

Local heroes honored, page 8!



# VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

Vol. 13, No. 3 Published Every Other Wednesday Established 2007 November 6 - November 19, 2019



Members of Buena's football and baseball teams made an altar in honor of late teammate Patrick Graham.

## Buena's Dia de los Muertos brilliantly honors the departed

by Amy Brown

It's 7:00pm, on October 23 at Buena High, and a young girl with skeleton and flowered face paint runs through the crowd with her parents. They race past a giant tree—vivid with colored paper flowers from root to branch and dramatic up-lights—on their way to the Aztec dancing performance. It's the annual Dia de los Muertos celebration at the school, a huge community event for this popular cultural celebration of life. The Day of the Dead is a truly vibrant festival honoring those who have passed away, celebrating their time on the planet with ornate and beautiful multi-level altars. Hosted by Buena's Spanish teachers and students, it featured student artwork and projects, food, music and dancing with participants from Oxnard High, De Anza, Anacapa, Cabrillo and many other schools and local organizations.

"My number one favorite thing about the event is the students' enthusiasm," said Emily Bradvica, a Buena Spanish teacher and Buena alum who has participated in each event since its inception seven years ago. "They blow me out of the water with their altars and creativity, and everything they come up with, it's remarkable." Bradvica shared that some

students created traditional altars, while others created an interactive activity or game based on research that would teach participants about Dia de los Muertos.

*Continued on page 14*



Ventura High players celebrating their rivalry win.

## VHS football takes W in hometown rivalry game for tenth year in a row

by Maryssa Rillo

The Ventura High School Cougars took on the Buena High School Bulldogs on Friday, October 25th at Larrabee Stadium in their annual rivalry football game. The cougars have consistently

defeated the bulldogs the past nine years. After Friday night's win with a 49-28 score, Ventura High accumulated a decade worth of winning streaks against Buena.

"They're very happy because they know there is a lot of tradition in beating Buena and they don't want to let down the guys before them," AB Marin, Ventura High School's Secondary Coach said.

With slick handoffs by junior wide receiver, Cade Ledesma to senior wide receiver, Zack Rodriguez and rushes for touchdowns by senior half back, Jadon Cline, the Cougars were able to set up a 14-0 lead against the Bulldogs.

"My personal performance was, I know I could have done better, but other than that I felt very accomplished. I felt very happy and I couldn't have done it without my guys," Ventura wide receiver, Zack Rodriguez said.

Though, Ventura came into the game ready to win, Buena came in hungry and ready to fight. The bulldogs were led by their senior running back, Bruce Powell-Mathis who had two touchdowns against the cougars.

"I think we gave up too many points

*Continued on page 15*



The Rubicon's Broadway Juniors entertained at the library.

## Ventura Friends of the Library celebrates 50 years of service

by Jill Forman

"Libraries were my salvation!" That statement was made by local author and speaker Ivor Davis.

In that spirit, knowing that a flour-

ishing library system is vital to so many in the community, in 1969 a small group of Ventura citizens formed what

*Continued on page 8*

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## Housing Authority of the City of San Buenaventura receives Award of Merit

The National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) recently honored the Housing Authority of the City of San Buenaventura (HACSB) with the 2019 Award of Merit in the Resident and Client Services category for the Housing Plus program partnership with the Ventura County Area Agency on Aging (VCAAA).

Housing Plus provides case management services to older adults, veterans and individuals with disabilities who reside in properties owned or managed by HACSB, comprising about 60 percent of HACSB residents. "We serve a vulnerable population. This program helps to ensure that these residents receive assistance to mitigate issues that may lead to eviction. It also helps residents connect to vital services that support well-being

and success in maintaining housing," said Denise Wise, CEO of HACSB.

"This initiative connects multiple agencies to address a variety of needs in one place with one coordinated approach that benefits all involved. We are proud to connect our residents with providers who can be a safety net of resources for people in need," Wise said.

The VCAAA, under contract with HACSB, provides short-term case management and referrals to other services and consults with HACSB staff to ensure residents can access the services they need, such as mental health, nutrition, healthcare and crisis intervention.

NAHRO President Carl S. Richie, Jr. said, "Congratulations to our 2019 Awards of Merit recipients. I am so proud of the great work they're doing for their clients and their communities."

The NAHRO Awards of Merit program was created 20 years ago to recognize agencies who found innovative ways of making a difference in their communities and in the lives of the people they serve by creating affordable housing, revitalizing their neighborhoods and developing initiatives such as job readiness programs, public-private partnerships, disaster prevention projects and more.

HACSB is the largest residen-

## City News



The Ventura Chamber held a ribbon cutting to celebrate the new owner's of SpiceTopia.

The store specializes in fair-trade spices and teas, international salts, flavor-infused sugars and other gourmet goodies. "My family is very into food. We love to cook and eat, so we've been purchasing stuff from SpiceTopia for a long time," said Anna-Marie Tan, co-owner and general manager.

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Photo by Michael Gordon.

tial landlord in the City of Ventura, currently managing 295 public housing units, 705 nonprofit affordable rental units, and more than 1,500 Section 8 vouchers. 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 of the City of Ventura. <http://www.hacityventura.org/>.

NAHRO, established in 1933, is a membership organization of nearly 20,000 housing and community development agencies and professionals throughout the United States whose mission is to create affordable housing and safe, viable communities that enhance the quality of life for all Americans, especially those of low- and moderate-income. NAHRO's membership administers more than 3 million housing units for 7.6 million people.

## A home for the holidays celebrating adoption in Ventura County

Kids & Families Together (K&FT) is a nonprofit that has been serving foster, adoptive, kinship, and birth families throughout Ventura County since 2000. K&FT works with children who have experienced trauma, abuse, neglect, loss, and multiple placements. Also, working with caregivers who need specialized education, support, and strategies to help raise safe, healthy, nurtured children that thrive. K&FT supported and guided the following family on their adoption journey.

We are happy to invite you to participate in a new and exciting benefit event for Kids & Families Together, called, "A Home for the Holidays." A Home for the Holidays will take place on Saturday, November 23rd from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. at the Top of the Harbor room at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, located in Ventura. NBC weatherman, Fritz Coleman, will host and help to celebrate adoptive families in Ventura County and those who support them on their journey. All the proceeds will benefit Kids & Families Together.

In addition to the satisfaction of knowing you are making a difference in the lives of many families in our community, you and your guests will also watch the sunset overlooking the Pacific Ocean as you enjoy delicious food, wine, a silent and live auction and more. With items including family travel and adventure experiences such as, a Safari trip to Africa, weeklong deluxe motorhome adventure, day long private plane charter along the central coast, and day long Disney park adventure. There will also be a short program featuring testimonies from a few local adoptive families who they have supported along the way; it will surely tug at your heartstrings.

For more information please visit: <https://www.kidsandfamilies.org/>

To purchase tickets:

<http://igfn.us/f/2cxg/n>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/718309298622513/>

## NAWBO Ventura County gives you the gift of time this holiday season

Does the thought of overbooking your December calendar with holiday parties make you feel a bit stressed? The Ventura County chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO VC) is giving you the gift of time this holiday season! No NAWBO VC holiday party to add to your already overflowing December calendar.

Instead, relax with us on Wednesday, November 13th for a festive Pre-Holiday Mix & Mingle and ring in the holidays at Four Brix Winery in Ventura over light snacks, wine and WINGO (women networking over bingo). Admission is just \$10 for members and \$15 for guests if you grab your tickets before November 8th. After that all tickets are \$20 per person.

This Pre-Holiday Mix & Mingle is open to our large community of women business owners and entrepreneurs and those who support them. Spouses, significant others, colleagues, employees, and friends are all welcome.



## Out and About?

Pick up copies of "GINNY" at  
Tatiana's Coffee & Tea, 2470 E. Main St.,  
in Mid-town Ventura and at  
Gems & Glitter, 2690 Loma Vista, Ventura.

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



# City News



The Ventura College Foundation supports veterans through scholarships.

## Veterans Resource Center and Ventura College Foundation honor veterans

The Ventura College Veterans Resource Center and Ventura College Foundation honored veterans, active military and their families at the fourth annual Ventura College Veterans Appreciation Luncheon, Monday, November 4 held at the Cafeteria in the Campus Student Center on the Ventura College campus. California Resources Corporation, the state's largest oil and natural gas exploration and production company with operations in Ventura County, sponsored the event to honor and recognize the service of active military and veterans.

Speaking at the event were: Dr. Kim Hoffmans, Ventura College President  
Jordana Ybarra-Telias, Veterans Resource Center Program Coordinator  
Anna Heaton, Ventura College student and veteran  
Jesse Rodriguez, Ventura College student and veteran

"Anna and Jessie are two of more than 380 veterans at Ventura College," says Ventura College Foundation's executive director Anne Paul King, "Many of our veterans will be

attending the luncheon."

The Ventura College Veterans Resource Center offers personalized services to veterans, active duty military and eligible dependents through application assistance for college admission and course registration, academic counseling, access to veteran's benefits, and a study area with computers, printers and scanners. Donations can be given during the luncheon.

The Ventura College Foundation supports veterans through scholarships that cover the cost of such items as parking and health fees, textbooks, transportation to and from school and general school supplies. "The idea is to award a scholarship large enough to replace a 10 to 15 hour a week job for a semester so veterans can focus on their studies," says King. "Tuition can be taken care of through our two-year VC Promise program, meaning just about all college-related costs are paid for our full-time students."

To learn about donating to the Veterans Resource Center, go to <https://venturacollegefoundation.org> or call the Ventura College Foundation at 805-289-6461.

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

#### PUBLISHER-EDITOR

Sheldon (Governor) Brown  
publisher@venturabreeze.com

#### PUBLISHER EMERITUS

Staci Brown

#### Assistant to the PUBLISHER

Ana Baker

#### CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Richard Lieberman · Shirley Lorraine

Sheli Ellsworth · Veronica Johnson

Jill Forman · Pam Baumgardner

Elizabeth Rodeno · Mira Reverente

James Francis Gray · Amy Brown

Maryssa Rillo · Victoria Usher

Carol Leish

#### CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

Bernie Goldstein

Richard Lieberman · Michael Gordon

#### DISTRIBUTION

Jaime Baker · Mary Thompson  
Alfred J. Lewis · Richard Lieberman

#### ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

Breezy Gledhill · Cindy Summers

#### WEB/ONLINE ADVISOR

Cindy Summers

#### PRINT PRODUCTION

Alfred J. Lewis/studioNothing

#### PRINTING

CA Web Print, Inc. (626)281-8989

#### CONTACT US:

##### EVENTS & HAPPENINGS

events@venturabreeze.com

##### OPINIONS

opinions@venturabreeze.com

##### ARTICLES AND PHOTOS

editor@venturabreeze.com

##### THE PET PAGE

scampclub@venturabreeze.com

##### ADVERTISING

advertising@venturabreeze.com

## Ventura Breeze

PO Box 832

Ventura, CA 93002

Phone 805.653.0791

Fax 805.641.1824



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

Men are wise  
in proportion  
not to their  
experience, but  
in their capacity  
for experience.

— George  
Bernard Shaw

## Opinion/Editorial



Sheldon (Governor) Brown  
Publisher-Editor

■ On Oct. 2, Ventura Port District's Board of Port Commissioners voted to adopt Resolution No. 3379, a slip rate increase policy, which allows the marina master leases to govern the process for slip rate adjustments.

Ventura Port District General Manager **Brian Pendleton** said there will be no significant change that the policy just clarifies the procedures for slip rate increases.

Even though it was stated that "there will be no significant change," the Board of Commissioners approved an average 5% increase for slip fees at Ventura Village Harbor Marina, which takes effect Jan. 1, 2020.

The rate increase will apply to full-time, seasonal, weekly and daily rates, with the weekly rate going from \$4 per foot to \$4.30 per foot and daily rates increasing from \$1.50 per foot to \$1.65 per foot. Rates were last raised in 2015.

■ I think **doctors** should arrive 15 minutes early for appointments so that patients don't need to arrive 15 minutes early (as directed) and sit for an hour.

■ The reason I don't get very excited when the US kills an **Islamic State leader** is that they have confirmed the death of its founder and leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi and announced a successor (the same as the drug cartels do).

