

An estimated 200 people showed up to participate in the silent Wall of People demonstration, sponsored by Justice For All Ventura County, Veterans For Peace Ventura County and Indivisible Ventura, on Saturday October 17. The protesters were there to raise awareness and advocate for “the health of our planet, the health of the ocean, the health of women’s rights, the health of black lives, the health of LGBTQ rights, the health of people, all of us earth is home, and to protect safe legal abortion.”

For further information see article on page 9.

Photos by Richard Lieberman



Continued on page 9

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– Bea Haitz

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Our first issue! October 24, 2007

Meet The Candidate



Amy “Yamamoto” Callahan Candidate for VUSD Trustee, Area 3

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Having been born and raised in Ventura it afforded me the opportunity to attend some of the best public schools in the state. I attended Juanamaria, Junipero Serra, ATLAS (formerly Satcoy) elementary schools, Cabrillo middle and a proud graduate of Buena High School class of 1994. It was a time when our school district had many California Distinguished schools that our community attracted young families to Ventura.

When we started our own family, I

knew we wanted our two daughters to grow up in the same special community that my sister and I did. I also knew I wanted to invest in the community that invested in me, but soon came to realize that not every student has the same great education I did, but should, and now more than ever.

As we are all feeling the challenges and uncertainty that COVID-19 has brought, our children and grandchildren are feeling it even more. Our community has experienced real challenges before, and with the Thomas Fire specifically, bringing our community together and making us stronger together. It is this strength and sense of community that inspires me to serve and why I am running for Ventura Unified School Board for Area 3.

As an educator for over 20 years, I taught social studies and civic education in California, Hawaii and Texas. As a current Ventura Unified School District (VUSD) parent, member of the VUSD Superintendent Parent Advisory Council, and VUSD K-12 alumna; I bring a vested commitment to ensure our school district provides a safe, communicative, high achieving, and innovative world-class education experience for every student we serve.

I am proudly recommended by the Ventura Unified teachers and education support professionals along with several parent, student, non-profit and business groups in the community. I provide a trusted listening ear while bringing experience and expertise on education policy, budget and funding. I am also the only registered Democrat on the ballot



COUNTY OF VENTURA



VENTURA COUNTY
HEALTH CARE AGENCY

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.

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 schedule an appointment by calling or registering online.

Online: 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 • **Oxnard Performing Arts Center** 800 Hobson Way, Oxnard, CA 93030

DRIVE-UP TESTING SITES

No appointment necessary

(Beginning October 16)

(Weekend Hours)

Moorpark College
7075 Campus Rd.
Moorpark, CA 93021
Monday-Friday 10am – 7pm

Santa Paula city parking lot
located at corner of E. Main
Street and N. Ojai Street
Friday-Tuesday 10am – 7pm

Oxnard College
4000 S. Rose Ave.
Oxnard, CA 93033
Friday-Tuesday 10am – 7pm

(Closing at 4 pm

beginning November 1)

Fillmore Family Medical Group
828 W. Ventura St.
Fillmore, CA 93015
Tuesday 9am – 5pm

WALK-UP TESTING SITES

No appointment necessary

Ventura County Fairgrounds
10 W. Harbor Blvd.
Ventura (Enter at Gate 2)
Monday-Friday 9am – 6pm

(Open Oct. 19 & 26 only)
Sarzotti Park
510 Park Road
Ojai CA, 93021
Monday 12 – 5pm

VENTURA COUNTY URGENT CARE LOCATIONS

For pre-screening and appointment, call the hotline at 805-652-7660. Beginning November 1 all sites will close at 4 pm.

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

www.venturacountyrecovers.org • Questions? Email ashley.bautista@ventura.org or call 805-654-2640

City News

for this seat.

For my birthday I humbly ask for your vote and for your contribution to our community to bring forward a best in class education system that values us and our input.

Others ways to support my campaign and our community with your family, friends, colleagues and neighbors in Area 3:

Please forward this Dear Neighbor email and letter on.

Request a lawn sign to display at your home and/or business at amy4vusd3.org

Convene a Zoom meet-and-greet (20-45 minutes) to listen and learn more about your specific areas of interest to share

Endorse me!

For updates and information, join my Amy “Yamamoto” Callahan Facebook Group and tag and forward on to your network.

Contribute \$25, \$50 or \$100 today!

To learn more about me as a candidate and what I stand for, please visit amy4vsud.org.

City seeking people

Continued from page 1

A GPAC member must:

Be a City of Ventura resident.

Commit the time that is necessary to carry out the duties of a GPAC member. This includes time to learn about and stay abreast of General Plan issues, to attend committee meetings, and perform committee assignments.

Be genuinely interested in General

Plan related matters and understand the importance of a General Plan to reflect and advance the needs of the community.

Understand the local community, its social and cultural needs, and be willing to communicate those needs to the committee.

Be able to work with others to reach a common goal.

Be open-minded, intellectually curious, and respectful of the opinions of others.

Have the courage to plan creatively and direct the effective implementation of those plans.

Be able to withstand pressures and prejudice that would restrict or prevent equal service to all.

File a Form 700 Conflict of Interest

The General Plan is the embodiment of the community’s vision for the future of Ventura. It is the City’s comprehensive framework of guiding policies on land use, housing, roads, recreation, historical and natural resources, balance of adequate water supply infrastructure, public safety services, and noise, and serves as a basis for decisions that affect all aspects of our everyday lives from where we live and work to how we move about. It is implemented by decisions that direct the allocation of public resources and that shape private development.

The 2005 General Plan was adopted August 8, 2005 and evolved from the 2000 Ventura Vision strategies reflecting the planning objectives and smart growth principles of the community. The Vision strategies set the framework for the General Plan.

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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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People who
do not know
how to laugh
are always
pompous and
self-conceited.

– William
Thackery

Opinion/Editorial



Sheldon Brown
Publisher-Editor

■ Wow, another year for the **Ventura Breeze**. It's been a tough one, as it has been for most businesses. My thanks to all the special people involved in making the paper happen; our wonderful writers, photographers and distributors for managing to work around the virus and still do a great job, Deena (AKA as Breezy) Gledhill our senior account executive who brings in the money - it's been a real challenge for her this year. Alfred J. Lewis, of studioNothing who lays out the paper and Cindy Summers who does several things including maintaining our website.

A special thank you as well to the many **donors** (see the back cover) who have contributed funds to keep us going. Many have chosen to not be mentioned. It is so exciting and rewarding to me that readers are willing to help us keep publishing. We received \$5 from anonymous with the note, "Sorry this isn't more! Thanks for your fine coverage of local news." How special is that?

■ There has been much objection to the **Ventura City Council** upholding the Planning Commission's approval of a four-story, mixed-use project at the corner of Front and Laurel Streets, rejecting two appeals that argued the project doesn't fit the surrounding neighborhood. The proposed building would include 46 condominium units, including five affordable units, and five commercial tenant spaces.

The Downtown Specific Plan was adopted in 2007 and establishes the future development in downtown. This neighborhood is zoned for high-density, mixed-use buildings with retail space, offices and apartments. The proposed project falls under Plan, so the City Council is required to make its decision based on whether the project fits the Plan, which it does.

Community Development Director Peter Gilli explained the project is consistent with both the Downtown Specific Plan and the city's General Plan, and it is compatible with what is allowed in the

neighborhood. The city can't arbitrarily deny approvals that are allowed by zoning. The applicant did request a larger 4th story under the State's Density Bonus Law which allows projects with affordable housing to request increased density and other concessions to what is normally allowed. Cities are limited in their ability to deny these State mandated approvals.

If you would like to participate in the future planning of Ventura, you have a chance. In this issue is an article "City seeking people to work on the general plan." The General Plan guides the City's vision, goals, policies, and actions for the next 25 years!"

■ For quick look at your **city council candidates**, go to www.venturabreeze.com and at top of the page click on Meet the Candidates.

■ If there is a coronavirus **vaccine** rushed through prior to the elections, I certainly won't be taking it. I believe in vaccines and have already had my flu shot, but we need to be sure that the vaccine had gone through many clinical tests and trials before being available. The experts say this might not be until next summer.

■ When Tommy Fisher decided he wanted to build his own private border wall in Texas, he said he wanted to keep out trouble from Mexico. I'm sure the fact that his construction company has landed more than **\$2 billion** in government contracts to build President Trump's official wall was not a consideration.

■ By Tyrone Beason from the LA Times. 'Anyone who doubts that American democracy could fall if President Trump wins reelection should take it from someone who knows **John Dean** who says, he believes a budding dictator occupies the White House. "I worked for the last authoritarian president (Richard Nixon) and he was dangerous enough, said Dean. Trump makes Nixon look like a choirboy. If we get four more years of him, Dean said, "then our democracy will be gone.'

Some Republicans fearing that aligning with Trump could hurt their reelection chances are now criticizing him. Even though I agree with them, I

don't respect them doing this to save their careers. **Republican Sen. Ben Sasse** has criticized President Donald Trump saying a number of unflattering things about the President, including that he's "flirted with white supremacists" and "kisses dictator's" butts. The United States now regularly sells out our allies under his leadership. "

Former White House chief of staff, retired **Marine Gen. John Kelly**, has told friends that President Donald Trump "is the most flawed person" he's ever known. "The depths of his dishonesty is just astounding to me. The dishonesty, the transactional nature of every relationship is more pathetic than anything else."

What kind of a president says things such as this? "**Suburban women**, will you please like me? I saved your damn neighborhoods, ok?"

Might this be the reason why he wants to get reelected? Without some of the protections afforded him by the presidency, Trump will become vulnerable to multiple investigations looking into possible fraud in his financial business dealings as a private citizen. As an individual and through his companies. He faces lawsuits that could cost him lots of money and even send him to prison.

