of our beautiful community and grounds or one of our many fun activities. Bring a friend or two.

Happy Hour and laughs with the Ventura Harbor Comedy Club! Friday, April 12th, 3:00 to 5:00 pm. Live entertainment will be provided. Appetizers, wine and other beverages will be served. Space is limited, so please RSVP 671-9700.

Join residents and guests as they support the Humane Society of Ventura County with a pet adoption on Saturday, April 13th, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. Find a new four-legged friend while supporting a great cause! All supporters are welcome to join us for lunch preceding the event in the dining room at 12:30 pm.

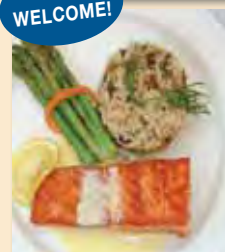
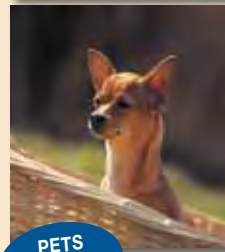
Come one, come all and bring your best furry friend on Friday, April 19th, 2:00 pm for our pet parade! Costumes are welcome, but not necessary to join in on the fun. Pets of all sizes and shapes are welcome and you might even meet Scamp. Life is better when shared with friends!

Explore your roots at our genealogy seminar presented by DNA Spectrum on Friday, April 19th, 10:30 am. Tracing your family history has never been easier with these new tricks and tools. You will not believe the technology available to all genealogists, both beginner and experienced. All are invited to stay for lunch after the event at 12:30 in the dining room.

Take a trip down memory lane on Saturday, April 20th, the Model "A" Car Club will be bringing their fabulous historic cars out for a once in a lifetime show. Owners will be available for questions and comments as well. All are welcome to join us for lunch at 12:30 before the cars arrive.

All are welcome to join for complimentary basic preventative health screenings sponsored by The Salvation Army of Ventura County on Tuesday, April 30th, 10:00 am. Lunch will follow the event at 12:30 pm.

## The Palms at Bonaventure Assisted Living Community



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## Senior Living



Ken May of Swift Chip explaining to the seniors the use of all things electronic.

## Seniors Gone Wired

Cypress Place Senior Living in Ventura is helping seniors get hip to the wired world on Wednesday April 17 with a hi-tech educational event. Dubbed, "Seniors Gone Wired", the half day tech event at the senior community will offer a broad range of topics and interactive workshops in an atmosphere set up exclusively for seniors.

This year's event will be held from

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Throughout the event, seniors of all ages and degrees of computer literacy will be able to find the information they are looking for. Computer stations and technician support, hosted by Swift Chip Inc., a complete computer care company, will be available to teach seniors tips on using a computer, finding information online and the latest technologi-

## Senior Living

cal innovations.

"People were just ecstatic about all the things they learned last year," said Ken May, CEO and owner of the Ventura branch of Swift Chip Inc. "We hope to help even more people this year."

This year's event will also include a special section for questions dealing specifically with cell phones taught by the Pacific View Mall T-Mobile store.

Students from the Regional Occupational Program at Ventura High School, under the direction of Velma Lomax, will also be on hand to assist with one-on-one sessions regarding computers, cell phones, and technology.

In addition to the one-on-one sessions, workshops will be offered throughout the event covering everything from e-books and the different e-book readers available to use with them, presented by a Barnes & Noble representative.

New to the event this year will be the Braille Institute Mobile Solutions van. On board the vehicle, attendees will be able to see several different types of assistive technology, and find out about BigBrowser for the iPad.

"This event is a fun way for seniors to get all kinds of great information, without having to feel any pressure," said Mike Macke, one of the marketing directors at Cypress Place.

Cypress Place will also be collecting unwanted cell phones to be donated to our men and women in the armed forces to help them stay connected with their loved ones back home.

"We urge everyone to dig out those old cell phones, which are probably collecting dust in a drawer somewhere, and bring them in to make a difference in the life of a soldier," said Macke.

The event is free and open to the public. Free shuttle parking will be available. Chefs at Cypress Place will provide a free gourmet lunch for attendees.

For more information or to RSVP please call 650-8000.

## CAREGIVERS enlists five sociology students

CAREGIVERS Volunteers Assisting the Elderly recently enlisted the support of five sociology students from California State University, Channel Islands (CSUCI) to explore the impact of the organization in Ventura County, which boasts one of the largest concentrations in the nation of persons over the age of 60.

CSUCI Senior Ana Castro, who worked with a team of four other sociology students last fall, said, "A community can choose to ignore the needs of the elderly or it can choose to work together to find solutions.

"With the senior population expected to double by the year 2050, identifying cost-effective solutions for care is going to be critical in communities across the nation," said Tammy Glenn, executive director for the Ventura County-based CAREGIVERS. "Our organization is one of the original 25 pilot programs funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in 1984 and I'm proud to tell you that the model has helped

to launch over 500 volunteer care giving organizations across the country!"

Glenn, who also serves on the board of directors for the National Volunteer Caregiving Network and the National Senior Citizens Bureau, notes that the senior population in Ventura County is expected to double by the year 2050. "A neighborly deed, a compassionate phone call, a ride to the grocery store are simple gestures that allow our seniors to continue living independently—with dignity," Glenn said, adding that volunteers and seniors are screened thoroughly to ensure a good fit with the services provided.

"The gift of a few hours, two to four per week, makes a huge impact on the life of our seniors," Program Manager Courtney Darrough said. One of the greatest threats to the elderly is the risk of depression that increases with other illnesses when the ability to function becomes limited. Studies show that major depression in older people rises to 13.5 percent in those who require home healthcare. "We look for qualities on which a senior and their volunteer can build a friendship," Darrough said. "We must be doing something right because we have friendships that last a lifetime at CAREGIVERS. Some of our matches have dated back 20 years!"

CAREGIVERS: Volunteers Assisting the Elders was established with start-up grants from the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, Trinity Lutheran Church of Ventura, the National Council of Jewish Women, First United Methodist Church of Ventura, First United Methodist Women of Ventura, First Presbyterian Church of Santa Paula, the Ventura County Church of Religious Science, the Aid Association for Lutherans, and Sisters of the Holy Cross.

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

### Alzheimer's conference

*Continued from page 11*

present the opening keynote. The last decade has seen dramatic progress in the development of imaging and body fluid markers that detect biological processes in Alzheimer's disease. Rabinovici will discuss these new techniques and their potential role in Alzheimer diagnosis and drug development, as well as existing barriers to their implementation in wide-scale clinical practice.

Conference highlights will be available via Twitter as they happen during the day (#Alz2013). The conference feed will also be available after the conference at #Alz2013.

Created especially to meet the needs of professionals caring for those with Alzheimer's, the conference is open to anyone who wants to learn more about Alzheimer's and dementia. Professionals attending are eligible for continuing education credits.

The conference is 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Participant registration is \$105 per person, and includes breakfast and lunch. Register online at [alz.org/cacental](http://alz.org/cacental). Direct questions to Lasaro Coreas at 892.4259 or [lcoreas@alz.org](mailto:lcoreas@alz.org).

A complete list of conference topics and speakers is available online at [alz.org/cacental](http://alz.org/cacental).



# News and Notes



A most remarkable lady stopped here at San Buenaventura Mission to visit, and pray with Father Tom Elewaut.

Six years ago Edith Littlefield Sundby was diagnosed with cancer and given 3 months to live. Many operations later (including the removal of her entire right lung) she is cancer free and is walking to all of the California's missions to tell the world that "With cancer, life takes on new awareness, everything becomes more, our time, family, friends, faith and even work. Cancer has allowed me to make peace."



THIS SPACE FOR WRITING MESSAGE

Author, James Francis Gray always brings copies of the Ventura Breeze to relatives in Hollywood, Florida when visiting there so that they know what is going on in our beautiful city.

