



VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

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Ventura Police Department (VPD) Chief Ken Corney officially retired in December 2019 after 33 years on the force but stayed in office for a couple of months so a nationwide search for a new chief could be conducted, and ultimately so his successor, Darin Schindler, could complete his open projects. Schindler stepped into the office of Chief of Police the same month Covid hit. "All of a sudden everything was locked down. We were patrolling parks and beaches," Schindler explained. "People were calling in about their neighbors who were violating the no-congregating order by having get togethers, and not social distancing, against the health order.



Schindler stepped into the office of Chief of Police the same month Covid hit. Photos by Patricia Schallert.

Schindler says his own wish list went out the window. Promotions were delayed when Covid health protocols became a priority. "We had flex schedules for investigators, some administrators worked from home. Dispatchers spread out into the far corners of the room." About a third of the 250-person police

Policing during the Covid crisis

by Sheli Ellsworth

force came down with the virus, but none were hospitalized and there were no deaths. "While many employees were exposed on-duty, most of the positive infections were believed to have been

contracted during off-duty time. Regardless, quarantines were occurring due to potential exposures to co-workers and investigators had to put cases on hold
Continued on page 2

Ventura Police and Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) helping out people with mental illness

Part 1 of 2

by Carol Leish, MA

Chief of Police Darin Schindler of Ventura Police Department said, "In my three plus decades in law enforcement, I've seen the evolution of mental health responses come full circle. Years ago, the
Continued on page 2

Winners of the 2022 County Ventura St. Patrick's Day Parade

Photos by Richard Lieberman & Brendan Daly.



The winning entries of the County Ventura St. Patrick's Day Parade have been announced. The parade was held on Saturday, March 12.

Judges for the parade were Matt LaVere, Ventura County Supervisor; Nina Kobayashi, Mechanics Bank; Celina Zacarias, California State University Channel Islands; James Lockwood, Ventura County Fairgrounds; Connie Stahl, Elk's Lodge #1430.

There were 83 parade entries. The parade theme was "One World, One Air, We All Share." A salute to our environment.

The parade was presented by Ventura Elk's #1430 and the Grand Marshal was parade co-chair Nan Drake of Harrison Industries.

The winners:
Color Guard: Oxnard High School Air
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Ventura Police and VCBH helping out

Continued from page 1

police department was called out to assist mobile crisis teams when they needed help because someone was uncooperative after being placed on a 72-hour hold. Usually, we would standby to make sure no one got injured and they were able to safely transport the patient to a facility."

"Over time that model slowly began to change; we were getting more calls to assist, and it seemed like a transition began with law enforcement being expected to be more directly involved and hands on. Fast forward to today and the police department has become the de facto first responders to many of these types of calls. Now we are the ones calling Ventura County Behavioral Health to ask for their assistance."

Police Chief Schindler continued by saying, "We have trained the majority (close to 90%) of our officers in Crisis Intervention Training. More often than not, we are the first responders to situations when someone is suffering a mental health crisis, often when there is no underlying criminal component. We receive a dozen or so calls every day concerning mental health situations.

"When we receive a call regarding a potentially suicidal person, persons dealing with a mental health crisis, or calls about disturbances that involve someone experiencing a mental health episode of some sort, we also contact Ventura County Behavioral Health and ask for their assistance. In the last few years, especially with the social justice movement, there has been somewhat of a shift in the thinking the public questioning why aren't Behavioral Health responders the first to respond."

Sara Sanchez, LMFT, Division Chief for Access & Outreach Services at VCBH said, "The Crisis Team will respond with the police depending on the situation. It would be ideal to have a joint response, but

the limiting factor is that the Crisis Team is county wide. This makes it responsible for responding to things in Fillmore to Simi, and everything in-between. The Crisis Team when fully staffed is at 28 people. They work every day of the year/24 hours a day. Currently there are 16 on staff. We are actively recruiting for more people to be on staff. The staff includes Registered Nurses, Licensed Social Workers, Licensed Marriage Family Therapists and Psychiatric Technicians."

John Schipper, Ph.D., Division Chief for Adult Services for Ventura County Behavioral Health said, "There are two types of interventions that we do with the police. One is responding to crisis calls in the moment, such as, if someone is suicidal. The other type of call, which is not an emergency call, involves trying to engage people who may be homeless and struggling with mental illness and/or substance abuse issues. The RISE (Rapid Integrated Support & Engagement) Team partners with police and makes rounds throughout the county to engage people in treatment before a crisis arises."

"In the past couple of years with the pandemic," according to Dr. Schipper, "things were affected. First, it inhibited our (VCBH's) ability to ride with police. We have started to see a recent easing of restrictions and more of an ability to meet in person. However, part of what the Crisis Team does is assessments of people in the ER of hospitals who may be suicidal, or a danger to others, Zoom helped out by making the process more efficient by eliminating the driving distances throughout Ventura County. The need for treatment, which both the Ventura County Behavioral Health and the various police and sheriff stations throughout Ventura County have been providing has been helping out people with mental illness."

Part 2: "Ventura Police and Ventura County training will be in the next issue.

City News



Policing during the Covid crisis

Continued from page 1

and perform patrol duties."

"After a few months, about the time of the George Floyd killing, we began to put together a new, updated VPD Strategic Plan for moving forward. Even though Ventura PD has enjoyed a positive and strong relationship with the community for several years, there was increased social unrest across the country in regard to policing. It was a stressful time for the community and police officers everywhere. I sat down with my command staff, and we spoke about using the calls for justice as an opportunity to strengthen our police/community partnership even more." Chief Schindler said.

The Ventura Police Department updates their goals and strategies every few years to keep pace with the changing needs of the community. Schindler's 2020-2023 Plan states that the VPD Mission is: To protect, serve, and problem solve with our community. The VPD Vision: Great people, providing exceptional service. VPD Values: Excellence, Integrity, Professionalism, Respect and Transparency.

Schindler has six major goals.

- 1) Crime Control: Improve response times to calls for service, achieve a crime clearance rate that is better than the national average, and achieve a reduction in aggravated assaults and robberies. Some of the strategies include expanding forensic examination and crime scene processing capabilities, reinstating gang prevention and intervention programs, and increasing crime prevention messaging across social media platforms.
- 2) Team Development: Attain 100% compliance with Police Officer Standards and Training requirements, staffing retention, and aligning sworn demographics with those of the community. The department has already incorporated mental health resiliency into its wellness program and has begun to develop a teen explorer program with representation from each of the City's seven districts.
- 3) Active Partnerships: Increase community outreach and input into police operations, decrease community complaints related to vagrancy, and strengthen relationships with community stakeholders. As part of this goal, each City district now has a police commander assigned to oversee it and the department has staffed an enhanced patrol presence during peak hours in its public areas.
- 4) Safe neighborhoods: Increase collaboration efforts within neighborhoods, reduce fatal and injury traffic collisions, and reduce auto thefts, burglaries, and larcenies in neighborhoods. The department is moving back to an in-person neighborhood watch model, has increased gun violence prevention and response training, and increasing its Volunteers in Policing program.
- 5) Efficiency and Accountability: Increase

Department transparency, track and reduce personnel complaints, and attain a 100% "within department policy" for all use of force incidents. In 2021, the Department was an early implementer of the Racial and Identity Profiling Act, and has increased training in topics like tactical communication, ethical decision making, implicit bias, racial profiling, and cultural diversity.

Schindler has also noticed an uptick in Ventura's homeless since Covid. Homelessness tends to be transitory by nature and quite often surrounding communities will experience shared issues and responses in relation. "When we come in contact with individuals that are homeless our officers will talk to them to get a little bit of their stories, and find out if they are open to resources or other types of assistance," said Schindler. Many of the homeless in Ventura come for the mild climate, the secluded river bottoms, county assistance, food banks and shelters. With the county jail located in Ventura, inmates are released onto the streets driving the numbers even higher.

The Chief said there are different reasons for homelessness and a one size fits all approach doesn't work. Some people are temporarily down on their luck. A lost job or medical expenses that wiped out their savings can create homelessness that needs a hand up. "These people are usually receptive to help until they are back on their feet."

There is another group, the ones Assembly Bill 109 (Prison overcrowding) released—a lot of "non-violent offenders." These homeless people are more hardened and more likely to commit crime, even from other homeless people, sell drugs and are more likely to attack others. "They rarely want or benefit from services. We may lock them up one day and see them out the next. They are usually habitual offenders."

The third tier and the largest population is made up of people with mental health and/or addiction issues. "We always begin by offering assistance, but we can't force anyone to accept help. It is not illegal to be homeless or mentally ill. Even those individuals who get counseling and medication may choose not to take it. It is the saddest group of homeless. Over the years, we have seen an increasing correlation with the need for behavioral health intervention amongst this population. Often times, our officers will receive calls for service on the same individuals several times a day. When we do transport someone to Behavioral Health for assistance, more often than not, the facility is at full capacity and we must wait for an opening."

The Chief would like to see Ventura County take a more collaborative approach to help with the homeless problem. "We need more resources, especially in the areas of mental health treatment and addiction intervention. Homelessness may never go away, but if we can help some unhoused individuals, maybe they can eventually help out others." The cost to society is momentous. "When we clean up a homeless encampment it is not unusual for us to haul away tons of debris. Sometimes officers locate stolen property amongst the debris.

Schindler indicated that his job today is much more about policing and problem solving than it is about "law enforcement". He stresses community service and responsiveness as one of his department's top priorities. "We want to hear from the community, they are our partners in this journey."

Learn more about the VPD three-year Strategic Plan, and download a copy in English or Spanish, online at www.City-ofVentura.ca.gov/VPDStrategicPlan.



Community Events

Ventura events

by Ana Baker

Many children and teens have experienced the death of a loved one during the pandemic. This is a difficult time for anyone grieving a loss. Livingston's Grief and Bereavement Program recognizes the value children and teens receive from sharing their grief experience with their peers. Our groups provide support, connection, and validation that they are not alone.

The Good Grief Club meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month from 5:30 to 6:30 pm.

The Young Teen Group meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month from 5:30 to 6:30 pm. If you would like to register a child or young teen for a support group, please contact Stacia Sickle at 805-389-6870 x452 or at ssickle@lmvna.org.

All support groups are free and conducted through Zoom at this time. 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 23: Ventura's E.P. Foster Library will present a musical program, Lyrical Literature: The Songs and Theater Music of Ross Care, at 2pm on Saturday, March 26, in the Topping Room of Foster Library. Care is both a composer and a published author, and this program will be based on musical literary associations from poetry and theater. Tyler Carlisle

will serve as musical director/pianist with guest instrumentalists from Los Angeles, Ted Nichelson, harp, and Juan Antonio Rivera, flute. The vocal ensemble will include Ventura vocalists Dianna Burdick, Molly Kohler Pei, Steve Perren, and Peter Umipig. Ross Care will be serving as moderator. This event is free and open to the public. For additional information, contact Karen Cruze, Librarian Specialist, at (805) 648-2716. The E.P. Foster Library is located at 651 East Main Street. Hours of service are 10-7 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 10-5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 1-5 p.m. on Sunday.

March 23: "The College Area Community Council in Ventura will be holding a Zoom meeting on Wednesday at 7 p.m. Ventura County District Attorney, Erik Nasarenko, Ventura County Supervisor, Matt LaVere, and City of Ventura Councilperson. Mike Johnson will be addressing major issues affecting all Venturans. Visit the College Area Community Council website @ caccVentura.com to learn more, to be added to the mailing list and to access a link to the Zoom meeting."

