

Meet your City Council candidates, page 6, 7 and 8!



# VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

Vol. 14, No. 1 Published Every Other Wednesday Established 2007 October 7 - October 20, 2020



"I've been honored to have served both as Deputy Mayor and as Mayor."

## Tribute to Cheryl Heitmann's many years of public service in Ventura

by Carol Leish

The City of Ventura and the County of Ventura have been improved with the dedicated service of Cheryl Heitmann for many years. She was involved with the Board of the Ventura County Community College District. She has also been involved on the City of Ventura City Council. This included having served as both Deputy Mayor and Mayor.

Heitmann, who has a Masters Degree in Social Work, and is a licensed Clinical Social Worker, was in private practice for 25 years. She has also worked as a probation officer, psychiatric social worker in a hospital setting, and with children in a group setting.

Besides her work as a clinical social worker, Heitmann co-owned a political consulting and fundraising group for 20 years. She also served as the executive director of the Ventura Music Festival for 7 years.

In 2002, when she heard that the Ventura County Community College District was going through challenging

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Dowell award winners with Ventura Police officers.

## Dee Dowell Memorial Scholarship award winners announced

The Ventura Police Officers' Association (VPOA) is pleased to present three scholarships to high achieving local Ventura students as the award recipients of the 17th annual Dee Dowell Memorial Scholarship.

"There is no greater honor than to be in public service," said Officer Joseph Metz, President of the VPOA. "We are thrilled to play just a minor role in the future success of Ventura's youth and our

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Mayor Matt LaVere

## Mayor Matt LaVere's 2020 State of the City

The theme of this year's State of the City is "Focus on Recovery: Rising above a Pandemic in Ventura". We are now 6 months into this pandemic, and all of our lives have been impacted in immeasurable ways. I hear story after story of the personal ways COVID-19 has impacted so many individuals, families and businesses in our community, and it breaks my heart - because so many of our friends and our family are struggling right now.

And I can only hope that through this despair, we find opportunities for progress and improvement. I am someone who always looks for the silver lining in difficult situations, and I believe that despite the challenges we are facing today, we can find opportunities to create a more prosperous tomorrow.

I hope many of you come to share my belief that although it has been an incredibly tough year for the City, we are well positioned for an effective recovery, and more importantly, the groundwork has been laid for future success in 2021 and beyond.

City Facilities have now been closed for close to 6 months, our commitment to serving the community and its residents hasn't stopped. When COVID-19 hit, the City quickly transitioned operations to re-imagine City services in order to support online services for residents and businesses. The City isn't satisfied

*Continued on page 5*



WEV Trailblazer Award recipient Brenda Allison of Coast General Insurance Brokers

## WEV hosting Empowerment is Priceless

Women's Economic Ventures (WEV) is hosting the 15th annual Empowerment is Priceless fundraising event (virtually) on Thursday, October 15th from 9 - 10 a.m. This year's spotlight is on business owners facing the challenges of COVID-19 and the public is invited to attend the free event by

registering online at [www.wevonline.org/eip](http://www.wevonline.org/eip).

"Empowerment is Priceless is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate Women's Small Business Month and the amazing impact women owned businesses have on our communities and our local economy," said WEV CEO Kathy Odell. "This year more than ever, women and minority business owners need our support to press on through these extraordinarily difficult times."

At the event each year WEV presents the Trailblazer Award to recognize and honor inspirational businesswomen in Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties who have succeeded in challenging gender norms in society through sheer passion, commitment, vision and grit. This year, Brenda Allison, founder of two successful Ventura County insurance agencies and the Chief Executive Officer of Coast General Insurance Brokers, has been selected to receive the Women's Economic Ventures' Trailblazer Award.

Trailblazers are active community members and philanthropists whose accomplishments serve as an uplifting example to other women entrepreneurs and Allison defi

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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](http://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](http://www.gofundme.com/f/support-the-ventura-breeze).

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2721 E. Main St.
- Fillmore**  
852 W. Ventura St.
- Oxnard**  
3641 W. 5th St.

**OCTOBER 17**

- Santa Paula**  
Premiere Health Center  
258 E. Harvard Blvd.
- Port Hueneme**  
321 E. Port Hueneme Rd.

**OCTOBER 24**

- Ventura**  
138 W. Main St., Suite E

## Centers for Family Health



Community Memorial Health System

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Walk-ins are encouraged. Locations Throughout Ventura County.



## City News

# My Experience with Districts

by Jim Friedman  
Ventura District 5

I have a unique perspective when it comes to serving as a city council member in that I have served “at large,” meaning being elected city wide and now, being elected within a district. I served as a city council member from 1995-2003. When the city broke up into districts, I was elected again in 2018, and now serve as the elected representative for Ventura District 5.

At first, I had mixed emotions about being elected within and then representing a particular district, but now, after almost two years, I have to say that I prefer Districts over the previous “at large” system. Campaigning required much more walking door-to-door but there were far less candidate forums to attend.

As the representative for District 5, I have gotten to know my district and constituents much better than when I was serving the community “at large.” I do find that a district council member needs to be much more responsive to the constituents because the council member is now the first point of contact with the residents. Previously, when serving “at large,” any one of the seven council members could take on a neighborhood issue, but now, that responsibility falls directly on my shoulders if the issue is in District 5. I don’t mind this added responsibility because I feel it is my job to help my District 5 constituents and provide the highest level of customer service to them as possible. Good customer service is something that I learned and continue to practice in my Insurance/Financial Services business for the past 42 years.

Just because I represent the residents in District 5 does not preclude me from assisting residents in other districts. I have heard from many people outside of District 5 and have offered them help and advice. I do however encourage them to also contact their district council member in an effort to help them resolve their issue. I do not want to step on the toes of any of my city council colleagues.

Being the very first representative for District 5 has been rewarding in that I am meeting a lot of new people, solving problems and making a lot of new friends.

## City of Ventura Playgrounds Open

On September 28, 2020, the State announced that all outdoor playgrounds operated by a city or county are approved to reopen with safety guidelines. The City of Ventura has opened 25 of our 26 City playgrounds for the community to enjoy.

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### Tribute to Cheryl Heitmann

*Continued from page 1*

times, and also had no women on the board in 20 years, Heitmann realized that, ‘Getting involved on the board was something for me to consider doing since I’ve always been passionate about good public education. The incumbent was not running for re-election. After I got encouragement from others, along with having my own strong belief that women needed to become more involved in the political process as candidates, I decided to run.’

While serving on the Ventura City Council, Heitmann said that, ‘I’ve been honored to have served both as Deputy Mayor and as Mayor.’ During her time on the City Council she has represented the city on the Economic Development Collaborative, in which she has served 4 years on the board, which included one year as the Chair. She also has served 3 years on the Gold Coast Transit District Board, in which she was the chair for her last year. She said, ‘On Council I was able to restart the Economic Development subcommittee, producing a 5-year ED strategy. I also currently serve on the school liaison committee; the homeless subcommittee; financial committee; and, the legislative committee. In addition, I currently serve on the economic development and housing committee for the National League of Cities. By serving on all of these regional and national committees, it is/has been important for the city to be able to have a seat at the table when policies are being drafted.’

“When serving as Ventura’s only third woman Mayor,” Heitmann said, “I was especially proud to have started the city’s first sister city program with Loreto, Mexico. I was also proud to have established the Ventura Council for Seniors to ensure that we are meeting the needs of our seniors which included completing a senior strategic plan. I also spearheaded the downtown Ambassador program with the support of the Downtown Ventura Partners.”

Heitmann continued by saying, “I chaired the 150th anniversary committee to plan and execute the exciting celebration of our 150 years as a city. Since, in government, many ideas and projects take several years to complete, the Veterans Home Project is especially dear to me. It will include 122 new apartments for homeless Veterans and low-income Veteran families. I brought this project forward while serving as Mayor, and it has been continuing to inch forward. Now, it is very close to putting the first shovel in the ground for the groundbreaking.”

“Serving on the city council has been an incredible experience and one that I am glad to have had. The rewards are that I have had the feeling that I have been able to contribute to bettering the quality of life in the city I love,” according to, Heitmann. “And, just as important, I’ve had the chance to meet and work with so many wonderful people, both city staff, city partners, and community members.”

Ventura would like to thank Cheryl Heitmann for her many years, since 2002, of dedicated service to the community. Ventura has become a better place from your dedicated service.

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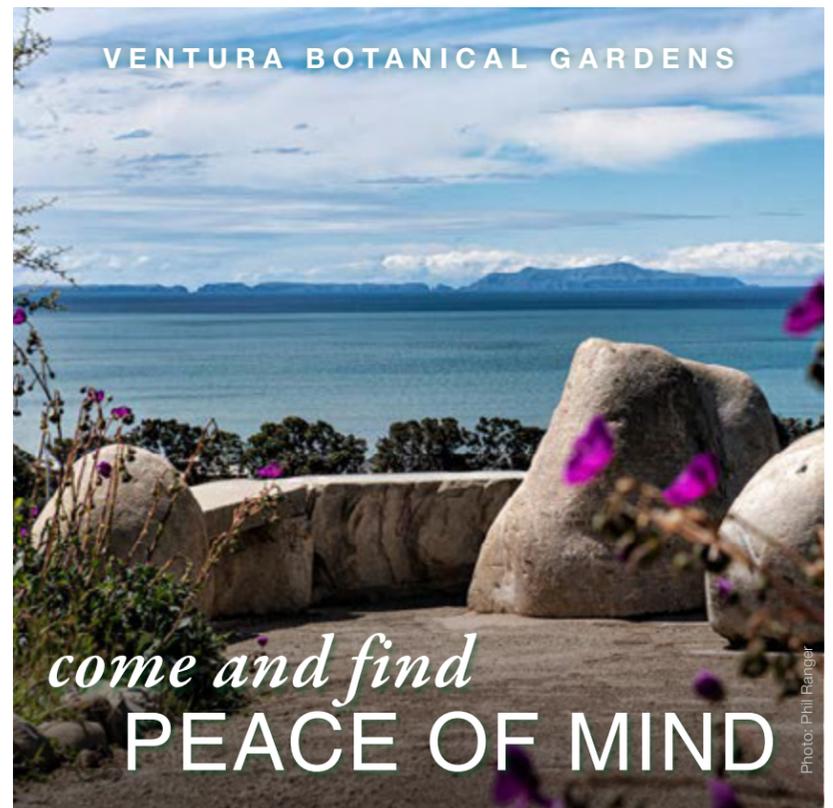
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# VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

Member, Ventura Chamber of Commerce

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

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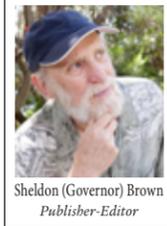


The Ventura Breeze is printed with soy based ink on paper with minimum 40% recycled content.

The only motive that can keep politics pure is the motive of doing good for one's country and its people.

— Author  
unknown

## Opinion/Editorial



Sheldon (Governor) Brown  
Publisher-Editor

■ In this special issue of the Breeze, we feature the candidates for the Ventura **City Council**, Mayor Matt LaVere's 2020 State of the City, Jim Friedman's thoughts about council districts and a tribute to retiring council member Cheryl Heitmann. I hope that you enjoy it, and please vote (mailing in is the safest way right now).

■ The Ventura City Council voted 6-1 to keep the city's **red-light** detection cameras for another two years. The "no" vote was from Councilmember Cheryl Heitmann who said she's been opposed to the cameras from the very beginning.

A majority of the council aren't thrilled with the cameras saying that they either want the cameras gone after the two years or they want a new system with a new company (not Redflex Traffic Systems who have been providing the system for Ventura for almost 20 years).

I wish they hadn't continued this and will give serious consideration to eliminating them completely.

■ Major **Walter Reed**, M.D., U.S. Army (September 13, 1851 – November 22, 1902), was a U.S. Army physician who in 1901 led the team that confirmed the theory of the Cuban doctor Carlos Finlay that yellow fever is transmitted by a particular mosquito species, rather than by direct contact. This insight gave impetus to the new fields of epidemiology and biomedicine, and most immediately allowed the resumption and completion of work on the Panama Canal (1904–1914) by the United States. Reed followed work started by Carlos Finlay and directed by George Miller Sternberg, who has been called the "first U.S. bacteriologist". The now more well-known Walter Reed Medical Center is named after him.

■ A new study from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that the median age of people with **COVID-19** in the U.S. has declined with Americans in their 20s now accounting for more cases than people in any other

age group. The findings suggest that if the U.S. wants to get the coronavirus outbreak under control it will need more compliance (and government reaching out) from younger adults.

■ A Maryland man was sentenced to a year in prison for hosting **two parties** in defiance of the state's coronavirus orders barring large gatherings. Shawn Marshall Myers, 42, had 50 to 60 people in his home for the first occurrence on March 22.

When officers arrived to shut down the party he was "argumentative." He eventually agreed to shut down the party. But, he went right back to throwing another large party with more than 50 people less than a week after his first one was shut down.

I'm glad that he was found guilty of a crime. Large unprotected gatherings can kill people and spread the virus. Anyone who has unprotected gatherings should perhaps go to jail.

■ A federal appeals court has upheld Governor **Gavin Newsom's** restricting indoor worship during the pandemic. The court determined California's health orders did not discriminate against religious expression, and the conditions apply the same to worship services the same as other indoor events. I certainly agree, religious freedom doesn't mean jeopardizing lives.

■ **Tik Tok** won a significant victory against the Trump administration when a federal judge ruled in favor of the tech company's request to delay a ban on the app. Tik Tok will remain available in the US and continue to provide software updates. If they are a national threat, I think much more evidence needs to be provided. They provide a needed service for many Americans.

■ Approximately 83% of Democrats consider wildfires to be a serious threat while only 59% of **Republicans** share this belief. Amazing the very basic differences between people of different political parties. Much of California is burning to the ground - isn't this a serious threat?

■ **Joseph I. Castro**, the grandson of farmworkers who rose during a career

in higher education to lead Cal State Fresno, has been named the chancellor of the California State University system. He is the first person of color to lead this system. His life will be an inspiration to 43% of Cal State's 480,000 students who are Latino.