POST CARD

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

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## Grand Jury accepting applications

The Ventura County civil Grand Jury is now accepting applications for the 2013-14 year. If you are interested in serving, you will have until April 15 to submit your application.

To get more details about the mission of the Grand Jury, and to view previous years' reports, please visit our website: <http://grandjury.countyofventura.org>. You can also get an application at this site and fill it out on-line. If you would prefer to fill out a paper application, please call 477-1600.

The Grand Jury is an investigatory body created for the protection of society and the enforcement of the law. Its goal is to ensure government agencies within our County are doing their best to serve the public in a cost-effective manner. If you have ever wondered about how you might contribute to your County, now is your opportunity to participate.

The Grand Jury is available for speaking engagements throughout the County. If you would like to request a speaker for your organization, please contact Judith Cohen at 477-1600.



### Music & Entertainment

- Wed. 4/3 Real Fun Jazz 7PM
- Thurs. 4/4 Davey Miller & the LA Jazz Connection 7:30
- Fri. 4/5 VC Buzz Jazz Showcase 9PM
- Sat. 4/6 Winchester Rebels 9PM
- Sun. 4/7 Bernadette's British Night The Tossers 5PM
- Tues. 4/9 Catfish & Doug Blues Swing Jam-Open Mic 8PM
- Wed. 4/10 Real Fun Jazz 7PM
- Thurs. 4/11 Davey Miller & the LA Jazz Connection 7:30
- Fri. 4/12 Roosters 9PM
- Sat. 4/13 Mid Life Crisis 9PM
- Sun. 4/14 Preachers w/Rob Scott 5PM
- Tues. 4/16 Catfish & Doug Blues Swing Jam-Open Mic 8PM

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

## THE RESCUE COLLECTION



Cheryl Ann Gooss, the Ventura Breeze, Professor Scamp and CABODOGZ present “Captured on Canvas... The Rescue Collection.” The portraits of 12 beautiful dogs who, through no fault of their own, have found themselves homeless and looking for a special person to adopt them will be painted by Cheryl Ann Gooss and featured each month in the Breeze. Our hopes and dreams are that each one will find their

### ADOPTED

perfect forever home. Our goal is to have each dog adopted before the next portrait is published, Bella was adopted even before.

This is Bella, a very lucky pit bull pup. She is 8 months old and has already been on a long journey. She was left at the Ventura County Animal Shelter in January, and rescued by CABODOGZ, and spent about 6 weeks in foster care, waiting for her forever home. That is where she learned house training, obedience training and how to be a good girl! She is very happy now because she was already adopted into a loving home and has a boy to grow up with!

## Forever homes wanted



Hi: My name is Blew. I am an 85 pound pit mix. I am a heart-stealer and a gentleman. I love car rides more than gourmet biscuits and walks in the park.

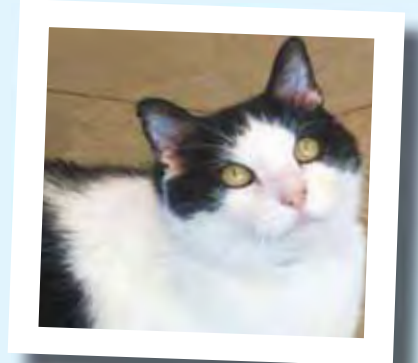
Although parts of my past have been painful, I am a gentle, friendly fellow with a kind, forgiving heart. A short time after my birth I was acquired by an individual who mistreated me and I was deserted on the streets. I connected with a woman who

truly loved me, but could not take proper care of me.

When this arrangement failed to work, I was rescued by All for Love Animal Rescue, AFLAR, who has paid for my boarding for about a year. I am a favorite of the staff and volunteers, but I need and want my forever home

Contact Kathleen 445-3535 at All for Love Animal Rescue (AFLAR) or allforloveanimalrescue@gmail.com to make me yours

“Takoda” is a cuddly marshmallow! He’s a big boy, and every ounce is pure love! Give him a pet and he will happily stay with you, purring and very politely asking you to pet him or scratch behind his ears. He is so warm and snuggly! Takoda loves to be held and he has lots of fun playing with his feather toy too. Takoda has exquisite, expressive green eyes. He gets along well with other cats and is sweet boy who will fit in well in most any home!



Meet this sweetheart at the Camarillo Animal Shelter, at 600 Aviation Drive. Ask for ID # 556827.

## Scamp Club



These are my new friends Austin and Dylan and they are, obviously extremely intelligent and informed dogs because they read the Ventura Breeze. To reward them I gave them a Breeze T-shirt and cap. They hang out with Veronica and Paula at Bark Avenue Grooming.

Scamp

## 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.



Server Leslie Swain, Chef Jon Markov and owners Mindy and David Benezra and a really cute dog are standing in front of the new food truck that my friends Mindy and David just launched. The food was very good and you know me I won't eat just anything.



## Going to the dogs

by Esther Cole  
(This is written by my friend Esther because it is such a nice story.)

Stacey Ayub is a magician. She knows how to turn dog poop into gold; she invented a magic act that morphed a dog into a bird and performed for two years at the Magic Castle in Los Angeles.

She also knows how to turn naughty dogs into well-behaved darlings you would want to invite to tea.

Stacey is one of those rare individuals who knew what she wanted to do – probably from utero: be around dogs. Her mom aided and abetted this ambition by providing Stacey with an unruly Australian Shepherd

mix. Stacey loved this critter, but had no clue how to train her pet. The dog was so wild, her mother issued an ultimatum. Get the dog under control, or else . . .

“Or else” terrified Stacey. Trembling, she enrolled in obedience training. Both she and her Aussie mix flunked the course. Not giving up, Stacey enrolled a second time. This time, they graduated with top honors. Stacey went on to become a certified professional dog trainer that includes working with therapy dogs and police canine corps.

What’s the secret to living with dogs? Trust, respect and love. Like in any long-term relationship.

“Dog training is like a smooth dance,” says Stacey. “There has to be a leader, and a follower. Some humans have a hard time being the leader. Dogs need to be told what you want. If not, they will step up and take the lead.”

Stacey is a fan of Scamp’s editorials. She

appreciates Scamp’s social awareness, citing a recent column promoting the fundraiser for Ventura County’s Canine Corps.

I asked Stacey what message she would like to send to prospective dog owners. “Before adopting a dog,” she declares, “do some research. At least as much as you would before buying a car. Know your own limitations or expectations and be sure the pet qualifies. In fact, be as careful adopting an animal, as you would in choosing a husband or wife.”

Wise words.

Thanks Es and I need to say that there are hundreds and thousands of dogs just like Bella (The portrait) who through no fault of their own, end up homeless, on the streets, and put down every day. This is a serious social problem that “you” have created and it is our responsibility to fix it. With millions

Continued on page 17



A little rest after reading the Breeze.





# 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.

## Loaded Firearm

On Thursday, March 21st, at 11:40 a.m., the VPD received a call from an alert citizen that a subject was walking around in the parking lot of the 5700 block of Ralston Street carrying a gun in his hand.

Units contacted the suspect, Steven Hill, 53 years old and from Texas. Hill was standing in the parking lot near a vehicle with the doors open. When officers looked inside the vehicle, they observed a semi-automatic handgun on the center console. The gun was loaded.

After speaking with Hill, it was determined that he had just been walking around in the parking lot, carrying a loaded gun in his hand. Hill was arrested.

## Multiple Hit and Run

On Thursday, March 21st, between 10:14 and 10:54 p.m., the VPD responded to three separate hit and runs.

The first occurred in the 1400 block of Dudley Avenue. A white Corvette struck an unoccupied parked vehicle then collided with a fence at Junipero Serra School. Three occupants were seen fleeing from this vehicle. Witnesses also reported that the white Corvette had been driving recklessly in the area moments before the accident.