April 3: Old-Time Country Bluegrass Gospel Music Assoc.2 :00-4:00 pm. Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Rd, Ventura. Live Music on stage. Jamming in the Canada Room. Free Admission. Free parking. Open to Public. For more information call 805-517-1131 or visit Facebook: OTCBGMA

April 6: Beach Cities Neighbors and Newcomers (BCNN) organization for *Continued on page 6*

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Volunteers plant many trees

To celebrate Arbor Day this year, the city of Ventura, in partnership with the Ventura Tree Alliance, West Coast Arborists and CalFire, planted 65 new trees along the bike path adjacent to Westpark (450 W. Harrison Ave.). Volunteers starting planting at 9 a.m. on Saturday, March 12.

There were over 100 volunteers from 4 to 85. High school students, seniors, and professional arborists who volunteered their time to add to Ventura's tree canopy.

The Ventura Tree Alliance wants to give a big thank-you to the volunteers who came out on Arbor Day to plant the trees including the local Boy Scouts. These trees will help buffer noise and pollutants from the adjacent freeway, and provide beauty and shade for cyclists and pedestrians for decades. (Www.venturatrealliance.com)

Arbor Day is a nationally celebrated observance that encourages tree planting and care. California celebrated Arbor Day between March 7-14.

Photos by Patricia Schallert and Ryan Power.





VENTURA BREEZE

Your Hometown Paper

Member, Ventura Chamber of Commerce

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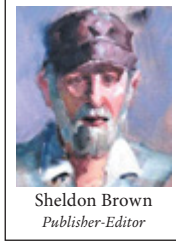


The Ventura Breeze is printed with soy based ink on paper with minimum 40% recycled content.

Forecasting is very difficult, especially if it's about the future.

– Edgar Fiedler

Opinion/Editorial



Sheldon Brown
Publisher-Editor

It's wonderful that most of our entertainment events and **music venues** will be opening this year. Things would have been almost running back to normal and

now Putin sets the world back.

I hope this isn't false hope and premature on the COVID front. In Europe, and many other countries, the cases and hospitalizations from COVID are slowly inching up and public health experts are worried about the consequences. In Britain, cases are rising just a few weeks after UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson lifted most mitigation measures. Infections were 48% higher and hospitalizations were up 17%.

Pursuant to this, City Hall, and its facilities opened to the public on Thursday, March 11. "This week's reopening marks an important milestone as we proudly welcome everyone back for in-person service," said Ventura City Manager Alex D. McIntyre.

When I was at city hall, Interview sessions were being held for the **Cannabis** businesses that will be opening in Ventura. I was told three will be approved initially with and five eventually given licenses to operate. Glad this will happen, and that Ventura will keep the tax dollars here.

Ventura County's Executive Officer **Mike Powers** retired two days after the Board of Supervisors placed him on paid administrative leave for undisclosed reasons. County Counsel Tiffany North confirmed Friday that the board had taken the action in a four-hour closed session devoted to litigation but would not say why.

Powers, 59, of Ventura notified the board Thursday he was immediately quitting the job he has held for 11 years. Powers said he was leaving to spend more time with his wife, Erin, and their two sons, age 10 and 13 but this may not have been the reason. A county employee filed a sexual harassment and discrimination complaint against Powers before he was placed on administrative leave on March 8.

The national average price for gas has topped **\$4 a gallon** for the first time in more than a decade as gas costs continue to soar in the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Wouldn't we love to have our gas at only \$4? The record

high for the national average is \$4.11, set on July 17, 2008. And, our summer formula is not here yet, that will add even more costs to gas prices. Of course, paying more for gas is better than being blown up by Russian bombs.

In previous issues, we have published a few articles by Carol Leish regarding how **downtown merchants** (other than restaurants) felt about the closing of Main and California. They have all stated that they are happy with the closures. It was good to hear this because I just wasn't sure what affect this has had on downtown businesses.

Guns In the News

Once again, a young child under 5 has killed a family member. A three-year-old boy accidentally shot his mother dead as the family sat in their car in a parking lot at a supermarket in a suburb of Chicago. The family were sitting in their car outside a Food for Less store when the boy somehow found the gun and fired it, striking his mother.

"This could have been prevented," Dolton trustee Andrew Holmes said on Sunday as he visited the supermarket to hand out gun locks and speak to shoppers about the importance of gun safety. All it takes is a second: unlock it, thread it through the barrel, bring it back around, put it in and lock it back," Holmes told WLS-TV. "If you leave it, secure it."

Officials are searching for the person responsible for shooting and killing one man and injuring two other people at a party in Oxnard. The party, and shooting, took place at an abandoned business along Saviers Road. When officers arrived, they found 21-year-old Adrian Sandoval unconscious and unresponsive. Paramedics tried to resuscitate him, but he was unfortunately declared dead at the scene. Two others, 19-year-old Diego Mares and 24-year-old Arkangel Childs, were found wounded.

A 16-year-old was killed and three others were seriously injured in a shooting at a Quality Inn hotel in Colorado. Officers found the teen with an apparent gunshot wound, and he was pronounced dead at the scene.

A shooting outside a pizza shop on Chicago's South Side has left seven men wounded, authorities said.

One teen is dead and two remain hospitalized after a shooting outside a Des Moines, Iowa, high school. The

incident is at least the 13th shooting at an American campus with K-12 students in 2022, according to a CNN tally.

A student shot and wounded an administrator and a school resource officer Friday at a suburban Kansas City high school, and the student also was wounded when the officer returned fire.

Another journalist has been shot to death in **Mexico**. So far this year it is the eighth killing of a journalist in Mexico. Ten suspects have been detained in connection with last month's shooting death of a photojournalist in Tijuana.

In a recent poll, two thirds of **Asian Americans** in Los Angeles County are worried about being a victim of a racial attack. It is unacceptable that any American because of their race, color, sexual orientation or religion should be concerned for the safety of their lives.

I'm not kidding; regarding the Ukraine, **Trump** called for the U.S. to attack Russia but make it look like it was actually China by flying American planes with a Chinese flag on the side.

"And then we say, 'China did it. We didn't do it China did it,' and then they start fighting with each other and we sit back and watch."

Retiring Republican Adam Kinzinger (R-Ill.) said that his "biggest regret" during his time in Congress was voting against the first impeachment of former President **Trump**.

Trump was impeached and later acquitted on two articles, abuse of power and obstruction of Congress related to a phone call in which he pressed Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky to investigate the Biden family. Trump's accusers alleged that he withheld much-needed military aid to force Zelensky's hand, which Kinzinger said has affected Ukraine's ability to defend itself against Russia.

"It's important for political leaders to be transparent and admit regret when needed. The bottom line, Donald Trump withheld lethal aid to Ukraine so he could use it as leverage for his campaign," Kinzinger tweeted. "This is a shameful and illegal act, directly hurting the Ukraine defense today," he said.

Republican Rep. **Tom Rice** (S.C.) slammed former President Trump following the former president's rally in South Carolina, calling him "a would-be tyrant."

Former Republican National Committee (RNC) Chairman **Marc Raciono** slammed Trump over his comments on Russia's invasion of Ukraine, writing that the ex-commander in chief is "not fit to lead this nation."

In an article written for the Independent Record, Raciono analyzed Trump's commentary on the conflict in Ukraine, determining that the ex-president is not fit to lead the U.S., especially during a moment of crisis.

He said, the "essential qualities of leadership and human character" are decency, honesty, humility, honor and faithfulness. Donald Trump does not possess those essential qualities of character that leave him fit to lead this nation, most especially in a time of crisis."

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

Mailbox

Hi Sheldon,

Great article in your paper today (3-9) about human trafficking!

Smiles,
Tammy Morrell
Love-Zoe.com

A Ventura Wave

Ventura is a mornings journey off the coast.

A wooden pier that navigates out to the islands, As the seagulls return through a Pacific inlet, On arrival with wings, they return our tide.

Their gully horn is a captain's bellow, "Leave our shores; we arrive with ocean orders.

As a coastal breeze flutters in from the sea,

Our sandy shores animate Ventura past

Dawn.

The seagulls drawl in the perfect wave.

by Jeff Russell



These binoculars were left in Ventura. If you can tell us where and they are yours let very honest Trevor know at trevortowner@yahoo.com.



YOU'RE INVITED: Ventura Compressor Modernization Project PUBLIC FORUMS

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Register for in-person meetings and link to the virtual meetings at:

socalgas.com/VenturaPublicForum



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Master Gardener volunteers beautify Channel Island Native Garden

The Master Gardener Program enables gardeners to share extensive gardening resources and science-based gardening information with Ventura County residences through public service, educational outreach, and research programs.”

Master Gardeners are “certified volunteers who extend their horticultural knowledge to home gardeners. Volunteers play a vital role in providing the local public with non-biased gardening information.”

Master Gardeners receive up to 80 hours of horticultural instruction from the University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) in Ventura County, landscape and nursery professionals, and experienced Master Gardeners. They are trained in “gardening topics ranging from basic botany and plant pathology to pest management and irrigation techniques.” In exchange for this training, Master Gardeners “agree to complete 50 hours of apprenticeship and volunteer work to become certified. Additional training and volunteer time are required annually to renew certification.”

Ventura’s Visitor Center has played a key role in using Master Gardener volunteers to display and grow native plants from the Channel Islands. Seedlings are

planted in the Visitor Center’s botanical garden and then cared for by the interns and volunteers in the Master Garden program. For anyone who wants to improve their gardening skills and share your knowledge with your community, a Master Gardener might be for you.

On Saturday, March 26, from 9 am to 1 pm, there will be a Channel Islands Native Garden Plant sale at the Visitor Center on 1901 Spinnaker Drive. Many varieties of California native plants from the Channel Islands will be on display and available for purchase. This program is sponsored by the Channel Islands Park Foundation and supported by Ventura County Master Gardeners.

More information is available at UCANR.edu

Site Information available at University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources.



Master Gardeners receive up to 80 hours of horticultural instruction. Photos by Patricia Schallert.



News & Notes



Evan is the quiet and masterful media wizard working behind-the-scenes.

Fond farewell for CAPS media engineer Evan Carpenter

One of the most respected and valued members of the CAPS Media staff is leaving after two decades of service to the community. Evan Carpenter has been the Chief Engineer at the CAPS Media Center since the start nearly 20 years ago. In fact, Evan built or supervised the building of every component of the CAPS Media Center, the studio, production truck, radio station, remote facilities and much, much more. In honor of his valued contributions the board of directors voted unanimously

to name the television studio the Evan Carpenter Studio.

Evan is the quiet and masterful media wizard working behind-the-scenes, keeping all the technical and electronic plates spinning at CAPS, all the while creatively collaborating and supporting staff members (who have changed over the years), and training and mentoring hundreds of CAPS members. To say that Evan will be missed is a tremendous understatement. No one knows the ins and outs

of the media equipment and facilities as well as Evan.

Evan is returning home to Canada, to embark on the next stage of his extensive career among friends and family. Every staff member, board of director, and all the CAPS members who have had the pleasure of working with Evan over the past two decades thank him for his dedication, guidance and friendship. We all wish him good fortune and success on his next adventure.

Rest assured, somehow the good ship CAPS will cruise along. Collectively the CAPS staff is up to speed and skilled in operating all the equipment, systems and gear. As a result, CAPS Media will continue providing quality service to the public and public agencies 24x7 on television at CAPS Media Channel 6 and 15, radio on KPPQ FM 104.1 and streaming at capsmedia.org.

