

Should the statue of Father Junipero Serra be removed?

VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

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The closing of a few blocks of downtown Main Street to vehicles has commenced. This allows restaurants and stores to expand into the street. This was part of an "emergency economic development policy," approved by the City Council.

"We're taking innovative, creative, flexible steps to show our business community that we'll do everything within our power to support this recovery," Mayor Matt LaVere said.

This will last for one month as a pilot program at which time the Council will decide whether to leave it in place.



About 200 people attended a protest at the statue.

Will Father Serra statue be moved?

A demonstration was held on Saturday, June 20, to demand that the statue of Father Junipero Serra in front of Ventura City Hall be taken down on grounds that he had committed atrocities against Native Americans, including the local Chumash.

Father Serra is credited with bringing Catholicism to California but many blame him for what they say were his efforts to

do away with Native American culture in California and for the premature deaths of thousands of indigenous people.

Ventura Mayor Matt LaVere, representatives from the Barbareño/Venureño Band of Mission Indians and Father Tom Elewaut, the pastor of Mission San Buenaventura, agreed and issued a joint statement agreeing to take down the

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Graduating students were all smiles.

Ventura High School Celebrates At-Risk Graduates

by Sheli Ellsworth

Before COVID-19, the term "at-risk" was used to identify students that were having difficulty in school and at risk for dropping out. One out of ten California students will drop out of high school before graduating.

"Out of around 2000 students, we had about 60 students who were recognized by a counselor, teacher, parent or

coach as having lots of potential but who were either struggling, underperforming academically, economically, socially, or attendance wise," says Ventura High School Principal Carlos Cohen. Cohen contacted the Police Activities League (PAL) with an idea. He wanted to bridge any gaps students might have faced in their lives by coaching, mentoring and teaching them the skills they need to get ahead. In April 2019, a joint project Levin named "Learning the Ropes" or LTR was launched.

Students who normally would have been suspended for truancy, vaping, pot smoking or classroom violations had the choice of attending semi-monthly lunchtime workshops or suspension. "Freshman students in LTR also have access to a VHS Den Mentor—junior and senior students who have volunteered to mentor freshmen." Thirty-five students decided to attend the LTR program. Only four students chose suspension.

PAL members Sal Flores, Ben Schuck, Jeanette Sanchez, Frank Benavidez, J.R. Luna, Joseph Hoss, Annette Garcia, and Lorelei Woerner took on the challenge. "About four or five of us went at a time,

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- Jan Koch and Gloria Samario

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The Ventura Breeze is celebrating 13 years of publishing local news thanks to the support of the Ventura community and our advertisers. The time has come, however, for us to ask our dedicated readers to consider helping us continue publishing during this difficult time. Due to the lack of advertisers (which we understand), we really need your generous support to continue to bring local news to the community. In order to do this, we are starting the Ventura Breeze Honor Roll. The names of Honor Roll donors will be published in the paper unless donors don't want to be shown. As the publisher of this community's favorite newspaper, we appreciate the relationship we have with our readers and we pledge to keep bringing you all the local news and events.

There are a couple of ways to contribute and be a 2020 Honor Roll Donor. You can go to our website www.venturabreeze.com, where you will find a **Donate** link at the top of the page and use the PayPal button to make a donation, which allows you to pay by credit card or with your PayPal account. If you would rather pay by check or have the Breeze staff process your donation, you can use the form below and mail in your check or credit card information. You may also contribute by going to www.gofundme.com/f/support-the-ventura-breeze.

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The program has been developed by the County of Ventura in consultation with the Ventura County Community Foundation, the Economic Development Collaborative, and Women's Economic Ventures.

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City News



Father Serra was wearing a face mask before it was the law.

City Council will require masks

On a 4-3 vote the City Council will require masks to be worn inside businesses and government offices, on public transit and in most indoor venues that are open to the public. This order will go into effect once the City Council approves the final ordinance which will be considered at a future meeting.

The city manager will need to draft an emergency ordinance to lay out the details of the new order. It will be modeled on a similar order in Santa Barbara.

Councilmember Erik Nasarenko stated “masks have become such a

common feature that I don’t even think people question it anymore. Ultimately it’s not about discomfort or inconvenience, it’s about doing whatever we can in whatever way possible to limit the spread of a highly infectious and deadly disease and if that means wearing a face covering, I think we should do it.”

Nasarenko, along with Councilmembers Cheryl Heitmann, Sofia Rubalcava and Christy Weir voted in support of the order. Mayor Matt LaVere, Lorrie Brown and Jim Friedman voted no.

Brown and Friedman voted no because they question the city’s ability to enforce the use of face coverings in businesses.

Police Chief Darin Schindler said enforcement of the policy would not be a priority for the department.

“I would obviously put communication in front of enforcement. I just don’t think it’s a viable option right now to expect us to contact people for purposes of enforcing them wearing a mask. It’s going to put our officers in a difficult situation especially with the current climate surrounding the use of police authority right now.”

Violations of the mask order would be handled through the city’s emergency action citation process, the same way that violations of other pandemic-related health orders are handled. Ventura plans to focus on education to try to obtain voluntary compliance from the public. But if that doesn’t work, a written warning may be issued, followed by an administrative citation.

So, basically this is just symbolic.

Will Father Serra statue be moved?

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statue and have it moved to a more appropriate non-public location. See copy of it in this issue.

“We have listened, and we have heard the calls from those in the community and believe the time has come for the statue to be taken down and moved to a more appropriate non-public location. We all believe that the removal of the statue should be accomplished without force, without anger and without uncivil discourse, much less vandalism,” the joint statement reads.

Tension built for a time at the rally as a group formed a ring around the base of the statue to protect it from being taken down. Ventura Police Department patrol units arrived and the tension subsided. The protest concluded peacefully with no arrests or further problems.

Those gathering represented a mix of views. Those who want it removed and those who think it is an important part of our history and should remain where it is.

Speakers included Chumash elder Julie Tumamait-Stenslie, tribal chair of the Barbareño/Ventureño Band of Mission Indians and Tom Elewaut.

The first statue was created by John Palo-Kangas in 1936. It was replaced in 1989 by a statue made from the wood carving by the late Wilbur Rubottom that is on display in City Hall atrium. Rubottom Cabinets is still located in Ventura and run by members of his family.

Elewaut said “I can’t say that I agree that the statue should come down. But I will acquiesce to it if it helps bring some healing to the present-day Chumash community. Father Serra saw himself as a spiritual father for the indigenous people. Were people decimated? Yes. I understand the hurt and the loss of culture that the indigenous people experienced.”

“In recent weeks, the City of Ventura has received a groundswell of feedback from the public on the Father Junipero Serra statue. We want the community to know that we are receptive to their concerns and seek to provide

a peaceful environment where all voices are heard and respected,” stated Ventura City Manager Alex D. McIntyre. “This is an historic decision and must involve the voices of the Chumash tribe, the Mission San Buenaventura, residents of Ventura, and the City Council.”

The public is invited to join the Ventura City Council for a virtual community discussion on Tuesday, July 7, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. about the Father Junipero Serra statue. The special public meeting will include the Ventura Mayor, City Council, and city leadership.

You can share written responses online by visiting www.CityofVentura.ca.gov/FatherSerra. All responses will be shared with the City Council.

Once removed the big question is where should it be relocated? The Breeze would love to hear our readers thoughts at editor@venturabreeze.com.



On June 24, at 8:52 am, the Ventura City Fire Department responded to a report of a structure fire in the 100 block of Kellogg St. First arriving firefighters discovered a single story four-unit apartment building with one unit fully involved in fire. The fire was contained to the unit of origin and extinguished. Adjacent apartment units had no damage from fire.

No injuries were reported as a result of this incident.

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June 18, 2020



Dear City of Ventura Residents and Community Stakeholders,

In the last few days, we have seen a groundswell of support from some members of the community requesting that the City of Ventura remove the statue of Father Junipero Serra from its location near City Hall. To that end, Ventura Mayor Matt LaVere organized a meeting with representatives from the Barbareño/ Ventureño Band of Mission Indians (Chumash) and Father Tom Elewaut of Mission San Buenaventura. This meeting resulted in a friendly, collaborative, and honest dialogue where everyone recognized that the time for action is now.

The three of us are confident that a peaceful resolution regarding the Father Junipero Serra statue can be reached, without uncivil discourse and character assassination, much less vandalism of a designated landmark. As stated by Julie Tumamait Stenslie, the Tribal Chair of the Barbareño/ Ventureño Band of Mission Indians: *“True conversation starts with an open heart and mind. Change comes when there is no judgement or assumptions. To listen to and to be heard is crucial.”*

We have listened and we have heard the calls from those in the community and believe the time has come for the statue to be taken down and moved to a more appropriate non-public location. But a historic decision such as this must involve the Ventura City Council, the voices of the Chumash tribe and residents of Ventura. It is our priority to be receptive to community concerns and provide an environment where all voices are heard and respected. To honor the cultural heritage of Ventura and its earliest residents is our ultimate goal.

We all believe that the removal of the statue should be accomplished without force, without anger, and through a collaborative, peaceful process. This process has already commenced through our initial meeting and we look forward to continuing the discussion with the community to help guide further action on this.

The public will be invited to engage in this process and share their input. When a community discussion has been scheduled to discuss the Father Junipero Serra statue, this information will be shared openly and transparently by the City of Ventura.

Matt LaVere
Mayor, City of Ventura

Father Tom Elewaut
Pastor
(805) 643-4318 ext.101

Julie Tumamait Stenslie
Tribal Chair
(805) 646-6214

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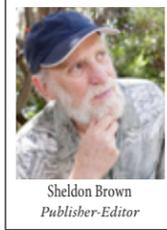
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Opinion/Editorial



Sheldon Brown
Publisher-Editor

■ Regarding the Bill Green cartoon in the last issue, I have received negative feedback and criticism from some of our readers and sincerely apologize for running it. It wasn't intended to be racist in any manner, but rather just a satirical social comment on the changes underway in this country and the challenges faced by people of color.

It completely missed the mark, and, in retrospect, I understand that the cartoon should never have been published. I now realize that this attempt at humor trivialized the very serious issue of racism that continues to plague our society. I have learned from this experience, and, of course, have spent considerable time reflecting upon the lack of awareness that enabled me to publish the cartoon in the first place. I don't consider myself to be racist in any way, but, those are easy words to say. What I have come to realize is that I do not know or even begin to understand the plight of marginalized people in this country. I don't have any concept of their experience, know how they feel, the challenges they face being a person of color, or the prejudices they have to deal with in their daily lives.

So, to that end, I've been thinking more about what I can do to learn, and to support. I can clearly use the platform of the Ventura Breeze to support this cause. So, I have decided that it could be meaningful to add a new column, starting with the next issue, titled, Social Justice. The goal of this column will be to create an area of coverage/dialogue to help educate and to increase community understanding and transparency around this difficult societal topic.

Please feel free to send any content ideas to publisher@venturabreeze.com. If there are local challenges and opportunities, I would very much like to hear about them.

■ Father Junipero Serra's statue outside Ventura City Hall -and his statues elsewhere- has become very controversial and many are being torn down. Ours was made from the wood carving by the late Wilbur Rubottom that is still on display in the City Hall atrium. Rubottom Cabinets is still active in Ventura run by his family. Even if it is removed, I hope the wood carving remains in City Hall because it is a wonderful piece of art. Many works of art are controversial.

As an alternative, a plaque could be

added that explains why he is controversial so that his history is known, and people can understand why he's controversial.

■ There are calls to defund police departments. I think a better word would be to re-fund police departments and to reduce their loads and redistribute responsibilities to other agencies. and have other agencies deal with some of what they are asked to deal with. For instance, the homeless and mentally ill should not have a police response but a response by social workers and those trained to deal with this population. A uniformed officer showing up with guns can just escalate a situation that could be better handled by others. This is not what the police even want to deal with.

Look how well our park Ambassador program is doing with the homeless populations. They are not threatening but become friends and aids to those needing help and guidance with mental illness and drugs. When a situation becomes dangerous, they then call in the police.

■ After the City Council approved it by a 4-3 vote, Ventura will require masks inside businesses and government offices, on public transit and in most other indoor locations open to the public. The city manager will now draft an emergency order calling out the details of the new policy. It will go into effect as soon as the City Council approves the new order.

■ The Food and Drug Administration has ended its emergency use authorization for hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine, drugs the president touted in the fight against coronavirus. Mr. Trump took a 14-day regimen of hydroxychloroquine himself. Based on the FDA's continued review of the available scientific evidence, it determined the drug is "unlikely to be effective in treating COVID-19 for the authorized uses," the FDA said. The agency added that "in light of ongoing serious cardiac adverse events and other serious side effects, the known benefits "no longer outweigh the known and potential risks." The US now has more hydroxychloroquine than it knows what to do with. It started stockpiling the drug in March, and now has 63 million surplus doses of the drug.

■ A divided Supreme Court further advanced the cause of LGBTQ rights, ruling that a landmark civil rights law barring sex discrimination in the workplace applies to gay, lesbian and transgender workers. The court's ruling is likely to have a sweeping impact on

federal civil rights laws barring sex discrimination in education, health care, housing and financial credit. About time.

