



VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

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FIRST Team 4414, High Tide brought robotics back to Ventura County.

Robotics Team 4414: HighTide's Tidal Tumble Success

Team 4414: HighTide, a community based FIRST robotics team, hosted the 3-day robotics competition Tidal Tumble at Ventura County Fairgrounds, October 15-17. Fifteen teams from around California and one from Hawaii traveled to Ventura to put their robots to the test.

Velma Lomax, FIRST Regional Director, Southern California said, "It's been two years since most of these teams have competed in-person with a robot. When I walked into TIDAL TUMBLE the mood was high, the kids were excited, and the teams were so happy. I would like to personally thank the sponsors, Sessa Mfg. and especially FIRST Team 4414, High Tide, for putting on this event and bringing Robotics back to Ventura County."

Team 4414: HighTide's training lab is housed at Sessa Mfg. where industry professionals' mentor high school students on CAD, manufacturing, programming and more. Michael Sessa expressed his enthusiasm for TIDAL TUMBLE, "Having the event seaside at the Ventura Fairgrounds was remarkable. Team Member and Event Director Anshul Bajaj's hard work and perseverance gave us the confidence to pull off a successful event. We are also extremely grateful to the generous donors in our community that made it possible."

Bajaj, a 12th grader at El Camino High School, served as Event Director and built support for the off-season competition, from concept to execution, fundraising to

securing technical volunteers, managing logistics/equipment and more. Bajaj said, "We are so thankful for the incredible volunteer group who helped make

the event a success, and to the teams that came to compete! Our inaugural TIDAL TUMBLE provided a competitive and intimate atmosphere that allowed

students to truly get involved."

New Team Member, Aadhya Bavkar, 9th Grader at Foothill High felt "Everybody working together in a frenzy to fix the robot within back-to-back matches was truly exhilarating. The overall positive energy and intense adrenaline of the competition was a whole new experience for me and I will always remember it!"

Dan Holmes Internationally acclaimed photographer said, "It was inspiring to see all the high school students so deeply engaged in operating their robots, and running the show! Everyone involved was enthusiastic, full of fun, and pride - kudos to all the competitors, organizers, volunteers, and audience!"

Hector Guerrero, Principal El Camino High School found the weekend to be an "amazing opportunity for our youth to shine. Watching students challenge conventional standards through collaboration, critical thinking and application of STEM education, all while having fun, proves why we need more opportunities of this kind in our community. It was a showcase of student creativity and innovation that make me feel optimistic for our student's futures."

Tidal Tumble was made possible by sponsors SessaMfg, FASTSIGNS of Ventura, Kearney Family, Narayan Family, Shew Family, My Best Friend Obedience, 359 Hawaiian Kids, Lea Sessa Memorial Fund and Wulff Family.

For more information: tidaltumble.com



A delegation from Ventura that consisted of Carl Morehouse, Chair of the Ventura Sister City Association, his wife, Janna Minsk, Father Tom Elewaut from the Mission Basilica San Buenaventura and his sister, Rosemary, Ventura Councilmember Mike Johnson and his wife, Aimee Brecht-Doscher, and Mission parishioners Barbara and Chris Post recently returned from 4 days in Ventura's Sister City of Loreto Baja Sur, Mexico, where they met up with peers from Loreto's other sister city, Hermosa Beach. The Breeze managed to travel along!

The rumor that there might be a Loreto Breeze is unfounded.

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PRESENTED BY



Marc Beagbler, MD
Urologist



Ross Burge, DO
Orthopedic Surgeon



Sohrab Pahlavan, MD
Orthopedic Surgeon

WITH THE CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR ADVERTISERS, DONORS AND READERS, WE CONTINUE TO BRING LOCAL NEWS AND INFORMATION TO VENTURA (NOW IN OUR 14TH YEAR). THE COVID PANDEMIC HAS AFFECTED ALL SMALL BUSINESSES, AND LOCAL NEWSPAPERS HAVE BEEN DEEPLY IMPACTED AS WELL AS THEY ARE SOLELY DEPENDENT ON ADVERTISING REVENUE. WE CONTINUE TO ASK OUR LOYAL READERS TO HELP SUPPORT THE BREEZE. WE LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING OUR MISSION OF BRINGING YOU THE INFORMATION IMPACTING VENTURA.

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WE GREATLY APPRECIATE OUR LATEST (OR RETURNING) CONTRIBUTORS **CONNIE TAFT, ALAN HAMMERAND, DONALD L. GREENBERG** AND THOSE WHO CHOOSE TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS.

DO YOU WANT TO BE LISTED AS A DONOR? YES ___ NO ___

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE VENTURA BREEZE!

Community Events

Ventura events

by Ana Baker

The Ventura Investment Group has reconvened and is meeting in the rear room of Denny's Restaurant at the corner of Telegraph and Ashwood each Monday at 10:30 a.m. All people interested in investment are welcome.

Nov. 6: Ventura Friends of the Library will hold a Bag O' Books Sale at E.P. Foster Library on Main Street in front of the library and in the Topping Room. 10-3p.m. You can take home a paper grocery sized bag of books for \$4 or you can purchase 3 books for \$1. Friends of the Library members will receive a discount of \$1 per bag at check-out. All proceeds benefit Ventura's libraries.

Nov. 9: Tuesday, November 9 - Lunch (\$19), program and meeting of San Buenaventura Women's Club. Noon at Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Road. Reservations (805) 844-9399. Everyone welcome.

Nov. 11: Join us at the Ventura Government Center at the NE corner of Victoria and Telephone Road for the Armistice Day Ceremony. Social Distancing will be observed, and it will be an abbreviated and respectable event. Arrive by 10:30 a.m. latest for parking and seating. The event begins at 11a.m. sharp.

Nov 14: Volunteer Open House,

Olivas Adobe- 4200 Olivas Park Drive 10 a.m. If you "like" doing any of the activities below, then becoming an OAH volunteer is for YOU!

Do you like to Garden? We help maintain the historic rose and herb garden.

Do you like to plan events? We host monthly special events, including Rancho Days, the Owl Festival, Murals & Roses, and the popular Holiday Candlelight Tour.

Do you like to dress up in costume and perform? We bring "history to life" by sharing the Olivas Adobe's Chumash, Rancho, and Latino heritage during tours, workshops, and community events.

Do you like to listen to music? We support the popular Music Under the Stars outdoor summer concert series. Join us for an informal meeting to discuss the volunteer opportunities- stay for the Toys & Games event.

Nov 14: Toys & Games from long ago, Olivas Adobe- 4200 Olivas Park Drive. Join us at the Historic Olivas Adobe on Sunday, from 11-3 p.m. as we explore Toys & Games from long ago. What was life like at the Olivas Adobe for a child? Find out as we discover toys and games that the Olivas children may have played with special displays and crafts. Take a tour of the rancho home, walk the historic grounds, and shop our out-door gift shop for unique toys and gifts. For more information call 658-4728



News & Notes



Manny Briceno, a Ventura County Firefighter-Paramedic offers emergency preparedness tips.

KPPQ is developing a rapidly growing podcast platform

CAPS Media crews are staying very active producing multiple projects throughout the community. For the City, CAPS Media is completing a series informational videos for the Ventura Fire Department covering timely Fire Safety messages including what to do during a power shut off and preparing Ready, Set Go kits for use during a fire emergency. The series of informational public service announcements will be hosted by Ventura City Firefighters and featured on the Fire Department website, and distributed on multiple social media outlets and will air on CAPS Media television Channel 6 and CAPS radio KPPQ 104.1FM.

At the same time CAPS Media continues producing monthly updates hosted by Ventura City Mayor Sofia Rubalcava. Featuring highlights of City initiatives and projects the videos are featured on the City website and on social media sites and on CAPS Media outlets.

The innovative DJs and program hosts at CAPS Media radio KPPQ 104.1 FM continue to expand their worldwide audience. KPPQ is launching a new foodie show featuring local restaurants, chefs and reviews. On a more serious track, Nadine Piche interviewed counselor from the Kids and Family Together organization that provides support, education and counseling resources for children and families in need in Ventura. In The Women's Room's Kathleen Good hosted Dawn Dyer of Vision 2020, a national Women's Equity organization with a very active chapter in Ventura County. The ever-expanding music slate includes rock n roll, bluegrass, alternative music, and other genres.

Plus KPPQ is developing a rapidly growing podcast platform. To get involved as an intern or to have your voice, interests or passions shared on KPPQ, contact Elizabeth Rodeno, KPPQ Project Manager and Station Director at erodeno@capsmedia.org.

Recently CAPS Media video crews recorded two public events focusing on housing issues facing Ventura County.

On October 13, CAPS Media covered the 20th annual Ventura County Housing Conference held at the Oxnard Performing Arts Center. The event themed "Housing Reimagined," was coordinated by HOME - Housing Opportunities Made Easier - a housing committee of the Ventura County Economic Devel-

opment Association. CAPS recorded keynote speaker Carmen Ramirez, Ventura County Supervisor, and panel discussions and presentations throughout the event. The complete video as well as a highlight reel can be viewed on the HOME website.

CAPS Media also documented the Ventura Social Services Task Force Partners for Change event on September 30th. The evening, themed Everyone Needs Housing, was held at the Mission San Buenaventura's O'Brien Hall and featured presentations by various faith-based and non-profit organizations.

Both housing and homeless related events and will be broadcast in the coming weeks on CAPS Media Channel 6 and on CAPS KPPQ 104.1 FM.

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

All of us at CAPS Media encourage everyone to get vaccinated. The sooner we are all vaccinated the sooner we can fully enjoy our very special community. We hope you all Stay Safe and Stay Strong during these challenging times.

VPD launches new Explorer Program

The Ventura Police Department (VPD), in partnership with Boy Scouts of America, is proud to announce the launch of its Explorer Program for Ventura residents.

Ventura's Police Explorer Program is designed for youth, ages 14-18, who are interested in learning about a career in law enforcement. The program is taught by VPD staff and officers who provide hands-on activities and interactive learning sessions about local police operations.

As an explorer, students will participate in patrol ride-alongs, accident investigations, defensive tactics, evidence

Continued on page 12

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Your Hometown Paper

Member, Ventura Chamber of Commerce

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I got an A in philosophy because I proved that my professor didn't exist.
— Judy Tenuta

Opinion/Editorial



Sheldon Brown
Publisher-Editor

■ The Ventura City Council has approved the first step in letting the **Players Casino** temporarily relocate to the Derby Club at the Ventura County Fairgrounds. The casino was previously located at 6580 Auto Center Dr. It eventually closed and filed for bankruptcy.

With its closing, the city lost about \$2 million in taxes. The city is estimated to receive approximately \$1.3 million in taxes after the business reopens. A permanent location is being sought.

An interesting aspect of this is that the fairgrounds is located on California agricultural district property which limits the city's revenue. Many people living in Ventura mistakenly believe that the fairgrounds is city property. There was a rumor circulating a while back that the city was going to sell the property. Ventura police officers that provide security at the fair, etc. are not paid by the city.

■ Scientists have temporarily attached a **pig's kidney** two a human body and it began to work. This is a very small step to someday use animal organs for human transplants. My question is if pig parts can ever be used on humans will people who are vegetarians and some religious groups refuse to accept them?

■ The other day I was on the phone, and when I finally hung-up my wife, Diane, asked me "who are you **swearing at** - you were very rude?" I said "No one, I was swearing at the recording that kept telling me to press buttons that got me nowhere. Strange times when we swear at nobody.

■ At the recent Chamber Expo there were representatives of an **online college**. I asked them what prevents students from cheating and having others do their work and take their exams. Their answer was not very

satisfactory. Now I find out that the question was very valid and cheating with online courses is very rampant. There are actually sites (for a price) that will assist in cheating and even write reports for students. This can greatly influence professions such as engineering, nursing and many more. This can also lose our faith in our educational system.

■ Funny things in the news:

A man who became lost for 24 hours while hiking on Colorado's highest mountain ignored repeated phone calls from rescue teams because they came from an unknown number.



I was a judge at the HOWL-O-WEEN Dog Costume Contest held in the Harbor. I was about to vote for a dog when its owner bit me.

The hiker was reported missing around 8pm after failing to return to where he was staying, Lake county search and rescue said.

This would be an important decision if lost. Is it worth being found if I need to listen to someone trying to sell me life insurance?

■ So, we need to wear a **mask** entering a restaurant and can remove it as soon as we sit down. Sometimes at a table with 10 people or at a bar where we are shoulder to shoulder. Then we get up to leave and need to put it back on. I think we should need to eat with it on by placing the food into the mask with our hands (kidding of course).

■ I hear Republicans trying to make a point that a member of **antifa** has done something wrong (like storm

the capital). Antifa is a decentralized, leaderless movement composed of loose collections of groups, networks and individuals. Is not an organization. This is like saying a person is a member of pwlc (people who like cats). We can't be a member of a philosophy, can we?