In an audio message released through its central media operation, the group announced that Baghdadi's successor is Abu Ibrahim al-Hashimi al-Quraishi. He is basically unknown outside of ISIS and is hailed in the message as "emir of the believers" and "caliph" of the group's alleged caliphate. In the announcement, both Baghdadi and former ISIS spokesman Abu al-Hassan al-Muhajir were praised as "martyrs."

Killing their leader makes great headlines but doesn't really accomplish anything. In fact, it makes their hatred of America even stronger.

■ AEG has announced that they will

put the **Amgen Tour** of California race on hiatus for the 2020 racing season. "This has been a very difficult decision to make, but the business fundamentals of the Amgen Tour of California have changed since we launched the race 14 years ago," said Kristin Klein, president of the Amgen Tour of California and executive vice president of AEG Sports.

The race has become California's largest annual sporting event, contributing more than \$3.5 billion to the state's economy over the years. Each year since 2006, the cycling road race has showcased some of today's best known and most decorated international cyclists, including numerous World, Olympic and National Champions. A real loss for Ventura as we are a tour stop and the race is viewed by a large amount of viewers (racers spend the night here at State Beach on their way to Los Angeles).

■ Washington (CNN): "The White House is urging all federal agencies to cancel their subscriptions to the **New York Times and the Washington Post.**"

It follows President Donald Trump's recent statement that the White House would "terminate" its existing subscriptions with the two newspapers, which have been the frequent target of the administration's criticism through Trump's candidacy and presidency.

"The New York Times, which is a fake newspaper -- we don't even want it in the White House anymore. We're going to probably terminate that and the Washington Post," Trump said on Fox News' "Hannity".

"They're fake," the President added. "You take a look at the New York Times and you take a look at the kind of reporting they do, it was all -- it turned out to be all wrong."

He also went on to say, "We're building a wall on the border of New Mexico. And we're building a wall in **Colorado,**" Trump said. Colorado, located directly north of New Mexico, is not on the US-Mexico border.

Later, Democratic Colorado Gov. Jared Polis responded to Trump's remarks on Twitter.

"Well this is awkward...Colorado

doesn't border Mexico," Polis wrote. "Good thing Colorado now offers free full-day kindergarten so our kids can learn basic geography."

Not reading the New York Times and the Washington Post is fine with me as, long as they keep reading the Ventura Breeze which never has fake news. And building a wall in Colorado is okay if it keeps the illegal New Mexicans from going into Colorado.

■ Proposition 47 was a referendum passed five years ago that critics say effectively gives **shoplifters** the green light to commit crimes as long as the merchandise they steal is less than \$950 in value. The decision to downgrade theft of property valued below the arbitrary figure of \$950 from felony to misdemeanor has resulted in thieves knowing they can shoplift and only be charged with a misdemeanor and not go to jail. Police seldom even bother dealing with them.

The referendum was passed by a wide margin in 2014. The idea behind it was to reduce certain non-violent felonies to misdemeanors in order to free up resources to focus on violent offenders. Perhaps a good idea but setting the limit at \$950 is much too high.

■ As **measles** cases keep rising, scientists have discovered another danger of the disease. The measles virus can wipe out the immune system, making people more susceptible to other illnesses.

The phenomenon is called "immune amnesia," and a new study shows how it works. The measles virus appears to erase the body's immune memory, destroying an average of 40 of the antibodies against other viruses and bacteria. This means people who get measles are more susceptible to other illnesses such as pneumonia and flu.

Measles can also lead to serious complications and even death. In 2017, measles killed 110,000 people around the world and infected 6.7 million. The measles virus is one of the most infectious diseases that exists.

Measles vaccine rates are dropping worldwide, with measles cases tripling between 2018 and 2019, mostly because of problems with vaccine access or vaccine refusal.

## Mailbox

Breezy:

Thank you and Sheldon for the \*shout outs. They are paying off. Each clinic we are able to do up to 32 cats and dogs and that is three times a month, plus the call ins for local vets.

Valerie

\*Thursday, October 31st at SPAN Thrift Store parking lot 110 N. Olive St. (behind Vons on Main), and a second at Albert H. Soliz Library - El Rio, 2820 Jourdan St., Oxnard, 93036 on Wednesday, November 6th. Please call to schedule an appointment (805) 584-3823.

Sheldon:

Thank you, Sheldon, for running that Walk with a Doc article. I have heard from many readers who saw it and were tickled to be in a "newsworthy" program.

You do a great service for this community. A trusted resource.

Thank you again.

Warmly,

Rosanne Falcone

Rosanne:

Thank you for presenting Walk with a Doc also a great service for the community.

Dear Editor:

Trump must have been nursing this

competition for years. At last, he can nya nya his victory, being more important, than getting Osama bin Laden.

What kind of a "leader" spends so much time planning a "coup" for years, just so he can prove he is as good as Obama.

No matter what Trump does, or kills, or brags about, he will never match our previous president. Obama is intense, intelligent, focused on being a leader. Obama never wasted breath or energy on "one upsmanship" Obama, and his entire family, were models. They are moral, and kind, and made the United States of America, trustworthy and reliable. The reputation of the U.S.A. was upheld, and enhanced, during the Obama administration.

How sad, this current, "me, me, me" president' is so focused on himself, he has no time, no space, no understanding of how to lead.

Can't wait for the next election. I can't believe, the voting population of the U.S. of A., will repeat the last mistake.

Trump is focused on Trump. The Trump trumpet never ceases to blast noise.

Impatiently,  
Esther Cole, Ventura

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



# Community Events



Susan Kucera spoke about her time with Jeff Bridges.

## Eco-Conscious Indie Films at the Ojai Film Festival

The Ojai Film Festival continues the tradition of focusing on environmental films with the 20th Anniversary Edition: Focus Earth. Throughout the ten-day festival filmgoers will find double screenings of eco-conscious indie films. A day of special events focuses on the environment, including discussions, seminars and panels about the planet we share. This full day of eco-films starts at 10 am on Sunday, November 10 and continues into the evening.

The documentary *Living in the Future's Past*, described as a "beautifully photographed tour de force," headlines the event. Susan Kucera directed the film, narrated and produced by Jeff Bridges.

In an interview with Clean Technica,

Ms. Kucera spoke about her film and collaboration with Jeff Bridges. "What Jeff and I wanted to do was think about how we think. A lot of people watch the film and they go, 'Aha! I see how everything works and it's not so weirdly scary,' which makes transition more interactive and more full of exciting possibilities."

Dr. Sheila Laffey, filmmaker, producer and professor in the Santa Monica College Film and Animation Academy, highlights the festival's Environmental Films as Educational Tools seminar series. Dr. Laffey will offer specific Eco-Shorts, plus animations and methods for classrooms and small group use on Sunday, November 10 at 1 pm.

In session two, Director Sylvie Rokab joins Ms. Laffey to present the eco-doc *Love Thy Nature*, narrated by Liam Neeson. In an interview with *Eluxe Magazine*, Ms. Rokab describes how she chose the title *Love Thy Nature* to convey the sense that loving (our) nature is so critical to our wellbeing, and the wellbeing of our world, that it might as well be a universal truth just like 'love thy neighbor.'" She said, "We have a myriad of new scientific studies that show a contact with nature makes us healthier, smarter, calmer, more connected, and happier human beings...we are inextricably wired to nature – physically, neurologically, emotionally, and spiritually. And yet, in our increasingly urban and technological world, too many of us have completely lost touch with nature – living in grey cities, working in sterile offices, leading stressful lives, and eating toxic foods."

Indie films in the Focus Earth series

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include *Ay Mariposa*, a stunning documentary feature about two women and a rare community of butterflies standing on the frontlines in a battle against the US-Mexico border wall. *Ay Mariposa* screens on Friday November 8 at 10 am and Saturday, November 9 at 1 pm.

In the inspiring new documentary, *The Condor and The Eagle*, viewers discover four Indigenous leaders who embark on an extraordinary trans-continental adventure from the Canadian plains to deep inside the heart of the Amazonian jungle. Catch it on Wednesday, November 6 at 4 pm or on Saturday, November 9 at 1 pm.

Another high point in our Focus Earth series hits close to home with *The Perfect Firestorm: The Thomas Fire Story*. This film chronicles the devastating wildfire that whipped through Ventura County and burned over a

quarter million acres before firefighters finally contained it on January 12, 2018. This screens on Friday, November 8 at 1 pm. [www.ojaifilmfestival.com](http://www.ojaifilmfestival.com)

## Ventura events

by Ana Baker

### Free Adult Grief & Bereavement Support Groups

Every Wednesday, from 6:30-8 p.m. Free for anyone who has lost a loved one. Receive emotional and educational support. Contact [griefinfo@lmvna.org](mailto:griefinfo@lmvna.org) or call (805) 642-0239 for more information.

### Free Joint Replacement Classes

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*Continued on page 6*





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### Ventura events

Continued from page 5

what to expect pre and post-surgery.

### Living with Type 2 and Pre-Diabetes Classes

1st Tuesday of the Month (November 5), from 1-2:30 p.m. Free informational class that teaches you how to manage your life with diabetes. All held at Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice, 1996 Eastman Ave., Ste. 109. Call (805) 642-0239 for more information.

**The Compassionate Friends of West Ventura County is a support group for those who have experienced the loss of a child.** Parents, grandparents, and siblings (over age 14) are all welcome. The group meets the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 at the Poinsettia Pavilion, Canada Larga room, 3451 Foothill Road. For more information, contact Laura Lindsay at (805) 836-9100.

**Ventura Poinsettia Dance Club Monday nights 7:30 - 9:45 p.m. Poinsettia Pavilion. Ballroom, swing, Latin and line dancing.** \$10 members, \$12 non-members. Free dance lessons 6:45 - 7:15 p.m. Call Rick (805) 415-8842 for more information.

**There will be a regular Ventura Discussion Group meeting at Main Street Restaurant 3159 Main St., Wednesday from 4 - 5:45 p.m.** Several people usually stay for a drink and a bite to eat afterward. Bring an interesting topic to discuss if you can.

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

**Country Western Line Dancing**

## Community Events

**every Tuesday 7 - 9 p.m. Instruction every night.** Located at the Moose lodge, 10269 Telephone Road. More information at [countrylovers.com](http://countrylovers.com).

**Cross Town Hikers join in on Wednesday nights for a moderate-paced hike that includes views of Ventura from the cross, a walk out to the end of the pier, and a stroll along the Promenade back to the Museum.** Four miles with an 800-foot elevation gain. Meet at 7 p.m. sharp at the fountain across the street from the Mission. Join Facebook page for more information: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/800215670039426/>

**The members of the Ventura Investment Group meet on Mondays for an informal discussion of recent economic events.** Topics cover current events that affect stocks, funds, real estate, and interest-bearing investments. The meeting is from 10 - 11:30 a.m. at the Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf at Telephone Road and Main Street. Visitors and potential members are welcomed. There are no dues or requirements to participate, and all levels of experience are welcomed.

**Brain Injury Center of Ventura County. [www.BrainInjuryCenter.org](http://www.BrainInjuryCenter.org). Support Groups for brain injury/stroke survivors and their family/caregivers.** Learn more about brain injury/stroke and available services. Meet others who are facing or have faced similar challenges. Meet new friends and connections, give and receive support. Encounter Church 6950 Ralston St., Bldg. #300 (805) 482-1312. 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month, 4-5:30 p.m.

**Men are you retired and routine-tired? Ventura Retired Men suggest you visit a Social Lunch Meeting on the first or third Tuesday each month at the Poinsettia Pavilion.** Stop in, say hello, have a sip at the bar if you like, they will buy you lunch, and you can sample the hospitality as they go through activities and hear the speaker of the day. Bob Likins can tell you more at 805-587-1233.

**Nov. 9: The Ventura County Poetry Project and Solo Novo will host a reading from Solo Novo Press's.** It recently published Psalms of Cinder and Silt, a collection of poems resulting from the fires and mudslides in Ventura and adjoining counties. The public is invited to celebrate the publication of this historical community effort in response to the disasters we experienced in recent fires. Located in the Pavilion at the Museum of Ventura County 100 E. Main Street, on Saturday from 2-4 p.m.

