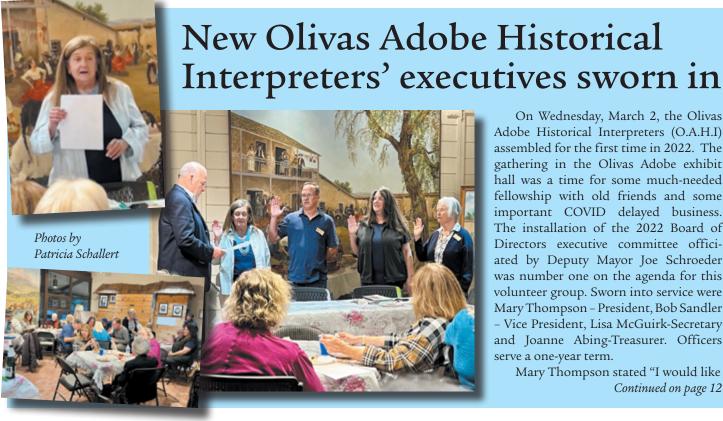
# **Your Hometown Paper**

Published Every Other Wednesday

Established 2007



On Wednesday, March 2, the Olivas Adobe Historical Interpreters (O.A.H.I) assembled for the first time in 2022. The gathering in the Olivas Adobe exhibit hall was a time for some much-needed fellowship with old friends and some important COVID delayed business. The installation of the 2022 Board of Directors executive committee officiated by Deputy Mayor Joe Schroeder was number one on the agenda for this volunteer group. Sworn into service were Mary Thompson - President, Bob Sandler - Vice President, Lisa McGuirk-Secretary and Joanne Abing-Treasurer. Officers serve a one-year term.

Mary Thompson stated "I would like Continued on page 12



# Soroptimist International of Oxnard and Ventura holds 15th Annual Human Trafficking Symposium

by Richard Lieberman

To raise community awareness of human trafficking and sexual slavery Soroptimist International held a public meeting at the Museum of Ventura County Saturday March 5. One goal of the group is to raise community awareness that human trafficking is not just a global problem, but a local one.

Featured speakers included Dr. Lowell Smith, National Extreme Terrorism Consulting and Gang Enforcement and Opal Singleton Hendershot CEO & Founder of "Million

Smith is the former Department Chair for La Sierra University's Criminal Justice Department. He is

a retired Deputy Probation Officer and a widely known expert on white supremacist gangs, white nationalism, sovereign citizens, and anti-government movements.

Another featured speaker Opal Singleton Hendershot, CEO and Founder of "Million Kids" dedicated to keeping kids safe from predators. A leading voice for combating human trafficking, social media exploitation and the impact of advanced technologies on child sex crimes.

Sherriff "Bill" Ayub also gave a brief talk to the crowd emphasizing the importance of realizing that sex trafficking occurs on the local level,

Continued on page 12



# March into the Ventura Townshouse And see all that we have going on this Spring...

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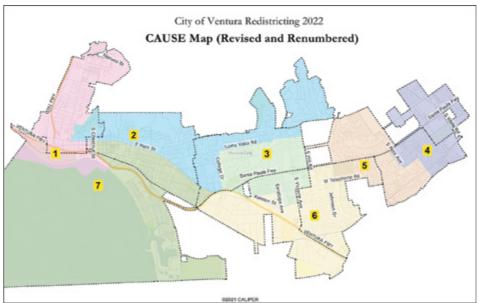
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# City News



# New council district map waiting for final approval

The Ventura City Council has unanimously approved the revised district map of its seven council districts. The Monday vote was a first reading of the ordinance, the final vote to formally adopt the map will be at the March 21 council meeting.

"The redistricting process is something that's done every ten years and impacts how residents elect their city council members. The primary goal when developing election districts is to draw lines that respect neighborhoods, history, and geographical elements," said Interim City Clerk Tracy Oehler.

Some of the biggest changes were based upon population increases in Districts 5 and 6 and decreases in Districts 4 and 7.

Mayor Sofia Rubalcava's District 1 contains the city's biggest Latino district at 60%. The new map will not change this district.

Spokeswoman Heather Sumagaysay said with the new district maps, some residents will realize they will vote for a council member of a different district. "When the maps are finalized, residents can go to the city's website and type in their address to determine what district they are in", Sumagaysay said.

There are 7 members of the Ventura City Council. Starting with the 2018 Election, four (4) Councilmembers were elected by Districts with the remaining three (3) Councilmembers elected by Districts in 2020. While elected by Districts, each

WITH THE CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR ADVERTISERS, DONORS AND READERS, WE CONTINUE TO BRING LOCAL NEWS AND IN-FORMATION 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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# City News

member represents the interests of the City as a whole and serve for a term of four years. At the same time, the Council is reorganized and one of its members is selected to be Mayor. The Mayor serves a term of 2 years.

Council members are:
Sofia Rubalcava Mayor - District 1, Joe
Schroeder Deputy Mayor - District 7,
Lorrie Brown Councilmember - District 6,
Jim Friedman Councilmember - District 5,
Doug Halter Councilmember District 2.

Mike Johnson Councilmember - District 3.

Jeannette Sanchez-Palacios Councilmember - District 4

### Ventura events

by Ana Baker

**Cheers to 20 years. St. Bonaventure High School Class of 2000 reunion.** Saturday, June 4, at 6 pm. Contact Julia Wouk for further information at 619-888-7956.

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.

March 13: Olivas Adobe 4200 Olivas Park Drive Sunday from 11- 3 p.m. Spring Flora & Local Landscapes exhibit. Artists Lisa Mahony and Laura Jespersen explore spring flora and local landscapes in this new exhibit coming to the small Adobe. "Meet the Artists" reception from 1-3 p.m. with light refreshments. Any art purchased on

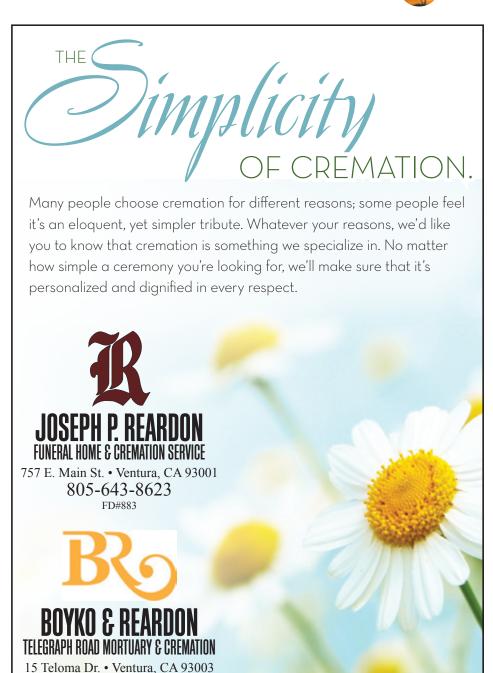
opening day is eligible for 10% off the price. Plein-air artists are welcome! The historic Olivas home will be open for docent lead tours, and the alfresco gift shop will be available.

March 13: Do you like to garden? Plan events? Love music? Or dress up to bring history to life? Join us at the Olivas Adobe Historical Park on Sunday at 1 p.m. to learn about all our volunteer opportunities.

March 17: You are invited to a St. Patrick's Day happy hour from 4- 6 p.m. at the Regency Palms Senior Living at 1020 Bismark way in Oxnard. We will be serving appetizers and refreshments and be raffling a basket, and having goodie bags for each guest RSVP to 805-406-6626.

March 17: In honor of St. Patrick's Day, Ojai author and native plant guide Lanny Kaufer will lead a Green Full Moon Sunset Nature Hike on Thursday evening, from 5:30 - 7:45 p.m. Returning to the trailhead between 7:45 - 8 p.m. The cost for the hike is \$35/person. Senior, student, and child discounts are available by request. HerbWalks.com, by emailing register@ HerbWalks.com, or by calling 805-646-6281.

March 17: At the next virtual meeting of the East Ventura Community Council on Thursday, City of Ventura Civil Engineer Cody Stults will present an update on the city's street paving program. Are presentative from County Supervisor Matt LaVere's office will report on the newly formed Saticoy Municipal Advisory Committee. Area crime statistics will be shared by Continued on page 19



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### Member, Ventura Chamber of Commerce

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Publisher-Editor Sheldon Brown publisher@venturabreeze.com Publisher Emeritus Staci Brown Assistant to the Publisher Ana Baker

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS Richard Lieberman · Shirley Lorraine Sheli Ellsworth · Carol Leish Jill Forman · Pam Baumgardner Elizabeth Rodeno · Mira Reverente Amy Brown · Richard Senate Cindy Summers

Contributing Photographers Richard Lieberman · Michael Gordon Patricia Schallert

DISTRIBUTION Jaime Baker · Mary Thompson Alfred J. Lewis · Richard Lieberman James Gray · John Murchison

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES Breezy Gledhill · Cindy Summers Alfred J. Lewis

> Web/Online Advisor Cindy Summers

PRINT PRODUCTION Alfred J. Lewis/studioNothing

Printing CA Web Print, Inc. (626)281-8989

### CONTACT US:

EVENTS & HAPPENINGS events@venturabreeze.com

**O**PINIONS opinions@venturabreeze.com Articles and Photos

editor@venturabreeze.com THE PET PAGE scampclub@venturabreeze.com Advertising

advertising@venturabreeze.com

### Ventura Breeze

PO Box 832 Ventura, CA 93002 Phone 805.653.0791



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We use 10% of our brains. Imagine how much we could accomplish if we use the other 60. - Ellen **DeGeneres** 

# **Opinion/Editorial**



Congratulations to Mary Thompson, a member of the Ventura Breeze family, for being selected as the new president of the Olivas Adobe docents.

Students at public and private K-12 schools in Ventura County and throughout California will no longer be required to wear masks after March 11, regardless of their vaccination status. The state's decision to lift the mask mandate for students is in line with guidelines issued by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The mask wearing mandate hasn't made sense for some time. Go into a restaurant wearing a mask, sit down shoulder to shoulder at a counter and then take it off. I understand some people who might feel vulnerable to COVID should still wear them.

■ Talk about a conditioned reflex - while driving, my car's phone rang and I pulled over to answer it so I wouldn't get a ticket. Good laugh when I realized what I did, rather than just speaking.

As you know, Russia has launched a wide-ranging attack on Ukraine.

"I went in yesterday and there was a television screen, and I said, "Putin declares a big portion of Ukraine, Putin declares it as independent. Oh, that's wonderful," **Trump** told a conservative podcaster in an interview. The man's a genius. Oh, that's wonderful."

This genius has caused millions of Ukraine's to flee their country, thousands on both sides to die, financial institutes in shambles and our gas prices look like they'll hit \$6 a gallon. Of course, Trump thinks the oligarch dictator Putin is a genius, exactly what Trump wants

Andrew Bates, the White House deputy press secretary, responded with a scathing tweet.

"Two nauseating, fearful pigs who hate what America stands for and whose every action is driven by their own weakness and insecurity, rubbing their snouts together and celebrating as innocent people lose

Several Trump advisers and

associates have practically begged the former president to end his effusive-sounding praise of Putin. His former director of national intelligence has voiced his dismay at the ex-president's remarks praising Putin. Dan Coats said he was "stunned" by Trump's remarks. "I cannot think of any other US like this say what he said."

■ And speaking of gas prices in California, federal and state taxes and fuel fees add about \$1.20 per gallon to our gas prices. Perhaps these could be suspended until prices go lower.

■ Judges on Colombia's constitutional court voted to decriminalize abortion until 24 weeks of gestation. Abortion rights groups sued to have the procedure removed from the penal code. Perhaps we could trade Columbia for Texas.

The nomination of Ketanji Brown Jackson is an attempt to "defile" the supreme court and "humiliate and degrade" the US, the Fox News anchor Tucker Carlson claimed.

If confirmed, Jackson, whose nomination was announced by Joe Biden earlier on Friday, will be the first Black woman on the court. Carlson said Jackson was nominated "because of how she looks". He said, "Do you want to live in that country? Most people don't, of all colors. They think you should be elevated in America based on what you do, on the choices not on how you were born, not on your DNA, because that's Rwanda."

This is perhaps the most disgusting thing I've ever heard a commentator (even from Fox) ever say.

He should be banned from ever appearing on any TV, radio or social media platform again.

Jackson might be one the most qualified justices ever. Born in Washington, D.C., and raised in Miami, Florida. Jackson attended Harvard University for college and law school, where she served as an editor on the Harvard Law Review. She began her legal career with three clerkships, including one with U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Stephen Breyer. Prior to her elevation to an appellate court and from 2013 to 2021, she served as a

district judge on the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. Jackson was also vice chair of the United States Sentencing Commission from 2010 to 2014. Since 2016, she has been a member of the Harvard Board of Overseers.

### Guns In the News:

A 4-year-old Georgia boy accipresident that would in a situation dentally shot himself with a gun outside a Publix store as his mother was shopping inside. The boy, his mother, an infant and a 13-year-old relative arrived at a store and the mother went into the store alone with the children remaining in the car. The child accidentally shot himself inside the vehicle, police said. The 13-year-old then immediately ran inside the business for

> Last month, another 4-year-old boy in Louisiana fatally shot himself after finding a gun in the back seat of a car he was in as his mother and a friend smoked marijuana in the

> So far in 2022, there have been at least 30 unintentional shootings by children, resulting in 13 deaths and

> Perhaps as part of obtaining a license to carry a gun, a required part of the exam should be an IQ test so that 4-year-olds can't have access to guns.

> A father fatally shot his three daughters and a chaperone during a supervised visit at a California church before killing himself.

> The 39-year-old man, who wasn't immediately identified, started shooting inside the sanctuary of The Church in Sacramento during a

> The man, who was estranged from his daughters' mother, gunned down the young girls - ages 9, 10, and 13 - and a male chaperone. The gunman used an AR-15 style semiautomatic rifle in the attack.

