Eat, Drink and Be Scary This Halloween Weekend!

Ventura Breeze

Local News, Entertainment and More

Vol. 20, No. 3 | Published Every Other Wednesday | Established 2007 | October 28 to November 10, 2026



Image courtesy VUSD

The Ventura Unified School District has approved the $6 million sale of the former Avenue School property on North Ventura Avenue to Ventura Housing. The 7.44-acre site, vacant since the school closed in 1989, is slated for affordable housing for educators and the broader Ventura community. Future development remains subject to City of Ventura planning approvals.

Ventura Unified Sells Former Avenue School for $6 Million

The Ventura Unified School District (VUSD) Board of Education has unanimously approved the $6 million sale of its former Avenue School property at 2647 North Ventura Avenue to Ventura Housing for the development of affordable housing for educators and the broader Ventura community.

The board voted 5-0 on October 13, 2026, to approve an option for sale agreement with Ventura Housing, formerly known as the Housing Authority of the City of San Buenaventura, acting through Homecomings Inc.

The 7.44-acre property was historically home to Avenue Elementary School, also known as Avenue School. The public school closed in 1989 because the building did not comply with state seismic safety requirements. The site

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Garmin Selects Ventura for 2027 Marathon



Photo by Richard Lieberman

Marlyss Auster, president and CEO of Visit Ventura, addresses attendees during the announcement of the 2027 Garmin Marathon in Ventura.

By Richard Lieberman

Ventura will host a new Garmin-branded marathon in August 2027, bringing runners from across California and the nation to the coastal city.

The announcement was made at a press event at the Crowne Plaza Ventura Beach, attended by Garmin representatives, Ventura Mayor Dr. Jeannette Sánchez-Palacios, Visit Ventura President and CEO Marlyss Auster, local dignitaries and members of the running community.

Steve Lovell, Garmin's director of advertising and sponsorships, said the company evaluated more than 50 cities before selecting Ventura as its fourth marathon host city.

"The active lifestyle of Ventura residents convinced Garmin that this was going to be a real successful event for us," Lovell said. He added that the race would bring both

Continued on page 3

Local Surfer Flynn Neth Wins Pro Open

By Joe Seemayer

Ventura's surfing tradition has produced its share of standout talents, but local surfer Fynn Neth recently added a historic achievement to the record books. Competing at the 17th annual Still Frothy Surf Festival at Pismo Beach Pier, Neth swept the Juniors and Pro Open divisions, winning the Juniors title Saturday before returning Sunday to capture the Pro Open crown. He became the first Junior competitor in the event's history to win the Pro Open.

Known for attracting top talent from along the California coast, Still Frothy challenges competitors with shifting beach breaks and changing tides. Competing in two divisions over consecutive days can be physically demanding, but Neth found that the fast pace worked to his advantage.

"When I get in the jersey, fatigue doesn't really hit me," Neth said. "I kind of enjoyed

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Photo by @joeseemayerphoto

Fynn rides a wave, where he made history by winning both the Juniors and Pro Open divisions.

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"Everyone is entitled to their own opinion. It's just that yours is stupid."
— Anonymous

City News



Photo Courtesy City of Ventura

Ventura Fire Department Receives $4.07 Million Grant

The Ventura Fire Department has received a $4.07 million federal grant to hire 11 additional firefighter-paramedics, strengthening staffing levels and emergency response capabilities throughout the city. The Ventura City Council accepted the award at its October 6, 2026, meeting.

The three-year Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant, awarded through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), will fund salaries and benefits for the new positions from March 2027 through March 2030. The total cost of the positions over three years is $6.6 million, including $4.07 million in federal funding and $2.53 million in City matching funds. The grant period begins March 24, 2027.

"This is a tremendous investment in the safety and well-being of our community," said Ventura Fire Chief Kris McDonald. "Adding 11 firefighter-paramedics strengthens our ability to maintain staffing around the clock and gives our crews greater capacity to respond when demand is at its highest. We are grateful to FEMA for this investment in Ventura's public safety."

The new positions will bring the department's authorized staffing to 92 full-time employees and support 24-hour staffing for 11 personnel assigned to the department's paramedic squads. The department expects to begin filling the positions when the grant period starts.

Additional personnel will help the department respond to simultaneous emergencies, maintain coverage when crews are committed to major incidents, and provide support throughout Ventura County through existing automatic aid agreements.

The SAFER Grant Program helps fire departments increase staffing, meet industry minimum standards and maintain around-the-clock coverage to protect communities from fires and related hazards. FEMA approved Ventura's request to hire 11 additional firefighter-paramedics through the program.

The award builds on the City's ongoing investment in emergency preparedness and response. In 2023, Ventura received a fiscal year 2021 SAFER grant to fund 13 firefighter-paramedic positions through February 2027. During the fiscal year 2027 budget process, two of those positions were permanently incorporated into the City's General Fund operating budget.

For more information about the Ventura Fire Department, visit www.cityofventura.ca.gov/Fire.

Ventura Prepares Emergency Winter Shelter for Storms

Up to 120 emergency shelter beds available during extreme rainfall and flash flooding

As the City of Ventura prepares for potential El Niño storms this fall and winter, plans are underway to provide emergency shelter for individuals experiencing homelessness during severe weather. The El Niño Winter Shelter will be activated when forecasts indicate flash flooding, including anticipated rainfall exceeding half an inch per hour, to provide safety to unsheltered individuals living in riverbeds and other flood-prone areas.

Located at the National Guard Armory at 1270 Arundell Avenue, the shelter will provide up to 120 emergency beds during extreme rainfall events between October 15, 2026, through April 15, 2027.

"Heavy rainfall can cause water levels to rise rapidly, creating dangerous conditions with little warning," said Mack Douglass, Emergency Services Manager for the City of Ventura. "By preparing this emergency shelter in advance, we can respond quickly and provide a safer place for those most at risk."

The City's Emergency Services Manager will monitor weather forecasts to determine shelter activation. The City is coordinating with the County of Ventura and Ventura Police Department Emergency Services personnel on shelter operations and emergency response.

The El Niño Winter Shelter is offered in addition to the City's existing Foul Weather Shelter program, which provides up to 40 non-congregate motel rooms for unsheltered seniors ages 62 and older and individuals with chronic health conditions who reside in Ventura. Operating seasonally from December through March in coordination with the River Community Church, the Foul Weather Shelter activates when temperatures are forecast below 40 degrees or at least half an inch of rain is expected overnight.

In the event of a state-declared disaster, additional shelter resources may be requested through the California Office of Emergency Services.

The City's emergency response efforts follow the Ventura County Continuum of Care Encampment Response Guidance Policy, which aligns with California Interagency Council on Homelessness guidance.

Additional information about shelter activation and access will be shared as conditions warrant. Learn more at www.cityofventura.ca.gov/ElNinoShelter.



Photo courtesy City of Ventura.

Environment

Junk Drop-Off Day

City of Ventura residents are invited to participate in our next Junk Drop Off Event to properly dispose of hard-to-manage waste and recycling. This outdoor event takes place on Saturday, November 14 at the City Maintenance Yard at 336 Sanjon Rd, Ventura, CA 93001. Please arrive at your selected time slot to help manage roll-off bins and to minimize traffic congestion.

What to bring:

· All waste types EXCEPT for Household Hazardous Waste.

· Tires will not be accepted at this event site but can be dropped off at Avenue Tire & Service (617 N Ventura Ave) in Ventura during the event hours (up to 4 tires per household).

· Donatable materials. Goodwill Industries will be onsite to collect items in good condition.

· Government I.D. or utility bill: Attendees will be required to show proof of City of Ventura residency.

What NOT to bring:

· Household Hazardous Waste such as: Batteries (Automotive and Household), Compressed Gas/ Propane Tanks, Cosmetics (Nail Polishes, Removers, Etc.), Fire Extinguishers, Fluorescent, Tubes and Light Bulbs (CFLs), Paints, Pesticides and Fertilizers, Pool Supplies, Smoke Detectors, Thinners and Lacquer, Used Oil Filters, Used or Contaminated Motor Oil and Gasoline. For more information on how to dispose of HHW or to register for an upcoming HHW drop-off event, please visit our website www.cityofventura.ca.gov/HHW

· Commercial and business waste is not accepted at these events and vehicles clearly marked for commercial purposes will not be allowed entry.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Environmental Sustainability Division at (805) 652-4525. Email: sustainability@cityofventura.ca.gov. www.jotform.com/form/262636241301144.



Photo by Richard Lieberman

Ventura Mayor Dr. Jeannette Sánchez-Palacios, Marlyss Auster and local dignitaries celebrate Ventura's selection as a Garmin Marathon host city.

Garmin Selects Ventura
Continued from page 1

a high-caliber sporting event and destination tourism to the region, creating opportunities for residents and visitors to participate.

The course is expected to start and finish in downtown Ventura, showcasing scenic coastal locations, including the Ventura Pier, Surfers Point and the waterfront. Organizers anticipate that local hotels, restaurants and retailers will benefit from visitors traveling to participate in or support the event.

The marathon will feature a full 26.2-mile race, a 13.1-mile half marathon and fun-run events designed to welcome participants of different ages and abilities. A race expo is also planned, featuring fitness technology, health and wellness programs, and local businesses.

Ventura joins Toledo, Ohio; Tucson, Arizona; and Durham, North Carolina, as a host city for the Garmin marathon series.

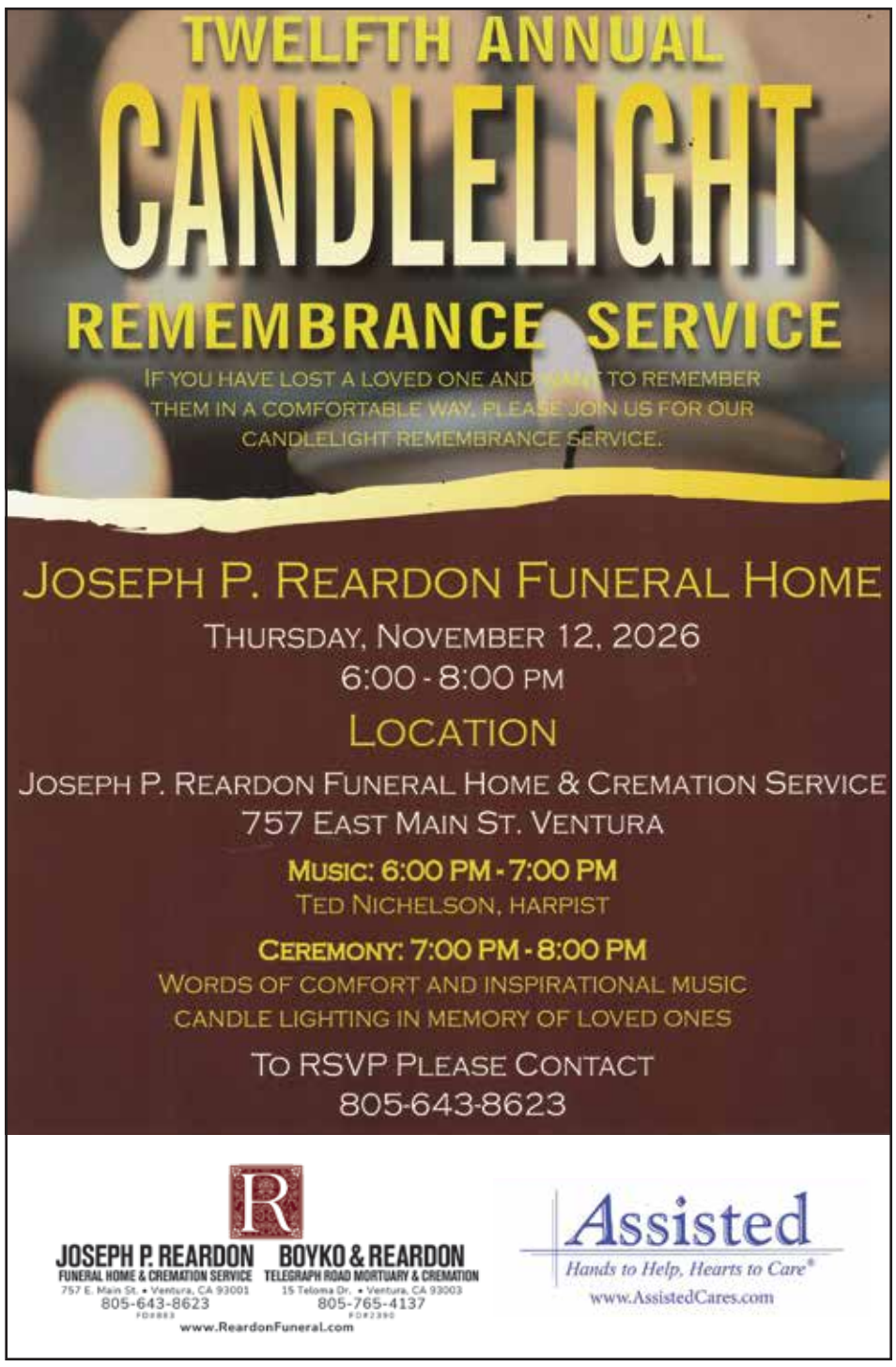
For local runners, the event offers an opportunity to participate in a nationally branded marathon close to home, while bringing added attention to Ventura's coastal scenery, businesses and active outdoor lifestyle.