**Nov. 9: 7-9 p.m. Ghosts of Old Ventura -The downtown of Ventura is rumored to hold several ghosts linked to the colorful history of the community.** Such phantoms as: The ghostly lady of Oak Street and the robed monk of the old Mission, perhaps one of the padres buried under the altar. One might be the spirit of Red Molly who haunts Main Street. Several hotels and saloons are rumored to be haunted. Many stories date back to the speakeasies of the Prohibition Era, from well-dressed gangsters to their befeathered gun molls. The tour begins at Bank of Books with a talk and a tour of haunted sites. Fee: \$6 per person

**Nov. 10: 9-11a.m. Find solace in Wild spaces with a beach nature and bird walk hosted by the Nature Conservancy.** Ormond Beach is a hidden gem with wildlife taking refuge in its wild spaces. In this nature walk, look for signs of wildlife in and around the wetland area through the dunes to the beach. Bring binoculars if you have them and wear comfortable walking

shoes. The walk is roughly 1 1/2 miles. Park at the end of Arnold Rd., Ormond beach, Oxnard. Questions contact Amy Davis [guideamy@gmail.com](mailto:guideamy@gmail.com) or 770-853-4715.

**Nov. 12: The Ventura County Writers Club welcomes anyone interested in writing to attend their November general meeting at the Pleasant Valley Rec Center.** Author Connie Hood will facilitate the interactive presentation, "Real People and Imaginary Friends." Attendees can expect a fresh and engaging look at storytelling and character development. The event starts at Tuesday 7 p.m. 1605 Burnley St. in Camarillo. Go to [venturacountywriters.com](http://venturacountywriters.com) or call Sheli Ellsworth at 805.300.1365 for more information.

**Nov. 13: Get into the Holiday spirit on Wednesday, from 12:30-2:30 p.m., at Ventura City Hall's Community Meeting Room # 202; 501 Poli Street with the Ventura Parkinson's Disease Support Group.** For more information and important detailed directions to the meetings, please see the full press release in the Breeze Senior Living Section or call Patty at 805-766-6070.

**Nov. 13, 14: Community Memorial Hospital Auxiliary is happy to be having its annual Holiday Boutique.** The Boutique is returning after a 2-year break due to the construction of the Ocean Tower. Items Included in the boutique are baked goods, assorted crafts, book sale, and a White Elephant table plus many more items. Vendors will be Mary Kay Cosmetics, Pampered Chef, Potholders & Quilts, Tupperware and Quilts and Blankets. It will be held at the CMH Mountain Tower Lobby, 147 N. Brent St. on Wednesday, from 8-4 p.m. and Thursday, 8-3p.m.

**Nov. 15: Channel Cities Jazz Club (CCJC) presents its monthly dance event featuring live music for your dancing and listening pleasure with music from the big band era and beyond.** 1-4 PM every 3rd Sunday of the month at The Golden China Restaurant, 760 S. Seaward Ave. Featuring The Barrel House Whalers (Jammers welcomed from 1-2:15).

**Nov. 17: The Ventura and Santa Barbara County chapter of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors (NAWCC) will meet Sunday, in the Campus Student Center of Ventura College, 4667 Telegraph Road.** The regular meeting starts at noon and at 11a.m. there will be an informal workshop where a topic on clocks or watches will be demonstrated and discussed. There will be a mart where items will be for sale followed by lunch and an informational meeting and a program at 1p.m. The program this month will be a presentation on Interval Clocks by Mostyn Gale. [www.nawcc-ch190.com](http://www.nawcc-ch190.com).

**Nov. 17: The Climate Reality Project: Ventura County, CA Chapter, General Meeting.** This is a general membership meeting and leadership election. Everyone is welcome. 2 p.m. E.P. Foster Library, Topping Room 651 E Main St. For more information: [climateralityventura@gmail.com](mailto:climateralityventura@gmail.com)

**Nov. 23: 9-11a.m. Adventure hike along the Santa Clara River.** This is a Nature Conservancy property with no established trails. Help create one before winter arrives at this beautiful location where there has been a restoration several years ago. If you have trail clearing tools, feel free to bring along. There are no facilities at this location. Please use restroom before arriving. 250 S. Hallock Dr. Santa Paula. Park at the end of Hallock Dr. Meet at the gate. Questions contact Amy Davis [guideamy@gmail.com](mailto:guideamy@gmail.com) or 770-853-4715.

Community Memorial Health System

2019 SPEAKER SERIES

## Is Shoulder Replacement Right for You?

The Latest in Orthopedic Surgery

THUR | NOV 14 | 6:00 P.M. VENTURA



PRESENTED BY:  
**STEPHAN SWEET, M.D.**  
Specializing in: Orthopedic Surgery  
Museum of Ventura County  
100 E. Main St., Ventura

WED | NOV 20 | 5:30 P.M. VENTURA

## Is it Forgetfulness or Dementia? Understanding Memory Loss



MODERATED BY:  
**JAMES HORNSTEIN, M.D.**  
CMHS Chair of the Bioethics Committee  
Museum of Ventura County  
100 East Main St., Ventura

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**“AN UNPARALLELED TRIUMPH!”** - *Broadway World*    **“ENCHANTING AND INNOVATIVE”** - *VC Onstage*

**“A DAZZLING CAST!”** - *The Independent*

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**KIRBY WARD**

Musical Direction by  
**MR. ABDUL HAMID ROYAL**

## Ojai news and events

**Assistant Professor of Biology Dr. Rudolf von May will visit the Ojai Library at 1pm on Saturday, November 16, to deliver a presentation entitled “Natural History, Amphibians, and Biodiversity Conservation in the Andes-Amazon Region.”** Dr. von May comes from CSU Channel Islands (CI) as part of this season’s CI Library Lecture Series.

CSU Channel Islands hosts dozens of free public lectures at libraries throughout Ventura County as part of this program.

**Jill Swaim will visit the Ojai Library on Wednesday, November 20, at 6pm to deliver a presentation entitled Road Scholar: Adventures in Lifelong Learning.** Do you love to travel? Do you enjoy learning new things, exploring interesting places, and meeting people who share a love of adventure? Join us for a lively discussion of the many programs offered by Road Scholar, a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to inspire adults to learn, discover, and travel.

These programs offer a chance to expand your mind while being in the company of other people who believe that learning is one of the best parts of life.

**Author Robert Kerbeck will visit the Ojai Library at 3pm on Friday, November 22, to talk about his new book, Malibu Burning: The Real Story Behind LA’s Most Destructive Wildfire.**

Go deep behind the scenes of the most destructive wildfire in Los Angeles history.

## Shoulder replacement surgery explored at CMHS seminar

From severe injuries to arthritis, shoulder replacement surgery can be used to treat a variety of conditions. For some patients, less invasive treatments provide relief but for others, shoulder replacement surgery provides the best path to a healthy, pain-free life.

The latest developments in shoulder replacement surgery will be the focus of a free seminar at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 14, in Ventura. Titled “Is Shoulder Replacement Right for You?” the seminar is hosted by Community Memorial Health System as part of its 2019 Speaker Series. At the seminar, guest speaker Dr. Stephan Sweet will discuss advances in shoulder replacement surgery and the types of patients most likely to benefit from surgery.

Dr. Sweet is a member of the Community Memorial Hospital medical staff and specializes in orthopedic surgery. He received his medical degree from Georgetown University, completed his orthopedic surgery residency at USC, and completed a fellowship at UCLA in sports medicine and arthroscopic surgery. Dr. Sweet is certified by the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery.

The Nov. 14 seminar will begin at 6 p.m. at the Museum of Ventura County, 100 E. Main Street. Registration is free but reservations are required. For reservations, visit [www.cmhshealth.org/rsvp](http://www.cmhshealth.org/rsvp) or call Brown Paper Tickets at 800-838-3006.

## Ventura County Library receives grant award from California Humanities

California Humanities has announced the recent round of Humanities For All Quick Grant awards, and the Ventura County Library has been awarded \$5,000.00 for its One County, One Book Community Reading Program.

The Humanities For All Quick Grant is a competitive grant program of California Humanities that supports locally-initiated public humanities projects that respond to the needs and interests of Californians, encourage greater public participation in humanities programming, particularly by new and/or underserved audiences, and promotes understanding and empathy among all our state’s peoples in order to cultivate a thriving democracy.

One County, One Book unites the Ventura County community around a common narrative, spreading interest in and facilitating discussions about

the selected book. People across the county have a chance to attend a variety of events related to the themes of the selection, including lectures, workshops, film screenings, and more. One County, One Book 2019 is truly a countywide initiative, and aims to spark community discussion, foster a stronger sense of community, and promote a love of reading and literature.

One County, One Book is also supported through a primary sponsorship from California State University Channel Islands (CSUCI), and additional sponsorships from a host of other organizations including California Lutheran University, Ventura College, the Museum of Ventura County, the Museum of Ventura County’s Docent Volunteer Council, the Camarillo Public Library, the Calabasas Library, the Ventura Friends of the Library, the Ojai Valley Library Friends & Foundation, and the Ventura County Library Foundation.

“These projects will bring the complexity and diversity of California to light in new ways that will engage Californians from every part of our state, and, will help us all understand each other better,” said Julie Fry, President & CEO of California Humanities. “We congratulate the grantees whose projects

*Continued on page 14*

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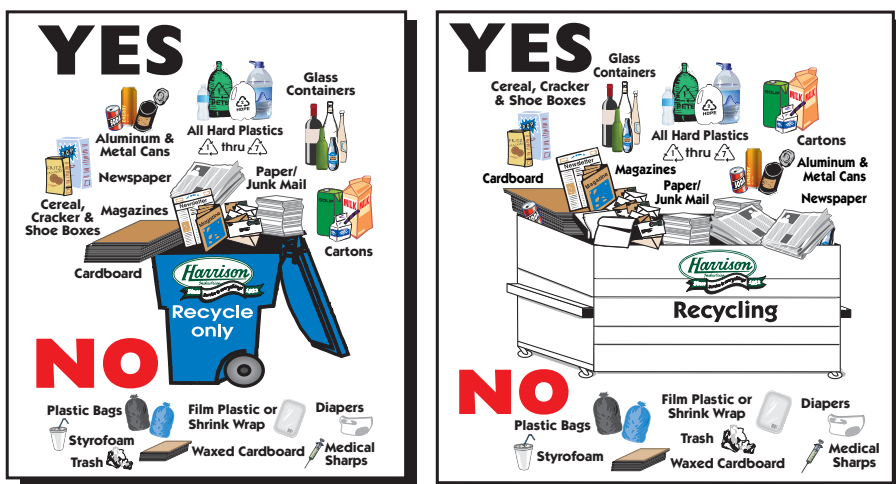
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### Ventura Friends of the Library

*Continued from page 1*

they then called the Friends of the San Buenaventura Library. Fifty years later the current Friends group celebrated the original organization's members and the accomplishments of the Friends with a big party at the Hill Road Library, which the Friends partially funded.

Around 100 people showed up to the event: Friends, their guests, local dignitaries and helpers. They were greeted by balloons, music, hors d'oeuvres, door prizes and displays. The new Mobile Library/Bookmobile was parked outside for tours and information. A Power-Point was playing on the library's giant flat-screen with photos, documents, letters, newspaper articles and so on from the Friends' archives. The original documents were displayed in scrapbooks that had been lovingly assembled for 50 years. One of the original Friends, Hazel Clymer, was on hand and enjoyed seeing a news photo of herself from the early days.

Hill Road Café furnished finger food on the patio; Ivor Davis served up drinks along with good cheer and smiles. Guitarist John Bardi strummed lovely, relaxing music. Guests checked in, chatted with Board members and local folks such as Councilmember Christy Weir, Mayor Matt LaVere, Library Director Nancy Schram, Senior City Librarian Irma Morales, and each other. Door prizes displayed were oohed and ahhed over as guests decided which one to put their tickets toward.

And then it was time for the

show. Mark Lager, Library Technology Manager, served as Master of Ceremonies. After a welcome, he introduced the Broadway Juniors, directed by Miriam Arichea. These seven teens sang songs picked especially for the occasion to honor the Friends, such as "Thank You for Being a Friend" and "You've Got a Friend in Me." The partygoers loved it.

Mayor LaVere spoke about the importance of a vibrant library system to a community. The emphasized that libraries are not a thing of the past, that all are welcome and all have access. He stated he is proud to be the mayor of a community that values and utilizes its libraries.