The second hit and run occurred in the 300 block of E Main Street. A dark colored sedan had struck several unoccupied parked vehicles on Main Street and the driver continued westbound without stopping. VPD officers located the suspect vehicle in the 800 block of West Main Street. The driver, Toni Hicks, was detained for hit and run. Hicks was also driving under the influence.

Three of the victim vehicles sustained minor damage and one sustained moderate damage and had to be towed from the scene. Hicks was arrested and booked at VC Jail.

The third hit and run occurred in the 5000 block of Olivas Park Drive. The victim reported that his vehicle had been struck by a white SUV that failed to stop and continued driving east on Olivas Park Drive. VPD officers located the suspect vehicle in the 3000 block of Johnson Drive.

Officers detained the suspect driver, Bridgette Gutzmer. Gutzmer was also driving under the influence and a concealed loaded handgun was located inside her vehicle. The victim's vehicle sustained moderate damage in the collision and was towed from the scene.

## Lewd Conduct

On Friday, March 22nd, at 11:00 a.m., the VPD received a call of a subject engaging in lewd acts outside the Dollar Smart located on 3530 East Main Street. Officers responded to the call and contacted Jaye Vandervurg.

Vandervurg was witnessed by employees of Dollar Smart masturbating under the dress he was wearing.

Vandervurg was arrested for wearing an ugly dress and booked into the VC Jail.

## Armed Robbery Arrest

On Tuesday, March 26th, at 1:30 p.m., the VPD received a call of an armed robbery that had just occurred at Surf Liquor, located at 1050 South Seaward Avenue.

The suspects were last seen running

towards the beach. Officers located the suspects, a 16-year-old male, and female, hiding in the public bathrooms near the beach. Both suspects were taken into custody without incident.

During the investigation officers learned the two suspects had entered the Vons Store located at 2433 Harbor and had stolen merchandise. The suspects entered Surf Liquor and were in the process of taking merchandise when a store employee confronted them. The suspects ran out of the store and were again confronted by a store employee in the parking lot. The male suspect brandished a knife and threatened to harm the employee. The employee feared he would be harmed and retreated back into the store.

## Assault to the buttocks

On March 30, at 10:20pm the Ventura Police Command Center received a 911 call of an unknown type disturbance at a residence in the 8800 Block of Northbank Dr. Upon arrival, officers stopped a vehicle leaving the scene and found the victim, later identified as Anthony Barragan, inside. Barragan was suffering from non-life threatening stab wounds to his buttocks and his girlfriend was driving him to the hospital.

Additional officers checked the residence and surrounding neighborhood for other involved subjects, but did not locate anyone.

Barragan was uncooperative during the investigation and at this time, it is unknown what had actually occurred during the incident. He was treated at the scene by Ventura City Fire personnel and later transported by ambulance to VCMC for treatment of his injuries.

# Harbor Patrol Blotter

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

**3-18** 6:10 a.m. FCC dispatched Patrol and others to a fall victim at VWM. Upon arrival, Patrol found a person who had fallen on the dock. AMR transported the patient to the hospital.

6:19 a.m. PD reports an alarm sounding at the ATM at Harbor Village. Someone had broken through a vent in the door to the room. PD was notified. Patrol was able to get some useful images off the security cameras and provided them to PD.

**3-21** 10:35 a.m. Patrol observed a fairly large petroleum sheen at VWM B-dock. Patrol had observed people working on an engine of a vessel in the vicinity so had the marina contact the owner of the vessel. He advised that two mechanics working on his boat had accidentally activated the bilge pump. He responded and cleaned up the area as best he could using absorbent pads Patrol provided to him.

11:16 p.m. FCC dispatched Patrol and others to a medical assist at the Ventura Marina Mobile Home Park. Patrol began assessing the patient until FD and AMR arrived on scene. AMR transported the patient to the hospital.

**3-22** 6:40 p.m. Vessel Assist relayed a report of a boat disabled and anchored between Ventura and Channel Islands Harbor. Patrol responded, found the boat just outside the entrance, took the vessel into tow and released it to Vessel Assist and buoy "10".

**3-23** 11:25 a.m. Patrol received a request for assistance for a vessel disabled north of the Harbor. Patrol responded, took the vessel into tow and released it at its slip in the Keys.

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# VPD to conduct VIP Academy

The Ventura Police Department will be conducting their eighth Volunteers In Policing (VIP) Academy. Members of the public are encouraged to apply for the Academy which is slated to begin in mid to late April.

The goal of the VIP Program, which began in 2005, is to increase community member participation and allow volunteers to assist Patrol Officers by responding to non-emergency calls for service, thus enhancing an officer's free patrol and emergency response times. The program has been highly successful with over 67,488 hours contributed by VIP members since the inception of the program.

During the ten-week VIP Academy, participants will take part in a comprehensive training program consisting of traffic and parking enforcement, dispatch and communications training referencing calls for service, patrol procedures, crime scene investigation, school and infrastructure checks, graffiti/vandalism, report writing, and a driver's awareness program.

Once graduated from the VIP Academy members can expect to perform a myriad of duties including downtown and promenade patrols, critical infrastructure checks, school

and vacation checks, parking enforcement and other functions.

All VIPs work in teams of two or more, drive a marked volunteer vehicle, and wear the department's VIP uniform, including a badge, flashlight, and police radio.

The requirements for VIP membership include a completed application and interview, a background check, be at least 21 years of age, possess a valid driver's license, be in good physical health, and have the desire to contribute a minimum of sixteen hours per month to the program.

Community members interested in joining the Academy should contact Senior Police Services Officer, Tracey Coert at 339-4320 or via e-mail at tcoert@venturapd.org. Additional information, including an application available for download, can be found on the department's website at www.venturapd.org.

## Going to the dogs

*Continued from page 16*  
of unwanted dogs with no place to live, it is irresponsible for us to continue to let our pets continue breeding indiscriminately. Help your community and the unwanted pets by being part of the solution not the problem. Spay and neuter them (and it's healthier for them) and support your local rescues and shelters through donations and adoptions. Teach your kids about responsible pet care. By the time they grow up and have pets of their own, they will understand and maybe there won't be as many unwanted pets.

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Answer

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

**King Crossword**

Answers

Solution time: 27 mins.

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





## Youth



Student of the Month Barbara Rangel proudly shows her certificate to her mother Manuella, sister Aurora and Cabrillo Assistant Principal Ethan Gray, Barbara's father, Juan Rangel, Dave Erickson, the chairman of the club's Student of the Month program, and Cabrillo Middle School PE teacher Karl Mahler. Photo by Eric Burton.

## Optimist Club honors Cabrillo student

Barbara Rangel, an eighth-grade student at Cabrillo Middle School, was named January Student of the Month by the East Ventura Optimist Club. She received a certificate and \$50 Barnes & Noble gift card. The certificate said the honor was "for a willingness to always help at Cabrillo Middle School," but there's more to her story than just that.

Barbara transferred to Cabrillo from Oxnard as a seventh-grader, said Assistant Principal Ethan Gray, who added she is "more mature than the average middle-schooler." She's quiet and shy, but she's a leader. She believes in doing the right thing and when friends are doing the wrong thing, she says, "Hey, cut it out," Gray said – and they generally do.

He called Barbara "a great kid, a good leader and a great role model."

Her PE teacher and basketball coach, Karl Mahler, said she has a 3.83 grade-point average and, at 6 feet, 1 inch, she plays center on an after-school team and also plays on a Fusion club team. "Her parents come to all of the games."

Barbara said her favorite subject is

math. She hopes to attend USC or UCSB and open a business. In addition to basketball, she is in the school leadership class and Blue Heart project and assists with morning tutoring.