■ Trump blamed the lack of at least 13,000 people not attending his Tulsa rally on the protesting thugs. First of all, they weren't thugs, but rather about 175 peaceful demonstrators. and is he saying 175 protesters kept 13,000 people from entering the arena. Why didn't the 13,000 hang around outside to listen to him on the big screen? Plus, the other 40,000 people that were supposed to be outside. Because they weren't there. When only a handful of people showed up outside to participate, the organizers took down the stage and big screen.

When he blamed the thugs, his fans booed as if this was a TV reality show. Oh wait, maybe it is, and we are in a parallel universe and Trump isn't really our president.

Why can't he just be honest and say, "I was disappointed in the turn out, but 6,000 supporters is a start and we will win the election." instead of (like always) finding excuses and people to blame when things don't go his way.

Republican Lindsey Graham praises Joe Biden and calls Donald Trump a "race-baiting, xenophobic, religious bigot" in new ad "You know how you make America great again?" Lindsey said, "Tell Donald Trump to go to hell."

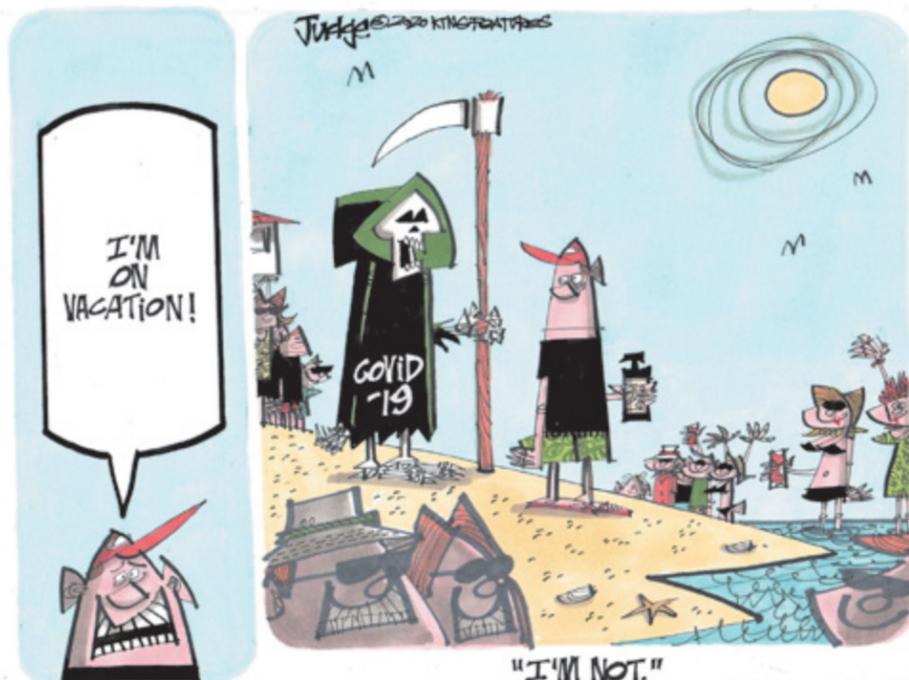
■ In a list of things Americans should do to protect themselves and others against coronavirus, Vice President Mike Pence mentioned everything health officials say Americans should do — hand washing, avoiding touching the face, disinfecting frequently.

He pointedly did not mention two of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's main pieces of advice—wearing face masks and social distancing.

■ The Trump administration doesn't have the authority to divert Pentagon funds to construct additional barriers on the US-Mexico border, a federal appeals court ruled, days after President Donald Trump's visit to a section of the wall in Arizona.

Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less.

— Marie Curie



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



News & Notes



CAPS Media and the Power of Information

Hello fellow Venturans. Since the start of the COVID-19 crisis the CAPS Media Center has been closed, however CAPS crews have continuously provided extensive communication services to the City and County to help inform the public. For example, every week CAPS produces updates by City officials and CAPS continues to direct the broadcast and streaming of City Council meetings and other committee meetings with remote participation by board members, committee members and city staff. Plus, every Monday, Wednesday and Friday CAPS Crews record the live County COVID-19 updates at the County government center and then edit/format the updates with titles and subtitles in Spanish. In addition, CAPS crews continue to produce numerous videos for Ventura County Fire, Public Health and other agencies.

For years the Ventura Breeze has given CAPS Media the opportunity to provide updates on our activities. Despite serving the Ventura community for twenty years, many people do not know what CAPS Media is, what it does, where it is located or how the organization was founded or evolved.

Community Access Partners of San Buenaventura or CAPS, as it is commonly known, is a Public Access, non-profit 501 3(C) corporation was formed on December 20, 2000 by a group of public and media-minded Ventura citizens.

Public Access is guaranteed by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. This provided a catalyst for the Ventura group in forming a Public Access entity created by the cable franchise negotiations between the City of Ventura, Avenue Cable (later Charter Communications) and Adelphia Cable (later Time Warner and now Spectrum). The public-private agreement provided for multiple PEG access television channels in Ventura.

Twenty years ago our visionary founders ensured that the operation of the Public Access media center for community service would be managed as an independent non-profit organization without discrimination. Today CAPS continues to train and guide members and collaborate with the City of Ventura, Ventura Unified School District, Ventura College, Ventura County and other community, educational, service and faith-based non-profit organizations. Primary funding for CAPS is derived from franchise fees paid by the cable companies to the City of Ventura. A portion of these franchise fees were allocated to CAPS Media.

CAPS is managed by a small staff with oversight from an unpaid Board of Directors which includes community members, elected by the CAPS Media

membership and/or identified by the Board of Directors, as well as representatives from the City of Ventura, Ventura Unified School District, the Ventura Community College District and the County of Ventura. CAPS Mission is “to create an engaged and informed community through participation in electronic media.” Our vision is to Engage, Educate and Entertain.

CAPS Media is a membership organization. Anyone who lives, attends school or works in the City of Ventura, as well as non-profit organizations can become members of CAPS Media for a nominal annual fee. With various training classes, strong mentorship and support, our members share their voices and have produced award winning programs.

For over fifteen years CAPS has managed two Public Access Television Channels 6 and 15 and more recently, one Public Access Radio Station, KPPQ.

In 2019 alone CAPS provided over 27,000 hours of services. These include directing, broadcasting and streaming 55 City meetings, including City Council, Design Review, Planning and Historic Preservation and 19 VUSD board meetings. We rebroadcast VC Board of Supervisors meetings. The CAPS staff provided more than 15,000 hours of Production Services in support of the community. Our well-established programs of media education for students and community groups totaled almost 10,000 hours. More importantly, we’ve helped to inspire and support youth voices as they created award winning programs.

Exciting new chapters in the story of Community Access Partners of San Buenaventura await us all when our community emerges together from the current crisis. With that in mind, all of us at CAPS Media hope everyone is Staying Safe and Healthy during this challenging time.

Ventura High school Celebrates

Continued from page 1

says Flores.” At first the students were really distracted, some were disrespectful, and some outright rude. Eventually, they started to listen.” Flores says the workshops focus on subjects like: Never Give Up; You Can Achieve Anything; Wealth and Happiness are Two Different Things; Goal Setting—Make a plan; Take 100% Responsibility for Your Actions; You Earn It—You’re Not Entitled to It; and What is the Real Problem?

Flores says that just showing up for the students is key and more than some working parents are able to do. “We care about them, we believe in them, and we

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- Cheryl Hodge

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make time for them—which is better than some students get at home.” Many Learning the Ropes students are from broken homes and blended families where alcohol and drugs interfere with normal functioning. “Some of the at-risk kids are just financially challenged and don’t know where to go next. We help them navigate their next step whether it be college or a trade school. We look for scholarships and sponsor field trips to postsecondary schools to get them comfortable with the idea of continuing their educations.” One of the most important lessons taught is: No more excuses! Today is the day to make changes.

On June 13, six of the nine LTR seniors graduated from Ventura High School. “Two more are making up credits this summer and will graduate in August,” according to Levin. One of the June graduates is Destiny Sausedo.

Sausedo grew up in a gang-infested neighborhood where shootings were commonplace. She has lived through the death of her brother in a drive-by shooting and the loss of her mother to a drug overdose. Eventually she landed in foster care then a group home. “I found the meetings motivational. I left with a new sense of purpose,” Sausedo says. She had no idea so many kids were dealing with so many problems. “Some of us needed help and didn’t even know it.” Sausedo advises other at-risk teens to never give up. “I have a saying: God picks the strongest soldiers for the toughest battles.” Sausedo’s next goal is to attend Ventura College and eventually become a therapist so she can help kids like her.

For more information about PAL and Ventura High School’s Learning the Ropes program contact Sal Flores 805.651.8647.



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News & Notes

Our dear students, tomorrow's leaders

by 42 local high school teachers, counselors, and para-educators

Because we cannot see you and speak to you face-to-face we, your teachers and counselors, hope to reach you now. We feel we cannot remain silent. If you have been paying attention, you may have learned more in the last twelve weeks than you would have learned in the classroom.

Faced with challenges, do we flee to find a safe place, abandoning those who are suffering around us? Or do we play our part and help in the changes that drive society? Do we resist in the face of injustice, even at the risk of suffering? Do we act, engage, change? Or do we ignore injustice and ignorance with excuses of "that's life," "life's not fair," "that's how it goes," and "that's not our problem?" In the future, we hope that we will be proud of the things we did rather than feel shame at the things we did not do in these difficult times.

The current crisis about race in our nation and pandemic have exposed monumental challenges. We must acknowledge that many of us benefit from the inequalities and inequities that plague friends and classmates. Call to mind the representations of peoples from textbooks, the euro-centric maps, the emphasis on

United States' history through many years of school, the many English language books you read and the few translations, the restrooms that matched your biological gender, the discrepancies in the ethnic make-up of AP, honor, regular classes and school sites. Privilege has embedded itself into our political system, corrupted it, and robbed us of our democracy.

We, as teachers, recognize that we have come up short. We have not sufficiently looked inward to ourselves, our classrooms, and our schools; we have not addressed the inevitable but fatal subconscious biases that infect our practices and our interactions with you, our own shortcomings, our own privilege, our own racism. We have not always engaged in the uncomfortable conversations that must be had. We are part of a system within a system that perpetuates and reinforces inequality, inequity, and injustice. Often, it has been you who has taught us and, often, it was we who were wrong not to listen.

We acknowledge that, in our days of confinement, we all had reason to stay safe, that the situations were frightening, that we were right to feel danger. Yes, we love you, but we cannot assure you that you will always be safe. No longer can we hide from you the harshness of our world. We cannot protect you from all things. Instead, we call on you to step up or to reach out, that we might help you step up and that you may help us learn, grow, and serve.

We pledge our good will, positive thoughts, help and hope; we pledge our commitment to action, resolve to respond, and we promise to provide learning opportunities to work through these challenges together.

Maybe it's an evolving day in the neighborhood

by Visit Ventura

Of late you may have noticed a strange and wonderful thing. People are out walking in our neighborhoods. We are talking about Ventura, because those are the neighborhoods we see, but if you're not from Ventura, you might be seeing the very same thing in your town too. After recent decades characterized more by frantic rush than stroll, it is somewhat soothing to see young parents pushing strollers, young children beelining on scooters, corporate financial officers holding hands with their husbands, and old neighbors talking (at a distance) in the cooling shade of a maple. A few months ago, it seemed like everyone had to be somewhere yesterday. Now many of us don't.

We all know the reason behind the current stay-close-to-home slow down, and, yes, there is ungraspable sadness and difficulty attendant with COVID-19. But this increase in neighborly walks, it is good medicine. For one thing, there is something peaceful about strolling through a neighborhood, and, in these chaotic times, we can all use a few moments of quiet and relaxation.

But maybe there's something bigger afoot here too. We are meeting each other. And now that the world has slowed

for a moment for many of us, we are also pausing in the shade to listen to each other, and the simple act of listening to our fellows can change so many things. Stopping and listening isn't just a physical act on a neighborhood sidewalk. Stopping and listening is a fine life skill too. Listening -- real, attentive listening -- is learning. About different viewpoints. About different lifestyles. About different needs. About differences -- and why they matter so much to those whose lives, whose pasts, whose experiences, whose skin color may be different from ours. Listening brings awareness -- and awareness can foster better things.

Listening is also a fine counter to shouting. It is so very hard to hear when we are shouting.

In Ventura's neighborhoods -- and, very likely, neighborhoods around the world -- not all neighbors are acquainted. Often, neighbors are strangers. Sometimes the word stranger carries with it the tint of fear and distrust. We sometimes fear what we don't know. In this new world of neighborhood walks, neighbors are getting to know each other. Maybe they are sharing a thought or a story. Maybe they are sharing a laugh. Maybe they are just trying to stay six feet away from each other.

But maybe they are finding pieces of common ground. And those pieces of common ground, they can be pursued further. Sharing conversation for five minutes on the sidewalk is a fine thing. Pursuing that further is better still. Though the time might currently not be right for dinners at each other's homes, or playdates with the kids, those times

Continued on page 8



News & Notes



People have asked what should replace it? Photo by Bernie Goldstein.

We in Ventura have traveled down this road before

by Richard Senate

Many see Fr. Serra as a controversial lightning rod figure who is blamed for all of the outrages of the Spanish Mission system. They ignore the good and focus on those things that are negative in our Spanish Past and wish to tear down the stature or “move it” to a less prominent place.

