



VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

Vol. 7, No. 14 Published Every Other Wednesday www.venturabreeze.com April 30 - May 13, 2014



Midtown Ventura Community Council vice chair Gregg Mansfield stands next to a section of fence installed by Union Pacific Railroad that irritates some residents.

Union Pacific Railroad arrives at midtown meeting, part 1

by Tim Pompey

In late 2012, something surprising happened along the railroad tracks in midtown Ventura. According to Gregg Mansfield, vice chair of the Midtown Ventura Community Council, sections of 8-foot fence made of welded steel and diamond mesh suddenly popped up at railroad tracks bordering the south ends of Hurst and Anacapa Streets, and at the overpass at Seaward and Vista Del Mar. "What was strange," he explained, "is that these fences came out of nowhere. First I saw a bunch of paint markings in the street, and then the posts went up and then the fences went up."

Why the additional fencing? After all, 6-foot chain link fences had already been installed for almost thirty years along the south side of these tracks. According to representatives from Union

Continued on page 4

While taking Mom on an around-the-world cruise for Mothers Day (May 11) you can always catch up with the Breeze at venturabreeze.com



A grateful crowd were all smiles at the check ceremony at Westpark Community Center. Photo by Alex Torres.

Westpark Community Center receives check

The public and media attended a brief donation ceremony at Westpark Community Center, on Tuesday, April 22 as Altrusa International presented a \$2,200 check for supplies for the youth center to Mayor Cheryl Heitmann and Councilmember Mike Tracy after a few

opening remarks.

Visitors then viewed the center's many young participants fully engaged in a variety of activity rooms (computer, ceramics, music, boxing and games).

The Westpark Community Center

Continued on page 4



Posing on the completed lumber dock frame are Sandy Swanson, Don Mills, Anne Fitzgerald, Paul Swanson and Dave Chase. Photo by Dave Mills.

Ventura Yacht Club volunteers assemble new dinghy dock

A worn-out dinghy dock at Prisoners Harbor on Santa Cruz Island in Channel Islands National Park is being rebuilt this spring, thanks to the efforts of local volunteers from the Ventura Yacht Club. Don Mills of Ventura, a retired engineer and sailing enthusiast, has led the effort

to restore and upgrade the old floating dinghy dock, which is favored by recreational boaters who visit Prisoners Harbor.

The renovation to the dinghy dock underscores the importance of Ventura

Continued on page 4

Joan Farber, animal welfare activist

Joan Farber the indefatigable, passionate activist for Ventura County pets died on April 17, at the age of 77. She leaves behind a legacy of fighting for a no-kill shelter, always believing that it was possible. That the county has moved in that direction is, in no small measure, due to her and the others of the rescue community.

"The world is much better off because of her life and her devotion to what she wanted to do and often accomplished for all the animals she loved so much. She will be missed by many, many of us." Stated Betty Okrent

"Her voice for the animals will be missed." Rene Ruston

"Her persistence in believing our county could be no kill was invaluable beyond measure to the animals in Ventura County." Tracy Williams

"She and I jokingly referred to her as the town crier. She worked so hard to get Ventura County a shelter director

Continued on page 4

Large donation made by Friends of the Library

The San Buenaventura Friends of the Library presented their yearly donation to Ventura's libraries. A check for \$57,523.10 was given to the library director to be used for collection materials at E. P. Foster Library, Avenue Library and Saticoy Library for the benefit of the library patrons in the city of Ventura.

The money was raised by Friends' volunteers who staff the used bookstore at E.P. Foster Library, as well as organizing periodic used book sales, and sales through Amazon.com. The generosity of those who donate books and materials, as well as the yearly dues of members, make this donation possible.

Sara Roberts, Senior City Librarian at E.P. Foster Library said, "We are so thrilled to have an active Friends of the Library Group. With these funds we are

Continued on page 4

EBNER & ASSOCIATES



EVERYBODY WANTS TO LIVE...
Buy the Beach
WWW.BUYTHEBEACH-VENTURA.COM

LORI 805.729.4861 BRE# 01730026
BROOKE 805.453.7071 BRE# 01923719

BH HS
BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY
HOMESERVICES



Traveling to and from LAX has never been easier!

the VENTURA county

\$35 one way.
\$65 round trip.

Fuel surcharge will apply.
Discounts for groups and charters.
Cash only on the day of travel.

Airporter shuttle



Depart Ventura
4:30am • 6:30am • 8:30am • 10:45am
• 1:00pm • 3:15pm • 5:30pm • 7:30pm
• Oxnard departs 15 minutes later.
• No departures: 7:30pm Vta, 7:45pm Oxn, on Saturdays only.

Depart LAX
6:30am • 8:30am • 11:00am • 1:00pm • 3:15pm • 5:30pm • 7:30pm
• No departures 9:30pm Saturdays only.

Holiday Inn is charging \$5 a day for parking.
No charge if dropping off only.

805.650.6600

1080 Navigator Dr., Ventura PSC 6291

e-tickets online at www.venturashuttle.com

Ventura BEACH Festival 2014

San Buenaventura State Beach
901 San Pedro St., Ventura

Live Music
Local food, beer, and wine
Family-friendly activities
Recreational vendors & displays

MARTHA DAVIS & THE MOTELS
Headlining

Saturday, May 3rd

THE LINE-UP:

- Special Guest: **THE SURFARIS**
- **REY FRESCO** • **DIRTY RICE**
- **BARLEY LEGAL** • **SPENCER THE GARDNER**

Get Your Tickets Today @ VenturaBeachFestival.com

Celebrating the many ways in which California is such a great place to live and play!

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR THE IDEAL LOCATION FOR A MEMORABLE EVENT?

Wedding • Quinceañera Anniversary • Birthday

We offer the perfect solution to your Facility Rental needs.
Convenient Landmark Location, Beautiful Ocean side Surroundings,
Indoor or Outdoor Accomodations with Ocean and Island Views.

Ventura County Fairgrounds and Event Center

- Convenient Landmark Location
- Beautifully Landscaped Grounds
- Indoor & Outdoor Accomodations
- Amazing Island Views
- Complete Event Services
- Catering for Every Occassion
- Public or Private Events
- Personalized Packaging and Pricing

Call (805) 648-3376 x112 now for an onsite tour of our Facilities. www.VenturaCountyFair.org

www.ExitRealtyByTheSea.com

1020 South Seaward Avenue, Ventura, CA
The corner of Pierpont and Seaward

BUSINESS FOR SALE

WATERFRONT RESTAURANT

11000 SQ FT - \$998,000.

EXIT REALTY BY THE SEA
805-656-8000

Come to a

Medical Marijuana Seminar

Discover if its Health Benefits are Right for You.
Safe & Legal Access

Cannabis Lecture Seminar

Tuesday, May 13th
7:00pm to 8:30pm

Thursday, May 29th
at VMFW Hall, 3801 Market St.
Ventura, Ca 93003
7:00pm to 8:30pm

Healing in America Holistic Center
107 West Aliso Street, Ojai

Next Seminar is on Tuesday June 10th

Limited Seating-RSVP, Please call 805-640-6464
or email : info@shangrilacarecooperative.org

Caregivers and Medical Service
Providers Welcome

- Secure access to holistic and organic alternatives to traditional medicine.
- Safety testing and usage alternatives for the most effective relief.
- Relief from Chronic Pain, Depression, Glaucoma, Nausea, Insomnia, Immune System Disorders, Crohn's Disease, I.B.S., Interstitial Cystitis and more...

Shangri La Care Cooperative Inc.
"Members Giving Members a Caring Hand"
A Not-For-Profit Organization
www.ShangriLaCareCooperative.org

Strictly compliant with CA Prop 215, Senate Bill 420, and Heath and Safety Code 11362-5 (B) (1) (A) & 11362.7 (H)



Join us at **MOTION BY THE OCEAN**

WALK/RUN

SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2014

San Buenaventura State Beach

1/5/10K Courses • 1K Kids Walk
Individual Prizes • Family Friendly

Sponsored By

GRAY WHALE SPONSOR
 ZestNet, Inc.

DOLPHIN SPONSORS
 Cliff Bar Mountains 2 Beach Marathon & Half
 Vendurance Sports

SALMON SPONSORS
 Humana, Inc.

Kaiser Permanente
 William & Elise Kearney
 Medtronic
 Primary Medical Group

STINGRAY SPONSORS
 Assisted Home Care & Hospice
 Brightstar Care
 California Cardiovascular & Thoracic Surgeons
 Estela & Pat Diesfeld, MD

Jano Graphics
 Jordan & Sandra Laby
 Limoneira
 Livingston Memorial VNA
 MediTech Health Services
 Ocean Orthopedics
 Irene M. Santo
 Sheeler Moving & Storage
 Ventura Breeze

RACE DAY REGISTRATION AVAILABLE



**COMMUNITY MEMORIAL
 HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION**
 501 (c)(3) organization

**For more information call 805/667-2881
 or visit motionbytheocean.org**

Sunday, May 11, 2014 is
Mothers Day!

Give mom the day OFF from cooking and clean-up and bring her to the Vagabond to enjoy any of these home-cooked meals:

- Roast Turkey** with ALL the trimmings,
- Roast Pork** with cornbread dressing and applesauce,
- Roast Beef** with Au-Jus and choice of potato, Baked Ham with fruit sauce and yams,
- Grilled Halibut** with tarter sauce and cole slaw
- Golden Brown Fried Chicken half** with choice of potato.

Each served with soup or salad, whipped or baked potato and choice of Vagabond's own special dinner dessert, made in our kitchen by Chef Christopher!!



One of Ventura County's most long-lasting privately owned restaurants!

Established 1966!



Vagabond
COFFEE SHOP and RESTAURANT
 760 E. Thompson Boulevard, Ventura, California
 (805)643-1390
 Open Daily 6am to 9pm

2014 MAY FESTIVAL WEEK

VENTURA MUSIC FESTIVAL
 NUVI MEHTA, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Celebratory 20th Anniversary Season

Festivo!

- TEA AND TRUMPETS** Friday, May 2 at 3 pm
 Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Road
- IGUDESMAN & JOO: A LITTLE NIGHTMARE MUSIC** Friday, May 2 at 8 pm
 Community Presbyterian Church, 1555 Poli Street
- LYNN HARRELL, CELLO** Saturday, May 3 at 8 pm
 Ventura High School Theatre, 2 Catalina Street
- AN EVENING WITH JUDY COLLINS** Sunday, May 4 at 7 pm
 Ventura High School Theatre, 2 Catalina Street
- CANTUS** Tuesday, May 6 at 7:30 pm
 Ventura Missionary Church, 500 High Point Drive
- RISING STARS** Thursday, May 8 at 7:30 pm
 First United Methodist Church, 1338 E. Santa Clara Street
- STANISLAV KHRISTENKO** Gold Medalist, Cleveland International Piano Competition
Friday, May 9 at 8 pm
 Ventura Missionary Church, 500 High Point Drive
- TEA AND TRUMPETS** Saturday, May 10 at 3 pm
 Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Road
- PRESERVATION HALL JAZZ BAND** Saturday, May 10 at 8 pm
 Majestic Ventura Theater, 26 S. Chestnut Street

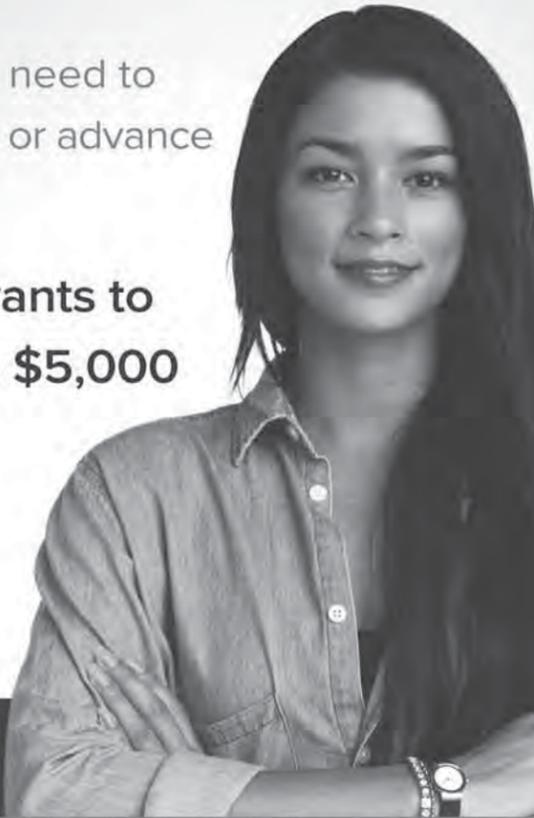
Order now for best seats! 805.648.3146 or
VENTURAMUSICFESTIVAL.ORG



SBBCollege | scholarships

Get the help you need to
earn your degree or advance
your career.

**SBBCollege wants to
give you up to \$5,000
for college**



**But you have
to act now!**

Visit the **Ventura Campus** or www.sbbcollege.edu

SBBCollege
— VENTURA —

For complete scholarship rules please see the SBBCollege catalog. SBBCollege offers financial aid to those who qualify.

Apply for Ventura City volunteer positions

Residents of Ventura are encouraged to apply for volunteer City Council Advisory Board, Commission or Committee positions that advise the City Council on issues related to arts, development, transportation and other specialized areas. The semi-annual recruitment process is now open and applications are available online at www.cityofventura.net/involved/advisory or from the City Clerk's Office. The application deadline is 5:30pm on Monday, May 12.

Qualified applicants will undergo interviews with the City Council Appointments Recommendation Committee in

May and June. The recommended appointees will be considered by the City Council and confirmed in June. Volunteers must be willing to serve two to four-year terms; some positions require special qualifications.

Applications are being accepted for vacancies on the following Council Advisory Groups:

Cultural Affairs Commission
Design Review Committee
Downtown Parking Advisory Committee
Historic Preservation Committee
Housing Authority Board
Library Advisory Commission
Mobile Home Rent Review Board
Parks and Recreation Commission
Public Art Commission
Ventura Port District Board of Commissioners

Applications may be submitted by e-mail to cityclerk@cityofventura.net, by fax to the City Clerk's Office at 641-1046, by mail to the City Clerk's Office P.O. Box 99, Ventura, CA 93002, or hand-delivered to the City Clerk's Office at City Hall. For



The new "Coffee with the Mayor" event meets at locations throughout the city. The meeting, on the Westside at Django's Coffee House, held on Saturday, April 19 was well attended by approximately 50 involved Venturans. Assisting the Mayor answer questions (she can't know everything) was Kelly Flanners Ventura Senior Management Analyst. Questions ranged from housing to the homeless. In the next issue will be the Mayor's response to many of the questions asked.

City News

more information call the City Clerk's Office at 658-4787.

Also the Ventura Social Services Task Force, which is dedicated to ending homelessness in the city of Ventura, is accepting applications for the 2014 Granting Program.

The grant program is specifically designed to support organizations that implement activities associated with the Updated 10-Year Strategy to End Homelessness in Ventura County (VCHHC.org). The grant application and eligibility requirements are available online at www.vsstf.org.

Applications are due May 15, at 3:00 pm at the VSSTF box at the UU Church of Ventura, 5654 Ralston. Questions about the granting program may be addressed to Peter Brown, Community Services Manager, 658-4707 or pbrown@cityofventura.net.

Union Pacific arrives at meeting

Continued from page 1

Pacific Railroad, these areas had popped up on their radar as locations that were highly hazardous. Translation? A large volume of people crossing over on their way to and from the beach.