■ Apparently, **Biden** (and logical people) is not wrong for wearing masks. Perhaps those that don't are the wrong ones. I wonder if Trump still thinks it is a hoax by the liberal left to make him look bad? If it is, it certainly has succeeded.

■ Adopted in 1971, the 26th amendment lowered the **voting age** to 18. California voters can decide if 17-year-olds can vote under certain circumstances by approving proposition 18. I support it. Especially with today's youth, they are so much more knowledgeable about affairs because of the time they spend on social media (all of it is not a waste).

■ I'm opposed to **Amy Coney Barrett** being on the Supreme Court because she is a Roman Catholic. Wait, am I some kind a racist? No, but with her on the court, 67% of the justices will be Roman Catholics even though they represent about 20% of the US population. The Supreme Court should at least make some attempt to represent the whole country. Can you imagine the backlash if 67% of the court were Jewish or some other minority?

■ **Chris Christie**, the former governor of New Jersey, announced Saturday morning he tested positive for COVID-19, one day after revealing nobody wore a mask while preparing for the first presidential debate with President Donald Trump. Three Minnesota congressmen who flew on Air Force One with Trump have also tested positive for COVID-19.

Many of those involved with Trump will be testing positive. Will they be angry with him? I certainly would be. Will his fans finally understand that masks and distancing have a purpose and this has never been a hoax?

■ Trump supporter Sean Patterson is not worried that Donald Trump has been hospitalized with coronavirus because he believes what the president tells him.

"It's a hoax. There's no pandemic. As Trump said, 'how many millions die of flu?'" said the 56-year-old truck driver outside the early voting station in St Joseph, Missouri, a stronghold for the president. If he's sick, then they planted it when they tested him. It's what they did to me when I went to hospital for my heart beating too fast. Two weeks later I got a cold," he said. "It's political. I don't trust the US government at all (isn't Trump the US government)? Who are they to mandate personal safety? I listen to Trump."

They? Who the hell are they? Has this country gone mad?

■ Just when I think Trump can't be more irresponsible, he states he's feeling good and the nation should not "be afraid of the virus" and let it dominate your life. A virus that has killed more than 209,000 Americans. I wonder how the relatives and friends of the 209,000 feel about it. Also, he has medication not available to anyone else and the White House has an entire medical facility in it to care for him.

We encourage you to send your opinions to [opinions@venturabreeze.com](mailto:opinions@venturabreeze.com). Please limit them to about 300 words

## Mailbox

Voting has never been easier. Voting from home is safe, easy and convenient.

Once you receive your official ballot in the mail in early October, you can return it by the US Postal Service mail - postage is prepaid. It must be postmarked by Nov 3 and received by Nov 20 (in California) for your vote to be counted. We recommend you vote as early as possible after receiving your ballot.

An alternative to mailing your ballot is using one of the 34 Ballot Drop Boxes that are located throughout the county and will be open from Oct. 6 until Election Day, Nov. 3 at 8 pm. Ballot Drop Box locations can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/y45ol4mo>.

Finally, you can take your ballot to any of the 47 in-person Vote Centers to drop it off or request a replacement for a spoiled ballot. The Vote Centers will be open Sat. Oct 31, Sun., Nov 1, and Mon. Nov 2 from 10 am-6 pm and Tuesday, November 3 from 7 am-8 pm. Vote Center locations can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/y5wd2ykv>.

Be sure to check your registration status ([voterstatus@sos.ca.gov](mailto:voterstatus@sos.ca.gov)) and sign up to track your ballot (WhereMyBallot.sos.ca.gov).

The League of Women Voters

of Ventura County will host virtual candidate forums ([www.venturacounty.org](http://www.venturacounty.org)) - be an informed voter and learn about the candidates and issues.

Note to Editor: If you prefer to use the full URLs, here they are:

Drop Box locations: <https://recorder.countyofventura.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/List-of-Drop-Off-Locations.pdf>

Vote Center locations: <https://recorder.countyofventura.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/IPVL-Insert-FINAL-1.pdf>

Betsy Patterson  
President, League of Women Voters of Ventura County

Dear Mr. Brown,

Defund: A term that has taken on new meaning these days, gets twisted by those who wish to argue in bad faith to leave a broken system unchanged. But, defunding is about the reallocation of funding, taking duties away from law enforcement that would better be handled by mental health specialists or unarmed community liaisons. It means transforming our legal system to break the cycle of violence, oppression and despair

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## News & Notes



It's Election Season and as always, CAPS Media is actively engaged. Recently, CAPS crews produced a series of Video Voter 2020 information segments with candidates for the Ventura City Council and the Ventura Unified School District Board. Each candidate was given 2 minutes to present a general statement and then asked to respond to three specific questions from CAPS moderators. Candidates for City District 2 are Doug Halter, Dougie Michie and Christie Weir; District 3 candidates are Barbara Brown, Aaron Gaston, William Cornell and Mike Johnson; District 7 candidates are Heather May Ellinger, Nancy Pedersen, Joe Schroeder and Michael James Nolan. VUSD Area 3 candidates are Jackie Moran and Amy Callahan. The Video Voter series airs on Channel 6 and streams on CAPS Media and on social media throughout the election season. Broadcast times for City Council candidates include Thursday Oct 8th at noon, Friday at 9am, Saturday at 5pm and Sunday at 8pm. VUSD Video Voter statements air Thursday the 8th at 7pm, Friday at 8pm, Saturday at 9:30p and Sunday at 6pm. Check the schedule found on [capsmedia.org](http://capsmedia.org) for more dates and times.

The CAPS team is also collaborating with the League of Women Voters in staging and distributing a series of candidate forums and voter information discussions, all of which are airing and streaming on CAPS Media outlets.

CAPS Media board member Kathy Good is producing and hosting a series of voter information programs for her "In The Women's Room" radio show which airs on CAPS Radio KPPQ 104.1 at 8am on Mondays and 2pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Kathy's in-depth and informative interviews with officials and experts explore a wide range of issues pertaining to Ventura County elections. Elizabeth Rodeno, CAPS Media program director, stated: "Kathy is absolutely awesome. Her interviews are always engaging, personal and informative. Kathy is a treasure for KPPQ and all of Ventura."

The remarkable and resourceful ECTV students in the El Camino High School media program at CAPS Media, are producing a series of historic interviews exploring the Chicano activist movements of the past with participants who experienced the awareness-raising, cultural events in the Chicano Moratorium of 1970. Due to the COVID-19 realities, the interviews are recorded in a hybrid-zoom format, in English and Spanish, with guests isolated in the CAPS Media studio and students conducting the interviews from their homes. The programs will air on both Channel 15 and on CAPS Radio KPPQ at 104.1 and streaming on the MyTuner app and hosted on the KPPQ Podcast network.

For Ventura County, CAPS crews continue to cover the weekly COVID-19 updates in English and Spanish. The updates can be viewed on the County website at [ventura.org](http://ventura.org) and on the county's social media pages. In addition CAPS Media is producing a series of voter awareness videos to inform the public on the election process. The key message is that Voting By Mail is safe and secure. In

fact, Ventura County has been using Vote By Mail for years – and it has always been safe and secure. Due to COVID-19 precautions, this year every registered voter in the county is receiving a ballot in the mail. Ballots were mailed on Friday, October 2nd and should be arriving in your mailbox by mid-October. If a voter does not receive a ballot, has questions whether or not they are registered to vote, want to know how to return their ballot or have any other questions, they can find all the answers at [VenturaVote.org](http://VenturaVote.org).

Due to the COVID-19 emergency the CAPS Media Center is closed to Members and the public until further notice. CAPS Member/Producers can submit programming via the online portal at [capsmedia.org](http://capsmedia.org) for broadcast and streaming on CAPS public access television Channel 6 and on CAPS Radio KPPQ 104.1FM.

All of us at CAPS Media hope everyone is Staying Safe and Healthy during this challenging time.

Remember – Please Vote! This is your opportunity to share your views and let your voice be heard.

## City to resume parking meter fees in downtown area

Starting Tuesday, October 13, 2020, the City of Ventura will resume collecting regular parking fees for on-street, metered parking in Downtown Ventura. Enforcement of fee payment will also resume.

Paid parking rates of 50-cents per hour will be collected along Palm Street, Oak Street, California Street, Chestnut Street, Fir Street, and Main Street. Along the metered parking streets, two ADA parking spaces will be made available for those with disabilities, and spaces will be designated for to-go or pick-up orders.

Currently, there are nearly 2,000 free public parking spaces available in Downtown Ventura, including the downtown parking structure located along Santa Clara Street.

The Downtown Parking Advisory Committee voted in September 2020 to resume collecting paid parking rates of 50-cents per hour. In March 2020, the City waived all parking fees supporting local businesses offering curbside pick-ups following State and Local State of Emergency declarations due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

As the City has begun to slowly open back up, activity has started to increase, and parking demand has also increased. To help ensure continued access to businesses and the availability of on-street parking, reinstating parking fees will help manage the demand. Paid parking also helps support many Downtown projects and programs, such as downtown security, parking lot and alley improvements, clean sidewalks, landscape beautification, lighting,

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and other improvements.

For contactless parking payments, download the free ParkMobile app. ParkMobile makes it easy to find, reserve, and pay for parking on any mobile device. Drivers can set up alerts via email, text message, or in-app notifications to remind them when their parking time is about to expire without running back to feed the meter. To learn more or download the ParkMobile app, visit [parkmobile.io](http://parkmobile.io). Other fees may apply.

For more information about parking areas in the City of Ventura, visit [www.cityofventura.ca.gov/parking](http://www.cityofventura.ca.gov/parking).

### Dee Dowell Memorial Scholarship

*Continued from page 1*  
community."

The first-place scholarship of \$2,000 is awarded to Bailey Welch. Bailey is 17-years-old and will be attending Ventura College to pursue a course of study in Nursing. The second-place scholarship of \$1,500 is awarded to Tara Martin. Tara is 19-years-old and will be attending the University of Arizona to pursue a course of study in Early Child Education. Finally, our third-place scholarship of \$1,000 is awarded to Kali Garibay. Kali is 19-years-old. She is currently attending the University of Southern California and intends to continue her studies in Law History and Culture.

Each young scholar was selected after displaying remarkable academic achievement, school and community service, and financial need. Additionally, each applicant must submit an essay on "Service, what it means to me," submit a letter of recommendation from a public servant, be a Ventura resident or have graduated from a high school in Ventura within the past three years, and plan a course of study related to the field of public service.

The annual Dee Dowell Memorial Scholarship program honors Sergeant Darlon "Dee" Dowell, who was shot and killed on August 7, 1978. Sergeant Dowell is the only officer in Ventura's history to die in the line of duty.

### Mayor Matt LaVere

*Continued from page 1*

with simply providing the same service as before, we are seeking to be better. We have aimed to improve operations, and to close service and technology gaps.

We initially struggled – the transition to digital, to moving all of our operations online was difficult and there were hiccups and delays. And I know this stressed the patience of many in our community. But we persevered. We fast tracked, we went online, we streamlined, and we accomplished all of this with a staff largely working from home. And although there were definite problems in the first months after COVID forced the City to completely change the way it did business, I believe the system we currently have in place will serve us incredibly well

as we transition from recovery to future successes.

In the last 27 weeks, the City Council has had 23 council meetings, there have been 47 Boards, Commissions & Committee Meetings, and there have been numerous Administrative Hearings held by our planning department. The bottom line is that the people's business has continued, and the City has taken extensive steps to keep important projects moving forward by adjusting our process to meet the needs of our new COVID realities.

Our crime rates are at a 20-year low thanks to the courageous and proactive work of the brave men and women who serve as our police officers. Our firefighters respond to close to 18,000 calls a year, and work around the clock to protect us. Our Public Works department continues to repair close to 50 miles of roads and sidewalks every year. Our Parks department maintains the City's 30 parks and ensures we have access to safe and clean outdoor space. I take immense pride in the hard work of each and every City employee, and I know they are all committed to improving the quality of life here in Ventura.

It is hard to believe my 4 years on the City Council is coming to an end. For a hometown kid, it truly has been the honor of a lifetime to serve as Ventura's Mayor. We endured so much as a City the past 4 years, from the Thomas Fire to the COVID pandemic. But we have always remained Ventura Strong, and my faith in this City and its people has never been stronger.

### WEV hosting Empowerment

*Continued from page 1*

nately meets that criteria. She is a long-standing member of the Rotary Club of Ventura, serves as an executive board member and human resources committee chair for Casa Pacifica, is on the supervisory committee of the Ventura County Credit Union, is the founder and past chairperson of Latinos In Business at the Camarillo Chamber of Commerce, and founder of the Cuban Culture Club of Ventura County.

"Women's Economic Ventures is delighted to recognize Brenda Allison for her inspiring business and community leadership," said Odell. "She has been a strong advocate for women in business and we invite the community to join us to see Brenda accept her award virtually."

Major sponsors of the 2020 Empowerment is Priceless event are LinkedIn, American Riviera Bank, Bank of America, Coast General Insurance Brokers, County of Ventura, JP Morgan Chase & Co., La Arcada Courtyard, Montecito Bank & Trust, Pacific Western Bank, and Ventura County Credit Union. All proceeds raised will directly benefit client programs in Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties including financial literacy training, Smart Entrepreneurial Training (SET), individual coaching and business advisory services, WEV en Español and WEV's Loan Program.



# Meet the Candidates



## Barbara Brown

*Candidate for City Council District 3*

Clear skies, clean water, beautiful beaches, open spaces—that's the best of Ventura, and I want to maintain that Quality of Life. Living here for over four decades, I am running for City Council because I want to give back to the community that has given me so much. My husband and I raised our son here; enjoying after-school soccer and baseball, scouts, weekend barbecues, and picnics at the beach, embracing that sense of community that living here provides. Well-maintained streets, beautiful parks, and safe sidewalks for moms with strollers, our little ones, and our seniors—these are my priorities.

