

Ventura's Music Scene see page 20!

FREE

# VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

Vol. 10, No. 9 Published Every Other Wednesday Established 2007 February 1 - February 14, 2017



The Team does more than hand out donations.

## Park Outreach Team

by Jill Forman

Every Tuesday, rain or shine, they are at Plaza and Mission Parks. The Park Outreach Team is there to make life a little better for those who often have no home, who spend their days in the parks and their nights...who knows where? A good half of the Team has been in the shoes of these folks, and knows what they need.

They hand out wipes, socks, tarps, donated clothing, toiletries, female hygiene supplies. One man in Mission Park only wants books; he gets those too.

What they don't hand out is food. Even bottled water and granola bars are now forbidden items for them to give out. When they first started, it was summer 3 1/2 years ago and temperatures had been over 90 degrees for three days in a row. Two individuals, Rob and Kathy, went around handing out water. Rob had been homeless and had recently inherited a small amount of money, and he used that to buy supplies. The Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura adopted the program under its Lift Up Your Voice, a grassroots advocacy program dedicated to serving the homeless.

Kathy, a member of the UU church, is now the chair of the Team. She says she does this work because her immediate family is represented by the ones she serves: the homeless, addicted, mentally ill, jobless, and disabled. "I do this for others, because others have taken care of me and my family."

Another stalwart of the team is Roy. A native of Ventura, he was in Special Education and never finished school. Disabled, he was homeless for seven years while waiting for housing. He knows "everybody" in the parks, because

*Continued on page 7*



The march began by the gazebo in Plaza Park. Photos by Breezy Gledhill.

## March for Justice is a huge success

Thousands gathered in downtown Ventura on Saturday, Jan. 21 for the March for Justice, a protest organized to coincide with the Women's March on Washington and hundreds of similar marches around the world.

According to the Ventura Police

Department, an estimated 2,500 people attended the peaceful march. Speakers included Ventura City Council member's Matt LaVere and Cheryl Heitmann. After a performance of John Lennon's "Imagine" by Jade Hendrix, the march

*Continued on page 2*



Mar-Y-Cel.



Kaiser Permanente medical offices.

## New building projects contribute to diversify housing supply in Ventura

by City Staff

The City of Ventura Community Development Department is working hard to create a thriving, prosperous community. This year we will see the completion of many major projects such as the new Kaiser Permanente medical office building on Market and Valentine Streets, and the new Volkswagen dealership at Perkin Avenue and King Drive. We are also looking forward to the construction and completion of new residential projects, which continue to make a comeback after the downfall in the economy.

Housing is a vital part of the way communities grow and is key to the social and economic sustainability of the City. With Ventura being a desirable place to live, the demand for housing has increased and providing a range of dwelling types is important to meet the different needs of our residents. With everything Ventura has to offer, it's no wonder private economic investments are being made here. Upcoming home and mixed-use developments will provide a broad array of housing choices from the Westside to Downtown, and from the

*Continued on page 9*



Should the Anacapa crane be replaced? Photo by Doug Mangum.

## Public comment solicited for crane replacement project

The National Park Service (NPS) is seeking public input on a project to replace the existing crane on Anacapa Island within Channel Islands National Park.

The existing crane was determined to be structurally unsafe, as a result of prolonged exposure to the harsh marine conditions on the island. It has been out

of service for several years.

The project proposes to remove the, historic, stiff leg derrick crane and its concrete foundation and replace it with a two-crane system and a new foundation. One crane would be located on the upper landing, adjacent to the historic derrick building, and a second, smaller crane

*Continued on page 2*

## VENTURA TOWNEHOUSE

CALIFORNIA'S CROWN JEWEL IN RETIREMENT LIVING

Ocean & Mountain Views • Over 12 Lushly Landscaped Acres • Spacious Standard & Remodeled Apartments and Villas  
Anytime Dining in our Sun-Drenched/Full Service Dining Room • Full Kitchens • Delicious Home Cooking by Pro. Chefs  
& 5-Star Pastry Chef • Live Music & Events • Weekly Excursions • All Day Transportation • Pets Welcomed

Call Now for a Visit! 805.642.3263

www.venturatownehouse.com • 4900 Telegraph Road, Ventura, CA 93003



Ventura Townehouse is a great place to live. The management seems to go out of the way to take care of our needs & keeps the building & improvements up to date.

Ed Schultz,  
Ventura Townehouse Resident

Get More Fun & Amenities for your Money!

License #565801810




the **Y**  
YMCA

FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

# GIVE HOPE

Our community faces daily challenges that create a greater need for the work we do at the Y and we need your help. A donation to the Y this February will provide scholarship dollars for:

- a child to have a life-changing experience at summer camp,
- a teen to participate in one of our many afterschool programs,
- and a single dad trying to spend more quality time with his kids.

**These are real Y members.  
Your gift will help these and so many more!**

**For a better you. For a better community.  
For a better country.**

VENTURA FAMILY YMCA  
3760 Telegraph Road, Ventura, CA 93003  
805.736.3483 • [ciymca.org/ventura](http://ciymca.org/ventura)

## Business



Chamber new board members and officers Suzanne Scar, Nick Deitch, Michele Newell, Nan Drake, John Silva, Shannon Hillygus, Amy Towner, Charnell Smith and outgoing Board Chair James Perero. Photo by Bernie Goldstein.

## Ventura Chamber installs new board

The Ventura Chamber of Commerce held its Annual Meeting and Board Installation on Thursday, Jan. 19 at the Pierpont Inn. The event was attended by business members, city officials and dignitaries including Assembly member Monique Limón and Ventura Councilmembers Cheryl Heitmann and Christy Weir.

Outgoing Board Chair James Perero presented an overview of the Chamber's many programs and accomplishments over the past year, thanking the Chamber members, board members, and staff for their support and contributions.

Highlights included selecting new and dynamic board members and officers for the coming year, and involvement with the new initiative, the City of Ventura Homelessness Stakeholders Group. This joint effort between local community advocates, providers, and agencies within the city and county is continuing to develop, and new and innovative approaches to homelessness in Ventura are being explored.

Nan Drake, incoming Board Chair, presented her vision and the Chamber's theme for 2017 - "Creating a Strong Business Environment for Ventura." Drake outlined the focal points of the Chamber as she addressed the goals for the coming year. Drake's plan includes the Chamber

continuing its efforts to work with the City of Ventura to improve the development process, recruit high growth entrepreneurs to the City, track progress of business sustainability and increase membership that is representative of the entire business community.

Some Ventura Chamber businesses also were recognized for being long-time members, including Kaiser Permanente, member for 50 years, and 25-year members Buena Lanes, Casitas Municipal Water District, Employer's Depot, Office Depot, and Pacific Coast Business Times.

The event was generously sponsored by Ventura Auto Center, Aera Energy, Crowne Plaza Ventura Beach, Gold Coast Acura, Kaiser Permanente, MortgageCouch, Ventura County Star, CAPS Media, Gold Coast Broadcasting, Luners Production Services, Pacific Coast Business Times, VC Reporter, Ventura Breeze, and Ventura County Camera Club.

The Ventura Chamber of Commerce is a membership based organization that advocates on behalf of the business community. With 700 members, representing more than 25,000 employees locally, the Chamber engages on a variety of issues that help to drive a strong local economy as The Voice of Business.

## Lighthouse Fitness

On Feb. 18, at 11am Colin Jenkins will be holding a Grand Opening Event for her new fitness gym/studio "Lighthouse Fitness" located at 2128 Knoll Drive. Unit F.

Colin owned a CrossFit facility here in Ventura for 6 years, before selling it a few years ago, and just recently decided to open a new gym that takes the same concept of CrossFit, but with changes to make it a more effective and safe program for the every-day person.

### Public comment solicited

*Continued from page 1*

would be located on a lower landing. The project is expected to begin in late summer 2018.

A newsletter that provides an overview of the planning and compliance process, explains the proposed action, and provides information on how to submit public comment. It is available at <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/anacapacrane>.

The public is invited to provide input on the scope of the project, environmental issues and impacts, alternatives, or other

concerns. The comment period is open through Feb. 24, 2017. Comments may be submitted online, at <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/anacapacrane>, or mailed to the following address:

Channel Islands National Park  
1901 Spinnaker Drive  
Ventura, CA 93001  
Attn: Anacapa Crane Replacement Project

### March for justice

*Continued from page 1*

proceeded down Thompson Boulevard.

The Breeze's Breezy Gledhill attended and stated, "The events are being held to celebrate the qualities of a diverse and inclusive America. I'm glad that I was able to participate."

Ventura doctor Kathleen Shore, one of the march organizers, was thrilled with the turn out and said,

"The March- by the numbers! It looks like we had upwards of 2,500 people. Former mayor says the park holds 3,000- we overflowed it! Justice for all booth collected \$484! Justice for all joiners 287 people. Signed up to "Meet a Muslim," 83 people. Signatures for decriminalizing homeless, 126 people."

"Thanks to all of you for your hard work! Go team!"

*Happy Valentine's Day*



**Ventura Executive Suites**  
*Be Our Valentine!*

**Features Include:**

- Fully Furnished Offices
- 24/7 Tenant Access
- Conference Room Access
- Stocked Kitchen
- Daily Janitorial Services
- Phone/Internet Available
- Gym on Site
- Secure Facility
- All utilities Included
- Virtual Offices Available




Phone: (805) 653-2381  
email: [info@venturaexecutivesuites.com](mailto:info@venturaexecutivesuites.com)  
Website: [www.venturaexecutivesuites.com](http://www.venturaexecutivesuites.com)  
701 E. Santa Clara St. Ventura, CA 93001

**Open House**  
**Join us February 14, 2017**  
**for Valentine treats**  
**12pm to 4pm**

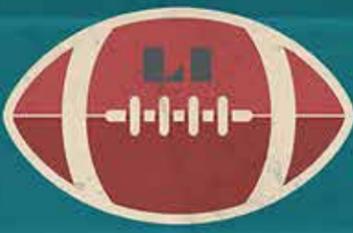




Live Music. Bowling.  
Cocktails &  
California Cuisine.



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>THE BAND THAT FELL TO EARTH</b> A DAVID BOWIE ODYSSEY <b>SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH</b></p>	<p>Thu. Feb 2nd - Leilani Wolfgramm w/ Ethan Tucker Fri. Feb 3rd - Shaky Feelin' Sat. Feb 4th - Band That Fell to Earth, David Bowie Tribute Sun. Feb 5th - Super Bowl Sunday Thu. Feb 9th - #ReggaeThursdays celebrating Bob Marley Fri. Feb 10th - Hubcap Stealers Sat. Feb 11th - UFC208: Holm vs. De Randamie Sat. Feb 11th - Black Sabbitch Thu. Feb 16th - Pacific Dub</p>	<p>Fri. Feb 17th - Sgt Pepper (Beatles Tribute Band) Sat. Feb 18th - Led Zepplca Thu Feb 23rd - After the Smoke Fri. Feb 24th - #Firestonefridays ft. Rock Cats Rock Sat. Feb 25th - Midget Wrestling Wed. Mar 15th - Sammy J Thu. Mar 16th - Fortunate Youth Sat. Mar 18th - The Molly Ringwald Project Fri. Apr 14th - Rebel Souljahz w/Eli Mac</p>
<p>SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SUPER BOWL</b></p>  <p style="text-align: center;">\$5 FIRESTONE &amp; MADEWEST / \$5 SINFIRE SUNDAY FOOTBALL MENU / DRINK SPECIALS</p>	<p>THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND</p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Leilani Wolfgramm</i> WOFFERALWEST ETHAN TUCKER</p>	<p>THE ALL FEMALE BLACK SABBATH</p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>BLACK SABBITCH</b> SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH</p>
<p>FRIDAY FEBRUARY 3RD</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">8:00 PM ALL AGES</p>	<p>THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>CELEBRATING BOB MARLEY</b></p>  <p style="font-size: small;">DJ BLANCO SPINNIN ALL VINYL &amp; 45'S WHITE, BLACK, BLUE, RED, &amp; TRIP. 300 MAINLY CASH ONLY. WITH LIVE MUSIC AND A COUPLE OF BOB'S GREATEST HITS</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SGT PEPPER</b></p>  <p style="text-align: center;">FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH</p>
 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Pacific DUB</b> THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH</p>	<p>#FIRESTONEFRIDAYS</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Sammy J.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">ON TOUR With Special Guest <b>JORDAN</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">SPRING TOUR '17 <b>WEDNESDAY MARCH 15TH</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>UFC 208</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>HOLM VS DE RANDAMIE</b> FEB 11 SAT</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>LED-ZEPPLICA</b> The Last Zepplin Tribute Experience</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>THURSDAY, MARCH 16TH</b></p> 	

Info & Tickets @ [DISCOVERYVENTURA.COM](http://DISCOVERYVENTURA.COM) • 1888 E. Thompson Blvd. Ventura, CA • (805) 856-BOWL (2695)

## City News

Your tax dollars at work

### City of Ventura replaces aging sewer line on Front Street

by City staff

Most of us probably don't think about what happens after we flush the toilet or wash something down the sink drain. "It" just goes away, somewhere - out of sight, out of mind.

In our community, that sewage (wastewater) is managed by Ventura Water which provides treatment services to more than 113,000 residents. Ventura Water also performs wastewater collection and treatment for McGrath State Beach Park and the North Coast Communities.

Ventura's residences and businesses generate about 8 to 9 million gallons of wastewater per day, which is carried by more than 300 miles of sewer mains and 14 lift stations to the Ventura Water Reclamation Facility. This facility is a tertiary treatment plant, located in the Ventura Harbor area near the mouth of the Santa Clara River, where the river meets the Pacific Ocean.

Currently, following a three-step treatment process at the facility, most of the highly treated and disinfected wastewater is discharged into the estuary after flowing through a series of wildlife ponds with a retention time of about four days. A small percentage is made available as recycled water for two golf courses and landscape irrigation in the Harbor and Olivas Drive areas. In 2016, with the addition of a recycled water mobile reuse program, this valuable resource

was further maximized for other beneficial uses such as residential landscape irrigation and construction site dust control mitigation measures.

Municipal sewer line systems are critical to public safety and environmental protection. These systems collect and transport sewage to the treatment facility.

As you would imagine, wastewater contains harmful constituents that can become a public health hazard and/or environmental problem if the raw sewage is not safely conveyed and treated. Efficient, updated sewage system infrastructure is essential to providing durable, reliable wastewater treatment and service for our community.

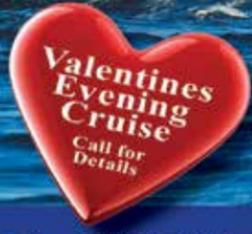
As a 150+ year-old city, Ventura's infrastructure has some very outdated sewer systems where replacement isn't an option, it's a necessity. Recently, the City of Ventura's Public Works Construction division completed the Front Street sewer line replacement project between Ash Street and Ann Street. This project replaced sewer pipes that were originally constructed in segments -- with the earliest segments constructed in 1927 and the most recent completed in 1978. The City replaced approximately 1,500 linear feet of 8-inch diameter sewer pipes with new, wider capacity 15-inch sewer pipes. Throughout the construction period, nearby businesses continued to receive sewer service and remained open for their customers. (Thank you to the businesses and customers for their patience and understanding during this important construction work!)

You never really appreciate the City's most important, yet unseen, infrastructure even though you use it daily. To support current and anticipated growth, the City will continue to make improvements to meet these needs and preserve the vitality of our community for generations to come!

# Whale Watching



Half Day & All Day  
trips to Anacapa or  
Santa Cruz Island



**ISLANDPACKERS.COM 805.642.1393**

**Voted Ventura's #1  
All American 50s Diner**

*The Kid Friendly Place to Eat!*

**Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner**  
(Served All Day)

**Voted Best Diner in VC for 25 Years**

**643-4864**

478 E. Main • A Favorite Spot In  
Historic Downtown Ventura



**Busy Bee  
Cafe & Diner**

New additions of Wine, Spirits &  
Beer make a great meal even BETTER!!

**Old Fashioned Soda Fountain!**

**VALENTINE SWEETHEART  
SPECIAL! FEBRUARY 11-14**



**TWO CHEESEBURGERS W/ FRIES  
AND SHARE A MILKSHAKE!**

**ONLY \$20**

**REGULAR MENU - ALL DAY**



DINE SHOP PLAY EXPLORE SEASIDE

BATTLE SAILS ADVENTURE SAILS  
DOCKSIDE TOURS EVENING SAILS

# SEA TALL SHIPS

VENTURA HARBOR  
JANUARY 24 to FEBRUARY 14, 2017

FOR TICKET SALES & SCHEDULE OF EVENTS, VISIT:  
**VENTURA HARBOR VILLAGE**   
SHIP SCHEDULE CAN CHANGE DUE TO WEATHER & UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES

## City News



The Board of Directors for Pier into the Future.

### Non-profit dedicated to enhancing the historic Ventura Pier elects officers

Pier into the Future, a non-profit dedicated to enhancing the historic Ventura Pier has elected their 2017 slate of officers David Fukutomi - President, Kathy McAden - Vice President, Doug McAden- Chief Financial Officer and Ronda Holden - Secretary.

“With the wonderful support from the community and the leadership on the board of directors, 2017 is looking to be a great year for our beloved Ventura Pier”, said Pier Into the Future Executive Director Jenise Wagar.

The organization was founded by a group of dedicated community leaders, in partnership with the City of Ventura, to establish an endowment fund to maintain and enhance the historic

Ventura Pier for future generations to enjoy. The organization has contributed over \$700,000 to the City of Ventura over the last 23 years to enhance the Pier. And an endowment fund continues to provide earnings to support the Pier each year.

At the core of its fundraising efforts is the opportunity to have your name or the name of a loved one engraved in granite at the Pier. In addition, the organization produces two signature community events: Sunset Dinner on the Pier in the Spring and Pier Under the Stars to be held October 7, 2017.

Visit [www.pierintothefuture.org](http://www.pierintothefuture.org) for more information about Pier into the Future or how you can volunteer to help to raise funds for the Pier.

## City classes

City of Ventura Barranca Vista Imagination Center classes. Check out hundreds more on our web-site.

Call 658-4726 or 654-7553 to register, if you already have an ACTIVENET account online, visit [www.cityofventura.net](http://www.cityofventura.net) Classes and events held at the Barranca Vista Center, 7050 Ralston Street, in Ventura unless otherwise noted.

**Helping your Reactive Dog**  
18 years-Adult

2/4 Sa 10 am-12 pm  
\$20 #7698

Find out why your dog whines, barks or lunges at other animals or people and learn ways to help it become less reactive. Please leave your dog at home. Seminar led by Registered Veterinary Technician/Certified Professional Dog Trainer Shannon Coyner. Class held at 3521 Arundel Circle #B.

**Courage in the Kitchen**  
16 year-adult

2/7 & 2/21 Tu 6-8 pm  
\$80+\$20 monthly supply fee  
#8052

Get processed foods out of the pantry and learn to cook with fresh, seasonal and budget-friendly ingredients. We'll meet to study recipes, learn new techniques and create meals that include vegan and vegetarian options. For view each month's menus visit [www.chefjudy.net](http://www.chefjudy.net). The \$20 supply fee is due to instructor at first class.