For Mark Mahoney, UPRR's manager of public projects, the placement of these fences was no accident. "The reason why these locations were chosen is data," said Mahoney. "We saw this as an area of opportunity. We analyzed it and decided that with very minimal fence we could solve a very large area of safety concern."

Asked if the railroad had informed the city or the neighborhood about the new fencing, the answer was no. After all, the fencing was on their property and, as Mahoney admitted, they had never been asked to file any kind of conditional use permit for new fencing. "We have never had a permit at any of our fencing projects anywhere in the state anywhere in our system. We haven't pulled any permits throughout the entire western part of the United States."

What UPRR didn't count on was twofold. First, the residents of midtown openly complained to the council and the city and, in some cases, residents even took matters into their own hands by cutting holes in the fences. Second, the city of Ventura began to fine UPRR for noncompliance with the city's 6-foot limit on fence height (approximately \$18,000) and requested that the railroad file for a variance in the allowed fence height and a coastal development permit to allow for discussion of the neighborhood's coastal access needs.

It took more than two years of back and forth between the city and the railroad, but the first step toward addressing the neighborhood's concerns happened on April 10, when midtown residents and members of UPRR met for the first time at Grace Church to discuss their differences. If the first meeting was any indication of the path to come, it could be a bumpy road.

According to David Ward, planning manager for the city of Ventura, the city has finally convinced the railroad to cooperate with them. "We have an administrative process for granting a height variance," he said. He also added that the UPRR has "paid their fines for the fence variance and applied for the proper permits."

Large donation by Friends of the Library

Continued from page 1

able to have events, purchase supplies and buy books! The money truly serves the community and we are so thankful for everything our Friends do for us."

Funds raised each year are used to underwrite library programming and to purchase materials for each library.

The additional money raised has been deposited with the Ventura County Community Foundation's San Buenaventura Friends of the Library Capital Improvement Fund for future capital projects.

The San Buenaventura Friends of the Library are actively seeking new members and volunteers. To join or volunteer to help, please visit sanbuenaventurafriendsofthelibrary.org or email info@sbfol.org

Joan Farber, animal welfare activist

Continued from page 1

committed to "no kill"...and maybe her work in that regard was finished." Diane Rowley.

"A true hero to the countless numbers of animals she saved." Linda Parks

This is only a smattering of the responses received after the notice of her passing was sent to the rescue community. She downplayed her accomplishments, never thinking it was enough. There is, hopefully, left behind a sustainable shelter that will take the lives of the animals into account when they add up their budget and the other bureaucratic necessities.

She is survived by a daughter, Susan Farber, of Santa Barbara

Ventura Yacht Club volunteers

Continued from page 1

Harbor as a recreational harbor for the many boaters who call Ventura Harbor home and frequently visit the Channel Islands.

Don Mills, his son Dave and four other volunteers - Paul Swanson, Sandy Swanson, Dave Chase and Anne Fitzgerald, all members of the Ventura Yacht Club at Ventura Harbor, volunteered their time to redesign and refurbish the floating dock. The refurbished dock is expected to be ready for use before Memorial Day, Menard said.

The National Park Service bought the equipment for the work and Mills engineered improvements to the dock's original design to improve it, including using wider planks and tie rods across the dock to increase its strength.

Westpark Community Center

Continued from page 1

provides a variety of safe, educational and affordable youth programs and services, such as: homework and tutoring; recreation enrichment; sports; classes and special events. Westpark specializes in teaching Westside youth about the importance of self-esteem, leadership, good character, responsibility and respect. Visit www.cityofventura.net/westpark for more information.

Altrusa International Inc. is a volunteer service organization of professionals dedicated to making communities better through leadership, partnership and service, with a focus on literacy, HIV/AIDS and disaster relief. Last year, Altrusans proudly gave over a million volunteer hours around the world, with chapters or clubs in the United States, Puerto Rico, Canada, England, Bermuda, Ireland, India, Scotland, New Zealand and Russia. The organization's local chapter has been serving Ventura County for 62 years.

"Altrusa means leadership and service in action," said Mayor Cheryl Heitmann. "We are very grateful for Altrusans supporting our city's Westside Community Center and its youth."

Also speaking was brave fourth grader Manuel Gama (On the right of the Mayor).

VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

Member, Ventura Chamber of Commerce
Member, Ojai 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.

PUBLISHER

Sheldon (Governor) Brown
publisher@venturabreeze.com

Assistant to the PUBLISHER

Ana Baker

PET EDITOR

Professor Scamp

scampclub@venturabreeze.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Tim Pompey • Rebecca Wicks

Carol Leish • Karlene Lang

Veronica Johnson • James Spencer

Shirley Lorraine • Sheli Ellsworth

Emily Thiroux • Andrea Gibb

Eric Garnier • Danielle Peak

Pam Baumgardner • Elizabeth Rodeno

Bianca Rose Martinez

Richard Lieberman • Es Cole

Mira Reverente • Elizabeth Alvarez

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

John Ferritto • Bernie Goldstein

Richard Lieberman

INTERNS

Gina Randazzo – Ventura High School

Alex Torres – Brooks Institute

SOCIAL MEDIA

Justin Shelton

DISTRIBUTION

Jaime Baker • Fred Kastel

Mary Thompson

SENIOR ADVISOR

Suz Montgomery

ADVERTISING ADVISORS

Staci Brown • Breezy Gledhill

Elizabeth Alvarez

PRODUCTION

Alfred J. Lewis/studioNothing
alfred@studioanything.com

PRINTING

American Foothill Publishing Co.

REACHING US:

EVENTS & HAPPENINGS

events@venturabreeze.com

OPINIONS

opinions@venturabreeze.com

ARTICLES AND PHOTOS

editor@venturabreeze.com

ADVERTISING

advertising@venturabreeze.com

Ventura Breeze

1575 Spinnaker Drive, 105B, Box 393

Ventura, CA 93001

Phone/Fax 805.653.0791



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

We encourage you to send your opinions to opinions@venturabreeze.com. Please limit them to about 300 words.

Dear Editor,

Are you prepared for a 37% water/sewer rate increase over the next four years? That's what the Ventura Water Department wants the City Council to

Opinion/Editorial



Sheldon (Governor) Brown
Publisher

■ Shante Chappell, the Oxnard driver who hit and killed Chris Prewitt, has pleaded guilty to felony vehicular manslaughter while being under the influence of drugs or alcohol. She is out on bail and will be sentenced by County Superior Court Judge Ryan Wright on June 27. The district attorney is asking for a sentence of six years.

I am glad that she has pleaded guilty so that the Prewitt family will not have to go through a drawn-out and emotional trial.

■ In a previous column, I expressed my concerns about e-cigarettes and one of our readers (see opinions) took umbrage with my comments. It turned out that I am not the only one concerned with e-cigarettes being a gateway drug for young people to start smoking (chocolate flavored e-cigarettes for instance; what's next, bubble gum flavor?). The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) plans to begin regulating electronic cigarettes the same as tobacco. Restricting sales to minors and requiring manufacturers to provide health warnings on the nicotine delivery devices.

We have come too far in our fight against smoking to see it all go up in smoke.

■ The oil industry is doing their usual summer nonsense by blaming refinery problems for the surge in gas prices that are soaring in California. They always have a good excuse for raising prices during the busy summer driving season. So at the end of this quarter, Exxon Mobil, will announce their record breaking profit. What a surprise.

■ Twelve years ago, the city agreed to build a pool on the west-side on land donated by Ventura Unified School District. They both agreed that the city would pay for the construction of the facility. The city now wishes to change the memorandum of understanding stating that the district build and maintain the pool with financial help

from the city.

Hopefully the project can be reduced in scope so that it is affordable for both of the parties. The current plans call for two pools and an overly designed facility.

The city has decided that it no longer has the money to build and maintain the pool, which they probably never had to begin with.

Even though it is true that the west-side doesn't have a pool - as far as I know much of Ventura doesn't have a local community pool. Perhaps a temporary solution would be a bus from the west-side that goes directly to the glorious Ventura Aquatic Center at 901 S. Kimball Road.

■ According to Ventura police chief Ken Corney, Ventura, once again, led Ventura County in per capita violent and property crimes in 2013. Many are calls regarding mental illness and gang activity. A large percentage of our homeless suffer from mental illness and this accounts for a high percentage of these calls, with approximately 20% related to this population.

But let's face it, if someone is going to be homeless what better place than Ventura with our amazing weather and ocean? How many homeless people get to have nice ocean views when sleeping outside?

A lot of the increase in crimes comes from thefts from unlocked vehicles and homes. This could be greatly reduced if people stop leaving valuable property in sight in their cars and their home doors unlocked.

Chief Corney was hoping that the council could provide money for new police hiring in the 2014-2015 budget, which did not happen as the city tries to overcome its on-going budget deficit.

Pursuant to this deficit, councilmembers recently held a budget workshop to take a closer look at grants and subsidies that might be available to the city.

Among the things that the city looked at are the charges to the nonprofits that are located in the building right

behind City Hall. Rents are below current market values, but I think that the lower rents are desirable because many of the companies grow and relocate to bigger quarters here. This adds to our tax base and the increased rents would have very little impact on our deficit.

The other thing I think the city should look at are our two 18-hole golf courses. They make too little profit to help repay large loans that the city took out in 2004 for upgrades. The city's annual subsidy is approximately \$400,000, and this will continue all the way until 2028.

Perhaps the courses could be sold to private companies that own and run golf courses. They could pay off the loans and worry about upkeep.

■ I did not realize that the Navy owns San Miguel Island until they recently suspended public visits due to safety concerns. The National Park service is proposing expanding areas of the island that would be accessible for public visits and overnight camping, and the Navy wants to make sure that the island is safe for more visitors. The islands are managed by the Park Service.

The Channel Islands is one of our great treasures. I think it would be nice if they were made more accessible for overnight camping and had newly built facilities to accommodate spending more time on the islands.

■ Regarding the proposed Ventura Botanical Gardens, proposals call a Welcome Center scheduled to be opened around 2019 with a tram carrying visitors to the Gardens around 2040. So, walking on the new trails will be what is available for the next several years. I might not get to ride the tram, but hopefully I'll get to visit the Welcome Center.

This will be a long term project. There will be many obstacles to overcome, including finding a new home for the shooting range that is located there now, and potential impact on the cross area in Grant Park. And, of course, parking for the many visitors that are expected once the changes are completed will need to be addressed.

Mailbox

approve at a Public Hearing on Monday, May 5, 2014.

This is the same Ventura Water Department that was recently fined \$603,000 by the State of California for illegally discharging contaminated wastewater!

Ventura residents do not have to accept this outrageous rate increase! Pursuant to Proposition 218, passed by California voters in 1996, the City Council cannot adopt a proposed rate increase if a majority of water utility customers object to it.

But in order for a rate increase protest to be counted, it must be made in writing, signed and snail-mailed or hand-delivered to City Hall. Signed protests that are emailed or faxed will not be considered valid, even though electronic signatures are considered legitimate per California law.

Why is this? Well, back in February 2012, the City Council approved Resolution 2012-017 disallowing emailed or faxed rate protests and stating that oral comments at the Public Hearing will not be counted, unless accompanied by a written protest. Nor will a written protest be counted if it isn't received prior to the close of the Public Hearing, regardless of

whether it has a timely postmark.

The idea, it seems, is to make it inconvenient for residents to exercise their right to protest the rate increases. They probably figure we'll just not bother and go away.

Further discouraging public input, the Notice of Public Hearing about the rate increases implies that a rate protest form, which is available on the City's website and at the City Clerk's office, must be used for submitting a protest. In fact, that is not the case. Any written rate protest is acceptable as long as it includes a statement that you protest the proposed increase(s), the name of the owner or water customer, the street address or utility account number of the property, and an original signature and legibly printed name.

If you're unhappy with these proposed water rate increases, make your objections known to the Ventura City Council in writing before May 5, 2014. Mail your comments to PO Box 99, Ventura 93002, or hand-deliver to the

City Clerk's Office at City Hall, 501 Poli Street, Ventura.

Sincerely,
Ursula Britton
Ventura, 93003

Sir-

Prompted by the "offensive" E-Cigarette experience you and your wife endured while aboard an Island Packers whale watching boat, I read with bored interest your opinion of E-Cigarettes.

Opinionated seems more appropriate. Your "journalistic" declamation was incorrect, uninformed and biased. I venture a guess that you were never a cigarette smoker, thus, anything, perhaps even a lollipop, draws your disdain.

After cigarette smoking for 70 of my 80 years, two years ago I switched to E-Cigarettes and have yet to look back. Among other favorable results, a spirometer test indicated that my lung capacity had almost doubled. There are

Continued on page 15

You can never cross the ocean until you have the courage to lose sight of the shore.

– Christopher Columbus



SAVE MONEY & THE PLANET!

Complete Asset Liquidation

- Retail • Hotels • Apartments
- Free Drop Off 7 days a week
- We will pick up and recycle your old appliances



Helping to keep the Earth Green

Monday - Saturday 8:30 - 5:30 Sunday 8:30 - 4:30

11175 Nardo St., Ventura 805-671-9394

marsventura.com



Dr. Ron Magnusson is back in Ventura!



Joining him is Jessica Estrada, Licensed Hearing Aid Dispenser. Come see them for all your audiology and hearing aid needs!

Excellent Audiology and Hearing Aids

3418 Loma Vista Rd., Ste 5A, Ventura, CA 93003

805.620.0049

The Ventura Music Festival is getting close!

Here is the events listing for this year's season, "Festivo!"

Friday, May 2 at 3 pm – Tea & Trumpets: Enjoy a four-course English Tea and a program of festive music from across the seasons, specially designed by the Festival Brass Quintet for the Ventura Music Festival's celebratory 20th anniversary. Perfect for a Mother's Day treat! Poinsettia Pavilion.

Friday, May 2 at 8 pm – Igudesman & Joo: A Little Nightmare Music. Join for a hysterical evening of musical sketches blending the best of high and pop culture with classically trained pianist Hyung-Ki Joo and violinist Aleksey Igudesman. Community Presbyterian Church, 1555 Poli Street.

Saturday, May 3 at 8 pm – Renowned American cellist Lynn Harrell will perform works of Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Prokofiev and Schubert with piano accompaniment by Victor Asuncion. Ventura High School Auditorium.

Sunday, May 4 at 7 pm – Join for an evening with Judy Collins to celebrate the life and music of a legend. The iconic folksinger/guitarist will be accompanied by Russell Walden, piano. Ventura High School Auditorium.

Tuesday, May 6 at 7:30 pm – Nine-member, a cappella group Cantus, the premier men's vocal ensemble in the United States, will perform "A Place for Us," a celebration of our unique national identity told through song and story. The evening will feature traditional folk songs and spirituals as well as music by Bernstein, Dvorak and Jean Sibelius.

Ventura Missionary Church, 500 High Point Drive.

Thursday, May 8 at 7:30 pm – Rising Stars, artists TBA. Teenaged, classical musicians from Southern California make their professional debut with the Ventura Music Festival. First United Methodist Church, 1338 East Santa Clara Street.

Friday, May 9 at 8 pm – Ukrainian sensation Stanislav Khristenko, Gold Medalist of the 2013 Cleveland International Piano Competition, solo piano, makes his Ventura debut. Gramophone raves, "This performance is electric." Ventura Missionary Church, 500 High Point Drive.