I started my own business and worked with some great entities including the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Patagonia, as well as startups and mid-sized companies. After 25 years, BBM&D Strategic Branding sold in 2019 to a San Francisco-based firm, and now I have the time to pursue my passion, working on behalf of the residents of Ventura. As a business owner, I am especially concerned about our local small businesses and families without a paycheck. I want to engage leaders in problem-solving solutions. There is much we can do—like extending the eviction moratorium for as long as is needed, using motels/hotels for COVID positive essential workers, providing food and transportation, and opening up opportunity spaces for businesses, because a bustling local economy is as important to Ventura as its beaches are.

As a leader for the Ventura Botanical Gardens, I helped build this transformative vision on the hillside. I believe in open spaces for both our mental and physical health. I support the Ventura Land Trust and the Rancho San Buenaventura Conservancy Trust. Maintaining clean air and water, reducing waste, eliminating one-time use plastics, and creating a more bicycle-friendly community are issues that I plan to tackle. Over the last two years, I worked on a bipartisan federal climate change initiative—the carbon fee and dividend legislation, H.R. 763—co-sponsored by Congressman Salud Carbajal, in an effort to address global heating on a national scale.

Resolving our vagrancy issues by engaging state and county governments, non-profits, and faith-based communities is important. I worked for nearly twelve years on the boards of Interface Children and Family Services, Ventura County's most comprehensive provider of social services, and Goodwill Industries, which focuses on vocational training for economic justice. I understand the challenges the city faces in the area of homelessness and believe we need to be creative and collaborative in mitigating its effects on our community.

I am optimistic about our future and I believe together, we can accomplish anything. I want to maintain and

enhance the Quality of Life that defines Ventura, for everyone who calls this city home.

I hope you'll honor me with your vote on November 3.

BarbaraBrownCityCouncil.com



## William "Billy" Cornell

*Candidate for City Council District 3*

My name is William "Billy" Cornell. I was born in 1971.

I'm a General Contractor specializing in home repair and remodel serving the Ventura County area.

I'm a College Graduate with further education in the Building Trades.

I served a four year term as a Commissioner for the San Buenaventura Housing Authority. I also served on the Ventura Rent Control Board. Both of those were appointed offices. I worked as a Building Inspector for the City of Ojai and the City of Goleta.

Not unlike so many others I recently began a new role, along with my wife, as home school teachers for my son and daughter who are in middle and high school respectively. They are both currently enrolled via Zoom at Ventura Unified.

If I am elected to the Ventura City Council for District 3 the top three items on my agenda would be:

1. To plan for the recovery from this Global Pandemic that we face now and likely will continue to endure for quite some time. And implementing recovery plans.

2. Increasing the tax base for the city in an effort to fund our growing obligations and maintain our beautiful city without going back to the citizens to ask for more from them.

3. Further the support for our Mental Health resources and Law Enforcement Agencies to face the growing homeless population on our streets. This is a multi-faceted issue that will require support from the Housing Authority, Mental Health, many of our Faith Based Charities and special training for our Police who are working on the streets, many times the first responders.

**Accomplishment in a Leadership Role:**

As a past Commissioner with the Housing Authority I worked with Associate Commissioners as well as staff and City Officials to developed and approve new public/private housing developments and needed neighborhood redevelopment across the city. We began the long process of re-imagining the Westview Village property located at 955 Riverside St. and applied the same public/private assistance to all the properties needing capital investment for deferred maintenance. This process enabled the Authority to provide needed maintenance that wouldn't have seen funding under the usual public funding allowance.

Castillo Del Sol was one of my favorite projects with the housing Authority. It's a fully managed, 39 studio apartment facility, with preference given to adults with mental and development disabilities. The facility provides services from the County of Ventura and Tri County Regional Center.



## Heather May Ellinger

*Candidate for City Council District 7*

My name is Heather May Ellinger and I am asking for your vote to represent you in District 7 on the Ventura City Council.

As residents of Ventura, we are so fortunate to be surrounded by the great beauty of our coastal shorelines, hillsides and river valleys. I have loved living here and raising my children here for over 25 years. In that time our city has seen a tremendous growth and change.

As a Mortgage Field Inspector for ten years, I interacted with thousands of homeowners and their contractors. Traveling throughout Ventura on a regular basis has given me the unique vantage point of witnessing our city's strengths and weaknesses from the perspective of residents all around our city.

I am acutely aware of the many challenges before us. Ventura needs:

- Improved roads
- Critical water infrastructure
- The continued support of police and fire services
- To finally, effectively address the homeless crisis on our streets

To assure these needs are met, we must attract, retain and foster thriving local businesses to generate the necessary funds to meet Ventura's operational needs. Successful businesses offer greater local opportunities for all residents.

The Community Development Department plays a critical role in whether or not a business will open in our city. These are the responsibilities of the City Council which I believe have not been effectively addressed.

This year has seen an unprecedented reaction to the pandemic. Covid19 restrictions have devastated many of our local businesses. This terrible crisis has not only greatly jeopardized our local businesses' survival, but also caused many residents to lose jobs or have work opportunities greatly curtailed.

We must advocate on behalf of our residents to the County and State to quickly and safely re-open businesses for full service. There is a balance between protecting public health and protecting people's livelihoods and wellbeing. The County and City numbers do not support the continued restrictions and mandates.

We need Council members willing to stand up to outside forces in the face of adversity. This is our city, and we determine the direction we want to go.

As your next City Council Member, I will:

- Focus on bringing new businesses to

our city

- Focus on supporting those devastated by Covid19 lockdowns
- Efficiently work to bring positive results on critical quality-of-life issues and local concerns

I am open to discussing all matters big and small pertaining to our current situation, short-term strategies, and future aspirations of our city. Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you!

Meet me in person at my campaign headquarters every Thursday from 5 to 7 PM at BSF Fitness, 4580 Market Street.

Find me on Facebook: Heather May Ventura City Council District 7.

I am also on LinkedIn, Twitter, and Nextdoor.

Email me directly at HeatherMayDistrict7@gmail.com

Vote for Heather May Ellinger November 3rd and tell your friends in District 7 about me.

Let's make Ventura better together!



## Aaron Gaston

*Candidate for City Council District 3*

It's an understatement for me to say I care about Ventura, having been born and raised here. My family's roots in Ventura start in the 1950s—my parents live in the same Pierpont Beach house where they raised my brother and me. As an alumnus of Pierpont Elementary, Cabrillo Middle, and Ventura High, I even had some of the same teachers and coaches that my parents had. It's a legacy I'm proud to uphold, having brought up my own daughters in Ventura. My father owned and ran a small business in Ventura, and that entrepreneurial spirit was passed on to my brother and me at a very early age.

After I graduated from UCSB, I returned to Ventura to cofound and run a technology company helping individuals with disabilities, where I worked for nearly 30 years. I'm now a Realtor and business partner with my mother, Grace Gaston, who has been a local Realtor for over 30 years. My brother has owned the largest salon and spa in Ventura, Michael Kelley, for years, and recently, my wife Nicole Gaston founded her own salon, The Ivy Mae, in 2018.

My family continues to grow its roots in Ventura's soil. With my family's broad experience as small business owners, supporting small businesses is extremely important to me. It's one of the main reasons I wanted to run for City Council; investing in small businesses is investing in Venturans. I'm running for Ventura City Council District 3 to address the urgent and immediate issues affecting our City. I am committed to focusing on a robust local economy, supporting small businesses, improving public safety, preserving our environment, and addressing homelessness and housing issues. I am deeply committed to serving my constituents in District 3. It will be a privilege to represent you, and I will work tirelessly to ensure that your voices are heard. I



# Meet the Candidates

believe in teamwork, not divisiveness, is essential to solving the challenges we are facing in this unprecedented public health and economic crisis. I am honored to have endorsements from Mayor Matt LaVere, former Mayor and Councilmembers Jim Monahan, Brian Brennan, Mike Tracy, and Sandy Smith. VUSD Board of Trustees Velma Lomax and Matt Almaraz. Local labor unions IBEW Local 952, UFCW Local 770, Laborers local 585 (LiUNA), UA local 484, IUOE Local 12, Ironworkers Local 433, Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters (Local 805). City of Ventura Firefighters Association and City of Ventura Police Officers Association, and Ventura Chamber of Commerce PAC.

If you want to learn more about me, I welcome a conversation either in person or by phone. I can be reached at 805-242-6348 or [VoteAaronGaston@gmail.com](mailto:VoteAaronGaston@gmail.com).



## Doug Halter

*Candidate for City Council District 2*

The tug of war between maintaining a status quo and accommodating real changes in a city is a clear and present issue in our current city council elections. It has come to my attention that my point of view and values have been distorted in the numerous exchanges on this topic. Neither I nor anyone in Ventura that I know wants our City to resemble anything like the San Fernando Valley or Orange County. I have fought on many fronts for thirty years to preserve and enhance what we love about Ventura and maintain our uniqueness. Change stands all around us, and we must guide and manage it to create the prosperity our community needs.

I have fought hard to revitalize our City, preserve our history and amplify our unique and rich culture. I have also fought hard to preserve at least 80% of our hillsides, spaces owned by long time families who wanted to divest but also wanted to do the best thing for their families and our community. This was far before the establishment of the Ventura Land Trust and the Atmore's Rancho conservancy.

Responsible development for Ventura must first meet our needs and allow our community to prosper. It's essential that we save our farmland and reuse our urban fabric. A thriving city needs entry level affordable housing and executive housing; both are needed for a community to be sustainable. We do have a solid base of middle-income housing, but limited opportunities for people to earn that income.

While others restate our community vision, I sat on the 1999 Vision Document committee for two years. I started my own businesses to showcase what was possible in our renewing downtown and midtown, served as chair of the Chamber of Commerce and worked to support the living wage as the first Chamber in the country to do so. I encouraged businesses to not give up and helped them

work through an arduous City process to expand a business or stay in business. On an average, it takes fifteen to twenty years for a commercial project to be approved in Ventura. City Hall still can't answer four easy questions; What can you do with your property, what is the process, what is the timeline, and what will it cost? Why would investors enter that scenario with their lives' savings?

I invest in the community because of one core understanding. We can leave our world better off with our unique contributions. To that end I've not only have participated on numerous boards to improve Ventura, but have founded or helped establish many such as the Downtown Community Council, AIDS Partnership, Social Justice Fund, CAPS broadcasting, the Ventura Music Festival, the Rubicon theater and the Ventura Botanical Gardens.

I am proud to say that my candidacy to represent you on Ventura's City Council is endorsed by both the Police and Firefighters Associations.

We need change, bold leadership that has proven knowhow, to take ideas through to get results. I will be that leader.

For more information please visit: [www.DougHalter.com](http://www.DougHalter.com)



## Michael Johnson

*Candidate for City Council District 3*

With the budget crunch, housing crisis, rise in homelessness, and water shortage, the next four years are going to be tough for City Council. I'm running because I care about these issues – not the other way around.

For years, I've been deeply involved in our community. In 2008, I was caught up in a crime spree in my neighborhood. Knock-knock burglars were creeping about. I knocked-knocked too, warning my neighbors to lock their windows. In response, the bandits set my car on fire.

On the bright side, the burglaries stopped, and I started a neighborhood group. That's how I first got involved in our community.

I was active in the Poinsettia PTO, serving two years as President, and elected to the Anacapa School Site Council for three years.

In 2010, I joined the College Area Community Council; I've served as chair. For five years, I've been involved in city-wide issues, been there for nearly every meeting of the Homelessness/Affordable Housing Subcommittee, Water Commission, Economic Development Subcommittee, and Measure O Committee.

So I know the history. I know the people, the policies, and the processes. It's why I'm ready to lead on Day One.

City Council has its work cut out, but I have a concrete plan. The housing crisis is fundamental; we can't make progress on many other thorny issues until we tackle this one. We need more housing, both affordable and market-rate.

We need a city-wide Inclusionary Housing Plan which applies to for-sale and rental units. It must be inclusionary, the affordable units included in the project, rather than allowing developers to get away with paying a fee instead. We started working on this in 2017. It's still not done.

We're required to submit a Housing Element to the state in 2021, showing where we could accommodate 5,000 new affordable units. Our current Housing Element says somebody could build six apartments in the parking lot of the KFC. We must do better.

We need to streamline development review by implementing the recommendations of the Matrix Report. However, we must not go further by disbanding the Design Review or Historic Preservation committees, nor demote them to advisory panels. We need their expertise; they need the authority to ensure high-quality projects.

To address homelessness, we need more outreach workers; this should be our priority when the budget recovers. We need more affordable housing at the extremely low income level. We need to work with County to pursue HUD and Medicaid funding for Permanent Supportive Housing for our most vulnerable population. It's cheaper than relying on shelters, emergency rooms and county jail.

Whenever considering big water projects, Council should consult directly with the experts on the Water Commission, and must consider the financial impact on ratepayers.

We need to add solar panels to city buildings, and electric vehicle chargers for public and city fleet use.

The College Area deserves a council-member who is ready to lead on Day One. To learn more, or watch videos of recent candidate forums, please visit [MikeForVentura.com](http://MikeForVentura.com).



## Dougie Michie

*Candidate for City Council District 2*

Captain Dougie Michie, USAF (Ret.), MSC., MBA, JD, PhD, a Vietnam war era veteran, served on active duty then in the National Guard from 1972 to 1999. (Dougie Michie retired from the Air Force National Guard. His military title use is not endorsement by the Departments of Air Force or Defense.)

A Certified Financial Planner and Registered Investment Advisor, Dougie manages his investment clients' finances, and has taught business finance in Cal Lutheran's MBA graduate program. Dougie is equipped to guide the City through them.

Dougie earned his Juris Doctorate, cum laude, from Pepperdine. Dougie's 39 years of legal experience, assisting over two thousand households navigate legal concerns, will benefit the City as it confronts legal issues.

Dougie mastered city planning while earning his Doctorate in urban planning.

Well-thought-out planning requires the in-depth knowledge of city planning that Dougie has, particularly as the City addresses affordable housing and future growth. Dougie works and lives in District 2.

