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Your Hometown Paper

Vol. 11, No. 5 Published Every Other Wednesday Established 2007 December 6 – December 19, 2017

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City News

Active shooter response training

The Ventura Police Department will host an Active Shooter Response Training for business and church leadership. Leaders of any faith-based organization and business owners, operators and/or managers within the City of Ventura are invited to attend on December 20 at the Ventura Police Department located at 1425 Dowell Drive in Ventura. The training will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

The training is being offered in response to community concerns regarding active shooter incidents in Nevada, Texas and California. FBI statistics show that mass shootings are rare, but the Ventura Police Department is committed to partner with the community in providing safety information. According to the FBI, between 2000 and 2016, there were 216 active shooter incidents throughout the country.

An Active Shooter is an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area; in most cases, active shooters use firearms and there is no pattern or method to their selection of victims.

Active shooter situations are unpredictable and evolve quickly. Typically, the immediate deployment of law enforcement is required to stop the shooting and mitigate harm to victims.

Because active shooter situations are often over within a short time, before

police arrive on scene, individuals must be prepared both mentally and physically to deal with an active shooter situation.

The training is free. Registration is required by calling 339-4317 or emailing abautista@ci.ventura.ca.us. 93003, 805-339-4400

A Holiday Boutique at Plaza Park

The City of Ventura Parks, Recreation & Community Partnerships Department will host a Holiday Boutique on Saturday, December 9 from 10 am- 4 pm in historic Plaza Park. Come shop, play and stay to see the 160 live, decorated, twinkling trees. This is an opportunity to purchase a one-of-a-kind holiday gift for that special someone on your list! The boutique features over 30 talented artisans selling hand-crafted, quality items including; holiday decorations, gifts, ornaments and specialty pieces.

This free event will also include activities for children, and feature stage entertainment throughout the event. Don't miss Mario Bocalli introducing the Cabrillo Jazz Band, the Holiday Choirs from the ChannelAire Chorus, the Bible Fellowship Church Kids Choir, holiday selections from the 2016 Mayor's Arts Award recipient Jodi Farrell's vocal students, dancers from Cassie's Nutcracker Ballet class, Holidays on the Island Polynesian dancers and line dancing with Jackie.



During this holiday season, we are grateful for organizations that meet the needs of local seniors and their caregivers. In 2017, SCAN proudly sponsored the following non-profits:

Senior Nutrition Action Council
(805) 477-7300

CAREGIVERS: Volunteers Assisting the Elderly
(805) 658-8530
www.vccaregivers.org

FOOD Share
(805) 983-7100
www.foodshare.com

Conejo Valley Senior Concerns
(805) 497-0189
www.seniorconcerns.org

To learn more about these organizations, or to find out how you can help, we encourage you to contact the organizations directly.



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12/17



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Pre-order by December 13th and save 15%



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.

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The mind that
opens to a
new idea never
returns to its
original size.
– Albert
Einstein

Opinion/Editorial



Sheldon (Governor) Brown
Publisher-Editor

■ I apologize that your favorite newspaper is a day late due to the loss of electricity. More fire coverage in Dec. 20 issue. Go to Ventura City website for current information.

■ When we heard that a **fire** started near Steckel Park in Santa Paula, we certainly wouldn't have imagined that it was going to decimate so many structures across Ventura. With winds over 50 mph, fire moves too fast to manage. How sad for all the folks who lost their homes and those in the apartments who lost their belongings. I was at the fire lines where firefighters - whose job it is to fight fires - had to standby in many cases and watch as structures burned to the ground. And, it is heartbreaking to see the Botanical Gardens, with so much love, money and energy poured in, now gone.

■ The City Council is still dealing with how to determine the boundaries for council members that will need be elected by **districts**, and not at-large.

Currently, there are 7 members of the Ventura City Council. Each member must be a registered voter in the City and is elected at-large. Each member represents the interests of the City as a whole.

Many district boundaries have been submitted by Venturans for consideration. The more I think about it, I am opposed to election by districts.

If only one person runs in their district they would be automatically elected to the council even if they only received one vote.

If there are several highly qualified folks running for the council living in the same district, only one could be elected.

I think at-large council members has worked just fine for Ventura and has not favored one area over another.

■ The Museum of Ventura County has named **Elena Brokaw** as its permanent Executive Director. She has been the interim executive director since 2016.

The museum has faced large financial issues. It recently receive \$125,000 from both Ventura and from the Ventura

County. The Museum has also obtained larger financing from corporate and individual gifts. I hope that it can be used to make the museum more interactive and fun for the whole family.

Elena has been my guest on KPPQFM104.1. If you would like to hear her interview, visit www.venturabreeze.com Face OF Ventura and select her show. You might find other shows to be of interest as well (or perhaps not). If you have a recommendation of who I should have on my show please let me know.

■ LA County saw an increase in reported **hate crimes** last year linked to white supremists, with a wave of incidents targeting Jews, African Americans and Muslims. I wonder why that is?

■ Every day another well-known male is being fired because of **sexual harassment** accusations. Some even admit to it and apologize. Minnesota Public Radio said that it was severing all business ties with Garrison Keillor, the creator and retired host of "A Prairie Home Companion," after allegations of "inappropriate behavior" with an individual who worked with him. Good grief, no one is more all-American then him.

Pretend for a second that there is a TV show called the **Apprentice** and that one of the male judges made this statement - "You know," said (you fill in the name), "I'm automatically attracted to beautiful women-I just start kissing them. It's like a magnet. Just kiss. I don't even wait. And when you're a star, they let you do it. You can do anything. Grab 'em by the *****. You can do anything."

This judge would be immediately fired, or become President of the United States.

■ I received an email from a reader (glad that he does read the paper even if to just get mad at me). In part he said, "that's why I always grab your paper to make a large carbon footprint with my chimney bbq starter." So now I know that there is yet another reason to read the Breeze besides lining the bottom of your bird and rabbit cages with it. We may need to print more copies.

■ Amigos Restaurant in downtown has been shut down by the ABC (Alcoholic Beverage Commission). The notice doesn't say why but the space is for lease, so Amigos is gone. Will yet another Mexican restaurant open there?

■ In a previous issue, I questioned why the **national anthem** is played at sporting events (does this make me un-American or just curious?).

Here's a timeline of how the national anthem became a sports tradition in the first place:

1814: Francis Scott Key wrote the Star Spangled Banner.

1889: Secretary of the Navy Benjamin F. Tracy called for the song to be played whenever the American flag was raised.

1916: President Woodrow Wilson signed an executive order declaring the "Star Spangled Banner" the American national anthem.

1918: The song was played spontaneously during the seventh-inning stretch on September 5, 1918, during Game 1 of the World Series between the Boston Red Sox and the Chicago Cubs. After this, other baseball parks began to play the song on holidays and special occasions, and Red Sox owner Harry Frazee made it a regular part of Boston home games.

1931: Congress passed an act officially confirming the "Star Spangled Banner" as the national anthem, and President Hebert Hoover signed it into law.

1941-42: Playing the national anthem before the start of regular season baseball games became the standard. And with the U.S. in World War II now, the National Football League also included the playing of the anthem before games.

1945: NFL commissioner Elmer Layden said, "The playing of the national anthem should be as much a part of every game as the kickoff. We must not drop it simply because the war is over. We should never forget what it stands for."

2009: NFL players began standing on the field for the national anthem before the start of primetime games. Before this, players would stay in their locker rooms except during the Super Bowl and after 9/11.

Mailbox

Editor:

In regards to the City Council limiting marijuana....

What I don't get is why, after the voters of the county passed this by 64%, are we not having a discussion about what to do with the millions of dollars in tax revenue the city is throwing away?

Why didn't Eric N. or Matt L. come to the December 2016 city council meeting with a spending plan?

The city claims to have no money.

The state, and voters, is/are allowing cities and counties to print money by allowing retail business.

Watch what happens in Port Hueneme....

Tim Hansen
Ventura

Editor, Ventura Breeze

I've been an admirer of yours for having started Ventura's own Newspaper.

But what you printed in your last editorial about dropping the National Anthem at football games lost me.

The National Anthem is played and our Pledge of Allegiance is recited to

remind us Americans how fortunate it is that we live in this great Country of ours. To capitulate to those who wish to promote their personal issues by minimizing our pride in our country is an action that one should not support. We should all be appreciative of being citizens of this great Country and be able to express it by all means possible. Yours truly,

CDR Ronald Wong USN (ret)

CDR Wong: Thank you very much for this response and for serving our great country. I completely agree with you about why the National Anthem and Pledge of Allegiance is important to us. I'm just not sure why sporting events are the venue to recite them. I certainly do respect those that don't agree with this.
Sheldon

Ventura Breeze

Visiting our daughter in Ventura I picked up a copy of the Breeze. What caught my attention was the above the fold front page coverage of the pending City council vote on changing from "at large" to "district" voting of your council member. I commend the paper for notifying your readers of the

upcoming public hearings. I respectfully disagree with the Editorial statement on page 4 that the state has mandated this pending change. What is driving this effort to create more diversity is an attorney from Malibu who is threatening cities throughout the state. It is not a mandate of the CA Voting Rights Act.

In Mission Viejo, where we live, we had 2 of the 5 council members serving together from 2000 through 2008. They were members of the "protected class," which only represents 17% of our 95,000 residents. Between them John Paul Ledesma and Gail Reavis campaigned five times and won every time. In fact they were each selected by their non-Latino council peers to serve as mayor and mayor pro tem while they were in office. We do not have a Barrio in our city nor do we engage in any form of racism.

Larry Gilbert
Mission Viejo

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

Business



Porterhouse Porkchop with sautéed apple and parmesan spinach.

Restaurant Review

Casa Bella

by Jennifer Tipton

Located on the corner of Oak and Main (where American Apparel used to be), Casa Bella opened her doors in June 2017.

I first visited the new establishment on July 4th when friends wanted to meet for cocktails, I was very impressed with the beautiful and spacious interior, a large open bar, and tall backed booths (for privacy) set elegantly! The Bloody Mary I ordered presented as a meal, garnished with a large prawn, olives and cocktail onions along with the usual celery stalk.

Interested to return and sample the fare, we dined with friends one Saturday evening and although it is not uncommon to have a server bring the entrée with the warning, “be careful, the plate is hot”, in this case it wasn’t just the plate, the food was so hot it scalded the tongue and we had to wait for it to cool before we could eat...

Recently, my husband persuaded me to “give them another chance”. Seated in the separate dining area that sets behind the bar, the tables were so close together for the size of the room that I wondered how the servers could get in and out and back and forth without knocking anything

or anyone over.

Our server’s name was “Chelsea” and she was outstanding, Casa Bella always appears to be well staffed.

Appetizers include Chorizo Mussels with Tequila Crème, Spanish Deviled Eggs and Shrimp Avocado Rolls (these were so good, I should’ve skipped the entrée!). Prices range \$8 to \$13.

Entrées sound impressive with selections such as the Chef’s Chateau, a prime center cut chateau with lump crab cake, a cilantro aioli, parmesan risotto and a tequila gorgonzola cream. Several steaks are offered, each with a unique and enticing description, but going for that “Mexico City” flavor are other choices such as Mexican Shrimp and Lobster Pasta or Mexican Chicken Cordon Bleu. Prices range \$22 to \$42 with the average price per plate at \$39.

All entrées come with one side, choices include the Jalapeno Creamed Spinach and the Cheesy Sweet Corn and Rice. Ordered separately, prices range \$8 to \$12 or a large “Specialty Lobster Garlic Mashed” for \$25.

I had the Porterhouse Bone-In Porkchop with sautéed apple and parmesan spinach and was allowed to substitute a salad for one of the side dish selections, I ordered the chopped salad but was brought the Bella Romaine salad which consisted of fennel, shaved parmesan, red onion, walnuts and a gorgonzola dressing ... not a winning combination.

Overall; beautiful ambience, great service and although the food sounds impressive, it was just “okay”, certainly not price worthy. Our bill for one appetizer, two entrées and a couple of cocktails was \$150 (with tip).

There is no outdoor seating, so Casa Bella is not dog friendly and because of the location, parking is limited. There’s live entertainment on Saturdays and Sundays and sometimes during the week, this we enjoyed very much as I sipped my \$15 chocolate martini (a new way of doing dessert), the server forgot to charge me until I reminded her.

Total bill = \$168



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Cost of a K9 is \$20,000

Jewelry Couture will be hosting a fundraising event to support the Ventura Police K9 Unit on Dec. 9 from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at 390 S. Mills Road. A portion of the sales will be donated to the Ventura Police K9 Unit. The community is invited to meet the K9s and handlers and support the effort. The K9 meet and greet will take place between 2 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. with a K9 demonstration beginning at 2 p.m.

“We are honored to be giving back to those who continually give so much to our community. After being a part of the wonderful City of Ventura for over 30 years and residents ourselves, we really want to show our support for the Ventura Police Department” said the Sehati Family of Jewelry Couture.

The Ventura Police Department currently

has five K9 teams. Two new K9s, Bolt and Miles, joined the team in July of 2017. Officer Anthony Avila has been partnered with K9 Bolt. Bolt is related to current K9 Yoschi and retired K9 Yankee. Bolt was purchased by a generous donation made by Automotive Racing Products. Officer Jack Ortega has been partnered with K9 Miles who was purchased by a generous donation made by Mile 26 Sports.

K9s are assigned to the Patrol Unit so that a team is on-duty seven days a week, providing around the clock service to the community.

On average the cost of a canine is \$12,000 with an additional \$8,000- \$10,000 for training and certification, all of which is paid for through donations to the Ventura Police K9 Unit. All of Ventura Police K9s past and present, have been purchased through community donations and event fundraising. The K9 Unit appreciates the support of the community and the many businesses and organizations who have supported the crime fighting team.



Sub Zero Nitrogen Ice Cream, located at 607 E. Main St., have held their official ribbon cutting. Attending the ribbon cutting was City Councilmember Matt LaVeré with his lovely daughter and Breeze Senior Account Executive Breezy Gledhill.

The new ice cream store which is located in the former Trufflehound’s Fine Chocolates space, allows guests to choose from classic premium custard, low-fat custard or yogurt, as well as lactose free, vegan and sugar free options for their product base.

Photo by Michael Gordon.



On November 10th Wild Birds Unlimited held a Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting celebration.

Wild Birds Unlimited feeders are made to fit your needs and those of your birds. They can also help you know where in your yard to put your feeders. Feeders with different seeds or seed blends can be placed throughout the yard at different levels to attract different types of birds.

Owner’s Frank & Cynthia DeMartino welcome you to visit their store. Located at 4020 E. Main. Wild Birds is open daily.

Photo by Michael Gordon.



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This 'n' That



Mourners attend Irish wake. Photo by Michael Gordon.

A new pig is on the way

On Nov. 30, a traditional Irish wake and memorial procession was held in Downtown Ventura by about 70 mourners accompanied by the Pacific Coast Highlanders Pipe Band. All for a large green pig. His name was both Sham Hock or Pig O’ My Heart.

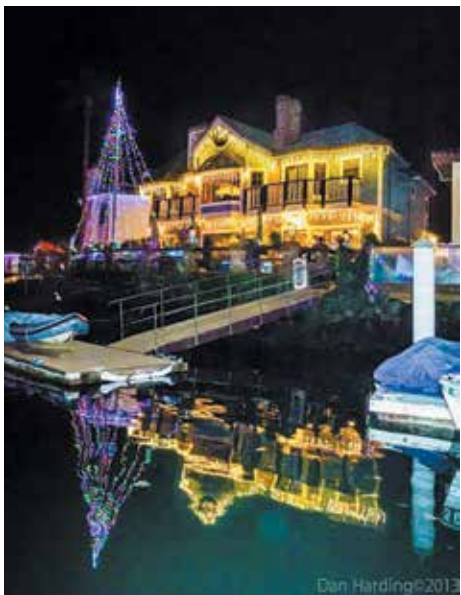
On March 11, at the St. Patrick’s Day Parade his life ended after 26-years as he deflated in front of shocked parade goers.