> Fourteen people were shot during a party at a Las Vegas hookah lounge including one man who was killed and two others who were critically wounded after two people got into an altercation and exchanged

> A Saturday night shooting in Portland, Oregon, that left one woman dead and five people injured started with a confrontation between an armed homeowner and armed protesters, according to a Portland Police Bureau.

> For the first time, **chimpanzees** were spotted capturing insects and applying them to their own wounds, as well as the wounds of others, possibly as a form of medication. This behavior of one animal applying medication to the wounds of another has never been observed before, and it may be a sign of helpful tendencies in chimpanzees similar to empathy in humans, according to a new study.

> Researchers witnessed multiple instances of this behavior within a community of about 45 chimpanzees at the Loango National Park in Gabon. Perhaps this could be the solution to the shortage of nurses.

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

# Mailbox

Mr. Editor:

You are too easy on Trump. He is a complete A-hole- amazingly incompetent. Also, your review of guns is insufficient. We need constitutional amendment to really limit guns. No chance of course, but worth the battle, thanks for your little paper.

Robert A. Lombardi

an old guy. Robert:

I can't argue with a person who agrees with me. Trump fans certainly don't.

Old guys rule

Ocean Communication

Morning will linger, supposing the Dawn. It prefers the low tide in search of sunrise,

Where never seen colors tint ocean waters.

Ventura invites us to look for the new

So we hold on to the Pacific with an

The coastal shores have enduring views, As the evening paints, the colors in dusk,

It carves the crescent moon in sunset

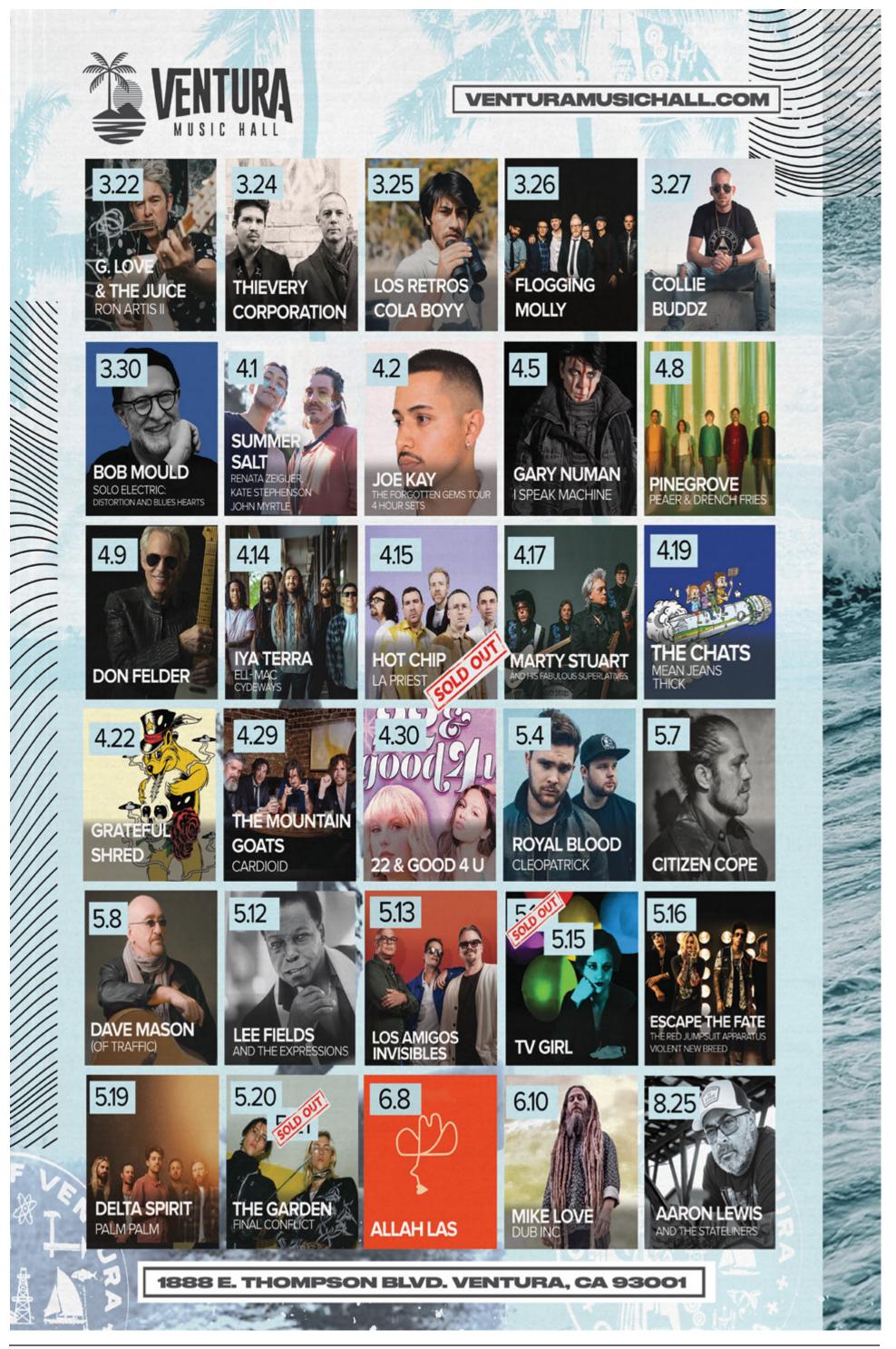
A swell is a modest impression of the

The open passage of rare sea images,

When tiny creatures are the unexpected

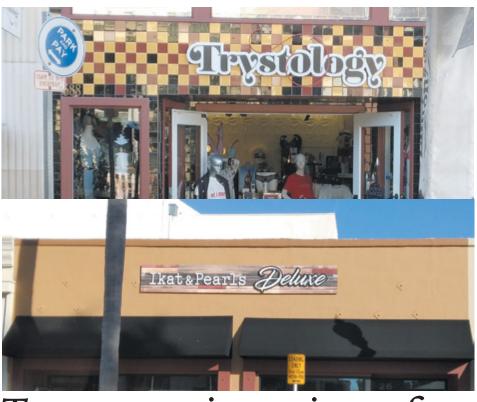
A meaningful way to communicate with the ocean floor.

by Jeff Russell





# **News & Notes**



# Two more viewpoints of the closure of Main St. and California St.

Roylin Downs, the owner of Trystology, said, "I love that the street is closed. Business has been doing well. I'd love to keep it that way. Customers come from all over, as they walk up and down Main Street. This helps our business. I love that we have been able to get more foot traffic."

"I also like that they are trying to get some standards for the restaurants, along with outdoor qualifications. I haven't disliked most of the offerings presents. I'm all in for keeping it this way!"

Visit Trystology at: 588 E. Main St. (888) 801-8952. Look at: https://trystology.com/.

Deborah Yahner, the owner, along with her husband Joe, of Ikat & Pearls said, "I think that the closure of the streets has been wonderful. And, we

have received incredible feedback. Time and time again shoppers comment on the fact that it has made Ventura have a European appeal, which they really like. I would prefer that things stay this way, with the street closures."

Visit Ikat & Pearls at: 28 S. California St. (805) 448-9526. Look at: https://ikatandpearlsboutique.squarespace.com/.

# Seaside enclave salutes Sirens of the Sea

Calling all Mermaids and Mermen... Mermaid Month has officially returned to Ventura Harbor Village! It's the perfect time to head seaside as these mystical aquatic creatures take center stage all month long. Special themed events and live mermaid sightings are scheduled for select Sundays, March 13th and March 20th from 1-4 PM.

Locals and visitors across all oceans are encouraged to make a splash and delve into a myriad of mermaid activities. Kicking off Mermaid Month is a Kid's Free Scavenger Hunt, which runs from March 5th to March 31st. Pick up the scavenger hunt sheets at the Mermaid Gallery in Ventura Harbor Village and return for prizes. On Saturdays in March, bask in the sunshine with sounds of the steel drum (March 12th, 19th and 26th from 1 - 4 PM) along the Village's Seaside Promenade.

Lovers of the sea can meet a live mermaid at the Harbor's "Mermaid Meet

& Greet" on two Sundays, March 13th and March 20th from 1 - 4 PM (weather permitting). Festivities feature photos with a live mermaid, entertainment, colorful face paintings, spectacular exotic birds, scavenger hunts, and mermaid fashion.

On Sunday, March 13th extra activities are a live mermaid chalk art demonstration by artist Lysa Ashley, free craft stations courtesy of Macaroni Kid, and new this year- a Mer-mazing Dance Party with DJ Darla. Come dressed up for a family-fun dance party featuring music from under the sea, bubbles, wands, and flowers galore!

On Sunday, March 20th festivities will feature a new Pop-Up Mermaid Market from 12 - 4 PM in the Channel Islands Courtyard in the Harbor Village. The Harbor's own talented artisans and makers will display their handmade nautical treasures and treats!

All month long, visitors can also engage in seaside selfie stations, including large mermaid shells and the 20-foot plus sign feature that reads "I Love the SEA" on Ventura Harbor Village's Promenade.

Enjoy complimentary giveaways and month-long special savings by select Ventura Harbor Village retailers all month long including: Mermaid Gallery artisan Tina O'Brien is giving a free starfish or bag of shells with every \$25+ purchase. PLUS, get a free shell bracelet if you come in and say "I'm really a mermaid" (while supplies last); Top This Chocolate has chocolate mermaid pops, chocolate mermaid tails, chocolate seashell pops and \$1 chocolate seashells. Ventura Swimwear is offering a free gift with \$50 purchase (while supplies last);



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# **News & Notes**

Sugar Lab Bake Shop has discounted the reusable Mermaid Straws, mermaid drinks, and much more.

Shoppers can purchase a dazzling array of more than 100 mermaid-themed items that include artwork, soaps, jewelry, pottery, nautical finds, coastal décor, ocean-inspired apparel, and mermaid-themed accessories. What's more. Ventura Harbor Village's bars and restaurants are serving up "sea-sonal" themed cocktails, sweat mermaid treats, and delicious freshly caught seafood and Ventura Harbor Village welcomes locals and visitors from across all oceans!

Those seeking to get on the water with ease can rent a kayak, SUP paddle board, electric boats or popular themed swan, duck or dragon peddle boats daily with Ventura Boat Rentals. And to catch a real live mermaid or just a large fish (bragging rights included), they can aboard a vessel from Ventura Sportfishing or get a possible glimpse of the illusive mermaid swimming with the whales on an Island Packers Winter Whale Watch excursion.

To learn more about Ventura Harbor Village Mermaid Month, visit venturaharborvillage.com/mermaidmonth-2022



Could this be the notorious gunfighter?

# Gunfighter, Joe Dye

by Richard Senate

Once a terrible gunfighter walked the streets of old Ventura. He was a violent, temperamental man with few redeemable qualities. His name was Joseph Franklin Dye and his murderous reputation still echoes in the legends of Ventura County. Born in Kentucky in 1831 he traveled to Texas where he held several jobs before coming west to California. As he matured his dark inner demons began to show themselves. When the nation was plunged into the grim and terrible Civil War Joe's sentiments were with the Confederacy but, unlike many who held such views, he didn't make the long journey east to join the fight.

He joined the Beal Gang of highway men who told their victims the robberies were done to support the South but really to line their own pockets. When the war ended, Joe left them and took a job as a deputy in El Monte where he achieved some note running down and arresting a local gang. This attention got him a job as a marshal in Los Angeles. He was given the worst section of the city--Chinatown. Then a crime infested red light district. Here Joe shined as he brought his own brand of harsh justice to the quarter as well as lining his own pockets with bribes and award monies. He got into an argument with his boss, City Marshall William Warren. There was a gunfight and Warren was shot dead! As the Marshall was dying in the street--Joe when to him and bit off his ear! Witnesses said Warren had fired first and Joe Dye was released.

He left LA and moved to Ventura County, buying a ranch in Sespi and marrying his girl friend and mother of his daughter, Lorena Grace. In the 1870s Ventura County was experiencing an oil boom and Joe had an easy time finding work as a guard at the oil fields. He got into oil exploration, wheeling and dealing he made a lot of money, both legally and illegally. Most say that Joe Dye had only one redeeming quality, the love he had for his wife that bordered on obsession. When he discovered she was having an affair with one of his oil partners he snapped. Wisely, his wife quickly left the state. She was mixed up with a merchant in Santa Paula named Herman Haines. Joe called him out and on the dusty streets of Santa Paula they had a classic western gunfight. Haines drew first but Joe's bullet was more accurate and dropped him in the street, dead. Joe was arrested and the trial held in Ventura at the Santa Clara Street red brick courthouse.

With his money, Joe hired a "dream team " of lawyers and was released. Joe terrorized the local people, making his detractors grovel on hands and knees and bark like a dog--at gunpoint, on Main Street, Ventura. His end came when joe partnered with a cousin named Mason Bradfield in another oil lease deal that was shady. When Bradfield wanted out, Joe beat him badly. In Los Angeles to cut yet another oil deal, May 14, 1891, Bradfield got his revenge firing both barrels of a shotgun into Joe Dye. Mason Bradfield was released saying he felt that his life was endangered by Joe. The jury, who knew Dye, believed him and he was released. People in Ventura and Santa Paula breathed a sign of relief that Joe Dye was no longer walking the streets. He rests in a Los Angeles unmarked grave, a grim footnote in local history.

# Museum announces Bonita C. McFarland Scholarship

nounces the return of the Bonita C McFarland Visual Arts Scholarship. Named after a generous benefactor to the arts in Ventura County, the total amount awarded will be \$17,500, with individual awards of \$500 or more dependent on need and number of scholarships awarded. Awards will be based on artistic merit and commitment as demonstrated by the requirements.

