



VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

Vol. 13, No. 6 Published Every Other Wednesday Established 2007 December 18 – December 31, 2019



For more than three decades, Chief Corney has served our community with honor and distinction.

Police Chief Ken Corney announces retirement

After more than 33 years of service with the City of Ventura, Police Chief Ken Corney has announced his retirement effective Dec. 31, 2019. In reflecting on his career, Chief Corney said that “it has been a tremendous honor to work alongside the dedicated men and women of the Ventura Police Department, and to serve our community.”

“For more than three decades, Chief Corney has served our community with honor and distinction. He is a model of integrity and professionalism and it has been an honor to work with him,” stated City Manager Alex McIntyre. “He epitomizes the values of teamwork, leadership and public service. He has dedicated his career to improving the quality of life in our community and responding to the significant public safety issues faced by cities throughout our state. The City of Ventura is a safer community thanks to the work of Chief Corney. He has led the Ventura Police Department with heart and humility transforming the service of the agency.”

Chief Ken Corney joined the Ventura Police Department in 1986. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1995,
Continued on page 17



On December 13 and 14 Food Share's 8th annual CAN-tree drive took place in Figueroa Plaza in Downtown. Groups donated cans and community groups built trees from the cans that were then donated to local food banks. Each CAN-tree required approximately 600-800 cans.

The very tall trees are 15'0" tall, 28 layers and contain 10,000 cans. 220,000 pounds of food are collected at the event to be shared. Since 1978, Food Share has been feeding the hungry in Ventura County. Food Share provides food for over 75,000 monthly. Learn more at <https://foodshare.com/>.



"2019 was a great year for our beloved Ventura Pier." Photo by Richard Lieberman.

Ventura Pier generously supported by the community

Pier into the Future, a non-profit dedicated to enhancing the historic Ventura Pier is happy to share they recently presented the City of Ventura with a check for \$20,000 to fund the replacement of the interpretive panels on the Pier. This generous gift was

made possible by the community who donated funds in exchange for having their name engraved on the granite panels at the entrance to the historic Ventura Pier.

“With the wonderful support from the community and the leadership on

the board of directors, 2019 was a great year for our beloved Ventura Pier”, said Pier Into the Future Executive Director Jenise Wagar-Hernandez. The organization was founded by a group of dedicated community leaders, in partnership with the City of Ventura, to establish an endowment fund to maintain and enhance the historic Ventura Pier for future generations to enjoy. The organization has contributed over \$811,000 to the City of Ventura over the last 26 years to enhance the Pier.

At the core of its fundraising efforts is the opportunity to have your name or the name of a loved one engraved in granite at the Pier. The engravings make wonderful gifts at the holiday times as a way to honor or memorize a friend or loved one. In addition, the organization produces two signature community events: Sunset Dinner on the Pier in May and Pier Under the Stars in October.

Pier Under the Stars launched a new program this year- Pier Pals. In exchange for a donation of \$100 Pier Pals receive a custom Pier sticker and their name on the Pier website.

Visit www.pierintothefuture.org or call 805.804.7735 for more information about pier engravings or Pier Pals.

VENTURA TOWNEHOUSE

CALIFORNIA'S CROWN JEWEL IN RETIREMENT LIVING

Ocean & Mountain Views • Over 12 Lushly Landscaped Acres
Spacious Suites and Garden Villas

Anytime Dining in our Sun-Drenched/Full Service Dining Room • Full Kitchens
Delicious Home Cooking by Pro Chefs & 5-Star Pastry Chef • Live Music & Events
Weekly Excursions • All Day Transportation • Pets Welcomed

Call Now for a Visit! 805.642.3263

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

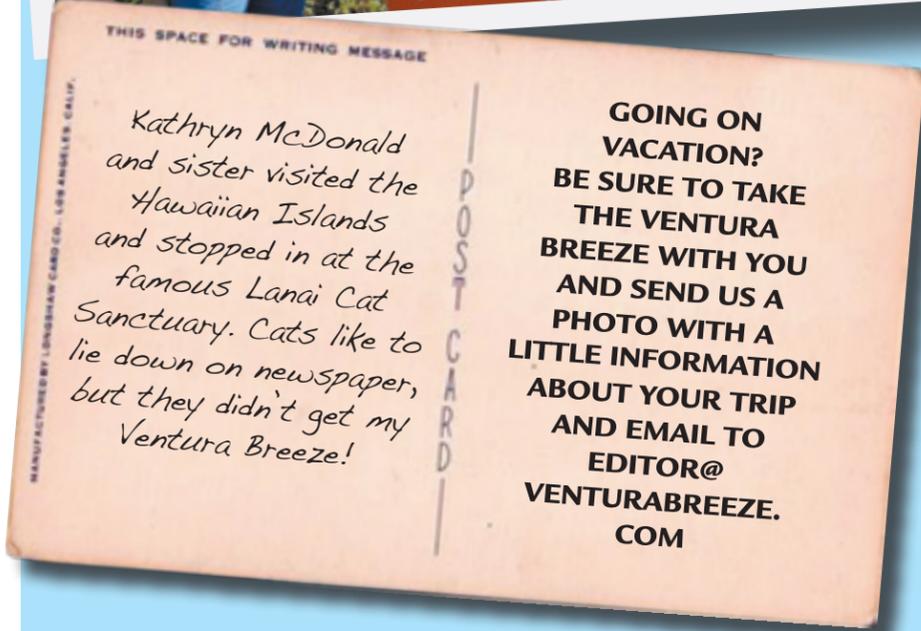


Ventura Townehouse
is my home away
from home!
– Don Coy

Get More Fun & Amenities for your Money!
CA LIC# 565801810



On Vacation



Business



The new Denny's located at 4095 Telegraph Rd. (corner of Ashwood) has had their ribbon-cutting and is open for your dining pleasure. Open 24 hours. You may also pick-up the Ventura Breeze there. (805) 289-9214
Photo by Michael Gordon.



CBD Store of Ventura ribbon cutting held.
"Our mission is to raise awareness for all-natural healing remedies. Our promise is to only offer high quality ingredients and never compromise on anything but that. Our vision is to create a "safe place" where everyone is welcome. We care about your past, your presence and your future. Our goal is to help educate you and stand by you on your health journey. We have refined our methods of cultivating whole-plant extraction and formulation into a product you can trust to provide your body with amazing benefits."
4255 E. Main St #15 (805) 765-6130
Photo by Michael Gordon.



Started as a grassroots project two years ago the need was so large that Project Bicycle Love incorporated this year to serve more children and has opened a local store. In the past two years they have given away almost 200 brand new bikes and helmets to kids in the Ventura County foster care system.

Project Bicycle Love works with the County of Ventura as well as local group homes, foster agencies, and foster families to get the names of kids/teens who could benefit from a new bike.

More information about the project can be found at www.bicyclelove.org. Pictured in front of the store are the owners, Eric and Janet Baucom.

Project Bicycle Love, 4864 Market Street, Suite B, Ventura, CA 93003
(805) 795-2001
projectbicyclelove@gmail.com
www.bicyclelove.org
Photos by Michael Gordon.



MidiCi Wood Fired Pizza recently held their ribbon-cutting. Located at 512 E. Main St. in the building that was previously occupied by Tipps Thai Cuisine for more than 30 years. Hours are from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays through Thursdays and 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays (512 E. Main St., 805-628-3903, <https://mymidici.com>). Mike Alsbamy and Nadia Alsbamy, are the husband-and-wife franchisee owners of MidiCi Wood Fired Pizza.
Photo by Michael Gordon.



Business



Ren Ostry



Cynthia Torres

Women’s Economic Ventures honors local graduates, business owners and Million Dollar Club Inductee

Women’s Economic Ventures (WEV) hosted a Celebration of Small Business on December 11 at the Ventura Beach Marriott to honor local entrepreneurs making a big impact in Ventura and Santa Barbara counties. The event spotlighted the 2019 graduates of WEV’s business training courses, announced the People’s Choice Award winner, inducted a new business into the Million Dollar Club, and featured a shop local market & business mixer.

More than 300 guests attended as local entrepreneurs shared a common thread – how their businesses have been positively impacted by the support of WEV’s business training, consulting and loan

programs. WEV programs helped start or expand more than 4,500 businesses on California’s Central Coast, and are offered in both English and Spanish.

Ren Ostry, millennial founder of Kitchen Catch was named the 2019 People’s Choice Award winner for her seafood business. By offering sustainable, lesser-known seafood, along with recipes, Kitchen Catch is supporting our California harbor communities and transforming the way consumers think about, buy and enjoy seafood. Ostry said, “Thanks directly to skills I learned at WEV, we’re already starting January 2020 with a single order of 30,000 pounds of fish, and we have plans to offer

Answer In A Breeze



Q: There has been an extremely long freight train sitting for weeks on the track next to Vista Del Mar. Do you know why?

Charles Moore

A: Charles:

We asked Ventura City Manager Alex McIntyre to help with this. This is his response. Odd though that this has never happened before. By the way these cars are for transporting vehicles.

Sheldon

We spoke with the folks from UP and shared with them our concerns. They’re fully aware of the situation.

We are told it is a capacity issue within the overall rail system. It has to do with the overwhelming amount of freight moving through southern California.

We don’t yet have a date on when they plan to move the freight train.

I hope this helps.

Alex

Have a question? Send it to editor@venturabreeze.com and we will try to get you an answer.

Happy Holidays from
PRIMROSE EXCURSIONS

Let’s travel together in the new year!
Explore options at our annual Travel Show
Thursday, January 16th, 10 am - 12 pm
1500 Palma Drive - Ventura 93003

Reps from:
Premier World Discovery
Mayflower Tours and
Chateau Isabella
Refreshments and Door Prizes

RSVP to **805.535.5170** or bonnie@primroseexcursions.com

O’Connor Pest Control
 “Family Owned and Operated Since 1952”

SPECIAL
\$49 MONTHLY SERVICE
 General Pest Service Only. Gophers & Rodents Not Included.
 One Year Term Minimum. Offer Expires March 15, 2020.

FREE Gopher & Rodent ESTIMATES
Same Day Service M-F
ECO SMART PRODUCTS
805-644-5501
www.oconnorpest.com

KEVIN O’CONNOR, President
 “Look for the ANT on the Door!”

frozen Kitchen Catch products nationally by the end of the year.”

Reaching one million dollars in annual revenue is a milestone achieved by less than 2% of woman-owned businesses, and less than 4% of male-owned businesses in the U.S. The Million Dollar Club honors WEV client businesses who have achieved this extraordinary milestone. WEV’s CEO Elect, Kathy Odell, introduced this year’s Million Dollar Club inductee, Cynthia Torres, CEO of New Dawn Counseling and Consulting, Inc. in Oxnard.

Torres’ company was incorporated in 2016 with a mission to empower individuals and families to improve the quality of life by providing culturally appropriate mental health, education, resources, and wellness services. Torres told the audience, “I came to this country 20 years ago with \$800 in my pocket and lots of dreams and aspirations.” Today, as a million dollar business owner, Torres said, “My challenge to aspiring female entrepreneurs is let’s change the statistics and correct that 2% number!”

Odell remarked that, “WEV is successful because we provide a continuum of services and programs to help our clients start, grow and thrive in business – from assessing entrepreneurial readiness to long-term mentoring and consulting. We are thrilled Cynthia chose to launch her business here in our area, and that WEV has been part of her impressive entrepreneurial journey.”

Women’s Economic Ventures is dedicated to creating an equitable and just society through the economic empowerment of women.

PSYCHIC CONSULTANTS
 Spiritual Readings By Polla
\$20 Palm Readings
(805) 628-3333
 Specializes in all areas of life.
psychicconsultants.net
 107 Figueroa St., Downtown Ventura

WEV provides training, consulting and loans to help entrepreneurs start, grow and thrive in business. WEV serves Santa Barbara and Ventura counties. While WEV targets its services toward women, it helps men as well. Services are provided in both English and Spanish.

Since 1991, WEV has provided business training and consulting to more than 14,000 women and men throughout Santa Barbara and Ventura counties. WEV has made over \$5 million in business loans, and helped more than 4,500 local businesses start or expand. WEV-supported businesses have created nearly 9,000 jobs. WEV is a U.S. Small Business Administration’s Women’s Business Center, and a certified Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI).



VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

Member, Ventura Chamber of Commerce

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

PUBLISHER-EDITOR

Sheldon (Governor) Brown
publisher@venturabreeze.com

PUBLISHER EMERITUS

Staci Brown

ASSISTANT TO THE PUBLISHER

Ana Baker

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 · Carol Leish

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

Bernie Goldstein
Richard Lieberman · Michael Gordon

DISTRIBUTION

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

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

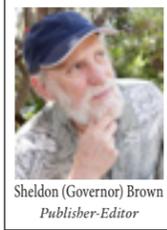
Phone 805.653.0791

Fax 805.641.1824



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

Opinion/Editorial



Sheldon (Governor) Brown
Publisher-Editor

■ Happy holidays and new year to our wonderful readers and advertisers.

■ In our last issue, I made what I thought was a tongue-in-cheek comment about

doctor's visits, which prompted this response from an "Anonymous Family Doctor." I understand why he/she wants to remain anonymous and I do appreciate the fact that he/she took time out of their busy schedule to send this. I certainly understand how crazy a doctor's day can be and that they don't know if a patient will come in with a cold or pneumonia (or if patients run late).
Dear Editor,

As a family physician in Ventura seeing up to 23 patients per day, with 20 minute appointment slots per patient regardless of the reason for their appointment, I was a bit offended by your insensitive comment "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." In the Vol. 13, No. 3 – Nov 6 – Nov 19, 2019 – Opinion/Editorial.

These 20-minute appointments include the time it takes the nurse to take vital signs, make sure the patient is up to date with all necessary vaccines, preventative health measures, write down the reason for the patient visit, and make any small talk. This may allow me 10 minutes to get a history, do a physical exam, perform any necessary procedures, counsel and educate patients on necessary or unnecessary labs, vaccines, or preventative tests they may or may not need.

I hate running late and always apologize to patients when I do. No matter how late I'm running, I never rush patients, give them my full attention and provide them the care they need and deserve. I went into medicine because I truly care about people.

Out of respect to the patient in front of me, all the other patients I have to see, and myself, I make a huge effort to stay on time. Patients are technically allowed 3 concerns per visit. Patients often have more concerns and need more than the allotted time, which can make time management difficult. It is also not uncommon for patients to show up late and the policy where I work is that no matter how late a patient arrives for their appointment, I still have to see them. In the past, doctors would not only NOT see patients who arrived late, but they

would fine them. There is nothing more frustrating than the first scheduled patients in the morning or afternoon to show up late, which will throw off the morning or afternoon.

We are now in a patient-centered era, focused on customer service with direct access meaning patients can e-mail me at any time and expect to hear back within 24 hours. These e-mails are usually answered in the early morning, between patients, during lunch breaks, or in the evenings. With just over 2,000 patients, this makes for a lot of e-mails and long days.

This is just a glimpse into the life of a primary care doctor, which is why burnout is so common.

With the advances in the health care system, a solution albeit imperfect, may be to create access to a doctor's schedule for patients see if the doctor is on time or running late with the understanding that



Will retired Chief Corney follow retired Chief Tracy and become a city council member?

all it takes is one patient to show up late or need a little extra TLC to delay the doctor's schedule.