Evan's final farewell event was on Saturday, March 12th when the CAPS team covered the return of Ventura's favorite spring event: The Ventura County St. Patrick's Day Parade. After a two-year COVID induced hiatus the parade returned in all its glory with nearly 100 entries cruising down Main Street on a beautiful Ventura day. This year the CAPS professional staff was fortunate to have outstanding support from a dozen El Camino High School students who are learning media production and communication in the VUSD/CAPS/ECTV CTE program.

Saturday's parade was an ideal opportunity for the zealous students to be mentored by the CAPS pros and work hands-on, side-by-side to take on the myriad of tasks needed to record a nonstop, live event. The combined CAPS/ECTV crew worked seamlessly to record the parade and turn it around in a few hours to air on CAPS Media Channel 6 the same afternoon. The parade continued to air on CAPS Channel 6 at various times throughout the following week.

Thanks to everyone's diligence it appears that the COVID crisis is slowly fading. At this time, the CAPS Media Center remains closed to the public. We continue to serve the community and fulfill the CAPS mission: To create an engaged and informed community through participation in electronic media. For information go to capsmedia.org.

The Bookmark

About Libraries and Friends

by Jill Forman

Foster Library Temporarily Closed

Due to a water leak, Foster has been closed while the damage is assessed and mitigated. As of this writing, the re-opening date is not determined. The safety of the public and library staff will be the deciding factor.

Remember – you can still get books! The library has its online ordering and Hill Road is open with its sale shelves as well as pickup of library items.

Update on Online Bookstore

Pickups are on hold until Foster re-opens, as the inventory and items awaiting pickup are stored in the library.

Here is a note from online bookstore manager Leslie Bellmore: This April Ventura Friends of the Library online bookstore will have Vintage books on sale for \$1-\$5. They don't make books like these anymore, some with hand drawn illustrations and special bindings. All books have been selected by former librarians and teachers as quality

books worth collecting and keeping to share with future generations. Buy online and pick up at Foster Library Bookstore, open Tuesday through Sat 11am to 4pm.

Friends of the Library Had a Book Sale!

We were so happy to once again have a large book sale last Saturday, March 19. I will report on it in the next column.

Exciting Musical Event scheduled for March 26 (check library website to see if Foster has re-opened)

(from library press release)

Ventura's **E.P. Foster Library** will present a musical program, **Lyrical Literature: The Songs and Theater Music of Ross Care**, at **2pm on Saturday, March 26**, in the Topping Room of Foster Library. Care is both a composer and a published author, and this program will be based on musical literary associations from poetry and theater.

Musically he has worked in a variety of styles from art songs to theater and film music. His scores for short films include Otto Messmer and Felix the Cat, and his musicals of Carroll's Through the Looking Glass and Gibran's The Prophet have been performed nationally. His incidental score for The Glass Menagerie was heard in the Rubicon and Ojai Art Center productions, and his Rock Mass was recently performed in Ventura.

As an author/film historian Care has also written extensively on films and film music of the studio era for the Library of Congress, and the magazine, Scarlet Street. He has also written program notes for the Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles. His biography of Disney studio animator/director, Wilfred Jackson, was recently published by Theme Park Press and is available in the Foster Library collections.

Tyler Carlisle will serve as musical director/pianist with guest instrumentalists from Los Angeles, Ted Nicholson, harp, and Juan Antonio Rivera, flute. The vocal ensemble will include Ventura vocalists Dianna Burdick, Molly Kohler Pei, Steve Perren, and Peter Umipig. Ross Care will be serving as moderator.

This event is free and open to the public. For additional information, contact Karen Cruze, Librarian Specialist, at (805) 648-2716.

Ventura events

Continued from page 3

women from Oxnard, Ventura and Port Hueneme will feature Chef Amy Tyrrell at its meeting at 9:30 a.m.

located at the Ventura Comedy Club in Ventura Harbor. Chef Tyrrell is trained at the Culinary Institute and other well-known programs. Chef's passion is providing nutrition information and great food to the community and is well known for the outstanding food program she developed and got accredited at our county's Todd Road Jail, a program profiled in our local newspaper. No charge for newcomers to get to know our group.

April 22: Channel Islands PC User Group (CIPCUG) will have a discussion, tutorial, and Q&A sessions centered around Computers, email and the Internet, social media brokers such as Facebook, LinkedIn, Google, and Yahoo.

Events begin at 9:30 a.m. All CIPCUG events are currently being held online and at our temporary location located on 2175 Goodyear Avenue, Unit 117. Details for connecting to our events are emailed prior to the event. To receive connection instructions, please sign up on our website at: http://www.cipcug.org.805) 289-3960



Mermaid Month has officially returned to Ventura Harbor Village! Special themed events and live mermaid sightings took place on Sundays, March 13 and March 20.

Kicking off Mermaid Month was the Kid's Free Scavenger Hunt.

Lovers of the sea met a live mermaid at the Harbor's "Mermaid Meet & Greet."

Photos by Patricia Schallert



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News & Notes



Answer in a Breeze

Question: Any idea what is being planned for this property? There has been no public notice posted on the property. Seems like another demolition.

Thanks
TubaTim Hansen

Answer: From Jennifer Buckley City of Ventura.

Thank you for your question. The Carl's Jr. property on Thompson Boulevard is currently undergoing a remodel. We are currently updating our development map to include that project and you can always explore other development projects throughout the City at www.CityofVentura.ca.gov/Permits.

Local company recognized as a top performer

FASTSIGNS® of Ventura, a local sign and visual graphics provider, was recognized as a top performing center in the FASTSIGNS network out of more than 750 locations worldwide at the 2022 FASTSIGNS/SIGNWAVE International Convention held in Grapevine, Texas.

Owned by Saurabh and Madhu Bajaj, FASTSIGNS of Ventura was presented with the Award for Highest Efficiency, which recognizes the US Center for running a success-

ful and productive FASTSIGNS franchise. "We are thrilled to be recognized as a top performing center in the FASTSIGNS network of over 750 locations worldwide," said Saurabh Bajaj, President, FASTSIGNS of Ventura. "This award reflects our entire team's hard work and dedication to helping businesses and organizations solve their visual communications challenges in our community every day."

"We are thankful for the support of our customers and look forward to helping companies of all sizes achieve their goals in 2022 using visual communication solutions," Bajaj said.

To learn more, visit fastsigns.com/264 or call (805) 658-1001.



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News & Notes



Ivor and Dianne enjoying a happy moment.

Ivor Davis up close and personal with Dianne Lake

Dianne Lake was a beautiful and innocent wide eyed seventh grade student – whose hippie parents abandoned their traditional suburban lifestyle to join a group called, The Wavy Gravy's Hog Farm Commune in Tujunga, California. Along the way her parents met a man named Charles Manson. They were so impressed by him and, as unbelievable as it sounds, they turned their young daughter over to Manson.

Dianne was just 14. What happened next is a personal odyssey that is hard to believe. She travelled with Manson's raggle-taggle band of runaways and social misfits until they settled at the notorious Spahn Movie Ranch in Chatsworth, California. She became a chattel, a slave to Manson's sexual whims and part of his depraved world of mind-blowing drugs which culminated in a series of horrendous, high profile Los Angeles murders in the Summer of 1969.

While never involved with any murders, Dianne was arrested and her life was almost destroyed. Today, in her late sixties, she is a devout, church-going grandmother, who lives in Ventura County. She will tell her own unbelievable story of survival and redemption in the Museum of Ventura County's newest episode of "Ivor Davis: Up Close and Personal with Dianne Lake" on Thursday March 24. Her story sounds like pure fiction but it's all true.

Museum members who register for this event (either in person or via Zoom) will be entered into a drawing to receive an autographed copy of Ivor Davis' "Manson Exposed: A Reporter's 50-Year Journey into Madness and Murder". Become a member now and register for this event for your opportunity to receive the autographed book.

Proof of vaccination will be required on arrival for in-person attendees. Masks will not be required for this event. If you would like a mask, we're happy to provide one for you.

Registration for Zoom closes at 4:30pm on March 24th.

Council member Johnson started the clean-up

The Westside Community Council wants the citizens of Ventura to recognize the important work Council Member Mike Johnson does on behalf of all Ventura residents.

Months ago a Westside resident complained to the city code enforcement about trash being piled up behind a home. However, nothing was done.

WCC complained to the council about the lack of attention but still to no avail.

When Council Member Johnson was nearby for an event WCC members brought him to see the trash heap.

Johnson took action, arranged for a dumpster, and started the clean-up task himself.



Johnson to the rescue.



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Senior Living



Advance directives for financial planning are important.

Planning for the future after a dementia diagnosis

If you or a loved one has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia, it may be difficult to think beyond the day to day. However, taking steps now can help prepare for a smoother tomorrow.

Over time, the symptoms of Alzheimer's and related dementias will make it difficult to think clearly. Planning as early as possible enables you to make decisions and communicate those decisions to the right people.

Below are important legal documents to consider, and resources and tips that can help with planning ahead for health care, financial, long-term care, and end-of-life decisions.

Advance directives are legal documents that outline your preferences and apply only if you are unable to make decisions. For health care planning, they communicate a person's wishes ahead of time. Doctors and other providers follow these directives for your medical treatment. There are two main documents that are part of an advance directive:

A living will lets doctors know how you want to be treated if you are dying or permanently unconscious and cannot make your own decisions about emergency treatment.

A durable power of attorney for health care names someone as a "proxy" to make medical decisions for you when you are not able.

If advance directives are not in place and a patient can no longer speak for him or herself, someone else will need to make medical decisions on their behalf. Talk to your family, friends, and health care providers about what types of care you would want. It can also be helpful to talk with your doctor about common problems associated with your condition.

For example, in the later stages of

Alzheimer's disease, people may have trouble swallowing, which can bring food or liquid into the lungs and cause pneumonia. Doctors may recommend a feeding tube connected from the nose to the stomach for nutrition, a ventilator to help with breathing, and antibiotics to fight the lung infection to help with recovery. However, some people may want to focus on comfort rather than recovery if the illness occurs near the end of life.

Other types of medical orders, which inform health care professionals about your preferences for life-sustaining and life-supporting treatment measures during a medical emergency. These have various names but are commonly called POLST (Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment) or MOLST (Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment) forms.

Organ and tissue donation, which allows healthy organs or other body parts from a person who has died to be transplanted into people who need them.

Brain donation for scientific research, which helps researchers better understand how Alzheimer's and related dementias affect the brain and how they might be better treated and prevented.

Advance directives for financial planning are documents that communicate the financial wishes of a person. These must be created while the person still has the legal capacity to make decisions.

A durable power of attorney for finances names someone who will make financial decisions for you when you are not able.

A living trust names and instructs someone, called the trustee, to hold and distribute property and funds on your behalf when you are no longer able to manage your affairs.

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Lawyers can help prepare these documents with you and your family members. A listing of lawyers in your area can be found on the internet, at your local library, through a local bar association, or by contacting the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys.



Perhaps this clock was turned too far back!

Turning back the clock

A new therapy could reverse the aging process by turning back the clock on cells to make them young again, according to a new study.

Scientists from the Salk Institute say the safe and effective technique works by partially resetting cells that impact skin, eyesight, muscles, and the brain. The breakthrough may be able to extend life and help people gain the ability to become more resistant to stress, injury, and disease.

While it may appear to be the Holy Grail of anti-aging research, promising eternal youth, the team cautions that they've only successfully tested the treatment on mice so far. Animals at the late stage of their lives treated with cellular rejuvenation therapy started to show signs of getting younger after just seven months.

New tests are now underway to determine whether the treatment only "pauses" or actually reverses aging. In the study, the researchers note that all cells carry a molecular clock that records the passage of time. By adding a mixture of four reprogramming molecules, known as the Yamanaka factors, the cells reset the clock to their original patterns.