We in Ventura have traveled down this road before. What was once Main Street was once called “El Camino Real” but to the new Yankee settlers that was too Spanish sounding. We had fought a grim war with Mexico to secure the southwest and the Yankees didn’t want to be reminded of anything Spanish. So they changed the name of Spanish streets to more Yankee sounding named like “Oak Street” and “Palm.”

The pulled down historic adobes and replaced them with wood and brick building that reminded them of New England. Much of our history was lost. The removal of Fr. Serra’s statue is fully in keeping with this tradition. There is no room at the museum for the thing, the church doesn’t want it. Heck, it doesn’t even resemble Junipero Serra.

People have asked what should replace it? I have a dozen names of people who should occupy the pedestal before City Hall. Here are but a few: 1) Candelaria Valenzuela the Chumash elder comes to mind. She is buried here and gave

much data on her people. 2) Dr. Ceaphas L. Bard, the most beloved man in the county could grace the community he loved in life. 3) Theodosia Burr Sheppard an early business woman and horticulturalist who put Ventura on the map. She was a suffragette before it was popular and would show the progressive side of Ventura. 4) Angel Escandone, the man who set up and incorporated the city of San Buenaventura. He served in the State Assembly. He helped to set up the County as well. He was our true founder. But, he was a Spanish person and might not be popular today--besides that--he was a Republican. 5) Raymundo Olivas, landowner and rich rancher helped Ventura Grow. 6) What about Maggie Sullivan a well-known hooker who was very popular in the cow town days of early Ventura.

How about a generic Chumash Cowboy who made Ventura prosper in Gold Rush times or maybe an Oil worker who made the town rich with black gold--well, that’s not popular now. Lots of people deserve a statue in Ventura--including my favorite, mystery writer and crusading lawyer Erle Stanley Gardner, who created Perry Mason in Ventura. They will stand until the next wave of passion comes and topples them into the trash heap of history.

Hollywood’s love affair---with Ventura

by Ivor Davis

Hollywood’s love affair with Ventura continues unabashed. Always has and probably always will.

Over the years tinsel town movie crews have raced up to our shores to shoot a wide ranging assortment of movies for almost as long as Hollywood has been in business.

The list is endless and city coffers over the years have been fattened thanks to Hollywood location fees. In this article I am sticking strictly to Our Town, although going back to 1915--and D.W.Griffiths classic

black and white movie, “Birth of A Nation”--The County, particularly Thousand Oaks as well as neighboring communities like Santa Paula and Ojai--it is obvious that our city has always been very high on the movieland location scouts hit list.

So, why the rush to Ventura? Noted the Los Angeles Times in 1999: “Besides simple proximity, the reason Ventura County keeps showing up on screen is that its country roads, beaches and main streets can pass for ‘Anytown, USA.’”

So now you know. Let me name just a handful of films that have alighted in our fair city. In 1990 “The Two Jakes” with Jack Nicholson starring and directing took over City Hall---and then moved down the road to the Ojai Valley Inn for a spot of golf. During shooting the loveable Mr. Nicholson took over the largest suite in Ventura--and liked to

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Before it became Ventura’s city hall this building was the headquarters of Ventura County. It was our luck that the County opened up new facilities and sold the building to Ventura. Still remaining behind the building is the small structure that was the jail. It has remained empty for many many years. Photo submitted by Ivor Davis.

party. I was told by a Ventura police officer who doubled as security for the film, that the Swat Team often invaded Nicholson’s suite because of noisy parties. I exaggerate, of course. But only slightly.

And then who can forget two other films.

Back in 2000 the movie, “Erin Brockovich,” with the lovely Julia Roberts in the title role, invaded our town for several weeks. Scenes were shot in downtown Main Street cafes--and the director Steven Soderbergh and his crew decided that a house in Ventura would provide the perfect place of residence for the crusading Ms. Brockovich.

And here’s something I learned from reading the original script. There was a notation on the pages that said, “Erin lives in a simple bungalow in a rundown, crappy neighborhood.”

How dare they, I though. Everyone knows there are no such neighborhoods in Our Town! But at least Julia Roberts --despite her accommodation--ended up winning a best actress Oscar for that role!

David Comden, the former publisher of Ventana Magazine and the Reporter, also informed me that Ventura’s City Hall (when it

was actually our local jailhouse and courthouse) starred in a little known horror film made by producer-director William Castle called “Homicidal.” And the film crew also used a local home nearby as a murder site! And he even came up with a photo of City Hall as jailhouse!

And who amongst us can ever forget the time that John Travolta and his co-stars--Halle Berry and Australian actor singer Hugh Jackman commandeered Main Street for well over a week on the 2001 film “Swordfish,” which incidentally did not set the box office alight. Local businesses suffered--although they were compensated by the studio.

Still, while in our town, they blew up a building and wrecked a few cars, just in case you missed the fact that Hollywood had taken over our streets!

I’ve only skimmed the surface. But maybe Breeze readers can write in and tell me more about the Hollywood invasion. And what films I have most certainly left out.
Ivor Davis, author of: Manson Exposed: A Reporter’s 50-Year Journey into Madness and Murder The Beatles and Me on Tour www.IvorDavisBooks.com



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News & Notes Ventura Water

by Venturans for Responsible & Efficient Gov't (VREG)-Part 1 of 2

Eight years ago, Ventura Water, faced with a City Council decision to settle a federal lawsuit seeking to halt putting wastewater into the Santa Clara River estuary, started a pilot project to use our wastewater for drinking. The project was called VenturaWaterPure—the purest and safest quality water. They continue to pursue this course today in the face of data that demonstrates it's not in the best interest of citizens cost-wise or health-wise.

How Things Began To Go Wrong

Ventura Water based its decision on a faulty premise that Ventura needed additional water. The Wishtoyo Consent Decree provided an opportunity for Ventura Water to select Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) as an integral part of VenturaWaterPure. Costs were not even a factor in the original thinking – Ventura Water would just increase the water bill rates.

Ventura Water will do anything to pursue this goal, even when confronted with facts to the contrary. In June 2018, a group of concerned citizens went to each Councilmember to show them a state expert panel report to the state legislature that DPR was not safe. The Council and Ventura water then changed course and announced that Indirect Potable Reuse (IPR) was the new method to treat the wastewater. They did not change the name VenturaWaterPure or challenge their assumptions.

More recently, when Ventura Water presented to the Water Commission, they asserted that State Water was unreliable, and they can only count on water 33% of the time. Commissioners pointed out 40 years of historical data that showed State Water was reliable 50%-75% of the time. Ventura Water backtracked again and said they'd upgrade their data, but they never questioned their assumptions.

What These Decisions Cost You

A September 12, 2019 report titled Ventura Water Supply Projects and Alternatives, commissioned by Ventura Water, shows estimated project costs of another \$320 million plus the annual operating expenses of \$29 million for VenturaWaterPure. The added expense could saddle Ventura's citizens with another \$260 per month in water rates unless Ventura Water takes an alternative direction.

Spreading \$320 million over ten years, divided equally among the 32,000 water ratepayers in Ventura, will cost about \$83 more per month on your water bill. An extra 20-27 employees are required to operate the new facility, adding to the Ventura Water's payroll, benefits and pensions. If Ventura Water adds the minimum number of new employees, using an average annual cost of \$100,000 per person, plus benefits, will add \$29.1 million annually. Dividing \$29.1 million by 32,000 water ratepayers adds another \$76 per month to each water bill.

Assume the average monthly water bill in Ventura is \$100 per month (\$200 every two months) when adding another \$83 for building and \$76 for operations and maintenance, the new average total is \$260 per month. The amount could be even higher if Ventura Water hires more than 20 new employees.

Known as the Carollo Report, this September 12, 2019 report looks at the high price of the VenturaWaterPure project. It also attempts to provide alternatives that would be much more cost-effective and allow Ventura to meet its three primary water goals. Ventura Water has rejected all lesser cost alternatives.

Ventura's goals remain: 1) remove tertiary treated wastewater from the Santa Clara Estuary, 2) increase the water supply and 3) improve the water quality in the east

end of Ventura.

The Driving Force Behind VenturaWaterPure

Ventura Water has already spent eight years to meet the demands of a Federal Consent Decree. Ventura must fully comply with removing tertiary treated wastewater from the Santa Clara Estuary by 2025. The questions asked then were, "What will we do with it, and how will we pay for it?" Their answer was, "We will just have to drink it and raise the rates." Thus VenturaWaterPure was set in motion.

In 2012, there was no idea what the costs of VenturaWaterPure would be or whether it was safe. The ideation sounded good - make the recycled water drinkable and justify it on the basis that we have a dwindling water supply. The idea of 'toilet to tap' originated on the premise that 'if the astronauts can drink it, we can too.'

Call or email your City Councilmember to tell them you want to save \$270 million and not have your water rates nearly triple.

Closure to restore Scorpion Fire burn area

The Scorpion Fire burn area of approximately 1,411 acres will be closed for restoration until further notice.

The closure includes the entire burned area that extends eastward from the Smugglers Road that leads from Scorpion Valley to Smugglers Cove. Most of the burned area extends seaward to the coastline from Smugglers Road.

The Smugglers Road will remain open to foot traffic. Boaters will not be able to access Little Scorpion Canyon from the shoreline due to the closure.

"The National Park Service is grateful for the rapid response to the Scorpion Fire by Los Padres National Forest and Santa Barbara County Fire on Santa Cruz Island," said Channel Islands National Park Superintendent Ethan McKinley.

There was some damage to a historic grove of cypress trees known as Delphine's Grove.

Scorpion Anchorage on Santa Cruz Island remains closed due to construction of a new pier.

The National Park Service has more than 20,000 National Park Service employees who care for America's 419 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities.

Learn more at www.nps.gov.

Maybe it's an evolving day

Continued from page 6

will come. And when they do, and we get to know each other well enough so that your neighbors watch your home while you're on vacation, or walk your kids to school when you're sick, or take out your trash when you lose track of the days, well that will be a very find thing -- for our neighborhoods, and, maybe, for the world.

It would be overly grand to say the small encounters we are experiencing now are erasing great swaths of fear and misunderstanding in our world. But it would be fair to say they may be helping in little bits and pieces.

And when you add up a lot of little bits and pieces...



Senior Living

Pull Out Section



February was Black History Month.

We have so much to learn from black elders – and so many reasons to support them

(This blog originally appeared on the Diverse Elders Coalition website.)

by Jenna McDavid

February marks the start of Black History Month, a celebration of Black and African American stories, experiences, and impact on American culture. At the Diverse Elders Coalition, we're proud to celebrate Black Elders every month of the year, but February offers us a bonus opportunity to lift these stories up into the national spotlight. Black Elders have so much wisdom to share about our history and the ways they have challenged white supremacy and other forms of oppression. It is imperative that those stories are not lost or forgotten.

I recently (2018) attended a Capitol Hill Briefing about the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP), during which we heard testimonials from community-based organizations that employ older adult workers through the federally funded program. SCSEP placement not only provides employees with meaningful work, wages, and socialization, but also gives these organizations staff to help them continue to serve their communities.

Diverse Elders Coalition partner, the National Center and Caucus on Black Aging, is a primary grantee for SCSEP, providing employment opportunities for African American older adults across the country in community-based service organizations like TERRIFIC, Inc. in Washington, DC. Sharron Holquin, a SCSEP participant who spoke at the briefing, talked about the lifetime of

employment experience she brings to her current employer, and how we shouldn't dismiss older adult workers because of ageist assumptions about their abilities.

I came away from this briefing with not just a greater appreciation for SCSEP, but also a framework that I hope to bring with me into my work with the Diverse Elders Coalition – and beyond. When talking or working with diverse elders, younger generations must always ask ourselves: What assumptions are we unfairly making? What stories are we missing because we didn't think to ask? And what can we do, each day, to better honor and support the elders who have paved the way for our generation?

Stay tuned to the Diverse Elders Coalition blog all month long for Black History Month contributions from our incredible writers and guests from around the country. And in the meantime, check out some of these Black History Month highlights from years past:

- A Gift From My Grandmother: An Embrace of Life – and Aging by Jeneé Darden
- SELMA: 50 Years Later by Mandy Carter
- You won't believe what I learned from our black elders by Bryan Pacheco
- Black, Gray and Gay: The Perils of Aging LGBTQ People of Color by Chandra Thomas Whitfield
- Housing For Diverse Elders is a Public Health Issue by Dr. Imani Woody



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Have you recently been diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease?

by Patty Jenkins

If you or someone you know has recently been diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease, please know that you are not alone and there are many resources that might help you, especially during this pandemic. Although we are not having meetings in person at this time, the Ventura Parkinson's Disease Support Group is still very active in reaching out to our Group members with lots of great information and sponsored webinar and zoom meetings by our many supportive associates, including some presentations by Movement Disorder Specialists. These meetings cover a variety of topics that might be of help, especially if you are newly diagnosed.