A tip for the editor and breeze readers is to schedule their doctor appointment first thing in the morning or right after lunch. Plus, studies have shown that doctors don't perform as well later in the day, so it behooves the patient to make an earlier appointment. Also, always bring a book, magazine or smart device (or the Ventura Breeze, editor comment) so you have something to do while waiting.

I would like nothing more than to be on time for all of my patients, but with the current healthcare system, it's a challenge.

Anonymous Family Doctor

■ People in Ventura have noticed a **helicopter** flying around the community lately. No, not looking for a crook, it is Edison conducting aerial inspections. They are also doing these with drones.

■ Sales of flavored vaping products have

been banned in Ventura. Tobacco-flavored vaping products - which are used by some adults to break (supposedly) their cigarette use - were exempted. The city (and county) bans affect retail outlets, and Ventura has taken the additional step of banning online sales within city limits (which of course can't really be controlled but it sounds nice). I am all for this.

■ The number of **journalists imprisoned** globally for their work in 2019 remained near record highs, as China tightened its iron grip on the press and Turkey, has stamped out virtually all independent reporting. Protests in the Middle East has led to a rise in the number of journalists locked up in the region, particularly in Saudi Arabia and Egypt. This is why I never send a journalist further than Ojai. All jokes aside, this is a terrible trend.

■ The Ventura City Council unanimously passed an emergency eviction ordinance to halt "no-cause" evictions until Jan. 1, when a new statewide tenant protection law takes effect. There has been a rise in evictions ahead of the law, which will ban evictions without a "just cause" and caps annual rent increases.

City Attorney Gregory Diaz explained that the ordinance is not a criminal law. If a landlord violates the ordinance, the city attorney won't file a criminal complaint and the city won't file a civil complaint. The ordinance can be used as a defense for tenants who bring a landlord to court.

The council also approved a name for the new city/county year-round homeless **shelter**, which will be opening soon. The shelter is named The ARCH, which stands for "All Roads Connect to Housing."

I think this name will be confused with The ARC of Ventura County, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

■ Regarding possible **impeachment**, what I find sad (regardless of one's political affiliation) is that voting is completely along party lines. Not sure if this serves our country well. Lindsey Graham said it better than me; "I am trying to give a pretty clear signal I have made up my mind. I'm not trying to pretend to be a fair juror here," Graham said, adding, "What I see coming, happening today is just partisan nonsense."

Mailbox

Ventura Breeze

Starting Jan. 22, 2020, the T.S.A. will ask all travelers who don't have a driver's license from a compliant state or a state that has been granted an extension to the compliance deadline (this means that residents can continue using their non-compliant license for federal purposes while the state continues working to be in compliance) to provide an alternative form of acceptable identification. Travelers won't be able to pass through security without this acceptable identification.

And, as of Oct. 1, 2020, all air travelers will be required to have a Real ID-compliant driver's license or alternate acceptable identification to fly domestically.

Thanks

Mike Merewether

Breeze:

I was saddened to hear that the Catalina Casino (Avalon Theater) will stop showing movies, according to your publisher S. Brown.

I must confess that I never actually supported the place by viewing movies there, mainly because it is a long swim from Ventura to Catalina, even when the ocean is calm.

But I have a very fond memory of seeing a movie at that venue: It was 1966, and 20th Century Fox took me out to the Casino--which was a magnificent edifice and an architectural landmark. I felt like I was stepping back in time and was at some regal theater in a European capital. The ocean views were spectacular--but alas, the film "Morituri" was not too terrific and frankly was a bit of a box office flop.

But on the same evening after seeing the film, we got the opportunity to meet and chat with a scruffy looking gent, who was surprisingly amiable: A fellow named Marlon Brando, who I believe made a handful of movies that really did well and was considered a rather good actor!
Ivor Davis

Dear Editor:

Just caught the President discussing toilets. I think he has discovered how useful they are. I'm not sure he knows, that men, and women, use them differently, but he is concerned, about the lack of discipline, in how many times, and how often, toilets get flushed.

He is worried about wasting water during our climate change worries (he

Continued on page 14

If you don't like the way I drive, get off the sidewalk.

— Lotus
Weinstock

The Ventura Breeze is looking for account executives to sell advertising space to businesses and professionals in Ventura. Part or full time. Contact editor@venturabreeze.com for more details.



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



Community Events

Ventura events

by Ana Baker

Hospice Volunteer Training Course

Begins Tuesday, January 14th, for 8 consecutive weeks from 9-12p.m. Learn new communication, explore issues of grief and loss, learn to share view of spirituality, understand concepts of symptom management and end of life care.

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.

Free Joint Replacement Classes

2nd Monday of the Month (January 13), held from 4– 5 p.m. Free informational class that teaches you what to expect pre and post-surgery.

Living with Type 2 and Pre-Diabetes Classes

1st Tuesday of the Month (January 7), from 1– 2:30 p.m. Free informational class that teaches you how to manage your life with diabetes.

All above 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 7p.m. 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.

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

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

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

Continued on page 6

VENTURA TOWNEHOUSE

CALIFORNIA'S CROWN JEWEL IN RETIREMENT LIVING



Anne
loves her
black-eyed
Susan's!

805.642.3263 | www.venturatownehouse.com

4900 Telegraph Road, Ventura, CA 93003

CA LIC# 565801810

Hey Santa, Relax!

You'll Find Gifts For Everyone
On Your List At
Very Ventura Gift Shop

Feel Good. Shop Local.

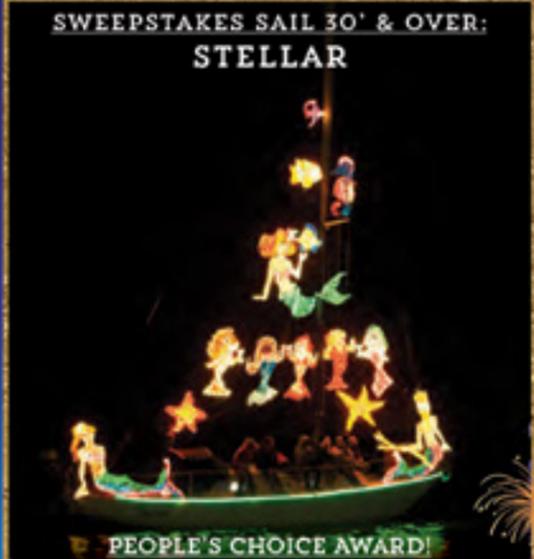
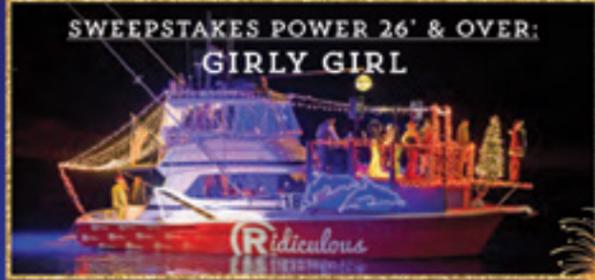
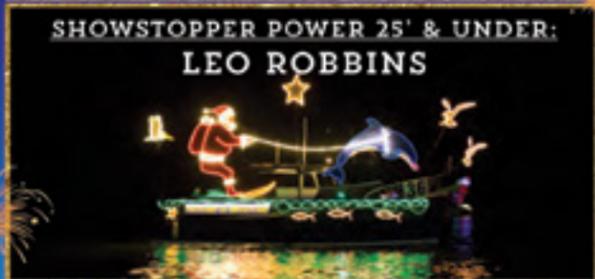
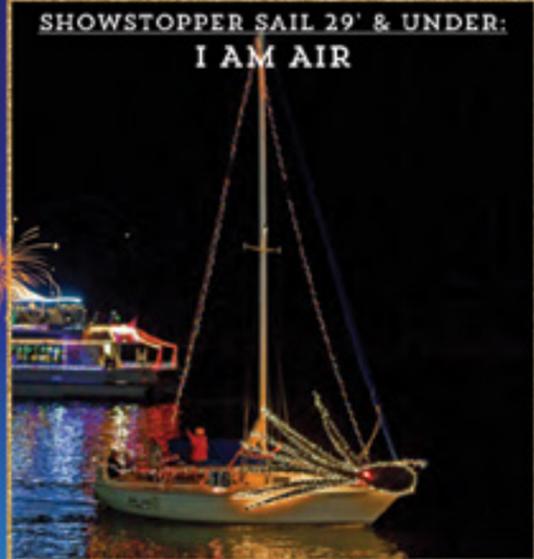




540 E. Main St.
Downtown Ventura
www.very-ventura.com
#veryventura

CONGRATULATIONS

43RD ANNUAL VENTURA HARBOR PARADE OF LIGHTS WINNERS!

<p>SWEETSTAKES SAIL 30' & OVER: STELLAR</p>  <p>PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD!</p>	<p>SWEETSTAKES POWER 26' & OVER: GIRLY GIRL</p>  <p>SHOWSTOPPER POWER 25' & UNDER: LEO ROBBINS</p> 	<p>SHOWSTOPPER SAIL 29' & UNDER: I AM AIR</p> 
<p>SAIL 30' & OVER: 1ST PLACE: LUCKY SPIN 2ND PLACE: FORGET ME KNOTS & HEAVENLY</p>	<p>SAIL 29' & UNDER: 1ST PLACE: YOLO 2ND PLACE: AUSTIN BLUE</p>	<p>POWER 26' & OVER: 1ST PLACE: KOKORO 2ND PLACE: DREAM COME TRUE</p>
<p>COMMERCIAL: 1ST PLACE: PACIFICA 2ND PLACE: DREAMER</p>	<p>DINGY/DUFFY: 1ST PLACE: DINGHY</p>	<p>HUMAN POWERED: 1ST PLACE: HOKULOA</p>
<p>NON-PROFIT: 1ST PLACE: KISS 2ND PLACE: SIMI SUNRISE ROTARY CLUB</p>		

VENTURA HARBOR VILLAGE .COM

THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS:









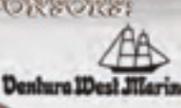



























Happy Holidays

Trash & Recyclables or Green Waste Pick Up Information for the Christmas & New Year's Holidays

Since Christmas and New Year's Day fall on a Wednesday this holiday season, E.J. Harrison & Sons will delay its regular trash and recyclables or green waste collection for Wednesday through Friday customers during the weeks of Dec. 22-28 and Dec. 29 to Jan. 4. The holidays will not affect Monday's and Tuesday's customers.

Residents may put out twice the amount of trash at no extra charge during the two weeks following Christmas. Please make sure the trash is in bags. Extra recyclables will also be collected, but please make sure to flatten all boxes.

Remember to recycle your Christmas tree by removing the ornaments, hooks, lights, tinsel, bows, nails and tree stand. Cut the tree into sections no more than 4 feet long and place in the yard waste barrel on your scheduled pickup day. Flocked trees can be recycled too!



E. J. Harrison & Sons 647-1414

Thank you and Happy Holidays

To order services & to pay bills online go to www.ejharrison.com

Community Events

Ventura events

Continued from page 5

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.

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.

Dec. 24 & 25: Dec. 24, 6pm, Dec. 25, 5am, 2pm & 11pm. 1590 KVTA radio with Every Now and Then Theatre re-broadcast an award winning holiday radio drama of hope and courage. Christmas Eve 1944, as World War II rages, four U.S. families meet to hear the reading of a famous holiday poem. Suddenly, a knock at the door changes their lives. Celeb Host is Captain Jim McHugh, now retired.

Dec. 27: Ventura County Bell Arts Song Circle (4th Friday of each month), 7 - 10 p.m. Like to play acoustic music? Songmakers.org welcomes instrumentalists, singers, and singer/songwriters at all levels to join in a free song circle at the

Bell Arts Factory Community Room, 432 N. Ventura Ave. Listeners welcome! Info: Mike Wittlin, (805) 750-8281.

Jan. 4: "Fly Fishing Event". On the "First Saturday" of each month the Sespe Flyfishers of Ventura conduct an introductory class on Fly Fishing and Casting the Fly Rod. There is no charge, and all are welcome. Whether you an experienced fly fisher or a complete novice we want to help you learn and enjoy this great sport. If you don't have a fly rod, don't worry, just come and use one of ours. Please join us at Chumash Park, Petit and Waco, 9-11 a.m., in East Ventura (off Telephone Rd). For more information: Bob Smith (805) 647-3522 www.sespeflyfishers.org

Jan. 5: The 1892 Dudley Historic House Museum will be open for docent-led tours from 1 - 4 p.m. Admission is free. The museum is located at the corner of Loma Vista and Ashwood streets 197 N. Ashwood. For information please call (805) 642-3345 or visit the website at www.dudley-house.webs.com.

Jan. 8: Beach Cities Neighbors and Newcomers (BCNN) is a social group serving Oxnard, Ventura and Port Hueneme women. Usually, first Wednesday of the month 9:30-11:15 a.m. for Coffee Get Together and program. Review of club's social activity groups, including cards, games, potlucks, theater, memoir writing, etc. Knights of Columbus, 36 Figueroa St. Ventura. Parking via Santa Clara. Free for guests first time. For more information, contact Lauraine -spare-ribbon@yahoo.com

Jan. 8: Lori Mohr will visit the Hill Road Library at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, to deliver a talk entitled "Uptown, Downtown: American Art for a New

Moving In? Moving Out? Moving Up?

I can help you with that.



BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices California Properties

ADELA TRAINOR

805.701.7694

TeamTrainor12@gmail.com

@TeamTrainor12

DRE 01985025

© 2019 Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices California Properties is a member of the franchise system of BHH Affiliates LLC

James Francis Gray's GINNY! SHE'S BAD! SHE'S BOLD! SHE'S BEAUTIFUL! SHE'S DEADLY! Available in Ventura at Tatiana's Coffee & Tea, 2470 E. Main Street or Gems & Glitter, 2690 Loma Vista. Amazon e Book for \$2.99! Visit jamesfgray.com BOOKS MAKE GREAT GIFTS!

Wishing You a Happy Holiday Season and a Healthy New Year

Community Memorial Health System

805/948-5011 | cmhshealth.org





Community Events

Century.” Ms. Mohr comes to us via the Santa Barbara Museum of Art’s Community Speakers Program. America at the turn of the 20th Century was being reshaped by engineering, nowhere more dramatic than in New York City. Skyscrapers, cars, and telephones stood as signs of a changing culture. This event is free and open to the public. For additional information, contact Linda Cherry, Librarian, at (805) 677-7180. The Hill Road Library is located at 1070 S. Hill Road. Hours of service are Monday through Wednesday 10 – 6 p.m., Thursday 2 – 6 p.m., Friday through Sunday 10 – 2 p.m.

Jan. 11: On Saturday, the Friendship Sangha of the Heart will host a Day of Mindfulness from 9:30 – 4 p.m. This event is a renewal for the New Year with the Venerable Kusala, an American born Monk, ordained in the Zen tradition of Viet Nam. The event will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura, 5654 Ralston St. (805) 644-3898, and will consist of Sitting, Walking, Eating Meditations as well as Dharma Sharing and Teachings.