The scholarship is available to any high school senior or college level student of the visual arts, who is also a Ventura County resident. Applicants must complete the application online, along with a 400-word essay about their art and education/career goals, letter of recommendation from a teacher or instructor, 10 images of artwork and/or projects (8MB maximum size per image) by the February 28, 2022 deadline.

Applications are open online at venturamuseum.org/bonita-c-mcfarland.

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# Helping the mentally ill homeless

This is a series of emails that help explain the problems of dealing with the mentally ill homeless (about 1/3 of the homeless).

What is the deal with the guy sitting on Main & Kalorama bus bench in front of Locksmiths for weeks

Same question for the woman who is on Thompson by Borchard Vons there for months with just a spell when she was missing

Do they spend nights there too, use bathroom? Eat? Social services try to intervene?

Mike Merewether

Sheldon: Will try to find out from city.

Sadly, problem is it is not illegal to be homeless. If police decide mentally ill could possibly put them on 72-hour hold and maybe go to Hillmont. But most mentally ill will not

Always a problem that is tough to solve. From the city:

Hi Mike and Sheldon,

The most up to date information (at the time this was written) on Chantal and Ricky. They both have been difficult cases for years. I can tell you that from my time with Safe & Clean both are reached out to by our outreach team at least once a week, are offered services, have been contacted by the County's crisis team multiple times, and the Patrol Task Force makes frequent contact. Both are service resistant, but the teams continue to connect with them with hopes that they can continue to build trust and they will hopefully say yes to help. We wish it could be a quicker process and they could get the help they so desperately need, but they have to be willing participants.

Meredith Hart









The mission of The Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Management Program is to "preserve, protect and enhance surface water resources within Ventura County. Photos by Patricia Schallert.

# Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Management Program

by Patricia Schallert

The Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Management Program is a collaborative effort by ten cities, the County of Ventura and the Watershed Protection District. The "Every Litter Bit Matters Campaign" kickoff presentation on Feb.22, 2022, at Marina Park in Ventura emphasized the Ventura cities and county's efforts to protect Ventura

County's Watersheds and to reinforce the importance of putting trash and recyclable items in proper bins to prevent litter of waterways. This program encourages all County residents to be involved in local community clean up programs which will reduce pollutants in the storm drains and watershed.

Ventura County's Community

# **News & Notes**

for clean watersheds "Every Littler Bit Matters" campaign was developed to educate area residents on the harm caused when trash and other contaminants are left in our environment, which are eventually washed or blown through storm drains to the Ventura and Santa Clara Rivers, Malibu and Calleguas Creeks and the streams and estuaries making the way eventually to the Pacific Ocean.

Representatives from each of the ten cities pledged to continue to work cooperatively to improve stormwater quality throughout Ventura County. This joint effort assures consistency and efficiency in stormwater programs county wide and is guided by formal implementation agreements.

The speakers were:
City of Ventura: Sofia Rubalcava, Mayor
County of Ventura: Matt LaVere,
Supervisor of District 1
City of Thousand Oaks: Claudia Bill-de
la Pena, Councilmember
City of Ojai: Betsy Stix, Mayor
City of Port Hueneme: Laura Hernandez,
Councilmember
Ventura Land Trust: Leslie Velez,
Development Director

Watershed encompasses all lands that drain to a common waterbody such as a lake, river, estuary, lagoon or ocean when rain falls or snow melts. As runoff flows downhill, it picks up pollutants like trash, chemicals, pesticides, oils, pet or animal waste and dirt sediment that travels into the storm drain systems and eventually to the ocean.

Pollutants are a primary concern to the environment and are preventable. Litter needs to be put into proper bins. Chemicals can end up in rivers, creeks and the ocean through wind, sprinkler runoff or rain. Pet poop has harmful bacteria that can also end up in rivers creeks and the ocean.

The City of Ventura prides itself in presenting its five miles of beautiful coastline though measures aimed at reducing litter and pollution.

Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Ban was adopted in 2020 to eliminate the used of stylophone food and beverage containers which are a prevalent form of litter. See www.CityofVentura.ca.gov/EPSban.

The Safe and Clean initiative was developed to maintain clean public spaces and ensures that illegal dumping and waste in streets are removed promptly and properly. See www.CityofVentura. ca.gov/SafeAndClean

Sofia Rubalcava stated "The County-wide Community for a Clean Watershed program was established to help residents understand how to respect and protect our watersheds and provides information on how simple changes in our daily lives can bring water quality benefits county-wide."

"The "Every Litter Bit Matters" Campaign aims at controlling the preventable pollutants that accumulate throughout our communities that can damage our waterways and impact public and watershed health. Simple changes, such picking up litter in and around our homes and businesses, can make a big difference in keeping our watersheds vibrant and healthy for generations to come."

Matt LaVere, District 1 Supervisor, Ventura County (and former Ventura city council member) stated "Being a second Cintinued on page 12

# Cancer care as unique as you.

You are one of a kind. Your smile, your laugh, the way you look at those you love. So, when it comes to cancer care, you deserve a treatment approach that's as unique as you. Dignity Health – St. John's Regional Cancer Center features a comprehensive range of services—from advanced diagnosis and treatment through supportive care and recovery—so you get the plan that best fits your needs. Learn more at **dignityhealth.org/stjohnscancercenter**.

# Hello humankindness®





# Senior ung

# A punch to the gut for Alzheimer's patients and their loved ones

by Michelle McMurry-Heath

Over 6 million Americans suffering from Alzheimer's just received a gut-punch from the federal agency that oversees Medicare. So did their

In mid-January, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services made an unprecedented decision to cut off most seniors' access to an entire class of Alzheimer's treatments. CMS's actions will have a significant impact on dementia research -- and could dash Americans' hopes for a cure. And this decision will hit vulnerable minority and other underrepresented populations especially hard.

The decision most immediately impacts Medicare enrollees who were considering Aduhelm, a medicine that the FDA approved in June. The drug reduces amyloid plaque in the

brain, which many -- but not all -- scientists believe is a trigger for Alzheimer's.

The FDA weighed the science and determined that an accelerated approval -- which the agency has used for promising treatments for HIV and cancer in the past -- offered the best path forward. It gives patients, many of whom are hardest hit by a disease, access to a needed therapeutic option, while additional studies are done.

The bureaucrats at CMS evidently disagree with FDA scientists' approach, which has long been viewed as the gold-standard for science-based safety and efficacy standards.

The Medicare administrator announced it would restrict access to Aduhelm -- and any other future

### FREE

### **VENTURA COUNTY PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP** NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, March 15 (10-11:00am)

Meetings are held at Crosspointe Church in Ventura (5415 Ralston Ave.) on the THIRD Tuesday of each month from 10-11am

For more information, go to vcneurofitness.com OR contact Dr. Vanessa White: 805.300.7749-vcneurofitness@hotmail.com

"monoclonal antibodies that target amyloid for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease" -- to a minuscule sliver of people enrolled in CMS-approved clinical trials, all of which could take several years. The proposal excludes millions of Medicare beneficiaries currently living with the disease, and it will impact people of color particularly hard.

Studies show that over the last two decades, even though minorities are at an increased risk of developing Alzheimer's, 94.7% of clinical trial participants for developmental Alzheimer's treatments have been white.

The decision marks a significant setback for Alzheimer's research. Nearly 100 Alzheimer's programs have failed in the past decade. So the FDA's accelerated approval of Aduhelm, the first new Alzheimer's treatment since 2003, wasn't just hopeful news for patients; it was a historic event that gave researchers, and investors, confidence to continue plugging away in search of new treatments.

Today, there are companies of all sizes working to develop treatments to stop, prevent, or slow the progression of Alzheimer's using a variety

of novel strategies. Small biopharma companies are leading the majority of these programs.

If Medicare -- which pays for the vast majority of Alzheimer's treatment -- won't cover a new drug, despite the FDA's experts ruling that the medicine has great potential, companies would be foolish to keep investing in risky, hugely expensive Alzheimer's research.

CMS officials are, in effect, setting themselves up as a second drug-approval agency. CMS is not equipped for this. They lack the expertise to tackle these scientific questions and legally, the agency appears to have exceeded its authority.

If unchallenged, this reproach -- and this unilateral assertion of drug-evaluation powers -- could harden into a precedent that could damage our treatment-approval process irreparably. And the onslaught of Alzheimer's and other difficult to treat diseases will continue unchecked for generations

Michelle McMurry-Heath is a physician-scientist and president and CEO of the Biotechnology Innovation Organization. This piece originally ran in the Hill.





# Senior Living



The companion dog is an ideal animal to study biological aging.

# Dog Aging Project goal is to help both dogs and humans live longer, healthier lives

Through the NIA-supported Dog Aging Project (DAP), scientists aim to understand how a complex combination of genes, lifestyle, and environment influence aging not only for dogs but for humans as well. In a perspective recently published in Nature, the researchers describe how they hope to establish the foundation for an innovative, community science approach to aging research in dogs.

There is still much to learn about the mechanisms underlying individual aging. Most of what is known about the biology of aging comes from laboratory studies of mammals such as mice and rats, and invertebrates like fruit flies and nematodes. To better understand how genes and environment affect aging in animals outside of a lab and closer to our own life-course experiences, and to generate knowledge that could more readily translate to human aging, the DAP has turned to the companion dog.

The companion dog is an ideal animal to study biological aging. Dogs are one of the most variable animal species in terms of size, shape, and behavior. Like humans, dogs vary in life expectancy and the spectrum of diseases they are likely to encounter. Companion dogs experience nearly every functional decline and disease of aging that people do, and these diseases are diagnosed and treated within a health care system that parallels human health care in many ways. Dogs also share the human environment, and given that they age more rapidly than humans, they enable unique opportunities for longitudinal and interventional studies.

DAP-targeted study populations consist of dogs of all breeds (purebred and mixed breed), ages, sizes, and sexes. Participation in the DAP is open to all geographic regions in the United States, including urban, suburban, and rural areas. DAP scientists are collecting a wide range of information — electronic vet-

erinary medical records, environmental data, and genome-wide sequencing — as well as blood, urine, hair, and feces.

Data that will provide veterinarians and scientists with tools to assess how well a specific dog is aging and set the stage for studies on factors that influence normal aging. DAP researchers have already begun collecting and analyzing the data that lay the groundwork for canine-specific aging processes.

Whole-genome sequencing data that will help identify genetic variants, environmental and lifestyle factors, and the interactions that are associated with diverse measures of aging. The DAP is on track to complete sequencing of the genomes of 10,000 dogs by the end of 2022.

These data will generate predictive and prognostic biomarkers of aging and will point to causal factors that explain the mechanisms by which specific genetic or environmental factors influence aging. These should also be useful biomarkers for clinical studies to develop anti-aging therapies.

The DAP also includes a clinical trial in dogs using a one-year course of weekly low-dose rapamycin, which has been shown to extend lifespan and improve health in mice. The intent is to test the hypothesis that this compound can increase lifespan, improve heart and cognitive function, and reduce age-related disease incidence in middle-aged, large-breed dogs. This represents the first clinical trial of a drug with lifespan and healthspan metrics as endpoints in any species outside of a laboratory.

In addition to making important contributions to veterinary medicine, the ambitious goals set by the DAP research initiative hold the potential of transforming the field of aging research.

This research was supported by NIA grant U19AG057377.

# What happens to the brain in Alzheimer's Disease? The healthy human brain contains tens of billions of neurons—special-

The healthy human brain contains tens of billions of neurons—specialized cells that process and transmit information via electrical and chemical signals. They send messages between different parts of the brain, and from the brain to the muscles and organs of the body. Alzheimer's disease disrupts this communication among neurons, resulting in loss of function and cell death.

The cell body contains the nucleus, which houses the genetic blueprint that directs and regulates the cell's activities.

Dendrites are branch-like structures that extend from the cell body and collect information from other neurons.

The axon is a cable-like structure at the end of the cell body opposite the dendrites and transmits messages to other neurons.

The function and survival of neurons depend on several key biological processes:

# How Does Alzheimer's Disease Affect the Brain?

The brain typically shrinks to some degree in healthy aging but, surprisingly, does not lose neurons in large numbers. In Alzheimer's disease, however, damage is widespread, as many neurons stop functioning, lose connections with other neurons, and die. Alzheimer's disrupts processes vital to neurons and their networks, including communication, metabolism, and repair.

At first, Alzheimer's disease typically destroys neurons and their connections in parts of the brain involved in memory, including the entorhinal cortex and hippocampus. It later affects areas in the cerebral cortex responsible for language, reasoning, and social behavior. Eventually, many other areas of the brain are damaged. Over time, a person with Alzheimer's gradually loses his or her ability to live and function independently. Ultimately, the disease is fatal.a computer generated graphic of the brain with labels pointing to the cerebral cortex, entorhinal cortex, and the hippocampus

# What Are the Main Characteristics of the Brain with Alzheimer's?

Many molecular and cellular changes take place in the brain of a person with Alzheimer's disease. These changes can be observed in brain tissue under the microscope after death. Investigations are underway to determine which changes may cause Alzheimer's and which may be a result of the disease.

Communication. Neurons are constantly in touch with neighboring brain cells. When a neuron receives signals from other neurons, it generates an electrical charge that travels down the length of its axon and releases neurotransmitter chemicals across a tiny gap, called a synapse. Like a key fitting into a lock, each neurotransmitter molecule then binds to specific receptor sites on a dendrite of a nearby neuron. This process triggers chemical or electrical signals that either stimulate or inhibit activity in the neuron receiving the

signal. Communication often occurs across networks of brain cells.

For More Information About Alzheimer's Brain Changes NIA Alzheimer's and related Dementias Education and Referral (ADEAR) Center 800-438-4380 adear@nia.nih.gov www.nia.nih.gov/alzheimers

# Healthy Aging Seminar

by Carol Leish, MA

Ventura County Area Agency on Aging (VCAA), in collaboration with Community Memorial Health System (CMHS), debuted their seminars on Health & Wellness for Older Adults & People with Disabilities.