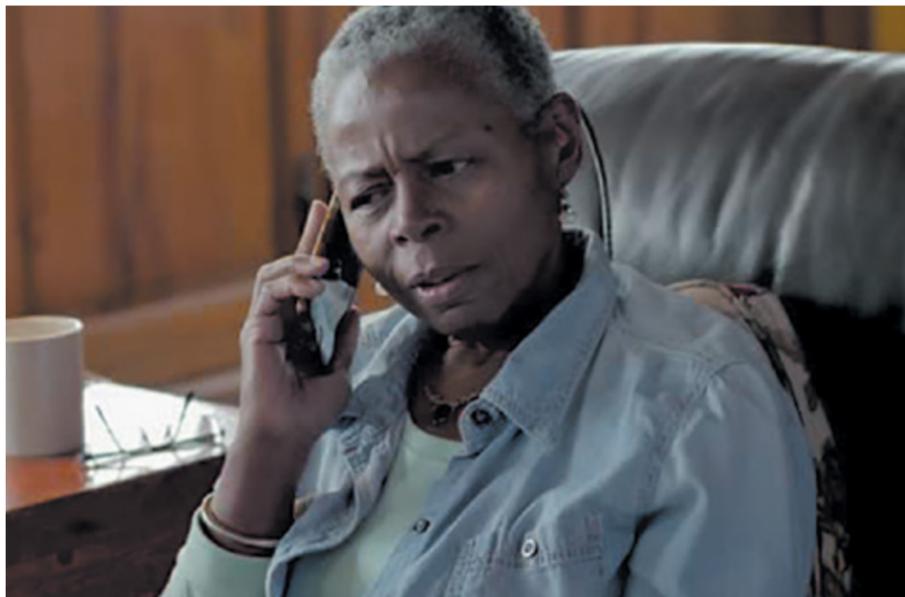
We always suggest to our new members (and current if they haven't yet done so!) to look into the web sites

of three very credible sources and sign up to receive their emails: The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research; The Parkinson Foundation and the Davis Phinney Foundation. These three foundations have a wealth of information and support for people with Parkinson's Disease (PD) in all stages and they also address the many different symptoms of PD we may be experiencing during the course of this disease. We have other local resources like Neuroboxing that are holding "virtual exercise sessions" we can put you in touch with and are also able to connect you with other PD Support Groups in Ventura County.

When "things get back to normal", the Ventura PD Support Group expects to be able to resume our monthly meetings that alternate between various speakers and round table discussions. Until then, if you'd like to be on our email list to receive information on the various webinars and zoom meetings, (and be informed when we finally have the green light to meet in person!) please feel free to call Patty Jenkins at 805-766-6070 to be added to the Group. We are an independent and completely volunteer-organized group not affiliated with or a part of any other organization or group.



Senior Living



“Doctor why do you need my SSN and DL number?”

Senior Medicare Patrol warns of COVID-19 fraud

by The Senior Medicare Patrol National Resource Center

The Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) has been receiving complaints of unsolicited callers using the fear and uncertainty from the COVID-19 pandemic to prey on Medicare beneficiaries. SMPs, who operate in every state, help beneficiaries prevent, detect, and report Medicare fraud, errors, and abuse.

How to spot a scam or fraud

Be wary if you receive an unsolicited phone call that offers:

To send you COVID-19 testing kits, vaccines, prescriptions, supplies such as masks, creams, and hand sanitizer, or even a COVID-19 treatment package. Beneficiaries who give out their information sometimes get back or orthotic braces in the mail instead.

A new Medicare card and COVID supplies in exchange for a Medicare number. Medicare will not call you to offer a new card or request information in order to issue a new card.

More Medicare insurance coverage. Insurance companies who do not already have a relationship with a beneficiary cannot initiate a call. Information about changes to Medicare coverage because of the pandemic can be found on this practice tip from the National Center on Law & Elder Rights.

Other examples of potential COVID-19 fraud that SMPs have seen are health care providers improperly diagnosing patients with COVID-19 in order to receive higher payment; people going door to door at senior housing to perform COVID-19 tests; and hospitals attempting to charge for COVID-19 antibody tests.

How to Protect Yourself

To protect yourself, we recommend

that you:

Contact your own doctor (not a doctor you’ve never met who calls) if you are experiencing potential symptoms of COVID-19.

Do not give out your Medicare number, Social Security number, or personal information in response to unsolicited calls, texts, emails, or home visits. Personal information that is compromised may be used in other fraud schemes as well.

Be suspicious of anyone going door to door offering free COVID-19 testing, supplies, or treatments.

Carefully review your Medicare Summary Notice (MSN) or Explanation of Benefits (EOB), looking for errors or claims for products or services that weren’t received. Follow the instructions of state or local government for other actions you should take in response to COVID-19.

Contact your local SMP for help. Contact and other information for SMPs can be found at smpresource.org.

For Medicare coverage questions, contact the local State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) at shipta-center.org or 1-877-839-2675.

For more information and resources related to COVID-19 fraud, errors, and abuse, visit the SMP National Resource Center’s COVID-19 Fraud web page.

The Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) National Resource Center serves the U.S. Administration for Community Living’s 54 SMP programs located throughout the United States, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The SMP Resource Center also promotes national visibility for the SMP program and helps the general public locate their state SMP proje

are at a seven year low.

Part D keeps premiums low for patients by having supply chain middlemen design its benefit plans. Insurers typically hire pharmacy benefit managers, or PBMs, to negotiate with pharmaceutical companies and decide which drugs a plan will include and how much patients will have to pay.

Given the leverage PBMs hold, companies offer steep discounts in return for preferred placement on the plan’s formulary. In the case of insulin, rebates often exceed 70 percent of the drug’s list price.

Unfortunately, patients rarely see those savings reflected in their pharmacy bills. That’s because PBMs keep a significant portion of the rebates for themselves and pass what remains to insurers, who use them to lower premiums across the board. This modestly reduces monthly plan premiums, but doesn’t move the needle on the high co-pays patients face each time they visit the pharmacy.

Since rebates secured by PBMs are negotiated in secret, insurers still tie patients’ out-of-pocket responsibilities to the retail price of a drug -- not the discounted price.

For instance, take a brand of insulin with a list price of \$300. With a 70 percent rebate, that drug costs insurers just \$90. But a patient whose insurance requires a 25 percent copay will pay \$75 out of pocket -- rather than \$22.

Fortunately, President Trump just announced a plan that will offer some relief. Under his plan, a Part D patient’s co-pay for a 30-day supply of insulin will be capped at \$35. Thanks to this adjustment, millions of American seniors can expect to save an average of \$446 on insulin annually. Already, 1,750 Part D plans are prepared to offer the new insulin benefit. Seniors enrolled in non-participating plans will have the opportunity to opt-in during this fall’s open enrollment season. And they can rest assured that with the nation’s top three insulin producers -- Eli Lilly, Sanofi and Novo Nordisk -- participating, the benefit will cover a wide range of insulin products, including pen and vial forms.

Such relief is overdue. Diabetes is the most expensive chronic disease in the United States -- patients living with diabetes experience medical costs 2.3 times higher than those without. And for seniors on a limited income, high medical costs can mean the choice between accessing needed medications and paying for groceries.

With the COVID-19 pandemic already straining our health system, managing chronic disease -- and keeping vulnerable seniors out of the hospital -- is all the more imperative. The Trump administration’s new plan is an important step toward achieving these goals during this unprecedented moment.

Kenneth E. Thorpe is a professor of health policy at Emory University and chairman of the Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease

We would like to share with you some of the actions that we are initiating

by the National Institute on Aging

As we join our nation in grief during this turbulent and challenging time, we are outraged and heartbroken. As we together strive for justice and meaningful change, NIA continues our work to promote health equity, eliminate health disparities, and enhance the

diversity of the scientific workforce. We will build on and continue these efforts, and others, for as long as is needed to reach these goals. To that end, we would like to share with you some of the actions that we are initiating and/or enhancing to address these pressing problems, and opportunities for you to partner with us in moving the science forward.

The COVID-19 pandemic has served to highlight the institutional barriers to equal health for all within our nation. We are happy to have had the opportunity to co-lead the recently released Rapid Diagnostic Accelerator for Underrepresented Populations (RADxUP) funding opportunity announcements, which are focused on NIH-designated health disparities and other COVID-19 vulnerable populations, with our partners at the National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) and other NIH institutes, centers, and offices. We also co-led NIH efforts to strengthen data collection on COVID-19 to rapidly assess the needs and impact of COVID-19 across different population groups, particularly vulnerable populations. We encourage the scientific community to carefully look at and consider responding to these FOAs, as it is imperative that we move quickly in attacking this public health crisis.

Additionally, we have had research programs in place for many years that were specifically designed to enhance the diversity of the scientific research workforce and of the populations who are studied in the research that we support, allowing examination of the bases for health disparities and potential remedies to achieve health equity. The Resource Centers for Minority Aging Research (RCMAR) represent a long-standing program established to enhance the diversity of the aging research workforce by mentoring promising scientists from under-represented groups for sustained careers in aging research. RCMAR Centers have a long track record of supporting the study of aging in diverse communities, which is a core component of the RCMAR mission. We recently expanded the program to address Alzheimer’s disease (AD) and AD related dementias (ADRD), given the exponential growth of the disease in the older population, the disproportionate burden in communities of color, and the need for a strong, diverse workforce to tackle this pressing challenge.

NIA’s Alzheimer’s Disease Research Centers make outreach and education efforts in minority and underserved communities a high priority, working with local churches, community health centers, and other organizations for recruitment of a diverse research population. Our Alzheimer’s Clinical Trials Consortium is similarly dedicated, with a specific focus on increasing recruitment and support of minority scientists. And as part of our National Strategy for Recruitment and Participation in Alzheimer’s and Related Dementias Clinical Research, we are piloting new means of making outreach to communities underrepresented in research to overcome barriers to AD/ADRD clinical trial participation.

Our commitment to the science of health disparities is fostered by our Office of Special Populations. That office, working in collaboration with the NIA Task Force on Minority Aging Research, a subcommittee of our National Advisory Council, led the development of the NIA Health Disparities Research Framework. Using the framework as a guide, NIA has made hundreds of awards since 2015 to explore the environmental, sociocultural, behavioral, and biological determinants of health disparities related to aging. We encourage those of you who are unfamiliar with the framework to reference it as a guide to eliminating health disparities and

New Medicare policy will save diabetes patients hundreds at the pharmacy

by Kenneth E. Thorpe

President Trump recently delivered on a central promise of his presidency -- making prescription drugs more affordable. His new “Part D Senior Savings Model” will

reduce out-of-pocket costs for millions of Medicare beneficiaries to just \$35 a month.

In middle of a pandemic, this is a much welcome effort to save seniors money on their necessary medicines and boost overall health outcomes.

The newly announced policy specifically affects Medicare’s prescription drug benefit, Part D. Part D is unique in that it is subsidized by the federal government, but its plans are administered by private insurers. And thus far, it’s proven a success.

During its first decade in existence, Part D cost nearly \$350 billion less than the Congressional Budget Office initially anticipated. Currently, Part D premiums



Senior Living

advancing health for all in future research. We are deeply committed to continuing to develop relevant knowledge and broadening our understanding of the challenges of health disparities, and to fostering health equity throughout our research activities and awards. We hope that you will join us with rededicated and renewed vigor so that the evidence generated can serve as the foundation for future approaches to eliminate disparities in health and promote the well-being of older persons, ultimately advancing the health and maximizing the contributions of all in our rich and diverse nation.



You can also do simple tasks around the home.

Almost anyone, at any age, can do some type of physical activity

You can still exercise even if you have a health condition like heart disease, arthritis, chronic pain, high blood pressure, or diabetes. In fact, physical activity may help. For most older adults, physical activities like brisk walking, riding a bike, swimming, weightlifting, and gardening are safe, especially if you build up slowly. You may want to talk with your doctor about how your health condition might affect your ability to be active.

Researchers are assessing the benefit of exercise to delay mild cognitive impairment (MCI) in older adults and to improve brain function in older adults who may be at risk for developing Alzheimer's disease. Older adults with MCI may be able to safely do more vigorous forms of exercise, similar to older adults without MCI, provided there are no other underlying health concerns.

Being active and getting exercise may help people with Alzheimer's or another dementia feel better and can help them maintain a healthy weight and have regular toilet and sleep habits. If you are a caregiver, you can exercise together to make it more fun.

Tips for helping a person with dementia stay active

Take a walk together each day. Exercise is good for caregivers, too!

Use exercise videos or check your local

TV guide to see if there is a program to help older adults exercise.

Dance to music.

Be realistic about how much activity can be done at one time. Several short "mini-workouts" may be best.

Make sure he or she wears comfortable clothes and shoes that fit well and are made for exercise.

Make sure he or she drinks water or juice after exercise.

Even if the person has trouble walking, they may be able to:

Do simple tasks around the home, such as sweeping and dusting.

Use a stationary bike.

Use soft rubber exercise balls or balloons for stretching or throwing back and forth.

Use stretching bands.

Lift weights or household items such as soup cans.

Exercising with Arthritis

For people with arthritis, exercise can reduce joint pain and stiffness. It can also help with losing weight, which reduces stress on the joints.

Flexibility exercises such as upper- and lower-body stretching and tai chi can help keep joints moving, relieve stiffness, and give you more freedom of movement for everyday activities.

Strengthening exercises, such as overhead arm raises, will help you maintain or add to your muscle strength to support and protect your joints.

Endurance exercises make the heart and arteries healthier and may lessen swelling in some joints. Try activities that don't require a lot of weight on your joints, such as swimming and biking.