Jan.16: New York Times bestselling author Lee Goldberg and his new crime novel, Lost Hills, which has received high praise from mystery heavy hitters Michael Connelly and Tana French, among many others. Lee lives in Calabasas, and his book is set in that area. Lee will be making a Ventura appearance on his book tour, on Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at Bank of Books, 748 E. Main Street. He’ll be in conversation with another local-ish bestselling author, Paul Levine, who lives in Santa Barbara.

Jan. 19: Channel Cities Jazz Club CCJC will resume it’s third Sunday of the month concert/dance events at Patricia Monoco’s House Of Dance located at 3007 Bunsen.Ave., Suite E in Ventura from 1-4 p.m. The Phoenix Big Band to open the 2020 season and all who attend are in for a big treat when they hear their exiting, swing era style music with a sprinkling of other popular dance styles as well.

There is a huge dance floor with plenty of room to execute your favorite steps. Wine and beer will be available along with some munchies. Mark your calendars and be sure to attend their first 2020 event.

Ojai news and events

Join Rev. Karen S. Wylie at The Ojai Retreat on Sunday, December 22, from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., for her Mid-Month Devotional Retreat, which this month will explore “The Greatest Gift You Can Give!”

“In order to give to others from the best that is within you, you may have to let go of some clear boundaries you’ve created internally to keep yourself from being hurt or disappointed,” Rev. Karen says. “Join us for this meditative morning where we explore ways in which we can open ourselves up to greater living and loving through insights, revelations, inspiration, sacred stillness, uplifting songs and quiet walks in nature.” People of all faiths and traditions, or no tradition, are welcome to attend. Rande Vasilakos, RScP, assists and anchors the morning in a consciousness of prayer and healing.

The Ojai Retreat is at 160 Besant Road, Ojai. The retreat is by donation; \$20 is suggested. For more information, contact Rev. Karen at 310-968-8928, or register online at www.karensywylie.com. Rev. Karen is the author of *Into Me See: A Book for Daily Inspiration*, available on Amazon and her website.

Chamber Music Concert: On Sunday, January 5th at 2:00 pm, the Ojai Art Center proudly presents return violinist Yue Deng. Yue will thrill us with classic works emphasizing the Baroque. Yue will be joined by cellists Jonathan Flaksman and Virginia Kron for some rare classic pieces. The Ojai Art Center is located at 113 S. Montgomery St., Ojai. Tickets sold only at the door: \$15 general admission, \$12 Art Center members and students. For further information, call 640-1158.

Two acting classes for beginners through advanced, will be offered by Susan Kelejian, Artistic Director of A Muse of Fire and Ojai Valley Artists Theater Ensemble starting mid-January for either six or seven weeks each. For more information please email info@amusetheaterco.com.

Proceeds of the classes will help fund the 2020 Muse of Fire Teen Conservatory and Nordhoff Drama, Chaparral High.

Ventura Audubon Society Events in January

Jan. 4, 8 a.m. Ventura Audubon’s Christmas Bird Count - Organizer/Compiler: Frank DeMartino 856-906-8733 or (frank@colynx.com)

The CBC is the longest running citizen science effort in existence. Bird counts take place all over North America with a few in the Caribbean and Latin America as well. This will be the 120th Christmas Bird Count conducted by National Audubon. If you would like to participate please contact Frank through phone or email.

Jan. 12, 8 a.m. Hedrick Ranch Nature Area Work Day Leader: Sandy Hedrick 805-340-0478

Arrive at 8:00 for self-guided birding which usually yields some interesting birds. Work from 9am – noon. Long pants and boots or closed shoes are required. Bring water, gloves & sun protection. Contact Sandy for directions.

Jan. 13, 8:30 a.m. Camino Real Park Field Trip Leader: Adele Fergusson 805-415-4304

Camino Real is a grassy park surrounded by pines and eucalyptus and is an excellent place to see birds. Target birds will include Red Shouldered Hawk, Pacific-slope Flycatcher, Yellow Warbler and Townsend’s Warbler. Contact Adele for directions.

Jan. 14, 7:30 p.m. Ventura Audubon Society Monthly Program at the Poinsettia Pavilion - 3451 Foothill Road, Ventura (Free to the Public): Protecting Wildlife and Wild Places. Speaker: James Hines, Sierra Club’s California/Nevada Wildlife Team Leader

The program will cover some of the Sierra Club’s local work protecting the Los Padres National Forest, Channel Islands National Park and Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary. He will also discuss the Sierra Club’s work on protecting mountain lions, banning wildlife killing rodenticides (rat poison) and protecting local wildlife corridors. As well as touch on some of the work he does with the Sierra Club National Public Lands Team working to protect national public lands units in the west.

Jan. 18, 8:30 a.m. Ventura Settling
Continued on page 17

IN PAIN? CAN'T SLEEP? STRESSED OUT?



101
CBD.org





Your Highway to Health



CBD OILS
(for humans & pets)



CBD TOPICALS
(Salves & Roll-Ons)

CBD AS IT WAS MEANT TO BE...

Have questions?
We've got answers.
Go to our website
www.101CBD.org
or Call (805)642-5623

11420 N. Ventura Ave., Suite 107, Ojai, CA 93023 | (805) 500-5773
3875 Telegraph Road, Suite M, Ventura, CA 93003 | (805) 642-5623
info@101CBD.org | www.101CBD.org

Holiday Cruises

From Ventura Harbor

Gift Shop & Gift Certificates

Island Day Hikes • Camp • Kayak •
Whale Watch

Caroling



Cruise the Ventura Keys
Dec. 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, & 23 6:30 - 7:30p.m.
\$16 Adult - \$13 Senior - \$10 Child

ISLAND PACKERS.COM

Book Online or Call 805-642-1393

Shangri-La Care Center

Recreational & Medical Marijuana Dispensary



Happy Holidays, However You Have It!



@SLCC_Ojai

www.SLCC.info

408 Bryant Circle, Suite G, Ojai

805.640.6464

Monday-Saturday • 10 am-7 pm
Sunday • 12 pm-7 pm

State permit # C10-0000474 LIC





HAPPY HOLIDAYS! WE LOVE YOU, VENTURA!



HOLIDAY SIP & SHOP!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21ST 10AM - 5:30PM

Join us for food, drinks & surprise giveaways!

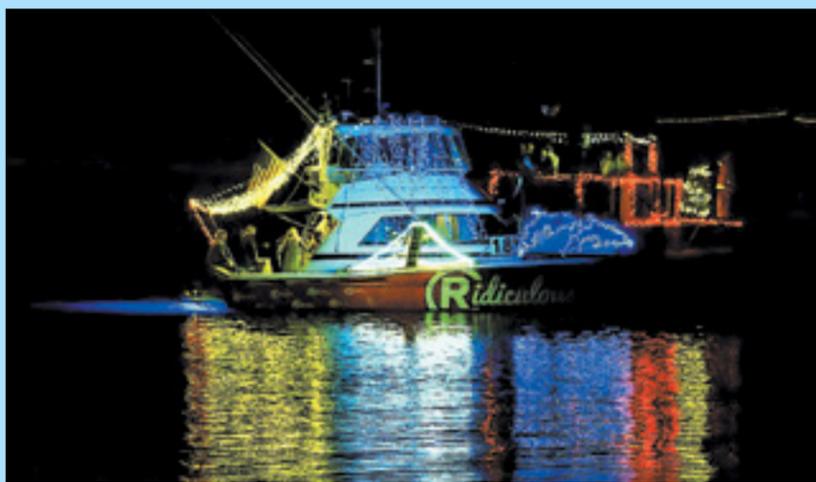
It's going to be **FUN!**



Lynn's Consignments

FUN HOME FURNISHINGS

1975 E. MAIN STREET, VENTURA
760-880-3535 805-628-3289
LYNN'SCONSIGNMENTS.COM



Ventura Harbor started celebrating the season with its 43rd Annual Parade of Lights & Fireworks held on Dec. 13&14. The 2019 theme paid homage to all things imaginary and magical – SEAing is Believing. Photo by Michael Gordon.

In this New Year, taking measure Ventura-style

by Visit Ventura

Every New Year we take measure. This is a good thing. It sees us slow down, think things through, see beyond the daily blur that sometimes constitutes our days. The underlying question is both simple and grand. What do we want to do with the time we have?

This is an important question for a simple reason. The time we have is limited.

If we are very lucky, we have choices

regarding how we spend the time we have. And where. If you are reading this from your home, and your home is touched by the sea, then it may be that you are so very lucky to call Ventura home. If you are lucky enough to be visiting Ventura, well, that is lucky enough.

Our town is something very special. This is not a sales pitch. It's just the truth. We have improbable amounts of sun and warmth, and pretty rolling hills, and a glittering sea that doesn't serve as a backdrop at all; it's a world-class playground, and we should all play as much as possible. Right. Because the time we have is limited.

But Ventura is not just about meteorology and geography. If you are lucky enough to live here, you know this. If you are visiting, you will discover this in short order. The smiles you see are

News & Notes



Standing CAPS staff: Jamie Cawelti, Jorge Godinez, Elizabeth Rodeno, Patrick Davidson, Evan Carpenter, Gary Roll and Alex Uvari. Seated: Cliff Rodrigues, Donald McConnell, Manny Reynoso and Phil Taggart.

Happy Holidays from CAPS Media

Best wishes for a Joyous Holiday Season and Festive New Year from your CAPS crew. 2019 has been a terrific year at CAPS and we look forward to more great work in 2020.

On Monday, December 9, CAPS Media met with the Ventura City Council to discuss a new contract for 2020 and the future. We thank the Council Members for the thoroughness of their deliberation in reviewing our request. The resolution was to give CAPS a one-month extension, until the end of January, 2020.

Everyone at CAPS greatly appreciates the overwhelming outpouring of support by Friends of CAPS who sent letters, emails and made calls to council members and city staff expressing your support for CAPS and the services we provide to the community. Your support provided the council with a much better appreciation for CAPS' value and was instrumental in helping us continue.

However, we are asking that the letter writing, emailing and calling continue – keep up the campaign and share our story with others. Also we are adding a companion video and audio component to our efforts.

We offer Friends of CAPS an opportunity to speak directly to City Council Members and staff – on television, radio and through social media, expressing their support of CAPS.

Community supporters can record a message on their smart phone or computer and email it to CAPS at

info@capsmedia.org. We will air the messages on channel 6, CAPS Radio KPPQ 104.1fm and post them on social media. For those who prefer to record their message at CAPS, we are scheduling production time in the CAPS studio for our friends to come and record a short message. To schedule a time in the studio send an email to info@capsmedia.org and we will contact you to schedule a convenient time.

Last week the CAPS crew had the opportunity to record the last in a series of meetings held by the Senior Strategic Ad-Hoc Committee. The Senior Strategic Plan – Community Vision meeting was held at Avenue Adult Senior Center. With a standing room only crowd, the community shared their ideas and concerns about how to enhance senior recreation services to the consultant hired to explore the programming and gather information to assess the needs of the community. Topics included what types of recreation are available, does the city need another senior center and how to promote and provide information on programs available to the community. With this information collected, a draft of the Strategic plan will be presented to city council in January.

All of us at CAPS look forward to continue to collaborate with our members to create engaging and informative programs for Ventura. Again, best wishes this holiday season from your friends at CAPS Media.

genuine, the kind that aren't just a stretch of the face, but rise up from some deep, warm place. The kindnesses bestowed -- an elaborate set of directions, a Samaritan who walks you to the restaurant and then comes in to introduce you to the owner -- those kindnesses come from the same deep, warm place. The easy acceptance? You be You has been adopted as a slogan by our Visitors Bureau, but slogans, without the truth behind them, are pointless. Let's be honest. It can be a divisive world. Not everyone is helpful, pleasant and accepting. Not even in Ventura.

But it is also true to say that, in Ventura, acceptance triumphs over the narrow-minded, and pleasantness smothered discord.

This is a very special place. Venturans walk through their days carrying this

knowledge in their heads and their hearts. It hangs in the sunshine, almost as real as the salt-laden air. Venturans care. Again, not all -- but most. We have seen this caring in good times, and, more telling, in bad. Ours is a town that looks out for each other. Sometimes fiercely. There is also strength in the warmth deep down inside.

Not long ago our Visit Ventura team attended the Ventura Chamber's annual Poinsettia Awards. Every town (hopefully) has similar awards. The Poinsettia Awards are given to the givers, the people who work to make the world better. One by one, the award winners came to the stage. It was their moment in the sun. Without exception, each stood at the podium and spoke of others. Teachers who changed their lives. Mentors who provided help and example. Parents who gave everything.



Senior Living

Pull Out Section



Each year the residents at the Ventura Townehouse decorate a tree on the floor they live on. Seven floors plus the basement decorate a tree and hope to be selected as the best designed tree by a select jury. This year the judges for the "contest" were James Gray, Oscar Gutierrez, Breezy Gledhill, Diane V. and Sheldon Brown. The judges agreed that all the residents should be congratulated with their wonderful decorations and efforts and that selecting the winners was extremely difficult because they were all wonderful.

Winner's of this year's tree decorating contest are: The first floor received 1st place, the third floor received 2nd place, the 5th floor got 3rd place and the basement which was decorated by the Garden Villa folks got honorable mention.

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



PALLIATIVE CARE focuses on relief from the symptoms and stress of a serious illness, with a goal to improve quality of life for the patient and the family.

Call for more information and a **FREE** assessment
(805) 642-1608

CAREGIVERS • HOME HEALTH • PALLIATIVE CARE • HOSPICE

Palliative care is covered by Medicare, Medical and most private insurance.

Get your flu shot by the National Institute on Aging

The flu is very contagious. It spreads from person to person, often just through the air. Regular hand washing and avoiding sick people can help, and so can the flu shot. Flu season is upon us, but it's not too late to get the shot!

There are special flu shots designed specifically for people age 65 and older. Medicare will pay for the shot, and so will many private health insurance plans. You can get a flu shot at your doctor's office or from your local health department. Many grocery or drug stores also offer flu shots. The vaccine is the same wherever you receive it.

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

Each winter, millions of people suffer from seasonal flu. Flu—the short name for influenza—is caused by viruses. Viruses are very small germs. Some viruses can spread easily from one person to another. They cause illnesses or infections like the flu. Older woman with the flu blowing her nose

Flu is a mild illness for some people. For older people, especially those who have health problems like diabetes or heart disease, the flu can be very serious, even life-threatening.

Most people who get the flu feel much better in a week or two. But, some people can get very sick. For example, because your body is busy fighting off the flu, you might pick up a second infection. Older people are at great risk of these secondary infections, such as pneumonia.

Continued on page 11

KEEP LIVING YOUR GOOD LIFE.

Like the city it thrives in, Cypress Place has a naturally vibrant vibe. Feel the welcoming spirit of Ventura's most respected resort-style senior living community.
Call 805-835-4072 to schedule a visit.

MOVE IN SPECIAL ONE MONTH FREE RENT*
*Call for details

CYPRESS PLACE SENIOR LIVING

License #565801008

1200/1220 Cypress Point Lane • Ventura, CA 93003 • CypressPlaceSeniorLiving.com



Senior Living



The sessions were led by Dr. Teresa Penbrooke of GreenPlay.

Senior Strategic Plan findings and visioning session

by Jill Forman

On December 9th and 10th Ventura's Parks, Recreation and Community Programs Department held Community Meetings to reveal and discuss the results of surveys from the community.

