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Ojai Valley News

The Ojai Valley’s newspaper since 1891

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Board seat creates concern for farmers

Angelique LaCour
OVN correspondent

Ojai farmers are concerned about how the water supply in the East End could be impacted if a proposed change of water companies becomes a reality. By approving a proposal from David Taussig & Associates (DTA) at last week's board meeting, Casitas Municipal Water District began a process to determine the feasibility of transferring ownership of the for-profit Golden State Water Company's Ojai operation to a public community facilities district.

In a position letter signed by Emily Ayala, Tony Thatcher, Robert Calder Davis Jr., Al West, Roger Essick, Judy Munzig and Jim Coultas, they make it clear that their No. 1 concern is the protection of the Ojai ground-water basin. Currently, the Ojai Ground-water Basin Management Agency is tasked with protecting the basin. GSWC holds one of five seats on the OBGMA along with CMWD the city of Ojai, the Ojai Water Conservation District and Mutual Water Companies (Senior Canyon, Siete Robles and Hermitage).

If CMWD takes over management of the proposed Ojai community facilities water district, the question of who would replace GSWC on the OBGMA board is a troublesome one for the agricultural community. The farmers fear that if either CMWD or the city of Ojai takes over GSWC's seat on the OBGMA board, it will result in overrepresentation of one of these entities and the groundwater basin they depend on could be jeopardized. "OBGMA is the agency responsible for measuring and regulating water usage from the basin, and we think that board,

as presently constituted, would represent the groundwater basin users most equitably on a usage basis," said the letter writers. "Ojai is a special place, in part because the valley still has verdant farms and viewscapes," according to the letter. "Further pressure of reducing or restricting our source of affordable agricultural water will result in the gradual further desertification of the Ojai Valley." The farm owners are outnumbered by residential meter users when it comes to voting for CMWD board members. "We believe that if trees or irrigated acres could vote, the

CMWD board composition would be different, more like the board when the district was formed and agriculture had a greater voice," they said in the letter. Although agricultural users typically consume 40 percent of the water from Lake Casitas, they "hold only 9 percent of the meter 'vote' (total of 257 agricultural water users compared with 2,695 residential users), a drastic change over the past half century." GSWC customers are represented on the CMWD board by

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Lissie set to rock Libbey Bowl for Haitian orphanage

Lisa Snider
OVN correspondent

When international rock star Lissie Maurus moved to Ojai more than three years ago, she came to mend a broken heart, seeking solace and sanctuary away from the hustle and bustle of Los Angeles. Now, she's trying to help mend broken homes, rocked by the devastation of the 2010 Haiti earthquake. Known in the music world simply as Lissie, the 29-year-old rocker will take a quick break from touring the Midwest and Northern Europe to hold a fundraising concert Aug. 17 at 6 p.m. at Libbey Bowl as a benefit for Changing Tides Orphanage in Haiti. While shopping last summer, it was a chance meeting with Changing Tides board member Taffy Lowen at Lowen's downtown clothing store, Julia Rose, which set the wheels in motion for Lissie. "She told me about the orphanage and school, that they were making a really positive difference in the kids' lives in Haiti. So I said I'd love to play a fundraiser for them!" says Lissie. Lowen introduced Lissie to Vance Simms, and his wife, Cheryl, who opened the faith-based nonprofit organization last summer to serve orphaned and underprivileged Haitian children. "I'd been looking for a while for a way to give back," says Simms, a general contractor and 40-year Ojai resident.

A visit to Haiti after the earthquake served as a call to action for Simms, recalling vivid images of children walking around ravaged towns with "clothes rotting off their bodies. It's something we couldn't overlook." He says he bought a motorcycle, got an interpreter and soon found a facility in the town of Jacmel, three hours south of Port-au-Prince. "The kids started to come," says Simms. Today, Changing Tides houses 15 children and hosts additional children who come for the day to go to school. Simms felt creating a school filled a significant need in Haiti. "The government only sends 10 percent of kids to school. Parents have to pay for private school, so many don't go," says Simms. The school's cafeteria not only provides nutritious meals for the students, but also for poverty-stricken elderly in the local community. Simms also had a playground built, has a water truck deliver safe drinking water and provides rebuilt laptop computers from Ojai PC Pros. In addition, Changing Tides is working to get scholarships to bring Haitian children to boarding schools in the United States. "Haiti needs educated people to come back and help their country." Simms and his wife have three children — two grown, and an

See Lissie, Page A3



Photo submitted

One of the boys at the Changing Tides Orphanage in Haiti carries a bowl of water.

City Council to allow pedicabs in downtown Ojai

Tiobe Barron
OVN correspondent

The streets of Ojai may soon host another form of transportation. Ricky Vimmerstedt applied to the city of Ojai earlier this year for permission to operate a pedicab business. At the time, the city had no ordinances regulating these vehicles, though Ojai City Council remedied that at the July 10 regular meeting, in which they established standards and permits for pedicabs within Ojai. Pedicabs, or cyclist-driven rickshaws, have become a common phenomenon in many other cities where tourism is a mainstay of the local economy and scene. Vimmerstedt says he has wanted to own his own business since he grew up in Orlando, and saw the exponential growth

of cycling and cyclist-operated vehicles in that city. Competition can be fierce once an idea takes off and becomes popular, and Vimmerstadt is seizing the opportunity to bring pedicabs to Ojai before someone else does. "I rode a rickshaw in Charleston, South Carolina, which is such an amazing city, and so many cities are thriving on tourism, and can benefit from these (rickshaws and pedicabs)," says Vimmerstedt. "It is such an experience, it becomes a significant factor in cities, and makes them more charming." Vimmerstedt, an employee at the Casa Barranca tasting room in the Arcade, adds that getting a ride on a pedicab is a safe alternative to drinking and driving. Fares would cost about \$6 for the first 10 minutes of the ride, with no charge for the initial pickup. Passsengers would pay

only with cash, and the pedicabs may have music, blankets or umbrellas depending on the weather and mood of the passengers. His would be a seasonal business and Vimmerstedt imagines most activity will occur Thursday through Sunday. He plans to start with only one or two vehicles, though he allows it may grow to include as many as five. "It's like a turtle, it's only going to grow as big as its environment. I can't imagine the business getting too big, when Ojai is a small town," says Vimmerstedt. Before he can make his dream a reality, he still must purchase the bike, which, he says "is not cheap." Once that is achieved, he still needs to find the right people to be his drivers. "They will need to represent the town, be ambassadors. They can't just be

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anybody, they will have to be polished and in shape!" Vimmerstedt says. Additionally, the city will require him and his employees to have a valid pedicab vehicle and operators' permits, with a fee of approximately \$60, all drivers must have valid driver's licenses, safety inspections, proper insurance and passenger fees posted on each vehicle. The city also restricts the pedicabs from ever operating along Ojai Avenue between Canada and Montgomery streets. "This is really a great little city," says Vimmerstedt. "We get lots of people coming from out of town. This is going to be a fun way of getting around."

Horse rescue group saddled with huge responsibility



Photo submitted

Hutcheson rides Bella, the horse she rescued.

Hannah Day
OVN correspondent

Bella had the odds stacked against her. Emaciated, untrained and pregnant, the mare was rescued from an auction lot and brought to California Coastal Horse Rescue (CCHR) in Ojai. Local ranch owner Kate Hutcheson ignored warnings about adopting a "green" horse and went ahead with the adoption. "She gave birth to little Jasper just a few days after being rescued," Hutcheson explained. "She was emaciated and yet gave everything she had to her foal." Working with a green horse helped Hutcheson take her horsemanship to the next level.

"Bella forced me to face my own issues and grow as a person and an animal caretaker." It's that kind of story that makes CCHR director Cindy Murphree and Sue Murphy so proud of their work. Murphree arranges foster homes for the horses, while Murphy is a board member and grant writer for CCHR. They work with volunteers to care for about 100 neglected, abandoned and abused horses at the Baldwin Road rescue center. Murphy called the volunteers "an amazing group of people. We have support from all over even though we're the least-known horse rescue in Ojai. It really is a horse sanctuary." It was founded in 2000 with a

small budget and few volunteers, Murphy noted. "Horses who are too sick and injured live here the rest of their lives." For new "mom" Hutcheson, adoption was a natural choice. "I choose to adopt because they are living beings with personalities and feelings. It breaks my heart to know that human greed, laziness and irresponsibility causes innocent animals to suffer through a hell we create," she stated. "I wanted to make a difference in someone's life, an animal in need. That has meaning to me because I relate to her." Hutcheson discovered CCHR online while searching for a

See Horse, Page A3

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Photo by Tim Dewar

Utility company has the urge to purge

Water gushes from a recently-completed Golden State Water Company service main on Bald Street at Ojai Avenue Monday. Rudy Delarosa, an employee with Innocenti Construction, said his company was purging the line before putting it into service. He added that residential customers in the area should see no disruptions in service and little change after the new main is put into service.

Grant funds available

The city of Ojai Arts Commission has announced that applications for the 2013 Ojai Art Grant Program are now available. Funds of \$10,000 were approved by the Ojai City Council for the 2013 Art Grant Program.

"We had a really exciting group of projects to choose from last year and are hoping to reach out to even more artists and art organizations this year," said Barbara Hirsch, Ojai Arts Commission chair. "We want to make this an easy process for all qualified individuals and encourage everyone out there to think outside the box when it comes to art in Ojai."

The program is designed to fund individual artists and nonprofit organizations that produce or present the arts and/or cultural programs that primarily benefit the city and Ojai and its residents. Last year, recipients included the newly-founded Ojai World Music Festival that presented world music at Libbey Bowl, and the Ojai Valley Museum's "Small Wonders—Our Museum in a Box," an educational outreach project for Ojai elementary students. Other past recipients include the Ojai Festival, Ojai Community Chorus and the Ojai Shakespeare Festival. Applications are now available for download on the Ojai Arts Commission website at www.artsojai.org or can be picked up at Ojai City Hall, 401 S. Ventura St. Completed applications must be received at Ojai City Hall (mailing address: P.O. Box 1570, Ojai, CA 93024) by Oct. 1 at 5 p.m. Successful grantees must complete their project within 2013. Grantees are required to provide a dollar-for-dollar match for the amount of requested funding. An optional grant application workshop is scheduled for Aug. 30 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at Ojai City Hall. Any applicant interested in finding out more about the process is encouraged to bring a copy of the application and questions about completing it to the workshop. To register for the workshop, RSVP to Steve McClary, assistant to the city manager, at mcclary@ci.ojai.ca.us or 646-5581, Ext. 101, no later than Aug. 28. For further information on the Arts Grant Program, contact McClary.

At School

The University of Dayton has named more than 2,500 students to the dean's list for the spring semester of the 2011-2012 academic year, including Kelsey Owen, of Ojai. To

be named to the dean's list at UD, a student must achieve a superior academic record, which is a grade point average of 3.5 or higher. The University of Dayton

is a private, coeducational school founded and sponsored by the Society of Mary (Marianists), a Roman Catholic teaching order. UD is the largest independent university in

Ohio and one of the 10 largest Catholic universities in the nation. Approximately 11,000 graduate and undergraduate students currently attend UD.

Bridge

The Ojai Valley Bridge Club meets every Monday and Friday at 12:30 p.m. at the United Methodist Church on Maricopa Highway across from Nordhoff High School. Everyone is welcome and singles will be provided

with a partner. The club also offers a free bridge lesson every Monday at noon, open to the public with no obligation. Call 646-1211 or 646-1964 for more information.

The winners for Friday, Aug. 3, were: 1st N/S, Joan

Forchione and Judy Murphy; 2nd N/S, Richard Dickason and Tee Downard; 3rd N/S, Nan Ritter and Bonnie Letizia; 1st E/W, Russell Leary and Patricia Riedy, 2nd E/W, Gary Petrowski and Bob Boschan; 3rd E/W, Ken

Kidd and Christopher Gilmon.

The winners for Monday, Aug. 6, were: 1st, Peggy Nielsen and Ilona Smith; 2nd, Dick Zizic and John Eliason; 3rd, Richard Dickason and Marvil Dickason.

Reunions

• Nordhoff High School's Class of 1992 will hold its 20-year reunion Aug. 11 at 6 p.m. at the Ojai Valley Athletic Club. Tickets: \$65, not available at the door, must prepay. Send checks made out to Ynez Arce, P.O. Box 1107, Ojai, CA 93024. For more details: Facebook and search

Nordhoff High School Class of 1992.

• Nordhoff High School's Class of 1972 will hold its 40-year reunion Aug. 25 at 4 p.m. at Boccali's Restaurant, Ojai, with an Hawaiian theme. Register at classmates.com.

• The annual Nordhoffian Barbecue, open to all

NHS classmates, will be held Oct. 7 from noon to 4 p.m. at Nordhoff High School, 1401 Maricopa Highway, Ojai. Menu is barbecued tri-tip and chicken. Cost: \$18 before Sept. 24, \$20 after and on site. Mail checks to: Nordhoffian, P.O. Box 518, Ojai, CA 93024. Contacts:

Robyn Hohman-Wilson, 646-2888, nordhoffian@sbcglobal.net or Jeanette Byrne, 497-7038, jbyrne1145@yahoo.com.

