



Supervisor Steve Bennett and Angelina McCormick-Soll, Foster VC urge you to help a foster child.

What does home mean to you?

There are urgent needs for homes for children and teens, especially in the cities of Oxnard and Ventura. In Ventura County there are nearly 800 children and teens in foster care, many of whom are in immediate need of a stable and loving home environment.

Foster VC Kids, a program of Ventura County's Children and Family Services, has launched a new initiative – What does home mean to you? – to raise awareness and educate the public about the increased and immediate need for homes to support youth in care.

"We're all better off when children in our community thrive," said Ventura County Supervisor Steve Bennett. Bennett and other community leaders are participating in the outreach efforts to encourage families to make either a short-term or long-term commitment to provide guidance, hope and a home for local youth in care.

Those interested in fostering, adopting or mentoring can learn more: view the 26-minute online information session at www.fostervckids.org, call 654-3220 or attend the Town Hall informational meeting on Saturday, April 21, 10am – 11:30am, 855 Partridge Drive in Ventura.

"Nationwide, there is a growing number of children entering foster care and here in Ventura County we are

Continued on page 8



Venturans at Government Center saying enough is enough.

Gun violence protests

by Jennifer Tipton

March 14th marked the one-month anniversary since seventeen lives were senselessly taken by a shooter at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida on February 14th. Declared "National Walkout Day", students from 2,800 schools across the

U.S. showed solidarity for the victims in Florida by leaving their classrooms at 10am on the morning of March 14th. Many of these demonstrations lasted seventeen minutes to represent each one of the lives lost in the recent tragedy.

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Tammy Marquez, Mary Loya and Jose Mendez are very proud to have received their high school diplomas.

Tears of pride flowed in the audience

On Tuesday, March 20, family and friends gathered to celebrate the first class to graduate from Ventura County Library's Career Online High School. Tears of pride flowed in the audience as four of the six graduates shared their stories and their plans for the future. Cheers arose from the group as each graduate, in cap and gown, rose to receive their diploma.

One highlight of the program came when Carolyn Vang-Walker, principal at Ventura Adult and Continuing Education, addressed the crowd and informed the graduates that as COHS graduates they were eligible to receive scholarships for one of the school's many vocational career programs.

Nancy Schram, Director of the Ventura County Library, gave an inspiring Commencement Address before delivering diplomas to the graduates. She stated

"All of us at the Ventura County Library are so proud of our recent

Continued on page 8



Several Ventura students were honored by the Society of Women Engineers.

Certificate of Merit presented to young ladies

The San Buenaventura Chapter of the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) honored 62 female high school juniors from Ventura County with a Certificate of Merit for excellence in Math and Science. Over 125 students, parents and teachers attended the award event held at Moorpark College on Friday, March 23.

Dr. Scarlet Relle of the Moorpark

College Engineering Department faculty hosted a tour of the engineering laboratories and coordinated with Moorpark College to host the event. Sheryl Shatz, Professional Geologist and SWE chapter president, along with Elena Woodard, a microchip process engineer, hosted the event. Seven other SWE members

Continued on page 8

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Business



Alicia and Jeff Wagner dons many hats.

Woodcraft has new owners

by James Francis Gray

Las Vegas residents, a young, full of energy, entrepreneurial couple, Alicia and Jeff Wagner bought the Woodcraft franchise store in Ventura in November, 2017. This is a family business, so Alicia's mother and father-in-law will be working with them to handle the everyday operations. They divide their time between Las Vegas, Los Angeles and Ventura.

The couple dons many hats. Jeff, an architect, has a small architectural practice in Las Vegas. He is also the Director of Construction for the Clark County School District, managing the construction of new schools and renovations. The Clark County School District in Nevada is the fifth largest in America. His job as manager, keeps him busy overseeing one of the largest school building programs in the nation. Jeff recently left a position as a tenured professor at the College of Southern Nevada; he taught evening classes for almost ten years.

Alicia is an interior designer, working for Westfield (the shopping mall company). Westfield has an in-house design and development team; Alicia leads the Aviation Design practice area. Her work is Los Angeles based with weekly commutes between Las Vegas, Ventura and Los Angeles. It keeps her busy.

She sometime jokes about Jeff's inability to sit still—he often has two or three fulltime jobs at once.

The Wagner's were exploring business opportunities. They honed in on a Woodcraft franchise store and started discussions about opening a store in Las Vegas. They took a trip last May to the Woodcraft headquarters in Parkersburg, Virginia, learning about the woodworking business franchise. During the visit, Woodcraft mentioned there was a possibility of purchasing the Woodcraft franchise store in Ventura. They lived in Las Vegas, so opening a store in Ventura would be quite an adventure.

Opportunity abound as Alicia and Jeff Wagner are assembling their plans. With the Maker Movement in mind, turning consumers into makers, they deal with the problem directly. Woodworking is seeing an uptick in a time when most retail businesses are struggling against online platforms. They adhere to the educational component of the business (most Woodcraft stores teach classes three or four days a week). The Wagner family adheres to the belief of continued learning and growing.

The Wagner family has big plans for the Ventura store. The current dedicated staff was a deciding factor in purchasing the store. The knowledgeable people in place now work hard to bring their passionate

woodworking skills to the public and are there to assist. Woodworking classes will continue in their Ventura store.

They took over in November, are having fun revamping their store to increase merchandise levels, and bring in new product. They have worked with the team to change class schedules and offer new classes.

"It's been very rewarding to grow the business and see how excited customers are when they walk into the store now," said Alicia Wagner.

"We're spending most weekends in Ventura and have also enjoyed exploring the town and surrounding area. While we are not fulltime members of the community yet, we're looking forward to seeing more this spring and summer."

25th Annual Oxnard Salsa Festival seeks vendors

Vendor applications are now being accepted for the 25th Annual Oxnard Salsa Festival, July 28-29, at Plaza Park, Fifth and "B" Streets in downtown Oxnard. The festival celebrates everything salsa... the food, music and dance. An estimated 40,000 people attend the two-day event.

Festival organizers look for vendors who can provide quality, fun and interesting items. Over 100 merchants from around California come to the event each year offering an assortment of unique wares including fashions and jewelry, pottery, custom glassware, gourmet sauces, artwork and home décor. Local restaurants are also encouraged to provide samples of their best specialty salsas in the festival's Salsa Tasting Tent.

Presented by the Oxnard Downtowners, the Oxnard Salsa Festival attracts festivalgoers from Santa Barbara to Orange County. Besides the vendor marketplace, it features top salsa and Latin jazz bands, non-stop salsa dancing (dance lessons too), a Kids Zone, international foods and a salsa recipe challenge.

Vendor applications and booth pricing are online at www.oxnardsalsafestival.com. The application deadline for returning vendors is April 30 and May 11 for new vendors. For more information, call 535-4060 or email vendorapps@oxnardsalsafestival.com.

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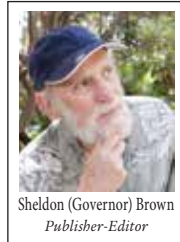
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Opinion/Editorial



Sheldon (Governor) Brown
Publisher-Editor

There seems to be a controversy on what the name is, of the **new green pig** that debuted in the recent St. Pat's Parade. As you know, in last year's parade Shamrock the pig died right in front of the judges.

The Ventura Breeze referred to the new pig as "the pig with no name". Another paper called the pig Shamrock2 while a banner on the pig called it Bacon.

Speaking with some of the pig's committee members, they all hate the name Bacon and did not approve of it being used. Also many local merchants contributed to the construction of the new pig and feel that they should have had some say in its naming.

The question also remains who owns the pig? The Elks? The pig committee? The community?

In order to resolve this controversy, I have proposed to the committee that we hold a "naming of the pig contest" that would involve all Venturan's to select a new name.

I will keep you posted on whether this happens. In the meantime, I would love to hear what you think it should be named. Perhaps it should be called barbecue.

I am very disappointed with the look of the new **Ventura trolley**. To me, it just looks like one of our regular blue buses that was just shrunk. The first original trolley looked more like what I think a charming trolley should look like.

In **Mexico**, there has been yet another killing of a journalist. A Mexican journalist who reported on politics and crime was recently shot dead in the coastal state of Veracruz. There have been 22 journalists slain in Veracruz since 2000.

Congratulations to the **El Camino High School ECTV Crew** for winning a series of awards for their programs at CAPSTV. I have had some of the students produce my radio show on KPPQLP at CAP'S studio, and they are wonderful to work with. Read the CAPS article to learn more about these kids.

And speaking of kids, I'm very

proud of today's youths for 'March for Our Lives' led by survivors of the Florida massacre. Thousands of high school students and supporters gathered in Washington and across the U.S. on Saturday, March 24, to demand tougher gun laws from an older generation that's delivered little change after years of mass shootings.

Participants in the rally thronged the presidential inaugural route on Pennsylvania Ave. Speakers from a stage at the foot of Capitol Hill proclaimed the beginning of a political movement.

Appearing at the Rubicon for a few more days is "KING LEAR. The play is the story of "A **narcissistic ruler** who craves adulation, exiles those who question his authority, and neglects



The original charming trolley that was no longer usable.



The new trolley.

those on the fringes of society." Perhaps this refers to a more recent "king".

The **Ventura City Council** voted 6-0 to forgive some water-and sewer-related fees for restoring homes destroyed or significantly damaged by the Thomas Fire. This vote also lets other homeowners petition for relief based on individual circumstances.

The council asked city staff to look at the possibility of using taxpayer money to help offset some of the permit fees related to water or wastewater reconnections.

Council Member Erik Nasarenko questioned why residents should have to pay anything when they have already paid into the system before the fire. Member Matt LaVere wondered if there were some creative ways the council could pay. The main concern is the legality of using city funds for this purpose which was on the minds of council members.

I feel that the City Council is trying very hard to be as fair as possible to fire victims while considering the use of city funds and other residents.

The Breeze has attempted to get answers from Ventura Water regarding this item and also why there was a lack of water to fight the fires, but we haven't been successful yet

I was disappointed at first to hear that the **Buenaventura Art Gallery** building, located on Santa Clara St., is being sold. But happy to find out that the sale will provide the Association with a large amount of money that will allow them to pursue other locations and affiliations within our art community. We have so many amazing artists in Ventura.

The **Gold Coast Transit District** has closed several of its bus stops along downtown Main St. They say this helps speed up service on the route. I certainly hope that this is the case and the users of the bus service are happy with this. The stops were on Main at Ash, Laurel, MacMillan, Santa Cruz and Evergreen Drive. The last time that I took a bus was in 1984 for the Olympics in Los Angeles. Perhaps I should try riding a bus again.

If you want to be even happier, move to **Finland** (or 16 other countries). The Nordic country is No. 1 in the World Happiness Report released by the United Nations. Following Finland in the top 10 are Norway, Denmark, Iceland, Switzerland, Netherlands, Canada, New Zealand, Sweden and Australia.

America was in the 18th spot, down four places from last year. Top factors for the decline include weakened social support networks, government and business corruption and a declining confidence in public institutions. I certainly hope that we don't continue to fall based upon our declining confidence in our leadership.

Mailbox

Dear Sheldon:

Many thanks for sending the pictures from the "Six Women's Epic Swim Around Santa Cruz Island." I'm so pleased to have them.

Sincerely (your 92-year old reader)

Rosena McConica

Dear Editor,

I'd like to encourage Ventura County residents to become part of a valuable community service by serving on the Ventura County Grand Jury.

The Grand Jury is a civil, investigative panel of 19 volunteers. This watchdog group investigates issues and citizen complaints and then makes recommendations to improve the operation of local government. The Grand Jury may examine all aspects of Ventura County government, its 10 city governments as well as special districts and other agencies funded by tax dollars.

To become a Grand Juror, you must be 18 years or older, a U.S. citizen and

a Ventura County resident for at least a year. A complete list of requirements and other information about Grand Jury service can be found at: <http://www.ventura.org/grand-jury/become-a-grand-juror>.

Applications are now available for the 2018-2019 Grand Jury at: www.ventura.org/grand-jury/forms. Applications will be accepted until April 6, 2018. Andrew Ludlum Foreperson
2017-2018 Ventura County Grand Jury
805-477-1600, Ext. 1817

Breeze:

Out of the tragedy of the Thomas Fire, now comes a once in a lifetime opportunity to make our hillside better. The County has done an excellent job clearing the way for those of us who lost our homes to rebuild.

It is now critical for our Planning Department and Community Development Director to find the vision and creativity to take advantage of this opportunity.

While I commend them for putting into place an expedited fourteen day approval process for building permits submitted by fire victims, the process is heavily geared toward requiring homeowners to rebuild as close to the original structure as possible. Any home that was previously granted a variance will be excluded from this process if it expands the original building footprint by more than 10%, as will most homes requiring new variances.

The same City Staff that pushed hard to allow an LA developer to totally violate our Hillside Management Program, is now being a bit of a stickler when it comes to allowing individual homeowners minor variances to improve their

Continued on page 5

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

Intelligence
is the ability
to adapt to
change.

— Stephen
Hawking

City News



CARL and Ventura lose one of their best

Phyllis was animal advocate of the first order. For the past 2 1/2 years, and 5 years prior to that, Phyllis managed the CARL and Cat’s Cradle thrift store for no compensation, with all sales money donated to the above animal rescues. She was well known and respected in the rescue community and by store customers.

Phyllis Berger moved to Ventura County in the 90’s. The animal kingdom and rescue community at large are diminished by her death Feb. 26, 2018.

Phyllis invested her time, energy, and compassion in care for those unable to advocate for themselves. Her generosity also extended to the homeless.

Phyllis was a strong, independent

woman, who lived life on her own terms. Often tough on the outside, but warm, caring, and generous on the inside. Our community is lessened by her absence.

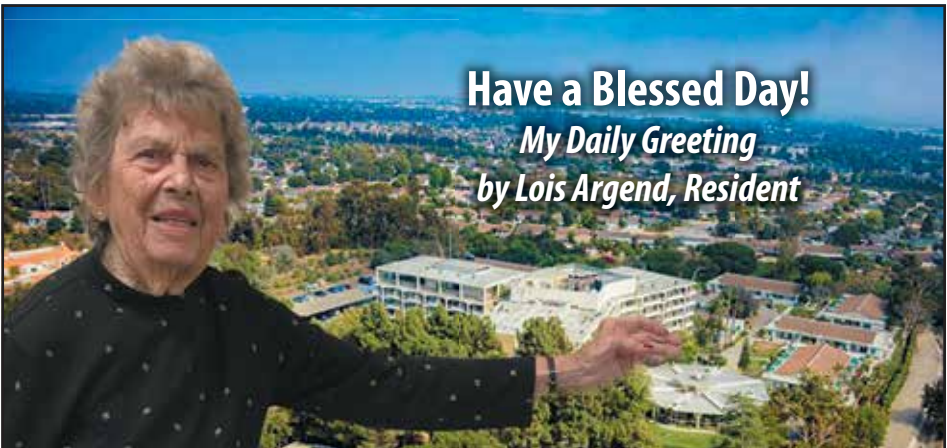
Win Genghis Kahn Exhibit passes and discounts at your local library

Enter for a chance to win free passes to the Genghis Khan exhibition at any of the 12 Ventura County Libraries, or use promotional code “VCLIBRARY” for \$3 off admission from now until August, 2018.