The sessions were led by Dr. Teresa Penbrooke of GreenPlay, a consulting firm specializing in parks, recreation and open space. Her firm designed, administered and analyzed the surveys and will be making recommendations, what she termed "...a road map for the next 25 years."

Surveys were available in many venues and formats, 680 citizens completed them. Their purpose was to identify goals for Senior Services by involving the seniors with meetings as well as surveys; to assess the city's capacity and recommendations for improvement.

A key point in senior programs, which Penbrooke emphasized, is to nurture body, mind and spirit.

Respondents list the city's strengths as: high quality programs, senior nutrition, wonderful staff, the MyVentura guide, and existing community partnerships. Weakness are: lack of affordable housing, insufficient public transportation, and fewer programs on the East side. (Victoria is chosen as separation between the parts of the city.) Recommendations are: better communication, increased lifelong

learning opportunities, multigenerational programs, safer street, more community partnerships, and better opportunities and support systems for "aging in place."

Attendees at the meeting on December 9 verbalized increasing concern about the population of homeless seniors; Penbrooke acknowledged this along with the isolation of many seniors, the need to expanding senior nutrition and Senior Services staff. She also mentioned the possibility of increasing partnerships by drawing in houses of worship, private organizations, libraries and so on.

Barriers to using Senior Services were also discussed: lack of knowledge, lack of transportation and personal mobility, insufficient programming throughout the city.

When asked to prioritize needs, the desperate need of affordable housing for seniors was number one. Seniors are often on a fixed income and housing is increasingly expensive. This is a quality of life issue that affects the entire community. The other priorities listed were: increased public transportation, more nutritional services, social services and care services.

Penbrooke pointed out that these concerns are not limited to seniors but are system-wide. There is no master plan addressing these needs for the entire

population. She said that it is necessary to develop a strategic plan of action to encompass all areas: spaces and facilities, programs and services, staff and customer service, gaps and potential partners to help fill those gaps.

Which brought her to the question that is the core of what the surveys and meetings and assessments and plans are trying to confront and solve: How do we develop and meet current and future needs?

Senate drug plan brings death and taxes

in my opinion, by Stacy Washington

The Prescription Drug Pricing Reduction Act would stall future drug development and deprive Americans of lifesaving cures -- all without reducing patients' out-of-pocket costs.

The bill would alter Medicare Part D, the federal prescription drug benefit for seniors and people with disabilities. Today, 45 million Americans receive drug coverage from Part D.

Part D is a free market success story. Instead of administering the benefit directly, Uncle Sam subsidizes private insurers who sell plans to beneficiaries. Since these insurers compete for customers, they have every incentive to keep costs low. Part D cost nearly \$350 billion less over its first 10 years than originally estimated.

Unfortunately, the Prescription Drug Pricing Reduction Act would upend this tried and true structure.

The bill's most egregious penalty might be the 20 percent tax it would impose on manufacturers for some drugs sold in Part D. The package would cost biopharmaceutical firms \$55 billion over the next 10 years.

This massive tax would save the government money, but it wouldn't do much for patients -- 98 percent of Medicare beneficiaries won't see a reduction in their pharmacy bills. Some could even face increased out-of-pocket costs.

Over time, this bill would harm patients by making it harder to fund drug research.

It takes \$2.6 billion on average for researchers to bring one new treatment to market. Scientists rely on the revenue from successful drugs to fund future research projects.

The myriad taxes in the bill would impede manufacturers' ability to earn back development costs. That would make it difficult for firms to attract the investment they need to research new treatments.

Without that funding, scientists would have to abandon the roughly 4,500 drugs currently being developed for cancer, Alzheimer's, and other diseases in the United States.

The package wouldn't just hurt patients. The pharmaceutical sector supports close to 5 million jobs and contributes more than \$1 trillion in economic output each year. Nearly half of drug firms said that reductions in R&D could lead to layoffs and facility closures.

The Prescription Drug Pricing Reduction Act would cripple the life sciences sector and do nothing to help patients afford their medicines. Talk about a lose-lose.

Stacy Washington is a decorated Air Force Veteran, an Emmy nominated TV personality, and the host of the nationally syndicated radio program "Stacy on the Right."



"Congratulations you're in great shape!"

Talking with your doctor

How to Prepare for a Doctor's Appointment

A basic plan can help you make the most of your appointment whether you are starting with a new doctor or continuing with the doctor you've seen for years. The following tips will make it easier for you and your doctor to cover everything you need to talk about.

Make a list of what you want to discuss. For example, do you have a new symptom you want to ask the doctor about? Do you want to get a flu shot? Are you concerned about how a treatment is affecting your daily life? If you have more than a few items to discuss, put them in order and ask about the most important ones first. Don't put off the things that are really on your mind until the end of your appointment—bring them up right away!

Sometimes it is helpful to bring a family member or close friend with you. Let your family member or friend know in advance what you want from your visit. Your companion can remind you what you planned to discuss with the doctor if you forget. She or he can take notes for



YOUR LOCAL INSURANCE RESOURCE CENTER

SPECIALIZING IN
 MEDICARE · LONG TERM CARE
 INVESTMENTS · DENTAL
 LIFE INSURANCE
 ESTATE PLANNING

5808 TELEPHONE ROAD · SUITE 200 · VENTURA, CA 93003
 805.684.6480 WWW.ALEGACYS.COM

We Give The Gift Of...

At The Palms at Bonaventure we know staying socially connected and feeling engaged becomes more important as we age. Healthy relationships, good nutrition and regular fitness programs are all included in our reasonable monthly rent! Make your move to The Palms at Bonaventure and experience the gift of gracious living ... a sense of family, friendship, and belonging that welcomes you home each day.

For more information, please call
805-647-0616

The Palms At Bonaventure
 Assisted Living & Memory Care
 111 North Wells Road, Ventura, CA 93004
 RCFE#565802467



Well Balanced Meals



Safety & Security



Companionship



Regular Exercise





Senior Living

you and can help you remember what the doctor said.

Share your medical history. Tell the doctor about your illnesses, operations, medical conditions, and other doctors you see. You may want to ask the doctor to send you a copy of the medical history form before your visit so you can fill it out at home, where you have the time and information you need to complete it. If you have problems understanding how to fill out any of the forms, ask for help. Some community organizations provide this kind of help.

Share former doctors' names. Give the new doctor all of your former doctors' names and addresses, especially if they are in a different city. This is to help your new doctor get copies of your medical records. Your doctor will ask you to sign a medical release form giving him or her permission to request your records.

Many older people use glasses or need aids for hearing. Remember to take your eyeglasses to the doctor's visit. If you have a hearing aid, make sure that it is working well and wear it. Let the doctor and staff know if you have a hard time seeing or hearing. For example, you may want to say: "My hearing makes it hard to understand everything you're saying. It helps a lot when you speak slowly."

Let your doctor know what has happened in your life since your last visit. If you have been treated in the emergency room or by a specialist, tell the doctor right away. Mention any changes you have noticed in your appetite, weight, sleep, or energy level. Also tell the doctor about any recent changes in any medications you take or the effects they have had on you. Discussing Changes in Your Health: Worksheet and Tracking Your Medications: Worksheet can help you get organized.

For More Information About Getting Ready to Visit the Doctor Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
1-800-633-4227 (toll-free)
1-877-486-2048 (TTY/toll-free)
www.medicare.gov

VCAAA wins national awards

The Ventura County Area Agency on Aging is the recipient of two National Mature Media Awards for video production. The videos, titled Remembering Ventura County's Veterans and Ventura County Elder Abuse Call to Action, were recognized as being among the nation's best marketing, communications, educational materials, and programs produced for older adults.

Remembering Ventura County's Veterans, which won a bronze award, was produced in partnership with the Ventura County Veterans Services Offices to recognize the region's military veterans and to bring attention to the services offered to that population through the County of Ventura. Click here to view the video.

Ventura County Elder Abuse Call to Action received a merit award and was produced to draw attention to elder abuse and local resources available to victims of elder abuse. County of Ventura CEO Mike Powers, Ventura County Supervisor, John C. Zaragoza, and Ventura County District Attorney Greg Totten are among those featured in the video. Click here to view the video.

"The VCAAA is honored to receive this recognition and is proud of the impact our videos have made on the community," said Victoria Jump, Director of the VCAAA. "We believe the videos produced by the VCAAA set a new standard for how we commu-

nicate with our clients. We are dedicated to communicating our services, as well as the services of partnering agencies, and to honoring the lives of the clients we serve."

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

Get your flu shot

Continued from page 9

Getting a flu shot every year can help you stay healthy. A flu shot contains the flu vaccine, which could keep you from getting the flu. There are special flu shots designed specifically for people age 65 and older. Medicare will pay for the shot, and so will many private health insurance plans. You can get a flu shot at your doctor's office or from your local health department. Sometimes grocery or drug stores offer flu shots.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), part of the Federal Government, says that people age 50 and older should get a flu shot every year. Anyone who lives with or takes care of people age 50 and older should also have a flu shot every year.

If you get the flu, there are things you can do to feel better.

If you are sick, try to rest in bed and drink plenty of fluids, like juice and water but not alcohol. Medicine such as acetaminophen can bring down your fever, which might help with the aches and pains. It is important not to smoke if you are sick with the flu. It is a respiratory illness that can infect your lungs, as well as your nasal passages. These same areas are also bothered by smoking. Take it easy as much as you can until you are well.



Ventura offered an opportunity for residents to give back to senior's this holiday season by becoming a "Santa to a Senior".

City Officials set up a Christmas tree display covered in paper ornaments outside of room 226 in city hall. On each ornament is a different gift idea for a senior. Those participated chose one of the gift ideas, bought the gift and return it to City Hall.

All of the gifts received will be given to the seniors that participate in the Ventura Avenue Adult Center Senior Nutrition Program this Christmas.

GranVida

Senior Living * Memory Care



TIE BLANKET DONATION

December 23, 2019 at 9:30am
5464 Carpinteria Avenue

Join Santa at GranVida for our Tie Blanket Donation to foster children. Our lovely Creekside residents have been working very hard for two months to create these beautiful, warm tie blankets. Bring your little ones with their letters for Santa and enjoy a warm winter refreshment.

granvidaseniorliving.com

RCFE# 425802114

VISIT GRANVIDA AND SEE WHAT WE'RE ABOUT!



The Pet Page



Dedicated to Scamp

SPAN is joining up with Simi Valley nonprofit spay and neuter clinic to offer \$10 spays and neuters for cats and kittens. Ventura County residents can get their cats and kittens spayed or neutered for \$10 for the month of January 2020 only. Cats must be eight weeks or older. No rescue groups or purchased cats please. They also offer free spays and neuters for neighborhood and feral cats.

Must call for availability and to schedule appointment (805)584-3823.

Recently a good Samaritan brought in a total of 18 dogs to the Santa Paula Animal Rescue Center (SPARC) after finding them near an abandoned building near a local restaurant in Santa Paula. The dogs are of varying ages and condition. Some appear to have suffered some neglect and with long curling nails and are in dire need of grooming.

"This number of intakes is huge for us, in terms of space and in terms of resources in one day. We received more dogs than we had in the entire shelter. We are still in the process of evaluating the dogs' health and ages," said Tammy Adkins, Administrator, "When we receive animals like this



"A good Samaritan may have saved my life."

we need to clear them medically, spay or neuter, groom and vaccinate them before we send them home. Unless an owner comes forward, most of the animals will be available for adoption starting on Friday, December 13, 2019."

Caring for this number of animals can be unexpected expensive proposition for the non-profit that has the sheltering contract with the City of Santa Paula. Donations for the animals' care, or adoption inquires can be made on their website www.santapaulaarc.org

The Santa Paula Animal Rescue Center (SPARC) is a no kill 501(c)(3) charitable organization providing animal services to the City of Santa Paula. As the municipal shelter it is our mission to build a humane community by cultivating kindness and compassion for people and their pets through progressive programs and services

like low-cost spay/neuter and veterinary care, proactive adoptions and lost pet redemption, emergency boarding and medical care, a pet food bank and wellness supplies, and a robust foster care and volunteer network.

Following the Nov. 14 recall by Go Raw, LLC for its two-pound bags of frozen Quest Beef Cat Food because it may be contaminated with Salmonella, The J.M. Smucker Company (SJM) has issued a recall for Special Kitty wet, canned cat food due to health concerns from the quality and safety of its ingredients.

The recall affects specific lots of Special Kitty Mixed Grill Dinner Pate that is sold individually as well as in variety packs. The recalled cat food was sold in 5.5-ounce metal cans nationwide and online.

Consumers that have purchased the recalled cat food should stop feeding it to their cats and dispose of the product. Questions about the recall can be directed to the company at 1-888-569-6767, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET.

A Knoxville man is helping the nation's war dogs when they get injured on the front line.

"My grandfather was an army officer. My uncle was an Army officer," said Dr. Shane Chumbler.

He followed their lead to join the army but chose a different path. "This is me still serving, but it's just me getting additional training as a veterinarian," explained Chumbler.

"When they need me the most I want to be able to provide the best care," he said.

He was a part of the 463rd medical detachment.

His unit was deployed to Afghanistan where he helped take care of the military working dogs.

"During that time we did see quite a few combat-related injuries," said Chumbler, "A lot of trauma, which in turn sparked my interest into what I'm doing now."

"You can talk to a handler about you know how that dog has saved their life personally then you can understand better that bond that exists between that handler and that dog," explained Chumbler.

His next goal is to train others to help dogs on the front line.

"Just to be able to take care of pets and get to do that every day it's a great feeling for sure," said Chumbler.

Dr. Chumbler will complete his residency in July and will continue his work overseas.

Copyright 2019 WVLT. All rights reserved.

Preventive Home Care

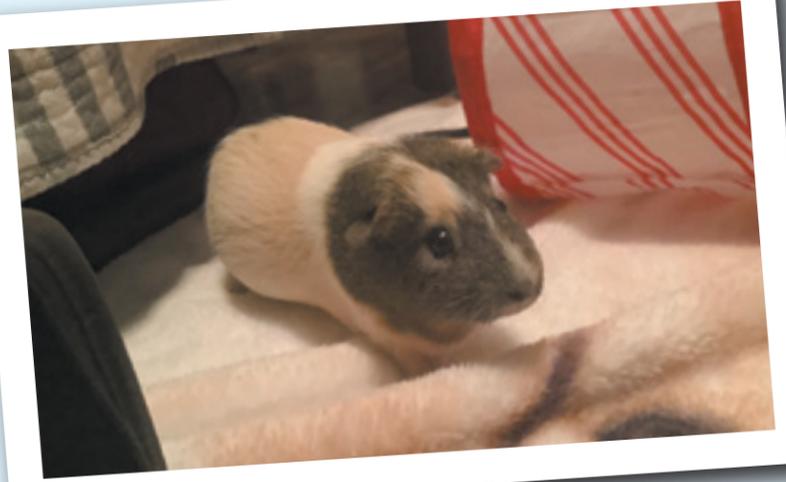
Dr. Kling says one of her goals is to prevent dental problems in her patients. She offers lots of ideas for keeping the mouths of pets healthy.

"Dogs and cats should have their teeth brushed once a day. All owners really need is an ADA-approved toothbrush and some water," says Dr. Kling, "but the brushing needs to be consistent for it to be useful."