Barbara is one of three girls in the family, and one of her sisters, Aurora, attended the meeting with Barbara and her parents, Manuella and Juan Rangel. Aurora said Barbara was initially terrified at transferring to a new school, but she overcame it and now there is a "large, large crowd of people who just love Barbara." At one point, Aurora said, Barbara was playing on four teams at once "because she didn't want to say no to anyone." Bringing Barbara to tears, her sister said, "I'm very, very proud of you."

The East Ventura Optimist Club is part of Optimists International, whose motto is "Bringing out the best in kids." The club meets at noon on the third Wednesday of each month from September through April. It and the Sunrise Optimist Club of Ventura present the annual Ventura Seaside Basketball Tournament in April.

Ventura County.

It's a trend observed by prevention agencies such as Straight Up: non-medical use of prescription drugs has increased among County young people in the past year – or have remained at unacceptably high levels.

For example, the percent of County 12th graders reporting nonmedical use of the stimulant Adderall has increased from 5.4% in 2009 to 7.6% in 2012. Use of the opioid (any synthetic narcotic that has opiate-like activities but is not derived from opium) Vicodin among 12th graders, while not increased, remains at a surprising 7.5%.

"Many people are still unaware that prescription drug abuse has become a big problem in our community," says Katherine Kasmir, Program Director of Straight Up. "Through this video contest we have the chance to hear what young people have to say about the problems and their suggestions for change. We have to be informed and take action to solve these problems as a community."

The contest is open to Ventura County residents between 12-25 years of age. Entrants are asked to create their videos around topics such as the dangers of mixing prescription drugs with alcohol or safe storage and disposal of prescription drugs.

Short videos (30-90 seconds) are preferred, but longer videos are welcome as well.

A grand prize of \$500 will be awarded. The deadline is April 19, and winners notified by May 3.

Downloadable rules and guidelines can be found at [www.straightupvc.org/](http://www.straightupvc.org/) contest. Information sessions, training and equipment lending can be made available.

Straight Up Ventura County (a project of Ventura County Behavioral Health Department Alcohol and Drug Programs) works closely with young people to raise awareness and create change around the issues of alcohol and drug abuse. Advocacy training, reality improv workshops and video projects are some of the ways youth can get engaged and become empowered.

For more information about the *Prescription for Change* video contest or Straight Up Ventura County, contact [contest@straightupvc.org](mailto:contest@straightupvc.org) or 647-4622.

Rossiter. She then roused the actors back into work mode. It was a sight to behold as motivated teenagers ran to their positions within seconds and resumed a spirited rehearsal.

The VHS drama department's only funding comes from ticket sales. A reality that is not lost on this passionate, hard working group of 52 actors and 25 technicians. The actors and crew will rehearse 15 hours a week for over 2 months before opening night. "It's a huge commitment but it's worth it," said senior Christian Bennett, who plays Conrad Birdie. Sophomore Emma Vielbig, a theater veteran and well respected soprano with the Channel Islands Chamber Orchestra, echoed Christian Bennett's statement, "Theater teaches commitment. We have a great group and we're all very excited," Vielbig said. She will play the role of Kim MacAfee in the production, which opens April 25.

Ventura High's production of "Bye Bye Birdie" promises to be a crowd pleasing night of fun. If the level of effort, enthusiasm, and energy displayed during rehearsal is any indication, this high school production might be the best theater value in the county.

Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for students. Opening night is April 25th and the doors open at 6:30 pm.

Check out Ventura High's website calendar for show times and more info: [www.venturahs.com](http://www.venturahs.com)

Ventura High's Conrad Birdie has a Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/conrad.birdie.543](http://www.facebook.com/conrad.birdie.543).

## Ventura High School Boosters to host music fest

The community is invited to "swing into" Music Fest 2013 on Saturday, April 13 from 2:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Ventura High School, prior to the Ventura Education Partnership's evening presentation of the Big Bad Voodoo Daddy swing band concert.

Presented by the Ventura High School Music Boosters, Music Fest 2013 is an admission-free outdoor/indoor event that will feature a host of activities and service booths including gourmet food trucks, music performances and workshops, swing dance lessons all to benefit school music programs.

Music Fest attendees will be treated to music performances by the Ventura High School Jazz Band, the Cabrillo Middle School Jazz Band, the Balboa Middle School Band, the DeAnza Academy of Technology & the Arts, Middle School Mariachi Ensemble, and a VHS Student Jazz Combo.

Andy Rowley, a member of Big Bad Voodoo Daddy and also a VHS music parent, said, "I've been lucky enough to know firsthand what great music programs we have in town and how much they've enriched this community and my life. It's time for the rest of Ventura to come see for themselves what a genuine treasure we have and why it's worth having. And, honestly, who doesn't like music?"

A chalk art display by VHS art students, music workshops by Anacapa Ukulele and others in the Little Theatre, and swing dance lessons from the Yeah Man Swing Club at 6 p.m. are also slated for the activity-packed afternoon.

A line-up of concessioners will offer a variety of food choices prior to the evening concert, each of whom will donate a per-



Ventura High senior Christian Bennett plays Conrad Birdie

## Birdie mania!

by Tom Marshall

The quaintness of a 1950s musical shouldn't play well to a modern audience. Parodies never really lose their entertainment value though and the 1950s remain forever cool. "Bye Bye Birdie" includes themes such as getting drafted into the Army, shared innocent excitement, and the perception and reality of rock and roll idols. Ideas that normally would be dismissed by our collective jaded worldview are instead given fresh new life by teenaged players pouring their heart and soul into their performances. Ventura High School's drama department production of "Bye Bye Birdie" promises to be a crowd pleasing and highly entertaining show.

Ventura High School felt alive the night I went to investigate the source of Birdie mania on the campus. The troupe was on a break as I walked into the large rehearsal space but I could feel the unmistakable young energy. "The whole group is very excited about the show," said VHS drama director Stefoni

## Video contest focuses on growing problem in county

*Prescription for Change* is the theme of Straight Up Ventura County's annual video contest, in response to the growing issues surrounding Rx drug abuse in

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## Youth

centage of sales to the VHS instrumental music program.

The afternoon Music Fest and the 7:30 p.m. concert will be held at Ventura High School at 2 N. Catalina St. For more information on the afternoon VHS Music Fest, contact Carolyn at 760-8046 or <http://www.venturahsmusic.org>. For tickets to the Big Bad Voodoo Daddy concert, go to <http://www.vep4vusd.org>.

## Fundraising event at Mound Elementary

Mound Elementary will be hosting a massive fundraising event on campus at 455 S. Hill on April 13 from 7am to 2pm. The day will feature a range of fun family activities: a huge rummage sale, car wash and bake sale, along with a free e-waste recycling program. Proceeds will go to the school's Outdoor Education and Green Team PTO programs.

The event provides an opportunity to take care of an entire weekend's activities in just one day.

Mound's Outdoor Education team is heading up the rummage sale, car wash, and bake sale segments to support the 5th grade Outdoor Education program. It is held annually in partnership with the Catalina Islands Marine Institute and educates Mound 5th graders about marine and island ecology through marine science labs and field activities. This exciting three-day trip to the institute is costly, so fundraising efforts are initiated far in advance.

The e-waste portion will once again be held by Mound's Green Team in partnership with All Green Electronics Recycling, who helped the school raise more than \$1,000 in 2012 with the school's last e-waste recycling fundraising event. The school will be paid \$0.10 a pound for donated televisions, cell phones, monitors and computers, which will be memory wiped, and contents reused. Other electronics like toasters, microwaves, and Xboxes are also accepted and kept from going into landfills. The money raised will go to the PTO, which in turn pays for field trips, cultural assemblies, reading and math intervention, and other needs that are not covered by the school's budget.