**Carpinteria Seal Rookery Hike**  
18 years-adult

2/10 F 9:10 am-2:45 pm  
\$40+\$20 materials fee  
#8222

Meet at Harbor Blvd train station with \$22 for your RT ticket. On our Coastal Vista Trail hike we'll make plein air sketches of new Harbor Seal pups from above and break for a self-paid lunch before our train returns.

**LEGO® Minecraft Engineering**  
FUNdamentals

5-10 years 2/11 Sa 10 am-12 pm  
\$30 #7702

Build a motorized walking Creeper, terrifying Ghosts and motorized Minecarts! Please register by the Wednesday before class.

**Meditate on Paper**  
18 years-adult

2/12 Su 11 am-3 pm  
\$49 #7684

Cut through the mental chatter that blocks your understanding using proven longhand writing techniques to gain insights and problem solve. Everything you write is private but we will discuss the experience of the processes.

**Nature & Wildlife Photography**  
16 years-adult

2/18 Sa 8-11 am & 1-3 pm  
\$100 #8196

Hone such photo-craft techniques as composition rules, field tactics and how your camera looks at light as you make great wildlife images. Meet at the 1400 Spinnaker Drive wildlife ponds. After lunch on your own go to BVC (7050 E. Ralston St.) to edit and process your images.

# WARM YOURSELF SEASIDE AT VENTURA HARBOR



FOR DELICIOUS DINING, CHOWDERS & COCKTAILS VISIT  
**VENTURA HARBOR VILLAGE**



# VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

Member, Ventura 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-EDITOR

Sheldon (Governor) Brown  
publisher@venturabreeze.com

PUBLISHER EMERITUS

Staci Brown

Assistant to the PUBLISHER

Ana Baker

PET EDITOR

Professor Scamp

scampclub@venturabreeze.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Rebecca Wicks · Richard Lieberman  
Carol Leish · Gail Field · Randy Beeman  
Veronica Johnson · Shirley Lorraine  
Sheli Ellsworth · Jenny Guy  
Victoria Usher · Jill Forman  
Pam Baumgardner · Elizabeth Rodeno  
Mira Reverente · Amber Hanson  
Karen Helen Szatkowski

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

John Ferritto · Bernie Goldstein  
Richard Lieberman · Michael Gordon

DISTRIBUTION

Jaime Baker · Fred Kastel  
Mary Thompson · Cindy Summers

SENIOR ADVISORS

Suz Montgomery · Lori Harasta

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

Breezy Gledhill · Cindy Summers

WEB/ONLINE ADVISOR

Cindy Summers

PRINT PRODUCTION

Alfred J. Lewis/studioNothing

PRINTING

JEJ Print, Inc. (626)281-8989

CONTACT 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](mailto:opinions@venturabreeze.com). Please limit them to about 300 words

Greetings dear amazing Sheldon and the Ventura Breeze!

Wow - you guys helped us get over 50 attendees at our January meeting from your notice in the January 4-17, 2017 edition...that was a beautiful layout!! I hung it up at the meeting for all to see (& the Lexington loved it, too, by the way! ;-)

What a great way to start out the new year, by helping at least 10 folks find us for the first time; they were able to learn a lot more about Parkinson's Disease than they were aware of (most of them were pretty newly diagnosed). I truly meant what I said in the 'letter' to you in the Jan

## Opinion/Editorial



Sheldon (Governor) Brown  
Publisher-Editor

■ In this issue, (see cover) we have an article about some very exciting new **construction projects** in the city and there are more happening soon. I think that this is very important for Ventura for several reasons;

These projects are what "we" in the industry (my background) call "type V projects" meaning that they can be of wood frame construction. These type of projects employ workers of all different skills paying from \$10 to up to \$100 per hour, so they are a boost for our economy.

Also, a city needs to continue to evolve and to bring in new residents. I only wish we could build some **executive style homes** to provide housing for high wage earners so that they don't work here, or have businesses here but live somewhere else.

■ At a recent City Council meeting, the council (by a 7-0 vote) decided that the best use of the **Harbor Church** property is to allow single family homes to be built.

Some residents in the area wanted the building to become a community center (some didn't) and many spoke at the council meeting. The community center advocates were very disappointed with the council's decision even though the use of the property as a community center wasn't even being considered by the council.

There were basically two reasons why the council wants to sell the property to a developer. When the city paid about \$2.3 million for the property (in order to avoid going to court) it was with the understanding that action would be taken to quickly recover most of the money spent (complete recovery will not happen).

Also, the cost of converting the building to a community center (requiring lots of handicap upgrades) would be large and would bring traffic and congestion to this residential neighborhood, just as the church did. And would require very expensive upkeep and salaries.

There is also the slight chance that the VUSD might be interested in the property because it is right next to a school.

At this meeting, the Council also approved some startup funds for the proposed Kellogg Park in West Ventura. Not enough for much construction, but it is necessary to start in order to not lose grant money that was awarded to the project.

In the meantime, the Westside has probably what is the most comprehensive and utilized park in Ventura (the Westpark Community



Happy Valentine from me and artist Jaime Baker.

Center). In fact, I'm not sure why people say that that the Westside is underserved when Westpark is located there (and a Boys & Girls Club).

■ Did anybody ever think that, in 2017, we would be friends with **Russia** and enemies with **Mexico**? Is Canada next and then the rest of the world? If you're not concerned with what is going on, you should be!

■ All of Ventura's **water supply** comes from either the Ventura River, groundwater and/or Lake Casitas. Even though we are having a nice rainy season (about 15", which is more than our average) we are not out of the woods yet. The lake is still less than 40% full. The use of recycled water should

increase in the future.

The City Council has taken action to consider another water source by authorizing a study to look at design, water flow, and environmental impacts of other sources.

The United Water Conservation District, Casitas Municipal Water District and Calleguas Municipal Water District are considering being part of a regional effort. All of these agencies could be involved in the ability to transfer water between districts in times of high drought. The study will look at the potential benefits for all the agencies involved.

The idea is to store water during rainy seasons, so there is water "in the bank" when needed. New piping would need to be installed to bring some of this additional water to Ventura. Imported water would be much more expensive but could be necessary if the high rains don't continue for several more years.

■ Ventura's 2017-18 budget will include millions of dollars of new money from **Measure O**, the half-cent sales tax voters approved in November. The new rate goes into effect on April 1, and the city will receive its first partial payment in July.

The measure included the formation of a seven-member citizen oversight committee to make "recommendations" regarding how the money should be spent.

When this committee is formed, we all must be the committee that keeps an eye on the council's committee.

In my opinion, an important use of this money will be to help our homeless population. City Manager Mark Watkins stated, "The final goal is to expand resources to the **homeless population**, both by offering more programs to those who want assistance and directing law enforcement resources toward those who don't follow the rules."

New Councilmember **Matt LaVere** will be on the council's homeless subcommittee and should bring a fresh perspective and new ideas to this ongoing problem.

## Mailbox

4-17 edition, "we are certainly blessed to have you" to help our Community! :-)  
Yours Truly,  
Patty Jenkins

Sheldon,

Just got home after picking up my copy of this week's Breeze. I just wanted to tell you that I agree with you on your response to Dan on the Dog/God issue. I think you expressed the separation of church and state issue well.

Ed Wehan

Sheldon

Mike Kory (letter to editor in Jan.18, 2017 Ventura Breeze) does not speak for the residents of Pierpont. He is a resident of Camarillo, according to his registration with the City of Ventura, and is not a permanent resident of Pierpont as he states. It is immaterial that he has enjoyed vacation homes outside of Ventura, some of which are having backlashes from residents in the places

he lists. The position that a periodic vacationer will out spend a permanent resident is preposterous.

Vacationers do not make purchases for family staples such as automobiles, auto services, barber or hair salons, insurance, florists, legal or estate services, veterinarians, medical, churches, or charities, etc. He states that it is a small group who complain about the rentals. That is far from true. It is true that many residents see this as a hopeless situation having battled this issue with the City now for 11 years. It is none of Kory's business how residents have come to own their homes, as he characterizes "as the lucky ones".

He projects the position of the Coastal Commission as justification to ignore our municipal codes that do not allow STVR commercial businesses in residential zones, by "use" or CUP. The Coastal Act is not in violation by the City for upholding its zoning ordinances. The City's new attempt to justify its bad decision to circumvent zoning codes by reexamining the STVR ordinance is another folly. The City's decision to take this course in itself is an affront to all residents and citizens of Pierpont.

John Whitman-Ventura

The fact that Mike Kory is a resident of Camarillo has not been verified by the Breeze.

Earth provides enough to satisfy every man's need, but not every man's greed.

– Mahatma Gandhi



Lucy Field, 7th grader at Cabrillo Middle School, with mom Stephanie and unknown friend.



Nathan Egan, 4th grader at Blanche Reynolds Elementary School.



Sal Flores with students from his boxing class held at the Westpark Community Center Jackie Pinedo, Isabel Alavez and Fenix Valle all from Ventura High



The public loved meeting VPD police officers and K9's at the second annual community event "Chill with VPD". It was held on Saturday, Jan. 21 at the Pacific View Mall. The Ventura Police Department, Ventura Police Community Foundation and McConnell's Fine Ice Cream sponsored the event. The rain cooperated by stopping for one day as hundreds attended to learn more about the Ventura Police Department. They viewed a K9 demonstration, visited with the K9's, SWAT team members and much more.



Desire to Protect and Serve Our Community

Hiring Police Officers Apply Today!

805-339-4400 • venturapd.org

# Community Events

## Ventura College/Ventura Breakers to host fundraiser

The Ventura College Men's and Women's basketball teams, along with the Ventura Breakers Youth Basketball Club, will host the 17th annual barbecue fundraiser dinner and games on Saturday, Feb.4th.

Tickets are \$15.00. Barbecue dinner at the Ventura College Cafeteria will be served from 4:00 to 7 p.m., and includes beef tri-tip and or chicken, chili, salad, bread and drink choice.

Ventura College will play Allan Hancock College, with the Men's game at 5 .m. and the Women playing at 7p.m. Ticket prices include dinner and admission to both games.

Proceeds benefit VC men's and women's basketball and the Ventura Breakers Basketball Club.

Information and tickets 289-6118, and www.vcweplayhard.com

## Ventura events

by Ana Baker

Free admission stage show, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. First Sunday of every month. Old Time Country Bluegrass Gospel Music Assoc. Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Rd. For more Information call 517-1131.

Ventura Poinsettia Dance Club meets every Monday from 7:30 p.m. to 9:45 p.m. at the Poinsettia Pavilion. Ballroom,

swing, Latin, mixers and line dancing. Members \$10, non-members \$12. Call Rick at 415-8842 for more information.

### Audubon events

Feb. 4: 8 a.m., Work Day Hedrick Ranch Nature Area. Sandy Hedrick 340-0478. 8 a.m. for self-guided birding. Work from 9 a.m. to noon. Long pants and boots or closed shoes are required. Bring water, gloves and sun protection.

Feb. 11: 8:30 a.m., Soule Park. David Wappler 706-416-8555. Situated in east Ojai, this large park offers grasslands, large deciduous trees and riparian habitat that bring out winter feeding flocks.

Feb. 5: Citizens for Peaceful Resolutions meeting on Sunday, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. E.P. Foster Library, Topping Room. Topic will be on Non-Violent Communication. Victoria Kindle Hodson internationally recognized author, and passionate proponent of respectful interactions between people will be the speaker. Admission Free. For more information on Citizens for Peaceful Resolutions www.c-p-r.net, or Mary Olson 223-1187

Feb.5 & 12: Northpointe Baptist Church Sunday, Feb. 5, 11:00 am. special kick-off service with pizza tailgate following. Grand Opening Service Sunday, Feb. 12, 11:00 am! Gift for every family in attendance. Uplifting music and dynamic bible message at Poinsettia Pavilion.

Feb. 6: Toastmasters International Speech craft Course, attendees of all experience levels will learn how to develop and improve public speaking skills with growing confidence. Taught over 8 meetings on the first and third Monday evening of each month. The mission of Toastmasters is to empower individuals to become more effective communicators and leaders. February 6, 10; March 6, 20; April 3, 17; May 8, 22; from 7 p.m.



## Community Events

to 8:45 p.m. \$75 cost includes course materials. Union Community Partners Building 801 S Victoria Suite 201. <http://800498.toastmastersclubs.org/> For more details contact Ed Blumenstock 746-5732

**Feb. 8: The Ventura County Camera Club will hold a critique meeting on Wednesday, at 7 p.m. at the Poinsettia Pavilion.** A professional photographer will critique member's prints and digital images. Each month a special topic is chosen which features interesting aspect of photography. Anyone with an interest in photography is welcome and admission is free. Only members may submit images for critique. See the club's web site for more information or call 908-5663. [WWW.VenturaCountyCameraClub.com](http://WWW.VenturaCountyCameraClub.com)

**Feb. 9: The Ventura County Climate Hub meeting will be a goal setting meeting for climate policy, events and celebrations.** The Ventura County Climate Hub is a grassroots, non-partisan local affiliate of 350 along with 26 local partner organizations. Planning will focus in three areas: policy, transition actions, arts, media and celebrations from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Unitarian-Universalist Church of Ventura, 5654 Ralston St. To create a local movement working to reverse climate change by engaging together to promote clean energy, environmental justice, appreciation for the interconnectedness of humans in the ecosystem, and celebration of the beauty of our planet.

**Feb. 10: The General George S. Patton, Jr. Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution February luncheon meeting "Military Advisor to Iraqi Police Commandos" presented by Mr. Marty Spann.** The event will take place at 11:30 a.m. in the Garden Room, Marie Callender's Restaurant. The cost for lunch is \$20 per person. For additional information or for assistance in determining your possible Revolutionary War genealogical roots, call Bill Bays 650-3036 or Robert Taylor. 216-7992. The chapter website is <http://patton-patriots.org>.

**Feb. 11: The 9:15 a.m. workshop for the Ventura Beginners PC Users Group on Saturday, will be Creating Your Own Greeting Cards. Gmail and Other Google Services will begin at 11 a.m.** The group meets on the third floor lounge of Cypress Place Independent Living at 1220 Cypress Point Lane. All beginning and intermediate computer users are welcome to attend. For further information, call 648-1368.

**Feb. 12: EP Foster Library, Topping Room, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. In recognition of Valentine's Day, the American Handwriting Analysis Foundation's SoCal chapter will host a discussion of the handwritings of famous couples through history.** You are welcome to bring your own samples to add to the discussion. Donations appreciated but not required.

**Feb. 13: The Ventura Poinsettia Dance Club presents the Valentines Ballroom Dance. Debut performance of the Ventura Jazz Trio which is an extension of the Ventura Jazz Orchestra.** Featuring the vocal stylings of Lisa Pardini. Cha cha, Rumba, Foxtrot, Swing, or just listen. Monday from 7:30 p.m. to 9:45 p.m. at the Poinsettia Pavilion Ballroom. Admission is \$12, \$10 for members and \$5 for students. Free refreshments and parking. For more information call 648-1143.

**Feb. 14: The Evolution of Ventura Audubons Shorebird Recovery Program at 7:30 p.m. At the Poinsettia Pavilion. Cynthia Hartley, Vice President, Ventura Audubon.** Cynthia obtained her federal recovery permit in 2008 and has been working on Snowy Plover recovery at Ormond Beach ever since. Cynthia has a master's degree in geographic information science (GIS) from the University of Maryland and teaches GIS at CSUCI. Cynthia will share her experiences from 20 years of work at Ormond Beach.

**Feb. 19: The Ventura/Santa Barbara**

**chapter of the National Association of Watch & Clock Collectors presents the Seaside Clock and Watch show at the Ventura Fairgrounds.** The show is open to the public and admission is only \$5 with children 16 and under and active military free. The hours are from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be hundreds of antique watches and clocks on display and for sale. Free evaluations of a guest's clock or watch will be available to learn about its condition and history. Limit of one item per guest. Ventura County Fairgrounds, Seaside Park, Santa Cruz Hall. [www.nawcc-ch190.com](http://www.nawcc-ch190.com) or email [chap190mart@gmail.com](mailto:chap190mart@gmail.com) or call 647-6463.

## Ojai news and events

**Local photographer Stephen Adams will visit the Ojai Library at 10 a.m. on Sat., Feb. 11 to present a seminar titled "Better Family Photos."** This seminar is for family photographers who know the basics of taking photos with a smartphone or pocket camera but are not satisfied with their results.

Adams earned his M.A. from San Diego State University in Television and Film and has taught classes at SDSU and community colleges. You can see more of his work at [www.StephenAdamsPhoto.com](http://www.StephenAdamsPhoto.com).

Registration is required email [info@StephenAdamsPhoto.com](mailto:info@StephenAdamsPhoto.com). This event is free and open to the public.

**On Sat., Feb. 11 Heather Castillo will be at the Ojai Library at 1 p.m., to deliver a talk titled "TADA! Validating the Magic of Theatre and Dance."** Castillo comes from CSU Channel Islands (CI), and is the first speaker in this season's CI Library Lecture Series.

On Sep. 26, 2016 Governor Brown signed SB 916, the TADA! Act into law. Written by Senator Ben Allen of Santa Monica, the Theatre and Dance Act will provide all students in California access to dance and theatre as part of their public education experience. Heather will discuss the benefits of inclusive arts education and its new required prominence in K-12 education.

**Opera Santa Barbara will present a series of Free Noontime Concerts at the Ojai Library on the second Thursdays of February, March, and May, 2017.** Each concert will begin at 12 p.m. in the main room of the library and will last approximately 45 minutes. Their first concert will be on Thursday, February 9.

The Ojai Library is located at 111 East Ojai Ave. Hours of service are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Friday through Sunday.

**Performances To Grow On is proud to present Animalia, a performance featuring the puppets of Hobey Ford on Saturday, Feb. 18 at 3 pm at the Ojai Art Center, 113 S. Montgomery.** Tickets in advance are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children and tickets are available online at [www.ptgo.org](http://www.ptgo.org) by phone at 310-890-1439 or at the Ojai Coffee Roasting Company. Tickets are \$5 more at the door.

The quintessential favorite, Hobey Ford's "Animalia" explores the magical world of animals.

**The Ojai Raptor Center (ORC) takes in about 1,000 sick, injured, and orphaned wild animals each year, specializing in birds of prey, with rehabilitation and release back to the wild always being the main goal.** ORC receives the majority of these patient admissions between the months of April-August and is looking to recruit new volunteers for the upcoming nesting season. ORC is seeking volunteers, over the age of 17, who can commit to at least

# PRIMROSE EXCURSIONS

805.535.5170 [primroseexcursions.com](http://primroseexcursions.com)

ST. PATRICK'S DAY  
CELEBRATION 3/17

NASCAR RACING 3/26

DODGERS GAME 5/25

Check our website for  
all upcoming trips!