Saturday, May 10 at 3 pm – Tea & Trumpets: Enjoy a four-course English Tea and a program of festive music from across the seasons, specially designed by the Festival Brass Quintet for the Ventura Music Festival's celebratory 20th anniversary. Perfect for a Mother's Day treat! Poinsettia Pavilion.

Saturday, May 10 at 8 pm – Preservation Hall Jazz Band will put on a great show for the entire family! Dixieland, New Orleans' oldest jazz tradition, meets high octane horns. Majestic Ventura Theatre.

Event to benefit Friends of Channel Coast State Parks

Coming to San Buenaventura State Beach, on Saturday, May 3 will be the Ventura Beach Festival Benefitting Friends of Channel Coast State Parks (FCCSP), it will feature live music with

Community Events

a heavy local presence, food and drink, vendors and displays related to outdoor pursuits, such as surfing, skating, kayaking, and camping, and family-friendly activities. The event celebrates "what makes California a fun place in which to live and play."

Local favorites Dirty Rice and Rey Fresco, Spencer the Gardener and Barley Legal, the Surfaris, and Martha Davis and the Motels will be providing the live entertainment.

FCCSP is the nonprofit organization that partners with the California State Parks in Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties to support park programs and projects. The organization, which has provided educational opportunities for millions of park visitors since its founding, is celebrating its 30th anniversary and the 150th anniversary of the California State Parks system this year.

Kat Merrick, Founder of Totally Local VC, is organizing the event. "Events like these are important to our local economy and community on several levels," said Merrick.

Tickets for the event can be purchased at www.VenturaBeachFestival.com. There are discounted rates for kids 7-12; kids under 7 are free.

mative session by local expert Cheryl Lambing.

May 10: Ventura County Weavers & Spinners Guild. 2-4 p.m. Experts will give a presentation on the wonderful world of weaving. Learn the history of fiber arts followed by a demonstration of spinning and weaving.

May 12: Ukulele Jam Session. 7-10 p.m. Free and open to anyone!

May 14: Author Talks Jeff Maulhardt. 6-7 p.m. Local author stops by the library to discuss his works.

May 20: Pysanka Egg Art. 6-7:30 p.m. Learn an ancient art form that not only tests eye hand coordination, reverse thinking, and imagination, but also incorporates using signifying symbols of color and design styles to create a gift of beauty. All materials provided.

May 31: Saturday Matinee. 4-6 p.m. View a cartoon short from Max Fleischer and a movie about a young man's quest to rescue his beloved princess from an evil magician, with special effects from the legendary Ray Harryhausen. Open to all ages.

Call the library at 648-2716 for more information about these free events.

Ventura events

by Ana Baker

Would you like to meet new friends? Whatever the reason, **Ventura's Conversation Group** is the right place for you. This eclectic group meets **Wednesdays** from 4p.m. to 6p.m. at 420 E. Santa Clara Street. No topic is off limits as long as you aren't boring.

PFLAG (Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians and Gays) provides support, education, and advocacy to the families and allies of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community. PFLAG's goal is to strengthen families and help them through the often difficult adjustment when a member comes-out as gay or transgender. PFLAG meets the **4th Tuesday of every month** at 7p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura, 5654 Ralston St. Free to the community. Please spread the word. Contact Gary Zinik, 650-3327, pflag.ventura.ca@gmail.com

Beginners are welcome on all **Audubon field trips.** Light drizzle does not necessarily cancel trips, but heavier rain will. If in doubt, please call the trip leader.

Saturday, May 3, 9 a.m. Hedrick Ranch Nature Area. Leader: Sandy Hedrick, 340-0478. A special day of birding at the ranch!

Sunday, May 4, 8 a.m. Wheeler Gorge Campground. Leaders: Kay Regester, 258-1025, and Mary Hansen. Join on a special joint bird walk with Conejo Valley Audubon Society. Abundant insects and running water in Wheeler Gorge make for some excellent birding in this scenic area.

Tuesday, May 6, 8:30 a.m. Foster Park & Ventura River Walk. Leader: Adele Fergusson, 415-4304. Meet inside the entrance to the park and bird in the park and some of the Ventura Hillside Conservancy land to the south.

Saturday, May 10, 8:30 a.m. Ojai Meadow Preserve. Leader Allen Bertke, 640-9037. The Preserve is a birder's paradise, with restored, native plants, natural wetlands, cattail marshes and plenty of birds Meet at the entrance sign.

Saturday, May 24, 8:30 a.m. Arroyo Verde Park. Leader Needed. Arroyo Verde park is a fantastic place to view spring

Join the pink movement and make a difference

The American Cancer Society Making Strides Against Breast Cancer has partnered with Discovery Ventura to bring the Pink Soiree Party to our community!

Join in for an evening full of fun, pink and purpose on Wednesday, May 14 at 6pm at Discovery Ventura, 1888 E. Thompson Blvd.

Come enjoy appetizers and beverages and learn how you can get involved with the Making Strides Walk: form a team, volunteer, become a sponsor!

RSVP by May 1 to makingstrides2014@gmail.com The 2014 Making Strides Against Breast Cancer committee is going beyond the impossible and is committed to doubling the amount of funds raised and number of event participants compared to the 2013 event. As fearless community leaders, the committee is looking forward to bringing the pink movement to Ventura County to make a difference and save lives!

To join the pink movement, please RSVP to makingstrides2014@gmail.com. For more information, visit www.MakingStridesWalk.org/Ventura.

Foster Library just keeps getting better

May 3: Friends of the Library book club! 10-noon - This month's read: *The Passage of Power* by Robert Caro.

May 5: Fit to a T. 5-7:30 Fit to a T bone health and osteoporosis education program, for men and women of all ages. Learn about your T-score in this infor-



Community Events

birds, such as Hooded and Bullock's Orioles, Western Tanager, and nesting hummingbirds.

Saturday, May 31, 8:30 a.m. Beginners' Bird Walk, Canada Larga Road. Leader: Allen Bertke, 640-9037. Meet near the beginning of the road off Hwy 33. We will carpool from that location as we walk and drive this long county road.

Dance to live music **every Monday** from 7:30p.m. to 9:45p.m. at the Poinsettia Pavilion, located at 3451 Foothill with the **Ventura Poinsettia Dance Club**. All ages, all dances, all are welcome, single, couples and mixers. Members \$8.00, non-members \$10.00, membership only costs \$12.00. Call Ron 290-5414 or Dondra 682-9567 for more information.

May 4: Community Memorial Healthcare Foundation's Motion by the Ocean, a 1K/5K/10K event to benefit the new Community Memorial Hospital will be held in Ventura at San Buenaventura State Beach on San Pedro Street, just off East Harbor Boulevard. Registration begins at 6:30a.m., 5K at 8a.m. and 10K at 9:15a.m. There are 1K Fun Runs for Kids and Adults. All races are timed and awards will be given based on age group. This event is open to all abilities and all ages, with an emphasis on health and families. Register at www.motionbytheocean.org or call 667-2881. Walk up registrants are also welcome the day of the event.

May 4: Citizens for Peaceful Resolutions are holding their Monthly Meeting *Inspiring Youth...Inspired by Youth*. The meetings highlight will discuss Ventura County young people and what inspires them and how they can inspire us. Location will be at E.P. Foster Library's Topping Room on Sunday from 3p.m. to 5p.m. Admission is free.

May 4: An August 9, 1948 broadcast of *Quiet Please* and 1926-29 recordings of Ted Weems and his orchestra will be featured in the Dudley House historic recording series during the **Dudley House open house**. The house will be open from 1p.m. to 4p.m. with the flea market and collectibles faire starting at 9a.m.

May 5: The Ventura County Chess Club meets at 7p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church, 6190 Telephone Rd. across from the government center. Casual play, instruction and rated games weekly. For more information visit vcchess.com.

May 5, 19: The Ventura County Philatelic Society will have Stamp trading and camaraderie. Event will be held on Mondays from 7:30pm to 9:30pm at the Church of the Foothills, 6279 Foothill Road. Admission and parking are free. Come for a great evening. Contact: vcpsforyou@lycos.com or 320-1601

May 6: Mended Hearts of Ventura Group meets the first Tuesday each month from 7p.m. to 9p.m. at the Community Memorial Hospital on the 8th floor. Come share if you have had heart surgery or stent implant. They have excellent speakers, leading cardiologists, nutritionists, dietitians, etc. from our area who give excellent information. Contact: Richard Hatcher 644-2733

May 7: The Beach Cities Neighbors and Newcomers Club, (BCNN) is a group of active women of all ages who live in Ventura, Oxnard, or Port Hueneme and enjoy activities such as hiking, bridge, dining, wine outings, reading, mah jong, cooking etc. Meeting from 9:30 a.m. to 11a.m. Guest Speaker: Debbie Licht, RN, MICN, P.D.L.N and Pre Hospital Care Coordinator from Los Robles Hospital. Meeting will be held at

the Ventura Museum Pavilion located at 100 E. Main Street. No charge for meeting and no reservation is required.

May 10: The Ventura Beginners Personal Computer Users Group will meet Saturday, in the third floor lounge of the Cypress Place Active Senior Living building, 1220 Cypress Place, from 9:15a.m. to noon for workshop and featured speaker. The workshop topic will focus on organizing computer records. The 11a.m. program will be Suebob Davis speaking on Photo Editing using PicMonkey. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions about computer problems for beginners and intermediates. Everyone who would like to know more about their computer is welcome to attend any or all sessions. For more information, call 648-1368.

May 9: The General George S. Patton, Jr. Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution May luncheon meeting will feature the program *Serendipitous Genealogy and the Bulkeley Family*, presented by Robert Taylor. The luncheon event will take place Friday at 11:30 a.m., in the Garden Room at Marie Callender's Restaurant, All SAR & DAR Compatriots, friends, and visitors are welcome to join us. The self-pay luncheon cost is \$20 per person, and includes a slice of Marie Callender's pie. For additional information or for assistance in determining your possible Revolutionary War genealogical roots, please call Bill Bays 650-3036 or Robert Taylor 216-7992.

May 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 25: Elite Theatre Company brings you *Peaches en Regalia*, Saturdays at 2p.m., Sundays at 7p.m. Tickets are \$20 general admission and \$18 for seniors, students and military with I.D. Steve Lyons' comedy is about four people whose lives intersect at Doug's Diner, where a peach dish, the politics of the men's room, time management, and a very special pair of panties all play a part in determining their fate. For reservations or more information please visit www.elitetheatre.org, or call 483-5118. The Elite Theatre Company 2731 S. Victoria Avenue, Oxnard.

May 10: Gull Wings Children's Museum is excited to announce that they will be hosting an event, Toy Extravaganza, in collaboration with Casa Pacifica. This event will be both educational and fun for every visitor. Toy Extravaganza will give children the chance to learn about how toys are created from two amazing toy inventors and creators, and most importantly it will give children the chance to donate a toy for a child in need. Children under 2: free, children (2-18): \$5, adults: \$6 and seniors (over 65) \$5. Gull Wing's Children's Museum 418 W. 4th St. Oxnard, CA 93030. More information call 483-3005.

May 14: The Ventura County Camera Club will hold a critique meeting on Wednesday, at 7p.m. located at the Poinsettia Pavilion. A professional photographer from the area will critique members' prints and digital images. Each month a special topic is chosen which features some interesting aspect of photography. May will feature the topic Botanic. Ann Hutton will be the judge for May. Anyone with an interest in photography is welcome and admission is free. See the club's web site for more information about the club and examples of member's work or call 642-9504. WWW. VenturaCountyCameraClub.com.

May 14: The Ventura Farmers' Market held on Wednesday mornings will welcome the Community Memorial Health System to help educate the

HELP US Stamp out Hunger!

Put your food donation out in the morning of **Saturday, May 10th** and your letter-carrier will pick it up!

For more information call **(805) 983-7100** or visit www.foodshare.com

Items FOOD Share has a great need for:
 Non-perishable protein-rich foods such as canned tuna, chicken and meats, fruits and vegetables, spaghetti, rice, dry beans, macaroni & cheese, peanut butter, jelly (in plastic), fruit juices (canned, plastic bottles & boxes).

Thanks to our partners:

public on the risk factors and symptoms associated with strokes. The event is held in conjunction with Stroke Awareness Month. Representatives from Community Memorial Health System will be on hand during normal Market hours to provide information on the risk factors, signs, symptoms and emergency treatment for strokes. In addition, the staff will also offer free blood pressure screenings, since high blood pressure is one of the risk factors linked to strokes. The Ventura Market is held at the Pacific View Mall, Front West Parking Lot on Main Street from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Ojai events

by **Veronica Johnson**

A cast of singers, dancers and strong speaking characters are needed for

Richard Rodger's favorite musical, *Carousel*, for a run at the **Ojai Art Center Theater** during the summer. Auditions will be held at the theater, 113 S. Montgomery St., from 6-8 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, **May 7, 8 and 9**. The production, directed by Tracey Williams Sutton, will run from **July 11 to Aug. 10**.

Key singing roles include: Billy Bigelow, a carousel barker (strong baritone) and aged up to 40; his love interest Julie Jordan (soprano range); Julie's best friend Carrie (alto/soprano) and Carrie's husband Enoch Snow (tenor). Also Julie's cousin Nettie (mezzo range), and a rough sailor named Jigger (baritone). The Ojai ACT website is www.OjaiACT.org and for questions, contact Producer Herb Hemming, at 640 5814 or email at hremming@yahoo.com.

The **15th Annual Ojai Storytelling Festival** presents a variety of our
Continued on page 11

NEED CASH FAST?

FAST & SUPER EASY

California Car Title Loans
 Bad or No Credit - OK

2474 E. Main St., Ventura
 (from 101 fwy, exit Main or Seaward)

UCTL UNITED CAR TITLE LOANS

Instant Approvals Call Us Now!

805.500.8332

California Loans made pursuant to the Department of Corporations CA Finance Lenders License #603L101, GSA Business Loans, LLC. Approval depends on meeting underwriting terms and conditions, legal and regulatory requirements. All products and services are subject to change without notice.





Cut A Thon!!

Sunday May 4th 12pm - 5pm

Cancer has affected the lives of so many people we know and love!
We are donating **ALL** proceeds from services on this day to **Relay for Life** taking place at Nordoff High School May 31st 'til June 1st, to help make a difference.

Please come out and support this great cause that is working **SO** hard to make a large impact to cure cancer!!

Woman's haircut ONLY \$25 - w/blow-dry \$35!
Men's haircut \$15! Men's face shave \$15!
Kid's haircut ONLY \$15! Shampoo & blow-dry \$25!
Eyebrow Wax \$15! Lip Wax \$8!
Chair Massage \$1.00 a minute!! WOW!!

418 E. Main St.
- Downtown Ventura -

643.2171

www.cibarasalon.com

Hours
 Tuesday – Saturday 9a to 9p Sunday – Monday 10a to 6p

News and Notes

CAPS Chat

City Council and BMX

by Elizabeth Rodeno

CAPS went out in the field to a City Council meeting held on the east end of Ventura at the Elks Lodge. Our new mobile truck with our skilled team of volunteers and staff caught the City Council in action. This event provided a different experience for all involved as the meeting moved out of Council Chambers into the community. We hope to see you at the next one. Until then, watch channel 15 for live coverage of many city meeting as well as the rebroadcast of the City Council meeting Saturdays at 10am and 7pm.

We are back with our new course in conjunction with the Ventura Makerspace, make! and EP Foster Library. Check the schedule for our Tuesday classes where you can learn how to make a movie.