■ I applaud the California State Assembly for passing Senate Bill 380 (47-14). The bipartisan bill, co-authored by Senator Susan Talamantes Eggman (D-Stockton) and Assembly-member Jim Wood (D-Santa Rosa), would improve access to the **End-of-Life** Option Act.

The bill now moves to the California State Senate for a final vote, which overwhelmingly passed (26-8) the original measure in May. If the Senate passes the bill and Governor Gavin Newsom signs it into law, it will become effective on January 1, 2022, making it easier for terminally ill Californians to peacefully end their suffering.

The End-of-Life Option Act gives mentally capable, terminally ill adults with six months or less to live the option to request prescription medication they can decide to take to peacefully end unbearable suffering. The bill would allow for an individual to qualify for aid-in-dying medication by making two oral requests a minimum of 48 hours apart.

We are allowed to make this decision for our pets when their lives become unbearable, because they can not make such a decision. I think people should be able to make this decision decide this when their life will be short and nothing but pain.

■ My wife and I enjoy looking at NOVA on TV especially when scientists-physicists explain the **big bang** and provide other explanations about how the universe was formed. We never have any idea what they are talking about and when the show is over she asks me, "Do you have any idea what they were talking about," and I always say, "No, but the computer-generated photos were pretty."

I have concluded that once a year all the scientists-physicists get together at a secret location and make up a bunch of facts and words that mean nothing so that we can think they are "brilliant" and smarter than us. And by doing this, they can get government grants that allow them to meet again the next year and make up more stuff.

■ Guns in The News:

Boise police responded to reports of "shots fired" at a mall on N. Milwaukee Ave., where at least two people were killed and four people - including a cop - were injured.

A shooting at a Halloween party in Texarkana, Texas, left one person dead and nine others injured. Officers responded to reports of a shooting at Octavia's Event Center in the 2300 block of Texas Boulevard shortly before midnight and "encountered a large number of people running from the building and several inside suffering from gunshot wounds."

I liked Halloween better when trick-or-treating meant getting some candy, not being shot.

Mailbox

Dear Sheldon

The article regarding the life of Suz Montgomery was outstanding. The contributors to the article did an amazing job of describing Suz. Some of the descriptions of her were so on point; passionate, force of nature, committed, fearless advocate, etc.

Suz was a friend and the loss of this remarkable woman will have a definite impact on our community. I had the great pleasure to appear several times on Schmooze With Suz. There were never any "gotcha questions", just an interviewer working to bring out important information regarding the role of the Ventura County Probation Agency as an element of the criminal justice system. It was always a joy to be around Suz. Her honesty, integrity and service to our community were truly refreshing
Alan Hammerand

Hi Sheldon,

I would like to inform you that there is a human version of Ivermectin. (from one of Sheldon's previous articles "Speaking of things funny, some folks who are against getting COVID vaccines, are attempting to obtain over-the-counter ivermectin to prevent COVID, which is used to de-worm horses and cows.")

My brother came down with Covid

and was prescribed Ivermectin by his medical doctor. He proceeded to follow all his doctor's instructions and has thankfully fully recovered from Covid. I just didn't want you to not have incomplete information and just go by what you are hearing that Ivermectin is just for animals.

Thank you for being a big supporter of women making their own person decisions, including what vaccinations to put into their bodies.

And finally, thank you for the beautiful tribute to Suz Montgomery. Her passing has left a deep void in our community, and she will be greatly missed.

Kathy Thomson

Note: Please do not take Ivermectin without first obtaining approval from a qualified medical professional.

Greetings

It was meant to be. Moved to Ventura in April but it was my first stop at Peet's cafe today. I saw this paper (The Breeze), and the first time I heard about New West Symphony.

Did some research and voila, I just got my subscription confirmed.

Thanks for the article!

Best,
Brigitte Zeilinger

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



News & Notes



The Lisa J. Frank Memorial fundraising event was off to a great start at San Buenaventura State Park. Photos courtesy of Ryan Stephens.

Bicycling for Breast Cancer with the Tour de Pink Lisa J. Frank Memorial Ride

by Amy Brown

Lisa J. Frank was a trailblazer, on and off the road. An avid cyclist, the young lawyer was diagnosed in 1998 with breast cancer at age 36, and quickly recognized that many young adults were not well represented in research, community and overall discussions about the disease. In 2004, she became a cofounder of the cycling fundraising event for breast cancer, YSC Tour de Pink, and a founding member of the Young Survival Coalition (YSC). That first event had just six riders, but it has since grown to be an annual event, with rides of up to three days and 200+ miles on both east and west coasts, with thousands of participants raising awareness, millions of dollars and support and advocacy for young women with breast cancer.

Frank passed away in December of 2020 after a courageous 22-year battle with the disease, and the YSC Tour De Pink was renamed the Lisa J. Frank Memorial Ride in her honor. This popular event's west coast one day ride was again held in Ventura during Breast Cancer Awareness month, and featured hundreds of young patients, survivors and their supporters.

Susan Walker Hull has been both a survivor and a supporter, riding for the very first time this year, and honoring her daughter Brittany, who passed away from breast cancer at age 31 in 2017. "It's been a very hard time in our family, and for me

as a mother, losing a daughter and being a survivor, a triple guilt trip, so to speak, so this ride brought me a lot of healing," said Hull. "It was absolutely life changing for me--I haven't had such a bright smile on my face in a really long time. I'll be there every year."

Eva Wirth is a survivor since 2007, and a year after her diagnosis, started riding with the YSC Tour de Pink, and has since participated in 25 rides on both coasts. "Lisa was an extremely dear friend of mine, and she was always very involved with the ride until she got very sick at the end. She had battled metastatic cancer for 10 years, at the end it was like, 'wow, I don't know where this woman gets the energy.' She was extremely mentally tough—she just wanted to beat it," said Wirth.

Many riders are there to support others, like Eric Christianson, who has ridden in the event for the last ten years, at first as a 'ghost rider' in memory of a former coworker, Michelle. "After that, I became more involved every year, kind of carrying the torch, keeping her memory alive, and also just being able to ride alongside these survivors, and feeling like I was part of something special," shared Christianson, who lost his sister to cancer, as well as both parents.

Frank's legacy has fostered advocacy for new legislation, helped connect

Continued on page 6

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On Sunday, Oct. 24, a Victorian Halloween was held at the Olivas Adobe. Tours were given at each room of the Olivas where dead people told about the history of the Adobe and the Olivas family and their 21 kids. Several of the dead who spoke were members of the family. Photos by Patricia Schallert.

Celebrate Life on the Rancho



11 am - 3pm
Join us at the Olivas Adobe as we travel back in time to celebrate the history of this charming property.

Looking for Volunteers!
Gardening ~ Event planning ~ Storytelling
Come to an informational meeting at 10am on November 14.

NOV 14 - TOYS & GAMES FROM LONG AGO - FREE!

What was life like for a child on the Rancho? Find out as you explore toys and games that the Olivas children may have played with.

www.cityofventura.ca.gov/OlivasAdobe

Visitors must follow all posted COVID-safety guidelines.
In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, special needs can be met by calling 805-658-4726 or through the California Relay Service.





News & Notes



Betsy Blanchard Chess gave a presentation about her book which she calls "My COVID project."
The Bookmark

About Libraries and Friends

by Jill Forman

BOOK SALE! REAL AND IN PERSON! OUTSIDE AND INSIDE! ARTWORK TOO!

THIS WEEKEND: Saturday November 6, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

E.P. Foster Library, in front of library on Main Street and in the Topping Room. Foster bookstore also open.

Paintings and photographs for sale in foyer of Topping Room.

Bargain books: 3 books for \$1.00. OR take home a paper grocery bag of books for \$4.00. (Ventura Friends of the Library members get a \$1.00/bag discount.)

All genres, lots of kids' books, large selection of large print.

Warning: Books will not be sorted by category, so you get the fun of looking through all sorts of topics to find those bargain treasures.

Ventura Friends of the Library Annual Meeting

The meeting was held on Sunday October 24 at 2 p.m. in the Topping Room of Foster Library. Over 30 people attended.

President Mary Olsen welcomed the guests and introduced Betsy Blanchard Chess, who gave a presentation about her book *Daughter of the Land: Growing Up in the Citrus Capital of the World: A Memoir*. The book, which she calls "My COVID project," is a history of her family and their town, Santa Paula. Chess' great-grandfather founded the City of Santa Paula in 1873 and co-founded the Limoneira Company there in 1893. Chess was born in Santa Paula and has lived there all her life. In addition to the stories, the book has beautiful photographs of early days and people in the Santa Clara River Valley.

After a Q and A and a lot of folks lining up to buy the book, the business portion of the meeting took place.

Dolly Knight, Senior Ventura City Librarian, gave an update on the status of the libraries, their activities and offerings. For example, there are new computer kits available for checkout, online Halloween kits on the library website, and Storytimes moving to in-person outdoor library locations.

The meeting then proceeded to the Treasurer's Report. Since the Friends have been able to have book sales, the Foster bookstore and the Hill Road sale shelves are open, and online sales have been strong, we are in a good position financially. Add to those the interest generated by investment accounts, and we will be able to make a substantial contribution to the libraries, as we do every year; the exact amount will be determined after the end of the fiscal year.

Officers for the Friends were then elected: Mary Olson, President; Annie Winch, Treasurer; Ellen Klope, Recording Secretary; Star Soto, Corresponding Secretary. Slate of officers unanimously approved. The office of Vice President is unfilled.

The Friends of the Library needs more volunteers for many functions: warehouse, bookstore, book sales, board members, and committee members. Any member may attend a board meeting; we have just transitioned from Zoom to in-person meetings which take place monthly. Dates and times can be found on our web page: venturafriendsofthelibrary.org.

Last item was a reminder that dues should be paid by January.



Ivor Davis reported on various turbulent, historic, and iconic stories of the last century.

Short doc chronicles journalist's charmed life

One critic amusingly described Ivor Davis as "a combination of Zelig and Forrest Gump." Find out what that means at the Ojai Film Festival on Sunday, November 7 at 7 pm. A special screening of the film "I Was There – A Reporter's Story," chronicling Davis' life, takes place in the Ojai Art Center courtyard.

Ivor Davis reported on various turbulent, historic, and iconic stories of the last century. During his tenure as a foreign correspondent for the London Daily Express and the Times of London he wrote a weekly column for the New York Times Syndicate. He made Rock and Roll history when he traveled with The Beatles when they invaded America in 1964. He became the only newspaper reporter to witness the historic meeting of Elvis and The Beatles. Author/journalist Davis dodged sniper bullets while covering the Watts Riots. He sneaked on the University of Mississippi campus as bloody riots unfolded after James Meredith became the first black student to enroll. On the night Sirhan Sirhan assassinated Robert Kennedy Davis stood in the kitchen of the Ambassador Hotel. He took a front-row seat at some of the most famous trials of the 20th century. He was one of the "Boys on the Bus" when B-movie actor Ronald Reagan won the White House.

Acclaimed Ventura County director and filmmaker John Zilles produced "I Was There – A Reporter's Story," a short, intimate documentary about Davis's charmed life. Following

the screening the audience is invited to join an up-close personal conversation with director Zilles and Davis. They will discuss how this short film came about along with some of Davis' extraordinary adventures as an eyewitness to history.

When asked why he made the short documentary, Zilles said, "As I move through life, I always seek people who have an interesting story to tell...Ivor is one of those people."

John Zilles grew up in Green Bay, Wisconsin. After 22 years of snowy winters, he graduated from Marquette University and headed west with a head full of dreams. After stumbling into the film industry by accident, Zilles worked as a cinematographer for over 20 years. Recently he started making his own films. "I Was There" is his third effort. He operates out of his headquarters in Ventura County.

Ivor Davis, a British transplant, has lived and worked in Southern California since the 1960s. In addition to his journalism career, he authored four books, including the first book ever written on the Manson Murders, "Five to Die," and "Manson Exposed-A Reporter's 50 Year Journey into Madness and Murder," released on the fiftieth anniversary of the Tate-LaBianca Murders. He released his award-winning "The Beatles and Me on Tour" on the fiftieth anniversary of The Beatles 1964 summer tour. Davis also wrote a children's book inspired by The Beatles, "Ladies and Gentlemen, The Penguins."

Tickets for the special presentation November 7 at 7 pm in the Ojai Art Center courtyard are \$15.

Bicycling for Breast Cancer

Continued from page 5

women with others with the disease, and provided support for their loved ones, according to YSC Director of Marketing and Communications, Jamie Larson. "I truly feel that the spirit of Lisa, her tenacity, her passion for advocacy for younger adults, and in co-founding the Tour De Pink, that her passion is what sets this ride apart," said Larson. "One of the things that's always really profound to me are the young adults affected who ride, and then talk about the experience of this ride being about taking their body back after cancer. They can prove that they can do something challenging and athletic again, it's not just crossing the finish line, there are so many beautiful moments of accomplishment."