The wake started at the Museum of Ventura County and proceeded through downtown with drinks along

the way.

Parade committee member Jerry English who has been working on the new pig told the Breeze “I have been directing the new pig manufacturer on all of the unique aspects to give us a new pig that resembles the old pig.”

The new pig will cost about \$3,525. For information about donating to the construction of the new pig email Nan Drake at nanodrake@aol.com, parade co-chair Jim Monahan at jim.monahan@att.net or parade committee member O’Neil at tim@shamrocksfa.com.



Ventura Keys holiday lights as seen during the Parade of Lights. Photo by Dan Harding.

“When You Wish Upon A Star”

Experience the holidays seaside as Ventura Harbor presents the 41st Annual Ventura Harbor Boat Parade of Lights and Fireworks, Friday & Saturday, December 15 & 16, at 6:30 p.m. and Winter Wonderland & Holiday Marketplace on Saturday, December 16 from 1- 5 pm. Decorated boats and holiday décor kick off this year’s “When You Wish Upon A Star” themed parade, a tribute to all things Disney, as well as the lure of the sea.

The two-day celebration includes decorated power and sail boats as they cruise twice throughout the entire Harbor,

the Parade of Lights carnival and rides on the Ventura Harbor Village and waterfront dining offering delicious cuisine throughout Ventura Harbor. Saturday evening, December 16, at approximately 6:30 pm, watch for Santa and his sleigh fly across the sky above the Harbor, kicking off the boat parade, courtesy of Aspen Helicopters. A fireworks display lights up the night Friday & Saturday at approximately 8 pm over Ventura Harbor.

Arrive mid-day on Saturday, December 16 for Ventura Harbor’s Winter Wonderland & Holiday Marketplace from 1- 5 PM at Ventura Harbor Village. Free visits with Santa & Mrs. Claus and their live reindeer, Victorian Carolers, Toy Soldier’s Band, faux snowfall, an artisan market, free craft stations for kids. Christmas holiday characters, and boutique shopping make Winter Wonderland a fun traditional holiday experience for all ages! Enjoy festive fun at this free event and explore the sixteen seaside boutiques and art galleries stores for holiday finds – Love Local – Shop Local. Plus, Harbor restaurants are overflowing with good cheer for lunch and dinner.

Parking is free in Ventura Harbor Village, overflow Village parking, along Spinnaker Drive, and in the Ventura Harbor beach lots. Ventura Downtown – Harbor Trolley will be running with complimentary rides from 11 am – 11 pm from downtown, hotels, and Pierpont neighborhood. Arrive early for best parking and shopping throughout the Ventura Harbor Village.

Boater Applications are available by calling 477-0470 or online at VenturaHarbor.com and VenturaHarborVillage.com.



Community Events

Ventura events

by Ana Baker

Ventura Poinsettia Dance Club Monday nights 7:30 - 9:45pm. Poinsettia Pavilion 3451 Foothill. Ballroom, swing, Latin and line dancing. \$10 members, \$12 non-members. Dance lessons 6:45 - 7:15 \$5 for couple \$3 for single. Call Rick 415-8842 for more information.

Ventura's ACBL Duplicate Bridge Club offers games for all levels of play. Learn the game, play with your peers, and earn master points while you are having fun. There is a game every day of the week. Check out their website at www.vcbridge.org Life is Better with Bridge.

The Ventura Retired Men's Group welcomes interested men to their semi-monthly Tuesday lunch (\$15) meetings at the Ventura Elks lodge. This regular congenial social event supplies a welcome atmosphere to talk and joke and hear a speaker on a variety of relevant topics and brighten. Steve at 642-1359

Country Western Line Dancing every Tuesday 7 - 9 p.m. Instruction every night. Moose lodge, 10269 Telephone Road. More information at countrylovers.com.

Mended Hearts of Ventura meet the first Tuesday each month at the Community Memorial Hospital - 8th floor. Speakers Cardiologists, Nutritionists, Dietitians, etc. from our area. Come share if you have had heart surgery or stent implant. Bill Garner 320-1601

DBSA Ventura County support group for depression and bipolar disorder meets Tuesdays, 6:30 - 8 p.m. A free weekly peer-led support group meeting at the Encounter Bible Fellowship Church campus, upstairs, Room 426/428, 6950 Ralston St. 633-0736 for recorded information or visit www.DBSAlliance.org.

Nancy R. Brandt Auxiliary of Ventura County Assistance League® is composed of working adults who give back to the community by volunteering service and fundraising activities to its philanthropic programs. Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at 5:30 at the Chapter House, 913 East Santa Clara St. For more information call Carol Hughes 509-2150.

Conversational Spanish in a small group setting. Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. at the Foster Library. Registration not required. Louise Vien 643-7064, louisev99@juno.com

Dec. 8: The General George S. Patton, Jr. Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution December luncheon meeting is their annual Christmas program and a presentation by Mr. Robert Taylor. 11:30 AM, in the Garden Room, Marie Callender's Restaurant. All SAR & DAR Compatriots, friends, and visitors are welcome to join. If you choose lunch, cost is \$20. Bill Bays 650-3036 or Robert Taylor 216-7992. For information regarding SAR membership and chapter activities, <http://pattonpatriots.org>.

Dec. 8: Think church is boring? You won't with Messy Church. A fun evening for every age of crafts, games, music, celebration

and dinner. Make new friends, build great community, connect and enrich your life with God in the center of it all. Fun starts at 5:45 p.m. and dinner is at 7 p.m. Free, at Ventura First, 1338 E. Santa Clara, more fumcventura.org or 643-862

Dec. 8, 9: Gold Coast Concert Chorus presents Cheers! A Holiday Celebration. Celebrate the holidays and their 30th anniversary year with a look back to the holiday songs we loved, and a look forward to wonderful new holiday favorites. Friday December 8, at 8 p.m. and Saturday December 9, at 2 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church 1500 North C St., Oxnard. Adults \$18, seniors and students \$15, child under 12 \$5. Call 616-7269 or tickets@gold-coastchorus.org

Dec. 8, 9, 10. The 24th year of the Dudley House Holiday Boutique on weekends from 10 - 6 p.m. with a flea market added on Sundays. Celebrate the spirit of holidays past where you will find quality crafts, home décor, antiques and collectibles and a tearoom with refreshments, silent auction and bargain items. 197 N. Ashwood Ave. Admission is free. Call 642-3345 for information.

Dec. 8-14, 17-31:-California Sleigh Rides in Ventura Harbor. See beautiful holiday lights on boats and homes in Ventura harbor and in the Ventura Keys while cruising on the calm waters. Public 1.25 Hour California Sleigh Ride Cruises depart nightly 5:45-7 p.m. and 7:30-8:45 p.m. Adults (13-64) \$25, seniors (65+) \$23, children (2-12) \$15, Infants under 2 are \$7. Parade of Lights Cruises departures on Friday 15th and Saturday 16th 5:30-7p.m. and 7:30-9 p.m., \$35 Per Person all ages. Free Hot Chocolate and Cookies on all Cruises plus a Full bar available on board including "Reindeer Milk". Credit card reservations required, no cancellations. Visit www.CaliforniaSleighRides.com. For reservations call 642-7753

Dec. 10: South Seaward Reindeer Games and Holiday Block Party 12- 2 p.m. South Seaward Avenue. Free Admission. Bring your friends and family and celebrate the season. The South Seaward Merchants Association and local businesses are hosting the first holiday block party featuring live reindeer, Santa Claus, carnival games, an ugly sweater contest, and more.

Dec. 10: Celebrate the Season! Special Christmas show featuring three Ventura County a cappella choruses: Pacific Sound, Channel Island Harmony Chorus, and Channel Aire Chorus. Sunday, 2 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church 1338 E. Santa Clara St. Tickets available through: 1-800-353-1632 or pacificsoundchorus.org/tickets. Some of these projects include wetland restoration, creek and woodland revegetation. Speaker Samantha Lantz is a Biologist and GIS Specialist for Resource Conservation Partners.

Dec 13: Walk It Off Wednesday - Comedy Showcase. Comedians Abby Roberge (Sirius XM, Buzzfeed) and Ari Mannis (Gabriel Iglesias stand up revolution, Comedy time, Forbes magazine) are co-headlining one night only at Ventura Harbor Comedy Club! They will also be bringing a special guest from television with them!

\$15 per person, show starts at 8pm. Ventura Harbor Comedy Club in the Ventura Harbor.

Dec. 16: German Saturday School via GASA German American School Association). German Weihnachtsfeier holiday party at 9:30 a.m. Students will perform songs, poems, and skits followed by a visit from the German Nikolaus (Santa Claus). It's a fun event for families with children interested in another culture. German speaking "Round table" (Stammtisch) every 3rd Thursday of the month at a different location in Ventura County. Native speakers from Switzerland, Austria, Germany and advanced language learners get together. Unitarian Universalist Church , 5654 Ralston. sabine.schafer.mitchell@gasaschool.org for more information.

Dec. 16, 17: Olivas Adobe Historical Interpreters Present: A Clockwork Christmas. Saturday and Sunday from 11 - 3 p.m. Olivas Adobe's Small Adobe 4200 Olivas Park Dr. A Christmas musical tour from a collection of late 19th century and early 20th century mechanical wonders, antique music boxes and vintage phonographs covering the period from 1870-1912. Experience the genius of these music makers from the past. Bring your kids and be prepared for a rare and joyous Christmas experience. Also, the Olivas Adobe will be open for special tours with an accent on Christmas, circa 1855. For more information call 658-4728. Coffee and tea provided. Donations appreciated.

Ojai news and events

CI Professor of Biology Dr. Nitika Parmar will visit the Ojai Library at 1 p.m. on Saturday, December 9 to deliver a presentation titled "The Spiritual Basis of Life: The Link between Body and Soul." Dr. Parmar comes from CSU Channel Islands (CI), and is the final speaker in this season's CI Library Lecture Series.

Does the soul exist? Is it distinct from the body? Our bodies are highly complex machines, but what provides the consciousness to the body? Understanding the difference between body and soul is the beginning of spiritual life. This talk will compare the nature of the body and the soul and discuss how understanding both can help us achieve a better quality of life. Topics will include features of the soul, evidence of its presence, and its association with the body.

CSU Channel Islands hosts dozens of free public lectures at libraries throughout Ventura County as part of this program. The lecturers are experts from numerous departments at CI, including Biology, History, English, Computer Science, Political Science, Performing Arts, and Sociology to name a few.

This event is free and open to the public. 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.

ESTATE & FORMER LA GALLERY SALE

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GET OUT.....**



**Just in time
for your
X mas
gifts**



Furniture, Antiques, Jewelry,
Collectibles, Art, Outdoor, Clothes, Books,
Home Decor & More

SAT Dec 9th & SAT Dec 16th

9 am - 3 pm

5960 Valentine Rd, Warehouse # 17
Ventura, 93003



This 'n' That



Starting day one, Monica White has proven to be an extraordinary leader.

FOOD Share, Inc. names new President and CEO

FOOD Share, Inc. has announced that the board of directors has appointed Monica White, current interim CEO and former board member as President and CEO.

Following four months as interim CEO, White was selected during an executive search process to lead Ventura County's regional food bank serving 74,500 people every month and distributing 11,000,000 pounds of food annually.

"Starting day one, Monica White has proven to be an extraordinary leader bringing immediate stability to FOOD Share," said Joe Schroeder, Board Chair and President of Ventura County Credit Union. "As interim CEO, Monica's ability to tackle FOOD Share's challenges head on with immediate revenue results solidified our decision."

Since her initial hire in June 2017, the FOOD Share board of directors has remained consistent in outlining the goals of the organization. "We needed a budget that realigned our expenses to match our revenue projections," explained Schroeder. "Monica delivered exactly what we needed without sacrificing any of our core services."

White comes to FOOD Share after twelve years at the Ventura County Star as a member of the executive team and most recently as the Director of Marketing and Consumer Sales. Her career also includes positions with the Walt Disney Company, ABC Television, and Wham-O! White earned her degree from the University of Southern California, School of Business, Entrepreneur program.

"It's an honor to be asked to lead FOOD Share," says White. "I now understand more than ever the important role FOOD Share serves in our community. Without the support of our donors, volunteers and pantry partners, we couldn't serve 74,500 hungry people every month. I am excited about continuing the work started by FOOD Share's founders nearly 40 years ago."

"Monica is the right leader for FOOD Share at this time," said Schroeder. "Her deep understanding of the mission and strong commitment to the organization has helped make this a seamless transition."

Kindness team gets together to go out and do good deeds in the Ventura area and neighboring cities. On Saturday, Dec.16 they will go out and make a difference in our community. Meet at Trinity Lutheran Church on 196 N. Ashwood Ave at 11am and get your assignments. Spend on the average 3-4 hours helping others. Children are encouraged to participate. Please invite a friend.

Acts of kindness will include:

1. Visiting with the homeless (a group will visit with the homeless who congregate down at Mission park across from the Ventura mission.) It's a simple but powerful act by just spending some time talking to a person, asking their name, and listening to them. Makes a huge difference in their day.
2. Assist elderly person in Ventura getting home cleaned and organized.
3. Assist Ventura Tender Life organization (www.tenderlife.org) with yard work and maintenance tasks.

In addition, there is an opportunity/need to provide supplies and gift cards to The City Center transitional living facility (www.thecitycenter.org). You can bring supplies and gift cards at 11:00 or you can deliver them straight to The City Center.

Supplies needed: Dressers Small Fridges Cleaning Supplies (sponges, gloves, cleaning detergents,/liquids) Diapers (All sizes) (4) Vacuum Cleaners (4) Carpet Steam Cleaners (10) Brooms and dust pans Bathroom tissue Paper towels Napkins Plastic utensils Paper plates Feminine hygiene products Food – prepared or canned foods

Please reply to Jim O'Neill (jimoneill1128@gmail.com) if you can come out and support this event or 218-4563.

A few words about Toastmasters

It has been said that many people have more fear of public speaking than the fear of death

In 1924 Dr. Ralph Smedley created Toastmasters. The purpose was to provide a positive and mutual learning experience where people could practice and improve their communication and leadership skills.

The basic format of a Toastmaster meeting presents 5 to 7 minute speeches with 2 to 3 minute evaluations. There are 1 to 2 minute impromptu speeches called Table Topics. There are also contests for Humor and an annual International Speech Contest.

Originally women could not participate. Then in 1973 Helen Blanchard from San Diego joined. In order to participate she identified herself as Homer Blanchard (After the Greek Poet Homer). She got to be president of her club and Toastmasters International. Now women are welcome.

Today there are 325,000 Toastmasters in the world. There are 20,000 clubs in 142 nations including China. In 2017 the International Convention was held in August in Vancouver, Canada.

There are many Toastmaster clubs in this area. One Ventura club is Sandpipers. It meets every Wednesday 6:30 to

7:45am at the Ventura County Human Services Agency, 855 Partridge Dr.

The President is Dave Culton 983-1327. The Vice President for Membership is Wayne Choate at 750-3121 for more information.