She warns that human toothpaste should not be used on pets because of the ingredients used. Dr. Kling also cautions that brushing teeth is an activity that needs to be introduced slowly to a pet.

Scamp Club

(Scampclub pets are not for adoption.)



My name is Cookie. I am a happy-go-lucky cheery kind of a fellow. A sweet guinea pig, but I am neither a pig nor am I from Guinea. I makes adorable tweeking sounds and like any good kid, I eat all of my vegetables!

Join Scamp Club

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

Lost pet? Go to LostCatVenturaCounty.com or LostDogVenturaCounty.com - free websites for finding and posting when you've lost or found a cat or dog.

"It's similar to cutting nails; take it slowly and commit to doing it for the long run so that your pet doesn't hate having his teeth cleaned," she said.

Owners can supplement the process with other products designed to get plaque off the surface of the teeth. A great resource for learning about teeth-cleaning products is the Veterinary Oral Health Council website. At vohc.org, all the listed products have been tested and proven helpful. Never-

theless, Dr. Kling says it is still important to maintain a tooth-brushing regimen with your pet at least three times a week to reduce the progression of periodontal disease.

Your veterinarian will work with you on a plan for preventive dental care at home and in the clinic to keep your pet's mouth healthy and comfortable. For more information and to schedule your pet's annual dental examination, contact your local veterinarian.



\$10 Spays & Neuters for Cats & Kittens! January ONLY!
-call for details-
Must call for appointment:
(805)584-3823

SPAN Thrift Store
SPAY/NEUTER ANIMAL NETWORK
We are an all volunteer, nonprofit organization
Volunteers Needed!
More Spays - Less Strays
Donations Always Appreciated!
Spay and Neuter for Low & No Income Families in Ventura County

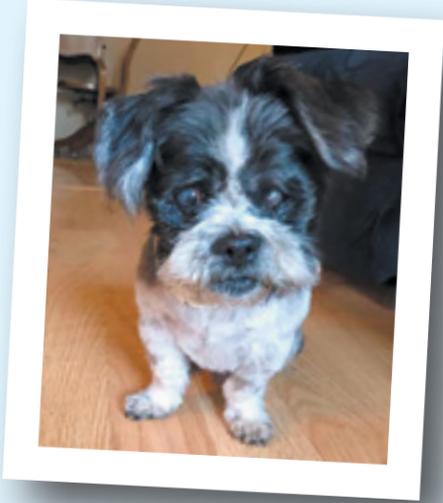
805.641.1170 110 A & B N. Olive St., Ventura CA 93001 www.spanonline.org



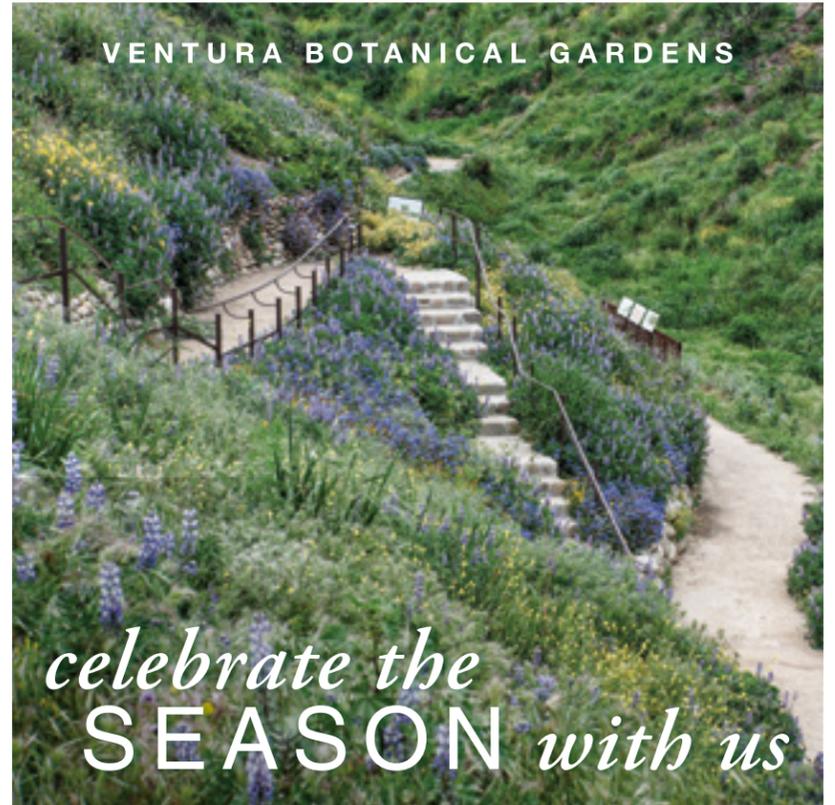
The Pet Page

Forever homes wanted

Hi: I'm Tucker, an older Shih Tzu (like Scamp) in need of a new home. I was rescued from Animal Services and I'm thankful C.A.R.L. is giving me the chance to find my forever home. I know people will pass me by because of my age, but I know my special someone is out there. I hope they come for me soon. Canine Adoption and Rescue League C.A.R.L.



This gorgeous German Shepherd mix had a home, but lost it when a family member became allergic to him. Chief's family said he loves people of all ages and gets along with other dogs. Chief likes playing with balls and squeaky toys and knows sit and down. This friendly, affectionate, attentive guy will be a great family dog. Ventura County Animal Services - Simi location 670 W. Los Angeles Ave. Chief A741932



celebrate the SEASON with us

Free Admission on Christmas Day and New Year's Day!

Bring your family and friends to enjoy the Gardens. Dogs are welcome to come too!

JOIN US
Wednesday,
December 25th

Wednesday,
January 1st

HOURS
9am-5pm

SUPPORT THE VENTURA BOTANICAL GARDENS,
BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!

567 S. Poli St. | 232.3113 | VenturaBotanicalGardens.com

This 'n' That



Buena High School student and recording artist, William Boyd singing "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas."

Buena High School choir releases brand new holiday album

Students at Buena High School have been learning the ins and outs of the music recording industry with their Not-So-Silent Night, Volume 4 project. Utilizing their on-campus recording studio, the Buena High School Choir has selected various secular, holiday, and winter-themed songs to record and release for digital download, available across the world. This past year, their previous albums (Volumes 1-3) have been heard in 42 different countries, from the Netherlands to Qatar.

"It amazes me that our songs get heard so far away," says junior Paige Goldman.

The fantastic thing is this happening at a time in the music industry when

artists continue to struggle to make a living. Due to the increased popularity of streaming music, and the minimal payout artists receive per stream, which can be less than one-tenth of a penny per stream, depending on the platform. The best way you can support your favorite artists is by actually buying and downloading their music, rather than merely streaming it for "free." When their patrons support artists, they can continue making the art and music that their audience loves.

Choir director, Kevin Downey, states, "I am so proud that our students are getting this opportunity to release their music and learn about the recording industry when it is almost impossible to make a living beyond minimum wage as a musician, even if you get signed with a record label and experience some minor success."

According to Tim Frantz, Buena's Audio Engineer from Mountain Dog Musicworks "This album is excellent. This is college-level stuff."

Do not miss a great opportunity to support the arts in our local public schools, and fill your holidays with joy by downloading the Not-So-Silent Night, Volume 4 album. Just search "The Buena High School Choir" on iTunes, Amazon, or Google Play Store. If you prefer live music, though, you can also watch the students perform live at their benefit concert on December 19, in the Buena High School Library Media Center from 6-7:30 pm, located at 5670 Telegraph Road.

For more information, contact Buena's choir director Kevin Downey at kevin.downey@venturausd.org, follow their Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts @buenahschoir, or visit their website at www.bitly.com/buenahschoir.

Ventura Unified School District embracing its families this holiday season

The Cheers for Children campaign, which is entering its 67th year, is designed to help children and families of the Ventura Unified School District (VUSD). Cheers for Children began in 1952 when teachers and an administrator identified a student and his family in need of food over the holidays. Cheers for Children has grown to a community campaign to assist 350 families over the holidays and assist with additional needs, as they are identified throughout the year. The Ventura Unified School District is requesting the community's help with this year's campaign. There are three ways interested parties of all ages may participate; through donations of canned food or money, assisting with the sorting and boxing of holiday food boxes, and participating in the Cheers for Children Silent Auction.

All VUSD schools are currently collecting canned and dry goods for holiday food boxes. A list of items can be found at www.venturausd.org. These items can be delivered to any of our VUSD schools or the

District offices located at 255 W. Stanley Ave. until December 19. The District is also accepting monetary donations, which will assist in the purchase of holiday hams and will go towards additional family needs throughout the year. Checks may be made payable to Cheers for Children and mailed to Ventura Unified School District, Education Service Center, c/o Dr. Roger Rice, Superintendent, 255 West Stanley Avenue, Suite 100, Ventura, CA, 93001. There is a tremendous amount of work that goes on "behind the scenes" to make this event a reality. The community is invited to help with sorting and boxing the food drive items for distribution. Bring your friends and family on Friday, December 20, from 2-5 pm to Balboa Middle School, located at 247 Hill Road in Ventura. Children are welcome but must be accompanied by an adult.

If silent auctions are more your speed, the District will be hosting its Annual Cheers for Children Silent Auction. This silent auction is open to the public and is being held at the Education Service Center at 255 W. Stanley Ave.

"It is our hope that through the Cheers for Children campaign we can bring joy, through a warm meal, to our students most in need. We hope you will consider assisting us as we embrace our VUSD families this holiday season," stated Dr. Roger Rice, Superintendent.

For more information, contact the VUSD Superintendent's office at 805-641-5000.



Happy Holidays

Ventura Executive Suites

701 E. Santa Clara St. Ventura Ca. 93001
(805)653-2381

www.venturaexecutivesuites.com
info@venturaexecutivesuites.com

Ventura Executive offers fully furnished office spaces in a prime location located in Downtown Ventura. We offer FREE phone & internet on a one year lease, mail services, conference rooms, 24/7 access, tenant parking, printer/fax room, private gym, fully stocked kitchen, & full time receptionist!

Rent as low as \$399 a month!
Virtual Offices as low as \$50 a month!
Walk-in's are welcomed!

Mailbox

Continued from page 4
said people flush 10-15 times each time). He wants us to be aware of how much water is wasted, by flushing more than we need to.

I'm not sure what he is recommending: how many flushes are needed for sit-down uses, or stand-up uses. No

matter. Watching how much water is used, during our bathroom breaks, is important, and it behooves, all of us, to be frugal, anytime, we need to use the "potty."

I am so relieved that the President is talking about important stuff.

Relieved, but frugal,
Esther Cole, Ventura,

Your Name Here



Cartoon by Evin England. If you are an amateur cartoonist who wants to be published send us a few of your cartoons for consideration. editor@venturabreeze.com.

This 'n' That



GCTD Board Chair City Council member Cheryl Heitmann cuts the ribbon to officially launch "Elf on the GO" for the 2019 Holiday season.

Catch the "ELF on the GO" Holiday Bus at a stop near you

Ride Gold Coast Transit District's decorated holiday bus until January 4.

Gold Coast Transit District (GCTD), with support from Montecito Bank and Trust and Rubberneck Signs, is excited to announce the fourth annual appearance of its popular "Elf on the GO" holiday bus.

This year's "Elf on the GO" holiday bus design is especially timely given the recent snow we are enjoying in the nearby mountains. The snowy "Elf on the GO" village is bustling with activity as jolly elves are happily building toys, wrapping presents and playing in the snow. Onlookers are sure to smile as they see the elves peering out the bus windows as they await the next stop to exit. On board, passengers are embraced with festive decorations and

holiday music for a truly memorable experience.

GCTD's 40-foot holiday bus will appear throughout GCTD's service area. Passengers are encouraged to take pictures, tag #Elfonthego and post to Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for a chance to win goodies and prizes.

"We are thrilled to once again do our part to spread holiday cheer throughout the communities we serve", said GCTD General Manager, Steven P. Brown. "It's something we look forward to each year as it brings joy to the passengers who board and smiles to passersby."

Sightings of the "Elf on the GO" bus can be tracked by searching #Elfonthego on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram or by visiting www.GoldCoastTransit.org.

E. P. Foster Library events

Thursday Jan 2 7:30 – 9:00 pm

Open Mic Night - Free and open to the public! Open Mic night hosted by Phil Taggart. Enjoy a featured poet, then share your own work with the group. All are welcome to just sit and listen as well.

Tuesday Jan 7 3:30 – 5:30 pm

Virtual Reality - Tuesdays @ 3:30-5:30 pm on the 2nd Floor. Explore the virtual world with these different gaming VR platforms: Gear VR, Oculus Go, Oculus Rift, and HTC Vive. All VR Platforms are for ages 13 and up.

Thursday Jan 9 7:30 – 9:00 pm

Open Mic Night - Free and open to the public! Open Mic night hosted by Phil Taggart. Enjoy a featured poet, then share your own work with the group. All are welcome to just sit and listen as well.

Monday Jan 13 7:00 – 10 pm

Ukulele Jam - Join folks of all ages and experience levels to jam out on your ukulele! Beginners welcome, every 2nd and 4th Monday.

Tuesday Jan 14 3:30 – 5:30 pm

Virtual Reality - Tuesdays @ 3:30-5:30 pm on the 2nd Floor. Explore the virtual world with these different gaming VR platforms: Gear VR, Oculus Go, Oculus Rift, and HTC Vive. All VR Platforms are for ages 13 and up.

Thursday Jan 16 7:30 – 9:00 pm

Open Mic Night - Free and open to the public! Open Mic night hosted by Phil Taggart. Enjoy a featured poet, then share your own work with the group. All are welcome to just sit and listen as well.

Tuesday Jan 21 3:30 – 5:30 pm

Virtual Reality - Tuesdays @ 3:30-5:30 pm on the 2nd Floor. Explore the virtual world with these different gaming VR platforms: Gear VR, Oculus Go, Oculus Rift, and HTC Vive. All VR Platforms are for ages 13 and up.

Thursday Jan 23 7:30 – 9:00 pm

Open Mic Night - Free and open to the public! Open Mic night hosted by Phil Taggart. Enjoy a featured poet, then share your own work with the group. All are welcome to just sit and listen as well.

Monday Jan 27 7:00 – 10 pm

Ukulele Jam - Join folks of all ages and experience levels to jam out on your ukulele! Beginners welcome, every 2nd and 4th Monday.

Tuesday Jan 28 3:30 – 5:30 pm

Virtual Reality - Tuesdays @ 3:30-5:30 pm on the 2nd Floor. Explore the virtual world with these different gaming VR platforms: Gear VR, Oculus Go, Oculus Rift, and HTC Vive. All VR Platforms are for ages 13 and up.

Thursday Jan 30 7:30 – 9:00 pm

Open Mic Night - Free and open to the public! Open Mic night hosted by Phil Taggart. Enjoy a featured poet, then share your own work with the group. All are welcome to just sit and listen as well.

Friday Jan 31 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Opera Santa Barbara - Come enjoy a free noontime concert presented by members of Opera Santa Barbara's Chrisman Studio Artist Program. One of our most popular events. See you in the Topping Room!

Closures This Month January 1 New Years Day January 20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day



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.