Maziar Goshtasbi, MD, who is a gerontologist, gave the first talk: Healthy Aging. It was, via Zoom, on February 17, 2022.

"The expertise in our county to help our aging population and those with disabilities is profound," according to, Maureen Hodge, LCSW, High Risk Manager for CMHS, and member of the VCAAA Advisory Council. "Allowing experts to share their wealth of information for caregivers and loved ones will only enhance their knowledge and ability to handle significant changes as people age at any stage of life."

Dr. Goshtasbi said that the World Health Organization defines health in a multidimensional way, as "complete physical, mental and social well-being, not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. And, its vision includes ideas such as meaning and purpose, connectedness, dignity, adaptation, and resilience."

"Adopting positive lifestyle behaviors increases longevity, decreases chronic disease, and improves quality of life in old age," according to Dr. Goshtasbi. "Contributors to health include: Health care (10%); social circumstances (15%); Genetics (30%); and, Behavioral patterns (40%)."

Dr. Goshtasbi said that, "The term 'healthy aging' often conjures an idea state of freedom from illness of medical conditions. However, in reality, healthy aging requires adaptation to stress, change, and adversity, which is resilience.

"Prevention of cognitive decline occurs with lifestyle interventions (e.g., nutrition, exercise, cognitive training, maintaining social connectedness, and managing vascular risk factors.

"Some risk factors for functional decline are: cardiovascular disease, diabetes, COPD, arthritis, being overweight, smoking. Some protective factors are high levels of physical activity and emotionally supportive social networks."

The American Geriatrics Society's framework for health aging in 2019 was outlined as a holistic approach to interventions to promote health aging that accommodates the diversity of health trajectories as we age. "These domains include: 1) Facilitating social engagement; & 2) Promoting health, preventing injury and managing chronic conditions. Other domains are: 1) Promoting health, preventing injury and managing chronic conditions; 2) Optimizing cognitive health; 3) Optimizing physical health; and 4) Optimizing mental health."

Healthy aging can be achieved at any stage of life. Dr. Goshtasbi said, "Let's live happier and healthier lives since it's not o.k. to suffer when getting older." Dr. Maziar Goshtasbi practices at Community Memorial Health System's Midtown Medical Group Pirie Road clinic in Ojai. Phone: (805) 640-2323. He is currently accepting new patients.



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# Senior Living



Health care professional checking the blood pressure of an older adult.

# High blood pressure may lower or raise dementia risk among older adults

High and low blood pressure levels among different older age groups were associated with varying dementia risks, according to research published in JAMA Internal Medicine. The prospective observational study showed that high systolic blood pressure in people more than 60 years old decreases the risk of dementia, but both lower and higher blood pressure are associated with decreased dementia risk in people older than 75.

Although midlife hypertension is associated with an increased risk for dementia, this risk in older people has not been well researched. Previous studies have reported a U-shaped association between blood pressure and dementia risk, where both high and low blood pressure are associated with increased risk; however, the evidence for this association is limited. The JAMA Internal Medicine study collected blood pressure, onset of dementia, and mortality data from seven population-based cohort studies, including the NIA-funded Adult Changes in Thought (ACT) study.

Researchers analyzed data on more than 17,000 participants from these cohorts and divided the participants into different age groups. In the younger age groups (60 to 70 years old), higher blood pressure was associated with lower dementia risk. The older age groups (75 years and older) showed the U-shaped association where high and low blood pressures were associated with decreased

dementia risk. Interestingly, these associations for decreased dementia risk were not attributable to longer survival with lower blood pressure.

This study provides new evidence about how blood pressure affects dementia risk in older people, which previously has not been clearly defined. The researchers note that these observational study results contradict evidence from randomized controlled trials, including the NIA-supported Systolic Blood Pressure Intervention Trial - Memory and Cognition in Decreased Hypertension (SPRINT MIND) study that suggested controlling high blood pressure can reduce dementia risk. They explain that the novel association in this study may be because their cohorts consist of a broader, older population rather than a specific subgroup of older people with high blood pressure and other cardiovascular risk factors.

Since this was an observational study, the study authors suggest further research is needed to understand the cause behind the associations that it found, including randomized controlled trials to find the best strategies for controlling blood pressure in older people. Study co-author Zachary A. Marcum, Pharm.D., Ph.D., at the University of Washington, is a Paul B. Beeson Emerging Leaders Career Development Award in Aging recipient.

This research was supported in part by NIA grant K76AG059929.

# Vitamins and minerals for

by National Institute on Aging

Vitamins and minerals are two of the main types of nutrients that your body needs to survive and stay healthy. Find information on some of the essential vitamins recommended for older adults and how to get the recommended amount within your diet.

Vitamins help your body grow

help keep the body working properly. Some vitamins help you resist infections and keep your nerves healthy, while others may help your body get energy from food or help your blood clot properly. By following the Dietary Guidelines, you will get enough of most of these vitamins

Like vitamins, minerals also help your body function. Minerals are elements that our bodies need to function that can be found on the earth and in foods. Some minerals, like iodine and fluoride, are only needed in very small quantities. Others, such as calcium, magnesium, and potassium, are needed in larger amounts. As with vitamins, if you

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eat a varied diet, you will probably get enough of most minerals.

It is usually better to get the nutrients you need from food, rather than a pill. That's because nutrient-dense foods contain other things that are good for you, like fiber.

Most older people can get all the nutrients they need from foods. But if you aren't sure, talk with your doctor or a registered dietitian to find out if you are missing any important vitamins or minerals. He or she may recommend a vitamin or dietary supplement.

If you do need to supplement your diet, look for a supplement that contains the vitamin or mineral you need without a lot of other unnecessary ingredients. Read the label to make sure the dose is not too large. Avoid supplements with mega-doses. Too much of some vitamins and minerals can be harmful, and you might be paying for supplements you don't need. Your doctor or pharmacist can recommend brands that fit your needs.

Different foods in each food group have different nutrients. Picking an assortment within every food group throughout the week will help you get many nutrients. For example, choose seafood instead of meat twice a week. The variety of foods will make your meals more interesting, too.

Measurements for Vitamins and Minerals Vitamins and minerals are measured in a variety of ways. The most common are:

thousandth of a gram)

mcg - microgram (a microgram is one millionth of a gram. 1,000 micrograms is equal to one milligram) IU - international unit (the conversion of milligrams and micrograms into IU depends on the type of vitamin or drug)

Recommended Sodium Intake for Older Adults

Sodium is another important mineral. In most Americans' diets, sodium primarily comes from salt (sodium chloride). Whenever you add salt to your food, you're adding sodium.- it's added to many foods during processing or preparation.

How much sodium is okay? People 51 and older should reduce their sodium intake to 2,300 mg each day. That is about one teaspoon of salt and includes sodium added during manufacturing or cooking as well as at the table when eating. If you have high blood pressure or prehypertension, limiting sodium intake to 1,500 mg per day, about 2/3 teaspoon of salt, may be helpful. Preparing your own meals at home without using a lot of processed foods or salt will allow you to control how much sodium you get. Try using less salt when cooking, and don't add salt before you take the first bite. If you make this change slowly, you will get used to the difference in taste. Also look for grocery products marked "low sodium," "unsalted," "no salt added," "sodium free," or "salt free." Also check the Nutrition Facts Label to see how much sodium

Eating more fresh vegetables and fruit also helps - they are naturally mg - milligram (a milligram is one low in sodium and provide more potassium. Get your sauce and dressing on the side and use only as much as you need for taste.

# older adults

and work the way it should. There are 13 essential vitamins – vitamins A, C, D, E, K, and the B vitamins (thiamine, riboflavin, niacin, pantothenic acid, biotin, B6, B12, and

Vitamins have different jobs to



### Olivas Adobe Historical Interpreters

Continued from page 1

to thank Joe Schroeder, our city councilman, for doing us the honor of swearing us in. It's always a pleasure to have Publisher Sheldon Brown with us also."

"I came to the Olivas for the first time with my 4th grade class from Arnaz Elementary School in Oak View. My sister was married at the Adobe in 1977. I have been a docent for many years and am honored to be your president. I am looking forward to serving as president and keeping the history of the Olivas Adobe alive."

A full spring season was planned to begin with, March 13 from 11am -3 pm, when the Olivas grounds and building are open for tours, an al fresco gift shop and a new exhibit in the small adobe by artists Laura Jean Jespersen and Lisa Mahony featuring paintings of local flora and landscapes. Two additional spring events are planned for the second Sundays in April and May.

Interesting in gardening, event planning or local history? a volunteer open house is planned for 1 pm on March 13 in the exhibit hall- 4200 Olivas Park Drive. Come see how this volunteer group is keeping the Rancho Period of California alive. www.cityofventura.ca.gov/OlivasAdobe.

The wonderful Music Under the Stars music concerts will be returning to the Adobe once again. Watch for more information in a future issue of the Ventura Breeze.

The City of Ventura Parks & Recreation Department who manages and maintains the Olivas Adobe Historical Park is happy to see the OAHI volunteers meeting in person again. "Even though it's only been a couple of months since they presented the Holiday Candlelight tours- this is a living site that takes you back to an era with costumed volunteers sharing history about the gardens, the two story Rancho home and the family who lived in it, artists talking about their work and inspiration garnered from painting on site-this place is

intended for visitors to experience in person." says Ventura Cultural Supervisor, Kathryn Dippong Lawson

The Olivas Adobe historic site features the restored two-story adobe home of Don Raymundo Olivas. Built in 1847, this Monterey-style adobe home, Historical Landmark No. 115 from the Rancho-era, celebrates Ventura's Rancho and Latino heritage through docent-led weekend tours, educational outreach programs for school groups, and community events.

The docents and board members perform a most valuable service of not only protecting the historic Olivas Adobe, but also keeping relevant by planning and staffing its many activities year-round. The docents are chiefly responsible for keeping alive the rancho's many seasons of history and celebrate the skills, traditions and heritage that belong to Ventura's many peoples.

The Board of the Olivas Adobe Historic Interpreters oversee the docent operations and ensures that they run smoothly and successfully. Thanks to the OAHI docents, the Olivas Adobe continues its long tradition of hospitality by hosting a full calendar of diverse cultural events for all ages.

Joe Schroeder stated "It is now my pleasure to swear in the new board's elected officers. Please raise your right hand and repeat after me. I promise to conduct myself with dignity and decorum when representing the Olivas Adobe Historical Interpreters and the City of Ventura."

"I swear to uphold the By-Laws of the Olivas Adobe Historical Interpreters and to do my job as an elected officer to the best of my ability."

"It is my pleasure to present to you the Olivas Adobe Historical Interpreters elected and installed officers for 2022. Thank you, everyone for attending tonight's Olivas Adobe swearing in ceremony and congratulations to the new board members."



# Multi-Sport Day for physically disabled kids and adults held at Ventura Family YMCA

by Richard Lieberman

Angel City Sports, an organization that provides free, adaptive sports clinics and equipment for kids and adults with physical disabilities or visual impairment, hosted an event at the Ventura YMCA. The multi-sports day included wheelchair basketball, powerlifting, and blind soccer. "We are thrilled to host our first event in Ventura," said Clayton Frech, CEO, and founder of Angel City Sports. "People are demanding more adaptive sports across the nation; it's an honor and privilege to bring our platform to new communities," added Frech.

Angel City Sports sponsors and provides free year-round adaptive sport clinics, equipment, and opportunities for adults and, kids with physical disabilities or visual impairments. The annual Angel City Games, the organizations "flagship event" sponsored by the Hartford Insurance Agency began in 2015 and is the largest multi-sport Paralympic competition in the United States. Some disabilities included in the competitions are individuals with limb differences and amputations, spinal cord injuries, quadriplegia, spina bifida, cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, blindness or visual impairment, traumatic brain injury, stroke,

muscular dystrophy, and dwarfism. The groups' goal is to create a community and sense of belonging for people with physical disabilities supporting them to reach their full potential.

Camille Mahlknecht, Associate Director of Angel City Sports "We are here to unite the community and give everyone a chance to try an adaptive sport", Mahlknecht said. The group wants to increase its sport activities in Ventura partially because there is a demand for it and giving Ventura's disabled community a chance to participate in sports activities not normally available to them. "There is a demand here and there isn't as many opportunities here as there are in the Los Angeles area" she said. "So, whatever we can do to bring programming to areas that have a need for it we want to make it happen," Mahlknecht added. Mahlknecht was a professional basketball player and played with Katy Holloway two-time Olympic medalist who introduced her to the sport.

Local resident Sufana and her son Carmen both voiced their support of the games and the opportunities to meet others with disabilities. "We really have a lot of fun as well," she said.

### Soroptimist holds Symposium

Continued from page 1

and for all of us to be aware of the signs that indicate human trafficking is occurring right here in Ventura County.

The presentations covered subjects related to keeping kids safe from predators, to identify and combat human trafficking, and how to identify signs of technology and video game addiction. White supremacy and extremism were also discussed. "One of the most crucial factors is how accessible a young person is to a pedophile is the amount of time they spend on the internet and their willing ness to take chances when talking to individuals they have never met," said Opal Hendershot.

Dr. Lowell Smith in his presentation talked about white supremacy and its ever-increasing activities in California. "There's been a major recruiting effort in the white supremacy, white nationalist movement over the past few years in California," he said. Smith also added "California with its increasingly diverse population and left-of-center politics, has become a breeding ground for hate groups."

An awareness march was scheduled to begin at the museum and walk downtown streets to arose awareness was canceled due to weather conditions.

### Ventura Countywide stormwater

Continued from page 8

generation in Ventura County one of the primary reasons I became Supervisor was the preservation of the environment."

"Collaborative partnerships are so important to accomplish the task at hand."