Santa Barbara Island is now open to public access

Landings at the island will be restricted to the rocky ledge adjacent to the dock. In order to ensure a safe landing, boaters will need to carefully assess the weather conditions, particularly the tide and swell heights, prior to landing in this area.

The dock remains closed and is not expected to be repaired in the near future due to the severe nature of damage that occurred with successive storms the past two winters.

The island trail system has been stabilized following severe damage from storms this past winter.

Santa Barbara Island is the smallest and one of the least visited islands within Channel Islands National Park. It is located over 50 miles from Ventura and about 24 miles from neighboring Catalina Island.

NSWC Port Hueneme Division to host industry day

Naval Surface Warfare Center, Port Hueneme Division (NSWC PHD) will host an Industry Day on Thursday, Dec. 14 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Ventura Beach Marriott located at 2055 E. Harbor Blvd.

The event is free and open to all current and potential companies interested in conducting business with NSWC PHD.

During the forum, attendees will have the opportunity to formally meet NSWC PHD's new leadership team—Commanding Officer, Capt. Ray Acevedo, and Division Technical Director, Paul D. Mann—who will each share their strategic vision for the command.

In addition, NSWC PHD's Small Business Deputy, Chief of Contracting, and technical department representatives will shed light on command operations, the acquisition process, technology forecast, and other industry-specific information needed to conduct business with the Navy.

Areas of support include engineering (hardware/software), integrated product support, management services, industrial (shipyard), financial and technical services.

To attend the event, submit a registration form to nswcpd_cco@navy.mil. Registration forms are available for download at NSWC PHD's public web site.

Chanukah

Every year Jewish people around the world celebrate the holiday of Chanukah, the Festival of Lights. Chanukah begins on the 25th day of the Hebrew month of Kislev, but the starting date on the western calendar varies from year to year. This year it starts on sundown on Dec.12 and ends on Dec.20.

In the land of Judea there was a mean (boo) Syrian king, Antiochus. The king ordered the Jewish people to reject their God, their religion, their customs and their beliefs and to worship the Greek gods. There were some who did as they were told, but many refused. One who refused was Judah Maccabee.

Judah and his four brothers formed an army and after 3 years of fighting, the Maccabees were finally successful in driving the Syrians out of Israel and reclaimed the Temple in Jerusalem.

When Judah and his followers finished cleaning the temple, they wished to light the eternal light, known as the N'er Tamid, which is present in every Jewish house of worship. Only a tiny jug of oil was found with only enough for a single day. The oil lamp was filled and lit. Then a miracle occurred as the tiny amount of oil stayed lit not for one day, but for 8 days

Jews celebrate Chanukah to mark the victory over the Syrians and the rededication of the Jerusalem Temple. The Festival of the Lights, Chanukah, lasts for eight days to commemorate this miracle of the oil. The menorah candles are lit to celebrate the 8 days that the oil

stayed lit.

The spellings of Chanukah has caused some confusion. Part of the reason for this confusion may be due to the fact there is no exact English translation of the Hebrew word for Chanukah. So to help clear up some of the confusion here are just a few of the different spellings one might encounter. They all celebrate the holiday.

Chanukah, Chanukkah, Hanuka, Hanukah, Hannukah, Hanukkah. In the United States it is most common to use the spelling Chanukah.

We wish a happy Chanukah to a few famous Jews:

Albert Einstein, Sigmund Freud, Karl Marx, Gregory Pincus (birth control pill), Leon Trotsky, Levi Strauss, Jonas Salk (polio vaccine), Henry Kissinger, Harry Houdini, Sandy Koufax, Woody Allen, Irving Berlin (his compositions include *White Christmas* and *Easter Parade*), Mel Brooks, Carl Sagan, Mark Zuckerberg (Facebook), Larry Ellison (Oracle), Ruth Ginsberg (supreme court), Arthur Miller, Bob Dylan, Jesus of Nazareth, Betty Friedan, Marc Chagall, Gustav Mahler, Sergey Brin (Google) and Gertrude Stein.

Make a difference in our community

This is an invitation to come out and make a difference and have fun. Every 3 or 4 months, the Ventura Act of

News & Notes



Aaron Cortez films Allison Cabeza from Citrus Glen Elementary with assistance from Principal Susan Martinez.

Mayor for A Moment honors VUSD 5th graders

The City’s Mayor for A Moment series continues with 5th graders Vivian Ryan, from Will Rogers (November) and Allison Cabeza, from Citrus Glen (December). The Mayor for A Moment program is a collaboration with the City, Ventura Unified School District and CAPS Media. Each month teachers and faculty identify an outstanding 5th grader to represent the school. CAPS Media produces an on site profile of the student which includes the young mayor directing a tour of the school. Each Mayor for A Moment presents an original essay at a City council meeting on a topic of importance (caring, kindness, integrity, etc.) and receives recognition from the council including a key to the City. The program continues with a second, more extensive video presented at a VUSD board meeting during the “Good News” segment, and additional recognition of the young mayor and school by the district.

Pacific High School’s AIM project (Ancestry, Immigration and Memories) is in full production at the CAPS Media Center. Working in teams, Pacific students conduct interviews with family members to record and document personal stories and memories. The studio production crews are all Pacific students, operating cameras, audio and lighting gear, and the control room equipment. Coordinated by Pacific High teacher Jesse Barnett, and mentored by CAPS Media educator/instructor Phil Taggart, more than 30 Pacific high students are engaged in the immersive experience of broadcast journalism and media production. The AIM program, similar to the El Camino High School Digital Media Education program at CAPS Media, enables students to receive hands-on instruction in all aspects of studio production and post production, as well develop communication skills including research, storyboarding, writing and interviewing.

2018 is almost here. Consider closing out 2017 or starting the new year by becoming a Member/Producer at CAPS Media. If you are interested or just curious, orientation meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month. HD videography/camera classes are on the 2nd Thursday, Final Cut postproduction editing classes are on the 3rd Thursday, and CAPS Radio (KPPQ, FM 104.1)

holds classes on the 4th week. In every training session Member/Producers receive hands-on instruction in videography, video editing, radio production and more. All classes begin at 6pm at the CAPS Media Center, 65 Day Road. Once trained, member/producers may check out CAPS Media’s video cameras, tripods, audio gear and other production equipment to record their story and then book postproduction editing suites to craft the story they want to tell. Details of training and signups are on the website at capsmedia.org/events.

CAPS Media’s mission is to create an engaged and informed community through participation in electronic media. Go to capsmedia.org to see programming schedules, search the archives for past programs, get general info and sign up for classes. Anyone who lives, works or attends school in the city of Ventura may become a Member/Producer. Annual membership fees are only \$25 for an individual and \$75 for a non-profit organization. CAPS Radio DJs require an additional annual fee of \$50. For complete information go to capsmedia.org.



Two Men and a Truck collected donations for Turning Point Foundation.

Dozens of veterans received goods

In honor of Veteran’s Day on November 11, the Simi Valley & Ventura Two Men and a Truck locations partnered with Ventura County businesses in Camarillo, Oxnard, Ventura and Simi Valley – First Bank, Yolanda’s Mexican Grills, Sharkey’s, American

Continued on page 22

FREE HOT CHOCOLATE & COOKIES
BAR ON BOARD

California Sleigh Rides

IN VENTURA HARBOR
NIGHTLY: DECEMBER 8TH-31ST
CALL 805-642-7753



 **California Sleigh Rides**
\$3 off Adult Ticket
1.25hr Public Holiday Cruise
Valid Dec 11-14 & Dec 26-29
5:45-7 or 7:30-8:45
For Reservations Call 805-642-7753
With this coupon. Credit card reservations required.
Not valid on any other dates or cruises. Expires 12-29-17

Ventura Boat Rentals.com
1575 Spinnaker Drive Dock D-7

805 Gift Emporium

\$5 off any purchase of \$25 or more!

Not valid with any other offer, must percent coupon, valid through 12/20/17

Gift Bagged and ready to go!!



3875 Telegraph Road, Suite A
Across from Classic Cleaners

805.658.0805

Monday - Saturday
9:00am - 6:00pm



A standing room only crowd heard from County Supervisor Steve Bennett and Ventura Mayor Erik Nasarenko and other speakers. Photos by Richard Lieberman.

Grand opening of Hill Road Library

by Jill Forman

“You may say I’m a dreamer,
But I’m not the only one.” – John Lennon

Library staff and friends wore T-shirts that said, “Imagine.....Hill Road Library.” Indeed this new branch is a triumph of imagination and collaboration to being this dream to reality.

1100 celebratory Venturans showed up for the library opening on Sunday, Dec.3 at noon. There hasn’t been a library in the Midtown area since the Wright library closed nine years ago, and the local residents are overjoyed.

The program was MC’d by Ivor Davis, local author and celebrity. There were brief speeches by library officials, Hannah-Beth Jackson, Steve Bennett, and Erik Nasarenko. The emphasis was on the collaborative effort and financial support that it took to get this branch up and running.

The Ventura County Board of Supervisors approved ongoing funds in the amount of \$250,000 to operate the new library, while the City of Ventura approved \$50,000 annually that will allow for an additional 16 open hours per week. The City also provided \$25,000 for one-time capital expenditures. The Ventura Friends of the Library raised and contributed \$200,000, much of which came from used book sales to local residents.

In addition, there was entertainment by the Harmonix, a Rubicon Theater group of young people who sang “Imagine,” to go along with the theme of the afternoon, among other songs.

Nancy Schram (see article on page 17 introducing the new Director), new Ventura County Library Director says,

Continued on page 17



LIVING THAT GETS MORE OUT OF LIFE

CLEARWATER at RIVERPARK

An Independent Living Community

Welcome to Clearwater Living — a fresh and resounding new beginning for those ready for change.

Clearwater at Riverpark offers Independent Living with new, contemporary residences. Enjoy convenient shopping, dining and entertainment walking distance away at The Collection Riverpark.

We believe in the vitality of life at Clearwater Living. It's our passion.

RESERVE YOUR APARTMENT TODAY FOR BEST SELECTION AND BEST PRICE!

COMMUNITY AMENITIES

Inside and outside, we've chosen multi-faceted comforts to make life easy, connected, and fun.

- Outdoor Saltwater Pool • Fitness Studio
- Chef-Inspired Dining • Pub with Happy Hour
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Experience impressive, stylish, and incredibly comfortable spaces designed just for you.

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News & Notes



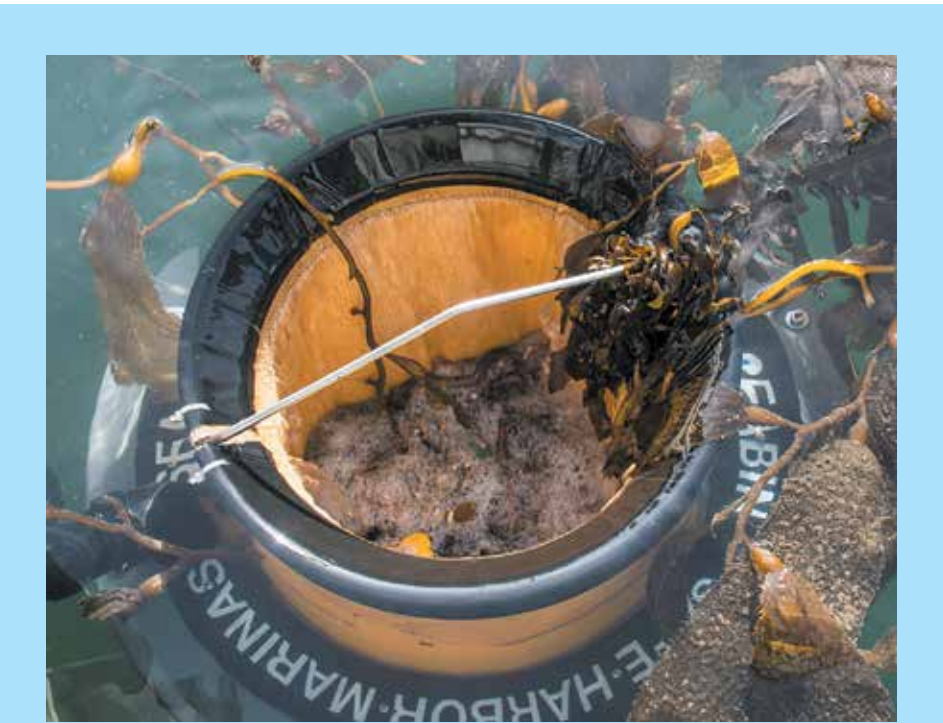
Community Memorial Health System's inaugural Nurse Resident graduating nurses back row Jennifer Wise, Taylor Edsel, Camille Finnerty, Marika Schipper, Kierstyn Polte and Jocelyn Briggs, and front row Annel Lupian, Sara Maffet, Lauren Barnett, Darcy Young, Rachel Alan and Riley Friedl. Photo courtesy of Community Memorial Health System.

Community Memorial Health System congratulates inaugural nursing resident class graduates

Community Memorial Health System is proud to congratulate the 12 registered nurses in its inaugural Nurse Resident Class. The graduates completed CMHS's new Nurse Residency Program, which assists student nurses as they make the transition to healthcare practitioners.

Community Memorial Health System created its Nurse Residency Program to help with the assimilation challenges many new nurses face. Such programs are part of a new trend in nursing, with nurse residency programs being formed at hospitals nationwide that transcend the standard orientation programs in duration, focus and complexity. These programs strengthen nurses' clinical and analytical skills, reduce turnover, provide emotional support to new nurses, and foster their interest in practice improvement and career advancement.

The CMHS Nurse Residency Program provides a structured experience that supports newly graduated RNs, guides their career development, and helps them begin their nursing careers with confidence. The curriculum incorporates proven methods of adult learning and emphasizes the development of clinical and leadership skills as they transition from student nurse to acute care professional. Nurses in the CMHS Nurse Residency Program work in a direct care role at Community Memorial Hospital. The one-year program begins with 16 weeks of preceptor-led programming and is followed by monthly seminars. It will involve the majority of new graduates at CMHS.



The Seabin project, a floating debris interception device has come to Ventura Harbor. Installed at the Ventura Isle Marina the device is designed to be installed in the water partially submerged. The device will work in any calm marine environment like marinas, yacht clubs, and ports. The device is placed in specific parts of marinas and ports that are prone to debris problems. The partially submerged device literally vacuums the surface and collects debris and stores the debris in a large capture bag that normally needs to be cleaned twice daily.

The device is designed to make the marina environment cleaner and more environmentally sound by capturing cigarette butts, plastic particles and food wrappers. Each installed Seabin can capture a half ton of debris yearly.

Photo by Richard Lieberman,

News & Notes



Dr. Greg Gillespie Ysabel Trinidad

New board members bring higher education experience to EDC-VC

Dr. Greg Gillespie, chancellor, Ventura County Community College District and Ysabel Trinidad, vice president for finance and administration at California State University Channel Islands are the newest Economic Development Collaborative-Ventura County board members.

“Greg and Ysabel each have more than 25 years’ experience in higher education leadership. Their insight into university-level administration will be beneficial to our board’s efforts to continue to develop partnerships, programs and services for clients we serve throughout Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties,” said Bruce Stenslie, EDC-VC’s president and CEO.

Prior to serving as chancellor, Gillespie spent four years as president of Ventura College. Gillespie has worked for more than 24 years in the community college system and has served in faculty, director, dean, vice president, and president positions at four different community colleges in Arizona, California and Washington. Gillespie is focused on supporting the colleges in providing student-centered access to quality and relevant educational programs and support services. He works with employer, education and governmental partners to address shared educational and community priorities. He also serves on several local, state and national

organizations and boards.