Arrest of San Diego County Homicide Suspect

On November 28, at approximately 8am, the San Diego Police Department Communications Center received a call of an injured man in the 3100 block of Sports Arena Boulevard in San Diego. When the officers arrived, they found a man with significant trauma to his neck. The man was transported to the hospital, but unfortunately did not survive his injuries.

The investigation revealed the victim had an altercation with the suspect, identified as 38-year-old Forrest Robert Brantley. At some point in the altercation, Brantley used a weapon to cause traumatic injuries to the victim's neck area. After the homicide, detectives received information that Brantley was in the City of Ventura, but there was no information available about his specific whereabouts. Officers with the Ventura Police Department and Ventura County Community College Police were sent to multiple locations where possible sightings had occurred, but Brantley was never found.

On December 4, at approximately 10am, officers with the Ventura Police Patrol Task Force saw Brantley walking near Junipero Street and Santa Clara Street in Ventura. He was detained and arrested for a parole violation and the San Diego County homicide.

A review of superior court data bases show Brantley has been arrested thirty-four times since 2000. The charges included burglary, robbery, elder abuse, drug related offenses and property crimes. At the time of his arrest on December 4, he was on active parole for attempted robbery, burglary, elder abuse and assault with a deadly weapon.

Stolen Vehicle Pursuit and Arrest

On November 29, from 6:45pm to 8pm, officers responded to a call of a stolen vehicle. Once on scene, the victim informed the officers that she had parked her SUV in the driveway of her home around 6:45pm when she came out of her house around 8pm she noticed that the SUV was gone. The officers completed a stolen vehicle investigation, and a report was filed.

At approximately 10pm a Ventura Police Sergeant saw the SUV driving westbound on the 126 Freeway passing Victoria Av. traveling at over 100 MPH. He began following the SUV as it continued on the 126 freeway to northbound 101 Freeway, and eventually exiting at Seaward Av. As the SUV exited the freeway, other VPD units arrived to assist, and a pursuit of the vehicle was started.

During the incident, the juvenile driver drove erratically and made multiple vehicle code violations. Eventually, the driver drove south on Norwich Ln, which deadends at the beach. Having nowhere to go, the driver exited the SUV and ran onto the beach. The SUV came to a stop when it ran into a brick wall at the end of the lane. Two other male passengers also exited the SUV and ran in the opposite direction of the driver and were not chased.

After running from the vehicle and onto the beach, the driver went back into the neighborhood to try and get away from officers. After an extensive search, he was found in a backyard on Martha's Vineyard by a Ventura Police K9 "Jag" and taken into custody. During the incident, the juvenile suffered a minor injury to his hand and was treated at a local hospital. He was arrested

for felony possession of a stolen vehicle and evading.

Carjacking and Resisting Arrest

On December 1, at approximately 6:30pm, the Ventura Police Department Command Center received a 911 call from a victim reporting that his vehicle was in the process of being stolen. The victim said he was sitting in his vehicle with the engine running, when the suspect approached it and started banging on the passenger's window. He confronted the suspect, later identified as 28 year old Michael Pacella, who aggressively approached him and made threats to harm him. Pacella then got into the victim's vehicle and started driving off, when he realized the victim's dog was in the backseat. Pacella stopped the vehicle, just as a Ventura Police K-9 officer arrived on scene.

When additional officers arrived, Pacella was ordered out of the vehicle and physically resisted attempts to take him into custody. The K-9 officer deployed his dog, which allowed officers to arrest Pacella without further incident.

Pacella was treated at the scene by Ventura City Fire, before being transported to VCMC for treatment of his injuries. After being medically cleared, Pacella was arrested for carjacking, resisting arrest and driving under the influence.

No one else was injured as a result of this incident.

Felony Domestic Violence Incident with Arrest

On December 10, at approximately 11am, the Ventura Police Department Command Center received a 911 hang-up call from a residence in the 200 block of Burl Ave. On callback, the female victim reported she was involved in a physical domestic with her boyfriend, later identified as 19 year old Ventura resident Daniel Vargas. When officers arrived on scene, Vargas was reportedly inside the residence and when contacted by phone, said he was not going to cooperate with officers. Vargas also threatened officers and said he was armed with a knife.

As officers continued to negotiate with Vargas on the phone, it was determined he had left the residence prior to officers arriving on scene and was on foot in the area.

Ventura Police motor officers began helping with the search and located Vargas on the bike path near the Community Park on Kimball Rd. Vargas, who was still armed with the knife (see attached), displayed the knife in a threatening manner towards the officers and fled onto Highway 126. Additional officers responded and attempted to detain him. At one point, Vargas raised the knife up and while advancing towards officers, threatened to harm them if they did not shoot him. Officers continued to give Vargas orders to drop the knife, but when he refused to comply, officers deployed a taser. The taser was not effective in stopping Vargas, who continued to advance towards the officers. A Ventura Police K-9 officer then deployed his K9 (Bolt), which allowed officers to take Vargas into custody without further incident.

Vargas was treated at a local hospital for his injuries. After being medically cleared, Vargas was arrested for attempted murder, felony domestic violence, false imprisonment, assault with a deadly weapon on a police officer, and felony resisting arrest.

The female victim received non-life threatening injuries as a result of this incident and treated for her injuries. No officers or the K-9 were injured.

Train Boxcar Vandalism Arrest

On December 11, at approximately 4pm, Ventura Police Cadets monitoring security cameras for the Ventura City Maintenance Yard observed three male suspects

VENTURA TOWNEHOUSE

CALIFORNIA'S CROWN JEWEL IN RETIREMENT LIVING



Barbara's bird can't wait to get to the beauty parlor!

805.642.3263 | www.venturatownehouse.com

4900 Telegraph Road, Ventura, CA 93003

CA LIC# 565801810

spray painting a boxcar on the railroad tracks south of the yard. The cadet notified the Ventura Command Center Supervisor, and officers were dispatched to the location. Through a coordinated effort, the officers were able to surround the area and stop 20 year old Ventura resident Vincent Saucedo as he attempted to run away. The two other suspects separated and were able to getaway. During the investigation, officers found graffiti paraphernalia on Saucedo as well as paint on his hands matching that found on the boxcar.

Saucedo was arrested for felony vandalism, misdemeanor obstructing a peace officer and trespassing on railroad property. No one was injured during this incident, and Saucedo was booked at the Ventura County Jail.

Addict in Possession of a Firearm Arrest

On December 12, a Ventura Patrol Officer saw the suspect, 27 year old Ventura resident Jose Crespin, driving in the area of Main St. and Emma Ave. Crespin is known to the officer from prior contacts and the officer was aware that Crespin was driving on a suspended driver's license. The officer made a traffic stop on Crespin in the parking lot of Smart and Final.

During the stop, the officer asked Crespin to exit the vehicle and asked if there was anything illegal inside the car. Crespin told the officer that there was an unloaded gun in his backpack. Based on this information, the officer continued his investigation and found the unloaded handgun, ammunition and drug paraphernalia. Based on his investigation, the officer asked a DRE officer to assist and conduct an evaluation to determine if Crespin was under the influence of an illegal substance.

Upon completion of the DRE evaluation, Crespin was arrested for felony possession of a firearm by an addict, possession of ammunition by an addict, carrying a concealed firearm in a vehicle, and being under the influence of a controlled substance. No one was injured during this arrest, and Crespin was booked into Ventura County Jail.

Harbor Patrol Blotter

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

12-07 7:20am, Beach Hazard Assessment: 6-8 ft NorthWest swell with enormous rip currents throughout Harbor Beaches. Officers meeting with body surfing organizers to assess conditions and raise safety concerns and mitigations.

12:00pm, Harbormaster and several officers participating in a "paddle-out" for Ventura City Firefighter at Harbor Cove. The fireboat was used in the ceremony

1:24pm, received a report of a boating accident at Ventura Isle Marina. Officers responded to investigate, minor damage was observed and the owners of the two involved vessels agreed to arrange for repairs amongst themselves.

10:00pm, while on patrol in Rescue Boat 19, officers contacted several fishermen hoop netting near the detached breakwall. They advised the fishermen of an incoming storm cell. Most advised they were heading in.

12-08 7:55am, while performing pre-operational checks, officers observed mud and debris flowing out of the Barranca in the keys.

3:15pm, observed an inexperienced body boarder without fins or a wetsuit in Small Craft Advisory conditions at South Beach. Officers made contact with the individual and removed for the dangerous situation.

7:00pm, officers on patrol in Rescue Boat 17 experiencing very rough conditions outside the breakwall. Made contact with a small skiff engaged in hoop netting, attempting to convince the skipper to call it a night, to no avail.

12-09 1:30am, officers in Rescue Boat 19 were removing the swim buoys from Harbor Cove for the winter.

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 27 mins.

PAT	LORE	BLIND
ANY	AGNE	FOOT
STRA	WHA	QUILL
RIED	YF	KIT
BI	U	STIB
STAN	JIN	ODE
COIT	GUI	BYAN
ADP	JOS	GFARD
TOP	PIAT	GSF
IG	GO	HA
ALOT	WHIT	TRAT
HAU	ADFI	ITU
CAK	REAU	SHH



by Pam Baumgardner
VenturaRocks.com

It's the final weeks of the year with a handful of holiday shows and a whole lot of New Year's Eve parties, so let's get right to it.

On Thursday, December 19, Buena High School hosts their 7th annual Not-So-Silent-Night benefit concert in the Library Media Center. The following day, Friday, December 20, the Ventura Theater presents their 8th annual Holiday Sing-along featuring Disney hits and holiday tunes with the price of admission a new unwrapped child's toy or pet supplies.

Topa Mountain Winery has three events lined up starting on Friday evening at 7 pm with an Ojai holiday concert featuring Smitty & Julia and Friends; then they're back to their regularly scheduled afternoon live music 3-5 on Saturday with Patricia Avis Family Christmas and Sunday featuring the Hopeful Quartet Holiday Jazz ensemble.

Along with the final weeks of the musical "Forever Plaid" Plaid Tidings" at the Rubicon, there will be a Tiny Tots Holiday Concert featuring the Broadway Juniors on Saturday, December 21, at 10 am.

While we're still on the subject of Christmas and music, I'd like to give one final plug for "the Local Love Project Holiday Album, The Spirit of Giving" which features over a dozen artists out of the 805 including Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, Charles Law and Jagged, Towse, Boom Duo and more. The proceeds from the sales stay in the community going to the Local Love Project which helps those who have been affected by a disaster here in the 805. It's available at CD Baby, Amazon, and locally at most every record store in town. It is the perfect stocking stuffer!

Now on to New Year's Eve parties starting with live music: FIDO plays until 9 pm with an east coast style NYE party at Leashless Brewing; the Brandon Ragan Project will keep you dancing at the Copa Cubana in the Ventura Harbor; it's 80's Invasion at the Crown Plaza at the top of the harbor overlooking the ocean and our fair city; the Shores in Oxnard has Teresa Russell & Friends; Grapes and Hops has the Diane Miller Band; the Self Righteous Brothers play Café Fiore; it's an all-white party (meaning wear white) at Cantina 31 with Instone; Blues Bullet will keep it lively at Winchesters; it's classic rock with Arock-ocalypse Now at the Star Lounge; Yachtley Crew with their yacht rock will keep it festive at Discovery while Mandex will keep you rockin' at Oak and Main downtown.

Venues with DJs and full party plans include Bombay's, Paddy's, El Rey Cantina, the Tavern, the Garage, the Keynote Lounge and Sans Souci. There will be cover charges most everywhere and some will sell out, so I highly recommend calling and making reservations now, and don't forget to arrange for a safe ride home!

Do you have any music-related news or upcoming shows you want help publicizing? Please send all information short or long to Pam@VenturaRocks.com. For updated music listings daily, go to www.VenturaRocks.com.

Music Calendar

For more events go to VenturaRocks.com
All Venues Ventura, unless otherwise noted.

Boatyard Pub

Ventura Harbor Village
Tuesday-Thursday 6 pm, Friday & Saturday 7 pm
Thursdays: Jim Friery, Bluegrass Jam
Wed 12/18: Karen Eden
Fri 12/20: Frank Barajas
Sat 12/21: Jon Gindick Duo
Tues 12/24: Shorebreak
Fri 12/27: Teresa Russell & Stephen Geyer

Bombay Bar & Grill

143 S. California Street
Thursdays, Friday & Saturdays: DJs
Tues 12/31: NYE Party DJs Cam, Erok & Lil Wicked.

Buena High School

5670 Telegraph Road
Library Media Center
Thurs 12/19: Not-so-Silent-Night benefit concert

Café Fiore

66 S. California Street
Wed 12/18: Big Adventure
Fri 12/20: Instone
Sat 12/21: Otis Hayes
Fri 12/27: Jason Bourne
Sat 12/28: Little Alice
Tues 12/31: Self-Righteous Bros; DJ Juan in the Treehouse

Cantara Cellars

126 Wood Road, Suite 104

Camarillo, CA

Thursdays: Karaoke

Cantina 31

Limon y Sal
598 E. Main Street
Saturdays: DJ Sundays 1-4: Instone
Tues 12/31: NYE Party w/ DJ Honey, DJ Cue & Alex Barajas

Casa Bella

391 E. Main Street
Thursdays: Danny D.
Tues 12/24: Doc Rogers
Sat 12/28: Doc Rogers

The Cave

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

Concrete Jungle Brewing

4561 Market Street
Sun 12/22: Informal Society, Dead Babies, False Patriots

Copa Cubana

Ventura Harbor Village
Music 7 pm; Sat 11 am; Sundays 4 pm
Saturdays & Sundays: Kenny Devoe (11 am - 1 pm)

Tuesdays: The Jerry McWorter Trio
Sun 12/22: Karen Eden
Tues 12/31: NYE Party with Brandon Ragan Project

Crown Plaza

Top of the Harbor
450 E. Harbor Blvd
Tues 12/31: NYE Party w/ 80's Invasion

Discovery

1888 Thompson Blvd

Sat 12/21: Queen Nation
Fri 12/27: After the Smoke
Sat 12/28: Heavy Petty
Tues 12/31: NYE with Yachtley Crew

El Rey Cantina

294 E. Main Street
Fridays & Saturdays: DJ
Tues 12/31: NYE w/ guest DJ

Four Brix Winery

2290 Eastman Avenue
Music 6 - 8:30 pm Friday
Fri 12/20: Johnny & the Love Handles

The Garage

1091 Scandia Avenue
Fri 12/20: Dying to be Dead, Gravetitan, Cetus, Avolition
Tues 12/31: NYE Party w/ DJ Also

Grapes and Hops

454 E. Main Street
Wed 6-9, Fri & Sat 8 pm, Sun 4 pm
Wed 12/18: Gypsy Jazz Jam
Fri 12/20: Ray Jaurique & the Uptown Brothers