Have a class reunion coming up? Email linda@ojaivalleynews.com with the event details.

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Ojai Valley News In Depth

Video interviews

"Frankly, we're getting a lot of calls on it, and I'm not sure it's something that's gonna last."

- Ojai city manager Rob Clark, on the crosswalk stanchions



See the full interview at

www.ojaivalleynews.com

Obituary

Patricia Veronica Collins

(aka "Pinky," since she always wore only pink)



Patricia Collins passed away on July 26, 2012, peacefully with members of her family at her side. Patricia was born in New York City, N.Y., on April 22, 1924 to Michael Collins and Beatrice McDonald. Patricia was very proud of her Irish and New York heritage and always celebrated St. Patrick's Day.

Patricia attended CCNY during World War II and fulfilled her lifelong dream 40 years later, when she received her bachelor's degree from California State University at Bakersfield in 1981. After World War II she married John Motz and during their marriage they had five children.

Patricia always had fond memories of Palm Springs where she lived in the early '70s. She also resided in Bakersfield and San Diego. She has been a resident of Ojai, Calif. since 1985. Patricia was the director of the Children's Program at the Ojai Valley Inn and also worked as the girl's dorm mother at the Villanova Preparatory School. She was a volunteer at Help of Ojai, serving as the "Dolly Mama" who refurbished dolls for sale at the Help of Ojai store (Second Helpings). She also volunteered at the Ojai Library refurbishing audiotapes.

She is survived by her three daughters, Marguerite, Patricia and Elizabeth, and her two sons, James and John. She is also survived by her two grandchildren, Kathryn and Michael. We all miss the world's greatest mom, but we know for sure she's now the prettiest pink angel.

Services will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 12, 2012 at the Ojai Valley Wesleyan Church at 107 E. Topa Topa St., Ojai, CA 93023.

The family would like to thank Dr. Fred Fauvre and the staff at Ojai Continuing Care for their loving, thoughtful care over the years. If you would like to honor Mom, donations can be made to the "Ojai Valley Community Hospital Foundation (CCC)," please note "in memory of Patricia Collins" in the memo section of your check. Your donation can be mailed to Ojai Valley Community Hospital Foundation, 1306 Maricopa Highway, Ojai, CA 93023. The family will also be planting a pink "Mom's Garden" in her memory. Those wishing to provide a pink plant in her honor can bring them to the service or send them to Marguerite Webster, 487 E. Villanova Road, Ojai, CA 93023.

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YOUR VALLEY, YOUR NEWS

Concern:

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Russ Baggerly.

"I fully support the self-determination of the GSWC customers to determine their own future," said Baggerly.

"This is a necessary mechanism to allow citizens to take action, and make their own decision on whether they want to purchase the GSWC operation without impacting current direct and resale customers who will not be benefitting from this transaction," said CMWD spokesman Ron Merckling. "It is part of the democratic process that a group of people paying for a service have the right to choose the provider of that service."

To impose a tax to create an Ojai community facilities district that includes only GSWC customers in the Ojai Valley, two-thirds of the customers who are registered voters in the affected area must approve it.

The first step is for DTA to recommend to the CMWD board a tax rate and bond amount that will be required for the new district to purchase GSWC's facilities and infrastructure. That cost is currently estimated to be \$33 million.

Taussig explained the tax will be an annual tax amortized over 30 years to make it affordable.

DTA will draft a "resolution of intention" to form



Photo by Tim Dewar

Golden State Water Company wells, including this one on Signal Street, could become the property of a new community service district if proposed plans are successful.

the new Ojai water district to present to the CMWD board of directors for approval. This resolution will specify a recommended tax rate and bond amount, and will include a

map of the new district's boundaries. Taussig estimates this resolution should be ready to present to the CMWD board of directors for approval in about 90 days.

Following CMWD approval of the resolution, a public hearing will be set within 60 days, and an election must follow that in 90 to 180 days.

DTA will work with the

Ventura County Elections Division to create and disseminate a mail ballot for the election. The ballots will then be counted in front of the CMWD board of directors.

According to the DTA timeline, and pending approval of the resolution of intent by CMWD, the election will take place between March and May of next year.



Photo submitted

Up-and-coming rocker Lissie will play at Libbey Bowl Aug. 17.

Lissie:

Continued from Page A1

11-year-old still at home. Even though it means time away from his family, Simms makes a week-long pilgrimage to Haiti once every month. "It's a sacrifice we were willing to make after seeing what was going on over there," says Simms.

Simms usually tries to bring interested donors with him to have a "working vacation." To get the playground built, for example, he brought students from The Thacher School to help.

Funds raised by the Aug. 17 concert will help pay for existing programs, with the hope that soon they can raise enough money to own their facility rather than rent.

"It's really rewarding," says Simms. "We've had kids come in that were days away from death. They're all becoming brothers and sisters. It's nice to see them grow."

Though Simms had never heard of Lissie, he said his daughter and niece were quick to tell him about her music. Once he got a listen — her album "Catching a

Tiger" was released in 2010 and earned critical praise from Rolling Stone, Spin and Paste — he was hooked. "Her music is appealing to any age group. She's very, very entertaining."

Along with Lissie's performance, the concert will feature sets by George Stanford and Todd Hannigan. The Farmer and The Cook will have food for sale and the Lions Club will sell beer and wine. Changing Tides will have a booth to accept donations and provide information about the organization and working trips. An after-party event at The Deer Lodge will cap the evening.

"They've done a great job putting this concert together," says Lissie, who goes into the studio soon after the Ojai concert to record her next album. "I hope people come out and support Changing Tides Orphanage!"

Visit www.changingtides-orphanage.org for more information about the orphanage and www.libbeybowl.org to buy tickets to the event.

Horse:

Continued from Page A1

place from which to adopt. "I really liked Cindy based on my conversations regarding adoption, so I expressed my interest to volunteer," said Hutcheson. "She recommended it since it would give me time to get to know all the horses and wait for the right fit to develop."

Bella's adoption has taken Hutcheson nearly a year to complete. She first considered Bella in August 2011, and reserved Bella in November. She moved her to a boarding facility in January 2012. Bella is in the process of moving to Hutcheson's ranch, where other foster animals live. "Bella is amazing," Hutcheson explained. "Her intelligence shocks me quite frequently and our bond has only just begun to strengthen. It has been a journey with its ups and downs. CCHR really is an amazing organization."

Visit www.calcoastalhorserescue.com or call 649-1090 or email horse@jetlink.net for details on volunteering or visiting the ranch.

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Food, fans and fun all a part of the Fair

Scenes from the 2012 Ventura County Fair include (clockwise from above) one of the many rides light the night sky; a lucky patron carries her prize; sheep enjoying people watching; Joan Jett in concert Saturday; Creed lead singer Scott Stapp performs Monday; a contestant tries to corral a sheep and Ojai resident Emmy Hilgers opens the Fair Aug. 1 with her rendition of the national anthem.



Photo by Mary Long



Photo by Evelyn Cervantes/Brooks Institute



Photo by Evelyn Cervantes/Brooks Institute



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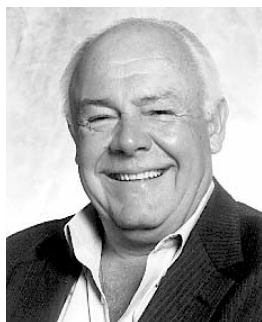
There's a lot to miss if you aren't there

The Ventura County Fair runs through Sunday at the Fairgrounds. The opening week included sights such as (clockwise from above left) food aplenty available from numerous vendors; a couple looks at paintings Monday including a farm scene with hay bales by Oak View's Joanna Berry; Aaron Argueta, from Ventura, carries a prize Monday for his nephew Jacob Zapata, who won by tossing a ring onto a soda bottle; Creed fans celebrate at Monday's concert and thrill seekers get their money's worth on one of the rides.



Photo by Evelyn Cervantes/Brooks Institute

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CITY WATCH

EDWARD BEAUVAIS



New, tricky ways to take your money

Good morning, Ojai! Credit card theft is one of the biggest crimes we are experiencing in the Ojai Valley. People are finding new and unique ways to separate you from your money.

As a member of the Ojai Police Department, I am responding to more and more calls where people are trying to steal your good credit.

Common scams include overlays, where crooks put a false reader on top of the slot at your favorite gas station pump. As you're paying for your gasoline, the crooks are recording your credit card information. Next thing you know, all these false charges appear on your statement.

A quick way to protect yourself is to look closely at the pump. If it looks different, grab the slot and give it a shake. Most are not secured directly to the pump and will come off in your hand.

Another scam is when you receive a phone call

alerting you there is a problem with your account. The caller will ask you to confirm your credit card information. They will also ask for the security code off the back of the card. A reputable card company will never ask you for your information; they should already have it. They issued the card to you, right? The caller should be giving you the information instead.

Also be aware of the same con via email. You can get an authentic-looking email saying your card has been hacked. They will ask you to click on an attached link to verify your information. However, it is a fake link and as you enter your information, the crook is harvesting it. If something like this happens, it is best to enter your credit card company's website address manually. That way you know the site is secure.

Also, look at the address. If the web address starts with "http," be alarmed. Any site asking for

personal or financial information should be "https." Http stands for HyperText Transfer Protocol. The "s" stands for "secure socket layer." This means you are on a secure website and anything you enter will not be retrievable.

When you get a call or an email from a company "guaranteeing" a lower rate, this should raise your alert level. Scammers will promise a reduction in your interest rate if you pay a low, up-front fee. This is illegal. No one is allowed to promise or guarantee you a lower payment.

A respectable business will never charge you for this service; it is something credit card companies do free. Companies want your business, so if you have a good credit history, call your credit card and ask for the lower rate.

With the financial crisis many people are experiencing today, credit scores have dropped. Enterprising scam artists have capitalized on this by

offering people with money problems low-, or no-interest cards, with healthy balances. Ojai, if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

The scam works by hiding the fact these are secured credit cards, and require a cash deposit to get the card, or worse, they attach it to your bank account. Then come the fees. The card will have several hundred dollars in up-front fees, which are attached to the card. In some instances, the card is maxed out from the initial issue date. Then it does no one any good, except the scammer. Other times the fees are deducted from the victim's account, and can drain your savings.

Another concerning trend is a practice called "the pass-through." In it, the victim is offered a free, trial offer for a service while online. They think, "Sure, why not?" Then come the fees. The fees could be for only a few dollars, but unscrupulous

vendors can charge \$50 to \$100 a month. This practice is tricky, because many legitimate businesses use this practice to sell their services. However, a growing number of scam artists are taking advantage of this.

The best defense to this is also the easiest, say no to the free trial offers.

If you read through all these credit card scams I've covered, I think a common theme takes root. These scams need your permission to work. Sometimes the best defense is using a bit of skepticism and thinking long and hard before you enter your personal information. If you have any doubts, check out consumer protection websites, such as, offered by the Federal Trade Commission.

And if you find yourself in over your head, one of the best things you can do is contact one of the credit monitoring services. They are Equifax, TransUnion, and Experian. Have them

put a flag on your credit, to ensure no one tries to steal your good name. If someone tries to open an account without your knowledge, they will contact you and get permission from you before they open the account. These companies charge a small fee for this, but it might be money well spent.

I like the fact that the Ojai Valley takes care of one another. However, the world is much bigger than just our community. There are scam artists from all over the world who are devising new and tricky ways to part us from our money. A few moments to think things through might be all the difference between staying financially safe and being the next victim.

Until next time, Ojai.

Senior Deputy Edward Beauvais works for the Ventura County Sheriff's Office at the Ojai Valley Station.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send your opinions to letters@ojaivalleynews.com

Pesticide-free the way to be

DULANIE ELLIS-LA BARRE,
CO-CHAIR, FOOD COUNCIL,
OJAI VALLEY GREEN COALITION

Kudos to Pesticide-Free Ojai for an outstanding weekend of events last week. They featured a nationally-prominent farmer, Gena Nonini, who gave a rapid-fire introduction to biodynamic farming over several days at Oak Grove School. In a nutshell, biodynamics is like homeopathy for the plants and soil, a way to infuse more fertility with specialized preparations. Saturday afternoon, they screened "One Cow, One Man, One Planet" at the Ojai Playhouse and we got to see the huge biodynamic movement in India, where villages are turning away from pesticides and GMOs and embracing these simple methods to revitalize their farmland.

The show-stopper, however, was the farm-to-table dinner on Saturday night. In a word — Wow! I thought I'd dropped into southern Italy. Our hostess at Stony Grove (so named for the plentiful crop of rocks in the soil) is transitioning her citrus grove to organic-biodynamic. She and Patty Pagaling of Transition to Organic, Denise Ritchie of Sacred Cow Compost (get this microbial-rich compost at Aqua Flo) and Gena, put on the most exquisite evening of dining I can remember in the valley. Three long white-clothed tables with candles were set next to raised stone beds of vegetable and herb gardens and a lap pool, with twinkling lights draped around like a European piazza. Mellow music from a live band accompanied course after course of the most scrumptious, organic dishes. Rarely have I seen so many blissed-out, chewing faces! To top it all off, we had a meteor sail through the sky. Let's have more dinners like this, celebrating more growers who choose to enrich the fertility and growing potential in our valley.