The scientists tested three groups of mice at varying ages equivalent to humans being 35, 50, and 80 years-old (12 months, 15 months, and 25 months in mice). There were no blood cell alterations or neurological changes in the mice that received the treatment. The team also found no cancers in any of the groups.

Researchers found after seven or 10 months, the mice resembled younger animals in both appearance and ability. When injured, the youthful skin had a greater ability to heal and was less likely to form permanent scars. Metabolism remained stable, showing no form of age.

"At the end of the day, we want to bring resilience and function back to older cells so that they are more resistant to stress, injury and disease," says co-first author Dr. Pradeep Reddy of the Salk Institute in a university release. "This study shows that, at least in mice, there's a path forward to achieving that."

"We are elated that we can use this approach across the life span to slow down aging in normal animals. The technique is both safe and effective in mice," adds Professor Juan Carlos Izpisua Belmonte.

"In addition to tackling age-related diseases, this approach may provide the biomedical community with a new tool to restore tissue and organismal health by improving cell function and resilience in different disease situations, such as neurodegenerative diseases."

The study is published in the journal Nature Aging.



Senior Living



Write down to-do lists, appointments, and events.

Tips for everyday tasks for people living with dementia

People with dementia experience a range of symptoms related to changes in thinking, remembering, reasoning, and behavior. Living with dementia presents unique challenges, but there are steps you can take to help now and in the future.

Alzheimer's disease and related dementias get worse over time. Even simple everyday activities can become difficult to complete. To help cope with changes in memory and thinking, consider strategies that can make daily tasks easier. Try to adopt them early on so you will have more time to adjust. You can:

Write down to-do lists, appointments, and events in a notebook or calendar.

Set up automated bill payments and consider asking someone you trust to help manage your finances.

Have your groceries delivered.

Manage your medications with a weekly pillbox, a pillbox with reminders (like an alarm), or a medication dispenser.

Ask your doctor to provide a care plan and write down care directions (or have a family member or friend take notes during the visit).

Sleep Tips for People Living With Dementia

Dementia often changes a person's sleeping habits. You may sleep a lot, or not enough, and wake up many times during the night. Poor sleep quality can make dementia symptoms worse.

Tips for better and safer sleep:

Follow a regular schedule by going to sleep and getting up at the same time each day, even on weekends or when traveling.

Develop a relaxing bedtime routine with lowered lights, cool temperature, and no electronic screens.

Avoid caffeine and naps late in the day.

Have a lamp that's easy to reach and turn on, a nightlight in the hallway or bathroom, and a flashlight nearby.

Keep a telephone with emergency numbers by your bed.

Talk to your doctor if you have problems sleeping.

Healthy and Active Lifestyle Tips for People Living With Dementia

Participating in activities you enjoy and getting exercise may help you feel better, stay social, maintain a healthy weight, and have regular sleep habits.

Try these tips for a healthy and active lifestyle:

Try to be physically active for at least 30 minutes on most or all days of the week. But be realistic about how much activity you can do at one time. Several short "mini-workouts" may be best.

Aim for a mix of exercise types — endurance, strength, balance, and flexibility. For example, you could do a mix of walking or dancing, lifting weights, standing on one foot, and stretching. Even everyday activities like household chores and gardening help you stay active.

Your diet may need to change as dementia progresses to maintain a healthy weight. Talk with your doctor about the best diet for you, and choose nutritious foods such as fruits and vegetables, whole grains, and lean sources of protein and dairy products. Avoid added sugars, saturated fats, and sodium.

Stay social by talking on the phone with family and friends, joining an online support group, or going for a walk in your neighborhood.



Advance understanding of changes that occur as we grow older are being researched.

Three interconnected FOAs encourage a fresh look at aging hallmarks

by Yih Woei Fridell

Health Scientist Administrator, Division of Aging Biology (DAB)

Over the past few decades, scientists have made breakthroughs identifying molecular and cellular mechanisms of aging. Researchers have grouped these mechanisms into nine categories considered to be "hallmarks of aging" and, as a result, have created a useful framework to further advance our understanding of the diverse changes that occur as we grow older.

Importantly, these hallmarks also provide scientists with access points that can be manipulated and studied to inform further research about how we might change the ways we age, perhaps through the development of therapies to increase older adults' health and well-being. In principle, the hallmark mechanisms could be altered to increase or decrease features of aging. NIA-supported research has also indicated that the hallmarks interact with each other in layered and nuanced ways. Our next step is to better understand how the hallmarks interact and whether they should be targeted for interventions individually or in groups.

Three new FOAs to connect the dots

To encourage innovative research on the interactions between hallmarks of aging, NIA has issued three interconnected Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs), all with the due date of Oct. 11, 2022:

RFA-AG-23-012 Inter-Organelle Communication as a Platform to Interrogate the Interactions of Hallmarks of Aging (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Contact sites where the membranes of cell organelles come together are critical hubs for the transfer of ions, metabolites, lipids, and proteins that have important roles in cellular aging. This FOA aims to deepen our mechanistic understanding of organelle communication and how it shapes the interactions of the hallmarks of aging.

RFA-AG-23-013 Mapping Interconnectivity Among Hallmarks of Aging Under Lifespan Modifications (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

This FOA is designed to discover

whether there are hierarchies among the hallmarks that underlie different changes with age, or if there is a threshold beyond which the hallmarks and/or their interactions with one another become "tipping points" that beyond which the aging process cannot be reversed.

RFA-AG-23-015 Studies of Cytosolic DNAs in the Interactions of Aging Hallmarks (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

The accumulation of DNA in the cytosol (the fluid portion of a cell's cytoplasm) has important associations with aging, cellular senescence, and decline of cellular and physiological functions. The goal of this FOA is to explore cytosolic DNAs as integrators of hallmark interactions and instigators of downstream events leading to age-related cellular and tissue deterioration.

Building an innovative aging hallmarks research consortium

While each FOA emphasizes a unique challenge, releasing the trio of opportunities together should increase collaboration and the exchange of data, technical resources, and expertise. We hope the collective impact can lead to a clearer and more comprehensive view of the complex picture of the aging hallmarks and their mechanisms.

We are also optimistic that these three FOAs will spark additional scientific collaboration and data sharing to broadly advance the field of aging biology. We plan to help in this process by organizing regular scientific meetings and virtual conferences to build an innovative network of investigators and labs studying new approaches to understanding the hallmarks of aging. This network will serve as a platform to report updates, share technical advances and resources, and tackle research hurdles.

If you are interested in helping advance our understanding of aging hallmarks, we encourage you to apply by Oct. 11! If you have questions, please contact the NIA Division of Aging Biology.

www.nia.nih.gov



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Senior Living



Avoid too dangerous exercises.

Write down your short-term fitness goals

Short-term goals will help you make physical activity a regular part of your daily life. For these goals, think about the things you'll need to get or do in order to be physically active. For example, you may need to buy walking shoes or fill out an Activity Log so you can figure out how to fit physical activity into your busy day. Make sure your short-term goals will really help you be active. Here are a few examples of short-term goals:

Today, I will decide to be more active.

Tomorrow, I will find out about exercise classes in my area.

By the end of this week, I will talk with my friend about exercising with me a couple of times a week.

In the next 2 weeks, I will make sure I have the shoes and comfortable clothes I need to start walking for exercise.

Questions to Ask Your Doctor About Exercise

Are you considering adding exercise to your daily routine or significantly increasing your level of activity? Talk to your doctor about the exercises and physical activities that are best for you. During your appointment, you can ask:

Are there any exercises or activities I should avoid? Your doctor can make

recommendations based on your health history, keeping in mind any recent surgeries or ongoing health conditions such as arthritis, diabetes, or heart disease. This would be a great time to check with your doctor about any unexplained symptoms you've been experiencing, such as chest pain or pressure, joint pain, dizziness, or shortness of breath. Your doctor may recommend postponing exercise until the problem is diagnosed and treated.

Is my preventive care up to date? Your doctor can tell you if there are any tests you might need. For example, women over age 65 should be checked regularly for osteoporosis.

How does my health condition affect my ability to exercise? Some health conditions can affect your exercise routine. For example, people with arthritis may need to avoid some types of activity, especially when joints are swollen or inflamed. Those with diabetes may need to adjust their daily schedule, meal plan, or medications when planning their activities. Your doctor can talk to you about any adjustments you need to make to ensure that you get the most out of your new exercise routine.

Jason Gaffner new Deputy Director/ Loan Portfolio Manager



Jason Gaffner joins Housing Trust Fund VC with two decades of commercial real estate finance experience.

Housing Trust Fund Ventura County (Housing Trust Fund VC) has hired Jason Gaffner as its new Deputy Director, Loan Portfolio Manager. In this newly created position Gaffner will manage Housing Trust Fund VC's portfolio of existing loans including underwriting and review to close loans expeditiously for affordable housing developments in the community. He'll also work with developers to secure a pipeline of future loans and prepare documentation needed for reporting to investors, funders, grantors, and others.

Jason Gaffner joins Housing Trust Fund VC with two decades of commercial real estate finance experience, including over \$600 million in real estate debt and equity successfully negotiated and closed. Prior

to joining the organization, Gaffner held a senior member position on the west coast originations team for a real estate lending, investing and advisory company. He holds an MBA from Babson College with a focus on entrepreneurial management and a Bachelor of Science degree from The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania with a dual con

Continued on page 20

END-OF-LIFE PLANNING

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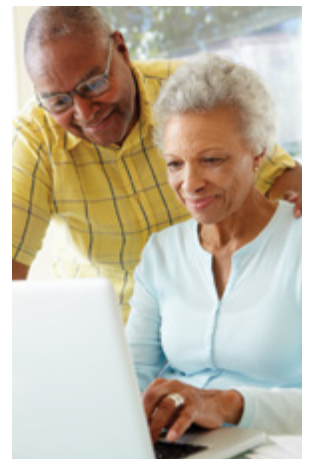
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Environmental News



Paper bags OK'd for food waste recycling

Harrison Industries will now accept residential food waste in paper bags as well as in plastic bags. All bags of food waste must still be closed and placed in residents' yard waste carts for weekly curbside pickup.

Harrison and its partners at Agromin have approved the use of folded-shut paper bags in addition to the tied plastic bags that have been accepted since residential food waste recycling began on Jan. 3.

The move to include paper bags is a response to customers' concerns about the use of non-Earth-friendly

plastic bags in the area's new food waste recycling program; the decision was buoyed by the early success of the program.

"The bagged food waste has traveled really well," said Harrison spokeswoman Nan Drake. "We're living and learning. Once we got the program going, we could see that paper bags would work fine, as long as people carefully fold them shut and don't recycle liquids."

Whether it's in paper or plastic, all food waste must be bagged. Food waste should NOT be placed directly into yard waste carts, where it would contaminate the loose yard waste in there.

Residential food waste recycling began this year in compliance with California Senate Bill 1383. In effect since Jan. 1, SB 1383 requires communities statewide to begin residential food waste recycling, on the road to reducing all organic waste landfill disposal by 75% of 2014 levels, by 2025. Organic waste in landfills emits toxic methane gases that destroy our environment and create climate change.



Food scraps should be bagged and placed in your green waste cart.

What do my food scraps have to do with climate change?

by Jill Sarick Santos

Composting vegetable scraps instead of landfilling them is one tiny step in the right direction to help lessen the ramifications from climate change. It is easy to do. It does not cost anything extra. And you could be saving the world.

But there are still folks who think it is a waste of their time. They say it is just one more unnecessary governmental regulation that is killing California.