Sat 12/21: The Dive Bar Messiahs

Sun 12/22: Los Dudes

Fri 12/27: Morganfield Burnett & da Blues

Sat 12/28: Tex Pistols

Sun 12/29: The Salty Suites

Tues 12/31: NYE Party with Diane Miller Band

The Greek Restaurant

Ventura Harbor Village
Music: 5:30 - 7:30 pm
Mon, Thur & Fri: Kenny Devoe

Keynote Lounge

10245 E. Telephone Road

Tues, Wed and Sun: Karaoke

Thursdays: Open mic night

Fri 12/20: Pull the Trigger

Sat 12/21: Crosscut 805

Fri 12/27: The Riffs

Sat 12/28: What the Funk

Tues 12/31: NYE Party w/ DJ AVG

Leashless Brewing

585 E. Thompson Blvd.
Tues: Open Mic, The Listening Room
Sat 12/21: Boom Duo
Tues 12/31: NYE Party w/ FIDO (7-9 pm)

Made West Brewing

1744 Donlon Street
Thurs 6 pm; Sat 4 pm; Sun 3 pm
Thurs 12/19: Peter Blackwelder

Sat 12/21: Fire Mist

Sun 12/22: Milo Sledge Trio

Majestic Ventura Theater

26 S. Chestnut Street
Fri 12/20: 8th Annual Holiday Sing-along
Tues 12/31: Donavon Frankenreiter, Tom Curren

Oak and Main

419 E. Main Street
Tuesdays: Beer Bros. Open Mic
Thurs 12/19: Kevin Kinsella, Man Like Dvin

Fri 12/20: Honey County

Sat 12/28: New Doubt, Safety Orange

Tue 12/31: NYE Party w/ Mandex

Paddy's

2 W. Main Street
Wednesdays: Karaoke
Fri & Sat: DJs
Tues 12/31: NYE Party w/ 2 DJs

Peirano's Delicatessen

204 E. Main Street
Music: 6-8, Sundays Noon - 2
Sat 12/21: Tommy & Paddy Marsh
Sun 12/22: The Swilley's

Poinsettia Pavilion

3451 Foothill Road
Mon 12/30: Wyatt Haupt

Red Cove

1809 E. Main Street
Fri 12/20: Bombafiya, The Deaf Pilots, Spacedragon

Rubicon Theater

1006 E. Main Street

Wed 12/11 - Sun 12/22: Forever Plaid: Plaid Tidings Musical
Sat 12/22 10 am: Tiny Tots Holiday Concert

Sandbox Coffeehouse

204 E. Thompson Blvd
805-641-1025

Thurs 6 pm, Weekends noon

Thursdays Open Mic

Sat 12/21: Casual Water

Sans Souci

21 S. Chestnut

Sundays: DJ Darko

Mondays: Karaoke w/ Brian Parra

Tuesdays: DJ Nick Dean

Wednesdays: Open mic

Thursdays: DJ Spinobi

Fri 12/20: DJ Pistolero

Sat 12/21: Black Starr

Fri 12/27: Sin Chonies

Sat 12/28: Stevie Char

Tues 12/31: NYE Party w/ DJ Pistolero & Friends

The Shores Restaurant

1031 Harbor Blvd, Oxnard

Thursdays: Karaoke

Fri 12/20: Troy Edwards

Sat 12/21: 805 Allstarz

Fri 12/27: Ray Ray and the Posse

Sat 12/28: Johnny and the Love Handles

Tues 12/31: NYE Party w/ Teresa Russell & Friends

The Star Lounge

343 E. Main Street

Thursdays: DJ Terry

Fri 12/20: Shawn Jones Trio

Sat 12/21: CRV

Fri 12/27: Stone Grove

Sat 12/28: Mini Driver Band

Tues 12/31: NYE party w/ Arock-ocalypse Now

The Tavern

211 E. Santa Clara Street

Thursdays: Get Right College Night w/ DJ Nick Dean

Fri 12/20: Goodnight Kiss

Sat 12/28: The Black Stripes

Tues 12/31: NYE Party w/ DJ Aycer & special guests

Topa Mountain Winery

821 W. Ojai Avenue, Ojai

Music: 3-5 pm, unless otherwise noted

Fri 12/20: Smitty & Julie and Friends (7 pm)

Sat 12/21: Patricia Avis Family Christmas

Sun 12/22: Hopeful Quartet Holiday Jazz ensemble

Sat 12/28: Shawn Jones Trio

Sun 12/29: Nathan McEuen

Ventura Beach Club

281 W. Main Street

Fri 12/20: Kelly's Lot 25th Anniversary Celebration

Winchester's

632 E. Main Street

(805) 653-7446

Music at 7:00 pm; Sundays at 5 pm

Fri 12/20: Crooked Eye Tommy

Sat 12/21: Frank & Andy

Sun 12/22: Meghan, Alex & Saint Pierre

Fri 12/27: Acoustic DNA

Sat 12/28: Masters of the Past

Sun 12/29: Shawn Jones

Tues 12/31: NYE bash w/ Blues Bullet

The Winery Ventura

4756 Market Street

Thurs - Sat 7-10; Sundays 5-8

Fri 12/20: The Patrick Martin Band

Sat 12/21: Coleen & Co.

1901 Speakeasy

740 South B Street, Oxnard

Fri 12/20: The Salty Suites

Sat 12/21: Karen Eden

Fri 12/27: Shawn Jones

Sat 12/28: Milo Sledge



This 'n' That



An expanded K-8 option will be available at Blanche Reynolds Elementary.

Ventura Unified School District expanding educational options

At a Special Board Study Session on Mon., Dec. 2, the Ventura Unified School District Board of Education approved staff moving forward with a new secondary level program to serve students who require additional flexibility in their lives and therefore need an online based program. Additionally, the Board approved moving forward with expanding the K-8 offerings in the District to include both a midtown and east end option for families.

"In an environment of declining enrollment, the Board and District staff are working hard to offer options to serve the diverse needs of all its students. At the same time we need to attract and retain students in the District," stated Dr. Roger Rice, Superintendent.

The secondary level program is scheduled to open next Fall on the El

Camino High School (ECHS) campus. Traditionally, VUSD loses more than 100 students per year to schools with the limited classroom model. A vigorous marketing effort will occur to ensure the community is clear on whom the program is intended to serve and to ensure that the existing ECHS program retains all of its excellence and remains a robust and attractive option for the students it currently serves.

The two expanded K-8 options are slated to open in the Fall of 2021. The midtown option is being planned for Blanche Reynolds Elementary and the process for determining an east end location is just beginning. The new K-8 offerings will also serve the District's efforts to attract and retain students and families who want smaller learning communities as an option to the larger, more traditional middle school setting. A TK program already exists at Blanche Reynolds making this a TK-8 option. Waiting until the Fall of 2021 will provide the District additional time to develop program components and an educational focus, which could include thematic programs and re-branding.

"We are very excited about these new options for students," stated Board President Sabrena Rodriguez. "VUSD listened to feedback from students, families, and staff. These new options will allow us to provide modern options for the ever-changing educational needs of our community."

For more information, contact Hector Guerrero, Director of Educational Options at Hector.Guerrero@venturausd.org or 805-289-1955.

Volunteers needed to assist in annual homeless count

Community volunteers are needed for the annual count and survey of homeless persons in Ventura County. The 2020 Ventura County Homeless Count has been scheduled for Wednesday, January 29.

The annual Homeless Count is coordinated by the Ventura County Continuum of Care and County of Ventura, in partnership with community partners and cities. The survey data will be collected through a mobile app called "Counting Us" by Simtech Solutions. This data provides a Point-In-Time (PIT) "snapshot" as to what the homeless population in Ventura County looks like during a single day to help community leaders better understand who is homeless, why and for how long. The survey data helps our community gain access to state and federal funding, as well as determine the greatest priorities to prevent and end homelessness in Ventura County.

In order to conduct a full and accurate count, the Ventura County Continuum of Care is seeking 500 volunteers. Volunteers are required to attend a training in their community in mid-January 2020 and will be paired up with another volunteer on the morning of the count to canvass areas seeking persons to survey. Volunteers will be asked to download the free "Counting Us" app to their mobile

device for data collection. Download the mobile app here: <http://pointintime.info/>. Interested volunteers can register online at <https://ventura.pointintime.info/>.

For more information on volunteering, please contact Jennifer Harkey at 805-658-4342. For general inquiries on the Continuum of Care, contact Tara Carruth at 805-654-3838.

A briefing from your City Council

by Council Member Christy Weir

On December 2, the Ventura City Council approved the Olivas Park Specific Plan, which will extend Olivas Park Drive to Johnson Dr, to provide a better connection between East Ventura and the Harbor area. This will be a "complete street" project, and include wide sidewalks, a landscaped median, separated multi-use trail for bicyclists, in addition to the traffic lanes. The Olivas Park Plan specifies opportunities to make improvements to this vital area adjacent to the Santa Clara River, golf course and Auto Center, to benefit the residents of Ventura.

In response to the growing public health crisis caused by vaping, especially among teens, the Ventura City Council unanimously passed an ordinance to ban the sale of flavored tobacco products, establish a tobacco license fee and prohibit the sale of all tobacco products within 1000 feet of

schools. We affirmed that the City of Ventura continues to prioritize the health of our youth above the profits of businesses that sell harmful teen-targeted products.

Police Chief Ken Corney

Continued from page 1

Commander in January 2000, Assistant Chief in December 2003, and appointed as Police Chief in December 2009.

Mayor Matt told the Breeze "Chief Corney's intelligence and ability to think outside the box earned him national recognition. And as someone who was raised in this community, he cared deeply about Ventura and his number one priority was always the safety of Ventura residents. He was an incredible Police Chief and he will be sorely missed. But the strength of the department he leaves behind is a true testament to his leadership and professionalism."

City Manager McIntyre has recommended that City Council select Chief Corney to serve as the Interim Police Chief while a professional recruitment is conducted to select the next Ventura Police Chief. "The Ventura Police Department has great leadership," said City Manager McIntyre. "An open recruitment to the process is important for transparency and community input. This process doesn't preclude an internal selection. The recruitment will help determine the best individual to lead the agency."

The City will retain a professional recruitment firm to conduct a search in order to find the best candidate to fill the Police Chief position.

Retired Ventura Police Chief and ex-city council member Mike Tracy stated, "For the last 33 years Police Chief Ken Corney has committed himself 110% in service to the City of Ventura. It was my great fortune to work with Ken for almost 20 of those years, and I can truly say he is one of the very best. His legacy is evident in the people he has developed, encouraged, and mentored. Because of his leadership, the Ventura Police Department is prepared to face every future challenge. My hope for Ken in his retirement is that he will follow in my footsteps and run for City Council—NOT! Congratulations, Chief Corney, on your many years of exemplary service to our community. All the Best to you and your family in the years ahead"

Ken Corney moved to Ventura from League City, Texas in 1970 when his father, a Grumman Aerospace engineer, was transferred from the Lunar Module project to the F14 Tomcat jet fighter project. Ken attended elementary school, middle school and high school in Ventura, and Ventura College. After his sophomore year at Ventura College, Ken accepted an athletic scholarship to California University Long Beach where he competed in track and field and earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism – Public Relations.

Ken joined the Ventura Police Department in 1986. As an officer he served in the Patrol Task Force, SWAT hostage negotiator and field training officer. He was later promoted to Corporal where he served in patrol and later was as a gang investigator in addition to a collateral assignment as an entry team member of SWAT. Ken was promoted to Sergeant in 1995 and after a tour as a Patrol Sergeant was assigned to the Special Enforcement Team – Gang Enforcement Unit, SWAT Team Leader as well as President of the

Ventura Police Officers Association.

Ken was promoted to Lieutenant in 2000 and served as a patrol Watch Commander and later the department's first Special Operations division Commander where he was responsible for Special Enforcement Team, SWAT Operations and Grant program management. In 2003 Ken was promoted to Assistant Chief and appointed to be the Chief of Police in 2009 by City Manager Rick Cole after the retirement of Chief Pat Miller.

In a previous Ventura Breeze, he was asked what he likes most about Ventura.

"Ventura is truly a post card community - from the ocean to the mountains. We are near enough many of the great things Central and Southern California has to offer, but far enough away to appreciate the uniqueness of our community. When I first arrived in East Ventura in 1970, the City's population was around 50,000 and the east end was just beginning to develop. The town had the same rural feeling that still exists today. I think the feeling is the same because of the people that call Ventura home. I am blessed to have been provided the opportunity to work and raise my family in Ventura."

Ventura Audubon Society events

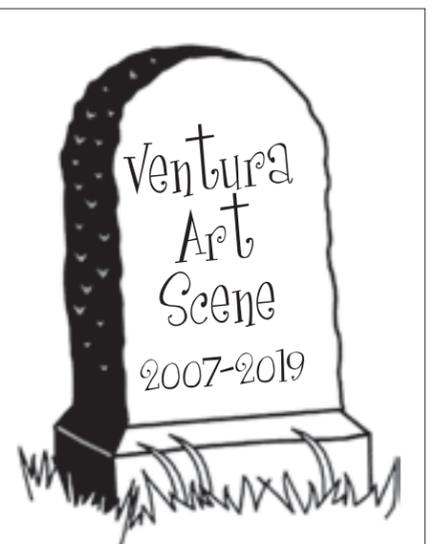
Continued from page 7

Ponds Field Trip Leader: Linda Easter 818-519-2833

The settling ponds at the Ventura Harbor is a reliable place to find ducks, grebes, gulls and terns, as well as songbirds and raptors. We should hear Yellow Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warblers and Blue-gray gnatcatchers.

Jan. 26, 8:00 a.m. Ormond Beach Field Trip Leader: Tevin Schmitt 661-904-1563

Join us at this excellent coastal location, where we will look for a variety of waterfowl, such as Willets, Whimbrels, Black necked Stilts, Black bellied plovers and other interesting birds. We will also look for Yellow-headed Blackbirds, Peregrine Falcon, and Blue-Gray Gnatcatchers. Dress in layers, as the morning may be chilly. Please bring a scope if you have one. Meet at the end of Arnold Road.