Director Schram thanked the Friends for their hard work and dedication; she said that Hill Road could not have opened without their financial contribution, over \$200,000. The Friends also pay for the Summer Reading programs, and many other programs. She gave Mary Olson, Friends President, a certificate from the County library system of thanks for 50 years of service and advocacy.

Olson gave a brief overview of the history of the Friends. She emphasized that libraries are dynamic, offer more services than most people realize, and that everyone is welcome.

Door prizes were eagerly awaited, and local celebrity Ivor Davis made the ticket-drawing fun. There were wine and cheese baskets, a beautiful hand-made wooden salad bowl, tickets to theater and music events, books, etc.



Ventura Police Chief Ken Corney with hero Sal Flores at Westside Park.

## Our local heroes

The 2nd Annual Heroes Among Us event hosted by the Ventura Police Community Foundation was supported by CAPS Media. We not only produced heartwarming presentations about the nominees and why they were nominated for such a prestigious award. Our camera crew was there recording the event for those who could not attend.

The award ceremony recognized and honored community individuals or groups who have displayed dedication and made a positive impact to the city of Ventura. The organization has raised funds to supply the Ventura Police officers with bulletproof vests in every car and much more.

Last week CAPS Media and the Ventura College film department started a film studies collaboration. Utilizing CAPS equipment and studio VC students learn the basic skills of studio production, camera and editing skills throughout the semester to supplement their ongoing film studies. These students of all ages are very enthusiastic about the opportunity to learn from the pros right next door.

The ECTV high school students continue to produce their award-winning program and are incorporating radio and audio production into their training. Several of the students are supporting events outside of CAPS using their expert camera and editing skills. Several ECTV graduates are continuing to pursue film and television studies in college.

CAPS has added the College Area Community Council meetings to our scheduled recordings. The community members throughout the city are pleased to be able to catch the monthly meetings

on CAPS and streaming online if they are not able to attend. These meetings are broadcast the following Thursday at 8pm on channel 6. Some community council members post the meetings on social media as well. It has proven to be a great way for citizens to meet their city council representatives and keep abreast of issues and events important to their area and the city at large.

CAPS Media's The Perfect Firestorm – The Thomas Fire Story was screened at the Ojai Film Festival Sunday November 3rd at 1pm to an enthusiastic crowd. The documentary will screen on Friday November 8th at 1pm at the Sane Living Center at 316 E Matilija St, Ojai, CA 93023. The festival wraps November 10th. The public is encouraged to attend. Details can be found at [www.ojaifilmfestival.com](http://www.ojaifilmfestival.com). David Endaya, Ventura City Fire Chief said "The Perfect Firestorm is an amazing achievement that has had a tremendous impact on so many people in and around this community. Being recognized by the Ojai Film Festival is well-deserved. Thank you to CAPS Media for capturing this historic event in such a meaningful way." For everyone at CAPS Media, The Perfect Firestorm is our way of giving back to the community.

Join our growing community of CAPS Media Member/Producers. If you have an interest in community television or radio production, or are just curious, drop by the CAPS Media Center on the first Thursday of the month and learn how to become a member of CAPS and join our community of enthusiastic and engaged Member/Producers. Go to [CAPSMedia.org](http://CAPSMedia.org) for more information.

## Ventura Audubon Society November Events

**Nov. 9, 8:30 a.m. Canada Larga. Leader: Linda Easter 818-519-2833**

We will drive and walk as we bird this beautiful canyon road and one of our best birding hotspots. Target birds will include: Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-breasted Sapsucker, Nuttall's Woodpecker and White-breasted Nuthatch.

**Nov 12, 7:30 p.m. VAS Monthly Program - Exploring the Chaparral and Rediscovering Ourselves.**



*Former Ventura Fire Captain John Van Mannekes passed away on Wednesday, Oct. 30, from ALS.*

*Captain Van Mannekes joined the department in May, 1996 and retired in July, 2017.*

*He leaves behind his wife Rebecca and his children Jonathan and Jamison.*





# Senior Living

*Pull Out Section*



## VCAAA's HICAP team tackles Medicare Open Enrollment questions and concerns


The Ventura County Area Agency on Aging's Health Insurance Counseling & Advocacy Program (HICAP) is tackling all questions and concerns related to Medicare Open Enrollment by hosting a variety of one-stops throughout Ventura County

through December 6th. All services are free and open to the public.

The transition to Medicare can be daunting and understanding plan options and the costs associated with each is often overwhelming. The VCAAA's HICAP team is made up of highly trained counselors who provide free and unbiased assistance to Medicare recipients. Counseling services vary and are based on individual needs. Other services provided include a full assessment through the VCAAA's Benefits Enrollment Center to determine eligibility for a variety of other benefits and services.

Medicare Open Enrollment One-stops are currently scheduled in Ventura, Ojai, Thousand Oaks, Moorpark, Oxnard, Simi Valley, Santa Paula, and Fillmore. For a complete list of dates and times, please visit <https://www.vcaaa.org/our-services/medicare-help/> or call (805) 477-7310 or 1-800-434-0222.

This project was supported, in part by grant number 90SAPG0052-03-00, from the U.S. Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C. 20201.



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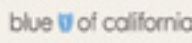
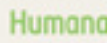


Join us for a FREE workshop to learn about Ventura County Medicare benefits & Healthcare Choices. Enjoy refreshments and the chance to meet some of our Primary Care Physicians!

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<p><b>OCTOBER 28, 2019</b> TIME: 10:00 AM Crowne Plaza 450 E. Harbor Blvd., Ventura</p>	<p><b>NOVEMBER 4, 2019</b> TIME: 10:00 AM St. Johns Regional Medical Center Conference Room #2 1600 North Rose Ave., Oxnard</p>
<p><b>NOVEMBER 12, 2019</b> TIME: 10:00 AM Camarillo Health Care District Building H, Magnolia Room 3639 Las Posas Rd., Camarillo</p>	<p><b>NOVEMBER 18, 2019</b> TIME: 10:00 AM La Cabana Restaurant 1259 Harvard Blvd., Santa Paula</p>

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Seating will be limited. RSVP to Karen Sauer at 805-479-2675 or [karen.sauer@identitymso.com](mailto:karen.sauer@identitymso.com).

A sales person will be present with information and applications. For accommodation of people with special needs at sales meetings call 1-877-432-5896 (TTY users: 711), 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week. Anthem Blue Cross is the trade name of Blue Cross of California. Independent licensee of the Blue Cross Association. ANTHEM is a registered trademark of Anthem Insurance Companies, Inc. The Blue Cross name and symbol are registered marks of the Blue Cross Association. Blue Shield of California is an independent member of the Blue Shield Association.  
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## Nursing home advocates needed

The Ombudsman Program of Ventura County is looking for volunteers in the west county area to advocate for older, and dependent adults, living in long-term care facilities. Did you know that 60% of all

older adult residents in skilled nursing facilities have no family or friends to speak for them? Join the LTC Ombudsman Program and make a difference in the lives of older adults in your community. For more information about January training, please call Long Term Care Services of Ventura County, Inc., Ombudsman Program at 656-1986, and/or visit [www.ombudsmanventura.org](http://www.ombudsmanventura.org).

## Senior Living



"When we get tired from walking we can go have lunch."

## Mall Walking

Walking is great exercise and walking in the mall is second only to walking in neighborhoods in popularity. Malls are great places to walk because they provide a sheltered indoor space free from traffic and bad weather.

There are many benefits to walking in the mall:

You can walk alone or with a group. Even if you arrive at the mall alone, you'll probably meet other walkers. The support of others can help motivate you to keep going.

It's convenient. Although a formal mall walking program may have set hours, you can also set your own schedule, and walk any time the mall is open.

Malls are easy to get to. Many have bus stops on site or nearby.

Malls are pedestrian friendly. They have level floors, benches or other places to rest, water fountains, and accessible restrooms.

It's free. You might be tempted to window-shop, but you don't have to buy anything. If you do shop, some stores may give discounts to mall walkers.

You don't need special exercise equipment other than comfortable walking shoes.

Walkers of all ages and fitness levels are welcome.

Malls are accessible to those with varying physical abilities.

You can walk at your own pace. As you get used to walking, increase the frequency, intensity, and/or duration of your walk to improve your fitness. Try taking the stairs to the second level instead of the escalator.

Mall walking is non-competitive. You can exercise and socialize in a friendly environment.

Security staff help make malls a safe place to walk.

Ask if your local mall currently has a mall walking program. If not, check out Mall Walking: A Program Resource Guide from the University of Washington and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and see how easy it is to

start one. Learn best practices from other mall walking programs, see how to work successfully with mall management, and more.



Magician Paul Dwork will give you some lighthearted magic.

## Holiday Magic and Laughter with the Ventura Parkinson's Support Group

by Patty Jenkins

Get into the Holiday spirit on Wednesday, November 13, 2019, from 12:30-2:30PM, with the Ventura Parkinson's Disease Support Group as we host one of Ventura County's most talented magicians, Mr. Paul Dwork of Merlin Medical Supply. Join us as we celebrate making it though another year of "the seriousness of Parkinson's" with some lighthearted magic by Paul followed by "the best medicine - laughter!" Lorelei Woerner-Eisner of the Wellness Arts Village will lead us in some Laughter Yoga and we'll all leave with smiles to start the Holiday Season!

Paul Dwork is a Master Magician who performs at many fundraisers for various charities in Southern California including an annual show in Moorpark organized by the Rotary Club of Camarillo where proceeds go to worthy charities such as the Brain Injury Center of Ventura County. Paul has been performing magic since 1969 and has developed a reputation as "The Merlin of Magic". He created his show in 1985 as a fund raiser for his children's pre-school and continues to perform using Science and Magic as part of a magical experience for children of all ages.

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## Senior Living

Merlin Medical Supply in Camarillo is a great source for durable medical goods, specialty equipment for the physically challenged, which would include Parkinson's, diabetic, incontinence and wound management supplies and other medical aids. Paul is an inventor of many products that help improve quality of life, which includes the GeeWhiz Condom Catheter for male incontinence.

Lorelei Woerner-Eisner is the Founder of Wellness Arts Village in Ventura (Grand opening in the Spring of 2020!). Lorelei has over 25 years of Occupational Therapy experience and more than 10 years as a yoga therapist in pediatrics, acute care, home health, rehabilitation, mental health, and skilled nursing. She is a regularly featured national speaker on various topics from an integrative perspective and has written several handbooks. Lorelei is a Fieldwork Educator with USC, on faculty with the Optimal State of Living program, and leads retreats. She is the developer of the Integrative Wellness Therapy method, which blends western medicine with research-based complementary techniques, with an emphasis on neurological concerns (Parkinson's, Post-stroke, brain injury, dementia) and mental health (executive function, anxiety, depression, ADHD). She received her degree in Occupational Therapy from USC and her Yoga Therapy certificate from Loyola Marymount University and the Optimal State Method.

Join us for our last meeting of 2019 on Wednesday November 13, from 12:30 to 2:30 at Ventura City Hall's Community Meeting Room # 202; 501 Poli Street. The Ventura Parkinson's Disease Support Group welcomes the public along with those who find themselves navigating the challenges of Parkinson's Disease and other neurological conditions. Hand-out resources available at every meeting. We are an independent and volunteer-organized group not affiliated with any other organization or group. For more information and important detailed directions to our meetings, please call Patty at 805-766-6070.

## Seven tips to help choose your health plan

by Rob Falkenberg

CEO, UnitedHealthcare of California

Open enrollment season is here, a time when more than 18.3 million people in California and millions of Americans across the country will have the opportunity to select or

switch their health insurance plan for 2020.

To help guide you during this important time, here are some tips that may help lead you to better health and cost savings.

1: Know your open enrollment dates

For the more than 178 million Americans with employer-provided coverage, many employers set aside a two-week period between September and December when employees can select health benefits for the following year.

For the more than 64 million people enrolled in Medicare, Medicare Annual Enrollment runs from Oct. 15 to Dec. 7 each year.

For most people, changes made during this time will take effect Jan. 1, 2020.