**On Public Safety**

Having worked with police officers and sheriff's deputies as a former L.A. County prosecutor, I am against enacting policies that would put our officers in danger if implemented. I will not blindly adopt Campaign Zero, nor the 8 Can't Wait prescriptions, many of which would endanger our officers in the field. Unfortunately, not all criminals are harmless, nor do they "play by the rules."

I am absolutely against defunding the police department. I oppose the recent proposal to cut additional positions from the Police Department and from the Fire Department. If we want to maintain our public safety, we can't do it by reducing positions.

**On Homelessness**

Like everyone else, I am tired of the impact on quality of life by those homeless that have drug problems and mental illness. By doing nothing, we are not helping these homeless. Meanwhile, the strange behavior, and sometimes aggressive behavior, is allowed to go unchecked, and we have to endure that behavior. The killing in Aloha by a homeless man should have been an alarm bell, but mostly, it is still more of the same.

The Ventura Police Department wants to address this problem by Enhance Patrol Task Force (PTF) coordination with County Behavioral Health and social service stakeholders and by utilizing enhanced patrol officers in public areas. They would also reinstitute gang prevention and intervention programs and focus on habitual offenders.

I am all for these strategic goals of our police department. But it's not going to happen if we are cutting positions and not filling the positions that are authorized. I support filling all positions as a means of providing the police department with the means to implement their plans.

For those families that are homeless because of finances, the ARCH by Mercy House is a great resource. By helping get these families off the street and back on their feet we all benefit. I support ARCH and mental health and drug addiction intervention to reduce our homeless population and to win back our streets.

[www.Dougie4District2.com](http://www.Dougie4District2.com)



## Michael James Nolan

*City Council candidate District 7*

Ventura County resident since 2007. Father of Two College age daughters attending Ventura Community College. Born and raised in the San Fernando Valley with my 10 brothers and sisters.

*Continued on the next page*



# Meet the Candidates

## Michael James Nolan

*Continued from the previous page*

Attended Chaminade College preparatory High School and received my B.A. in Marketing from C.S.U.N. Successful careers in Grocery and Wireless Telecommunications allowed me to sharpen my business acumen in land development, contract negotiations and retail space development all over Southern California.

Platform:

Balance Ventura city budget. (currently in multi-million deficit)

Reduce Crime. (currently 37% higher than national average and 5% higher than national average for violent crime)

Attract business and employment base to Ventura.

Make our streets safe.

Eliminate vacant business blight.

Ensure housing development is balanced and not just pockets of city.

Vote NO on any sales tax increases.

Keep open space free and accessible for residents.

Challenges:

50% of the homeless people in United States live in California. A good portion of those live right here in Ventura. I believe in feeding the hungry and providing shelter to those that need shelter but I am not in favor of street camping and panhandling. The stabbing murder at the Aloha grill was the last straw. I fully support our Chief of Police and the strategic plan. Ventura has the highest crime rate in Ventura County and that directly correlates to the homeless. We need to work closely with those sister cities to bring safety back to our streets. Not only does it affect our crime rate but our Fire Department spends a high percentage of their calls rescuing homeless when they could be working on preventing future fires. We do have many programs in place but most are only sustaining the problems and not working towards elimination. I have no secret weapon but I will make it the highest priority.

I love this great city. I taught my daughters how to surf here, We've camped locally, we attend the fair on a regular basis and we visit downtown as often as possible. Let's get through this Covid Virus safely and continue to make Ventura a Destination city in the future together.



## Nancy Pedersen

*Candidate for City Council District 7*

I am honored to have the opportunity to run for a Ventura City Council seat to represent District 7. District 7 covers the most land mass of all districts, capturing all of Ventura's coastline residential and business areas plus a little inland territory between the 101 and the 126 freeways – south and west of Victoria Avenue. District 7 is a true hodge-podge of culinary delight – a hearty mix of residential neighborhoods, iconic Ventura destinations, and small and large businesses – all co-existing to drive the vitality and the economy of our Ventura.

Under our new district structure, Ventura will be best served by councilmembers who can be a voice and vote for the concerns of

their district while holding that in balance with an understanding of the needs, requirements, and sometimes constraints of the entire community – and then working with the full Council collaboratively to prioritize and make decisions accordingly. A healthy and vibrant economy for Ventura as a whole will be one that is good for all residents of Ventura across all districts and provides each district the resources needed to meet its most pressing issues.

My breadth of professional and community experience in a variety of settings and my personal style make me uniquely qualified to serve District 7 and Ventura. I have strong professional credentials with 40+ years as a business and legal professional, including holding law licenses in California and Texas. My personal style is collaborative, direct and honest, and I have proven myself to be an effective facilitator and organizational leader. As the Visitors Center and Convention Bureau Board Chair, I gained insight into the operations and economics of Ventura and the value of its unique assets.

The last few years have definitely dished up challenges to Ventura. With these challenges come opportunities to create a true tipping point, whereby we can take a fresh look at why we do what we do and how we operate – making sure our governing efforts support the needs of the community today and lay foundation for the Ventura we want for tomorrow.

As I have campaigned, I have received numerous endorsements by organizations in our community including those representing Ventura's first responders and its businesses, and the labor organizations representing so many of our working families – these endorsements were received after many hours of completing questionnaires and participating in numerous interviews. Throughout these processes, I shared this same message and believe that my assessment of where we are and where we need to head resonates with so many in Ventura.

I have the capability, the capacity and the heart to support the effort in front of us, and to be a valuable part of the conversation to shape Ventura for years to come. I am hopeful that as I campaign and as you get to know me, you will believe this too! And, regardless of who you vote for this election year 2020 – use your vote as your voice and please vote!

To learn more about me – visit [Pedersen4Ventura.com](http://Pedersen4Ventura.com)



## Joe Schroeder

*Candidate for City Council District 7*

In 2009, I accepted the role as the CEO/President of Ventura County Credit Union, a position I held until my retirement this year. During my tenure the credit union doubled in size to over \$1B in assets and membership increased by more than 50%. I had a fortunate career that started in financial services right after graduation from Cal Poly Pomona. At 35 years old I became the CEO of one of the 50 largest credit unions in the state.

Nearly all local governments are going to be in for a financial rough ride due to the economic impact on business from

the pandemic. The estimate for the City of Ventura is an \$11M hole in revenue for this year. The worst part is the hole continues until we can get our local businesses up and growing and we get people back to work.

Executive experience is an incredible asset during times of stress and discord. I have managed through recessions and the difficult budgets they create. Business growth will lead us out of these tough times and I have a track record of growing companies. Some talk about growth, I have done it.

Turning to public safety, the Ventura Police Department enjoys an overall reputation of fairness, transparency and professionalism. They just completed their strategic plan that identifies their mission, values and vision. It lays out the priorities of the department and commits to community policing, professional development training on how to de-escalate tense interactions. We are fortunate that Chief Schlinder and Assistant Chief Dickey will lead us through these challenging times.

A key priority for the future of Ventura is the protection of our beaches, the ocean, the hillsides and our waterways. While many are talking about the updating of the General Plan, we need to also concentrate a lot of effort on building a Coastal Plan. We owe it to ourselves and the generations that will follow, to protect our coastline. In addition, we should continue our progress to improve bike lanes and trails. I can't wait to see the improvements in the bike path and pedestrian walkways near Surfer's Point and the Fairgrounds. I believe we should push the State to improve their path and walkway through San Buenaventura State Beach.

The General and Coastal Plans need to align smart growth with our need for affordable housing in an environment of water crisis and recent fires. Constant feedback from the community should be the hallmark of building these plans. People will support what they help to build.

I will reach out to all members of the community as my endorsements and recognitions reveal. I am fortunate to be recognized by the following organizations NAACP, Mixteco, Hispanic Coalition and the Credit Union industry.

In addition, I have earned the endorsements of Congresswoman Julia Brownley, State Assembly Members Monique Limon and Jacqui Irwin. Please visit my website at [JoeSchroederForCityCouncil.com](http://JoeSchroederForCityCouncil.com) to see over 20 endorsements from leaders in education, police, the community, seniors and the Democratic Party.



## Christy Weir

*Candidate for City Council District 2*

It has been my honor to represent the people of Ventura as a Mayor and City Councilmember. I have shown a strong responsiveness to the needs of our community and have demonstrated thoughtful, balanced leadership. I am running for re-election in District 2 to make sure our residents are heard as we make decisions that impact our future. Four generations of my family have been fortunate to call this beautiful community our home, and my highest

priority is quality-of-life improvements for all Ventura residents, including children and seniors.

As we recover from the economic and cultural impacts of COVID-19, it will be important to have leaders in place who are experienced, knowledgeable and creative. My years as a councilmember and chair of the city's Finance and Budget Committee have given me a firm understanding of government processes, financial stability and the priorities of our community.

As a centuries-old town, we have challenges with aging infrastructure, but also enjoy the unique character of our historic buildings and cultural heritage. Our spectacular geographic location, bounded by the ocean, two rivers and hillsides, is truly our "good fortune," to be celebrated and protected. Policies that guide our future, while balancing conservation, environmental sustainability, quality of life and growth, will be enacted in the upcoming adoption of a new General Plan, and will need steady, responsive leadership.

The core services of public health and safety, street paving, sidewalk maintenance, parks and urban forestry remain high priorities, and I will give them my continuing attention and support. My focus will also include enhancements to keep our downtown and midtown thriving. I was instrumental in the creation of Main Street Moves, the downtown street closure that enables outdoor dining to keep our restaurants in business through the pandemic. The Midtown business district also needs attention and I am working with merchants and others to visually enhance the streetscape, plant more street trees and improve parking lots.

With sea level rise and increasing storm surges, our coastline is being battered. As the vice-chair of BEACON, a multi-county joint powers authority, we are addressing beach erosion and clean oceans with grant-funded projects, such as the Surfer's Point Managed Retreat. This project will complete the expansion of the dune area and move the eroding bike path inland, away from wave action. To help prevent harmful coastal litter and reduce plastic waste, I recently introduced to the City Council an ordinance banning Styrofoam use by restaurants in Ventura.

It is essential that as future development is considered, our city government requires compatible, high-quality projects that take into account our limited water supply, traffic and public safety impacts such as emergency evacuation. I am committed to transparency in decision-making, respect for our small-town neighborhood character, the creation of a more walkable, bike-friendly community and the preservation of open space and hillsides for future generations.

I would be honored to have your vote.  
Christy Weir

## City council candidates

District 2  
Doug Halter  
Dougie Michie  
Christy Weir  
District 3  
Barbara Brown  
Aaron Gaston  
William Cornell  
Mike Johnson  
District 7  
Heather May Ellinger  
Nancy Pedersen  
Joe Schroeder  
Michael James Nolan



# Senior Living



Try some new activities to keep your interest alive.

## Staying motivated to exercise

Physical activity is a great way for older adults to gain substantial health benefits and maintain independence. Try to make exercise a priority. Remember that being active is one of the most important things you can do each day to maintain and improve health. Try these tips to help you stay motivated to exercise.

### Find Simple Ways to Make Exercise Fun and Enjoyable

Some people like to walk on a treadmill at the gym. Others find that kind of activity boring. The key to sticking with exercise is to make it interesting and enjoyable. Be creative. Do things you enjoy but pick up the pace. Do all four types of exercise—endurance, strength, balance, and flexibility. The variety helps keep things interesting! Try some new activities to keep your interest alive.

### Find Ways to Fit Exercise into Your Day

You are more likely to exercise if it's a convenient part of your day. Try exercising first thing in the morning. Combine physical activity with a task that's already part of your day, such as walking the dog or doing household chores. If you don't have 30 minutes to be active, look for three 10-minute periods. As you progress, add more 10-minute sessions until you hit your goal!

### Work Out at Work

There are many ways to fit physical activity into your regular schedule, even while you are at work! Look for easy ways to add physical activity to your regular schedule:

Take the stairs instead of the elevator.

Take a walk with co-workers during your lunch break. An exercise buddy can help you stick with your plan to be more active!

Walk down the hall and talk with a co-worker instead of sending an e-mail. Park a little farther away from your office and enjoy the walk.

Join your company's fitness center if there is one.

Search for Move Your Way: Tips for Busy Days on YouTube for more tips on fitting more activity into your day.

### Make Exercise a Social Activity

Many people agree that an "exercise buddy" keeps them going. Take a walk during lunch with coworkers.

Try a dance class—salsa, tango, square dancing—it's up to you.

Use family gatherings as a time to play team sports or do outdoor activities.

Women exercising together.

### Keep Track of Your Exercise Progress

The best way to stay motivated is to measure and celebrate your successes: Make an exercise and physical activity plan that works for you.

Track your daily physical activity.

Find new ways to increase your physical activity.

Keep track of your monthly progress to see improvement.

Update your exercise plan as you progress.

Don't forget to build rewards into your plan. Write down something you will do for yourself when goals are



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achieved. Treat yourself to something special: a movie, a trip to the museum, a new audiobook, or a massage. Celebrate your successes!

### Tips For Coping with Breaks in Your Exercise Routine

It is normal to have life events and changes get in the way of staying active. However, there are ways to get yourself back on track. Remember, to get the most out of exercise and physical activity, they need to be a regular part of your life.



"I have started my diet!"

## Obesity may be associated with dementia

A recent NIA-supported study published in the International Journal

of Epidemiology suggests that obesity may be associated with an increased risk for developing dementia. Obesity, like cardiovascular disease and stroke, is a modifiable risk factor for dementia since it generally can be countered through lifestyle changes such as diet and exercise.

For the study, researchers at University College London analyzed a group of participants from the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (ELSA) who were at least 50 years old when enrolled in the study. Baseline measurements, including body mass index (BMI) and waist circumference, were collected when the participants enrolled. The participants were followed up on average 11 years later to determine whether they had developed dementia.

The researchers found that participants who had a BMI corresponding with overweight or obese were more likely to develop dementia. This outcome supports previous studies that indicate obesity is a risk factor. The research team also found that abdominal obesity, associated with high waist circumference, at baseline is a risk factor that affects women more than men. In addition, the study found that the association between obesity and dementia was independent of whether a person was a smoker, had hypertension

*Continued on page 11*



## Senior Living



### Medicare Open Enrollment

Set a reminder—it's time to get ready for Medicare Open Enrollment.