Michigan's secretary of state banned the open carry of **guns** at polling places and other official voting locations on Election Day in the state. Did we ever think that such a statement would need to be made? How frightening to think that "Trump's army" will be at polling places intimidating voters.

Caroline Giuliani, the daughter of President Donald Trump's personal attorney and former New York City mayor Rudy Giuliani, is urging Americans to "end this nightmare" by voting for Democratic nominee Joe Biden and his running mate Kamala Harris.

The former Navy SEAL known for his role in the operation that killed Osama bin Laden is speaking out after President Donald Trump encouraged conspiracy theories that the terrorist leader's death was a hoax. Donald Trump defended spreading a preposterous conspiracy theory about the death of Osama bin Laden saying he had merely been passing along a supporter's view. "That was an opinion of somebody and that was a retweet. I'll put it out there" he said, when questioned by NBC's Savannah Guthrie about his passing along a theory that the killing of bin Laden by Navy SEAL Team 6 had been staged, and that members of the unit had been killed to cover it up.

"I don't get that. You're the president," Guthrie said. "You're not like someone's crazy uncle who can just retweet whatever."

How ironic is this? The antibody cocktail that President Trump received for his COVID-19 infection and touted as a "cure" for the deadly virus was developed using cells derived from aborted fetal tissue, a practice the White House and **anti-abortion** rights groups oppose.

Donald Trump said his coronavirus infection was a "**blessing from God**" because it educated him about potential drugs to treat the disease meant to demonstrate his return to work after several days in the hospital. How can this man dare make such a statement? What about the million people worldwide and the 215,000 so far - heading towards 400,000 - Americans that are dead.

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

Continued on page 20

Mailbox

Venturans:

In an effort to inform voters, the League of Women Voters, Ventura County conducted candidate forums for local city council, mayoral, state senate and assembly elections as well as the Congressional District 26 election.

The League of Women Voters also conducted discussions of the California Ballot propositions and Ojai School Bond K. You can access the video recordings of these events at the following link: <https://my.lwv.org/california/ventura-county/candidate-forums>

Be an informed voter! And, make a plan to vote!
Wayne Morgan, Ventura

Dear Editor:

The circumstances of this election are like no other in a hundred years. We need to execute our Constitutional right to vote and stay safe from the Covid-19 virus. The best way to do that is to vote from home. To make sure your vote counts: 1) update/verify your registration, 2) select the language you want your ballot in (Voterstatus.sos.ca.gov), 3) track your ballot (WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov), and 4) vote early. The League of Women Voters of Ventura County

suggests voting by mail by October 20th to make sure your ballot arrives in time to be counted. Complete your ballot and deposit it in a drop box, mail it, or deliver it to a voting center. All of these are safe options. For more information about the election, visit the Ventura County Elections Division at venturavote.org.
Pat Butler, Ventura

Breeze:

I've been walking around this earth for a while now. Never before have I seen such fear and loathing coming from far left haters and far right haters. At times it seems most Americans fall into one or the other of these categories. But, today I witnessed a small event that gave me a little hope. (Mind you, I saw and heard with my very own eyes and ears, it's not from a disguised Russian blog, TikTok data mine or Falun Gong newspaper.)

I was just leaving Coffee Bean with my large dark roast when a black lady approached a white male cop standing in line and asked what he would be ordering. He told her and she said, "I'm going to buy that for you." The cop actually blushed and said, "That's not necessary." She, said, "No, you deserve it." The cop

News & Notes



Initially, Moorhouse had wanted to join the Air Force.

Helping out people through Angel Flight West

by Carol Leish

Jeff Moorhouse said that he learned how to fly since he had a lot of business across the western states that he needed to get to, along with many different conferences in various areas to go to. And, at first, he had to drive long distances to get to various places. Then, according to him, “I started flying for Angel Flight West, which I’ve been doing for over five years now, because I wanted more of a purpose of flying besides just flying to my own meetings and conferences.”

Initially, Moorhouse had wanted to join the Air Force. As his current career as a certified financial planner progressed over time, he began to take flying lessons on his own. After having flown as a student pilot, he became a private pilot. Now, he’s an instrument rated pilot with over 1,000 miles of flying.

“Everyday Angel Flight West is flying about 20 missions,” according to Moorhouse. “These missions deal with a variety of medical needs, which are mainly dealing with flying patients to their appointments dealing with cancer treatments. This includes flying women to get treatment for breast cancer treatments.” October is Breast Cancer

Awareness Month. “We had just recently (mid-September), gotten back to flying patients to their medical appointments, because of restrictions due to COVID-19. In April, it had stopped since it was viewed as unsafe for the pilot and the patient to be in an enclosed area.”

“Angel Flight West, has been flying, almost on a daily basis, since March, PPE (personal protective equipment), to rural destinations and to underserved areas,” according to Moorhouse. “Also, we pick up blood, which is important for blood banks. This includes flying it to a processing center in San Bernardino. Processing and delivering blood are important for blood banks and rural communities since it takes time to process the blood. In fact, after the mudslides in Montecito, I flew blood from Oxnard to San Luis Obispo.”

“We love to fly, and we want to help,” is one of the mottos of Angel Flight West. Their mission is: “Sometimes the road to health is a runway. If the care you need is far from home, Angel Flight West can help.” For further information, call (310) 390-2958; email: info@angelflightwest.org; or, go to www.angelflightwest.org.

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– Mark Twain
Barbara & Leon

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- As a founder of a 25-year business, Barbara has planning, strategy and fiscal management experience.
- She stands for the environment and worked on a federal bi-partisan Climate Change initiative.
- She'll represent your vision:

“As I talk to Venturans, it's clear many of you are uneasy about growth. My priority will be ensuring new growth doesn't change the character of our neighborhoods. It is not about what I want to do, but what you want to do.” - Barbara Brown

For more information: BarbaraBrownCityCouncil.com

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News & Notes



Email Political Hell—A Survivor’s Story

by Ivor Davis

I will be glad—no make that—overjoyed—when The Election is over. I have been buried alive---and I’m not exaggerating-- by a daily avalanche of beseeching political emails. Others may be familiar with this particular nightmare? Overwhelming is the daily bombard-

ments of emails about leaky guts, toenail fungus, and now assorted messages calling me “Dear Patriot” (I love tea---but am not too fond of ultra conservative Tea Party) plus a variety of big names who have begun to assault me during this excessive and overheated political season. We are in the midst of a huge--- and I mean huge---attack of the emails morning noon and in the middle of the night. That ceaseless barrage is relentless: reprimanding—even scolding me -- because I fail to respond to their non stop missives and exhortations during this election season. While we all worry about coping with the coronavirus in this Twilight Zone of a world we find ourselves living in, it appears that many respected figures of the 21st century have found time to rap me on the knuckles. “I am deeply disappointed in you Ivor” wrote former President Barack Obama. Today he followed up with, “Whatever you’ve done so far...it’s not enough.” Even Michelle weighed in but with a more softer approach. And it continues relentlessly. Barbra Streisand, (who I could seldom get

to agree to an interview during my Hollywood reporting days) along with Joni Mitchell, and assorted other member of showbiz crowd, also took time out of their busy day to reiterate my abysmal failure to respond to their earlier emails. (Honestly, let me confess that even in this era of CV, I’m not sitting at home twiddling my thumbs or stroking my overgrown beard. I have been very busy. Honestly.) “Can we count on you Ivor,” they echo, as I stay up all night wondering why all of a sudden I have become such an important guy and why they need to count on little old me---tucked away in the comfort of Ventura-- when there are 326 million others to badger! As election day draws perilously closer, they have identified me as a much in demand political oracle. It appears that pollsters and decision makers cannot go another day unless I weigh in. Flattering, of course, but until recently they never bothered to call or email or text. (Let’s not get into texts, please.) Or even send a birthday card. Of course, I’m no dummy. After asking me about the Supreme Court nominee, or the fate of Obamacare, or the best Greek

island to go fishing-- above all --it seems-- (surprise, surprise) they want my money. Not millions like Mr. Bloomberg---but a mere \$5---or maybe more. I realize that I did blunder when I opened those donation gate emails and contributed to selected political candidates of my choice. Now everyone wants a slice of the Davis pie! Full disclosure: I have always voted Democrat. But somehow the Republicans---also twigging to the fact that I may be a man of wit, savoir faire and credit card, and possibly not realizing that I prefer Rachel Maddow to Judge Judy, or is it Judge Jeanine, and that I still think Fauci is a good guy, began targeting me. Indeed I confess, I did open the opposition emails, because my thinking was: it’s always intriguing to see what the other side’s strategy is. In an effort to end it all, I just sent the Republican Party a firm note requesting that they cease and desist sending me their messages, and pointing out that after half a century of living and voting in the United States (after leaving Britain my country of birth) I-- like my next door neighbor’s elderly Dalmatian--- am not about to change my spots.



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Briana Garcia
Shop Tiki Girl



VOTENANCY PEDERSEN
City Council District 7

Nancy understands the importance of the small business community to the heart and soul of Ventura - having run a small business in Ventura, she knows what it takes. And, Nancy "supports local" whenever possible - over 75% of the campaign contributions she has received have been spent locally: T-Shirts by TikiGirl; web design and graphics by Mike Laan; banners, signs & buttons by FastSigns; printed materials by Clark's Printing; and, mailing services by Mail Manager - just to name a few. Nancy will bring this same community focus to the City Council when elected.

Stay Ventura Strong, Support Local and Please Vote!
www.pedersen4ventura.com

Paid for by Pedersen4Ventura 2020 City Council District 7 Campaign Committee (ID #1427016)

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News & Notes



ROSA Total Knee Replacement System surgeons Dr. Petros K. Frousiakis, Dr. Stephan J. Sweet, Dr. Thomas F. Golden, Dr. John R. Burge and Dr. Casey W. Pyle.