We are thrilled to be covering the Seaside Nationals with Ventura BMX and USABMX May 2-4. CAPS will stream the event live to thousands of BMX fans across the country as well as broadcasting it live on CAPS channel 6 to the local community. This race is one of the most important races for BMX. Some of the best riders will come to race on one of the best tracks on the west coast. Ventura BMX has hosted racers from around the country from 2 year olds to Olympians.

We have wrapped up our grant funded Digital Storytelling program with great success. Our latest program is in progress at Montalvo Elementary. Do you want to host a program for your organization, for adults and kids alike? Contact us for more information. Don't forget the dates and application forms are posted on our website.

We could not operate CAPS without the support of the community and our members. To see what we have to offer, stop by our studios and check us out on the web at www.capstv.org to learn about what Councilmember Christy Weir calls Ventura's "Best Kept Secret."

Marathon to provide \$20,000 to VEP

Clif Bar Mountains2Beach Marathon has committed \$20,000 to Ventura Education Partnership Ventura Education

Partnership (VEP).

Marathon and Half Marathon has committed a minimum of \$20,000 to VEP in support of the free healthy living community event, Summerfest. The funds, along with funds raised through Summerfest, will help to support healthy Ventura Unified School District activities such as, nutrition and exercise programs.

"We are pleased to be able to reinforce healthy and active lifestyles through this donation, especially with our local youth," stated Ben DeWitt, Mountains2Beach Race Director. "I'm hopeful that we'll be able to donate even more than we did last year." In 2013, Mountains2Beach Marathon donated \$20,000 to VEP-supported,

Mountains2Beach organizers also decided this year to host the new, "Inside Track Beachfront 5k" with 100% of the net proceeds going directly to VEP. "In the past, Summerfest hosted a 5k but this year we decided to make it a 3,000 meter race, which is the distance run by elementary age cross country runners," commented Ed Wehan, Summerfest Race Director. "When Ben heard of our decision, he quickly jumped on board to host the 5k during the marathon the weekend before and offered to donate the entry fees back to VEP in the name of Summerfest."

The full donation to VEP will be determined after the final tallies are in from the Mountains2Beach Marathon and Half Marathon, which takes place on Sunday, May 25.

The mission of the Ventura Education Partnership (VEP), a community based, non-profit, non-political association, is to support and enrich education in the Ventura Unified School District through community partnerships.

PRC announces new tennis positions

The Pierpont Racquet Club is proud to announce the exciting news regarding their tennis department!

Brad McClain will be their new "Tennis Programs Director".

Tracie Currie is the new "Assoc. Tennis Programs Director".

And a special welcome to the new "Tennis Professional" Brian Giffin.

You can meet the new team on Sunday May 4th, 1:30 - 2:30pm following the Tennis Across America Event taking place from Noon to 1:30pm.



At the annual Owl Festival, held at the Olivias Adobe, Caroline, age 4, James, age 2 and mother Elizabeth enjoyed the free family event that had something for everyone. Except for the owls who hadn't arrived yet. Photo by John Ferritto.

You're Invited!

Join us for
Tennis Across America
 Sunday May 4th from
 noon to 1:30pm at the
Pierpont Racquet Club!
 Activities for ALL ages!
 Cardio Tennis; Quik
 Start for Kids and fun
 games! Pre-Register
 NOW by calling
805-648-5161




Get Active America!
May 5th to 9th! OPEN HOUSE -
 Come enjoy the Club all week
 long for FREE! Become a member
 that week and receive 50%
 OFF the Membership Join FEE!
(Some Restrictions Apply. Must be 18 or older to qualify) 500 Sanjon Rd. Ventura, Ca 93001





On April 9, the Ventura Commerce and Education Foundation (VCEF) named Jean Branstetter, first-grade teacher at Portola Elementary in Ventura, April's Teacher of the Month.

In addition to the many curriculum-based workshops she's attended during her 30 years of teaching, Jean has served as a Teacher in Charge, grade-level representative, Saturday-school lead, PTA member and as a volunteer at Family Literacy Night and Adventure Portola Day.

"Mrs. Branstetter is my most-requested teacher, and the best I've ever seen at the first-grade level," says Robert Ruiz, principal of Portola Elementary.



Senior Living

Pull Out Section



Sergeant Brian Hewlett, Officer Jacob Fowler, and K-9 Amigo, wowed the crowd at a past fundraiser at Cypress Place.

Fiesta Day Fundraiser for police K-9 units

Join Cypress Place Senior Living for a Fiesta Day celebration and fundraiser to benefit the National Police Dog Foundation. This foundation raises funds to support K-9 programs for various law enforcement agencies across America, including the Ventura Police and Sheriff's K-9 units.

Bring your children to sit in a real police car and watch a K-9 demonstration with several police dogs and their handlers from the Ventura Police Department and the Ventura Sheriff's Department. The dogs and their trainers will demonstrate how they work together as a team to carry out their duties. Attendees will have the opportunity to meet the canines

up close and personal and have their questions answered by the handlers.

The festive event takes place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 17, at Cypress Place Senior Living, 1200 Cypress Point Lane in Ventura.

"Last year, we raised over \$3000 to support local K-9 units," said Steve Spira, executive director of Cypress Place. "We hope to raise even more this year, and encourage everyone to come out and enjoy this wonderful event."

Attendees will enjoy a gourmet Mexican buffet, including homemade tamales, rice and beans, and homemade tortilla chips. And if you dare, enter the Jalapeno eating

Continued on page 10

PLEASE JOIN CYPRESS PLACE SENIOR LIVING FOR A



FIESTA DAY CELEBRATION

**Saturday, May 17, 2014
11:00am – 2:00pm**



It's Fiesta Time! Come to our hacienda for delicious food, drinks, beautiful dancers and mariachi's!

Suggested Donation for Lunch: \$10
Kids 12 & Under: \$5
All proceeds go to The National Police Dog Foundation

**RSVP by May 16, 2014
to (805) 650-8000**

FREE SHUTTLE PARKING!



Help Cypress Place Senior Living raise funds for the National Police Dog Foundation that is committed to raising funds and awareness in support of Police K9 units across America. Come support Ventura.

CYPRESS PLACE SENIOR LIVING

1200 Cypress Point Lane • Ventura CA 93003 • (805) 650-8000
www.cypressplaceseniorliving.com • Lic# 565801008

106-year-old honored as California Salute to Senior Service Winner

A 106-year-old local Santa Barbara woman has been honored as the California winner of the Home Instead Senior Care® network's Salute to Senior Service® award.

Edythe Kirchmaier is being recognized for her dedicated community service, including more than 40 years of work at Direct Relief, a humanitarian medical aid organization. After retiring from her career as a social worker in the 1970s, she

and her husband served two 18-month terms in Taiwan for the organization. Her husband passed away shortly before her 100th birthday, but she continues to be a strong advocate for Direct Relief's work, including supporting safe births for moms in need around the worked and disaster response efforts.

Kirchmaier dedicated her 105th year to raising awareness for Direct Relief. "Edythe's 105th Birthday Challenge" succeeded in its goal of getting 105,000 Facebook fans for the organization.

As one of 50 state winners, Kirchmaier earned \$500 for her charity of choice (It is rumored that she used it to buy a motorcycle) donated by Home Instead, Inc. Kirchmaier also will have a spot on the Salute to Senior Service Wall of Fame on SalutetoSeniorService.com where her nomination story has been posted.

Continued on page 11



Coastal View Healthcare Center
Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation

We provide personalized care for each unique individual.

Coastal View provides the highest quality nursing and rehabilitation services to our residents.

We Accept Most Insurances
Medicare | PPO | Private Pay | HMO | VA | Medi-cal | Gold Coast

Walk-In Tours & Visitors Welcome

Schedule a Tour Today

805-642-4101
Fax: 805-642-0156
4904 Telegraph Rd., Ventura, CA 93003

Senior Living



One in three older patients takes at least five drugs or more per day.

Companies need to develop therapies for age-related diseases

New opportunities exist for companies to develop therapies for age-related diseases, says GBI Research. Development of age-appropriate formulations and doses for elderly patients could enable smarter prescription of approved drugs.

Despite the elderly being the fastest-growing segment of the global population, only a few of their treatments have been clinically trialed in age-appropriate patients, with many of their therapies still not available in suitable formulations and dosages, says business intelligence provider GBI Research.

According to the company's latest report*, many older people suffer from comorbid conditions and one in three takes at least five drugs or more on a daily basis. This significantly increases the risk of adverse drug events and hospitalization, with up to one third of elderly emergency admissions being drug-related.

GBI Research states that off-label prescriptions are common for older patients, as pre-marketing drug trials often exclude geriatric patients and approved doses are not likely to be appropriate for the elderly.

Antipsychotic medications, for

example, are regularly prescribed off-label in up to 80% of care-home patients, to manage delirium, agitation and psychosis resulting from Alzheimer's disease and schizophrenia. However, these drugs have been associated with an increased risk of diabetes, cerebrovascular events and death, according to the report.

In 2010, the International Conference on Harmonisation (ICH) updated its E7 guidelines, which determined that the number of older patients should be representative of the study population and not limited to 100 patients, as previously indicated. Additionally, ICH E7 recommended that people aged 75 years and older should be incorporated in clinical trials, including those with comorbidities using concomitant therapies.

GBI Research believes that the development of age-appropriate formulations and doses could allow for smarter prescriptions of approved drugs, such as anti-coagulants, anti-diabetic agents, antipsychotics and analgesics in older people. Additionally, new opportunities exist for companies to develop medicines for age-related diseases, including cognitive impairment, sarcopenia and neurodegenerative diseases.

TERK. Lanny. Doozy? Are they a law firm?

by Lori Harasta

Chair, Healthy Living for Individuals 55+.

(To learn more about local health and exercise resources visit www.healthyventuracounty.org, or visit us on Facebook)

TERK. Lanny. Doozy. No, they're not characters in an upcoming Disney movie (or a law firm). They're what Don Metz has put together to save lives.

As a child in elementary school during WWII, Don took emergency drills seriously. Teachers would march kids outside during a fire drill and instruct them to wait quietly for the signal to return to the classroom. "In what way is this preparing us in case of a fire?" Don wondered. "It's not right."

Eventually, Don would find a way to prepare for crises. As a Marine, he defended our country from USSR bombings during the Cold War as a radar specialist. He oversaw the flight-readiness of six B-52s, assuring they were "right" for take-off from North Dakota, through Canada, to Soviet airspace, on command.

He later became a sought-after electronics and computer expert, providing his expertise in problem-solving primarily to government military contractors.

In recent years, Metz observed a lack of disaster preparedness among senior adults, and to "make it right", he developed his Tactical Emergency Response Kits (TERKs). Metz "specializes in the first five seconds to five hours" of survival, the time before "first responders" get there. According to Metz, "YOU are the first responder. You must be able to take care of yourself, so you can care for those who depend on you, and so that you don't become a burden on someone else."

Lanny. It's the primary module in the TERK, to be worn 24-7. It's a mini LED flashlight and your car key on a 36" handmade lanyard. Metz says to wear it around the neck so that "the only way you can lose it is if you get decapitated, and then you won't need it anymore because your eyes won't work."

Doozy. This is an upgraded Lanny, with a medium LED flashlight and whistle. Metz suggests you make multiples, including a Cruizy Doozy for the car.

Five Alive is a Doozy with work gloves, eye protection, and a bandana, which can be stuffed into a freezer

ziplock bag and kept in your purse or car glove box.

The car is where you should keep your Old Kit Bag, a wheeled backpack that includes medications, water, a radio, toilet paper, and duct tape, among other things.

Don Metz is an affable chap who engages anyone around with one-liners that they either get, or not. His passion about life and emergency preparedness is hard to ignore. Encounters are made more memorable with his use of props, with which are always at the ready.

When asked about the greatest threat to seniors, without hesitation, he spoke one word: "Apathy." Not being prepared. Someone else will do it. As a Marine, he was taught to be self-reliant. That is what his mission is about. That and saving lives.

If you would like Mr. Metz to speak to your group, please call Marion at the Ventura Council on Aging 648-3035.

Bone Builders 2014 Schedule—Ventura 385-8019. Classes are free! Tues/Thurs: 7:45-8:45, Barranca Vista Center 7050 E. Ralston St. 9-10:15; B. 10:30-11:30. Ventura Avenue Adult Center, 550 N. Ventura Ave. 9:30-10:30 Veteran's Home 10900 Telephone Rd.

Fiesta Day Fundraiser for K-9

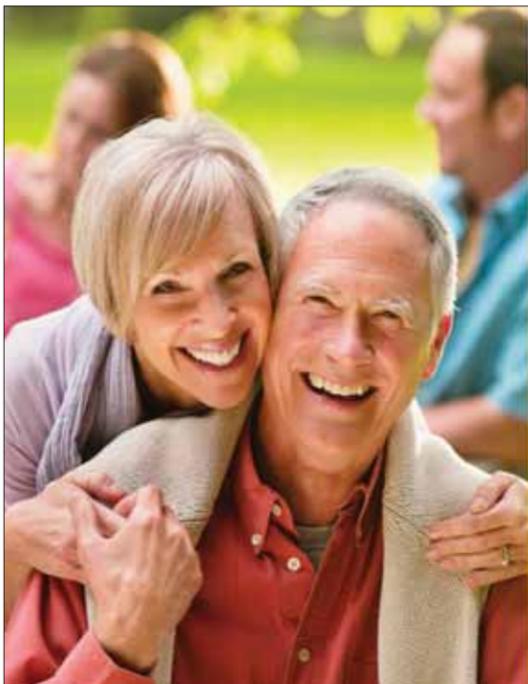
Continued from page 9

contest - only for the brave of heart (or stomach).

This year's event will include free shuttle parking at Ventura Baptist Church, 5415 Ralston (corner of Ralston Street and Saratoga Avenue).

Residents, families, and friends of the community are welcome to attend. Suggested \$10 donation for lunch. Kids 12 and under \$5. All proceeds will benefit the National Police Dog Foundation. Come support a wonderful cause that benefits our local community.

For more information or to RSVP, please call 650-8000. To learn more about the National Police Dog Foundation, visit their web site at www.nationalpolicedogfoundation.org.



VICTORIA CARE

Blending time-honored therapies and innovative programs with an obsessive focus on excellent customer service and clinical outcomes

SKILLED NURSING

Serving the needs of Ventura County for more than two decades, Victoria Care Center has been rated by *U.S. News and World Report* one of the best long-term care facilities in America. In addition, Victoria has been awarded the highest 5 Star rating by CMS for clinical excellence while caring for some of the highest acuity needs in a post-acute setting.

www.VictoriaCareCenter.com

POST-ACUTE REHAB CENTER

The rehab process is challenging both physically and mentally. The PARC helps people recover from surgery, illness or injury and return home as quickly and safely as possible. It is the most sophisticated facility of its kind in Ventura County and regularly achieves excellent patient results while working with all of the major insurance companies including Kaiser.

www.ThePARCatVictoria.com

FRIENDS OF VICTORIA

Friends of Victoria helps therapy graduates maintain their strength, balance and agility once they get back home. Free membership includes a wide range of benefits such as periodic no-cost screenings for strength and balance while our "check-up and tune-up" outpatient therapy program helps members live safely at home and enjoy the activities that they love. *Join today.*

www.FriendsOfVictoria.org

805-642-1736

5445 Everglades Street • Ventura, CA 93003

Senior Living



Christopher Christensen, Chief Executive Officer of The Ensign Group with Ken Olivares, Martha Bishop, Robin Michael, Ana Monzon, Mary Boland, Frank Martinez, Debra Reeder and Brent Short at award ceremony. Photo by Michael Gordon.