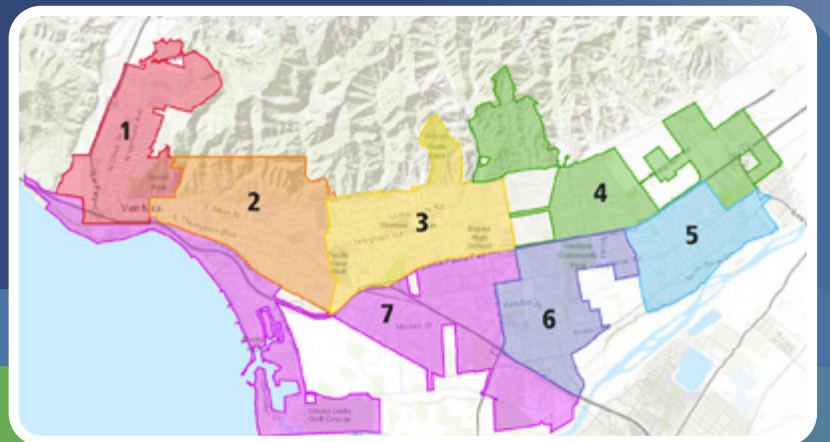
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News & Notes



Carol is a strong advocate for facing life's challenges.

Raising the positivity bar

by Shirley Lorraine

At a recent lunch meeting of the San Buenaventura Women's Club, members learned from an expert how to focus on capabilities, not disabilities.

Speaker Carol Leish, Disability Advocate for the Area Agency on Aging and Founder and CEO of Call Me Capable, recounted her travels through a life faced with myriad challenges.

As a small child, Leish was involved in an automobile accident which resulted in vision, speech, and physical limitations. Her mother passed away during Leish's teen years, creating severe depression to add to her burden. Despite these obstacles, Leish focused on staying positive, both emotionally and physically, and encouraging others to see their own capabilities rather than their disabilities.

Undaunted by her minor physical limitations, Carol exercised her brain to achieve a master's degree in Education and Counseling. She went on to teach in San Bernardino city schools and has been heavily involved in many nonprofit and networking organizations. In addition, she is a frequent contributing writer to the Ventura Breeze on a variety of subjects.

In 2002, Leish created and co-developed the Call Me Capable Game™, a board game released internationally, designed to enlighten people of all ages to become more sensitive to those with differing needs. For example, a student using a wheelchair may ask for assistance. How can you help? Or what responses may be appropriate when being introduced to a person with limited sight or hearing?

The questions raised in the game assist players in learning how to respond when faced with sensitive or uncomfortable situations.

Club Members heard how Leish frequently uses humor to ease potential awkwardness. She revealed her own challenges and how maintaining a cheerful outlook helps her get through life's rough patches. The rapt audience clearly was touched by her honesty, humor, and stories.

She has been featured speaker for National Disability Employment Awareness Month Training as well as keynote speaker for the 11th Annual Illinois Statewide Training Conference in Chicago, Illinois. She has presented at numerous venues in the Tri-Counties and is available to speak upon request.

Leish is a strong advocate for facing life's challenges with a smile. She encourages all to recognize and share our similarities rather than our differences. To emphasize her resolve, she quotes Helen Keller: "Although the world is full of suffering, it is full also of the overcoming of it." She is proof positive of this.

Carol can be reached at carol@callmecapable.net and via her website, www.callmecapable.net



Tamara is a lifelong writer.

Despite The Buzz is educational, existential, and exciting!

The novel's cautionary tale looks at technology's toll upon learning, relationships, safety, and wellbeing. A mix of



On October 29, a group of witches (and warlocks) brewed up the 3rd annual witches paddle into Ventura Harbor to celebrate Halloween. Paddle boards and kayaks filled the water for the community organized paddle. Photos by Patricia Schallert.

narrative elements makes it an engaging read. This colorful human-interest story is set in a public high school, depicting demands upon educators, pre-pandemic. A motivated new teacher raises awareness about screen use inside her Reflective Writing classroom, but she doesn't realize there's danger lurking. Contemporary communication dramatically impacts the diverse student characters. When an intimate act is shared over social media, an inciting incident demonstrates that the potential in our pockets could be lethal.

By providing understanding to those who grew up before and after current trends, this insightful book helps to build rapport among members from different schools of thought. A variety of people will relate to feelings of digital distraction, electronic accountability, and online exposure. The story is suited for mature readers ages sixteen and up.

For further details about the adult fiction, please refer to despitethebuzz.com. The novel was artfully designed by Ojai Digital, published by Blue Jay Ink, and is distributed by Ingram Spark. The paperback can be ordered online where books are sold and found at Timbre Books in Ventura, Barnes and Noble in Ventura, Poppies Art and Gifts in Ojai, Pixie's General Store in Ojai, and Tecolote Book Shop in Montecito.

The next book club meeting will be held outside at Love Social Cafe in Ojai on Sunday, Nov.14 at 3:30. Tamara will be selling novels at Ojai's First Friday (Mini Makers Market) event located outside Love Social Cafe (next to Pixie's General Store) on Nov.5 from 5:00-7:30.

Local author Tamara Miller Davis is a fire-wife, mother of two, dance enthusiast, and U.S. Coast Guard veteran from

Continued on page 20

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News & Notes



Neighborhood girls learn to “code” by making code bracelets they got to take home.

Girl Scouts holds free open house event at EPIC Community

Girl Scouts of California’s Central Coast welcomed girls ages 5 - 18 to an afternoon at a SoCal Gas sponsored open house event. On October 27, fun-filled games and activities were held at an EPIC Community Center in Cabrillo Village, 1515 S Saticoy Ave.

Girls in kindergarten through high school engaged in exciting STEM learning activities, made crafts to take home, met new friends in their neighborhood, and won special giveaways. While girls played, learned, and made new friends, families enjoyed free tacos and ice cream at food

trucks. Parents interested in learning more about the Girl Scout program also had the opportunity to speak to council staff and volunteers.

With family support, EPIC exists to build character in vulnerable youth and create everyday leaders throughout marginalized communities, using experimental learning and arts as the mediums to produce responsible citizens. EPIC offers a mentorship program as well as workshops for parents and kids to develop and unleash a child’s inner

Continued on page 12

THIS SPACE FOR WRITING MESSAGE

MANUFACTURED BY LONGSHAW CARD CO., LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

Arizona Sake is world-famous, located in Holbrook Arizona between the Supers Motel and the Dollar Store. Featured in a recent issue of Smithsonian Magazine. Jill and her husband David Young drove to Colorado for a family Bat Mitzvah. And took the Breeze for the rabbi to read.

POST CARD

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Senior Living



Aegis Living had more than 30 residents participating in the Games.

Aegis Living Ventura hosts Aegis Games

The entire world watched as the Summer Olympics finally commenced following coronavirus pandemic delays. The crowds were smaller than usual, but the energy and enthusiasm were hard to beat.

A similar energy was felt just this last week at Aegis Living Ventura, an assisted living and memory care community, as it hosted the first ever Aegis Games for residents and staff. The Olympic-style Games kicked off with opening ceremonies October 11 and concluded on October 25. The Games were designed to have something for every resident, including more than 25 events – from twice-weekly trivia with former Olympians (Janet Evans, Shannon Miller, John Naber to name a few) to a daily walkathon, Giant Jenga, Discus Throw, Relays, Word Unscramble, and much more.

“We are always looking for new ways to stimulate the mind, body, and spirit of our residents and staff,” said Chris Corrigan, Vice President of Life Enrichment at Aegis Living. “Aegis Games started as a fun idea with the Summer Olympics taking place and transformed into a full two weeks of lively programming for our 5,000 residents and staff. We couldn’t be happier to see everyone together and celebrating just like old times.”

Aegis Living Ventura had more than 30 residents participating in the Games. While each day was fun filled, the residents especially enjoyed coming together across assisted living and memory care and celebrating their accomplishments during the closing ceremonies,

where every resident received a medal. Residents also received a special visit from Dwayne Clark, the company’s Founder and CEO, who came to celebrate as the Games carried on.

“Here at Aegis, we are part of creating memories,” said Mary Sawyer, an Aegis Ventura team member. “Our lives are enriched every day by our residents and giving back to them is truly amazing. Here, we believe growing old is inevitable, but growing up is optional.”

The Games were such a hit there is talk of it being an annual tradition.



Several other disease-modifying medications are being tested in people with early Alzheimer’s.

How is Alzheimer’s disease treated?

by National Institute on Aging

Alzheimer’s disease is complex, and it is therefore unlikely that any one drug or other intervention will ever

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successfully treat it in all people living with the disease. Still, in recent years, scientists have made tremendous progress in better understanding Alzheimer’s and in developing and testing new treatments, including several medications that are in late-stage clinical trials.

Several prescription drugs are already approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to help manage symptoms in people with Alzheimer’s disease. And, on June 7, 2021, FDA provided accelerated approval for the newest medication, aducanumab, which helps to reduce amyloid deposits in the brain and may help slow the progression of Alzheimer’s, although it has not yet been shown to affect clinical symptoms or outcomes, such as progression of cognitive decline or dementia.

Most medicines work best for people in the early or middle stages of Alzheimer’s. However, it is important to understand that none of the medications available at this time will cure Alzheimer’s.

Treatment for mild to moderate Alzheimer’s

Treating the symptoms of Alzheimer’s can provide people with comfort, dignity, and independence for a longer period of time and can encourage and assist their caregivers as well. Galantamine, rivastigmine, and donepezil are cholinesterase inhibitors that are prescribed for mild to moderate Alzheimer’s symptoms. These drugs may help reduce or control some cognitive and behavioral symptoms.

Scientists do not yet fully understand how cholinesterase inhibitors work to treat Alzheimer’s disease,

but research indicates that they prevent the breakdown of acetylcholine, a brain chemical believed to be important for memory and thinking. As Alzheimer’s progresses, the brain produces less and less acetylcholine, so these medicines may eventually lose their effect. Because cholinesterase inhibitors work in a similar way, switching from one to another may not produce significantly different results, but a person living with Alzheimer’s may respond better to one drug versus another.

Medications that target the underlying causes of a disease are called disease-modifying drugs or therapies. Aducanumab is the only disease-modifying medication currently approved to treat Alzheimer’s. This medication is a human antibody, or immunotherapy, that targets the protein beta-amyloid and helps to reduce amyloid plaques, which are brain lesions associated with Alzheimer’s. Clinical studies to determine the effectiveness of aducanumab were conducted only in people with early-stage Alzheimer’s or mild cognitive impairment. Researchers are continuing to study whether this medication works to affect a person’s rate of cognitive decline over time.

Before prescribing aducanumab, doctors may require PET scans or an analysis of cerebrospinal fluid to evaluate whether amyloid deposits are present in the brain. This can help doctors make an accurate diagnosis of Alzheimer’s before prescribing the medication. Once a person is on aducanumab, their doctor or specialist may require routine MRIs to monitor for side effects such as brain swelling or bleeding in the brain.





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Veterans' organization help woman "falling through the cracks"

At age 94, Rose Burgess had already lost two military veteran husbands, and was legally blind. Her daughter had just died unexpectedly, and she would soon have no place to live. Police Deputy Chris Dyer was on duty when Rose walked in with nowhere else to go. He knew homelessness was dangerous enough for the young, but it could be a death sentence within weeks for Rose. He also knew just where to turn for help, and immediately sent an e-mail to GCVF, Gold Coast Veterans Foundation... "All Hands On Deck!"

The charity in Camarillo, known for rescuing the most damaged homeless veterans, jumped into action. But they quickly found that virtually all public or private agencies providing housing assistance were prohibited from helping Rose. According to government rules, she was plenty rich enough to fend for herself.

The annual income needed for

someone to afford a 1 Bedroom apartment in Oxnard is over \$60,000 and Rose's fixed income was \$3300 a month. Even though that's twenty grand short of the real-world need, it was above the government 'low-income' assistance threshold. But Rose had also leased a Subaru so her daughter could take her on errands. She had several storage units, and was paying storage for a vintage mid-century travel trailer. These expenses put her even further away from being able to pay rent.

"We've helped thousands of veterans and family members, and rescued 87 from homelessness," says GCVF's Director Bob Harris; "but this is the first time we had to rescue a 94-year-old blind widow because 12 social service agencies refused to help her... we never saw that one coming." He adds; "Of course the system doesn't want to cause harm to people like Rose, but that income threshold was going to put her out on the street regardless."

St. Vincent de Paul of Ventura, and individual police officer donations covered an emergency motel room for Rose, keeping her safe until GCVF could find a long-term solution. GCVF began the enormous task of condensing her storage, finding a buyer for the trailer, finding an affordable 'senior living' apartment for Rose, and getting her

Senior Living

moved in before the motel funding ran out. Case manager Donna Lockwood took Rose to Kirby Subaru in Ventura, who very graciously took the car back without any of the typical 'early termination' penalties or fees.

Rose was finally able to have a home. Rescue team leader Rafael Stoneman personally covered several urgent expenses, and United Way of Ventura provided funds for move-in costs; GCVF was then able to move her into a senior living apartment with meals. After getting everything into one storage locker, they helped sell the trailer to a man who plans to restore it with his wife into a vacation home. In a rather poignant twist, the man's father is a Vietnam combat veteran.