2: Understand your options. When it comes to selecting a plan, one size does not fit all. Take the time to understand your options so you can find what will work best for you. A good first step is to make sure you understand health insurance lingo, such as premium, deductible, coinsurance and out-of-pocket maximum. If you need a refresher, check out UnitedHealth Group's Just Plain Clear Glossary (in English, Spanish and Portuguese) to learn and understand health care terms. And if you're eligible for Medicare, make sure you're familiar with the difference between Original Medicare and Medicare Advantage as you weigh your options.

3: Anticipate next year's health expenses. When reviewing your options, plan ahead. Maybe you are expecting a significant health event next year, such as a surgery or having a baby. If so, then it's even more important to compare the "total cost" of your plan, not just your monthly premium. Plan designs vary, so also compare deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums.

4: Check to make sure your medications are covered

Even if you don't expect to change plans, it's important to make sure your prescription drugs will still be covered next year. Costs can change from year to year, and how much you pay for generics vs. brands may differ among health plans.

5: Ask about well-being programs. Many health plans now offer financial incentives that reward you for taking healthier actions, such as completing a health survey, walking, going to the

If you or a loved one has a complex or life-threatening illness, we can help.



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gym or not using nicotine. Also, many Medicare Advantage plans offer gym memberships and wellness programs for members at no additional costs.

6: Don't forget about specialty benefits

Additional benefits, such as dental, vision, hearing, disability or critical illness insurance, are often cost-effective coverage options that can help protect you and your family from head to toe. For Medicare beneficiaries, some may be surprised that Original Medicare doesn't cover prescription drugs and most dental, vision and hearing services, but many Medicare Advantage plans do.

7: Try the convenience of virtual visits. If you are busy juggling kids' schedules or work travel, or simply prefer to connect with a doctor from the comfort of your own

home, consider choosing a plan that includes 24/7 virtual visits. It may be a convenient, lower-cost way to talk to a doctor about minor health issues, and all you need is a smartphone, tablet or computer. Often, telehealth is available to members of employer-sponsored, individual and Medicare Advantage plans.

For more helpful articles and videos about open enrollment and health care, visit UHCOpenEnrollment.com.



# Thank you Veterans!

We want to thank all veterans for their gift of service and brave sacrifices for our freedom! To show our appreciation, during the month of November, we will be donating \$400 for every move in to the VFW POST 1679. We would also like to invite all veterans to enjoy a complimentary lunch to meet our very own resident veterans and staff.

To arrange your complimentary meal, please call **805-647-0616**

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## The Pet Page



### Dedicated to Scamp

■ SPAN Thrift Store is providing \$10 spays and neuters for low income households with cats and dogs.

Two upcoming clinics in November are: Shiells Park, in the parking lot, located at 649 C St., Fillmore, on Wednesday, November 13th and a second one on Wednesday, November 20th, at SPAN Thrift Store parking lot 110 N. Olive St. (behind Vons on Main). Please call to schedule an appointment (805) 584-3823.

■ The Humane Society of Ventura County invites the community to Santa Paws, its annual holiday family photo shoot, on two upcoming Sundays.

The Ventura Beach Marriott will once again host the first Santa Paws event, on Sunday, Nov. 17; the Marriott is at 2055 E. Harbor Blvd. The second Santa Paws event will take place on Sunday, Dec. 1, at the HSVC shelter in Ojai, at 402 Bryant St. Both events will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

At Santa Paws at the shelter on Dec. 1, guests can not only pose for family photos but also enjoy delicious baked goods at an accompanying bake sale and take part in the fund-raising Tiles for Tails program hosted by Firefly Ceramics. Tiles for Tails involves participants hand-painting tiles or imprinting paw prints from their furry friends for a \$25 fee, with proceeds going to the building of a new dog kennel at the HSVC.

Santa Paws is the HSVC's largest event of the year, bringing in nearly 300 families to celebrate the season by posing for professional-quality photographs with a holiday theme. The money raised at Santa Paws goes directly toward daily operations at the shelter.

Adults, children and pets are welcome in photos – with or without Santa. The shelter will provide a variety of festive costumes to doll up your pets. Pocket pets, reptiles, rabbits and birds are all welcome.

For a minimum donation of \$30, guests will receive packages of five to 10 photographs provided onsite on USB flash drives.

For 34 years, the HSVC's Santa Paws events have provided high-quality holiday family portraits for Ventura County residents and beyond.

As a private nonprofit, the Humane Society of Ventura County relies 100% on private donations from individuals, organizations, businesses, grants and trusts. Each year, the HSVC shelter makes contact with thousands of animals through adoptions, its low-cost spay and neuter clinic, Humane Officer visits and outreach efforts, including Humane Education.

■ The manager of a Texas processing plant has pleaded guilty in a conspiracy to sell adulterated ingredients to

pet food manufacturers.

Federal prosecutors say 48-year-old William Douglas Haning pleaded guilty to two charges in U.S. District Court in St. Louis. Sentencing for Haning has not yet been scheduled.

Haning was operations manager of a Wilbur-Ellis Co. processing plant in Rosser, Texas. The company has already paid more than \$4.5 million in restitution.

Federal authorities say Wilbur-Ellis substituted lower cost ingredients for chicken and turkey meal in shipments from a Texas plant to pet food manufacturers. Some shipments included ground-up feathers. The ingredients posed no health threat to animals that ate the pet food.

■ **By Hanna Netisingha**

With winter's dry air and cold temperatures, it's no wonder everyone—including your furry friends—has dry skin! But unrelated to the weather, dry and itchy skin caused by allergies is a very common chronic problem in animals year-round. Dr. Clarissa Souza, a veterinarian in the dermatology service at the University of Illinois Veterinary Teaching Hospital in Urbana, says pets with allergies come to the hospital every single day.

"Allergies are definitely the most common skin disease we see in dermatology," says Dr. Souza. "Skin sores and ear infections are secondary signs commonly associated with allergies," explains Dr. Souza.

According to Dr. Souza, the three major causes of allergies are external parasites, food allergies, and environmental allergies. When a pet is seen by the dermatology service at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, steps are taken to discover the source of the itchiness.

It is critical for owners to understand that allergies aren't something that will just go away. "There is no cure for allergies," states Dr. Souza. "An owner should not expect to have one single treatment and have the problem fixed." Chronic skin problems, such as allergies, will require life-long management. However, there is hope for these patients. Even though there isn't a definitive cure for allergies, it is a manageable skin disease.

For dogs and cats allergic to ectoparasites, the consistent administration of medications to prevent flea and tick infestations will keep these animals comfortable. If food is the allergy cause, special diets will be recommended in order to avoid flareups.

But if an environmental allergy—the most common cause of allergies in animals, unfortunately—is diagnosed, medical therapy will be discussed. Treatment options for environmental allergy include daily pills, monthly injections, or even immunotherapy (allergy shots), which are developed based on the results of a skin test.

Your fuzzy feline friend came from



## Scamp Club

(Scampclub pets are not for adoption.)

On the left is Casanova, an 18-month-old rescue greyhound. He "failed" as a racing dog because he didn't have the competitive spirit; he just wants to love and be loved. Here he is with his "bling" collar, among one of his fan clubs at the Friends of the Library book warehouse.



Missy Baumgardner is a 12-year-old Folk Singer and charmer.

## Join Scamp Club

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

Lost pet? Go to [LostCatVenturaCounty.com](http://LostCatVenturaCounty.com) or [LostDogVenturaCounty.com](http://LostDogVenturaCounty.com) - free websites for finding and posting when you've lost or found a cat or dog.

a long lineage of hunters and foragers. Although she may laze around now looking for beams of sunlight to sleep in and begging for treats, her life could become more enriched with a simple change: puzzles.

■ Purebred dogs with a different color coat than their brothers and sisters are still purebred. According to a new study, purebred dogs with uncommon traits are usually evidence of gene variants at work, not proof of breeding flaws.

When researchers at Purdue University's College of Veterinary Medicine analyzed a dozen different genes in 212 dog breeds, they found several breeds host gene variants that yield alternate coat colors, patterns and lengths.

Scientists also found several other trait variants lurking in the genomes of popular dog breeds.

Related dogs stuck in the middle of the canine social ladder show more aggression Ekenstedt and her colleagues compared their genetic analysis with the breed descriptions used by several American and international dog breed registries.

Genes that control coat color feature a significant amount of epistasis, which means dominant genes can drown out and mask the activity of other genes. The gene variant, or allele, that yields brown coats is accepted in Labrador Retrievers, but disallowed in Rottweilers and German Shepherds, breeds in which brown alleles exist at low frequencies.



The Humane Society of Ventura County invites the community to Santa Paws. Photo courtesy of the Humane Society of Ventura County.

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ALSO \$10 Low/No Income Spay & Neuter Wed., Nov 20th in SPAN parking lot. Must call for appointment (805) 584-3823



# The Pet Page

## Forever home wanted



Aura is a beautiful 4-year-old cream tabby. She was found as a stray, but is very social with tons of personality. Aura can be found in our free roaming kitty cottage so you can just walk in and meet her. You can also give some of our other cats in the cottage some attention while you are there. They will thank you. Ventura County Animal Services - Camarillo location - 600 Aviation Drive.



THIS SPACE FOR WRITING MESSAGE

*The lucky Ventura Breeze got to hang out with the Girls Gone Wild Yvonne Erwin, Kelly Marzio, Lynn Lee, Heather Ackroyd, Cindy Wilson and Katherine McCrory at Bass Lake.*

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



On October 26th the 7th Annual Ventura Harbor Village HOWL-O-Ween Dog Costume Contest was held in the Harbor. It drew hundreds of canine lovers enjoying the wonderful display of dogs in thematic costumes winning prizes for the best attire. These are just a few of the adorable dogs.

Photos by Pam Baumgardner.



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**Buena's Dia de los Muertos**

*Continued from page 1*

"It's such a fun event," said Lexy Almora, a junior. "And the people are really interested in the altars, especially, it's so meaningful—when you've lost someone you cared about and can honor them." In fact, in March of this year, Buena lost one of its beloved students to Burkett's Lymphoma. Patrick Graham was just 16, and passed away after an eight month fight. His fellow baseball and football teammates worked together to create a huge and elaborate altar commemorating him. "This year, our season in baseball and football, it's all for him. We're playing for Patrick," said Kaiden Brunkan, a 10th grader on Buena's JV football team. "He made us a family. Our teachers let us all be a group and do this special thing because we loved him so much."

Nathan Silva, a sophomore on Buena's varsity baseball team, reflected that despite Graham's illness, he always looked out for his teammates. "He put a smile on everyone's face, and made sure everyone else was happy and ok, even when he was sick in the hospital and in pain." Graham's altar was surrounded by huge groups of students the entire night.

While many of the altars were for family members and friends, 10th grader Everett Luna and his classmates created an intricate altar honoring the late Dr. Seuss, which even included a bowl with two live goldfish in it—on homage to the famed book 'One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish'. "He made a really big impact on us with his books, and we wanted to honor his contributions,"

said Luna.

Dr. Roger Rice, VUSD Superintendent was seen walking through the displays with a big smile on his face, and greeting families. His take? "The community here, and the art, creativity, music, families, and the culture—this is all just amazing."

**VC Library receives grant**

*Continued from page 7*

will promote understanding and provide insight into a wide range of topics, issues, and experiences."

A complete list of all Humanities For All Quick Grants can be found on the calhum.org website here.

California Humanities, a nonprofit partner of the National Endowment of the Humanities, promotes the humanities—focused on ideas, conversation, and learning—as relevant, meaningful ways to understand the human condition and connect us to each other in order to help strengthen California. California Humanities has provided grants and programs across the state since 1975. To learn more visit calhum.org, or follow California Humanities on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

All events associated with One County, One Book are free and open to the public. For more information about the 2019 One County, One Book program, visit [www.ventcolibrary.org/OCOB](http://www.ventcolibrary.org/OCOB) or contact Ron Solórzano at [ron.solorzano@ventura.org](mailto:ron.solorzano@ventura.org) or 805-218-9146.

The Ventura County Library is available 24/7 at [www.ventcolibrary.org](http://www.ventcolibrary.org). Please visit our website for information on the location and hours of the library closest to you.