Travel Show

Tuesday, February 7 • 11:00 am

Mackinac Island & The Grand Hotel

9/21/17 - 9/28/17

Special incentives for attending show.

Location: 1500 Palma Dr., Ventura/2nd floor training room. Call to receive a detailed flyer/itinerary

LOTUS DENTAL PRACTICE

Dr. Rose Tran-Nguyen  
3362 Loma Vista Rd.  
Ventura, CA 93003  
(805) 654-1961  
[www.lotusdentalpractice.com](http://www.lotusdentalpractice.com)

General and Cosmetic Dentistry  
for all ages.

A beautiful smile starts with  
quality dental care.

JOIN OUR  
Lotus Dental  
**MEMBERSHIP  
CLUB**

Start Saving Today!

\*Insurance Free Financing Available

one 4 hour volunteer shift per week. If you are interested the annual New Volunteer Orientation on Feb. 19 at 1pm. Held at 370 Baldwin Rd Building E1. Please bring something to sit on.

Ojai Raptor Center's Director Kim Stroud and her staff will discuss different volunteer opportunities available, and what to expect when working with wildlife, and birds of prey. For more information on volunteering with ORC, please visit <http://www.ojairaptorcenter.org/volunteer-information/>

**The Ojai Studio Artists organization is awarding over \$10,000.00 for art scholarships this year to qualified high school and college students who are residents of Ventura County and plan on pursuing a career in the visual arts.** Applicants are eligible to receive one scholarship award per year with a maximum of four scholarships total.

This is a wonderful opportunity for art students to receive financial aid, to augment their resumes and to connect with OSA's vibrant community of artists. Professional artists from OSA will jury the digital entries, awarding scholarships based on merit, varying from \$50 to \$2000.

Since its inception, the Ojai Studio Artists (OSA), a 501 (c) (3) California non-profit organization, has raised well over \$200,000.00 for educational support.

Application forms and submission requirements can be downloaded at: [www.ojaistudioartists.org](http://www.ojaistudioartists.org). Applications must be received by Friday, May 5, 2017.

### Park Outreach Team

*Continued from page 1*

he went to school with them and has known many of them for 50 years. He hugs them, asks about their families, takes them to appointments.

Chris, another member from the

UU church has this to say, "I go with the park outreach team because I feel that it is important to look homeless people in the eye and listen to them to acknowledge that we all are equal and deserving human beings." She has had her share of personal tragedies and understands what that can do to one's spirit.

Macheel comes "...more for me, to get outside of what's going on in my life."

Gail, always on her bike with a big smile, used to be homeless; she works with the Team "...because I can, because I love Kathy, she has done so much for me and I'm grateful."

The Team does more than hand out donations. They listen if someone wants to talk. Patiently, as on a recent day when a young woman tells a rambling story. A man close by, bundled up in coats and a sleeping bag despite the sunshine, yells out, "I have a cold, don't want to talk." He is given some wipes and socks, left silently next to him on the bench.

*Simply Homeless*

*Written by Roy Foster, formerly homeless and now a member of the Park Outreach Team, inspired by the Homeless Persons' Memorial Service*

*Where is the love when the rain hits me from my head to my feet*

*Where is the love when there is no place for me to sleep*

*Where is the love when I hold a sign to get me something to eat*

*Where is the love when I am behind bars and it looks like for keeps*

*Where is the love when I want my mom to sing me to sleep*

*Where is the love when there is no place safe for my kids to sleep*

*Where is the love when I'm on my knees trying to warm my hands toward the heat*

*Where is the love when the doctors take my feet*

*Where is the love when I need a house to keep me safe from the creeps*



# LEG PAIN?

ARE YOU EXPERIENCING ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SYMPTOMS IN YOUR LEGS?

If so, you may be suffering from Chronic Venous Disease a very common condition for diseased veins causing poor circulation

- Cramps
- Fatigue
- Itching
- Skin Darkening
- Aching Pain
- Heaviness
- Burning
- Ulcers
- Swelling
- Rash
- Numbness
- Sores



**CENTER  
FOR  
VEIN WELLNESS**

A comprehensive vein center committed to providing high quality care by offering personalized evaluation and treatment



**The Right Treatment  
Makes All The Difference**



Center for Vein Wellness is a leading vein treatment center concentrating exclusively in the diagnosis and treatment of varicose veins and other venous disorders. These state-of-the-art facilities are located in Los Angeles and Ventura counties.

We use the latest technology and treatment protocols to provide non-surgical, minimally invasive treatment options, so our patients have as little pain, and discomfort as possible. Being a dedicated vein center, we are able to treat the complete spectrum of vein disorders from small spider veins to large bulging veins and venous ulcers.

We accept Medicare, MediCal, Goldcoast, PPO & HMO Insurance  
Hours of Operation: Mon. thru Fri. 9am to 5pm, Sat. & Sun. Closed

**Call Today & Schedule A Consultation**

**805.653.5312**

2991 Loma Vista Rd., Suite A103, Ventura, CA 93003  
2460 N. Ponderosa Dr., Suite A101, Camarillo, CA 93010  
331 South C St., Suite A, Oxnard, CA, 93030

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



## The history of Chinese abalone Fishing in California

San Diego State University Associate Professor of Anthropology Todd Braje will use the northern Channel Islands as a case study to explore the history of Chinese abalone fishing in Southern California during the February From Shore to Sea lecture.

In nineteenth-century California, a small group of Chinese immigrants, who came from a traditional fishing province in China, founded the first commercial California abalone fishery. Over the next several decades, the multimillion-dollar abalone industry would rise and fall. Disease and overfishing eventually caused the collapse of the fishery, with several species driven to the brink of extinction.

Braje's talk, which is a culmination of over a decade of field, archival, and laboratory work, will explore new research into the reasons for the decline

## News & Notes

of this industry. He will use the lessons learned from this case study as lenses through which to view both the broader history of Chinese immigrants.

Braje is an Associate Professor of Anthropology and has worked on the northern Channel Islands for over a decade. Braje, whose studies focus on the archaeology of maritime societies, has conducted research on a variety of archaeological sites, ranging from 12,000-year-old shell middens and stone tool scatters to nineteenth-century fishing camps. Braje's most recent book was published in 2016 by the University of Utah Press.

The talk will be held on Thursday, Feb. 9. The From Shore to Sea lecture series is sponsored by Channel Islands National Park to further the understanding of current research on the Channel Islands and surrounding marine waters. The lecture series will take place at 7:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month, January through December, at the Channel Islands National Park Robert J. Lagomarsino Visitor Center, 1901 Spinnaker Drive in Ventura Harbor. The programs are free and open to the public.

This lecture can also be viewed live online at: Shore to Sea lecture series.

Lectures are recorded and posted at: <http://www.nps.gov/chis/learn/photosmultimedia/from-shore-to-sea-lecture-videos.htm>

and has served since 2007 on the City of Ventura Planning Commission. He is owner of Daniel Long Painting.

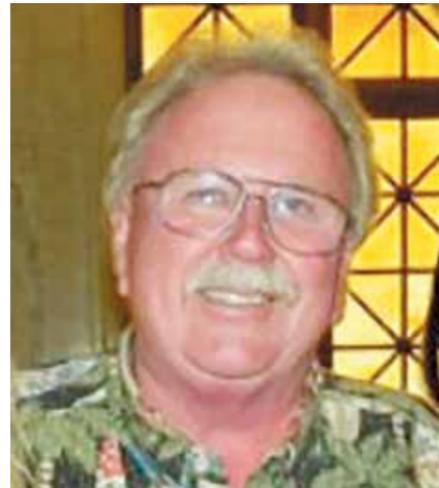
## Violin and viola competition

Applications are now being accepted for the 9th annual Henry Schwab Violin/Viola Competition. This exciting competition is open to Ventura County residents up to the age of 22. Sponsored by a grant from the Henry Schwab Charitable Fund, this competition encourages young musicians and also furthers their musical education.

A total of \$3,000 in prize money: 1st place - \$1,500; 2nd place \$1,000 and 3rd place \$500 will be awarded to contestants who compete in two events taking place as follows:

The preliminary audition will be held March 25 at the Ventura College Recital Hall (PAC 139). Three candidates will be selected, who will compete on June 10 at the Ventura College Performing Arts Center, accompanied by the Ventura College Symphony Orchestra.

Both competitions are open to the public; free admission to the preliminary competition; for the final competition will be a charge of \$10.00 general, \$5.00 for seniors/staff/students. Questions can be addressed to Connie Hood at 653-6150 or to Ann Kosinski at 658-8180.



Long has served on the Fair Board since 2014.

## Fairground elects Daniel Long to the office of President

The Board of Directors of the 31st District Agricultural Association, better known as the Ventura County Fairgrounds, has elected Daniel Long to the office of President for the 2017 term. The Board elected Director Leslie Cornejo to the office of Vice-President. Their term will include the Fairgrounds' annual signature events: the Ventura County Spring Fair and the 142nd annual Ventura County Fair.

Long, of Ventura, has served on the Fair Board since 2014, having served the 2016 term as Vice President. He is a founding Board member on The Midtown Ventura Community Council and The San Buenaventura Conservancy and has been a wish granter for the Make-A-Wish Foundation of the Tri-Counties for over twenty years. He has volunteered at the Ventura County Fair since 1989

## The Hidden Gospels and the Twelve Steps

A Christian group using scriptures and the 12 steps which ministers to individuals, their families and loved ones who suffer from the consequences of any addictive behavior. We recover together as we meet to study and grow with open discussions. The ministry is all welcoming, regardless of age, race, lifestyle, background. They meet weekly on Monday nights at 159 Barnard Way in Ventura from 6:30 - 8pm. There is ample parking in the Community Presbyterian Church parking lot. If you have any questions, please call Jeri Bendot at 804-2870 or Joe Bendot at 804-2871.

## New and improved CAPSTV

by Elizabeth Rodeno

Peoples' voices are never more important than today. Our mandate is to support the first amendment and ensure everyone can have a voice. Our voices are varied and many. Watch channel 6 to hear what the public has to say and watch channel 15 to experience the city's vision to provide the best and clearest information for all. As we now stream through our website, our reach is much greater. We invite you to share your stories and voice on KPPQ-LP 104.1 FM as well.

Ventura community councils and schools, teachers, girl scouts,



Kim Pagano Host of the Kim Pagano Show "the brighter side of life in the 80s" on 1590 KVTA teamed up with Home town Buffet Restaurants, to share the brighter side of the 80s by giving back to The City Center Transitional Living by providing an incredible Christmas Dinner for 50. Another special thank you to Teaching Life Choices who donated to the Kim Pagano Show to give Christmas gift certificates to Interface children and Family Services. Kim wants to say "thank you" for letting my show be a great platform of hope and inspiration for so many.



# News & Notes

churches and youth groups come for tours and think this place is really cool. There is always the opportunity to visit the media center and learn how our equipment, training and facilities can support media creation and increase your organization's visibility throughout Ventura County.

We are working on so many improvements here at CAPS as we begin transformation of the studio and completion radio station. The studio will receive upgrades including cameras and switcher which will improve capabilities and production values on your next project. CAPS Radio, KPPQ-LP 104.1FM is destined to become an integral part of the community. As with our television channels, CAPS Radio will provide top notch facilities, training and opportunities to share stories. This is also a perfect way for the youth to expand their venues and offer those who speak different languages a place on the airwaves. Contact us at radio@capsmedia.org for more information on membership and training.

CAPS Media Center's staff and board encourage and support everyone in the community to share their voice. The community's citizen's voices must be heard. You have a tremendous opportunity many cities do not have to share your voices and talk about issues that affect you. With CAPS Media center's public access television channels 6 and 15, and soon our low power FM station, the opportunity is clear and available for small membership fees. As always, go to capsmedia.org to view our local programming.

## New building projects

*Continued from page 1*  
Harbor to the Eastside.

On the Westside, the Solana Heights project at Ventura Avenue and School Canyon Road brings 114 new 3-5 bedroom single-family homes, 33 new townhomes with 3-4 bedrooms, plus three new parks with picnic tables, barbeques and children's play equipment. The home designs and proximity to schools (E.P. Foster Elementary, nd DeAnza Academy of Technology and Arts and Ventura Charter School) make the location family-friendly and a welcome addition to Ventura's oldest neighborhood.

Downtown, the Mar-Y-Cel mixed-use project, on 2.3 acres bordered by Ventura Avenue, Santa Clara Street, Junipero Street and Thompson Blvd., features 138 apartments, a 5-level parking structure and more than 6,000 square feet of commercial space. Residents of this new innovative downtown community will help spur retail development and contribute to an already active environment.

In December 2016, hundreds of community members and dignitaries celebrated the groundbreaking of Portside Ventura Harbor, the first new major development at Ventura Harbor in three decades. Construction is underway for the mixed-use, waterfront location with 300 residential housing units including 270 apartments and 30 live/work spaces, 21,300 square-foot of commercial and retail space, a new

## 805 Gift Emporium

Valentine's Day gifts for everyone, including your pets!

Cards, Trinkets, Baby Items

Unique Seasonal Decor

SO Much More!!

Monday - Saturday

9:00am - 6:00pm

805.658.0805

3875 Telegraph Road, Suite A



recreational marina with 104 boat slips, a water taxi stop (connecting Portside Ventura Harbor with Harbor Village), two-acre public waterfront park, public-access waterfront promenade, public dock for personal watercraft such as kayaks and paddle boards, and plenty of coastal parking.

On Ventura's Eastside, the former UC Hansen Trust property, now called The Farm, is located at the southeast corner of Telegraph Road and Saticoy Avenue and consists of 35.7 acres of undeveloped land nestled into a scenic setting of farmland, foothills and established residential neighborhoods. The property has an approved specific plan, tentative tract map, and development agreement allowing for 131 single family detached Ventura

homes on 4,000 – 8,795 square foot lots, 3 building pads for 34 attached row house/townhouses, 6 acres of public parks and open space areas, and two building pads for 20-24 farm worker housing units. Williams Homes intends on building the entire project with exception of the farm worker housing which will be designed and developed by the City of San Buenaventura Housing Authority.

These exciting new residential projects provide citizens with options such as home ownership, apartments, townhomes and row homes. Through careful stewardship and good plans, the Community Development Department is promoting a strong and viable community that is sustainable, compatible and beneficial to the community.



On Jan. 22, in the Pavilion of the Pierpont Inn, judges awarded cash prizes to outstanding Southern California's best high school jazz musicians as the Ventura Music Festival (VMF) kicks off their new year.

This was 11th annual competition for students and was attended by over 100 who enjoyed some great jazz musicians and the rain.

Renowned musicians Bevan Manson, Eddie Arkin and Steve Marsh were the judges for the completion.

The 5 finalists that performed were Ben Farahi (guitar, 16 Hamilton Academy of Music Los Angeles), Jonah Goldstein (guitar, 16 Calabasas high School, Matthew Michalek (16, alto sax Thousand Oaks High School), Henry Urschel (also sax, 16 Dos Pueblos High School Santa Barbara) and Angelo Velasquez (drums, 18 Newbury Park High School). They were backed up by Bevan Manson on piano, Tom Etchart on bass and Charles Levin on drums.

All of the judges agreed that the students were all outstanding and how hard it was selecting the best but finally decided to award first place to drummer Angelo Velasquez who was the oldest of the students so we can expect several of them to be back next year.

They will be the performing for the public throughout the year, including on Feb. 21st when the VMF announces the 2017 July Festival program at City Hall. So be sure to attend to enjoy the music and be introduced to this year's VMF.





# Valentine's Day Dinner for two

**Only \$35.95**  
(Tax & gratuity not included)

**Includes any two entrées, complete with a bottle of wine or champagne! February 11 - 14**



**When's the last time you've been to the Uagabond?**

**Feels like home – Come on in!!**

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

**Established 1966!**



## Uagabond

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

## Meet the cyclists who rode across Africa

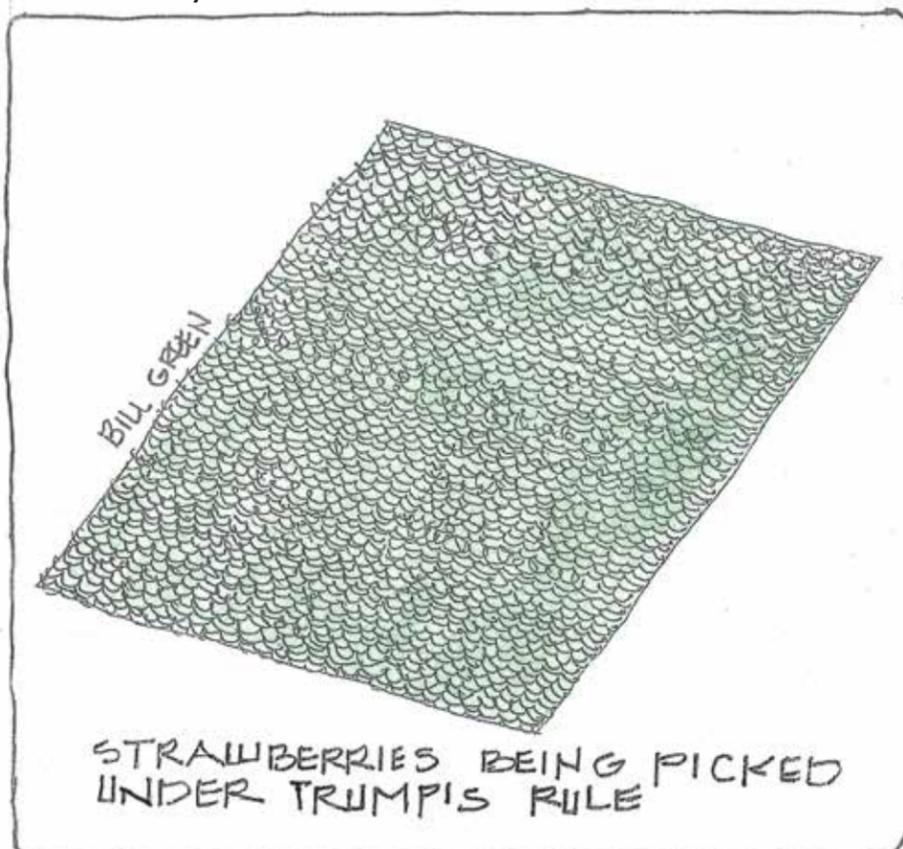
Pat traces his first inkling of an African Dream back to a darkened theater when at age 12 he watched Hemmingway's "The Snows of Kilimanjaro".

The African Dream is the true story of the Patterson's unassisted bicycle tour of Africa. They pedaled 265 days, 4,918 miles, through 17 African countries. Dangers, yes. Trepidation, yes. Run ins with thieves and pickpockets, yes. Big

game animals on the road, yes. However they both agree there is no better way to immerse oneself into the lives, lifestyles and cultures of the peoples of the world than on bicycles. The book is 336 pages and contains more than 400 photos.

The Patterson's sold their successful real estate firm, cycled off into the world and never looked back. Pat says he is now a has been, he has been Chairperson of the Ventura County Business Outlook Conference and is past President of VCEDA, Ventura County Economic Development Association. He also has been President of VCCAR, Ventura County Association of Realtors. He counts

### Green with Envy



## News & Notes



68 instructors have been honored since the program was created.