OVCH is the only Tri-counties hospital to offer the new ROSA Total Knee Replacement System

Ojai Valley Community Hospital is pleased to share that doctors have performed the 50th knee replacement surgery at the Ojai hospital using the cutting-edge ROSA Total Knee Replacement System, a new robotically-assisted surgical system that enhances total knee replacement surgery.

The ROSA Total Knee Replacement System brings the most advanced joint replacement technology to Ojai Valley Community Hospital, which is the only hospital in the Tri-counties offering this technology. Total joint replacement is among the most commonly performed elective surgeries in the United States today. Offering surgical services in the Ojai Valley allows patients to recover in a smaller and more intimate hospital in a beautiful community.

Knee replacement surgeries with the ROSA system are available at the Ojai hospital from surgeons Petros K. Frousiakis, Thomas F. Golden, Stephan J. Sweet, John R. Burge and Casey W. Pyle.

The ROSA system combines robotic technology with industry-leading knee implants to help surgeons personalize knee replacement surgery for patients. ROSA knee is a robotically-assisted surgical system that includes features to assist with bone resections and assessing the state of soft tissues to facilitate implant positioning intra-operatively. Data provided by ROSA knee enables surgeons to use computer and software technology to control and move surgical instruments, allowing for greater precision and flexibility during procedures.

OVCH is a 25-bed acute care hospital with an emergency room, four beds for Intensive Care patients and 21 medical/surgical beds that also can serve patients needing skilled nursing care. The hospital recently opened a new, modern Continuing Care Center (skilled nursing facility) with 75 beds. Visit cmhshealth.org/rosa to learn more about the procedure.



Hamsters from Hell!

by Richard Senate

Not long ago the Svengoolie program that shows old horror films ran the classic failure of a film titled “The Night of the Lepus.” Lepus is Latin for rabbits and the plot is about a heard of giant rabbits attacking a small town in Arizona. Still, with all the special effects it proved impossible to make the cute, cuddly bunnies look threatening. It was a fun film with more than a few unintentional humorous parts. But, “Night of the Lepus” did trigger a memory of a happy

time when I was working at Cable Six TV, producing a program called “Ghost Hunters” with Phil Taggart. This was in the mid 1980s when such programs didn’t exist in other places. A young man came to us with a 16 mm film he had made over on the Avenue. It was called “Hamsters from Hell!”

He had constructed a model of Ventura, complete with the old mission. He had several pet hamsters (reflecting back, I think his sisters had them as pets). As close as I can recall, he had recruited several of his friends and family members as actors and they made this feature. It was about this young scientist, who was experimenting with hamsters, cages and mazes and such when the small animals were accidentally exposed to dangerous radioactive isotopes. This caused them to grow huge and turn them into man eating monsters--Hamsters from Hell!. They attacked Ventura destroying all in their path, and feasting on the local residents. Really hamster food painted with food coloring to look like people. The animals were bullet proof and nothing could stop them from breaching the Santa Clara River and devouring Oxnard! The scientist had trained them to follow him when they were given their

Continued on page 9

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!

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Lynn Jeffers, MD, MBA
Medical Director of the Integrated Breast Center at St. John’s
- Guest Speakers:**
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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

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



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News & Notes



John Chester feeding Emma, who should go on a diet.

SEEAG and Ventura County Farm Day's "The Biggest Little Farm" screening

As part of this year's activities for its 8th Annual Ventura County Farm Day, Students for Eco-Education and Agriculture (SEEAG) is hosting a drive-in movie night on Sunday, November 1 at the Ventura County Fairgrounds featuring the award-winning, family-friendly documentary "The Biggest Little Farm."

The evening includes a question and answer session with John Chester, farmer, cinematographer and co-founder of Moorpark's Apricot Lane Farms where the documentary was filmed. "The Biggest Little Farm" chronicles the eight-year quest of John and Molly Chester as they trade city living for 200 acres of barren farmland and a dream to harvest in harmony with nature.

Proceeds from the evening will go to SEEAG's mission to educate students and

the public about the farm origins of food and agriculture's contribution to our nutritional wellbeing. Since it began in 2008, it has reached over 65,000 elementary school members in Ventura and Santa Barbara counties. Santa Barbara County Farm Day is held in September. The 2020 Ventura County Farm Day will be held online on November 7 (no in-person farm tours).

The Fairgrounds open at 5:00 p.m. with the documentary at 6:00 p.m. followed by a half hour question and answer period with Chester at 7:30 p.m. Vehicle passes are \$35 per car including popcorn and \$75 per car including up-close parking and snack boxes filled with popcorn, cookies, chocolate, nuts and fruit. For more information and to purchase tickets, go to <https://www.ventura-countyfarmday.com/drive-in>.

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- Jenae Juarez, JJ Bookkeeping

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News & Notes



New Mercy Cross tower at Oxnard medical center honors the Sisters of Mercy.

Dignity Health St. John’s Regional Medical Center commemorates legacy of Founding Sisters on Mercy Day

Dignity Health St. John’s Regional Medical Center (SJPMC) is pleased to share with the community the completion of the new Mercy Cross tower, which celebrates the heritage of the regional medical center’s founding sisters— the Sisters of Mercy. The announcement coincides with Feastday of Our Lady of Mercy (Mercy Day)—a date observed annually throughout the world in remembrance of Catherine McAuley’s establishment of the first House of Mercy in Dublin, Ireland, on September 24, 1827. It is through Catherine’s ministry that the Religious Sisters of Mercy were founded.

The new Mercy Cross tower, which stands tall outside the hospital’s main entrance, celebrates the Sisters of Mercy and their contributions to the region’s health and well-being.

At the request of community leaders,

the Sisters of Mercy arrived in Oxnard from San Diego in 1911 to help establish health care services for the thousands of residents who settled on the Oxnard plain. In May 1912, with Oxnard’s pioneer families’ help, the Sisters of Mercy opened the doors to the six-room wooden structure hospital, called by the name St. John’s Hospital. In its 108 years of service to the community, St. John’s has expanded its services and community outreach to stay true the founding principles of delivering high quality and compassionate health care to the community.

The new Mercy Cross tower was made possible by the generous contributions made by St. John’s employees to the St. John’s Healthcare Foundation’s Beacon of Mercy campaign. For more information about the St. John’s Healthcare Foundation, please visit SupportStJohns.org. Mercy Day September 24, 2020



Christine Burke led a demonstration in Ventura for Justice for All.

“Wall of People” demonstration for justice in Downtown Ventura

by Richard Lieberman

Christine Burke, president of the board of Justice for All led a demonstration in Ventura this past Saturday, October 17th. The demonstration scheduled for one hour 11:30 to 12:30 pm included socially distanced members of the group lining up along California

Street from Main to the California Street bridge. Chalk circles along California Street each spaced six feet apart ensured each demonstrator maintained an appropriate distance from one another following CDC guidelines. All demonstrators were also required to wear masks.

“Justice for All started when two women here in Ventura wanted to march for the injustices of the people who are being marginalized and the felt they wanted to partner with the women’s march, but also make a stand that it just isn’t women its everyone, we need justice for everybody,” she said. Contacted by the national organization that conducts the yearly women’s march the group was asked to participate this year. In answer to the national organization Burke said “Of course we will participate, but we always do it our own way.” The board of Justice for all discussed the upcoming march and protest and came up with some ideas to keep participants safe. “We wanted people to feel safe so we really couldn’t do a march, why don’t we do a wall of people standing and do a silent installation of voting for the health of our democracy, our bodies women, black lives matter, you know the whole thing.” Added Burke.

Its estimated nearly 200 people joined the demonstration along with street traffic honking horns and passerby’s signaling agreement with the protestors.

“My own personal beliefs are if you are listening to all sides which is what we

want everybody to do and that’s why we are not out here saying vote for a particular person, but we want people to think through their votes, my observations of the people who are voting for Trump and support Trump they really don’t know what they are voting for and if they really listened to what was going on they might un-dig their heels.” Said Burke.

“We really just want to inspire community and really gather people together and remind them that this process is important. That being out here and showing and being involved in the political process its important and I think we have lost that along the way and the one thing has come out of the last four years of our government is that people have woken up to that again, on all sides“ she added.

Kids & Families Together

Continued from page 1

ing Professionals at an event scheduled for November.

We are grateful to our Harvest Fest partners and event sponsors that come from all over Ventura County to support our families: Crosspointe Church Ventura, The Gene Haas Foundation, Camarillo Amber’s Light Lions Club, James Storehouse, United Way, Sunrise Optimist of Ventura, Soroptimist Int’l of Conejo Valley, St. Jude’s Catholic Church, Newbury Park High School’s Wings to Grow, The Discovery Center of Science & Technology of Newbury Park, TEAM Referral Network Oxnard Rainmakers and the Helpful Honda Team!

Volunteer opportunities are avail-

able both prior to the Harvest Fest event, to help sort, organize and prepare, along with time slots for the day of the event. To keep staff, families and volunteers safe, we are following current public health and safety regulations. All attendees will be required to wear a mask at all times.

Financial donations will support our continuing relief efforts.

To sign-up for a volunteer shift take the time to go to:
http://www.volunteerventuracounty.org/agency/detail/?agency_id=53693

Hampsters from Hell

Continued from page 7

food by playing a song (I forget the song). So, to save the city, he took loud speakers and put them on a boat and played it, the Monster Hamsters, jumped off the pier into the ocean to follow the song and they went further out, they all drowned, ending the menace of the hamsters from Hell.

Using close ups of the animals with pictures of the people in normal size it sort of worked, in a silly way. We never showed this local work—I think it was about twenty minutes long--Now, I wish we had. It was so silly, so off the wall, it could have really caught on like silly film “The Attack of the Killer Tomatoes” did for San Diego. It was a long time ago and I may have forgotten some details of this film. Maybe the film maker, or one of his friends recalls the making of this epic. I would be great to show this film on Halloween night 2020. If it is lost, maybe it can be recreated by some enterprising young film makers.