Further details about the course, registration and race events are expected as planning continues. www.garmin.com/en-US/garmin-marathon-series.



Photo by Richard Lieberman

Steve Lovell, Garmin's director of advertising and sponsorships, discusses plans for the 2027 marathon during the announcement event.





Free Mulch and Compost Giveaway

Ventura residents can give their gardens a boost at the City's free mulch and compost giveaway. The materials, provided by the City and supplied by Agromin, help residents improve soil health, conserve water and maintain healthy gardens. Compost adds nutrients to the soil to help plants thrive, while mulch helps control weeds, retain moisture, regulate soil temperature and improve the appearance of landscaping.

Event Details

Location: City Maintenance Yard, 336 Sanjon Road, Ventura

Residents should bring the following items:

· Proof of Ventura residency, such as a government-issued ID or utility bill

· Bags, buckets or other containers for collecting materials

· A shovel, if available, as only a limited number will be provided

· Closed-toe shoes and gloves

· Sunglasses and a hat for sun protection

The event will also provide an opportunity for residents to connect with the City's Environmental Services Team to learn about upcoming events, city programs and sustainability initiatives. Because quantities are estimated based on registration requests, supplies may run out before the event concludes. For questions, call (805) 765-1392 or email sustainability@cityofventura.ca.gov.



Photo courtesy VCB

Ventura County Ballet returns with its 28th annual The Nutcracker December 5–6 at the Oxnard Performing Arts Center, featuring nearly 100 dancers, guest ballet stars and live orchestral music. This year introduces the company's first sensory-friendly performance, offering a more accessible holiday experience for individuals and families with diverse needs.

Ventura County Ballet Debuts Sensory-Friendly Nutcracker

Ventura County Ballet will present its 28th annual The Nutcracker December 5–6 at the Oxnard Performing Arts Center, featuring nearly 100 dancers, internationally acclaimed ballet stars and live orchestral music for its afternoon performances. This year marks the company's first sensory-friendly performance, designed to make the holiday classic more accessible to individuals and families with diverse needs.

Performances are Saturday, December 5, at 11 a.m. for the sensory-friendly show and 3 p.m. for the general audience, and Sunday, December 6, at 2 p.m.

The sensory-friendly performance will feature softer music, low lighting, a shorter runtime, a quiet break area and specially trained staff. Guests may move around, vocalize, and enter or exit as needed. The performance will not include a live orchestra. The program was made possible in part by a grant from the California Arts Council.

The afternoon performances will feature the San Luis Obispo Grand Opera Orchestra, conducted by Dr. Brian Asher Alhadeff, with guest ballet stars Alexander Saveliev, Hanna Chudinova, Ariel Asatryan and Jack Stewart, alongside local professional dancers and students from Ballet Academy Ventura.

Audiences can enjoy the holiday classic's hand-painted scenery, more than 300 costumes, dancing dolls, swirling snowflakes and Clara's journey to the Land of Sweets. Doors open an hour before each performance, with a holiday boutique and free photos with dancers. Afternoon shows also include a complimentary Sugar Plum Cookie Party.

General performance tickets range from $25 to $60, plus fees, at venturacountyballet.com. Sensory-friendly tickets are $5 for children and $10 for adults, plus fees, at venturacountyballet.com/sensoryfriendly.

Ventura County Ballet will also offer free Nutcracker outreach performances at local schools, libraries and community centers in November, including a sensory-friendly event in partnership with Autism Society Ventura County.

wev + the power of you | 35th Anniversary
Celebrating 35 years of Supporting Women

WEV Celebrates 35 Years of Local Business

Women's Economic Ventures (WEV) will celebrate 35 years of empowering entrepreneurs with its 35 for 35 Business Showcase on Tuesday, December 8, from 3 to 6 p.m. at the Museum of Ventura County.

The free-to-attend community celebration will feature 35 current and former WEV-supported businesses, highlighting local entrepreneurs and the organization's impact on economic opportunity in Ventura and Santa Barbara counties.

Guests can meet business owners, explore their products and services, shop local and connect with the community that has supported WEV since 1991. For more information, visit www.wevonline.org.



The first-ever first responder team crossing was spearheaded by Grace Nackers, who last summer, at just 15 years old, became a solo channel swimmer

VTA Swim for Service Channel Crossing Success

On Saturday, October 3, a team of 15 first responders from various Ventura agencies took on an extraordinary challenge; swimming across the Santa Barbara Channel from Frenchy's Cove to Silver Strand Beach. The swim took 8 Hours and 36 minutes and the team swam 16.49 miles.

The first-ever first responder team crossing was spearheaded by Grace Nackers, who last summer, at just 15 years old, became a solo channel swimmer. Rather than taking on another channel crossing for her own personal achievement, Grace decided to use her passion for open-water swimming to bring first responders together and raise awareness about the demanding work of ocean lifeguards.

The team includes firefighters, two ocean lifeguards, and an AMR paramedic. Throughout the summer, they have trained intensively, stepping outside their usual first-responder athletic routines to prepare for the challenges of long-distance open-ocean swimming.

Said Grace, "We started at 5:40 am in the dark from Frenchy's Cove. The water was flat and the sky was clear. We were visited by pods of dolphins all day and some sea lions. We finished just after 2 pm at Silver Strand beach."

The collaboration has also given the participating agencies an opportunity to better understand one another's roles and the physical demands of their work. In particular, the experience highlights the extensive training and specialized skills required of ocean lifeguards, who routinely respond to emergencies in one of the most unpredictable environments.

Grace hopes the crossing will help bring greater public awareness to the role of ocean lifeguards and the recognition they are seeking as first responders at the state and federal levels.

The effort also has a charitable purpose. The team is raising funds to establish scholarships for future first responders in the Ventura area, including junior lifeguards, police explorers, and fire cadets.

The VTA Swim for Service Team is also planning a post-crossing celebration and raffle on December 13 at Leashless Brewing Co. More information about the team, the crossing, sponsorship opportunities, and the celebration can be found at venturafirehonorguard.org/swimforservice.

Ventura Unified Sells School
Continued from page 1

remained vacant for decades before the District began exploring options for its future.

The proposed housing development aims to address the region's shortage of affordable housing, including the challenges faced by teachers and other school employees trying to live in the communities they serve.

"Our teachers and staff should be able to live in the community they serve," said Marieanne Quiroz, VUSD director of communications and public information officer. "When educators can find affordable housing in the city in which they work, they shop at our local businesses, coach our youth teams, and make further family connections at City events. This vote is an investment in keeping those connections strong for years to come."

Community Review Led to Sale

The sale follows an extensive review by the District's Board-appointed 7-11 Committee, which evaluated potential uses for District-owned properties and gathered community input. Based on the committee's recommendation, the board declared the North Ventura Avenue property surplus to the District's needs and began exploring its sale.

After receiving a waiver from the State Board of Education that provided flexibility in the surplus-property process, VUSD issued a request for proposals on September 30, 2025, inviting proposals for affordable housing development or other purchase or lease arrangements. The District selected Ventura Housing and negotiated the agreement approved by the board.

Sale Proceeds to Support District Facilities

The $6 million in proceeds will support VUSD facility needs. Under California law, proceeds from the sale of surplus school property are generally restricted to one-time expenses, such as capital improvements and facility projects, rather than ongoing operating costs such as employee salaries, subject to limited exceptions.

The agreement authorizes District officials to complete the necessary sale and escrow procedures. The transaction remains subject to the terms and conditions of the purchase and sale agreements.

Any future housing development will also need to go through the City of Ventura's planning and approval process. The board meeting, including the decision on the property sale, can be viewed on YouTube at www.youtube.com/live/a8q5obmciAQ?si=2qUUu-ZrOzDBmW-g5&t=10216

For more information about Ventura Unified School District, visit www.venturausd.org or call 805-641-5000.



Photo by @joeseemayerphoto

Ventura surfer Fynn Neth celebrates a historic double victory at the 17th annual Still Frothy Surf Festival in Pismo Beach, winning both the Juniors and Pro Open divisions and becoming the first Junior competitor in festival history to claim the Pro Open title.

Fynn Neth
Continued from page 1

just having back-to-back heats because it kept me in rhythm with the ocean. Sometimes if I have a heat at the start of the day and have a long time in between waiting, I can get tired, so I thrive off fast-paced heat times."

Neth quickly found his rhythm in Pismo's shifting lineup, focusing on positioning himself to catch the best waves.

"I knew for both the Juniors and the Pro divisions I just had to be on the best waves in the best spot. I figured out where the best waves were and that is where I sat."

After making a few priority mistakes in the Pro semifinal, Neth adjusted his approach heading into the final.The Pro division also brought familiar competition. Neth faced fellow Ventura surfer Jabe Swierkocki in both the semifinals and final, renewing their rivalry after the two met in the final the previous year.

"The semis and final surfing against Jabe Swierkocki was eye-opening. I know I have to perform because of how good he is. Jabe is also from Ventura, so we have run a lot of mock heats together."

When the final horn sounded Sunday afternoon, Neth felt he had put himself in position to win, although the results remained unknown until the awards ceremony.

"Making both finals was already a win in my book. I knew I had a fighting chance to win, I just had to execute," Neth said. "When the final horn blew for the Pro, I knew I had a good chance to get either first or second. For the Juniors, I was pretty confident I had won... It definitely made it a little more exciting not knowing the results until they announced it at the awards ceremony."

Since the Ventura Breeze last profiled Neth following the West Coast Championship, his momentum has continued to build. He credits longtime shaper Robert Weiner of Roberts Surfboards and Anacapa Surf and Sport with helping develop his equipment, including the signature "Fynnja" line. At Still Frothy, Neth rode the new Fynnja 2.0, a custom half-carbon epoxy board he had picked up just days before the competition.

His list of sponsors has also grown. After winning the NSSA West Coast Championship, Neth secured sponsorship with heritage surf brand Katin. Following his double victory at Still Frothy, he was offered a spot in the event's ambassador program. He also continues to work with ProLite's Hendo and wetsuit maker Colby+, providing feedback on equipment designs, including custom 3D-scanned boots.

Despite his growing list of competitive accomplishments, Neth says coaching the Ventura Makos middle school surf team over the past two seasons has been among his most rewarding experiences. He coaches under program director Christian Brock and sees the experience as an opportunity to help young surfers develop while continuing to grow himself.