## "Favorite teachers" honors given by Ventura college women's basketball

The Ventura College women's basketball team joined by Ventura College President Greg Gillespie and Ventura County Community College District Board of Trustee Stephen Blum presented the 2017 Favorite Teachers Awards on Saturday, Jan. 21, with a ceremony at Ventura College. This is the 12th year the sophomore class of the women's basketball team has chosen to honor their favorite teachers with an essay that expresses their gratitude and appreciation in an authentic way.

Including the 2017 honorees, a total of 68 instructors have been honored since the program was created by Head Coach Ned Mircetic.

The student athletes escorted their favorite teachers to center court where the dignitaries presented the awards during halftime of the men's basketball game against Moorpark College. President Gillespie and Trustee Blum were joined by Vice President of

Academic Affairs Kimberly Hoffmans, RN, Ed.D., Vice President of Student Affairs Damien Peña, Ed.D. and Dr. Tim Harrison, dean of Athletics, Health and Kinesiology.

"This ceremony is a reflection of the steadfast dedication Ventura College faculty has for its students and the mutual appreciation students have for their instructors," said Blum.

The following teachers were selected as the 2017 Favorite Teachers:

1. Gary Amar, Speech – selected by Kyleesha Green
2. Laura Gillis, English – selected by Paige Larson
3. Richard Goff, Criminal Justice – selected by Rhiana Dougan
4. Liz Kraus, English – selected by Sienna Brown
5. Preston Pipal, Anatomy – selected by Mary Shirley
6. Edward Reynosa, Aikido – selected by Christina Gonzalez

among his and Cat's highest achievements, chairing and working together to stabilize and build The Coalition to End Domestic Violence. (Now known as The Coalition to End Family Violence.) Cat was also active in several charities, on the Board of the VCCAR Foundation and was an active member in the Pacific Corinthian Yacht Club, PCYC, and Saticoy Country Club.

Pat and Cat will be presenting and signing their book at Ventura Bike Depot on Sunday February 19, 1:00-4:00 pm.

Come hear their stories and views on Africa. You may not be interested in cycling in Africa however, the Patterson's believe that everyone should travel, whether by bike, boat, train or plane. If you dream to visit Africa, have been or just want an armchair view of the continent you will find plenty of interesting stories and photos in their book. As Cat always says, "The most dangerous moments make the best memories!"

The African Dream is now on sale at The Bank of Books, 748 E. Main St.

## "Speaking of Ventura County"

Annual Lecture Series at the Museum of Ventura County an 8-week series features educators and experts who share the rich stories of Ventura County.

All presentations are at the Museum of Ventura County on Wednesdays.

Wednesday, February 8, 2017, 1:00 –

2:30 pm. "Making the Garden Bloom: A History of Agricultural Water Use in Ventura County." John Krist, Chief Executive Officer, Farm Bureau of Ventura County.

Wednesday, February 15, 2017, 1:00 – 2:30 pm. "There's No Place Like Home: A Travel Writer's Appreciation of Ventura." Ken McAlpine, Local Author.

Wednesday, February 22, 2017, 1:00 – 2:30 pm. "The History and Pageantry of the Dixie Thompson Saddle." Tom Peterson, Director, Carriage Museum

Wednesday, March 1, 2017, 1:00 – 2:30 pm. "My Darkest Hour." James Bachner, Holocaust Survivor.

Wednesday, March 8, 2017, 1:00 – 2:30 pm. "California vs. the Nation: Gov. Brown's Democrat California contends with President Trump's Republican Federal Government." Herbert E. Gooch III, Ph.D., M.A., M.B.A., Professor, Department of Political Science, Cal Lutheran University.

Wednesday, March 15, 2017, 1:00 – 2:30 pm. "Delinquent Girls and Incurable Women: A History of the Ventura School for Girls." Colleen Coffey, Professor of History, Ventura College.

Catelyn Kindred, Education Specialist, Museum of Ventura County.

Wednesday, March 22, 2017, 1:00 – 2:30 pm. "Civil Liberties in Times of National Crises: Japanese Internment during World War II."

Megan Gately, Director of Education and Outreach, Museum of Ventura County \$7 per session, MVC members free. Buy 8 sessions for \$40 (pay in advance).

Please call 653-0323 x330 or contact Tina Nielsen at tnielsen@venturamu seum.org for reservations.



# Senior Living

Pull Out Section



We all deserve a comfortable retirement.

## Social Security celebrates Black History Month

by Essie Landry

Throughout the month of February, we honor African Americans by celebrating Black History Month. Created in 1926, this event coincides with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln on February 12 and Frederick Douglass on February 14. African American communities have celebrated these birthdays together for over a century.

Honoring our shared history and reflecting on the past is one way we can remember that in America, we believe in freedom and democracy for all. Another shared belief is that we all deserve a comfortable retirement, free of economic hardship. This is part of securing today and tomorrow.

Social Security has the tools to help you plan for your retirement and to apply for benefits online. We also provide disability benefits to individuals with medical conditions that prevent them from working. If the disabled individual has dependent family members, they can also receive payments.

If you or anyone you know is disabled, they may qualify for disability benefits. Studies show that a 20-year-old worker has a 1-in-4 chance of becoming disabled before reaching full retirement age. You can see if you meet our strict definition of disabled and apply for disability benefits at [www.socialsecurity.gov/disabilityssi/apply.html](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/disabilityssi/apply.html).

Widows, widowers, and their dependent children may be eligible for Social Security survivors benefits. Social Security helps by providing income for the families of workers who die. In fact, 98 of every 100 children could get benefits if a working parent dies. And Social Security pays more benefits to children than any other federal program. You can learn more about Social Security

survivors benefits at [www.socialsecurity.gov/survivors](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/survivors).

Honoring each other begins with fair and equal treatment. Social Security guarantees that, if you pay into the system, you will have the same benefits as everyone else according to your earnings record. This Black History Month, we want to make sure our diverse nation is covered and that no one is left out of the benefits they deserve. We are with you through life's journey. Get to know your Social Security. Visit us at <https://www.ssa.gov/people/africanamericans/>.



## Tax-Aide offers free income tax help

AARP Tax-Aide is offering free income tax preparation and e-filing at the following locations in Ventura, through April 14.

Area Agency on Aging, 646 County Square Drive (off Victoria & Thille), 477-7300, Mondays and Wednesdays, 1-4 p.m.

Ventura Avenue Adult Center, 550 N. Ventura Ave, 648-3035, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1-4 p.m.

Ventura Boys & Girls Club, 1929 Johnson Drive, 641-5599, Tuesdays 8:30-11:30 a.m.

805-419-0202 [www.thesilverpantry.com](http://www.thesilverpantry.com)

**MEAL DELIVERY SERVICE FOR SENIORS**

**Convenient, Fresh and Delicious!**

**Low Sodium Comfort Classics**

**Fully Cooked Meals Delivered to Your Door**

Chef Designed, Nutritionist Approved Menus  
Flexible Meal Plans & Dietary Menus to Meet Your Needs  
Locally Owned and Proudly Serving Ventura County

*Get Started Today with One of Our 5 Day Trials!*

# 2 Bedroom Suites AVAILABLE!

**Make your move to The Palms at Bonaventure Assisted Living and Memory Care and become a part of something special ... a sense of family, friendship, and belonging that welcomes you home each day.**

At The Palms at Bonaventure, all of our amenities are included in one reasonable monthly rent – there are never any hidden costs or fees. We take care of the cooking, housekeeping, and local transportation, leaving you time to enjoy life more and spend extra time with friends and family. We also offer additional personal services, and because we focus on individual needs and preferences, you only pay for the services you need.

Call today for more information on our gracious lifestyle and to arrange your complimentary chef-prepared meal and personal tour!

**805-647-0616**

**THE PALMS AT BONAVENTURE**  
Assisted Living & Memory Care  
111 North Wells Road, Ventura, CA 93004

RCFE#565801319

Tax assistance is available to seniors and to low-to-moderate income taxpayers of any age. AARP membership is not required. Please bring picture ID, Social Security cards, all documentation of income (W-2, 1099, Social Security statement, etc.) and totals for deductible expenses if you itemize, as well as health insurance form 1095, if received.

## Parkinson's Support Group to meet

The Ventura Parkinson's Support Group will meet Wednesday, Feb. 8 for a "Round Table" discussion at 1PM at the Lexington in Ventura. They welcome their newest members and hope others who battle with Parkin-

son's Disease will attend.

Everyone is welcome to come and share a little about themselves and their history with Parkinson's Disease. Get to know and support each other better by sharing common problems, knowledge, experience and coping solutions to the daily challenges of Parkinson's Disease.

They have great speakers lined up for the new year and welcome group input on upcoming meetings in 2017. Meetings are every second Wednesday of each month from 1PM to 3PM on the 3rd floor at the Lexington Assisted Living, 5440 Ralston Street in Ventura.

Extra parking is graciously available across the street from the Lexington in the Baptist Church parking lot. Call Patty at 766-6070 for further information. Reservations are not required.



# Live in Luxury at the Lexington!



Enjoy Affordable Elegance  
With no points and no hidden fees.  
Call for an appointment.

(805) 644-6710

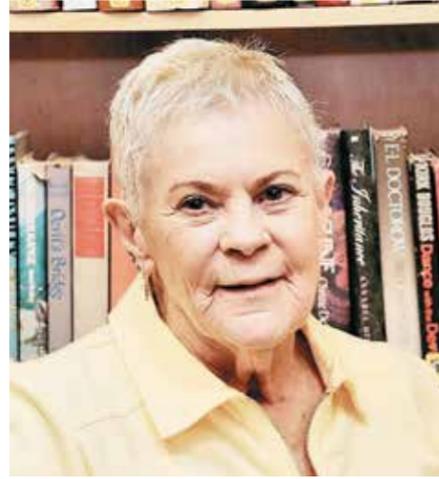
mbishop@ensigngroup.net

THE  
**LEXINGTON**  
ASSISTED LIVING

5440 RALSTON STREET VENTURA, CA 93003

RCFE #565801737

## Senior Living



Norma Featherston, R.N., M.S. Gerontology, facilitates the Alzheimer's & Dementia Caregivers Support Group held at Cypress Place. Photo by Michael Gordon.

### Cypress Place Senior Living to host Alzheimer's & Dementia Caregivers Support Group

by Cypress staff

In collaboration with New Hope Senior Services, please join Cypress Place Senior Living for an Alzheimer's & Dementia Caregivers Support Group. Facilitator for the support group will be Norma Featherston, R.N., M.S., Gerontology. Featherston is a geriatric care consultant with New Hope Senior Services.

Join us for these informative meetings and gain support from others in a caring and understanding environment. Ask questions and get straight answers from people who have been there. Learn creative and caring problem solving techniques and caregiving ideas, and discover that you are not all alone in the way you feel.

"My husband was diagnosed at age twenty eight with primary progressive Multiple Sclerosis, in which the end result is dementia," said Featherston. "The problem was this was not documented until much later, so I received little help from doctors at the time," she said.

It was a long and difficult journey, in which Featherston became depressed, worn out, and desperate for doing something to help. She finally hired a caregiver and went back to school in 2006, and graduated in 2009 with a Master's Degree in Gerontology.

"I worked at the Alzheimer's Association for eight years where I counseled caregivers, taught classes, spoke to civic and other groups, and ran several support groups," said Featherston. "I was able to give my knowledge of caregiving to those who were caregiving for someone with dementia related diseases."

Support group meetings led by Featherston are held from 9:30a.m. to 11a.m. the first and third Wednesday of every month at Cypress Place Senior Living in Ventura. The support group is free and open to the public. Seating is limited so please call to reserve a seat. To RSVP, please call 805-650-8000.

Cypress Place Senior Living is located at 1200 Cypress Point Lane. To learn more about Cypress Place Senior Living of Ventura, visit [www.cypressplacese-niorliving.com](http://www.cypressplacese-niorliving.com).

To learn more about New Hope

Senior Services, please visit [newhope-seniorservices.com](http://newhope-seniorservices.com).

Breeze:

*Help & Hope is a program for people in the early stages of Alzheimer's disease or related dementia and their care partners to provide essential information to promote quality of life and family health. Offered in four modules over a two-day period, this program is delivered by experts in the field. Topics include: an overview of diagnosis, communication strategies, legal and financial planning, treatment options, community resources and stress-relieving techniques.*

*This two-day event will be held on Saturdays, February 25th and March 25th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Camarillo Library, 4101 E. Las Posas Drive, Camarillo. There is no fee for participation, but registration is required. Call 494.5200 to register.*

### Don't Get Stuck with Medicare Late Fees

by Greg Dill

Medicare's regional administrator for Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, and the Pacific Territories

This past holiday season, I found myself in line at the airport counter, waiting to check a bag prior to a flight to visit family and friends. The gentlemen in front of me got frustrated when the customer agent said he had to pay more to check a bag because he hadn't paid for it online beforehand.

I could relate to his irritation since I'd had a similar experience years ago. But I was late for my plane and hoped the situation would be remedied soon. After talking to a manager and reviewing the terms of the ticket purchase, the man paid the extra fee. The rest of us in line sighed quiet relief as the clock ticked down to our departure times.

The gentleman's reaction made me think of a Medicare beneficiary I encountered a while back. He'd decided not to enroll in Medicare Part B, which helps pay for doctor fees, outpatient treatment, and preventive-care services, when he was first eligible.

At the time he declined his Part B benefits, he was in good health. He rarely saw a doctor, didn't take prescription drugs, and never had been admitted to a hospital. Part B carries a monthly premium (about \$109 for most people in 2017), and the man didn't think he should pay for something he didn't need.

Several years later his health declined and he wanted Part B. He signed up in March but learned that his coverage wouldn't start until July. And since he waited five years to enroll after he was initially eligible (and didn't have job-based insurance during that time), he discovered that he'd have to pay a late penalty equal to 50 percent of his monthly premium.

He was very surprised, to say the least. He reached out to Medicare to reduce the penalty, but unfortunately we couldn't do anything to help. When the beneficiary turned down Part B five years earlier, he signed a document explaining the penalty and the potential for higher costs. He now must pay this surcharge on his Part B premium for as long as he has Part B.

Like private insurance, Medicare spreads its costs across a "pool" of insured people that includes both those who are healthy and those with medical

## Coastal View Healthcare Center

Skilled Nursing, Rehabilitation and  
Respiratory Care



Coastal View provides the highest  
quality nursing, rehabilitation and  
respiratory care 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

problems. Late-enrollment penalties are meant to ensure that people join the risk pool when they're healthy, not just when they get sick. Thus, premiums paid by healthy people help offset the costs of those who with illnesses, keeping the program's overall expenses as low as possible for everyone.

Late-enrollment penalties can add up. Your Part B premium may go up 10 percent for each full 12-month period that you could've had Part B but didn't sign up for it. (You don't usually pay a late penalty if you defer Part B while you're covered by employer insurance.)

So please remember: If you don't sign up for Part B when you're first eligible, you may have to pay the late penalty for as long as you have Part B.

Late penalties also apply to Medicare Part A, which covers hospitalization. Although the vast majority of people with Medicare don't pay for Part A, those who do must sign up when they're first eligible or face a potential penalty.

You can also get hit with a penalty for late enrollment in Medicare Part D, which helps pay for prescription drugs. The way it's calculated is more complicated than Part B, but this penalty can add up, too. For details, see the 2017 Medicare & You handbook, mailed to every person with Medicare in the fall. It's also online at <https://www.medicare.gov/pubs/pdf/10050-Medicare-and-You.pdf>.

Or call us, toll free, any time of day or night, at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).

## Seniors who like to sing and play

Feb. 14 (2nd Tues. of each month), 3 - 5:30 p.m., at SCAN Health and Wellness Center, 6633 Telephone Rd., Ste., 100. Led by Marty Capsuto. Center is for those 55+ and guests, so Marty will guest sponsor all Songmakers under 55. Located three blocks east of Ventura County Gov't Center, corner of Partridge & Telephone. Plenty of parking behind building. For more information contact Marty at 658-0365 or [mcapsuto@scan-healthplan.com](mailto:mcapsuto@scan-healthplan.com).

Feb. 24 (4th Friday of each month), 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. Like to play acoustic music? Songmakers.org welcomes all lovers of acoustic music—instrumentalists, singers, and singer/songwriters of all levels—to join in a free song circle at the Bell Arts Factory Community Room, 432 N. Ventura Ave. Listeners welcome! Information Mike Wittlin 750-8281.

## What is palliative care?

Palliative care is comprehensive treatment of the discomfort, symptoms, and stress of serious illness, whatever the diagnosis. It works with a patient's main treatment and can be given along with all other medical care. The main goal of palliative care is to improve quality of life. It focuses not just on a patient's physical and medical needs, but also his or her emotional, social, and spiritual concerns. It also provides support to the patient's family.

Palliative care is not just for people who might die soon. It is a resource for anyone with a long-term chronic disease such as heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), cystic fibrosis, HIV/AIDS, and Parkinson's disease. Palliative care can be provided in any setting, including hospitals, nursing homes, outpatient palliative care clinics, other specialized clinics, or at home. All Veterans Health Administration hospitals now have a palliative care program.

The organized services available through palliative care can also be helpful to any older person having a lot of general discomfort and disability late in life. Palliative care can also help patients, family members, and health care providers talk through treatment and care decisions.

Hospice care provides comprehensive comfort care to the dying person as well as support to his or her family. Attempts to cure the person's illness are stopped. Candidates for hospice care are people with a serious illness who a health care provider thinks has less than 6 months to live. The goal of hospice is to relieve symptoms and make a dying person as comfortable as possible, maintaining that person's quality of life and dignity.

Hospice care does not provide 24-hour, around-the-clock nursing care, so many patients are cared for by family members, hired caregivers, or nursing home staff in between visits from hospice care providers. Hospice care can be provided in the home, at an assisted living facility or nursing home, or in a hospital.

Some people think a health care provider's suggestion to consider hospice means death is very near, but that is not always the case. Sometimes people do not start hospice care soon enough to take full advantage of the help it offers.

## Overwhelmed by an estate dissolution due to Downsizing, Death or Divorce? Your Estate Assistant Is Here To Help.

Trusted by Attorneys, Individuals, Families, Trustees and Realtors to provide organized, ethical and professional help. Services: Inventory, Sorting, Sales, Donations, Removal and more.