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Real-life benefits of exercise and physical activity

Exercise and physical activity are good for just about everyone, including older adults. No matter your health and physical abilities, you can gain a lot by staying active. In fact, studies show that “taking it easy” is risky. Often, inactivity is more to blame than age when older people lose the ability to do things on their own. Lack of physical activity also can lead to more visits to the doctor, more hospitalizations, and more use of medicines for a variety of illnesses.

Including all 4 types of exercise can benefit a wide range of areas of your life.

Staying active can help you:

- Keep and improve your strength so you can stay independent
- Have more energy to do the things you want to do and reduce fatigue
- Improve your balance and lower risk of falls and injuries from falls
- Manage and prevent some diseases like arthritis, heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes, osteoporosis, and 8 types of cancer, including breast and colon cancer
- Sleep better at home
- Reduce levels of stress and anxiety
- Reach or maintain a healthy weight and reduce risk of excessive weight gain
- Control your blood pressure
- Possibly improve or maintain some aspects of cognitive function, such as your ability to shift quickly between tasks or plan an activity
- Perk up your mood and reduce feelings of depression
- Being active can help prevent future falls and fractures.

Research has shown that exercise is not only good for your physical health, it also supports emotional and mental health. You can exercise with a friend and get the added benefit of emotional support. So, next time you’re feeling down, anxious, or stressed, try to get up and start moving!

Physical activity can help:

- Reduce feelings of depression and stress, while improving your mood and overall emotional well-being
- Increase your energy level
- Improve sleep
- Empower you to feel more in control
- In addition, exercise and physical activity may possibly improve or maintain some aspects of cognitive function, such as your ability to shift quickly between tasks, plan an activity, and ignore irrelevant information.

Here are some exercise ideas to help you lift your mood:

- Walking, bicycling, or dancing. Endurance activities increase your breathing, get your heart pumping, and boost chemicals in your body that may improve mood.
- Yoga. This mind and body practice typically combines physical postures, breathing exercises, and relaxation.
- Tai Chi. This “moving meditation” involves shifting the body slowly, gently, and precisely, while breathing deeply.
- Activities you enjoy. Whether it’s gardening, playing tennis, kicking around a soccer ball with your grandchildren, or something else, choose an activity you want to do, not one you have to do.

Medicare open enrollment in a virtual world

by Rick Beavin
Desert Pacific Medicare President, Humana

The annual Medicare Advantage and Medicare Prescription Drug Plan open enrollment period is traditionally a time for educational events, classes and one

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on one meetings, but this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there are some new and different ways to learn about Medicare. October 15 to December 7 is the time when millions of people eligible for Medicare can access the latest information about available health plans for 2021. In California alone, nearly 6.5 million people are enrolled in Medicare including almost 3 million with Medicare Advantage.

There are resources to help you choose the plan that’s right for you without having to leave home, including informational websites, virtual educational events and one-on-one virtual meetings with sales agents. At the same time, it’s important to safely access Medicare information online while protecting your personal information and avoiding fake offers and other scams.

Here are some tips for how to prepare for the Medicare fall open enrollment period:

1. Use an online tool
Go to the Medicare Plan Finder on Medicare.gov to compare plans, benefits and an estimated cost for each plan based on an average member.
2. If you are interested in Medicare Part D, which helps cover the cost of prescription medications, you can also enter the names of prescription medications you take to ensure those medications are covered by the plan you are considering. You can enroll directly on Medicare.gov.
3. On Medicare.gov, you can also learn about and enroll in Medicare Advantage plans, sometimes called Part C or MA Plans, and you can also visit an insurance company’s website to learn more about what they offer. Insurance companies that offer Medicare Advantage plans can provide you with detailed information about their plans and services, plus prescription pricing information and other

benefits. You can also check to see if your primary care physician or other providers are in-network with the Medicare Advantage plan.

2. Sign up for a virtual education workshop

Many insurance companies are offering online workshops to review 2021 Medicare Advantage plan options. Also, check to see if you can set up a virtual one-on-one meeting with an insurance company sales agent – meaning, by phone or video chat. Before you attend a virtual event or meeting, find out in advance how to log on to the meeting to avoid technical issues. It’s a good idea to also prepare a list of questions so that you can ensure you get the information you need. Does the plan include vision, hearing and dental coverage? Will telehealth services be covered? Is transportation to your medical appointments included?

3. Protect yourself against Medicare scams

The federal Medicare agency has warned that scammers may try to use the pandemic to steal Medicare beneficiaries’ Medicare numbers, banking information or other personal data. Scammers may try to reach out to you by phone, email, text message, social media or by visiting your home. Only give your Medicare number to your doctor, pharmacist, hospital, health insurer or other trusted health care provider. Do not click links in text messages and emails about COVID-19 from unknown sources, and hang up on unsolicited phone calls offering COVID-19 tests or supplies.

If you are not comfortable accessing plan information online, Medicare.gov has an option for setting up a phone call. For more information, go to Medicare.gov or call 1-800-MEDICARE (800-633-4227).



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Senior Living



If your doctor says you should have a flu shot, don't delay.

Senior News Line

Now more than ever, get your flu shot

by Matilda Charles

A sincere wish just came true: This year's high-dose senior version of the flu shot will contain all four vaccines. In past years, the senior shot (for those over age 65) contained only three of the vaccines, two A and one B. Most years I would write a snarly note to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and ask about the reason for the false economy. Of course I never got a reply, but now ... finally, we seniors will have a flu shot with all four vaccines.

And what a shot it will be. The four vaccines are names we haven't heard in a while, if ever: A/Guangdong-Maonan

(H1N1), A/Hong Kong (H3N2), B/Washington and B/Phuket. To help us kick start our immune system, the senior version will contain four times the amount that younger folks get.

The standard trivalent (three-way) will have two A and one B, while the standard quadrivalent (four-way) has all four.

If your doctor says you should have a flu shot, don't delay. When I called my pharmacy (where I get my flu shots each year), the first appointment was many days out, and they had been swamped with requests for the shot. Yes, they will



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Chingon Bakery, owned by George Lopez, also participated, and brought all the residents and staff their famous Mexican bread. Just an example of how we can pull together in these trying times and brighten up the lives of our senior citizens.

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This 'n' That



And yes, she has analyzed the Beatles' handwriting.

Sheila Lowe has testified as an expert witness in dozens of cases

by James Gray

When Sheila Lowe arrived from England at the end of 1963 she was a fourteen-year-old Beatlemaniac, writing stories about the Fab Four. Her school friends loved to read them, but they were a long way from the Forensic Handwriting suspense series she writes today. And even further from her Beyond the Veil paranormal suspense. But writing fiction is her 'side hustle.'

More than fifty years ago as a senior at Anaheim High, Sheila got her start in the career that would last a lifetime. Her boyfriend's mother had read some books about handwriting and personality and, wanting to see what kind of girl her son was dating, analyzed Sheila's. The resulting insights instantly got her hooked, and as a shy teenager, her budding skills gave her an 'in' at parties, where she analyzed the handwriting of her friends and their dates. For the next ten years, she prowled the library and local bookstores for information, took formal courses, and eventually became certified in the field.

After practicing for nearly twenty years, Sheila got a call from an attorney who wanted her to testify in a forgery case that was going to court. When she protested that she didn't know anything about forgeries, the attorney asked, "Do you know about handwriting?" When she said she certainly did, he talked her into testifying. The rest is now ancient history. Today, Sheila still does personality assessment with companies in the hiring process, as well as working with individuals, but she specializes in authenticating handwriting—forensic handwriting examination—and has testified as an expert witness in dozens of cases.

Upon moving from Valencia to Ventura in 2004, Sheila felt as though she had come home. She wanted to get involved in the community, but only knew two people, so right away, she joined the Ventura Chamber and the Ventura County Professional Women's Network (VCPWN), where she soon was appointed to the board of directors and made some wonderful friends. Two of the fourteen years she spent as a member of the VCPWN board were as president.

Although it was her work in the field of handwriting that paid the

bills, Sheila had always loved reading mysteries and wanted to publish one. When she heard coach Bill Osgood speak at a Chamber meeting about how to attain your BHAG (Big Hairy Audacious Goal), she hired him to help with hers. She had started writing her first book, *Poison Pen*, back in 1999, but had set it aside, unfinished. Then, in 2000, an unthinkable tragedy struck. Her twenty-seven year-old daughter, Jennifer, became the victim in a murder-suicide, killed by boyfriend, Tom, a federal agent. Ironically, at his request, Sheila had analyzed his handwriting and discovered red flags for potentially dangerous behavior. The three of them discussed the difficulties that might arise in the relationship, but Jennifer was too much in love to listen, and a few months later, they were both dead.

So, taking out the manuscript and finishing the book gave Sheila something else to think about when her mind was filled with sadness. For several years, she tried to get the book published, but it wasn't until those coaching sessions with Bill Osgood that everything fell into place. Penguin picked up the first four books, and number eight, *Dead Letters*, will be released later in 2020. They're all audiobooks, too. Sheila teaches an online course in handwriting analysis and has published six books about handwriting psychology. She has her own software, and when the media calls with a celebrity handwriting, is with an opinion. And yes, she has analyzed the Beatles' handwriting.

Whisenhunt Communications launches new website

Whisenhunt Communications, a Ventura-based marketing and public relations firm, celebrating its 30th anniversary this year, has launched its new website, www.whizcomm.biz.

Founded in 1990, Whisenhunt Communications specializes in helping businesses, school districts, governmental agencies and nonprofit organizations reach targeted audiences to spread their news and get their messages out. "We value the contributions our clients make to our community and see our mission as one of support for their efforts," said company owner Stan Whisenhunt.