"Actually what really stands out is how much fun I've been having coaching the Ventura Makos middle school surf team the past two years," Neth said. "Huge props to Christian Brock for running the program and bringing me on board. It has helped my surfing grow as well. I am having so much fun and I look forward to seeing the kids progress and excel."

Ventura's surf culture remains central to Neth's identity. Whether chasing winter swells at home or making surf trips up the Central Coast and into Big Sur, he remains connected to the community and the surfers who have inspired him.

"I remember watching Dane Reynolds from a young age and he's always been so nice, and I look up to him," Neth said. "Also surfing with Dimitri Poulos has been inspirational - surfing with him here in Ventura one week, and then the next he's in Portugal or Brazil for a WSL event, that's been fueling my desire to take surfing to the next step with a pro career."

Looking ahead, Neth hopes to test himself on the World Surf League Qualifying Series (QS) while keeping his ambitions in perspective. He is currently pursuing a degree in health science at Ventura College and remains committed to balancing academics with competition.

"I look forward to getting on the QS and seeing how that ball rolls. I don't want to put pressure on myself," Neth said. "Keeping a balance is important, and so is having goals outside of competitive surfing too."



Photo by @joeseemayerphoto

Fynn showcases his skills in the water at the Still Frothy Surf Festival in Pismo Beach.

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Library News

The Bookmark

About Libraries and Friends

By Mary Olson

Ventura Friends of the Library are holding a Book Sale Saturday, November 7, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Vons at Telegraph & Victoria
Shop our Gift Quality Books! Fiction, Non-fiction, Classics, Seasonal Books, Vintage and Collectibles, Graphic Novels & Manga, Children's Books, Board Books, Picture Books, Puzzles, DVDs, CDs. Proceeds benefit Ventura's libraries

Ghostly Lore and Spirit Detecting with Richard Senate. Avenue Library, Thursday, October 29, 6:00 to 7:00 pm
Avenue Library's Ghost Hunters Club invites you to an evening of ghostly lore and spirit detecting with the world-renowned paranormal investigator, historian, and author, Richard Senate. Seating is limited and registration is required. Please email Mary Birch at mary.birch@venturacounty.gov or call Avenue Library at 805-643-6393 to reserve your spot. Victorian attire is encouraged, but not required.

Maker Lab at Hill Road Library, a science and technology program for children, elementary, teens & middle school
Hill Road Library Thursdays, 3:30 to 4:30pm

October 29: Groovy Ghoulie Slime – at this special spooky Maker Lab create ghoulish slime! Space is limited and class will begin promptly at 3:30 PM. Unfortunately we are unable to accommodate late arrivals for this activity.

November 5: Mini Tile Murals - Learn about the local murals of Ventura County and the mural culture of Southern California, and then create a mini tile mural of your own! This session is intended for elementary school students, but children of all ages are welcome. Led by local Girl Scout Ambassador Malia Lange.

November 12: Chumash Basketweaving -- Learn about local indigenous art through Chumash basketweaving! We will make yarn baskets while learning about the history and importance of basketry to the Chumash people.

This session is intended for elementary school students, but children of all ages are welcome. Led by local Girl Scout Ambassador Malia Lange.

Nutcracker Storytime at Hill Road Library, Saturday, November 7, 11:00 am to12:00 pm
Families are invited to a special reading of "The Nutcracker" along with a small dance performances of select scenes from The Nutcracker by Ventura County Ballet dancers, showcasing the beauty and elegance of this beloved work.

Dancers will also lead a demonstration in which children can learn basic ballet moves inspired by the story. It is a wonderful opportunity for aspiring young dancers to experience firsthand the magic of ballet. We look forward to sharing The Nutcracker with our community! This event is free and open to the public. For additional information, contact Linda Cherry at linda.cherry@venturacounty.gov

Avenue Library Movie Matinee: Hoppers. Avenue Library Saturday, November 14, 12:00 to 2:00 pm
Children and their families are welcome to a free showing of Hoppers, rated PG and runs 105 minutes long. The movie is about animal lover Mabel who uses clever new technology designed to "hop" human consciousness into lifelike robotic animals to communicate with beavers, uncovering mysteries within the animal world beyond anything she could have imagined. Seating is limited and offered on a first come, first served basis.

Wise Owls Book Club. Hill Road Library, Tuesday, November 10, 5:00 to 6:00 pm
Wise Owls is a Book Club for adults who enjoy reading children's literature. Our Fall selection is The Girl Who Drank The Moon, by Kelly Barnhill

Visit the Hill Road Library to pick up the latest Book Club selections. For more information or to join the mailing list for Book Clubs please email Linda.Cherry@Ventura.org

Master Gardeners at the Library Winterizing Your Garden. Tuesday November 17, 5:00 to 6:00 pm Hill Road Library
Our class will cover winter soil preparation, strategic planning for planting and crop rotation, seedling timing, and winter tool maintenance. Learn great ways to make the most of this quieter season and set the stage for a beautiful spring garden! Presented by Master Gardener Terry Garman
(Optional) Link to Register: https://surveys.ucanr.edu/survey.cfm?surveynumber=49658

The Beatrice Wood Center for the Arts Presents

Chamber On The Mountain

An extraordinary musical experience in a setting of extraordinary beauty



Mark Valenti, Pianist
A Solo Piano Performance

Program Features Works by Debussy, Bach, Barber, Ives, and Beethoven

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Logan House, at the Beatrice Wood Center for the Arts
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CHAMBER ON THE MOUNTAIN

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Chamber On The Mountain
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Ojai Veteran's New Book Explores Vietnam, Brotherhood and the Lasting Impact of War

Retired Army Colonel Keith M. Nightingale reflects on combat, leadership, PTSD and the challenges of returning home in his new book, Echoes of the Rain: Battles and Blessings: A Tour of Duty in Vietnam.

As Veterans Day approaches, Ojai resident and retired Army Colonel Keith M. Nightingale is releasing a new book that examines the realities of combat in Vietnam and the lasting impact of military service on those who experience it.

Published by Casemate Publishing, Echoes of the Rain: Battles and Blessings: A Tour of Duty in Vietnam draws on Nightingale's military experience to explore the bonds formed among soldiers in combat, the leadership required to survive under pressure, and the psychological and personal challenges that can follow service members long after they return home.

The book follows a young infantry lieutenant through a year in Vietnam, from his first day in country to his journey home 365 days later. Told in the third person, the narrative explores the relationships, personal growth and shared experiences that develop among soldiers facing danger and uncertainty together.

For Nightingale, one of the book's central themes is the enduring connection between members of a small combat unit. These relationships, forged through shared hardship, can become a lifelong source of belonging. But the experiences that create those bonds can also leave lasting emotional scars, including post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

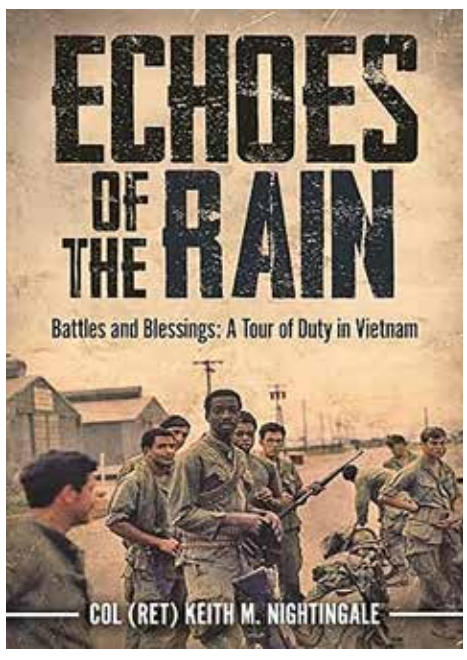
Nightingale also examines the challenges veterans face when rebuilding their personal lives after combat, particularly their relationships with spouses and families.

"The husband on Day One is dramatically different than the husband of Day 366," Nightingale observes, describing how a year of exposure to combat can change a person. He believes this transformation deserves greater attention beyond clinical discussions of PTSD and treatment.

A Ventura County resident since 1946, Nightingale has spent decades in military and national security leadership. During his Army career, he commanded four rifle companies, three battalions and two brigades, serving in airborne and Ranger units. His experience also includes participation in the Iran hostage rescue attempt, contributions to the development of modern special operations forces, and management of the Pablo Escobar Task Force.

Following his military retirement, Nightingale worked at Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC). He now lives in Ojai and maintains longstanding ties to the broader region.

With its focus on the human experiences behind military service, Echoes of the Rain offers readers a perspective on Vietnam that extends beyond the battlefield to consider the friendships, sacrifices and personal adjustments that can shape a veteran's life for decades.
Nightingale welcomes opportunities to speak with local organizations and participate in community discussions about the book, his military experiences and the lessons he has carried throughout his life. www.amazon.com/s?k=Echoes+of+the+Rain+Battles+and+Blessings+Keith+Nightingale



What stays with a soldier long after the war ends? Ojai resident and retired Army Colonel Keith M. Nightingale explores the bonds of combat, the lasting effects of PTSD, and the challenges of returning home in his new book, Echoes of the Rain: Battles and Blessings: A Tour of Duty in Vietnam. Drawing on military experience, the book offers a deeply human perspective on service, sacrifice, and life after war.

Senior Living



Image by Wavebreak Media on Magnific.com

Try mindfulness activities, such as meditation, yoga and breathing exercises to help you deal with stress or challenges in your life.

How to Improve Your Mental and Physical Strength

By Leslie Sokol

Have you ever found yourself admiring people you think of as strong, both physically and mentally? Strong individuals take care of themselves, show confidence and serve as an inspiration to others. Physical and emotional strength are also important components of your overall health and it's critical that you focus on both areas when creating your fitness plan!

It Starts with Mental Strength

Building your emotional wellbeing is fundamental to living your best life. Optimal mental health helps you live a life you love, have meaningful social connections, and can improve self-esteem. It's never too late to maintain your strength or discover new ways to get even stronger. There are numerous studies showing people who are strong emotionally are also physically healthier and have stronger immune systems.

A good way to start building up your mental strength is by creating a daily routine based on brain-boosting habits. Try mindfulness activities, such as meditation, yoga and breathing exercises to help you deal with stress or challenges in your life. Being mentally strong helps you resist both internal and external influences that weaken your self-confidence and well-being.

How Physical Strength Correlates with Mental Strength

Your physical strength goes hand in hand with your mental strength. As I tell my students, "Strong mind, strong body." Regular physical activity will not only help keep your muscles, bones and joints strong, but it will also build up your mental resilience. Regular workouts may actually change the way your brain responds to stress, thereby improving your ability to deal with any stressors that may come your way. Also, when you exercise, your mind produces a variety of "feel good" neurotransmitters and hormones, which delivers a major boost to your mood. Those positive emotions go a long way in improving your mental health!

Muscle strength and dynamic balance are vital at every age, but in older populations it becomes even more crucial for maintaining independence and quality of life. As we age, we do lose muscle mass and strength. Muscles atrophy and become weak when we do not exercise or keep our bodies strong. "If you do not use it, you lose it" That's why it is so crucial to do strengthening exercises and keep physically active.

Tips for Improving Your Mental Strength

- Cultivate a growth mindset.
- Develop emotional regulation skills.
- Set realistic goals.
- Strengthen your support system.
- Practice self-compassion and love.
- Step out of your comfort zone.
- Develop a daily routine.
- Keep your connections strong (socialize).
- Practice mindfulness and start a meditation practice.
- Be a believer.

Tips for Improving Your Physical Strength

- Exercise and stay active to prevent muscle and bone loss.
- Do activities that are fun, get you in shape, increase your alertness, and feel good to your body and mind.
- Do exercises that actually strengthen your muscles, such as:
- Lifting weights
- Resistance bands
- Walking
- Hiking
- Dancing
- Push-ups, sit-ups and pull-ups
- Heavy gardening such as digging and shoveling.