The Lexington wins Ensign Flag for second year

The Lexington celebrated winning the Ensign Flag on Thursday, April 17 for the second year in a row. The flag is awarded to an Ensign facility based on overall excellence and is flown in front of the building for a full year. In addition to exceeding high financial goals, the Lexington was able to maintain an occupancy rate of 95% or higher. The staff also wins a financial bonus and the bonus is put back into the Lexington wherever the staff decides.

The Ensign Group Inc. purchased the

Lexington in March 2011 and its independent operating subsidiaries provide a broad spectrum of skilled nursing and assisted living services, physical, occupational and speech therapies, home health and hospice services, urgent care services and other rehabilitative and healthcare services at 119 facilities, seven hospice companies, nine home health businesses and five urgent care clinics in California, Arizona, Texas, Washington, Utah, Idaho, Colorado, Nevada, Iowa, Nebraska and Oregon.

Remember: Green tea, coffee and exercise

by Matilda Charles

It might be possible to enhance your cognitive functions and your muscles at the same time. All you'll need is a thermos of green tea or coffee to carry with you to the gym.

Swiss researchers have discovered that green-tea extract helps working memory, and they have the results to prove it. For the study, they had male volunteers drink a soft drink that had green-tea extract in it, and then do memory tasks. What they discovered in MRIs taken afterward is that the tea extract caused "increased connectivity between the parietal and the frontal cortex of the brain." The results of the memory tasks improved as well.

If green tea isn't a drink you enjoy, try coffee in your thermos. Researchers at Johns Hopkins discovered that caffeine is a memory enhancer, too, and works for at least a whole day, 24 hours. In the lab, researchers provided placebos or actual caffeine tablets (equal to a cup or two of coffee) before having participants review images. A day later they were tested on their memory of images, some of which they'd seen the day before. Researchers found a "deeper level" of memory retention than in previous studies where the caffeine was given first and were therefore able to call the caffeine a memory enhancer.

Add in exercise, and you have an additional way to keep your brain healthy. Researchers studied women between the ages of 70 and 80 and learned that aerobic exercise increased the size of the brain in the hippocampus, the area involving memory and learning, or at the very least, the exercise

slowed any shrinking of that area. (c) 2014 King Features Synd., Inc

Ojai events

Continued from page 7

nation's finest professional storytellers **May 1-4** in the Libbey Bowl and Ojai Art Center. This year's festival features acclaimed tellers Patrick Ball, Niall de Burca, Lyn Ford, Gene Tagaban, Laura Simms, Barbara McBride Smith, and Izzi Tooinisky and special guests, the Story Pirates, Cindy Kalmenson and Alan Thornhill. The festival offers storytelling performances and workshops for adults, families, and students. For more information or tickets, call 646-8907 or visit the storytelling festival online at www.ojaistoryfest.org.

On Sun., **May 4** the **Ojai Film Society** will screen the Chilean film *Gloria*, a memorable drama about a 50-something office worker who reaches out with exuberance for life and love. Ojai Playhouse, 4:30 pm.

On Sun., **May 11** the **Ojai Film Society** will screen *Sweet Dreams*, a documentary about an all-woman Rwandan drumming group who opens an ice cream shop to generate funds, publicize their events and raise awareness about their genocide survivors support group. Ojai Playhouse, 4:30 pm.

This year, although there will not be a poster contest, lavender themed art will be displayed and sold in the **Ojai Lavender Festival Arts Pavilion** in Libbey Park, the Festival is **June 28**, 10am – 5pm. This will be a juried show for a very popular event. Submission: Sunday, June 15 and Monday, June 16 4-6 PM. OVA Gallery, 108 N. Signal, Ojai Artists will be notified of acceptance or not by Tuesday, June 17. Participating pieces will be displayed at OVA Gallery until June 28th and there will be a gala art reception on Friday, June 20th at OVA from 6-8 PM. If you have further questions contact Patty Van Dyke at



Welcome to a community where caring hearts & friendly smiles await you;

WELCOME HOME!

Your private apartment includes numerous amenities, all for one low monthly rate!

- Three delicious chef-prepared meals daily • Full time RN, LVN and LVN Charge Nurses
- All utilities except phone, including basic cable TV • Recreational activities and outings
- Weekly housekeeping and linen service • Scheduled transportation • Fitness programs
- Medication Assistant and caring Resident Assistants on duty and available day and night

Personal services may include, but are not limited to:

- Medication management including diabetic care • Health monitoring
- Assistance with activities of daily living such as bathing and dressing
- Communicating with physicians, and much more

No leases or buy-in fees ever!

The Palms At Bonaventure
Assisted Living & Memory Care

111 North Wells Road, Ventura, CA 93004

Call now to arrange a complimentary meal and personal tour! 805-647-0616

© 2012 HRG

pattyvandyke11@gmail.com or Nancy Horwick at nhorwick@sbcglobal.net. Or visit www.ojaivalleylavenderfestival.org

It was 75 years ago the **Ojai Art Center** first opened its doors. Today eight different branches operate out of the original building, offering theatre, music, art, dance, literature, film, photography and youth activities. Each of these branches has planned a special event to celebrate 75 years. The exhibit will be up from **May 10 to June 1**. The public is invited to come and view the art during this time but "sales" will not occur until the gala reception on Sunday, **June 1**. In order to purchase a preferred piece, the buyer must buy a ticket during the month. Price of the ticket is a mere \$75.00 which means that you can own a fabulous piece of art by one of Ojai's best artists. Tickets may be purchased at the Art Center from May 10 to May 30. The art will be displayed from May 10 to May 30. Reception is Sunday, June 1, 1-4 p.m. and will include food and beverages. For more information, call 646-0117.

Holly Gene Leffler will present costumes from her new book *Recreating Biblical Clothing* At the Ojai Library; 111 E. Ojai Ave. Her book is for the re-enactor of Biblical characters, for the costumer aspiring to provide authentic clothing and for anyone interested in bringing the Bible alive. Holley Gene's costumes have appeared in live re-enactments, such as Christmas and Easter plays. Her website, www.HolleyGene.com, contains photos of many of her re-creations.

The Ventura County Council of the Boy Scouts of America would like to extend an invitation for you to come and take part in the Council's **annual Camporee** taking place on **May 3** at

Camp Willett in Ojai. This annual event will involve over 450 Boy Scouts and adult leaders as Boy Scout patrols from throughout the county compete against each other in contests of skills and physical ability. Once again, adult organizers have been working behind the scenes for months to make this year's Camporee even more successful than last year. Stay for the afternoon Dutch Oven competition where both Scouts and Adults vie for the favor (or is it flavor?) of the judging panel.

Opening ceremonies begin at 8:30am and events begin at 9am. Lunch ends at 1pm. Events continue until 3pm.

106-year-old honored

Continued from page 9

"Edythe represents so well the dedication and commitment that make senior volunteers such a value to their communities," said Jeff Huber, president of Home Instead, Inc. "She has proven once again that age is meaningless when it comes to making a difference. So many charities, nonprofit organizations and faith communities could not do the work they are doing without selfless volunteers such as Edythe."

"It's important for seniors to remain active and engaged as they age," Huber said. "However, it is possible for frail or isolated seniors to give back to their communities as well. The Salute to Senior Service program includes free "give back" activity resource sheets with ideas to help seniors who are home-bound or have limited mobility continue to contribute to their communities through volunteerism."

For more information about the Home Instead Senior Care network's Salute to Senior Service program or to download the "give back" resource sheets, visit SalutetoSeniorService.com.

Ventura Executive Suites

**Work Better,
Live Better**

LOCATION

Located in Downtown Ventura. Convenient access to the 101 Freeway. Walking distance to bistros & shops. Across the street from the Post Office.

SERVICES

- Phone and Internet
- Mail distribution
- Fully stocked kitchen
- Daily Janitorial
- Gym and shower room
- 24/7 Tenant access

CONTACT

Ventura Executive Suites
701 East Santa Clara Street
Ventura, CA 93001
Phone: 805.653.2381
Fax: 805.653.0439



Ventura Executive Suites feature full-service, flexible office spaces in a professional and prestigious setting designed specifically for the needs of growing businesses. Our single story building has everything you need to succeed.

Virtual Office Options Available



Religion

our belief is non-judgment, acceptance and love, and I really want to emphasize that we embrace and celebrate all paths to God. Our hope is provide light and peace for all who attend our Church.

“And,” she smiled, “I have to say, we are a bit of an unconventional group. For example, my dog – we call him The Reverend Bob – occasionally sends out a newsletter, though he rarely attends a service.”

“The community is wonderful,” said Chester Jagiello, “My friends and some business associates now attend Unity of Ventura – I have found myself discussing sports, then food, and then metaphysics all in one conversation with a friend at Unity – sometimes I get so involved with my discussions, I miss out on the cookies after the service.”

Current special events and classes include the following: Picnic at Camp Arnaz, May 18 beginning at 12:30; ongoing class “A Course in Miracles”, Tuesdays, 6:30 to 8:30; and a special class “Unity History and Basic Unity Teachings” led by Reverend Cathy Norman and Reverend Beth Ann Suggs, May 28 and June 4. Classes are held at Unity of Ventura offices, 740 E. Main Street.

Services are held each Sunday, 10 am, at The Rubicon Theatre 1006 E. Main St. Find out more at by calling 653.1059 or visit www.UnityofVentura.org.

American Stroke Association, approximately 795,000 people experience a new or recurrent stroke each year, and 87 percent of these are ischemic strokes.

Treatment may be available if you get to the emergency room immediately upon recognition of stroke symptoms. Leading a healthy lifestyle, including lowering risk factors like high blood pressure and weight, can also help reduce your stroke risk.

Find out if you are at risk of a stroke by attending a free Mini Stroke Screening the first Fridays each month, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., by appointment only. For stroke survivors, family and caregivers a Stroke Support Group meets the second Wednesdays each month, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Call CMHS’s HealthAware office 667-2818 or visit cmhshealth.org/myhealth for more information about strokes.

Community Memorial Health System is pleased to announce it has recently earned the CNOR® Strong designation from the Competency & Credentialing Institute (CCI). The CNOR Strong designation is given to facilities having at least 50 percent of its OR nursing staff CNOR certified, and provides programs that reward and recognize its certified nurses. This is the first year CCI has awarded this elite status to facilities nationwide.

The CNOR® certification program is for perioperative nurses interested in improving and validating their knowledge and skills, and providing the highest quality care to their patients. Certification also recognizes a nurse’s commitment to professional development. It is an objective, measurable way of acknowledging the achievement of specialty knowledge beyond basic nursing preparation and RN licensure.

Health

CMHS helping the community in many ways

May is National Stroke Awareness Month. Community Memorial Health System encourages the community to better understand the risk factors and symptoms of stroke, a leading cause of death and serious long-term disability in the United States.

“Time is crucial in the treatment of stroke, as on average, every 40 seconds someone in the United States has a stroke and roughly every four minutes someone dies from a stroke,” said Stephanie Lara-Jenkins, RN, Stroke Coordinator at CMH. “The earlier a stroke is recognized and the patient receives medical attention, the greater chance of recovery.”

Strokes occur when a blood vessel carrying oxygen and vital nutrients to the brain is either blocked by a clot or ruptures. When this occurs, part of the brain is deprived of blood and oxygen, destroying millions of valuable nerve cells within minutes.

“If you suspect a stroke, remember the word FAST – F-A-S-T,” said Lara-Jenkins. “F is for face – is your face drooping? A is for arms – can you lift both arms? S is for speech – are you slurring your words and T is for time, call 9-1-1 immediately because with stroke, time is brain.”

Stroke is a leading cause of death and serious, long-term disability in the United States. According to the

Bereavement support groups

Livingston Hospice conducts several adult bereavement support groups to help those who have experienced a loss. Explore and express feeling, understand the grief process and receive emotional support. Open to the public, no cost, all are welcome; the groups are held at:

The First Presbyterian Church, 850 Ivywood Drive, Oxnard; Every Wednesday, (May 7, 14, 21,28); from 3:00 – 4:30 pm

Livingston Memorial VNA, 1996 Eastman Ave (#112), Ventura; Every Wednesday, (May 7, 14, 21,28); from 6:30 – 8:00

Help of Ojai, 370 Baldwin Road, Ojai; On 2nd & 4th Tuesday, (13 & 27); from 10:30 am – 12 noon

For the newly bereaved: at Livingston Memorial VNA, 1996 Eastman Ave, (#112), Ventura; second Thursday, (May 15); from 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Call 642-1608 for more information.



Reverend Cathy and her “best friend” welcome you to their church.

What attracts a person to one church over another?

Through a highly unscientific survey, a few members of one local church, Unity Church of Ventura – answered that question.

“I was going through a rough time – when I picked up a newspaper and saw an ad for Unity of Ventura with Reverend Cathy and her dog, I thought, “This group must be worth trying out, if they like dogs.” And, boy was I right – the place was welcoming, and the people are warm.”

“When I met Reverend Cathy through a group of our mutual friends I wanted to hear her sermons – and her stories touched me – almost a decade later, they still do.”

“Unity of Ventura offers world-class teaching and study opportunities,” said Board Member, JoAnna Priest. “Both Reverend Cathy and Reverend Beth Ann are talented and committed leaders. You will find ongoing education, support, and special events that include service, learning, socializing, fun, and most often, all of these together.”

Kat Knecht added, “Unity of Ventura is not dogmatic, not judgmental – rather this is a place to spend time with other people who are applying the principals of the Church in a daily manner, to their own lives.” Rob Dixon agreed, “I immediately felt comfortable – shortly after joining, I offered a cooking class as a fund-raiser for the Church and we all had a great time. The people are open and creative.”

“Our focus at Unity of Ventura is to express a positive and practical approach to life,” Reverend Cathy Norman shared. “I welcome every new person to our community as a friend – the foundation of



CHURCH OF VENTURA
Reverend Cathy Norman, Minister

If you are inspired by: Eckhart Tolle, Deepak Chopra, Abraham/Hicks, Wayne Dyer or A Course in Miracles, Unity of Ventura just might be perfect for you!

NOW STARRING AT THE RUBICON!
Services at 10:00 am every Sunday at the Rubicon Theater 1006 E. Main St.

A Tender Touch Senior Placement

“Guiding your loved one to a brighter tomorrow”

A FREE service in guiding your loved one to the appropriate senior living. How it works:

1. A Senior Care Advisor will conduct an assessment of capabilities.
2. Your Senior Care Advisor will discuss the different options with you.
3. At your request, your Senior Care Advisor will check to ensure all is going well.

Your cost is FREE since fees are paid by the community of your choice.