In addition to general marketing and public relations, Whisenhunt's expert team of writers, editors, photographers and designers specialize in creating and placing advertising; planning events; developing newsletters and other content; coordinating election campaigns; creating brochures; book publishing; product development; working with local and national media outlets; and writing, publishing and distributing annual reports. "Our efforts have helped our clients expand their businesses, relate better with their customers and win awards," Whisenhunt said.

Whisenhunt is a veteran journalist who worked for 24 years at the Ventura Star-Free Press (now the Ventura County Star), the last 17 years as managing editor. All Whisenhunt associates also have extensive experience in print media and graphic design.

For more information, call 805-919-0555, or visit www.whizcomm.biz.

This 'n' That

Ventura Police report an increase in phone scams

The Ventura Police Department (VPD) wants to warn residents about a rise in phone scams in the last three months. Community members have reported being pressured to make payments by phone, power shutoff or cellular service terminations, identity theft calls, and jail time threats.

“The community is urged to be vigilant in protecting personal information and aware of these scams to avoid falling victim. Never follow directions from someone over the phone that requests immediate payment, “or else,” commented Sergeant Edward Caliento.

Since June 2020, reported scams have increased by 60%, compared to the previous four months. Of 168 reported calls, 35 resulted in financial loss. Most of the reported incidents involved a scammer trying to frighten residents into sending cash, credit card information, or bank account numbers over the phone.

The community is also advised to be aware of several other frequent types of phone scams. These scams can include calls from people claiming to be from the IRS, a Gas and Electric company, the Social Security office, Medicare, text messaging phishing, targeting grandparents, and QR code related scams. To learn more, visit [click here](#).

To reduce the risk of becoming victims of this type of crime, review the following crime prevention tips:

- Sign-up for free scam alerts from the FTC at [ftc.gov/scams](#).
- Spot imposters: Scammers often pretend to be government officials or family members. Always ask for identification or ask questions to verify who they are. Verify an agency by researching online searches.
- Don't trust caller ID.
- Don't pay upfront for anything. Consider the type of payment used for transactions. Most credit cards have significant fraud protection built-in and are safer to use.
- Talk to someone. Scammers want the public to make decisions in a hurry and often threaten people to make hasty decisions. Slow down, check the story, and consult an expert – or just tell a friend. Hang up on robocalls.
- Be skeptical about free trial offers.
- Don't deposit a check and wire money.

If you believe you have been the victim of a scam and have suffered financial loss, contact the Ventura Police Department at (805) 339-4400. For all other scam-related calls, please report calls to the Federal Trade Commission at 1-877-FTC-HELP or visit [ftc.gov/complaint](#).

The Bookmark

About Libraries and Friends

by Jill Forman

Two important events to cover this issue:

One – The Friends of the Library book sales are back!

(Have to say here, the next sale is approved and happening, but as always any Public Health ruling could intervene.)

The Friends are having a book sale on Saturday, October 24, in the H.P. Foster Library back parking lot, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. There will be quality used books, arranged by category. Books will be in car trunks and a couple of tables. Buyers must wear masks and stay six feet apart. Flow and number of customers will be directed. Gloves and hand sanitizer will be provided. Books will be placed in bags by the customers, and paid for with exact change or credit card. In other words, every safety precaution will be observed.

A good idea to check the Friends' website before going: [venturafriendsofthelibrary.org](#)

Two – Halloween is happening at the library!

No trick-or-treating? No costume parade at school? No parties? No problem! The library has you covered. Philip Yochum, whose official title is “Librarian Specialist, Children & Teen Services” but I suspect is a big kid when it comes to Halloween, and his awesome Teen Action Group (TAG) have been working to make Halloween special no matter what.

In the past this was what they did, per Yochum. “For the past four years (this year would have been our fifth year), we turned the 2nd Floor of the E.P. Foster Library into a haunted house (library). We call the event Horror in the Stacks. Each year I had 50-80 volunteers from all over Ventura in both middle and high school. The volunteers would break into smaller groups with different scary themes and costumes and

plan a 90 minute haunted library. Last year we offered a Halloween craft table for anyone who wanted to do that.”

Since that can't happen right now, here is his plan. “This year since we can't do a haunted library, we are going to read spooky stories on Zoom. I have a few volunteers and myself pre-recording ourselves reading aloud spooky stories. There will be two age groups. One for ages 2-8 and the other for 9-17. The second group will be a lot more scary. We will have stories in both English and Spanish. We are excited to engage with the public in Halloween activities in the way that we can this year. The spooky stories should be a lot of fun!”

Stories will be accessible on October 29. For the younger group, 6:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. For the braver, older group, 7:00 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. To access the link, go to the Ventura library home page, [vencolibrary.org/calendar](#). Scroll down to October 29 and there is a link to Virtual Horror in the Stacks: Spooky Stories 1 and 2.

For Halloween and the rest of the year, you can be afraid of many things but know your library is there for all of you!

NAMI VC launches program aimed at wellness in a challenging world

NAMI Ventura County has launched a new pilot program designed to empower and encourage participants to actively address mental health using skills based in awareness, self-care and communication.

Like all the non-profit's program offerings, the Community Cares program is free to participants and available exclusively in webinar format through Zoom. The Ventura County affiliate of the National Alliance on

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Ventura City Council District 2

“We endorse Christy for her commitment to environmental protection, climate adaptation and her insistence on a healthy and high-quality community for all Venturans to enjoy.”

— Ventura Citizens for Hillside Preservation



[www.ChristyWeir.com](#)



Mental Illness created the program locally to help counteract the mental-health related fallout of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Community Cares includes information on mental wellness, stigma, diagnoses, treatment, suicide prevention, self-care and communication. Participants receive, electronically, a 34-page participant workbook filled with information building on the course topics as well as exercises aimed at building awareness and practicing useful skills.

“This is an exceptional program for anyone in the community who is not aware of the signs of mental illness,” said Roberta Griego, Director of Operations, Community Outreach & Development. “Anyone who attends Community Cares will come away with a new perspective and renewed focus on wellness.”

The two-hour webinar is facilitated by two volunteer presenters who are either family members or peers living in recovery and trained to share their experiences with participants.

Many trained presenters are both family members and peers giving them valuable, unique insight into mental health and wellness.

What's the new program's bottom line? Caring for ourselves as individuals is fundamental to caring for our communities.

Community Cares attendees are already praising the webinar.

“I don't think I do well in the self-care area of my life as I am always taking care of others first,” said one participant. “I enjoyed the area in the presentation and workbook on self-care. I intend to do more self-care of myself after hearing that reminder.”

People who live or work in Ventura County can register for an upcoming Community Cares webinar at [www.namiventura.org/community-cares](#).

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

Two upcoming clinics are: Friday, October 23rd at SPAN Thrift Store parking lot 110 N. Olive St. (behind Vons on Main), and a second at Albert H. Soliz Library - El Rio, 2820 Jourdan St., Oxnard, 93036 on Friday, November 6th. Please call to schedule an appointment (805) 584-3823.

■ "As someone who has both studied animal behavior and is a cat owner, it's great to be able to show that cats and humans can communicate in this way. It's something that many cat owners had already suspected, so it's exciting to have found evidence for it," study supervisor Karen McComb, a professor of psychology at the University of Sussex in England, said in a news release.

"It is something you can try yourself with your own cat at home, or with cats you meet in the street. It's a great way of enhancing the bond you have with cats," McComb added.

Here's what you need to do: place yourself in front of your cat, narrow your eyes like you would in a relaxed smile, then close them for a couple of seconds, mimicking a slow-motion blink.

"You'll find they respond in the same way themselves and you can start a sort of conversation," McComb said.

To test the technique, the researchers conducted two separate experiments. The first involved 21 cats from 14 different households. Owners were taught how to "slow blink" while sitting about three feet away from their cat.

The experiment showed that cats are more likely to slow blink at their owners after their owners slow blinked at them, compared to no interaction between the two, according to the study.

The second experiment was similarly set up but with 24 different cats from eight different homes. This time, the cat was partnered with an unfamiliar researcher for the stare down.

The stranger either slow blinked at the cat or put on a neutral expression without direct eye contact. They were also instructed to stretch out an open palm to the cat or just sit across from it. Turns out the cats were more likely to approach

the stranger's outstretched hand after they slow blinked at it, compared to when they had a neutral face.

The researchers speculate cats behave more friendly when their owners narrow their eyes at them because over time, humans may have rewarded them for the action in a positive way.

Another theory is that cats slow blink because it's a way to break up intense staring, "which is potentially threatening in social interaction" with other cats or species, the researchers said.

Although cats may be more mysterious than dogs, past research has broken down that wall between human and feline miscommunication.

For example, we know that cats can attract and manipulate human attention through purring, they can differentiate their name from other words and they can be "sensitive" to human emotions by rubbing or butting their heads against their owner to provide support, the researchers said.

These actions have long been a part of what make cats such popular pets, but studying their natural behavior, and providing evidence through experiments, can provide "rare insight into the world of cat-human communication," study co-supervisor Dr. Leanne Proops from the University of Portsmouth in England, said in the release.

■ On September 18th, Governor Newsom signed Senate Bill No. 573 into law for the state of California. Effective January 1st, 2021, public animal shelters and animal control agencies will be prohibited from releasing a dog or cat to an owner seeking to reclaim or adopt the animal unless it is or will be microchipped. The microchip must have the current information of the new or present owner acquiring the animal.

If the agency, shelter, or group does not have microchipping capabilities on-site, the agency, shelter, or group must make a good faith effort to locate free or discounted microchipping services and provide that information to the owner. The owner must agree to have the dog or cat microchipped within 30 days of reclaiming or adopting the animal. Proof of the procedure must be provided to the agency, shelter, or group in which the animal came from.

Animals that are medically unfit to be microchipped are exempt from the bill. Owners who sign a form stating the cost of microchipping their dog or cat would impose an economic hardship are also exempt. For more information on this bill, please visit California Legislative Information website.