## Boys & Girls Club celebrating Club Week

The Boys & Girls Club of Greater Ventura joins thousands of Boys & Girls Clubs across the country and on U. S. military bases around the world to celebrate National Boys & Girls Club Week, April 8-12.

The four Greater Ventura centers have planned a week of "open the door" events with many activities that include families, Club tour opportunities and celebrations that highlight the Club's 75th anniversary in the Ventura community.

A sample of the week's activities include: **Westview Center:** How Much Blue Can You Wear Day; Creating and delivering greeting cards and lapel pins to senior citizens plus a family movie night.

**Robert Addison Center:** Fitness activities including Zumba and juggling; Green Day, Plant a Garden & Develop a Recycling Plan; a Field Day; a Science Day and a Hawaiian-themed family event.

**Oak View Center:** Dress like a staff person day; Kids Choice Awards; Slime Tag.

**Bill Le Fevre Center:** Parent/Child

Games-Room Tournament; Volunteer Appreciation Day; "Take a Stand" Anti-Bullying Day; Team Challenge; Spring Carnival.

Boys & Girls Club Week is an exciting time for millions of Club members around the country and around the globe. We encourage the community to join us, take a tour and experience first-hand why for 75 years we have been a safe, positive, educational place for thousands of the community's youth.

You are invited to check out their website [www.bgclubventura.org](http://www.bgclubventura.org) or call the office at 641-5585 for additional Club information.

## READ Literacy Program Presentation

Approximately one in every 4 adults in Ventura County struggles to read. The READ Literacy program helps Ventura County adults learn to read or to improve their reading. The READ program has been operated by the Ventura County Library for 29 years and is held at three library and two correctional facility locations across Ventura County. The READ program trains volunteers who then work with the same individual each week. By providing one-to-one coaching, READ assists adults to learn to read better and understand more, which leads to better jobs and improved self-esteem. About 125 volunteers help 225 adults each year. All services are free.

READ is holding presentations for community members interested in learning more about the program. These presentations are in Ventura on the third Tuesday of every month in the SBBT Community Room (801 S. Victoria Avenue, second floor) from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Adults interested in getting help with reading, or for more information call 677-7160 or visit [www.ventcolibrary.org](http://www.ventcolibrary.org).

## TEEN VOICE High School Leadership Summit

On March 22, the City of Ventura Parks, Recreation and Community Partnerships Department hosted the fifth annual TEEN VOICE High School Leadership Summit at City Hall. The Summit gave 65 selected students from the five Ventura Unified School District High Schools the opportunity to interact with professionals on workshops that included leadership development, team-building, having a voice in their school, community and making good choices.

The keynote speakers were Patrick Davidson, new CEO of Ventura Boys & Girls Club and The World We Want Foundation, Kris Bergstrom, Administrator for Santa Barbara County Schools, and Mike Anderson, Anthem/WellPoint and Downtown Ventura Rotary Club representative. The mission

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



of TEEN VOICE is to build positive relationships between high school students and the community, provide students opportunities for community involvement and betterment of their school, neighborhood and city. For more information contact Youth Programs Supervisor Mario Robinson at 654-7807 or [mrobinson@cityofventura.net](mailto:mrobinson@cityofventura.net).

## Music and Art for Youth awards scholarships

by Sheli Ellsworth

When local musician and voice teacher, Jodi Farrell, met music producer, Saint Pierre, it seemed it was more than a coincidence. "I wanted to find a way to assist talented and gifted students who were unable to afford music lessons by performing in a concert to help raise money and Saint Pierre seemed to share that same vision."

The 2 lifelong musicians come from different musical backgrounds. Much of Saint Pierre's musical knowledge comes from being on the road while Jodi majored in music and became a music teacher and performer. Both, however, know the value of mentoring. At first, they weren't sure how their common vision to help the youth would play out but, in January 2013, the Music and Art for Youth program that they co-founded received 501(c)3 tax status. So far, three local youths have been granted scholarships that include lessons, mentoring, instruments and performance opportunities.

The Music and Art for Youth mission statement says, "We are dedicated to help provide opportunities to nurture our youth to achieve their artistic dreams and goals. We seek out young generation youth with the desire and potential talent in music and art. These extraordinary individuals are financially unable to provide the means to nurture their goals..." Youths, ages 20 and under, may be nominated through the organization's website: [musicandartforyouth.org](http://musicandartforyouth.org).

Seventeen-year-old Adam Sortomme was awarded a performing art scholarship. Adam plays the guitar and sings. Adam's parents had promised him music lessons. Then his father passed away. Since receiving the scholarship, Adam has performed five times on stage at The Winery Concert Series.

Antonio Barrera, nine years old, was awarded a visual arts scholarship. Antonio is a third grader in Oxnard who creates colored drawings in ink. His profession-

ally framed work titled, "Crystal Dragon" is currently up for silent auction bids at the Panaro Brothers Winery at 4517 Market St.

The latest recipient, nine-year-old Andrew Doyle, received a performing art scholarship to pursue his love of the saxophone. "I started with a toy saxophone," says Doyle, a student at Lincoln Elementary. "Then I was given a real one. I like Ray Charles and Dave Koz. This is pretty much the most exciting thing that has ever happened to me."

Stated Farrell. "We had no idea where it was going, but we begin to work with the kids and moved forward in faith," says Pierre. "We have rehearsals and we handle the publicity—things the average kid can't manage on their own."

The program survives on donations. Local artists are invited to donate their work, which hangs at The Panaro Brothers Winery until the sale. Volunteers are always welcome to help coordinate shows and do administrative work. The program's teachers are compensated, but anyone who wishes to contribute should contact Pierre at [email@saintpierre.org](mailto:email@saintpierre.org).

### Mailbox

*Continued from page 5*

side effects from medications. It was an exhausting exercise that someone alone or any one person could not be able to meet without a very strong network of support and resources.

As Assistant State Director for Parkinson's Action Network, a non-profit, I volunteer to advocate to find a cure and better treatment for Parkinson's patients. Since April is Parkinson's awareness month, I thought your readers would like these resources.

I know and realize that the power of many makes a powerful impact to finding a cure and ending Parkinson's disease forever. Parkinson's Action Network helps provide resources and trains anyone interested in helping to find a cure. Thank you again for your information.

Aurora Soriano  
Assistant State Director  
PAN - Southern California  
(805) 509-2391  
[forevermao@msn.com](mailto:forevermao@msn.com)

### Some resources:

Parkinson's Action Network:  
[www.parkinsonsaction.org](http://www.parkinsonsaction.org)  
Your Voice  
[www.parkinsonsaction.org/your-voice](http://www.parkinsonsaction.org/your-voice)  
Parkinson's Disease Foundation:  
PD Advocates in Research  
[www.pdf.org/pair](http://www.pdf.org/pair)  
Awareness Month:  
[www.pdf.org/en/parkinson\\_awareness](http://www.pdf.org/en/parkinson_awareness)  
Parkinson's Research: 23 and Me Program: [www.23andme.com/pd/](http://www.23andme.com/pd/)  
Alzheimer's Association advocacy:  
[www.alz.org/join\\_the\\_cause\\_advocacy.asp](http://www.alz.org/join_the_cause_advocacy.asp)





## Show Time

Where The Music Flows

### Belinda Carlisle

by Michael Kohli

Kohli Rocks Entertainment

www.kohlismusicpit.com

VenturaLiveWire@gmail.com

Currently listening to: Sun by Belinda Carlisle

That's right! Starting off my column this issue with the news that Belinda Carlisle has a brand new song. Santa Barbara/Hollywood based singer songwriter, Gabe Lopez contributed to the track. And has a hot dance track song of his own called, *Red Light*. In a recent online chat with Gabe Lopez, I asked him what it was like to work with Belinda Carlisle, "Heya, Michael! Thanks for liking the Belinda single. She is an idol of mine, so this has all been surreal. And she's the coolest person! So glad you're liking the song." The new single, *Sun* was recorded for a hits collection called, *Icon*. It's good to hear Belinda's voice again. Check out both Belinda Carlisle's new song/collection and Gabe Lopez' recent new tracks. Good stuff.