Call now for your assessment and guidance

Connie De La Rosa, Senior Care Advisor (805) 200-7756

Vinyl Fences, Gates, Patio Covers & Decks



Patio Cover, Railing and Stairs



Block The Wind, Maximize The View



Available In Many Colors

Vinyl Concepts

- Manufactured in Ventura County
- Owned and Operated by Local Family
- We do NOT use Subcontractors
- Free In-Home Consultations/Estimates
- Material Sales – Do-It-Yourselfers Welcome

**No More
Termites, Painting
or Dry-rot!**

Stop By Our New Showroom Across From Ventura High School

Ventura Showroom
2126 East Main Street
805.667.2084



Newbury Park Factory
1270 Rancho Conejo Blvd.
805.499.8154

\$150 OFF
any job \$1750 or more



805.667.2084
2126 E. Main St.
Ventura, CA 93001

Cannot combine with other offers. Must present at estimate. Expires: 5/13/14

\$550 OFF
any job \$6000 or more



805.667.2084
2126 E. Main St.
Ventura, CA 93001

Cannot combine with other offers. Must present at estimate. Expires: 5/13/14

Youth



Soccer instruction was just one of many great, and healthy activities that the kids enjoyed at the YMCA. Photo by Michael Gordon.

YMCA Healthy Kid's Day a great success

The Ventura Family YMCA's annual Healthy Kid's Day has grown steadily over the years and Saturday, April 26th, the completely free, and open to the community event was no exception.

Taking place on the grounds of the Ventura Family YMCA, 3760 Telegraph, Healthy Kid's Day featured a host of different activities for kids of all ages including appearances from professional athletes with local roots, supporting the Y's mission of making sure all kids have the opportunity to be healthy and fit.

Those in attendance included: Current and former NFL players who grew up and attended school in Ventura County for a football "fun clinic" and autograph session.

Ventura High School and Buena

High School baseball coaches and players.

Members of Ventura County's only professional sports team, the VC Fusion practicing soccer drills with the kids. Current women's boxing champion, and one of the best female featherweight fighters in the world, Maureen "The Real Million Dollar Baby" Shea.

It was also an official site for Major League Baseball's Pitch, Hit & Run Competition, a national program, where boys and girls, aged 7 to 14, who were able to record their running time, pitching accuracy and hitting distance in baseball or softball.

"Healthy Kid's Day has become one of the Ventura Family YMCA's most eagerly anticipated events.



Students enjoyed their special prom with friends and family. Photo by Bruce James.

The night included dresses and tuxedos

On April 12, Mission Church sponsored their third annual A Night to Remember, a free prom for students with special needs.

There were over 200 special needs guests at the event each accompanied by a host for dinner and dancing. Mike Hickerson, Lead Pastor at Mission Church stated. "More than 600 volunteers ensured that it is indeed, a night

to remember."

The night featured dresses and tuxes, hairstyling, make up and corsages or boutonnieres. There was also a limo ride followed by a walk down a red carpet cheered on by paparazzi. There were catered hors d'oeuvres and desserts followed by an evening of dancing and fun with music provided by a live DJ.



Professor Scamp, Ph.D

(Pretty Happy Dog)



Professor Scamp
Ph.D

A couple of things about my good friends at CABODogz.

■ CABODogz, and the Ventura Breeze (and me) are pleased to announce that the Second Annual Felix 'N Fido Bring me Home Adoption Festival will be taking place after last year's wonderful event. Perhaps now it is an annual one.

We are looking for all pet vendors to sign up for booth space at this fun family day at the beautiful Ventura Harbor, main lawn on Saturday June 28. Booth space is only \$50 for a 10'x10' area to set up and show your wares.

The entire event is about adoption and rescue of our homeless pets. Last year, we had approximately 60 dogs and cats up for adoption with about 20 adoptions! This year proves to be bigger and better, with a bigger lawn space, vendors selling pet items and of course the Emceed Red Carpet Walk for all adoptees so we hope to have even more pets adopted.

The event will be well advertised and attended by pet lovers. Call Mindy at 320-3203 to reserve your spot on the lawn and for more information.

In a previous issue we had a wrong date (because the event exact date has not been set so I don't know the date came from) for CABODogz and Ventura Breeze Castaways to be held at the Bell Arts Factory. Castaways is an interactive exhibit about the plight of homeless dogs. Featured will be original portraits from the Captured on Canvas Rescue Collection by Cheryl Ann Gooss that you have seen in the Breeze, the original Felix 'n Fido Puppet Show, and information on the problems of overpopulation of pets and solutions to the problems.

And you will even get to meet me, a reason enough to attend. Have fun with paint by painting murals and listen to the stories of the Captured on Canvas Rescues. An adoption booth will be on sight.

I will let you know when this will take place.

■ Be sure to join Cypress Place Senior Living for a Fiesta Day celebration and fundraiser to benefit the National Police Dog Foundation. This foundation raises funds to support K-9 programs for various law enforcement agencies across America, including the Ventura

Police and Sheriff's K-9 units.

These are my dog heroes so go support them and have a wonderful day getting to know these dogs and watch them at work. And if you speak German you can even talk to them.

I applied to be a K9 but they told me I was too cute so wouldn't scare any crooks.

■ And speaking about amazing dogs, some German shepherds have been trained to sniff out quagga mussel infestation or more precisely, to sniff out the quagga (whatever that is). But it is bad and has been found in a local lake. I certainly hope they can find those little quaggas and they can be the eliminated before some jump on me.

■ How awful is this? Thieves broke into a house, located in England and made off with five dogs, including a Chihuahua that recently won a major prize at a dog competition. The Chihuahua had just won best puppy at the show. I hope that the dogs were able to give the thieves a few bites while they were being abducted.

■ Joining the therapy dogs at Casa Pacifica is a new black Newfoundland puppy named Otis. I hope that he is welcomed and loved by kids there. Eventually he could weigh as much as 180 pounds, like the therapy dogs that are now at Casa Pacifica. It is amazing that dogs as large as Newfoundland's are so gentle that they can be used to help the neglected and abused children that Casa Pacifica so graciously helps to lead a normal life.



CABODogz was at the annual Ventura Earth Day Eco Fest with several of their dogs that were up for adoption. Cuddling with one of them was 8-year-old Brooklyn Fitzpatrick, I hope that she got to take it home with her. Three lucky people got to take their new dogs home with them. What lucky dogs they were. Photo by John Ferritto.

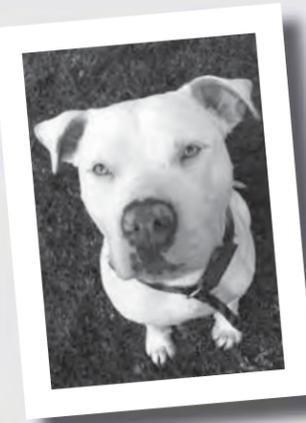


I hope that this homeless dog is being fed regularly, seems to be very fit. This wonderful photo was taken by my friend Alex Torres.

Forever homes wanted

Hi: I'm Stella a beautiful 6-year-old German shepherd mix. I was rescued from Animal Regulation and I'm eagerly awaiting my forever home. I'm an active dog who is good with older children and I am house and crate trained. I'm protective of my people and like to be in charge so I need a knowledgeable/experienced owner, additional training and would do best in an adult only home. I need a home with no cats please (I spoke with Scamp about this to see how that works out).

I know the basics, come when called, sit and stay on command and walk well on a leash. Stop by and meet me, I may be the addition to your family that you've been looking for. Minimum 6 foot fence required because I can really jump. If you are interested in fostering call the Adoption Center at 644-PETS(7387).



Hi: I'm Max, a very handsome boy with a contagious smile and eyes like crystals. I'm extremely connected with people, and looking for anything I can do to please you. I know some basic commands such as sit, come, and down. I'm excited to get out of my kennel at first, but calm down nicely. I'm very easy going and would make a wonderful addition to any home! Visit me at the Camarillo Adoption Center, 600 Aviation Dr. and ask for A591590 (AKA Max).

Hi: I'm Kelly, a diva who loves my coat brushed so that I can look beautiful all of the time. I have a very friendly purrsonality and like to have kitty chats with people, but maybe not with any dogs (Sorry Scamp, dogs just don't have anything to say). I am about 5, playful, litter box trained, and ready to bring love into your home! I qualify for the senior discount, so am only \$60 to adopt. Do you think this sensational kitty can fit into your life? Save a life today by visiting her at Ventura County Animal Services' Camarillo Adoption Center. Ask for Kelly, Animal ID# A592712.



Hi: My name is Hershel and I am a tiny Chihuahua looking for my forever home. I was rescued by CABODOGZ from the Ventura County Animal Shelter. I am about 6-7 years old, and I'm still very playful. I love squeaky toys and chew toys! I am very sweet and loove people and other lil dogs. Come see me at Ventura Highway Luxury Boarding for Dogs 4692 Ventura Ave. or call 643-3647.

Scamp Club

(Scampclub pets are not for adoption.)

"Whoa, slow down". Scooter the tortoise is around ten years old and he weighs just under 70 pounds. He doesn't exactly run around but instead he has two speeds, very slow and motionless.



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. You will be in the Breeze and become world famous.

Police Reports

by Veronica Johnson

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

Assault with Deadly Weapon

On Wednesday, April 16th, at 8:26 a.m., the VPD received a call from Jennifer Bolton, reporting that she and Jerry Hooper had just been burned by a suspect who threw "fire" on them. The suspect was last seen fleeing the area on a bicycle towards the fairgrounds.

Both of the victims had been inside of a tent in an encampment along the 101 freeway when the suspect threw hot coals from a nearby campfire onto the tent. The coals burned through the tent and landed on the victims. Both of the victims sustained moderate burns to their back and arms. After being treated by VC Fire personnel, they were transported to VCMC for treatment of non-life threatening injuries.

On the following Monday, at 1:36 p.m., a K-9 officer observed Ned Barron riding a bicycle in the area of Laurel Street and Thompson Boulevard. The officer was aware Barron was wanted in connection with this previous crime and attempted to stop him. Barron fled on the bicycle and after a brief pursuit, he was taken into custody after the police K-9 was deployed. Barron was transported to VCMC for treatment of non-life threatening injuries related to the dog bite. After being treated, he was booked into the VC Jail.

Recovered Stolen Vehicle

On Tuesday, April 22nd, at 7:23 a.m., a patrol officer was driving on Johnson Drive, when he observed a vehicle he recognized as being reported stolen yesterday in Ventura, pulling into the parking lot of Motel 6, in the 3075 block. The two occupants, including the driver identified as Marcus Wright, were safely ordered out of the vehicle and detained.

During the search of the vehicle, officers located narcotics, drug paraphernalia and a knife and club, which were illegal to possess. Wright was arrested and booked into VC Jail. The female passenger in the vehicle was detained and later released without being arrested.

The vehicle was impounded and will later be returned to the victim.

Harbor Patrol Blotter

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

4-8 11:14 a.m. State Lifeguards request assistance with a swimmer far offshore. Patrol responded and working with Lifeguards and a citizen on a surfboard, conducted a search for the swimmer. Located the swimmer about a mile offshore. She was not a traditional or prepared "long distance swimmer", so transported her to shore

4-12 3:30 p.m. Patrol received a report of a vessel disabled in the main channel. Patrol responded, took the vessel into tow and released it at its slip at VWM.

4-13 7:45 a.m. Patrol observed that a large amount of motor oil had leaked onto the fish offloading dock, apparently from a vehicle that was parked near the hoist. The Dockmaster identified a possible responsible party. Maintenance cleaned up the oil.

4-15 2:44 p.m. Patrol followed up on a continuing investigation of an inflatable

that was stolen off a boat last month at HV. Patrol located the inflatable at a dock in the Keys in possession of a suspected thief. Patrol issued the suspect a citation and PD arrested him for possession of stolen property.

4-16 5:40 p.m. Patrol responded to a Mayday call of a vessel that lost their prop while assisting a skiff just outside the surf line. Patrol responded, took the larger vessel into tow, while two people on a skiff held onto a line to the larger boat.

4-18 5:07 p.m. A dive boat reports a kayaker outside the Harbor is unable to get back on her kayak. Patrol responded, took the kayak and kayaker aboard, and released then at the Big Beach in the Keys.

4-20 11:40 a.m. A kayaker, who had recovered a 20-foot log in the Keys contacted Patrol. Patrol took the log out of the water and disposed of it by the Launch Ramp.

5:10 p.m. Patrol received a relay of a vessel smoking and possibly on fire thirteen miles off shore. Patrol assisted in communications with the Coast Guard. The vessel was not on fire. Patrol transported a mechanic to the vessel as it approached the Harbor. The vessel made it into its slip under its own power.

Mailbox

Continued from page 5
many others in my situation realizing similar results.

Contrary to your comment, there is no "smoke" emitted from E-Cigarettes, only a vapor of propylene glycol, or glycerin, and nicotine. Nor do they "smell as well," giving off but a faint sweet odor when used in close quarters, and nicotine is odorless. On an open whaling boat? My, you certainly have keen olfactory senses. As an aside, nicotine is not nor has it ever been listed as a carcinogen.

The American Association of Public Health Physicians (AAPHP) supports E-Cig sales to adults, "because the possibility exists to save the lives of four million of the eight million current adult

American smokers who Will otherwise die of a tobacco-related illness over the next twenty years." The level of carcinogens in E-Cigs was found to be up to 1,000 times lower than regular cigarettes. Doctors have suggested that while utilizing the electronic cigarette, there is virtually no risk of getting cancer.

These conclusions come from studies which show that nicotine is about as equally harmful to your health as caffeine, and that the real harm in traditional cigarettes comes from the tobacco smoke and the hundreds of additional added chemicals. How be your coffee intake?

Personal opinions are just that, personal. Espousing misinformation to the public is nothing short of yellow journalism.

Richard J. Quirk
Richard:

Please read my editorial in this issue if you really want to be bored again. And you must not get out much, the Island Packer boats have a totally enclosed level also which is where these kids were vaping.
Sheldon

Sheldon:
Thank you so much for helping make Paint Ventura a huge success and for joining us at the event.

We had a wonderful day and part was because of you and the Breeze.
Jen & Phylis-Red Brick Gallery

Hello,

I first want to thank you for your support this past year in publishing information on our General Meetings and

LARGE 1 TOPPING \$7.99
(PICK-UP ONLY) REGULAR PRICE \$14.95

PEPPERONI CALZONE ONLY \$5
(PICK-UP ONLY)

WE DELIVER

1700 E. Thompson, Ventura
Sun-Thurs 11am - 9:30pm
Fri & Sat 11am - 10:30pm

cordello's
PIZZA

Medium, Large or Extra Large Pizza

\$4 OFF
regular price

805.648.1070

Monday thru Thursday - Extra Large Pizza, one topping, \$10.99 or Spaghetti, \$4.95

TURN FIFTY SHADES OF JAMES FRANCIS GRAY

Kali is Your Code Name

JAMES FRANCIS GRAY

NOW in PAPERBACK!

www.kalisyourcodename.com / Facebook: KaliisYourCodeName

Paperback Copies Available At:

Gems & Glitter Boutique, 2690 Loma Vista, Ventura

James F. Gray Printing, 2261 Palma Dr. #2, Ventura

You Tube VIDEO TRAILER

Search For: Kali is Your Code Name

Field Trips for the Audubon Society. It is much appreciated and has certainly helped increase the number of people attending both.

We take the summer off with our General Meetings, but continue with field trips in May and a special summer program in June and July I will send to you next month.
Jim Susha

From previous issue:

Question: On our street, there are new solar panels. Do you know what they are for?

Answer: As part of the Gas Company's Advanced Meter system, they have data collection units which are mounted on poles and solar powered.

This issue:

Thank you Sheldon! However, I think this answer will confuse some people. I have never heard of gas smart meters? Electric, yes, but Gas?

Dave Cintron

Dave:

The Gas Company is also installing "smart meters" but, because of all the flack Edison received is being much more subtle about it.