What do pants, the pony express, cannons, paper money, skis, violins, baklava and “hooray!” have in common? Answer: Genghis Khan introduced them all to the West.

Curated and developed by Don Lessem, the exhibition features more than 200 spectacular objects on display, including rare and sophisticated weapons, costumes, jewels, ornaments, instruments and numerous other fascinating relics and elaborate artifacts from 13th-century Mongolia.

“I went to Mongolia to look for fossils and discovered the truth about Genghis Khan, a civilizing genius,” said Lessem. “It’s



Have a Blessed Day!

My Daily Greeting
by Lois Argend, Resident

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a great story best told in a major exhibition.”

Now the most comprehensive exhibition of Genghis Khan and his treasures invades the Reagan Library, its only Southern California stop on an international tour that has drawn more than a million visitors.

For additional information, contact Nancy Schram, Ventura County Library Director at 256-8535.

Ventura Libraries:
Avenue Library, 606 North Ventura Ave.
E.P. Foster Library, 651 East Main Street
Hill Road Library, 1070 S. Hill Road
Saticoy Library, 1292 Los Angeles Ave.

See hours of service at <https://www.vencolibrary.org/locations>

Mailbox
Continued from page 4
homes and our hillside. The message seems to

be, “Either build exactly what you had or get in line and wait with the huge number of fire victims trying to build better.”

I call on our City Council to nudge our Planning Staff in the right direction. City Planning should propose a better process to our Council by which minor variances, that have no real impact on neighboring properties, can bypass the typically, six month long and very expensive process of requiring approval of the Planning Commission. If no neighbors object to a particular variance, the Planning Department or its Director should be empowered and encouraged to approve the building permit.

Instead of rebuilding the hillside exactly as it was, let’s find some vision in our City leadership to allow and encourage us to rebuild it better.

(I note my family’s rebuild project, as currently planned, will not require a variance.) Nick Bonge- Co founder - Neighbors for the Ventura Hillside



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Ventura City Fire announces community emergency response team training

The Ventura City Fire Department invites community members to participate in the next Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training. Ventura Fire, in coordination with FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency), assists residents with disaster preparedness education and training through the CERT program.

The training covers the following topics:

- Disaster Preparedness
- Fire Safety
- Disaster Medical Operations I and II
- Light Search and Rescue
- CERT Organization
- Disaster Psychology
- Terrorism

The training will be held at Police/Fire Headquarters located at 1425 Dowell Dr. The training will kick off on

April 10 and will be held on six consecutive Tuesdays from 6:00-9:00 pm and the series will wrap up with a Simulation Skill Review exercise and graduation on Saturday, May 19.

Learn more about the program at <https://www.cityofventura.ca.gov/188/Community-Emergency-Response-Training-CE>. Enrollment is limited and classes will be filled on a first-received basis; applicants are encouraged to sign up as soon as possible. Priority registration is given to residents of Ventura and first-time students. Participants must be at least 18 years old to participate.

Residents can apply online at: <https://www.cityofventura.ca.gov/FormCenter/Fire-Department-10/Community-Emergency-Response-Team-CERT-T-69>. For more information please call 658-4717 or email cert@cityofventura.ca.gov.

Applications for assistance still available

The application deadline for \$1.5 million in assistance from the United Way Thomas Fire and Flood Fund for those impacted by the recent disasters has been extended to April 30.

Ventura Strong

The application for individual hardship assistance is available now at vcunitedway.org in English and Spanish. The United Way Thomas Fire and Flood Fund will support residents in expenses related to housing, livelihood/income and habitability of their homes.

Applicants can submit a completed form to one of the partnering agencies listed at vcunitedway.org to speak with a case manager. Victims should gather any documentation to substantiate needs, such as rental agreements, campground rental fees, costs replace trade tools (could be prices from online or physical stores) or insurance invoices.

Eligible applicants are Ventura County residents, and household income limits are determined by family size of 120% AMI or less.

The United Way Thomas Fire and Flood Fund has grown to more than \$4 million. The next phase in disbursements will center on long-term recovery. To contribute, visit unitedwaythomasfirefund.org.

Since 1945, United Way of Ventura County has advanced the common good by creating opportunities for a better life for all. Our focus is on education, income and health, because these are the building blocks for a good quality of life. We support local services and programs that are more than just 'stop gap' measures, but rather solutions that help create lasting change. We invite everyone to be part of the change by giving, advocating and volunteering. When we work together in common purpose, we LIVE UNITED. For more information about United Way of Ventura County, visit www.vcunitedway.org.

Ventura Libraries April events

Avenue Library Children & Family Events

Día de los Niños/Da de los Libros
4/28 Saturday @ 11:00 am—2:00 pm

Join the Avenue Library as hundreds of libraries throughout the country host special multicultural events in celebration of Día (El día de los niños/El día de los libros, Children's Day/Book Day).

E.P. Foster Library Adult Programs & Special Events

Educational Nature Series: Shark Bite
4/11 Wednesday @ 7-8pm


Bryan Swig, Ph.D. will present his research on the tooth fragment that he used to extract DNA from one of the fatal attacks that occurred at Surf Beach.

Educational Nature Series: Let's Monkey Around

4/24 Tuesday @ 7-8pm

Anita Stone, Ph.D. will present her research on the primate life histories, social behavior and mating habits of squirrel monkeys. Lecture series featuring research from California Lutheran University science faculty California Native Plant Society Lecture



4/17 Tuesday @ 7-9pm
Please join us for an interesting and enlightening lecture series presented by the California Native Plant Society, Channel Islands Chapter. See you in the Topping Room!



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Attendees at the St. Pat's Parade thanked the parade Grand Marshal the Thomas Fire First Responders.

Community Events

Adult STEAM Workshop
4/21 Saturday @2-3pm, 3rd Saturday of the month
Do you want to learn about what’s new in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (STEAM)? Each month a different themed program will be presented. See you in the Makerspace! This month we will explore Fiber arts.

Ongoing Events
Children’s Events

Early Literacy Class
4/3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, & 25
Tuesdays & Wednesdays @ 10:30am
A great way to introduce your child to early literacy and the library. Join us every week for stories, poems, music, movement, a simple craft, and fun!
Teen Happenings
Teens and Money
4/21 Saturday @ 10-11am in the Topping Room

Learn about managing money effectively, preparing for common upcoming bills, establishing credit, managing their own budget, and ways to track spending. Presented by Patti Braga with Ventura County Credit Union.
Steam Monthly
4/11 Wednesday @ 4-6pm
Steam Monthly is a structured event in the E.P. Foster Library Makerspace. This month will have a game design focus.

Hill Road Library
Children’s Events

Discover Science
4/3 Tuesday @ 4pm
Join Rachel Chang for this hands on workshop as she demonstrates science principles of chemistry, physics, and biology.
Maker Lab
4/12 Thursday @ 4pm
Join us each month as we learn how to use a 3D printer, build with Legos, connect squishy circuits, or create with VEX robotics. Aimed at 10 and up.
Adult Events
Author Panel
4/28 Saturday @ 11am–1pm

Everything you always wanted to know about novel writing but were afraid to ask: 4 local authors share their individual experiences from Concept to Publishing.

Saticoy Library
Children & Family Events

Lego Play
4/2, 9, 16, 23, & 30 Mondays @ 1- 5pm
Build, Learn, and Play! Bring your imagination and experiment with creative designs. Children of all ages welcome!

Adult Classes & Events

English Classes
4/2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18,23, 25, &30
Monday & Wednesday @ 3- 5pm
ESL Conversation Groups hosted by Laubach Literacy of Ventura County.

Ventura events

by Ana Baker

Ventura Poinsettia Dance Club
Monday nights 7:30 - 9:45p.m. Poinsettia Pavilion. 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.

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, besides a healthy, satisfying meal, supplies a welcome atmosphere to talk and joke, hear a speaker on a variety of relevant topics. Steve at 642-1359

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

The Ventura County Philatelic Society meets on the first and third Mondays each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Church of the Foothills, 6279 Foothill Rd. Admission and parking are free. Come for a great evening. Bill Garner 320-1601 or vcpsforyou@lycos.com

Mended Hearts of Ventura. Come share if you have had heart surgery or stent implant. Group meets the first Tuesday each month at noon at Lemon Wood Mobile Homes, 850 Johnson Dr. Excellent speakers leading Cardiologists, Nutritionists, and Dietitians etc. from our area.
Richard Hatcher at 644-2733.

Letters for the Lost, an exhibit marking the 90th anniversary of the St. Francis Dam Disaster, commemorates the lives lost during one of America’s worst civil engineering disasters of the 20th century. Agriculture Museum in Santa Paula. The exhibit runs through July 16. 26 Railroad Avenue, Santa Paula is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday. For more information, visit venturamuseum.org or call 525-3100.


Sandbox Coffeehouse is celebrating its 6 year Anniversary. They will be celebrating this weekend with live music, gourmet tacos- and beer and wine, served every day. Sandbox Coffeehouse would like to thank Ventura and its partners for their support and kindness. 204 East Thompson Blvd. www.sandboxcoffeehouse.com, www.facebook.com/sandboxcoffeehouse, www.yelp.com/sandboxcoffeehouse

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Mar. 28: The College Area Community Council will meet on Wednesday at 7 p.m. The program will include a discussion of recent rainstorms and the fire recovery process and a consideration of the proposal to change CACC boundaries to align with the new City Council District 3. Matt LaVere, Council member. Ventura Police Department and Ventura College will be there to discuss neighborhood issues. CACC represents citizens between Mills and Victoria bordered by Foothill and Hwy. 126. Call 644-8695 for more information.”
Mar. 31: Author, Gary Gasaway will be appearing at Bank of Books 748 E. Main St. at 1p.m. After the meet and greet, there will be a signing of The Coach’s Chronicles III. 643-3154

Audubon events:
Apr. 1: 8:30 a.m. Ojai Meadows, Raeann Koerner 701-1919.

This beautiful preserve is a birding hotspot and includes a restored wetland and native plantings .
Apr. 7: 9 a.m. Work Day Hedrick Ranch Nature Area (HRNA) Spring Clean Up Sandy Hedrick 340-0478.

Arrive at 8 a.m. for self-guided birding which usually yields some interesting birds. This will be our Spring Clean Up.
Apr. 11: 8:30 a.m. Lake Casitas, Adele Fergusson 415-4304

We will be looking for hummingbirds, grosbeaks, gnatcatchers as well as ducks, geese and waterfowl. Hopefully we will see a Bald Eagle.
Apr. 15: 8a.m. Krotona Institute Jesse Grantham, ojaiswimmer@gmail.com.

Krotona Institute is a theosophical study center, with acres of beautiful grounds, including grasslands, pines, oaks, and ornamental plants with a lot of water features.
Apr. 22: 2 p.m. Ventura Settling Ponds, Frank DeMartino 906-8733.

The settling ponds at the Ventura Harbor is a reliable place to find ducks, grebes, gulls and terns, as well as songbirds and raptors.

Apr. 28: 8:30 a.m. Emma Woods Linda Easter (818) 519-2833.

We will begin at the entrance to Emma Wood State Beach and follow the path that leads through the willow forest. The estuary is always an exciting place to bird, and target birds.

Apr. 5: The Ventura County Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will meet at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday at the Bard Mansion on the NBVC Port Hueneme. The meeting includes Lunch and a presentation by Mike Pettit, Director, Ventura County IT Department. Tickets cost \$15 per person paid at the door. Call Jon at 642-6748 for more information.

Apr.8: On Sunday at 2 p.m. the Ventura Friends of the Library & Museum of Ventura County, presents the Tri-County premiere of the film EX LIBRIS: The New York Public Library. Located in the Museum Pavilion. Free to the public, the event marks the opening of National Library Week. There will be an intermission with light refreshments provided by the Museum’s Volunteer Docent Council. Mary Olson 223-1187

Apr. 8: Old-Time Country Bluegrass Gospel Music Assoc. performance – Sunday, 2:30-4:30 meeting at new location... Knights Of Columbus Hall, 36 Figueroa, Ventura. Free admission, free parking in the rear, Open to public. For more information visit Facebook OTCBGMA or call 517-1131.

Apr. 10: Ventura Audubon Society presents Allison Alvarado who will be discussing her past and current research with Hermit Thrushes. Allison Alvarado is an Assistant Professor of Biology at Cal State University Channel Islands. She has worked with Hawaiian Honeycreepers on the Big Island, Fairy Wrens in Australia, Neotropical migrants in Alaska, and the San Clemente Loggerhead Shrike. Discussion begins at 7:30 p.m. at the Poinsettia Pavilion.

Apr. 11: The Ventura County Camera Club will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Poinsettia Pavilion. The first part of

Continued on page 8



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Irrigation experts will be here to answer questions.

What to Bring: Recent Water Bill A photo of your existing controller(s) A close up photo of a sprinkler nozzle (from above) Number of sprinklers	First Come, First Served Ventura Residents only Saturday • April 7, 2018 10:00 am Location: City of Ventura Public Works Maintenance Yard at 336 Sanjon Road
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Community Events

Ventura events

Continued from page 7

the meeting will be an instructional workshop. This will be followed by the showing of member images. Anyone with an interest in photography is welcome and admission is free. See the club's web site for more information about the club and examples of member's work or call 908-5663. WWW.VenturaCountyCameraClub.com

Apr. 14: The Ventura Personal Computer Users Group will meet Saturday, at the Cypress Place Active Senior Living building, 1220 Cypress Place. A workshop on manipulating picture files will begin at 9:30 a.m., followed by a Q&A session, and presentation at 11 a.m. by Bonnie Wiley on Primrose Excursions. Everyone who would like to know more about their computer or excursions is welcome to attend any or all sessions. For more information 648-1368.

Apr. 21: Learn all about growing water saving California native plants. Members of the Master Gardeners club of Ventura will be available to offer free instruction to the public on how to plant and care for California native plants. Located at 1901 Spinnaker Drive in the Ventura Harbor. Plants for sale will be available in front of the National Park Service visitor center. Saturday 9a.m. until 1 p.m.

Ojai news and events

On April 23, Ojai's own Carol Kline, a N.Y. Times best-selling author who co-wrote several books for the "Chicken Soup" series will be the guest speaker at the Salon. Her topic for the evening will be on writing narrative non-fiction such as memoirs, and about self-publishing self-help books. The Salon begins at 7 PM in the Ojai Art Center Gallery.

A freelance writer/editor for more than thirty years, Carol specializes in narrative non-fiction and self-help books and has taught meditation programs to the general public since 1975.

Come at 7:00 p.m. in the Ojai Art Center gallery for her talk, followed by a reception and book signing. The event is free or a suggested donation of \$5.00.

Performances To Grow On will present a performance with internationally renowned storyteller Clare Murphy on Saturday, April 21 at 8 pm at the Topa Topa Winery, 821 W. Ojai Ave. The performance is a benefit for the upcoming Ojai Storytelling Festival, Oct. 25-28, 2018. Tickets are \$20 and are available at ojaistoryfest.org. Local musician, Cindy Kalmenson will open the performance at the winery. Food and wine will be available for purchase at the event.

Ojai Valley Lavender Festival, Inc. (OVLV) invites local artists to submit lavender-themed art to the 2018 OVLV Art Contest. Jury-selected works will exhibit at The Oaks in Ojai, June 4-29, and display for sale at the Ojai Valley Lavender Festival in Libbey Park, June 30.