In local music news; Ska Daddyz are doing quite a bit of shows lately. Ran into member, Broos Ezra Robison, during a show at The Tavern in Ventura. Told me they are recording and doing a lot of shows, including a gig opening for Dirty Rice this month for their CD release party! Stay tuned to Ska Daddyz online on Facebook, Reverbnation, and more.

**In rock music news; Fall Out Boy attempts to "Save Rock and Roll?"**

The band recently unveiled two new music videos from their long-awaited return album. The two tracks; *My Songs Know What You Did In The Dark (Light 'Em Up)* and *The Phoenix* are so far a two part video in which the band members get kidnapped. The first video starts off with people throwing their music equipment into a bonfire. When they open the van, band members are hooded and bound to chairs. The Phoenix serves as a prequel video explaining how they got kidnapped. The songs themselves have extremely addicting rock singing hooks. I dig it so far. What do you think? Can the return of Fall Out Boy help save Rock and Roll? E-mail me: VenturaLiveWire@gmail.com.

Two on the Aisle

## Lonesome Traveler returns to the Rubicon

by Jim Spencer and Shirley Lorraine

Rubicon Theatre Company continues its 15th Anniversary Season with the return of *Lonesome Traveler*, a musical event that takes audiences on a trip down the rivers and streams of American Folk Music – from the hills of Appalachia to the nightclubs of San Francisco and New York; from the 1920s to the 1960s.

Written and directed by Rubicon's Artistic Director James O'Neil, with musical direction by Trevor Wheatman, *Lonesome Traveler* plays April 24 through May 19 at the Rubicon Theatre in Ventura.

Presented in the style of a concert, *Lonesome Traveler* is performed by nine

artists who create musical portraits inspired by folk immortals such as Pete Seeger, Woody Guthrie, Joan Baez, Bob Dylan, The Carter Family, Lead Belly, Cisco Houston, The Almanac Singers, The Weavers, The Kingston Trio, Peter Paul & Mary and others whose music and influence changed American music – and America itself – forever.

At its 2011 world premiere run we commented the show was "an engaging, thoughtful, exhilarating musical experience that captures the heart as it makes audience members witnesses and participants in a journey thought the musical sole of America." The show captivated other critics as well.

A few of the well-known song titles include *Will the Circle Be Unbroken*, *This Land is Your Land*, *Deportee*, *Talkin' Union*, *Goodnight Irene*, *Puff, the Magic Dragon*, *Mr. Tambourine Man*, *We Shall Overcome*, *Jamaica Farewell*, *Tzena, Tzena, Tzena* and *Maggie's Farm*. New songs added for this return engagement include *Turn, Turn, Turn, The Wabash Cannonball* and others.

The professional cast includes Jennifer Leigh Warren (*Big River* and *Little Shop of Horrors* on Broadway), Anthony Manough (*The Lion King* and *Jesus Christ Superstar* on Broadway/Rubicon's Songs for a New World), L.A.-based singer/songwriters Justine Bennett and Brendan (B. Willing), James, Sylvie Davidson (a Seattle actress and singer whose credits include work at both ACT and Book-It), second-generation musicians James Webb and Trevor Wheatman, Nicholas Mongiardo-Cooper (whose recent credits include South Coast Rep, North Coast Rep and Laguna Playhouse), and New York-based actor/musician Justin Flag (who plays the title character). All of the artists play multiple instruments and sing.

As ticket sales cover only part of the cost of staging a live production, *Lonesome Traveler* is sponsored by Ventura arts patrons Janet and Mark Goldenson and co-sponsored by Sheeler Moving & Storage and Harrison Industries.

The show previews at the Rubicon Theatre on Wednesday, April 24 at 7:00 p.m. with an Opening Gala on Saturday, April 27 at 7:00 p.m. Performances continue through May 19, Wednesdays at 2:00 and 7:00 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays at 8:00 p.m., Saturdays at 2:00 and 8:00 p.m., and Sundays at 2:00 p.m. Ticket prices are \$35 to \$59, depending on the day of the week. Tickets for students are \$30.

Tickets for *Lonesome Traveler* may be purchased in person at the Rubicon Theatre Box Office, located at 1006 E. Main Street (Laurel entrance). To charge by phone, call 667-2900. Twenty-four-hour-a-day ticketing with seat selection and ticket printout is available online at www.rubicontheatre.org, thanks to a grant from the Irvine Foundation Regional Arts Initiative.

## Music Calendar 4/3 to 4/16

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

**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

## VFS @ 420 East 2013

### Fame High

Reviewed by Arcelia Martinez

The Ventura Film Society

Oscar-nominated filmmaker Scott Hamilton Kennedy will attend a screening of *Fame High* on Tuesday April 16th @ 7:15pm. Kennedy's follow-up to *The Garden* (VFS 2012) and *OT:Our Town* (VFS 2011 & 2013), *Fame High* puts us front and center in the lives of several talented Los Angeles County High School of the Arts students. This is a school known nationwide for its competitiveness, not only in the freshmen auditions but in the stellar end-of-the-year performances, where seniors push themselves far beyond their perceived capabilities. These aspiring musicians, singers, actors and dancers learn what it takes to work for what they love and

to pursue their dreams, with the help of, and sometimes in spite of, their passionate and opinionated families. As they reach for their dreams, *Fame High* captures the in-class and at-home drama, the competition, the heartbreak, and the potential triumph of the artistic life.

The Ventura Film Society is proud to present *Fame High* sponsored by Bob and Paula Chianese, as the 6th of 21 feature films of our 5th season. The VFS thanks all of its patrons, donors, volunteers and sponsors for supporting our mission of bringing quality alternative films and filmmakers to Ventura. Screening, Membership and Advance Ticket Information on our 2013 season, running February 5th through December 3rd at 420 E. Santa Clara Street, is available at [www.venturafilmsociety.com](http://www.venturafilmsociety.com). Please contact us at 628-2299 / [info@venturafilmsociety.com](mailto:info@venturafilmsociety.com) for further information.