See what happens when you don't send your art and events to the Ventura Art Scene page? We know something's happening. Let's get 'em in, people!
editor@venturabreeze.com



Lighter Breeze

Mutts



Baby Blues



Crock



Dustin



Blondie



Hagar the Horrible



Solutions on page 15

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

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

Weekly SUDOKU
by Linda Thistle

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

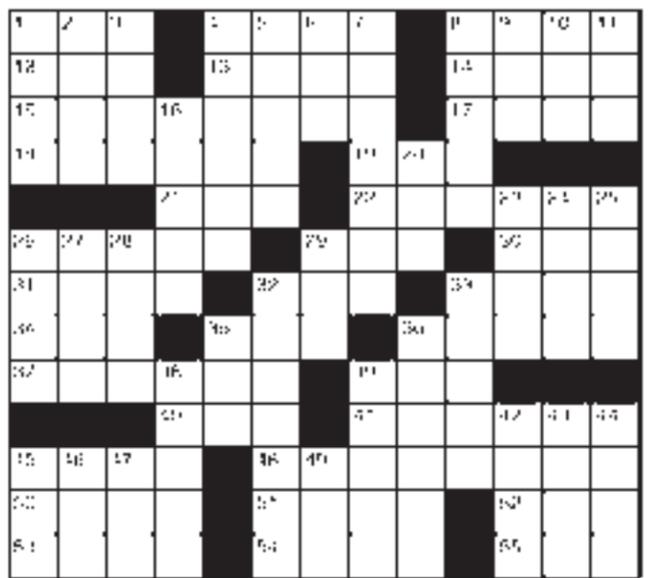
♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY

Solutions on page 15

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Chum
- 4 With 29-Across, Conrad novel
- 8 Faction
- 12 Whatever amount
- 13 Dermatology subject
- 14 Horn sound
- 15 Related to summer theater
- 17 'That hurts!'
- 18 Decorate a T-shirt, '60s-style
- 19 Old Olds
- 21 "— the fields we go"
- 22 Late
- 26 McCartney cohort
- 29 See 4-Across
- 30 Praise in verse
- 31 Doves place
- 32 Eviscerate abbr
- 33 Actress Cannon
- 34 Commotion
- 35 Trot
- 36 Part of a Santa costume
- 37 1936 Astaire/Rogers movie
- 39 Opposition st
- 40 Swelled head
- 41 Pester
- 45 Oodles



- 48 Western hero's trademark
- 50 Suitor
- 51 Durable
- 52 List-ending abbr
- 53 Complain
- 54 Peruse
- 55 "Quiet!"
- 7 Midwestern city
- 8 Remained upright
- 9 Debtor's letters
- 10 Limer. to Bugs
- 11 Biblical verb ending
- 16 Worship
- 20 Shade source
- 23 Georgetown athlete
- 24 Hebrew month
- 25 See to
- 26 "Shoo!"
- 27 — list
- 28 On
- 29 Moonshine container
- 32 Commence hostilities
- 33 Thick
- 35 Binge
- 36 Went by water
- 38 Excited!
- 39 Porcelain
- 42 I'll have what — having
- 43 Woodcut strip
- 44 Leave an impression
- 45 'The Chew' network
- 46 Meadow
- 47 Flowering succul
- 49 Weeding tool



LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Holiday plans get back on track after some confusion about the direction you expected to take. A potentially troublesome money matter needs your immediate attention.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Make your holiday preparations one step at a time in order to avoid being overwhelmed and leaving things undone. That confusing family situation continues to work itself out.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Your holiday preparations are on track. But you need to confront a personal situation while you can still keep it from overwhelming everything else.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Ease this year's holiday money pressures by letting your thrifty side guide you as you look for those perfect gifts that typically reflect your good taste and love of beauty.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Tight financial matters ease a bit during this holiday season. But the sagacious Sagittarian is well-advised to keep a tight hold on the reins while shopping for gifts.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You'll have a good handle on potential holiday problems if you delegate tasks to family members, friends or co-workers -- most of whom will be more than happy to help out.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Don't put off making decisions about this year's holiday celebrations, despite the negative comments you've been getting from several quarters. Do it NOW!

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Right now you are especially vulnerable to holiday scams that seek to take advantage of your generosity. Best advice: Check them out before you send out your checks.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) The holidays will bring new friends and new opportunities. Meanwhile, be careful to use your energy wisely as you go about making holiday preparations.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) The upcoming holiday season gives the Big Cat much to purr about. Relationships grow stronger, and new opportunities loom on the horizon, just waiting to be pounced on.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) There's good news coming from a most unlikely source. And it could turn out to be one of the best holiday gifts you have had in years. Remember to stay positive.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A changing situation brings conflicting advice about how to go forward with your holiday plans. Your best bet: Make the decision you feel most comfortable with.

BORN THIS WEEK: You are respected for your honesty and loyalty. You make friends slowly -- but with rare exceptions, they're in your life forever.

(c) 2019 King Features Synd., Inc.



Showtime

A View from House Seats

Plaid Tidings hits all the right holiday notes

by Shirley Lorraine

The holiday season is a time to enjoy familiar tunes, tons of laughter, friendship and all things red, green and festive. The Rubicon Theatre Company brings all this and more to their stage as 2019 comes to a close.

Plaid Tidings, a special holiday edition of the popular musical *Forever Plaid*, tells the story of a quartet of lovable, slightly nerdy musicians whose careers are cut short in an auto accident one fateful night. They are given the opportunity to come down to Earth to perform the holiday show they couldn't complete in life.

And what a show it is. Written and directed by the Original Creator, Stuart Ross, *Plaid Tidings* is simply heavenly from start to big finish. It has warmth, an abundance of humor, great harmonies, toe-tapping choreography, and four highly multi-talented young men with sparkles in their eyes to delight the audience throughout. For me, it is one of those shows I didn't want to end, it was so captivating and enjoyable.

All four of the Plaids come with extensive theater credits and it shows. Sean Bell, Adolpho Blaire, Zak Edwards and Joshua David Cavanaugh each bring a wide range of skills to delight and amuse. They each shine in their solo areas as well as complementing each other beautifully.

Interspersed with holiday tunes are familiar refrains from the 50's and 60's such as "Hey There," "Fever" and "Matilda" (with a twist). The Plaids even get a little heavenly help from Rosemary Clooney and inspiration

from Perry Como.

A three-minute rendition of an entire Ed Sullivan Show features well known elements and much hilarity as the four frantically pack in more than one would think possible. It's great fun and a bit nostalgic.

Accompanying the quartet is a piano and a bass, led by Musical Director Andrew M. Chukerman. The seemingly simple setting is like a magician's box of tricks, with props and details appearing in surprising ways. The entire theater is strung with holiday lights, adding to the beauty and the general festivities to sustain the holiday mood.

Ross made some alterations to the ever-in-progress script to customize some areas for Ventura's Rubicon Theatre, adding a quite personal element to the performance. The actors speak directly to the audience at times and even enlist the assistance of a few to move their story along. He also makes use of some of the actor's special talents, such as Edwards on accordion, a soft-shoe for Bell and more. As Ross relates, he enjoys "creating a special and unique production" for each cast and the theater in which they perform.

If you love holiday music and can attend only one holiday performance this season, I heartily recommend this one. Take your family. Share it with a friend. Enjoy.

Plaid Tidings runs through December 29. Performances are Wednesdays at 2 and 7 p.m., Thursdays at 7 p.m., Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 2 and 7 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. Rubicon Theater, 1006 E. Main St, Ventura. (805) 667-2900 for tickets. Prices vary.

Movie Review by Cindy Summers

Richard Jewell



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

Richard Jewell is based on true events involving the bombing that happened in 1996 at the Olympics in Atlanta, Georgia, and shows how media misinformation can cloud the truth and destroy people's lives. Released by Warner Bros. Pictures, Directed by Clint Eastwood, Written by Billy Ray, and Starring Paul Walter Hauser as Richard Jewell, Kathy Bates as Bobi Jewell and Sam Rockwell as Watson Bryant.

Richard Jewell got a job as a security guard at the Olympics in Atlanta after numerous failed jobs in law enforcement and related positions due to his overzealous enforcement and inappropriate authoritative attitude. He was very conscientious but socially awkward and spent his time studying penal codes and learning about guns and other military weapons.

After an altercation with some drunk teens, Jewell noticed an unattended backpack underneath the bench next to the sound booth tower and immediately contacted other law enforcement officers on the scene. Jewell was often thought to be too much by the book and the others played off the incident at first, but ultimately called a bomb specialist and discovered 3 large pipe bombs in the backpack.

Jewell and the other security staff feverishly tried to move the crowd away from the area, and at that same time, a call came

in to 911 "There is a bomb in Centennial Park". The bomb went off minutes later, and though people were wounded many lives were saved due to the keen site and heroic efforts of Richard Jewell.

For several days, Jewell was heralded as a national hero on television and everywhere he went, but due to the fact the FBI had no good leads, they turned to looking at Jewell as the prime suspect. The FBI decided that Jewell was a "false hero", that fit their "hero bomber" profile due to recent similar events involving other bombing and fires.

Information regarding this direction in the FBI investigation was leaked to the local press, and Jewell was thrust into a "trial by media" and now hated by the public and chased by the media unrelentingly. Jewell sought the counsel of Watson Bryant, a previous coworker and attorney with his own firm.

Due to his somewhat simple mind and respect for law enforcement, the FBI was able to manipulate Jewell into false testimony and trick him into following their storyline. Fortunately for Jewell, Bryant was a pit bull and defended Jewell feverishly, as well as helping him to find his center in the chaos that swirled around him.

The FBI spent 3 months trying to find, and seemingly at times fabricate evidence to support their belief that Jewell was guilty, all the while the press kept falsifying and exaggerating the facts. Jewell was finally dropped from the investigation and six years later Eric Rudolph was found to have been the bomber.

Paul Walter Hauser did a superb job embodying the persona of Jewell and kudos to Clint Eastwood for sharing the true count of events of this sadly diminished hero.

R (for language including some sexual references, and brief bloody images)

Experience an Evening Fit for the Gods and Goddesses of Mt. Olympus

Tuesday | December 31 | 8pm until 2am

Celebration Seating starts at 8pm – Live Dance Music by "Crosscut" til 1:45am
 Multi-Course Gourmet Meal includes Appetizers (Ahi Tuna, Scallops & Risotto, Hot Brussel Sprouts). Fresh Arugula Salad with lemon-Balsamic Vinaigrette and Parmesan Asparagus Tips
 Beef Wellington, Lobster Mashed Potatoes & Baby Sautéed Carrots.
 Crème Brulee for Dessert

Event also includes:
 Waterfront Heated Patio Seating or Inside with large dance floor
 Complimentary Professional Photo Booth
 Deluxe Party Favors & Decorations
 Champagne (sparkling wine) Toast at Midnight
 Midnight Pasta and Dessert Bars
 Belly Dance and Greek Dance Shows

Early Family Seating Starts at 5pm until 6:30pm (must vacate table by 7:30pm)
 Walk-ins welcome. Regular Dinner Menu. Reservations accepted. Belly Dancer at 6:30pm.

UBER or LYFT to and from Harbor

The Greek
 MEDITERRANEAN STEAK & SEAFOOD

Located in Beautiful Ventura Harbor
 1583 Spinnaker Dr. Ventura CA 93001
www.TheGreekVentura.com

Make Your Reservation Today!
(805) 650-5350
Lynn@TheGreekVentura.com



Carolyn Mullin Executive Director and Hip Hop artist .Paak hope to keep PACC open.

Oxnard Performing Arts Center gets help from recording star .Paak

by Richard Lieberman

Anderson .Paak a well known rapper and singer recently took a one hour tour of the Oxnard Performing Arts and Convention Center. He was there to give support to the center scheduled for closure December 31, 2019. "I want this to be a hub for creativity," said the recording star.

He added he wants to house his nonprofit foundation at the site. .Paak, a Grammy winner, said he sees young people recording music, rehearsing plays and having boxing matches at the center.

.Paak has not made a monetary commitment to the city-owned facility. "There's a bunch of stuff I want to invest in," he said. He also urged his fans to donate by texting "saveopacc" to 44321. His nonprofit foundation the Brandon Anderson foundation said the money raised will be set aside for the performing arts center.

.Paak put on a free concert last year at the center to celebrate the release of his album

"Oxnard". Mayor Tim Flynn presented .Paak with the key to the city at the event.

A mere six months later the city announced that the performing arts center, which receives a subsidy from the city of around \$1 million on an annual basis would have to close. The community reacted and demanded the center be funded. The city kept the center open for an additional six months in order for center management to find an outside operator and to keep the centers commitments for the 2019 season.

Six months have passed and still the center has not been successful in acquiring an outside operator.

Carolyn Mullin, executive director of the center took .Paak on a tour of the facility. Mullin joined the center two years ago and has been in touch with .Paak's foundation to build a partnership. She said, "I always thought his foundation should be in his hometown. He's a native son that's done good."

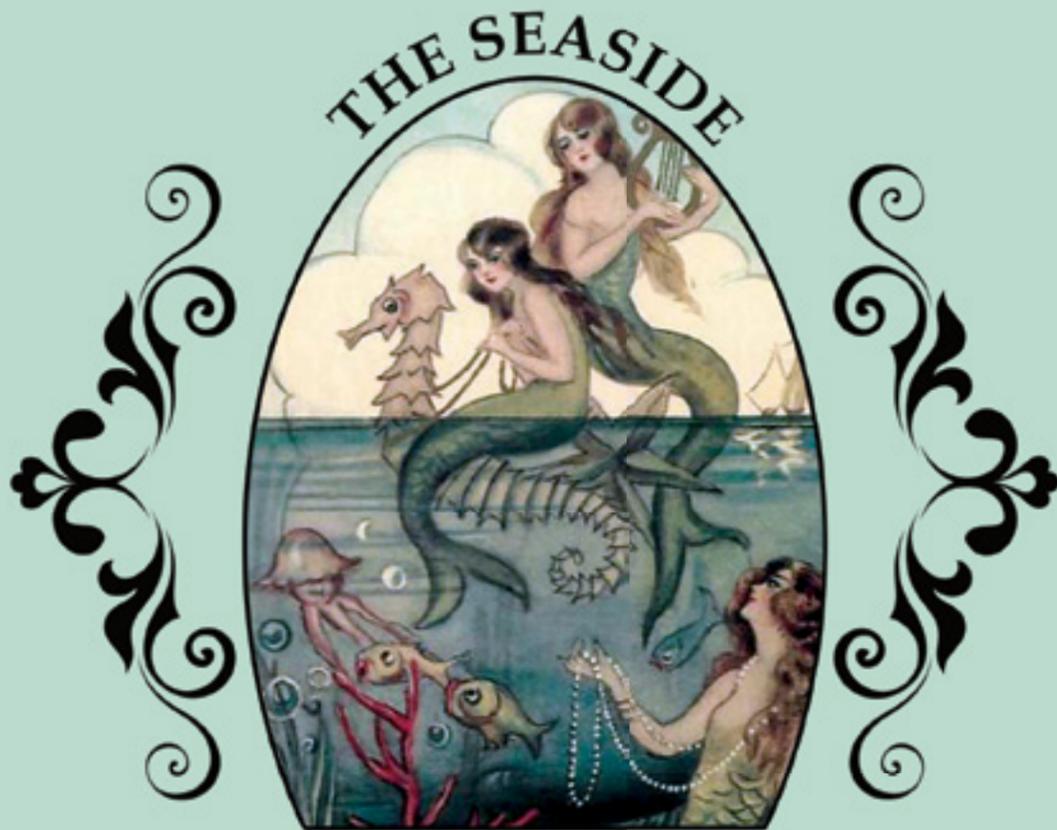
.Paak was born in Oxnard and grew up in both Oxnard and Ventura. He said he remembers going to church functions, plays and beauty pageants at the center. He said there is a lot of local talent here and the performing arts center can be an incubator.

On the tour .Paak watched a rehearsal from Hip Hop Mindset, a youth performance group that rehearses and performs at the center.

"I'm super amazed" said Ricardo Rod Rodriguez, 12 "To have a famous singer and rapper come to watch us dance, it's an amazing feeling."

The December 31st deadline is approaching fast and Board members of the performing arts center, said they are meeting with Alex Nguyen, City Manager to discuss the future.

Editor: Even though this facility is in Oxnard many Venturans attend the wonderful events there from Beethoven to doggies to Ventura Music Festival concerts which is why we have included this in the Breeze.



Vintage Market

Indoor Show

**January 10th
5pm - 9pm**

**January 11th
9am - 2pm**

**Ventura County Fairgrounds
10 W. Harbor Blvd.**

**Friday Admission \$6.00
Saturday Admission \$3.00
Parking is \$8.00**

**For more information call Sue at (818) 590-5435
www.snauctions.com**