I want to share one of my favorite quotes by Tim Grover: "Physical strength measures what you CAN DO, Mental strength measures whether

Continued on page 8

Senior Resources

Ventura County Area Agency on Aging (VCAAA)

Looking for information on resources and support available for seniors? Visit www.VCAAA.org or call 805-477-7300 to learn more about the resources, meal services, and support available for seniors in Ventura County.

City of Ventura: Home Delivered Meal Program

The Home Delivered Meal Program is designed for homebound individuals 60 years and older who live in Ventura. To learn more about the program or to register, call: 805-648-3035

Westside Cafe

The Westside Cafe is open for congregate meals.

Ventura Avenue Adult Center

Location: 550 N. Ventura Avenue
Hours: Monday - Friday, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

To learn more about the program: Call 805-648-3035

Food Share of Ventura County

Are you in need of food? Food Share of Ventura County is hosting Pop Up Pantries throughout our County for residents in need. Learn more by visiting www.Food Share.com or call 805-983-7100

Senior Support Line

Feeling lonely or isolated? Call the Senior Support Line at 1-800-235-9980

2-1-1 Ventura County

211 is a free service that connects community members to information about critical health and human services available in their community. 211 is available 24-hours a day, 7- days a week and offers information and referrals in over 150 languages.

Connect with 211 by Phone (landline or cell phone in Ventura County)

- Dial: 2-1-1
- Toll Free: 1-800-339-9597
- By Text: Text your zip code to 898-211
- Online: Visit www.211.org



Cycling Without Age Offers Free Rides for Adults 50 and Older



Image courtesy of the City of Ventura and Cycling Without Age Ventura

Participants can enjoy fresh air, get outdoors and experience Ventura from a new perspective.

Ventura residents ages 50 and older who can no longer ride a bicycle independently can enjoy free cycling outings through Cycling Without Age, which offers rides at two Ventura locations.

Rides are available Wednesdays from noon to 2 p.m. at the Ventura Avenue Adult Center and Barranca Vista Center.

Participants can enjoy fresh air, get outdoors and experience Ventura from a new perspective.

To learn more or reserve a ride, call the Ventura Avenue Adult Center at 805-648-3035 or Barranca Vista Center at 805-654-7552. Visit www.cwa-ventura.orgfor more information.

How to Improve
Continued from page 7

you'll actually DO IT!" We can all live a productive, healthy, and well-balanced life by focusing on strengthening both our minds and our bodies. By choosing to do things that make you happy and content, you will see immediate boosts in your attitude, energy, motivation and outlook on life. Stay Strong! Be Happy and Healthy!

About the Author

Leslie Sokol is the creator and founder of the adult dance and fitness program For the Young at Heart. She has been teaching adults and children for forty-five years. You can watch For the Young at Heart on Spectrum YurView, by visiting her YouTube Channel or on TVSB (times and channels can be found on her website). She also teaches in retirement communities throughout Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties.

For more information, please contact Leslie at leslie@lesliesokolsdance.com, by calling 408.836.8559 or by visiting her website: www.lesliesokolsdance.com





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A Table of Many Faiths, A Community United

Faith, food and fellowship brought 80 to 100 people together in Ventura for the Ventura County Interfaith Community's annual Feast of Faiths on October 11. Representatives of diverse religious traditions shared prayers, a Mediterranean meal and thoughtful conversations about empathy, kindness and the values that unite us. The gathering celebrated the power of listening, understanding and building bridges across faiths to create a more peaceful future.

By Carol Leish, MA

The Ventura County Interfaith Community held its annual Feast of Faiths on October 11, 2026, at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Ventura. Approximately 80 to 100 people gathered to share a Mediterranean meal catered by Hummus Republic. The meal was halal, making it suitable for attendees observing halal dietary practices.

Participants represented a wide range of faith traditions, including Catholicism, Islam, Judaism, the Bahá'í Faith, Buddhism, Unitarian Universalism and Quakerism. Students from local universities also joined the gathering.

Beyond sharing a meal, attendees explored the common ground among their different religious traditions and the importance of embracing differences as a way to better understand one another.

The evening began with representatives of several faiths sharing traditions honoring God. Rabbi Michael Lotker blew the shofar, or ram's horn, observing, "God speaks to the world in many frequencies." Irshad Ali shared the Islamic call to prayer, followed by Mayesvara and Brajarani Roberts, who offered a Hindu blessing for the meal, translated into English.

Bobbi Grantham emphasized the value of religious diversity, saying, "We are all interconnected through our religious diversity. Our strength is being diverse."

Tim Helton, Ph.D., encouraged participants to engage in meaningful conversations during dinner. "We want the various tables to have an interfaith dialogue while we're eating our dinner and through being respectful of others and active listening, we can better understand each other," he said.

Table discussions centered on two questions: How does your faith affect your daily life? And how does your faith understand the Golden Rule, often expressed as "Love thy neighbor as thyself"?

Conversations touched on the growing polarization of society, particularly through social media, and the need for greater empathy. Participants also discussed the importance of kindness, volunteering to help those in need, and creating opportunities for respectful dialogue. Others reflected on the common values shared by different religions, seeing that common ground as a hopeful sign.

Teri Helton, MSN, president of the Ventura County Interfaith Community, reflected on the gathering's purpose: "As we eat together, we have broken down barriers. The call of the interfaith community is to love each other, and to share from our hearts, which is true love."

The Feast of Faiths offered a reminder that people of different religious traditions can find connection through shared meals, thoughtful conversations and a willingness to listen. By celebrating both their differences and their common values, participants reaffirmed the role of interfaith understanding in building a more peaceful future.

Established in 2005, the Ventura County Interfaith Community provides a safe, welcoming space where people from diverse faiths and backgrounds can come together to learn, share and grow. To learn more about the organization or how to participate, visit vcic.info.

On Vacation: Canadian Rockies in Alberta Canada



Bill Wayson and Nancy Rasmussen at the Athabasca Glacier. It was 6 degrees Celsius (42 degrees fahrenheit) with 50 mph Katabatic winds when we walked up the trail to the top of the terminal moraine of the glacier.

Heading out of town? Take The Breeze with you and send us a snapshot from your adventure! Editor@venturabreeze.com.

Informed Voting and Community Connections at CAPS Media



Stay informed and get involved with CAPS Media this fall! From nonpartisan candidate forums and the award-winning Video Voter series to radio, media training, and community programs, CAPS connects Ventura residents with the information and resources they need. Watch election coverage on Channel 6 or online and discover opportunities to join the CAPS creative community.

CAPS Media is helping Ventura residents prepare for the 2026 general election with comprehensive, nonpartisan candidate coverage in partnership with the League of Women Voters of Ventura County.

The partnership brings local voters opportunities to hear directly from candidates running for Ventura City Council, the Ventura Unified School District Board, and State Assembly. Candidate forums have been recorded, broadcast, and archived so residents can watch the discussions on Ventura's Public Channel 6 or online at capsmedia.org.

The League of Women Voters organized the forums to provide candidates with a neutral platform to share their views and respond to questions from the League and the public. Topics include economic development, public safety, housing, and environmental sustainability, helping voters compare candidates' positions and make informed decisions.

CAPS Media provides the production and broadcasting resources that make these conversations accessible to the wider community. In addition to the candidate forums, CAPS produced its award-winning Video Voter series, featuring candidates discussing their priorities and visions for the community. All programs are available on Channel 6 and the CAPS Media website through November 3.

Beyond election coverage, CAPS Media offers a variety of resources, training, classes, and programs for community members interested in media production and broadcasting. KPPQ CAPS Radio will hold its semiannual producers' meeting on November 10 at 6 p.m., offering an opportunity to meet current and former producers and DJs.

Those interested in getting involved can register for a free monthly orientation, with the next session scheduled for November 2, or explore the many opportunities available at capsmedia.org.

From civic engagement to creative expression, CAPS Media invites Ventura residents to discover its programs, share their voices, and become part of the CAPS creative community. www.capsmedia.org.

Trash Collection Schedule to Remain Unchanged for Veterans Day

E.J. Harrison & Sons will maintain its regular trash, recycling and yard/organics waste collection schedule in Ventura County during the week of Veterans Day, Nov. 8-14. The holiday falls on Wednesday, Nov. 11.

Remember that Harrison's residential customers can place all three carts curbside every week, as Harrison collects all waste weekly – including food waste, which is recyclable. All food waste should be placed in closed paper or plastic bags and the bags should be tossed in the organics waste cart. This prevents food waste contamination because food waste and yard waste are processed separately. Even if you only have food waste bags and no yard waste, you can still put the food waste bags in your organics waste cart and take it to the curb every week for pickup.

Harrison Industries serves the cities and surrounding unincorporated areas of Ventura, Ojai and Camarillo as well as the unincorporated areas of La Conchita, Lake Sherwood, Lynn Ranch, Newbury Park, Ojai Valley (Ventura River Valley), Oxnard Plain, Piru, Point Mugu, Rancho Matilija, Rincon, Santa Paula, Santa Rosa Valley, Somis, Upper Ojai, Yerba Buena and the Channel Islands Beach Community Services District, as well as California State University Channel Islands and the city of Carpinteria, as E.J. Harrison & Sons; and the city of Fillmore as Santa Clara Valley Disposal. For more information, visit www.ejharrison.com.



Ventura County Business Women will host its final Coffee & Connection of 2026 on November 3 at Poinsettia Pavilion in Ventura. The event brings together local entrepreneurs and professionals for networking, business introductions and opportunities to build meaningful connections. Members and nonmembers are welcome.

VCBW Hosts Final 2026 Coffee & Connection

Ventura County Business Women (VCBW), a professional women's network with more than 6,600 members, will host its final Coffee & Connection event of 2026 on Tuesday, November 3, from 8:30 to 11 a.m. at Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Road, Ventura.

The event brings together entrepreneurs, professionals and business leaders from across Ventura County to build relationships, share expertise and explore opportunities for collaboration.

The morning will feature guided networking, business introductions, coffee, tea and pastries, featured business tables, a community raffle and a promotional table for business cards and marketing materials. A photographer will also capture the event.

The event will be hosted by VCBW Chief Strategy Officer Felicia Mason, alongside founder Tawney Noriega and Operations and Events Manager Kenzie Mayberry.

"Strong communities don't happen by accident. They're shaped by the women who choose to show up, participate and invest in one another," Mason said. She added that the goal is for attendees to leave with meaningful connections they can build on.

VCBW welcomes women at every stage of their business journey. The organization's 2027 events will be announced in January. VCBW members can register through the Member Portal and bring a guest for free. Nonmembers can attend with a $15 guest pass. Registration and information www.venturacountybusinesswomen.com/vcbwcalendar/nov-candc

805 Gift Emporium



805 Gift Emporium is ready for Fall Holidays with fun gifts and decor galore.

We have felted wool ornaments and purses, Boho mugs and towels, and cute vibrant holiday towels to give you a giggle.

805.658.0805 • Hours: 1:00pm – 6:00pm on Wednesday
11:00am – 5:00pm on Thursday, Friday and Saturday
2500 Channel Dr. at the end of Howard St.
www.805emporium.com

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By local writer Mark Lewis Stienecker



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The Pet Page



Image courtesy of Ventura County Animal Services

Starting this month, 5,000 pizza boxes leaving all eight Pizza Man Dan's locations in Ventura County feature adoption flyers spotlighting dogs currently residing at VCAS.

Delivering Hope: Ventura County Animal Services and Pizza Man Dan's Launch "Pizza Pup" Across Ventura County

Dan Collier, Founder and CEO of Pizza Man Dan's, Generously Donates Pizza Box Real Estate Across 8 Locations to Help Long-Term Shelter Pets Find Homes

In a display of local generosity, Dan Collier, founder of Pizza Man Dan's, is donating pizza box real estate to help longer-stay dogs at Ventura County Animal Services (VCAS) find forever homes.