OVN article 'small-minded'

CHRISTINE GOLDEN, OJAI

I was taken aback at last Friday's lead article ("Few Ojai department heads live in city"). It served up a most illogical plate of prejudice. The article suggests that city employees who live out of town are less concerned about Ojai's values and character and don't really care about the results of their decisions because those decisions won't affect them. This kind of thinking draws a moral and ethical character line between city employees who live within the city limits and those who do not.

If such a thing were true, then we should make T-shirts for all the city employees who live outside the city limits. We can emblazon them with a scarlet O-O to signify "Outside Ojai." This way, we'll all know who these out-of-towners are who cannot possibly understand our city values and

way of life much less make ethical, reasonable and appropriate decisions on our behalf.

City Council could enact an ordinance requiring that the scarlet-lettered O-O shirt be worn at all times when on the job. This will make it so much easier to understand why things aren't going the way we want them to. (It's those O-O guys who don't really care how their decisions affect us.)

In fact, everyone who lives outside Ojai but works in town should be required to wear the O-O shirt including folks who live in Mira Monte, the East End, Upper Ojai, and Meiners Oaks — all of the teachers, real estate agents, store owners and so forth. After all, based on the "logic" of the news story, these O-O folks must not be caring about much less understanding our values either. We should know who they are.

In all seriousness, it is a most dangerous game when we entertain prejudicial ideas much less write a lead story that serves up such ugly thinking to the public for digestion. The OVN owes an apology to all the city employees who live O-O (Outside Ojai) for even suggesting that they make decisions in a cavalier manner because they live outside the city limits.

A lot has been said about Ojai's special character. Let's not let small-minded xenophobia become the character for which we are known.

A.A. needs new share format

K. BANFIELD, OJAI

This is an open letter to Alcoholics Anonymous.

Here is a suggestion that works well in Oregon. When holding an A.A. meeting, go around the circle one person at a time so everyone has a chance to speak. They can pass if they choose not to share. That way folks who find it difficult to assert themselves are afforded a change to speak and heal, while others learn to self-regulate to accommodate group size.

I attended meetings in different locations in Ojai, which were both dominated by a few individuals. But if an each-person-shares format is used, the group will benefit from the wisdom of the quiet ones

Blog response to: 'Medina Jury Hears of Psychological Issues'

Im tired of hearing about this kid! Lock him up!

Anon

All he has to do is spray-paint his hair orange ... Seriously, his past may be a factor, however, give me a break! He was cognisant enough to go to a party, call out Seth and then (allegedly) stab him to death.

He seems to be smart enough, however, to pull the insane card.

Oldie Ojai

There are quotes from the defense lawyer (the same defense lawyers for the teen Oxnard murderer who shot the boy at school) about the alleged incom-

petency of Alex Medina, but no quotes from the prosecutors. A teenager who has the cognitive ability make the choice to stab someone, is not mentally incompetent. What a ridiculous charade. What about the character of a young man who was stabbed to death? Poor reporting.

Poor reporting quoting the defense lawyers and not the prosecutors.

Minou

Difficulty to endure? Talk to the Scarminach family about endure.

AnotherOldOjai

He gutted the kid. This wasn't a stab. It was a gutting. It was intentional. A liberal mother was overheard in the market, reprimanding her misbehaving kids; "Stop it kids, I don't have time for psychology today".

These liberal psychologists have got to get out of our judicial system.

roadrnr

Blog response to: 'Viewing Ojai's Night Sky Part of Lighting Plan'

Wait a minute....what (?) no comments yet on how "now they're going to tell us how to light our homes.....!" And next they'll tell us what we can eat and what kind of underwear to wear!!

Ray Baura

Light will not be restricted but directed downward so that we can see better. Burglaries, bird migrations, sleep, animal life all are helped or hindered by bad lighting. This ordinance guides the city toward good use of light so that we all live better. The good use of light will lower the waste of energy and the cost of this resource.

Gail Topping

Blog response to: 'Eight Arrested in Oak View Meth Bust'

Good job Coppers, keep up the good work..

MiddleMan

Excellent! This is what I like to see. To everyone involved in the 'bust'; THANK YOU – more please

Condor

This type of arrest needs to be done weekly. There are a lot more drug infested houses around this valley. Problem is these guys will be right back out on the streets doing the same thing in just a few weeks.

really

Isn't there some way we can blame the illegals?

Johnny Ringo

what probably happened is someone got busted and gave everyone up, you know give 3 go free, the [expletive deleted] sucked so much they gave more than three.lol

jen

Blog response to: 'More Ojai History May Soon Disappear'

I drove through and sure does not look blighted to me. Looks like a nice community.

MiddleMan

thumbs up, down



• A reader sends a thumbs-up to Lenny Roberts for creating the OVN website. "What a great site for local information! Keep up the good work, Lenny!"



• A reader sends a thumbs-down to all the drivers who drove by a woman in Meiners Oaks who had fallen down and needed assistance. "She lay there bleeding and crying out for help. Shame on all of you!"

• Regarding the thumbs-down on Aug. 3: In mention of graffiti at Cluff Vista Park in Ojai vs. graffiti all over Colonia (as well as other run-down sections), no implication was made about race or culture, as gangs who deface with graffiti prominent in certain areas, I'm sure are made up of all races and cultures. Only pointing out the difference of quantity in both areas. No need to be defensive. Of course graffiti is not acceptable anywhere, but as a concerned Ojai citizen I hope we are not heading toward a negative stigma in our otherwise healthy and clean area."

Submit online at thumbs@ojaivalleynews.com

We reserve the right to publish submitted thumbs up or down as letters to the editor. Submissions that are "advertorials" disguised as legitimate opinions, or those negatively targeting individuals or businesses by name will not be published.

With the lack of affordable housing throughout California, where does someone go? Times are indeed tough right now. This just shows how something can unbalance our lives.

Condor

Back in the early 50's my family lived there for a year while our house was being built. IT was called THE VALLEY OUTPOST LODGE. I was 6yrs old, we moved back to OJAI from LA. The place had a western look, I was in heaven, me my red cowboy hat and bow and arrow. The place had oaks all over, a pool plus wild deer until I shot all the deer with my trusty bow, arrow, and red cowboy hat then I found out the deer were fake, so much for a big game hunter, the point is it was something I remembered for 60 yrs about this place dont turn it into some santa barbara piece of s... It had natty pine rooms, you could hear the birds and was real pieceful setting. Ojai should stay ojai dont bring someplace else to ojai ...

lefty

We should all recognize that this is already "low income housing."

Larry of Oak View

The question to ask our city council members at every turn is this:

What have you done or what will you do to maintain Ojai's small town character? Given that each and everyone of them claimed in their bids to get elected or re-elected to protect Ojai it's good to consider how they've followed this when the rubber hits the road.

Ray Baura

"Basically, 30 people all at one time are going to have to find a new place to stay," says Bruton. Please...the current residents will have to be given sufficient notice to begin looking. Its not like they are just dumped on the street all at once. If they were not on notice before, they are now.

Let's remember that the property owners have the right to develop the property. "Ojai is a community known for its artists, as well as spirituality and small, locally-owned stores" Artist = Unemployed

StlyDan

totally disagree with Ms. Strobel. The cottages are not "blighted". I've had friends and relatives that live or have lived there and no one has complained about the insulation. I live adjacent to the property and enjoy the quiet atmos-

phere.. low density feel to the property. When the new condo's are built I will have a 2-story home literally 5 feet from our property looking down into our yard. Our now-tranquil cul-de-sac life style will be filled with automobiles traveling as a short-cut from Foothill Road as well as from these new condos (which no doubt will have at the very least 2-car families living in them) As it is now all we hear are birds in the morning – no one drives down the street and this peaceful neighborhood will be ruined. I also agreed with those commenting about the shortage of affordable rental property here in Ojai. One more will bite the dust.

loveOjai2bits

I'm sad to hear that this was approved, although I'm not surprised. The "blighted" condition was a deliberate lack of upgrading by an owner intent on demolishing the structures. Why would they put money into improvements when that would only make the units less "blighted". It's a business decision by business persons, nothing more. Concern for history and charm are always lacking from developers, nothing new there either. How many historic structures are demolished to be replaced with a money maker? Pretty common. I've been watching and reading about this for a while and thank those that fought against it, but money talks and Ojai gets more condos for wealthy LA transplants. Awesome.

Confused

This is Ojai? Please! I visited a friend there when it was a hundred degrees and we couldn't sit inside without getting heat stroke.

If you like these cottages so much buy a couple of them, put them in your backyard and create your own affordable housing rental.

Sandy m

This is a beautiful piece of property and I hope they do something nice with it. It seems to me that the Ojai council only approves something about once

every decade or so so there seems to be little chance of losing "Ojai's small town character" from over development. That character appears to be under more attack from ugly empty commercial buildings, deteriorating residential, and those god awful yellow street warning signs.

Jimmy

I live near Mallory and this place could use a major upgrade. If the housing market stays in the toilet maybe I could even afford one of the new units. Hurry, I'm not getting any younger!

Glazer

Another bit of Ojai history to be demolished so we can have condos that all look like Taco Bell just like the rest of modern Ojai. Pay attention citizens of Ojai, our little town is turning into s***.

Kay Rolfe

Reply to StlyDan: We all have a good relationship with the Becker Group (former name of Matillija) and have no grief against them. They have been upfront all along. Our grief is toward the attitudes and comments of the four City Council members, particularly the Mayor. We do want to clarify something to you SD in particular: every resident of the Mallory Way Cottages is employed or is a retired senior citizen and we take umbrage with your implication that we are "unemployed artists".

cottageresidents

It's all about the money. Jeff Becker has been a creep since the day he stepped foot on that property. Don't know too much about the other slug, though why should this surprise anyone. They don't care about 30 families being removed from their homes because they both are 'money mongrels' and should be chased out of town.

Kim

Post your blog responses at ojaivalleynews.com
Printed responses are not corrected for grammar, spelling or punctuation.



Mission Statement:

To inform you about the issues and events in our community with diligence and dedication.

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- Keep it local. We are a community newspaper focusing on Ojai and local issues get priority.
- Don't get personal. Stick to the issues.
- Keep it short. Shorter letters are easier to run, and, more importantly, easier to read.
- Include phone number for verification.

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around valley

OUR

THE CALENDAR OF OJAI VALLEY EVENTS

This Week

Wednesday, Aug. 8
OJAI PLAYWRIGHTS CONFERENCE — The 15th annual Ojai Playwrights Conference will run today through Aug. 12, featuring new play workshops, performance events and guest artists during its "Summer New Works Festival." Events will be held at Matilija Auditorium, 703 El Paseo Road, Ojai, and Zalk Theater at Besant Hill School in Upper Ojai. Visit www.ojaipays.org for schedule and tickets. The all-access festival pass is \$190; single tickets are \$20 to \$25; students, \$10.

FREE MEDITATION AND MOVIE — A free meditation and movie followed by talking stick will be held today from 7 to 10 p.m., when an Eckhart Tolle talk will be shown on a 110-inch screen. Future topics will include spiritual and physical wellness, Hanh, Campbell, Chopra, and more. Call John at 640-3650 for directions or more details.

FREE OJAI BAND CONCERT — Running through Aug. 15, the Ojai Band, directed by Joe Boccia, will offer free concerts at the gazebo in Libbey Park, Wednesdays from 7:30 to 9 p.m., featuring American favorites, musicals and patriotic tunes. Bring a chair or blanket. Now in their 22nd year, these concerts are sponsored by the Rotary Club of Ojai-West.

Thursday, Aug. 9
NHS RESERVED FOOTBALL SEATING — Members of the Nordhoff Parent Association can purchase up to four reserved football seats per family at \$20 per seat. NPA members who purchased seats last year will be able to purchase the same seats Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to noon in the office. New members may purchase any available seats starting Saturday on Ranger Day during the "Blue and Gold" scrimmage at 11:30 a.m. at the stadium and Ranger Roundup with a maximum of four per family until sold out. If you have any questions, call Roxanne Farrar, athletic secretary, at 640-4343, Ext. 1764.

Friday, Aug. 10
"NIGHT MUST FALL" — Senga Classic Stage Company will present the British psychological thriller, "Night Must Fall," through Aug. 26, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m., at the Ojai Valley Grange, 381 Cruzero St., Ojai. Tickets: \$17 or \$15 for seniors and students. Group bookings and reservations are available. Go to www.franciscabeach.com or call 646-4885.