Trinidad became vice president for finance and administration at CSU Channel Islands in 2011. She has more than 30 years of leadership experience in finance and operations in the field of higher education. Prior to CSUCI, she served as vice chancellor for administrative services at the University of Washington, Tacoma, where she oversaw finance and budget, capital planning, institutional planning and research, facilities, human resources, campus safety and risk management for the growing, urban campus of 3,500 students. Trinidad holds an MBA from St. Mary’s University in San Antonio and a bachelor’s degree from California State University, Fresno.



Jann is always serving the community in a big way.

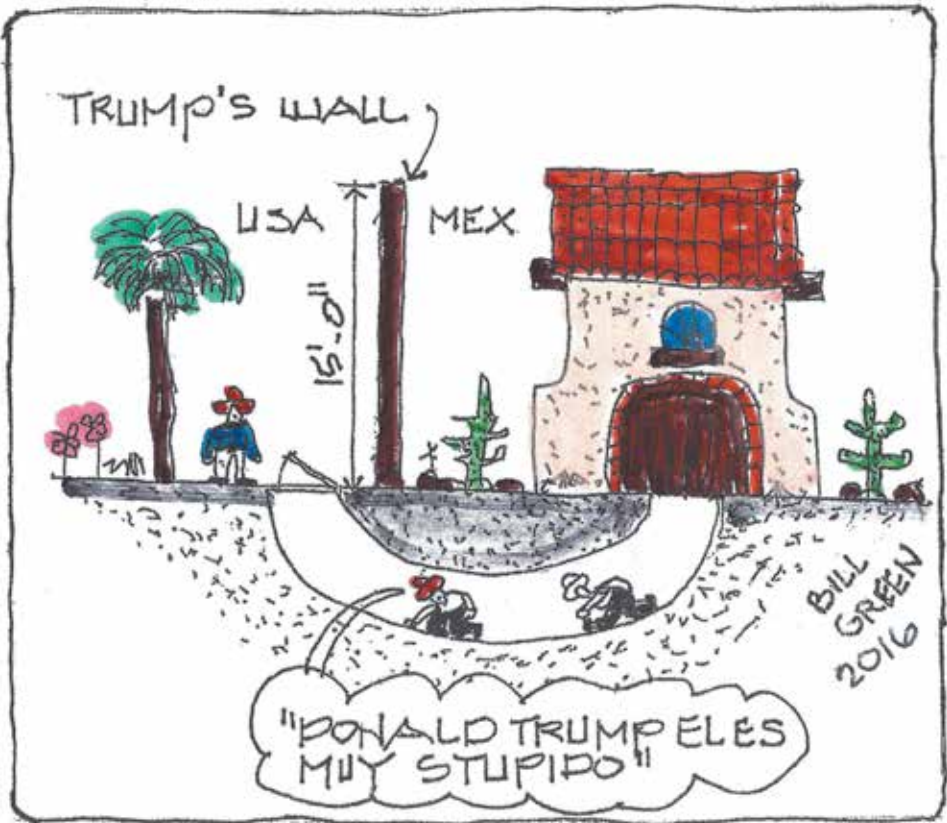
City Center Board Member Jann Huling

Jann Huling was born and raised in Ventura County. Graduating from Ventura High and UCLA. She is with ServiceMaster by Integrity in Oxnard as the business development manager.

Jann has one grown son Ian and has adopted his childhood best - friend Bobby. Bobby also works for ServiceMaster by Integrity. She has one grand

Continued on page 22

Vintage Green With Envy



Border Patrol agents recently uncovered a tunnel in San Diego that they said was used to smuggle illegal immigrants across the border. Cartels have long used tunnels as pathways for drugs, while migrants generally have been smuggled above ground but tunnels are becoming a more frequent way of entering the USofA.

You're Invited to a Free Gourmet Dinner & Workshop

Stunning Research now suggests that **TYPE II Diabetes** can begin to be **REVERSED** in as little as **1 WEEK**.



EXCLUSIVELY FOR: **WOMEN with LOW THYROID**



Tuesday, December 12th, 6pm

We will share Natural & Simple Take Home Techniques and an Emerging Clinical Approach that's utilized to help patients facilitate the Reversal of Type II Diabetes.

Learn how to:

- LOWER and STABILIZE Blood Sugar
- LOSE WEIGHT without exercise or fad diets
- DECREASE RISK FACTORS for diabetic complications and an early death

Location for Type II Diabetes: Red Lobster 1740 Ventura Blvd., Oxnard

Wednesday, December 20th, 6pm

You will discover various reasons women with low thyroid continue to suffer despite taking thyroid hormones and normal test results

- Continual weight gain, despite diet and exercise
- Life-altering fatigue
- Hot Flashes
- Depression & Anxiety
- Constipation
- Insomnia
- Brain Fog
- Hair loss

Location for Women with Low Thyroid: Mimi's Cafe 3375 E. Main St., Ventura



Please RSVP to (805) 556-7200

Limited Seating - Reservations Required. May bring 1 guest. Adults only.

Presentation by Brent A Caplan DC & Tiffany N Caplan DC, Board Certified in Integrative Medicine by the American Association of Integrative Medicine, Certified Functional Medicine Practitioners and Active Members of the Institute for Functional Medicine

Holiday Cruises
From Ventura Harbor

Caroling

Cruise the Ventura Keys
December 8, 12, 13, 14, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22 & 23 • 6:30 to 7:45 p.m.
Adult \$16 • Seniors \$13 • Child \$10

Photo by Doug Mangum

Parade of Lights
Watch the Boat Parade
December 15 & 16
6:15 to 8:30 p.m.
Adult \$35 • Seniors \$32 • Child \$25

Gift Shop & Gift Certificates
Island Day Hikes • Camp • Kayak • Whale Watch
805-642-1393 ISLANDPACKERS.COM

Photo by Dan Harding



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Get \$5 off \$20 with this coupon!
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A previous year's trash and debris cleanup.

Report: by 2050, the oceans will contain more plastic than fish

On Sunday, Nov. 19, the Ventura Land Trust (VLT) and Ventura County Chapter of the Surfrider Foundation teamed up to host the 1st Annual Ventura River to the Sea Coastal Cleanup. Both organizations invited volunteers to join them to clear trash and debris from the Ventura River estuary and beaches near the Ventura County Fairgrounds.

"The sad fact is that 80 % of plastics and other trash found in our ocean comes from land-based sources," said Dashiell

Dunkell, VLT Conservation Director. "Our goal is to remove as much trash as possible from the beach and along the Ventura River before the rainy season begins and washes it into the sea."

"This is one day when the community can come together in defense of the beautiful coastline, waterways and ecosystems that make Ventura such a beautiful place to live," said Dunkell.

Visit www.venturalandtrust.org for more information or call 643-8044.

News & Notes



2016 honorees at the Poinsettia Awards Luncheon.

Ventura Chamber of Commerce honors those who make a difference in the community

The Ventura Chamber of Commerce will recognize outstanding achievements of businesses and individuals who make a difference in our community at the Poinsettia Awards Luncheon.

Presented by the Ventura Chamber and Montecito Bank & Trust those to be recognized are:

Large Business of the Year- Kirby Auto Group
Mid-Size Business of the Year- Aloha Steakhouse
Small Business of the Year- Sunset Dental
Innovation Award- Ventura Visitors and Convention Bureau
Non-Profit of the Year- Diversity Collective Ventura County
Citizen of the Year- Nan Drake
Young Professional of the Year- Jennifer Caldwell
Ambassador of the Year- Kris Hansen
Volunteer of the Year - Shannon Hillygus
Hometown Heroes- Bonnie and Richard Atmore
Environmental Excellence Award - Patagonia
City of Ventura Supervisor of the Year- Thomas Hoffman
City of Ventura Employee of the Year- Tracey Coert
City of Ventura Firefighter of the Year- Brandyn Johnson
City of Ventura Police Officer of the Year- Dean Cole
VUSD Male Student of the Year- Kiernan Rickard
VUSD Female Student of the Year-

Genevieve Werner
VUSD Educator of the Year- Annie McGavren

Now in its 21st year, these awards acknowledge the best that Ventura has to offer. The Poinsettia Awards Luncheon is postponed due to the fire until a date to be announced. The cost is \$45 for Chamber members and \$55 for the general public. Tickets can be purchased online at venturachamber.com/poinsettiaawards or by calling 643-7222.



Ferguson Case Orr Paterson LLP (FCOP) law firm, is pleased to announce that Joshua S. Hopstone has been elevated to partner, beginning Jan. 1, 2018. In his seven years at FCOP, Hopstone has built a strong practice focused primarily on complex business and real estate related matters. He is also an accomplished appellate advocate. Hopstone's law practice is focused on issues affecting real property.

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Senior Living

Pull Out Section

Frequently Asked Questions About Alzheimer's Disease

by the National Institute on Aging

What is the difference between Alzheimer's disease and dementia?

Alzheimer's disease is a type of dementia. Dementia is a loss of thinking, remembering, and reasoning skills that interferes with a person's daily life and activities. Alzheimer's disease is the most common cause of dementia among older people. Other types of dementia include frontotemporal disorders and Lewy body dementia.

Memory problems are typically one of the first signs of Alzheimer's disease, though different people may have different initial symptoms. A decline in other aspects of thinking, such as finding the right words, vision/spatial issues, and impaired reasoning or judgment, may also signal the very early stages of Alzheimer's disease.

Mild cognitive impairment, or MCI, is a condition that can also be an early sign of Alzheimer's disease—but not everyone with MCI will develop Alzheimer's. In addition to memory problems, movement difficulties and problems with the sense of smell have been linked to MCI.

Alzheimer's disease progresses in several stages: preclinical, early (also called mild), middle (moderate), and late (severe). During the preclinical stage of Alzheimer's disease, people seem to be symptom-free, but toxic changes are taking place in the brain. A person in the early stage of Alzheimer's may exhibit the signs listed above. As Alzheimer's disease progresses to the middle stage, memory loss and confusion grow worse, and people may have problems recognizing family and friends. As Alzheimer's disease becomes more severe, people lose

the ability to communicate. They may sleep more, lose weight, and have trouble swallowing. Eventually, they need total care.

Scientists do not yet fully understand what causes Alzheimer's disease in most people. In early-onset Alzheimer's, which occurs between a person's 30s and mid-60s, there may be a genetic component. Late-onset Alzheimer's, which usually develops in a person's mid-60s, arises from a complex series of brain changes that occur over decades. The causes probably include a mix of genetic, environmental, and lifestyle factors. These factors affect each person differently.

Just because a family member has Alzheimer's disease does not mean that you will get it, too.

A rare form of Alzheimer's disease, called early-onset familial Alzheimer's, or FAD, is inherited (passed down through families). It is caused by mutations, or changes, in certain genes. If one of the gene mutations is passed down, the child will usually—but not always—have FAD. In other cases of early-onset Alzheimer's, research suggests there may be a genetic component related to other factors.

Most cases of Alzheimer's are late-onset. This form of the disease occurs in a person's mid-60s and usually has no obvious family pattern. However, genetic factors appear to increase a person's risk of developing late-onset Alzheimer's.

Some sources claim that products such as coconut oil or dietary supplements such as Protandim® can cure or delay Alzheimer's. However, there is no scientific evidence to support these

Continued on page 16



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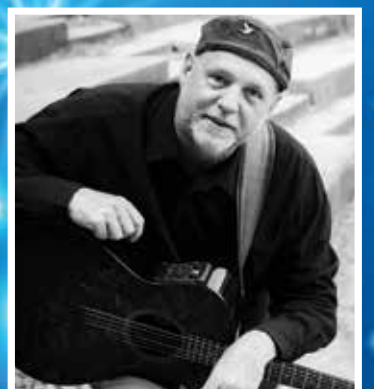
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Senior Living



"This is much better, but do I look silly?"

What did you say?

Hearing loss is very common in older adults. It can be especially hard for them to hear when more than one person is talking or there is a lot of background noise. Here are some tips you can use when talking with someone who has a hearing problem:

- In a group, include people with hearing loss in the conversation.
- Find a quiet place to talk to help reduce background noise, especially in restaurants and at social gatherings.
- Stand in good lighting and use facial expressions or gestures to give clues.
- Face the person and speak clearly.
- Speak a little more loudly than normal, but don't shout.
- Speak at a reasonable speed.
- Do not hide your mouth, eat, or chew gum while speaking.
- Repeat yourself if necessary, using different words.
- Try to make sure only one person talks at a time.
- Be patient. Stay positive and relaxed. Ask how you can help

VCAAA's Fall Prevention Program receives \$50,000

The Ventura County Area Agency on Aging's (VCAAA) Fall Prevention Program was recently awarded \$50,000 from the Camarillo-based Gold Coast Health Plan. The funds will be used to continue efforts to address the crisis of fall incidents throughout Ventura County.

The VCAAA's Fall Prevention Program offers a variety of programs backed by evidence-based material to residents of Ventura County who are 60 or older in an effort to arm adults and caregivers with the tools necessary to prevent falls and increase mobility. A wide variety of classes, including A Matter of Balance, Walk with Ease, Tai Chi: Moving for Better Balance, and Stepping On, are offered year round at locations throughout Ventura County. In addition to classes, the VCAAA provides case management to individuals who have reported falls in an effort to address immediate concerns.

Nationally recognized research shows that one in four adults over the age of 65, and half of the population over the age of 75, fall each year. Of those individuals, half will die within a year from complications and injuries sustained from the fall.

The VCAAA, in partnership with several local private and public organizations that make up the Ventura County Elderly Fall Prevention Coalition, is committed to decreasing the number of fall incidents through prevention programs, which will ultimately result in lower healthcare costs.

"Gold Coast Health Plan is helping to ensure that we can provide the best possible services to residents of Ventura County," said Victoria Jump, Director of the VCAAA.

For more information on the Fall Prevention Program, please visit www.vcaaa.org.

Senior Song Circle

Dec. 12 (2nd Tues. of each month), 1:30 - 4 p.m. and Dec. 26 (4th Tues. of each month), 1:30 - 4 p.m. at SCAN Health and Wellness Center, 6633 Telephone Rd., Ste., led by Marty Capsuto. Center is for those 55+ and guests, Marty will guest sponsor all Songmakers under 55. Plenty of parking behind building. For more information, contact Marty at 658-0365 or mcapsuto@scanhealth-plan.com.

Dec. 22 (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.

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It’s that time of year – time for your flu shot!

Getting a flu shot every year can help you stay healthy. A flu shot contains the flu vaccine, which could keep you from getting the flu. Medicare will pay for the shot, and so will many private health insurance plans. You can get a flu shot at your doctor’s office or from your local health department. Some grocery or drug stores offer flu shots. The vaccine is the same wherever you receive it.

A flu shot won’t keep everyone healthy. But, getting the flu shot every year can mean that if you do get the flu, you might have only a mild case.

Scam alerts

Scam artists set up fake websites offering anything you could want to buy as gifts around the holidays, at prices that are too-good-to-be-true. And guess what? They are! You’ll never receive the gift you thought you bought, and the scammers could turn around and use your credit card information for their own purchases. Stick to well-known shopping sites, and always type in the web address, rather than clicking from a link to the retailer.

Are you buying gift cards this holiday season? Consider this. Thieves hit store gift card racks, secretly write down or scan the numbers off the cards, then check online or call the toll-free number to see if someone has bought the cards and activated them. As soon as a card is active, the scammers drain the funds. By the time your gift recipient tries to use the card, the money is long gone.