Leslie Velez went on to say "Since 2003, Ventura Land Trust has conserved and stewarded open spaces in Ventura County. Ventura Land Trust protects over 3,800 acres of land in the Ventura hillsides, Ventura River, and coastal estuary. We recognize the importance of the Ventura County Community for a Clean Watershed and look forward to a continued partnership."

For more information and resources on how to be involved, please visit www.cleanwatershed.org or www.vcstormwater.org

# **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.

### Carjacking, Assault with Firearm, Attempted Carjacking, Conspiracy, **Resisting a Peace Officer**

Location: Olive and Harrison, 126 Freeway East of Wells

On Feb.21, at 9;29pm, VPD patrol responded to a stolen vehicle investigation. In speaking with the victim, the investigating officer learned the victim had been carjacked at gunpoint by three suspects. Ventura Police Communications notified surrounding agencies of the circumstances.

Shortly after being notified, CHP officers located the stolen vehicle on the 126 Freeway east of Wells Road, but the suspects had exited and were walking on the freeway. Subsequent investigation showed that after leaving the first stolen vehicle behind, the suspects tried unsuccessfully to carjack another passing motorist on the 126 Freeway.

CHP officers and a VPD K9 located the suspects and detained them. Additional officers arrived and the subjects were taken into custody.

No officers and neither of the victims were injured during the crimes. One suspect was treated for injuries sustained during the arrest. All three suspects were ultimately booked in juvenile hall for their involvement in the following crimes: 215 PC Carjacking, 664/215 PC Attempted Carjacking, 245(b) PC Assault with a Firearm, 182 (a)(1) PC Conspiracy, 148 (a)(1) PC Resisting a Peace Officer.

The 126 Freeway was shut down between Wells Road and Briggs Road while the crimes were being investigated.

# **Harbor Patrol** Blotter

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

**02/17** 1:30am, dispatched to chest pain at VWM C-dock. Officers responded and assisted VFD/AMR with the patient who was transported by AMR.

4:55am, monitored two vessels inbound requesting passing information from the H.R. Morris dredge. Monitored until they were safely in the harbor.

**02/18** 12:33am, received report from local male transient parked in vehicle near village that a female transient is screaming while walking. Officers investigated and found the female screaming softly and leaving the area.

10:05am, while on patrol in Fireboat, moved several commercial lobster traps that "walked" to the Harbor Entrance. Placed in lobster grounds off breakwall. 02/19 4:15pm, received reports and observed the 55ft sailboat anchored off Greenock Ln. Jetty is adrift and heading towards the North end of the breakwall. Officers responded, but the ferro-cement sailboat rammed into breakwall and sank upon arrival.

5:10pm, received report of persons on a dreamer rental peddle "dragon" boat are running on the Portside docks and jumping into the water. Officers responded, stopped the ruckus, and escorted the vessel/crew back to Dreamer Rentals.

02/20 8:20am, working with dredge

tenders, Tow Boat US to remove and tow teak debris from the sunken sailboat from yesterday. Placing debris

12:30pm, received report of a dock float adrift in the final finger of the keys. Advised RP, City of Ventura is responsible for the keys. Investigated to ensure the dock float was not a hazard to navigation in the fireboat.

11:40pm, dispatched to person stuck in the elevator at Holiday Inn express. Officers responded with VFD/AMR, elevator power restored, no one inside. **02/21** 4:00pm, received inquires and reports about wood debris from the boating accident from Saturday. Still no diesel sheens observed in area.

**02/24** 9:23pm, while enforcing launch ramp parking, officers removed a large school bus refurbished into an RV for no camping in the harbor.

02/25 3:33pm, received report of a gun shot from a tenant in the Ventura Marina Community. Advised to hang up and call 911. Contacted PD, no call received.

Officers try to remind callers, contact 911 for emergencies or police calls.

**02/26** 8:00am, Oxnard Lifeguard academy utilizing harbor patrol facilities for their annual Academy. Officers assisting with boat

11:21am, dispatched to a traffic accident on Navigator, vehicle into irrigation valves near Holdiay Inn Express. No injuries, driver investigated for DUI. 3:45pm, dispatched to an Ocean Rescue, kite surfer in distress at the Ventura Pier. Officers responded in the Fireboat with multiple agencies. The victim was assisted back to shore, refused medical treatment.

9:07pm, dispatched to an assault at VWM A-dock, officers responded and staged for VPD. No injuries sustained; both had fallen into the water. PD investigating.

02/27 8:45am, officers assisting Oxnard College Lifeguard academy with traffic control while candidates swim a course through the harbor.

9:05am, officers escorting a special ceremony out to the #2 buoy in Fireboat.

2:08pm, dispatched to a hazard investigation at Surfers Knoll, black substance flowing into the beach/ ocean. Officers responded with US coast guard, VFD. Once again, the culprit: spoil from the dredge out flow, maintenance dredging.

4:40pm, received report of a hazard to navigation adrift in the main basin of the keys. Officers responded, towed the 15ft cement dock float to the launch ramp.

02/28 1:23am, observed a vegetation fire near settling ponds. Advised fire and assisted with beach transport to investigate. VFD accessed through water

4:37pm, received a single unconfirmed report of a boat fire near VYC. Officers responded in Fireboat, found a motor vessel with heavy diesel smoke, no

# Answer in a Breeze

Question: On our daily walk, we walk the square around Ventura College. Both Loma Vista and Telegraph Rd



have potholes and chunks of asphalt that fly into the gutters and even onto the sidewalk caused by vehicles traveling at 40 to 50 mph.

🗜 Ventura Executive Suites

I live on Johnson Drive in Ventura where road repairs were made awhile back. I couldn't be more pleased to see how nice and clean and safe our neighborhood is after years of ugly, falling apart streets.

Now back to Loma Vista and Telegraph, a very nice area where property values are important. Too bad about their ugly, falling apart streets. A pretty simple plea. Sincerely, Diane Ryan

Answer: We turned to Ventura City

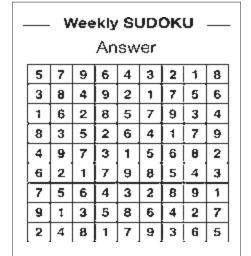
We are pleased to hear you are enjoying the recent repair of Johnson Drive. Thank you for inquiring about those sections on Loma Vista Road and Telegraph Road.

Road and Ashwood Avenue will receive repairs via slurry seal anticipated for this summer. Road repairs typically are completed

in summer months as fair-weather conditions are needed for effective asphalt pavement applications. Both those stretches of road were repaired sometime between 2009-2011, according to our Pavement Management Plan, which was completed in July 2016. The section of Telegraph Road, however, has a planned pipeline project that is currently being designed and will have to wait until the pipeline is in place prior to the paving repair.

The City of Ventura has over 700 lane miles and our Public Works Department repairs 40 miles on average each year with current funding availability. To view the nearly \$200M in streets and infrastructure capital improvement projects planned in the next five years, visit www.CityofVentura.ca.gov/Construction to view the Loma Vista Road between Day FY 2023-27 Capital Improvement Program.

> To report pothole repair needs, call the City hotline at (805)





March 9 - March 22, 2022 Ventura BREEZE

# The Pet Page



Dedicated to Scamp

■ My name is Frederic Bisson and I need your help.

I'm a long distance truck driver based in Montreal, Canada. Last month, I was making deliveries in Ventura and I had to

spend the weekend in the area before the next scheduled appointment.

I am traveling with my 2 cats: Lea and Stella. In my pre-pandemic life, I worked as a journalist and a radio host and I left everything behind to experience this new life on the road with my cats.

At 35, I received a diagnostic of autism (Asperger) and that's when I knew that I had to change my life because working in the media was too much stress.

I'm sending this email because my little cat Stella ran away during my first night staying at Motel 6 in Ventura. She pushed the screened window open and never came back. Unfortunately, I had to leave because of my trucking work.

I've posted some pictures on a Facebook group and many volunteers from your area went searching, posted signs and installed cameras near the motel. It's one of the volunteers that gave me the idea to send my story to your newspaper.

Being autistic, cats are really important in my life. I've been so sad and depressed since Stella ran away and I don't know what more I can do to find her. What is she's alive and was found by someone?

Here are a couple of pictures of her. If you have any questions, please call me back. I would fly back to California to be reunited with her. My boss is also trying to book some deliveries for me in California in the coming month.

Thank you! Frederic Bisson 819-664-2643

HSVC Cares is partnering with national nonprofit Petco Love to give pets their best shot for a healthy life by hosting free pet vaccine events during the month of March.

Petco Love established March as "National Pet Vaccination Month" to encourage pet parents to keep their pets up to date on vaccinations and will provide free pet vaccines to HSVC for family pets in need. As puppy and kitten season approaches, pet exposure to contagious and deadly diseases - parvovirus, distemper, and panleukopenia - increases but is preventable with a simple vaccine.

Free vaccine events will take place at the shelter, located at 402 Bryant St. in Ojai, on March 24th and March 31st. Walk-ins are welcome from 1 - 3 pm on March 24th and from 12 - 3 pm on March 31st. Free FVRCP (upper respiratory) vaccines for cats and free DHPP (distemper/parvo) vaccines for dogs will be offered in addition to \$5 Rabies vaccines, \$15 Bordetella vaccines, and \$25 microchipping including registration.

A second cash-only remote free vaccine event will take place on March 26th from 12 - 4 pm at Westpark Community Center at 450 Harrison Ave in Ventura. Free FVRCP (upper respiratory) vaccines for cats and free DHPP (distemper/ parvo) vaccines for dogs will be offered in addition to \$5 Rabies vaccines at both of these events.

For more information about HSVC Cares' vaccine event, visit hsvc.org, or contact the shelter via email at animals@ hsvc.org or by phone at 805-646-6505. Learn more about Petco Love's national vaccine effort and lifesaving impact at petcolove.org or freepetvaccines.org.

Rep. Julia Brownley (D-Calif.) and six other members of Congress are speaking out for thousands of beagles suffering at a massive facility operated by Envigo in Cumberland, Virginia, that breeds dogs for experimentation. The legislators have sent a letter to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) urging the agency to fulfil its legal obligations and confiscate the dogs at Envigo or suspend the facility's license over its critical, direct, and repeat violations of the federal Animal Welfare Act. Reps. Charlie Crist (D-Fla.), Rep. Dina Titus (D-Nev., Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-D.C.), Rashida Tlaib (D-Mich.), Elaine G. Luria (D-Va.), and Jerry McNerney (D-Calif.) also signed the letter.

Although the USDA cited Envigo-an Indiana-based \$545 million company that sells dogs for experimentation all over the world-for 39 violations just between July and October 2021, it has failed to take meaningful action to protect the thousands of beagles who remain imprisoned at the facility.

"This lack of timely follow-through is not what Congress intended when it entrusted APHIS with investigating these violations of federal law," wrote the representatives. "Please provide my office with ... a complete explanation as to when APHIS will take these and other actions to render urgently needed aid to the roughly 5,000 dogs held at Envigo."

Of the 39 violations Envigo was cited for between July and October 2021, 19 were direct or critical (having serious or severe adverse effects on the health and well-being of the animal) and 11 were repeat failures. Violations include these:

Only 17 staff members were employed to supply direct care to 5,000 dogs and puppies.

More than 300 puppies' deaths were attributed to "unknown causes."

One dead puppy was found eviscerated, and records showed that her kennelmates had "chewed on" her corpse.

Numerous dogs were denied care for "severe dental disease," eye ailments, crusted and oozing sores on their paws, multiple skin lesions with "thickened" and "inflamed" tissue, and other wounds and conditions.

Three dogs had been killed in fights, and 71 others had been injured by dogs in adjacent kennels. Twenty-four dogs and puppies were missing, and nine dogs who had been injured when "body parts" were pulled through a kennel wall by other dogs and bitten, causing "physical harm and unnecessary pain," were put down.

Thirteen mother dogs were denied od for 42 hours while nursing 78 puppies.

There were "old, dried, and moldy feces" in dog enclosures; up to six inches of feces piled in a gutter; one kennel with "at least nine or ten piles of feces"; and an "overpowering fecal odor" and a "strong sewage odor" in the facility.

For more information about PETA's investigative newsgathering and reporting, please visit PETA.org or follow the group on Twitter, Facebook, or Instagram.

Cats have a hard time competing with dogs because you know dogs are happy to see you from far away because you can hear them bark and see them wag their tails. When cats meow you need to be very close to them to hear so think of meowing as barking. When cats purr you need to be almost petting them to hear so think of purring as wagging their tails so they become just like dogs. And for some folks and illnesses cats are even better therapy

# Scamp Club

(Scampclub pets are not for adoption.)

I'm Lucy: I am the Chihuahua on the right and I like to lick toes, (silly pup I am!) and I'm Charles on the left. I'm a dixie shepherd mix and I like to play ball! Between the two of us we run the house and keep our humans on their



# Join Scamp Club

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

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

### **Mother Goose and Grimm**



animals. So, let's hear it for cats

Do's and Don'ts for Communicating with Your Cat, From body language to training tips, here's how to build better bonds with feline pals. by Brittany Edelmann

The do's and don'ts provided here may help strengthen your bond with your cat, increasing the chances that they will be less stressed generally, and more inclined to relax and play, or just hang out with you. And that's good for both of you, because physical interaction with a cat can be beneficial for your overall health. One 2019 study by scientists at Washington State University showed a decrease in cortisol, a stress hormone, within just 10 minutes of interacting with cats (or dogs) compared to those who just observed interactions from afar. So give these tips a try.

Do: Turn up the Heat

"Cats ... in general, like houses warmer than most Americans keep them," Lilly

says. A 2016 research study indicates that the ideal room temperature for felines is 86 to 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit - much warmer than most humans prefer. Cranking up the thermostat, especially in winter, may be cost-prohibitive in many regions. But placing a heating pad next to you - one that is safe for claws and not too hot — creates a localized hot zone that can make cats "feel cozy and warm" and "is a great way to try and get your cat to hang out with you," adds Lilly, who has three pads for her kitty: in the office, the bedroom and the living room.