Bonded and Insured  
Member, Ventura County Bar Association

### How can we assist you?

Online: [yourestateassistant.com](http://yourestateassistant.com)  
Email: [yourestateassistant@gmail.com](mailto:yourestateassistant@gmail.com)  
Phone: (805) 861-8341

YOUR  
ESTATE  
ASSISTANT • LLC

THE EXPERTS IN SENIOR LIVING

CYPRESS PLACE  
SENIOR LIVING

"We worked hard all of our lives and now we deserve this wonderful lifestyle!"  
*Gunny & Jim Gordy, Cypress Residents*

ACTIVE SENIOR LIVING & ASSISTED LIVING  
MEMORY CARE

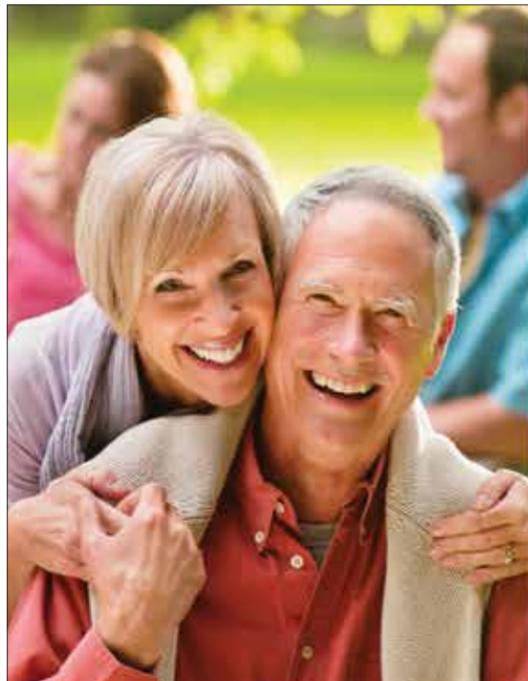
Come see why Cypress Place is THE EXPERT in SENIOR CARE!

Winner for Best Senior Living!

CALL US TODAY  
TO SCHEDULE A TOUR!

1200 Cypress Point Lane • Ventura, CA 93003  
805.650.8000  
[www.cypressplaceseniorliving.com](http://www.cypressplaceseniorliving.com)

Lic. #545801008



VICTORIA CARE

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

<p><b>SKILLED NURSING</b></p> <p>Serving the needs of Ventura County for more than two decades, Victoria Care Center has been rated by <i>U.S. News and World Report</i> 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.</p> <p><a href="http://www.VictoriaCareCenter.com">www.VictoriaCareCenter.com</a></p>	<p><b>POST-ACUTE REHAB CENTER</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p><a href="http://www.ThePARCAtVictoria.com">www.ThePARCAtVictoria.com</a></p>	<p><b>FRIENDS OF VICTORIA</b></p> <p>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. <i>Join today.</i></p> <p><a href="http://www.FriendsOfVictoria.org">www.FriendsOfVictoria.org</a></p>
---	---	---

805-642-1736  
5445 Everglades Street • Ventura, CA 93003



## Senior Living



Don't give your credit card information to those looking to make a quick buck.

### Spotting scams

Financial scams targeting seniors have become so prevalent that they're now considered "the crime of the 21st century." Why? Because seniors are thought to have a significant amount of money sitting in their accounts.

Far too many older adults fall prey to scammers who are looking to make a quick buck. The National Council on Aging (NCOA) offers Straight Talk for Seniors® about what to look for, and how to combat fraud and abuse.

While there is not one single collection agency for fraud reports, the Federal Trade Commission's Consumer Sentinel Network (CSN) reports more than 1.5 million fraud complaints in 2014, with losses totaling more than \$1.7 billion. More than 28% of the complaints were from consumers aged

60 and over. Scams and abuse range from Medicare fraud to financial abuse by a loved one. Find a list of the top 10 scams targeting seniors here.

Scams are always changing, but here are eight tested ways seniors can protect themselves:

Be aware you are at risk from strangers – and those closest to you.

Don't isolate yourself – stay involved.

Always tell solicitors: "I never buy from (or give to) anyone who calls or visits me unannounced. Send me something in writing."

Shred all receipts with your credit card number.

Sign up for the "Do Not Call" list and take yourself off multiple mailing lists.

Use direct deposit for benefit checks to

prevent checks from being stolen from the mailbox.

Never give your credit card, banking, Social Security, Medicare, or other personal information over the phone unless you initiated the call.

Be skeptical of all unsolicited offers and thoroughly do your research.

#### Warning Signs for Caregivers

There are signs caregivers and loved ones should watch for that can indicate an older adult may be a victim of fraud or abuse, including:

Unusual recent changes in the person's financial accounts, including atypical withdrawals, new person(s) added, or sudden use of a senior's ATM or credit card.

The senior suddenly appears confused, unkempt, and/or afraid.

Utility, rent, mortgage, medical, or other essential bills are unpaid despite adequate income.

A caregiver will not allow others access to the senior.

There are piled up sweepstakes mailings, magazine subscriptions, or "free gifts," which means they may be on "sucker lists."

Many seniors don't report financial fraud and abuse because they are afraid or embarrassed to talk about it, but not taking

action could only make repercussions worse. Immediately:

Additionally, there are several government agencies that can help.

The state Adult Protective Service (APS) program can help. Find a local office on the Eldercare Locator, or call them toll-free at 1-800-677-1116.

File a complaint online with the Federal Trade Commission Complaint Assistant at: <https://www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov/>

Call the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's complaint line at: 1-855-411-CFPB (2372)

Contact your State Attorney General. More Information

NCOA's EconomicCheckUp® website has useful tips and tools to help older adults avoid scams, manage a limited budget, save money, and more.

NCOA's Savvy Saving Seniors® education program includes a class on Steps to Avoiding Scams. Test your knowledge about scams and get more tips for recognizing scams.

NCOA's Economic Security Initiative is helping older adults find benefits and protect their finances so they can live a healthy, confident life. Find out more here.



Would you like to teach Tai Chi?

### Volunteers needed to train new senior Tai Chi balance classes

Volunteers are needed for a new senior Tai Chi program which is starting in the four west county cities served by the Oxnard RSVP. No experience is needed and volunteer instructor training will be provided in mid-February.

A federal grant received by the City of Oxnard and its RSVP program funds the free exercise classes, which are being offered in partnership with the Ventura County Area Agency on Aging.

Tai Chi: Moving for Better Balance follows curriculum developed at the Oregon Research Institute (in Oregon) where studies showed improved strength and balance, increased mobility and reduced incidence of falls among seniors who participated in the classes.

The 12-week evidence-based program consists of a core eight-form routine of Yang-style Tai Chi with built-in exercise variations. It teaches participants balance skills and good body alignment by using coordinated and flowing movements. Much as they do in RSVP's popular Bone Builders classes, it is expected participants will form friendships, providing a fun, social atmosphere around the classes. The classes are intended for adults age 60 and older who can walk easily with or without assistive devices.

RSVP is currently recruiting volunteers to lead the classes in Oxnard, Ventura, Camarillo and Port Hueneme; bilingual volunteers are particularly needed. A

two-day training with the Master Trainer is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, February 10 and 11, in Ventura. Several follow-up practices with other trained volunteers will be scheduled before volunteers lead a class. Attendance at quarterly in-services will also be required. No experience is necessary, but a six-month commitment to teach three hours per week is requested.

Volunteers team teach to allow for vacation and sick time. All RSVP volunteers must be age 55 or better. For more information on the instructor training or to register to be trained as an instructor, please call 385-8023.

Through practical lifestyle adjustments, participation in evidence-based falls prevention programs, such as Tai Chi: Moving for Better Balance, and other interventions, the number of falls among seniors can be substantially reduced.

Those interested in taking the 12-week class should call the Ventura County Area Agency on Aging's fall prevention program at 477-7347 to have their name put on the waiting list.

RSVP is a volunteer recruitment and placement program, helping people 55 and older find volunteer positions that match their interests, talent and available time. The Oxnard RSVP has almost 600 members and is sponsored by the City of Oxnard. To learn more about being an RSVP member or to discuss other volunteer opportunities, call 385-8023.





# News & Notes



Angie Allmendinger has joined the team.

## New Regional Coordinator for School on Wheels

by Sinead Chilton

Marketing Director, School on Wheels, Inc.

School on Wheels is happy to announce that after a long search we have a new Regional Coordinator for Ventura County. Angie Allmendinger has joined the team and will be working from our Resource Center in Ventura. Before joining School on Wheels Angie earned her M.A. in American Studies in Germany and taught High School English in rural Japan.

School on Wheels is always looking for volunteers who want to make a positive difference in the life of a

homeless student. Please visit [www.schoolonwheels.org](http://www.schoolonwheels.org) for more information about how to apply to become a volunteer tutor and join their amazing Ventura Volunteers Team!

We are looking for volunteers as the list of homeless children that need our help is growing. We are predicting that the number of families and children experiencing homelessness will increase significantly this year due to the lack of affordable housing, shelters closing and new government policies.

## News from the Ventura Police Department

The Ventura Police Department is hiring Police Officer Trainees for the October, 2017 Academy and Lateral or Academy Trained Police Officers on an on-going basis.

The department prides itself on hiring and retaining the most qualified individuals. The position of Ventura Police Officer is not only challenging but also extremely rewarding. As a police officer fighting and preventing crime, protecting the innocent, and serving the community is what you do daily, but it is the individuals we hire who are leaders, have courage, integrity, self-discipline, and compassion that make our department great.

An information booth will be set up every Thursday, ending March 30, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the police department lobby located at 1425 Dowell Drive in Ventura. Those interested in applying are invited to come and have questions answered and learn more about the opportunity and hiring process. For more information about the Thursday recruitment booth or to make an appointment with a recruitment officer please call 797-8886.

If you believe you have what it takes apply for the position of Police Officer Trainee or if you are currently a sworn

peace officer consider a lateral transfer. Information can be found online at [www.cityofventura.jobs](http://www.cityofventura.jobs) or at [www.venturapd.org](http://www.venturapd.org).

The Ventura Police Department will step up Bike & Pedestrian Safety Enforcement Operations with focused enforcement on collision causing factors involving motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists.

The department has mapped out locations where pedestrian and bike collisions have occurred along with the violations that led to those crashes. Extra officers will be on duty patrolling areas where bike and pedestrian traffic and crashes occur in an effort to lower deaths and injuries.

Officers will be looking for violations made by drivers, bike riders and pedestrians alike that can lead to life changing injuries. Special attention will be directed toward drivers speeding, making illegal turns, failing to stop for signs and signals, failing to yield to pedestrians in cross walks or any other dangerous violation.

Additionally, enforcement will be taken for observed violations when pedestrians cross the street illegally or fail to yield to drivers who have the right of way. Bike riders will be stopped and citations issued when they fail to follow the same traffic laws that apply to motorists.

Bicycle and pedestrian fatalities are rising in California as more people use non-motorized means of transportation. Locally, the Ventura Police Department

TRUSTED LEGAL SERVICES • EXPERIENCE THAT MATTERS • PERSONALIZED ATTENTION

## LAW OFFICES OF HEIDI HOHLER

Practicing in areas of:  
Real Estate | Bankruptcy  
Estate Planning | Wills & Trusts  
Business Litigation

**AFFORDABLE BANKRUPTCY**  
**AFFORDABLE ESTATE PLANNING**

**818.889.6444**

Law Offices of Heidi Hohler.com  
30423 Canwood St., Ste. 203, Agoura Hills

ment has investigated many fatal and injury collisions involving pedestrians and bicyclists. Funding for this program is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Football fans across the country will celebrate America's most watched national sporting event, Super Bowl LI, on Sunday, Feb. 5. For many, the celebration will include drinking alcohol. That's why the Ventura Police Department and law enforcement agencies across Ventura County are teaming up with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) for a special Fans Don't Let Fans Drive Drunk reminder to urge all football fans to call the right play on Super Bowl weekend by passing the keys to a sober driver before the drinking begins.

Drunk driving can be deadly in 2015 10,265 people—29 percent of all people killed in motor vehicle crashes in the United States that year—were killed in crashes that involved an impaired driver.

"Super Bowl Fans Don't Let Fans Drive Drunk. If you want to be the MVP of Super Bowl LI, volunteer to be a designated driver to help your family and friends get home safely," said Sergeant Darrick Brunk. "Drunk driving only leads to disaster and tragedy. It is never worth the risk. If you do plan to drink, remember to pass the keys to the sober driver before kickoff."

Fans that have been drinking are encouraged to plan ahead and secure a safe ride home by designating a sober driver, using public transportation, or calling a taxi or rideshare program.

## Harmony Project celebration to raise funds for music education

The New West Symphony will present its second annual Harmony Project of Ventura County Cele-

bration Brunch on Feb. 12 at the Ventura Beach Marriott. Grammy-nominated singer/songwriter Perla Batalla will headline the event which will raise funds to support the New West Symphony Harmony Project of Ventura County, a youth development program that uses music education as a tool for social transformation among underserved students in Ventura. The New West Symphony will honor Bona and Larry Press as Supporters of the Year, the City of Ventura as Community Partner of the Year, and Montecito Bank and Trust as Business of the Year.

The Celebration Brunch will also include a special video produced in collaboration with The John Lennon Educational Tour Bus. The Lennon Bus is a non-profit mobile recording studio dedicated to providing students of all ages with free hands-on opportunities to make music and produce video projects. The Lennon Bus team will work with 8 Harmony Project students to produce this video in their fully equipped professional music and video studio.

The New West Symphony Harmony Project of Ventura County is a tuition-free after school program that provides quality music instruction to children from low-income families who would not otherwise have access to a music education. The program currently serves 160 students in Ventura from third grade through their high school graduation.

Tickets for the Harmony Project Celebration Brunch are \$150 per person and can be purchased online at [www.newwestsymphony.org](http://www.newwestsymphony.org) or by calling 497-5800.

Founded in 1995, the New West Symphony is a professional orchestra that draws its players from the rich talent pool of professional Los Angeles-area musicians. The Symphony is the resident company of the Oxnard Performing Arts Center, the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza, and Barnum Hall in Santa Monica.

Tales Told... AN ANTHOLOGY BY **JAMES FRANCIS GRAY**  
AUTHOR OF **KALI IS YOUR CODE NAME & GUMSHOE**  
Visit our website for info. [jamesfgray.com](http://jamesfgray.com)  
for video trailers, locations, booksignings!

FIND AT THESE LOCAL LOCATIONS  
TATIANA'S COFFEE & TEA CAFE 2470 E. Main St., Ventura (805) 901-7620  
THE DECEMBER STORE & MORE 1559 Spinnaker Dr., #103 (805) 766-5920  
GEMS & GLITTER BOUTIQUE 2690 Loma Vista, Ventura (805) 648-6364  
JAMES F. GRAY PRINTING 2261 Palma Dr. #2, Ventura (805) 650-2786  
**READ CHAPTER ONE FOR FREE ON AMAZON.COM**

*Author's Note: I said to my wife while penning this ditty, "I have to put myself into the mindset of a boy, 15." And she said, "You are a boy, 15."*



# Professor Scamp, Ph.D

(Pretty Happy Dog)



Professor Scamp  
Ph.D

■ A unique Tournament of Roses Parade float featuring surfing dogs and other talented animals set a new Guinness World Record.

The Lucy Pet's Gnarly Crankin' K-9 Wave Maker float set the world record for the longest and heaviest float in Tournament of Roses Parade history. The float weighed 74 tons and was 126 feet long.

Lucy Pet Products is a family-owned and operated pet product business based in Thousand Oaks. Proceeds from the brand directly fund its 501 (c) (3) non-profit Lucy Pet Foundation. The foundation's mission is to reduce pet overpopulation and the euthanasia of over 80,000 dogs and cats per week in the United States.

■ From the San Francisco Chronicle about just how wonderful man's best friend is (that's me):

Each week, patients at the Support Hospital of Brasilia receive visits from a special breed of therapist: dogs trained to help them recover from disease or injury.

Big and small, from German shepherds to Shih Tzus, the dogs get into bed with some patients to snuggle during the 15-minute visits. Folks who are more mobile may take an animal to a crafts class, or play with it in the hallways.

Designed for people who have advanced-stage cancer, live with chronic disease or are recovering from trauma, the program of canine interactions assists with both mental and physical rehabilitation.

"A bit of the sadness goes away," said Jaqueline Castro, a 27-year-old patient with a degenerative nerve disorder who received three visits in a month.

The project began about five months ago and now counts 60 volunteers who bring their pets to the hospital in Brazil's capital each week.

But not just any old mutt can make the cut: Only about one out of every 10 dogs whose owners volunteer is accepted, according to program coordinator Nayara Brea.

The animals must pass extensive health checks and undergo training, as they are brought right into the wards of the hospital. They must be excep-

tionally calm to avoid stressing out the patients. They can't bark, and they have to be gentle with both humans and other canines.

A therapy dog "accepts the patients without any judgment," said Valeria Carvalho, who brings her miniature Schnauzer, Paola, to the hospital. "People start to have a different perspective on life, on health."

■ This was sent to me by my friend Ken Winter and is just too funny to not share:

A guy is driving around the back woods of Montana and he sees a sign in front of a broken down shanty house 'Talking Dog for Sale' so he rings the bell and the owner appears and tells him the dog is in the backyard.

The guy goes into the backyard and sees a nice looking Labrador retriever sitting there and asks do you talk?

'Yep,' the Lab replies.

After the guy recovers from the shock of hearing a dog talk, he says 'So, what's your story?'

The Lab looks up and says, 'Well, I discovered that I could talk when I was pretty young. I wanted to help the government so I told the CIA.'

'In no time at all they had me jetting from country to country, sitting in rooms with spies and world leaders, because no one figured a dog would be eavesdropping.'

'I was one of their most valuable spies for eight years running.'

'But the jetting around really tired me out, and I knew I wasn't getting any younger so I decided to settle down. I signed up for a job at the airport to

do some undercover security, wandering near suspicious characters and listening in.'

'I uncovered some incredible dealings and was awarded a batch of medals.'

'I got married, had a mess of puppies, and now I'm just retired.'

The guy is amazed. He goes back in and asks the owner what he wants for the dog.

'Ten dollars,' the guy says.

'Ten dollars? This dog is amazing! Why on earth are you selling him so cheap?'

'Because he's a bullshitter. He's never been out of the yard'

■ by Victoria Usher

There are now plans being put in place to have some much needed upgrades made to the well-known 3.5-acre Conejo Creek Dog Park in Thousand Oaks, which is located on 1350 East Avenida de Las Flores. The renovations for the dog park are expected to be happening in either late March or early April of 2017. The main improvements that are going to be made to the popular Thousand Oaks dog park include a paved parking lot to replace the dirt parking lot, a permanent restroom to replace the portable toilet that is there right now, better landscaping, new concrete walkways, and improved fencing. The district has been wanting to make these renovations for about six years and now they will finally be able to make these changes happen and give dogs and their owners an even better Conejo Creek Dog Park.

## Meet Winston

He's part of our Ohana, our Family



EDUCATING PEOPLE

SUPPORTING RESCUES

ECOFRIENDLY PRACTICES

Winston is a proud Ohana patient who receives compassionate care and the highest-quality medical, surgical, dental and wellness health care provided by our dedicated veterinarians and staff.

Compassionate Care for our Ohana, Our Family



[www.ohanapethospital.com](http://www.ohanapethospital.com) • 805.658.7387

4547 Telephone Road, Suite A, Ventura



## SPAN Thrift Store

SPAY/NEUTER ANIMAL NETWORK

We are an all volunteer, nonprofit organization

More Spays - Less Strays

Volunteers Needed!