Submission date is June 3, 3pm-5pm at The Oaks in Ojai. Works should be 2-D, sized up to 30"; maximum 2 entries per artist; no entry fee. See www.ojavalleylavenderfestival.org for complete details.

Submissions are now open for the 19th annual Ojai Film Festival. Ranked as one of the Top 100 Best Reviewed Festivals on FilmFreeway the Ojai Film Festival continues to grow in prestige as one of the country's premier destination festivals.

Among other perks, the winning screenwriter will receive lodging and passes to the Ojai Film Festival's Awards Ceremony, where the winning screenwriter receives special recognition, a trophy and a table read staged by the well-established acting community in Ojai.

The early deadline is on April 1, for a fee of \$25, the late deadline on June 1, for a fee of \$35, the regular deadline on May 1, for a fee of \$45, and the extended deadline is on July 1 for a fee of \$55.

To enter go to www.ojaifilmfestival.com/entries/

There will be a free Ojai Chautauqua Panel on Water for the Ojai Valley on Sunday, April 15, from 3:00-5:00PM at the Matilija Junior High Auditorium, located at 703 El Paseo Road.

Admission is free thanks to private donations and support from the Ojai Valley Chamber of Commerce and Oak Grove School. Seating is limited. Reservations are strongly recommended. Visit www.ojaichat.org.

In addition to panels promoting civil discourse on topics of national concern, The Ojai Chautauqua is launching a series of events specifically focused on issues facing the Ojai Valley. The moderator will be Richard Hajas, member of the Ojai Valley Water Advisory Group, and the panelists will include Tom Ash, water conservation expert and horticulturalist, Mary Bergen, board member of the Casitas Municipal Water District, Connor Jones, Ojai Permaculture founder, Bruce Kuebler, board member of the Ventura River Water District, Alex Kim, managing director of the Ojai Valley Inn, and Bill Weirick, Ojai City council member.

The purpose of the Ojai Chautauqua is to engage Ventura County in civil discourse about controversial and highly passionate subjects.

Free workshop for ESL volunteer tutors

Laubach Literacy of Ventura County is offering a free workshop to help volunteers learn to become English as Second Language (ESL) tutors of adults.

The next workshop will be held Saturday, April 14 (from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM); lunch will be provided. The workshop will be held at Barrister Executive Suites in Ventura; directions will be given upon registration.

Various methods and materials for teaching English to adults will be demon-

strated and taught during the workshop, enabling the new tutor to begin ESL tutoring right away. Neither teaching experience nor the ability to speak a foreign language is necessary. Open a world to an adult non-fluent English speaker with the gift of learning how to skillfully read, write, and speak English.

To register, get more information and directions, please call 385-9584, and please take some time to check out the website at www.laubachventura.org.

Gun violence protests

Continued from page 1

In Parkland, at the very scene of the shooting, students gathered on the football field and chanted, "we want change!", rejecting requests from administrators to return to their classrooms. They then joined students from a nearby middle school to solemnly walk two miles to the memorials that had been set up to commemorate the victims.

Here in Ventura, students at Ventura High School took part as well, marching and carrying signs that read, "Students Take Action!", "Enough! Keep Us Safe!" and my favorite, "Fear Has No Place in Our Schools!". As they marched, the students chanted, "end the violence! no more silence!" and in one of the videos taken, you can hear a student say, "this is way more organized than I thought it would be!"

With the video being captured by a drone, the students at Cabrillo Middle School sent out a message of love by standing together on their field and forming a heart.

Later in the day on March 14th, many other Venturans (men, women and children alike) stood on the corner of Telephone Rd. and Victoria Ave. at the Government Center making their statement about gun violence ... "enough" seemed to be the word of the day.

Certificate of Merit presented

Continued from page 1

ensured that the evening went smoothly. In her keynote speech, Vivian Goo, retired engineer from Point Mugu, gave academic and career advice to the young women and their parents

In Ventura, the following students were selected from their schools: Buena - Delaney A. Jannone; El Camino - Sophia Nguyen, Cayla Rosene and Sierra Futterman; Foothill Technology - Anna Lapteva, Abbey Bufford, and Rachel Chang; Ventura - Isabel Mercado and Sarah Clench.

From Ojai, the following students were selected: Nordhoff - Abilene Runyan and Claudia Adelman, Oak Grove - Bria Schraeder; Ojai Valley School - Junwei "Ivy" Sun, Wendy Lazo-Dowdy, Peiwen "Cici" Feng; Villanova Prep - Keily Valdez, Maria Reed and Jiale Sherry Zhu.

Math and science teachers, and guidance counselors throughout the county are invited to submit two or three female student's names from each school to receive SWE's Certificate of Merit. Students are encouraged to add the award to their resumes or college applications.

The Society of Women Engineers (SWE) is a not-for-profit educational and service organization that empowers women to succeed and advance in the field of engineering, and to be recognized for their life-changing contributions as engineers and leaders. SWE is the driving force that establishes engineering as a highly desirable career for women through an exciting array of training and development programs, networking opportunities, scholarships,

and outreach and advocacy activities.

On the national level, SWE also offers over \$715,000 in 233 scholarships. For more information about SWE SBV, go to <http://sbv.swe.org/>.

What does home mean to you?

Continued from page 1

experiencing an increase as well", said Angelina McCormick-Soll, Program Coordinator for Foster VC Kids. "Locally, we've had a rise in the number of children over 16 years of age who are in care, from 17% last January to 21% this year. These teens are in jeopardy of aging out without ever having had a permanent home life. Children who age out of foster care are at much higher risk for homelessness, teen pregnancy, and incarceration. And, a heartbreaking 47% of our youth have been separated from some or all their siblings."

A family crisis can occur any time; children come into the system through neglect, domestic violence, parental illness such as mental health or drug and alcohol abuse that impacts a child's safety, and domestic violence. Through no fault of their own, children and youth are then separated from their birth families, including siblings, and brought into foster care.

Foster VC Kids works to protect these children by ensuring they are placed with fostering and kinship families who have the support and resources to provide safety, permanency and quality care. Extensive training and support services (including medical and dental care) are available to ensure caregivers have the resources to nurture, protect and care for local youth in need.

Recognized as a best practices leader statewide in the family recruitment and support component of child welfare, Foster VC Kids provides resource families with ongoing support services, trauma-informed training, and mentorship to enhance the safety, permanency and well-being of Ventura County's youth and families. Learn how Foster VC Kids is making a difference throughout Ventura County, www.fostervckids.org.

Tears of pride flowed

Continued from page 1

graduates of the Career Online High School program. Each of these adult learners has earned a high school diploma through this innovative program, often while also juggling numerous home and work responsibilities. It is an amazing accomplishment with real results that will enable them to continue to achieve success in their future educational and career goals. It is a perfect example of how public libraries really do improve lives and strengthen communities."

Career Online High School (COHS) is offered by the Ventura County Library's READ Adult Literacy Program in partnership with Gale, a Cengage company. COHS provides adults the opportunity to earn an accredited high school diploma and career certificate by utilizing the flexibility of the Internet to accommodate busy adult schedules.

Career Online High School is one of several programs offered through the Ventura County Library READ Adult Literacy Program, and is an ongoing program accepting signups throughout the year. To learn more about the READ Adult Literacy programs and ways you can participate, call 677-7160.



4TH ANNUAL VENTURA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS SPRING FAIR

March 30 – April 1

Friday 5–9

Saturday 12–9

Sunday 12–6

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News & Notes



The parade Grand Marshal was the Thomas Fire First Responders. Photos by Michael Gordon and Bill Green.

They painted the town green for the 30th year in a row

On March 17, starting at the San Buenaventura Mission on Main St. the St. Pat's Parade was held under a beautiful Ventura sky. Over 80 "floats" participated in this year's parade featuring many first responders.

The winners of the 2018 County Ventura St. Patrick's Day Parade have been announced.

Judges for the parade were Dave Creswell, Ventura Unified School District, Connie Stahl, Elks Lodge #1430; Nicole Ipach, California State University Channel Islands; Sue Georgino, Georgino Development and James Lockwood, Ventura County Fairgrounds.

The Parade's theme was "Ventura Strong." Of this year's 82 parade entries, the winners are:

High School Band: Buena High School Band -Pride of the Gold Coast,

Junior Band: Ocean View Junior High Seahawk Marching Band,

Adult Band: Pacific Coast Highlanders Bagpipe Band,

Adult Clubs: Women of Jewelia,

Youth Clubs: Little Tree Preschool,

Color Guard: Oxnard Air Force Jr. ROTC,

Commercial: Totally Local VC & The Local Love Project,

Governmental Agencies: Troop Call Coast Guard with Lyn Fairly,

Environmental "Green" Theme: Servpro Ventura -Water & Fire Clean Ups,

Equestrian: Ojai Steppers,

Families: The McGrath Family,

Media: Cold Coast Broadcasting,

Most Irish: Seaside Highland Games,

Non-Profit Organizations: West Coast Derby Knockouts,

Novelty: Ignite Martial Arts,

Restaurants and Pubs: O'Leary's Tavern,

Antique Cars- Prior to 1950: Ventura County Model A Ford Club,

Classic Cars-1950 and later: Ventura Classic Car Club,

Commercial Vehicles: Pizza Man Dan's,

Fire Truck Vehicles: J.W. Enterprises,

Walking Entries: Billy Clower Dance Studio,

Individual: Cookie the Clown,

Special Interest Auto: Topa Topa Flywheelers,

The Perpetual Arnold Hubbard Award (Best in Parade): Very Ventura Gift Shop,

The Mayor's Award (presented by City of Ventura Mayor Neil Andrews): Totally Local VC & The Local Love Project.

Become a soccer star

Ventura's AYSO Region 39 will hold upcoming tryouts for its boys' 12U and girls' 14U EXTRA teams in April.

The boys' 12U tryouts, for players born 2007 and 2008, will be Sun., April 15 from 2 to 4 p.m. at Huntsinger Park, 1198 S Saticoy Ave., Ventura.

The girls' 14U tryouts, for players born 2005 and 2006, will be Sun., April 22 from 2 to 4 p.m. at Huntsinger Park.



Join us for an informational TOWN HALL MEETING

April 21st from 10-11:30 am

VC Human Services Agency- 855 Partridge Drive, Ventura

Join Foster VC Kids at our upcoming Town Hall Meeting and learn more about becoming a foster parent and other innovative ways to uplift our local youth in need.

Hear from a dedicated panel of parents, caregivers and former foster youth who will share their amazing stories of what home means to them.

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DON'T MISS OUT!

REGISTER **APRIL 1, 2018 - JUNE 15, 2018**
REGISTER & PAY ONLINE **WWW.AYSO39.ORG**

THE FIRST 250 REGISTERED PLAYERS WILL RECEIVE A COMPLIMENTARY TICKET FOR THE VENTURA AYSO - LA GALAXY NIGHT ON AUGUST 11TH VS. MINNESOTA UNITED AND HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN AN LA GALAXY GAME DAY EXPERIENCE. ADDITIONAL TICKETS FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILIES WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE ON LAGALAXY.COM/VENTURAAYSO.







News & Notes

Region 39 plans to have two girls' teams, with 14 players per team, but may decide to limit it to one squad depending on the number of girls that tryout. There will only be one boys' 12U team.

Please RSVP to EXTRA program coordinator Daniel Wolowicz at reg39extra@ayso39.org with child's name, date of birth and contact information of parent or guardian. Registration fees and details will follow.

Some key differences between EXTRA and the core AYSO program are:

Tryouts are required. Cost is about \$250 per player. Level of play is more competitive than the core program. Teams can stay together from one season to the next. Travel is required, as teams play other EXTRA squads in neighboring cities. EXTRA teams can also compete in tournaments in the spring.

Should a child not make the team or should the team not play due to too few teams in Area 10W, players will still be eligible—and are encouraged—to play in AYSO's regular fall season.

For more information, call Wolowicz at 415-9177.

Deadline for Ventura County Fair Poster Contest

The deadline to submit entries for the 9th annual Fair poster contest will be Friday, April 6. The contest is open to young artists in grades 5 - 12

who reside in Ventura County.

The theme of the 2018 Fair is "A Country Fair with Ocean Air" and will serve as the guideline to the imagery.

Artwork may be created in any medium but may not include the use of glitter, metallic paint, or 3 dimensional objects attached to the artwork.

Poster designs will be judged on Theme, Originality, Composition and Skill. Entries will be accepted until the entry deadline, Friday, April 6. Entries can be brought to the Fairgrounds administration office at 10 W. Harbor Blvd. in Ventura. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8AM until 5PM.

Rules, deadlines and other information can be found on the Fair website, www.venturacountyfair.org. For more information about the contest call 648-3376 or send an email to info@venturacountyfair.org. (Please put "Poster Contest" in the subject line)

Prizes will be awarded to the top three entries, First prize: \$500, Second Prize: \$250, Third Prize: \$100

The winning design will be used to advertise the Fair on Fair posters, souvenirs, advertisements and other applications. Second and third place winners will also be used in various applications. All contestants entries will be displayed in the Youth Expo at the Ventura County Fair.

The Ventura County Fair will begin its annual 12-day run Wednesday, August 1 and continue until Sunday, August 12.



Ventura Music Together

is now enrolling for our 10-week Spring Session! which runs from April 10 - June 15



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For more info or to sign up for a free demo class visit: VenturaMusicTogether.com






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55+



Phil Taggart, Ethan Messecar and Annabelle Augustine, representing the ECTV student producers proudly show off their 3 WAVE awards.

ECTV crew wins WAVE awards in Sacramento

Congratulations to the El Camino High School ECTV Crew for winning a series of WAVE Awards at the Alliance for Community Media Western States Regional Conference in Sacramento. Annabelle Augustine and Ethan Messecar represented the ECTV crew at the event along with Phil Taggart, director and mentor of the CAPS Media/El Camino High School media program. ECTV won first place awards in three categories: Informational Talk Show, Youth Division, for ECTV: Spocabulary, Halloween and Digital Citizenship; Informational Lifestyle, Youth Division, for ECTV: California Islands; and Informational Culture, Youth Division, for ECTV: Travel & Photography.

The ECTV program is a collaboration with Ventura Unified School District, El Camino High School, VC Innovates and CAPS Media. As a career pathways education program, students receive hands-on instruction to master video cameras, audio, lighting, studio production and postproduction editing. In addition, the ECTV members develop Digital Storytelling skills including conceptualizing, storyboarding, writing, producing, on-camera reporting, interviewing, directing, and production management.

Mentored by Taggart and unitizing the extensive production facilities at the CAPS Media Center, the El Camino students create magazine-style programs on topics of interest and concern to themselves including drug abuse, discrimination, gun control and more. The ECTV programs air on CAPS Media television and are archived and stream at capsmedia.org.

The Thomas Fire Stories Project has begun and is a major success. The extensive undertaking is a collaboration with Ventura City Fire and Police, Ventura County Fire, Sheriff, and Office of Emergency Response and the Museum of Ventura County. The year-long, comprehensive project includes an ongoing series of television and radio archival recordings with those whose lives were dramatically changed the night of December 4th.