**This 'n' That**

	Weir	Heitmans	Nasarenko	LaVere	Rubalcava	Friedman	Brown	Total
July - Sept. 2016	-	-	-	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	-
Oct. - Dec. 2016	35	35	35	N/A	-	N/A	N/A	105
Jan. - March 2017	2,857	-	1,014	3,496	-	N/A	N/A	7,367
April - June 2017	762	1,443	-	2,362	-	N/A	N/A	4,567
FF 2016-2017	3,654	1,478	1,049	5,858	-	-	-	12,039
July - Sept. 2017	35	35	-	1,708	-	N/A	N/A	1,778
Oct. - Dec. 2017	2,382	1,950	-	-	-	N/A	N/A	4,332
Jan. - March 2018	2,859	3,815	-	-	-	N/A	N/A	6,674
April - June 2018	584	-	-	2,576	-	N/A	N/A	3,160
FF 2017-2018	5,860	5,810	-	4,284	-	-	-	15,954
July - Sept. 2018	1,531	-	-	1,223	-	N/A	N/A	2,754
Oct. - Dec. 2018	1,694	1,409	-	-	-	N/A	N/A	3,103
Jan. - March 2019	3,402	2,869	-	1,634	1,468	1,627	3,090	14,090
April - June 2019	1,165	1,616	-	2,033	2,277	-	1,060	8,151
FF 2018-2019	7,792	5,884	-	4,890	3,745	1,627	4,150	28,098
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,306</b>	<b>13,192</b>	<b>1,049</b>	<b>15,032</b>	<b>3,745</b>	<b>1,627</b>	<b>4,150</b>	<b>56,101</b>
Average per Month	480.72	366.44	29.14	501.07	624.17	271.17	691.67	

**Spend better on conferences**

by Venturans for Responsible and Efficient Government (VREG)

The cost and benefit of every spending decision by Ventura's City Council is magnified as the city faces budgetary losses for the next five years. The city is projecting to have a \$10-\$25 million shortfall, so the City Council should be more careful how it spends tax dollars. Are we getting our money's worth from our Councilmembers' travel to conferences and seminars?

The City Councilmembers don't think anyone is watching their spending or cares what they do. They believe voters gave them the mandate to be concerned with the details of how and where the city spends money. And, they're right—to a degree. While citizens fret over the large expenditures on pensions, water, public safety, and staffing, it's easy to overlook the spending habits of our elected officials.

**Conference Boondoggles**

The city publishes the expenditures by each sitting Councilmember quarterly. Here's a summary of the expenses for the past three full fiscal years of the active members of Council:

It's immediately clear that the spending by the active Councilmembers is rising year-over-year. It jumped 32% to \$15,964 from \$12,039 from Fiscal Year 2016-2017 to Fiscal Year 2017-2018. It increased 76% to \$28,098 from \$15,964 from Fiscal Year 2017-2018 to Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

Highlighted in yellow is the amount spent each year to attend the National League of Cities (NLC) Conferences. The NLC holds regional conferences and a national conference in Washington, DC. Where's The Value?

Ventura taxpayers get little information about the benefits the city derives from these conferences. There are no written reports of what the attendees accomplished.

If all the value we receive is a report on the "relevant legislative issues from the NLC," do we need to send representatives to Washington, D.C.? Couldn't we get the same information by email or in written form? If we did, there would be a permanent record of the discussions for others to review.

**The Value Is In The Connections**

The attending City Councilmembers

may claim the value of attending these meetings is in the contacts Ventura nurtures with other politicians throughout the country. That's a specious argument. The relationships are personal between our serving Councilmembers and the people they meet. Those relationships break whenever our Councilmember or his/her contact leaves the office. What's more, the value in a relationship with a politician in another city has a small direct impact on Ventura.

The justification may be to learn the "best practices" from other cities attending the conferences. What best practices did we learn on homelessness from representatives from Sacramento, Los Angeles, San Francisco, or Seattle? Homelessness in those cities is worse than it is in Ventura, and it's not improving. Or did we learn something about water from Sacramento? Except, the California River Tunnel isn't working out so well. Or did the reps from Washington, D.C., or Sacramento teach us about budgeting? The fact is, our reps need to convey any best practices we learned at those conferences need to city staff. The staff are the ones to put in place new ideas in City Hall. And without written guidelines, implementing the changes is nearly impossible.

The truth is any networking with others at these conferences is nothing more than socializing. Should we pay the expenses for two Councilmembers to hobnob with politicians? No.

**Next Conference**

Mayor Matt LaVere, Deputy Mayor Sofia Rubalcava, and Councilmember Brown are attending the National League of Cities Regional Meeting in Long Beach, CA, on October 16-18, 2019. What value will Ventura get from sending three Councilmembers to this meeting?

**Editor's Comments**

*In the best of times, these conferences may benefit Ventura, but these are not the best of times. The city faces a multimillion-dollar shortfall over the next five years. Frivolous spending of any kind must not happen, regardless of the dollar amount spent. Spending taxpayer money on these seminars and conferences may appear to be harmless at first. Still, scrutinize each trip to decide whether it's a necessity. And if it is determined to be necessary, the value must outweigh the expense.*

**No Delay in Trash & Recycling or Green Waste Pick Up Due to the Veterans Day Holiday**

The Veterans Day holiday falls on Monday, November 11. The collection of trash and recyclables or green waste will not be affected in the cities of Ventura and Ojai during the week of Veterans Day, Nov. 10-16.

**Thank you and Happy Holiday**  
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# 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.

## Robbery

On Oct. 31, at 5:45pm, the Ventura Police Department received a 911 call of an armed robbery at the House of Smokes. Ventura Patrol officers arrived and searched the area but were unable to locate the suspects.

The officers learned that two black males entered the store and approached the clerk behind the counter. One of the suspects brandished a semi-automatic handgun at the clerk and demanded money. The clerk gave the suspects and unknown amount of money and the suspects left in an unknown direction.

This is an ongoing investigation and anyone who may have witnessed the robbery or has information on the crime is asked to call the Police Department at 805-650-8010.

## Battery and Elder Abuse Arrest

On Nov. 1, at 7pm, a Ventura Police Volunteer (VIP) witnessed Julian Munoz, 31 attacking a 71-year-old elderly male victim in the 200 block on Main St.. The VIP called into the Ventura Police Command Center, and officers were dispatched to the location.

Through the course of the investigation, the officers learned that Munoz had attacked the victim. Once the victim fell to the ground Munoz continued his attack. The victim suffered moderate non-life-threatening injuries and was taken to a local hospital for medical care.

Munoz was arrested for felony elder abuse and misdemeanor battery. No officers were injured during the arrest. Since 2017 Munoz has been arrested three times for resisting a police officer, twice for vandalism, and once for petty theft.

officers found two fishermen hoop netting in restricted area near the harbor entrance. Verbal warnings and explanations of rules and regulations for hoop netting and safety requirements.

Saturday 10-19

11:05am, while on patrol in Rescue Boat 19, officers observed a 22ft sailboat having difficulty restarting his outboard engine. The disabled sailboat was taken in a side tow back to its slip safely.

11:33am, while on patrol in vehicle observed several beginning surfers in the South Jetty rip current. Eventually moved the group to safer water and informed the group about rip currents and how to get out when caught in one.

5:22pm, dispatched to a fall victim at Ventura Marina Community. Officers responded and assisted VFD/AMR with the patient, lift assist.

**10-20** 10:00am, while updating weather ob's, observed : Small Craft Advisory in effect until 9pm this evening, posted by the National Weather Service.

12:15pm, received a request for location of the boat pump-out station. Officers ascertained where the caller was and advised the skipper to use the nearest one at the end of Ventura Harbor Village I-dock.

**10-21** 11:55am, while washing the boats, contacted by Morro Bay harbor patrol from their vessel. Morro Bay harbor patrol was conducting annual servicing of their vessel at the Ventura Boat yard.

7:30pm, while on patrol in Rescue Boat 19, officers came across several small vessel engaged in hoop netting near the break-wall. Violations of local, state and federal laws, including improper lights and illegal placement of hoop nets were observed and warnings, written or verbal were issued.



Kathy Odell, WEV CEO Elect; Andy Winchester; Caleigh Hernandez, Marianne Partridge, and Marsha Bailey, WEV Founder and CEO at fundraiser event. Photo by Sarita Relis Photography.

## \$200,000 raised

Women's Economic Ventures (WEV) raised more than \$220,000 to support local entrepreneurs at their Empowerment is Priceless event held October 25th at the Hilton Santa Barbara Beachfront Resort. The non-profit's 14th annual breakfast fundraiser recognized WEV's 2019 Trailblazer, Business of the Year and Volunteer of the Year award winners. 300 guests interacted with featured WEV clients who shared their personal experiences as entrepreneurs.

Each year WEV presents the Trailblazer Award to a woman who is a pioneer in her industry, exemplifying courage, vision and the tenacity to overcome barriers. This year, WEV honored Marianne Partridge, editor-in-chief and co-founder of The Santa Barbara Independent who was also the first female senior editor of Rolling Stone Magazine.

WEV's Business of the Year award honors a business owner who demonstrates the unique, inspiring and powerful impact made by local small businesses from the WEV community. Caleigh Hernandez, owner of RoHo, is WEV's 2019 Business of the Year award recipient.

Andy Winchester, Senior Vice President, Wealth Advisor at Wells Fargo Private

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CALIC# 565801810

# Harbor Patrol Blotter

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

**10-15** 12:15pm, contacted an individual in a lake-type boat with a few dogs on the bow of the boat in violation of speed ordinance and issued a warning.

10:03pm, while on patrol in Boat 17, officers found several fishermen on small boats hoop netting near the break-wall in violations of local, state and federal laws. Warnings were issued for illegal hoop placement, improper lights and numerous state fishing laws.

**10-16** 4:35pm, received a report of a water rescue, kite surfer in distress. Officers responded in Rescue Boat 19 to assist. A search of the area around the pier but officers were unable to local any kite surfers in distress.

**10-17** 8:50am, while manning the operations center, the commercial fishing vessel "Angels Gate" was observed in violation of harbor speed ordinance. Officers responded in Fireboat 1 to contact and issued a written warning for speed violation and not monitoring VHF 16 while underway in a commercial vessel.

7:56pm, dispatched to an overdose at VIM D-dock. Officers responded and assisted VFD/AMR with the call. The patient was treated and transported.

**10-18** 10:49am, received a report an illegally placed hoop net in the main channel of the harbor utilizing a plastic water bottle as the buoy. Officers found the illegal hoop net and impounded it. Hoop nets are not allowed in the harbor.

9:20pm, while on patrol in Rescue Boat 17,

Bank and Co-Vice chair of WEV's Board of Directors, was honored as the 2019 Volunteer of the Year.

For 28 years WEV has been working to help women entrepreneurs succeed. "Nearly three decades later, we have proven that business ownership can provide not only a viable pathway out of poverty, but can also build family wealth and stability, as well as contribute to the economic well-being of our communities," said WEV Founder & CEO Marsha Bailey.

## Prayer breakfast

A free community breakfast where members of Ventura County come together with religious leaders to listen to George Vincent, writer, director, actor.

Ventura Family YMCA is collaborating with the following churches for their 13th Annual Prayer Breakfast: Two Trees, Community Presbyterian, Encounter, Grace, New Harvest, The River Community, New Seasons, Fortress, Cross Point, Anthem, Arise, Coastline Bible, Ventura Seventh Day Adventist and Church of Christ.

It's on Wednesday, November 13, 7:30am, at Ventura Family YMCA, 3760 Telegraph Road. We hope to see you there!

## Ventura High School football

Continued from page 1

to Buena, but I am very happy with the way our offense played. They actually kept us in the game and kept us ahead," Curt Garner Ventura's Defensive Coordinator said.

Senior running back for the Cougars, Dane Kapler, was also able to find multiple pockets where he could rush the ball. Kapler had a touchdown on 16 carries Friday night.

"I'm excited. I'm excited for our guys. I feel like they came out and prepared all week to perform on Friday night, tonight, and they did that," Ventura's Head Coach, Tim Garcia said.

Friday night wasn't only a big night for the Cougars because of the rivalry tradition, but it was also senior night.

Friday night was the last rivalry football game and last league game at home for 24 Ventura High School seniors.

"I am very happy for the seniors. No one wants to be the class that loses to Buena, so they really want to keep it going. They haven't lost to Buena," said Coach Garner.

At the end of the game, Ventura High flooded the field with black and yellow as the team celebrated their victory with the Suzanne Brown Memorial Trophy while chanting, "ten more years."