Every cat is different. Understanding what they like and don't like, keeping stress to a minimum and making them as comfortable as possible is key to a better relationship. What's most important? "Respecting their boundaries and interacting in a way that they want to interact versus the way you may want to interact, can be beneficial for your relationship," Castro says.



Have you seen Stella?

# The Pet Page

# Forever homes wanted

Hi: I'm Baby, a very sweet 3-yearold Labrador X who was rescued from Animal Services where I was found as a stray by a good Samaritan. I got along with their male dog (breed unknown) and did well with their 6-year-old. If you have a fur baby in the home, please bring him/her along so we can do a meet and greet. I love attention and being petted and I'm very people oriented. OIf you're interested in meeting me, please fill out an online application to meet me. Canine Adoption and Rescue League C.A.R.L.





I'm Ron a 1 year, 6 months neutered male domestic shorthair. Intake Date: Sunday Adoptable Date: Thursday March 17, 2022 I was found in Oxnard on March 06, 2022. I'm a sweet little boy. Shelter: Camarillo Animal Shelter Kennel: 307 Animal ID: A761546

The Bookmark

# About Libraries and Friends

by Jill Forman

# Just scheduled – Friends of the Library Book Sale!

Saturday March 19 at Vons, corner of Telegraph and Victoria.

Times and details to be determined. Information: venturafriend-softhelibrary.org.

### Libraries are open!

Not everyone is aware of this. They are open, same hours as pre-closure. Library activities are transitioning to in-person or possible a combination of Zoom and in-person. Check your branch's website for schedules and formats, or talk to the staff.

### Foster Library Bookstore is open!

Tuesdays through Saturdays 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Every genre, hundreds of good-quality books, very reasonable prices. Staffed by Friends volunteers who love to talk about books and libraries

# Hill Road book sale shelves are

Have been completely restocked. Adults, kids, CD's and DVD's also. Available whenever the branch is open, honor payment system.

# Online Bookstore is always open! With a sale!

Children's books, Youth Fiction and Youth Non-Fiction on sale in March for \$1. Venturafriend-softheibrary.org, tab for "Online Store." Pick-up will be at the Foster bookstore; purchasers will get an email when their order is ready.

# Support your libraries with Amazon Smile

Every purchase you make with Amazon Smile goes to the charity of your choice. To set up, go to smile. amazon.com; there is an option to set up your recipient. Of course, we encourage you to pick "San Buenaventura Friends of the Library."

**Goodbye to Dolly Knight, Ventura** help for everyone.

### Senior City Librarian

Dolly has brought enthusiasm and a fresh perspective to the libraries. She will be missed.

### **Book Groups**

Foster Library Saturday morning book group is on hold until April.

Hill Road book group meets the last Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m. March's book is The Rose Code by Kate Quinn.

New book group at Hill Road: Linda Cherry, Librarian at Hill, is starting a group focusing on children's books for adults. The group will be called The Wise Owls Book Club (Little Books for Big People); the first meeting will be Tuesday, April 12 at 5:00 p.m., to discuss When the Sea Turned To Silver by Grace Lin. To be added to the mailing list, find out about forthcoming title selections and meeting dates, email Linda. Cherry@ventura.org.

New members wanted for a Friends of the Library book group. Not your everyday book group, this one does not discuss one book a month. Every member describes and discusses books they have read in the past month. We frequently exchange books also. Members enjoy learning about books they might never have been exposed to. We have been meeting via Zoom for the past couple of years, but anticipate in-person monthly meetings soon. For information, contact kmpgen@sbcglobal.net.

### What Else is Going on?

So many things! Here's a sample: Zip Books - Request books you'd like the library to buy.

Brainfuse HelpNow - eLearning for all ages and levels.

Minecraft Mondays - Every Monday 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Storytimes - In person and on Facebook.
Bilingual Bedtime Stories - Tuesdays,

7:00 to 7:30 pm on Facebook.

Discover Science - Talk to library staff for schedule.

Your libraries offer activities and help for everyone.

Moving Up?
Moving Out?
I can help you with that!

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY | California Properties Home Services

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# Purim is near

Feast of Lots, a joyous Jewish festival commemorating the survival of the Jews who, in the 5th century BCE, were marked for death by their Persian rulers. The story is related in the biblical Book of Esther. Purim is celebrated on Thursday, March 17, 2022.

Haman, chief minister of King Ahasuerus, incensed that Mordecai, a Jew, held him in disdain and refused obeisance, convinced the king that the Jews living under Persian rule were rebellious and should be slaughtered. With the king's consent, Haman set a date for the execution (the 13th day of the month of Adar) by casting lots and built a gallows for Mordecai.

When word of the planned massacre reached Esther, beloved Jewish queen of Ahasuerus and adopted daughter of Mordecai, she risked her life by going uninvited to the king to suggest a banquet that Haman would attend. At the meal she pleaded for the Jews and accused "this wicked Haman" of plotting the annihilation of her people.

Upset, the king stepped out into the palace gardens. On returning, he found Haman "falling on the couch where Esther was." The king mistook Haman's frantic pleas for mercy as an attack upon the queen. The outraged king ordered that Haman be hanged and that Mordecai be named to his position. Esther and Mordecai then obtained a royal

edict allowing Jews throughout the empire to attack their enemies on Adar 13. After an exhilarating victory, they declared the following day a holiday and (alluding to the lots Haman had cast) named it Purim.

### TREE TOWN

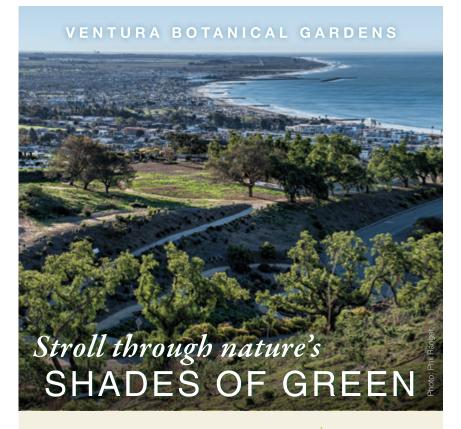


Help celebrate Arbor Day!

On Saturday, March 12, this barren section of the Ventura/Ojai Bike Path next to Hwy 33 will be planted with 65 new trees.

Volunteers are needed, and will meet at Westpark parking lot at 9:00am. Bring shovels and gloves.

www.venturatreealliance.com



# Free Admission on St. Patrick's Day

The Karoo Garden aloe and Fynbos Garden protea are in bloom! Bring your family and friends to enjoy the Gardens. Leashed dogs are welcome.

JOIN US Thursday, March 17

HOURS 9am-5pm

Be sure to stop into our Courtyard garden shop, browse our plants and pottery, and ask about our plant sponsorships!

SUPPORT THE VENTURA BOTANICAL GARDENS, BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!

567 S. Poli St. | 805.232.3113 | VenturaBotanicalGardens.com

March 9 - March 22, 2022



### by Pam Baumgardner

VenturaRocks.com

Ventura Music Hall is still on track for their first show on March 22 with G. Love & the Juice and what an incredible first band to have on their docket. You'll want to bookmark their website (www.VenturaMusicHall.com), all the dates are listed with links to secure tickets, which I highly recommended you do, sooner than later, as dates are selling out even before they open their doors. They're offering a variety of acts from up-and-coming indie artists to Rock and Roll Hall of Famers (Don Felder of the Eagles), and offering all types of genres from Soul to Country and most points in between.

There's Bob Mould with a successful solo career after Husker Du in the 80s; it should be a house party with Thievery Corporation, electronic, music duo; Celtic punk rockers Flogging Molly will keep you on your toes; there's Dave Mason who continues to tour with over 100 a shows a year (when there isn't a pandemic), and who, for crying out loud, wrote "Feelin' Alright" when he was in Traffic; there's Country and Bluegrass artist Marty Stuart, who you may or may know toured with Johnny Cash's road band many years ago, and that's just a handful of the artists already lined up.

I got a tour of the venue last month, gone are the bowling lanes, and it's all about bringing even more music to town as well having another outlet for our trove of local artists to play. The kitchen will offer food, there's a full bar and the staff are super excited to be a part of our community...I have no doubt, they're going to fit in just fine!

And then there's yet another one of those not-to-be-missed shows at the Grape with the Jerry Vivino quartet on Saturday, March 12. You most likely know Vivino's sax work as a member of the Conon O'Brien Show's band, but he's played with Springsteen, James Taylor, Donald Fagen, Branford Marsalis and others. On drums will be Bernie Dresel, multi-Grammy award winning artist who not only performed and recorded with the Brian Setzer Orchestra and Gordon Goodwin's Big Phat Band, but his work can be found on such soundtracks as Whiplash, Incredibles 2, Mission Impossible III, and the Bourne Supremacy.

Quick Notes: congratulations to Steve and Sally Williams on the release of their CD, Borrowed & Blues; Relm Wine & Beer Bistro is now called Onyx Bistro and they'll continue to host singer/songwriters on Fridays and Saturdays; tickets are on sale now for 311's May 12th date at the Ventura Theater; Aaron Orbit along with Rubberneck Lions and Carlism play The Six Chow House on Friday, March 11; RJ Mischo birthday bash will be held in the Blue Room upstairs next the Comedy Club in the Ventura Harbor on Friday, March 18; and Kyle returns to the Ventura Theatre for a show on Friday, March 18.

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, additional times and

### A Bar Called Country 211 E. Santa Clara Street, Ventura

Thurs 3/18: Brother Earl and the Cousins, Jonathan Sheldon

### Angry Ferret Brewing Co. 11990 Hertz Street, Moorpark

Sat 3/12: Dave Smith Sat 3/19: Milo Sledge Trio

### The Blue Room

# Upstairs next to Comedy Club, Ventura

Fri 3/18: RJ Mischo

Ventura Harbor

Thursdays: Jim Friery; then Bluegrass Jam Fri 3/18: Teresa Russell w/ Stephen Geyer Sat 3/19: Big Adventure Duo Sun 3/20: CRV

### **Bombay Bar & Grill**

143 S. California St., Ventura

DJs Friday – Sunday

### 66 S. California Street, Ventura

Wed 3/9: Donna Greene Fri 3/11: Otis Hayes Wed 3/16: Donna Butler Fri 3/18: Self Righteous Brothers

Fri 3/11: John Nemeth Sat 3/12: Brandon Ragan Fri 3/18: Slogan Acoustic Sat 3/19: Sandy Haley

### The Cave

Wednesdays & Thursdays: Bobby Apostol Fridays & Saturdays: Warren Takahashi

### Copa Cubana

Saturdays and Sundays: Kenny DeVoe

### 2261 Maraicopa Hwy, Ojai

the Turkey Buzzards Mon 3/14: Vetiver w/ Scott Hirsch Sat 3/19: The Sometimes Island

### 325 S. Borchard Dr., Ventura

Fri 3/11: Kyle Smith

### 2290 Eastman Ave., Ventura

Sat 3/12: Mark Masson Duo Fri 3/18: Crosscut 805

### The Grape

Cuevas y la Moderna (2 pm) Wed 3/9: WeBBinney Thurs 3/10: House Arrest feat. Freda Ramey

& Colene Riffo Fri 3/11: Fred Kaplan Trip; Max Haymer Trio

Sat 3/12: the Jerry Vivino Quartet Thurs 3/17: Midlife Crisis

The Greek Restaurant

### Ventura Harbor

Wednesdays & Thursdays: Ken Devoe

### Keynote Lounge

### 10245 E Telephone Rd, Ventura

Thursdays: Open mic jam Fri 3/11: DJ AVG Sat 3/12: Whiskey Business Fri 3/18: CRV Sat 3/19: DJ Joe

### **Leashless Brewing**

### 585 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura

Thurs 3/10: Second Round Fri 3/11: TC King Sat 3/12: Heavy Rotation Sun 3/13: Blown Over Thurs 3/17: Nate Ward Fri 3/18: Jayden Secor Sat 3/19: The Sliders Sun 3/20: Katie Leigh

### **Lookout & Grill**

### 2800 S. Harbor Blvd., Oxnard

Thursdays: Acoustic Open Mic

### **Lucas Sellers Wine**

### 330 Zachary Street, Moorpark

Music 6-9 pm

Sat 12/3: Karen Eden w/ Bill Macpherson

### **Made West Brewing**

### 1744 Donlon Street, Ventura

Sun 3/13: Mikey Goode Sat 3/19: Sour fin Sun 3/20: Lindsey Marie

### Majestic Ventura Theater

### 26 S. Chestnut Street, Ventura

Wed 3/9: Kaleo Fri 3/18: Kyle

### Manhattan Restaurant

### 5800 Santa Rosa Road, Camarillo

Wed 3/9: Robert Van Fri 3/11: Tour Support Sat 3/12: Jeanne Tatum

Thurs 3/17: CRV Fri 3/18: Dynamic Duo Pam & Hollywood Sat 3/19: Michael Falcone Trio

### Margarita Villa

### Ventura Harbor

Fri & Sat 7-10 pm; Sun 4-7 pm Fri 3/11: Red Rhythm Sat 3/12: Operation 90s

Sun 3/13: Crosscut 805 Sat 3/19: On Tap

Sun 3/20: Tossers

### Mrs. Olson's 2800 Harbor Blvd., Channel Islands Harbor

Music at Noon

Sun 3/13: Teresa Russell w/ Stephen Geyer

### Namba Arts

### 47 S. Oak Street, Ventura

Fri 3/11: Alex Lucero & the Live Again Band Sat 3/12: The F.A.T. trio

Fri 3/18: The Pipes (Brid Simon & Gary Best)