If you have arthritis, you may need to avoid some types of activity when joints are swollen or inflamed. If you have pain in a specific joint area, for example, you may need to focus on another area for a day or two.

Your heart keeps your body running. As you grow older, some changes in the heart and blood vessels are normal, but others are caused by disease. Choices you might make every day, such as eating healthy, maintaining a healthy weight, and aiming to be more physically active, can contribute to heart health. Inactive people are nearly twice as likely to develop heart disease as those who are active. A lack of physical activity can worsen other heart disease risk factors as well, such as high blood cholesterol and triglyceride levels, high blood pressure, diabetes, and prediabetes, being overweight and obesity. Being physically active is one of the most important things you can do to keep your heart healthy. Aim for at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity aerobic activity a week.



Exercising outdoors is very healthy.

Staying safe when exercising outdoors for older adults

by the NIH

You've made a plan to be more active, and you're ready to go outside and get started. But before you do, make sure that you can exercise safely in your neighborhood. Here are a few tips that can help you stay safe as you get moving. Think ahead about safety.

Carry your ID with emergency contact information and bring a small amount of cash and a cell phone with you, especially if walking alone. Stay alert by not talking on the phone as you walk and keeping the volume low on your headphones.

Let others know where you're going and when you plan to be back.

Stick to well-lit places with other people around.

Be seen to be safe. Wear light or brightly colored clothing during the day. Wear reflective material on your clothing and carry a flashlight at night. Put lights on the front and back of your bike.

Wear sturdy, appropriate shoes for your activity that give you proper footing.

Walk safely in rural areas.

If possible, walk during daylight hours.

Choose routes that are well-used, well-lit, and safe. Choose routes with places to sit in case you want to stop and rest.

Stay alert at all times. If you're listening to music as you walk, turn down the volume so you can still hear bike bells and warnings from other walkers and runners coming up behind you.

Always walk facing oncoming traffic.

Walk on a sidewalk or a path

whenever possible. Watch out for uneven sidewalks, which are tripping hazards.

Look for a smooth, stable surface alongside the road.

Walk safely in urban areas.

If the road has guardrails, see if there's a smooth, flat surface behind the barrier where you can walk. If you need to walk on a paved shoulder, stay as far away from traffic as possible.

Watch for bridges and narrow shoulders.

Cross at crosswalks or intersections. Jaywalking increases your risk of a serious accident. Pay attention to the traffic signal. Cross only when you have the pedestrian crossing signal.

Never assume a driver sees you crossing the street. Try to make eye contact with drivers as they approach. Before you start to cross a street, make sure you have plenty of time to get across. Rushing increases your risk of falling.

Look across ALL lanes you must cross and make sure each lane is clear before proceeding. Look left, right, and left again before crossing. Just because one driver stops, don't presume drivers in other lanes will stop for you.

Check out city parks. Many parks have walking or jogging trails away from traffic.

If you don't feel safe exercising outdoors, be active inside.

Find local stores or malls large enough for you to walk around.

Walk up and down your stairs a few times in a row. Be sure the stairwell is well-lit and has railings for safety.

At home, do strength, balance, and flexibility exercises.

Try exercises on the National Institute on Aging YouTube channel.

Bicycle Safety for Older Adults

Riding a bicycle is not only a fun family activity, it's also a great way to exercise. Some people even use their bicycle to commute to work, go to the grocery store, or visit friends and family. When you're out and about on your bike, it's important to know how to be safe.

For more information about biking safely, visit the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

For More Information About Exercise and Physical Activity Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

1-800-232-4636 (toll-free)

1-888-232-6348 (TTY/toll-free)

cdcinfo@cdc.gov

www.cdc.gov

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High school students will be treated to a Zoom MacBeth

On July 18, 2020, 100 high school students from the Ventura Unified School district will be treated to a Zoom MacBeth, courtesy of the Rubicon Theatre Company's Fearless Shakespeare program. The teens are participating in the Library's Youth Services summer reading program and this partnership with Rubicon is the first of its kind.

Working to engage kids outside of the theatre's summer program has long been a goal of Kirby Ward, head of Rubicon's youth season. Ward has been running the program since 2018. "The hard work these kids put in during our summer camps is remarkable and intense. It will be wonderful for their peers to see the fruits of their labor." Originally, the hope had been for the Friends of the Library to bring a full house worth of middle schoolers to see a production from the Musical Theatre Camp. When it became evident that for the foreseeable future no shows would be happening on stage at Rubicon's Main Street address, Ward switched gears. Rubicon reached out to Charles McDermott who is President of the Friends of the Library and offered the complimentary Zoom codes. "Taking on William Shakespeare's immortal words is both a challenge and a gift for our students. But the work is for nothing if they can't share it with an audience. We want the community to see it, and especially young people."

COVID-19 has shut down Rubicon in the physical sense, but the summer

education programs are going strong. Ward has embraced the opportunities presented by Zoom and online learning in general and he's bringing his staff and the students along for a wild ride. Zoom MacBeth is guided by Director, Joseph Fuqua, who has run the Fearless Shakespeare program for more than a decade. Each morning, the students rehearse for several hours and then self-tape themselves as they work on scenes with their cast-mates. The videos are then sent to RTC's videographer, Joseph DeMaria, who is compiling them into a Zoom masterpiece. The end result will be a part livestream, part video, part home-studio extravaganza.

Ward is eager to see what the high schoolers participating in the Library Youth Services summer reading program take away from the Zoom MacBeth. Rubicon is providing the Library with Mr. Fuqua's edited version of the script for comparison to the Bard's original. Fuqua has always tailored his revision to his audience - young people who may be seeing Shakespeare for the first time. He tries to keep his production's running time under two hours, that's including intermission, and he typically places his productions in a contemporary setting. This year's MacBeth features a spin on Graphic novels and their popularity with young readers.

Ward, McDermott and Fuqua are expecting this to be an interesting experiment in exploring how live theatre will translate to Zoom. All three are betting the Bard's words can gain some new (and youthful) fans. "Theatre needs an audience," says Ward, "this may be an unorthodox way of finding one but we want our students to understand that artists must evolve and respond to the realities around them."

This 'n' That Historical Research Internship at the MVC

The Museum of Ventura County is launching an initiative aimed at supporting history students and the writing of diverse historical research articles about Ventura County. The Museum is partnering with local colleges to request submissions for paid internships for the Fall 2020 semester. Applications will be evaluated by museum staff and a panel of 3 history faculty from area colleges and universities. Students will each be responsible for one original research article 2,200 to 3,500 words in length covering a topic related to groups underrepresented in current local historical writing. The student must secure an academic advisor for the project who is willing to act as project mentor.

In order to apply, students should prepare the following:

Research Proposal

The proposal should be no more than 300 words and should include:

Your topic and the need for studying it. Specifically note any known research on your topic. Topics should relate to underrepresented groups.

The sources critical to your proposed research, demonstrating that they are adequate for your project.

Discuss the issues and questions which you foresee your paper addressing.

Current Resume

Letter of Agreement and Recommendation from Project Mentor

Recent School Transcript with full legal name on it (unofficial transcripts will be accepted)

Examples of appropriate topics include stories of immigration, migration, segregation, labor and entrepreneurial trends:

Patterns of Mexican American immigration and settlement in Ventura County from 1900 to 1930

The Bracero Program
Philippine Immigration to Ventura County in the early 1900s
Requirements

Interested candidates must be enrolled in a degree granting program at the time of their internship and selected interns will need to provide a letter from their school verifying enrollment.

Selected interns must submit to a full background check.

Internships are positions with the minimum requirement of 15 hours per week for 8 to 12 weeks. However, not being able to work within these parameters will not exclude a potential applicant from being considered.

Stipends will be paid for this Historical Research Internship. 5 stipends for \$2000 each are available.

Please submit all application materials in PDF or Word format (no other formats will be accepted) to Deya Terrafranca at dterrafranca@venturamuseum.org.

This opportunity application period opens May 15th and closes July

15th. All interns will be selected and notified by August 15th, 2020. This opportunity is part of the Museum of Ventura County's Art and History Stimulus Initiative, a series of activities designed to financially support student historians and local artists during the uncertain times created by the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Deadline to submit proposals - 7/15/2020

Proposals selected and notified - 8/15/2020

Articles due - 12/15/20

Application Checklist:

Research Proposal - no more than 300 words, including topic, need, sources, and issues and questions to be addressed.

The proposal should be no more than 300 words and should include:

Current Resume

Letter of Agreement and Recommendation from Project Mentor

Recent School Transcript with full legal name on it (unofficial transcripts will be accepted)

For additional information or questions, please contact: Deya Terrafranca Research Library and Archives Director dterrafranca@venturamuseum.org. 805.653.0323 ext. 320

Food Forward expands

Continued from page 8

produce and increased the frequency to weekly, rather than monthly. Over 300 families now receive fresh fruits and vegetables every week at this completely free drive-through distribution that is open to the public. The event also acts as a food hub, distributing produce to ten hunger relief agencies.

Beyond these new and expanded initiatives, Food Forward continues to supply dozens of hunger relief agencies throughout Ventura County with regular donations of fresh fruits and vegetables. Although community volunteer events are paused for the time being, trained volunteer Event Leaders continue to collect fruits and vegetables from local fruit trees and farmers markets in a solo capacity with new safety protocols in place. During this time of limited harvesting, many community members with fruit trees have stepped up pick and donate their surplus fruit at "DIY harvests."

Since 2009, Food Forward has addressed the dual issues of food waste and food insecurity with one simple solution: connecting produce that would otherwise be wasted with people who lack access to fresh foods. With the help of over a thousand volunteers every year, Food Forward collects fresh fruits and vegetables from fruit trees and Farmers Markets across Ventura County and donates this abundance to hunger relief organizations serving our communities.

Food Forward (501(c)(3)) fights hunger and prevents food waste by rescuing fresh, surplus produce, connecting this abundance with people in need and inspiring others to do the same. Fruits and vegetables are collected from backyard fruit trees, public orchards, farmers markets, and the downtown Los Angeles Wholesale Produce Terminal. 100% of the recovered produce is donated to hunger relief agencies across eight counties in Southern California. The organization has won four consecutive Food Recovery Challenge awards from the U.S. EPA (2015-18) for its work to prevent and reduce food waste.



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.

Residential Burglary Arrest

On June 12, at approximately 2:00 pm, the Ventura Police Command Center received a call for a residential burglary report. Officers arrived at the residence and took a detailed report with a list of all the stolen property.

At approximately 5:50 pm, the Ventura Police Command Center received a call for throwing trash near a dumpster at Buena High School. Officers arrived and contacted 38 year old Ventura resident Joseph Romero, who was going through the garbage. Officers started an investigation, and property from the earlier burglary was found in the back of Romero's pickup truck. This led to a probation search at Romero's home where the remaining property from the burglary was recovered. Crime Scene Investigators came out and processed the burglary, and further evidence was obtained linking Romero to the crime.

Romero was arrested for Felony Residential Burglary, Possession of Stolen Property, and Misdemeanor Vehicle Vandalism. A search of the Ventura County Superior Court records shows that Romero has been convicted of theft and multiple drug-related crimes.

Assault with a Deadly Weapon, Assault with a Deadly Weapon on a Police Officer, Resisting Arrest, Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol

On June 14, at approximately 4:15 pm, the Ventura Unified School District was holding senior graduation ceremonies at the City Hall, and the Ventura Police Department School Resource Officers were assisting with event security and traffic control. The event was a modified graduation "experience" in which the participating students and family members were driving up to the front steps of the City Hall to receive their diplomas.

At approximately 1618 hours, one of the officers was at the intersection of Poli St. and Chestnut St., monitoring participating vehicles that were entering the event, when he noticed a vehicle approaching his location westbound on Poli St. The vehicle, a white Jeep Gladiator, was travelling at a high rate of speed and did not appear to be slowing down as it got closer to the intersection. As the officer stood in the street trying to get the driver's attention, the driver later identified as 29 year old Ojai resident Cameron Ransom, accelerated towards the officer. The officer was able to move out of the path of the vehicle, which continued driving on Poli St. towards the area of the main event, where students, families and school staff were congregated.

Ransom continued to drive at a high rate of speed, before suddenly turning up into the rear parking lot of the City Hall. Before turning, another officer pulled two volunteers, a parent and student, out of the roadway fearing they might get hit by Ransom's vehicle.

At the time, the rear parking lot was crowded with vehicles, which were occupied by parents and students staged for the event, so all three School Resource Officers quickly responded on foot and in vehicles in an attempt to stop Ransom. Ransom continued to drive recklessly and at a high rate of speed as he started driving back towards the main event. Officers

used a patrol vehicle to block his path and attempted to remove Ransom from his vehicle. Ransom resisted, but when additional officers arrived on scene, he was safely detained.

It was determined Ransom was driving under the influence. He became combative during the field sobriety examination and after a brief struggle, he was taken into custody.

After a medical clearance for minor injuries he sustained during the struggle, Ransom was arrested for assault with a deadly weapon, assault with a deadly weapon of a police officer, resisting arrest and driving under the influence of alcohol.

No one was injured as a result of this incident.

Residential Burglary, Child Endangerment Arrest

On June 23, at approximately 9:45 pm, Patrol officers responded to a 911 call of a burglary in progress where the suspect had broken into the victim's home by breaking out a window. After he gained access to the house, the residents confronted him, and a physical fight ensued.