As you head out for last-minute holiday shopping, leave the debit card at home. Consumer protection experts recommend using credit cards to protect against fraud and theft. With credit cards, you are liable for only up to \$50 of fraudulent use, and most credit card companies will waive this fee. In the case of a lost or stolen debit card, financial losses to the consumer can be much more significant. Call your bank for details.

Americans gave over \$390 billion to charity in 2016. While government regulators say that most charities are legitimate, there are fundraisers that keep most of the money they raise. As you consider year-end giving, do your research. Check out charities at www.give.org or www.charitynavigator.org to make sure your money is going where it should and not into the pockets of scammers!

Report scams to local law enforcement. Contact the AARP Fraud Watch Network at www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork for more information on fraud prevention.

Holiday depression in aging loved ones

by **Connie De La Rosa**
Family Caregiver Resource Center Catholic Charities

During the Holidays, we often think of joyful times with family and friends but for some of our elders, it can be a time of sadness, isolation and loneliness. “Seasonal Affective Disorder” (SAD) is prevalent during the holidays and winter season due to issues such as being confined indoors, missing loved ones or chronic illness and pain.

Symptoms to look for:

- Decreased appetite
- Sleep disturbances
- Memory loss or confusion
- Mood disturbances
- Loss of self-worth
- Increased use of Alcohol or drugs

For more information or additional resources for assistance please call 420-9608.

Café Days Holiday Luncheon

Join the City of Ventura Senior Nutrition Program for a holiday luncheon that is bound to be festive with a meal that includes many of your favorite holiday trimmings. Seating is limited so pre-registration is required by calling or visiting the Ventura Avenue Adult Center at 648-3035.

A suggested donation for patrons 60+ is \$3.00 and a \$6.75 fee applies to people under 60. Fri., Dec. 22, 11:30 am – 12:30 pm.

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For more information and to RSVP, please call
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The Palms At Bonaventure
 Assisted Living & Memory Care
 111 North Wells Road Ventura, CA 93004

Senior Living

Frequently asked questions
Continued from page 13

claims. Currently, there is no cure for Alzheimer's disease.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved several drugs to treat the symptoms of Alzheimer's disease, and certain medicines and other approaches can help control behavioral symptoms.

Scientists are developing and testing possible new treatments for Alzheimer's. Learn more about taking part in clinical trials that help scientists learn about the brain in healthy aging and what happens in Alzheimer's and other dementias. Results of these trials are used to improve prevention and treatment methods.

Currently, there is no definitive evidence about what can prevent Alzheimer's disease or age-related cognitive decline. What we do know is that a healthy lifestyle—one that includes a healthy diet, physical activity, appropriate weight, and no smoking—can lower the risk of certain chronic diseases and boost overall health and well-being. Scientists are very interested in the possibility that a healthy lifestyle might delay, slow down, or even prevent Alzheimer's. They are also studying the role of social activity and intellectual stimulation in Alzheimer's disease risk.

Cypress Place Senior Living took some of their residents to the grand opening to check out Ventura's newest library. Photo by Michael Gordon.

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Youth

After working with 6 year-old Yuleima Manriquez of Ventura, her family and Wish granters determined her true wish was to have a special tomato collapsible wheelchair. In having her own wheelchair, she would be able to go on family outings. Yuleima's father explained how the tomato chair was a real blessing.

Make-A-Wish® Tri-Counties collaborated with Merlin Medical Supply & Magic in Camarillo to surprise Yuleima and present her with her custom fit tomato chair. Owner, Paul Dwork was passionate about serving and accommodating Yuleima's family, and went above and beyond to ensure Yuleima's comfort in her new chair.

News & Notes



New County Library Director at the opening of the new Hill Rd. Library.
Photo by Michael Gordon.

Nancy Schram named as new County Library Director

By a unanimous vote the Board of Supervisors concurred with the recommendation of County Executive Officer Mike Powers to name Nancy Schram as Director of the Ventura County Library System.

“Nancy was selected after a nationwide search that resulted in more than 85 applicants,” said Powers. “Nancy’s collaborative style of management, her tremendous enthusiasm for the role of libraries in our communities and her professional experience showed Nancy was the right choice for the position. Representatives of our local city library partners also participated in the selection process and noted Nancy’s innovative and collaborative approach in supporting her appointment.”

Schram joined the Ventura County Library System as the Deputy Library Director in 2016. Prior to that, she served as the Deputy Library Director for the City of Thousand Oaks for nine years after having worked for the County of Los Angeles Public Library for 10 years. She has a master’s degree in Library and Information Science from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee and is a member of two professional library associations.

“I’m excited to take a leadership role in County government and to serve our residents with superior library services,” said Schram. “I envision a thriving, sustainable, relevant and collaborative library system that will meet the needs of all our communities far into the future.”

Schram will succeed Jackie Griffin who is retiring in December after 15 years in the Ventura County Library System. Under Griffin’s direction,

the library system added the Ventura County Library Foundation, internet connectivity, 3-D printers, laptop computers that can be checked out, innovative reading programs and activities for all ages, and many other accomplishments.

Schram will begin her new duties on December 17, 2017, at an annual salary of \$176,766.

Since joining the County, Schram has implemented innovative technology at the soon-to-open Hill Road Library. The technology will empower patrons and provide services on demand, while increasing by up to 70 percent the hours the library is open to the public. She also initiated a Library Staff Training Academy and a program to work with homeless patrons at the E.P. Foster Library.

To learn more about the Ventura County Library System, visit: <https://www.vencolibrary.org/>.

Grand opening of Hill Road Library *Continued from page 9*

“We are thrilled to be opening a new library on the East side of Ventura. It’s a wonderful example of how the County, City, and community came together to provide funding and support so that we can reach more people with library services and ultimately improve lives and enrich the entire community.”

There was a lot more at the event than speeches. Children could make folk dolls and play with a Lego setup, there was a booth for fancy costumed selfie photos, a flower card reader, 3-D printer and wood etcher.

The Lions club supplied and served

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Kathy Thomson the President of the Ventura Friends of the Library, echoes this sentiment, “The Hill Road Library is an example of the collaborative efforts between government, nonprofits, corporate sponsors and citizens. When these entities work together toward a common goal the possibilities are infinite.”

Citizens of all ages lined up for get library cards, check out books on the new self-serve machines, talk to the librarians and buy books from the Friends shelves.

Mayor Nasarenko, a library supporter, gave this heartfelt statement, “To see the return of library services to the east end of Ventura is wonderful. Our thanks to Supervisor Bennett and the Board of Supervisors, Friends of the Library and County

Library Director Jackie Griffin for helping to make this opening possible. I encourage Venturans to bring their families, their curiosity and their passion for lifelong learning to this new community resource.”

And Steve Bennet, who has backed the libraries all the way, had this to say, “I am really happy our residents in the east end will have a local library and very appreciative of all the efforts by the library supporters who helped make this happen.” Thank you, Supervisor Bennet, it wouldn’t have happened without you.

The Hill Road Library is located at 1050 Hill Road in Ventura.

Beginning December 3, 2017 hours of service are Monday through Wednesdays, 10am to 6pm; Thursdays, 2pm to 6pm; Fridays through Sundays, 10am to 2pm.

The Pet Page



Dedicated to Scamp

■ Purrs & Paws Holiday Boutique returns to Ojai for the Sixth annual Humane Society fundraiser slated for Dec. 16. Over 30 vendors will offer a vast variety of holiday gifts for people and pets, at the Humane Society of Ventura County's holiday boutique. The boutique will be open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at the Chaparral Auditorium in Ojai, at 414 E. Ojai Ave. Newly added this year is a Vintage Market, on the lawn next to the auditorium.

All proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit the nonprofit HSVC. With over 5,000 supporters, and marking its 85th year, the HSVC is committed to making this holiday market the best one yet. New and returning vendors will be featured.

Admission to this family-friendly event is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Heather Rowe at HeatherR@hsvc.org or 646-6505.

■ The Teague Mansion in Santa Paula is the venue for Santa Paula Animal Rescue Center's (SPARC's) gala fundraising evening on December 8. The themed event is a 1930s murder mystery, featuring a theatrical production with plenty of intrigue. All proceeds from ticket sales and the silent auction will go toward medical costs and daily care of the animals at SPARC.

The evening includes a light buffet supper, beverages and a theatrical murder mystery filled with fun and drama. Tickets are \$125 per person and can be purchased at <http://bit.ly/2hF4KdC> (Eventbrite link).

Many people are unaware that being a "no kill" shelter adds a high cost to running a shelter, since every animal, no matter how sick or injured, receives appropriate vet care. Every effort is made to give the animals a second chance at life at SPARC.

SPARC's cost to run a "No Kill, No Excuses" shelter is \$1.4 million per year; the city of Santa Paula contributes just over \$100,000 of that. SPARC relies on grants and donations from the public.

Medical staffing and veterinary care

alone is around \$500,000, so it is vital to have the support of people who believe in the no-kill mission by buying their tickets to the 1930s murder mystery event and supporting other SPARC fundraising efforts. ■ The FDA says it has received about 68 reports of pet illnesses, and even deaths, related to bone treats. Some of the reports involved more than one dog; a total of about 90 animals have been affected.

About 15 dogs have died of the illnesses, the agency said.

These treats differ from uncooked, butcher-type bones because they are processed and packaged for sale as dog treats. The products may be dried through a smoking process or by baking, and may contain other ingredients such as preservatives, seasonings or smoke flavorings.

Different types of bone treats for dogs, including treats described as "Ham Bones," "Pork Femur Bones," "Rib Bones," and "Smokey Knuckle Bones," were listed in the illness reports.

"Giving your dog a bone treat might lead to an unexpected trip to your veterinarian, a possible emergency surgery, or even death for your pet," stated Carmela Stamper, a veterinarian in the Center for Veterinary Medicine at the FDA.



"Feed me."

Scamp Club

(Scampclub pets are not for adoption.)

My name is Buddy, I am 14-years-old. I lived at the Humane Society of Ventura County for nearly a year. When my daddy adopted me I was the smallest, oldest, and the longest resident of the shelter. Now I have wonderful, loving home with a comfy bed and a stuffed animal friend I call Lamb Chop. I'm a lucky dog.



My name is Duke (short for Duke Kahanamoku) I am seven-years-old. I love swimming in the ocean, running fast on hikes, cuddling with my people and truck rides. Me and Oliver live together.



My name is Oliver, I am seven years old. I love playing ball, going on hikes and swimming at the beach. I steal toys from my brother dogs and hide them to enjoy alone later.



I'm Fleur. I was adopted as a rescue. I'm a loving 4 year old Calico, known as "the Friendliest cat in the neighborhood" I frequently take walks with my buddies.

Join Scamp Club

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

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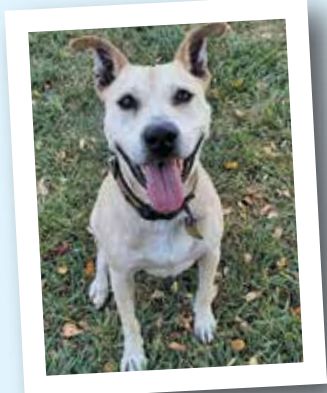
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The Pet Page

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



Hi: I'm Lady, a 10-year-old yellow lab mix and I'm just about the perfect size. Big enough to not get lost under your feet while walking but small enough to be a lap dog. I love people and playing with toys. I'm good with other dogs as well. I guarantee I'll bring you holiday cheer! I'm available for foster or adoption! Canine Adoption and Rescue League C.A.R.L.

We love our friendly, gentle Wylie! He is playful with the other gentle dogs in our doggie playgroups. We think he would like a quiet home, and know he would love to focus on pleasing his person. Wylie can be found at the Simi Shelter in kennel 920. Ventura County Animal Services – Simi Location – 670 W. Los Angeles Ave.- Wylie A667312



Health

Prevent and reduce the risk for diabetes

The Ventura Family YMCA is encouraging residents of Ventura to learn their risks for prediabetes and type 2 diabetes and to take preventive steps to potentially reduce their chances of developing the disease.

Statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) show that more than one in three Americans (84 million people) has prediabetes. Prediabetes is a condition in which a person's blood glucose is elevated, but not high enough for a diabetes diagnosis. Only 10 percent of those with prediabetes know they have it but with awareness and simple actions, people with prediabetes may prevent the onset of diabetes.

"As one of the leading community-based charities committed to improving the health of Ventura, the Y wants to all people to understand their risk for prediabetes and steps to take to avoid developing type 2 diabetes," said Margo Byrne, Chief Operations Officer for the Channel Islands YMCA. "Developing type 2 diabetes impacts the lives of millions of people and their families each year physically, emotionally and financially."

Individuals can assess their risk for prediabetes and type 2 diabetes by taking a simple test at YMCA.net/diabetes. Through this assessment, visitors can also learn how lifestyle choices and family history help determine the ultimate risk for developing the disease. Several factors that could put a person at risk for type 2 diabetes include race, age, weight and activity level. If a person is at risk, a diabetes screening conducted by a physician can confirm a

diabetes or prediabetes diagnosis.

The Ventura Family YMCA also offers its members Y Fit appointments, three complimentary one-hour sessions with a Y Fit expert. During these appointments, members can discuss health concerns and develop a fitness plan and solutions with their expert in order to meet their specific needs and goals.

One diabetic Y member details their story of transformation, "Since joining the YMCA, I came in at 230lbs, diabetic, insulin dependent and generally unfit. After 18 months, I have dropped 35lbs, lost 6 inches off my waist. I am now insulin free, and my blood pressure is back to normal. I have been coming seven days a week to workout & swim. It has become a new way of life for me."

Thanks to the Y programs, the people of Ventura Family YMCA are able to improve their health

Making some basic lifestyle changes that contribute to weight loss and healthy living can decrease the risk for type 2 diabetes. Among these are:

- Eat fruits and vegetables every day.
- Choose fish, lean meats and poultry without skin.
- Aim for whole grains with every meal.
- Be moderately active, getting at least 150 minutes of physical activity each week.
- Choose water to drink instead of beverages with added sugar.
- Speak to your doctor about your diabetes risk factors, especially if you have a family history or are overweight.

Thanks to charitable donations from the community, the Y can continue to offer health programs to individuals and families in need of financial assistance. To learn more about the Ventura Family YMCA's programs, please contact Sherry Maresca at sherry.maresca@ciymca.org or 642.2131 ext 20.

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While visiting Ventura to enjoy downtown shops and the tree lighting Bill Michalek, from Thousand Oaks took this wonderful photo of FOOD Share's annual tree-building fundraiser. Approximately 350 "trees" were built which provided 200,000 pounds of food for the needy.

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This 'n' That



The newest addition to the City of Ventura's Parks, Recreation and Community Partnerships division, Kellogg Park, is currently in its first phase of construction. Kellogg Park began as a community driven project to increase park area on the Westside of Ventura, and although there were no available funds to build the park, the City and its partners secured \$3.5 of the \$4.5 of the funds needed to construct the park through grants and donations. The first phase of the 2.41 acre park will feature community gathering spaces, an amphitheater, playground area, outdoor exercise equipment, and a perimeter walking path. Installation at the park is moving right along and completion of the first phase is scheduled for April, 2018.

For more information, photos and videos you can visit the Kellogg Park website <https://www.cityofventura.ca.gov/521/Kellogg-Park>.





When visiting her family in Germany, Vicki Youmans attended the Munich October Festival. She brought the Ventura Breeze to show everyone. They loved it. She managed to finish all of the beer.

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



Paleontologist Dr. Jonathan Hoffman led the team of volunteers.