"We catch the veterans that fall through the cracks" is one of GCVF's slogans; this time they caught an elderly veteran widow before she was homeless. "We make these miracles happen every day, but we can't do it alone," says Harris; "United Way and St. Vincent de Paul, Deputy Chris Dyer and his fellow officers, and the fantastic people at Kirby Subaru all pulled together to rescue Rose. We need the whole community's support to make this same miracle happen tomorrow."

Gold Coast Veterans Foundation is the region's leading nonprofit for veterans, providing everything to reduce and eliminate suffering & homelessness for military veterans and family caregivers. Comprehensive, integrated services are provided free of charge at a walk-in / no-appointment service center. <http://www.gcvf.org> (805) 482-6550

Editor note: Because Rose is living at a government facility we were not able to get her photo.

HICAP tackles Medicare questions

The Ventura County Area Agency on Aging's Health Insurance Counseling & Advocacy Program (HICAP) is tackling all questions and concerns related to Medicare Open Enrollment by hosting a variety of one-stops throughout Ventura County beginning October 15th. Services will be offered virtually and in-person on a case-by-case basis through December 7th. All services are free and open to the public.

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

Medicare Open Enrollment One-stops are currently by appointment only. Online and telephone options are available. No walk-ins will be accepted. All COVID-19 safety protocols will be in place.

Please visit www.vcaa.org to complete the HICAP Part D/MA Comparison Form or call (805) 477-7300 ext. 5 for more information or 800-434-0222. For additional information or to make an appointment, e-mail HICAP@Ventura.org.

VENTURA COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING

Health Insurance Counseling & Advocacy Program (HICAP)

MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT

RUNS FROM OCTOBER 15TH THROUGH DECEMBER 7TH

- ▶ We Offer One-Stop Options for Medicare Counseling
- ▶ Online and telephone options available
- ▶ In-person appointments available on a limited basis
- ▶ One Stops are by appointment only
- ▶ No walk-ins will be accepted
- ▶ COVID-19 safety protocols will be in place

Please visit www.vcaa.org to complete the HICAP Part D/MA Comparison Form or call us at (805) 477-7300 ext. 5 for more information or 800-434-0222. For additional information or to make an appointment, e-mail HICAP@Ventura.org.



This project was supported, in part by grant number 90SAPG0094-02*, from the U.S. Administration for Community Living (ACL), Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C. 20201. Grantees undertaking projects under government sponsorship are encouraged to express freely their findings and conclusions. Points of view or opinions do not, therefore, necessarily represent official ACL policy.



COUNTY of VENTURA
Area Agency on Aging





This 'n' That



Meet Alpacas at Windy Hill farm.

Meet The Hands That Feed You

Now in its ninth year, Ventura County Farm Day is back with free, in-person, open farm tours on Saturday, November 6. This year's theme is "Meet The Hands That Feed You." Tour hours are from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Visitors can use a new online Farm Day Trail Map to build a custom itinerary to travel between growers throughout Ventura County at their own pace. The public will experience a day of agricultural activities, farm tours and produce and other giveaways, plus meet the local farmers who grow the food we eat.

"We sometimes take for granted how many workers are involved in the process of producing the foods we see in the store. The public will follow the growing journey--from prepping the soil, planting, caring for, harvesting and packaging--to finally shipping the food to market," says Mary Maranville, founder and CEO of the nonprofit Students for Eco-Education and Agriculture (SEEAG), which puts on Ventura County Farm Day each year.

Over 15 agricultural entities will participate including Reiter Affiliated Companies (berries), Alpacas At Windy Hills (Alpaca fleece), Blue Ridge Honey (raw honey), Earthrine Farms (oranges, greens, figs and basil), Good Farms Making a Difference (strawberries), McGrath Family Farm (certified organic vegetables) and Oxnard Historic Farm Park (featuring antique farm equipment, vegetable crops and talks about the agricultural heritage of the Oxnard Plains). Every stop is unique. The full list is at <https://venturacountyfarmday.com/farm-tours/map>. It's updated daily.

At Blue Ridge Honey in Ventura, visitors will be able to view an observation hive with live bees, learn about product bottling and sample fresh honey.

Always a Farm Day favorite is McGrath Family Farm off the 101 Freeway in Camarillo. It hosts a collective of five small farms.

"Ventura County Farm Day is a way to connect farmers with the public," says Mike Harris, a farmer at Baby Root Farm. "It fosters a close connection between farmers, food and the community."

Ventura County Farm Day sponsors include Bobalu Berry Farms, Farm Credit West, Reiter Affiliated Companies and Ventura County Agricultural Association.

SEEAG's mission is to help children understand the farm origins of their food through classroom agricultural and nutrition education and free farm field trips. "While our primary focus with SEEAG is to educate children,"

says Maranville, "Ventura County Farm Day gives all ages the opportunity to appreciate and enjoy the farms throughout the area."

For more information about Ventura County Farm Day and a list of participating farms, visit www.VenturaCountyFarmDay.com or call 805-901-0213.

PACT classes are back!

Ventura County Library and First 5 Ventura County are proud to continue partnering on offering Parent and Child Together (PACT) classes for local families. In this free 12-week program, families with infants or toddlers are invited to learn new skills together, play fun activities, and share the love of reading. PACT Class is for children up to three years of age.

"Parents are their child's first and most important teacher. Every child comes into this world ready to learn. It's never too early to talk, read, and sing to your child," says Petra Puls, Executive Director of First 5 Ventura County.

Nancy Schram, Ventura County Library Director says, "By collaborating with First 5 Ventura County and other organizations that serve children from birth to age 3 and their parents, our Ventura County Libraries can make an even bigger difference in early childhood brain development. This program means our libraries will play a key role in providing equitable opportunities for all children to experience language through books and other interactions and provide support for parents who may have few or no other places they can go for help."

According to one parent in PACT Class, "I feel as though I have better tools in understanding what my child needs and anticipating the wants. It's also been helpful to hear other parents' experiences too."

After class, another parent said, "I feel better connected with my child and we have more fun ways to read together."

In PACT Class, parents receive a free toolkit with developmental screenings for their child, age-appropriate toys supporting early childhood development, and books exploring social and emotional competence. Librarians also partner with families to address individual needs and strengthen community connections.

Online registration is open now for the fall session of classes, which begins in November. Parents register using this link: bit.ly/VCLPact. The class is limited to six families per location and registration is on a first come, first served basis. If the class is full, a waiting list will be created, and interested families will be notified of any openings.

The fall session of classes will be held weekly at:
Westview Community Room
Housing Authority of the City of San Buenaventura,
1187 Riverside Street, Ventura
Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Starting Thursday, November 4

The full class schedule may be found on the library's online calendar of events: <https://vencolibrary.org/calendar>.

This class is offered in partnership with First 5 Ventura County. It is supported in part by funding provided by the State of California, administered by the California State Library. It is free and open to the public.

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- World War II and American Culture
- Voices From Ancient Graves
- And More!

Fall Session II
Registration begins November 1st
Classes begin November 15th and end December 17th

Channel Islands

THIS SPACE FOR WRITING MESSAGE

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While vacation-
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could show her
article to the
Italians she met.

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This 'n' That



A simple tribute to our memories. Photos by Patricia Schallert.

I am not just a rock, I am a memory

If one walks down the promenade between C street and the Fairgrounds, you will see a memorial that has been created using some simple beach rocks and river stones. These rocks are in a planter box in front of the Beach Fronter townhouse garden. This simple memorial garden has grown into an amazing way to honor those in our lives that we have loved and lost. Everyone is welcome to bring a personalized rock or small river stone that pays tribute to a loved one, be it your favorite pet, family member or friend.

You are invited to find and paint a stone or rock, then bring it to the garden. You can also take a rock if you want but replace it with a personalized design or color and or message and dedication to your loved one.

This rock garden is a simple tribute to the memories of those we have cared about and loved in addition to creating simple artwork for our environment.



Ventura College Student Bryan Rodriguez aims to boost DEI initiatives.

New Student Trustee joins VCCCD Board of Trustees

The Ventura County Community College District Board of Trustees installed Bryan Rodriguez as Student Trustee for the 2021-22 academic year at its Oct. 12 meeting. A Ventura College student, Rodriguez was selected through a districtwide special student election in Sept. He joins the District's elected board consisting of Chair Joshua Chancer, Vice Chair Dianne B. McKay and Trustees Stan Mantooth, Bernardo M. Perez and Gabriela Torres.

As the Student Trustee, Rodriguez will represent and advocate for the District's approximately 31,000 students at Moorpark, Oxnard and Ventura colleges at monthly Board of Trustees' meetings and other constituent meetings across the District. He will also participate in professional development conferences and assist the board in advocating for the District, both statewide and nationally.

"I am thrilled to once again have a student trustee serve with our full board, one who understands the many academic and personal challenges college students face," said Chair Chancer. "Through sharing his perspective as a first-generation college student, he can help inform the conversations around enhancing the student experience at the District's colleges."

"Having attended previous board meetings and establishing relationships with members, Bryan is knowledgeable about the responsibility of being a student trustee. The board and I look forward to his input and collaborating with him," added Chancellor Greg Gillespie.

A political science major, Rodriguez serves as president of M.E.Ch.A. (Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano De Aztlan). He is also an active member of the Political Science Club at Ventura College, which focuses on the interests of students aspiring to enter politics.

Rodriguez gained hands-on experience in his major by working as an intern at the office of Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin. This year, he interned with the California Latinx Capitol Foundation Association and attended conferences and training sessions hosted by the Community College League

TREE TOWN

Canopy trees help channel rainwater into the ground. The leaves and branches carry water to the trunk, and the moisture runs down and is absorbed into the ground. Rain on pavement runs off into the ocean via gutters and storm drains, and does not replenish groundwater. As underground aquifer levels are decreasing due to drought and urban runoff, the contributions of trees are more important than ever for the sustainability of our region's water supply. www.venturatreealliance.com

of California and the Student Senate for California Community Colleges.

Some of his policy positions include increasing diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives that benefit students on campus and in their communities and addressing the impact of financial insecurity within the student population. In addition, he advocates for a more flexible curriculum and creating a culture of community and student engagement at Moorpark, Oxnard and Ventura colleges and Ventura College East Campus.

The Ventura County Community College District is a member of the 116-campus California Community College system and serves approximately 31,000 students annually. The District's three colleges—Moorpark, Oxnard and Ventura—offer programs in general education for degrees and certificates, transfer to four-year colleges and universities, career technical education, and provide opportunities to engage in co-curricular campus activities. For more information, please visit vcccd.edu.

Girl Scouts holds free open house

Continued from page 8

leader. Girl Scouts of California's Central Coast partnered with EPIC to support this effort and provide girls based in Ventura with fun activities that inspire the leader in them.

Girl Scouts is for every girl, and we're ready to help her see what she's capable of no matter her dreams, passions, or goals. Let's explore the outdoors, get involved with the community, learn a new skill, and serve those in need. Together, there is no limit to what girls can accomplish.

A second Girl Scout Open House event is being held Saturday, November 6, 11:00 AM – 2 PM at WestView 1153

Village Way, Ventura. Learn more about this event at <http://www.girlscoutscoc.org> or contact gsilva@girlscoutscoc.org for more information.

VPD launches new Explorer Program

Continued from page 3

collection and processing, community service, and much more.

"We want to build strong, trusting, and lasting relationships with our youth. This unique hands-on program helps build positive experiences between our explorers and our staff," said Police Chief Darin Schindler. "By making connections early and offering an inside look at our agency, it is my hope that we will inspire young men and women to pursue a career with us as Ventura Police Officers."

Developing an explorer program with representation from each of Ventura's seven districts was an initiative identified in VPD's 2020-2023 Strategic Plan.

To be eligible for the Ventura Police Explorer Program students must:

Be a graduate of the eighth grade and be between the ages of 14-18 years old
Live or attend a high school in the city of Ventura

Maintain a minimum 2.0 Grade Point Average (GPA)

Maintain a good driving record - if applicable

Pass a criminal background check and an applicant screening process

Be of good moral character and not engage in the use of drugs or alcohol

Have an interest in learning about law enforcement and in serving the community

Attend two meetings per month

To learn more about the program and the application, please visit www.CityofVentura.ca.gov/ExplorerProgram.



Police Reports

by Cindy Summers

Police reports are provided to us by the Ventura Police Department and are not the opinions of the Ventura Breeze. All suspects mentioned are assumed to be innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Armed Robbery

October 21, at approximately 10:00 pm, the Ventura Police Command Center received a 911 call reference an armed robbery that had just occurred at the Wild Side Smoke Shop. The suspect was described as a Hispanic male, 20-30 years of age.

During the robbery, the suspect revealed a gun that was in his waistband to the clerk while demanding money. The clerk gave the suspect an undisclosed amount of cash, and the suspect fled the scene.