"THE PROVOKED WIFE" — Transport Theater will stage the bawdy comedy, "The Provoked Wife," by John Vanbrugh, Friday through Aug. 26 at Ojai Youth Entertainers Studio, 316 E. Matilija St. The play is directed by Rick Kuhlman and stars Vivian Latham, Nigel Chisolm, Linda Livingston, Brittany Danyel, Ron Felner, David Rogge, Casey Solow and David Stewart. Performances will be held Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. Advance tickets: \$18, at www.brownpapertickets.com or call (800) 838-3006. Senior and student rush tickets available day of the show for \$15.

Saturday, Aug. 11
FREE GARDENING CLASS — A free class on "Garden Composting" will be held Saturday from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Arc Enrichment Center, 210 Cañada St., Ojai, brought to you by Ventura County Master Gardeners. Jessica Craven will be the speaker.

"PENGUINS" — The Wheeler Gorge Visitor Center, 17017 Maricopa Highway, will host conversationist Larry Wan, Ph.D., Saturday at 11 a.m. He will share his photographs of the large variety of penguins found around the world. Donations: \$3 for adults, \$2 for ages 5 to 18, younger than 5 admitted free. Call 640-9060.

"PRIMATES" — The Wheeler Gorge Visitor Center, 17017 Maricopa

Highway, will host conversationist Larry Wan, Ph.D., Saturday at 1 p.m. He will share his photographs of primates in Africa, South and Central America and many other countries. Donations: \$3 for adults, \$2 for ages 5 to 18, younger than 5 admitted free. Call 640-9060.

"CITY DARK" — Ojai Valley Green Coalition invites you to the second film in its "Summer Film Series," the documentary, "City Dark," Saturday at 4:30 p.m. at Ojai Playhouse, 145 E. Ojai Ave. In this award-winning film, director Ian Cheney blends visual poetry and hard facts for a film that chronicles the disappearance of night skies and what we can do about it. A short program led by will precede the film and there will be a drawing for a Meade telescope. Suggested donation: \$10 at the door. Visit www.ojaivalleygreencoalition.org for more details.

THORNHILL-YOUNG CONCERT — Rain Perry will host a concert by Alan Thornhill and Martin Young at her home in Upper Ojai Saturday, starting with a potluck at 6:30 p.m. and music at 8 p.m. Cost: \$20. Email mizzperry@gmail.com for reservations and directions. (A10)

"OJAI MOVIES IN THE PARK" — The Ojai Valley Lions Club will present its next "Ojai Movies in the Park" program Saturday at Sarzotti Park, with a free screening of "How to Train Your Dragon" at 8 p.m. Donations are welcome and refreshments will be available. Call 646-5581, Ext. 390, for more details.

STARGAZING PARTIES — The Ojai Retreat, 160 Besant Road, will host summer stargazing parties Saturday and Sunday from 8 to 10 p.m. in the Shangrila Garden, weather permitting. Both events will feature Jeff Schnauffer, former astronomy guide at the Griffith Observatory and stargazing columnist for the Los Angeles Times, and founder of Star Safari. Giant binoculars and telescopes will be available. Tickets: \$10. Make reservations at

640-1142.

Sunday, Aug. 12
OLD-TIME FIDDLERS — California State Old-Time Fiddlers, District 8, will meet Sunday from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Oak View Community Center, 18 Valley Road, Oak View. Join the fiddlers for a fun-filled afternoon of listening or dancing to country, western and bluegrass music. Bring an instrument and play along. Free admission and parking. Refreshments are available. For information visit www.caldfiddlers.com or call 797-6563.

"A JACQUES BREL CABARET" — Actor-singer Gale McNeeley is joined by Betty Faas (piano) and Chuck Osborne (accordion) on the Ojai Art Center Theater stage, 113 S. Montgomery St., Sunday at 2 p.m. for "A Jacques Brel Cabaret." This show remembers the famed singer-songwriter who was a worldwide sensation from the 1950s to the '70s and a major influence of numerous singers. Suggested \$10 donation at the door.

OJAI SONGWRITERS ANONYMOUS CONCERT — The "Jammin' at the A.C." music series at the Ojai Art Center, 113 S. Montgomery St., ends Sunday from 6 to 8 p.m. with a performance by Ojai Songwriters Anonymous. Fee: \$10. Food, drinks and desserts will be available. Call 646-0117 for more details.

Monday, Aug. 13
"THE WELCOME: A HEALING JOURNEY FOR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES" — The Film Branch of the Ojai Art Center, 113 S. Montgomery St., will screen "The Welcome: A Healing Journey for Veterans and Their Families" Monday at 7 p.m. This moving film won Best Documentary Feature at the 2011 Ojai Film Festival and offers an intimate view of life after war. Journalist and author Jannette Jauregui will take part in a question-and-answer session after the film. Suggested donation: \$5. Refreshments will be provided.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP — The Adults Caring for Parents Support Group will meet Monday from 6 to 7:30 p.m. to discuss how to meet the demands of caregiving and the complexities of dealing with family issues. Call Kathy Leary-Wilde at 218-9798 for more information.

Tuesday, Aug. 14
"EXTRA, EXTRA" — Tim Dewar, new publisher of the Ojai Valley News, will talk to the Retired Men's Club Tuesday about where his newspaper has been, where it is today and the direction he plans to take it in future. The Ojai Valley Retired Men's Club holds luncheon meetings on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month at 11:45 a.m. in the Banquet Room at Soule Park Golf Course. Prospective members are welcome. Call 649-2434 for reservations

SATSANG WITH KOSI — The Ojai Retreat, 160 Besant Road, will host Kosi of Wisdom Rock Foundation in Ashland, Ore., in a satsang Aug. 16 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Donations suggested. Call 646-2536 for more information.

PEDDLERS' FAIR — Ojai Peddlers' Fair will feature antiques, collectibles, crafts and clothing, Aug. 18 and 19 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Chaparral Auditorium, 414 E. Ojai Ave., rain or shine. Proceeds will benefit Mira Monte Elementary School PTO.

"REPTILES FROM AROUND THE WORLD" — The Wheeler Gorge Visitor Center, 17017 Maricopa Highway, will host Tom Hagan, of the Southwest Herpetological Society, Aug. 18 at 10 a.m. He will present live and impressive lizards and snakes and give advice on which reptile to pick as a pet. Donations: \$3 for adults, \$2 for ages 5 to 18, younger than 5 admitted free. Call 640-9060.

"HEART OF SILENCE" — Meditation Mount, 11340 Reeves Road, Ojai, will host "Heart of Silence," a weekend retreat with Kosi of Wisdom Rock Foundation in Ashland, Ore., Aug. 18, 19 and 20. Silence is not just the absence of sound, but is the essence of who you really are. This retreat will provide support for you discovering the happiness and freedom of your true nature and living presence. Tuition: \$195. Hours: Aug. 18, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Aug. 19, 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Aug. 20, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Go to www.wisdomrock.org or call 646-5508. (A10)

OJAI YOUTH SYMPHONY CONCERT — The Rotary Club of Ventura-East and Interface Children and Family Services will present "Rey Fresco" with the Ojai Youth Symphony Aug. 18 from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Libbey Bowl, featuring artwork, food and beverage vendors. Go to www.rcveconcert.com for more details and tickets.

CASINO NIGHT — The Ranger Gridiron Club will hold an adults-only casino night and silent auction with a cowboy-cowgirl theme Aug. 18 from 6 to 11 p.m. at the Ojai Art Center, 113 S. Montgomery St. Proceeds will benefit the Nordhoff High School football program. Go to www.nhsrangerfootball.com for more details. Tickets: \$45 per person, \$80 per couple in advance; after Aug. 15, \$50 per person cash only at the door.

"OJAI MOVIES IN THE PARK" — The Ojai Valley Lions Club will present the next "Ojai Movies in the Park" program Aug. 18 at Sarzotti Park, with a free screening of "The Karate Kid" at 8 p.m. Donations are welcome and refreshments will be available. Call 646-5581, Ext. 390, for more details.

"LIBERATION IS THE BOOBY PRIZE" — The American Vedic Association Bhagavad-Gita As It Is Fellowship will discuss "Liberation Is the Booby Prize" Aug. 21 at 7:30 p.m. at 687 Villanova Road. Learn more at AVA fellowships. Always free. Call 640-0405.

"TREES ARE TREMENDOUS" — The Wheeler Gorge Visitor Center, 17017 Maricopa Highway, will host Lloyd Simpson, a Los Padres National Forest botanist, Aug. 25 at 10 a.m. He will teach about native and non-native trees on a short educational walk into the campground. Donations: \$3 for adults, \$2 for ages 5 to 18, younger than 5 admitted free. Call 640-9060.

HOUSEHOLD HAZ-

ARDOUS MATERIALS COLLECTION EVENT — The County of Ventura Pollution Prevention Center will host a household hazardous materials collection event Aug. 25 for residents of the unincorporated communities of Ventura County. Call 658-4323 for an appointment or more information. Small businesses should call 987-0717.

"REVENGE OF THE ELECTRIC CAR" — Ojai Valley Green Coalition invites you to the third film in its "Summer Film Series," the documentary, "Revenge of the Electric Car," Aug. 25 at 4:30 p.m. at Ojai Playhouse, 145 E. Ojai Ave. In addition to the film, there will be a car show of electric vehicles on Signal Street, with additional sponsorship by NewEnergyAnswers.com, Santa Paula Chevrolet, Team Nissan and Ventura Toyota. Suggested donation: \$10 at the door. Visit www.ojaivalleygreencoalition.org for more details.

"OJAI MOVIES IN THE PARK" — The Ojai Valley Lions Club will present the last "Ojai Movies in the Park" program for the summer Aug. 25 at Sarzotti Park, with a free screening of "Back to the Future" at 8 p.m. Donations are welcome and refreshments will be available. Call 646-5581, Ext. 390, for more details.

"ILLUMINATING EVENINGS" — The Well Center for Conscious Living, 214 W. Aliso St., Ojai, will host author-healer Alexis Eldridge in "Illuminating Evenings" Aug. 27 and Sept. 11 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Suggested donation: \$10.

FULL MOON COMMUNITY MEDITATION — A community group meditation at the full moon of Virgo will be held Aug. 30 at 7:30 p.m. at Meditation Mount, 10340 Reeves Road in Ojai, as an act of celebration and service to invoke, anchor and distribute blessings to the world. This is the second full moon in August. Suggested donation: \$10. Call 646-5508 or visit meditationmount.org for more information.

"SEEDS OF FREEDOM" — Ojai Valley Green Coalition invites you to the last film in its "Summer Film Series," the documentary, "Seeds of Freedom," Sept. 1 at 4:30 p.m. at Ojai Playhouse, 145 E. Ojai Ave. This film will cover the Proposition 37 California "Right to Know" Genetically Engineered Food Act C campaign Rally. Suggested donation: \$10 at the door. Visit www.ojaivalleygreencoalition.org for more details.

"THE FLIP SIDE OF SINATRA" — Ojai Youth Entertainers Studio, 316 E. Matilija St., will host Sid Cohn Aug. 31 through Sept. 1 at 8 p.m. He will perform his cabaret evening of Frank Sinatra songs. Visit www.ojaiyes.org or call 646-4300.

Ongoing Events

DONATIONS TO SECOND HELPINGS — Donations are accepted for Second Helpings Thrift Store at Help of Ojai's West Campus, 370 Baldwin Road, Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 649-8750 for more information.

SHAKESPEARE SALON — The Ojai Shakespeare Festival's Second Century Shakespeare Salon meets the first and third Monday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Ojai Library, 111 E. Ojai Ave., to read and discuss the works of the Bard. The club is free and open to everyone. Call Laurie Walters Slade at 646-3733.

GENEALOGY LIBRARY OPEN — Find your roots at the Genealogy Library Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. and Wednesdays and Thursdays from 2 to 8:30 p.m. at 411 San Antonio Drive, Ojai. Call 646-2173 or 640-8351.

PLAY GROUP — Come have fun with other 5- and 6-year-olds at Libbey Park Wednesdays at noon. Gather for lunch and a good time. Call Dawn at 640-1283 for information, or just show up at the park.

TOASTMASTERS MEETINGS — Ojai Valley Toastmasters meets Fridays at 6:30 a.m. in the library room at The Gables of Ojai, 701 N. Montgomery St., Ojai. Come visit and hear a variety of presentations. For more information, contact Bill Short at billshortesq@earthlink.net or 640-7540.

Send your events to calendar@ojaivalleynews.com or fax to 646-4281.



Mayra Sutton, Gus Garcia, co-owners Sea Fresh Seafood Restaurant; Michelle Henson, Chief Credit Officer, Ojai Community Bank.

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The construction financing with *Ojai Community Bank* has been the easiest part of the process. We truly feel that Michelle Henson and all the staff at *Ojai Community Bank* are an extension of our Sea Fresh family. We could not have done it without them. That's why we believe in community banking.



Ask us about our Charitable Giving program, designed to help those in need through the foundations and non-profits that provide programs for our community. Together we can make a difference!