Ancient sea cow fossil discovered on the Channel Islands

A fossil of an extinct species of sea cow was discovered on Santa Rosa Island, a new find for the Channel Islands and conceivably one of the oldest of its kind on the west coast of North America with an estimated age between 20-25 million

years ago.

Scientists think that the fossilized remains of a skull and partially articulated rib cage may represent a new species of sea cow, an ancient relative of dugongs known as sirenians. They anticipate this to be confirmed when the skull is analyzed by Dr. Jorge Velez-Juarbe, a marine mammal taxonomic expert at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County.

The discovery was made by United States Geologic Survey (USGS) scientists Scott Minor and Kevin Schmidt as they were mapping faults on the island on July 17, 2017.

A team of volunteers led by paleontologist Dr. Jonathan Hoffman with the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History are protecting the specimen for the upcoming winter and planning for an excavation next spring or early summer.

"This sea cow may have only been exposed the past few years after being buried for millions of years," said Hoffman. "It came from a different place and a different time period."

Scientists believe the sea cow lived in shallow seas when the island's coastal landscape was situated hundreds of miles south of its current location. The remnants of at least four other sea cow fossils from different individuals were also found in the near vicinity.

Continued on page 23

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.

Assault with Deadly Weapon Arrest

On November 19 at 10:25am, the Ventura Police Command Center received a 911 call of several subjects involved in a physical altercation near the intersection of Sheridan Way and Ramona Street. Officers arrived a short time later and found the involved parties were no longer in the area.

During the investigation officers learned the suspect, 32 year old Ventura resident Sergio Rubio, was involved in a verbal altercation with a group of males in the 400 block of West Ramona. The group of males fled on foot after battering Rubio.

Rubio entered a vehicle and gave chase after the group. Rubio made several unsuccessful attempts to strike the victims with his vehicle. Rubio eventually stopped and exited the vehicle before brandishing a knife at two of the victims.

Rubio was located and placed under arrest without incident.

Road Rage / Assault with a Deadly Weapon with a vehicle

On November 22, at approximately 9:45pm, the Ventura Police Command Center received several 911 calls reporting a traffic collision at the intersection of Portolla Rd. and Shenandoah St. where one vehicle possibly fled the scene. A security guard from the Kohls shopping center witnessed the event and told dispatch the traffic collision stemmed from a Road Rage that took place between the two vehicles involved in the shopping center parking lot.

Officers investigating the incident made contact with all the involved parties. During the incident, the victim threw a soda at Thomas Riddle’s vehicle and Riddle pursued the other vehicle, driving on the wrong side of the entryway into the shopping center parking lot as the vehicles turned on to Portolla Rd.

Riddle’s vehicle intentionally rammed the other vehicle on Portolla Rd. During the intentional act of ramming the other party’s vehicle, Riddle’s vehicle struck the curb at the intersection of Portolla Rd. and Shenandoah St. and became disabled.

The other vehicle involved in the incident was also disabled from Riddle ramming their vehicle and they were able to drive it a short distance away and called 911 for officer assistance.

Fatal Traffic Collision-Vehicle V. Train

On November 25, at approximately 7pm, The Ventura Police Command Center received a 911 call of a train versus vehicle accident at California St. and Harbor Bl.

Officers arrived on scene and located a single vehicle with one occupant, a 73 year old Hispanic male, that had been struck by a passenger train.

The investigation revealed that the driver was southbound on

California St. and stopped on the railroad tracks as the crossing guard arms came down.

Shooting at Inhabited Dwelling Arrest

On November 26, at approximately 10pm, the Ventura Police Command Center received a 911 call of multiple gunshots being heard from a residence in the 6200 block of Bell St.

Officers arrived on scene and located a witness who confirmed that there was a subject, identified as 27 year old Ventura resident Justin Abbe, inside the residence who had fired several shots and that he was intoxicated.

Officers surrounded the residence including an armored rescue vehicle and K9 unit. Officers attempted to make verbal contact with the Abbe for over an hour without success. The Ventura Police Department SWAT team was activated due to the high risk situation.

The suspect was taken into custody without incident by the Ventura Police Department SWAT team at approximately 2:30am. Several firearms were removed from the residence including an assault rifle.

Stolen Vehicle Pursuit and Arrest

On November 29, at approximately 1:45pm, an officer on patrol near the intersection of Johnson Dr. and Bristol Rd. was alerted by his stolen vehicle tracking device. The stolen vehicle, a 2008 Toyota sedan, was in motion and driving away from the area.

At approximately 3pm, an officer driving southbound on Highway 101 saw the stolen vehicle and initiated a vehicle pursuit, maximum speed reaching 80 mph. The vehicle pursuit continued into Oxnard, where the vehicle exited at Vineyard Ave., struck a curb which flattened one of its tires. The passenger 19 year old Ventura resident Juan Ramirez, got out of the vehicle and fled on foot. The pursuit of the stolen vehicle and driver, later identified a 20 year old Ventura resident Sebastian Shannon, continued into a nearby neighborhood.

At the intersection of Ironbark St. and Bluebell St., Shannon abandoned the vehicle and fled on foot, and officers lost sight of him as he climbed into the backyard of homes. With the use of a Ventura Police Department K-9, Shannon was located hiding inside of a house that was under construction.

Officers then began searching the area where Ramirez was seen fleeing from the vehicle. Several residents reported seeing Ramirez running through backyards. With the assistance of the Ventura County Sheriff’s Helicopter, he was located a short time later and taken into custody after a brief foot pursuit.

Shannon was later booked into the Ventura County Jail for Felony Evading, Possession of a Stolen Vehicle, Hit and Run, Resisting Arrest, Possession of Stolen Property and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and a two felony warrants. Ramirez was booked for Resisting Arrest.

Assault with a Deadly Weapon on a Peace Officer

On November 29, at approxi-

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mately 11pm, the VPD Command Center received a call regarding Erick Stevenson causing a disturbance at a home in the 600 Blk of Riverside St. Two officers arrived on scene and located 22 year old Ventura resident Stevenson outside the home on Riverside St just south of Ramona St. As the officers approached him, Stevenson picked a brick and threw it at the officers. The brick missed the officers and they ordered Stevenson to get on the ground. Stevenson complied and was taken into custody without incident. No one was injured during the incident.

Stevenson was placed under arrest for assault with a deadly weapon on a peace officer and later booked into the Ventura County Jail.

Harbor Patrol Blotter

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

11-22 4:25pm, received a report of a water rescue near the Ventura Pier from State Parks. Officers responded and were advised in route that the victim, a kite surfer had made his way to shore.

11-23 12:20pm, received a report of a hazard to navigation near the Launch Ramp. Officers responded and discovered a large “boat dipper” obstructing traffic near the launch ramp. Officers secured the object to the L/R and found the owner who is responsible for its proper disposal. It was later removed.

11-24 6:06am, while searching for but not locating a disabled boat in the mid harbor, officers discovered a hazard to navigation, a large log and removed it.

9:48am, received a report of a disabled PWC near the #2 entrance buoy. Officers responded, safely towed the vessel back to the launch ramp.

10:40am, U.S. coast guard in the office, investigating a fuel spill.

1:00pm, received a report of a Grey Whale at the Harbor entrance. Officers responded and attempted to locate the mammal. It was later reported to have been sighted heading

out of the Harbor and towards the shipping lanes.

6:17pm, received a report of a fuel spill near VIM D-dock. Officers responded and found a light sheen. They were unable to locate the source.

11-25 7:05am, while on patrol, officers observed the smell of diesel near VHV H&I docks. After an investigation they were unable to locate the source.

10:25am, received a dispatch to a fire alarm at Holiday Inn express. Officers responded, but it turned out to be a false alarm.

1:45pm, officers observing heavy fog, reporting observations to NWS.

11-26 8:30am, received a dispatch to a commercial fire alarm at 4points Sheraton. Officers responded and discovered the call was a false alarm that was set off by burning toast in a toaster oven. No damage or injuries were sustained.

11:35am, received a request for a tow from the operator of a disabled vessel. Officers responded, towed then released the vessel to the launch ramp.

11:46pm, received a dispatch to an overdose at 1583 Spinnaker Drive. Officers responded and assisted VFD/AMR with a 50 year old male. He was treated and transported to local hospital for further evaluation.

11-27 8:45am, received a report of a dock breaking loose in the keys. Officers responded and were able to move an electric boat and to secure the dock to prevent any property damage. The owner was notified and was working on getting a contractor to repair the dock and gangway.

5:00pm, while on patrol officers observed a vehicle blocking the entrance to Marina Mobile Community. The SUV was broke-down, officers assisted the owner by pushing the vehicle out of the entrance.

10:39pm, received a report of a female screaming on a boat in VWM and the vessel left the area. Officers responded with VPD and found the vessel in the mid harbor area. It was discovered that the young female was suffering from severe depression while her father was attempting to help her. He left the area as not to disturb his neighbors. The female was transported to local hospital.

This 'n' That



In March 2007, City Council launched a new Downtown Specific Plan that included future upgrades to the bridge.

Answer in a Breeze

Question: What ever happened to the fancy lights proposed on the new C-Street pedestrian overpass?

I take the overpass every day and have to laugh remembering that it was delayed because the barrier color was not “right”. It’s design (small holes acting as a filter) capture so much dirt you can’t tell what color it is. :)

Ed Melinn

Answer by Burris DeBenning:

Good question Ed! A lot of residents have been wondering when the bridge will be finished.

The Breeze got ahold of the City’s Public Works Engineering Division to find out the latest. City officials are eager to wrap up the work, but say that there have been some unforeseen delays, like the one Ed mentioned about the color scheme. First, we should refresh our readers as to why the City believes the construction is important.

Since it’s cutting the City’s ocean-front off from the downtown core, the 101 has deprived City of a vital economic corridor. For decades, the only link between the Promenade and downtown was the hazardous and narrow sidewalks on the California Street overpass. There was no easy access for cyclists, and pedestrians had to walk next to low railings, over which anyone could easily have fallen to the busy freeway below. Most would agree the bridge was a bit of an eye sore, certainly not inducing to the drivers that whizzed by the California Street exit in daily estimated 91,000 vehicles per day, according to

Caltrans.

In March 2007, City Council launched a new Downtown Specific Plan that included future upgrades to the bridge to make it more pedestrian and cyclist friendly, link downtown and the waterfront, and improve the bridge’s aesthetics to conform with the City’s seaside ambiance. New bridge enhancements would include widening of the sidewalks to accommodate walkers and bikers, higher decorative barriers to replace the low railings and new lighting fixtures for safer and more eye-pleasing illumination. Unfortunately, the national economic downturn and the City’s belt tightening over several years caused the project to be deferred. In early 2016, construction got underway.

Mayor Erik Nasarenko said of the endeavor, “This project connects two of Ventura’s greatest assets and economic drivers, our historic downtown and the Pacific Ocean. Creating a more walkable environment encourages pedestrians to explore downtown and patronize businesses.”

The original construction timeline forecasted completion by August 2016, but you know what they say about the best-laid plans. In the summer and fall of 2016, the project was delayed because the fabricator of the sidewalk barriers used improper measurements in the manufacturing process, forcing total re-dos. At the same time, the design artist changed the barrier color causing a further

two-week delay. With these changes, City Public Works moved the completion date to November 2017. However, “the ongoing delays are due to unforeseen issues such as the lights. They are required to be built at a Caltrans approved audited facility which took a significant amount of time to complete this process,” said City Construction Manager, Loree Pryce. This requirement is necessary to ensure that the manufacturer will conform to strict Caltrans design standards during fabrication of the light pole structure.

The City states it is doing everything possible to expedite the completion by having regular weekly contact with Caltrans and the contractors. The latest estimate is Summer 2018, when both sides will have tall barriers and new lights. Presently, only the west side of the bridge has barrier panels. The City’s objective is that the \$2.7 million upgrade, which is funded almost entirely by outside funding and grants, will create and optimize economic development by drawing the public to support surrounding businesses through this corridor connecting historic downtown with California Street Plaza, the pier and promenade.

“In addition,” said Pryce, “the raised height of the new railing will provide safety to pedestrians and cyclists using the bridge.” Pedestrians and cyclists should notice a safer environment with significantly improved lighting and attractive “kelp” railing panels designed by Southern California artist Michael Davis.

If you have a question you would like answered send it to editor@venturabreeze.com and we will try to get an answer for you.

Help BBSVC “Save The Bigs” in Ventura County!

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Ventura County (BBSVC) is putting out a special call for BIGS – mentors who can benefit from the friendship of a Little Brother or Little Sister. There are 150 youth in Ventura County, “Littles,” who are anxiously waiting to meet their BBSVC program role model and friend. BBSVC intends to match more Bigs and Littles in Ventura County in an effort to break the cycles of adult complacency, and build stronger, more engaged communities.

There are youth in every city across Ventura County and some of these youth have been waiting for more than a year. Mentoring is not about changing one’s priorities or schedule, but many mentors find that it changes their lives for the better, forever.

As a part of this call to serve volunteers, BBSVC is also launching their “12 Kids of Christmas” campaign: BBSVC is looking for volunteers who are interested in getting started as a Big during the holiday season and

continuing as a mentor for at least one year, with the goal of matching at least a dozen youth by the end of the holiday season.

All of the Littles on the BBSVC waitlist are primarily from single-parent homes, foster or kinship care, or a home that lacks two positive role models. Over 70% of the youth on the BBSVC waitlist are boys. All of the children on the BBSVC waitlist are ready for a mentor to step in as a positive friend and role model at this time in their lives.

Anyone interested in learning more or who is ready to become a mentor may visit www.BBSVC.org/MENTOR. Interested parties may also contact Danica Selvaggio at dselvaggio@bbsvc.org or 484.2282.

Jann Huling

Continued from page 11
daughter Meadow Lily.

Jann is the Vice-Chair of the Camarillo Chamber of Commerce. Serves on the board for The City Center Transitional Living Center and is on the Marketing Committee. She was awarded Volunteer of the year in 2013 from the Ventura Chamber Ambassador. She was also awarded Board Member of the year with Project Understanding 2016. She is the 2017 President of Project Understanding and won Ambassador of the year for Camarillo Chamber 2017. At Project Understanding she also serves on the Executive Committee and Operations.

She developed a program that she calls “I am not hopeless I am homeless” where she personally engages with homeless to hear their story. Put a name to the homeless... instead of that guy at the Victoria Shopping center or that lady at McDonalds. Jann stated “I believe in putting a name to every homeless neighbor I meet.”

Dozens of veterans received goods

Continued from page 9

Legion Post #741 in Camarillo, and Montecito Bank, to collect donations from the community to deliver to local veterans as a way to show appreciation for their service.

Donation stations were placed at these businesses throughout Ventura County to gather personal care, household goods and other items for the Turning Point Foundation, a local nonprofit offering transitional housing and support programs for our veterans.

Two Men and a Truck brought all items collected to Turning Point Foundation’s Veterans Transitional Housing Program on Thursday, November 16 to hand deliver the items to local veterans. Dozens of veterans received goods from more than 12 boxes filled with a variety of toiletries, clothing items, blankets and other generous gifts. The Movers for Military Campaign served to help Turning Point make the greater Ventura County area a more veteran friendly community.