"It feels amazing. Team effort, everything was energetic, it was all outstanding. Ten years in a row. Big ole smile on my face," Rodriguez said. "It added way more motivation. These next few years, these kids are going to grind their butts off to get another 10 years."

Though this victory is huge, the season isn't over yet. The Ventura Cougars take on the Channel Islands Raiders, away on Friday, November 1st. The team needs this last victory in order to make playoffs.

"Next week we are going to do the same thing. We are going to dominate we're going to penetrate and we're going to take a W," Rodriguez said.

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Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 27 mins.

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







## A conversation with Linda Ekstrom

In the writings of Linda Ekstrom, “Words and narrative are the central subject matter of my work. Books are transformed, seeking for the spiritedness of the text, giving to the words a visual vitality.”

Through her altered and deconstructed books and other mixed media works, the artist seeks to uncover and articulate a profound sense of meaning. Using text as

material, Ekstrom’s studio practice is steeped in personal expression, exploring issues of “ritual, tenderness, longing, and a desire for connection.” She received a Master of Fine Arts from the University of California Santa Barbara and teaches at UCSB’s College of Creative Studies. Her works are widely collected and have been exhibited throughout the United States and Europe.

Sunday, November 17, 3 to 4:30 p.m. Museum of Ventura County, 100 E. Main St.

Free to FOTM members, \$15 for public; \$10 for seniors.

Special invitation to educators and students: The Artist Spotlight is open to students attending as a class assignment free of charge. FOTM is happy to assist with tracking attendance and sign-in sheets. Reservations required. To RSVP visit [www.FocusOnTheMasters.com](http://www.FocusOnTheMasters.com) or call 805.653.2501.

To learn more about Linda, visit [www.lindaekstrom.com](http://www.lindaekstrom.com)

AfterGlow Fundraising Event: The public is welcome to join the artist for a celebratory fundraising dinner at the home of Dane Goodman & Marie Schoeff in Santa Barbara. Paid reservations are required prior to November 11. We expect this AfterGlow to sell out. Maps will be given to paid guests at the interview.

\$30 FOTM members.

\$40 Non-members.

Sponsored by Michael Rohde.



*Fungi* by Belle Kim

*Fantasy Dark & Light*

BAA Members submitted “Fantasy” images ranging in tone from dark and eerie to light and dreamy...and sometimes just plain crazy and weird!

Exhibiting at the Buena Ventura Gallery #30, in the Bell Arts Factory, 432 N. Ventura Ave., California 93001.

Now thru November 17.

## The Art of Michael O’Kelly, Part 1 of 2

by Amy Brown

Michael O’Kelly sold his first piece of art at age nine while on a family vacation. He was waiting for his family to come down to the hotel lobby in St. Ives in Cornwall, after getting up early one morning, and he passed the time carefully drawing a kingfisher diving off a branch. A lady who had been watching him said, “That’s beautiful. Would you sell that to me?” O’Kelly laughingly reports, “Well, I was brought up not to talk to strangers, so...I said ‘yes!’” He asked for the price of breakfast: a half crown, and with that, made his initial foray into the world of the professional artist.

He said that from the age of 14 through about 23 years old, that he was taught by Thomas Keating, (a friend of O’Kelly’s sister), whom he deems the greatest art forger in the world. He continued drawing and painting during his 20s, while he was a classical guitarist. He then left the UK with a scholarship from the British council to continue his education at the University of Mexico, working on a post-graduate thesis on pre-Columbian music and dance. Later he worked at the local anthropology museum as a resident artist, going out on digs and drawing artifacts.

He first got interested in ceramics while in Latin America, because of architectural history there, along with the plethora of murals. “One of the

things I loved about doing the digs and drawing artifacts, was that I came to realize some of the oldest things made on the planet by human beings are ceramics—it was pretty amazing to find that out,” he said. “When I had the opportunity to get involved with ceramics in 2000, I jumped at it, and wanted to find out how to do it, how to turn it into an aspect of my career—it was really exciting. I still feel that way about it.”

It became such an important aspect of his career that he went on to create many works of art in that demanding medium—including the beautiful ceramic mural highlighting Ventura’s history for the city’s 150th anniversary. The mural is near the San Buenaventura Mission, is 50’ long by 9.5’ high and took him more than a year just to draw. “Our son died while I was working on the mural and I nearly quit,” said O’Kelly. “It was a big responsibility, however, with about 100 private sponsors, so I found a way to make it work by incorporating him into the mural; it was a way of dealing with part of the grieving process.” O’Kelly said that homages to his son are tucked away five times in the piece, and that he now includes something honoring him into every piece of art he creates. “You really have to look hard, but they’re there” he said.

See part 2 in the Nov. 20 Ventura Breeze



Denise Sindelar



Larissa Strauss

## 2019 Mayor’s Arts Awards Recipients announced

Ventura Mayor Matt LaVere is proud to announce the winners of the 15th annual Mayor’s Arts Awards and invites the public to attend its reception on Friday, November 15, from 5:30-8:00 p.m., at the Museum of Ventura County, 100 East Main St. The reception honors

the achievements and contributions of five residents dedicated to the arts community in Ventura:

Artist in the Community –

Larissa Strauss

Creative Entrepreneur –

Stephanie Hogue

Arts Leader –

Denise Sindelar

Arts Educator –

Mario Boccali

Emerging Artist –

Juan Manuel Cisneros

“I’m honored to recognize and celebrate those who contribute to the artistic and cultural vibrancy of our great city,” said Mayor Matt LaVere. “The arts play a vital role in our community, and Ventura’s reputation as an arts city wouldn’t be possible without the excellence exhibited by this year’s group of awardees.”

An Awards Selection Committee convened in September to review nominations made by the public and to make recommendations that were forwarded to the Mayor. The City would like to thank those who nominated individuals for these awards.

The City of Ventura Mayor’s Arts Awards was established in 2005 and recognizes the contributions to the cultural community by city residents, artists, educators, organizations, and business leaders. The special acknowledgement and celebration help cultivate greater visibility and understanding of the value of the arts, as well as grow new leadership and new patrons of the arts. For more information on the 2019 Mayor’s Arts Awards, please visit [www.cityofventura.ca.gov/maa](http://www.cityofventura.ca.gov/maa).



The mural took him more than a year just to draw.



# Lighter Breeze

### Zits



### Rhymes with Orange



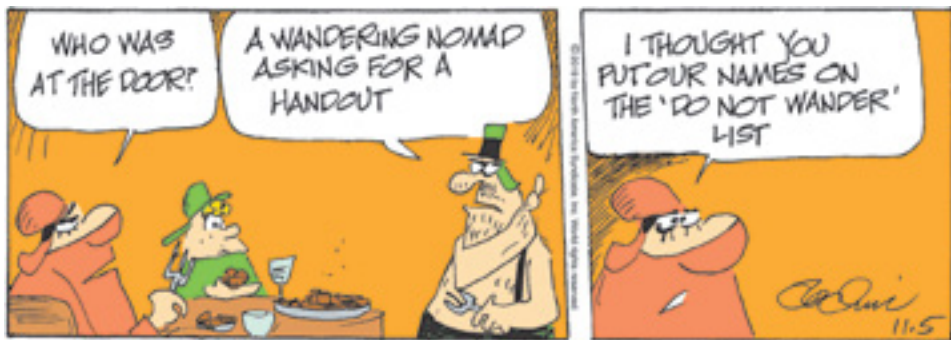
### Blondie



### Moose and Molly



### Crock



### Beetle Bailey



Solutions on page 15

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

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

**Weekly SUDOKU**  
by Linda Thistle

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

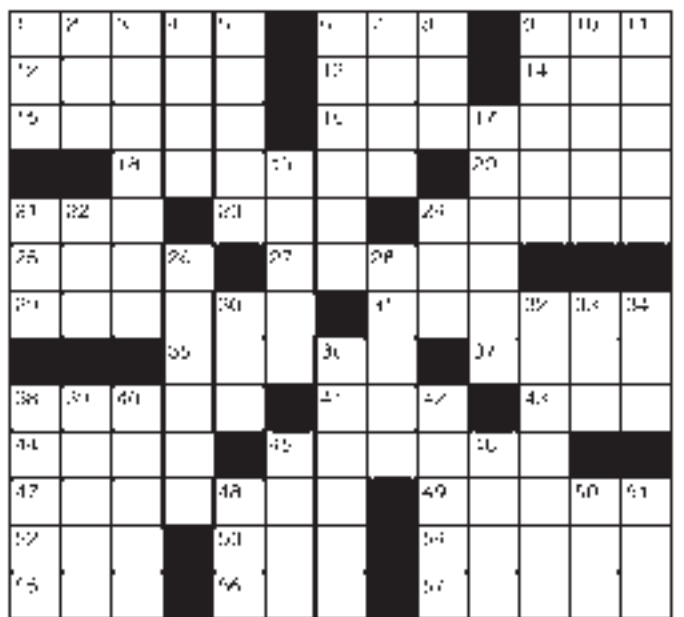
♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ FOX & BOY

Solutions on page 15

## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Birth-related
- 6 Sphere
- 9 'Great!'
- 12 React to revolve
- 13 Spelling contest
- 14 'I - not choose to run'
- 15 Bottled spirit?
- 16 Madison Avenue music
- 18 Edcn. for one
- 20 Apts
- 21 Crony
- 23 Moment
- 24 Nuts
- 25 The same, in bibliographies
- 27 Primly self-strained
- 29 Hate and -
- 31 Falls to
- 35 Buckwheat porridge
- 37 Catastrophic
- 38 Wit
- 41 Lubricant
- 43 Tandoo-baked bread
- 44 Hibernia
- 45 In the course of
- 47 Rubs elbows
- 49 Lightweight wood
- 52 Light touch
- 53 Lermieux milieu



- 54 Tools for duels
- 55 Bashful
- 56 I crumpled Windows
- 57 Endures

- 8 Sten or Stiller
- 9 - mignon
- 10 Skilled
- 11 Dominating
- 17 Marked a report card
- 19 Classroom array
- 21 Glutton
- 22 Big oother
- 24 Life story, for short
- 26 Vietnam river
- 28 Legendary freighter fleet
- 30 Listener
- 32 \$1 bills
- 33 2nd Amdt proponents

### DOWN

- 1 Rundown
- 2 List
- 3 Prickly sensations
- 4 One side of the Urals
- 5 Villanous looks
- 6 Thing
- 7 Check
- 34 X rating?
- 36 'Monopoly' buys
- 38 Jute fibers
- 39 Dickens Mr. Heep
- 40 Like some mouthwashes and tooth-pastes
- 42 Written slander
- 45 Art -
- 46 California wine valley
- 48 Cover
- 50 Prepared
- 51 Balaam's carrier

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22) A holiday plan might need to be revised to accommodate an unexpected complication. Come up with an alternative arrangement as soon as possible to avoid more problems down the line.

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) Lots of choices could make it difficult to select what is best for your needs. Avoid snap judgments. Take the time to check them all out to find the one that really meets your goals.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) You could once again experience pressure from others who would like to see you move in another direction. But heed your Bovine instincts to stay on your own path.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) Taking charge of a project that seems to be about to stall or collapse altogether could be a challenge. But once everyone knows what you expect of him or her, things should go smoothly.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) Avoid the pressures of the upcoming holiday period by setting a time right now to discuss how to divide up the responsibility of helping a loved one come through a difficult period.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) It's not too early for all you Leonas and Leos to start making long-distance travel plans. The sooner you stop procrastinating and start deciding where, when and how you're going, the better.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) Someone you've known for years might disappoint you, or even make you feel you've been betrayed. But check the facts carefully before you make charges that could backfire on you.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Don't accept halfway explanations for a situation that requires full disclosure. The more you know now, the better able you will be to handle any complications that might arise.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) The cooperation you relied upon might not be easy to get. Maybe there's an information gap. See if everyone understands the situation. If not, be sure to offer a full explanation.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) Problems caused by that recent workplace distraction should soon be easing, allowing you to resume working at a less frantic pace. That personal matter also begins to ease up.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) Changing your mind about a job decision isn't easy for the usually committed Aquarian. But once you check it out, you'll find facts you didn't know before. And facts don't lie.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) Your unique way of sizing up a situation gives you an edge in resolving that upsetting workplace problem. Stay on your current course regardless of any attempts to distract you.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** You are emotionally attuned to what's going on around you, and you easily pick up on people's needs.