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Visit us online at OjaiCommunityBank.com



Down the Road

BACK TO SCHOOL PARTY — Church of the Living Christ, 190 E. El Roblar Drive, Meiners Oaks, will host its annual back to school party (formerly known as school supply giveaway) Aug. 15 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. All school supplies are given to Ojai Valley children. If you would like to make a donation of supplies, there are bins at Bank of America and Ojai Community Bank. To make a cash donation or for more information, call Vivian at 431-3267.

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Photo by Ashley Turbyfill

Ricardo Olivares will take over the Villanova Preparatory School girls' basketball team and also serve as the director of residential life.

Villanova hires girls' hoops coach

VPS lands coach with impeccable credentials to head girls' basketball

Mike Miller
mike@ojaivalleynews.com

The Villanova Prep community is buzzing with excitement after announcing the hiring of Ricardo Olivares as their new varsity girls' basketball coach. Olivares will also be taking over the director of residential life position at Villanova Prep, making him in charge of the dorms as well.

Olivares comes to VPS with a wealth of athletic experience and championship pedigree, which is exactly what the Wildcats were looking for in a new head coach for their girls' basketball program after their very successful three-year run under former head coach Ray Pierson.

Olivares earned his master's degree in athletic administration from Concordia University and has served as an athletic director for 13 years at Pacifica College, Orme High School in Arizona and Compton Dominguez High School. While serving as athletic director he has coached many sports at these various schools including basketball at Orme and Dominguez. At Orme, he coached the junior varsity boys' basketball team for two seasons, leading them to a 24-12 record. At Compton Dominguez he coached the junior varsity girls' basketball team for two years and led them to a 27-14 record. While he was athletic director at Compton Dominguez their boys' basketball team won two state titles and one national title.

In addition to coaching basketball, Olivares has been a football head coach for four years at Orme and a defensive coordinator for 10 years at Dominguez High School San Bernardino High School, and Riverside-

Notre Dame High School. During his time at Compton Dominguez he won two CIF titles and coached 26 Division I athletes including five who went to the National Football League. He also took over a floundering Orme program and turned them into a state powerhouse. Olivares has also been an associate head baseball coach for three years at Chaffey College.

Olivares does not have any previous ties with the Ojai Valley, but he is thrilled with his new move to Villanova Preparatory School.

"Villanova is the type of community I want to work with because they value academics and athletics and both are very important to me," he said. Despite his impressive coaching résumé, Olivares says that he plans to focus on girls' basketball. "I plan to put all of my energy into continuing the strong tradition and program they have built here at Villanova. Of course I will be willing to lend a hand wherever they need me," he added.

As for his new team, Olivares is looking forward to working with the Lady Wildcats. "We will work hard to come together as a team and build on the program's past success," he concluded.

Villanova Prep athletic director Jon Wyers said, "To bring someone with Ricardo's experience to our school is very exciting. Not only does he have the championship experience of winning two state titles and being around three others he also has experience building up teams, which should help our younger team next year transition up to the Tri-Valley League.

"He will be great for our girls' basketball program and he is going to be a valuable resource for me as he has so much experience running top-level athletic departments. I look forward to working with Ricardo for years to come as he is going to be a huge asset to the Villanova community."

CrossFit training hits Sarzotti

Gary Ryan brings popular exercise program to Ojai

Mike Miller
mike@ojaivalleynews.com

If you live in the Ojai Valley and are looking for a change from traditional workout plans, you're in luck. A group of local fitness enthusiasts determined to help the Ojai community get fit have gathered and are now providing some back-to-basics exercise programs called CrossFit training.

CrossFit is a fitness regimen that conforms to modern and established principles of exercise science. It consists of brief-duration workouts, done with moderate or high intensity, two or three times a week.

CrossFit exercises and workouts are typically scaled so they can be performed by anybody, from senior citizens to professional athletes. Competitions where CrossFit athletes can complete against other athletes are also popping up all over the world.

Gary Ryan, supervisor of the fitness program at Sarzotti Park since its inception in 2000, made it his goal to launch a CrossFit program. Ryan said, "I think that the Ojai Valley is ready for its own CrossFit training facility. Our program has additional features, based on its 12 years of exercise experience here, that make our classes really unique. And our coaching staff is an amazing blend of skilled athletes and veteran instructors."

The program, which is

called CrossFit Ojai (CFO), is held at Sarzotti Park and also uses a three-room exercise box inside the John G. Martin Gymnasium. According to Ryan, the newly established outdoor CrossFit area has training equipment and program potential that matches or exceeds any CrossFit enterprise in the Ventura and Santa Barbara areas.

The CrossFit craze is not only being used by athletes and those looking to get in shape, local law enforcement agencies are also using the training. Tyson Hardman, a Nordhoff High School football coach, avid CrossFitter for more than six years and member of the Oxnard Police Department for 28 years, saw a real need in the police and fire communities for such a

program.

"Our special FitLight exercise equipment, which improves peripheral vision and awareness, is enough reason to recommend CrossFit Ojai to all public safety personnel in the area," Hardman said.

CFO is run by some of the best coaches in the area including many current and former Ojai Valley athletes such as Dillon Carlson, Garrett Carlson, Chelsey Grigsby, Hardman, Kevin Narog, Ryan and Tyler Whitcomb.

The CFO program has varying price levels depending on how many times an athlete chooses to workout per week.

For more information, contact Ryan by email crossfitojai@gmail.com the group also has a website www.crossfitojaipublicsafety.com or you can call 653-2232.



Photo submitted

A group of workout partners and CrossFit instructors get in a workout at the CrossFit Ojai facility. Athletes of all abilities are encouraged to get involved with this popular exercise program.

Duffers to play on the road in Sept.

The August tournament for the Double Duffers Golf Club was held earlier this month at the Soule Park Course.

The format for the day was a shamble where each team member hits from the point of the best drive and then plays his or her own ball the rest of the way through the hole.

Winning first place was the team of Marilyn Kinyon, Jon Dieges, Johnnie Johnson and Len

Block. Taking second place honors were Peter Conforti, and Claudia and Jim Tolmie. Coming in third place were Bill and Linda Nugent and Sheree and John Fitzgerald.

Closest to the pin on the third hole was Jim Tolmie. Unfortunately, no ladies made the green on that hole, but on the 10th hole Judy St. John won closest-to-the-pin honors for the women and Ken Lakes won the same honor for the men.

Tournament Chairman Rocky Rockefeller announced that the next tournament will be held on Sept. 13, one week later than the usual first Thursday of the month schedule because the Duffers will be playing in Solvang at the Alisol River Course on the first Thursday as part of their annual theater and golf getaway.

Tournaments will be back on schedule in October on the first Thursday of the month at

Soule Park with an 8 a.m. shotgun start. All players, singles or couples, are welcome to join in.

For more information, call Rockefeller at 640-7601.

**YOUR VALLEY,
YOUR SPORTS**

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Photo submitted

Ojai's 14 and under All-Stars take third in state tourney

The Ojai Valley Girls Softball Association's 14 and under All-Star team recently concluded its season at the Southern California Amateur Softball Association (ASA) State Championship Tournament in Lancaster. The local girls did the Ojai Valley proud by placing third overall after only losing to the two teams in the championship game. Coach Ron Becker said, "There are not enough words to fully explain how proud the entire coaching staff is of the girls and we look forward to watching them continue their playing careers at OVGSA, Nordhoff or Villanova." Pictured above (front row from left) are Ron Becker and Rick Cobb; (second row), Megan Best, Hannah Hollebrands, Bailey Osborne, Kayci Jakab, Vanessa Castagna and Sarah Rogers; (third row), Rena Becker, Reiley Garcia, Ronni Becker, Tayler Cobb, Emma Ebers, Haley McMillan, Sarah Madrid and Emily Hollebrands; (back row), Benner Garcia, Eric Jakab, Russell Best, Stan Madrid and Mike Hollebrands. Celeste Cheverez is not pictured.

Nordhoff High School football fans can get a look at this year's team this Saturday as the team hosts its Blue and Gold game. The day will kick off with a mandatory parent barbecue at 11:30 a.m. The freshmen and junior varsity will scrimmage at 5 p.m. and the Blue and Gold game will begin at 7 p.m.

Classifieds

Classifieds@ojaivalleynews.com

Ojai Valley News • Wednesday August 8, 2012 B2

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HELP WANTED CARETAKER needed for teenager with special needs, car is required. Part-time position. Call Corinna at 646-5109.	SALES help wanted. Meiners Oaks Hardware. Apply in person at 121 E. El Roblar Dr.	RENTALS, HOUSES 3 + 2 + adjoining office. Reduced price, \$1,950 plus security dep. Stove, refrig., fenced yd., fruit trees, no pets, no smoking inside. Call 921-6280.	SERVICES OFFERED FREE housesitting in Ojai since 1968. Local references. Sm. charge for pets & garden. 720-438-5051.

SUDOKU

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

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samples, equipment or cash bond in order to obtain a position. READERS are cautioned to thoroughly investigate services and products advertised in this publication. Consumers are urged to use prudence in their patronage. Advertising in this publication in no way represents an endorsement by the publisher.

DISCRIMINATION: Any advertisement with respect to the sale or rental of a dwelling, or with respect to an employment opportunity that indicates **ANY PREFERENCE**, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, creed, sex, national origin or ancestry, marital status, number of tenants, status with respect to public assistance, disability, age and affectional or sexual preference is unacceptable. Advertisements For Roommates: Advertisements for roommates may specify gender, but only in two cases: **IF** the accommodation involves shared living space, or **IF** the housing is a dormitory in an educational institution.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

OVN07-13-2012
Published Ojai Valley News
July 25, 2012
August 1, 8 & 15, 2012
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
File Number 20120716-
10010097-0 1/1
Ventura County Clerk and
Recorder
MARK A. LUNN
File Date: 07/16/2012
THE FOLLOWING
PERSON(S) IS (ARE)
DOING BUSINESS AS: The
OJAI INDIAN SHOP
Street Address of Principal
Place of Business (P.O. Box
or PMB not acceptable):
713 Mercer Ave., Ojai, CA
93023, Ventura County
Full name of 1st
Registrant (Individual)/
Corporation/Limited
Liability Company:
George La Braque
Residence Address of 1st
Registrant (P.O. Box or PMB
not acceptable):
713 Mercer Ave., Ojai, CA
93023
Full name of 2nd
Registrant (Individual)/
Corporation/Limited
Liability Company:
Wendy La Braque
Residence Address of 2nd
Registrant (P.O. Box or PMB
not acceptable):
713 Mercer Ave., Ojai, CA
93023
THIS BUSINESS IS
CONDUCTED BY: Husband
and Wife
The registrant commenced
to transact business under
the fictitious business name
or names listed on Feb. 14,
1970.
I declare that all information
in this statement is true and
correct.
(A registrant who declares as
true information which he or
she knows to be false is
guilty of a crime.)
George La Braque
Owner
/s/GEORGE LA BRAQUE
NOTICE – in accordance
with subdivision (a) of
Section 17920, a fictitious
name statement generally
expires at the end of five
years from the date on which
it was filed in the office of
the county clerk, except, as
provided in subdivision of
section 17920, where it
expires 40 days after any
change in the facts set forth
in the statement pursuant to
section 17913 other than a
change in residence address
or registered owner. A new
fictitious business name
statement must be filed
before the expiration. The
filing of this statement does
not of itself authorize the use
in this state of a fictitious
business name in violation of
the rights of another under