The initiative, titled "Pizza Pup," grew from the passion of a VCAS volunteer who pitched the concept to Collier: placing adoption flyers directly on pizza boxes to reach families right at home. Impressed by the tireless advocacy of VCAS, Collier quickly said yes, eager to lend his business's reach to help shelter pets find a new home.

Starting this month, 5,000 pizza boxes leaving all eight Pizza Man Dan's locations in Ventura County feature adoption flyers spotlighting dogs currently residing at VCAS. Behind every flyer is a compassionate team of VCAS staff and volunteers who work round-the-clock to care for, enrich, and train the animals in their care.

Among those featured is long-term shelter resident Chipotle, who has spent nearly two years at the shelter. He is known for his love of playing fetch and enjoying the company of people. Adopters might also meet Canelo, an affectionate pup who loves treats, enjoys cuddles, and is famous for giving kisses on the very first date.

"Every long-stay dog in our care has a story," said Esteban Rodriguez, Director of Ventura County Animal Services. "Among those featured are long-term residents like Chipotle, who has spent nearly two years waiting for a home. This partnership brings these dogs directly

Continued on page 15

Forever homes wanted

All of these amazing pets are being cared for by the Canine Adoption and Rescue League (CARL). Could you provide a forever home for one of these wonderful animals? To read full pet bios and submit an application, visit www.CARLDogs.org or call 805-644-7387.



Hi, I'm Bentley, a sweet 10-year-old Shih Tzu-Pomeranian mix with a heart of gold and a sunny tan-blond coat. I enjoy walks and adventures, am house-trained and know my manners. I prefer to be the only dog and would do best with adult women who appreciate my affectionate nature.



Hi, I'm Otis, a loving 5-year-old shepherd mix who adores people, older children, fetch and snuggling. I walk well on a leash and enjoy group play with dogs who match my energy level. I can react to other dogs when leaving the kennel, but I may do well with a compatible canine companion.



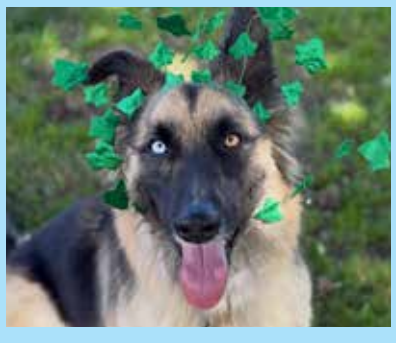
Hi, I'm Brownie, a sweet, playful 6½-year-old German Shepherd who loves children and has plenty of energy. My owner retired and could no longer keep me. I was surrendered with Roxie, a cattle dog mix, but we can be adopted separately. I'm housebroken, come when called and walk well on a leash. I also love quiet time with my people.



Hi, I'm Maddie, a sweet, affectionate 7½-year-old American bulldog-pit bull mix who loves walks and spending time with people. I'm crate-trained, know how to sit and walk well on a leash. I'm uncomfortable around other dogs on walks, and motorcycles startle me. My compatibility with children and other pets is unknown, so I'll need a patient, understanding home.



Hi, I'm Brown Sugar, a 4½-year-old pit bull mix with a sweet personality and plenty of puppy energy. I love chasing toys and am a little timid on walks. With patience and the right home, I'm ready to blossom into a loyal, loving companion.



Hi, I'm Sage, a beautiful 3½-year-old mix of German shepherd, American pit bull, Siberian husky and golden retriever, according to my DNA test. I know several commands, am house- and crate-trained, and enjoy car rides. I can be reactive toward strangers and other dogs, so I need a patient family who can introduce me to new people and pets carefully.



Hi, I'm Santa, a sweet 6-year-old pit bull mix who loves playtime and cuddling on the couch. I know basic commands and am housebroken and crate-trained. I'm good with children but need to be the only dog in the home. I'm strong and sometimes pull when excited, so daily play and exercise are important.



Hi, I'm Shef, a handsome 9-year-old pit bull mix who's eager to please and quick to learn. I need some leash training but am ready for adventure with a committed companion. My compatibility with other dogs, cats and children is unknown, so I'll need a home willing to help me continue learning.

Events

Ventura:

Rubicon Theatre Ragtime Musical: Through Nov 15. Rubicon Theatre 1006 E Main St.
This Tony Award-winning musical masterpiece is a portrait of a country—and its people—on the brink of change. Based on E.L. Doctorow's acclaimed novel set at the turn of the twentieth century in New York, three distinctly American tales are woven together – that of a stifled upper-class wife, a determined Jewish immigrant and a daring young Harlem musician – united by their courage, compassion and belief in the promise of the future. www.rubicontheatre.org.

Cuba Up Close 2026: Thur, Oct 29 6 pm. Ventura College Applied Science Center 361 S. Campus Way.
Presented by the Ventura College Departments of History & Political Science. Free event open to the public will be a discussion on the current situation in Cuba/U.S. relations and will be moderated by David Comden. Born in Honolulu, Hawai'i, Lorenzo DeStefano is a novelist, playwright, screenwriter, producer, director, film editor, and photographer. A member of the Directors Guild of America and former member of the Motion Picture Editor's Guild, he has produced and directed network series, documentaries, and narrative films, worked in U.S. and U.K. Theater, and written fiction, non-fiction, original screenplays, and adaptations. www.themagichourbylorenzodestefano.com. For more info contact Colleen Coffey, ccoffey@vcccd.edu.

The Dudley Museum Open House Tours: Sun, Nov, 1 – 4 pm. 197 N. Ashwood.
Open house tours of the 1892 Dudley Historic House Museum. Admission is free. For information call (805) 642-3345 or visit dudleyhouse.org.

VCBW Coffee & Connection Tue, Nov 3, 8:30–11 am. Poinsettia Pavilion 3451 Foothill Road,
Ventura County Business Women hosts its final 2026 Coffee & Connection eventThe morning features networking, business introductions, coffee and pastries. Members attend free; nonmember guest passes are $15. Register at venturacountybusinesswomen.com.

The Channel Cities Dance and Jazz Club: Nov 4, 6:30 - 8:30 pm. Vaquero Y Mar Mexican Restaurant 435 E. Thompson Blvd.
An invitation to young musicians to participate in a free jam session with experienced, lifetime professional jazz players = "Jam Lab". Have your student bring their instrument, prepare the tunes in advance, and come play, learn, and connect. Lead Sheets provided at CCDJC.com - Trumpet / Tenor Sax (Bb), Alto Sax (Eb), Trombone (C), Bass / Piano / Drums (C). Friends, Teachers, and Supporters are welcome. https://drive.google.com/file/d/18agsx5K-S1lVKNfY0qyqNJ1V66Wh-0z0a/view?usp=sharing

November at NAMBA Performing Arts Space: 47 S. Oak St.
NAMBA's November lineup features live music, dance, comedy, theater and songwriting events.
Nov. 6, 7 pm - Brill Building Legends: Songs of Neil Sedaka, Carole King and Connie Francis. Tickets: $38 online, $40 at the door.
Nov. 7, 11 am - Modern Dance Workshop: Free workshop with Anne-Rene Petrarca.
Nov. 7, 7 pm - Merlin Snider & Cory Sipper: Spoken word, songs and singer-songwriter performances. Tickets: $23 online, $25 at the door.
Nov. 8, 7 pm - Henry Stewart's Listening Room: Acoustic music and original songs. $10 suggested donation.
Nov. 13, 7 pm - Ventura Improv Company: Dysfunctional Family Feud. Tickets: $13 online, $15 at the door.
Nov. 14–15, 3 pm - Lesbo Solo, My Gay History Play: Terry Baum's personal and humorous look at LGBTQ+ history. Tickets: $23 online, $25 at the door.
Nov. 21, 7 pm - Joy Clark: Tell It to the Wind: Soulful, blues-infused folk music. Tickets: $23 online, $25 at the door.
Nov. 22, 2 pm - Songwriter's Workshop: Hosted by Henry Stewart. $10 suggested donation.
Nov. 27, 7 pm - Henry Stewart's Listening Room: An intimate evening of acoustic music. $10 suggested donation.
Modern dance classes also begin Nov. 3 and continue Tuesdays, 5:30–7 p.m. ($20 per class). For tickets, registration and details, visit NAMBAarts.com.

Ventura Friends of the Library Book Sale: Sat, Nov 7, 9 – 3 pm. Vons Grocery, Telegraph & Victoria 6040 Telegraph Rd.
Shop our Gift Quality Books! Fiction, Non-fiction, Classics, Seasonal Books, Vintage and Collectibles, Graphic Novels & Manga, Children's Books, Board Books, Picture Books, Puzzles, DVDs, CDs. Proceeds benefit Ventura's libraries.

Ventura County Ballet at the Library: Sat, Nov 7, 11am. Children's area, Hill Rd. Library 1070 S. Hill Rd.
The Ventura County Library and Ventura County Ballet present a magical Nutcracker Storytime! Families are invited to a special reading of "The Nutcracker". In addition to the reading, there will be small dance performances of select scenes from The Nutcracker by Ventura County Ballet dancers, showcasing the beauty and elegance of this beloved work. Dancers will also lead a demonstration in which children can learn basic ballet moves inspired by the story. It is a wonderful opportunity for aspiring young dancers to experience firsthand the magic of ballet. We look forward to sharing The Nutcracker with our community! This event is free and open to the public. For additional information contact Linda Cherry at linda.cherry@venturacounty.gov.

Ventura Music Festival - Chanticleer: Tues, Dec 15, 7 pm. Ventura Center for Spiritual Living Address: 101 S Laurel St.
VMF's 31st season closes December 15 with a special holiday concert from Chanticleer, the celebrated twelve-voice male ensemble that has sold over one million recordings and performed thousands of concerts across the globe. Named for the clear-singing rooster in Geoffrey Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, the ensemble spans countertenor to bass and performs five centuries of choral music with breathtaking precision. Tickets for all VMF-presented Fall Series events are on sale now at venturamusicfestival.org or by calling (805) 648-3146. VMF also offers subsidized ticket pricing and free programming to ensure music remains accessible throughout the community.

Ongoing:

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)
A low-cost nonprofit weight loss group accepting new members. Wed. mornings, 9 am – 10:30 am at Grace Lutheran Church, 6190 Telephone Rd Rm 14, on Friday mornings or Friday mornings from 8-30 am -10 am at the Lutheran Church, 196 N Ashwood Ave. You can visit once to see if it's right for you and choose the day that's better as well. www.tops.org/find-a-meeting.

LPSC Social Club General Meeting: Monthly, every 1st Thursday 6:30 pm (except Aug). 1363 Spinnaker Dr.
LPSC (formerly Los Padres Ski Club) is a social community of active members with many social activities such as barbecues, happy hour, educational outings, hiking, camping, and ski trips. They look to establish a sense of community for young and old who appreciate an active life. "We continue in the tradition of the ski club and create vibrant activities to build community and most of all we want to have a good time." https://lpsc.club.

Toastmaster Club 24 Meetings: Every Monday, 6:30 - 8:00 pm. Cypress Place Assisted Living, 1220 Cypress Point Ln, 3rd Fl.
Hey, are you not talk well? Come learn how talk good. In front of people! No more word stumble! Seriously speaking, we'd love to have you at our fun Toastmasters meetings. Everyone is welcome. https://venturatoastmasters.toastmastersclubs.org.