Medicare Open Enrollment runs from October 15 to December 7, but did you know you can get an early look at next year's health plans and prescription drug plans starting on October 1?

Premiums for Medicare Advantage Plans are dropping to historic lows for 2021. This type of Medicare health plan, offered by a private company that contracts with Medicare, is an all-in-one alternative to Original Medicare. These "bundled" plans include Part A (Hospital Insurance), Part B (Medical Insurance), and usually Part D (prescription drug coverage). Most plans offer extra benefits—like vision, hearing, dental, and more.

Starting on October 1, you can take an

early peek at Medicare health plans and drug plans by using the Medicare Plan Finder. If you have a Medicare Number, you can log in or create an account to put together or access a list of your drugs, compare your current Medicare plan to others, and see prices based on any help you get with drug costs.

If you're among the 1 in 3 people with Medicare who has diabetes, here's some more good news: starting in 2021, many participating drug plans will offer a 30-day supply of insulin for \$35 or less per month. If you take insulin and enroll in one of these plans, you could save an average of \$446 per year on your out-of-pocket costs for insulin next year.

Get ready to compare and save on Medicare health plans and Medicare drug plans.



### Celebrating 10 years of producing senior events

Back for its 10th year, Golden Future Expos is going virtual with the All Things Senior Virtual Expo Series! COVID-19 will not stop us from connecting with Ventura County Baby Boomers and Seniors.

This virtual series was created specifically for SoCal Baby Boomers and Seniors to safely from the comfort of their home, explore options and resources available for retirement, learn about new products and services, and connect with others who share the same goal of healthy aging. The series will showcase a vast range of exhibitors from industries such as healthcare, financial services, legal matters, travel and recreation, home and garden, mobility devices, government programs, diet and exercise, Social Security, Medicare, and more! Attendees can also expect live entertainment, health surveys, job and volunteer opportunities, online bingo, raffles, giveaways, meet & greet, and educational seminars from industry experts.

The 2020 ALL Things Senior Virtual Expo schedule is as follows:  
Ventura County Edition: October 23rd – October 24th

Los Angeles County Edition: November 6th – November 7th  
Orange County Edition: November 20th – November 21st  
Inland Empire Edition: December 4th – December 5th

Toya Moore, Event Director with Golden Future Expos Inc. says, "With no admission fee, these two-day online events feature a who's who of those who offer goods and services to the 50+ market. The objective is to safely provide Baby Boomers and Seniors with information and resources that they may not be aware of or have access to during this pandemic. Best of all, participants only need Internet Access, and a Computer or Laptop (or their phone) to be a part of this terrific event!" Attendees can go directly to <http://www.allthings seniors-virtualexpo.com> to register!

The All Things Senior Virtual Expo Series provides sponsors and exhibitors the opportunity to meet safely from the comfort of their home or office with attendees. In order to reserve your virtual exhibit space, please contact the Sales Team directly at 805-716-3303 or via e-mail at [info@goldenfutureexpos.com](mailto:info@goldenfutureexpos.com).

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### Health plan partnership supports Ventura County's Hispanic seniors

by Carol Leish

As of October 1, 2020, Clinicas del Camino Real, which serves 40,000 patients enrolled in Medi-Cal or Medicare plans in Ventura County, and AmericanHealth Plan, has joined the network of SCAN Health Plan, a not-for-profit Medicare Advantage plan serving senior in Ventura and other communities in California. Clinicas' network is comprised of specialists providing the following on-site services:

- Primary Care
- Dental services
- Internal Medicine
- Optometry
- Obstetrics/Gynecology
- Behavioral Health
- Pediatrics
- Pharmacy
- Cardiology

- Laboratory
- Podiatry
- Health Education
- Chiropractic
- Radiology

SCAN, which has been in California since the 1970's began serving Ventura County in 2004. "As a nonprofit, SCAN's mission is to keep seniors healthy and independent," according to, Sherry Stanislaw, general manager of SCAN, headquartered in Long Beach, CA. "We offer a variety of services (see above), along with offering a wide network. By adding Clinica, there are now more choices."

According to, Stanislaw, "SCAN is a Medicare Advantage Plan. This means that you don't need a supplemental plan. Also, you won't have any deductibles. Thus, you can have SCAN Medicare Advantage with full payment vs. having Medicare with an 80%/20% payment, that only covers 80% of costs. Other benefits of enrolling in SCAN include: having a vision and hearing coverage, along with a prescription plan. A drug prescription plan is also offered. Also, a gym membership is provided: Silver Sneakers."

"Thus, with SCAN, you will have a wide access of providers", according to, Stanislaw. "You'll also have routine transportation provided. And, you'll be saving money since you won't be needing



# Senior Living

to have a supplemental policy. Thus, it's affordable and comprehensive."

Stanislaw mentioned that, "We are super excited to be partnering with Clinica, serving their community, and the Spanish community. We have developed a synergy by being able to partner with Clinica and with several other clinics in Ventura County."

Open enrollment is from: October 1st, 2020–December 7th, 2020, for people who are eligible for Medicare; 65 or older; or those with disabilities of any age. Coverage will begin on January 1, 2021. "Either go through your health insurance agent/broker; or, call SCAN's toll free #: (855) 460-7226," according to, Sharon Armani, Senior Director.

These activities relate to NIA's AD+ADRD Research Implementation Milestone 2.B, "Determine interrelationships among aging, cerebrovascular disease and risk factors, resilience factors, genetic variants, amyloid, tau, and neurodegeneration."

Reference: Ma Y, et al. Higher risk of dementia in English older individuals who are overweight or obese. International Journal of Epidemiology. 2020;dyaa099. Epub 2020 Jun 23. doi: 10.1093/ije/dyaa099.

**Mailbox**

*Continued from page 4*  
created centuries ago by our nation's racist landowners who hired armed men to protect their property and themselves from the perceived violence of people of color and the poor. It's about acting on the persistent demand to shift our social, political and economic paradigms to generate lasting peace, prosperity, educational excellence and justice in all our communities. Let's replace much of our police force with solutions that actually reduce and prevent crime.

In California we've made a step in changing laws by dismantling our old cash bail system which penalized the poor. Let's also stop police from arming themselves as if they are going to war with the citizens who pay their salaries, police unions from getting too powerful and city councils from indiscriminately throwing money at police departments. Should a police department really be able to demand double the amount of any other department in a city's budget, and get it?

What we fund is what we tolerate - racism, exploitation, injustice! Let's work

**Obesity may be associated with dementia**

*Continued from page 9*  
or diabetes, or carried the APOE 4 gene, a genetic risk factor for Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

Obesity continues to be a major public health issue across the world, so further study could help determine whether early interventions and lifestyle changes could reduce dementia risk. There is also a need to understand the mechanism by which obesity increases the risk for dementia, such as through inflammation or genetic factors. Subsequent studies should involve frequent check-ins to monitor the development of dementia and potentially find common symptoms or factors among obese participants.

This research was funded in part by NIA grant R01AG017644. ELSA is funded in part by NIA grant R01AG7644.

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## All Things Senior Virtual Expo

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### Ventura County Edition Oct. 23rd - Oct 24th

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- Job & Volunteer Opportunities
- Participate in Interactive Workshops
- Enter Raffles For Chance to Win Prizes
- Pocket Discount Offers and Giveaways

- Expert Speakers
- Play Online Bingo
- Take Health Surveys
- Ask A Doctor
- Meet and Network
- Live Entertainment

Register Early!

www.AllThingsSeniorVirtualExpo.com

together to find other means of keeping our communities safe.

Sincerely,  
Angelo Haynes  
*Police Oversight Working Group*

Dear Editor:  
Your vote, your voice. Make it heard! The November election is rapidly approaching. Voting is your right and your duty but first you must register. If you are not yet registered to vote the deadline to register online is October 19th. To register online go to RegisterToVote.ca.gov. The League of Women Voters of Ventura County recommends that all registered voters check their registration status online at VoterStatus.sos.ca.gov. You will want to be sure that your address is current since ballots will be mailed to you, and to select your language preference. Prepare now to make sure your vote is counted!  
Kathy Morgan, Ventura

**City of Ventura playgrounds open**

*Continued from page 3*  
Please note that the Marina Park playground will remain closed for cleaning and repair.

Visitors to outdoor community playgrounds must comply with the following State requirements:  
Everyone 2 years or older should wear a mask  
Wash or sanitize hands before and after you visit  
Visit the park at different times or days to avoid crowds  
Maintain distance from others outside your home  
Don't bring food or drink into the playground  
Limit visit to 30 minutes when others are waiting so everyone can use the space  
To learn more about State guidance, visit www.cdpha.ca.gov.

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## 11th Annual Breast Symposium: Breast Health in a New Decade



Presented by the Integrated Breast Center Specialists at St. John's

**Saturday, October 31, 2020  
10 a.m. to noon**

### VIRTUAL MEETING

St. John's Regional Medical Center in collaboration with the Integrated Breast Center at St. John's are pleased to announce that the 11th Annual Breast Symposium will be held as a VIRTUAL meeting!

This year's virtual symposium includes a superb panel of recognized physicians who will present the latest in breast health, and will also be available for real-time interaction following their presentations.

#### Moderator:

**Lynn Jeffers, MD, MBA**

Medical Director of the Integrated Breast Center at St. John's

#### Guest Speakers:

**Lisa Babashoff, MD** - General Surgery

**Lisa Brand, MD** - General Surgery

**Lynn Kong, MD** - Oncologist

**Susan Speer, RD, CSO, FADA** - Oncology Nutrition Specialist

**Alicia Zaragoza, NP-C** - Certified Breast Nurse Navigator

#### RSVP Today:

Please call **805.988.2641**. Deadline to reserve your spot is **Friday, October 30**. For more information, visit: [DignityHealth.org/StJohnsRegional](https://DignityHealth.org/StJohnsRegional)



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## This 'n' That



Aaron Gaston candidate for City Council in District 3 joined the gathered residents.

### Dean Drive residents implore City to install speed humps to mitigate speeding traffic

by **Richard Lieberman**

"We are here to make our street safer," stated John Coffman. Speaking to a crowd of Dean Drive residents who have been concerned about speeding cars, accidents and what they believe to be unsafe conditions on their street.

The residents are looking for the City to install speed humps on a stretch of Dean Drive to slow down passing vehicles. Speed humps are different than the speed bumps we are all accustomed to. Speed humps are about 4 feet wide and gradually raise to impede speeding vehicles.

"We have speeds on this street that range from 40 to 70 miles per hour," said Coffman. The City has already installed a stop sign and two radar devices that display the speed of an approaching vehicle. To John and supporters, it is not enough to keep motorists from regularly speeding through the neighborhood. They believe that installing the "humps" is the best response to slow drivers down.

Ventura Police Department statistics show that from 2005 to 2015 there were 770 tickets issued for speeding on Dean Drive. "That represents five percent of all tickets issued in the city," added Coffman. "That is out of 17,700 tickets issued city wide," he said. Adding Coffman said, "The length of this road is about three quarters of a mile there is about 700 miles of roads in the city, we are about one tenth of one percent," he added. "We want them (the police) to write more tickets to get the speed down, but enforcement has stopped," Coffman said.

From May 1st to June 20, fifty-three days that showed about five thousand vehicles traveling at 36 miles per hour or greater, six hundred vehicles were traveling at 40 miles per hour faster and one going seventy-two miles per hour. The data was compiled by city traffic engineer and collected from the radar signs already installed.

"We had a pretty bad accident about four weeks ago and it was a hit and run driver, guy came through here fast and hit a car," Coffman said. "The police department won't enforce it any more they have other priorities," he added. "It would cost the city about \$25,000 to install speed humps," he added.

Aaron Gaston candidate for City Council in District 3 joined the gathered residents "you all need to contact the city manager we really need to get this fixed." Gaston said.

Attending residents agree they want to see either enhanced enforce-

ment or speed humps installed. Doing both enhanced enforcement and installing speed humps would curtail speeding on the block and achieve the goal bringing traffic safety to the neighborhood.

### Calendar notice for East Ventura Community Council

At the next monthly meeting, on Thursday, Oct.15, Amy Towner, Chief Executive Officer of the Health Care Foundation for Ventura County, will give the East Ventura Community Council an overview of the Foundation's mission and its role in stepping up to help in the Pandemic.

In addition, a representative of the Ventura Unified School District will present information on Measure H, the parcel tax extension measure on November's ballot.

Additional agenda items may be added if time permits. Please check the website for updates.

The meeting will be held online via the Zoom application. Go here to view: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84566749793?pwd=VXNMY1EwRml-NdHNRY3pMTHZrb1NjUT09>

You will first need to download the Zoom app on your desktop or smart phone. You do not need an account. If you miss the meeting, you can view it later on the website [www.eastventura.org](http://www.eastventura.org).

The meeting will start promptly at 7 p.m.

For more information, contact EVCC Chair Marie Lakin at [eastventuracc@gmail.com](mailto:eastventuracc@gmail.com)

#### The Bookmark

### About Libraries and Friends

by **Jill Forman**

Ventura's libraries are alive and well! Their doors may be closed, but their community access is wide open, with ongoing outreach and services to the citizens of Ventura.

Welcome to the first column of "The Bookmark," dedicated to informing Breeze readers about the activities and offerings of the libraries and the Friends

*Continued on page 15*



# Harbor Patrol Blotter

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

**9-14** 4:11pm, received report of a kite surfer in distress near the Ventura Pier. Officers responded in the fireboat and found the kite surfer being towed back to shore by a good Samaritan surfer. Stood by until the kiter was safely on beach.

**9-16** 5:45pm, received report of a vehicle driving over the spikes into the exit of VWM II. Officers responded and found the car as reported. The driver was acting suspiciously, PD arrived and had her park and terminated her trip.

**9-18** 9:10am, received report of a transient sleeping in the 1583 Spinnaker elevator. Officers responded, woke the individual and moved them along.