Scamp Club

(Scampclub pets are not for adoption.)



Hi! I'm Stanley, an almost one-year old Chihuahua and terrier mix. I like to play in the backyard, go to the beach, and cuddle. I'm lucky I was rescued from the Ojai Humane Society by Amy.

Join Scamp Club

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

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

■ Southern California has been experiencing a scorching heatwave with temperatures soaring into the 100s on some occasions. Remember that when the weather is hot for you, it is much hotter for your furry friends. To demonstrate this, the HSVC is providing a daily heat report to show just how hot common surfaces outside can get.

"We used a heat gun to take the temperature of several surfaces outside our shelter in Ojai including the sidewalk, pavement, and inside a vehicle. All of the temperatures were more than 20 degrees hotter than the temperature outside! With this in mind, please make sure to give your pets plenty of water, access to shade, and lots of rest on hotter days."

Never leave your animals in a hot car for any amount of time and keep them in an air-conditioned space as often as possible. Avoid taking your dogs for walks on hot surfaces. If your animals enjoy playing in the water, consider setting up a kiddie pool or sprinkler for your pet so they can have fun in the sun and stay cool.

■ The Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension formally welcomed the state's first electronic device-sniffing dog into its ranks.

Sota the British Labrador has already assisted the BCA on 10 cases since May

and has so far located 21 different pieces of evidence, the bureau said. Though she is trained to work on violent crime and financial crime investigations, BCA Superintendent Drew Evans said, she will primarily aid authorities on child exploitation cases.

"Those are the cases where we're locating people that are trying to exploit our children online. Whether it be through child pornography investigations or those contacting our children online, these types of evidence are critical to proving those cases, to holding those accountable who choose to try to hurt our children across our Minnesota," Evans said at a press conference Thursday.

Sota can locate electronics like cell phones, and even small devices such as USB drives and memory storage cards, because she is trained to recognize the scent of triphenylphosphine oxide, or TPPPO, a type of chemical coating. During a homicide investigation, Evans said for example, she managed to locate a concealed cell phone later used as evidence.

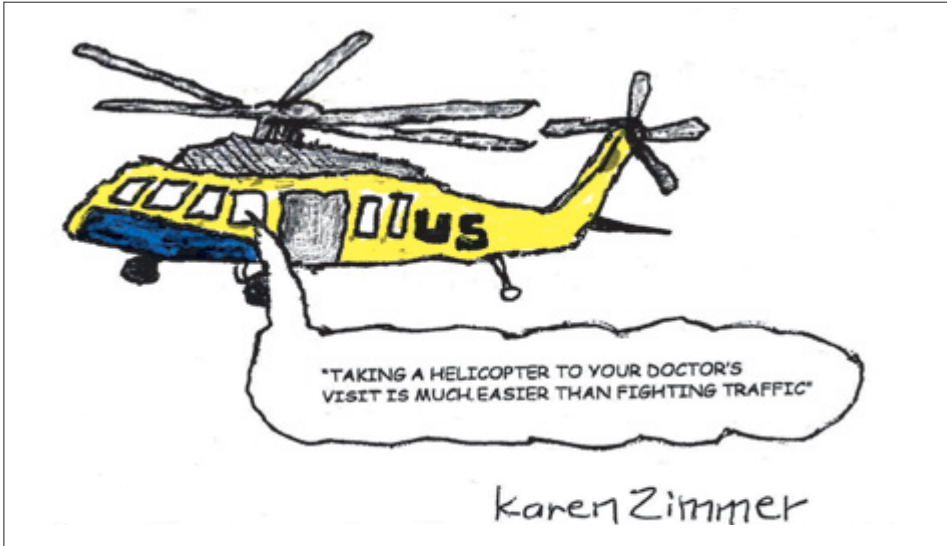
The \$15,000 cost of purchasing and training Sota was paid for by Operation Underground Railroad, a non-profit anti-human trafficking group. According to a BCA news release, Sota was first trained to be a service dog in Michigan.

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\$10 Low/No Income Spay & Neuter Friday, Nov. 6th Albert H. Soliz Library - El Rio 2820 Jourdan St., Oxnard, CA 93036 Must call for appointment (805) 584-3823

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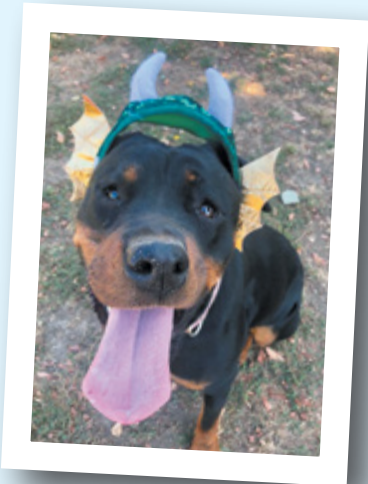


Are you an amateur cartoonist? Send your cartoon(s) to editor@venturabreeze.com for consideration to be published.

The Pet Page

Forever homes wanted

Hi: I'm Tazzy, a 1+ year old beautiful Rotweiler who is in need of a loving home. I was rescued from VC Animal Services and I'll always be grateful to the Starr Group for sponsoring me and to C.A.R.L. for taking me into their program. I know I'm in great hands and they will find me my forever home. While at VCAS I exhibited some unusual behavior. They think it may be due to ear canal agenesis and I may be over stimulated by light/shadow and/or sound. I may be only able to hear muffled sounds or vibrations. I'm very social to people, but it's unknown how I'd do with children or cats. I was introduced to a couple of other dogs at VCAS and after sniffing one another, we chased each other briefly and playfully. If you have room in your heart and home for little sweet me, please fill out an online application to meet me. Canine Adoption and Rescue League C.A.R.L.



Can you see yourself with a fun, active, smart dog? Coral May would make a wonderful companion for long walks, hiking and even running. There is a catch though. You need to be a strong handler and train her to listen to you. Some of our more experienced volunteers have been working with her using a "Haulti" face collar and have made great progress already. Since Coral May is so smart you will also want to help her learn commands. She already knows sit, stay, shake and lay down. Make an appointment to meet this beautiful girl. Ventura County Animal Services - Camarillo location - 600 Aviation Drive

This 'n' That

Dignity Health St. John's Regional Cancer Center offers new technology

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and St. John's Regional Cancer Center (SJRCC) is also spreading awareness about advanced new treatment for patients with breast cancer, a population that makes up approximately 40% of the patients at the center.

St. John's imaging services offer leading-edge 3D mammography technology, a technology that is easier and more thorough than before. Compared to traditional mammography, 3D imaging takes multiple breast images in just seconds, allowing your doctor to view your breast tissue in layers for a more complete picture. This is especially helpful for women with dense breast tissue, which can make cancer harder to detect.

"Offering the latest technology is part of our continued commitment to providing our cancer patients with care that meets the highest standards of quality," said Darren W. Lee, President and CEO of St. John's Regional Medical Center in Oxnard and St. John's Pleasant Valley Hospital in Camarillo. "St. John's Regional Cancer Center offers the most advanced treatment options, and the acquisition of this new technology offers an additional measure of care and safety for our community."

This new technology enhances the preciseness of treatment provided to

breast cancer patients by more accurately targeting the lymph nodes at risk and preventing radiation from reaching vital organs, such as the heart and lungs.

These state-of-the-art enhancements to the breast program at SJRCC provide for more targeted treatment and add quality of life to patients who have undergone radiation for breast cancer.

Diagnosing and treating cancer is complex. SJRCC uses a multidisciplinary approach, consisting of collaboration between specialized oncologists and physicians to determine the best treatment course. Every patient receives an individualized treatment plan.

To schedule an appointment for a screening mammogram, please call (805) 983-0883. Our Imaging Services are located at the Medical Pavilion at St. John's Regional Medical Center. Most insurance companies cover 3-D mammograms.

St. John's Pleasant Valley Hospital in Camarillo and St. John's Regional Medical Center in Oxnard are members of Dignity Health Central Coast, an integrated network of top quality hospitals, with physicians from the most prestigious medical schools, and comprehensive outpatient services - all recognized for quality, safety and service. Both hospitals are supported by an active philanthropic Foundation to help meet the growing health care needs of our communities. Hospitals in the Dignity Health Central Coast region also include Arroyo Grande Community Hospital in Arroyo Grande, French Hospital Medical Center in San Luis Obispo, Marian Regional Medical Center in Santa Maria. Learn more at DignityHealth.org/PleasantValley and DignityHealth.org/StJohnsRegional.

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Ventura-Music-Scene



We're wrapping up October and music is finally resuming, albeit on a slow and cautious path. Heeding warnings and following the new guidelines is not available for all restaurants and venues as they don't have the space to give up, specifically 20 feet to keep artist apart from patrons. Be patient, it's happening.

When I first reported that the Beach Boys were playing Concerts in Your Car on Friday, October 23, I mentioned that John Stamos had played drums with the band in the past, so he just might show up. Well while checking for the latest Concerts in Your Car updates, the listing now has the Beach Boys with special guests John Stamos, and wait for it...Mark McGrath lead singer of Sugar Ray who has also co-hosted Extra (formerly on NBC). Other shows to look forward to include the former members of Oingo Boingo on Saturday, October 24; the voices of Godsmack & Staind, Aaron Lewis & Sully Erna together for the American Drive-in tour on

Saturday, October 31; two shows on Saturday, November 14, with 311; and already sold out, Kaskade on Friday, November 20.

The New West Symphony is presenting a reimagined 2020/2021 season; and since you can't be with them in the concert hall, they're taking New West Symphony to you with eight virtual mini-festivals this season. "Tour of Japan" took place from the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and the Kavli Theatre at the Bank of America Performing Arts Center on Sunday, October 18. The next couple of performances are "A Tour of India" on November 15, and "Violins of Hope" on January 24. Details and ticket information will be listed four weeks in advance of each show at www.NewWestSymphony.org.