Members of the public, fire fighters and first responders and others are sharing remarkable first-person stories at recording sessions throughout the county. Selected stories will air and stream on CAPS radio (KPPQ 104.1 FM) and on CAPS Media television, stream on capsmedia.org, and may be included

in the comprehensive Thomas Fire documentary. All of the recordings will be included in the historic archival project at the Museum of Ventura County.

During the past few weeks Thomas Fire audio recording sessions took place at the Ojai Valley Museum and Ojai Library and they continue on Saturday, March 31 from 11am-4pm at the CAPS Media Center; on Monday, April 2nd at the EP Foster Library from 5-7pm, and on Saturday April 14th at the Avenue Library from 10am-2pm. More audio recording sessions will continue at the Ventura County Agriculture Museum in Santa Paula on Sunday April 22nd from 11am-3pm and at the Museum of Ventura County on May 20th from 11am-3pm.

Everyone with a story to tell is invited to participate. The audio recording process is simple and enjoyable and typically lasts 10-15 minutes. CAPS Media staff and volunteers help the storytellers share their experience in their own words. The result is unscripted, unrehearsed, engaging and compelling first person stories. If you have a Thomas Fire Story to share or know someone who has a great story to tell, drop by and record the experience. Visit capsmedia.org to find a convenient day and time to record your story and add it to the museum's historic archive.

If you have photos or video to contribute to the archive, go to capsmedia.org for instructions on how to contribute photos, video and other media. If you have a story to share, email thomasfirestories@capsmedia.org or call the CAPS Media Center at 658.0500.

Passover

Passover or Pesach is an important, biblically derived Jewish holiday. The Jewish people celebrate Passover as a commemoration of their liberation by God from slavery in Egypt and their freedom as a nation under the leadership of Moses. It commemorates the story of the Exodus in which the Israelites were freed from slavery in Egypt.

Passover commences on the 15th of the Hebrew month of Nisan (Passover 2018 will start the evening of March 30 and will end the evening of April 7) and lasts for either seven days (in Israel and for Reform Jews and other progressive Jews around the world who adhere to the

Continued on page 17



Senior Living

Pull Out Section



The Ventura Townehouse holds a Monthly Community Appreciation Breakfast. On Thursday, March 22 they “appreciated” the Ventura Breeze. Representing the Breeze were Publisher Sheldon Brown and Senior Account Executive Breezy Gledhill. “Come enjoy and honor our local contributing hometown newspaper. This paper gives so much to all of Ventura’s seniors and citizens” stated their invitation to residents and family members. The MC for the breakfast was Director of Marketing Samantha Crisp who chose, along with residents to honor the Breeze.



New Medicare cards are coming!

by Greg Dill
Medicare’s regional administrator for Arizona, California, Nevada, Hawaii, and the Pacific Territories

Starting in April 2018, Medicare will mail new Medicare cards to all people with Medicare, to help protect you from identity fraud.

Fraudsters are always looking for ways to get your Social Security number, so we’re removing those numbers from Medicare cards to make them safer.

Your new card will have a new Medicare number that’s unique to you. The new card will help protect your identity and keep your personal information more secure.

You can start using your new card as soon as you get it. Your Medicare coverage and benefits won’t change at all.

Medicare will automatically mail your new card -- at no cost -- to the address you have on file with Social Security. So make sure your mailing address is up to date.

If your address needs to be corrected, contact Social Security at ssa.gov/myaccount or 1-800-772-1213. TTY users can call 1-800-325-0778.

Continued on page 16

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Senior Living



Lubas believes in the power of comedy to keep you young.

Local comedian to headline Senior Expo

Comedian Randy Lubas has a soft spot for senior citizens. Owner of the Ventura Harbor Comedy Club, Lubas will be the keynote speaker at the upcoming 10th annual Health & Wealth Expo at Cypress Place Senior Living in Ventura.

The proud son of a decorated veteran of WW II, Lubas was inspired by his father's escape from poverty through the GI bill. "Being the son of a decorated veteran of WWII has given me a great respect and admiration of our senior citizens," said Lubas.

His comic voice comes from his rare ability to spot the ironies in life that many people seem to miss. His wry observations have landed him on dozens of national TV and radio broadcasts, which include Comedy Central, Showtime, The Nashville Network, and the nationally syndicated Bob & Tom Radio Show. He has performed over 5000 times in 40 states, and on cruise ships all over the globe. Appealing to all audiences, he prides himself on his squeaky-clean jokes.

Most importantly, Lubas believes in the power of comedy to make a positive impact on people's lives. "A sense of humor can keep you young, and laughter truly has a healing effect on the brain," he said.

Along with the keynote presentation, this year's Health & Wealth Expo at the senior community will include

over 30 vendors offering everything from free blood pressure and glucose screenings, free balance and hearing tests, free wealth management information, to veteran benefit information. A free healthy gourmet lunch will also be provided.

Raffle prizes will be given away throughout the event including one grand prize; a 50" HD flat screen TV. Admission is free and the event is open to the public. Free shuttle parking will also be available at Ventura Baptist Church.

The event takes place on Wednesday April 11, from 11am to 1pm at Cypress Place Senior Living, 1200 Cypress Point Lane, in the city of Ventura.

Corporate sponsors for the event are Ventura Post Acute, Coastal View Healthcare Center, Mission Home Health, Victoria Care Center, Meditech Health Services, and Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurse Association.

For more information or to RSVP, please call 203-6995. To learn more about Cypress Place Senior Living of Ventura, visit their web site at www.cypressplaceseniorliving.com.

If you'd like more information about this press release, please contact Mike Macke at 805.650.8000 x102, or via email at Cypressdsm@islllc.com

VCAAA offers free fall prevention classes for Ventura County residents

The Ventura County Area Agency on Aging's award-winning Fall Prevention Program is offering several classes that focus on increased mobility and balance. Classes are currently scheduled to begin in April in Ventura, Simi Valley, Oxnard, and Camarillo. All classes are free and open to the public.

Classes offered include Tai Chi: Moving for Better Balance, Walk with Ease, Stepping On, and A Matter of Balance. Each class emphasizes practical strategies to manage and prevent falls. Participants will learn methods to enhance and increase activity levels and mobility, making the changes necessary to reduce fall risks.

Individuals concerned about falls or



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Senior Living

those who have recently experienced a fall, as well as those who are interested in improving balance, flexibility, and strength, are encouraged to participate.

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.

To learn more about the Fall Prevention Program or classes offered, or to sign-up for a class, please contact VCAAA at 477-7300 and select option 6. More information can also be found by visiting www.vcaaa.org.

The Ventura County Area Agency on Aging, an agency of the County of Ventura, is the principal agency in Ventura County charged with the responsibility to promote the development and implementation of a comprehensive coordinated system of care that enables older individuals and their caregivers to live in a community-based setting and to advocate for the needs of those 60 years of age and older in the county, providing leadership and promoting citizen involvement in the planning process as well as in the delivery of services.



Social security information is available online.

It's national social security month!

by **Essie L. Landry**
Social Security Public Affairs Specialist in Sierra West Area

National Social Security Month is celebrated in April and is dedicated to educating you about Social

Security programs and services. From programs that help support you through life's journey, to services that help put you in control, to systems that help protect what's important to you, Social Security is committed to helping secure today and tomorrow for you and your family.

During National Social Security Month, we encourage people to take control of their future with my Social Security at www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount. Create a my Social Security account to check your earnings history, confirm you have enough credits to retire, see an estimate of future benefits while still working, or manage your monthly benefits once you begin receiving them. You can also check the status of your claim or appeal, request a replacement Social Security card, and get an instant benefit verification letter.

Our Retirement Estimator is another great tool that provides you with immediate and personalized benefit estimates based on your own earnings record. This allows you to receive the most accurate estimate of your future retirement benefits. Estimate your benefits now at www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator.

After you have viewed your earnings history for accuracy, confirmed you have enough work credits to retire, and determined the best age to retire, you can get started on the next phase of your life right away by retiring online! It's fast and easy at www.socialsecurity.gov/retireonline.

For more than 80 years, Social Security has changed to meet the needs of our customers. During National Social Security Month, and throughout the year, Social Security puts you in control with secure access to your information anytime, anywhere. From estimating or managing your benefits, requesting a replacement Social Security card, to retiring online, visit SocialSecurity.gov today, and see what you can do online at www.socialsecurity.gov/online services.



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A FREE HEALTHY GOURMET LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Randy Lubas at 11:15am
LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE



Comedian Randy Lubas

Local comedian, Randy Lubas, has made 24 appearances on national TV including Showtime, Comedy Central and The Nashville Network. He is a writer, actor and comedian. He prides himself on being able to work squeaky clean, so this will be a family-friendly presentation.



On March 13 a seminar was held at Clearwater at Riverpark. A move to senior living can be an opportunity for a fresh new beginning. The seminar presented professionals who can assist in making the right decision for seniors. Speakers included Realtor Betty Fernandez from Coldwell Banker, Lorine Stoikowitz from Gentle Transitions and the Clearwater Team. Attendees also got to view the new model apartments. Clearwater is located at 750 Clyde River place, Oxnard. Leasing office is open daily 366-3533.

Photo by Michael Gordon.



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Free community education classes and events

Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurse Association supports the total well-being of our community. As part of their services, they host free monthly education classes throughout the county, which include the following:

Diabetes Class

Ventura: Tuesday, April 3rd from 1-2:30pm at Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurse Association, 1996 Eastman Ave, Suite 109. These meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of each month. General information is provided about Type 2 Diabetes including prediabetes, with emphasis on meal planning, medication, exercise, blood sugar monitoring, and new developments in diabetes. Call 642-0239 for more information.

Joint Replacement Class

Ventura: Monday, April 9th for both English and Spanish speaking. English 4:00-5:00 pm and Spanish 5:30-6:30 pm at Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurse Association offices, in the Community Room at 1996 Eastman Avenue, Suite 109 in Ventura. You will learn what to expect before, during and after knee or hip replacement surgery and how to be an active participant in your care. For information or to RSVP call Dinah Davis at (805) 642-0239 ext. 739.

Social Services/Bereavement Groups

Ojai Caregiver Support Group: Mondays, April 8th and 15th (1st & 3rd Mondays, unless it falls on a holiday) from 10:00 am – 11:30 am at Continuous Care Center, Fireside Room, 1306 Maricopa Hwy, Ojai (behind Ojai Valley Community Hospital). Find encouragement and hope during your time as a caregiver. Share, listen and explore thoughts and feelings about the struggles, losses and successes of caring for your loved one. For more information, call (805) 633-9056.

Ojai Adult Bereavement Support Group: Tuesdays, April 10th and 24th (2nd & 4th Tuesdays) 10:30 am-noon at Help of Ojai, West Campus 370 Baldwin Rd., Ojai. These groups are open to individuals who have experienced loss and are free of charge. Call 642-0239 for more information or email griefinfo@livingstonvna.org.

Ventura Adult Bereavement Support Group: Wednesdays, April 4, 11, 18, and 25 from 6:30-8:00 pm at Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurse Association office, 1996 Eastman Ave., Suite 109. These groups are open to individuals who have experienced loss and are free of charge. Call 642-0239 for more information or email griefinfo@livingstonvna.org.

Newly Bereaved Support Group in Ventura: Thursday, April 12th from 6-7:30 pm at Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurse Association office, 1996 Eastman Ave., Suite 109. This

monthly group is designed for adults who have recently experienced the loss of a loved one and is free. Call 642-0239 for more information or email griefinfo@livingstonvna.org. These groups meet every 2nd Thursday of each month.

Speakers at Parkinson's Support Group

by Patty Jenkins

The Ventura Parkinson's Disease Support Group is pleased to announce that Dr. Neda Heidari and Dr. Indu Subramanian will be our guests at our meeting held at the Lexington Assisted Living. These expert doctors will answer our questions and endeavor to help us understand more about how to live with and treat Parkinson's Disease.

Neda Heidari MD is a Board-Certified Neurologist and Neurophysiologist. She graduated with honors in 2001 from Teheran University Medical Science and completed her fellowship in Neuromuscular Disorder and Epilepsy at USC Keck School of Medicine. She is a member of the American Academy of Neurology and American Neuromuscular Association. Dr. Heidari has been in practice in Ventura County for over a decade and treats various neurological disorders including Movement Disorders, Parkinson's Disease, Multiple Sclerosis, Stroke, Epilepsy, Dementia, Headaches, Neuropathy and other neurological diseases. She performs a variety of in-office tests to help diagnose neurological diseases and Neuropathy. Dr. Heidari is also certified to make adjustments for patients who have had DBS (Deep Brain Stimulator) surgery for their tremors, Parkinson's and/or Dystonia. She believes in educating patients about their disease and helping them understand the pathology and course of the disease. Dr. Heidari treats neurological conditions according to the newest, up-to-date practice guidelines and advance technologies. She is dedicated to making her patients and their caregivers feel better and live a happier and a healthier lifestyle.

Dr. Indu Subramanian received her medical degree in 1996 from the University of Toronto, Canada. She interned for a year in San Diego Mercy Hospital before joining the UCLA Neurology Residency Program which she completed in 2000. Dr. Subramanian received her Movement Disorder Fellowship training at UCLA Movement Disorders, UCLA School of Medicine from 2000-2002. Upon completing her fellowship training, Dr. Subramanian has stayed on as Associate Clinical Professor at UCLA. She was on the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology in 2001 and 2011. Dr. Subramanian established the movement disorder clinic at the West Los Angeles Veterans Administra-

Senior Living

tion and has recently assumed the position of the Director of the South West PDRECC (Parkinson Disease Research, Education and Clinical Care). She has developed an interest in complementary and alternative medicine with a special interest in Yoga and Mindfulness. She underwent a 200 hour yoga teacher training in 2015 and is currently studying to be a mindfulness instructor to teach MBSR. She is designing a yoga teacher-training program for yoga instructors who are interested in working with Parkinson's Disease patients.

The Ventura Parkinson's Disease Support Group welcomes our members and care-partners, visitors and new friends who find themselves in this battle with Parkinson's Disease. Join us April 11th from 1-3pm at the Lexington Assisted Living, 5440 Ralston St. There is a drop-off/loading and unloading driveway in the front of the building and extra parking is graciously available across the street in the Baptist Church parking lot.

Check in at the front desk for directions to the 3rd floor and sign-in at the meeting so we can keep in touch with you. For more information call Patty at 766-6070. We are an independent and volunteer-organized group not affiliated with or a part of any other organization or group. Reservations are not required. Thanks to the generosity of the Lexington Assisted Living, we are able to have our meetings every second Wednesday of the month.

Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month

It has been just over two centuries since Dr. James Parkinson first extensively characterized the major symptoms of the disease that came to bear his name in 1817. Slowly but surely our understanding of the disease has improved and effective treatment has been developed, but Parkinson's disease remains a huge challenge to those who suffer from it and to those involved in its management.

Parkinson's disease is a chronic, degenerative neurological disorder that affects one in 100 people over age 60. It is the second most common age-related neurodegenerative disorder after Alzheimer's disease. An estimated 7 to 10 million people worldwide have Parkinson's disease. Scientists predict the number of people with Parkinson's in the world will double by 2042. About one million Americans are thought to have Parkinson's, more than those affected by multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, and Lou Gehrig's disease combined. While the average age at onset is 60, people have been diagnosed as young as 18 and one case in Canada reports that a two-year old was diagnosed with the disease. Incidence of Parkinson's increases with age, but an estimated four percent of people with PD are diagnosed before the age of 50. Men are one and a half times more likely to have Parkinson's than women.