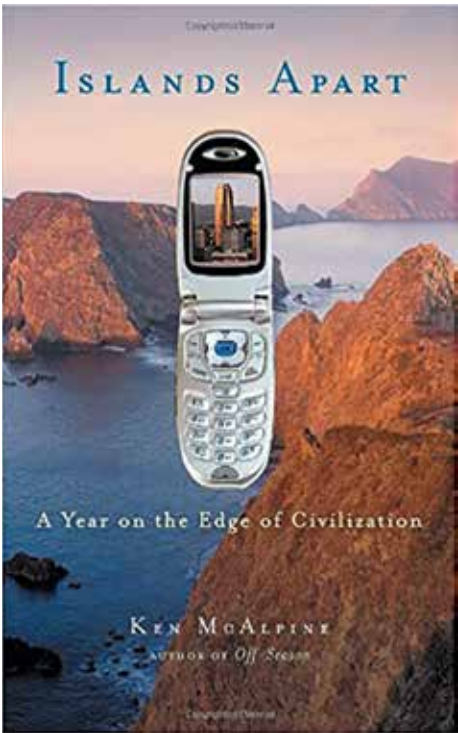
For more information on Turning Point’s programs info@turning-pointfoundation.org or go to www.turningpointfoundation.org.

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Books Make Great Gifts!

This 'n' That



Ken McAlpine has written 10 books.

He wrote the book after purposefully spending weeks alone on the Channel Islands

On Jan. 9, 2018, from 5:30-7:00 pm at the Topping Room, EP Foster Library the Sierra Club Ventura educational series is presenting Ken McAlpine speaking of a time to rethink our place in the environment and why we need nature.

Ken McAlpine has written 10 books but will speak about one in particular. Islands Apart: A Year on the Edge of Civilization was called “a rumination on what it means to be human”, and McAlpine was lauded as “a humorous and humble guide who takes his contemplation of our busy world into unexpected places.”

“Author Ken McAlpine stands in his front yard one night in Ventura, California, trying to see the stars. His view is diminished by light pollution, making it hard to see much of anything in the sky. Our fast-paced, technologically advanced society, he concludes, is not conducive to stargazing or soul-search-

ing. Taking a page from Thoreau’s Walden, he decides to get away from the clamor of everyday life, journeying alone through California’s Channel Islands National Park. There, he imagines, he might be able to “breathe slowly and think clearly, to examine how we live and what we live for.”

He wrote the book after purposefully spending weeks alone on the Channel Islands. Literary Travel says the book is “a humorous and wise look at contemporary American life—and how time spent alone in nature can give us a fresh perspective and greater clarity about what matters most. In this touching and surprising book, McAlpine does what many of us long to do - slow down and take a closer look at this one life we have.”

A great time to learn and chat with others in the club, open to supporters and members.

Ancient sea cow fossil

Continued from page 20

The scientific team plans to analyze the sea cow’s skull shape and features to identify its relationship to other sirenians. They hope to find teeth remains, pay dirt used to detect the diet and age of the specimen.

To refine the era in which the sea cow lived, the team has collected marine microfauna fossils (snails, clam shells, and crustacea) within the surrounding rock strata for USGS experts to study.

Sirenians or sea cows are torpedo-shaped aquatic mammals that live in shallow waters and grow to be massive in size, up to 10 feet in length. In some parts of the world their fossil records date back to 50 million years ago.

At one time there were over a dozen different genera of sirenians, a name derived from the mermaids of Greek mythology. The cause of their decline is unclear but may be linked to changes in food availability and environmental and oceanographic conditions.

Their modern relatives include three manatee species and the one remaining direct relative, the dugong, found in the warm waters of the Pacific Ocean and the east coast of Africa. The last remaining dugong on the west coast of North America, the Stellar’s sea cow, was hunted to extinction by humans in the 1760s



“I’m a sick trolley, but a new one is on its way. In the meantime one is running, but it is not as cute as me.”

Merry CHRISTMAS

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Grand Jury Speakers Bureau

The County of Ventura Grand Jury is an all-volunteer group serving as an independent agent of the public to investigate complaints from the public pertaining to government agencies within Ventura County.

For organizations that are interested in hearing about these investigative duties and procedures, the Grand Jury Speakers Bureau is available to educate the public in its endeavors as the “public watchdog” for Ventura County. To learn more or schedule a date for a presentation, please call the Grand Jury at 477-1600.

For additional information, please refer to the County of Ventura Grand Jury website at <http://www.ventura.org/grand-jury>.



A large fire broke out Sunday morning, Dec. 3, at 9:15am in the rear yard of a single family residence in the 1300 block of Aliso Place. The fire started in an out-building and completely consumed the structure in minutes. The fire quickly spread, involving an adjacent fence and created moderate damage to the primary house on the property. The fire was seen from many points all over Ventura, triggering multiple calls to 911.

First on scene engine companies conducted a coordinated fire attack and knocked down the main body of fire in 9 minutes and controlled the fire spread to adjacent properties. The surrounding neighborhood was inspected for possible hot embers that would be a threat to the hillsides. Ash and smoldering debris were noted up to a block away.



by Pam Baumgardner
VenturaRocks.com

How quickly time passes as we find ourselves in the final month of the year. My next column will cover New Year’s Eve parties, but for now, let’s take a look at a couple of special events you might want to support during December.

The 5th annual 4 Kids 2 Kids Toy Drive will be held Saturday, December 9th, at the Ventura Beach Club from 5-10 pm. Not only will the honorary guest and rock and roll hall of famer, Nick St. Nicolas (Steppenwolf) be on hand, but so will the jolly guy himself, old saint Nick, aka Santa Claus, as only Gary Gordon Goff can pull off. Featured artists playing include Johnny Main and the 44’s, Ray Jaurique and the Uptown Brothers, Tommy Marsh, Tom & Milo, and more.

The Brave & the Young are holding a fundraiser at Made West Brewery on Saturday, December 9, called My Brother’s Board. It will help benefit Ian Campbell (Campbell Brothers Surfboards) who is battling cancer. It’s a daylong event with board swapping, raffle, yoga and more, including of course live music. The bands start at 4 pm with Geranium, then Tim Curran, Todd Hannigan and My Brother’s Band wrapping up the event.

The Majestic Ventura Theater is holding their 5th annual Holiday Sing-along on Saturday, December 9th. It’s a great event for the entire family, and they’re only asking for a donation of an unwrapped toy from each group attending.

Hi Hat Entertainment booked Harpdog Brown & the Travelin’ Blues Show while they’re out on their US West Coast Tour in support of their new release, Travelin’ with the Blues. Based out of Vancouver, Canada, this is the band’s first Southern California appearance. Harpdog Brown is Canada’s reigning Harmonica Player of the Year since 2014 and they’ll be performing at the Hong Kong Inn on Friday, December 10.

Chopper Fest returns to the Ventura Fairgrounds on Sunday, December 10. This event is dedicated to the design, function and art of the motorcycle. While checking out some amazing rides, you can enjoy live music from The Bob Carrillo Blues Band, Kelly’s Lot and Gethen Jenkins. You can get more information including ticket prices at ChopperFestival.com.

Quick notes: Dag Nasty and the Missing 23rd will be at The Garage on Thursday, December 7; The Vonettes will do an early show at Bombay’s at 7 pm on Friday, December 8; Topa Mountain Winery has music in the afternoon on Saturday December 9th with Crooked Eye Tommy and Sunday, December 10th with Matthew Zeltzer; I’m hearing Tariqh Akoni is expected to join Shawn Jones at Grapes and Hops on Sunday, December 10; the Ventura Harbor parade of lights falls over the weekend of December 15 and 16 with music at several venues including the Boatyard Pub and Copa Cubana; there will be a Silent Night Disco at Plaza Park on Friday December 15; the Phantom Poms CD release party will be held at the Hong Kong Inn on Saturday, December 16; the Rubicon Harmonix Concert will be on Sunday December 17 at the Rubicon; and the final SPRP event will be held at the Sewer on December 17 with FSKD, Publik Enima, I Decline and the Kane Gang.

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.

Music Calendar

For more events go to VenturaRocks.com

- Boatyard Pub**
Ventura Harbor Village
Fri 12/8: Tom & Milo
Sat 12/9: Beach City Sound Club
Fri 12/15: Teresa Russell
Sat 12/16: Karen Eden & Bill Macpherson
- Bombay Bar & Grill**
143 S. California Street
Fridays: DJs; Karaoke
Saturdays DJs
Fri 12/18: The Vonettes (7 pm)
- Café Fiore**
66 S. California Street
Wed 12/6: Bryan McCann
Thurs 12/7: Rick Whitfield
Fri 12/8: Red Muffs
Sat 12/9: Boogie Wonderland
Tues 12/12: Donna Greene
Wed 12/13: Big Adventure
Thurs 12/14: Amber & Smoke
Fri 12/15: Otis Hayes
Sat 12/16: Soul Infusion
Tues 12/19: Jazz Express
- Casa Bella**
391 E. Main Street
(805) 340-1119
Music starts 7 pm
Fridays: Encore
Saturday: Ricky Williams
- Cask Alehouse**
5952 Telegraph Road
(805) 765-4201
Music 7-9 pm
Sat 12/9: Doc Ventura
Sat 12/16: Milo Sledge
- The Cave**
4435 McGrath Street
5:30 – 8:30 pm
Weds & Saturdays: Varon Thomas
Thurs & Fridays: Warren Takahashi
- Copa Cubana**
Ventura Harbor Village
Week nights 6 pm; Weekends 7 pm;
Sundays 3 pm
Tuesdays: The Jerry McWorter Trio
Wednesdays: Creative Open Mic Jazz Jam
Fri 12/8: Lorenzo Martinez
Sat 12/9: Havana Cinco
Sun 12/10: Karen Eden
Fri 12/15: Havana Cinco
Sat 12/16: Havana Cinco
Sun 12/17: Martinez Brothers
- Cork**
1930 E. Main Street
Music 6-8 pm
Wednesdays: The Swillys
- Dargan’s Irish Pub**
593 E. Main Street
Sun 12/17: The Sunday Drivers
- Downtown Ventura**
Plaza Park
Fri 12/15: Silent Night Disco (5:30-9 pm)
- El Rey Cantina**
294 E. Main Street

- Fridays: Xoco Moraza and Friends (4 pm)
Saturdays: DJ Erock
- Four Brix Winery**
2290 Eastman Avenue
Fri 12/18: Fido (5:30 pm)
- Garage**
1091 Scandia
Thurs 12/7: Dag Nasty, The Missing 23rd, Fireburn
Fri 12/8: Motorbabe
Wed 12/13: Warbinger, Exmortus
Fri 12/15: Diamond Love, Dee, Stebz Juarez, Oddy
- 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
Fri 12/8: COGEX, Blacksmith, Might Nightmare
- Grapes and Hops**
454 E. Main Street
Fri and Sat 8 pm; Sundays 3 pm
Thurs 12/7: Rae Gordon
Fri 12/8: Shawn Jones Trio
Sat 12/9: Trippin’ Wild
Sun 12/10: Shawn Jones, TD Lind, Tariqh Akoni
Fri 12/15: Nathan McEuen
Sat 12/16: Ricky Z
Sun 12/17: Al Vafa
- Hong Kong Inn**
435 E. Thompson Blvd
Mondays: Karaoke
Thursdays: Gypsy Blues Band
Fri 12/8: Hi Hat Entertainment presents Harpdog Brown & the Travelin’ Blues Show
Sun 12/10: Del Franklin (4 pm)
Fri 12/15: Hi Hat Entertainment presents: Debbie Davies
Sat 12/16: Brian Faith Band
Sun 12/17: Misunderstood Band (4 pm)
- Keynote Lounge**
10245 E. Telephone Road
Tues & Wed: Karaoke
Thursdays: Open mic night
Fri 12/8: What the Funk
Sat 12/9: Wired
Fri 12/15: Sean Wiggins
Sat 12/16: Rick Miller Band
- Leashless Brewing**
585 E. Thompson Blvd.
Wed 12/13: Matthew Zeltzer
Fri 12/15: Bad Leaf
- Made West Brewing**
1744 Donlon Street
Thurs 12/7: Matt Sayles & Guest (6 pm)
Sat 12/9: Geranium, Tim Curran, Todd Hannigan, My Brother’s Band (4 pm)
Sun 12/10: Fox Trax (2:30 pm)
Thurs 12/14: Cap Quirk (6 pm)
Sun 12/17: Skin and Bones (3 pm)
- Majestic Ventura Theater**
26 S. Chestnut Street
Sat 12/9: 5th Annual Holiday Sing-a-long
Thurs 12/14: Dwight Yoakam
- Paddy’s**
2 W. Main Street
Wednesdays: Karaoke
Fri & Sat: DJs
- Patio at Players Casino**
Auto Center Drive
Thurs 12/7: Hermano’s Herrera Trio
Sat 12/9: Carmen & the Renegades (CRV)
Thurs 12/14: Hermano’s Herrera Trio
Fri 12/15: Vanise Terry Band
- Pierpont Inn**
550 San Jon Road
Sat 12/9: Salvation Army Holiday Gala with Barrelhouse Wailers
- 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
Sat 12/16: Blackstar, No Biggee, Phoenixook
- Rookees Sports Bar & Grill**
419 E. Main Street
(805) 648-6862
Fri and Sat: Rotating DJs
- Saloon BBQ Co.**
456 E. Main Street
Sat 12/9: Sea at Last
Fri 12/15: The Shorelines
- Sandbox Coffeehouse**
204 E. Thompson Blvd
805-641-1025
Thurs 6 pm, Weekends noon
Thursdays Open Mic
Sat 12/9: Hip Hop show
Sun 12/10: Ashton York
- Sans Souci**
21 S. Chestnut
Sundays: DJ Darko
Mondays: Karaoke
Tuesdays: DJ Nick Dean
Wednesdays: Open mic
Thursdays: DJ Spinobi
Fri 12/8: We Govern We
Sat 12/9: DJ Pistolero
Fri 12/15: Sin Chonies
Sat 12/16: Johnny Hellhole Experience
- Squashed Grapes**
2351 E. Main Street
Music 7-10 pm
Wed 12/6: Lett, Mancini & Dutz
Thurs 12/7: Benn Clatworthy
Fri 12/8: L.J. and the Boyz
Sat 12/9: RJ Root’s Guitar Invitational
Wed 12/13: Native Vibe
Thurs 12/14: Meridian Trio
Fri 12/15: Tony Ybarra & Friends
Sat 12/16: Barrelhouse Wailers
Tues 12/19: Jazz Jam
- Star Lounge**
343 E. Main Street
Tues: Karaoke
Thurs: DJ Trolbe
Fri 12/8: Crosscut
Sat 12/9: Time Bomb
Fri 12/15: Jan Michael & the Vincents
Sat 12/16: Mini Driver Band
- The Tavern**
211 E. Santa Clara Street
(805) 643-3264
Sundays: DJ Steezy Steve
Tuesdays: Karaoke
Metal Wednesdays
Get it Right Thursday DJs
- Topa Mountain Winery**
821 W. Ojai Avenue
Sat 12/9: Crooked Eye Tommy (3 pm)
Sun 12/10: Matthew Zeltzer (2 pm)
Sun 12/17: Shylan Ray Sunshine (2 pm)
- Topa Topa Brewing Co.**
104 E. Thompson Blvd
Sun 12/10: Sleeping Chief, The Brave Kind
- Ventura Fairgrounds**
10 W/ Harbor Blvd
Sun 12/10: Chopper Fest featuring Gethen Jenkins, Kelly’s Lot
- Vintura at the Wine Rack**
14 S. California Street
(805) 653-9463
Thurs 12/7: Dogfish
Fri 12/8: Paul Mars Black
Sat 12/9: Galactic Jazz (4 pm); Rich Sheldon & Carl Osterlof
Sun 12/10: Rhythm 805
Thurs 12/14: Andy D
Fri 12/15: Rich Sheldon & Carl Osterlof
Sat 12/16: Johnny & the Love Handles
Sun 12/17: Rhythm 805
- The 805 Bar**
Ventura Harbor
Music at noon Sat & Sun with Kenny Devoe



3rd Place, 31st Annual Open Competition, 2017 winner

A Lotta Lepidoptera by **Linda Shaner**

Call for Entries:

Buenaventura Art Association's 32nd Annual Open Competition

Deadline: Midnight, Saturday, January 6, 2018

Cash Awards and Membership Benefits

Awards: First Place \$400, Second Place \$300, Third Place \$200, Four Honorable Mentions at \$75 ea.