**9-19** 2:00pm, received a report from US coast guard fixed wing aircraft circling above the harbor of a personal watercraft operating erratically a mile outside. Officers observed the PWC head to L/R and made contact. The elderly operator was exhausted from the rough conditions and nothing suspicious was noted.

7:01pm, received multiple reports of a blue hulled vessel speeding and pushing a large wake throughout the harbor. Officers found vessel and terminated voyage.

**9-20** 2:22am, contacted a disabled/becalmed 35ft sailboat 2 miles offshore. Tow Boat Us was alerted and responded to assist the becalmed vessel.

9:01pm, received report of suspicious couple casing vehicles near the VYC. Officers impounded 3 stolen bicycles, the 2 said the bikes belonged to a friend.

**9-23** 10:15am, officers training with US coast guard helicopter hoisting in

Rescue Boat 17. Patrol officers normally train with US coast guard hoisting operations.

**9-25** 6:50pm, received a Mayday call on VHF 16 from a disabled motorboat off Pierpont. Officers responded in Rescue Boat 17. Vessel safely towed to L/R.

10:25pm, dispatched to a fire near the riverbottom. Officers responded and found the natural gas burn off near Gonzales road. No fire found.

**9-26** 9:22am, dispatched to an unconscious person at VIM L-dock. Officers responded and found the patient in full arrest. All lifesaving efforts were attempted with AMR/VFD and the patient was transported to local hospital.

1:15pm, contacted a vessel in the surfline near South Jetty engaged in fishing. Officers contacted and moved the fisherman to safer water outside surfline. 5:45pm, received a report of an unmanned 35ft sailboat in outside Ventura Harbor. Officers responded, found the sailboat, and found the captain below.

**9-27** 11:59am, dispatched to a fall victim at 1559 Spinnaker Dr. Officers responded and assisted a 97 year male who fell, sustained a laceration. Transported by AMR

12:18pm, dispatched to a seizure at 1867 Spinnaker Dr. Officers responded and assisted a 32 year male having a seizure. He was treated & transported by AMR.

1:25pm, received a Mayday call of a 14ft vessel just outside the surfline at the Ventura Point. Officers responded, towed the vessel to the launch ramp safely.

10:40pm, received a report of fishing at the Ventura Marina Community lake. Officers responded and terminated the fishing. Fishing is prohibited at the lake.

# Ventura Land Trust announces livestream Wild & Scenic Film Festival

Ventura Land Trust is pleased to present its 9th annual Wild & Scenic Film Festival On Tour on Friday, October 16th via an exciting new digital livestream format. This signature fundraising event supports Ventura Land Trust's mission to permanently protect the land, water, wildlife and scenic beauty of the Ventura region for current and future generations.

One of the largest environmental film festivals in North America, the Wild & Scenic Film Festival uses film to inspire activism. For Ventura Land Trust, the

festival fosters a deeper understanding of the connection we share with the planet and our role as stewards to keep it healthy. The festival raises \$50,000 each year for the organization's efforts to offer protected open spaces for free public access, build new trails, and provide hands-on environmental education to thousands of Ventura County students.

This year, guests will be part of the festival from the safety of home and the comfort of their athleisure. Snacks and meals included with ticket levels create a fun food and drink atmosphere. A single household film festival ticket is \$35. Household film festival tickets and food packages range from \$50 to \$125.

Ventura filmmaker Jason Hernandez will be featured in the film line-up with his film The Lower Ventura River. The film depicts Ventura Land Trust Preserve Director Dan Hulst's work managing the impact of humans on sensitive habitat in Ventura's lower Ventura River and coastal estuary.

Visit [www.venturalandtrust.org](http://www.venturalandtrust.org) for tickets, or purchase tickets directly at <https://qudio.com/event/ventura>. Sponsorship opportunities are available. Contact Development Director Leslie Velez at [leslie@venturalandtrust.org](mailto:leslie@venturalandtrust.org) for more information.

The mission of Ventura Land Trust is to permanently protect the land, water, wildlife and scenic beauty of the Ventura region for current and future generations. Founded in 2003, Ventura Land Trust believes that preserving open space and providing public access enhances the economy, quality of life, and public well-being of Ventura and surrounding communities. The organization currently owns and manages land along the Ventura River

*Continued on page 20*

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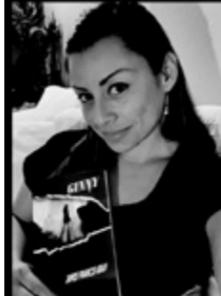


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**– Mark Twain**  
Barbara & Leon

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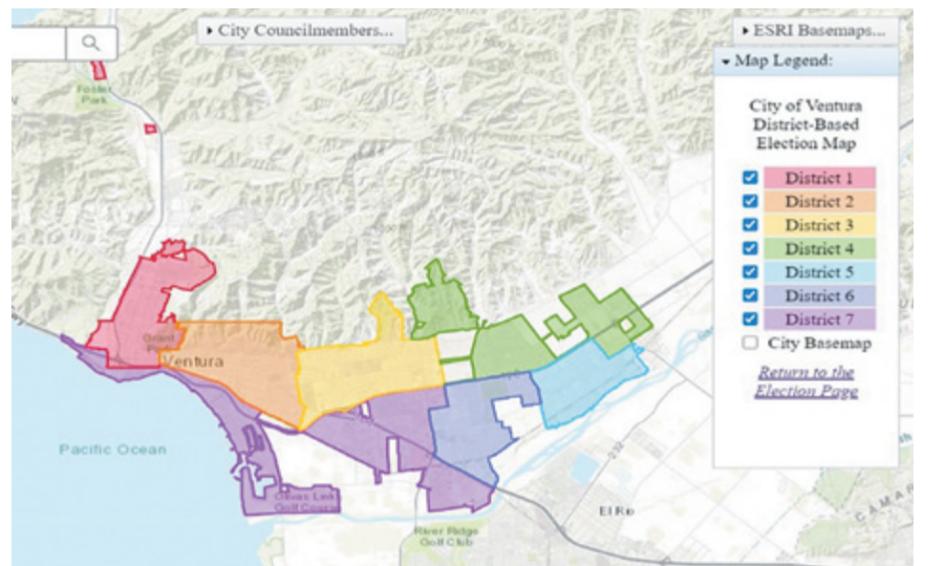
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## Answer in a Breeze

**Question:**

I don't know what council district that I live in for the coming city council election? How do I find out?  
Randy Flores

**Answer:**

Randy: You can go to <https://map.cityofventura.net/java/ccvd/> (A little complex) and type in your address to find your district.

To be placed on the ballot a candidate must circulate a nomination form provided by the City Clerk, gathering not more than 30, but not less than 20 signatures of registered voters in the City to qualify for placement on the ballot.

This is our existing City Council:

- Matt LaVere, Mayor - at large
- Sofia Rubalcava, Deputy Mayor - District 1
- Lorrie Brown, Councilmember - District 6
- Jim Friedman, Councilmember - District 5
- Cheryl Heitmann, Councilmember - at large
- Erik Nasarenko, Councilmember - District 4
- Christy Weir, Councilmember - at large

There are 7 members of the Ventura City Council. Each member must be a registered voter in the City. Each member represents the interests of the City as a whole. Starting with the 2018 Election, four (4) Councilmembers were elected by Districts with the remaining three (3) Councilmembers to be elected by Districts in this election.

Have a question send to [editor@venturabreeze.com](mailto:editor@venturabreeze.com) and we will try to get an answer.

**King Crossword**

Answers

Solution time: 27 mins.

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



# The Pet Page



**Dedicated to Scamp**

■ SPAN Thrift Store is now open to the public and looking for donations of adult clothing, household items and tools if you've got items you no longer use.

SPAN Thrift Store regularly provides \$10 spays and neuters for low income households with cats and dogs.

Two upcoming clinics in October are: Friday, October 9th at the Albert H. Soliz Library - El Rio, 2820 Jourdan St., Oxnard, 93036 and a second on Friday, October 23rd at SPAN Thrift Store parking lot 110 N. Olive St. (behind Vons on Main).

Please call to schedule an appointment (805) 584-3823.

**■ Fire season has arrived early; be prepared.**

The fall was commonly known as fire season in Ventura County, but "fire season" should now be expected all year (going on right now). High heat, low humidity, dry brush and high winds occur these days with increasing frequency, creating disastrous conditions for extreme fire behavior. The Humane Society of Ventura County has learned to be prepared year-round.

The HSVC has assisted in the safe evacuation and relocation of animals displaced by wildfires, which erupt regularly across the region and have hit close to home. For the past three years, Ventura and Los Angeles counties have been hit hard with wildfires and, in each case, the HSVC has been there to help.

Sadly, the Thomas Fire of 2017 was not the first time the HSVC has been called into action. "The HSVC was very busy sheltering animals during the Wheeler Fire of 1985," said shelter director Jolene Hoffman, who can recall rescuing animals during the conflagration that consumed 118,000 acres and 26 structures and caused mass evacuations. "We had over 170 dogs, 150 cats and about 35 horses that we took in during the 15-day fire that burned around the Ojai Valley."

In the 2017 fire season, the HSVC sheltered 320 animals. In the 2018 season, it sheltered 244 animals and last year, 284 animals.

In preparation for this year's fire season, the HSVC has increased capacity for animal intake as well as outfitting its fleet of trucks, vans and stock trailers with equipment and supplies. "It's one of those situations where we plan for the worst but hope for the best," said HSVC

Humane Officer K King.

The Humane Society of Ventura County offers a sanctuary for pets as well as temporary crates, kennels, pet food, ID tags and other supplies for those in harm's way. "We will also send out our Emergency Response Teams to assist with animal evacuations at the owner's request," said Hoffman. "Our primary concern is for the safety of people and their pets. Please do not hesitate to take them to animal rescue centers in the event of an emergency."

Budgeting in advance for disasters presents a unique challenge, since they are impossible to predict, so financial support from the community is crucial to help offset the costs incurred for the HSVC's services, noted Greg Cooper, director of community outreach for the HSVC.

Those who would like to support the HSVC's emergency preparedness can drop off supplies at the Ojai shelter, at 402 Bryant St. Also, the HSVC Amazon Wish List has been updated to include examples of requested items.

■ On the morning of August 28, 2020, six search teams graduated from Search Dog Foundation (SDF's) Handler Course: Felicia Lee & Jax and Paul Sandigo & Cassie (California Task Force 3), Kiegon List & Chloe and James McCandless & Mac (California Task Force 7), and Andrew Pitcher & Storm and Mark Schroder & Koda (Nebraska Task Force 1). The handlers completed the course despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, observing distancing and safety protocols throughout their two-week stay on campus.

The graduating class was a combination of four brand new handlers from the Bay Area and Sacramento in California, as well as two veteran handlers from Lincoln, Nebraska, providing ample opportunity to learn, share experiences, and build lifelong friendships.

■ Only days after the previous dog food recall, the FDA is drawing attention to another voluntary recall of dog food, this time over the risk of Salmonella contamination. The recall impacts one dog food brand and shouldn't be mistaken for the dog food recall from earlier this month, which involved the presence of a potentially deadly toxin that results from a naturally-occurring mold. As expected, dog food owners are advised to get rid of the potentially contaminated dog food to protect both their own and their pet's health.

The latest dog food recall in the United States was issued on September 22 from Real Pet Food Company, which

## Scamp Club

(Scampclub pets are not for adoption.)



I'm Houdini a hound/lab mix from New Jersey and Georgia. I made my red eared slider turtle friend disappear with my magic. Our favorite song is "Tiptoe through the Tulips" by Tiny Tim.

## Join Scamp Club

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

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

offers a range of different dog foods, including chilled, dry, and wet versions, with an emphasis on high-quality ingredients. One particular brand of food sold by the company was voluntarily recalled because routine sampling found Salmonella bacteria.

According to Real Pet Food

Company, one lot of its Billy+Margot Wild Kangaroo and Superfoods Recipe 4lb bags of dog food have been recalled. As with humans, pets that eat food contaminated with Salmonella can develop an uncomfortable illness that, in a small percentage of cases, may become severe.



Congratulations to the six newest canine disaster search teams.



HSVC kennel staff feed and care for a group of farm animals evacuated during the Easy and Maria fires of 2019. Photo courtesy of HSVC.

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**SPAY/NEUTER ANIMAL NETWORK**  
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**805.641.1170 110 A & B N. Olive St., Ventura CA 93001 [www.spanonline.org](http://www.spanonline.org)**

*\$10 Low/No Income Spay & Neuter Friday, Oct., 9th Albert H. Soliz Library - El Rio 2820 Jourdan St., Oxnard, CA 93036 Must call for appointment (805) 584-3823*

*\$10 Low/No Income Spay & Neuter Friday, Oct., 23rd Shiells Park parking lot, 649 C Street, Fillmore, CA 93015 Must call for appointment (805) 584-3823*

**DONATE YOUR UNWANTED CAR, TRUCK, RV OR BOAT TO HELP HOMELESS PETS.**  
**LA Pets Alive** is a LOCAL, qualified 501-c-3 nonprofit. We are tax deduction and paperwork experts and can provide a guaranteed tax deduction. For a quick pick up and quote call us today  
**833.772.2632**  
**LAPETSALIVE.ORG**

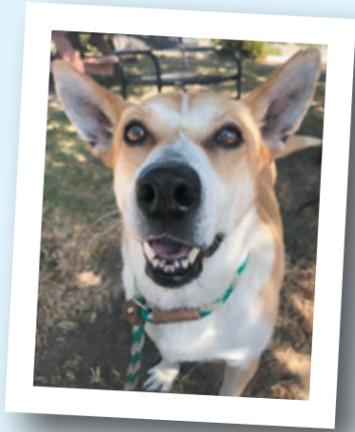


# The Pet Page

## Forever homes wanted

Hi: I'm Beach, a 6 year old playful Corgi / Australian Shepherd X who is in need of a new home as sadly my owner passed away. I'm thankful that C.A.R.L. will help me find my forever home. I'm an active dog who enjoys going for walks. I walk well on leash and respond quickly to commands. I'm ok with older children, but have never been around young ones. I need a home with no cats and no large dogs. I'm ok with small dogs, but I'm not interested in being friends. The best home for me would be as your one and only. If you're looking for a sweet girl, look no further.