Patrol officers arrived at the Smoke Shop in two minutes and conducted a search with a police K9; however, the suspect was not located. No one was injured during this incident. The Ventura Police Department is actively investigating this crime. If anyone has any information about this robbery, please call (805) 650-8010.

Battery on Police Officer Arrest

Based on community complaints regarding criminal activity and quality of life issues, on October 23, at approximately 9:30 am, a Ventura Police Officer was patrolling the Ventura Beach Promenade near Paseo de Playa. The officer contacted a person who was blocking an access gate to a private apartment complex. During the contact, the suspect, 53 year old Nevada resident Lewis Lloyd, approached the officer and began to interfere with the investigation. The officer told the suspect several times to back away, or he would be arrested for interfering. The suspect refused the officer's orders and continued to interfere by yelling at the officer and physically aggressing towards the officer. The officer attempted to place the suspect under arrest, and the suspect violently resisted and struck the officer in the face with a closed fist and kicked him.

Within a few seconds of the attack, another officer arrived to assist and was struck on the head by Lloyd. The officers wrestled the suspect to the ground, and he continued to fight. Additional officers arrived, and after a lengthy struggle, the suspect was taken into custody. As this incident unfolded, two uninvolved bystanders loudly jeered and criticized the officers.

The suspect was arrested for the following felony charges: resisting an officer by violence; battery on a police officer, and resisting an officer causing injury. The officers were treated at a local hospital for moderate injuries. Lloyd was treated for minor injuries.

Robbery and Attempt Murder Arrest

On October 24, the Ventura Police Command Center received a call of a robbery that had just occurred at House of Smokes, 105 Soth Oak Street. The reporting party stated that the suspect fired a shot while in the business and fled in a vehicle. Ventura Police Officers arrived at the business within 3 minutes of the call, obtained information about the suspect and the vehicle, and broadcasted the information to other responding officers.

At approximately 5:30 pm, a Ventura Police Patrol Corporal observed a car matching the description broadcasted by investigating officers exit the 101 Fwy at Harbor Blvd. The driver of the vehicle also matched the suspect's description. The vehicle was followed into the Harbor Blvd parking structure, 529 E. Harbor Blvd., and an enforcement stop was initiated. The driver, 19 year old Bakersfield resident Anthony Sierra, was taken into custody without incident. As officers took custody

of Sierra, an unregistered firearm was found concealed in his waistband.

During the investigation, officers learned that Sierra entered the House of Smokes, brandished a handgun at the clerk, and removed cash from the register. As Sierra was exiting the business, another employee attempted to stop him. Sierra fired one shot at the employee, nearly striking him, and then fled the area. The employees were not injured during the incident.

Sierra was arrested for attempt murder, robbery, possession of a firearm with intent to commit a felony, and possession of an illegal firearm concealed in public.

Stabbing

On October 15, at approximately 5:00 pm, the Ventura Police Command Center received a 911 call of a stabbing in progress near W. Main St and Garden St.

Responding officers arrived on scene within one minute of the call and located the crime scene in the parking lot of 96 W. Main St. Witnesses indicated that the victim had been transported in a private vehicle.

The victim, a 34-year-old male Ventura resident, was located at the Ventura County Medical Center suffering from a single stab wound to the torso.

The investigation into this incident led to the identification of the suspect as 26-year-old Bradley Decker. An arrest warrant was issued on October 19. On that date a Ventura Police Officer located Decker on the promenade. Decker violently resisted arrest and fled from the officer into the Ventura River bottom. A search was conducted of the area, but he was not located.

On October 26, at approximately 4:00 am, patrol officers were searching encampments in the Ventura River bottom and located Decker. He was arrested without incident and transported to Ventura County Jail.

Decker was booked on felony charges of attempted murder, violently resisting a police officer, and additional charges stemming from an unrelated domestic dispute of domestic violence causing injury and false imprisonment.

Decker is being held at the Ventura County Jail in lieu of \$500,000 bail.

The victim remains hospitalized in serious condition.

Shooting victim

On Oct. 30, the Ventura Police Command Center received a call of a shooting victim outside of the Ventura Beach Club at 281 W. Main. Multiple officers responded and located a victim suffering from multiple gunshots to one of his legs. Paramedics transported the victim to a local hospital for treatment. His wounds do not appear to be life-threatening, and his status is unknown currently.

During the investigation, officers learned that approximately five males were involved in a fight in a parking lot near the club. During the altercation, one of the involved parties fired a gun at the victim. There is no suspect description at this time.

While officers were tending to the victim and conducting an initial investigation, multiple fights were occurring in the area, and patrons from the club were hostile towards officers. Deputies from the Ventura County Sheriff's Department responded to assist.

The investigation into this shooting is ongoing. Any witnesses or persons with information about this incident are asked to contact the Ventura PD Major Crimes Unit at 805-339-4444.

Harbor Patrol Blotter

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

10/12 7:57pm, received dispatch to an Ocean Rescue, unclothed person jumping into the water and swimming out past the waves. Officers responded in the Fireboat to assist VFD, VPD and AMR with the victim who was safely returned to shore.

10/13 8:10am, observed a wounded pelican at the Santa Clara Rivermouth, officers captured it for sea bird rescue volunteers for rehabilitation.

10/13 8:10am, observed a wounded pelican at the Santa Clara Rivermouth, officers captured it for sea bird rescue volunteers for rehabilitation.

10/15 11:59pm, dispatched to fall victim in the Ventura Marina Community. Officers responded and assisted AMR with the patient to the gurney. Patient transported.

10/16 2:50am, dispatched to fall victim in the HarborTown point. Officers responded on foot to assist a 76 y/o male who was lying on the floor. Patient transported.

7:33am, dispatched to a sick person in the Ventura Marina Community. Officers responded and assisted 79 y/o female who was transported to hospital by AMR.

11:35am, dispatched to a fall victim at Ventura Marina Community, officers responded and assisted VFD/AMR with a 98 y/o female.

1:20pm, dispatched to a stingray strike at Harbor Cove. Officers responded and assisted a 35 y/o male with a puncture wound, patient transported by AMR.

10/17 3:28am, dispatched to unconscious person at VWM parking lot. Officers responded and assisted VPD with the patient who was intoxicated in

his vehicle.

10/18 9:35am, officers on Fireboat taking National Park Service bird experts to count the pelicans on the breakwall. Also, to look for oiled or injured sea birds.

2:15pm, receiving multiple reports of an injured sea lion at VWM C-dock. Officers educated callers on the CIMWI website contact # to assist the mammal.

10/20 4:22pm, received report from California Fish & Wildlife about the injured sealion at VWM C-dock. A veterinarian is monitoring the injured animal and believes it can recover from their injuries naturally. Advised marina manager.

10/21 10:35pm, received a report that a fellow fisherman is moving hoop nets without the RP's permission. Officers on patrol in Rescue B17 contacted the individual and he stated that a sealion was in the area and moving the hoop nets not him.

10/23 10:15am, observed National Weather Service issued a Small Craft Advisory for winds gusting to 25kts and large surf, 8-10ft Northwest swell.

10:30am, observed six commercial lobster traps in the entrance. Officers were unable to remove due to hazardous conditions from large waves in the entrance.

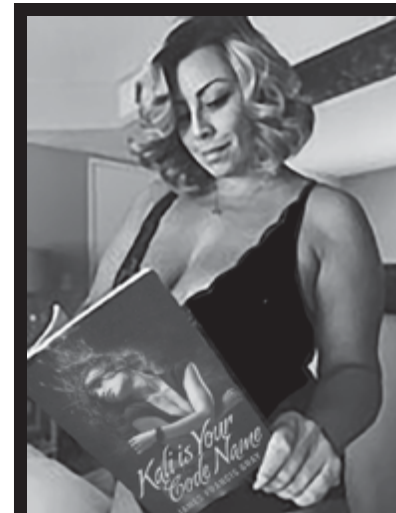
7:33pm, received report of a skiff adrift in the mid area of the harbor. Officers responded in the Fireboat but were unable to locate any skiffs adrift.

10/24 10:30am, received report of a dock float secured in a slip at the Ventura Yacht Club. Officers contacted construction company from VIM to retrieve the float.

11:30am, observed all commercial lobster traps have "walked" to the breakwall.

2:55pm, dispatched to an ill person at the Portside development. Officers responded and assisted VFD/AMR with the call. The patient refused assistance.

10/25 4:17pm, while on patrol in the vehicle, observed hazardous conditions at South Beach. 8-10ft Northwest swell.



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Kali is Your Code Name

Weekly SUDOKU Answer

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

King Crossword Answers

Solution time: 23 mins.

L	A	M	A	W	O	N	I	O	T	S	
A	J	A	X	A	B	E	A	G	R	A	
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G	O	R	Y	E	D	S	P	O	N	Y	



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: Tuesday, November 9th 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 Tuesday, November 16th.

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

Jackie Rose Director VCAS stated "I am excited to announce that the Simi Valley Animal Shelter is, once again, fully open for all business, including pet adoptions! I am equally pleased to report that pet adoptions have steadily increased to match the expected rise of stray animals coming into our care."

"As a reminder, adoption hours are 1:00pm - 6:00pm, Tuesday - Sunday, at both the Camarillo and Simi Valley locations. We encourage everyone to preview our dogs, cats, rabbits and other critters online prior to your visit. Also, please take a moment to review our new and improved adoption process which employs text messaging to reduce wait times and long lines."

"Our staff and volunteers are here to answer questions and help make the

best matches possible! Thank you for your continued support of our lifesaving efforts!"

On Saturday, October 30, the HOWL-O-WEEN Dog Costume Contest was held in the Ventura Harbor Village for the first time since COVID. Over 70 adorable dogs participated, and every dog received a small goodie bag of pup prizes, plus five lucky dogs that were selected the most spookiest, most sea-worthy, cutest-prettiest, most creative and best in show took home grand prizes for winning their category including gift certificates from restaurants in the harbor including Margarita Villa, Le Petit Cafe, The Greek, Andria's Seafood, Brophy Bros. and the Sugar Lab Bake Shop. The very large enthusiastic crowd roared their approval as each dog walked around the ring.

The dog entries went from Shiba Inus to Chihuahuas to most every other dog breed. Even a goat was entered but stayed home to eat more cans.

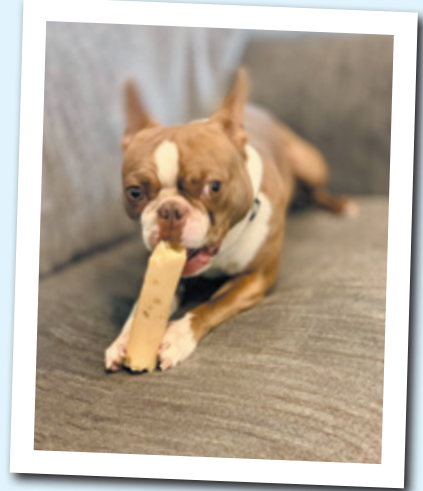
The judges, Breann Godeck from Coastal Cone, Sheldon (you know who that is) and TJ Mora from the Pet Barn had a very difficult time selecting the winners but managed to make their selections without getting into any fights.

Stacey Petrides was the outstanding MC (as she is every year) for the event and carefully called out each dog's name and breed as they passed by and briefly interviewed each dog's owner.

Music was provided by DJ Bennett as he played music that corresponded to the theme of the dog's costume.

Scamp Club

(Scampclub pets are not for adoption.)



This is Rocky, a friendly Boston Terrier. He is very huggable and loves to snuggle. He will often surprise you with a kiss. He is well cared for and loved. He adapted quickly to the family of six who adopted him.

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.



The judges were Breann Godeck, Sheldon Brown and TJ Mora.



All photos by Richard Lieberman.

SPAN Thrift Store
 SPAY/NEUTER ANIMAL NETWORK
 \$10 Low/No Income Spay & Neuter
 Tuesday, November 9th in SPAN parking lot.
 Must call for appointment (805) 584-3823

Requesting Donations of Clothing, Tools and Small Kitchen Appliances

WE ARE OPEN!
 10am - 4pm Tues, Thurs & Sat
 Call us today!
 805.641.1170 110 A & B N. Olive St., Ventura CA 93001 www.spanonline.org

\$10 Low/No Income Spay & Neuter
 Tuesday, November 16th
 Albert H. Soliz Library - El Rio
 2820 Jourdan St., Oxnard, CA 93036
 Must call for appointment (805) 584-3823



The Pet Page

Forever homes wanted

Hi! I'm Corky, a very active 10-month-old German Shepherd X who was found as a stray. No one came to claim me, so I'm eagerly waiting for my forever family to come and take me home. I'm a big boy who loves attention and playing. I tend to jump when I get excited and I'm a bit mouthy when playing. I'll need an active person or family who will exercise me daily. I love to run around so I might make a good running buddy. I know basic commands and I'm willing to learn more. I'm house trained and know how to use a doggie door.

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

If you're interested in meeting me, please fill out an online application.