1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners also receive a free one-year membership to BAA. Honorable Mention winners receive a 6-month membership.

Juror: **Carol Shaw-Sutton**. Find out more about Carol at www.carolshaw-sutton.com.

For entry details go to Online Entry at website, BuenaventuraGallery.org

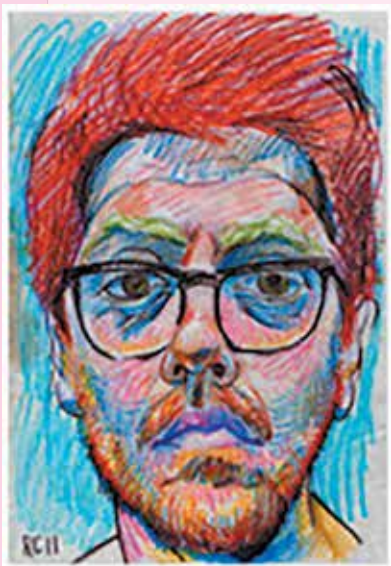


Figure Drawing with Museum of Ventura County resident artist **Ryan Carr**

Grab a friend and join Museum of Ventura County Resident Artist Ryan Carr for the twice monthly figure-drawing group that will draw live, clothed models.

The group is free to attend and will alternate meeting locations between the Museum's Smith Pavilion and meeting at local breweries. Bring your drawing pads, charcoal, pencils, pens, pastels, whatever your favorite medium! Please no paints or liquid mediums.

The next session will meet 6-8 p.m., Dec. 12, at the Ventura Coast Brewing Company, 76 S. Oak St. Must be 21 or older. All skill levels welcome. Some instruction provided. Visit venturamuseum.org for information.

It's Party Time at the Buenaventura Gallery

Please join us for Buenaventura Art Association's Holiday Charity Party Saturday, December 9, 3 - 6pm

Let's start the holiday season with a get together at the BAA gallery. Come join your friends, make some new ones, and have some fun; it's a celebration and a time for giving back!

Please come and help us bring art into the lives of at-risk and homeless children by bringing a donation of children's art materials as your "price" of admission. Your donation could be crayons, pencils, paper, anything with which a child could entertain themselves or be creative. Expressing themselves through art can be emotionally healing for a child at risk.

We will pass your donation along to Interface Children & Family Services. Interface's six major program areas include mental health services, youth services, family violence intervention, and more. If you cannot bring art supplies, a monetary donation of any amount would help. We want your presence regardless!

BAA's Small Image Show and Holiday Boutique will be on display for your shopping pleasure. There will be live bluegrass music by Ruby Skye, champagne, sparkling cider, and chocolate treats!

And finally, there will be raffle prizes galore! Purchase or win tickets by participating in the afternoon's activities! 700 E. Santa Clara in downtown.



In May of 1999, the City Council established the Municipal Art Acquisition Program to document the history of visual art in Ventura through the annual purchase of important works of art created by area artists. The collection provides increased access to art of the highest quality and of distinctive merit through its display in the public areas of City Hall. This water color by **Katherine McGuire** can be enjoyed in the art collection in the corridors at City Hall.



Join us at H Gallery Saturday, December 9th for the opening reception of NOD to MOD from 7-10pm, presented by Dab Art. A collection of contemporary works indicative of and inspired by the postmodern art movement of the 1960's. The artists of this era experimented with new materials and concepts, changing the characteristics of conventional art forever.

The 18 artists featured in NOD to MOD exemplify the styles and philosophy of modern art through each of their selected works. NOD to MOD emulates a period of minimalism, moving away from traditional narratives towards conceptual abstraction. 1793 East Main Street 626 8876 www.DabArt.me.



Art City Gallery grand opening exhibition runs until Jan. 6, 2018. Paintings by **Mike Tiné**, with sculpture by **Jo Anne Duby**, **Greg Kailian**, and **Chris Provenzano**.

The walls of this exhibition show breadth and power in Ventura's painter and sculptor, Mike Tiné recent work. He obtained a BFA in painting at the University of Tennessee and an MFA in sculpture at the University of Wyoming. Currently residing and painting at the WAV artists' complex. Tiné also keeps a sculpture studio at Art City Gallery and Studios.

Displayed in clusters of thought and form throughout the large exhibition hall, we see and experience free-standing stone sculptures by Ventura artists JoAnne Duby, Greg Kailian and Chris Provenzano. These artworks span the artists' careers; exclamation points, question marks and periods punctuating prolific bodies of work in stone. Art City Gallery 197 Dubbers St., 648-1690. artcitygalleryandstudios.com.

Lighter Breeze

Mother Goose and Grimm



The Color Run, the world's first Color 5K™ and Color Dash event was recently held in Ventura. Founded in 2011, their mission is to bring people together and make the world a happier, healthier place by creating an experience that's more about the memories you make than your mile per minute.

Photo by Murray Robertson



Spearheaded by the Ventura Botanical Gardens' Executive Director Dr. Joe Cahill and Paul Herzog's friend Elizabeth Alvarez, the VBG has pledged this exquisite site as a future Ocean Friendly Garden in honor of Surfrider OFG National Coordinator Paul Herzog.

Friend, peer, brother, son, activist, environmentalist, gone too soon, the impact Paul made in Ventura and to Surfrider's Ocean Friendly Gardens program will not be forgotten. They are dedicated to raising \$1600 by the end of December to finish the funding needed to build the garden. Ventura is grateful to the VBG that this Ocean Friendly Garden will be available to the community as a memorial and as a teaching opportunity.

Go to www.gofundme.com to support Paul Herzog's Ocean Friendly Garden.

Solutions on page 21

King Crossword

ACROSS

1

PC alternative

4

Like omelet-tes or quiche

8

Secondhand

12

Have bills

13

Color quality

14

"The Thin Man" heroine

15

Hotel person-nel

17

Cole Porter's "Let's —"

18

Willingly

19

From then on

20

Jousting garb

22

Hunk of soap

24

Slender

25

Starving

29

Encountered

30

Bullwinkle's foe

31

Greek vowel

32

Ran through, in a sense

34

Unclear image

35

Black

36

Exhausted

37

Fragment

40

Mediocre

41

Actress Gilpin

42

Noble

46

"— go brag!"

47

Sandwich treat

48

Science room

49

Rugged rock

1

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50

Salamander

51

List-condens-ing abbr.

11

Social engagement

16

Friend of Dorothy

19

Vail gear

20

Charitable donations

21

Stench

22

Mariah or Drew

23

In the thick of

25

Place setting component

26

Squalid site

27

Needle holder

28

"Phooey"

30

Flex

33

Electrician's job

34

Spill the beans

36

Apportion

37

Blueprint detail

38

Frau's mate

39

Met melody

40

Huffed and puffed

42

Triumphed

43

Before

44

Scoundrel

45

Leno's employer

DOWN

1

Horde

2

Shock and —

3

Pen pal?

4

Old number?

5

Blunder

6

Economist's stat

7

"Of course"

8

Victoria's Secret wares

9

Any time now

10

Idle or

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LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Watch out for distractions that could cause delays and leave you running twice as fast to finish your work by the 15th. Then go ahead and have fun.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You might prefer to work on current tasks on your own. But be open to a potentially useful suggestion from someone who admires you and wants to help.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Avoid rushing full gallop into that volunteer project without knowing what's expected of you. Take things a step at a time as you begin to find your way.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Good news: You should begin to feel more comfortable expressing your emotions. This will go a long way in helping you with that personal situation.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) An old friend gives confusing signals. Best advice: Don't assume that things will necessarily work themselves out. Ask questions and demand straight answers.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) A new relationship needs time to develop. Be careful not to let your emotions flood your natural sense of caution. Meanwhile, check out that new job offer.

BORN THIS WEEK: Your sense of right and wrong sometimes causes you to come into conflict with others. But you invariably come out ahead.

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Solutions on page 21

(For a beginners guide to playing Sudoku go to venturabreeze.com)

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

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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Ventura BREEZE

www.venturabreeze.com

Your Hometown Paper



Show Time

Lady Bird



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

by Manuel Reynoso

Lady Bird is a 2017 American teen-drama film written and directed by Greta Gerwig, and starring Saoirse Ronan, Laurie Metcalf, Tracy Letts, Lucas Hedges, Timothée Chalamet, Beanie Feldstein, Stephen McKinley Henderson, and Lois Smith.

Sacramento native Christine “Lady Bird” McPherson is a burnt out teen desperately wanting to leave the west coast. Rebellious with a strong personality, Christine desperately tries to find herself. *Lady Bird* is a coming-of-age story exploring Christine’s relationship with her parents, friends, and herself.

The quality of the writing exhibited in *Lady Bird* is, as a writer, what I strive for in life. Now I hate to admit it, but when I see the words “Teen Drama” I can get a little skeptical, but don’t let that be a pejorative. *Lady Bird* is a drama of the highest caliber. Powerful is almost too grandiose of a word to describe the familial intimacy being shown here, and yet subtle downplays how cathartic this film can be. Greta Gerwig directorial debut was nothing less than a triumph and her script shows an intimate understanding of interpersonal relationships. By the time this publishes, *Lady Bird* may still be showing in downtown Ventura, and I can’t recommend it more.

Greta Gerwig directorial debut has this rawness to it. It’s a little unrefined, perhaps due to her inexperience in directing features, but that rawness only compliments the subject matter of the film. The portrayal of these characters and their relationship are just as raw as the way this story is told. It comes at you fast and every moment of respite you’re given ends as soon as it begins, just like life. I hope to see more of Greta Gerwig’s directing in the future, but not as much as I look forward to seeing more of her writing.

The writing in *Lady Bird* is where the magic is. Each character is so dense with emotion and personality, and the relationships between them feels authentic. Gerwig’s understanding of human relationships is the sole reason why *Lady Bird* is as effective as it is. Character’s personalities are so meticulously crafted that their actions feel authentic. Every bit of conflict does not feel forced, but the natural result of strong personalities bumping heads; and these conflicts can get all too real at times. We’ve all lived through the strife that *Lady Bird* depicts. It’s not sexy or romantic, it’s genuine, and that in itself is where the beauty is.

There’s a talent in depicting the mundane, day to day slog of life as anything more than depressing.

The strife one feels when struggling to grow up or struggling to stay afloat, but Gerwig always leaves a silver lining to be found. A sense of hope, despite when things appear almost too difficult to press forward. That is why *Lady Bird* is a must see. *Lady Bird* is more than likely the movie of the year for me, and I urge everyone to see it if you can. Rated R 1h34m

A View from House Seats

Hijinks Abound in Ojai’s *Animal Crackers*

by Shirley Lorraine

In the mood for something simply silly, extremely funny and nostalgic to lighten the stress of the season? *Animal Crackers* now playing on the Ojai Art Center Stage will certainly fill the bill quite nicely. The musical with book by George S. Kaufman and Morrie Ryskind features music and lyrics by Bert Kalmar and Harry Ruby.

Director John Medeiros gives the famous Marx Brothers their due in this re-creation of the 1930 film which was based on a Marx Brothers Broadway stage show. For many of us, the journey is nostalgic – back to an earlier time of rapid-fire clean comedy and physical gags fueled by the desire to just make the audience laugh. In addition, the production introduces a new generation (or two) to the comedy and musical genius of the entertaining brothers.

For the initiates, the Marx Brothers are widely known as the epitome of comedy, inspiring scores of actors and comedians for decades. Prior to Laurel and Hardy, the three Stooges and Saturday Night Live, the Brothers set the scene for low-brow hijinks across the board.

In *Animal Crackers*, as in all Marx Brothers films, the primary focus is satirization of high society moirés. This one plays into that theme with explorer Captain Spaulding (AKA Groucho, played by Sean Mason) being invited to a ritzy party at the home of society matron Mrs. Rittenhouse (played with panache by Tracey Sutton), and subsequently causing havoc when a painting is stolen. Chico (Daniel Mitchell), Zeppo (James Alderete) and Harpo (Anna Kotula) all bring their own mayhem to the affair.

On a technical level, the production is top-notch. The elegant Art Deco style setting designed by Kenny Dahle is beautifully embellished by the creative and colorful costuming credited to Haley Weed and Celia Williams. All the leads were outfitted with microphones and worked well with the recorded score. The play features some lovely singing voices, particularly those of KiSea Katikka and Amanda Ballinger, as well as crisp choreography by Anna Kotula. True to form of the era, there is some fancy footwork in spots, most notably the tap number in the first

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The door to your dreams hinges on me!



act featuring Ezra Eells and KiSea Katikka.

The action is fast, deliberately confusing and utterly delightful. The actors portraying the four Marx Brothers live up to their iconic role-models in fine fashion. Mason, as Groucho, carries a good deal of the show and is consistent with the recognizable walk, vocal style, look and signature facial gestures. Not to be outdone, Kotula is a hoot as the mute Harpo spurred on by Mitchell as the self-proclaimed Italian Chico. Zeppo (James Alderete) is the one straight-man in the goofy group.

Medeiros’ influence as a master rubber-faced comedian is easily seen in all the actors, with roles large and small. He has infused the cast with a real sense of the fun of being silly for a purpose. The entire cast is clearly having a ball, reveling in outrageously overdone characterizations. Relax, settle back and prepare to enjoy a slice of different holiday fare.

Ojai Art Center Theater,
113 S. Montgomery Street,
(805) 640-8797 www.OjaiACT.org
All seats \$20, Seniors & Art Center Members \$15, Students \$15. Friday and Saturday shows begin at 7:30 p.m., Sundays 2:00 p.m. through December 17.

Charles Dickens’ *A Christmas Carol*

It’s Christmas Eve, and Ebenezer Scrooge is visited in his sleep by the ghosts of three spirits who show him the error of his ways. This imaginative version of Dickens’ transformative tale, told in words and music, offers a revealing portrait of the yearning lost child inside the cold-hearted miser. The actors perform in the storytelling style of Nicholas Nickleby, playing characters, animals...even dressing gowns and doors! Broadway veterans Peter Van Norden (RTC’s “Copenhagen”) and Emmy Award-winner Joe Spano (“NCIS,” RTC’s “Bucky” and “Sylvia”), lauded for their “virtuoso performances”, head a remarkable and versatile 24-person cast.

Rubicon offers special 10 am student matinees throughout the school year. These performances are for productions with suitable content and educational appeal. The theatre experience is enhanced with access to a study guide.

December 6th- December 23rd- 1006 E. Main St. Box Office: (805) 667-2900

footworks
youth ballet
PRESENTS

The Nutcracker

Oxnard Performing Arts Center
Artistic Director: Kirsten Oakley
with the Footworks Community Orchestra and Singers from the Carpe Diem Chorus

Saturday, December 9th, 2017 - 2pm
Sunday, December 10th, 2017 - 2pm

\$19, \$24, \$29
805-486-2424 • www.footworksyouthballet.org



VENTURA

County Fairgrounds



Swap MEET

Every Wednesday
7am to 2pm

Free Parking

\$1.00 Admission

Antiques • Collectibles

Farmer's Market

Vendor Space Available
For Information Call Sue Adams

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