Federal, State, or Common
Law (see section 14411 ET
SEQ., Business and
Professions Code).
This statement was filed
with the County Clerk of
Ventura on the date indicated
by the file stamp above.
OVN08-01-2012
Published Ojai Valley News
August 1, 8, 15 & 22, 2012
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
File Number 201207200-
10010411-0 1/1
Ventura County Clerk and
Recorder
MARK A. LUNN
File Date: 07/20/2012
THE FOLLOWING
PERSON(S) IS (ARE)
DOING BUSINESS AS:
SPORTCLIPS
Street Address of Principal
Place of Business (P.O. Box
or PMB not acceptable):
231 West Esplanade Drive,
Oxnard, CA 93030, Ventura
County
Full name of 1st
Registrant (Individual)/
Corporation/Limited
Liability Company:
JBD Investments Inc.
Residence Address of 1st
Registrant (P.O. Box or PMB
not acceptable):
76 Royal St. Georges Way,
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270
THIS BUSINESS IS
CONDUCTED BY: A
corporation
The registrant commenced
to transact business under
the fictitious business name
or names listed on 7-20-
2012.
I declare that all information
in this statement is true and
correct.
(A registrant who declares as
true information which he or
she knows to be false is
guilty of a crime.)
JBD Investments Inc.
Vice President
/s/DAVID S. COREY
David S. Corey
NOTICE – in accordance
with subdivision (a) of
Section 17920, a fictitious
name statement generally
expires at the end of five
years from the date on which
it was filed in the office of
the county clerk, except, as
provided in subdivision of
section 17920, where it
expires 40 days after any
change in the facts set forth
in the statement pursuant to
section 17913 other than a
change in residence address
or registered owner. A new
fictitious business name
statement must be filed
before the expiration. The
filing of this statement does
not of itself authorize the use
in this state of a fictitious

business name in violation of
the rights of another under
Federal, State, or Common
Law (see section 14411 ET
SEQ., Business and
Professions Code).
This statement was filed
with the County Clerk of
Ventura on the date indicated
by the file stamp above.
OVN08-05-2012
Published Ojai Valley News
August 8, 15, 22 & 29, 2012
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
File Number 20120716-
10010074-0 1/1
Ventura County Clerk and
Recorder
MARK A. LUNN
File Date: 07/16/2012
THE FOLLOWING
PERSON(S) IS (ARE)
DOING BUSINESS AS: 1)
TRUTH & ESSENCE
HEALING ARTS, 2)
HAMES HRIS
CONSULTING
Street Address of Principal
Place of Business (P.O. Box
or PMB not acceptable):
3284 Jessica Street,
Newbury Park, CA 91320,
Ventura County
Full name of 1st
Registrant (Individual)/
Corporation/Limited
Liability Company:
Carrie Hames
Residence Address of 1st
Registrant (P.O. Box or PMB
not acceptable):
3284 Jessica Street,
Newbury Park, CA 91320
THIS BUSINESS IS
CONDUCTED BY: An
Individual
The registrant commenced
to transact business under
the fictitious business name
or names listed on
7/15/2012.
I declare that all information
in this statement is true and
correct.
(A registrant who declares as
true information which he or
she knows to be false is
guilty of a crime.)
Carrie Hames
/s/CARRIE HAMES
NOTICE – in accordance
with subdivision (a) of
Section 17920, a fictitious
name statement generally
expires at the end of five
years from the date on which
it was filed in the office of
the county clerk, except, as
provided in subdivision of
section 17920, where it
expires 40 days after any
change in the facts set forth
in the statement pursuant to
section 17913 other than a
change in residence address
or registered owner. A new
fictitious business name
statement must be filed
before the expiration. The

filing of this statement does
not of itself authorize the use
in this state of a fictitious
business name in violation of
the rights of another under
Federal, State, or Common
Law (see section 14411 ET
SEQ., Business and
Professions Code).
This statement was filed
with the County Clerk of
Ventura on the date indicated
by the file stamp above.
OVN08-06-2012
Published Ojai Valley News
August 8, 15, 22 & 29, 2012
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
File Number 20120803-
10011023-0 1/1
Ventura County Clerk and
Recorder
MARK A. LUNN
File Date: 08/03/2012
THE FOLLOWING
PERSON(S) IS (ARE)
DOING BUSINESS AS:
DETAILS FOR SUCCESS
Street Address of Principal
Place of Business (P.O. Box
or PMB not acceptable):
1975 Maricopa Hwy. #8,
Ojai, CA 93023
THIS BUSINESS IS
CONDUCTED BY: An
Individual
The registrant commenced
to transact business under
the fictitious business name
or names listed on N/A.
I declare that all information
in this statement is true and
correct.
(A registrant who declares as
true information which he or
she knows to be false is
guilty of a crime.)
Steffani Marken Adams
/s/STEFFANI M. ADAMS
NOTICE – in accordance
with subdivision (a) of
Section 17920, a fictitious
name statement generally
expires at the end of five
years from the date on which
it was filed in the office of
the county clerk, except, as
provided in subdivision of
section 17920, where it
expires 40 days after any
change in the facts set forth
in the statement pursuant to
section 17913 other than a
change in residence address
or registered owner. A new
fictitious business name
statement must be filed
before the expiration. The

not of itself authorize the use
in this state of a fictitious
business name in violation of
the rights of another under
Federal, State, or Common
Law (see section 14411 ET
SEQ., Business and
Professions Code).
This statement was filed
with the County Clerk of
Ventura on the date indicated
by the file stamp above.
OVN08-07-12
Published Ojai Valley News
August 8, 15 & 22, 2012
ASAP #4281344
NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S
SALE TS No. 11-0030298
Doc ID
#0001366422762005N Title
Order No. 11-0023573
Investor/Insurer No.
136642276 APN No. 018-0-
160-070 YOU ARE IN
DEFAULT UNDER A
DEED OF TRUST, DATED
05/08/2006. UNLESS YOU
TAKE ACTION TO
PROTECT YOUR
PROPERTY, IT MAY BE
SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE.
IF YOU NEED AN
EXPLANATION OF THE
NATURE OF THE
PROCEEDING AGAINST
YOU, YOU SHOULD
CONTACT A LAWYER.
Notice is hereby given that
RECONTRUST COMPANY,
N.A., as duly appointed
trustee pursuant to the Deed
of Trust executed by DAVID
RAZO, AND ROSA M
RAZO, HUSBAND AND
WIFE AS JOINT
TENANTS, dated
05/08/2006 and recorded
5/19/2006, as Instrument No.
20060519-0107972, in Book
, Page , of Official Records
in the office of the County
Recorder of Ventura County,
State of California, will sell
on 08/31/2012 at 11:00AM,
At the main entrance to the
Government Center Hall of
Justice, 800 South Victoria
Avenue, Ventura, CA 93003
at public auction, to the
highest bidder for cash or
check as described below,
payable in full at time of
sale, all right, title, and
interest conveyed to and now
held by it under said Deed of
Trust, in the property
situated in said County and
State and as more fully
described in the above
referenced Deed of Trust.
The street address and other
common designation, if any,
of the real property
described above is purported
to be: 1410 CRUZERO
STREET, OJAI, CA, 93023.
The undersigned Trustee
disclaims any liability for
any incorrectness of the
street address and other

common designation, if any,
shown herein. The total
amount of the unpaid
balance with interest thereon
of the obligation secured by
the property to be sold plus
reasonable estimated costs,
expenses and advances at the
time of the initial publication
of the Notice of Sale is
\$693,059.67. It is possible
that at the time of sale the
opening bid may be less than
the total indebtedness due. In
addition to cash, the Trustee
will accept cashier's checks
drawn on a state or national
bank, a check drawn by a
state or federal credit union,
or a check drawn by a state
or federal savings and loan
association, savings
association, or savings bank
specified in Section 5102 of
the Financial Code and
authorized to do business in
this state. Said sale will be
made, in an "AS IS"
condition, but without
covenant or warranty,
express or implied, regarding
title, possession or
encumbrances, to satisfy the
indebtedness secured by said
Deed of Trust, advances
thereunder, with interest as
provided, and the unpaid
principal of the Note secured
by said Deed of Trust with
interest thereon as provided
in said Note, plus fees,
charges and expenses of the
Trustee and of the trusts
created by said Deed of
Trust. If required by the
provisions of section 2923.5
of the California Civil Code,
the declaration from the
mortgagee, beneficiary or
authorized agent is attached
to the duly recorded with the
appropriate County
Recorder's Office. NOTICE
TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS
If you are considering
bidding on this property lien,
you should understand that
there are risks involved in
bidding at a trustee auction.
You will be bidding on a
lien, not on a property itself.
Placing the highest bid at a
trustee auction does not
automatically entitle you to
free and clear ownership of
the property. You should also
be aware that the lien being
auctioned off may be a
junior lien. If you are the
highest bidder at the auction,
you are or may be
responsible for paying off all
liens senior to the lien being
auctioned off, before you can
receive clear title to the
property. You are encouraged
to investigate the existence,
priority, and size of
outstanding liens that may
exist on this property by
contacting the county
recorder's office or a title
insurance company, either of

which may charge you a fee
for this information. If you
consult either of these
resources, you should be
aware that the lender may
hold more than one
mortgage or deed of trust on
the property. NOTICE TO
PROPERTY OWNER The
sale date shown on this
notice of sale may be
postponed one or more times
by the mortgagee,
beneficiary, trustee, or a
court, pursuant to Section
2924g of the California Civil
Code. The law requires that
information about trustee
sale postponements be made
available to you and to the
public, as a courtesy to those
not present at the sale. If you
wish to learn whether your
sale date has been
postponed, and, if applicable,
the rescheduled time and
date for the sale of this
property, you may call 1-
800-281-8219 or visit this
Internet Web site
www.recontrustco.com,
using the file number
assigned to this case
NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S
SALE TS No. 11-0030298.
Information about
postponements that are very
short in duration or that
occur close in time to the
scheduled sale may not
immediately be reflected in
the telephone information or
on the Internet Web site. The
best way to verify
postponement information is
to attend the scheduled sale.
RECONTRUST COMPANY,
N.A. 1800 Tapo Canyon Rd.,
CA6-914-01-94 SIMI
VALLEY, CA 93063 Phone:
(800) 281 8219, Sale
Information (626) 927-4399
By: -- Trustee's Sale Officer
RECONTRUST COMPANY,
N.A. is a debt collector
attempting to collect a debt.
Any information obtained
will be used for that purpose.
A-4281344 08/08/2012,
08/15/2012, 08/22/2012

OVN08-08-2012
Published Ojai Valley News
August 8, 15, 22 & 29, 2012
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
File Number 20120710-
10009781-0 1/1
Ventura County Clerk and
Recorder
MARK A. LUNN
File Date: 07/10/2012

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OJAI VALLEY NEWS - CROSSWORD PUZZLE

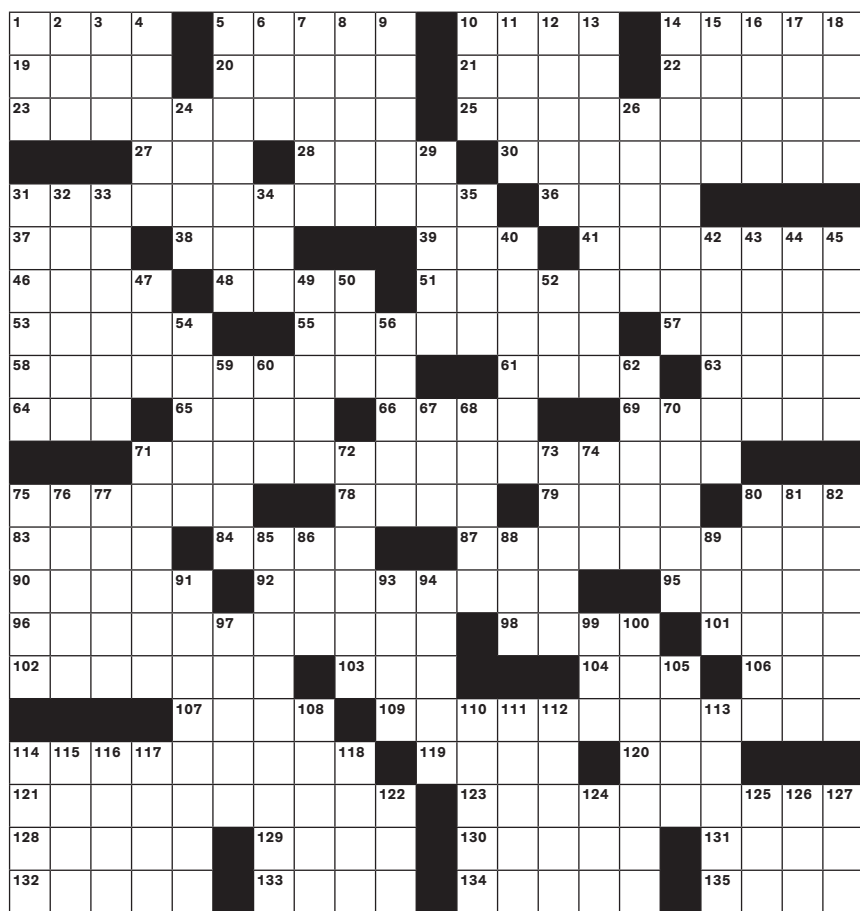
SINGLE-MINDED By Patrick Merrell / Edited by Will Shortz

Across
1 Cover-up
5 ___ machine
(restaurant
fixture)
10 Crossroads of the
West
14 Green eyes, e.g.
19 "Alice in
Wonderland"
character
20 Like a land baron
21 O.K.
22 Yields
23 Disappointing
"Who's with me?"
response?
25 Work to maintain a
C average?
27 Certain Ivy Leaguer
28 Bit of a TV
reviewer's review
30 Film credits list
31 Mention that you
know a secret?
36 It's cast and landed
37 Digs
38 Downed subs, e.g.
39 Mauna ___
41 Rarely
photographed half
of the moon
46 Thought better of
48 Grunt no more
51 One who's read an
encyclopedia's
first volume?
53 Give ___ (let off)

55 Again
57 Old gold coin
58 Podunk's directory?
61 Think about it
63 It might be
surrounded by a
sash
64 Grandfathers of
III's: Abbr.
65 Pay one's dues
again, say
66 James of "Las
Vegas"
69 Some French wines
71 Having finished just
one month of a
job?
75 Trendy
78 Star of the most-
watched TV
episode ever
79 Formic acid sources
80 Overalls part
83 Wasted no time
84 Abbr. before a year
87 What one with a
small nest egg
enjoys?
90 Islander, e.g.
92 Least refined
95 South American
invention
96 Despot's
concession?
98 Milked
101 Sulu's superior
102 It no longer sells
maize or mulberry
103 Throughout, in
poetry
104 Gun, as an engine
106 It came between
Kennedy and
Bouvier

107 Composition of
only four different
notes
109 Occasional klutz?
114 Rail supports
119 Actor Jay
120 What's that, in
Tijuana?
121 Beginning
magician's arsenal?
123 Go on a brief
youthful binge?
128 Low-cost prefix
129 "The Grapes of
Wrath" figure
130 Test cheats
131 Pisa's river
132 Truck rental name
133 Prying
134 "Little" comics
girl
135 Flaw in logic
Down
1 They're shiny even
after being burned
2 "Could be a problem"
3 Hustle or bustle
4 Beach item
5 Privateer Jean
6 Hamburg gr?
7 Draw over
8 Dumbbell weight
abbr.
9 Money or Murphy
10 Seat, informally
11 Labor
12 Nancy ___, first
female member of
the British
Parliament
13 Sign on a sidewalk
food cart

14 Went back and forth
on a decision
15 1944 Nobel
physicist Isidor
16 Suffix with buck
17 Informed of
18 Sounds that may
accompany head-
shaking
24 Stewpot
26 Jew : kosher ::
Muslim : ___
29 ___ d'Or (Cannes
award)
31 Decorative flower
arrangements
32 Have-not
33 High standards
34 Curse
35 Linguist Chomsky
40 Prepare for
sacrifice, in a way
42 Daze
43 "Happens
sometimes"
44 Silas of the
Continental
Congress
45 Some collectible
Deco drawings
47 Internet hookup
letters
49 Blow a fuse
50 Participle suffix
52 California's
historic Fort ___
54 Tender spots
56 Seasick sea serpent
of cartoons
59 "___ people ..."
60 Locale for tapping,
toping and tipping
62 Mountain ridge
67 "___ howl!"