Every year, about 60,000 Americans are diagnosed with Parkinson's. This does not reflect the thousands of cases that go undetected. There is no objective test or biomarker for Parkinson's disease, so the rate of misdiagnosis can be relatively high, especially when the diagnosis is made by a non-specialist.

The average cost of Parkinson's medication is \$2,500 per year. Parkinson's-related surgery can cost up to \$100,000 per patient. The combined direct and indirect costs of Parkinson's in the United States, including treatment, disability, and similar payments,

plus lost income from an inability to work, are estimated at \$25 billion per year.

Statistics are from the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, Parkinson's News Today, the Parkinson's Foundation, US National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health and other credible sources. If you have been diagnosed with or care for someone with Parkinson's Disease, please know that you are not alone and are welcome to join the Ventura Parkinson's Disease Support Group every second Wednesday of the month from 1PM to 3PM at the Lexington Assisted Living, 5440 Ralston Street in Ventura. For more information call Patty at 805-766-6070. We are an independent and volunteer-organized group not affiliated with or a part of any other organization or group.

New Medicare cards are coming!

Continued from page 13

If Social Security has your current mailing address, there's nothing else you need to do to receive your new card.

Mailing everyone a new card will take time. Your card might arrive at a different time than your friend's or neighbor's.

Once you get your new Medicare card, take these three steps to make it harder for someone to steal your information and identity:

Destroy your old Medicare card right away.

Doctors, other health care providers, and health plans approved by Medicare know Medicare is replacing the old cards. They are ready to accept your new card when you need care.

Beware of anyone who contacts you and asks for your new Medicare number, personal information, or to pay a fee for your new card. There are no charges whatsoever for the new cards.

Guard your card. Treat your new Medicare number like you treat your Social Security or credit card numbers. Only give your new Medicare number to doctors, pharmacists, insurers, or other people you trust to work with Medicare on your behalf.

Medicare will never call you uninvited and ask you to give us personal or private information to get your new Medicare card.

Scam artists may try to get personal information (like your current Medicare number) by contacting you about your new card. If someone asks you for your information, or for money, or threatens to cancel your health benefits if you don't share your personal information, hang up and call us at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).

Your new Medicare card will be paper. Paper cards are easier for many providers to use and copy, and they save taxpayers a lot of money. Plus, you can print your own replacement card if you need one.

Carry your new card and show it to your health care providers. Doctors, other providers, and health care facilities will ask for your new Medicare card when you need care.

If you forget your new card, you, your doctor, or other health care provider may be able to look up your new Medicare number online.

If you're in a Medicare Advantage plan (like an HMO or PPO), your Medicare Advantage plan ID card is your main card for Medicare – you should still keep and use it whenever you need care.

However, you also may be asked to show your new Medicare card, so you should carry this card with you, too.

If you don't get your new Medicare card by April 2019, or need answers to your Medicare questions call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users can call 1-877-486-2048.





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News & Notes



Chef Jose Andres returned to Ventura.

World Central Kitchen back to Ventura

by Jennifer Tipton

Due to the recent heavy rains, many were required once again to evacuate their homes and on March 21st Chef Jose Andres of World Central Kitchen returned to Ventura. Our very own Chef Jason Collis said, “Chef Andres said he wouldn’t stop until the last person in need is fed in Ventura and he meant it!”

The numbers of evacuees grew slowly with thirty on March 22nd and increased to forty on the 23rd however, with numbers this low there was no need to mobilize the Mission Kitchen. Chef Collis stated, “looks like we will go unscathed with this storm which is great news for all of us in Ventura!” When news got out that Chef Collis and World Central Kitchen were once again at evacuation centers providing meals, many

of our Ventura neighbors wasted no time offering to help out.

Chef Andres thanked Collis by saying, “On behalf of World Central Kitchen, thank you for the amazing job you are doing for the people of Ventura. You are amazing people, you are the heroes, and we love you”.

Passover

Continued from page 12

Biblical commandment) or eight days for Orthodox, Hasidic, and most Conservative Jews.

A day commences at dusk and lasts until the following dusk, thus the first day of Passover begins after dusk. It is one of the most widely observed Jewish holidays.

The rituals unique to the Passover celebrations commence with the Passover Seder.

In the narrative of the Exodus, the Bible tells that God helped the Children of Israel escape from their slavery in Egypt by inflicting ten plagues upon the ancient Egyptians before the Pharaoh would release his Israelite slaves; the tenth and worst of the plagues was the death of the Egyptian first-born.

The Israelites were instructed to mark the doorposts of their homes with the blood of a slaughtered spring lamb and, upon seeing this, the spirit of the Lord knew to “pass over” the first-born in these homes, hence the English name of the holiday.

When the Pharaoh freed the Israelites, it is said that they left in such a hurry that they could not wait for bread dough to rise (leaven). In commemoration, for the duration of Passover no leavened bread is eaten.

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The Pet Page



**Dedicated
to Scamp**

■ The Herman Bennett Foundation is a private non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization that is dedicated to working with local veterinarians and other related organizations to determine target areas most in need of both education and assisting low income pet owners and Feral Cats with the spaying and neutering of cats and dogs.

The Herman Bennett Foundation has also expanded their operation to include assisting the Military/Service Dogs with their medical requirements (not covered by any agency); supporting Animal Rescue Groups and “No-Kill” Animal Shelters.

Marvin Fisher, Marketing Director for the Herman Bennett Foundation put the fundraiser together for the Ventura PD K-9 unit. They gave them a check for \$1,180. The event was at Bistro13 in Camarillo on Feb. 12.

They also have a thrift store in Camarillo, 601 Mobil Ave. that has been up and running for over 2 years. ■ The Purrfect Cat Café is Ventura County’s first and only “cat-fe.” Unlike ordinary café’s the Purrfect Cat is a feline friends facility where guests for \$10 (children 8 to 12 and seniors over 65 are \$5) are provided with a complimentary drink and a snack in a setting where they can curl up with a dozen adoptable kitties of all ages and breeds.

All of its friendly cats are rescues from local animal shelters, or owner surrenders, and must meet a stringent set of guidelines to become a member of the “lounge cats.” Their health and temperament are paramount to ensure a safe and happy experience for everyone – both two and four legged. In the 8 months since opening its doors, the Purrfect Cat Café has found loving families for 30 of its “alumni.”

People of all ages and abilities

have visited the café, the facility is wheelchair accessible. The facility can be rented for private parties.

The Purrfect Cat Café is located at 5800 Santa Rosa Road, Suite 142 in Camarillo and is open Tuesday through Sunday. Call for reservations 419-6116 or send a request thought the website www.thepurrfectcat.com.

■ Medical marijuana for animals by Victoria Usher

The people of Albany, New York might be able to provide medical marijuana for their animals soon. Legislation was introduced recently by Assemblywoman Amy Paulin, D-Scarsdale, Westchester County, that would change the New York law to allow veterinarians to prescribe medical marijuana to animals. “Medical marijuana has helped countless people in the management and treatment of chronic and debilitating illnesses,” Paulin’s bill states. “Research suggests that animals can also benefit from cannabis use to similarly treat their ailments.”

Two other states that are also considering legislation to legalize medical marijuana for animals are Nevada and California, saying it could help pets with chronic illnesses. “This could be helpful to many animals in need of relief, especially those that have chronic illnesses and for whom more traditional medical treatment has not proven to be effective,” Paulin’s bill said.

Governor Andrew Cuomo has moved cautiously with expanding the state’s medical marijuana program. According to the state Health Department the medical marijuana program currently has 1,500 registered practitioners and about 47,600 patients. As more states in the United States legalize marijuana, pet owners are giving their animals cannabis to help treat anything from anxiety to arthritis. However, veterinarians say there is still not enough scientific data to prove that it is safe and effective for animals.

Scamp Club

(Scampclub pets are not for adoption.)



I’m Gracie an Aussie/Border Collie mix! I’m 15 years young, but I have trouble walking more than 100 yards on my own, so I have this new doggie stroller. I feel special being escorted around Old Town and the seaside promenade. If you see me feel free to say hello!

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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Canine Adoption and Rescue League (CARL) was presented a check from Meridian Design and Construction. Pictured owner Justin Shipp, Sharon Clark, executive director of CARL, Sara Masterson, Meridian Design consultant, Jessica Whitney, CARL kennel supervisor and the handsome guy is Rascal who is up for adoption.

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The Ventura Police K-9 Units has received a gift from the Herman Bennett Foundation. Officer Therrien and K9 Yoschi, Officer Rodriguez and K9 Rover, Sgt. Welch and Officer Ortega and K9 Miles were there to accept the gift. Photo by Michael Gordon.


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 very easy going 11 years young Labrador Retriever X who enjoys playing a little fetch. I'm in need of a new home because my elderly owner is no longer able to take care of me. I'm great with children, but no cats please. I know some basics - come, sit, shake and lay down. I love attention and playing with toys. I walk great with a slip leash across my body like a sash. I'm not reactive to other dogs except when treats are involved. I'm a great girl and I hope it's not long before I'm a cherished member of a loving family. I'm available to foster or adopt! Canine Adoption and Rescue League C.A.R.L.





Bogey is a shelter favorite. He has been in foster and according to foster mom is house trained, learns quickly, loves his toys, was friendly with kids and takes treats gently. Bogey is also well mannered enough to be one of the few dogs chosen to represent VCAS to visit a nursing home. Bogey A668533 Ventura County Animal Services - Simi location - 670 W. Los Angeles Ave.

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Kevin O'Connor
President

News & Notes

Bald Eagle breeding in full swing on the Channel Islands

Webcam viewers have been captivated watching tiny bald eagle chicks that hatched in a nest at Saucers Canyon on Santa Cruz Island.

There are 13 active bald eagle nests, with at least 22 known eggs laid thus far in the breeding season. The nests includes two on Santa Rosa Island, five on Santa Cruz Island, five on Catalina Island, and one on San Clemente Island.

“This is a great start to the bald eagle breeding season,” said Dr. Peter Sharpe with the Institute for Wildlife Studies. “Since I joined the bald eagle restoration project on the Channel Islands over 21 years ago, I have seen the number of breeding pairs increase from just three to potentially 21 active breeding pairs this year.”

There are five bald eagle webcams that capture the daily growth, feeding habits, and behaviors of the Channel Islands birds. They are available thanks to the generous support of explore.org and iws.org.


Explore Annenberg installed new cameras for some of the webcams, which now provide dramatic close-up

views of the bald eagles and increased viewing quality (you can even see flies).

Bald eagles disappeared from the Channel Islands in the 1960s due the effects of DDT and human persecution. The increasing number of bald eagles due to recovery efforts on the Channel Islands is evident from the growing number of bald eagle sightings on the mainland. This year, Channel Islands birds have been seen far and wide, from British Columbia and Oregon to numerous destinations throughout southern and central California.

To view the bald eagle webcams visit: explore.org. For more information on Bald Eagles visit Institute for Wild Life Studies at iws.org (locations-California-find Santa Cruz on map).

To view a recording of the Saucers Canyon Bald Eagle chicks hatching visit:
<https://youtu.be/fAF3w3UOC0U>
<https://youtu.be/SOQt0aCp0pM>



“This is more fun than watching National Geographic.” Savana



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All four delivered compelling interpretations from the jazz standards songbook.

VMF Student Jazz Competition

by Paul Peterson

A curated list of top flight high school jazz talent was showcased at

Squashed Grapes, on Sunday, March 18 as they competed for cash prizes and live appearances as The Ventura Music Festival produced their 12th annual Student Jazz Competition. Four young musicians from area high schools took the stage, backed by professional jazz players and performed before a packed house of fans, families and judges.

When the music ended and judges results were tallied, all four were winners. First place went to Mathew Kuperberg on piano, a senior at Agoura High School, who offered a charming version of “I’ll Never Find Another You”, second place went to Henry Urschel on alto sax who is a junior at Dos Pueblos High School, and third place was a tie between Jonah Goldstein, guitarist and also a senior at Agoura High (which speaks well of their program) and shared with Finn Dunham, on

This ‘n’ That

alto sax, just a freshman at Thousand Oaks High School. All four delivered adept and compelling interpretations from the jazz standards songbook and demonstrated a genuine commitment to the art form, surprising for their age and inspiring to those in the crowd.

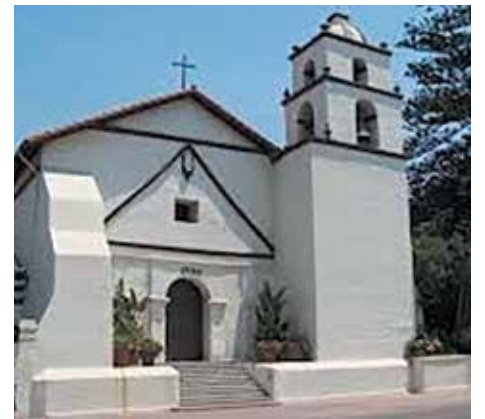
The process of curating these musicians begins early in the year, according to VMF executive director, Susan Scott. “We begin with a wide swath of Southern California high school jazz players”, she says. They submit their performances on mp3’s to the VMF offices and in January the judges begin listening and ranking them.

“They submit their mp3’s blind, with no names to the judges, who then evaluate them”, says Charles Levin, drummer and host of the showcase. “That’s how we selected these four. There was a fifth player who was selected but couldn’t come”. Levin, along with other jazz professionals Bevan Manson on piano, and Domenic Genova on standup bass, held down the rhythm section as each musician stepped up and smoothly narrated their instrument on their chosen song. After totaling up the points, the winners were ranked and all the musicians came back up for a spirited jam on the jazz standard “The Chicken”.

This year’s judging team included such notables as the pianist Bevan Manson, Eddie Arkin and Tom Buckner, who made the selection of the winners. Each year the winners package includes \$500 for the top prize, \$250 for second place and \$100 for third. The package also includes three or four live shows during the year including slots on VMF’s annual Rising Stars Concert, a 90-minute concert of jazz, classical and choral music, scheduled for May 18th at 8pm at the United Methodist Church. These are paying gigs for the musicians.

Adam Randall, owner of Squashed Grapes, 2351 East Main, enjoys helping the next generation of young musicians develop on his stage. Like the musicians, he wants to perpetuate the jazz art form. His wall is festooned with signed head shots of hundreds of jazz and blues artists who have graced his stage.

“We’ve had all this year’s winners perform here before but this is their first time with the contest”, he said. Randall also has plans to move Squashed Grapes to a new larger building, a few blocks away, later this year. That’s good news for jazz fans in Ventura, and for these four winners. The commitment of these people to keeping jazz alive is good news for all Venturans.



Bronze marker to be unveiled at Mission.

Dedicated to historic preservation, education, and patriotism since 1890

The Mitx-Khan-A-Khan Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) will be unveiling a 24”x 24” bronze marker of California Historical Landmark No. 310 placed on the front of Mission San Buenaventura on March 31, at 9:30 a.m. This historical marker will be visible and photographed by many visitors from around the world. The mission is located at 211 East Main St. The ceremony will be followed by a reception in the mission courtyard.