Donations Always Appreciated!

Spay and Neuter for Low & No Income

Families in Ventura County

805.641.1170 110 A & B N. Olive St., Ventura CA 93001 [www.spanonline.org](http://www.spanonline.org)



Dedicated to serving our furry friends for over 34 years!



- Wellness Exams
- Dental Care
- Surgery & Medicine
- Vaccinations
- Nutritional Counseling
- Holistic Medicine

(Acupuncture & Chinese Herbal Therapy)

We treat every client like family and every patient as if they were our own pet!



EAST VENTURA ANIMAL HOSPITAL

(805) 647-8430

[bit.ly/EastVenturaAHFacebook](https://www.facebook.com/EAHFacebook)

Visit us online:

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

10225 Telephone Road • Ventura, CA 93004

LostCatVentura.com and LostDogVentura.com are free resources for finding lost pets in Ventura County, and where you can post a notice to find your lost pet.

## Forever homes wanted



Cookie is our Kitty Cottage greeter. She is a "senior" cat, but you would never know it by stroking her soft fur or watching her spry way of jumping onto your lap. She is also beautiful to look at. Don't just take our word for it. We are open seven days a week from 11:00 to 6:00. Ventura County Animal Services - Camarillo location - 600 Aviation Drive. A654909 Cookie.

## Scamp Club

(Scampclub pets are not for adoption.)



Hi: I'm Chloe, a 6-year-old Shih Tzu (like Scamp except I'm much younger). I love wearing the latest fashions and playing with my stuffed sheep toy.

## Join Scamp Club

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



# Police Reports

by Cindy Summers

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.

## Vehicle Burglary and Arrest

On January 21, at approximately 2am, the Ventura Police Department Command Center received a call of vandalism to a vehicle parked to the rear of Bombay Bar and Grill, 143 S. California St. The vehicle's owner was an employee of the bar and was able to view video surveillance footage of the parking lot. On the video, the employee saw the suspect and later identified as the suspect, 22-year-old Oxnard resident Robert Camacho, breaking the driver's window of his vehicle and entering inside. He then realized that Camacho was standing in front of the bar waiting to be picked up by an UBER service. With the assistance of the bar's security, Camacho was detained and held until officers arrived.

During the investigation, officers learned that Camacho shattered the window of the victim's vehicle and stole property from inside. He was arrested and booked into the Ventura County Jail for burglary.

## Attempted Robbery

On January 22, at approximately 8:30pm, the Ventura Police Department Command Center received a 911 call of a possible robbery that had just occurred at the Meta Market, 1194 Meta St. The victim clerk reported the suspect had fled from the business.

During the investigation, officers learned that the suspect entered the business and approached the victim clerk, who was working behind the counter. The suspect had an item of clothing covering his arm and simulated that he was armed with a weapon, although no actual weapon was seen. He demanded money from the clerk. The victim clerk came out from behind the counter, at which time the suspect struck him in the head with an unknown type object. The suspect then fled the business without obtaining any money and was last seen running southbound on Hemlock St.

Officers checked the area, but were unable to locate the suspect.

The victim was treated at the scene by Ventura City Fire personnel for a minor head injury and released.

## Attempted Residential Burglary and Prowling Arrest

On January 23, at approximately 12:15pm, the Ventura Police Department's Command Center received a 911 call from a resident in the 1300 block of Swansea Ave., reporting that someone was attempting to enter his residence through a rear door. The first arriving officers detained the suspect, later identified as 47 year old vagrant Frank Mendoza, as he was leaving from the side yard of the residence.

During the investigation, officers learned the victim was home alone, when Mendoza began knocking on the front door. The victim did not answer the door. A short time later, he heard a noise coming from the back of the residence and saw Mendoza attempting to open a rear sliding door. Mendoza was still not aware the victim was home. The victim called the police and remained on the phone

while officers responded.

Mendoza was transported to the Ventura County Jail and booked for attempted residential burglary and prowling.

## Strong-Arm Robbery Arrest

On January 25, at 11:15am, the Ventura Police Department Command Center received a 911 call from the victim, stating that while he was asleep inside of his vehicle, the suspect had removed his bicycle that was strapped to the back of his vehicle. When the victim woke and confronted the suspect, the suspect brandished a knife and threatened to kill the victim. The victim fearing for his safety locked himself inside his vehicle and watched as the suspect rode away on the bicycle.

Officers checked the area, and found a person matching the description of the suspect a short distance away. The suspect was in possession of a bicycle matching the description of the stolen bicycle. The victim positively identified 55 year old Ventura resident Arthur Navarro as the suspect, and the bicycle as the one taken from him.

Navarro was arrested for 211 PC, Robbery, found to be in possession of Narcotic Paraphernalia and booked at Ventura County Jail without incident for both charges.

## Vandalism

On January 28, at 11pm the Ventura Police Department Command Center received a 911 call of 4 juveniles wearing dark colored clothing that had just broken a window to a parked vehicle on Solano St. As officers arrived on scene, they discovered additional victims in the area. Security footage showed 4 juveniles on skateboards south on Imperial Ave. one of the juveniles stopped and used his skateboard to strike a parked vehicle, causing damage. As the juveniles continued skateboarding in the area, one of them picked up rocks and used the rocks to smash the windows to several parked cars. Officers located 5 vehicles with damage in the area.

The suspects were possibly leaving a house party in the area of Imperial Ave and Calaveras St.

Several juveniles were contacted in the area and cited for curfew violations. One juvenile was arrested for possession of brass knuckles. The subjects who vandalized the vehicles were not located.

Anyone with information about this crime or if you are an unreported victim please contact the Ventura Police Department at 339-4488. An anonymous tip can be made by calling Crime Stoppers at (800) 222-TIPS.

## Commercial Burglary, Resisting Arrest, Possession of Narcotics

On January 29, at 3:38am the Ventura Police Department Command Center received a 911 call from the alarm company that covers Paradise Chevrolet. Security video surveillance showed a subject on the property cutting open boxes. Officers arrived on scene and began searching the property. The suspect, Cesar Herrera, 31 vagrant saw the officers and fled, jumping over a wall to try to get away. After a short foot pursuit, Herrera was taken into custody.

During the investigation it was discovered Herrera had entered the garage areas of the dealership and had stolen keys for the vehicles. Herrera also had methamphetamine on his

Tenacious, fiercely loyal, and working for you!

cell: 805-701-7694  
office: 805-477-4284  
TeamTrainor12@gmail.com  
@TeamTrainor12

ADELA TRAINOR  
REAL ESTATE

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY | California Properties

person as well as burglary tools. Herrera was booked at the Ventura County Jail without incident for the above charges.

# Harbor Patrol Blotter

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

**1-06** 2:15pm, received a report of a boating accident in Ventura West marina. After a brief investigation it was determined that no damage was sustained in the minor collision that occurred. All parties were satisfied.

**1-07** 2:45pm, while on patrol, officers observed a vehicle blocking the roadway on spinnaker drive near angler court. An elderly individual was lost; officers assisted the person with their destination.

**1-09** 9:36am, received a report of an individual pepper spraying someone in the restrooms near 1559 Spinnaker drive. A few Port District employees inadvertently entered the restroom and were overcome by the effects of the pepper spray. Ventura PD and Fire were summoned and a brief investigation ensued. No injuries were sustained and the incident is under investigation.

**1-14** 12:47pm, received a distress call from a vessel in the harbor near Ventura West marina. Officers responded and found a 52 foot sailboat safely anchored and no longer in distress. Tow Boat-US assisted the vessel.

**2:22pm**, received a dispatch to a medical. Officers responded and assisted Ventura fire and AMR with a 71 year old female complaining of various conditions. She was eventually transported to local hospital.

**9:30pm**, received a report of a transient male complaining of stomach pain near the fuel pier in the village. Officers responded and repeatedly offered assistance to an elderly male hunched over and moaning. The male refused help, said he would seek help in the morning.

**1-15** 12:15pm, officers assisted the Greek restaurant with their Greek Orthodox blessing ceremony in the South Basin of the harbor by lifeguarding the swimmers attempting to capture the cross in the water. 7:05pm, received a request to secure to the Districts longdock from the captain of a disabled 41ft sailboat en route to Long beach. Towboat U.S. towed the vessel from the shipping lanes and to the dock. The vessel was hauled out the next day by the boatyard.

**1-16** 4:02pm, during shift change, received a dispatch to a water rescue at Harbor Cove

beach. Officers responded by land and by sea to search for the distressed swimmer. After searching the area of Harbor Cove to the Santa Clara river mouth, officers determined the rescue was actually at Marina Park on the North-side of the harbor. The R/P, a fisherman on the North jetty was unsure where he was while reporting the incident. The victims were caught in a rip current and eventually swam ashore. Harbor patrol is still in possession of the paddles and the kayak, still searching for the owner.

# Shining Star Awards

Project Understanding requests the honor of your presence at the Shining Star Awards: Volunteer Appreciation Event at 6pm Thursday, Feb. 9, at the Poinsettia Pavilion. The Master of Ceremonies will be Ventura City Councilmember Cheryl Heitmann.

Community transformation occurs through great volunteers and community partners. Individuals and organizations will be honored for their community service, including these pre-announced winners:

- Volunteer of the Year for each program:
  - Tutoring-David Ensminger
  - Food Pantry-Joanna Norstedt
  - Tender Life Maternity Home-Karen Collier and Carolyn Tabor
  - First Step Center-Nita Perkins
  - Administration-Meg Perry and Gina Norstedt.
- Business of the Year: MortgageCouch
- Collaborating Partner of the Year: CAPS Media
- House of Worship: Ventura Seventh-Day Adventist Church and St. Paul's Episcopal Church
- Philanthropists of the Year: Oxnard Monday Club
- Community Partner of the Year: Richard H. Bejune Memorial Foundation

Other Awards are secret until the presentation.

Project Understanding transforms lives and community by...  
Housing the homeless, 100 last year  
Feeding the hungry, 900 per month  
Tutoring children, 325 each week in Oxnard, El Rio, Santa Paula, Saticoy, Ventura

Dress will be semi-formal/business attire. There will be appetizers and refreshments served. Please RSVP to info@projectunderstanding.org or by phone at 652-1326 ext. 301.

Weekly SUDOKU Answer

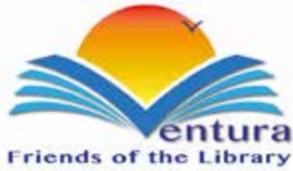
8	6	4	3	5	7	1	9	2
3	1	2	9	4	6	5	7	8
7	9	5	8	2	1	4	6	3
2	8	1	6	7	4	3	5	9
6	4	7	5	3	9	2	8	1
9	5	3	2	1	8	7	4	6
1	2	8	4	6	5	9	3	7
4	3	9	7	8	2	6	1	5
5	7	6	1	9	3	8	2	4

King Crossword Answers  
Solution time: 25 mins.

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



As Friends of the Library,  
we appreciate and want to  
spread the word about all  
that the library has to offer.



Did you know that the library offers  
Career Online High School ?

Adults have the opportunity to earn an accredited high school diploma and career certificate online with the assistance of an academic coach who provides ongoing guidance, evaluates performance, and connects you to the resources you need to master the courses.

Scholarships are available for adults to earn a High School diploma online at the Ventura County Library.

Call 805-677-7160

Or go to [www.venturacounty.org/COHS](http://www.venturacounty.org/COHS)



## Aboard the USS San Diego

Photos by Richard Lieberman

The USS San Diego, is a US Navy amphibious transport dock ship. It was open to the press on media day at Naval Base Ventura County. This 684-foot-long ship can accommodate four CH-46 Sea Knight helicopters, and two LCAC's (air cushioned landing boats), it can also carry two MV-22 Ospreys that land and takeoff like a helicopter. The ship's crew is 380 Sailors (29 officers, 351 enlisted) and 3 Marines. The embarked landing force is 699 and a medical ward with 24 beds. The ship is designed to land service personnel and equipment ashore for various missions. During combat it would be in a group of warships. The ship



was at Naval Base Ventura County for a few days to accomplish crew training exercises.

## This 'n' That National Park Service selects new guided sea kayak tour concessioner

Santa Barbara Adventure Company has been selected to receive a new 10-year concessions contract to operate guided sea kayak tours, limited convenience item sales, snorkel equipment rentals, and guided snorkel tours at Scorpion Anchorage on Santa Cruz Island.

Santa Barbara Adventure Company, doing business as Channel Islands Adventure Company, has provided guided sea kayak services for more than 18 years, and has operated in Channel Islands National Park since 2007.

The park's 2015 General Management Plan directed the transition of the Scorpion Area Kayak Guide Service from a limited, Commercial Use Authorization opportunity to management under a Concessions Contract. The contract contains additional authorized services, including snorkel equipment rental, guided snorkel tours, and the sale of limited convenience merchandise.

"This is a significant step towards improving visitor access and enjoyment," said Channel Islands National Park Superintendent Russell Galipeau. "The contract will, for the first time in the park's history, afford visitors the opportunity for guided kayak and snorkel tours on the island, with no prior reservations needed."

The new guided sea kayak tours concession contract at Channel Islands National Park will take effect on March 1. The new contract resulted from a bidding process, in which concession contract proposals for Channel Islands National Park were solicited by the National Park Service from May 19, 2016, through August 23, 2016.

Team Trophy going to County of Ventura (Division AA), Oxnard Police Department (Division B), Northrop Grumman (Division C), and Aerotek (Division D). The JD Probasco Team Unity Award winners last year included: Amgen, DK Electric, Parker Hannifin, and Teredyne.

Corporate Games organizer Eric Burton encourages new companies and organizations to take part this year and says, "The top three reasons to get your colleagues together and participate are to build a better team, increase camaraderie and to promote health and wellness."

Corporate Games is sponsored by: AECOM, Amgen, Brighton Management, The Cheesecake Factory, Community Memorial Health System, County of Ventura, Jano Graphics, Limoneira, Parker Aerospace, PTI Technologies, SAGE Publishing, Spanish Hills Country Club, The Trade Desk, and Ventura County Credit Union.

For information visit [www.venturacorporategames.org](http://www.venturacorporategames.org) or call Eric Burton, City of Ventura Recreation Supervisor 658-4738.

## EDD Employee or Independent Contractor Seminar

Employment Development Department (EDD) invites you to attend at no charge an Employee or Independent Contractor Seminar

March 2, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the EDD Tax Office Training Room

4820 McGrath Street, Suite 200

To make reservations, visit the EDD website at [www.edd.ca.gov/Payroll\\_Tax\\_Seminars/](http://www.edd.ca.gov/Payroll_Tax_Seminars/) or call 866-873-6083.

The EDD is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Requests for services, aids, and/or alternate formats need to be made prior to the event by calling 866-873-6083 (voice) or TTY 888-547-9565.

## Registration is now open for the 28th annual Corporate Games

The City of Ventura is accepting registrations for the 28th annual Corporate Games scheduled for March 25-May 6, 2017. Corporate Games is a friendly, business-to-business competition in which companies of similar size compete for Olympic style medals and honors in 26 events held during six-weeks of competition. To register, visit [www.venturacorporategames.org](http://www.venturacorporategames.org).

New and returning teams are encouraged to attend a company coordinator meeting on Thursday, January 26 at 6:30 pm, Ventura City Hall in the Community Meeting Room, 501 Poli Street. Attendees will learn more about the Corporate Games and get tips on how to improve performance for the upcoming competition.

New this year is the CrossFit Challenge which will be held during Opening Ceremonies on March 25 for companies registered to participate in the Corporate Games. Also new for 2017 is the Executive Golf Tournament which will be hosted by Spanish Hills Country Club on April 17.

In 2016, more than 80 companies participated in this event with the Overall

## Ventura County Grand Jury announces 2017/2018 applications

Ventura County residents have an opportunity to provide a valuable community service while learning about local government by serving on the Ventura County Grand Jury. Applications are now available for the 2017/2018 Grand Jury at: [www.ventura.org/grand-jury](http://www.ventura.org/grand-jury).

The Grand Jury is a civil, investigative panel of 19 volunteers. The watchdog group investigates issues and citizen complaints and then makes recommendations to improve the operation of local government.

The Grand Jury may examine all aspects of Ventura County government, its 10 city governments as well as special districts and other agencies funded by tax dollars.

To become a Grand Juror, you must be 18 years or older, a U.S. citizen and a Ventura County resident for at least a year.

Applications may also be requested by telephone at 477-1600. Applications will be accepted until April 7, 2017.



On Sunday, January 29th, the Ventura County Concert Band presented "International Harmony" at Ventura High School. The free concert featured the 60 member orchestra under the direction of Dr. Julie Judd. They played a variety of music from the Star Spangled Banner, Sainit-Saens to Fiddler On The Roof to the cheering audience. Featured soloists were Patrick Ingram, clarinet, Cathy Sanders, trombone and Randy Jones, trumpet. E-mail [friends.of.vccb@gmail.com](mailto:friends.of.vccb@gmail.com) to be put on their mailing list for future concerts.

<p>1700 E. Thompson Blvd. Ventura <b>805.648.1070</b> Mon - Thurs 11am - 9:30pm Fri &amp; Sat 11am - 10:30pm <b>LARGE 1 TOPPING \$8.49</b> (PICK-UP ONLY) REGULAR PRICE \$14.95 <b>PEPPERONI CALZONE ONLY \$5.49</b> (PICK-UP ONLY)</p>	<p><b>cordello's</b> <b>PIZZA</b> <b>WE DELIVER</b> (\$15 minimum)</p>	<p><b>FAMILY DEAL \$27.95</b> X-Large 2 Topping Pizza Large Garden Salad 10 Buffalo Wings <b>GLUTEN FREE</b> Large 1 topping \$15.95 10" mini 1 topping \$9.95 Extra Toppings - \$1 each</p>
<p><b>Monday thru Thursday - Extra Large Pizza, one topping, \$10.99 or Spaghetti, \$5.49</b></p>		



# Youth



The Ventura Family YMCA Youth and Government delegates at their second Training and Elections Conference in Fresno.

## Twenty-four teens with the Ventura Family YMCA were part of the team

The Channel Islands YMCA Youth & Government delegation joined more than 3,500 youth from across the state in Fresno for their second Training & Elections conference held Jan. 14-16 at the Fresno Convention Center.

The Youth & Government program offered at YMCAs — including the Santa Barbara, Lompoc, Stuart C. Gildred, and Ventura branches of the Channel Islands YMCA — gives students a chance to learn about California's legislative and judicial processes by writing bills, preparing briefs, and governmental role-play (lobbying, running for office, debating bills, voting on legislation).

"I'm always astonished by the amount I can learn in a three-day conference. Even after a semester of AP Government, in this particular conference, I learned more about the process of trial by jury than I had ever learned in class," said Caitlin English, senior and fourth-year delegate at Ventura High School and delegation Vice President. "Being able to act out the democratic process and actively participate in trial is such a different experience and is extremely helpful in understanding how our government operates."