Ventura Gem & Mineral Society: Fourth Wednesday (second Wednesday in Nov/Dec), 7:30 – 9:30, Poinsettia Pavilion 3451 Foothill Rd.
Join amateur enthusiasts interested in minerals, fossils, and jewelry making. We welcome individual and family members. We participate in Science Nights at schools and - in conjunction with the County Parks System at Camp Comfort - run a two-room museum open by appointment for school groups, homeschoolers and others. We have a youth group which meets regularly for activities. Enjoy field trips, lapidary classes to craft polished stones, speakers and refreshments at our meetings. Email info@vgms.org or visit www.vgms.org.

Free Grief Support Groups
Livingston's Grief & Bereavement Program offers multiple support groups that focus on restorative activities, seeking meaning and purpose, identifying changes to self, and receiving support in making life good again. Livingston's Grief & Bereavement offers free grief support groups that cater to specific bereavement needs. General Bereavement Support Group on Wednesdays from 6:30 - 8 pm (Ventura in-person). Thursdays from 10:30 am - Noon (Ventura in-person). For registration and locations, contact 805-389-6870 or online at lmvna.org/grief. Space is limited.

Ventura Senior Men's Group: 11:30 am - 1:30 pm, first and third Tuesdays. Poinsettia Pavilion 3451 Foothill Rd.
Ventura Senior Men's Group lunch meetings - first and third Tuesday of the month. Buffet luncheon with interesting speakers and good friends. Your first lunch is free. We talk about everything except religion and politics. Eligible to all men 50+ and living in Ventura County. Call Bob at 805-857-0055 or visit www.VSMG.net to see speakers and learn more.

Country Lovers Line Dancing: Ventura Moose Lodge. Tuesdays 7 - 9 pm 10269 Telephone Rd.
Easy dances, first time free. Any questions, leave message at 805-889-3132.

Ventura VFW Post 1679 Sunday Brunches/Dinners 3801 Market St.
Help support your local Ventura County Veterans: "Open to the Public Brunches and Dinners." Sunday Brunch 10 am - 1 pm every Sunday. Prices from $8 - $15. Friday Night Dinners: 5:30 pm - 7 pm every Friday night. Prices depend on the menu for that night. $15 - $25. 805-642-2674. https://vfw1679.org.

Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA) Ventura County: 6:30 - 8pm, every Tuesday. Ralston St.
At DBSA support group meetings, we share experiences, personal feelings, information, and strategies for living successfully. Groups are free, confidential, and open to people living with or who believe they may have depression, bipolar disorder, or another mood disorder. Join our community of hope, reassurance, and encouragement. Call (805) 665-3326 or Email DBSAVentura@gmail.com for

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Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 26 mins.

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



By Pam Baumgardner
VenturaRocks.com

With Halloween falling on a Saturday this year, you know venues will be hopping with live music, specials and parties promising costume contests and more. There will also be several parties falling on both Friday and Saturday so you can get more bang for your buck when pulling together your costume this year. I'm sure there will be a few Dolly Partons, but if I had a red wig, I'd go as Aunt Gladys from the movie Weapons (so creepy!). Downtown Ventura should be busy with people walking venue to venue, "rain or shine" (or should that be "rain or no rain" as it rarely shines after dark). From Tony's Pizzera with the Bomb and DJ Bruce Barrios to the Crowne Plaza with Electric Duke and Doctor Wu, to The Human Collective at Winchesters and Matterform at the Yard, there will be plenty of live music to keep things lively. Refer to listings below for more options.

Amanda McBroom returns to the Rubicon for one night only on Tuesday, December 8, with a holiday show called "A Christmas Rose" which is sure to get you into the holiday spirits. Tickets and more information at RubiconTheatre.org.

As previously reported, the Ojai Pub announced on Monday, September 28, that Monday, September 28, would be their final day of business due to an apparent rent dispute. That evening the place was packed to the gills and as a result, a social media post let it be known that negotiations are underway, so there is hope the Pub will return.

I'm looking forward to catching actor/musician Fred Armisen at the Ventura Theater on Saturday, November 7. You should remember Armisen from Saturday Night Live and/or Portlandia, but did you know he's an amazing musician as well? His show promises to be a hybrid of stand-up, live drumming and guitar demonstrations, and improvised sketches built from audience suggestions.

Fair warning: Tickets on sale now for Laurence Juber at Namba Arts on February 13, Elvin Bishop at Ventura Music Hall on November 18, Scott Bradlee's Postmodern Jukebox at the Ventura Theater on December 3, and Daughtry unplugged at the Ventura Theater on February 6.

Quick Notes: Thursday, October 29, the Grape welcomes Nutty! – Classic Rock all Jazzed Up featuring a nine-piece jazz band out of LA including Jacob Scesney (baritone sax) originally out of Ojai who has toured the world on the biggest stages including sharing the stage this month with Taylor Swift; a Dia de los Muertos event will be held downtown Ventura Sunday afternoon, November 1, featuring multiple mariachi bands; and the Garage has live music on Sunday afternoon, November 8, featuring A Rock Legend and Lucifige (tributes to Thin Lizzy and Danzig), as well as Ardi with music starting about 5 pm.

Do you have any music-related news or upcoming shows that you would like help publicizing? Please send all information, short or long, to Pam@VenturaRocks.com. For updated music listings daily, visit www.VenturaRocks.com.

Live Music

For more listings, additional times and genres go to VenturaRocks.com

Art City Rocks
175 Dubbers St., Ventura
- Sat 10/31: Derinkuy, Bossman, Evil Fairy Harp, Eaton Young...

Barrel Works
126 Wood Rd., Camarillo
- Fri 10/30: Ignition
- Sat 10/31: Caliente 805
- Fri 11/6: Brandon Ragan Project

Boatyard Pub
1583 Spinnaker Dr., Ventura
- Mondays: Katie Shorey
- Tuesdays: Ken Devoe
- Wednesdays: Frank Barajas
- Thursdays: Jim Friery (4p); Bluegrass Jam (6:30 pm)
- Fri 10/30: Mack and D
- Sun 11/1: Joe Delia
- Fri 11/6: Teresa Russell & Stephen Geyer
- Sat 11/7: Epitome of Dreams
- Sun 11/8: Steve and Sally Williams

Bombay Bar & Grill
143 S. California St., Ventura
- Wednesdays: Blues Jam w/ Ray Jay

Café Fiore
66 California St., Ventura
- Wed 10/28: Wide Awakes
- Fri 10/30: Left of the Dial
- Sat 10/31: Brandon Ragan Project

Camarillo Barrel Works (Cantara Cellars)
126 Wood Rd., Camarillo
- Fri 10/30: Ignition
- Sat 10/31: Caliente 805
- Fri 11/6: Brandon Ragan Project

Crowne Plaza
450 E. Harbor Blvd., Ventura
- Sat 10/31: Electric Duke, Doctor Wu
- Sun 11/1: Anthem of the Sun

Deer Lodge
2261 Maricopa Hwy., Ojai
- Wednesdays: Open Mic
- Thurs 10/29: Odessa
- Tues 11/3: Alex Cameron
- Wed 11/4: Squirrel Flower
- Thurs 11/5: Shakedown Citi

Downtown Ventura
Main St., Ventura
- Sun 11/1: Mariachi Bands (Dia de los Muertos)

Feros Ferio Winery
310 E. Ojai Ave., Ojai
- Sat 10/31: Emerald Thundercat
- Sun 11/1: Bogey & John
- Sat 11/7: Matthew Moran
- Sun 11/8: Matt Cheadle

Garage
1091 Scandia Ave., Ventura
- Fri 10/30: Jahtiva
- Sat 10/31: Members Only
- Fri 11/6: Cinnamon Whiskey
- Sat 11/7: Skeleton Keys
- Sun 11/8: A Rock Legend, Lucifige, Ardi

The Grape
2733 E. Main St., Ventura
- Tuesdays: Gratitude Jazz Jams
- Wed 10/28: Marina "Frenchie" Pacowski
- Thurs 10/29: Nutty!
- Fri 10/30: Matterform, Surge du Monde, Lolo Zebra
- Sat 10/31: Tony Ybarra
- Wed 11/4: JR Mischo
- Thurs 11/5: TD Lind & the Aviators
- Fri 11/6: Richard T Bear & Friends
- Sat 11/7: Incendio

Harbor Cove Café
1867 Spinnaker Dr., Ventura
- Saturday mornings: Ukulele Jam
- Sat 10/31: The Sea Hunters
- Sun 11/1: Jockey Jord (10a); Tommy K (2p)
- Sat 11/7: Corey and the Folk Boys
- Sun 11/8: Jared Nels (10a); Tommy K (2p)

Institution Ale Company
3841 Mission Oaks Blvd., Camarillo
- Thurs 10/29: Illunis
- Sat 10/31: Doc Ventura

KJ's Neighborhood Bar
454 E. Main St., Ventura
- Sat 10/31: Almost Noble

Leashless Brewing
585 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura
- Fri 10/30: Boom Duo
- Sat 10/31: Gavin & Friends
- Sun 11/1: Soul Revival Band
- Fri 11/6: 40 oz of Freedom
- Sun 11/8: Rocksteady with Chris Murray

Libbey Bowl
210 S. Signal St., Ojai
- Sun 11/1: Ojai Pops Orchestra
- Fri 11/6: Fitz and the Tantrums

Magnavino Cellars/Public Realm Brewery
961 Rice Ave., Oxnard
- Sun 11/1: Teresa Russell
- Fri 11/6: Jimi Nelson
- Sat 11/7: Dueling Pianos

Majestic Ventura Theater
26 S. Chestnut St., Ventura
- Wed 11/4: The Adicts, The Main liners, Dr. Know
- Sat 11/7: Fred Armisen

Manhattan
5800 Santa Rosa Rd., Camarillo
- Wed 11/28: Mary White
- Fri 11/30: Little Fish Duo
- Sat 11/31: Dianne Miller Band

Margarita Villa
1567 Spinnaker Dr., Ventura
- Fri 10/30: Los Amigos
- Fri 11/6: Vinyl Gypsies
- Sun 11/8: James Bros
- Tues 11/10: Joe Delia

Mystery Shop
420 S. A Street., Oxnard
- Sat 11/7: State of Pride, Stand Tall, Strikeforce, Sand and Done, Cauterize

Namba Arts
47 S. Oak St., Ventura
- Fri 11/6: The Brill Building Lends Show
- Sat 11/7: Merlin Snider
- Sun 11/8: the Listening Room Open Mic

Ojai Underground
616 Pearl St., Ojai
- Sun 11/1: Amelia McLean
- Fri 11/6: Jeffrey Foucault w/ Niamh Regan
- Sat 11/7: Patti Zlaket, Shawn Jones
- Tues 11/10: A Stars Hollow Night

Ojai Ranch House
102 Besant Rd., Ojai
- Fri 10/30: The Traveling Nobodies
- Sat 10/31: Spencer the Gardener, Dylan Cunningham, Eric Lamaire...