Grizzly & Oscar were owned by a loving family who were no longer able to care for them and brought them to Ventura County Animal Services to be rehomed. They are a young, bonded pair who must be adopted together. Guinea pigs are social animals

and typically prefer a companion, so having a bonded pair is advantageous! Grizzly and Oscar are adorable and fun-loving and enjoy playing and cuddling up together. Please learn about proper guinea pig care prior to adoption.

ID: A782270 & A782268. Kennel: 40.

Camarillo Animal Shelter 600 Aviation Drive, Camarillo.

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Ventura CA., 93001
(805)653-2381



VEP gives 49 innovation grants

After being on hold due to COVID, Ventura Education Partnership and the Ventura Unified School District Community enthusiastically embraced the return of \$1,000 Innovation Grants for VUSD educators. Through a competitive application process, VEP selected 49 projects totaling \$46,000 to fund. These innovative projects provide hands on opportunities that deepen student engagement and learning.

Beth Harris, Principal, Poinsettia Elementary said of the grants program, "Grants allow staff to dream... In this dreaming there is new energy breathed into the classroom.

That energy is palpable and can be felt by students. There is a captivating magic in a passionate educator, excited about an idea they dreamed up... It's great for the student and, equally important, so good for the staff. In these most trying times in education, this kind of joyful energy is invaluable!"

The program is funded by generous support from local businesses and caring community members who value investments in educators and students as essential for our future. Aera Energy's gift of \$10,000 was specifically meaningful in a year when many teachers turned to the joy of reading as a way to create connections with and between students that was reduced during distance learning.

Madhu Bajaj, Vice President of VEPGrants said, "Aera has supported reading grants over the last few years. Ongoing funding like this creates meaningful change and significant impact, in

this case stimulating a renewed passion for teaching through relevant, forward thinking reading based activities."

Recognizing the unusual times we are living in, Rotary Club of Ventura's Julius Guis Memorial Rotary Foundation supported community building projects with \$5,000. These 5 grants use the arts and garden-based education to bring students together where they can collaborate, share ideas, strengthening communication and team building while immersing themselves in scientific study, math, and environmental education.

Community Memorial Health System's gift of \$5,000 supported 5 grants in the areas of math, science and health careers. These projects build essential skills that give students a strong foundation for future careers in the health industry. Students will engage in scientific inquiry, and research while

working together in problem solving and more.

Petra McCullough, Assistant Principal of Anacapa Middle School shared why she is passionate about VEPGrants, "When a teacher is struggling to reach their students, VEP is there to help. When a new teacher is looking to set themselves apart, VEP is there to help. When you are looking to invest in an equitable program, VEP is there to help."

This help is only possible with the community's involvement. "We are very grateful for our community supporters whose generous donations make these innovative projects possible for Ventura Unified School District students" said Co-Presidents Debbie Golden and Kathy Asher.

To learn more and For a complete list of grant recipients and more information on VEPGrants, visit venturaeducationpartnership.org/VEPGrants or contact madhubajaj@gmail.com (805) 754-9861.

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by Pam Baumgardner
VenturaRocks.com

I had to think long and hard to figure out the last time I took off two weeks for a real vacation and honestly, I couldn't think of a single time! I'm back newly refreshed from Italy where I avoided the news, I was without social media, in fact, I didn't even bring a laptop! So now I'm ready to take in live music again, and thankfully there is plenty to be had!

Let's start with the next Chick Singer Night (CSN) which will headline Rosemary Butler at the Sound Palace/Studio B on Saturday, November 6. Butler has not only opened for the Rolling Stones with the Ladybirds in 1964, but she went on to be a backup singer for the likes of Bonnie Raitt Linda Ronstadt, James Taylor, Warren Zevon, Neil Young, Boz Scaggs and more! This one helps benefit Foodshare of Ventura County and will also feature performances from Melanie Taylor, Kiki Ebsen, Natalie Gelman and Michael Henszey.

I took a look at the Carolyn Sills Combo tour schedule and I have to admit, it is impressive with dates starting up in July playing gigs up and down California, Colorado, Illinois, Kentucky and Missouri. Then I took a look at all the impressive quotes about the band, well if you're into Americana Folk, you won't want to miss their date at Namba Arts on Saturday, November 13. Named Academy of Western Artists Western Swing Female of the Year in 2021, the 2020 NEXTier band of the year, and 2018 Ameripolitan award winner, you know you'll get your money's worth! You'll need proof of vaccination or Covid test to enter; tickets are only \$20.

John Batdorf whose credits include singing lead on Silver's "Wham Bam" which appeared in Guardians of the Galaxy Vol 2 in 2017, will play the Ojai Underground on Friday, November 5 and then with 12 albums under their belt, recording and touring since the mid-80s, Marleys Ghost will play the following night, Saturday, November 6.

The Canyon at Oxnard Performing Arts Center has several shows lined up in the next week or so starting with a Holiday Spectacular from Cirque Musica on Thursday, November 11, it's Lisa Lisa & Trinere on Friday, November 12, then on Saturday, the 13th, it's Lou Gramm of Foreigner with Asia featuring John Payne. The OPAC also continues to host R&B Sundays on the patio with the House Arrest Band from 1-4 pm.

And in the battle for best dive bar, Gigi's is offering up live music with Teenage Bottlerocket and the Last Gang on Friday, November 5; and the following week it's Bone Maggot, I Greater than He, Seconds to Centures and Glass Stab on Saturday, November 13. Both shows have a cover charge at the door.

Quick Notes: West Side Story is now playing at the High Street Arts Center in Moorpark through November 14; Cadillac Zack presents Nick Schnebelen at Cantara Cellars on Friday, November 5; The 805 Brass and Los Padres Sound Horn Quartet play Libbey Bowl on Sunday, November 7; and the Doug Webb Quartet featuring Jimmy Haslip from Yellowjackets will perform at the Grape on Wednesday, November 10.

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

Music Calendar

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

Azars

2215 Michael Dr., Newbury Park

Tuesdays: Rockstar Karaoke

Fridays: DJs

Sat 11/6: Urban Soul

Boatyard Pub

Ventura Harbor

Thursdays: Jim Friery; then Bluegrass Jam

Tues 11/16: Karen Eden w/ Bill Macpherson

Bombay Bar & Grill

143 S. California St., Ventura

DJs Friday – Sunday

Café Fiore

66 S. California St., Ventura

Wed 11/3: Bryan McCann

Fri 11/5: Otis Hayes

Wed 11/10: Edgar Thatcher Duo

Fri 11/12: Self Righteous Brothers

Cantara Cellars

126 N. Wood Rd., Camarillo

Fri 11/5: Cadillac Zack presents Nick Schnebelen (8 pm)

Sat 11/6: Slogan Acoustic (4 pm); Ignition (7:30 pm)

Sat 11/13: Mini Driver (6 pm)

Sun 11/14: Fritz Leon (2 pm)

The Cave

4435 McGrath St., Ventura

Music 5:30 – 8:30

Thursdays: Bobby Apostol

Fridays & Saturdays: Warren Takahashi

Copa Cubana

Ventura Harbor Village

Tuesdays: McWorter, Berghoff & Jones (7 pm)

Fridays: Kenny Devoe (1 pm)

Saturdays: Kenny Devoe (1 & 4 pm)

Sundays: Kenny Devoe (10 am)

Sun 11/7: Karen Eden w/ the Bad apples (3 pm)

Downtown Ventura

California & Main Stage

Wednesdays: Warren Takahashi (5:30 pm)

Fri 11/5: Brandon Ragan (5 pm)

Sat 11/6: Simi Rat Pack (11 am)

Sun 11/7: Mark David and the Soul Stringers (11 am); DVR Band (5 pm)

Fri 11/12: Brandon Ragan (5 pm)

Sat 11/13: Tribal Me (11 am)

Sun 11/14: Dr. T & the Blues Criminals (11 am); Erik V. (5 pm)

Four Brix

2290 Eastman, Ventura

Music 6-8 pm on Fridays, Sat & Sun 1 – 3:30 pm

Fri 11/5: Ignition

Sun 11/7: Brandon Ragan

Sun 11/14: Big Adventure

The Garage

1091 Scandia Ave., Ventura

Wednesdays: Blue Wednesday Blues Jam

Fri 11/12: Singular Nature

Gigi's Cocktails

2493 Grand Avenue, Ventura

Fri 11/5: Teenage Bottlerocket, the Last Gang

Sat 11/13: Bone Maggot, I Greater than He, Seconds to Centures, Glass Stab

The Grape

2733 E. Main Street, Ventura

Music at 7 pm

Wed 11/3: Rick Jarrett

Thurs 11/4: Brad Rabuchin & Friends

Fri 11/5: Paul McCallum & Friends

Sat 11/6: trioKAIT

Wed 11/10: Doug Webb Quartet feat. Jimmy Haslip (Yellowjackets)

Grapes and Hops with a Twist

454 E Main St., Ventura

Music 8 pm unless other noted

Thursdays: LA Jazz Experience (7 pm)

Keynote Lounge

10245 E Telephone Rd, Ventura

Thursdays: KJ-Carlos

Leashless Brewing

585 E. Thompson Blvd, Ventura

Music 6:30 pm except Sundays at 3 pm

Thurs 11/4: Freddy Castro & Friends

Sat 11/6: Spinz & Friendz

Thurs 11/11: Daniela Cardillo

Libbey Bowl

210 Signal Street, Ojai

Sun 11/7: 805 Brass and Los Padres Sound Horn Quartet

Lookout & Grill

2800 S. Harbor Blvd., Oxnard

Wednesdays: Tommy Foytek's Variety Show

Made West Brewing

1744 Donlon Street, Ventura

Wed 11/3: Milo & Doc Ventura (6 pm)

Fri 11/5: Oliva Mucha (6 pm)

Sat 11/13: Frank Barajas (5 pm)

Sun 11/14: Gianna Bella (3 pm)

Margarita Villa

Ventura Harbor Village

Music Mon -Thurs 6-9, Fri & Sat 7-10; Sundays 5-8

Fri 11/5: On Tap

Sat 11/6: Dive Bar Messiahs

Sun 11/7: Doc Rogers Band

Sat 11/13: Crosscut 805

Namba

47 S. Oak St., Ventura

Sat 11/6: Teka w/ Robert Kyle & Alyse Korn

Sat 11/13: Carolyn Sills Combo

Ojai Underground Exchange

616 Pearl St., Ojai

Fri 11/5: John Batdorf

Sat 11/6: Marleys Ghost

Oxnard Performing Arts Center

Canyon at Oxnard PACC

Sundays: The House Arrest Band (1-4 pm)

Thurs 11/11: Cirque Musica Holiday Spectacular

Fri 11/12: Lisa Lisa & Trinere

Sat 11/13: Lou Gramm (Foreigner), Asia

featuring John Payne

Paddy's

2 W. Main Street, Ventura

Wednesdays: Karaoke

Pedals & Pints

156 W. Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks

Music at 7 – 9:30 pm

Sat 11/6: The Fam Bam Jam Band

Sat 11/13: The Balance

Poseidon Brewing Co.

5777 Olivas Park Drive, Ventura

Music at 6:30 pm

Fri 11/5: Vanise Terry Band

Prime Restaurant

2209 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura

Tuesdays: Danny D

The Raven Tavern

1651 S. Victoria Ave., Oxnard

Music at 8 – 11 pm

Relm

2390 Las Posas Rd., Camarillo

Music at 5:30 pm

Fri 11/5: Gianna Bella

Sat 11/13: Lucano Germann

Ric's Restaurant

2500 Las Posas Road, Camarillo

Tuesdays: Tour Support with Kurt Griffey & Bob DeLellis

Rock & Roll Pizza

5255 Cochran Street, Simi Valley

Fri 11/5: Jetlemons

Sans Souci

21 S. Chestnut, Ventura

Fri 11/12: The Hell Toupees

The Shores

1031 Harbor Blvd., Oxnard

Fri 11/12: Karen Eden w/ the Bad Apples (7 pm)

The Six Chow House

419 E. Main St., Ventura

Fri 11/5: Shawn Jones Trio

Fri 11/12: Power Syndicate

The Sound Palace

1681 Beacon Place, Oxnard

Sat 11/6: Chick Singer Night with Rosemary Butler (7 pm)

The Star Lounge

343 E. Main Street

Tuesdays: Karaoke

Sat 11/6: Reign

Sat 11/13: Dive Bar Messiahs

Taqueria Jalisco

4275 Tierra Rejada Rd, Moorpark

Music 5 pm

Tuesdays & Fridays: Jim Friery

Topa Topa Brewing

341 Ojai Ave, Ojai

Sat 11/6: Jess Bush (7 pm)

Thurs 11/11: Tom Collins (6:30 pm)

Vaquero y Mar

435 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura

Thursdays: Delta by the Beach (5 pm)

Sundays: 805AllStarz (1 pm)

VFW Post 3935

300 S. Surfside, Port Hueneme

Fri & Sat 8-Mid; Tuesdays 6-8 pm

Fridays & Saturdays: Karaoke w/ Leigh

Tues 11/9: Vincent Berry

Tues 11/16: Lazy & Spoiled

The Vine

308 E. Ojai Ave., Ojai

Sundays: Fire on the Mountain (2 pm)

Saturdays: Smitty and Julija and Friends (7 pm)

Winchesters

632 E. Main St., Ventura

Music Thurs 5:30; Fri 7 pm; Sun 3 pm

Thurs 11/4: The Swillys

Fri 11/5: Milo Sledge

Sun 11/7: Mark Masson

ventura Music Scene



Ventura County's only printmaking group, **the inksports** will be having their annual group exhibition "Rolling On". The opening reception on November 5, 5-8pm, at 643 Project Space, 643 N. Ventura Ave.