### Ojai Underground Exchange 616 Pearl Street, Ojai

Sat 3/19: Shawn Jones

### Onyx Bistro (formerly Relm) 2390 Las Posas Rd., Camarillo Fri 3/11: Gianna Bella

Sat 3/12: the Fabulous Hangovers Fri 3/18: Scott Rausch Sat 3/19: Sam Stacy

### **Oxnard Performing Arts Center** Canyon at Oxnard PACC

Sat 3/12: Buddy Guy, Ally Venable

### Peirano's on the Terrazza 204 E. Main Street, Ventura

Fri 3/11: Toni Jannotta Jazz Trio

### The Raven Tavern

1651 S. Victoria Ave., Oxnard

Music at 7-10 pm

Fri 3/11: Brittney Burchett

Sat 3/12: Jayden Secor Thurs 3/17: The Remedies Fri 3/18: Jetlemons

### Sat 3/19: Sean Wiggins Ric's Restaurant

### 2500 Las Posas Road, Camarillo

Tuesdays: Tour Support with Kurt Griffey & Bob DeLellis

### Rock & Roll Pizza

### 305 Arneil Road, Camarillo

Tuesdays: Rockstar Karaoke Fri 3/11: Just Dave Band

Sat 3/12: Ozzy Bloody Ozzy, Hollywood

Thurs 3/17: Gary Ballen

Fri 3/18: Stay in Your Lane

Sat 3/19: Kerosene Kings & Craig Adams Sun 3/20: Irie Nationz International

### Sans Souci

### 21 S. Chestnut Street, Ventura

Fri 3/11: Sin Chonies

Wednesdays: Tommy Foytek's Variety Show Sat 3/12: No Consent, Los Bonedrivers, RAW

### The Shores

### 1031 Harbor Blvd., Oxnard

Fri 3/11: CRV

### The Six Chow House

419 E Main Street, Ventura Fri 3/11: Aaron Orbit, Rubberneck Lions,

Carlism Sat 3/12: The Rod Show

Wed 3/16: Anuhea with Jordan T Thurs: 3/17: Thin Emerald

Fri 3/18: Cosolive Sat 3/19: Funky Hippeez / Sweet Pea

### **Strey Cellars**

### 951 N. Rice Ave., Oxnard

Sat 3/12: Kevin James O'Brien

### Taqueria Jalisco Restaurant 4275 Tierra Rejada Rd., Moorpark

Tuesdays & Fridays: Jim Friery

### **Topa Topa Brewing** 2024 Ventura Blvd., Camarillo

### Sat 3/12: Brenda Carsey Topa Topa Brewing

341 Ojai Ave., Ojai Sat 3/12: Buck Moon

Fri 3/18: Kellen van Allen Sat 3/19: Sam Kulchin

### The Twist on Main

454 E. Main Street, Ventura Wednesdays: Classic Country w/ Jesse Harris

Fri 3/11: Crosscut 805 Sat 3/12: BombaFiya; Out of the Blue

Sun 3/13: Steve and Sally Williams

Thurs 3/17: LA Jazz Connection

Fri 3/18: Soul Machine

Sat 3/19: Bob Bishop; Divebar Messiahs Sun 3/20: Joe Delia

### Vaquero y Mar

### 435 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura

Tuesdays The Sea Hunters Thursdays: Delta by the Beach

### The Vine

### 308 E. Ojai Ave., Ojai

Sundays: Fire on the Mountain Saturdays: Smitty and Julija and Friends Fri 3/12: Corey Highberg Fri 3/18: David Gorospe Sun 3/20: Toni Jonnatta Jazz

### Winchesters

### 632 E. Main St., Ventura

Thurs 3/10: Brandon Ragan Fri 3/11: Steve and Sally Williams Sun 3/13: Karen Eden & the Bad Apples Tues 3/15: Open mic w/Jenna Rose Thurs 3/17: Big Adventure Fri 3/18: Mark Masson Sun 3/20: Duncan & the Dragonslayers

### 1901 Speakeasy 740 S. B Street, Oxnard

Sat 3/12: Steve and Sally Williams

Ventura Music Scene

## genres go to VenturaRocks.com

### **Boatyard Pub**

Wednesdays: Frank Barajas

Café Fiore

### Cantara Cellars 126 N. Wood Road, Camarillo

4435 McGrath St., Ventura

# Ventura Harbor Village

Tuesdays: Blues Tuesdays Sat 3/12: Teresa Russell

### Sun 3/13: Buena Onda The Deer Lodge

Sun 3/13: Willy Tea Taylor & the Fellership;

### Fatty Vegan

## **Four Brix Winery**

2833 E. Main Street, Ventura Tuesdays Jazz Jam Saturday afternoons Salsa with Fausto





**Michelle Nosco** is the Artist of the Month at the Harbor Village Gallery, part of the Buenaventura Art Association.

"My passion is to create compassion for life though art!"

Michelle paints portraits of people and pets, sea and sky creatures.

She accepts commissions and is a muralist, leading workshops with local environmental groups through the Arts For Earth Foundation a nonprofit educational arts organization.

A painter, filmmaker and violinist. Nosco spent her early career in advertising as a designer, art director and producer.

She studied at CalARTs, University of Michigan, the Detroit Institute of Art, Wayne State University and Cranbrook School of Art. She received her masters in Directing Theater, Television, and Film (DTTF) at CalARTs and holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Michigan.

You can contact Michelle through her website at: NoscoFineArt.com

Allyn Beth Brown recently moved to Ventura from Los Angles and opened her Art Gallery and Studio called "Art is Passion" which focuses on art that motivates others and brings light to positive change. She fell in love with the warm Ventura community and discovered there are many incredible artists who love to share their gifts and passions for art similar to her own.

Beth grew up in the Bay area and received a bachelor's degree from the Art Institute of California-San Francisco. After over a decade of working as a Web Designer and Developer, the events of 2020 gave her the courage to transition into a full-time artist.

Beth's art gallery and studio features rotating exhibits by various local artists.

Studio services include residential and commercial mural painting, graphic design, print design, canvas art commissions, custom vinyl apparel and more.

Her studio gallery is located at 864 Schooner Dr. Unit 103, in Portside Ventura Harbor.

The gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday from 11 am to 7 pm and Sunday and Monday by appointment only. Beth reported that she started "Art is Passion" to "spread love, happiness and creativity."

Art is Passion Art and Studio Gallery 864 Schooner Dr Unit 103 Ventura 93001 Beth@artispassion.com





# Ventura Art Scene

# This 'n' That



Gary Wilde accepting check from Norma

# CMH Auxiliary contributes to Community Memorial Hospital

Outgoing treasurer, Norma

Taylor, presented a check from the Community Memorial Hospital Auxiliary to Gary Wilde, who accepted on behalf of the hospital. The money was raised from donations, bequests, and fund-raising activities by Auxiliary members and will be used toward future needs of the hospital.

Fund-raising is just one facet to the activities of the CMH Auxiliary. From the front desk to the emergency room, the gift shop, and most other areas of the hospital, members may be seen in their navy and white uniforms, lending a hand to patients and staff alike. These volunteers assist in many ways and contribute to the smooth running of the various departments.

# Trees Make a Difference

by Christy Weir

Arbor Day is a nationally celebrated observance that encourages tree planting and care. California celebrates Arbor Day between March 7-14, this year on Saturday, March 12.

The city of Ventura has a fascinating tree history. One of the oldest trees in town is a designated historic landmark. The Moreton Bay Fig tree in downtown's Plaza Park was planted in 1874 and, with a span of 150 feet, is one of the largest of its species. At 148 years of age, it is older than most of our buildings.

The two great Norfolk Island pines next to the Mission are estimated to be well over 100 years old. They reputedly were planted by a sailing captain in the hope that they would eventually provide a supply of ship masts.

In the 18th century, many species were introduced to Ventura, notably palms, eucalyptus and citrus. In 1898, thirteen Big Blue Gum Eucalyptus saplings were planted on a hilltop above Ventura. Over time,



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all have been lost to vandalism, fire, drought and disease. Two Trees, the much-loved symbol of our city, have not survived and replacements have been planted.

In 1922, several tall palm trees near the Mission were the inspiration for the name and logo of Las Palmas brand enchilada sauce, created by a talented Ventura cook named Rosa Ramirez. You'll still see the Las Palmas label with distinctive Ventura palms on store shelves worldwide

Thousands of acres of fertile land east of Seaward Avenue flourished with walnut, citrus and avocado orchards for most of the twentieth century, growing Ventura's economy and enhancing the postcard-perfect landscape.

Ventura's urban forest of over

30,000 trees is one of the most vital pieces of our city's infrastructure, providing numerous benefits for our residents. Tree-lined streets retain large volumes of rainfall, reducing and cleansing runoff. They also increase property values, encourage shopping and business, reduce air pollution, calm traffic and lower noise levels. And trees reduce erosion and stabilize our hilly terrain. There are currently over 10,000 empty tree wells in Ventura, where street trees have been lost to drought, wind, fire and disease. Recently, the Ventura Tree Alliance non-profit organization was formed to help replace those street trees.

You can celebrate Arbor Day by planting a tree in your own yard, a living and lasting gift to our community.

March 9 - March 22, 2022

# Lighter Breeze



### **Baby Blues**



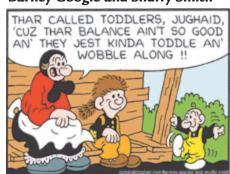
**Rhymes With Orange** 



Crock

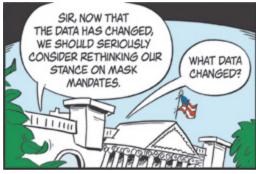


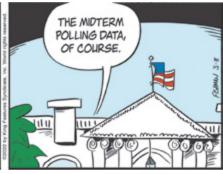
**Barney Google and Snuffy Smith** 





**Mallard Fillmore** 





Solutions on page 13

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

	0					•	′ '
	9		4		2		
				1			6
6		8		7		3	
	5			4	1		
	7	3					2
2			9			4	
5				2	$\Box$	9	
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### Weekly **SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each colomn down and each small 9-box square contains o'll of the numbers from one to nine

### DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: • •

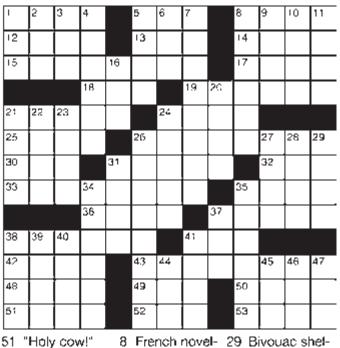
♦ ♦ ♦ HOO BOY!

Solutions on page 13

# **King** Crossword

### **ACROSS**

- Offend
- Vegas lead-in.
- 8 Biting remark
- 12 Jacob's twin 13 Antlered ani-
- mal 14 Latin love
- 15 Printout
- 17 Earring site
- 18 Roscoe
- 19 More slothful. 21 Filled fully
- 24 colada
- 25 Cupid's alias
- 26 Street vendor's vehicle
- 30 Sawbuck 31 Attorney's
- load 32 Bee follower
- 33 Barber's
- offerings 35 Panache
- 36 Aachen article 53 Trade
- 37 Utter impulsively
- 38 Architectural style
- 41 Hero sandwich 42 Actress
- Periman.
- 43 Ski lodge cupful
- 48 "A Room of – Own" 49 Prior night.
- 50 Not so hot?



Marcel.

20 8&&&

22 Location

24 Stickum

28 Bring up

Braxton

26 Hindquarters

27 Rights advo-

cacy org.

23 Singer

52 Enervate

- DOWN 1 "I'm not
- impressed" "This recording\*
- Distant. 4 Fakes, as figures
- 5 Author Uris 6 Jungfrau, for one
- Urban silhouettes

- 8 French novel- 29 Bivouac shel-
- 9 Mine, to: 31 Roman 202 34 Go over again. Judicial garb.
- 35 Macaroni 11 Rabbit's title shapes 16 Cow's chaw. 37 Tampa Bay
- NFLer 21 Actor Rogen 38 Pirate's drink
  - 39 "It can't be!" 40 Golf props
    - 41 Dance move
    - 44 Eggs 45 Cornfield noise
    - 46 Mouths (Lat.) 47 Music booster
- 0.2022 King Features Synd., Inc.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) This is a good time to reassess important relationships, both personal and professional, to see where problems might exist and how they can be overcome. Keep communication

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) It's not easy to bring order to a chaotic situation, whether it's in the workplace or at home. But if anyone can do it, you can. A pleasant surprise awaits you by week's end.

upcoming decision solely on the word of those who might have their own reasons for wanting you to act as they suggest. Check things out for yourself.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A personal relationship that seems to be going nowhere could be restarted once you know why it stalled. An honest discussion could result in some surprising revelations.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) That unexpected attack of self-doubt could be a way of warning yourself to go slow before making a career-changing decision. Take more time to do a closer study of the facts.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A workplace problem needs your attention now, before it deteriorates to a point beyond repair. A trusted third party could be helpful in closing the gaps that have

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A recent family situation could give rise to a new problem. Keep an open mind and avoid making judgments about anyone's motives until all the facts are in.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Rely on your always-sharp intuition to alert you to potential problems with someone's attempt to explain away the circumstances behind a puzzling incident.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Although you still need to do some snipping of those lingering loose ends from a past project, you can begin moving on to something else.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Be January 19) With your self-conficareful that you don't make an dence levels rising, you should feel quite comfortable with agreeing to take on a possibly troublesome, but potentially well-rewarded, situation.

> **AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) Travel is favored, both for business and for fun. The end of the week brings news about an upcoming project that could lead toward that promised career change. PISCES (February 19 to March 20) You might feel suddenly overwhelmed by a flood of responsibilities. But if you deal with each one in its turn, you'll soon be able to hold your head above water and

> BORN THIS WEEK: You have a wonderful way of offering comfort as well as guidance. You would do well in the healing arts.