Regardless of whether you believe that climate change is really happening or hesitate to name who or what is the primary contributor, the obvious fact remains that weather patterns have changed dramatically over the last decade. Those of us in the field of environmental protection, conservation, forestry or agriculture, have been talking about this sort of stuff for years.

It does not matter what or who is responsible or why and how it got so bad so quickly, it matters that you stop whatever it is you are doing right now and take a good look around you. Listen, look, observe. What is different? Can you spot or identify 5 differences in the last decade? Last five years? Last year?

As our busy lives move in an ever-busier pace, we might fail to recognize obvious signs that the climate is indeed changing. For example, in the last ten years, droughts in Southern California have been longer, more extreme and occur in more frequent intervals than in the last twenty years. We have seen more record-breaking high temperatures in the last decade than many previous. And those groups of people mass migrating from their homeland to wealthier, more developed places; that's climate change influenced without question. The real question is, what can one person really do to stop something so overwhelming? Starting with placing your food scraps in the organics cart so that it will be composted instead of becoming greenhouse-producing-methane-gas seems like a no brainer to me.

The obvious and now essentially required first step is to ensure that food scraps, including things like peels, pieces, stems, shells, bones, and sauces, dairy, meat, fruit and vegetables, and food soiled paper should be bagged (in any prefera-

bly plastic bag) and placed in your green waste cart, now called the organics cart. If you are a commercial business or live in a multi-family residential property without a curbside cart, be sure to check with your city's environmental division to comply with the regulations.

So, the next time you see a neighbor ranting about the city's new food waste program on social media, tell them to chill out and share this article. If each one of us does our little part, that is seven billion little parts all working together to save the one and only place we call home: Earth.

Food reuse suggestions

- Plan your meals by inventorying what you have in your pantry and making a weekly menu based on what you already have in stock. This is a win-win-win! You save money, you clear out your cupboards and refrigerators and you save on greenhouse gas emissions from avoiding another unnecessary vehicle trip.
- Grow your own. Benefits include improved health and well-being from eating more fresh produce, spending time in nature, getting your hands dirty and the satisfaction and pride received from growing your own food.
- Use your leftovers before composting or placing them in the organics cart. Save ends, pieces and peels of vegetables and store in the freezer. When you have enough and maybe you have a chicken carcass or beef bone, you can make a very nutritious bone broth. Then place the strained materials into a bag and then into your organics cart.
- When your bread is starting to go stale, bake it till crispy with olive oil and parmesan cheese to make delicious croutons for a salad. Or bake the bread till very hard and make fresh breadcrumbs. Or bake up a delicious savory bread pudding.
- Save lettuce stems in some water and get a second harvest in one purchase. You can do the same with beets tops and celery. Harvest the baby greens and add them as salad toppers, to soups and smoothies.

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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.

Robbery and Assault with a Deadly Weapon Arrest

On March 9, at approximately 11:00 am, the Ventura Police Department Communications Center received a call of a stabbing that occurred at Plaza Park, located at 630 E. Santa Clara Street. Patrol officers were dispatched to that location and found a victim, who had sustained moderate, but non-life threatening injuries. While on scene, officers learned that the stabbing occurred during the commission of a robbery.

After conducting an investigation, officers learned that 24 year old Lindsey Moser approached Victim #1 and demanded he hand over his backpack. Moser held out a knife and threatened to stab the victim if he didn't cooperate. Victim #1 handed over his backpack out of fear. Victim #2 observed what had transpired and attempted to intervene by grabbing onto Moser. Moser then stabbed Victim #2 with the knife, causing moderate but non-life threatening injuries. After stabbing Victim #2, Moser fled on foot towards California Street. Responding officers observed Moser walking southbound on California Street south of Thompson Boulevard. Moser was taken into custody without incident.

Victim #1 was able to retrieve his backpack. Victim #2 was treated at the scene, but declined to be transported to the hospital.

Moser will be booked at the Ventura County Jail for robbery, assault with a deadly weapon, and criminal threats.

Strong Armed Robbery

On March 13, at approximately 7:00 pm, the Ventura Police Command Center received a call of a purse theft that had just occurred inside Ralphs, 1776 South Victoria Avenue. The suspect, described as a Hispanic male in his 20s fled the area before police arrival and was last seen running west towards Alameda St. and getting into a dark-colored Dodge sedan.

At approximately 7:30 pm, a Ventura Police Patrol Corporal located the vehicle in the 5700 Block of Thille Street. Angel Ramos, 22 year old Ventura resident, and 21 year old Ventura resident Jaynell Vargas were walking away from the car, and when ordered to stop, they fled into a nearby apartment. Patrol officers surrounded the location, and Ramos and Vargas exited the residence. They were detained while officers continued the investigation.

During the investigation, officers learned Ramos approached the first victim and removed her purse from the shopping cart she was pushing. Ramos approached the second victim and grabbed her purse that was over her shoulder. The second victim struggled to keep possession of the purse, and Ramos struck her and pushed her to the ground. Ramos took the purses, fled the store, and got into the Dodge sedan driven by Vargas.

Ventura Police Detectives obtained a search warrant for the apartment and the stolen property was located.

One victim was treated at a local hospital for minor injuries that resulted from the violence during the robbery.

Ramos was arrested for Grand Theft from a Person, Commercial Burglary, and Robbery. Vargas was arrested for Conspiring to Commit a Crime, Resisting/Delaying/Obstructing a Police Officer, and Accessory to a Crime.

Commercial Burglary Arrest

On March 15, at approximately 7:45 am, an employee of the business arrived for work and discovered the business was being burglarized. The suspect initially walked out of the business, but then went back inside. The employee called 911 and officers responded.

When officers arrived, they made verbal contact with the suspect, 38 year old vagrant Jesteina Jones, who was still inside. She was uncooperative, non-responsive, and refused to surrender. After approximately 30 minutes of talking to the suspect and attempting to have her surrender, officers made entry and were able to take her into custody. The investigation revealed the suspect broke into the business overnight, ransacked several areas, and took items. At the conclusion of the investigation, the suspect was arrested for the felony charge of commercial burglary, a misdemeanor charge of delaying and obstructing officers, and a misdemeanor charge of possession of drug paraphernalia. No one was injured during this incident.

Gang-Related Vandalism, Conspiracy, and Firearm Arrests

On March 15, at approximately 11:00 pm, an alert citizen reported four males committing multiple acts of spray paint vandalism at the Santa Clara parking structure. Ventura police officers responded and located the suspect vehicle driving out of the area. The vehicle was stopped, and the occupants were detained while officers investigated.

The suspects were identified as having committed multiple gang-related vandalisms with spray paint. A search of the vehicle resulted in the discovery of multiple cans of spray paint and two loaded, unregistered handguns commonly referred to as "ghost guns."

Ultimately 21 year old Ventura resident Christopher Cruz was arrested for Felony Vandalism, Commission of a Gang Crime, Criminal Conspiracy, and Driving a Suspended License.

Christopher Ruiz, 18 year old Ventura resident, was arrested for Felony Vandalism, Commission of a Gang Crime, Criminal Conspiracy, Possession of a Firearm by a Prohibited Person, Carrying a Loaded Firearm in Public, and Possession of Ammunition by a Prohibited Person.

The juveniles were arrested for various gang-related vandalism, conspiracy, and firearm crimes as well. This investigation is ongoing. Anyone with any information is requested to contact the VPD Watch Commander at 805-339-4416.

Harbor Patrol Blotter

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

03-02 9:00am, assisting H.R. Morris dredge with traffic control while they anchor in the Pierpont Basin. Manson construction is complete with harbor maintenance.

6:15pm, received report of a lot of debris, likely from the sunken sailboat Destiny in the Harbor Entrance. Advised the owner and US coast guard.

03-03 9:30pm, contacted by a male who was pulled from a strong rip current a few months ago at the Santa Clara Rivermouth after capsizing on his kayak. He thanked officers for saving his life.

03-04 1:12pm, dispatched to an Ocean Rescue, disabled PWC at the Ventura Point. Officers responded, found State Parks PWC returning to harbor. Canceled units.

03-05 3:06am, observed NWS issued a

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Gale warning for winds gusting to 35kts. 9:00am, received request from State Parks to conduct their qualification swim for new lifeguards at Harbor Cove due to adverse NW winds. Patrol monitored.

03-06 8:00am, Oxnard College lifeguard academy conducting physical activities and submerged victim training at Harbor Cove Beach. Officers assisting with class.

8:05am, officers conducting a swim test for Harbor Patrol officer candidates.

03-08 3:15pm, received report of a boating accident at Portside marina. Officers responded in the Fireboat to investigate. A sailboat lost transmission and collided with a moored vessel. Minor damage occurred.

03-09 3:30am, dispatched to brush fire in Santa Clara Riverbottom. Officers responded with VFD to the call. Patrol assisted with transporting firefighters to the scene in 4x4 vehicle. The small fire was extinguished.

7:55am, observed NWS issued Small Craft Advisory. Raised warning pennant. 11:11am, observed brush fire reignited from offshore aboard fireboat. Contacted fire dispatch and advised.

03-10 4:40pm, contacted by a tenant of the Ventura Marina Community requesting a large wall be built between Harbor Blvd and the park so they could sleep easier. Officers advised they would pass on idea/complaint to Harbor Managers.

4:50pm, monitored VPD dispatched to Harbor Cove for a man involved in an altercation using a hammer. VPD handled the call, Harbor Patrol staged safe distance away in case any injuries were sustained. No injuries reported.

03-13 4:11pm, received report of a whale in the main channel of the harbor. Officers responded in Fireboat, were able to convince and escort the mammal out to sea

4:33pm, dispatched to choking victim in the Portside. Officers responded with VFD/AMR to the call. The female patient refused treatment.

7:28pm, received a "Mayday" call on VHF 16. After charting the fishing vessels position, determined it was out of Patrols response area. Tow Boat US responded with coast guard and were able to rescue the 3 fishermen 10 miles off Carpentry. The 60 ft fishing vessel Katalina Phan sank soon after Mayday call.

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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| 9 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 5 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 6 |
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King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

| | | | | | | | | | | |
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The Pet Page



Dedicated to Scamp

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

SPAN Thrift Store regularly provides \$10 spays and neuters for low income households with cats and dogs. Two upcoming clinics are: Tuesday, April 5th at the Albert H. Soliz Library - El Rio, 2820 Jourdan St., Oxnard, 93036, and a second one on Tuesday, April 12th at Shiells Park, in the parking lot, located at 649 C St., Fillmore, 93015. Please call to schedule an appointment (805) 584-3823.

The French Bulldog took Los Angeles' top spot once again in the American Kennel Club's (AKC®) 2021 ranking of the most popular AKC-recognized dog breeds in the U.S.

While the French Bulldog and Bulldog remain a constant favorite in the City of Angels, the Golden Retriever and Poodle have gained favor this past year, each jumping up one spot to land at #4 and #5, respectively. The German Shepherd Dog fell two spots to #6.

"Los Angeles seems to be following the national trend of the Golden Retriever and Poodle gaining popularity," said AKC Executive Secretary Gina DiNardo. "Both breeds make wonderful companions for a variety of people."

Los Angeles' top 5 breeds for 2021:

1. French Bulldog
2. Bulldog
3. Labrador Retriever
4. Golden Retriever
5. Poodle

The AKC also announced its nationwide rankings today at a virtual press conference at the AKC Museum of the Dog in NYC. No one can keep the Lab down! The ever-popular Labrador Retriever is the nation's favorite dog for the 31st consecutive year.