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## Showtime

A View from House Seats

### Big River a Memorable Journey

by Shirley Lorraine

The prolific humorous storyteller Mark Twain's characters Huckleberry Finn, Tom Sawyer and others come to life on the Rubicon theater stage. Adapted from Twain's writings, Big River explores Huck and his slave friend Jim's journey on the Mississippi searching for freedom. The book by William Hauptman and down-home music by Roger Miller has earned the show numerous awards as well as audience's hearts.

From the opening sounds of crickets and bluegrass/country the familiar characters emerge, spinning the yarns on which most of us grew up.

This tale centers on Huck Finn, a restless teen who yearns for life beyond his drunken Pap and best friend Tom Sawyer and rag-tag gang of wanna-be tough guys. Huck decides to join the family's slave Jim in a river adventure by faking his own death. The two encounter many trials on their journey, including befriending two aging hucksters, the Duke and the King.

Along the way Huck learns many valuable life lessons including the value of honesty and doing the right thing, no matter what the consequences.

The Rubicon's production arose from director/choreographer Kirby Ward and his wife Beverly's desire to bring the musical to Ventura. In keeping with the ongoing relevance of the story, language has been preserved from the original that may be uncomfortable for some, but which is vital to the telling of the story. Kirby keeps the action moving along with creative staging and choreography. I could almost feel the pages of the story being turned as it unraveled before me. The music is engaging throughout, fitting perfectly into each chapter of the tale.

Many in the large cast play several roles, adding to the storytelling aspect that is so critical to the production. The addition of background

projection adds to the scenes to bring the picture to life. Even the on-stage musical accompaniment gets into the act, with several musicians taking active roles in the story itself.

The cast is superb throughout. Leading the action is Josey Montana McCoy as the irascible Huck and David Aron Damane as Jim, larger than life in both presence and voice. Together the two-produce vocal magic.

Broadway actress Teri Bibb plays Miss Watson and other characters, with Rubicon company everyman Joseph Fuqua handling the character of Pap and more. His rendition of Miller's song Guv'ment is a highlight.

Standout performances are given by Larry Cedar and Richard Hebert as the hucksters who present themselves as royalty with outstanding comedic timing. Nick McKenna, one of Tom's gang and more, shines as Young Fool singing Arkansas with pluck.

Additional fine performances are given by Cassidy Stirtz as Mary Jane/Fiddler, Brandon Ruitter as Tom Sawyer, Renn Woods as Alice, who delivers some fine gospel, and Clarinda Ross as the Widow Douglas. There is not a weak player in the cast or orchestra.

Big River is an experience in high quality theater, intimate storytelling and ongoing themes that are as relevant today as ever. Ventura is indeed fortunate to have the Rubicon in our midst.

Big River runs through November 10. Performances are Wednesdays at 2 and 7 p.m. (talkbacks follow the Wednesday evening performances) Thursdays at 7 p.m., Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 2 and 8 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. Rubicon Theater, 1006 E. Main St, Ventura, or (805) 667-2900 for tickets. Prices vary. Make reservations soon as many shows sell out.

Angelina Jolie as Maleficent, Michelle Pfeiffer as Queen Ingrith, Elle Fanning as Aurora, Harris Dickinson as Prince Phillip, and Robert Lindsay as King John.

A call was sent out throughout the land to attend a grand celebration at the castle of Ulstead to honor the upcoming marriage of Aurora and Prince Phillip, but when the fairies and other forest beings came it was actually a trap set by Queen Ingrith to kill them all.

Quite by accident, Maleficent discovers the Dark Fae, which is the hidden kingdom of her original people, and learns that she is the last of the Dark Fae to carry the Phoenix power of those born in her bloodline. It was up to Maleficent, with the aid of Aurora, Prince Phillip and the Dark Fae to rescue them all, though it took Maleficent channeling her Phoenix power to win the battle.

In the end it's discovered that the Queen Ingrith actually poisoned the King and admitted to making up a story to demonize Maleficent, who was not guilty of any wrong doing, but a hero in a sense that served as godmother and raised a human child Aurora making her Queen of the

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Movie Review by Cindy Summers

### Maleficent: Mistress of Evil



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

Maleficent: Mistress of Evil is the sequel to the 2014 Disney box office hit, and centers around Aurora's planned wedding to Prince Phillip, which would help to bring peace between fairies and man and bring together the kingdoms of Ulstead and the Moors. Though this seemed great cause for celebration and supported by King John of Ulstead, Queen Ingrith was not pleased with their plan to marry and set out to undermine their upcoming wedding through ruthless and diabolical deeds. Released by Walt Disney Pictures, Directed by Joachim Ronning, Written by Linda Woolverton, Micah Fitzerman-Blue and Noah Harpster and Starring

Moors in an effort to aid in bringing peace between Ulstead and the Moors.

Maleficent: Mistress of Evil is quite the visual spectacle and viewers will easily find themselves lost in the realms of the Ulstead kingdom and the fairy forest. It also has many wonderful lessons regarding acceptance of diversity, the power of peace, and the importance of family however it is defined, and uses clever humor and witty dialog to keep viewers entertained throughout.

Rated: PG (for intense sequences of fantasy action/violence and brief scary images) 118 minutes

## With a cast of about 60 children and teens the Nutcracker will dazzle audiences

Footworks Youth Ballet presents two full-length performances of the Christmas classical ballet The Nutcracker, performed with The Footworks Community Orchestra and singers from the Carpe Diem Chorus.

Come join Footworks Youth Ballet for their performance of The Nutcracker, the all-time family

classic and holiday treat. A traditional holiday party and a very typical sibling rivalry set the stage for an entertaining fantasy journey to the Land of Sweets, with its colorful costumes, professional sets and live orchestra and choir. In keeping with the mission of Footworks, student dancers often perform in principal roles such as the Sugar Plum Fairy or Snow Queen, giving young artists opportunities not found elsewhere.

Join Footworks Youth Ballet for their Family Educational Hour one hour prior to each show to learn about the production, costumes, ballet history and music. To provide more family-friendly options to attend the performances, Footworks Youth Ballet offers matinees on both regular performance days (December 14th and 15th at 2 p.m.).

Footworks Youth Ballet is a nonprofit ballet company whose purpose is to provide educational opportunities to young people through the art of ballet.

Oxnard Performing Arts Center - 800 Hobson Way, Oxnard, CA

General Public matinees  
Saturday, December 14th, 2:00 P.M.  
Sunday, December 15th, 2:00 P.M.  
Outreach Performances for Students  
Friday, December 13th  
10:00 A.M. Act I

11:30 A.M. Act II  
Cost: Sliding scale of \$0-\$5 per ticket  
Contact:  
outreach@footworksyouthballet.org  
Footworks Youth Ballet, Kirsten Oakley,  
Artistic Director  
Tickets: \$19, \$24, \$29  
Ticket Hotline: (805) 486-2424  
Online Ticket Orders:  
www.footworksyouthballet.org



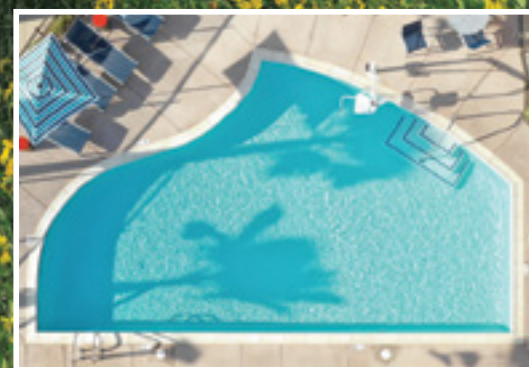
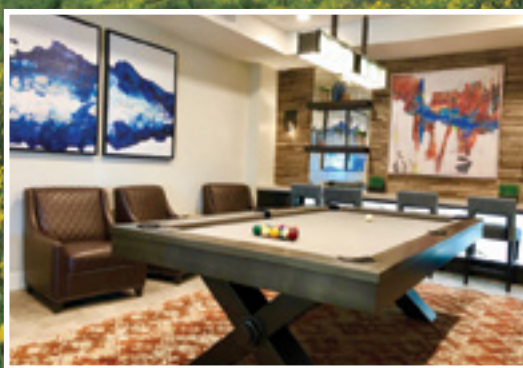
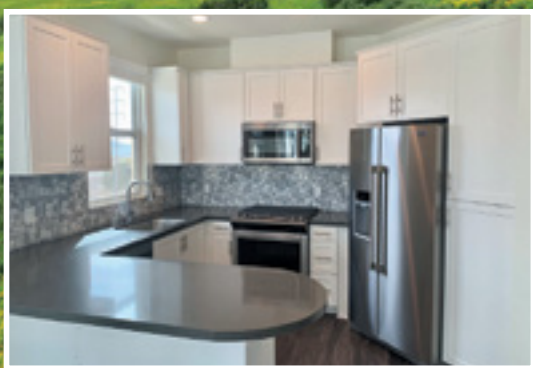
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Dear Sheldon:

On behalf of the Ventura Unit #547 Duplicate Bridge Club I would like to thank you and The Ventura Breeze for your continued support of our local American Contract Bridge Club.

We appreciate our club announcement being published in the newspaper week after week and from that small notice we have gained much recognition and our membership is continuing to grow.

.....and YES, No Trump is a GREAT HAND !!

Congratulations on your many years of publishing a truly hometown newspaper of which you and your staff can be so proud. Continued success and contribution to the local community.

Sincerely,

Susan M. Lang  
 Publicity Chair and Board of Director  
 Unit #547

p.s. yes, Sheldon – playing cards and especially the challenging game of bridge keeps you young☺



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"Look for the ANT  
 on the Door!"

**Mailbox**

Continued from page 4

Dear Sheldon Brown,

As a Pierpont Beach resident, I recently received a notice that Anastasi Development has proposed a mixed-use project at Harbor and Seaward.

They tried to develop this area in 2006 or 7, and after attempting to work with the city and neighborhood, ultimately abandoned it. In that time, this is what has changed:

The housing crisis has become more acute. Hundreds of acres of Ventura's farmland, the most fertile land in the world, has been built on. Housing costs have skyrocketed. Wildfires have displaced families throughout Ventura County.

It seems to me that it is time to stop saying "we love Ventura and don't want it to change", because everything changes. It either gets better or it gets worse, and a lot of things have gotten worse. New condomini-

ums would bring people who have chosen to live near the beach, and they would support the marginal restaurants and shops in the area, most of which are deserted in the off-season. Empty lots, like broken windows, are signs of stagnant areas and decay, besides being just plain ugly.

I hope that the community will work with Anastasi to help this project happen, because even though yes, it will put more cars on our streets, it will add greatly to the area through additional retail and restaurants and support of the existing ones. And on an environmental note, it is far less costly and disruptive to bring water, power and sewer lines as infill in developed areas than to bring them to outlying farmland – and that goes for traffic, also. The farther out the homes are, the bigger the commute and the more total miles on the road.

We love Ventura, and want to keep most of what brought us to the area 40 years ago,

but things change, and we need to change too.

Carolyn Hiller, Ventura

Breeze:

When an ex-city council person says at a meeting 'you ain't seen nothing yet' when referring to the future increases of water bills for city residents you should take notice, but maybe its too late already.

Instead of fighting a law suit against the city brought by the "California Water Impact Network" the city decided to just pass on the \$200,000,000 cost of a "toilet to water" project to the residents. This doesn't include the \$3-\$6,000,000,000 per year operating cost (bound to exceed the estimates I'm sure).

Meanwhile the city water dept is being sued by a county supervisor for not coming clean on the cities failure during the Thomas Fire, and not releasing to the public the

report on why the failure occurred and why we had no water. Is there another massive project being hidden from the public lurking in the background?

Why don't we know what happened? The residents are still suffering and deserve to know the truth.

To cement our plunge into third world status, the power company threatens weekly to shut down the power if the wind is blowing !

So our future in Ventura is to sit in our powerless homes, drinking water that a few weeks before came from our toilet, wondering if we can someday get enough power to charge our electric car. However, we are secure in the knowledge that California is on the leading edge into the future. From Governor to city council we need a change to individuals who are for the people.

Regards  
 Robert W Coshland