Ojai Valley Brewing
307 Bryant St., Ojai
- Wednesdays: Ojai Valley Bluegrass Pickers/Open Jam
- Sat 10/31: Wild Stallions

Oxnard Performing Arts Center
800 Hobson Way, Oxnard
- Fri 11/6: The Musical Box...and then there was Phil

Parque 1055
1055 E. Main St., Santa Paula
- Sat 11/7: Neon Blonde

Rocks and Drams
14 S. California St., Ventura
- Sat 10/31: Michael Jay & Leticia

Room Eleven
749 S. Oxnard Blvd., Oxnard
- Fri 10/30: Pozolero, Vinny Eat World, Flatine, Said and Done
- Tues 11/10: Mugger, Bent, Swingback, Shut Your Mouth

Sans Souci
21 S. Chestnut St., Ventura
- Fri 10/30: The Ooo Wee Ooos, The Rachels

Sam's Place
308 E. Ojai Ave., Ojai
- Sundays: Robin and the Love Letters & Friends
- Thurs 10/29: Skin to Steel
- Fri 10/30: TD Lind & the Aviators
- Fri 11/6: Duane Bartels Trio
- Sat 11/7: Jerry Breiner

The Shores
1031 Harbor Blvd., Oxnard
- Fri 10/30: Doc Rogers Band
- Wed 11/4: Ken Devoe
- Fri 11/6: CRV
- Sat 11/7: Steph's Rockin' Roadshow

Tony's Pizzeria
186 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura
- Thurs 10/29: Heavy Hitters
- Fri 10/30: The Way
- Sat 10/31: The Bomb
- Sun 11/1: Brandon Ragan Project
- Thurs 11/5: Kaiona Tiger & the 805
- Fri 11/6: UND CVR SPR GRP
- Sat 11/7: Aaron Burch Presents (2p); Duke Fame Band (7p)

Topa Topa Brewing
104 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura
- Sat 11/7: Jared Nels

Topa Topa Brewing
2024 Ventura Blvd., Camarillo
- Sun 11/8: Vinny Berry

Topa Topa Brewing
4880 Colt St., Ventura
- Sun 11/1: Vinny Berry
- Tues 11/3: Bluegrass Jam Session

Vaquero y Mar
435 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura
- Tuesdays: The Sea Hunters
- Wed 10/28: Ventura Gypsy Jazz Jam

Ventura Harbor Village
1559 Spinnaker Dr., Ventura
- Sun 11/8: Karen Eden & Joe 2.0

Ventura Music Hall
1888 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura
- Wed 10/28: Mdou Moctar
- Thurs 10/29: Madre Cumbia
- Fri 10/30: Tusk
- Sat 10/31: The Bridge City Sinners
- Sun 11/1: Dax
- Mon 11/2: The Black Angels, Ghostwoman
- Wed 11/4: SOB X RBE
- Thurs 11/5: Inner Wave
- Sat 11/7: Plini
- Tues 11/10: The California Honey drops

Winchesters
632 E. Main St., Ventura
Music Fridays 7-10; Sat and Sun 3-6
- Thursdays: Anthem of the Sun
- Fri 10/30: Medicine Hat
- Sat 10/31: Teresa Russell (3p); The Human Collective (7p)
- Sun 11/1: RJ Mischo Band
- Fri 11/6: Wow Band feat. MJ Lightning
- Sat 11/7: Karen Eden & the Bad Apples
- Sun 11/8: The Gamble

The Yard
328 E. Main St., Ventura
- Fri 10/30: Cinnamon Whiskey
- Sat 10/31: Matterform

Ojai Film Festival

The 27th Ojai Film Festival runs November 4 – 9: six days of screenings, conversations and receptions across the Ojai Valley. It is the first festival programmed under Festival Director Richard Sven Shelgren and Artistic Director Theodore Melfi, whose appointments were announced in June.

Seven films, seven conversations

· Wednesday, November 4, 7 PM · Libbey Bowl - American Mosaic with Martin Sheen

· Thursday, November 5, 3:00 PM · Chaparral Auditorium, The Moguls with Jeff Bridges

· Thursday, November 5, 7 PM · Libbey Bowl, The Fabulous Baker Boys with Jeff Bridges and Beau Bridges

· Friday, November 6, 4 PM · Chaparral Auditorium - Artist of Distinction Award: Melissa McCarthy & Ben Falcone, with a screening of The Boss and a conversation

· Saturday, November 7, 11 AM · Chaparral Auditorium, Beneath the Blue Suburban Skies with Ed Burns

· Saturday, November 7, 1:30 PM · Chaparral Auditorium- Taxi Driver at 50, a special anniversary screening: Paul Schrader in person to receive the inaugural Ojai Film Festival Storyteller Award on the 50th anniversary of Taxi Driver, and to discuss his latest film.

· Saturday, November 7, 6:30 PM · Libbey Bowl - GROW with local Ojai writer Nick Guthe

This year's films span five categories: narrative features, narrative shorts, documentary features, documentary shorts and animation: 74 films from 12 countries. Short films screen together in programs, including three Gold Coast Shorts programs. Browse all the films or see the full schedule, which remains tentative until the program is locked.

Screenings and events take place at Libbey Bowl, the Ojai Art Center Theater and Gallery, Chaparral Auditorium, El Roblar, the Dutchess and Zadie's at Soule Park Golf Course.

Single screenings are $12 ($8 for under 12, over 65, students and military veterans). A Two Pack is $20, a Four Pack $35 and All Access Films $200, with discounted prices of $16, $25 and $150. All Access+, covering every screening and every event, is $500. Special events are $20 ($13 discounted).

Passholders reserve a seat for each screening, free, from the film's page or the schedule. Show the QR code from your confirmation email at the door; unclaimed seats are released 10 minutes before showtime.

The festival runs on volunteers, sponsors and donors. Volunteer, become a sponsor or donate. https://ojaifilm-festival.com/2026/news/ojai-film-festival-2026.





Buenaventura Inkspots Present Annual November Printmaking Exhibit

The Buenaventura Inkspots, Ventura County's only printmaking group, will present their annual November exhibit, celebrating the art of original printmaking.

The opening reception takes place Friday, November 6, from 5 to 8 p.m. Visitors can enter a free raffle to win a limited-edition folio of original prints, and a folio will also be available through a silent auction.

Throughout November, the gallery will host a different printmaking demonstration each Saturday it is open, from 1 to 4 p.m., offering visitors a closer look at the techniques and creative process behind this art form.

The gallery is located at 643 N. Ventura Avenue, Ventura, CA 93001. Visits may also be arranged by appointment by emailing inkspotsventura@hotmail.com. https://inkspotsventura.com.

Ventura Art Scene



Pianist Mark Valenti brings an afternoon of classical music to Ojai as Chamber On The Mountain celebrates its 14th season. The solo performance features works by Debussy, Bach, Barber, Ives and Beethoven at Logan House at the Beatrice Wood Center for the Arts.

Pianist Mark Valenti Performs in Ojai November 15

Chamber On The Mountain will present pianist Mark Valenti in a solo performance Sunday, November 15, at 3 p.m. at Logan House at the Beatrice Wood Center for the Arts in Upper Ojai.

The concert celebrates the chamber music series' 14th season of bringing internationally recognized musicians to an intimate setting in the Ojai Valley. The program features works by Claude Debussy, Johann Sebastian Bach, Samuel Barber, Charles Ives and Ludwig van Beethoven.

Valenti holds a Master of Music from Northwestern University and a Bachelor of Music from the Philadelphia Musical Academy. His career spans performances throughout the United States and Europe, collaborations with jazz artists including Gregory Hines, Frank Foster and Al Grey, and teaching positions at institutions in Philadelphia, Chicago and France.

The program includes Debussy's Estampes (Prints), three preludes by Bach, Barber's Sonata, Op. 26, two pieces by Ives, and Beethoven's Sonata No. 28 in A Major, Op. 101.

Audience members are invited to meet Valenti at a reception following the concert, featuring a special wine tasting by Ojai's Stevenson Oaks Vineyard & Winery.

The performance takes place at Logan House, located at the Beatrice Wood Center for the Arts, 8585 Ojai-Santa Paula Road, Ojai. Tickets are $45. For tickets and information, visit ChamberOnTheMountain.com or call (805) 646-3381.

Chamber On The Mountain is presented by the Beatrice Wood Center for the Arts and brings chamber music performances to the Upper Ojai community.



Photo courtesy @user20248055 on Magnific.

Calling All Young Jazz Musicians! Join the Jam Lab!

The Channel Cities Dance and Jazz Club (formerly CCJC) invites young musicians to participate in Jam Lab, a free jam session with experienced, lifelong professional jazz musicians! Bring your instrument, prepare the tunes in advance, and come ready to play, learn, and connect with seasoned jazz players. Lead sheets are available at https://ccdjc.com.

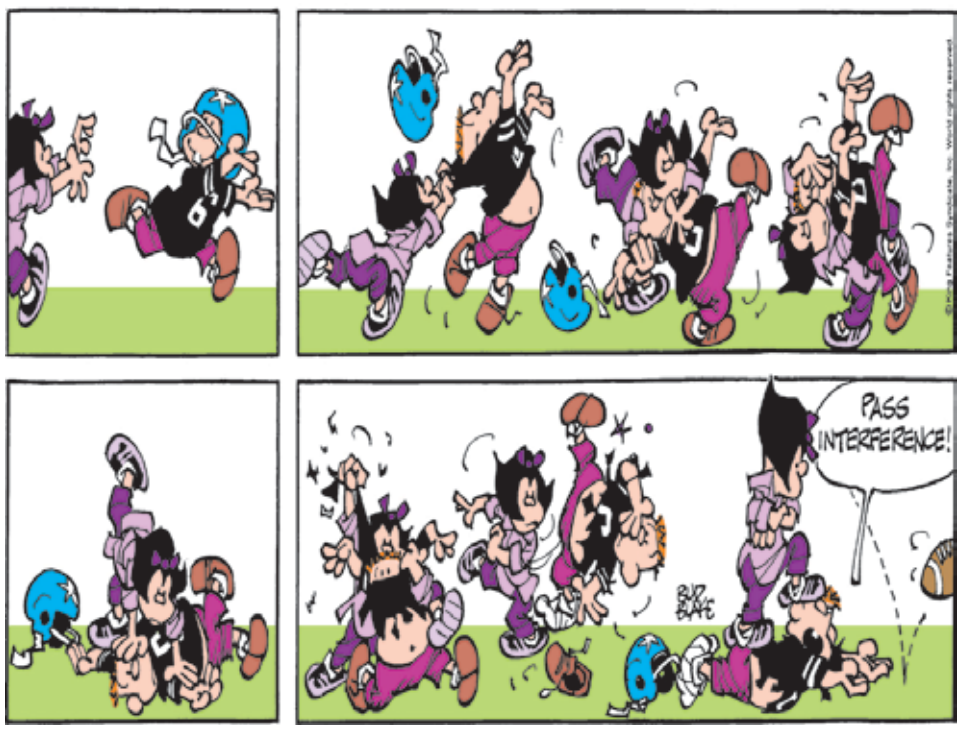
· Trumpet / Tenor Sax – Bb
· Alto Sax – Eb
· Trombone – C
· Bass / Piano / Drums – C

Friends, teachers, and supporters are welcome. Help inspire the next generation of jazz musicians. Please share and spread the word.