While the loveable Lab remains a constant at the top of the charts, the Poodle has pawed its way back into the top five after 24 years, bumping the perennial favorite Bulldog out for the first time in almost a decade. The Bulldog has been a fixture among the top five most popular breeds since 2012.

Most Popular Breeds of 2021

1. Labrador Retriever
2. French Bulldog
3. Golden Retriever
4. German Shepherd Dog
5. Poodle

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**

Do: Ask for Consent When Petting

"Pet the cat a couple of times and then stop," says Melissa Bain, a clinical professor of animal behavior service at University of California Davis, School of Veterinary Medicine. "If the cat appears

to want more attention, it should approach you." If not? "Respect that and stop petting," Bain says. This can lead to the cat wanting more attention because it realizes it "can signal to the owner to stop petting whenever," she notes. Lilly also recommends "offering a hand" and seeing if the cat rubs against it.

Do: Try Diffusing Tension

If you want your cat to be with you in a certain room, you can try using a plug-in diffuser called "Feliway," says Christine Fellacher, a veterinarian in Florida. Cats normally leave behind a chemical called a facial pheromone when they rub their face against something. These are seen as "happy messages" and a positive indicator of well-being. Feliway is a synthetic version of the feline facial pheromone. Fellacher recommends this diffuser for cats that are aggressive or stressed, as it can help reduce feline anxiety and have a calming effect. "Some cats will seek out that relaxation," Fellacher says. "They'll want to stay in that room because they know that they're a little more chilled."

While more than 25% of U.S. households have a cat, cat owners are slacking when it comes to scheduling regular vet visits.

Cats are taken to the vet when their sick or in desperate need of care, but not for regular visits. Dr. Liz Stelow, Veterinary Behavior Specialist at the University of California, Davis said that there are several things that cat owners can do to help their visits to the vet run more smoothly.

"What typically happens to set off the vet visit on the wrong foot is that the owner brings the carrier in from the garage, and the cat panics," Stelow said. "This is because the cat is not accustomed to being in the carrier, and the carrier is a frightening thing."

There are plenty of informative videos to help cat owners to get their cats used to riding in carriers. Once that happens, cat rides can be seen as a positive.

"This doesn't mean that clients have to load their cats up into carriers and take them for daily rides," Stelow said. "But maybe occasionally they can have a few treats in their carrier and go for a quick ride in the car."

Spending just 10 minutes with a therapy dog reduced pain, anxiety and depression in emergency department patients, according to a new study.

After visits from the animals, patients reported significant positive changes to how they were feeling.

Almost half of the patients (48%) who were visited by the therapy dogs and their teams saw a reduction in anxiety, while 43% reported a drop in their pain, 48% in anxiety, 46% in depression, and 41% reported improved wellbeing.

The findings of this study contribute important knowledge towards the potential value of emergency department therapy dogs to affect patients' experience of pain, and related measures of anxiety, depression and well-being

Dr Colleen Dell, of the University of Saskatchewan, Canada - who led the

Scamp Club

(Scampclub pets are not for adoption.)



Briggs is a sweet Labradoodle. He is energetic and happy and loves cats. He is particularly fond of chasing squirrels. Briggs is two and a half and enjoys hanging out on the couch in the evenings. He is gentle and particularly likes playing with other dogs at the dog parks in Ventura.

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.

study, said: "The findings of this study contribute important knowledge towards the potential value of emergency department therapy dogs to affect patients' experience of pain, and related measures of anxiety, depression and well-being.

Dr James Stempien, provincial head emergency medicine, said: "The emergency room is a hectic place, and as an ER doctor myself, I know that anything we can do to improve the patient experience is welcomed."

The research, published in PLoS One, suggests that although it is not

known what is behind how interactions with therapy dogs, and more specifically therapy dog teams, affect human emotions like anxiety, the findings are relevant to the broader conversation on the bond between humans and animals.

St John Ambulance therapy dog teams were introduced for 10-minute visits to 97 patients at the Royal University Hospital (RUH) emergency department in Saskatoon, and their responses were compared to 101 patients who did not interact with the dogs.

Mother Goose and Grimm



Marvin



The Labrador Retriever was the most popular breed of 2021.

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\$10 Low/No Income Spay & Neuter
Tuesday, April 12th
Shiells Park parking lot.
649 C Street, Fillmore, CA 93015
Must call for appointment
(805) 584-3823



The Pet Page

Forever homes wanted

Hi! I'm Jack, a 9-year-old Rat Terrier X in need of a new home as I became territorial with the two other smaller female dogs in the home. I might do well if you own a large cat. I live with two large cats and I don't mess with them. Small cats or other animals may look too much like prey. I would do best in an adult only home, but may do okay with older gentle children. I've been okay alone for 4 or 5 hours at a time. When I hear, "I'll be back." I just go to sleep until someone returns. I'd be a great companion for my special someone. If you're interested in meeting me, please fill out an online application to meet me.

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



Kenobi is a 100% lover! A 4-year-old domestic shorthair male. He seeks head rubs and will be your lap buddy 24/7! He came to us as a lost cat from Simi Valley but no one has come to claim him. Come adopt him today at the Camarillo Animal Shelter. Adoption hours are 1:00pm – 6:00pm Tuesday – Sunday.

Animal ID: A789558 Shelter: Camarillo Animal Shelter
Adoption Process: www.vcas.us/adoptionprocess



This 'n' That



“Guitar revolutionary” Twanguero returns to the VMF

by Richard Newsham
VMF Consultant

Diego “Twanguero” Garcia, Spain’s triple-threat—on Spanish classical, acoustic steel and electric guitar—brings an acoustic solo set followed by his dynamic electric band to the Ventura College Performing Arts Center, 4700 Loma Vista Road, on Saturday, April 9 at 7:30 pm, as the Spring concert for the Ventura Music Festival’s 27th “Onward!” season.

The fire-breathing guitar hero, one of the world’s most impeccable fingerpickers, invites all kinds of audiences to join him for a panoramic evening experience that Rolling Stone Magazine calls “a journey into the heart of music.”

The double Latin Grammy© winner, songwriter and virtuoso guitarist is on tour with the release of Backroads, Volume II—his second “guitars of the world project.” It continues his “motorcycle diaries” like musical memoir southwards to the jungles of Central America. Volume I—his “sojourn of sound on strings” around North America—won the Spanish Independent Music Awards’

“best album of world music” in 2018 for capturing the blues, country, ragtime and electric styles he uncovered during his byway stops between Chicago and Los Angeles. That year Twanguero took the Ventura Music Festival by storm with a pair of performances: during its free post-Thomas Fire community concert outdoors and then the regular July festival.

For his beautiful sequel, the artist traveled to Costa Rica during the pandemic, “to discover, and try to interact with, the tonality of the jungle, its mix of cicadas and crickets, howler monkeys, and array of birds—a symphony of sorts, both day and night.” The humidity changed how his Guitarras Ramirez super guitar sounded. “But the jungle calms your mind down, makes it more reflective, and connects you inwardly and you start philosophizing with your guitar in conversation with the inhabitants of the jungle and with your inner self. The experience made me realize I

Continued on page 19

**Moving In?
Moving Up?
Moving Out?**

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In bloom
PHOTO CONTEST

Spring is here and the gardens are starting to bloom. Share your BEST two images taken in the Ventura Botanical Gardens throughout 2022!

ENTRY DATES: APRIL 1 - APRIL 29

ENTER YOUR PHOTO AT:
venturabotanicalgardens.com/in-bloom

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YOU'RE INVITED: Ventura Compressor Modernization Project PUBLIC FORUMS

WE'RE UPGRADING THE INFRASTRUCTURE THAT PROVIDES AFFORDABLE, RELIABLE ENERGY THAT HELPS KEEP HOMES WARM & THE LIGHTS ON IN VENTURA, AND UP & DOWN THE CENTRAL COAST

SoCalGas will host a series of public forums, both in-person and virtual, to provide the community with the opportunity to learn about the Ventura Compressor Station Modernization Project feasibility study, which evaluates potential alternatives to the planned project, including alternative site locations and equipment configurations. During the forum, attendees will also have the opportunity to meet members of our project team and ask questions about the study.

Register for in-person meetings and link to the virtual meetings at:

socalgas.com/VenturaPublicForum



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Three Ventura County artists will display recent works March 25-May 21 in concurrent solo exhibitions at Buena Ventura Art Association's Studio 99 gallery in Bell Arts Factory, 432 N. Ventura Ave.

Tony J. Smith of Oxnard, who paints in oils and acrylics on canvas, is calling his show "A Tribute to Beauty and Inspiration." Ojai painter **Kathy Bodycombe** usually works in oils and acrylics as well, but will present "Leaving a Stamp," a dozen collage pieces that incorporate postage. The third artist is **Michael Corrigan Mishou** of Ventura, whose "The Eye of the Beholder" will feature photography, both color and black-and-white.

Artists' receptions for the trio of shows will be 5-8 p.m. April 1 and May 6, in conjunction with Ventura's First Friday gallery crawl. Normal operating hours for BAA's gallery are noon-4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays.

For more information about BAA and its programs, call the gallery at 805-648-1235 or visit buenaventuraartassociation.org.

Focus on the Masters Arts Archive & Library Student Art Showcase at S. Oxnard Library

The public is invited to join Focus on the Masters Arts Archive & Library (FOTM) at the South Oxnard Library for a celebration of the creative spirit featuring artwork by Ocean View School District students. Learning To See Outreach (LTS) teaching artists led students in 67 classrooms spanning grades K-8 with projects in two and three-dimensional art inspired by FOTM Documented Artists.

LTS Education Director, Aimee French, says, "Even though everyone stayed masked, students were able to truly engage with the live interactions and their own hands-on experience."

FOTM documents the lives and works of extraordinary artists from our community, providing art programming for all ages. Each lesson of the innovative LTS in-school, hands-on art program is inspired by one of these artists.

Until April 30, 2022

South Oxnard Library, 4300 Saviers Rd.

Monday–Thursday, 9AM–8PM; Saturday, 9AM–5:30PM

Public Reception: April 7 from 5PM - 7PM

For more information about Learning To See, contact Aimee@FocusOnTheMasters.com or 805.653.2501. www.FocusOnTheMasters.com

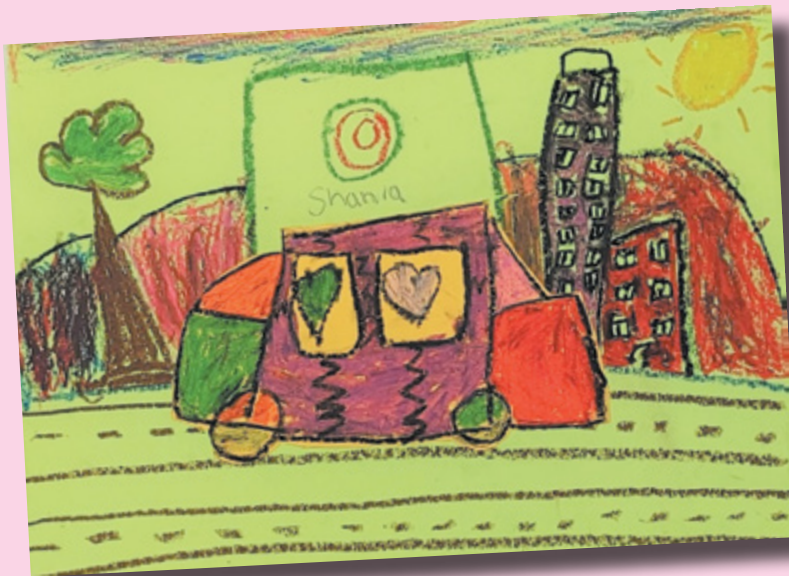


Fox Fine Jewelry presents *New Beginnings*, an art show with **Mika Harmony** and **Chrystal Boissy** (Green Touch Moss) from April 21st to July 31st, with an Art Reception on April 23rd from 5 – 7 pm.