During the First Friday ArtWalk; there will be a free drawing for the inksports 2021 FOLIO of limited edition original prints at 7 p.m.—all are welcome! This year, the prints will be hand bound into a book.

There will be printmaking demos during the Saturday gallery hours 1 to 4pm, November 6, 13, 20 and 27th.

The inksports of San Buenaventura established in 2007, are a group of artists dedicated to creating original prints using a variety of techniques including etching, collagraph, linocut, monoprint, monotype, woodblock, photopolymer etchings and digital manipulation.

The "Rolling On" exhibit will include the works of artists **Christina Altfeld, Margarita Cantú, Beverly Decker, Virginia Furmanski, Judy Gibbs, Jackie Hamel, Bay Hollowell, Colleen M. Kelly, Sandra McCullough, Inés Monguió, Most, Jane Peterson, Leslie Plimpton and Alyse Stuck.** Their individual styles are as unique as the artists themselves.

Ventura Art Scene

Bell Arts Factory will open **Galería Cooperativa**, a community art gallery, workspace, and storefront to be located in the studio 30 space of Bell Arts Factory. Galería Cooperativa will establish space for local artists to work alongside community members to develop solutions that address social problems like racism and injustice; economic inequity; domestic and sexual violence against women; and the impact of COVID-19 in minority communities.

Galería Cooperativa, funded in part through a California Arts Council Impact Project Grant, will feature six BIPOC/LGBTQ+ artists from Ventura and nearby cities. Confirmed artists include: **Andrew Rodriguez**, Ventura CA, **Sergio Martinez**, Santa Paula CA, **Sue Franco**, Ventura CA, **Cesar Aldana**, Oxnard CA, and **Yumiko Glover** from Goleta CA. In addition to using the gallery and studio space, each artist will develop community workshops and classes designed to leverage art as a tool to create personal and social change.

"Planting seeds of art in communities is one of the many ways to achieve a better world. Art Heals," says Maribel Hernandez, Interim Executive Director of Bell Arts Factory. "Galería Cooperativa will be a vibrant studio space, where the community can meet with artists and see the healing power of art in action."

Galería Cooperativa will have its grand opening on November 5th, 2021 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. for First Friday. After that, regular hours will be Thursday 12:00-4:00 p.m. and Saturdays 12:00-4:00 PM, and every First Friday of the month from 6:00- 9:00 p.m. More information on Galería Cooperativa, including artist profiles, workshop schedules, can be found at <https://bellartsfactory.org/galeria-cooperativa/>

The Museum of Ventura County is excited to announce a new installation; *Women's Qualities* by New York-based artist, **Ghada Amer**. Debuting on September 17, 2021, guests can continue to view the exhibit until January 7, 2022. The artwork can be viewed throughout historic Downtown Ventura. Amer describes the installation as a space of reflection and contemplation for both the artist and community, aesthetics, and ideology, as well as nature and culture. Photo courtesy of Museum of Ventura County



This 'n' That



Angela Duran is one of 11 students statewide to receive a \$1,000 scholarship.

College's MESA Program supports Duran in her educational goals

Ventura College computer science major Angela Duran is one of 11 students statewide to receive a \$1,000 scholarship from the Chief Information Systems Officers Association (CISOA), a nonprofit organization supporting technology leadership in the California Community College System. Duran was one of the more than 150 applicants from 31 community college districts who applied for the 2021 CISOA Student Scholarship.

Duran has been supported in

her educational goals through the college's Mathematics, Engineering and Science Achievement (MESA) program, whose mission is to help underserved and underrepresented students be successful in STEM studies and careers.

"Having MESA on campus and the support of CISOA go a long way in helping students like Angela gain access to STEM careers," said Ventura College President Kim Hoffmans. "Through the work of these organizations, along with the encouragement of the college's professors, students are inspired to reach higher in their academic goals."

"The MESA program at Ventura College is filled with other ambitious students and caring staff. April Montes, MESA director, and Angelica Ramos, student services assistant, have been like second parents to me, helping me through the ups and downs of my academic journey," said Duran. "The MESA program has helped me persevere through hardships and take risks that will springboard me to success. Without MESA's motivational push, I likely would not have applied to as many scholarships as I have so far."

Learning she was a CISOA scholarship recipient, Duran's first reaction was pride that her efforts had been recognized. "Affording college has been my most difficult obstacle to tackle. With less financial burden, my stress has been relieved, allowing me to better focus my attention on my studies," said Duran, who is also a computer science and math tutor at Ventura College.

"As a MESA member, Angela has demonstrated passion and determination

Continued on page 20

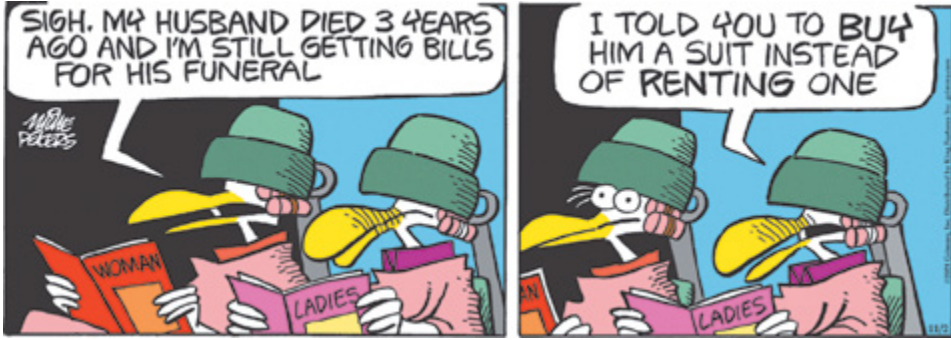


The American Cancer Society started Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walks to unite communities in the fight against this deadly disease. Making Strides is the largest network of breast cancer events in the nation. In Ventura the walk started in the Harbor and ended at the promenade at the Portside Ventura Harbor development.



Lighter Breeze

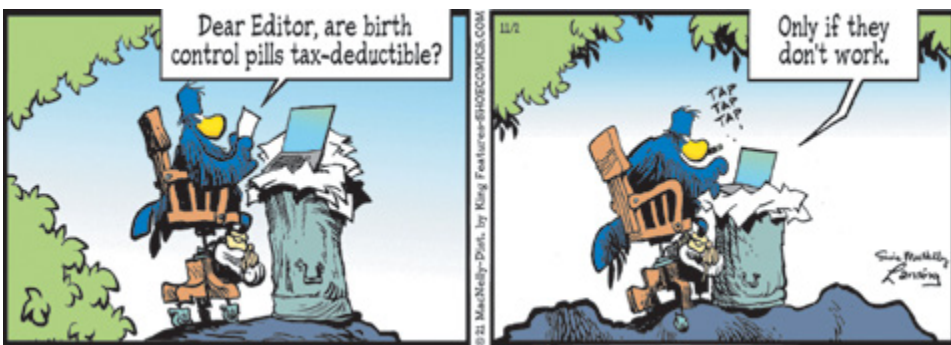
Mother Goose and Grimm



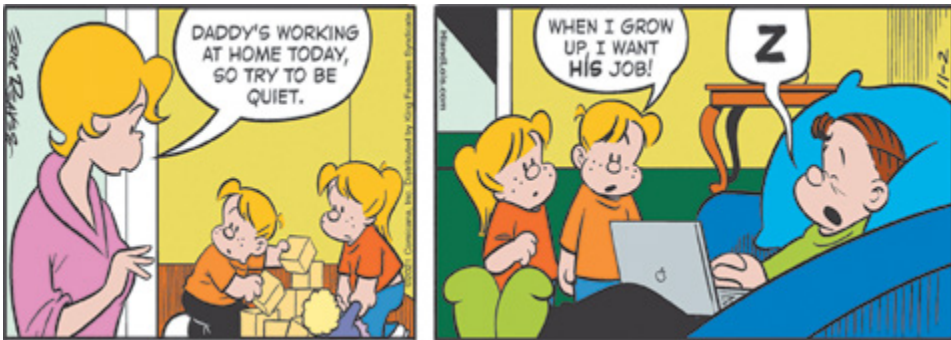
The Brilliant Mind of Edison Lee



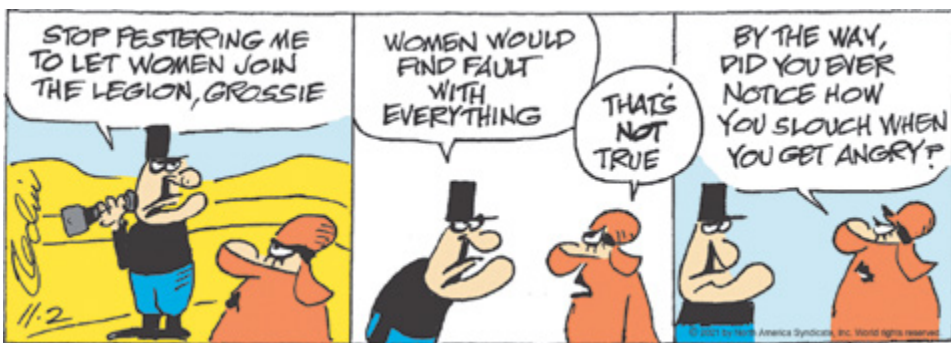
Shoe



Hi and Lois



Crock



Beetle Bailey



Solutions on page 13

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

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

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

Solutions on page 13

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Tibetan monk
- 5 Triumphed
- 8 Used car sites
- 12 Trojan War hero
- 13 Lincoln nickname
- 14 Taj Mahal city
- 15 TV fare for a night owl
- 17 Gusto
- 18 Gallery display
- 19 "The Raven" writer
- 20 "No way!"
- 21 Sign before Virgo
- 22 "Now, where - I?"
- 23 Vivaldi's output
- 26 Reveal
- 30 Dating from
- 31 Embrace
- 32 Salty septet
- 33 "Citizen Kane" sled
- 35 Train tracks
- 36 Observe
- 37 "Ray Donovan" actor
- 38 Dish
- 41 Pirate's drink
- 42 Expert
- 45 San —, Italy
- 46 Single payments

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12					13			14		
15				16				17		
18				19			20			
			21			22				
23	24	25			26			27	28	29
30				31				32		
33				34			35			
			36				37			
38	39	40			41			42	43	44
45					46			47		
48					49			50		
51					52			53		

- 48 Borodin's "Prince —"
- 49 "Uh-huh"
- 50 Perched on
- 51 Like slasher films
- 52 Mag. staff
- 53 Shetland, for one
- 8 Revolving server
- 9 Curved molding
- 10 Serving aid
- 11 Auction
- 16 Detail, briefly
- 20 Dallas hoopster, briefly
- 21 Biography
- 22 Peruke
- 23 Scratch
- 24 Mil. morale booster
- 25 "Mayday!"
- 26 Lemon
- 27 Wahine's gift
- 28 Guy's date
- 29 Curvy letter
- 31 Coloration
- 34 Spell-off
- 35 Cavort
- 37 Checker moves
- 38 Bluenose
- 39 Toy block name
- 40 Cupid's specialty
- 41 Regretted
- 42 Car
- 43 "Let's go!"
- 44 Glimpse
- 46 Caustic solution
- 47 Potential syrup

DOWN

- 1 In — land
- 2 Slightly open
- 3 Damon of Hollywood
- 4 Chopper
- 5 "Yippee!"
- 6 Bassoon's kin
- 7 Just out

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LIBRA (September 23 to October 22)
This is a favorable time to move ahead with your plans. Some setbacks are expected, but they're only temporary. Pick up the pace again and stay with it.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21)
Your creativity is recognized and rewarded. So go ahead and claim what you've earned. Meanwhile, that irksome and mysterious situation soon will be resolved.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21)
A new associate brings ideas that the wise Sagittarian quickly will realize can benefit both of you. Meanwhile, someone from the workplace makes an emotional request.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19)
It might be a good idea to ease up on that hectic pace and spend more time studying things you'll need to know when more opportunities come later in November.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18)
A relatively quiet time is now giving way to a period of high activity. Face it with the anticipation that it will bring you some well-deserved boons and benefits.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20)
Go with the flow, or make waves? It's up to you. Either way, you'll get noticed. However, make up your own mind. Don't let anyone tell you what choices to make.