The newest episode of the VenturaRockSpot has been posted and the video can be found on the homepage of VenturaRocks.com. This time around I interview Hunter Ackerman of Hunter and the Dirty

Jacks who have played Grapes and Hops here in Ventura and a number of venues in Ojai including the Deer Lodge and Topa Mountain Winery. Again, many thanks to Michelle Hoover and GWC Productions for producing the show.

The mission statement for VenturaRocks.com, and the reason I write this music scene column has changed very little over the past 11 years, the mission is to stimulate the economy by promoting venues who offer music thus supporting local musicians and those who come here to play. It becomes very tricky to maintain this objective during a pandemic. Please do your part and support the venues who are offering live music and please for the love of all that is good in the world, practice safe distancing and wear your mask when not eating or drinking. We can get Ventura back to rockin' again, but you have to do your part.

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.

Music Calendar

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

All Venues Ventura, unless otherwise noted.

The Canyon at Oxnard PACC
Oxnard Performing Arts Center

Parking Lot Drive in style concerts

Fri 10/23: 24 Karat Gold (Stevie Nicks film)

Sat 10/24: We Belong

Sat 10/31: Monster Groove Band

Fri 11/6: Mirage

Fri 11/13: Wanted

Sat 11/14: Bruno & the Holligans

The Cave

4435 McGrath Street

Music 5:30 – 8:30

Fridays: Warren Takahashi

Concerts in Your Car

Ventura County Fairgrounds
10 W. Harbor Blvd.

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)

Fri 11/20: Kaskade (sold out)

Leashless Brewing

585 E. Thompson Blvd.

Music Fridays 6 pm;

Sundays 3 pm

Fri 10/23: Kyle Smith

Sun 10/25: Dylan Garcia

Fri 10/30: Keyth Garcia

Prime Steakhouse

2209 E. Thompson Blvd

Music 6-9 pm

Tues & Thurs: Danny D - "Dinner with Frank"

Sandbox Coffeehouse

204 E. Thompson Blvd

Thursday 6 pm: Open Mic

Winchesters

632 E. Main Street

Music 3-6 pm

Sun 10/25: Two's Company

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Ventura Art Scene

Here's an interesting piece. Painted in July 2020. I loved painting this and I really loved the end result. My gallery (our house) had no room for this one, so it sat in the corner of my studio. Sometime during the late summer or early fall something gashed into the painting unbeknownst to me. Left a one-inch hole in the middle of the painting. I was crushed but I was determined to save it so I duct taped the back and applied some color to hide the rip. The gallery manager, Carol Cook, let me hang it in the hallway. No longer on the floor in my studio. Lesson: Artists guard your work with love.

Steve Cook Ventura



Buenaventura Art Association

Over the past few months, the BAA board has been negotiating with Anna Marie Tan of SpiceTopia, a downtown retail shop located at 576 E. Main St. The store has a 20-foot wall that will be used for BAA member exhibits in the near future. Plans are underway to install a hanging system for the BAA membership's Small Image Show.

BAA Member Small Image Entry Deadline: Thursday, Oct. 29. This is a first-come, first-accepted show within certain guidelines. Members, please see entrythingy for details.

Bring-in to SpiceTopia: Sunday, Nov. 1, 2-5 pm

We are very grateful to artist **Gerald Zwiers** who is designing and installing the hanging system for us over the store's brick wall. We plan to continue regular exhibits with SpiceTopia.

SpiceTopia is located at the original downtown gallery address of the Buenaventura Art Association from 1970 to 1989. So we are, in a sense, coming home!

Harbor Village Gallery & Gifts

Open Fridays thru Mondays, 11-6.

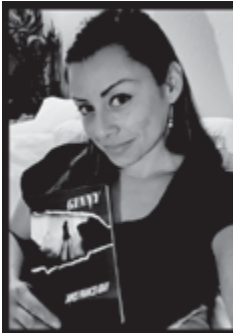
Ventura Harbor Village, near the Comedy Club

We are grateful to the HVG&G artists who have been hosting during the pandemic. Masks and social distancing required. We are also pleased to let you know that our Harbor Village Gallery & Gifts location is also offering online shopping.



Kay Zetlmaier

Kay Zetlmaier is one of the artists showing at the Harbor Village Gallery.



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Ventura Unified School District, 255 West Stanley Avenue #100





This 'n' That

Local talk show Our Ventura TV expands during pandemic

As soon as the pandemic started shutting things down, Our Ventura TV countered the challenge by going online and opening up more opportunities for local voices to be heard. A record number of talk-show guests have joined the program via video conferencing from their own home or office in support of the show's theme, "People doing good things in Ventura County" and the surrounding area.

Our Ventura TV is an award-winning weekly talk-show television series broadcast on Ventura cable channel 6 TV and also published on OurVentura.com as well as on social media networks. The programs are primarily about nonprofits, community advocates, leaders, artists and organizations who contribute to the Ventura County community. Business representatives also educate viewers with noncommercial messages.

One of the program's hosts, MB Hanrahan stated, "The Zoom platform makes it easier than ever to access the voices and causes of citizens and organizations who are making a difference in our lives. We encourage everyone who feels they have a story to tell, or a cause to be revealed, to contact us. Not only are we continuing to do the work we always

have, we are, with our guests, creating an internet and televised historical witness to how the current events are impacting our local community."

The series began in 2008 and Our Ventura TV shows are broadcast on Ventura cable channel 6 on Sundays at 2:00 pm, Tuesdays at 9:00 pm and Saturdays at noon, as well as additional floating times. And, of course, they are available at any time on social media networks and OurVentura.com

Staff member, Mary Christine Ballestero noted, "We are more connected than we think. We had work and outside activities, now using the internet we are bringing the outside into our own little bubbles."

The mission of the program is "to connect messages of human good with the good of humanity." The Our Ventura TV crew also produce TV commercials, documentaries and other videos for business and nonprofits.

Our Ventura TV Producer and host, George Alger said, "It's easier than ever to become a guest. Just click 'Contact' on OurVentura.com to get scheduled." Guests are sent an online link to join the show for a recorded interview via video conferencing.

honored by their state senators and assembly members for their outstanding contributions to the communities they serve.

"The pandemic and shelter-in-place orders of the last few months have put nonprofits (usually hidden in plain sight) in the spotlight," explained Jan Masaoka, CEO of the California Association of Nonprofits (CalNonprofits).

"California Nonprofit of the Year is an opportunity for our elected officials to celebrate the good work they see nonprofits doing in their districts, and for everyone to appreciate the collective impact of nonprofits in our communities."

Commenting on her reasons for selecting Food Share, Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin commented, "Food Share has been leading the fight against hunger in Ventura County for over 40 years, but they have truly proven the power of their mission through meeting the increasing demand of hungry families brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic." She added, "Their work in distributing food to nearly 750,000 individuals since the start of the pandemic has played a vital role in holding our community together during our greatest hour of need. For that I am happy to designate them the 44th Assembly District's 2020 Nonprofit of the Year."

Monica White, President & CEO of Food Share said, "Thank you to Assemblymember Irwin for this wonderful honor. I'm so proud of the team here at Food Share and our network of community partners who have all worked tirelessly to ensure that no one in our community goes hungry."

Food Share accepting applications for board of director positions

The Board of Directors of Food Share of Ventura County is accepting applications to join the board of Ventura County's largest hunger-relief organization. Food Share was recently named a CA Nonprofit of the Year by Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin. Closing date for applications is October 31, 2020. Applications can be made through Food Share's website at foodshare.com/join-our-board-of-directors/

Board members provide strategic and financial direction to the food bank's leadership team, and actively participate in fundraising and networking activities. The minimum term of service is three years, and board members typically commit three or more hours per month to the role.

Monica White, President & CEO of Food Share outlined the importance of the Board of Directors in shaping the future of Food Share, saying, "We are looking for community members who are passionate about helping us lead the fight against hunger in Ventura County. Our board members have an incredible opportunity to learn more about hunger in our community, while helping our organization feed more people, operate more efficiently and make an even bigger impact on the lives of those in need."

For more information about Food Share, visit www.foodshare.com. Find us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.



Summaer Cole encouraged the police department to be a community "hub" for donations of Easter baskets and toys.

Teddy Bear Cancer Foundation's Gold Ribbon Campaign honors locals

This year, Teddy Bear Cancer Foundation (TBCF) will be honoring The Lilley Family and Summaer Cole and Susie Perry from Ventura. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, the annual in-person Gold Ribbon Campaign Luncheon has been cancelled. This year, the Campaign is solely focused on raising funds and awareness for the organization and the families they serve.

COVID-19 is creating even greater challenges for local families battling childhood cancer. Community support has made it possible for TBCF to provide additional financial assistance to 31 local families who have been severely affected by the pandemic. TBCF is proud of this year's honorees for their esteemed efforts in helping children facing cancer both before and during COVID-19.

The Lilley Family will be receiving the Pay-it-Forward Award. After their son, Brad Jr. beat cancer, they wanted to give back to children who continue to fight their battle.

Summaer Cole and Susie Perry will receive the Helping Hands Award because of the countless hours they have spent directly helping TBCF families in Ventura County. These extraordinary women have delivered food to TBCF families, provided holiday gifts for TBCF kids, and this year delivered mother and father day baskets to local families who have been during quarantine. With their combined efforts, they have collected literally carloads of Thanksgiving food and Christmas toys from the community and have helped deliver these items to Ventura County Family homes.

Summaer Cole, with the help of her husband who works for Ventura Police Department, encouraged the police department to be a community "hub" for donations of Easter baskets and toys last year. The Ventura Police Department delivered 140 Easter baskets. Additionally, she set-up Ventura Fire Department deliveries of Easter baskets to family homes.

Susie Perry has courageously battled cancer on and off since she began volunteering with TBCF. Still, whether in treatment or not, she has worked with Summaer to deliver gifts to Ventura County families.