Joint replacement

Livingston Visiting Nurse Association will hold the following Joint Replacement Class to prepare you for total knee or hip replacement surgery. Open to the public and free of charge:

1st Thursday of the Month, May 1, from 1:00 - 2:00 pm @ Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurse Association, Rm 109, 1996 Eastman Ave., Ventura, RSVP Diana Davis, 642-0239 x 739.

2nd Wednesday of the Month, May 14, from 10:00 - 11:00 am @ Pleasant Valley Hospital, 3rd floor Classroom, 2309 Antonio Avenue, Camarillo, RSVP Barrie Gilster, 797-7699.

2nd Wednesday of the Month, May 14, from 1:00 - 2:00 pm @ Thousand Oaks Library, 1401 E. Janss Rd., Thousand Oaks, RSVP Barrie Gilster, 797-7699.

3rd Wednesday of the Month, May 21, from 1:00 - 2:00 pm @ Sunrise Senior Living, Activity Room, 190 Tierra Rejada Road, Simi Valley, RSVP Barrie Gilster, 797-7699.

WE SUCK

We also saw...

\$25 OFF

vacuum or sewing service or repair.

*45 min. Exp. 5/16/14

www.VenturaVacuumRepair.com

805.643.5839 ■ 2474 E. Main St., Ventura

From 101 exit Seaward or Main St.

— Weekly SUDOKU —

Answer

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

— King Crossword —

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

Show Time



Ventura Music Scene

Music is never a Burdon

by Pam Baumgardner
VenturaRocks.com

I cannot wait to check out Eric Burdon when he comes out this way; the last time I ran into him was at a concert KXBS oldies radio station put on at State Beach back around 1992. Burdon (yes, THE Eric Burdon from The Animals and War fame) will be headlining a show at the Libbey Bowl in Ojai on May 17th and I'm hearing it's Eric's 73rd birthday so we're expecting quite the celebration. Opening the show will be the Rubberneck Lions and Dishwalla.

The Ventura Music Festival is in full swing during the month of May, and the powers that be have really outdone themselves this year with a stellar line up: May 2 it's Igudesman & Joo, a Little Nightmare Music at Community Presbyterian Church; Ventura High plays host for several shows including Lynn Harrell, Dean of American cellists on May 3; an evening with Judy Collins on May 4; and Stanislav Khristenko, 2013 Cleveland International Piano Competition Gold Medalist, on May 9. Check out www.VenturaMusicFestival.org for even more shows, ticket pricing and availability.

Depending on your mood, the Ventura Theater has some cool shows in May. If you're looking to burn off steam, punk rockers, Against Me! will be in the house on May 27, but if you're looking to dance off some energy, you won't want to miss the ever popular Reverend Horton Heat and their brand of psychobilly on the 23rd; and finally if you're feeling a little more mellow and ready for some reggae, then it's The Green for you on May 26.

Ventura Music Week is coming up! Don't even think about scheduling your vacation between June 6 and June 15th. Just some of the events to look forward to include the annual SRO benefit with the Stoneflies, Highway Starr and other bands; there's the Roadshow Revival's: a Tribute to the Music of Johnny Cash; Loudon Guitars will have a special showcase at the W Gallery with some amazing guitarists including our very own Shawn Jones; there will be a special screening of the Oscar winning documentary, *20 Feet from Stardom*; an evening of visual arts up at City Hall's Atrium, and more music than you can shake a stick at. Do check in at www.VenturaMusicWeek.com for more details as they come in.

Do you have any music related news or upcoming shows you want help publicizing? Send all information short or long to Pam@VenturaRocks.com.

Two on the Aisle

Exceptional women excel at expression

by Shirley Lorraine and Jim Spencer

The Rubicon Theatre Company always delivers a quality production. The current offering, *Love, Loss and What I Wore*, proves once again that friendship is always in fashion.

The play is a delightful outpouring of reminiscences delivered by a cadre of exceptional women. Written by the hilarious and insightful Nora Ephron, in collaboration with her sister, Delia, and superbly orchestrated by seasoned director Jenny Sullivan, the piece is presented reader's theater style – no set, no costumes; just stellar storytelling by top-notch actresses. Weaving memories with the thread of what they wore during particularly memorable times, the stories form a quilt of brilliance.

The six actresses, clad in various forms of basic black, add all the color needed through their actions and inflections. The stories come alive in such warm presentation that it is as though we are having a personal conversation with them. The stories depict struggles of mother-daughter, siblings, friendships and relationship trials, all with a caring countenance and lots of humor.

Although the show is certainly a "chick flick live on stage," men will enjoy the journey as well. Insights might even be gained as everyone laughs together over many familiar situations.

We identified with one character's philosophy of purses – purses that hold "the debris of a lifetime." We chuckled at the fashion musings surrounding boots, handmades and store-bought "must-haves" that can define us if we let them.

The 90-minute show plays without an intermission, as one would have broken the flow and the impact of the scenarios.

Because the cast changes each week, a 50% discount is offered on return visit tickets. Some of the talent scheduled for the final weeks includes Michael Learned, JoBeth Williams, Amanda McBroom and Hattie Winston. Akira Dann, a Buena High graduate, joins the veteran cast on stage April 28-May 4. Five other early career professionals from Ventura join the production both onstage and behind the scenes.

The Rubicon Theater Company is encouraging audience members to submit on social media their own memories with photos of what they wore to add to the community quilt. Send in your photos via email. Or post them on your own Facebook page or the Rubicon's Facebook page. Be sure to include the notation "#rubicon@whatIwore." Prizes will be awarded.

Love, Loss and What I Wore runs through and on Mother's Day (May 11, in case you need to write it down). A wonderful way to honor that special woman in your life would be to take part in the theater's Extraordinary Woman campaign. Levels of contributions are available that include personalized recognition and listing in the next program. Even better, bring her to the show.

Love, Loss, and What I Wore continues Wednesdays at 7 p.m. and Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. Matinees are Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays at 2 p.m. The final performance will be Sunday, May 11, Mother's Day. \$25-49, students \$20. 805-667-2900 or on line ticketing at www.rubicontheatre.org.

VFS SEASON 6

Drones

(Director Rick Rosenthal will attend)

A low-budget American indie with only a handful of characters seems an unlikely vehicle with which to express the complex issue of modern warfare, but director Rick Rosenthal's ambitious feature, *Drones*, written by Matt Witten, does just that. It begins in the Nevada desert, where new girl Sue Lawson (Eloise Mumford) joins airman Jack (Matt O'Leary) in a hot, windowless, high-tech control trailer from which they maneuver unmanned drones across the plains of Afghanis-

tan. As they train their sights on an unarmed terrorist suspect, a power struggle erupts between the smart, sophisticated Sue and the dogged, blue-collar Jack. As tensions escalate it follows the chilling concept of bloodless, remote-control warfare to a nail-biting conclusion. The VFS is proud to present *Drones* as the 7th film of their 2014 season. The VFS Screening Room is located at 420 E. Santa Clara at Oak. Advance Tickets and Memberships can be purchased at www.venturafilm.com/tickets.html. info@venturafilm.com. The Ventura Film Society – We Bring People Together In The Dark.

Divergent



Movie Review by Andrea Gibb
andregibb@hotmail.com

In this interval when all the Oscar winning and Oscar worthy movies have left the theaters, I went to see *Divergent* directed by Neil Burger, as it features the compelling young heroine, Beatrice or "Tris" (Shailene Woodley) who, I suspected, might give Jennifer Lawrence's Katniss of Hunger Games a run for her money.

Divergent, based on the novel by Veronica Roth, is set in a futuristic Chicago, where Lake Michigan is mostly dried up after a great war. To keep order, the populace is divided into five factions: Erudite for the intelligentsia, Candor for the truth-tellers, Amity for the peaceful, Dauntless for the warriors, and Abnegation for the charitable, who care for the factionless. As a rite of passage, teens take a test to determine what group they belong in, usually the same group as their family of origin. They can opt to join a different group, but there is no going back.

Ashley Judd is lovely and memorable in the role of Tris's mother. She models the self-effacing qualities of the Abnegation class, discouraging Tris from stealing a look in the mirror after a haircut, an act of vanity. She harbors a secret about her past that comes to light later on, when the factions go to war.

After taking a serum which creates hallucinatory obstacles to overcome, it emerges that Tris doesn't fit into any one faction; she's Divergent, and must keep this a secret, since Divergents, known to be free-thinking and therefore uncontrollable, are hunted down and destroyed.

To her family's dismay, she defects to join the Dauntless faction, and is put through a series of terrifying trials. The leader Eric (Jai Courtney) tells the initiates that they must never show fear and never give up; and failure means being cast out with the factionless. A scene in which all the fears running through Tris's mind are projected on a giant screen is the psychological acid test.

Tris's teacher, "Four" (Theo James) is cold at first, but he begins to look out for her and gives her tips for winning the hand-to-hand combat challenge. When a plot by the Erudite to dominate the other factions is revealed, Tris and Four go after their cool feline leader, Jeanine (Kate Winslet). She oozes evil as she tells Tris, "There's a certain beauty in your resistance."

The themes in this film are near and dear to the teen-age heart: initiation

rituals, rebelling against family values and winning the heart of the one who initially scorned you. And although this movie is overly long and dark, it's gratifying to see another classic hero played by a woman. While Woodley is spirited and appealing as Tris, her character isn't multi-dimensional enough to draw me in the way Katniss did.

With all its warring factions and battle scenes, *Divergent* should have been classed as an action movie.

In any case, there was a missed opportunity to explore the lifestyles of factions besides Dauntless. And in spite of the factionless being stigmatized by society, they seemed to have more freedom than any other members of this totalitarian regime.

Trivia: The entire cast went through two months of boot camp training before filming started.

PG-13. 139 minutes/Adventure, Romance, Sci-Fi

Now playing at Ventura Cinemark

Music calendar

For more events go to
VenturaRocks.com

Amigos Cafe & Cantina
546 E. Main St.
805-874-2232

Thursdays – Gypsy Blues Band
Fri 5/2 – Art Rockers
Sat 5/3 – Fish Fry
Sun 5/4 – The Tossers

Mon 5/5 – Los Dudes
Tuesdays – Catfish Fry & Doug Johnson swing & blues jam

Wednesdays – Mark Masson and Friends
Fri 5/9 – Soul Revue with Chuck Vincent
Sat 5/10 – The Shakers

Bombay Bar & Grill
143 S. California St.
805-643-4404

Local Live Music every Wed thru Sun
Wednesday – Tommy Marsh and Bad Dog

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

Majestic Theater
26 S. Chestnut St.
805-653-0721

Thur 5/1 – CurrenSy
Thur 5/8 – J Boog

Sandbox Coffeehouse
204 E. Thompson Blvd.
805-641-1025

Live Music Performances Sat & Sun at noon

Open Mic Night every Thur
Squashed Grapes

2351 E. Main St.
805-643-7300

Continued on page 20

Lighter Breeze

Zits



Mother Goose and Grimm



Shoe



Moose and Molly



Crock



Baby Blues



Solutions on page 15

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

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!

© 2014 King Features Synd., Inc.

Solutions on page 15

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Recede
- 4 Melt
- 8 Fedora feature
- 12 — Zedong
- 13 Anger
- 14 Franc replacement
- 15 Work with
- 16 Irish Sea land
- 18 Bush
- 20 Twosome
- 21 Bantu language
- 24 Secret meeting
- 28 Winnipeg's province
- 32 Individually
- 33 Lennon's lady
- 34 Rod-shaped bacteria
- 36 Simple card game
- 37 Revue segment
- 39 Capital of Nepal
- 41 Pulsate
- 43 Reveille's opposite
- 44 In favor of
- 46 Emanate
- 50 Island sold in 1626
- 55 Conclude
- 56 Entreaty
- 57 Piquancy
- 58 Toss in
- 59 Heart of the

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12			13				14				
15			16				17				
18			19			20					
			21		22	23		24	25	26	27
28	29	30				31		32			
33			34				35		36		
37			38			39			40		
41				42		43					
			44		45			46	47	48	49
50	51	52				53	54			55	
56						57				58	
59						60				61	

- 11 Calendar abbr.
- 17 Chic no longer
- 19 Submachine gun
- 22 Tress
- 23 WWII vessel
- 25 Show ennui
- 26 Large amount
- 27 Via, briefly
- 28 Lion's share
- 29 Egyptian cross
- 30 Bleak film style
- 31 Utah ski resort
- 35 Have an effect (on)
- 38 Tails accessory
- 40 Fool
- 42 Support of a sort
- 45 "Beetle Bailey" dog
- 47 Membership
- 48 Loosen
- 49 Vortex
- 50 Fuel economy meas.
- 51 "The Greatest"
- 52 Classic game-console letters
- 53 Bill
- 54 Singer DiFranco

© 2014 King Features Synd., Inc.



LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Before you decide to close down a problem-loaded project and make a fresh start with someone else, try once more to reach a compromise with your balky partner. He or she might surprise you.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) This is a good week to look at healing bruised feelings and re-establishing weakened relationships. It's also a good week to start new projects and make new job-linked contacts.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) While you continue earning points for your sharp negotiating skills, be alert for an attempt to undercut your efforts. You'll need to provide solid facts and figures to stay in the game.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Music and art dominate the week, giving the sensual Bovine a lot to appreciate. On the practical side, deal firmly, but fairly, with those who might try to undermine your work efforts.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) A minor health problem might cause you to ease up on your usually busy schedule. But you'll soon be back in the saddle and ready to pick up the reins and charge ahead.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Good feelings continue to flow from your recent efforts to reconnect with family and friends. But be ready to defuse a dispute before it can disrupt all that peace and harmony.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) The adventurous Sea Goat might be eager to take on a new challenge. But before you do, you might want to take some time to check out previously overlooked factors.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A practical view of a romanticized situation could help to clarify some of its more confusing aspects before you make a decision that could be tough to undo later on.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A feeling of being overwhelmed by all that you have to do can be eased by setting priorities. Deal with the most urgent and time-sensitive situations first, and then work down the line.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Pay more attention to what a recent spate of workplace criticism might say about your performance and not what you think it implies about you personally. Some flexibility might be called for.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Creating a calm, peaceful place for yourself in the middle of a roiling emotional whirlpool this week starts when you, and no one else, decide how to make decisions about your life.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) With new information, and new promises of support (not to mention growing self-confidence), this could be a good time to restart a project you couldn't quite handle before.

BORN THIS WEEK: Your determination to stick with your principles wins the admiration of everyone who knows you.

(c) 2014 King Features Synd., Inc.

NEW TO VENTURA CO.

NOW ACCEPTING APPOINTMENTS MEN / WOMEN



GLENN FRASER
Stylist / Master Colorist

CIBARA SALON
418 E. Main St.
San Buenaventura, CA 93001

805 643 2171 • 559 936 1582

* 20+ Years Experience
* Exceptional Service
* Highly Skilled
* Creative

Please Call For Your **COMPLEMENTARY CONSULTATION**

Is it December already?

The December Store & More is coming! The year round artisans and crafters store is having its grand opening on Saturday, May 10 from 10 am to 4 pm at 27 S. Oak Street in downtown Ventura. Right off Main Street - in the fabulous green building.

Where else can you have your portrait painted as a mermaid, or buy a snake scarf or select from hand crafted items from 25 creative people, while at the same time enjoying a cup of locally roasted coffee and pastry from a local baker? Only at The December Store & More.