Fri 4/5 - Rankin File 7-11pm

Sat 4/6 - Barstool Pigeons 6-10pm

Sun 4/7 - Blue Stew 2-6pm

Fri 4/12 - Masters of the Past 7-11pm

Sat 4/13 - Fish Fry 6-10pm

Sun 4/14 - Blue Stew 2-6pm

**Bombay Bar & Grill**

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

Local Live Music every Thur thru Sun

Wed 4/3 - Ventura Jazz Collective 7pm

Fri 4/5 - Open Mike Eagle, Kapeesh,

Galactic Boogey

Sat 4/6 - Hindsite 9pm

Sun 4/7 - Joe Wilson Band

Wed 4/10 - Ventura Jazz Collective 7pm

Fri 4/12 - Army of Freshman 9pm

Sat 4/13 - Dance Party with Loco Mofos

9pm

Sun 4/14 - 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

Wed 4/3 - In The Mood 7pm

Fri 4/5 - Burlesque Jambor Tease 9pm,

Rocky Horror Picture Show Midnight

Thur 4/11 - Cafe Tacuba 8pm

Sat 4/13 - GWAR, Wilson, Warbeast 8pm

**Panero Brothers Winery**

4517 Market Street, Suite 7

805-654-1577

Sat 4/6 - The Fabulous New Cassandra

Vaniotis Show 2pm, 5pm

**Sandbox Coffeehouse**

204 E. Thompson Blvd.,

805-641-1025

Thur 4/4 - Open Mic Night Hosted by

Jammin' Joe 7:30pm - 9:30pm

Sat 4/6 - Russ Chapa 12pm - 2pm

Sun 4/7 - Sweet Euphoria 12pm - 1pm,

TBA 2pm-5pm

Thur 4/11 - Open Mic Night Hosted by

Jammin' Joe 7:30pm - 9:30pm

Sat 4/13 - Robert Alexander 12-2pm

Sun 4/14 - Brandi Rose 12pm - 2pm

**Squashed Grapes**

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

Vocal Jazz Night every Tue 6:30-10pm

House Jazz Band every Fri 6:30-10pm

**The Tavern**

211 Santa Clara St., 805-643-3264

Live Bands every Tue thru Sat

"Honky Tonk Tuesdays" Country Night,

Live Country Band every Tue 8pm

Ventura County Blues Society Jam

session hosted by Tommy Marsh every

Wed 8pm

Wed 4/3 - Ventura County Blues Society

9pm

Thur 4/4 - The Blue Suns, We Govern We 9pm

Fri 4/5 - The Shieks, Emilbus 10pm

Sat 4/6 - Smoother Hound Smith, Three

Man Weave 10pm

Sun 4/7 - The Blue Suns 8pm

Tue 4/8 - Matt Sayles 9pm

Wed 4/10 - Ventura County Blues Society

with Jodi Ferrell 9pm

Thur 4/11 - The Midnight Snacks 9pm

Fri 4/12 - Front Street Preachers 10pm

Sat 4/13 - Crow Foot, That 80's Band

10pm

Sun 4/14 - The Blue Suns 8pm

**W2O Rooftop Lounge**

598 E. Main St. (above Watermark)

805-643-6800

Live Bands every Wed thru Sun

Friday Dance Party every Fri 9pm

**Yolies/Hi Hat Entertainment**

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

Top Notch Musicians and Bands every

Fri 8pm

Fri 4/5 - Teresa James & The Rhythm

Tramps (Rockin Rhythm & Blues)

Fri 4/12 - Rick Estrin & The Night Cats

(Harmonica Blues)

**Zoey's Café**

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

Live Musicians & Bands almost every

night

Wed 4/3 - Micah Schnabel 7:30pm

Fri 4/5 - Owen Plant (Folk/Reggae)

7:30pm

**Listen to our kids**

*Continued from page 7*

and safe place to be.

A reason that we should take care of the river is that there are wild things in the river. If we make an effort to protect it the children of Ventura could all go there and have fun. For example if it is a really hot day and the kids want to go and swim, they could swim there. Also why go, drive and pay a lot of money just or having fun when you could always go to the Ventura River which is not far and it is free. Some people might say, "Why cleanup for something I did not do." I would respond like this, "If we all help (even though you didn't do it) it would make a big difference for our community".

Overall I think that we should all help clean up the Ventura River. You could help by donating money, and fundraisers. If you would not like to do that then you could help by not littering and going to the river and picking up the trash. Imagine if it was a beautiful place where we could all go. I would love to swim in a clean river without having to worry about nasty stuff like trash in the water.

Sincerely,

Denisse M. from DATA middle school



# Lighter Breeze

Zits



Rhymes With Orange



Mother Goose and Grimm



Hi and Lois



Dustin



Tiger



Solutions on page 17

		9		1				4
	6	2	4					3
1				5	8			
	5		8	4				6
7			3		5			
	3	6						8
9			2		7			
	7			3				2
		8	9					1
								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 17

## King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Hot tub
- 4 Physicist's deg.
- 7 Cut in two
- 12 Chop
- 13 Scrooge's cry
- 14 Crosswise, nautically
- 15 Historic time
- 16 Four-line verses
- 18 Atmosphere
- 19 Seafood entree
- 20 Dog bane?
- 22 Very long time
- 23 Former frosh
- 27 Needlefish
- 29 There
- 31 Perfect
- 34 Perspectives
- 35 With 48-Across, "Family Feud" material
- 37 Bankroll
- 38 Oliver Twist's request
- 39 Clean Air Act org.
- 41 Send forth
- 45 Pilfered
- 47 Inseparable
- 48 See 35-Across
- 52 "Monty Python"

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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35					36		37			
38					39	40			41	42
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48	49	50	51							52
53						54				55
56						57				58

- opener
- Daba
- an air
- 53 Pianist Eubie
- Honeymoon"
- 33 Mess up
- 54 Young seal
- 9 Island
- 36 Abominable
- 55 Prepared
- garland
- Snowman
- 56 Disrobe
- 10 Forefront
- 37 Reddish
- 57 Pigpen
- 11 Typog-raphy units
- 40 Tires (out)
- 58 Attempt
- 17 Broadway prize
- 42 Wettish
- 21 Tequila source
- 43 Bury
- 23 Insinuating
- 24 "— on a Grecian Urn"
- 46 Catch sight of
- 25 Church seat
- 48 Brady and Brees, for e .
- 26 Storefront sign abbr.
- 28 Hearty brew
- 49 ast (Abbr.)
- 30 Eggs
- 30 Xavier Cugat
- 50 istener
- 31 Doctrine
- 51 Tackle moguls
- 32 Pair with

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**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) A suggestion from a colleague could give your professional project that long-needed boost. Meanwhile, someone close to you still needs your emotional support.

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) Rumors of a change in the workplace could make you a mite uneasy about going ahead with implementing your ideas. Best advice: Ignore the talk and proceed as planned.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Before complying with a colleague's request, check to see that the action benefits all, not just one person's agenda. Continue firming up those travel plans.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) Everyone has an opinion on how to handle a recent business suggestion. Thank them for their advice. Then go ahead and follow your own fine instincts.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) Your social life is on the upswing, and the only problem is deciding which invitations to accept. Enjoy yourself before settling down for some serious work next week.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) While home is your main focus this week, new issues in the workplace need your attention as well. Take things step by step. Pressures ease in time for weekend fun.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) With your creative aspects on high, you might want to restart your work on that novel or painting you put aside. Your efforts will bring a surge in your self-esteem.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) Be less rigid when handling a relationship problem. You might believe you're in the right, but try to open your mind to the possibilities of facts you're currently not aware of.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) While you're generous with others, be sure you're not overlooking your own needs. Take time to assess your situation and make adjustments where necessary.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) Leos and Leonas run at a hectic pace throughout much of the week. But by the weekend, the Lions' Dens become a purrrfect place for you Fine Felines to relax in.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) Being applauded for your achievement is great. But watch out that you don't start acting like a star. It could lose your valuable support with your next project.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) Change is favored early in the week. This should make it easier for you to reassess your plans for handling a troubling professional relationship. Good luck.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** Your strong belief in justice, along with your leadership qualities, help you protect the rights of others.

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## Business

# Kenneth May one of top 150 worldwide channel influencers

Over the past several months, hundreds of IT professionals from around the world have been engaged in the SMB 150 Channel Influencers contest. The SMB 150, which is collaboration between SMB Nation and SMB Technology Network, is the SMB technology channel's annual list of its 150 most influential members.

On Friday, March 8, Kenneth May, CEO of SwiftChip, Inc., with offices in Ventura was named to the SMB 150 Channel Influencers List. May joins a group of esteemed colleagues who were chosen during a two-phase voting process. In the initial stage, channel community members voted on 450 nominees at SMB150.com. Following the community vote, a panel of industry experts consisting of Harry Brelsford, (SMB Nation); Karl Palachuk, (Great Little Book Publishing Co., Inc.); Josh Peterson, (MSP Score); Dave Seibert, (IT Innovators); and Dan Wensley, (Level Platforms), evaluated each nominee

based on a pre-established rubric. The community vote accounted for 40% of each nominee's overall rating, with the expert panel's decision contributing the remaining 60%.