When officers arrived, the residents were still fighting with the suspect, 32 year old Ventura resident Luis Alvarez Vargas, inside of the house. Officers immediately assisted and were able to detain him in handcuffs. The suspect was bleeding profusely from a laceration to his arm he received when he broke the window to gain access to the house. Fire and AMR responded and transported the suspect for his injuries.

At the conclusion of the investigation, the suspect was arrested for vandalism, residential burglary, battery, and child endangerment. One of the adult residents had minor injuries as a result of the fight. He was treated at the scene.

Harbor Patrol Blotter

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

6-16 11:23pm, received a report of juveniles gathering in the courtyard of the 1559 building from a tenant. Officers responded and moved along a group loitering.

6-17 6:35pm, observed a swimmer crossing the Pierpont basin from the #11 nav buoy. Officers responded in Rescue-Boat 19 to contact, retrieve, and return the swimmer to the Marina park side of the Pierpont basin.

6-20 7:19am, received dispatch to a traumatic injury, cyclist down at Schooner/Harbor. Officers responded, found the patient supine on the ground. After assessment, determined the patient has a medical condition. AMR transported the patient to local hospital for further evaluation.

6-21 2:24pm, receiving multiple reports of a disturbance in the 1500 block of Spinnaker drive. Officers responded and found an individual harassed or harassing multiple people. Contact with the disturbing party was initiated and VPD was requested but delayed. Officers successfully verbally detained the agitated individual, waiting for PD. A passerby agitated the subject and officers worked to de-escalate the situation. PD arrived and arrested the individual.

3:10pm, received a request for response to a domestic dispute between male and a female near the entrance of Ventura Marina Community. Advised the R/P

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Harbor Patrol doesn't respond to police incidents especially domestic disputes. 3:15pm, dispatched to a sting ray strike at Harbor Cove from State Parks. Officers responded and treated the injury with hot water. Patient released. 7:30pm, observed a group of fishermen drilling holes into the District longdock. Contacted the group for destruction of property and no fishing on longdock.



"I support any movement that supports equal rights."

The Ventura Police supports peaceful protests

by Carol Leish

Ventura Police Chief Darin Schindler stated, "The current Black Lives Matter movement does focus on the rights that all people have, and the idea that everybody deserves to be treated fairly and with respect. In my opinion, it will go on for a long time, since it will be continuing until people feel that things are changing in our society."

The Ventura Police does support

peaceful protests, according to Chief Schindler. He said, "Everybody, no matter who you are, or what your race or gender is, deserves to be treated with respect and dignity. The police department deals with all people of various races, gender, and sexual orientation." Thus, he emphasizes that, "All people should be treated fairly and with dignity."

According to Chief Schindler, "We do not use choke holds. We do use the carotid control hold, which is an upper body control hold, that restricts the blood flow to the brain, and causes somebody who is fighting to pass out temporarily. It's not a choke hold that would restrict breathing or compress the front of the neck. It is only rarely used when there is the imminent threat of death or serious injury to the officer."

He stresses that, "In the 30 years that I've been working within the police department, this is one of the most heated times for prejudices. People feel that it's coming to a boiling point. And, people don't like being biased against or treated differently."

Ventura Mayor Matt LaVere stated, "Ventura hasn't had any rioting. We've had peaceful and productive demonstrations, which I think is the Ventura way of doing things."

He went on, "I support any movement that supports equal rights in order for everyone to be treated equally. Black Lives Matter movement will be lasting until the community make necessary changes to make sure that there is equality between all people."

"As police officers, our job," according to Chief Schindler, "is more of policing versus just enforcing laws, which is just a small part of what we do. We also do problem solving. We can do a lot more when we work together. Through building trust, by building bridges within the community, we can find a solution together. We want everyone to feel welcome and safe, and to realize that we're here for them."

Weekly SUDOKU
Answer

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

King Crossword
Answers
Solution time: 25 mins.

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



The Pet Page



Dedicated to Scamp

4th of July pet safety by Amy King

Summer is here and the 4th of July is just around the corner! While you may be celebrating the holiday a little differently this year, it is still very important to remember these dos and don'ts to keep your pets safe.

Fireworks. Keep your pets away from any and all fireworks! These noises can terrify animals and will cause them to run away. The safest place for your pet during this time is in a secure room indoors. Remember that animals can hear things that we can't, so be mindful of your animal's behavior. Make sure that your pets are in a safe enclosed area like a crate or bedroom. Leave a TV or radio on for them and tune it to a channel or station that is soothing.

Heat Stroke. Temperatures in the summer can easily reach the triple digits. Provide all animals attending your holiday festivities with access to the same comforts as your human guests. Remember that your pets don't wear shoes, so make sure they stay off the pavement, concrete, and sand as it can reach over 130 degrees. Make sure there is a shaded area and plenty of fresh water available at all times. Adding a few ice cubes to a bowl of water can make drinking more enticing to help pets stay hydrated.

Identification & Collar. Make sure your animal is always wearing an ID tag and a secure collar. We highly recommend that you have your pet microchipped. Microchips make it much easier to reunite lost pets with their owners. Make sure you have a recent photo of your animal handy in case they do escape to help identify them.

Food & Drinks. Keeping your pet on their normal diet is the safest way to keep them from suffering from any type of food-related illness. Dogs left unsupervised can easily get into things that are potentially hazardous such as bones, twine, and toothpicks. Foods like onions, avocados, grapes, and yeast dough can be very dangerous to your animal's health. Don't forget to keep alcoholic drinks away from your pets!

Insect Repellent & Sunscreen. Do not apply any insect repellent or sunscreen on your animal that is not specifically made for pets! Animals may lick off these topical lotions and become very sick. Insect repellent with the ingredient DEET can cause neurological problems in your animal. Signs that your pet may have ingested one of these include drooling, vomiting, diarrhea, excessive thirst, and lethargy. Products such as Citronella candles and insect coils should be kept away from animals at all times. If ingested, it can affect their nervous system and even result in death.

Applying these safety precautions throughout the long weekend will help ensure that you and pets have a fun and

safe holiday! The HSVC will be closed on July 4th in observance of the holiday.

More people than ever before are opening their hearts and homes to puppies during the coronavirus pandemic. For those who are self-isolating, puppies provide welcome wagging tails and comforting cuddles. Plus, many puppy seekers are discovering they now have the crucial element needed to raise a good dog: time.

So, is now the right time to get a puppy? The answer to that question depends on each person and family. Were you prepared to get a puppy before COVID-19? Do you have the financial stability and resources? Do you have access to a vet? After you return to your normal schedule, are you prepared to continue caring for your dog? Make sure you are prepared to socialize your puppy during social distancing.

For those who are fully prepared for the responsibility puppyhood brings, it's a perfect time to help a new pet adjust to their home and work on essential training skills.

If you decide to get a puppy, make sure you wash your hands, clothes, and shoes before and after picking up your new dog. Stay at least 6-12 feet from any breeder or person. Do not make any stops on the way to the breeder, and complete payment and paperwork ahead of time. While dogs are not currently at risk of contracting COVID-19, it is possible an infected person could transmit it from their mouth to the dog's fur or face, and you could pick it up from touching the dog then touching your face.

Curious about what it's really like to get a puppy right now?

Brian Goldberg, Sam Busa, and Barkley: "He brings a lot of joy to people."

Brian Goldberg and his wife, Sam Busa, spoke for months before the pandemic about bringing home a puppy. But between careers and commutes, these new homeowners couldn't get the timing right. When their jobs transitioned to remote, they realized they had a unique opportunity.

That's when Goldberg began reaching out to breeders within a 250-mile radius in search of the perfect pup. The couple knew what they wanted: an 8- to 10-week-old male Golden Retriever puppy. Goldberg began by sorting through breeders on the AKC Marketplace. He found a breeder in Vermont, three hours away, that had one available.

Since the breeder was far away, most communication was virtual. They traded questions, videos, and photos over the phone before meeting.

The couple knew they wanted to make the final decision in person. When they met the breeder, they stayed six feet apart and weren't allowed to enter any buildings. The puppy walked toward Goldberg and Busa, and they knew this was the one they wanted. They scooped the puppy off the ground without ever coming closer to the breeder.

"It felt pretty weird not to shake hands with the guy who just gave you

Scamp Club

(Scampclub pets are not for adoption.)



Hi: I'm Poppy, your friendly scuba diving dog. At least I would be if the two-legged would allow it. (Doggie discrimination)! Until that time, I have to settle for posing in the scuba diver cutout at the Marina Village. As you can see, I'm a very happy wannabe doggie diver and would make a great scuba ambassador for my kind. Maybe I'll see you around at the Village sometime. You'll recognize me by my smile and friendly wag. Will pose for treats.

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.

a pup but we took all the precautions we could," said Goldberg, "and then we brought him home."

In the span of a week, they went from talking about puppyhood to welcoming 8-week-old Barkley to their home.

Even taking Barkley to his first veterinarian visit was different during the coronavirus. Goldberg had to determine which veterinarians were open. He then did a curbside appointment with a veterinarian dressed in full PPE gear. Though Goldberg was sad he couldn't go inside with his new puppy, he under-

stood the importance of safety. Goldberg and Busa ordered every puppy necessity online instead of shopping for supplies.

Barkley is now an honorary staff member as he entertains their colleagues during Zoom meetings.

"I think he brings a lot of joy to people who are otherwise kind of down these days," said Goldberg. "It's wonderful to have him at home. He's been a very pleasant distraction. Our moods have 100 percent improved since having him. Now it's much more pleasurable to be stuck in the house."

Tiger



Buckles



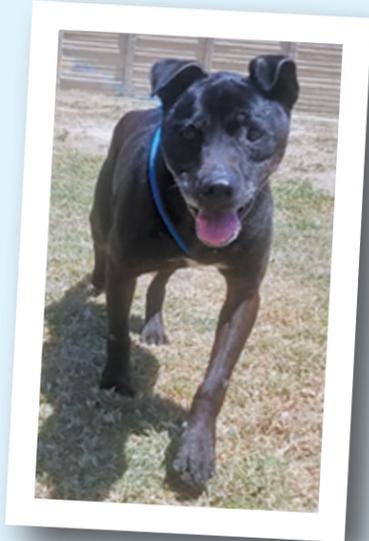
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The Pet Page

Forever homes wanted

Hi: I'm Sam a 10-year-old Labrador / American Staffordshire X who was one of 16 dogs rescued from a single family home. Since I've been with C.A.R.L. I've been happy and mellow. Probably because I'm not tied to a wall anymore. I walk great on leash and have not shown any aggression towards the other dogs at the kennel.



Adoptable Dumpling is as cute as his name. He arrived at the shelter at the very beginning of 2020 and has been patiently awaiting a loving home of his own ever since. This very sweet and affectionate boy would make a wonderful, indoor companion pet. To learn more about Dumpling and the adoption process, please email the Ventura County Animal Services Bunny Brigade at vcasbunnybrigade@gmail.com and ask for ID #A748341. Ventura County Animal Services - Camarillo location - 600 Aviation Drive
Dumpling A748341



This 'n' That



Seatbelts are advisable.

John Jorgenson Bluegrass Band at the Fairgrounds

by Richard Newsham
VMF consultant

John Jorgenson Bluegrass Band (J2B2) plays "America's Music" on July 16 for a Ventura County Fairgrounds' drive-in concert

Seatbelts are advisable as Desert Rose Band and Hellecasters' guitar genius John Jorgenson brings "the best string players in the world" to his hometown at the Ventura Music Festival's live, physically-distanced and audience-safe drive-in car concert at the

Ventura County Fairgrounds on Thursday, July 16, at 8 pm.

Known for "a touch of California breeze in their sound, but bluegrass at its core," his music quartet J2B2 includes music giants Herb Pedersen, Mark Fain and Patrick Sauber.

This "dream team" of fellow virtuosos are celebrated for their peerless vocal harmonies, incomparable songwriting and warmth of storytelling that deliver the "high lonesome sound" of American roots music at its finest.

"What music could be more perfect for these times," asks VMF Executive Director Susan Scott. "Bluegrass music draws its power, instruments and harmonies from the many diverse cultures that make up our nation—string bands, both black and white gospel songs, blues music, country music, and traditional songs used by African-American workers. Like jazz, bluegrass music is America's music, exemplifying the harmonious sounds of the best of America's aspirations and promise."

Online tickets only at www.venturamusicalfestival.org. Doors open at 6:30 pm. Portable restrooms, but no concessions so bring your own refreshments. The 75-minute concert audio is delivered through each car's FM radio, or Wi-Fi.

Walk for Tender Life Maternity Home

The annual Walk for Tender Life Maternity Home will be held on Saturday, July 11, 2020 at The

Fourth of July Holiday WILL NOT DELAY Trash Pickup

With the Fourth of July falling on a Saturday this year, the holiday will not affect trash pickup. In the weeks before and after the holiday, trash, recyclables and green waste collection will not be delayed.

Thank you and Happy Holiday
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Amazon e Book for \$2.99! Visit www.jamesfgray.com

BOOKS MAKE GREAT GIFTS!

River Community Church located at 889 E. Santa Clara St. Registration begins at 8:30 am, and each walker or family of walkers will be released after they register to begin their walk allowing for social distancing between groups.