Mika Harmony grew up in Hawaii. From a young age, she was exposed to the world of art: her dad was a songwriter and her mom a photographer.

Chrystal Boissy, founder of Green Touch Moss, creates stunning, dimensional landscapes using moss and other natural materials.

560 E. Main in Downtown.



Cruisin' Cars by **Shania**, Grade 1, Laguna Vista Elementary

Ventura Art Scene



Lighter Breeze

Tiger



The Brilliant Mind of Edison Lee



Dustin



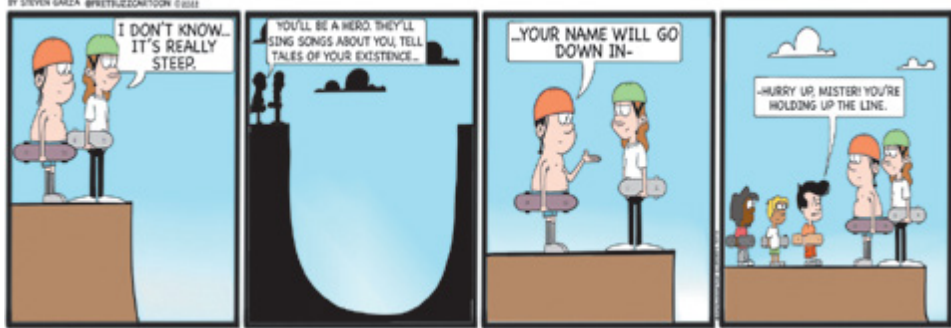
Todd the Dinosaur



Moose and Molly



Fret Buzzed

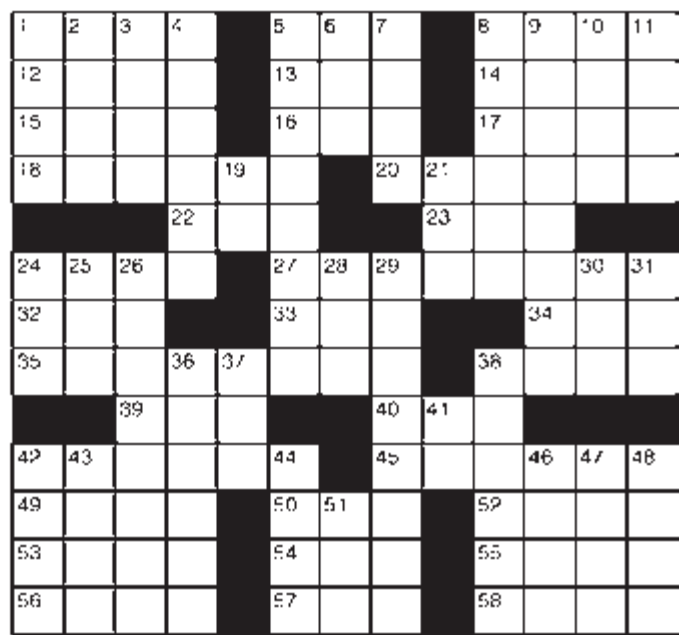


Solutions on page 13

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Soak up the sun
- 5 Joke
- 8 Sports figure?
- 12 Penne — vodka
- 13 Playwright Levin
- 14 "Oops!"
- 15 Picnic spoiler
- 16 Vacuum's lack
- 17 Novelist Jaffe
- 18 Chinese food assortment
- 20 Some mixologists
- 22 Docs' org.
- 23 "Uh-huh"
- 24 Tonsle
- 27 "Locksley Hall" poet
- 32 Year in Mexico
- 33 Stop part
- 34 Stop — dime piece
- 35 Short recital
- 38 Uppity one
- 39 Spike's warning
- 40 Three, in Rome
- 42 JFK's vessel
- 45 Brother's son
- 49 Levelling wedge
- 50 Jurist Fortas
- 52 "I did it!"
- 53 Antitoxins
- 7 Attire
- 8 "Oklahoma!" carriage
- 9 Oscar-winning actress Emma
- 10 Top-of-the-line
- 11 Compared to
- 19 Hesitant sound
- 21 Objectivist Rand
- 24 More (Sp.)
- 25 Popular card game
- 26 Lark, for one
- 28 Very long time
- 29 Fastidious trait
- 30 Yoko of music
- 31 Collar
- 36 Scents
- 37 La-la lead-in
- 38 Music for seven
- 41 Concerning
- 42 "Hey!"
- 43 Ellington's "Take — Train"
- 44 "Toodle-oo!"
- 46 Aesopian also ran
- 47 Tend texts
- 48 Fade away
- 51 Clothing protector



DOWN

- 1 Poet of yore
- 2 Jai —
- 3 Slender
- 4 Sunflower State
- 5 "Billions" actor Paul
- 6 "Exodus" hero

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screen in recent years. Travel also is favored.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Most problems surrounding that recent personal situation have been resolved, and that means you should move on to other things that are important to you.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Put your restlessness to good use by indulging the Arian love of exploring new places and seeking new challenges. There also could be a new romance waiting to be "discovered."

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Spend this weekend recharging your physical and spiritual energies. When you return to your workaday world, you'll be ready to take on that new project.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) A surprise message from someone in your past could lead to a long-awaited reunion with a once-close friend. Also, look for a workplace problem to be resolved in your favor.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Be careful how you advise a troubled friend. Even your wise counsel could be misunderstood. Better to suggest that he or she seek professional help.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Your self-confidence is rising, and that should be a significant factor in helping you adjust to a new social situation, as well as adjusting to a series of changes in the workplace.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Family problems once again dominate and, once again, everyone seeks your guidance in these matters. Later, you can indulge in some much-needed relaxation.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Turnabout could be lots of fun when someone who previously accepted your tender, loving care without question now suggests that he or she wants to start taking care of you.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Some mixed signals create confusion in the workplace. Best advice: Ask for explanations before you attempt to deal with any of these matters on your own.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Put the lessons you learned from past disappointments to work in planning your future. The way ahead opens to opportunities "purrfectly" suited to the adventurous Lion.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) A patch of roiling water in the workplace could be threatening, but stay the course and you'll soon be clear of it. Then go out and have a great time with loved ones.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) This is a good time to renew contacts with family members and/or old friends who somehow slipped off your personal viewing

BORN THIS WEEK: Your extraordinary leadership qualities mark you as someone people can turn to for guidance in difficult situations.

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Solutions on page 13

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

| | | | | | | | | |
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| 9 | | | | | 7 | | | 6 |
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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 column down and each small 3x3-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

- ◆ Moderate
- ◆◆ Challenging
- ◆◆◆ HOO ROY!



Showtime



Rubicon Theatre announces the Company's 2022 -2023 Mainstage Season!

The staff and board of Rubicon Theatre in Ventura are thrilled to open the company's doors once again for the 2022-2023 "Welcome Home" Season. The first production in the recently renovated space will be a pre-season production on March 26, featuring acclaimed stars of screen and television, JoBeth Williams and Joe Spano, in *The Gin Game* by D.L. Coburn, helmed by Jenny Sullivan. Rubicon is the first stop on a national tour of this Pulitzer Prize winning dramedy.

The "Welcome Home" season officially begins with an extraordinary event opening on the 30th anniversary of the L.A. riots, April 29, 1992. Chris Butler stars in *Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992* by Anna Deavere Smith and directed by Butler and Jenny Sullivan. The Rubicon production is the only professional production of the play happening anywhere in the world during this historic anniversary of one what is arguably the largest social explosion of the American 20th century.

In June, Fats Waller is "tickling the ivories" as Rubicon presents one of the great musical revues of all time, *Ain't Misbehavin'*.

The season continues with an updated version of the deliciously witty, beloved romantic comedy *Almost, Maine*, written by John Cariani and directed by Stephanie A. Coltrin (for which Cariani is expected to be in residence).

Lin Manuel-Miranda's sensational *In the Heights*, directed and choreographed by Luis Salgado takes place in early fall.

Audiences can celebrate the holidays

with a world premiere concert event, *A Lonesome Traveler Christmas*, directed by James O'Neil with Musical Direction by Scott Anthony and George Grove and featuring the Folk Legacy Trio.

The "Welcome Home" season concludes with the Southern California premiere of *The Realistic Joneses* by Will Eno, a co-production with Gare St Lazare, Ireland. Directed by Judy Hegarty-Lovett, the production will feature Joe Spano, Faline England and Conor Lovett.

To purchase season tickets for the company's 2022-2023 Season, call the Rubicon Box Office at (805) 667-2900 or visit www.rubicontheatre.org.

In addition to the special savings and gift card incentives, subscriber benefits include discounts for tickets purchased for friends, guaranteed seating, ticket insurance, free exchanges (with 72 hours' notice), and advance notice of special events. Flex passes are also available at a savings.

To order, call the Rubicon Box Office at (805) 667-2900 or visit in person at 1006 E. Main Street (Laurel entrance), from Noon to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Single tickets for each of the shows are also on sale and available via the box office or the company's website: www.rubicontheatre.org.

Rubicon Theatre Company has been described as "the rising star of the Southern California cultural constellation." A not-for-profit professional regional theatre which has reached more than 450,000 attendees,