Honored guests attending include: Adele Lancaster, DAR State Vice Regent Patti Swayze, DAR District VII Representative Talin Sardarbegians, Coordinator, Office of Congresswoman Julia Brownley

Mission San Buenaventura was founded on March 31, 1782, which is 236 years to the day of the upcoming ceremony of this historical landmark. San Buenaventura Mission is the ninth and last mission consecrated by Saint Junipero Serra. Named in honor of Saint Bonaventura (1221-1274: Cardinal and Doctor of the Church), it is known as the “Mission by the Sea”.

The Mitx-Khan-A-Khan Chapter of the NSDAR was organized February 20, 1931, and is named for the Chumash Native American village of Mitsquanaqa’n, where the Mission San Buenaventura was founded.

The public is invited to attend this historical event. For further information please contact: Angelee Conroy, Regent Mitx-Khan-A-Khan, Ventura Chapter California DAR, NSDAR at acflying@yahoo.com.


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A large enthusiastic Ventura crowd joined the March for Our Lives on Saturday, March 24 at Plaza Park.

Many in the crowd held handmade signs high over their heads as they marched from the park through downtown Ventura greeted by many honking horns.

In recognizing what the youth have started one sign read “I’m Joining The Party These Kids Have Just Started” and “Stop Truth Decay” was one of the funnier ones.

This 'n' That

Cabrillo Economic Development Corporation in the news

Cabrillo Economic Development Corporation will conduct a groundbreaking ceremony for its newest affordable housing development, Phase II of Snapdragon Place Apartments, at 10 a.m., Thursday, April 5, at Snapdragon Place Apartments, 11094 Snapdragon Street, Ventura.

The event will begin at 10 a.m. with a reception in the Community Room at Snapdragon Place Apartments. The program will include a welcome address from Cabrillo and its project partners. Following the program, attendees will walk to the building site for the groundbreaking ceremony and photos.

Cabrillo is developing the project in partnership with the Housing Authority of San Buenaventura, which will serve as the property management company.

Phase I of the project, which included 28 units, in 2015. Phase II will provide another 22 homes.

Phase II will consist of five two-story buildings enclosing a landscaped interior courtyard. The unit mix includes four one-bedroom homes (640 square feet), 10 two-bedroom homes (958 square feet), and eight three-bedroom homes (1,177 square feet).

The project will include 11 special needs units, of which, four one-bedroom units are designated for homeless veterans through the Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing program and seven non-VASH units.

The Cabrillo Economic Development Corporation (CEDC) is seeking nominations for the inaugural Housing Heroes Awards for individuals and an organization making a difference in affordable housing in Ventura County.

“This is an opportunity to recognize and celebrate individuals and organizations who have made exceptional contributions as an affordable housing advocate, leader, and partner,” said Margarita H. de Escontrias, Cabrillo’s CEO. “With the high cost of housing and the shortage of affordable housing in our region, this support is critical to provide safe and secure shelter and resources for those who need it.”

Cabrillo is accepting nomination for the following categories:

- Rodney Fernandez Advocate Award – Individual supporting affordable housing
- Jaime Bordenave Professional Award – Professional in affordable housing
- Outstanding Business Partner Award – Business supporting affordable housing
- Outstanding Community Partner Award – Nonprofit partnership

To submit a nomination, please send a brief explanation describing why the nominee is deserving of this recognition. Please include your name and address and, if possible, the names and addresses of persons who can provide further information on the nominee. A single nomination will place the individual or company name in consideration for the respective award.

Award nominations will be accepted

through April 30, 2018.

Submit your nomination via email to HousingHeroesAwards@cabrilloedc.org, or by mail to:

The Housing Heroes Awards
Cabrillo Economic Development Corporation
702 County Square Drive, Ste 200
Ventura, CA 93003

Lawsuit challenges Trump administration

The Center for Biological Diversity, Turtle Island Restoration Network and Wishtoyo Foundation are suing the Trump administration for failing to protect humpback whale habitat in the Pacific Ocean, where the animals face threats from fisheries, ship strikes and oil spills.

The lawsuit, filed in federal district court in San Francisco, aims to force the National Marine Fisheries Service to follow the Endangered Species Act’s requirement to designate critical habitat within one year of listing a species as threatened or endangered and not authorize actions that would damage that habitat. Two Pacific Ocean humpback populations were listed as endangered and a third as threatened in September 2016.

“As cargo ships and crabbing gear slaughter West Coast humpbacks, the Trump administration won’t lift a finger to save these magnificent whales,” said Catherine Kilduff, a Center attorney.

At least 54 humpback whales were found tangled up in fishing gear off the West Coast in 2016. Entanglements cause injuries and death as the ropes cut into animals’ flesh, sap their strength and lead to drowning. Many incidents in 2016 were clustered around the biologically rich Monterey Bay, where migrating whales come to feed.

Ship strikes and oil spills are the other major threats to West Coast humpback whales. A study found that an estimated 22 humpback whales off California, Oregon and Washington die each year after being hit by ships.

On Jan. 4 the Trump administration released its plan to invite offshore oil and gas drilling into every ocean in the country – despite the fact that such drilling can be lethal for whales. In 2015 endangered humpback whales were observed swimming in the Refugio oil spill, which dumped at least 21,000 gallons of crude oil into the ocean. The spill killed hundreds of marine mammals and birds, including dolphins and sea lions.

“Since time immemorial, Chumash people have shared our home waters of the Santa Barbara Channel with humpback whales. They have a deeply respected role in our culture, guiding and protecting our maritime people as we navigate through the channel. In reciprocity, the Chumash people play a strong role in protecting our magnificent relatives as they face increasing threats from ship strikes, entangle-



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ment, and gas and oil development,” said Alicia Cordero, First Nations program officer for the Wishtoyo Foundation.

Critical habitat protection would help safeguard ocean areas essential for migrating and feeding. The designation would ensure that federally permitted activities do not continue to drive humpback whales to the brink of extinction by destroying important areas.

Humpback whale populations that need critical habitat were identified in 2016 by the National Marine Fisheries Service, including the threatened Mexico population that feeds off the U.S. West Coast and Alaska and the endangered Central America population that feeds almost exclusively off California and Oregon.

The Center for Biological Diversity is a national, nonprofit conservation organization with more than 1.6 million members and online activists dedicated to the protection of endangered species and wild places.

Turtle Island Restoration Network is a global nonprofit whose mission is to inspire and mobilize people around the world to protect marine biodiversity and the oceans that sustain all life on Earth.

Founded in 1997, Wishtoyo Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit grassroots organization that enhances the well-being of communities by preserving and protecting Chumash Native American culture, and the natural resources all people depend upon throughout California and the traditional Chumash. To learn more about Wishtoyo visit www.wishtoyo.org.

Is glyphosate a carcinogen?

Environmental Storytellers, a new speaker series from Resource Conservation Partners, starts March 28, from 6pm to 8pm at MadeWest Brewing Co.

Resource Conservation Partners, a non-profit organization formed in 2009 to focus on habitat restoration and enhancement of open spaces and critically degraded eco systems throughout Ventura County, has launched a new speaker series called Environmental Storytellers. Each month industry experts will discuss a key environmental issue and engage attendees in a thought-provoking conversation. Attendance is free, information available at www.resourceconservationpartners.com.

Joel Trumbo, Senior Environmental Scientist at the California Dept of Fish & Wildlife will discuss the safety and regulating operations for glyphosate, the controversial herbicide used to control invasive plants. Is glyphosate safe for humans? Where is it used and which foods contain glyphosate? Can glyphosate affect birds, fish, or other wildlife? Trumbo will present the facts with sci-

entific support and provide a big picture overview of land management issues and strict state regulatory reporting requirements. Based in Sacramento, Trumbo is an expert on land restoration and land management practices. His presentations are engaging, conversational, funny, straight forward and unbiased.

No cost to attend. Food trucks and beverages available for purchase. Venue host, MadeWest will donate 20% of sales to Resource Conservation Partners -- a 501(c)(3) local organization.

RSVP at info@resourceconservationpartners.org or call 889-0529.

MadeWest Brewing Company, 1744 Donlon St.

Resource Conservation Partners, a non-profit organization formed in 2009 to focus on habitat restoration and enhancement of open spaces and critically degraded eco systems throughout Ventura County.

Free Family Spring Fling at the Museum of Ventura County

Hop into Spring with a fun community celebration, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., March 31, as the Museum of Ventura County hosts free family activities on the Museum Plaza in conjunction with the City of Ventura egg hunt and street fair. Stop by the Museum’s plaza to decorate a bag with ribbons and frills for the Mission Park egg hunt, featuring more than 10,000 eggs. Enjoy making a spring bouquet with tissue paper flowers. Get inspired by our amazing Ventura County timeline murals and create your own “mosaic” spring card to share with your special someone. Have your photo taken with the Easter Bunny. All activities and crafts are free, thanks to the generosity of museum supporter Mimi Allin and TOLD Corporation. Admission to the museum is also free; the museum is open until 5 p.m. There is ample free parking available.

Community Events:

- Community Egg Hunt at Mission Park 11:30 a.m.to 12:30 p.m.
- Museum of Ventura County Activities on the Plaza 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Street Fair on Main Street 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- Champagne on Main 3 to 6 p.m.

The Museum of Ventura County celebrates, preserves and interprets the art, history and culture of Ventura County, the California Channel Islands and the surrounding region through its collections, exhibitions, events, educational programs, publications and its research library, and serves as a gathering place for the community. Located at 100 East Main St., the Museum of Ventura County is open Tuesday - Sunday 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Phone 653.0323 for more information or visit www.venturamuseum.org.



This 'n' That

Person to Person

by Jennifer Tipton

I asked 6 Ventura teachers and administrators:
“Do you think teachers should be armed in the classroom?”



David C. Creswell - Superintendent Ventura Unified School District

“I am in favor of more security personnel for schools, but I don’t believe that arming teachers is the solution. Would we arm the sales people at the mall, or the ushers at the theater, or the greeters at church? This is not the answer.”



Dr. Jeff Davis - Assistant Superintendent Ventura Unified School District

“I think there’s better options to keep our schools safe, there’s a lot of research-based programs and policies throughout the nation that will prove more effective in the long run. Teachers do not go into the profession with the idea that they’ll be armed in the classroom, they go into the profession to educate our youth.”



Kim Johnson - Retired Administrative Assistant at Buena High School

“It is a bit frightening to offer my thoughts, some of which are not shared by most teachers. That said, I think it is important to voice a differing opinion during this time when many people will not speak out as they are frequently vilified when not siding with “popular opinion”. Arming teachers and other school personnel should be an option to protect our schools. Those individuals would most likely already have a background with weapons and would have to go through an extensive vetting process to be able to volunteer for this scenario. For the last 20 years we have inadvertently invited “lost souls” to attack our schools by labeling them “gun free zones”, making them a perfect place to attack. Why have we accepted armed protection at our airports, banks, malls and jewelry stores while allowing our most precious resource, our students and children, to become the targets that they are now? At this point, we don’t have the luxury to wait for the lengthy bureaucratic process to protect them. We need to have the courage to seek new solutions now to take the target off the backs of our schools and students. Unfortunately, the sad truth is the next school shooter is out there and already has a weapon.”



Dawn Maloney - High School Teacher

“Arming teachers is a pretty absurd idea, generally. Teachers should be trained in ways to defend students in a way that puts the focus on the safety of the students at large, not the elimination of an active threat. There are many ways to develop this culture. First, being much more proactive: learning how to identify developing threats and reporting them to appropriate personnel such as counselors, administration, and/or student resource officers (policemen assigned to the school). Next, using interactive drills/scenarios so that all involved can devote some thought as to how they could respond (don’t most of us have a “fire escape plan” at home with our families?). Too many variables involved with an “armed teacher” can go awry.”



Cheryl Wheeler - Retired teacher

“Creating a nurturing environment is paramount to student success in a classroom. It requires tremendous focus and energy for a teacher to create that throughout the day every day. A gun in the classroom would be counter to that end. Also, a gun would most likely be of little use against an intruder with an assault weapon. Another concern would be the possibility of students accidentally getting the gun and someone getting hurt or killed. More guns in an educational setting does not equate to greater safety.”



Clinton Cody - Music teacher at Balboa Middle School

“It’s a slippery slope, the type of people you’re going to attract to the profession if we choose to arm our educators. I went into the profession because I had a desire to educate young people and be of service to the community. I do think it’s important to make sure our children on campus are safe but with professionals that do that type of job.”



Sophie Buffo, Maddie Kelly, Lauren Powell, Anna Casillas, Hannah George, Jackie King and Sadie McCormick are new debutantes.

Seven young women are presented at 61st Annual Debutante Ball

Seven local young women made their debut as debutantes at the 61st Annual Las Patronas Presentation Ball held at

the Ventura Beach Marriott. The Debutantes were presented by their fathers and grandfathers, and celebrated with

family and friends at the white-tie fundraiser gala. The guests were welcomed by Las Patronas Chairman, Wendy Eales. Chuck Spence presided as Master of Ceremonies for the evening.

It was a magical evening with the ballroom filled with exquisite floral arrangements and the use of the Las Patronas fan, a time honored tradition. The girls wore a small gold and pearl fan necklace as a gift from the Las Patronas Auxiliary.

All high school seniors, the 2018 Debutantes represent 4 cities and 7 high schools in Ventura County. In their high school careers, they have distinguished themselves in academics, school government, community service and philanthropy, science, performing arts, and athletics.

All proceeds from the ball benefit Assistance League philanthropies, including the Assistance League School, the Girls Club/Teen Club, B.U.F.F.Y. Bear Program, and Operation School Bell®.

The following are the 2018 Debutantes:

- Miss Sophie Buffo, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Michael Buffo, Camarillo. Sophie attends Newbury Park High School.
- Miss Anna Lauren Casillas, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Casillas, Simi Valley. Anna attends Oak Park High School.
- Miss Hanna Elizabeth George, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James George, Westlake Village. Hanna attends Oaks Christian High School.
- Miss Madeline Grace Kelly, daughter of Ms. Suzanne Kelly, Camarillo. Madeline attends La Reina High School.
- Miss Jacqueline Marie King, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph King, Camarillo. Jacqueline attends Buena High School.
- Miss Sadie Josephine McCormick, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack McCormick, Camarillo. Sadie attends St. Bonaventure High School.
- Miss Lauren Powell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold William Powel III, Ventura. Lauren attends Ventura High School.

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.

Pursuit

On March 9, at approximately 11:15pm, the Ventura Police Traffic Division was conducting a DUI Checkpoint at the intersection of Harbor Blvd. and Schooner Dr when the suspect, 26 year old Ventura resident Reuben Torres, entered the tapered lanes to the checkpoint, and then began to back out, passing on-coming traffic. Motor Officers staged at the intersection witnessed Torres traveling the wrong way and attempted to conduct an enforcement stop.

Torres failed to yield to the Motor Officers, entered the 101 southbound on-ramp, and accelerated to 100 mph on the freeway. After a brief pursuit, Torres exited the freeway at Telephone Rd. and surrendered to the pursuing officers.

Torres was found to be under the influence of alcohol and on parole for 212.5 (c) PC – Robbery.