This two-mile walk will take participants on a route around Ventura, from Thompson Boulevard to the Ventura Beach Promenade, with a returning stroll along downtown Ventura's surrounding streets and returning to its starting place.

The annual Tender Life Maternity Walk is one of the main fundraisers they have during the year. Alumni, donors, current residents and the community come together to support Tender Life and the mission of helping these

ladies get back on their feet and care for their child.

Proceeds of the Walk will be used to help operate this incredible organization. For over three decades, Tender Life Maternity Home has been devoted to serving abandoned and at-risk pregnant women and babies by providing food, shelter and personal growth opportunities in a caring home where "Courage Meets Compassion to Build New Lives."

Tender Life currently houses up to six homeless, pregnant women, who receive pre-natal care, learn life skills and training, which all help to prepare them for motherhood and independence. Over the past two and a half years, Tender Life has been the home for 22 newborn babies.



PLAYING THE GAME

I've spoken to a number of venue owners the past couple of weeks as they tread lightly doing their best to follow the guidelines in place to operate safely in this time of COVID-19. And without naming names, I know several have had to stop the music (literally) to remind patrons that wearing masks is mandatory in their establishment unless you're seated at your table. Social distancing is being enforced and whether you think the whole thing is a conspiracy theory or not, it's their business, literally! They can make up whatever rules they want to secure their venue, but the bigger issue is that they're actually enforcing what has been mandated by the governor of California. Do you want them to be closed down by code enforcement? Of course not! So, I beseech you to please wear a mask, because if you don't you're going to not only put their business at risk, but you could pass along the virus not even knowing you're a carrier.

We all want to get back to normal. We all want to hang out, and give hugs and hearty handshakes to old friends while taking in our favorite bands, but we're nowhere near that point yet. If you feel strongly enough about not wanting to wear a mask, then please stay away and listen to music at home. There are plenty of live streaming concerts still being held.

NOT BACK TO NORMAL

Reopening doors, following safety guidelines and trying to get back up to speed may not include live music at this time for a lot of venues. I understand (she says with a pitiful lower lip pushed out trembling ever so slightly). The priority is paying the rent and the staff and rebuilding a clientele. So, don't forget to support all your favorite music venues whether they have live music or not yet. If we do this right, and we do this together supporting where we can, we will live to see another robust economy with a booming music scene.

PLAYING SAFELY

And while we're on the submit of live music in venues, let's take it from the perspective of the musician. Not all artists feel safe enough to get back out there to play live. Trust me, they want to, but their better judgement is keeping them away for many reasons. You have your favorite bands, and solo artists, well why not reach out via social media where most of them have accounts. Let them know you miss them, and if you can, buy their music and some merchandise if available to show your support.

DRIVE-IN CONCERTS V

In each of my past four music scene columns I've been able to

report more details on the Concerts in Your Car events by CBF Productions (California Beer Festival). This past weekend Ventura finally saw a large-scale concert with SuperDuperKyle kicking off the series over the weekend of June 26 and 27. Kyle, a former Ventura High School graduate, was well-received as he gears up for his album release on July 17, See You When I Am Famous. I'm not going to lie; I am so relieved to hear portable bathrooms are now available as they were not when they first launched this series. Under their FAQ, the Concerts in Your Car website made it clear no restrooms on site, no getting out of your car, and you could not leave the event early. As a female, let me just say "Thank You God!" I just couldn't wrap my bladder, I mean head around that one! Gratefully, we don't have to worry about that now.

Back to the business at hand, joining forces with CBF Productions is the Ventura Music Festival as they present John Jorgenson's Bluegrass Supergroup. On Thursday, July 16. I love that Concerts In Your Car is being so diverse with the genres ranging from rap to bluegrass to



Peter Sauber, Mark Fain, John Jorgenson & Herb Pederson. John Jorgenson's Bluegrass Supergroup.

alternative rock to country, there literally is something for everyone! And if you are a fan of bluegrass music, then you won't want to miss Grammy-winning guitarist, John Jorgenson (Desert Rose Band, the Hellecasters) who will be joined by fellow music legends Herb Pedersen (Desert Rose Band, Laurel Canyon Ramblers), Mark Fain (seven-time Grammy-winning bassist) and Patrick Sauber (Laurie Lewis band).

I have a quick Q&A following here, but for more information on all the concerts and movies and for purchasing your ticket got to ConcertsInYourCar.com.

Q&A with JOHN JORGENSEN

Pam: I'm loving the creativity of our music community; what was your initial response to doing a drive-in concert?

John: Indeed Ventura is a very creative community, and as a musician I feel quite comfortable living here.

When Nuvi [Nuvi Mehta, Ventura Music Festival Artistic Director] asked me to play the drive-in concert for the Ventura

Music Festival I was thrilled. I have performed in so many varied venues over my 40 plus years as an entertainer so to get asked to do something new and challenging is rare, surprising and fun. In the last few months most of my contact with my band members has been to cancel or reschedule gigs, so to get to tell them about one that's actually going to happen was great too.

Pam: What can people expect from your show?

John: J2B2 is an excellent ensemble both instrumentally and vocally, so people can expect world class singing and playing first of all. Our material ranges from very traditional bluegrass to newer songs from some of the best songwriters of our time. Our goal has been to bring meaningful lyrics into the mix of virtuosic picking and tight vocal harmonies. Hopefully the audience will laugh, wipe a tear or two, think a bit differently, and drive home with smiles on their faces.

Pam: Do you see more of these type concerts on the horizon?

John: Well, I sure hope so! The chance to get out and enjoy a performance from the safety of your own car while still feeling a bit of community and a shared concert experience is extremely rare if not impossible. Here is a way forward!

Pam: Musically speaking, what have you been doing during the shutdown?

John: Since the shut down I've been mostly using the time to go through my musical archives of older formats and transfer tapes, as well as organize memorabilia I've amassed over the years. I have also done a few remote recording sessions and contributed to a worldwide orchestral and choral collaboration. It's definitely a time for all performers to rethink and retool.

SURF RODEO

I spoke to JD Drury just a few weeks ago and being the optimist that he is, he was still holding out that Surf Rodeo could in some form or another be pulled off this summer or late fall, but the word came out shortly afterwards that Surf Rodeo is officially off for 2020; JD hung in there hoping for a miracle, but alas... it wasn't to be. The official post on social media: "It is with heavy hearts that after several conversations with the City of Ventura and State Parks,



Super Duper Kyle performance Saturday, June 27 during the first weekend of Concerts in your Car. Photo by Felix Cortez.

due to Covid-19, we will not be able to party on the beach this summer. We love you and we miss you! We will be back 2021!"

CROOKED EYE TOMMY

Tommy Marsh dropped off a copy of Crooked Eye Tommy's sophomore CD, Hot Coffee and Pain which is scheduled for an August release. It was recorded in Ojai at Carbonite Studios with Grammy-winning audio engineer, Jason Mariani (Joe Bonamassa, Robben

Ford). You know I'll be spinning a couple tunes on the Pam Baumgardner Music Hour at CAPS Media's KPPQ-LP, and we're working on having Tommy be a guest on the VenturaRockSpot which you can view on the Ventura Rock's YouTube channel. If you loved their last release, Butterflies and Snakes, well you ain't seen nothing yet! Holy smokes, they hit this one out of the park! More details coming soon.

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

(At the time this issue went to press, the City had not changed any orders for business to shut down again.)

Music Calendar

For more up-to-the-date listings go to VenturaRocks.com

All Venues Ventura, unless otherwise noted.

Barrelhouse 101

545 E. Thompson Blvd.

Sat 7/4: Doc Ventura

Cantina 31/Limon y Sal

598 E. Main Street

Sat 2-5 pm

Sat 7/4: Vinyl Gypsies

Concerts in Your Car

Ventura County Fairgrounds

10 W. Harbor Blvd.

Thursdays 7:30; Sat 8 pm

Thurs 7/2: Queen Nation

Thurs 7/9: Bruno & the Hooligans

Sat 7/11: Randy Houser

Copa Cubana

Ventura Harbor Village

Music 4-7

Sun 7/5: Brandon Ragan Project

Downtown Ventura

Ventura Street

California Moe's Stage

Thurs - Sat 6pm; Sun 5 pm

Thurs 7/2: Channel Island Chamber

Orchestra; Alec Ledbetter

Fri 7/3: Shawn Jones

Sat 7/4: Same Mother Same Father

Sun 7/5: The Salty Suites

Thurs 7/9: Jacob Marques

Fri 7/10: Richard Vanderwyk; Tamara Sue

Sat 7/11: Gavin Thompsen; Kris Simeon

Sun 7/12: The Fabulous Hangovers

Four Brix Winery

2290 Eastman Avenue

Friday 3:30 pm; Sunday 1 pm

Fri 7/3: Teresa Russell

Sun 7/5: Erinn Selkis

Sun 7/12: Brittney & Ben

Sandbox Coffeehouse

204 E. Thompson Blvd

805-641-1025

Thurs 6 pm, Weekends noon

Thursdays Open Mic

Winchesters Grill

632 E. Main Street

805-653-7446

Friday 5-8; Saturday & Sunday 4-7

Fri 7/3: National Cat

Sat 7/4: Karen Eden & the Bad Apples

Sun 7/5: Acoustic Crossroads w/ Tommy Marsh

Fri 7/10: National Cat

1901 Speakeasy

740 South B Street, Oxnard

Fri & Sat 7:30 pm

Fri 7/3: Terry Murphy

Sat 7/4: Frank Barajas

Fri 7/10: Tex Pistols

Sat 7/11: Toni Jannotta

To Art, or Not to Art? BAA Artists in the Time of Corona

Here's another selection from our member artists of what is occupying their thoughts and hands during the COVID-19 pandemic and the Black Lives Matter civil protests.

Plans are afoot to re-open BAA's Buena Ventura Gallery at the Bell Arts Factory beginning July 10. The gallery will be open Fridays and Saturdays only. Details are still being arranged. Stay tuned for an official announcement.



Gina Thayer Niebergall: "Social Distancing on Soquel Creek," 16"x12" oil on panel is a gentle illustration of our experiences in the pandemic.



Lisa Skyheart Marshall: A prolific painter, Ojai resident Lisa has been busy creating her detailed and light-hearted watercolor and ink paintings of local flora and fauna.



Joyce Lombard: "I am collaging boots and reaching back in time! I've completed an ankle boot commemorating 100 years of women's suffrage."



At the 83rd annual Santa Paula art show competition local artist **Tony Jankowski** won both of the first-place honors. One from a "Jury of your Peers" and one from the public who attended the show.

This 'n' That



Drabinski served as CEO of the Food Bank Coalition of San Luis Obispo County.

Food Share appoints new COO

Food Share has appointed Kevin Drabinski as its new Chief Operating Officer. Drabinski replaces Susan Haverland who retired on June 12 after seven years with the organization.

Prior to his appointment at Food Share, Drabinski served as CEO of the Food Bank Coalition of San Luis Obispo County where he oversaw fiscal and operational growth for three years. Before that he served six years as senior field representative for California's 35th State Assembly office where he led constituent engagement and policy outreach with business, agricultural, public safety, and educational interests.

Commenting on her seven-year tenure at Food Share, Susan said, "As I transition away from the frontlines of this work, I realize how powerful Ventura

County's social service organizations and county entities are when we work together to advocate for a just, healthy, and vibrant Ventura County for everyone who lives here. Together, we have made Ventura County a better place to live."

Monica White, Food Share's President & CEO expressed her appreciation saying, "While we are thrilled to welcome Kevin Drabinski as our new COO, Susan's departure will be felt by all of us who have had the pleasure of working with her. We thank her for her kindness, her compassion, and her commitment to advocacy on behalf of those experiencing food insecurity in Ventura County."

Speaking about his appointment Kevin said, "It is an honor to join the team here at Food Share who hold a singular focus to lead the fight against hunger in Ventura County. As a team of hunger relief workers I look for us to strive for excellence across the board in operations, and to push for greater efficiencies and effectiveness, so that we can even better live out our mission that no one should go hungry."

Since 1978, Food Share has been feeding the hungry in Ventura County. It all began when eight friends banded together to provide food to those in need in Ventura, CA. The early philanthropic movement started in a family garage, quickly outgrew a donated fire station in Saticoy and now operates in Oxnard, CA with two warehouses with a combined 36,000 square feet. Today, staff and volunteers distribute over 13 million pounds of food, or over 11 million meals, annually through its 190 pantry and program partners.

As Ventura County's food bank, Food Share provides food for 75,000 hungry friends and neighbors monthly. Food Share is a member of Feeding America, the nation's largest hunger-relief organization, as well as the California Association of Food Banks. For more information about Food Share, visit www.foodshare.com.

You can make a donation in support of Food Share at foodshare.com/give

VC Public Health Department awarded National Reaccreditation Status

The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) has announced that the Ventura County Public Health Department is among the first 25 local public health departments in the nation and the first in the State of California to be awarded reaccreditation status. The accreditation demonstrates a consistent and continued commitment to collaborative efforts to keep communities throughout Ventura County safe. The rigorous accreditation process requires commitment to quality and performance improvement.