Youth and Government is a six-month program offered by YMCAs across the nation that provides students the opportunity to experience government first-hand and learn how to solve community problems through the democratic process as well as debate and discuss issues with their peers.

"This program is amazing for teens," said Julie O'Brien, Youth Program Director at the Ventura Family YMCA. "To see a group of high schoolers become so passionate about this type of program is an amazing experience for me, not to mention a life changing experience for them!"

In California, the experience culminates with Model Legislature & Court in Sacramento in February. The Channel Islands delegation will participate in the 69th Model Legislature & Court held Feb. 16-19 at the Sacramento Convention Center. Their first Training and Elections Conference was held in December. Both serve as opportunities for the students to prepare.

To support this program or to learn about how to participate, please contact

Julie at 642.2131 ext. 23, or visit [ciymca.org/ventura](http://ciymca.org/ventura).

Established in 1887, the Channel Islands YMCA is a charitable organization of seven YMCA branches serving Santa Barbara and Ventura counties including: Camarillo Family YMCA, Lompoc Family YMCA, Montecito Family YMCA, Santa Barbara Family YMCA, Stuart C. Gildred Family YMCA in Santa Ynez, Ventura Family YMCA, and Youth and Family Services YMCA which operates Noah's Anchorage Youth Crisis Shelter, the St. George Family Youth Center and My Home.



Aaliyah is planning to become a doctor.

## Ventura Unified School District Female Student of the Year

by Victoria Usher

Many people gathered together to help celebrate the 20th Annual Poinsettia Awards luncheon on Thursday, December 8 which is presented by the Ventura Chamber of Commerce. It was a wonderful time for everyone involved that took place at the Marriott Ventura Beach. It was an event that gave deserving

Melody O'Leary-Namikas  
REALTOR  
Friendly Service - Exceptional Results  
Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices  
California Properties  
805.218.5035  
melody4realestate@gmail.com  
Realtor - License #01229611

recognition to specific individuals and organizations that have made great accomplishments and contributions.

One of these deserving people is Aaliyah Staples-West, a senior at Buena High School in Ventura who won the award for Ventura Unified School District Female Student of the Year.

The principal of her high school nominated her for her accomplishments and when her name got called it was a complete surprise, a wonderful surprise! It's wonderful to see someone be so determined and passionate about their education and about their future at such a young age.

When Aaliyah isn't too busy being a hardworking student she is busy playing basketball. She is on the girls' varsity basketball team and you can tell how passionate she is about her team and about the sport. "I've been playing basketball since I was in fourth grade, I love it," says Aaliyah.

After she graduates from Buena High School, Aaliyah is planning to attend college where she will study biology and then go on to graduate school where she will then study to become a doctor. San Diego State University and Point Loma are the two universities that Aaliyah is considering for college. The city of San Diego and either one of those universities would be extremely lucky to have someone as down to earth, smart and determined as Aaliyah Staples-West.

of a \$15,000 grant from the Amgen Foundation, has announced the launch of the 2017 Imagine Your STEM Future program, which will provide STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) activities to approximately 325 low-income girls, ages 5-18 in Ventura County.

"We are very excited to implement the Imagine program thanks to the continued generous support from the Amgen Foundation," said Girl Scouts of California's Central Coast Interim CEO Jody Skenderian.

The goal of the Imagine program is to expand girls' STEM skills as they enjoy hands-on experiments, explore STEM careers, and care for their environment with the help of a strong network of volunteers. Girl Scouts helps foster a life-long passion for STEM and inquiry-based learning as girls engage in cooperative partnerships—working together to solve problems, conduct experiments, and plan and implement STEM-based projects. Whether girls want to learn how to build a robot, a catapult, or participate in global conservation efforts, Girl Scout programs helps them imagine their STEM future with help from grantors such as the Amgen Foundation.

The Amgen Foundation seeks to advance excellence in science education to inspire the next generation of innovators, and invest in strengthening communities where Amgen staff members live and work.

Girl Scouts of California's Central Coast serves over 10,400 girls across six counties and is committed to making the Girl Scout Leadership Experience available to girls in ways that impact their lives both in the moment and into the future. To join or volunteer in Santa Cruz, San Benito, Monterey, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara or Ventura County, visit: <http://www.girlscoutscoc.org>.

## Girl Scouts of California's Central Coast Provides Girls with STEM Activities Focusing on Conservation

Girl Scouts of California's Central Coast (GSCCC), with the support

*High-quality Dental Care at Reasonable Rates*



Dr. Matt Wallace, DDS

- Digital X-Rays (90% less radiation)
- Dental Implants
- Orthodontics and Invisalign
- Same Day Crowns Available (cerec)



Dr. Amber Neft DDS

9290 Telephone Rd. (at Petit) • Ralph's Center • Ventura  
805.671.9697 • [www.drmattwallace.com](http://www.drmattwallace.com)

**Special Package**

**\$25**

- Exam
- X-Rays
- Periodontal Evaluation
- Treatment Plan

Dr. Matt Wallace, DDS

9290 Telephone Rd. (at Petit) • Ralph's Center • Ventura 805.671.9697  
With this coupon. Not valid with other offers or prior services. Expires 2.14.17

**\$600 Crown**

One Crown Per Customer

Dr. Matt Wallace, DDS

9290 Telephone Rd. (at Petit) • Ralph's Center • Ventura 805.671.9697  
For crowns not covered by insurance.  
With this coupon. Not valid with other offers or prior services. Expires 2.14.17



## Ventura Music Scene

## Bringing on the blues, jazz and more

by Pam Baumgardner  
VenturaRocks.com

The line-up at Squashed Grape is getting hotter and hotter as we get further into 2017. Karl Hunter (Big Bad Voodoo Daddy) and friends return on Thursday February 2 with his band mPhaka; Bobby West (Wynton Marsalis, R.Kelly, Smokey Robinson) returns on Saturday, February 4; it will be a night of hot jazz with the international jazz manouche and Balkan music band Het Hat Club with Laura Lackey on vocals Wednesday, February 8; and Mark Garson (Bowie) and David Liebman (Miles Davis, Chic Corea) return on Thursday February 9. If you were there the last time Garson played, then you too were blown away when Garson played "A Space Oddity" on the piano.

Discovery has several noteworthy shows lined up including Shaky Feelin' on February 3; a Bowie tribute band, The Band that Feel to Earth on the 4th; several local musicians will be on hand to honor the late great reggae artist on Bob Marley day, February 9; the Hubcap Stealers will be there on the 10th; and finally, a Black Sabbath tribute band on Saturday, February 11. Go to the Discovery's website for tickets and times as they vary.

As you probably know, there's a wonderful Blues community supporting this genre of music and nobody does a better job at bringing notable Blues artists to town than Hi Hat Entertainment. You'll want to mark down on your calendar that following dates: Friday, February 3, it's James Intveld; February 10th, Teresa James & the Rhythm Tramps; Carl Sonny Leyland's on Friday, February 17; Alastair Greene & Deanna Bogart on Friday, February 24; and a special show on Sunday, February 26 with Karen Lovely with Lisa Mann & Ben Rice. Get the lowdown at HiHatEntertainment.com. All Hat Hi shows are at the Hong Kong Inn where you'll find one more concert to add to your calendar, RJ Mischo has a special blues party on Saturday, February 8 with Hashbrown, Fred Kaplan, Rick Reed and Johnny Morgan. All shows start at 8; covers vary.

Topa Topa Brewery launches their open mic night February 1 and thereafter on the first Wednesday of the month. Signups at 6 and it runs 6:30 - 8:30 pm.

The legendary David Nigel Lloyd is reuniting after 30 years with Jonathan Mako Sharkey for a special performance on Saturday, February 11. Nigel Lloyd, one of the pre-eminent Acid Folk performers in the world will hold a songwriting workshop at 6 pm, then he'll join up with Sharkey (musician and Port Hueneme Councilman) for a

concert at the Loft in Camarillo.

And finally, CAPS Media is launching a low-powered FM station here in Ventura and its schedule to launch in mid-February. I'll be hosting a weekly hour-long program highlighting independent artists including local artists from the area, and artists who have played in town. I'll let you know when we're live and on air at 104.1 FM.

Do you have any music-related news or upcoming shows you want help publicizing? Please send all information short or long to Pam@VenturaRocks.com, and for updated music listings daily, go to [www.VenturaRocks.com](http://www.VenturaRocks.com).

## Music Calendar

For more events go to [VenturaRocks.com](http://VenturaRocks.com)

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

Mondays: 6 pm Karen Eden & Bill Macpherson; 9 pm Musician's Night Out

Tuesdays: Open Mic  
Sundays: 9 pm Karaoke

### Boatyard Café Ventura Harbor Village Wednesdays 6-9 pm: Catfish Fry Bombay Bar & Grill 143 S. California Street

Fridays: DJs - College Night  
Saturdays DJs  
Sat 2/11: Yachtley Crew

### Café Fiore 66 S. California Street (805) 653-1266

Wed 2/1: Bryan McCann  
Thurs 2/2: Rick Whitfield  
Fri 2/3: Red Muffs  
Sat 2/4: Young Dempsy  
Tues 2/7: Blue Vice  
Wed 2/8: Big Adventure  
Thurs 2/9: Coso Live  
Fri 2/10: Instone  
Sat 2/11: Johnny Hawthorn  
Tues 2/14: Bernie Meisinger

### The Cave 4435 McGrath Street Weds & Saturdays: 5:30 - 8:30 pm Varon Thomas Thurs & Fridays: 5:30 - 8:30 pm Warren Takahashi

**Copa Cubana  
Ventura Harbor Village**  
Week nights 7 pm; Sundays 3 pm  
Tuesdays: The Down Home Trio  
Sat 2/4: Rivera & Sunnarborg  
Sun 2/5: Jazz Express  
Fri 2/10: Brandon Ragan Project  
Sat 2/11: Hot Roux

Sun 2/12: Jazz Express

### Discovery 1888 Thompson Blvd Late Fridays 10 pm: Flashback Fridays

Late Saturdays 10 pm: Disco Bowl  
Thurs 2/2: Leilani Wolfgramm & Ethan Tucker  
Fri 2/3: Shaky Feelin'  
Sat 2/4: The Band that Fell to Earth  
Thurs 2/9: Local musicians honoring Bob Marley day  
Fri 2/10: Hubcap Stealers  
Sat 2/11: Black Sabbitch

### El Rey Cantina 294 E. Main Street Fridays: 4 pm Xoco Moraza and Friends; 9:30 DJ/Karaoke by DJ Gold Dust

Sat 1/21: DJ Ayzer  
Sat 1/28: DJ Erook

### EP Foster Library Topping Room 651 E Main Street

Fri 2/3: Rhythm 805  
Sat 2/11: Corrvus, Wire Werewolves, Ghost Noise, Soaked in Disillusion, Modern Color

### Garage 1091 Scandia Ave Fri 2/3: Whiskey Stone Sat 2/4: The Aggrolites, Rising Son, Stebz Juarez

### Gigi's Cocktails 2493 Grand Avenue (805) 642-2411

Thurs, Fri & Sat: Karaoke

### Golden China 760 S. Seaward (805) 652-0688

Karaoke seven nights a week 9 pm  
Tuesdays 7 pm: Open Mic

### Grapes and Hops 454 E. Main Street Wednesdays: The Swillys Sat 2/11: Crooked Eye Tommy

### The Greek Mediterranean Fri & Sats 7:30 pm Belly Dancing, Greek music and show

### Hong Kong Inn 435 E. Thompson Blvd Mondays: Karaoke Thursdays: Gypsy Blues Band Fri 2/3: Hi Hat Entertainment presents James Intveld Sat 2/4: RJ Mischo and an All Star Band

Fri 2/10: Hi Hat Entertainment presents Teresa James & the Rhythm Tramps

### Keynote Lounge 10245 Telephone Road

Tuesday and Wednesday: Karaoke  
Thursday: Open Mic  
Sunday: Karaoke  
Fri 2/3: Tex Pistols  
Sat 2/4: Action Down  
Fri 2/10: Reign  
Sat 2/11: Rick Miller Band

### O'Leary's 6555 Telephone Road Tuesdays: Free Jukebox Wednesdays: Karaoke Fri 2/10: Live Band Karaoke

### Paddy's 2 W. Main Street Wednesdays: Karaoke Fri & Sat: DJs

**Poinsettia Pavilion  
3451 Foothill Road  
(805) 648-1143**  
Sun 2/5: 2 pm Old-time Country Bluegrass Band  
Mon 2/13: Valentines Ball Dance with Ventura Jazz Trio

### Prime 2209 E. Thompson Blvd

Tuesdays: Danny D  
Fridays: Mike Moody  
Saturdays: Jessica Ash

### Red Cove 1809 E. Main Street Thursdays: Music Club Open Jam Night

### Rookees Sports Bar & Grill 419 E. Main Street (805) 648-6862

Fri and Sat: Rotating DJs  
**Saloon BBQ Co  
456 E. Main Street**  
Thurs 2/2: The Ventucky String Band

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

Thurs 6 pm, Weekends noon  
Thursdays Open Mic  
Sat 2/4: Walt Dunlap  
Sun 2/5: Nicole Campbell  
Sat 2/11: Licity Collins  
Sun 2/12: Eighty Years Gone

### Sans Souci 21 S. Chestnut Sundays: DJ Darko Mondays: Karaoke Tuesdays: Transform Tuesdays w/ DJ

Wednesdays: Open mic  
Thursdays: DJ Spinobi  
Sat 2/4: Stevie Char  
Fri 2/10: Strange Weather  
Sat 2/11: DJs Pistolero, Darko, Spinobi

### Squashed Grapes 2351 E. Main St. 805-643-7300

Live jazz music 7-10 pm  
Wed 2/1: Greg Spaulding Trio  
Thurs 2/2: mPhaka featuring Karl Hunter of Big Bad Voodoo Daddy  
Fri 2/3: Brad Rabuchin & Friends  
Sat 2/4: Bobby West Trio  
Tues 2/7: Jazz Jam  
Wed 2/8: Het Hat Club & Laura Lackey's Rhythm Revue  
Thurs 2/9: Mike Garson & David Liebman

### Star Lounge 343 E. Main Street

Tues & Thurs: Karaoke  
Fri 2/3: CRV  
Sat 2/4: Wired  
Fri 2/10: 7th Decade  
Sat 2/11: 80/80 Vision

### The Tavern 211 E. Santa Clara Street (805) 643-3264

Sundays: DJ Steezy Steve  
Metal Wednesdays  
Get it Right Thursday DJs  
Sat 2/4: Wee Beasties  
Fri 2/10: Sick Boy  
Sat 2/11: 50 Sticks of Dynamite

### Topa Topa Brewing Co. 104 E. Thompson Blvd (805) 628-9255

Tuesdays: 6-9 pm Jeff Uzzel  
Sun 2/12: 3 pm The Swillys

### The Wine Rack 14 S. California Street (805) 653-9463

Tuesdays: Keith Cain  
Thursdays: Jon Gindick  
Wed 2/1: Danielle Stacy  
Fri 2/3 UnIverse Fusion Music  
Sat 2/4: Hans Ottsen Trio  
Fri 2/10 Colin Kyffin  
Sat 2/11: Danielle Stacey

**The 805 Bar  
Ventura Harbor**  
Sat & Sun: Noon Kenny DeVoe  
Fridays: 4 pm Kenny DeVoe  
Sat 2/4: 8 pm Teresa Russell  
Sat 2/11: 8 pm Jason Ho



Starburst by **Karen Wu** will be on display until Feb. 21.

The Harbor Gallery is having a promotion for February, "Hearts for the Arts", they are seeking donations of \$1.00 for the purchase of a Valentine Heart on which the donor can make a dedication to a loved one. These Hearts will be taped to their wall or they may purchase a Heart with an original painting on it. All donations will be to Buenaventura Art Association for our mission on continuing to bring art to the community through scholarships and classes.

Also, beginning in Feb. the Gallery will feature one artist and his/her work.

Astinite polished stainless steel with black steel base by **Carson Pritchard**

Buenaventura Art Association has announced the award winners of its 31st annual Open Competition.

First place was awarded to sculptor Carson Pritchard for her stainless steel sculpture, Astinite. Second place was awarded to **Kay Zetlmaier** for her oil painting, Dutch Drawbridge, Amsterdam. Third place was awarded to watercolor artist **Linda Shaner** for her painting of a throng of butterflies entitled A Lotta Lepidoptera. Four Honorable Mentions were awarded to **Nora Yukon, Julieanne Case, Kimberly-Ann Talbert, and Anette Power** respectively.

The competition was open to all professional and amateur artists in Southern California and the Central Coast working in all media.

Santa Barbara painter **Karen Fedderson** served as juror.

The 31st Annual Open Competition is on exhibit now through Feb. 11. Buenaventura Gallery, at 700 E. Santa Clara St., is open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays through Sundays. For more information about this competition and other BAA art opportunities and programs, [www.buenaventuragallery.org](http://www.buenaventuragallery.org), or 648-1235.



Ventura by the Sea by **Leonard Poteshman**, acrylic and mixed media oil painting will inspire writers

## 2017 Art Tales contest for writers inspired by art is open

The City of Ventura and E.P. Foster Library are pleased to sponsor the ninth annual "Art Tales," a free "creative writing contest inspired by art." Writers worldwide in three age categories are invited to visit the library, or the contest website, and choose the artwork that inspires them to

create and enter their own poem or short story, 500 words or less, by April 4 for cash and other prizes.

Teachers and writers may contact Art Tales Curator Tobie Roach at [troach@cityofventura.net](mailto:troach@cityofventura.net) or 658-4759 to request printed copies of lesson plans for their classes or to answer questions regarding the contest. Or download all materials at [www.cityofventura.net/arttales](http://www.cityofventura.net/arttales) including high resolution reproductions of featured artworks, lesson plan with entry rules, featured artist bios, waiver form, model poems and past anthologies for great examples in prose and poetry.

Selections from the City of Ventura Public, Temporary and Municipal Art Collections are rotated annually to a special second floor exhibit space near the library's rear (children's) entrance in an effort to make them more accessible to the community. Each year, the Ventura Public Art Manager/Art Tales Curator selects 4 to 6 artworks to display at the library, illustrating a particular theme.



**Amy Jennings** has been a lover of nature and all things beautiful since childhood. She would spend endless hours coloring, drawing, painting and making craft projects. Art

classes were always her favorite growing up!

After getting her Associate's Degree in Interior Design, she worked as an Interior Designer in her hometown of Bakersfield before moving to Santa Barbara to live near the ocean. Always a beach girl at heart, she now resides in Ventura.

When she is not busy painting or decorating - she can be found doing something active like playing tennis, hiking, Pilates or riding her cruiser bike near the beach - always with Gigi the dog in the basket.

Her art hanging in the main lobby of the Poinsettia Pavilion.

Good Bokeh photography exhibit

Dab Art has several exciting events coming up! Three exhibitions curated by Dab Art will be opening in the upcoming months; *Vanishing Oasis*, a solo exhibition by **Janet Milhomme** exploring the Salton Sea through mixed media. *Back to The Future*, another solo exhibition of retro abstracts by **Krystal Becker**, and **Good Bokeh** our international juried photography exhibit. At H Gallery + Studios (1793 E Main). Dabster Arts is also offering affordable art classes in all genres of art.