BORN THIS WEEK: You like to examine everything before you agree to accept what you're told. Your need for truth keeps all those around you honest.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19)
The pitter-patter of all those Sheep feet means that you're out and about, rushing to get more done. That's fine, but slow down by the weekend so you can heed some important advice.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)
You're in charge of your own destiny these days, and, no doubt, you'll have that Bull's-eye of yours right on target. But don't forget to make time for family events.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)
Be prepared for a power struggle that you don't want. Look to the helpful folks around you for advice on how to avoid it without losing the important gains you've made.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)
Congratulations! You're about to claim your hard-earned reward for your patience and persistence. Now, go out and enjoy some fun and games with friends and family.

LEO (July 23 to August 22)
The Big Cat might find it difficult to shake off that listless feeling. But be patient. By week's end, your spirits will perk up and you'll be your perfectly purring self again.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22)
A problem with a co-worker could prove to be a blessing in disguise when a superior steps in to investigate and discovers a situation that could prove helpful to you.

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Showtime

A View from House Seats

Workplace Woes Erupt at the Elite

by Shirley Lorraine

There's nothing like live theater. Always a treat, often a surprise, frequently a challenge. The Elite Theatre Company in Oxnard is bursting forth with excitement and new works in this returning season. On stage now is *Severance Play*, an original work by local playwright Michael Perlmutter. The work was chosen as the Elite's 2020 Playwright Initiative Winner, and for good reason.

Perlmutter's works, both onstage and off, are always insightful, intelligent and instilled with layers of nuance. *Severance Play*, billed as a black comedy, certainly fills the bill.

Staged in the round, this play in one act is riveting, explorative and hilarious. Brian Robert Harris directed a trio of highly capable actors, Brian Kolb, Kimberly Demmary and Maddie Boyd, in this fast-paced crisis-driven peek into the workplace of a small chemical company presented with severe challenges both on and below the emotionally charged surface.

The setting is highly detailed. Theater seats have been removed to accommodate desks, filing cabinets, steno chairs and computers. The computers are used and loaded with proper company logo and information. The white board is used. Employees get coffee. You feel you are really in an office setting.

Audience members are directed to socially acceptable spaced seating both on the actual stage and the usual audience seating area. Staging in the round can be extremely awkward and challenging. This production has achieved almost optimal viewing, from my perspective. The actors take every opportunity to present to all

areas of the audience, using natural transitions effortlessly.

All three actors are superb in their portrayals. Kolb ramps up his character to a fever pitch while remaining understandable. I was exhausted just watching him. Demmary remained the "cool customer" throughout, controlling the situation with well-timed reactions and inflections. Boyd too, added just the right amount of youthful naivete laced with bravado to offer a solid character.

The writing is tight. Every word adds importance to the whole. The storyline starts with an explosive revelation and reveals layer after layer of additional background throughout for each of the characters. At times all the actors are speaking at once and it still completely makes sense. (If it were a musical, they would all be singing in counterpoint)

The very last moment, in my opinion, wasn't a solid clincher moment. However, I left with a feeling of having seen something rather remarkable. After all the actors had been through, I understood the need to end on a laugh.

Bravo to writer Perlmutter, who continues to bring thoughtful, fresh ideas to the stage, and to the Elite for staging this challenging work. The play is filled with adult language and content, so discretion is advised.

Severance Play runs through November 21 Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. Reservations are necessary as seating is limited due to social restrictions. (805) 483-5118, www.TheElite.org. Masks and proof of vaccination are required, per current county mandates.

Streaming Spotlight by Cindy Summers

Squid Game

- Netflix Original



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

Set in Seoul, South Korea, *Squid Game* follows 456 players who, because they were living on the brink of financial ruin, decide to enter a game offering billions to the winner, initially not knowing that the game had deadly consequences. After accepting, players were picked up, gassed and transported to an unknown location. They woke up in a dorm in green track suits with assigned numbers up to 456, while all the staff wore red hooded jackets and pants with a fencing mask having the shape of either a circle, triangle or square painted on the front to indicate their jobs.

The players were told they would play six games over six days and the winners would win a large cash prize. Given a last chance to quit before things began, players then had to sign a "Player Consent Form" which consisted of three clauses: Clause 1 - A player is not allowed to stop playing; Clause 2 - A player who refuses to play will be eliminated; and Clause 3 - Games may be terminated if the majority agrees. Players were then led through a brightly-colored MC Escher stairs labyrinth to the playing field, which looked like an outdoor park with grass and

trees painted on the walls and a 10 foot tall girl doll at the far end. The players were told the game was "Red Light-Green Light" and were reminded of the basic rules of the game. Players who didn't follow the rules would be eliminated, which unknown to the players at the time actually meant shot and killed. When the first few players were shot, many others panicked and kept moving trying to escape and were shot as well, with over two hundred players being eliminated in the first game.

The eliminated players bodies were put in black coffins with pink ribbons and incinerated, and the remaining 201 players returned to the dorm where they were informed that each lost player represented 100,000,000 won toward the cash prize that counting the total players could add up to 45.6 billion won (\$38 million). To emphasize the cash prize, money flowed into a giant, clear plexiglass piggy bank on the ceiling for each player that was eliminated. Though the money was very tempting, it seemed that close to half of the players were terrified by the reality of their situation and wanted to end the game, so a vote was called due to Clause 3 of the Player Contract. The players voted 100 to continue and 101 to end the games, so the games were halted, though were told that if a majority decides to resume, the games could begin again.

Most of the players were in serious financial trouble, so 187 decided to restart the games and repeated the secretive process of returning and resuming where they had left off on Game 2, which was to cut out an assigned shape on a thin piece of honeycomb with a small needle without breaking it or be

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eliminated. All games were timed, and this was set in a playground area where players struggled to gently cut their shapes as other players were being shot all around them.

Not knowing the next game, players were told to divide into teams of ten, and found out the game was Tug-of-War over a giant pit that would eliminate the losing team. Thinking that teaming up was a good thing, players paired off for the 4th game thinking they were allies only to discover to be pitted against each other in a game of marbles. The trend of offering little

information continued to fool players into false alliances and poor choices, eventually pitting two childhood friends against each other in the final *Squid Game*, which they had played together as children.

Squid Game is the most-watched Netflix series of all time, debuting on the charts at No.1 and in its second week reached a rare 3 billion minutes viewed, being only the sixth title to ever do so.

Rated: TV-MA and contains graphic violence, sexual content and mature themes. Runtime: 9 - 1hr Episodes



On Nov. 17 Ventura City and County fire units responded to a reported vegetation fire near the River Haven encampment area adjacent to the Santa Clara River and Olivias Park golf course. Units arrived to find a growing wind driven fire in thick vegetation next to the encampment. Aggressive work by firefighters was able to halt the fire and keep it from significant growth and threat to nearby developed areas. The fire was contained and fully extinguished in approximately 2 hours. The cause was determined to be from an unattended cooking/ warming fire.

No Delay in Trash, Recyclables and Green Waste Pick Up Due to the Veterans Day Holiday

The Veterans Day holiday falls on Thursday, November 11. The collection of trash, recyclables and green waste will not be affected in the cities of Ventura and Ojai during the week of Veterans Day, Nov. 7-13.

Thank you and Happy Holiday
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Doug was instrumental in the successful opening of Harmon Canyon Preserve.

Doug Trapp joins Ventura Land Trust Board

Doug Trapp has joined the Board of Trustees for the Ventura Land Trust. Trapp, a Ventura resident, is a Project Manager with Staples Construction.

Doug Trapp grew up in the West San Fernando Valley, where he often explored local hills that had no official

public access. That experience fueled his desire to support responsible public access to open spaces.

“The dedication shown by VLT staff and volunteers that I have witnessed since joining the Stewardship Committee in 2019 inspired me to become more involved,” says Trapp. “Ventura is a special place that VLT is working to protect and enhance. I look forward to actively supporting our mission.”

As a member of VLT’s Stewardship Committee, Trapp was part of the development of public access infrastructure and trails at Harmon Canyon Preserve.

Ventura Land Trust Preserve Director Dan Hulst is pleased to increase the depth of technical knowledge and experience on VLT’s board. “The addition of Doug to our Board of Trustees is exciting not only because of Doug’s passion for conservation, but because of his experience of managing complex projects.”

“Doug was instrumental in the successful opening of Harmon Canyon Preserve last year, and he has made a long-lasting impact with his work on the construction of the preserve trailhead closure. Enlisting this type of talent at the board level ensures that VLT continues to grow in the right

This 'n' That

direction,” says Hulst.

Trapp has a degree in Speech Communication from Humboldt State University and has been a volunteer and paid host for public radio. He began his full-time career in construction in Seattle in 1990. In 2013, he married his long-time friend and schoolmate Mary and moved to Ventura.

When not working or volunteering, you will find Doug tinkering on the house or boat, picking on a mandolin, spending time with family and friends on the beach and on the water, or exploring the Sierras or local hills.

The mission of Ventura Land Trust is to permanently protect the land, water, wildlife and scenic beauty of the Ventura region for current and future generations. Founded in 2003, Ventura Land Trust believes that preserving open space and providing public access enhances the economy, quality of life, and public well-being of Ventura and surrounding communities. The organization currently owns and manages land along the Ventura River and in the Ventura hillsides, including the 2,100-acre Harmon Canyon Preserve, which opened in June 2020. Harmon Canyon Preserve is Ventura’s first large-scale nature preserve and is open to the public daily from dawn to dusk for free. In addition to these major holdings the Ventura Land Trust owns and stewards other smaller parcels across Ventura County. Ventura Land Trust received accreditation by the Land Trust Alliance in 2019. Learn more and become a member at www.venturaland-trust.org.

College and a founding member and present Archivist of the Ventura County Archaeological Society has researched the names, familial linages, and statistical information of those buried at the Mission.

Chairwoman Julie Tumamait-Stenslie serves on the Board of Trustees for the Ojai Valley Historical Society and Museum, the Board of Trustees and California Indian Advisory Committee for the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, and the University of California at Santa Barbara’s Committee on the “Repatriation” of Native American ceremonial artifacts.

The Chumash First Peoples of the Land once numbered in the tens of thousands and lived along the coast of California. At one time, their territory encompassed 7,000 square miles that spanned from the beaches of Malibu to Paso Robles. The tribe also inhabited inland to the western edge of the San Joaquin Valley and four of the off-shore Channel Islands.

The Chumash were able to enjoy a more prosperous environment than most other tribes in California because they had resources from both the land and the sea. Awith most Native American tribes, Chumash history was passed down from generation to generation through stories and legends. Many of these stories were lost when the Chumash population was all but decimated due to European diseases inadvertently introduced in the 1700s and 1800s by the Spaniards as the mission system was founded and by further colonization by the peoples of Mexico and the United States.

Pastor Fr. Tom Elewaut is in dialogue with Barbareño/Ventureño Band of Mission Indians

In an effort to help heal the wounds of the past, Mission Basilica San Buenaventura pastor Fr. Tom Elewaut is in dialogue with Barbareño/Ventureño Band of Mission Indians Chairperson Julie Tumamait-Stenslie regarding a fitting tribute and awareness of the deceased Chumash interred on Mission grounds. Dialogue and planning are ensuing for a future electronic listing of the names and family relations that will be available in the Mission Museum. Furthermore, an appropriate monument will be erected to honor the deceased Chumash.

From the founding of Mission San Buenaventura in 1782, mostly Chumash and eventually Spanish and Mexican settlers were buried at the site until St. Mary’s Cemetery (now known as Cemetery Memorial Park) opened in 1862 when friars at the Mission were looking for more spacious burial grounds. Later in 1922, a school building was erected over the old cemetery for the founding of Holy Cross School.

For more than three decades Robert Lopez, a sixth-generation Native Californian, Professor Emeritus of Anthropology/Archeology at Moorpark

College’s MESA Program

Continued from page 17

to pursue her degree in computer science. She is bright, energetic, compassionate and genuinely well-rounded. Angela has taken advantage of many opportunities at Ventura College to grow academically and professionally by applying to internships and attending community events and workshops. She is a go-getter!” said Montes.

For the CISOA application, students were required to be currently enrolled in college at least part-time (6 units per term) with a 3.0 GPA or higher and have declared a major in an Information Technology-related field of study (computer networking, management information system (MIS), computer science, cyber security and electronics). Each applicant provided a personal statement outlining their educational goals and plan for using the scholarship funds.

For more information about MESA at Ventura College, contact Montes at (805) 289-6538 or amontes@vcccd.edu or visit About MESA | Ventura College.

Dispite The Buzz

Continued from page 7

Michigan. After earning degrees from Ventura College and Cal State Channel Islands, she began working as a substitute teacher, summer-camp ESL instructor, and tutor. A lifelong writer, Tamara has published articles, participated in poetry readings, won a countywide inspirational essay contest, presented penned pieces at dance exhibits, spoken on The Confident Healer podcast, and performed on stage via The Ventura County Star and USA Today’s Storytellers Project.

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