"The Ventura County Public Health team is deeply committed to protecting and improving the health of every member of our community, including identifying and overcoming disparities

and barriers to leading a healthy life. This recognition is a well-deserved validation of that commitment and their efforts," said County Executive Officer Mike Powers. "During this unprecedented pandemic, we are fortunate to have such a dedicated, recognized public health department with the capacity and ability to respond effectively to protect the lives of all community members."

PHAB is a nongovernmental nonprofit organization that administers the national accrediting program, which works to improve and protect the health of the public by advancing and transforming the quality and performance of governmental public health agencies in the United States and abroad.

Ventura County Public Health Director Rigoberto Vargas, MPH, expressed gratitude to the department's "outstanding and diverse team of public health professionals dedicated to protecting health and promoting the well-being of all residents in Ventura County." Added Vargas: "We are especially proud to have been the first health department in California to have been accredited, and now to be the first to be re-accredited. Achieving reaccreditation, all while also responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, further demonstrates that indeed, Ventura County Public Health is a high-achieving department that's not just meeting, but largely exceeding, national standards for health department excellence."

PHAB's national accreditation program, which launched in 2011 with support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Lighter Breeze

Baby Blues



On The Fast Track



Marvin



Blondie



Hagar the Horrible



Zits



Solutions on page 13

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

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

Weekly SUDOKU
by Linda Thistle

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row, column, each column down, and each small 3x3 box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

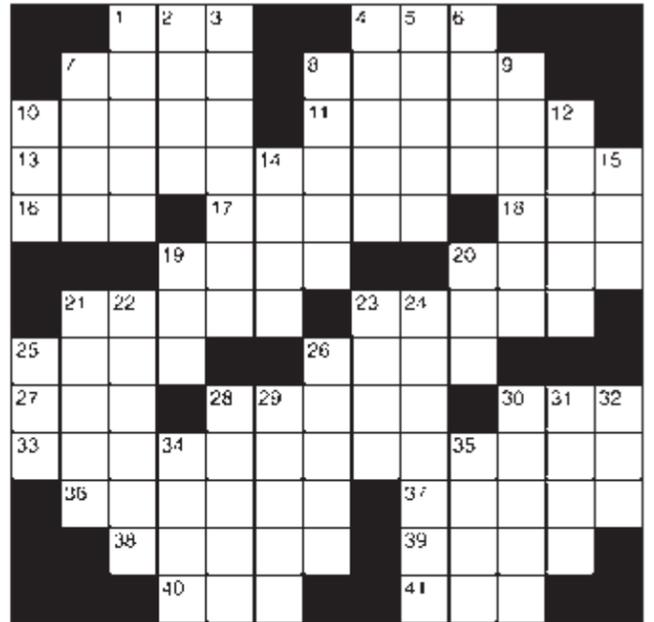
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦
♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

Solutions on page 13

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 — Na Na
- 4 Swindle
- 7 Summery desserts
- 8 Fusses
- 10 Sixth president
- 11 Many
- 13 Proof of a crime
- 16 Sprite
- 17 Unclear
- 18 Still, in verse
- 19 Say it isn't so
- 20 Rhyming tributes
- 21 Groups of musicians
- 23 Slanted edge
- 25 Volcanic outflow
- 26 One of the Three Bears
- 27 Sailor's assent
- 28 Unwilling
- 30 Fine, to NASA
- 33 Texas city
- 36 Bill-payment period
- 37 Alan of "Little Miss Sunshine"
- 38 Mystery writer's award
- 39 Don of radio
- 40 Sun. speech



- 10 Expert
- 12 Man of — (Superman comparison)
- 14 Catches some rays
- 15 — and outs
- 19 "CSI" evidence
- 20 Eggs
- 21 Louisiana marsh
- 22 Unwilling
- 23 Dog owner's ordeal
- 24 Son of
- 41 Rand McNally item
- 25 Fond du —, Wis.
- 26 Harness horse
- 28 Thrust
- 29 "Argo" award
- 30 Invite to the penthouse
- 31 Elevator name
- 32 Family
- 34 Cushions
- 35 "Joy of Cooking" writer
- Rombauer

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Making things more complicated than they need to be can be a problem for the typically orderly Lamb. Try to look for a less intricate way to accomplish the same goals.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Avoiding personal involvement in a troubling situation might be advisable at this time, especially since you probably don't have all the facts. The weekend brings a surprise.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A problem with a colleague you thought had been resolved could recur. However, this time you'll be able to rely on your record to get a quick resolution in your favor. Good luck.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Giving your self-esteem a boost could be a good idea for the Moon Child, who might feel a bit daunted by the week's occurrences. Just focus on all your positive accomplishments.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) The "mane" attraction for the Lovable Lion this week is -- what else? -- love. New relationships move to new levels, while long-standing partnerships are strengthened.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A recent workplace problem will prove to be one of miscommunication, and once the matter is settled, you should have a better chance of getting your proposals approved.

LIBRA (September 23 to October

22) Good news! After dealing pretty much in the dark with a matter that seemed to be taking forever to resolve, you should soon be seeing the light at the end of the tunnel.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) A positive message should help lift that energy-draining sense of anxiety, and you should soon be able to deal with even the peskiest matter, whether at work or personal.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Try to control that heated Sagittarian temperament while dealing with what you believe to be an unfair matter. A cool approach is the best way to handle things.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Nursing hurt feelings could keep you from learning what went wrong. Ask your partner, a family member or a trusted friend to help you reassess your actions in the matter.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Nature is dominant this week. Try to spend time outdoors with someone special. An act of kindness in the past might be recalled by a person you believed was out of your life.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) An upcoming career decision could be based on how well you might be able to apply your artistic talents. Be sure to use the finest samples of your work to make a strong impression.

BORN THIS WEEK: Doing good things for others comes easily to you. You are considered a good friend, even by those you might hardly know.

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Showtime

View from House Seats

Entertainment Available in Creative Ways

by Shirley Lorraine

Local stages are still dark, but some theater companies are finding ways to meet the need for entertainment and education in creative and innovative ways.

Conejo Playhouse in Thousand Oaks has been offering CPT Saturday Afternoon Live, a series of stand-alone workshops and webinars via Zoom Saturday afternoons at 2 p.m. Many are free. Advance registration is required to get the Zoom invitation and log-in information. Visit the theater's website at www.conejoplayers.org for specifics.

Also at Conejo, coming in August will be Car Park Theatre! An evening of Broadway songs, silent auction (bid via phone) and dinner available through Big Mann BBQ. All from the safety of your car! Audition information is on their website with event details to follow soon.

Ventura's Rubicon Theatre is bringing a Safe Distance Drive-in Theatre Concert Series to the parking lot of the Ventura Fairgrounds in July, August, and early September. The live 75-minute concerts will be performed on an elevated stage and projected onto four large screens. Cars will be parked with safe distance guidelines. The line up includes Drive-in Hits, Samonsky Sings Sinatra, Forever Plaid Reunion Concert, Jimmy Messina and Friends, and Music of the Knights. Contact the service desk at 1-800-667-2900 or visit www.rubicontheatre.org for more information and tickets.

Several of the theaters are periodically offering streamed performances of various kinds. Check your favorite VC theater's website to get current information. Here are a few: Elite Theater - www.theelite.org; SPTC - www.santapaulatheatercenter.org; Ojai Arts Center - www.ojaiact.org; Camarillo - www.skywayplayhouse.org; Moorpark - www.highstreetartscenter.com; and Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center - www.simi-arts.org.

As of last Friday and for a few weeks forward, the Elite Theater is presenting "A Midsummer Night's Stream" - a digital offering of the Bard's well-known summer staple. The actors are all chiming in from their own homes, so the video qualities vary. The production is a work in progress. Opening night's performance was still experiencing a few technological challenges, but Shakespeare's words are always melodic, and it was thrilling to see "live" theater continuing. Register for a performance at the Elite website. The tickets are only \$5.00 and, hey, you can watch in the comfort of your own home. Give it a try.

It remains to be seen when and if any of these theaters will be able to physically reopen. In the meantime, keep checking in to see what is happening. Your support is needed. All of our theaters gratefully accept donations to help secure reopening.

Of course, if you are so inclined, impromptu street theater (six feet apart, please) is still an option. Dance, sing, play an instrument, recite a poem, or tell jokes. At the very least, you will share smiles with others.

Another theater update - The Bank of America Performing Arts Center Thousand Oaks (Civic Arts Plaza) has announced that all live performances are cancelled until January 2021. Those holding tickets may contact the box office at 805.449.2787 or visit their website at www.BAPACThousandoaks.com for details.

undercover operations, so assigned JJ along with his tech guide Bobbi (Kirsten Schaal) to stake out a mother and daughter remotely connected to a nuclear arms deal (the recently deceased husband/father's brother, Uncle Marquez, being the actual person of interest).

JJ and Bobbi setup operations in a nearby apartment, then setup cameras and listen devices to remotely monitor Kate (Parisa Fitz-Henley) and her 9 year old daughter Sophie (Chloe Coleman). Sophie was quite precocious and actually walked into the undercover operation when JJ and Bobbi were distracted and decided to film them to basically blackmail JJ into teaching her the craft of being a CIA agent.

Unfortunately for JJ, Sophie had her own clever crafty ways and was constantly outsmarting JJ, like when he was trying to train her to get by him and while suggesting a distraction Sophie immediately tipped over JJ's fishbowl, which sent him clamoring for his beta fish Blueberry, the only personal relationship he had in his life.

While JJ trained Sophie the CIA way, Sophie helped JJ to be more of his sensitive self, and in seeing this she decided that JJ was be a good fit for her mom Kate, so setup a date by breaking a water pipe and asking JJ to

Continued on page 20

Streaming Spotlight by Cindy Summers

My Spy

Amazon Originals



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

MY SPY finds hardened CIA operative JJ (Dave Bautista) recently demoted do due his extreme soldier actions during sensitive CIA operations, and when re-assigned to a basic apartment stake out finds himself constantly challenged by a young Sophie, (Chloe Coleman) who he as been sent to surveil along with her mother Kate. Sophie, being very tech savvy, uses those skills to discover JJ's surveillance operation after finding hidden cameras in her apartment. Sophie convinces JJ to spend time with her and teach her to be a spy in exchange for not blowing his cover, but JJ finds he's no match for Sophie's disarming wit and charm.

JJ's boss Kim (Ken Jeong) had faith in JJ's ability to defend the operation as a soldier, but was consistently challenged with JJ's lack of ability to understand the subtleties of working

ONE NIGHT ONLY!
A LIVE, socially-distanced and audience-safe event!

VMF at the Drive In

J2B2 JOHN JORGENSON BLUEGRASS BAND

July 16TH 8:00PM

VENTURA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

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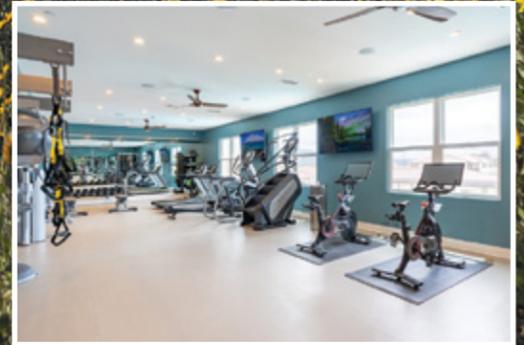
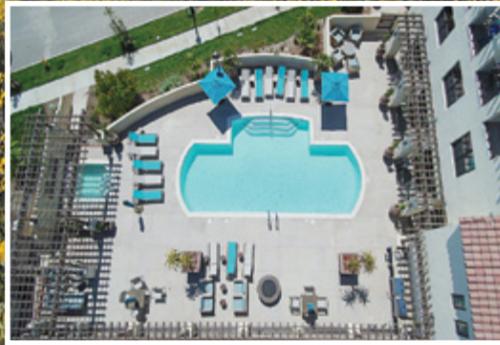
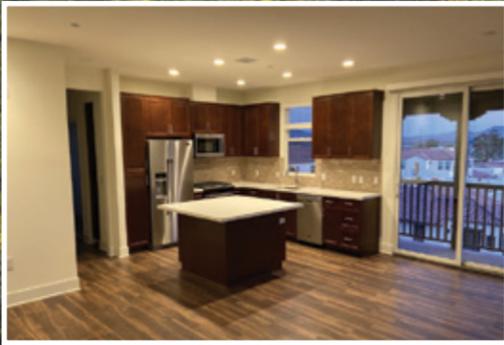
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This 'n' That

Streaming Spotlight

Continued from page 19

help her mother. Bobbi, discovering this through watching them under surveillance, warns JJ that he's not only compromising the operation, she also shares her disappointment because she views JJ as her hero, and can't seem to get him to teach her anything about his soldiering ways.

Marquez, the nuclear arms dealer, finally does show up at the apartment, believing that his brother had hidden the plans for the bomb with their pet dog and does actually find a USB drive in the collar, so decides to kidnap Sophie to help insure a safe getaway and headed to the airport to fly his private plan out of the country.

Of course JJ is not going to let that happen, especially with Sophie in danger, so he disables the plane on the runway by slashing the tire, and trades Sophie for the safety box thought to contain the USB drive. Sophie, with her newly acquired skills, thwarted her uncle's plan by getting the USB drive when no one was looking and Marquez met his demise in a fiery explosion.

Dave Bautista and Chloe Coleman are a great match for this cute, charming, action comedy. Rated: PG-13 (for action/violence and language) 101 minutes