Streaming Spotlight by Cindy Summers

The Adam Project

- Netflix



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

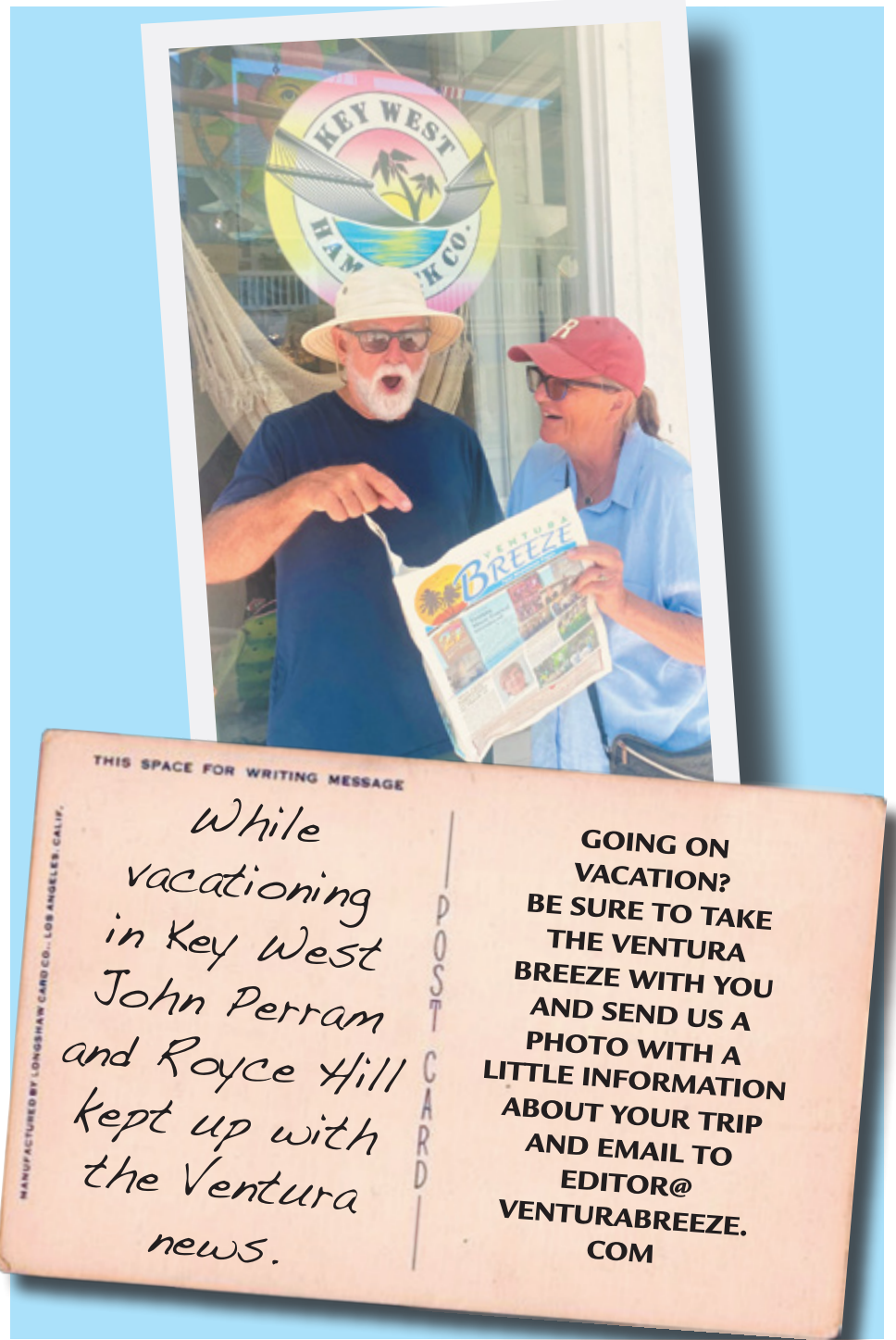
In *The Adam Project*, Adam Reed (Ryan Reynolds) is a time traveling fighter pilot from 2050 who accidentally lands in 2022 and has to elicit the help of his younger self, 12-year-old Adam (Walker Scobell) to discover what happened to his wife Laura (Zoe Saldana) who was also a pilot he was told died under what he believed to be mysterious circumstances.

While home alone, Young Adam's dog Hawking alerted him that there was something in the shed. When Young Adam opened the door, he found a man in a flight

suit sitting on the floor bleeding from his side while Hawking laid next to him. Young Adam followed the injured man went into the house to tend to the bullet wound on his side, and began to recognize that the man seemed to know things around the house and about him, including his name.

Young Adam noticed that the man was wearing the same watch given to him by his father who passed away and that they shared the same scar on their chin. He realized that the pilot was his future self, which immediately caused him to have an asthma attack. Adam grabbed the inhaler from Young Adam's pocket and knew exactly what to do, which confirmed the facts even more.

While waiting at the house for his jet and his wound to heal, Adam and Young Adam were confronted by Maya Sorian (Catherine Keener), who was their dad's original business partner and became head of the time travel division in the future, which Adam fled from when landing in 2022 instead of his intended 2018. Maya sent a team of future soldiers to



capture Adam, but to his surprise Laura, who he had been told died, appeared from the woods and aided him in defeating a dozen cyber soldiers.

They all fled to where Laura had been living since 2018, and Laura explained to Adam that she had discovered that Maya had traveled back in time to alter the timeline and insure that she would be head of Sorian and control the time travel division in the future. Adam felt the only one who could help was his father Louis (Mark Ruffalo), who died in 2020, and knew he had to go back to 2018 to fix everything, but Laura had to stay in 2022 as only Adam's DNA was coded to his jet.

Adam found his father Louis teaching on campus, who quickly accepted that he was his son in the future and both went to his lab to try to prevent the future Maya had altered. Younger Maya showed up at the lab with Maya, who threatened to shoot Young Adam if Adam didn't give her the hard drive that ran his dad's invention. Young Adam broke away as Maya fired and hit the core, sending the lab into meltdown and magnetically drawing all the metal, including the cyber soldiers, toward the core, and Maya became her own demise when she fired at Louis, but the magnetic core turned the bullet toward younger Maya and killed her, thus eliminating future Maya as well.

Adam and Young Adam wanted to tell their dad how he was going to die, but Louis refused to let them try to prevent his death as it could change the future fall all of them. Adam and Louis shared a tender goodbye, and all had a group hug before both Adams disappeared back to the future.

The constant witty banter between Reynolds and Scobell is thoroughly entertaining, and Ruffalo and Jennifer Garner (Adam's mother) also offer strong supporting roles, especially when on the receiving end of Reynolds' well-known style of wit that is shared seamlessly with Scobell.

Rated: PG-13 (Language|Violence/Ac-

tion|Suggestive References)
Runtime: 1h 46m

"Guitar revolutionary" returns

Continued from page 15

wanted to tell stories through my guitar, a difficult inward job that you have to translate through your fingers, without the advantage of the spoken word." Stories of marshland, Patagonia pampa and jungle samba landscapes, explosive ayahuasca jaguar visions and bossa nova, Carib and milonga rhythms.

His electric band travels a cinematic landscape of flamenco smitten with the jangly twang of early American rock and roll—and cumbia, surf and mambo mixed with electric blues and the pachuco grooves of Arizona border music. These sounds evoke the musical journeys of Twanguero's odyssey from Valencia, Spain, to New York City, and from the Piazzolla's tango-land of Buenos Aires to his new home in Los Angeles—which he calls "music's most important, if savage, city where all music styles compete for audience ears."

If you know his music, you love him already. If you don't, you will.

For ticket info and videos visit www.venturamusicalfestival.org

- LINKS
Documentary: "Twanguero Costarica"
<https://youtu.be/YtJQwbNHlyA>
New cd acoustic tunes:
Jaguar
https://youtu.be/b_aLRlmBfZM
La Leyenda del Cañaveral
<https://youtu.be/sAYid1OUAzg>
Videos with his dynamic band:
Electric Sunset
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6DUSsx8lb0s>
Rockabilly Mambo
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Po-yRHocO4c>



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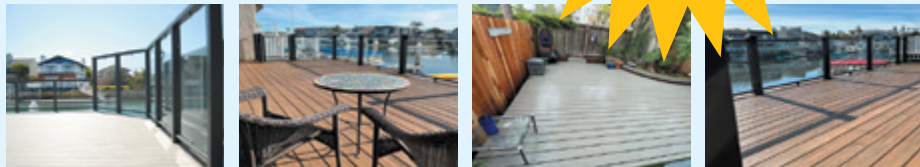


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This 'n' That



Team 4414: HighTide is an industry-based robotics team located in Ventura.

Back to Back Wins for Team 4414: HighTide

After 2 canceled seasons due to COVID, competitive robotics is back, and with that, so is Team 4414: HighTide. They are riding high on back to back wins at Hueneme Port and Ventura County Regionals. Additionally, they earned awards in Quality and Autonomous.

Team 4414: HighTide is an industry-based robotics team located in Ventura. Student participants range from grades 9 – 12 and attend school at Buena, El Camino, Foothill or Ventura High. Students learn career-oriented skills in engineering, design, mathematics, computer science, and are inspired by industry professional mentors. Michael Sessa of Sessa MFG (where the team trains) said, "Team 4414 HighTide is so dedicated and driven to excellence in everything they do. We are so lucky to have such great students along with amazing mentors."

This year's Game sees two alliances competing to process cargo and score it into the hub. The match ends with robots racing to engage with their hangar to prepare for transport. Alliances are made up of 3 robot teams that work together to earn the highest score. While the competition is intense, it is built on the values of professionalism, cooperation, kindness, and more.

Bryce Taylor said, "The team has put in countless hours of prototyping, design, manufacturing, coding and more. As a member of the drive team, the pressure to execute is even greater and I'm glad our practice paid off. We were able to perform at a high level and take full advantage of the robot's potential." Driver Zach Shew said of his experience, "Driving is exciting, fun and unpredictable," while Aadhya Bavkar said, "It was stressful at times, but it felt amazing to share a victory with the whole team and contribute to our overall success."

Beside having a mechanically sound, well driven robot with excellent software, strong strategy and data collection is crucial to winning events. Anshul Bajaj said, "Understanding your opponent's and most importantly, your teammate's ability is essential to performing at the highest level. Using my semi-automated scouting app, Team 4414 students recorded and collected performance data for the teams we competed with. These metrics informed our strategy which elevated our overall competitiveness."

Mentor JJ Sessa congratulated the team on their back to back wins and said, "Thank you to all our sponsors, friends and family for your support. We are looking forward to competing at Aerospace Valley and at the World competition in Houston next month."

More information: www.team4414.com

Jason Gaffner new Deputy Director

Continued from page 11

centration in finance and marketing.

"We are excited to welcome Jason to our growing team and certainly appreciate

his expertise as both a mortgage broker and lender. His perspective on both ends is sure to provide numerous benefits for our developers, our fund, and most importantly those we serve to ensure housing equity for all," states Housing Trust Fund VC CEO Linda Braunschweiger.

Jason Gaffner was accepted into the 2022 Southern California Association of Governments Housing Policy Leadership Academy (SCAG-HPLA). The 10-session program provides an opportunity for people of different backgrounds and disciplines to better understand how to advance policy solutions that positively impact the need for affordable housing. The course offers perspective on the physical and social aspects of a successful housing ecosystem.

To learn more about Jason Gaffner, and Housing Trust Fund VC's Community Promise of committing to funding solutions for safe, equitable and affordable homes in Ventura County for U.S. veterans, young adults transitioning from foster care, farm workers, homeless individuals, and low- and very low income seniors, individuals, and families, please visit: www.housingtrustfundvc.org

Housing Trust Fund Ventura County – Launched as a 501c3 nonprofit corporation in 2011, Housing Trust Fund VC is the local trusted leader in helping to increase affordable housing options throughout Ventura County by leveraging public-private partnerships to provide low-cost, flexible loans early in the housing development cycle. As of November 2021, Housing Trust Fund VC has invested over \$18.7 million through its revolving loan fund, creating 847 affordable apartments and homes for very-low, low- and middle-income employees, transitional age foster youth, veterans, farm workers, and the homeless.

Winners of the 2022 St. Patrick's Day

Continued from page 1

Force Junior ROTC

Bands

High School Band: Buena High School

Marching Band

Junior High School Band: Cabrillo Middle

School Jazz Band

Adult Band: Pacific Coast Highlanders Pipe Band

Families:

The McGrath Family Equestrian: Camarillo White Horses

Clubs and Organizations

Adult: Ventura Nite Riders/Simi Valley Fallout Riders

Youth: Ventura High School Cheerleaders

Non-Profit: Ventura Chamber of Commerce

Vehicles

Antique: Ventura County Model "A" Ford Club
Classic Cars prior to 1950s: Gary Cooper- Light Green Machine

Classic Cars 1950s or later: Ventura Hot

Rodders Men's Breakfast

Special Interest Ventura County Corvette Club

Tractors: Topa Topa Fly Wheelers

Individual Vehicle: Ding Masters Fire Truck:

J.W. Enterprises

Commercial: Pizza Man Dan's

Media (tie)

Lazer Broadcasting

Novelty: Surf Rodeo

Walking Entries: Unique Diamonds Competitive Cheerleaders

Most Irish: Claddagh School of

Irish Dance

Environmental Green Theme: Agromin

Restaurants and Pubs: O'Leary's Tavern

Government Agencies: Assembly member

Steve Bennett

Mayor's Trophy: Oxnard High School

Marching Swarm

Best in Parade (Arnold Hubbard Perpetual

Trophy): Claddagh School of Irish Dance