Assault w/a Deadly Weapon, Criminal Threats Arrest

On March 10, at 2:30am, the Ventura Police Command Center received a 911 call reference a male suspect, 21 year old Ventura resident Conner Steven, who had pointed a handgun at an Uber driver and threatened him. According to the Uber driver, after pointing the gun at him Stevens went into a house in the 900 block of Sharon Ln.

Responding units contacted numerous subjects in the street and eventually were able to talk Steven out of the house. During the investigation it was discovered Steven and the Uber driver had gotten into an argument when Steven armed himself, pointed the gun at the driver and threatened to kill him.

Stolen Vehicle, Possession of Drugs and Warrant Arrest

On March 11, at approximately 9am, a patrol officer working in the area saw a suspicious vehicle driving through the neighborhood. A records check revealed it was a reported stolen vehicle. As the officer attempted to turn around and stop the vehicle, the vehicle drove away at a high rate of speed. The officer was able to catch up to the vehicle as it stopped and the suspect was getting out in an attempt to run away. The suspect, 39 year old Ventura resident Richard Medina, stopped and was taken into custody.

At the conclusion of the investigation, the suspect was booked into Ventura County Jail for an outstanding misdemeanor warrant, possession of methamphetamine and possession of a stolen vehicle.

Vehicle Tampering

On March 13, at approximately 5:30am, the Ventura Police Department Command Center received a call from a resident in the 1000 block of Bangor Ln. reporting that a subject, later identified as 27 year old Ventura resident Robert Miranda, was tampering with a neighbor's parked vehicle and trying door handles. Miranda was last seen leaving the area on a bike westbound on Pierpont Blvd.

With the description given by the caller, officers arrived on scene and saw Miranda several blocks away near Pierpont and Monmouth Way. He was detained.

During the investigation officers found that Miranda was in possession of several items of property, but could not confirm the items were stolen. He was positively identified by a witness as tampering with a parked vehicle and arrested.

Attempt Child Molestation

On March 12, at approximately 5pm, Ventura Police Dispatch received a call from

the mother of a 13 year old female who advised that the suspect, 21 year old Ventura resident Kevin McCarty, had been following her daughter around the book store and attempting to commit lewd acts. The mother was able to take a photo of McCarty's license plate as he left the area. After a full investigation by Patrol Officers; McCarty was identified as the suspect.

On March 14, at 9pm, McCarty was seen at the Ventura County Medical Center for an unrelated incident. Officers contacted McCarty interviewed him, arrested him and later booked him at Ventura county Jail for attempt Lewd Acts on a Child, a felony.

Lewd Acts with a Minor Arrest

In August of 2017, the Ventura Police Department received a courtesy report from an outside agency reporting that a 17 year old female had been the victim of a sexual assault in the City of Ventura. Ventura PD Major Crimes Detectives began investigating. Over the course of the investigation, Detectives learned that the suspect, 26 year old Ventura resident Christian Galindo, began corresponding with the underage victim on a dating website. Eventually, Galindo convinced the victim to meet up with him at his residence in Ventura. Over the course of the next few months, Galindo engaged in sexual acts with the victim.

On the morning of March 20, at 8:30am, Detectives arrested Galindo and served a search warrant at his residence. Detectives recovered evidence linking Galindo to the sexual assault described by the minor. Galindo was transported to the Ventura County Jail where he was booked for several felonies related to lewd acts with a minor.

Residential Burglary, Elder Abuse, and Conspiracy

On January 10 Ventura Police Patrol Officers responded to a report of residential burglary in the 100 Block of S. Ventura Ave. The victim of the burglary was an elderly woman with physical disabilities. The victim and her caretaker, 39 year old Oxnard resident Elva Sandoval, went shopping in the afternoon. They returned home and found the victim's residence ransacked with multiple valuables taken. Officers were able to review video surveillance surrounding the victim's apartment, which showed Sandoval prop open a secure door to the building before leaving with the victim. Seconds later, a male suspect entered the victim's apartment and is later seen exiting with stolen items in hand.


During the investigation, detectives identified 41 year old vagrant Lee Sivoraraj as the male suspect seen on the surveillance video. Additionally, detectives found further evidence that showed Sandoval and Sivoraraj conspired together to commit the residential burglary.

On March 22, detectives conducted surveillance in an attempt to locate both suspects. At approximately 6:30pm, detectives and patrol officers located and arrested the caretaker, Elva Sandoval, at the Pacific View Mall. Approximately two hours later, detectives located and arrested Lee Sivoraraj. Both suspects were arrested and booked at the Ventura County Jail for residential burglary, elder abuse, and conspiracy.

Harbor Patrol Blotter

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

3-11 7:05pm, while on patrol in Boat 17, officers observed a small skiff with two people onboard paddling and the outboard engine out of the water near



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My Daily Greeting
by Anne Wells, Resident

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the entrance of the harbor. The disabled vessel was taken to the launch ramp where it was safely released.

3-12 9:15pm, while on patrol in the vehicle, officers found a black large briefcase type luggage bag next to a vehicle in Ventura Isle Marina parking lot. It appeared to have valuables and was placed into found property.

3-13 6:42am, while preparing for morning duties, officers received a request for found property retrieved lately. The black bag that was found last night in the VIM parking lot last night was returned to the owner who was very thankful because it contained months of written work and a computer.

3-15 6:45am, received a request from a large fishing vessel for docking space due to the wind. Apparently they are experiencing heavy weather at sea. When they made it to the harbor, the weather was far different than it was at sea.

3-16 1:55pm, received a report of a purse seiner tender in violation of wake and speed ordinance in the mid harbor area. Officers investigated and found the subject vessel in the Pierpont basin and issued a warning for the violation.

3-17 1:30pm, received a report of a hang glider landing on the South Beach from State Parks lifeguards. Officers responded and ensured safety of the landing.

4:30pm, received a report of a paddle boat caught downwind near the Ventura Boatyard. Officers responded and escorted the vessel back to rental dock.

3-18 7:50pm, while on boat patrol, a fisherman was observed hoop netting in the entrance of the harbor. A warning was issued and the nets were removed.

3-19 11:00am, received a report from a National Weather Service scientist of a substantial storm headed for our area, with potential of 5-10inches of rain this Wednesday through Thursday.

3:50pm, received report of a few transients disturbing customers at Island Packers. Officers responded and contacted the group. They were asked to leave the area because of the trespassing/loitering violation.

3-20 12:55pm, received a request for a wellness check on a tenant of Ventura Isle Marina. Officers responded and found the individual safe & sound on his boat.

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 27 mins.

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



by Pam Baumgardner
VenturaRocks.com

I'msohappyit'sfinallySpringbecause with it comes longer and warmer days and just in time for Discovery's Backyard Bash on Saturday, April 7. The all-day concert kicks off at 12:30 pm with loads of Reggae bands on the bill including Matisyahu, Hirie, Leilani Wolfgramm, Diego's Umbrella, Rising Son and others with an afterparty that evening featuring Dirty Rice and The Main Squeeze. The following day, Discovery is hosting what they call Triboo Festival with nothing but tribute bands on the bill: Queen Nation, What One's Pink, Led Zepplca, Pettybreakers, Hollywood Stones, High Voltage, Sgt. Pepper and Santeria.

The Skull & Roses Festival returns to the Ventura Fairgrounds for three days over the weekend of April 6 through April 8 with about twenty performances (and I'm understanding they won't be overlapping this year). Some of the bands scheduled to perform are Cubensis, Jerry's Middle Finger, Golden Gate Wingmen, 9 Mile Skid and Circles Around the Sun.

Champagne on Main falls on Saturday, March 31 which begins with the Spring Street Fair throughout downtown starting at 11 am and then the bubbly event starts flowing from 3 to 6 pm at participating venues throughout downtown culminating with a dance party at the intersection of California and Main.

Iron and Resin on Main Street are looking to raise funds for Help California on Saturday, March 31 with an event called Ironstock. In the house will be The Shorelines, Channel, Noble Grizwald, Brother Earl, the Inside Break, Danielle Stacy, Moonily and Western Waters. This one kicks off at noon in their backyard. There is no cover and it falls on the same day as Champagne on Main.

Quick notes: With the warmer weather, Margarita Villa in the Harbor is back to offering more music over the weekend; Ozomatli (and an earlier performance of OzoKidz!) returns to Discovery on Saturday, March 31; B and the Hive have a stop on their current tour at The Garage on Friday, March 30 (they've previously opened for Elvis Costello, Chris Isaak, The Goo Goo Dolls...) the opening band His Eyes Have Fangs includes skateboard legend, Tony Alva; Emilio Barkett will be holding his CD release party at Squashed Grapes on Friday, March 30. Stephanie Franco has teamed with up JT Medlen and they're calling themselves "Two's Company" with their first gig at Winchesters on Friday, April 6.

And finally, it's with a heavy heart that I pass along the news that our music community has lost another valued member. The tributes to Ryan Thomas on social media have been truly moving, he touched so many lives; he was one of those consummate musicians who jammed and played on so many different projects and with so much enthusiasm. It's truly a loss to our music community; he was way too young.

Do you have any music-related news or upcoming shows you want help publi-

cizing? 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
Mondays: Milo Sledge
Tuesdays: Jason Ho
Wednesdays: Mark David McKinnis
Thursdays: Blue Grass Jam
Fri 3/30: Teresa Russell
Sat 3/31: Beach City Sound Club
- Bombay Bar & Grill**
143 S. California Street
Friday and Saturdays: DJs
- Café Fiore**
66 S. California Street
(805) 653-1266
Wed 3/28: Big Adventure
Thurs 3/29: Self Righteous Bros.
Fri 3/30: Alex Nester
Sat 3/31: Little Alice
- Cask Alehouse**
5952 Telegraph Road
Music at 7 pm
Sat 3/31: Sarah Lightman
Sat 4/7: Cap Quick
- 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
Sat 3/31: Havana Cinco
- Dargan's Irish Pub**
593 E. Main Street
Sun 4/1: 4 pm Sunday Drivers
- Discovery**
1888 Thompson Blvd
Thurs 3/29: Kavika G & the Cosmic Geckos w/ Keith Cain
Fri 3/30: Shaky Feelin'
Sat 3/31: 2 pm OzoKidz; 8 pm Ozomatli
Thurs 4/5: Reggae Fusion
Fri 4/6: Twisted Gypsy
Sat 4/7: Backyard Bash w/ Matisyahu, Hirie, Leilani Wolfgramm, Dirty Rice, Arise Roots, The Main Squeeze, Diego's Umbrella
Sun 4/8: Triboo Festival w/ Queen Nation, Which One's Pink, Led Zepplca, Pettybreakers, Hollywood Stones, High Voltage, Sgt. Pepper, Santeria
- El Rey Cantina**
294 E. Main Street
Thursdays: Acoustic Sets
Fridays: Xoco Moraza & Friends; DJ Rouge
Saturdays: Sin Chonies
- Four Brix**
2290 Eastman Avenue
Music 5:30 – 7:30 pm
Fri 4/6: Fish Fry
- Garage**
1091 Scandia
Fri 3/30: B and the Hive; His Eyes have Fangs
- Gigi's Cocktails**

- 2493 Grand Avenue**
(805) 642-2411
Thurs, Fri & Sat: Karaoke
Sat 3/17: Deaf Pilots
- Golden China**
760 S. Seaward
(805) 652-0688
Karaoke seven nights a week 9 pm
Tuesdays 7 pm: Open Mic
Fri 3/30: Word of Mouth Familyu, Sessions LA, Build the Momentum, Fallout
- Grapes and Hops**
454 E. Main Street
Wed 6 pm; Thurs 7 pm; Fri & Sat 8 pm,
Sun 3 pm
Fri 3/30: Shawn Jones Trio
Sat 3/30: Barrelhouse Wailers
Sun 4/1: The Tossers
- Hong Kong Inn**
435 E. Thompson Blvd
Mondays: Karaoke
Wednesdays: Open mic night w/ Beer Brothers
Thursdays: Gypsy Blues Band
Fri 3/30: Hi Hat Entertainment presents Big Sandy and the R&B Boogaloo
Fri 4/6: Hi Hat Entertainment presents Jimmy Z and the Ztribe
Sat 4/7: Blackstar
- Keynote Lounge**
10245 E. Telephone Road
Tues & Wed: Karaoke
Thursdays: Open mic night
Fri 3/30: Sean Wiggins
Sat 3/31: Wax Off
- Knights of Columbus**
36 Figueroa Street
Sun 4/8: 2:30 pm Old-Time Country Bluegrass
- Iron and Resin**
324 E. Main Street
Sat 3/31: Ironstock at noon – The Shorelines, Channel, Nobel Grizwald, Brother Earl, Danielle Stacy, the Inside Break, Moonily, Western Waters
- Leashless Brewing**
585 E. Thompson Blvd.
Tuesdays: Galactic Jazz
Fri 3/30: Natalie Wattre
Sat 3/31: Mark Masson & Phriends
- Limon y Sal**
598 E. Main Street
(805) 628-3868
Thursdays: DJ Scratch
- Made West Brewing**
1744 Donlon Street
Thurs 6 pm; Sat 4 pm; Sun 3 pm
Thurs 3/29: Conner Cherland
Sat 3/31: Western Waters
Sun 4/1: Alice Austin
- Majestic Ventura Theater**
26 S. Chestnut Street
Thurs 3/29: Todrick Hall
Fri 4/6: Bone Thugs N Harmony
Sat 4/7: Circa Survive, Hail the Sun
- Margarita Villa**
Ventura Harbor
Fri and Sat 6 pm; Sun 4 pm
Sat 3/31: Kyle Smith Band
Sun 4/1: Right Amount of Wrong
Fri 4/6: Blown Over
Sat 4/7: Reign
Sun 4/8: Trippin' Wild
- O'Leary's**
6555 Telephone Road
Wed: Karaoke
- Paddy's**
2 W. Main Street
Wednesdays: Karaoke
Fri & Sat: DJs
- Patio at Players Casino**
Auto Center Drive
Thursdays: Hermano's Herrera Trio
Fri 3/30: Vanise Terry Band
Sat 3/31: Brandon Ragan Project
- 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
Fri 3/30: Blackstar
- Rookees Sports Bar & Grill**
419 E. Main Street
(805) 648-6862
Fri and Sat: Rotating DJs
- Saloon BBQ Co.**
456 E. Main Street
Music at 10 pm
Fri 3/30: DJ Lady Freaq
Sat 3/31: Dante Elephant
Fri 4/6: Anchor & Bear
- Sandbox Coffeehouse**
204 E. Thompson Blvd
805-641-1025
Thurs 6 pm, Weekends noon
Thursdays Open Mic
Sat 3/31: Izela Music
Sat 4/7: Peasant Boy
Sun 4/8: Ryan Zimmerman
- Sans Souci**
21 S. Chestnut
Sundays: DJ Darko
Mondays: Karaoke
Tuesdays: DJ Nick Dean
Wednesdays: Open mic
Thursdays: DJ Spinobi
Fri 3/30: Sin Chonies
Sat 3/31: Glam Skanks, the Cretins, Kill Em with Kerosene
- Squashed Grapes**
2351 E. Main Street
Fri 3/30: Emilio Barkett
Sat 3/31: Larry Cossid & his Studio C Band
- Star Lounge**
343 E. Main Street
Tues: Karaoke
Thurs: DJ Trolbe
Fri 3/30: Mini Driver Band
Sat 3/31: Big River
- The Tavern**
211 E. Santa Clara Street
(805) 643-3264
Sundays: DJ Steezy Steve
Tuesdays: Karaoke
Metal Wednesdays
Get it Right Thursday DJs
Fri 3/30: Wild Coast w/ Young Million
Sat 3/31: Soul Infusion
Wed 4/4: Idecline, Plot, The Kane Gang
- Topa Mountain Winery**
821 W. Ojai Avenue, Ojai
(805) 640-1190
Music 3-5 pm
Sat 3/31: Crooked Eye Tommy
- Ventura Fairgrounds**
10 W. Harbor Blvd
Fri 4/6: Skull & Roses Festival
Sat 4/7: Skull & Roses Festival
Sun 4/8: Skull & Roses Festival
- Vintura at the Wine Rack**
14 S. California Street
(805) 653-9463
Sundays music at 2 pm
Thurs 3/29: Andy D
Fri 3/30: Epitome of Dreams
Sat 3/31: Frank Barajas & Corsican Bros.
Fri 4/6: Frank Barajas & Corsican Bros.
Sat 4/7: Rebel Rose
Sun 4/8: Toni Jannotta
- Winchester's**
632 E. Main Street
(805) 653-7446
Music at 8:30 pm
Fri 3/30: Déjà vu Too
Sat 3/31: Jade Hendrix
Fri 4/6: Two's Company
Sat 4/7: National Cat
- The 805 Bar**
Ventura Harbor
Music at noon Sat & Sun with Kenny Devoe
Fridays 5-7: Sing-a-long with Kenny Devoe
Fri 3/30: Carlo
Sat 3/31: Carlo



The Museum of Ventura County has extended the call for entries deadline for its Wearable Art Fashion Show to April 20. “Wearing Our Stories: Rising from the Ashes” focuses on stitching together the stories of courage amid destruction and mending the devastation left behind by the Thomas Fire. The challenge for artists, artisans and community members is to tell their stories through an article of clothing or accessories designed for this wearable art show. It is suggested that all entrants write an artist’s statement reflecting on the Thomas Fire theme to go with their creation.