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# Showtime

A View from House Seats

# Santa Paula Stages Full Experience

by Shirley Lorraine

Theaters are reawakening with offerings that touch at our very souls. The current play at Santa Paula Theater Center, Thing I Know to be True, is one such play. A relatively new work, (2019), the play delves deeply into one family's connections and disconnections in visually interesting ways.

Written by Andrew Bovell, Things I Know to be True is an exploration into those things in our lives that are revealed and those we try to keep secret that are somehow intuited by those close to us. It bares the struggles many families endure to sustain their emotional connections to each other and tests the limits of each member individually. It made me think - when is enough, enough? When do parents allow their progeny to make their own decisions, to lead their own lives, even when basic principles are at odds?

Directed by Santa Paula Theater Center's new Artistic Director Jessi May Stevenson, the play evokes myriad emotions and reactions not only through the written words but is also beautifully accented by moments of movement that add a deeper level of meaning to the story. The subtle placement of a hand upon a shoulder, a glance, a distancing or simply standing still becomes integral to the depth of the action.

Fran and Bob Price (Sindy McKay and Richard Kuhlman) are a couple married over 40 years, whose four adult children are trying to cope with their own failures and are struggling with self-seeking while maintaining their family connections. Each worry over their particular struggles while mother and dad do their best to

square their expectations with reality. Along the path there are many surprises leading each member of the family to cope (or not) with these revelations in varying ways, revealing their own fears, feelings, and disappointments.

To reveal much of the plot would be to minimize the experience for future audiences. This is a play which must be experienced fully. The creative and visually arresting setting by Mike Carnahan adds a great deal to the controlled, meaningful action. Carefully chosen music and lighting envelope the action for a complete, satisfying piece of theater.

Each of the daughters, played by Julie Fergus, Erin Hollander and Emily Redman Hall, and the one son, James James, all deliver solid and engaging performances. McKay and Kuhlman provide poignant, humorous and significant moments throughout, pulling everything together. All the actors are excellent. They are every family.

The play deals with perceptions, fear of change, desire to maintain status quo, how our choices affect others and inequalities of many kinds. It is life. You should go see it.

Masks and proof of vaccination are required to attend the performance, per current health department mandates.

The run of Things I Know to be True continues with performances Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2:30 p.m. through April 3. Book online and choose your seats. www.santapaulatheatrecenter, sptcboxoffice@gmail.com or (805) 525-4645. The Center is located at 125 S. 7th Street, downtown Santa Paula.

Compassion Campaign 20 mersive experience. MAY 12, 2022 5PM - 9PM **VENUE** Maravilla Gardens

Register and Sponsor at:

HousingTrustFundVC.org





**Streaming Spotlight by Cindy Summers** 

# Inventing Anna

- Netflix



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

Inventing Anna is based on the true life of Anna Sororkin, aka "Fake German Heiress" Anna Delvey (Julia Garner) who scammed thouands of dollars in gourmet meal, luxury hotels and private jet flights. She posed as a socialite in an attempt to steal millions of dollars from multiple sources including big banks, financial advisors, hedge funds, law firms, real estate developers, philanthropists, galleries, art dealers, all of Fashion Week and half of New York society.

Anna claimed to have a family trust in Germany and gave numerous different reasons why she could not access her money like that she was not old enough to get the money yet or her father is controlling and cuts her off all the time. She also knowingly used bad credit cards, often agressively blaming the service or business, which caused others around her to conveniently step forward and take care of whatever financial issues arose.

Most of Anna's fradulant activity centered around an exclusive private club she was trying to build she called the Anna Delvey Foundation (ADF). Anna's vision was for ADF to be a private club and dynamic visual arts center, an exclusive with place for people with taste, a step beyond the VIP room, series of small cozy lounges with butlers, clubs within clubs, with a luxury hotel and three restaurants. She selected a historic New York building at 281 Park Ave. with 6 floors and 45,000 sqft, which with the \$4 million a year lease and \$35 million for renovations required a total investment of \$40 million.

Vivian Kent (Anna Chlumsky) was a reporter for Manahattan Magazine who had been banished to the far corner of the office known as Scriberia with three other long time reporters: Maud, Lou and Barry who all supported each other. Vivian defied her editor and jumped on Anna's case after reading the enditment and learning that Anna had been extridicted from LA to New York.

Anna was denied bail and remanded to Riker's Island until trial, so Vivian wrote a letter to Anna and asked to visit her to share her story. Anna called and agreed, though wasn't willing to give up very much information, implying it would take Vivivian multiple visits to get the whole story. In the meantime, Maud Lou and Barry searched through Anna's instagram to develop a timeline of her actions and find other people that Vivian to interview that knew or were close to Anna.

In November 2017, the Manahattan District Attorney's Office announced the New York Supreme Court indictment of Anna Sorokin, alias Delvey, with two counts of attempted grand larceny in the first degree (one guilty verdict), three counts of grand larceny in the second degree (two guilty verdicts), one count of grand larceny third degree (guilty), and theft of services (guilty).

Anna Sorokin was a clever 26 year old

white collar criminal who conned Manhattan's "glitterati" leaving egg on faces of some the the biggest players from the art world, real-estate, fashion and Wall Street. It's unclear as to the total number of vicitms she left in her wake as many were too embarrassed to come forward and press charges, like Nora Radcliff, who Anna had solen over \$400,000 in fraudulant credit card purchases to fund Anna's luxury wardrobe and lifestyle. Runtime: 9 - 1hr episodes

### Ventura events

Continued from page 3

Commander Weeks. Other topics may be added to the agenda, so be sure to check the group's Facebook page for additions. The meeting will be held online via the Zoom application at 7 p.m. The Zoom link can also be accessed at the website, www.eastventura.org. For those unable to attend the meeting in real-time, it can be accessed later at the website. For more information, contact EVCC Chairperson, John McNally, at eastventuracc@gmail.

March 19: "Being Richard Greene", tenth in NAMBA's Women's Voices Series written and performed by Lynne Jassem at 7 p.m.; NAMBA Performing Arts Space, 47 S. Oak St. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at NambaArts.com. Lynne will also teach a Mime workshop on March 17th at NAMBA. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at NambaArts.com

March 19: Dudley House Museum Saturday, 8 - 2 p.m. Plants and collectibles sale. Bromeliads, orchids, and succulents will be on sale along with a variety of collectibles. Vendors, please call Charlie at 805-746-4317 for details. The museum is located at the corner of Loma Vista and Ashwood streets (197 N. Ashwood). Free.

March 23: The Channel Islands Chapter of the Embroiderers' Guild of America (CICEGA) will meet at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, at the United Methodist Church, 291 Anacapa Drive, Camarillo. This month we will be learning Kunihimo Braiding. For more information, e-mail president@channelislandsega.org or visit our website at https://www.channelislandsega.org.

**March 26: Author Book Signing Event** - Hannah Nicole Duran "Written on Walls" Sat. 1-3 pm, Bank of Books, 748 E. Main St. Throughout Hannah's path to find justice for herself and heal from trauma, she learns she must live to have her voice be heard. And by being heard, Hannah can begin to recover from anorexia, major depressive disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, obsessive compulsive disorder, and anxiety

**April 3: The Ventura County Concert** Band will open its 56th season on Sunday, at 3 p.m. at Ventura High **School.** Plenty of street parking. Dr. Julie Judd is the conductor. The concert is free. April 3: Open house tours of the **1892 Dudley Historic House Museum** will take place on Sunday, from 1 to 4 p.m. along with a celebration of Ventura's 156th birthday. Special exhibits in the Community Room will include an Historic Photo Timeline of Ventura consisting of 16 panels of photos from the past. Also on display will be a "Celebrate the Century" stamp exhibit including artifacts from each decade. Admission is free. Located at the corner of Loma Vista and Ashwood streets (197 N. Ashwood). For information please call (805) 642-3345 or dudleyhouse.org.

**20** March 9 – March 22, 2022 Ventura BREEZE





Prior to his interim role, Wolfman was instrumental in elevating The George Washington University

# New President and CEO of St. John's Regional Medical Center and St. John's Hospital Camarillo

Barry Wolfman has been appointed President and CEO of Dignity Health St. John's Regional Medical Center (SJRMC) in Oxnard, Calif. and St. John's Hospital Camarillo in Camarillo, Calif. Wolfman, has been serving as interim president since November 1.

"It gives me great pleasure to share that Barry will continue to lead St. John's Hospitals," says Julie J. Sprengel, President and CEO of Dignity Health's Southern California Division. "In his interim role, Barry has been instrumental in facing staffing challenges and navigating the most recent surge of COVID cases while prioritizing the well-being of our St. John's team at both campuses. I am confident that Barry's commitment coupled with his invaluable experience, will be instrumental to the growth and success of both hospitals."

Wolfman brings more than 30 years of hospital operations and healthcare management experience. He has worked in academic, for-profit, and faith-based, non-profit health systems, giving him unique leadership qualities. Additionally, Wolfman has provided leadership development and exploration of two joint ventures for personalized genomic medicine as an international consultant with Bumrungrad International Hospital in Bangkok, Thailand.

"I am excited for the opportunity to continue leading St. John's Hospitals," said Barry Wolfman, President and CEO of Dignity Health-St. John's Regional Medical Center and St. John's Hospital Camarillo. "Both hospitals have wonderful and skilled people doing exceptional work, day in and day out. I am humbled by the opportunity to lead and create a vision for both hospitals that enhances the delivery of care in communities we serve, well into the future."

Wolfman is known for creating cohesive teams by engaging employees and collaborating with board members and key stakeholders. He has a strong commitment to building physician relationships that align with growth opportunities and strategic organizational goals.

Hospital to operate more effectively in the competitive market of Wash-

# This 'n' That

ington, D.C., Maryland, and Virginia. While serving as CEO, he initiated a collaboration with the medical school for physician relationships, obtained Level 1 trauma designation, opened the GW Cancer Institute, and started kidney and liver transplant programs. He previously held regional senior executive roles for Kaiser Permanente and Tenet Healthcare and served as CEO for Providence Saint Joseph Medical Center in Burbank.

Dignity Health-St. John's Regional Medical Center in Oxnard and St. John's Hospital Camarillo in Camarillo comprise the largest non-profit acute care provider in Ventura County. Founded more than 100 years ago, St. John's Hospitals are nationally recognized for quality care, safety and service. Both hospitals are supported by an active philanthropic Foundation to support new programs and services, as well as to advance the community's access to health care. Learn more at

DignityHealth.org/StJohnsRegional or DignityHealth.org/StJohnsHospital-Camarillo.

# Ventura Unified School District in the news

Dr. Roger Rice, Superintendent of the Ventura Unified School District (VUSD) has been awarded the 2022 Superintendent of the Year Award by Region 13 of the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA).

In addition, Dr. Soledad Molinar, VUSD's Director of Multilingual & Multicultural Education is being honored with the 2022 Valuing Diversity Award and Dr. Lorelle Dawes, Principal of Cabrillo Middle School is being awarded the 2022 Middle Grades Principal of the Year both by ACSA's Region 13. Last but certainly not least, VUSD's Director of Risk Management, Mr. Eric Reynolds is being recognized by ACSA's North Ventura Charter as the Charter's 2022 Central Office Administrator of the Year.

Superintendent Rice, is being honored for his unwavering passion and dedication to ensuring that all students receive the very best education and graduate college and career ready. Dr. Rice models a personal code of ethics in everything he says and does; he is known across the state for his integrity and for making difficult decisions for the benefit of students. He is known throughout the county for challenging assumptions and helping change paradigms. He holds himself and those around him to high expectations in support of a vision focused on student success and wellbeing.

Dr. Soledad Molinar, is being recognized for her tireless efforts in ensuring that students with the greatest needs

receive the most services and that schools are places where students feel safe, valued, and nurtured to thrive. Dr. Molinar is an exemplary educator who has tremendous integrity. Her deep dedication to all stakeholders is evident in her positive communications and interactions.

Dr. Lorelle Dawes is being recognized for leading her school community through a lens of equity and nurturing her middle school students emotionally, socially, and academically. She is a champion of restorative practices and promotes family-school partnerships that aim to increase the voices of historically underserved families. Dr. Dawes is an exceptional school site leader who brings innovative ideas and programs to her site and our District.

Mr. Eric Reynolds has been an exemplary leader since he started in VUSD in 2007. He has always been proactive about providing safe and healthy learning environments for our students and staff as well as overseeing everything relating to insurance, accidents, and other aspects of Risk Management. Since the pandemic started, he has been responsible for coordinating with public health, communicating with sites and every employee who showed symptoms of COVID-19, and being at the forefront of leadership through the pandemic.

"The VUSD team has worked harder than ever since the pandemic began. We want to congratulate our colleagues on their well-deserved recognition. We could not think of a more appropriate way to honor the dedication they put into their work every single day," stated Communications Director, Marieanne Quiroz.

ACSA Region 13 includes Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties. Dr. Molinar, Dr. Dawes and Dr. Rice will receive their awards at an event to be held in Solvang in May and all three are now in the running to receive the award at the state level.

The Ventura Unified School District (VUSD) Board of Education, in their January 25 regularly scheduled Board meeting, voted to hire Ms. Gina Wolowicz as the new Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources. Ms. Wolowicz will be replacing Mr. Brett Taylor, who recently resigned from his position to move to educational site-based leadership.

Ms. Wolowicz brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise that will serve her well in this position. She has worked in the field of education for more than 20 years, most recently as the Director of Curriculum & Instruction for TK-5. She began her career at VUSD in 1997. She has held several key positions in the District, including interim Co-Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, Principal at Juanamaria Elementary, Assistant Principal at DATA Middle School, and as a bilingual teacher.



One thing that will change from previous years will be the St. Pat parade route. Still running along Main Street, the 2022 parade will begin at Lincoln Drive and run west to Fir Street.

The judges' reviewing stand will be at Main and Ash streets.