Canine Adoption and Rescue League  
C.A.R.L.



Newt came to the shelter as a stray. Poor fella had a kitty cold and very itchy skin. Our medical staff has been treating him and found out that as uncomfortable as he was, he didn't let that stop him from lighting up a room. Newt loves everyone and everything, and always greets the staff with a happy chirp. He's had a rough life, but you would never know for how sweet he is. We think it's time

for some very lucky person to take him home.  
Ventura Animal Services - Camarillo location - 600 Aviation Drive  
Newt A759957

Sally is still searching for her forever home! Pretty girl Sally is a gorgeous 11-month-old long-haired German Shepherd. She came to the HSVC in mid-September after being rescued in the field by our Humane Officers. Sweet and playful, Sally's hobbies include playing with toys, going for long walks on a leash, and splashing around in the water. She is a very high energy pup, so her ideal forever home will be with an active owner that can take her on lots of walks and outdoor adventures. Sally is also a case dog, meaning she was rescued by our Humane Officers while investigating a case in the field. Because of this, all adoption applications submitted for her will be reviewed and approved by our Humane Officers. The HSVC is performing adoptions by appointment only at this time due to COVID-19. If you are interested in adopting Sally, please visit our website and click the orange "Let's Get Started" button to fill out an adoption appointment request to meet her!



Looking for a loving home for my two sweet, cute 3.5 years old cats due to my allergy. They have been with me since two weeks of age. It's hard to let them go though I need to. No other pet in home please!  
Glyol Pannbechi glyolspiritoflove@icloud.com



**Bring in this ad to receive 25% off your purchase!**

**Saving Lives, One At A Time...**

**Kitties Available for Adoption!**

**Thrift Store Open and Accepting Donations**

**New Lower Prices!!!!**

**11am - 4pm Friday, Saturday & Sunday**

**CatsCradleRescue.org**

**805.485.8811**

**1954 Main St. Midtown**

**Adoptions@CatsCradleRescue.org**



## This 'n' That

### About Libraries and Friends

*Continued from page 12*  
of the Library.

Nancy Schram, Library Director, has this to say about her staff, "After the closure of the Ventura County Library branches on March 16 due to COVID-19, the library employees immediately went into action and pivoted quickly to find safe ways to continue to provide library services and resources in as many ways possible. I'm so proud of the Ventura County Library team."

At the beginning of the shutdown, the eLibrary proved to be invaluable. During the month of April, checkouts of eBooks increased 80%. In response, the library system made considerable investment in increasing the eLibrary offerings, which now consist of over 100,000 eBooks.

In May, The Ventura County Library website rolled out a new look under the banner "Your Library at Home" featuring pages of interest to kids, teens, and adults. It is a onestopshop for individuals, parents, and teachers looking for librarian-curated lists of online resources for distance learning as well as fun. For those less comfortable with online resources, there are "Video Tutorials" and "Need Help?" Live Chat options.

Librarians began livestreaming and recording Storytimes, including bilingual Storytimes and STEAM themed Storytimes. One of the Storytimes has logged 6,000 views! Storytimes are available at the Ventura County Library Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/VenturaCountyLibrary68759970694/>) and YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/user/vencolibraryVideo>.)

In June, the library resumed lending out physical materials -with patrons

using the online catalog to request items with curbside pickup. During the hours for curbside pickup, you can also speak to a librarian on the phone or chat online through the [vencolibrary.org](http://vencolibrary.org) website.

Did you know the library will buy books you want to read? There is a link on the website, "Tell Us What to Buy." Requests are reviewed; if the book is approved it is sent to your house! After reading it, you take it to your branch to be added to the collections.

Here are a few more of the accomplishments of the Ventura library system during the pandemic:

Enabled over 600 children to participate in Virtual "Summer Reading Program 2020"

Provided school districts with thousands of student "e-Cards" to connect to free library resources and books online  
Gave out 3,000 STEAM takeaway kits to children during Summer 2020

Offered free, live online Homework Help and Tutoring in English and Spanish, 7 days per week, 63 hours per week

Provided Universal Free Public Wi-Fi outside all branches, 12 hours per day at each location

Distributed over 600 Grab-and-Go book/snack bags this summer at Avenue Library

Truly a remarkable record of achievement. Schram concludes, "The Ventura County Library continues to provide much needed library services during these challenging times, and we are here for you and your family. Our libraries have always been needed, but with the pandemic and resulting economic hardship for so many, our libraries are absolutely vital."



Ventura's music scene is far from rockin' but at least the process of healing has begun and the County/City is allowing music once again as long as venues follow their strict rules to keep everyone concerned safe. Though I shared it in my last column, it bears repeating what is allowed, "Live solo or duet (from same household) singers/musicians can perform outdoors at restaurants, bars, or wineries. The soloist/duet must stay at least 20 feet away from patrons and not amplify the music to the point where people have to lean in to be heard. The live music cannot cause people to gather. It should be for the benefit of the business patrons who are already seated and not to attract people to gather around the performers and/or stage. All other local and state guidance must be followed."

Stepping up to the plate to date here in town are Leashless

Brewing, Winchesters, Bombay Bar and Grill, the Winery and Copa Cubana. I'm as diligent, if not more than most, when it comes to taking the virus seriously. I hope all venues will heed the rules and ensure there is space between the musician(s) and the patrons. Not all venues have the luxury of the extra space needed, which is sad, but at least we're on the road now to heading back to more live music.

Just added to Concerts in Your Car (CIYC) at the fairgrounds here in Ventura is the band 311 which pretty much defies being pigeon-holed into one genre. Hip hop, rock, reggae, funk, in a nutshell? Flat out danceable fun. The band is playing two shows on Saturday, November 14. The other two venues for CIYC have ramped up and I'm happy to report that all bands playing in Arizona or San Diego have or will be playing here locally.

New music on the scene includes Star Goes Nova, a project by my good friend Christine Law who is known as a bassist supporting such acts as hard rockers, Tantrum back in the day, and her husband's band, Charles Law & Jagged and Suzanne Paris. She calls it melodic bass and dubstep cinemata EDM (Electronic Dance Music) and she sent me the single, "The Apprentice." Another good friend has been hard at work producing music on her own for the first time, Sally Williams of the Swilly's and she worked with Doug Pettibone and Taras Prodaniuk; she sent me her single called "Suffering." And finally, Bill Rotella is about to release a new album next month called Smoke and the Earthtones, he sent me a single off of it called, "The Other Side." I'm super excited to share all three songs on the Pam Baumgardner Music hour (episode 119) which airs Tuesdays and Fridays at 5 and Sundays at noon, and will run 10/6 - 10/18 at 104.1 FM, KPPQ-LP out of Caps Media.

Do you have any music-related news or upcoming shows (online or live) 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](http://www.VenturaRocks.com).

## Music Calendar

For more up-to-the-date listings go to [VenturaRocks.com](http://VenturaRocks.com)  
All Venues Ventura, unless otherwise noted.

### The Canyon at Oxnard PACC Oxnard Performing Arts Center Parking Lot

**Drive in style concerts**  
Fri 10/9: L.A.vation; Natalie Gelman  
Sat 10/10: Hard Days Night  
Sun 10/11: Corazon de Mana  
Friday 10/16: The Fab Four  
Sat 10/17: Jon B  
Sun 10/18: Queen Nation

### Concerts in Your Car Ventura County Fairgrounds 10 W. Harbor Blvd.

Fri 10/8: Slightly Stoopid  
Sat 10/10: Chris Janson  
Sat 10/17: Ticket to Ride  
Fri 10/23: The Beach Boys  
Sat 10/24: Oingo Boingo (former members)  
Sat 10/31: Aaron Lewis & Sully Erna  
Sat 11/14: 311 (two shows)

### Leashless Brewing 585 E. Thompson Blvd.

**Music 6 pm**  
Fri 10/9: Michael & Leticia (Mighty Cash Cats)

### Winchesters 632 E. Main Street

**Music 3-6 pm**  
Sun 10/11: Déjà vu Too  
Sun 10/18: Vanise Terry  
Sun 10/25: Two's Company

(805) 640-6464  
408 Bryant Cir. Suite G Ojai, CA 93023

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Ventura City Council  
District 7

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- As the former Board Chair of FOOD Share, Joe is devoted to public service and meeting the needs of the entire community.
- An advocate for the protection of our beaches, hillsides and our waterways, Joe has the support of local environmental leaders.
- Public safety is a priority for Joe, and that is why he is endorsed by respected law enforcement leaders like former Ventura County Sheriff Geoff Dean.

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District 7

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# Ventura Art Scene



Community volunteers cleaned the mural, so that the restoration work could begin.

## Mural vandalism cut short

by M.B. Hanrahan and Moses Mora  
Creators the Tortilla Flats mural

Our most recent collaboration, the Tortilla Flats Legacy mural, corner of W. Main St, and S. Ventura Ave. only recently completed 2/2020, was unfortunately recently vandalized.

On the night of September 9 someone took chalk, marker pens, and a knife and some bad intentions to the mural. Chalk and marker pen graffiti are relatively easy to remove. Damage done by a knife requires repainting (at another location) and patched into the existing mural. 5 mural panels and several information lettering panels sustained damage-slashed by the knife.

The perpetrators of public art vandalism are rarely caught, but in this case, someone was arrested and charged with felony vandalism. The person arrested is well known to the local police, he's homeless and has mental health issues. We would prefer

that he get help, not punishment.

The vandalism was discovered, and the police were called by a conscientious citizen, Scott Adams, who remained on the scene until the cops arrived. Mr. Adams advocated for the value of this community sponsored public art when the officers were reluctant to press charges in absence of the property owner.

The entire mural would likely have been damaged if not for citizen action, the police taking action, and community public art being perceived as valuable and worth saving.

Grateful as we are, that, for us, is not necessarily cause for celebration. We estimate \$2,000.00 worth of restoration work, and are hoping the individual will not strike again.



Pitcher with Pear - **Bonnie Quan** at Buenaventura Gallery.

Harbor Village Gallery & Gifts  
Members' Choice Seaside Exhibiting: Now - November 9, 2020

Open Hours: Friday thru Monday, 11am - 6pm

BAA members depict local sights and sentiments — mementos for both tourists and locals. Plus the art and artisan crafts of 10 resident BAA artists.

The Buenaventura Gallery  
Members' Choice

Exhibiting: Now - November 14, 2020  
Open Hours: Fridays & Saturdays, noon - 4pm and by appointment - 805-648-1235

A select group of BAA members exhibit their individual styles, subjects and media.



## COUNTY OF VENTURA



# COVID-19 TESTING

The County of Ventura has expanded free COVID-19 testing throughout the county for residents who have the slightest suspicion of having COVID-19 or have been exposed to someone with it. You don't need to have health insurance, but may be asked for it if you do.

**Symptoms of COVID-19 can be:**

- Cough or shortness of breath
- OR other symptoms: fever greater than 100.4°F, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell

**Close contact means:**

- Sharing a home
- Being closer than 6 feet for more than 10 minutes without wearing a mask
- Having contact with the bodily fluids (spit, blood) of the sick person through coughing, sneezing, sharing utensils

### OPTUMSERVE STATE LOCATION

COVID-19 testing for all community members. Please register by calling or registering online.

**Online:** [www.lhi.care/covidtesting](http://www.lhi.care/covidtesting) • **Phone:** 1-888-634-1123 • **Hours of Operation:** Monday-Friday 8am - 8pm

**Thousand Oaks Library - Newbury Park Branch** - 2331 Borchard Road, Newbury Park, CA 91320

### DRIVE-UP TESTING SITES

**Hours of Operation:** Monday-Friday 10am - 7pm • No appointment or insurance is needed

**Moorpark College**  
7075 Campus Rd., Moorpark, CA 93021

**Ford Dealership**  
128 S. Hallock Dr., Santa Paula, CA 93060

**Oxnard College (Weekend Hours: Friday-Tuesday 10am - 7pm)**  
4000 S. Rose Ave., Oxnard, CA 93033

### WALK-UP TESTING SITE

No appointment or insurance is needed

**Hours of Operation:** Monday-Friday 9am - 6pm

**Ventura County Fairgrounds**  
10 W. Harbor Blvd in Ventura  
Enter at Gate 2

### VENTURA COUNTY URGENT CARE LOCATIONS

For pre-screening and appointment, call the hotline at **805-652-7660**

**OXNARD**  
**Las Islas Family Medical Group South**  
325 West Channel Islands Blvd., Oxnard, 93033  
Open 7 days/week from 9am - 5pm

**Magnolia Family Medical Center**  
2240 E. Gonzales Rd., Oxnard, 93036  
Monday-Friday 8:30am - 5pm

**VENTURA**  
**Academic Family Medicine Center**  
300 Hillmont Ave., Bldg. 340, Ventura, 93003  
Monday-Saturday 9am - 4pm

**West Ventura Medical Clinic**  
133 W. Santa Clara St., Ventura, 93001  
Open 7 days/week from 9am - 5pm

**EAST COUNTY**  
**Conejo Valley Family Medical Group**  
125 W. Thousand Oaks Blvd., Suite 200  
Thousand Oaks, 91360  
Open 7 days/week from 9:15am - 4:30pm

**Sierra Vista Family Medical Clinic**  
1227 East Los Angeles Ave., Simi Valley, 93065  
Monday-Friday 9am - 5pm and  
Saturday & Sunday 9am - 2pm

**SANTA CLARA RIVER VALLEY**  
**Fillmore Family Medical Group**  
828 W. Ventura St., Fillmore, 93015  
Monday-Friday 9am - 5pm



# More room to love.

## NOW OPEN: New Level III NICU

St. John's Regional Medical Center is proud to house the ONLY Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) in Ventura County with ALL private rooms, twice the size of our previous NICU, featuring:

- 20 private family-centered rooms
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- Accommodations for a parent overnight
- Family lounge with kitchenette and shower

Our experienced team of health care professionals offer a full range of specialized services to care for the tiniest of patients.