“What we wear tells the story of who we are—from the shoes on our feet, to the fabrics and colors we choose, to the adornment on our bodies. It can explain where we come from, what groups we belong to and how we view ourselves as individuals,” said Anna Bermudez, curator at the Museum.

There is a \$15 entry fee or \$20 for two entries. If your piece is not complete, a description and/or sketch of your design is acceptable, or a description and photo of your design in progress. Submissions can be sent by mail or email. Visit <https://venturamuseum.org/upcoming-exhibitions/> to download the submission form and/or prospectus. For more information, please email abermudez@venturamuseum.org.

The fashion show will take place June 2. Those selected to be in the fashion show will be notified by April 30 and will be asked to take place in the rehearsal at 6:30 p.m. June 1.



Olivia Smith (above) is the current Featured Artist of the Month at the Buenaventura Gallery.

Bob Privitt (below) This is a tale of love, apparent loss, dedication, perseverance and domesticity. But it is also a tale fraught with contradiction...Come view the rest of the story at the Buenaventura Gallery.

Buenaventura Gallery 700 E. Santa Clara St.



Lynne Woods, a quilter for 40 years, models one of the kimonos which will be for sale. Contributed Photo by Gerry Olsen.

Featuring more than 200 quilts made by more than 100 quilters, the Camarillo Quilters Association will present its 2018 Quilt Show – “Quilting by the Sea 2018” – Friday and Saturday, April 13-14, at the Ventura County Fairgrounds.

The quilts will range from the ultra-small to king size. A feature of the show will be the sale of items from the McMullen Collection of Japanese kimonos, fabric, and art, and a wide variety of items at a large boutique.

Friday, April 13, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, April 14, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Santa Cruz/Ag Building at the Fairgrounds. Tickets are \$10 per person, with children 12 years and under free. There is a \$5 parking fee at the Fairgrounds.

Other highlights of the 2018 Show will feature more than a dozen special vendors, colorful gift baskets, challenge quilts, Block of the Month, and refreshments. Kathleen Lee-Smith, a certified quilt appraiser, will be available to prove quilt appraisals during the show.

The Camarillo Quilters Association is a guild of more than 250 quilters and persons interested in quilting. For information on the Guild, go to www.camarillo-quilters.com.



Please help Kids’ Arts continue its mission of growing young artists. Join in for art, music and awesome auction items; it’s their largest fundraiser of the year!

Kids’ Arts Ventura Spring Art Show & Auction. The Arcade Drive Community Center, 295 S. Arcade Drive, Ventura. Saturday April 14th, 4pm-7pm.

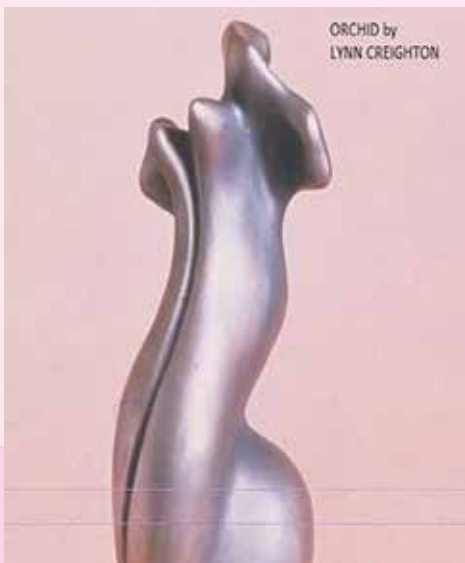
Come enjoy live art activities and music and a silent auction. Attendance is free of charge. The art show will feature works by the local artists who lead the program as well as creations by participating kids and teens! All donations and silent auction proceeds go toward the Kids’ Arts general fund. All art sales are evenly split between the artist and the program.

A free, comprehensive arts experience for the youth of Ventura County. Each Saturday morning.

Contact Jerrica Van Nest with your event questions or to make donations. kidsartsventura3@gmail.com, 258-9987.



14-year-old super artist **Mia Skylar Armenta Zizumbo** is a student at Buena High School. She calls this art work “Hanahaki”. She was born and raised in Ventura.



A “Gift Of Joy” Reclaiming The Sacred Source sculpture by Ventura artist **Lynn Creighton** is on display at the Borrego Art Institute, Borrego Springs, California.

Karen Wu will be the featured artist for April at Ventura Harbor Gallery & Gifts located in the Harbor Village. Her small show is titled “Eagles & Egret.”

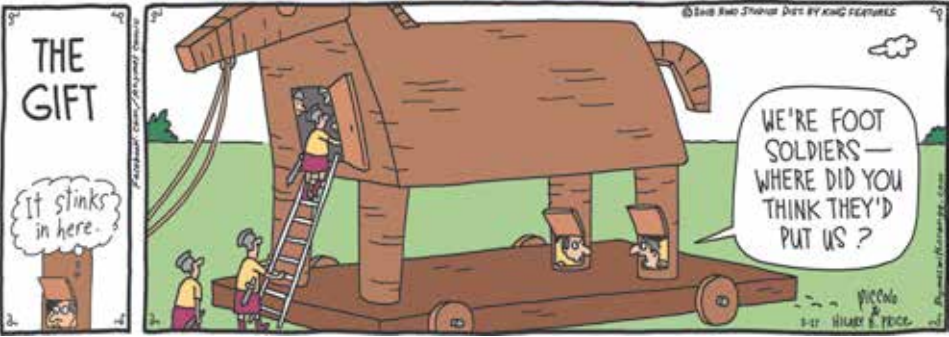


Lighter Breeze

Baby Blues



Rhymes With Orange



Blondie



Moose and Molly



Beetle Bailey



Crock



Solutions on page 23

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

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

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Solutions on page 23

King Crossword


ACROSS

1 "Grey's Anatomy" network
4 Facebook contribution
8 Undergoes recession
12 Carnival city
13 Arthur of tennis
14 Portrayal
15 Place to find a rake
17 Cheer
18 Bart's sis
19 Keep tabs on
20 Tureen accessory
22 Authoritative order
24 Oodles
25 Diamond-back, e.g.
29 Present
30 Stinky
31 Praise in verse
32 False teeth
34 Unaccompanied
35 Make one's way
36 "Annie Hall" director
37 Yuletide rendition
40 "Buenos —"
41 On
42 Annoy for one's own

DOWN

1 Illustrations
2 Story of a life-time?
3 Lose warmth
4 Old hat
5 Job safety org.
6 Yon maiden
7 A Kennedy brother
8 Mistakes in print
9 Galosh
10 United nations
11 Eve's third son
16 Bouncy melody
19 Hospital section
20 Come to earth
21 Lotion additive
22 Celebrated with a bash
23 Eye part
25 Gull's cousin
26 Cabana's location
27 Not working
28 Noble gas
30 Coal or gas
33 Doubly thick
34 Cabbage salad
36 Wasn't well
37 Eatery
38 Teeny bit
39 Wander
40 Be overly fond of
42 Enthusiast
43 Individual
44 "— the season ..."
45 With it, once

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Salome's Stars

very close to you.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Expect more information to come out about that possible career shift. Meanwhile, your loving concern helps someone close to you get through a worrisome period.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Despite an occasional setback, workplace pressures should continue to ease through most of the week. This would be a good time to plan that long-delayed trip.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) The sage Sagittarian quickly recognizes an opportunity when she or he sees it, especially if it's one you've been planning for. Take aim and go for it.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) The Sea Goat's unique insight guides you as you check out a questionable situation. Your efforts should prove rewarding for you and your many supporters.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You might want to pace yourself a bit more. Rushing could lead to serious slip-ups. Take more time to check out details you might otherwise overlook.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) The best way to resolve those remaining problems is to ask others for help. They'll be happy to do so, especially when you agree to share the credit for a job well done.

BORN THIS WEEK: Your natural gift for honest leadership earns you the respect and admiration of others.

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Show Time

Thoroughbreds



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

by Manuel Reynoso

Thoroughbreds is a 2017 dark-comedy, thriller film written and directed by Cory Finley. It stars Olivia Cooke, Anya Taylor-Joy, Anton Yelchin, Paul Sparks, and Francie Swift.

Troubled by her poor relationship with her step-dad, Lily plots to kill him with the aid of her emotionless friend Amanda.

From Amanda’s deadpan delivery, revealing her emotional ineptness; to the hauntingly sterile upbringing of Lily’s upper class lifestyle, Thoroughbreds makes its theme clear: I don’t feel anything. Now that isn’t to say you won’t, Thoroughbreds was filled with moments of dark comedy and suspense; it takes risks and is rewarded for them, well most of them. While the cinematography and directing style created a strong film-noir aesthetic, a propensity for style over substance leads to some scenes requiring you to slog through.

Thoroughbreds has a remarkably strong theme, and rode it out to the very end. The idea of not feeling emotions is a scary thought. One that this film plays with in more ways than I was expecting. The film

carries the theme not just narratively, but with strong cinematography and direction. Scenes are slow and methodical, lit in the likeness of the dreary and cold setting we associate with hospitals. While I laud the commitment to the theme, there was a lot of what felt like fluff throughout the film. Many of the shots were well executed, but dragged on far too long. I appreciate the composition of the shot, just not when it stays on it for way too long. I don’t want to say this was a big deal, but I can very much see this film being considered way to slow by some.

The direction of Corey Finley to create a film that purposely felt soulless and sterile was a double edged sword. I do believe in context of the film, it proved to be an effective way to support the theme. However, in practice it feels empty compared to what one might be used to in other films. Sound design consisted more of soundscapes with various sounds and noises as opposed to the usual musical scores we may be used to. Again, I found these risks to be effective, but your mileage may vary.

I found Thoroughbreds enjoyable, despite feeling uncomfortable half the time(in the best way possible). While the film hinged entirely on not feeling anything, the same can’t be said for the viewer. I felt tense and scared one moment, and uncomfortable for laughing at this films dark humor right after. It’s worth taking the chance on something small but risky, you might just come away with more than you expected. Rated R 1h32m



The Ventura Breeze sent our contributing photographer Michael Gordon to the Reagan Library to take photos of Ronald and Nancy. He stated “ I tried to raise Ronnie from the concrete slab, but Nancy kept him in place. I was able to capture the Khan and a few other artifacts around the library including the Jam Sran Tsam Mask.”

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Keller Williams Realty
CalBRE 01885242

The door to your dreams hinges on me!

24 USDA Rural Housing units will be constructed.

Groundbreaking of Rancho Verde Apartments

On Wednesday, Mar. 28, ground was broken on the Rancho Verde Apartments, the first USDA Section 514 rental housing property to be developed by the Housing Authority of the City of San Buenaventura (HACSB). It will be the first net zero energy multifamily residential property in the City of Ventura.

In this new development, 24 USDA Rural Housing units will be constructed as a multi-family site for farmworker households. Rancho Verde Ventura LP, a limited partnership affiliated with the Housing Authority of the City of San Buenaventura, is the owner and the Housing Authority of the City of San Buenaventura will be property manager. It is located at S. Saticoy Avenue and Blackburn Rd.

The project has been designed to achieve the U.S. Green Building Council’s LEED for Homes Platinum Certification. The landscaping will be irrigated by an onsite greywater facility. The architect is Mainstreet Architects + Planners, Inc., and the general contractor is Ashwood Construction, Inc.

The HACSB is the largest residential landlord in the City of Ventura, with over 300 public housing units, more than 1,500 Section 8 vouchers, and over 500 non-profit affordable rental units. The agency is actively working to increase the supply of affordable housing and to improve the quality of life for hundreds more of the low-income residents throughout the City of Ventura.

Discovery VENTURA

3/29: KAVIKA G & THE COSMIC GECKOS
3/30: SHAKY FEELIN
3/31: OZOMATLI & OZOKIDZ
4/5: REGGAE FUSION
4/6: TWISTED GYPSY
4/7: BACKYARD BASH FT. MATISYAHU, HIRIE
4/8: TRIBOO FT. WHICH ONE'S PINK?, LED ZEPPLICA
4/11: JOHN 5
4/12: ITAL VIBES
4/13: THE VELVETEEN BAND
4/14: MIDGET WRESTLING

2018 SATURDAY, MARCH 31ST

BACKYARD Bash SATURDAY, MARCH 31ST

MATISYAHU, HIRIE, LEI, ANI WOLFGRAMMI, ARISE ROOTS, DIEGO'S UMBRELLA, DIRTY RICE, THE MAIN SQUEEZE, AFTER THE TRAMPS, DITA, MELODY

SUNDAY, APRIL 8TH

WHICH ONE'S PINK? LED ZEPPLICA PETTYBREAKERS HOLLYWOOD STONES HIGH VOLTAGE SGT. PEPPER S A N T E R I A QUEEN NATION

FULL CALENDAR & INFO
DISCOVERYVENTURA.COM
1888 E. THOMPSON BLVD. VENTURA

Michael Matthys (Duke of Albany), Tom Mueller (Oswald), George McDaniel (Earl of Gloucester), George Ball and Beverly Ward (Goneril) in King Lear at the Rubicon until April 1.

Considered by many to be Shakespeare’s greatest masterpiece, King Lear is a haunting and epic saga of love, greed, family strife, and civil war. Rubicon Theatre Company 1006 E. Main St. For tickets 667.2900 or go online at www.rubicontheatre.org. Photo by Loren Haar.



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