There will a bakery and tamale stand, face painting, music and homeless animals to admire and possibly adopt. And even Professor Scamp will be in attendance at the Ventura Breeze booth.

Come join the celebration

Twins, Shannon and Sharlene had always wanted to work for themselves. When a local spa showed up for sale, they

jumped at the chance. The two young certified massage therapists loaded up their truck and opened at 35 S. Oak. A year has passed since they started Twin Palms Health and Beauty Boutique.

They are having their one year celebration on May 3, from 2-7pm. A party with snacks, drinks and raffles and a special-buy one full priced massage for \$70 and get the second half off. 643-0100, www.twinpalmshealthandbeauty.com.

VCCU and PAI, a new partnership

Ventura County Credit Union (VCCU), the largest credit union in Ventura County, CA, has launched a new endeavor to expand their presence in the area—thus making their services more accessible for their members.

Through a partnership with Payment Alliance International (PAI), VCCU has branded 23 Rite Aid ATM machines throughout Ventura and Santa Barbara counties. PAI, a leader in retail ATM solutions headquartered in Louisville, KY, owns and operates the VCCU-branded machines.

Members of VCCU can access these ATMs without incurring any surcharges.

Business

“Partnering with PAI to give our members convenient, surcharge-free access to cash at ATMs located in Rite Aid stores throughout Ventura and Santa Barbara counties simply makes sense,” said Joe Schroeder, president and CEO of VCCU.

“We’re always on the lookout for ways to better serve our members close to where they live and shop.”

To learn more about VCCU, visit www.vccuonline.net.

Wedgewood Wedding & Banquet Centers to expand

With a goal of increasing its presence nationally in the wedding market, Wedgewood Wedding & Banquet Centers, the nation’s largest full-service wedding and banquet venue chain, has announced its plans for reaching that objective: through a partnership with Prospect Partners.

Prospect Partners, a leading private equity firm out of Chicago, will recapitalize Wedgewood to allow their expansion plans to accelerate full speed ahead.

Founded by CEO John Zaruka of Ventura, in 1986, Wedgewood currently owns and operates 24 beautiful facilities across the state of California—as well as in Las Vegas, Phoenix and Boulder including at the Buenaventura Gold Club—as a successful family business for almost 30 years. Bill Zaruka joined the enterprise in 2002 and serves as president.

“Wedgewood is a truly unique and rapidly growing company that has built a tremendous reputation in a niche segment of the wedding services market,” said Erik Maurer, a Principal of Prospect Partners. “The company’s momentum is a credit to John and Bill, who defined and brought to life the concept of a ‘Wedgewood wedding’—convenient, competitively-priced, hassle-free and memorable—through

their incredible expertise, industry knowledge and dogged focus on an outstanding guest experience.”

With the help of Prospect Partners, Wedgewood will bolster its geographic representation by cultivating partnerships with property management companies and catering operators providing wedding/banquet services, including golf courses, historical sites and other unique estates.

“This is a very exciting time for Wedgewood,” said Wedgewood CEO John Zaruka. “Prospect Partners shares our values, understands and respects the entrepreneurial aspect of our business, and can provide the financial resources and professional strategic support we need as we grow into an even larger company.”

For more information on Wedgewood Wedding & Banquet Centers, its facilities and/or its charitable contributions, visit www.wedgewoodbanquet.com.

New audiologist joins HearUSA

The Ojai and Ventura centers of HearUSA (<https://www.hearusa.com/>), a nationwide hearing aids and hearing care leader, welcomed a new audiologist in March to the Hear X division: Angel Ziesk, Au. D, CCC-A Doctor of Audiology. Angel specializes in comprehensive hearing evaluations, dispensing of hearing aids, and assistive listening devices and brings an expert ability to handle even the most subtle hearing issues.

Her background spans the globe. Angel moved from Hong Kong, her birthplace, to Florida where she earned her doctorate, and subsequently she practiced at Australia Hearing in Australia, one of the largest hearing service providers in the world.

Ventura Breeze Service Directory

Finance



Matthew G Jones, CFP®
Financial Advisor
Elizabeth Bard Memorial Bldg.
121 North Fir Street Suite B
Ventura, CA 93001
805-643-0072
matthew.jones@edwardjones.com
www.edwardjones.com Member since 2011

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Attorney at Law

BLATZ LAW FIRM

PAUL B. BLATZ
ATTORNEY

206 N. SIGNAL ST., SUITE G (805) 646-3110
OJAI, CALIFORNIA 93023 (805) 640-1047 (FAX)
BLATZLAWFIRM@GMAIL.COM

Custom Awards & Engraving

www.CustomAwardsVentura.com
customawards@sbcglobal.net



Custom Awards & Engraving
4125 Market St. #10 (805) 658-2139
Ventura, Ca 93003 FAX (805) 658-2108
OUR SHOP FACES WALTER ST. @ THE CORNER OF MARKET ST. BEHIND TARGET SHOPPING CENTER

Concrete Contractor



Raymond Savala
OWNER

Cell: 805.207.9746
Office: 805.659.3159
Fax: 805.659.2064
info@gandronconcrete.com
www.gandronconcrete.com
P.O. Box 5309
Ventura, CA 93005-0309

Custom Embroidery



CUSTOM Embroidery

Ventura Harbor Village
1575 Spinnaker Dr., Suite 2061
Ventura, Ca. 93001
805-654-0194
lisa@venturaembroidery.com
www.venturaembroidery.com

Natural Lighting Solutions



DayLite
Natural Lighting Technologies
“Let There Be Light”

John Mors

888.DAYLITE (329-5483)
805.218-8529
805.658.0562 Fax
johnmors06@gmail.com
www.dayliteco.com

P.O. Box 25210
Ventura, CA 93002

Would you like new and more customers? Then place your horizontal business card in the Ventura Breeze Service Directory. Only \$200 for 6 issues. Just contact advertising@venturabreeze.com or call 653-0791 for further information and to place your ad.

Art Scene



Bike Love

The Museum of Ventura County and Bell Arts Factory join forces in presenting one of the largest exhibits of bicycle-inspired art, “pimped out” bikes, photography and bike memorials in Ventura County. *Bike Love* is the brainchild of Danny Gamboa, a Mexican American filmmaker with a focus on the arts and social change documentaries.

Opening Night is May 2 in conjunction with Free First Fridays. Museum hours on May 2 are 5-8pm, Bell Arts Factory 6-9pm. A Free Shuttle will be

available to transport guests from the Museum to Bell Arts Factory. A perfect night for the whole family with Live Music and delicious dinner from Underground Gourmet Food Truck.

The Museum’s portion of this exhibit will run through June 1st with rotating “pimped out” bikes every week. *Bike Love* in the Museum’s Tool Room Gallery @ Bell Arts Factory will also run through June 1st. Bell Arts Factory’s portion of the exhibit in the community room will run through May 17th.

Speak! The Museum’s New Speaker Series

Join us at the Museum for an afternoon of engaging conversation related to our exhibits, followed by an additional gallery talk at the Tool Room Gallery @ Bell Arts factory.

Wednesday, May 7 and Saturday, May 17 at 1pm. Free with Museum admission.

Dinner and a movie Friday, May 30 6pm. \$7 General Public, \$5 Students and MVC Members.



The Museum of Ventura County’s Art Start program for budding young artists returns this summer. The July 7 - 11, and July 14 - 18 sessions from 9:00 am to noon are designed for students currently in 3rd through 5th grades, of all artistic abilities and interests. The Art Start program gives participants a chance to have fun discovering different art media and techniques, to learn from guest professional artists, and to be inspired by special tours of the museum’s exhibitions and art collection. Sessions are limited to 15 participants in order to provide plenty of attention and encouragement.

T-shirt, snacks and all art materials are included in the registration fee, which is \$100 for the general public and \$85 for museum members. Partial scholarships are available. Registration forms may be downloaded under education resources/summer programs, at www.venturamuseum.org, or picked up in the Museum of Ventura County lobby.

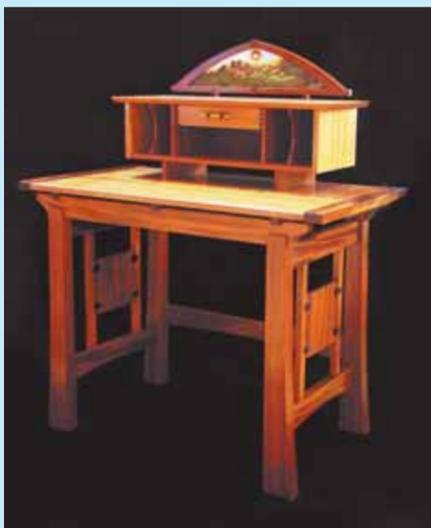
From 11 a.m. to 5 pm, Tuesday through Sunday. For further information contact education@venturamuseum.org or call 653-0323 ext. 300.

Art, a la Carte



Standing in Boots paintings by Erik Reel and Nash Rightmer with an opening reception 7-9 pm on Saturday May 3 at the WAV [Working Artists Ventura] Ventura Avenue and Thompson. The show will open Friday night, May 2, from 8-10. There will be a substantial amount of work only available at the opening, due to space and scheduling considerations, so be sure and attend the opening to be able to see the entire show.

The WAV is proud to present two artists who have been instrumental in the recent West Side and Ventura Avenue arts revival, Erik Reel and Nash Rightmer. Reel will be exhibiting recent paintings and Nash Rightmer will be introducing his paintings and more intimate photo-based word pieces in one of the conceptually most important exhibitions on the Central Coast this year.



Please join Focus on the Masters for the May 13 Artist Spotlight interview with James McCarthy at The Comedy Club, 1559 Spinnaker Dr. in the Ventura Harbor

Jim McCarthy creates fine furniture inspired by the California Arts and Crafts movement and Asian design. His works range from single pieces of furniture, to custom wood-working and cabinetry in historic homes, to light fixtures and musical instruments. His distinctive style illustrates his love of wood by maximizing the color, texture and contrast of the materials. Free to FOTM Members - \$10 General public, \$5 students and seniors. To purchase a ticket and reserve

your seat for the Spotlight interview and AfterGLOW visit: www.FocusOnTheMasters.com or call 805.653.2501.

Then join in for a celebratory supper immediately following the interview at the Ojai home and studio of James McCarthy and Christine Brennan. Maps will be given to paid guests at the interview. The AfterGLOW dinner is \$20 for FOTM members, \$30 for non-members. Seating is extremely limited. Paid reservations are required prior to May 9. Seating is extremely limited. Catering will be provided by Lorraine Lim Catering, funded by Jim and Meg Easton, Jim and Mary Galbraith and Paula Spellman.

SPAY AND NEUTER YOUR PET: SAVE A LIFE

WE CAN'T ADD BUT WE SURE CAN MULTIPLY! 2 DOGS X 7 YEARS = 67,000 DOGS!

BE A HERO...ADOPT A PET

cabodogz.com



GOT BABY?

Then come join the fun!



Music Together - an internationally recognized early childhood music program for infants, toddlers, preschoolers and the adults who love them - is now offering classes in Ventura and we want to sing, dance, wiggle and giggle with you!

Classes are now starting at the following locations:

All American Ballet School

932 Eastman Ave, Ventura, CA 93003

Imagine on Main Street

540 E Main Street, Ventura CA 93001

Sign up now at:

www.BeverlyHillsMusicTogether.com

Come try a class for **FREE!**

a Peak at Happy Hour

by Danielle Peak



Discovery Ventura
1888 E. Thompson Blvd.
Ventura
805-438-2969

Many philosophize that the purpose of our lives is to be happy, so why not spend your hours happily?...at happy hour! Partake of the happiness to be had and discover how it can be yours at Discovery Ventura!

Previously the Ventura Bowling Center, Discovery Ventura is now a more chic and sleek restaurant with bar, complete with bowling and gaming revamped in the same contemporary style. Happy hour runs Monday through Saturday 4 pm to 6 pm, and Sunday 3 pm to close—anywhere in the restaurant.

Prices for bowling as well as for a variety of dishes and drinks are reduced during this time to induce financial contentedness. Well cocktails, draft beers, and the house red and house white are all \$5.

- Chips & salsa \$3
- Spicy edamame \$4
- Nachos \$5
- Chicken street tacos \$5
- Bruschetta \$5
- King's sliders \$5
- Buffalo bleu cheese chicken sliders \$5

Discovery Ventura's late night menu runs daily from 10pm to close:

- Guacamole
 - Spicy edamame
 - Calamari
 - Chicken wings
 - Goat cheese nom noms
 - Quesadilla
 - Chicken street tacos
 - Pepperoni, wild mushroom, and four cheese pizzas and flatbreads
- Hours:
Monday - Thursday: 4:00 pm - 1:30 am
Friday: Noon - 1:30 am
Saturday - Sunday: 10:00 am - 1:30 am

Hours for food specials are Monday through Thursday, 4pm-6pm. Known for their martinis, Winchester's specialty drinks include Purple Panties and X and the City.

Happy Hour Food Specials:

- Western cheese fries \$4
- Fried duck strips \$5
- Jalapeno poppers \$5
- Fried chicken strips \$5
- Grilled chicken sausage \$5
- Potato skins \$6
- Angus beef sliders \$6

Music calendar

Continued from page 16

- Wed 4/30 -
 - Thur 5/1 - Chieli Minucci & Special EFX
 - Fri 5/2 - Daniel Ross & Friends
 - Sat 5/3 - Lauren Donahue Band
 - Wed 5/7 - Full Count
 - Thur 5/8 - Oui 3
 - Fri 5/9 - Jill Martini Soiree
 - Sat 5/10 - Ventura Jazz Collective
- The Tavern**
211 Santa Clara St.
805-643-3264
Live music Fridays and Saturdays
- W2O Rooftop Lounge**
598 E. Main St. (above Watermark)

805-643-6800

- Live Bands every Thur thru Sun
 - Thurs - Ventura Social Club
 - Fri 5/2 - In Stone
 - Sat 5/3 - Midnight Blue Band w/ Lois Mahalia
- The Wine Rack**
14 S. California St.
(805) 653-9463
Live Music Fridays and Saturdays
- Yolies/Hi Hat Entertainment**
138 W. Main St.
805-816-9663
Top Notch Musicians and Bands every Fri 8pm
- Fri 5/2 - Laurie Morvan Blues Band
 - Fri 5/9 - James Intveld

Save the Date!

Grow Your Business

VENTURA CHAMBER

Spring Business Expo

THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2014
4:30PM - 7:30PM

FOUR POINTS SHERATON ~ VENTURA HARBOR
1050 SCHOONER DRIVE
VENTURA, CA

65 CHAMBER MEMBER BOOTH EXHIBITS
RAFFLES, PRIZES, & GIVEAWAYS!
\$100 CASH DRAWING EVERY HOUR

RESERVE YOUR BOOTH TODAY!
CALL (805) 643-722
WWW.VENTURACHAMBER.COM

Thank you to our sponsors...



The annual Ventura Earth Day Eco Fest, held on April 26, at Promenade Park was well attended and provided a wonderful combination of family-friendly music, entertainment, education, and storytelling, as well as a multitude of activities such as crafts, games, face painting, and a scavenger hunt as it celebrated community and green living.

Profits from the day-long event are used for funding enrichment programs for kindergarten through eighth grade students at the Ventura Charter School of Arts and Global Education (VCS), a tuition-free public school of choice located off of Ventura Avenue. The school supports a nurturing community of learners, and improves student achievement. To learn more go to www.venturacharterschool.org. Photo by John Ferritto.