68 "Time is money,"
e.g.
70 Is without
71 All over
72 Tried
73 Suspend
74 Suspend
75 Fox News
competitor
76 Biblical land of
wealth
77 Reese of "Touched
by an Angel"

80 Actress Annette
81 "No argument here"
82 Deal maker
85 Heavy recyclables
86 Prefix with athlete
88 Buckeyes' sch.
89 Shaggy animal
91 Cheers on
93 "The Purple People
Eater" singer ___
Wooley

94 Fiddle with a lute,
say
97 Scruggs's bluegrass
partner
99 Muff
100 One side in court
105 Jaws on a table
108 Bulova competitor
110 Puccini's Floria

111 Runic letter for
"th"

112 General Rommel
113 Kind of cavity
114 "Good buddy"
115 Somewhat blue
116 Hymn starter
117 Loudness unit
118 Biol. and others
122 Set of answers
124 Eastern sash
125 Danish coins
126 Carrier to Tokyo
127 Outdo

FIT FOR LIFE

SHEILA CLUFF



Habits can nibble away at success

You're in the break room at work and there's a plate of cookies. You take one and go back in 10 minutes for two more. "It's just a cookie now and some for later," you say. You're putting away the groceries and a bag of chips calls your name. You open it and have a handful. "It's just a handful," you say. While preparing dinner, all healthful foods of course, you reach for a slice of yesterday's dessert to tide you over. "It's just a slice," you say. After dinner, you nibble some vegetables and the rest of the mac and cheese from the kids' plate or out of the serving bowl. "It's just a nibble," you say. You're watching TV and feel like munching something. You have a bowl of cereal. "Cereal's healthy," you say.

Does this sound like you and are you finding that keeping weight off or losing unwanted pounds of fat is getting more difficult? If you've done any of these

things and wonder why your weight loss program isn't working, it's time to see that nibbling is the culprit.

Nibbling may be a distant cousin to other food disorders, so if nibbling is getting out of hand, please talk with your doctor. Otherwise, here are some suggestions to help you curb your need to nibble and stay healthier.

- Realize calories do count. That old joke about if a cookie is broke, the calories have escaped doesn't make sense. All calories are calories, whether you nibble at your desk or sitting in the car. Use an internet search to find out how many calories a person of your current height and weight should consume. Then the next day, honestly write down everything that you eat as you eat it. Again, use a search to find the answer, look at a chart that gives caloric value to foods. Remember, include those

nibbles. If you want to lose weight, you will have to reduce the amount of calories you consume so calculate your comfortable weight, find the caloric number and start to make only consuming that much your daily goal. This isn't easy, but numbers, as they say, don't lie.

- Fill up on plant-based foods. Where do you get most of your calories? From bread, cookies, chips, crackers, French fries and pasta. These are yummy, but if you want to reduce your weight, they can be the first category to be replaced by plant-based foods, such as vegetables, beans, seeds like quinoa and fruits.

- Cut your eating into thirds. As you eat, make it a goal to consume two-thirds of your calories from plant-based foods and one-third from protein sources, such as low-fat dairy or soy products, lean chicken, beef and fish, and also beans and nuts. Make

sure you consume protein at every meal, such as low-fat cheese or yogurt or soy-based products.

- Steer clear of "diet" or healthful snack bars unless they're a part of your meal planning. Many are high in sugar and low on nutrition.

- Eat slowly. This one trick to stop nibbling may be all that you need. Don't rush through any eating time, including if you can't fight involuntary nibbling. At least be conscious that you are eating. Taste the food, feel the textures, even count to 20 with each mouthful. Make eating an experience that you can enjoy.

- Eat when you're hungry. It sounds so simple and babies instinctively know this, as any new parent will tell you. But over our lives we've ignored that tendency. Next time you're ready to nibble, ask yourself: Am I really hungry? Would a glass of water fill this need? Of course, these days many of us eat when we see

something pretty, when we're bored, when we're stressed and when we're lonely. If you're eating and eating too much for any of these reasons and some only you know, book even one session with a licensed therapist who understands food-related issues to talk about your needs. You won't need years of therapy, but just some specific tools to help you decide when you are hungry.

- Savor the first few bites whatever and whenever you're eating. It's the taste of a few mouthfuls of food that satisfy you. Therefore, as you eat be aware of when the food you're consuming loses its deliciousness or desirability. For scientific-ish purposes only, after you've finished five bites of food, stop for five minutes and see if you really want more.

- Choose the carbs you eat carefully. Choose those carbs that are high in fiber such as whole-grain foods and crunchy vegetables

and fruits. Carbs that are high in fiber are known to maintain a steady level of glucose and insulin levels in the body, preventing surge-driven cravings.

- Concentrate on every bite. Give food your full attention and don't read or watch television, use the computer or chat on the phone when you eat.

- Use a plate, cup or bowl when you're eating. Don't eat from the box, bag or carton because you won't have control over portions.

These tips should give you a handle on nibbling and help you stay fit for life.

Sheila Cluff, fitness expert, motivational speaker, master figure skater and owner of The Oaks at Ojai, is the author of "Sit, Strengthen & Stretch" and "Take 5: How You Can Benefit from Just Five Minutes of Daily Exercise." Visit www.oaksspa.com to learn what's happening at the spa.

ASTROLOGY

RISA D'ANGELES



The great awakening proceeds, Leo leads

New energies and impulses from the heart of the universe are beginning to critically influence life on Earth (and on all the planets circling the sun). These energies are accelerating all events, creating a trajectory of force and of progress directed only toward the creation of the new age.

A stream of love (a golden light) from Sirius into the heart of the sun and into all hearts is preparing humanity to meet these new impulses with inner strength and courage. As three great life cycles end (Dec. 21), humanity is called to break free from old forms and break out into new forms of creative self-expression and communication.

This time on Earth, planned since the "night of time," is preparing humanity to take the first initiation. Assisting in this is Wednesday's Mars-Saturn in Libra. Pushing (Mars) humanity forward into a new state of discipline (Saturn), informing

humanity we are the "World Disciple." There will be a tug of war between the old and the new realities. Notice this in all relationships. Mars and Saturn destroying crystallizations in order to rebalance (Libra).

This evolutionary force is directing humanity to the path of return, providing humanity with a choice (Libra). All realities obstructing or denying the new energies will eventually cease to exist. There is no longer any life force supporting them. With Leo and the Sirius force, we become sensitive to being free from the past. Knowledge of these things creates the love that liberates us.

And so, as the Lords of Flame (Leo hierarchy) lead humanity forward into the new world, Earth's electromagnetic field lessens (moving toward 0-point) and polarities increase. In the difficulty, stress and crisis, the great awakening proceeds.

ARIES: There may be that

tug of war in all interactions, with intimates, close family and friends. A new cycle begins in all relationships. Equality will be demanded by everyone. You can help this to occur, offering them freedom that comes with unconditional love. With children this love is offered through loving structure and intelligent discipline. Always I write for you to ask, "How do I love more?"

TAURUS: Your health primarily, your daily work and those you work with, begin a new cycle of planning new structures and realizing a new and higher level of service. It's important to articulate and bring into consciousness that everyone is always in service so everyone understands. Also, new skills will need to be developed as new opportunities come forth. There is something about family resources that needs tending. You must lead in this endeavor.

GEMINI: During this Mercury retro, the subject has been creative self-expression and offering others important information for the future. Now this self-expression includes enjoyment, playfulness and pleasure. What would that be for you? In Mercury retrograde we assume the qualities of Virgo. What are you pondering so deeply? Is it the past? Your family perhaps, how to lead or something in your relationship?

CANCER: You think about your home and fam-

ily, especially about one of your parents. You wonder what you are doing in the place where you live and if you are to move. You want a new foundation from which to live, work and garden in a true and sincere community. You need a gate to walk through, a sense of leadership to lead with. Pray for these with dedication.

LEO: It's good to look at your outer environment. Does it need tending? It's good also to walk through the rooms of where you live to see what care and upkeep they need. It is also good to be in touch with your siblings, creating a newer deeper level of communication. If it's your birthday this week, communication with your angelic protectors will help you navigate the new intelligent disciples needed to enter the rain cloud of knowable things.

VIRGO: If you listen quietly to your heart and mind and observe carefully your daily life, if you ask yourself about your values, you will realize, if awake, that they have changed over the years. It is no longer viable to maintain previous values. In order to evolve, move more closely to the path of return, your values will need to expand into greater, more mature and responsible levels of harmony toward all.

LIBRA: Something new is occurring in your physical body. Perhaps it's a health-discipline that will change the shape of your body.

Perhaps it's your self-image where you begin to value family more and understand your purpose within the family. Perhaps you're forced to adopt newer disciplines to maintain the quality of your life. Whatever is changing, it's good and purposeful. It's also good to go back in time and forgive.

SCORPIO: Something in your life is being gathered into a harvest. Perhaps great sorrows or death experiences, perhaps realizing all you've done in the world and there is a gathering of gifts offered to those in need. A great compassion falls upon your heart. You realize life isn't a movie or a film. It's real and you play the leading role and this life determines your next — a ponderous thought.

SAGITTARIUS: You may soon find yourself going to and fro between old sets of friends, groups, hopes, wishes and dreams and new ones. The latter will be gathered slowly. But some have already appeared. You will also consider what new goals, ambitions and views of the world are changing your ways of thinking and relating. How is your heart lotus? How are your finances?

CAPRICORN: In the public eye you are a rareness of many gifts often not fully understood. You bring both force and stability to all you do in the world. A new cycle begins with your work, profession or who you are in the world. You

can expect more responsibilities, praise, recognition, perhaps a promotion. This will positively affect your family and loved ones.

AQUARIUS: There are many possibilities for Aquarians in the coming months based upon their states of awareness. Influenced will be new cycles of learning, possible teaching, long and adventuresome journeys and, for the very few, the building of the new era community and culture. For all Aquarians a wider view of reality emerges and this propels you into new areas of work and a different daily life — one you hoped for.

PISCES: It's good to begin to eliminate all that is unnecessary in your life, especially what in your environment has not been used in the past many months. This will allow newer, finer energies and resources, infinite and abundant, more appropriate to the coming times, to be available. Be prepared for unexpected losses. But this has been occurring for a while now and you have become somewhat adaptable. Take ignatia amara (homeopath) for grief. Learn mudras.

Risa D'Angeles is founder and director of the Esoteric and Astrological Studies and Research Institute, a contemporary wisdom school in the ancient mysteries tradition. Send email to risagoodwill@gmail.com, go to nightlightnews.com or see her Facebook pages.

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The Ojai Museum is hosting a Carlyle Montgomery exhibit.

Montgomery display set in stone

This summer through Sept. 2, the Ojai Valley Museum is offering a rare opportunity to see a selection of Carlyle Montgomery's (1947 to 1998) wildlife sculptures from his intensely creative period of the 1990s.

Most of these pieces are on loan from private collections of friends and family. This exhibit of 11, one-of-a-kind sculptures is a unique opportunity to experience this particular selection of Montgomery's stonework.