TBCF advocates for families living in Santa Barbara, Ventura and San Luis Obispo counties that have a child with cancer by providing financial, educational, and emotional support. For more information and to donate <https://bit.ly/3118Gkm>

Did You Know....?

Why are there different colors of pumpkins?

by Shirley Lorraine

Have you ever wondered about the different colors of pumpkins available in stores? There are numerous colors provided by nature, and then there are some that have been designated to serve as communication for a special cause or purpose.

Standard orange is the traditional favorite of young and old alike. You will also see white, white/orange/yellow stripes, yellow, gray, green, and many other variations.

Treat buckets and craft pumpkins are also seen in teal, purple, blue and pink. Just to be fashionable? No, not really. A blue pumpkin on display at a house or carried by a costumed child spotlights autism. Be aware that a child carrying a blue pumpkin might be reluctant to speak or make eye contact. A house displaying a blue pumpkin might mean that a resident or relative is on the autism spectrum.

Purple symbolizes the epilepsy foundation's awareness campaign. Sudden noises or flashing lights may be hazardous to the carrier of a purple pumpkin. Or they may just like purple.

Pink is the color of breast cancer awareness and, of course, princesses and unicorns.

A teal pumpkin to spotlight allergies has become popular over the last 20 years or so, thanks to a mother in Texas whose child suffered from multiple allergies. No peanuts given out at a house with a teal pumpkin.

Personally, I use my teal pumpkin to show that I do not give out candy – I give out small toys. Spinners, sticky hands, bendies, pencils, coloring

books, plastic rings and vampire teeth are always fun and good for most ages. Available in quantity at many party stores and online, toys can be saved from year to year if you have any left. If having your kids touching things is a concern, toys can usually be washed or wiped down – candy, not so much..

Always popular for the Goth look, truly spooky and dead displays is the black pumpkin. This often signifies a macabre sense of humor and focus on the darker aspects of Halloween. Or you just like black. Black pumpkins are often paired with skulls, ravens, graveyards, ghouls, witches and black cats.

Whatever statement you want to make with your pumpkins this year, go for it. House decorations may be more in vogue this year than costumes or candy due to C-19 fears and trepidations.

Treat-or-treating has not been banned in Ventura, but caution is certainly advised. No-contact distribution is encouraged. Each household will have to decide on their own comfort level to participate. Even if you are not handing out goodies, yard and home decorations will keep everyone in the spirit.

Halloween outdoor décor is as big a business as Christmas displays so there are lots of options. Décor can be automated, projected, inflatable, you name it. So, go big and have fun by the light of the full moon.

Food Share in the news

Food Share of Ventura County is honored to have been selected as a 2020 California Nonprofit of the Year by Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin. Food Share, the largest hunger relief organization in the county, is one of over a hundred nonprofits that will be

Showtime



A View from House Seats

Radio Theatre Reigns for Halloween

by Shirley Lorraine

Not going out to trick-or-treat the neighbors. Staying in and staying safe? Want all the chocolate for yourself? Settle in and turn on your radio for some chilling, thrilling tales to listen to by the light of the full moon.

The Every Now and Then Theatre has chosen this Halloween to bring forward a new dramedy in partnership with Conejo Players Theatre in Thousand Oaks. This year’s offering will be “Halloween with Grandpa” six stories featuring numerous well-known Ventura County talents.

Hosted by Celebrity Guest Host, KVTA radio personality Tom Spence, the one hour nationwide, streaming, commercial-free broadcast will air via www.kvta.com on Friday October 30 at 6:00 a.m. (yes, you read that right!) and 1:00 p.m. PT and again on Halloween, Saturday, October 31 at 6 a.m., 1 p.m., 5 p.m. and 9 p.m. PT. Click on Listen Live to tune in. Then just sit back and enjoy.

The stories, titled They’re Here, Worldwide Wives Conspiracy, Headless Pumpkin, Careful What You Wish For, Haunted House, and Nosey Neighbor’s Computer, are sure to delight and possibly fright.

Streaming Spotlight by Cindy Summers

Like Father

Netflix Films



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

It seemed as though everything was falling into place in the life of New York advertising executive Rachel (Kirsten Bell) who was looking forward to her upcoming wedding and was up for a promotion. Looks can be deceiving though as Rachel was about to be left at the altar at her wedding where her dad showed up unannounced after being absent 25 years. Later they got together, got drunk, and ended up on the honeymoon cruise with each other.

When Rachel’s phone fell out of her wedding bouquet at the altar after promising not to even bring it to the wedding. Owen took Rachel aside and expressed his concern for her workaholic issues they’ve been trying to work through and apologized saying he couldn’t marry her. As the wedding guests sat uncom-

The cast includes familiar voices of Bob Allen, Lloyd Allen, Dale Alpert, Bob Decker, Jim Diderrich, Judy Diderrich, Erin Fagundes, Julia Rogers Hook, Keith Hurt, Ray Mastrovito, Kelli McKay, Rosemary Moffat, David Newcomer, Courtney Potter, Gary Randolph, Mark Andrew Reyes, Tom Spence, Linda M. Stiegler, Celeste Van Etten, Robert West and James Wortman. TV personality Elvira (who has participated in previous Every Now and Then Theatre productions) makes a cameo “appearance.”

The all-volunteer troupe is allowed only one rehearsal before performance. The mix of seasoned professionals and promising beginners such as Aubree, Tom Spence’s daughter, who making her acting debut to hear grandpa’s six stories, is a proven blend. “It’s a free treat” says Spence. “No travel, no dress code, ...get your snacks and relax.”

All Every Now and Then Theatre’s productions benefit foster children by providing broadcast copies to cast and supporters in trade for their donations to KVTA radio’s Children Services Fund. Listen for how you can support this mission and get your own copy of the broadcast after it has aired.

Every Now and Then Theatre, founded and helmed by James Wortman, has been offering sterling performances for Ventura County and beyond audiences for the last 30 years. The Troupe has garnered 54 awards internationally since 1990 for their high-quality radio productions. Find more information about the Troupe at www.everynowandthentheatre.com and on Facebook. Like, follow and support.

Conejo Players is gearing up for Haunted Broadway Drive-in Theater this coming weekend, October 23, 24 and 25. There may be a few tickets left for this haunted musical adventure if you’re lucky as word has it the event is almost sold out already. www.conejoplayers.org. Cannot attend but want to be involved? Volunteers are always needed for future live streaming projects. Contact Executive Technical Director Jeremy Zeller at documents@conejoplayers.org to see how you can lend your talents.

fortably witnessing the wedding being canceled, Rachel’s father stood up to leave and tripped over a chair as he exited the venue. This caught Rachel off guard, as she hadn’t seen or spoken to her father for over 25 years.

Rachel tried to return to work, but was sent home for her scheduled vacation after having an emotional outburst in the office. Later that evening, her father Harry (Kelsey Grammer) showed up at her apartment concerned for her and suggested they go to a bar, if even just for one drink and that they didn’t even need to talk if she didn’t want. They both ordered the same drink, Harry ordering 3 to catch up to where Rachel was at before arriving. After some uncomfortable moments and a few more drinks they ended up having a great time drinking the night away.

They staggered back to Rachel’s apartment after a countless number of shots, and were sitting outside when the car arrived that was scheduled to take Rachel and Owen to the cruise ship. They both had a laugh over it for it was for the honeymoon, but were both still so drunk from the night before that the next thing they knew they both woke up on the cruise ship that was already out to sea.

Continued on page 20



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Like Father

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Rachel regretted what had seemed like a great idea when they were drunk and tried to get separate rooms but no other rooms were available.

The cruise was set to dock in Jamaica, so they both decided that they would get off the cruise there and fly back to New York. Due to the fact that the ship caters packages to honeymooners, they kept dealing with the repeated awkward assumption that they were just married by the staff and the other couples staying in the honeymoon suites.

Rachel and Harry spent the cruise learning about each other and enjoying activities like honeymooner’s pool parties, and day hike adventures to beautiful waterfalls where they had some very enlightening moments. They also entered in the cruise’s Gigantic Gameshow where they had to match answers and won because Harry coordinated their answers before the game, no matter how they didn’t fit the question. After their win, Harry wanted Rachel to enter the karaoke contest with him, though she refused until Harry shared something that recently happened to him that would cause them to become even closer.

Putting a different spin on the traditonal rom-com, Like Father has a diverse cast of couples; a senior couple, gay couple, and black couple as the other honeymooners on the cruise. Bell and Grammer are a hilarious comedic combo, who are also able to express heartfelt genuine emotion when dealing with the challenges of their past family issues. Those who have distant family relationships may find yourself crying at the joy of this unique father-daughter reunion. 1h 43m

Ventura Police Department

Continued from page 1

feature. These special features make it even easier to access near real-time information.

Community Crime Map empowers Ventura residents to make better decisions about crime, by putting the same technology used by the Ventura Police to analyze and interpret crime activity, into the hands of the community it affects so they can make informed decisions about how to stay safe.

Community Crime Map automatically syncs with the Department’s records system to keep crime information updated and accurate online. The data is geocoded and cleaned to protect victim privacy, and all data secure and confidential. All incidents are then displayed on a map, grid, and analytics dashboard along with some basic information about each incident, including the type of crime, location type, block-level address, date, and time.

Check out the Community Crime Map at <https://www.cityofventura.ca.gov/1052/Arrest-Log-Interactive-Crime-Map>

Mailbox

Continued from page 4

was just beaming. Well, apparently, these people must have missed the latest Fox News and MSNBC shows because, for some inexplicable reason, she did not see him as a white, racist oppressor and he did not see her as a lawless, looting rioter. They seemed to share the outrageous belief that each was a fellow human being worthy of mutual respect and appreciation. Could this be the real America? I hope so. Nick Bonge, Ventura