Vita Art Center presents **Ricardo Rodriguez** Topographical Studies.

Opening Friday, February 3, from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. thru Feb.25

Sunday, February 26 from 1 - 4 p.m.

"Humans have always felt an irresistible urge to represent and interpret their reality. Topographical maps were created to address this intrinsic need. My series Topographical Studies examines the physical environments I

regularly encounter and how I relate to them. Gallery hours: M-F 10-4 pm Sat. & Sun. by appointment. 432 N. Ventura Ave. Studio 30, [www.vitaartcenter.com](http://www.vitaartcenter.com).

Community youth program: free student art scholarships are available for youth 9- 12 years old. The scholarships are at no cost to needy families. The program is for visual arts, music, theatrical, dance, etc. call 479-4000 or nominate a student at [www.MusicAndArtForYouth.org](http://www.MusicAndArtForYouth.org).

They are non-profit 501 (c) 3 for public benefit and education. Despite school district and government budget cuts, we are dedicated to help provide opportunities to nurture youth to achieve their artistic dreams and goals. We seek out young generation gifted kids with the desire and potential talent in music and art. These extraordinary individuals are financially unable to provide the means to nurture their goals.



Try Something New this Year and Explore YOUR Creative Side

**Weekday Classes**

**Weekend Classes**

**Paint Parties**

**Paint & Sip Events**

**Private Parties**

**Kids Classes & More!**

**No Experience Necessary!**

4601 Telephone Rd #112  
Ventura, 93003  
FREE PARKING  
805-643-6400 - [RedBrickArt.com](http://RedBrickArt.com)





# Lighter Breeze

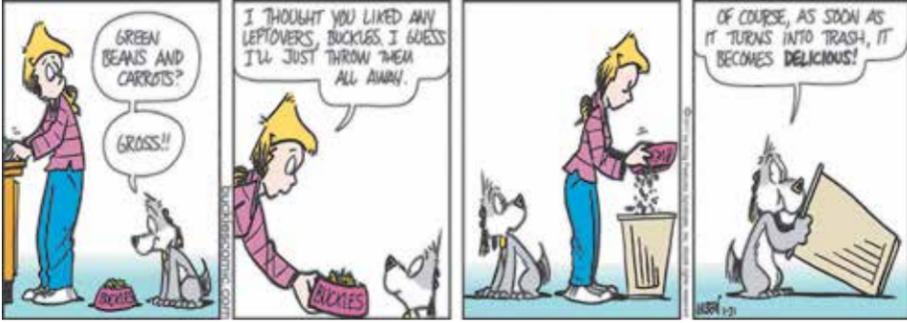
## Mother Goose and Grimm



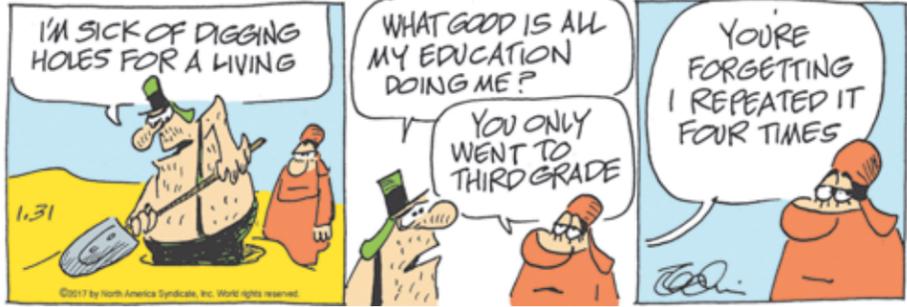
## Baby Blues



## Buckles



## Crock



## Dustin



## Moose and Molly



Solutions on page 17

(For a beginners guide to playing Sudoku go to [venturabreeze.com](http://www.venturabreeze.com))

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

**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!

© 2017 King Features Synd., Inc.

Solutions on page 17

## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Stomach muscles
- 4 Graceful sprite
- 8 Wise one
- 12 Promise
- 13 Surrounded by
- 14 From the beginning
- 15 Mound stat
- 16 Make more acceptable
- 18 Picture puzzle
- 20 Thee
- 21 Sharp turns
- 24 Horse's call
- 28 Drool
- 32 Unrivaled
- 33 Hearty brew
- 34 Beethoven's "Fuer --"
- 36 Pitch
- 37 Campus mil. org.
- 39 Part
- 41 Man of morals?
- 43 Mediocre
- 44 Workweek end (Abbr.)
- 46 Poisonous
- 50 Asphyxiate
- 55 Cattle call?
- 56 Capri or Wight
- 57 Always
- 58 Puncturing tool
- 59 Bygone

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		

- 60 College VIP
- 61 Blue
- 10 Obtain
- 11 Ram's mate
- 17 Charged bit
- 19 Submachine gun
- 22 Guys' dates
- 23 Pigs' digs
- 25 Tittle
- 26 Summertime pest
- 27 Present
- 28 Poet Teasdale
- 29 Lotion additive
- 30 "-- Make a Deal"
- 31 Hockey leg-end Phil, to
- 35 Oriental
- 38 Morning stimulant
- 40 Kanga's kid
- 42 Expert
- 45 On the rocks
- 47 Grand opening day?
- 48 Midwest state
- 49 45-Down, perhaps
- 50 Knightly address
- 51 Mex. neighbor
- 52 Aviate
- 53 "Hail!"
- 54 Alternative to 38-Down

### DOWN

- 1 State with certainty
- 2 Use a drill
- 3 Use a mop
- 4 Lethargic
- 5 Ostrich's cousin
- 6 Cage component
- 7 Without doing anything
- 8 Justice Alito
- 9 Literary

© 2017 King Features Synd., Inc.



Go to [www.venturabreeze.com](http://www.venturabreeze.com) for your daily horoscope

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) Lots of mixed signals can create an unreliable situation in which to make decisions. Best advice: Hold off on making any commitments until you're sure you know what's going on.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) An apparently friendly offer comes with some strings attached. Be careful not to get tied into something you don't really want. Thoroughly examine all your options before making a choice.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) If you're not careful, distractions can interrupt your best efforts. Continue to focus on what you need to do. You'll soon have lots of time to enjoy the rewards of your dedication.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) Knowledge replaces suspicion as you begin to learn more about that "act of betrayal." On a lighter note, someone close to you might be planning a pleasant surprise.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) Control your sometimes-overactive jealousy gene before you find yourself saying or doing something that you could later regret. Best advice: Stop obsessing and move on.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) It's a good time to loosen up and do something wonderful and exciting before your more reserved nature

resurfaces. A message brings news of imminent change.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) Cheer up. Things begin to improve significantly by mid-February. However, you might still need help to get through the rest of this sometimes-difficult period.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Something you learned last week takes on new meaning as you begin to relate it to another situation in your life. It's best to keep this matter to yourself for now.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) Your energy level is climbing, and so is your self-confidence. Good for you, because you'll need a good dollop of both to tackle an exciting challenge on the way.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) A family issue might interrupt a career-linked project. Try to give the matter the attention it needs, but be careful not to jeopardize your workplace situation.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) Some self-doubt shows up this week, causing you to question your ability to handle a new challenge. But you know you can do it, and this is your chance to prove it.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) A personal matter requires you to be as clear and forthcoming as possible in order to avoid misunderstandings. A career move is eased with the emergence of new facts.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** You have a way of reaching people that makes them feel good about themselves. You would be an excellent motivational speaker.

(c) 2017 King Features Synd., Inc.



# Show Time

## Hidden Figures



Breeze rating from 1 to 4 palm trees, 4 being best.

by Manuel Reynoso

Directed by Theodore Melfi, and adapted to screenplay by Theodore Melfi and Allison Schroeder. Starring Taraji P. Henson, Octavia Spencer, Janelle Monáe, and Kevin Costner. Based on the non-fiction book by Margot Lee Shetterly.

The spectacle of the space race has been celebrated time and time again over the decades. NASA's triumph against the big bad Soviets is no stranger to media portrayal. However, despite all the coverage, all the national pride, and all the high school lectures, three black women remain largely uncelebrated in the eyes of the general public.

*Hidden Figures* is a biopic that brings to light the pivotal roles of three black women during the early days of NASA. Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughn, and Mary Jackson are just some of the many brilliant minds working at NASA. But battling against the ills of social injustice, struggle to find their talents recognized in NASA.

With *Hidden Figures* being Theodore Melfi's second major directorial debut, Melfi does not take many risks in this film. *Hidden Figures* follows the same major story beats of any other Hollywood film of its type and doesn't seek to stand out much from that crowd. However, that in no way detracts from this film's ability to celebrate the lives of these amazing women. *Hidden Figures* is not a masterpiece of cinema; its strength lies in the intrinsic beauty of the story being told.

The screenplay adapted by Melfi and Allison Schroeder is where this film derives its power. Each of these women's triumphs have so much build up, so much adversity to break past, that once we see each of these women's victories, the payoff is liberating. Lots of care went to insure each woman gets their struggles seen, both internal and external. By the third act we do longer just wish to see them succeed but we need to see them succeed.

While it's clear the power of the film was born in the writing, *Hidden Figures* phenomenal acting is what brought it life. Octavia Spencer and Taraji P. Henson were the driving force behind this film. Working with such an empowering screenplay, the actresses succeed at bringing out the struggles and successes of each of these ladies.

It was no coincidence this film was released while tensions run high in the US, however it is times like this we have to remind ourselves we all took part in the triumphs of this country. *Hidden Figures* is a celebration, a dedication, and most of all a reminder of the strength of black women everywhere. I did not merely hope for their victories, but I needed them. I cannot recommend this film enough based solely on the power of the story itself. All the while the strength of the acting left me yearning to see them all succeed.

PG 2h07m



Clarinda Ross, Sharon Sharth, Erik Odom and Lily Nicksay star in *Gulf View Drive*, the final play of the acclaimed *Nibroc Trilogy*.

A View from House Seats

## Gulf View Drive winds up winning trilogy

by Shirley Lorraine

Two seasons ago Ventura County audiences were introduced to the love story of May and Raleigh, a couple who meet during the early years of WWII in Last Train to Nibroc. Last season See Rock City continued to follow the couple's adventures and trials through life. The final peek into their lives occurs in *Gulf View Drive*, opening this weekend at the Rubicon Theatre.

Both previous stagings have garnered numerous accolades and awards, both for technical aspects and acting. Lily Nicksay and Erik Odom reprise their critically-acclaimed roles as May and Raleigh, adding even more power and depth to the characters.

The roles of May's mother, sunny Mrs. Gill and Raleigh's mother, the ever-sour Mrs. Brummett, are also continued by the original actors, Sharon Sharth and Clarinda Ross. Joining the cast for this installment is Faline England in the role of Raleigh's sister Treva. England is no stranger to the Rubicon stage and blends in seamlessly with the rest of the cast. All the characterizations are sharp and well defined.

The actors as a whole carry impressive credits on stage, television and screen. An added bonus to this production is that the actors themselves have grown with the performance of each period in their respective characters' lives. With such familiarity they fully immerse themselves in the roles, highlighting the experience for the audience. We feel as though we know them well.

Katherine Farmer returns to direct the last installment of the story. As with the two previous stagings, *Gulf View Drive* is filled with familiarity. The audience feels an integral part of the saga of the lives of May and Raleigh. Working with the same actors throughout has been an extraordinary privilege, according to Farmer. As well, the play signals the return of the successful and acclaimed technical design team that built and shaped the first two sequences in the trilogy. Subtle lighting and realistic lived-in home design provides a comfortable setting to set the mood.

Author Arlene Hutton has created characters we care about. Each play stands well alone. However, for those who have seen *Last Train to Nibroc* or *See Rock City*, *Gulf View Drive* provides the audience with a satisfying and well-rounded ending to May and Raleigh's saga. As an audience member, when I get caught up in character's lives, I want to see how they end up. *Gulf View Drive* gives that conclusion that neatly brings the story to a close, while still leaving ample room for speculation on what could happen next. An audience member near me remarked "I'm not ready for them to go!" And we aren't. The story cascades with complications, each one a surprise. Although there is resolution, the story is not done, nor do we want it to be.

Of special note: a free staged reading

## OCEAN VIEW VACATION GET-AWAY



One bedroom + living room + one bath guest wing in vintage Tudor home.

In this private hideaway at the top of the hill you can watch spectacular sunsets melt into the ocean and sparkling city lights at night from inside this cozy charmer or out on your private patio balcony.

Within one mile of Pierpont Beach and close proximity to the Harbor Marina and Historic Downtown Ventura.

Bedroom with luxurious queen bed, cable TV, sitting area and ocean views.

Living room with fireplace, dining area, cable TV and ocean views.

Patio deck with gas bar-b-que and panoramic ocean views.



Kitchenette with refrigerator, stove-oven, microwave and fully stocked with all cooking utensils.

Full bathroom with whirlpool tub and shower. All linens provided.



Did we mention ocean views?

Wireless internet access. Free laundry facility on premises.

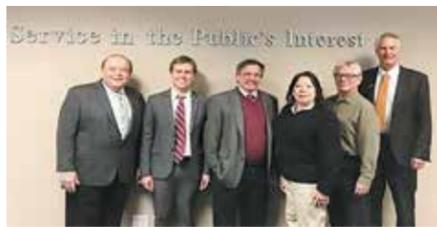
Monthly \$2,300

Minimum 30 day stay. Credit cards accepted.

Contact (805) 641-1824 or email [scampydog12@gmail.com](mailto:scampydog12@gmail.com) for more information and to make a reservation.

of Hutton's new work entitled *Three Sisters Bronte* will be held on Monday, February 6 at 7:00 p.m. Tickets may be requested through the Rubicon box office.

*Gulf View Drive* plays Wednesdays to Sundays through February 12 at the Rubicon Theatre Company, 1006 E. Main St. Matinees: 2 p.m. Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays. Evening performances at 8 p.m., except 7 p.m. on Wednesdays, which features a post-show talk back with the cast. Tickets: \$50-\$55. The box office is open 7 days a week. There is 24-hour ticketing and seat selection online at [www.rubicontheatre.org](http://www.rubicontheatre.org). 667-2900.



Ventura County Community College District Chancellor Bernard Luskin, College Promise Campaign Deputy Director James Schuelke, Moorpark College President Luis Sanchez, Oxnard College President Cynthia Azari, Board Chair Bernardo Perez and Ventura College President Greg Gillespie.

## Ventura County Community College District sets 2017 goals

The Ventura County Community College District held its first Chancellor's Cabinet meeting of the New Year on Tuesday, January 3. It also marked the first meeting of his term for newly-elected Board Chair Bernardo Perez. Perez used the opportunity to share his vision for working with administration and staff to increase efficiencies across

the District – leading to more and improved services for students. One of the top priorities is the collaboration between each of the three colleges in the District to form and support a District-wide College Promise program. In alignment with this goal, Moorpark, Oxnard and Ventura Colleges will work together on the Ventura County Community College District application for the California College Promise Innovation Grant released by the state Chancellor's Office "to support the improvement in successful student transition from high school to college."

Leading the initiative for the VCCCD is Vice Chancellor Rick Post and for the colleges, Ventura College President Greg Gillespie with the support of Moorpark College President Luis Sanchez and Oxnard College President Cynthia Azari.

Ventura College is home to one of the oldest College Promise programs in the nation and is the first program established in California (2006), following the Kalamazoo, Michigan, Promise launched in 2005. Since the inception of the Ventura College Promise, 22 College Promise programs have followed suit in the state of California (13 of which were just announced in 2016). Throughout the nation, there are more than 150 College Promise programs across 37 states (College Promise Campaign 2015-16 Annual Report).

"In its 11th year of operation, the Ventura College Promise is a flagship program that has provided substantial opportunities to deserving students with important goals and tremendous potential to better our communities," remarked Board Chair Bernardo Perez. "Part of our mission at the VCCCD is to promote access to educational opportunities which makes implementing College Promise programs a natural fit to the functioning of the District," said Chancellor Bernard Luskin. "We're excited to expand the Promise footprint to open more doors for students," added Luskin.



# MAKE 2017 GREAT WITH THIS AMAZING RATE!

# 1.40% APY\*

## 13-Month Certificate

\$20,000 MINIMUM

### OPEN TODAY!

This Special Offer Won't Last Long.

[PremierAmerica.com/AmazingRate](http://PremierAmerica.com/AmazingRate) | 800-772-4000

**Premier America**  
CREDIT UNION  
Bank Where You Own the Place™

FEDERALLY  
INSURED BY  
NCUA

\*APY-Annual Percentage Yield. Rate effective January 14, 2017 to February 4, 2017. Offer and rate may change or end without notice. Certificate must be opened at a Premier America branch location. A penalty may apply for early withdrawal. An initial deposit to be maintained in a share savings account (\$5.00 for consumers and \$250.00 for businesses) is required to join Premier America. See branch for details.

#### GUEST COLUMN

## Where does our water come from?

by Mike Anderson

What do citizens of Ventura need to know about their water? The first important item to note is that our water comes from Lake Casitas, Ventura River (when flowing) and groundwater aquifers. Currently, with all of the rain we have seen this winter Lake Casitas has not increased yet. It is still at 36% of capacity, said differently 64% of the lake is empty. The other source of water for Ventura is groundwater and we have seen the water table

lower during this drought. Additionally, we have seen many wells go dry.

It is important to note that 75% of Ventura County receives imported water from places that get large amounts of water in the winter time. This includes, Camarillo, Oxnard, Thousand Oaks and Simi Valley. But here in West Ventura County we are the 25% that does not get any imported water from Northern California or the Colorado River.

Over the past 6 months there have been people working diligently to get imported water to West Ventura County. There is progress with this effort. Ventura Water and Casitas Municipal Water district are working closely with United and Calleguas to build a 9- Mile pipe that would connect East Ventura County with West Ventura County.

This pipe would allow for up to 20,000 Acre Feet of water per year to flow into West Ventura County. This is an idea that was looked at in the early 90's but it was passed on because the idea at that time was to build a much larger and very expensive pipe to Lake Castaic. It is unequivocally the right move for us to get this pipe in the ground as soon as possible.

Over 53 years ago Ventura County agreed to have a 20,000 allocation to the State Water Project. For many reasonable reasons we have never been able to accept this water that we pay for each year in the City of Ventura. We have never built a pipe to accept the water and frankly we have never really needed to build the pipe. With Lake Casitas and reliable groundwater we have

always been in better shape than the rest of California, although over the next period of years it looks like the rest of the state will be in better shape than we are.

It is certainly an appropriate time to build a pipe and accept our water that we have paid into for so long. It will take as little as 3 years to have the pipe in place. The term that water agencies use is to have a "Diversified Water Portfolio". They want to have multiple sources of water that will allow for a reliable supply of water during difficult periods of demand. By getting our imported water we will be bolstering up our Water Portfolio in West Ventura County. We are seeing good leadership and collaboration among water agencies to make this pipe happen.