In receiving the award May said, "I'm grateful to the channel community for recognizing the work I've done over the past X years. I've worked with a number of amazing mentors and colleagues over the years, and I'd like to thank everyone who has helped me to develop the skills necessary for running a complex technical operation."

Kenneth May has spent the past six years running Swift Chip, Inc. Initially a consumer-oriented computer repair shop, Swift Chip, Inc. has grown into a managed service provider offering turnkey IT solutions to over 300 SMB clients in Southern California. May, along with his partner Michael Paul, now employ a nine-person technical staff and have plans for expansion.

Swift Chip recently unveiled its new partnership with Microsoft. In December 2012, Swift Chip became a certified Microsoft Cloud reseller and migration specialist. Since then, Swift Chip has helped over a dozen small businesses migrate over 150 users to Microsoft's cloud-based email and collaboration software platform. For more information about Swift Chip's cloud and other IT services, visit [swiftchipinc.com](http://swiftchipinc.com).

## Religion



Hazel, Edwin, Ruth and Mary Lee were there at the grand opening of The River Community Church and their family reunion.

# They even came from Oklahoma

Enjoying the recent "grand opening" of The River Community Church (Formally Four Square) was Hazel Mae (Wilkins) Martin. She was born in Ventura in 1934 and still lives in Ventura with her husband Bob. They live in the house on the Avenue that her parents lived in when she was a small girl. She is the youngest of 4 sisters.

Her sister Mary Lee (Wilkins) Cox was born in Cromwell, Oklahoma. She is the second oldest. The family moved from Oklahoma to California around 1926. She still lives in the house that they bought around 1950. She and Hazel Mae have attended the Four Square

Church since it first started.

Sister Ruth (Wilkins) Ragsdale, and her husband of 67 years Edwin live in Oklahoma but came to Ventura for the opening. They moved there in 1980. Ruth is the second to the youngest and was born in 1929. She was born at home at about 24 weeks and weighted about 2 pounds. The doctor came to the house and cut the cord and said there was nothing they could do for her that she would die. As you can tell she survived. The oldest sister lives at Cypress Senior Living in Ventura. Her name is Inabelle (Wilkins) Hurt.

A truly amazing group of sisters.

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# Art Scene



## An Evening with Janet Neuwalder, interviewed by Donna Granata

Janet Neuwalder, sculptor, installation artist and educator, describes the inspiration for her work at The Comedy Club at The Harbor on April 16, from 6 to 7:30pm. Critics call her work “exquisitely executed, heartfelt and original.” Fragile pieces combine to present a sense of melancholy, a feeling of loss, a personal journey of memory and history. There is a sense that the viewer is floating above

an archaeological dig or a museum’s anthropological display.

Then join in for a casual garden supper immediately following the interview at the Ventura home of Teri Willison. The dinner is \$20 for FOTM members, \$30 for non-members. Seating is extremely limited. Paid reservations are essential and required. Call 653-2501 to find out if any seating is still available.

## Call to artists

Artists of all original fine art and fine craft disciplines may apply. Artists must submit one application per category. All entries will be juried and digital images of artwork required for jurying.

Booth Fees: \$100 for 10x10 booth. Artists must provide own tent and/or canopy. Volunteers provide booth sitting and assistance as available.

Arts in the Park will select a Featured Artist whose work will be displayed on festival materials and publicity. This outdoor event will feature fine art, a street chalk art festival and music throughout the day. Proceeds benefit FOOD Share.

For more information or an application go to [www.foodshare.com](http://www.foodshare.com) (click on the Arts in the Park Logo in the lower left

hand corner) or [Barbara@venturaartfestival.com](mailto:Barbara@venturaartfestival.com).

Arts in the Park 2013  
August 17th and 18th, 10 am-5 pm  
Ventura Harbor Village



The San Buenaventura Mission, a quick sketch by George Robertson can only be seen in person if he invites you to his house for lunch.

# Art, a la Carte

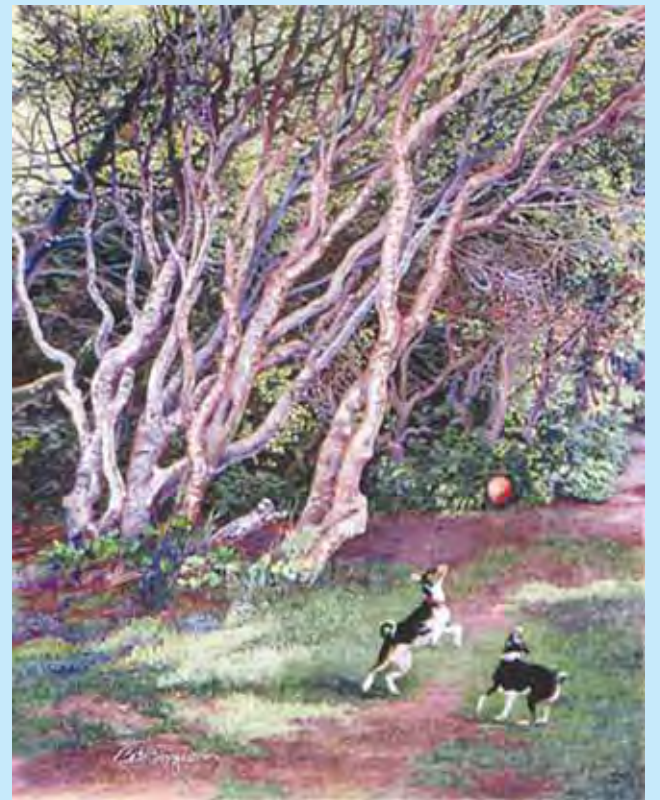


Ventura’s 643 Project Space is presenting *Tabula Rasa: New Paintings* by Erik Reel, premiering Saturday April 6, at 7 pm. The show will be open during Ventura’s First Friday on April 5 from 6-9 pm.

The show will remain on view through Saturday, April 27. Reel works primarily in liquid acrylics and has been in over 140 exhibitions. 643 Project Space, 643 Ventura Avenue.

Colored pencils can seem elusive in their handling. The goal of Bet Borgeson’s workshops, through hands-on exercises is to convey the essential techniques needed for working competently and confidently with them whether for fine art or illustration.

Participants will also begin a drawing to be completed at home, and then on the following Saturday, after a short period to touch up artwork, will have a group critique of all the work completed. On Saturdays, April 13 and April 20, from 9:30-noon. Only \$45 for Buenaventura Art Association members and \$54 for non-members. Workshop will be held at the Harbor Village Gallery in the Ventura Harbor Village. For more information and to register go to [www.BuenaventuraGallery.org](http://www.BuenaventuraGallery.org).



MB Hanrahan’s exhibition of new Art “The 7 Deadly faSCINations” her surrealistic take on the classic “deadly 7”.

New and recent paintings will be showing from April 5, 6-9 pm. through April 28. At the Vita Art Center, 432 N. Ventura Ave. Info [www.VitaArtCenter.com](http://www.VitaArtCenter.com) or 644-9214 or [mbuniverse@gmail.com](mailto:mbuniverse@gmail.com).



Juror Bob Privitt (professor emeritus and former chair of the art department at Pepperdine University) and Oxnard College student Danny Lawlor in front of Lawlor’s first-place winning artwork *Gold Coast Transit*. Danny Lawlor also earned a \$800 scholarship in Buenaventura Art Association’s 7th Annual Collegiate Student Art Competition for his oil pastel painting. Second place and a \$600 scholarship went to Linda Kennon of Ventura College for her graphite on burned paper work, *Bad Little Robot*.

The exhibit of student art, including all of the award winners, continues until April 15 at the Harbor Village Gallery, 644-2750. Hours: noon – 6pm. Closed Tuesday.

Photo by Florentino Bacoan.



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