For more information about our new NICU, visit [DignityHealth.org/StJohnsRegional](https://DignityHealth.org/StJohnsRegional) or call 805.988.2664.

**Delivering humankindness®**

 **Dignity Health®**  
St. John's Regional Medical Center  
1600 N. Rose Ave. | Oxnard

# Lighter Breeze

Solutions on page 13

## King Crossword

**ACROSS**

- 1 Former freshmen
- 6 Squid squirt
- 9 Doctrine
- 12 Construction piece
- 13 Cattle call
- 14 IRS employee
- 15 1492 ship
- 16 SAT takers' equipment
- 18 Pet rodent, often
- 20 Warmth
- 21 Second person
- 23 More, to Manuel
- 24 Portion of a repair bill
- 25 Great Lake
- 27 Amulet
- 29 "Where the Wild Things Are" author
- 31 "Nighthawks" painter
- 35 Edition
- 37 Genesis maker
- 38 Sings like Ella
- 41 Apprehend
- 43 Promptly
- 44 Sea eagle
- 45 Downy ducks
- 47 Necklace ornament
- 49 "Psycho" star

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12						13			14		
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52				53				54			
55				56				57			

- 52 Commotion
- 53 Tall tale
- 54 Rod of tennis lore
- 55 Actress Myrna
- 56 Toss in
- 57 Tools for duels
- DOWN**
- 1 Taste the tea
- 2 Japanese sash
- 3 Gotham City super-villain
- 4 Detest
- 5 Unctuous flat-tery
- 6 Mischievous
- 7 Yule refrain
- 8 "— -Tiki"
- 9 Less friendly
- 10 Pie-in-the-face sound
- 11 Sail supports
- 17 Winners
- 19 Supports
- 21 "Certainly"
- 22 Mined find
- 24 Expert
- 26 Rewrote, maybe
- 28 Winning
- 30 Fool
- 32 Musingly
- thoughtful
- 33 Swelled head
- 34 Uncooked
- 36 One
- 38 Calyx component
- 39 Guiding principle
- 40 Bother
- 42 Ball VIP
- 45 Oklahoma city
- 46 Harvest
- 48 Carte lead-in
- 50 "Golly!"
- 51 Storefront sign abbr.

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**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) A workplace change doesn't seem to have turned out quite as you'd hoped. Never mind: Just treat yourself to a healthy dollop of that Aries self-confidence, and you'll soon view things differently.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) Some of the support you might have hoped for in a difficult situation might not be there. But you have the strength to rely on your own capabilities if you must. Good luck.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) A disagreement with a longtime friend can be painful, but it also can be a learning lesson. Insist on a full and complete airing of views. You'll both come away the better for it.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) A stalled relationship can be restarted with some give and take on both sides. And while it could take more time than you expect, don't rush it. Be patient, and let it happen naturally.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) An opportunity to move a long-stalled project from concept to construction might be opening up for the Big Cat. Meanwhile, be prepared to spend more time dealing with family matters.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) Use your Virgo organizational skills to line up support to help you deal with a sticky workplace problem. A

personal matter also might be helped with friendly intervention.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) Trying to resolve a workplace problem with a longtime associate can be difficult. Consider bringing in an impartial third party to help you both reach a mutually acceptable solution.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) This is a good time to assess your current career situation. Consider whether you have a chance to move up where you are now, or if you should look elsewhere.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) With education being a dominant part of this week's aspect, one of the things you might want to think about is taking courses to enhance your career opportunities.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) You might have a problem trying to stay focused on a matter you'd rather not deal with. But the sooner you do, the sooner it will be resolved and out of the way.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) An unforeseen complication creates a difficult problem. But things get resolved once you use your ability to turn negative situations into positive experiences.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) The Pisces penchant for doing the right thing at the right time helps you deal with a particularly troublesome situation. Consider your best option, and act accordingly.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** Although you might sometimes seem rigid in your views, your love of justice makes you a trusted friend everyone can rely on.

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# Showtime



## A View From House Seats SPTC Coming A 'Haunting

by Shirley Lorraine

Santa Paula Theater Center's popular annual Ghostwalk is taking a new turn this year. Every year for the past 25 years, Ghostwalk has been presented in a different location in Santa Paula, telling stories based on historical events of the area. This year, the ghosts are expanding their haunting by streaming directly to your house. Beware and prepare.

No need to wait either. Chose a weekend to catch one of the nine performances— Friday, Saturday or Sunday - October 9, 10 or 11, 16, 17 or 18, 23, 24, 25. To be presented at 7 p.m. on each of these dates, this year's virtual offering is "Ghostwatch" featuring spooky "deadtime" stories by local authors. Run time is about 90 minutes.

The event will be Ghost-hosted by one of Ventura County's most colorful living spirits – Doug Friedlander. Actors filmed at unique locations around Santa Paula will present their scripted stories for your enjoyment. Each of the stories has been part of a previous Ghostwalk, so you may relive some shivers as you listen. Woven into all the stories are locations and events from Santa Paula history.

The stories offered this year are Bertha by Bill Nash, Take My Life Please by Mitch Stone, Pancho Barnes by Linda Livingston, Josie's Tale by Jeanie Hayes, Red Shoes by John Nichols, Saving Grace by Mary Alice Henderson, and Speak No Evil by Jim Kasmir and Jeff Rack.

SPTC recommends enhancing the evening by setting the scene appropriately for your viewing pleasure. Dim the lights, gather some spooky snacks (I highly recommended peeled grapes for their sliminess and something crunchy to pretend you are munching on bones), drink something red, get comfortable and invite the whole family to settle in for some good old fashioned story-telling. It's all family frightly, I mean, friendly.

This year's event is a Pay-What-You-Can event. Reservations can be made by calling the Ghostwalk Haunt Line at 805-525-3073 or on the SPTC website either at [www.santapaulatheatercenter.org](http://www.santapaulatheatercenter.org) or [www.ghostwalk.com](http://www.ghostwalk.com) or via email at [sptcboxoffice@gmail.com](mailto:sptcboxoffice@gmail.com). While you're on [www.ghostwalk.com](http://www.ghostwalk.com), check out the merchandise you can order which also helps support the theater's efforts.

The event will be streamed to SPTC's YouTube channel for public viewing at the following link, <https://www.youtube.com/user/santapaulatheaterctr>. It can also be seen at <https://www.facebook.com/santapaulatheatercenter>.

Fall is in the air. Leaves are falling. It is time for the spooks, ghosts and goblins to appear. October (can you believe it's October already?) is the perfect time for snuggling up to that warm computer in your jammies with snacks, drinks and perhaps something or someone to cling to while watching SPTC's 2020 version of this always-exciting long-standing tradition. Join in. Tune in. You will be glad you did. Oh, and please make a donation to the theater so these events can continue. All proceeds benefit the Santa Paula Theater Center directly. Happy hauntoween!

### Streaming Spotlight by Cindy Summers

## Enola Holmes

Amazon Originals



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

Eudoria Holmes (Helena Bonham Carter) named her daughter Enola (Millie Bobby Brown) because she was a fan of word games and is "alone" spelled backwards, as wanted Enola to grow up to be an independent woman. On the morning of Enola's sixteenth birthday, she discovered her mother had left leaving some gifts, including some handmade cards with pressed flowers with inspirational sayings.

The disappearance of her mother prompted the return of her two brothers, Mycroft (Sam Claflin) and Sherlock (Henry Cavill), the famous detective, scholar, chemist, virtuoso violinist, expert marksman, pugilist, and brilliant deductive thinker. Sherlock deduced that his mother had planned leaving and not returning. Mycroft's main concern was finding a boarding school for Enola, which she did not want, but Enola was legally Mycroft's ward in the absence of their mother.

Enola disguised herself as a boy, went to the train station and headed off to find her mother. She slipped into a private car, where a young man was hiding in a luggage bag. He introduced himself as Viscount Tewkesbury, the Marquess of Basilwether (Louis Partridge), who snuck onboard to escape his family.

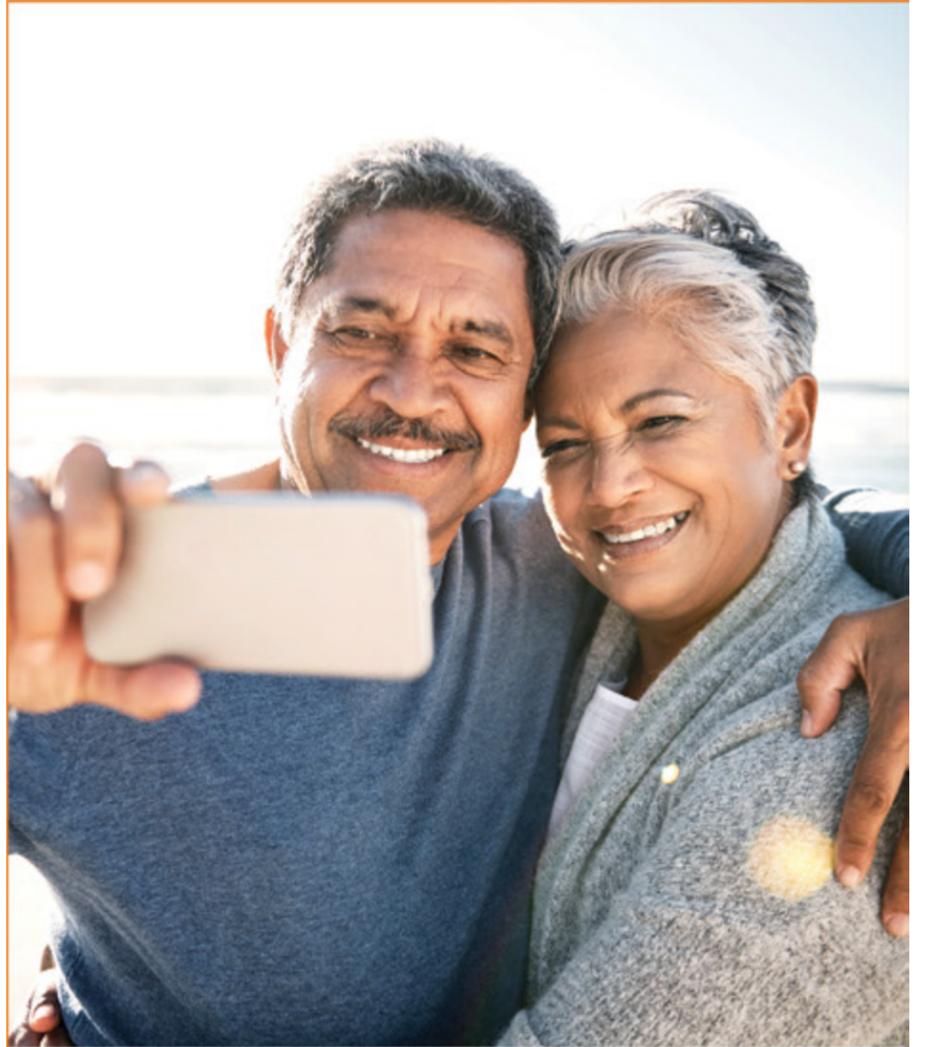
Enola then placed cyphers in every paper she thought her mother may read. Enola then went to the only address she saw her mother write letters to in London, where upstairs she found a group of women practicing martial arts.

Enola was attacked by the man from the train, set off some explosives to escape and decided to find Tewkesbury. Enola went to the flower market, and found Tewkesbury there. They went back to where Enola was staying when Inspector Lestrade from Scotland Yard burst into the room, catching Enola and turned her over to Mycroft, who dropped her off at Miss Harrison's Finishing School.

Enola realized the Tewkesbury was in danger because his vote for change would carry much weight with the current Lords in power, and at that very moment Tewkesbury showed up in a wicker crate. Tewkesbury used the crate to sneak Enola out, and they escaped by stealing Miss Harrison's motor car and headed to Tewkesbury's home having determined it was his uncle who was trying to kill him.

They again encounter the man from the train, who knocked out Enola and

*Continued on page 20*



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## 19th Annual Caregivers Sailathon

All Watercraft Welcome!  
Pre-register by Oct. 15 for \$45 per entry or register at the Caregivers Office at 8:30am on Oct. 18 for \$75 per entry.  
Lap pledges from friends and family are needed for them to support senior services.  
Sunday October 18, 2020 12pm-2pm  
Off the Ventura Pier in Pierpont Bay  
Call (805) 658-8530 or visit [vccaregivers.org/events.php](http://vccaregivers.org/events.php) for more information.

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## Enola Homes

*Continued from page 19*

attempted to kill Tewkesbury, but Enola used a Jujitsu move causing him to fall onto a statue and die. Tewkesbury's grandmother revealed herself as the person behind the plan to kill Tewkesbury and used a shotgun to shoot her grandson. Fortunately, Tewkesbury was wearing a metal shield and was unharmed.

Enola returned to her room to find her mother who said she couldn't stay but wanted to apologize and explain that she had to leave to secure a future world for her daughter, only to learn her daughter had been behind protecting Tewkesbury to support the Reform Bill. Millie Bobby Brown is perfect in her role as Enola Holmes in this amusing detective story.

Rated: PG-13  
123 minutes

## Ventura Land Trust announces

*Continued from page 13*

and in the Ventura hillsides, including the 2,100-acre Harmon Canyon Preserve, opened in June 2020. Harmon Canyon Preserve is Ventura's first large-scale nature preserve. All preserves are open to the public daily from dawn to dusk for free. Ventura Land Trust received accreditation by the Land Trust Alliance in 2019. Learn more and become a member at [www.venturalandtrust.org](http://www.venturalandtrust.org).

Founded in 1982, the Land Trust Alliance is a national land conservation organization that works to save the places people need and love by strengthening land conservation across America. Connect with them online at [www.landtrustalliance.org](http://www.landtrustalliance.org).

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Have a safe Halloween by Tony Jankowski