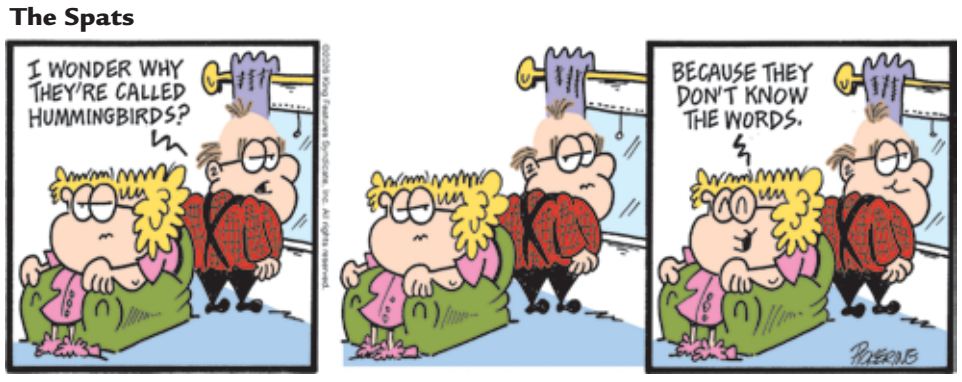
· Date: November 4
· Time: 6:30–8:30 p.m.
· Location: Vaquero Y Mar Mexican Restaurant, 435 E. Thompson Blvd., Ventura

Lighter Breeze

Tiger



The Spats



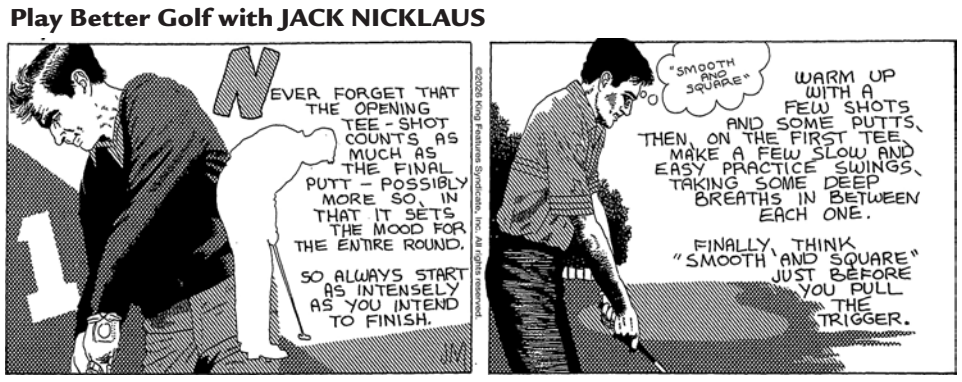
Out on a Limb



Amber Waves



Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS



Solution on page 11

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

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

Weekly SUDOKU

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

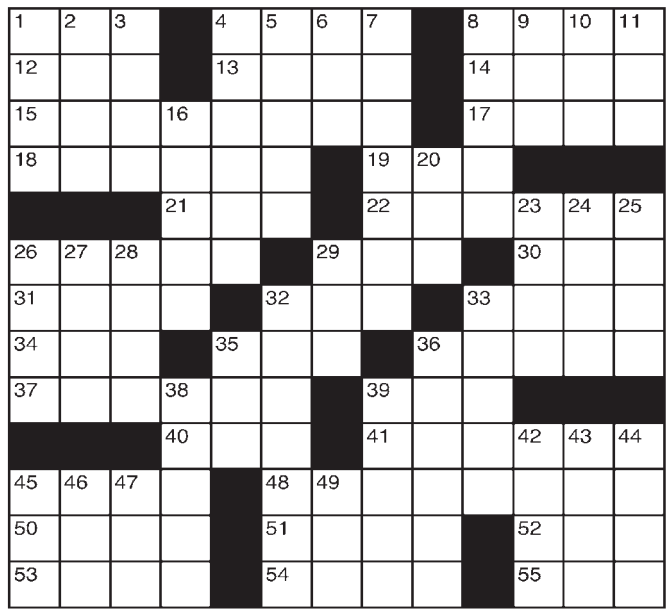
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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Solution on page 11

King Crossword



ACROSS
1 Personal
4 Poi base
8 Fraud
12 Romance
13 — incline (tilted)
14 Unruly groups
15 Message from an admirer
17 Border on
18 On an angle
19 Vinyl records
21 Before
22 "Darn it!"
26 Scrabble pieces
29 Movie format
30 "Little piggie"
31 Rd. crossers
32 Grant's foe
33 1982 sci-fi film
34 "The Newsroom" actor Patel
35 Farm grazer
36 Resided
37 "I, Robot" author
39 Lanka lead-in
40 Storm center
41 Sculpted trunks
45 Sagan or Sandburg
48 Romantic Ella Fitzgerald song
50 Squad
51 — Stanley Gardner
52 PC linking system
53 Short cuts
54 Snitched
55 Vintage

DOWN
1 They give a hoot
2 Scarf material
3 De — (from the start)
4 Printer refills
5 Battery part
6 Squealer
7 Bob Marley hit song
8 Big hit
9 Corn core
10 — Dhabi
11 Rockies hrs.
16 Tools for duels
20 Third degree?
23 To be, in Tours
24 "Neato!"
25 Superman's alias
26 "There!"
27 Currier's partner
28 Jeans maker Strauss
29 Morning moisture
32 Mini-shutout at Wimbledon
33 Spin
35 Demure
36 Buzzed
38 Thaws
39 Unmoving
42 Aviator's milestone
43 Track shape
44 Email command
45 Young lion
46 Year in Spain
47 Chest bone
49 Granada gold

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Have a hidden treasure tucked away in your garage, barn, or collection? The History Channel's American Pickers is coming to Southern California in December and looking for unique antiques, fascinating finds, and the stories behind them.

American Pickers Coming to SoCal in December

The History Channel's hit documentary series American Pickers is coming to Southern California in December in search of fascinating antiques, hidden treasures and the stories behind them.

The show follows experienced pickers as they travel the country, exploring private collections and uncovering rare and historically significant items. Along the way, they meet people with unique collections and remarkable stories, giving forgotten treasures a new lease on life while discovering pieces of America's past.

The American Pickers team is looking for local residents with interesting items, unusual collections and stories to share. If you or someone you know has a unique collection and is interested in selling, the team would love to hear from you. The pickers do not visit stores, flea markets, malls, auction businesses, museums or other locations open to the public.

To submit a potential lead, email americanpickers@cineflix.com or call (646) 493-2184. Please include your name, phone number, location, a description of the collection and photos of the items. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/AmericanPickers.

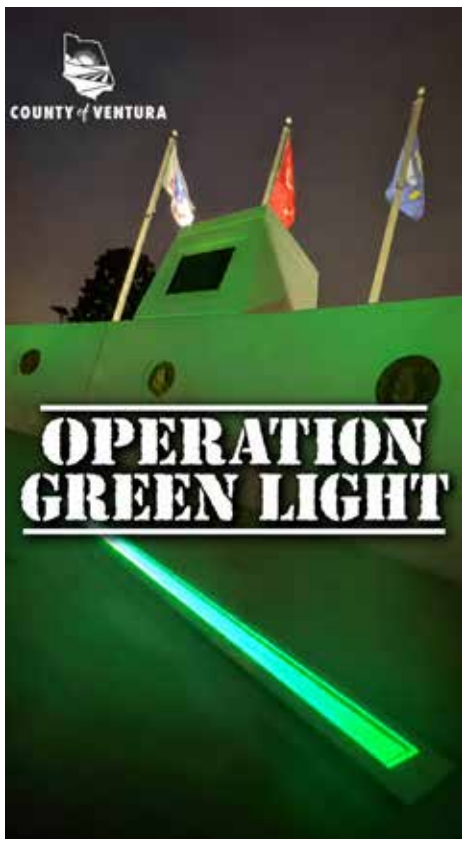


Operation Green Light

From November 4–11, the County of Ventura will illuminate the Veterans Memorial at the Ventura County Government Center in green in honor of Operation Green Light for Veterans.

Led nationally by the National Association of Counties (NACo) and the National Association of County Veterans Service Officers, the initiative honors veterans' service and sacrifice while raising awareness of the challenges they face and resources available to support them and their families.

The effort began in New York in 2021 through its state associations of counties and county veteran service officers. To our veterans: You are seen, valued and supported. www.naco.org/program/operation-green-light-veterans



5 Questions with Jim McHugh: Veterans Services

As we recognize Veterans Day this November, we're taking a closer look at the County's Veterans Services Office and the people it serves.

In this month's 5 Questions With, Ventura County Veterans Services Officer Kim McHugh discusses commonly overlooked opportunities, support that extends beyond veterans themselves, and how his team helps people find a path forward.

Whether you recently left military service or have never explored the resources available, his insights offer a reason to take another look. https://news.venturacounty.gov/en/5-questions-with-jim-mchugh-veteran-services-officer.



Delivering Hope: "Pizza Pup"
Continued from page 10

into homes across Ventura County, where one family, sharing one meal, could change a dog's life.

"When the volunteer presented the concept to me, I didn't hesitate for a second; it was an immediate yes," said Collier. "I hope residents of Ventura County make a day trip with their whole family to visit with VCAS and meet with the VCAS team, who can introduce them to the featured dogs and see if there is a match. And if not, they may find a dog that is a perfect fit for them."

VCAS staff and volunteers have worked continuously to care for and place animals throughout the county. For VCAS, Collier's immediate willingness to partner highlights his commitment to finding homes for animals in need.

"Pizza Pup is a unique partnership between Ventura County Animal Services and Pizza Man Dan's that brings long-stay shelter dogs directly into Ventura County homes, one pizza box at a time," said Esteban Rodriguez, Director of Ventura County Animal Services. "Sometimes one photo, seen at just the right moment, is enough for a family to imagine that dog, at their feet, waiting for a piece of pizza crust to fall. For VCAS, Pizza Pup is more than a promotion. It's a community-driven effort to help longer-stay dogs move from overlooked to unforgettable, and ultimately adopted."

How to Participate: Customers ordering from Pizza Man Dan's will receive a flyer with a featured Pizza Pup on the box. Scan the QR code to learn more about the dog, then visit the shelter to meet the pup and see if it's a good match. Residents are encouraged to keep the flyer and snap a photo to share on social media using the hashtag: #PizzaAndPupsVC

Events
Continued from page 11

more details and information.

Ventura County Philatelic Society Meeting

1st and 3rd Mondays of the month, 7 pm. Church of the Foothills, 6279 Foothill Rd. 805-415-9857. www.venturacountyphilatelicsoc.org.

Camarillo:

Cabrillo EDC 45 Year Anniversary Celebration: Thurs, Nov 5, 4 - 7 pm. Camarillo Ranch
201 Camarillo Ranch Rd.

An inaugural community event, Roots & Roofs 2026: Celebrating 45 Years of Cultivating Community & Building Opportunity. Inspired by the spirit of our agricultural roots, the event will feature market-style booths, locally inspired food and beverages, and entertainment, along with opportunities to learn how affordable housing and service-enriched programs help individuals and families thrive. Tickets and sponsorship information are available at www.cabrilloedc.org/roots-and-roofs.

Oxnard:

Nate's Place Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
Fri, Nov 13, 5:30 pm. 375 S. K St.

From one young man's recovery journey to a new campus and 20-bed Peer Respite Center, Nate's Place is celebrating a major milestone for Ventura County youth. Join us for the Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony of our new home, and upcoming Youth Peer Respite Center for Transitional Aged Youth. Enjoy tours, music, food, speakers, and be there for an exciting announcement. Free and open to the public. www.natesplacewellnesscenter.org.

Ojai:

Ojai Film Festival: Nov 4 – 9

The 27th annual Ojai Film Festival features 74 films from 12 countries, special screenings and conversations with stars including Jeff Bridges, Martin Sheen and Paul Schrader. Six days of screenings, conversations and receptions across the Ojai Valley Tickets start at $12. www.ojaifilmfestival.com.

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Discover The Cove Memory Care at Ventura Townehouse

At The Cove, we pride ourselves on fostering independence, freedom, and meaningful engagement all while your loved one enjoys living in the comfort of our unique homes.

Our residents thrive in The Cove's secure, expansive walking paths, designed to encourage safe daily movement and expressive connection. The sprawling, lush grounds create a calming environment where residents can enjoy the beauty of nature. With seamless indoor-outdoor California living and private spacious patios, your loved one can relax, breathe fresh air, and bask in the serene coastal setting.

Round-the-clock specialized assistance and attentive supervision are delivered with genuine warmth and tenderness, ensuring your loved one feels cherished and secure at all times.





7TH ANNUAL NANCEE BORGNINE

Holiday Extravaganza

SATURDAY | DEC 12 | 5:00 - 8:00 PM

VENDORS WANTED!

FREE OF CHARGE

Shopping ~ Desserts ~ Wine
Strolling Dickens Carolers

PLEASE CALL NANCEE BORGNINE
TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT
(805) 919-8312

VENDOR SET-UP
STARTING AT 3:00 PM

VENTURA TOWNEHOUSE
CALIFORNIA'S CROWN JEWEL IN RETIREMENT LIVING

4900 TELEGRAPH RD | VENTURA
VENTURATOWNEHOUSE.COM

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