He combined a deep love of nature with the desire to educate people, especially youthful viewers. His sister, Sharon Morgan, expresses it this way, "He wanted to share the beauty of nature and to encourage

people to take care of it, in the recognition that we are all part of it." Montgomery rarely produced numbered editions of his sculptures. The museum is at 130 W. Ojai Ave. Admission is free for

current 2012 members. Adult admission is \$4, admission for children 6 to 18 is \$1 and admission for children 5 and younger is free. Gallery hours are Tuesdays to Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sundays, noon to 4 p.m.

Tours are available by appointment. Free parking is available off Blanche Street behind the museum. For more information, visit www.ojaivalleymuseum.org or call 640-1390, Ext. 203.



Photos submitted

Carlyle Montgomery's sculpture of a fox will be on display.



Montgomery used wildlife, such as this bird as the subject for his pieces.

Museum's taxidermy exhibit full of interesting stuff

Ojai Valley's Chuck Testa attained unexpected cult status when an offbeat advertisement for his taxidermist business went viral on YouTube. The video with the catch line "Nope! Chuck Testa," has had more than 12 million views in less than a year.

Testa will present "Taxidermy 101," explaining the process used for museum

mounts of fur-bearing animals Aug. 16 at 6 p.m. at the Museum of Ventura County. Admission is \$5 and includes entrance to all museum galleries until 8 p.m. For reservations, call 653-0323, Ext. 7. The talk sheds light on the Museum of Ventura County's current exhibition "Featured Creatures," which includes rarely-seen mounted animals and birds from the museum's

collection, some almost 100 years old. Testa has mounted specimens for the Channel Islands Visitors Center, the Ojai Valley Museum and the Wheeler Gorge Visitor Center, and others, where they are used to educate visitors about local wildlife. In his Aug. 16 talk, Testa will discuss innovations such as manufactured molds as well as

the importance of anatomical knowledge. He became interested in taxidermy in his mid-20s and largely taught himself, with the help of only a few mentors. He opened Ojai Valley Taxidermy in 1987. Testa notes that today more information is shared, with tutorials posted on line, including many by him. The Museum of Ventura

County is at 100 E. Main St. in Ventura. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays through Sundays. Admission to the exhibitions is \$4 adults, \$3 seniors, \$1 children 6 to 17, members and children under 6 are free. The first Sunday of every month general admission is free. For more information, go to www.venturamuseum.org or call 653-0323.

This week's events

Wednesday, Aug. 8

Ventura County Fair, through Sunday, Ventura County Fairgrounds, 10 W. Harbor Blvd., Ventura, www.venturacounty-fair.org or 648-3376.
"Visual Harvest: Paintings and Prints by Karen K. Lewis," 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays to Sundays through Sept. 5, Ojai Arts Center, 113 S. Montgomery St., www.ojaiartcenter.org or 646-0117.
Ojai Playwrights Conference, various times, Wednesday to Sunday, Matilija Auditorium, 703 El Paseo Road and Besant Hill School in upper Ojai, www.ojaiplays.org or 805-640-0400.
"Ted," 2:30 and 7 p.m., Ojai Playhouse, 145 E. Ojai Ave., 646-1011.
Music at Azu, 7 to 9 p.m., Azu Restaurant, 457 E. Ojai Ave., 640-7987.
Free Ojai Band Concert, 7:30 to 9 p.m., Libbey Park gazebo, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Ojai West.
Free Meditation and Movie - Eckhart Tolle talk, 7 to 10 p.m., for location call 640-3650.
"Once on this Island," 7 p.m., Rubicon Theatre Company,

1006 E. Main St. Ventura, rubicontheatre.org or 667-2900.
Thursday, Aug. 9
Ventura County Fair, through Sunday, Ventura County Fairgrounds, 10 W. Harbor Blvd., Ventura, www.venturacounty-fair.org or 648-3376.
"Once on this Island," 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., Rubicon Theatre Company, 1006 E. Main St. Ventura, www.rubicontheatre.org or 667-2900.
"Ted," 7 p.m., Ojai Playhouse, 145 E. Ojai Ave., 646-1011.
Friday, Aug. 10
Ventura County Fair, through Sunday, Ventura County Fairgrounds, 10 W. Harbor Blvd., Ventura, www.venturacounty-fair.org or 648-3376.
"The Journey to Wholeness - A Women's Retreat," Friday to Sunday, Ventura Harbor, fran@innervision12.com or (888) 641-1212.
Kundalini Yoga, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. every Friday, Soul Centered, 311 N. Montgomery St., www.soulcentered.com or 640-8222.
"Ted," 7 p.m., Ojai Playhouse, 145 E. Ojai Ave., 646-1011.
Live music, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., Il Giardino Restaurant, 402 E. Ojai Ave., 640-7381.
"Night Must Fall," 8 p.m., Ojai Valley Grange, 381 Cruzero St., www.franciscabeach.com or call 646-4885.
"The Provoked Wife," 8 p.m., Ojai Youth Entertainers Studio,

316 E. Matilija St. www.brown-papertickets.com or (800) 838-3006.
Saturday, Aug. 11
Ventura County Fair, through Sunday, Ventura County Fairgrounds, 10 W. Harbor Blvd., Ventura, www.venturacounty-fair.org or 648-3376.
"Penguins," 11 a.m., The Wheeler Gorge Visitor Center, 17017 Maricopa Highway, 640-9060.
Free performances in the park - "The Three Billy Goats Gruff," 11:30 a.m., Valle Lindo Park, 889 Aileen St., Camarillo and 4 p.m. at Barranca Vista Park, 7050 Ralston, Ventura, www.fairytalesinthepark.com.
"Primates," 1 p.m., Wheeler Gorge Visitor Center, 17017 Maricopa Highway, 640-9060.
"Ted," 1:30 and 7 p.m., Ojai Playhouse, 145 E. Ojai Ave., 646-1011.
"Once on this Island," 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., Rubicon Theatre Company, 1006 E. Main St., Ventura, www.rubicontheatre.org or 667-2900.
Ojai Valley Green Coalition's Summer Film Series: "City Dark," 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Ojai Theater, 145 E. Ojai Ave., 669-8445.
James Gaffigan and the Academy Festival Orchestra Mahler's "Symphony No. 1," 8 p.m., Granada Theatre, 1214 State St., Santa Barbara, www.musicacademy.org or

969-8787.
"The Provoked Wife," 8 p.m., Ojai Youth Entertainers Studio, 316 E. Matilija St. www.brown-papertickets.com or (800) 838-3006.
"Night Must Fall," 8 p.m., Ojai Valley Grange, 381 Cruzero St., www.franciscabeach.com or 646-4885.
Jonathan McEuen, 8 p.m. Plaza Playhouse Theater, 4916 Carpinteria Ave. in Carpinteria, visit www.plazatheatercarpinteria.com or 684-6380.
"Ojai Movies In The Park - How to Train Your Dragon," 8 p.m., Sarzotti Park, 646-5581.
Stargazing Parties, 8 to 10 p.m., The Ojai Retreat, 160 Besant Road, 640-1142.
Sunday, Aug. 12
Ventura County Fair, through Sunday, Ventura County Fairgrounds, 10 W. Harbor Blvd., Ventura, www.venturacounty-fair.org or 648-3376.
Wine Tasting Every Sunday in August, 12:30 to 5 p.m., Boccali's, 3277 E. Ojai Ave., 646-6116.
"Ted," 1:30 and 7 p.m., Ojai Playhouse, 145 E. Ojai Ave., 646-1011.
Old-Time Fiddlers, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m., Oak View Community Center, 18 Valley Road, Oak View, www.caldfiddlers.com or 797-6563.
"Night Must Fall," 2 p.m., Ojai Valley Grange, 381 Cruzero St., www.franciscabeach.com or

646-4885.
"A Jacques Brel Cabaret," 2 p.m., Ojai Art Center Theater, 113 S. Montgomery St., 646-0117.
"Once on this Island," 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., Rubicon Theatre Company, 1006 E. Main St., Ventura, www.rubicontheatre.org or 667-2900.
"The Provoked Wife," 3 p.m., Ojai Youth Entertainers Studio, 316 E. Matilija St., www.brown-papertickets.com or (800) 838-3006.
"Footnote," 4:30 p.m., Ojai Playhouse, 145 E. Ojai Ave., www.ojaifilmsociety.org or 646-8946.
Jammin' at the AC: Ojai Songwriters Anonymous Concert 6 to 9 p.m., Ojai Art Center, 113 S. Montgomery St., 646-0117.
Monday, Aug. 13
"Ted," 7 p.m., Ojai Playhouse, 145 E. Ojai Ave., 646-1011.
"The Welcome: A Healing Journey for Veterans and Their Families," 7 p.m., Ojai Art Center, 113 S. Montgomery St., 646-0117.
Tuesday, Aug. 14
"Ted," 7 p.m., Ojai Playhouse, 145 E. Ojai Ave., 646-1011.
Wednesday, Aug. 15
"Ted," 2:30 and 7 p.m., Ojai Playhouse, 145 E. Ojai Ave., 646-1011.
Free Ojai Band Concert, 7:30 to 9 p.m., Libbey Park gazebo, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Ojai West.

Grammy winner on tap

Natalie Cole planning one November appearance

The Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza Foundation presents Natalie Cole in the Fred Kavli Theatre at 8 p.m. Nov. 16, her first appearance at the venue since December, 1995. Tickets go on sale Aug. 4 at noon.

After rocketing to stardom in 1975 with her debut album, "Inseparable," Natalie Cole's star power continues to burn bright. This nine-time Grammy winner, songwriter and performer remains one of the most beloved performers of our time.

When Cole's seminal "Unforgettable ... With Love" came out in 1991,

the jazz collection set a new standard for reinventing the Great American Songbook. The CD, which captured six Grammys, including album and record of the year, spent five weeks at no. 1 and sold more than eight million copies in the U.S. alone.

Instead of exploiting the moment and rushing out a second volume, Cole thoughtfully took a step back, devoted herself to several other stellar projects including her autobiography and waited until she felt ready to return to the songs that fulfill her heart and soul.

Releasing "Still Unforgettable" Sept. 9, 2009, the album won two Grammys, one for best traditional pop vocal album and best instrumental accompanying vocalist. It also earned Cole a NAACP award for best jazz artist.

Single tickets are \$45 to \$90 with group discounts available. Tickets are available from Ticketmaster (800-745-3000 or www.ticketmaster.com) or the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza box office at 2100 Thousand Oaks Boulevard.

For information visit www.civicartsplaza.com or call 449-2787.



Photo submitted

Natalie Cole has slated one Ventura County appearance in November.

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Ojai Art Center presents

Broadway Comes to Ojai

Valarie Pettiford

Sharon McNight

Saturday August 25th 8pm

A promotional flyer touts the Aug. 25 performance.

Art center to benefit from upcoming concert

Chris Wilson
contributor

Broadway comes to Ojai Aug. 25 at the Art Center Theater fundraising event.

Valarie Pettiford and Sharon McNight will appear in concert in the intimate 120-seat Ojai Art Center Theater.

Pettiford, star of both stage and screen, has been a Broadway fixture for a number of years, garnering Tony nominations and singing and dancing to sold out audiences coast to coast.

McNight, also a Tony nominee, brings a socio-politically charged cabaret-style perform-

ance that she's honed for years in San Francisco.

Pettiford says she plans to blend original tunes and songs from the Great American Songbook during her performance.

"I just love Ojai and I'm really looking forward to performing there," Pettiford said. "I live for performing on the live stage. And I'm really looking forward to sharing the bill with Sharon. We've done a lot of benefits together."

Learn more about Pettiford and McNight at www.officialvalariepettiford.com and www.sharonmcnight.com their official websites.

Proceeds from the

event will go to fund upkeep and maintenance at the Art Center, which is California's oldest active non-profit community arts organization.

Save the date announcements have begun to circulate around the Ojai Valley and beyond for the evening of Aug. 25.

The 7 p.m. reception will feature wine, hors d'oeuvres and silent auction, followed by the 8 p.m. performance. Tickets are on sale now for \$85 per person, \$125 for VIP seating. For more information visit www.ojaiartcenter.org or call 646-0117 or 640-8797.

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JONATHAN MCEUEN & FRIENDS

August 11 | 8 pm | \$20

Jonathan McEuen returns to the Plaza Playhouse Theater with special guests and some of Ventura & Santa Barbara County's finest pickers and grinders as they celebrate the life and songs of Jimmy Adams, "I Think I'll Go Down to the Ocean". The kick off date for the "Neverending Bus Tour" will start at the Plaza Playhouse and continue on - forever! McEuen will be featuring his latest material plus all the hits. Also in the line-up we will be featuring some of the latest and greatest singer / songwriters from the 80s area and some VERY special guests that Jonathan has been known to jam with from time to time. Tickets are \$20 General Admission and available online, at Curious Cup Bookstore and at the theater box office on the evening of the show.

WICKED WILLY & THE FISHTALE, THE TOMMY QUAYLE BAND & THE FOUNDING MOTHERS

Sunday, August 12 | 3 pm | \$10

Sunday, August 12th at 3:00 PM, the Founding Mothers featuring local band members from Wicked Willy & The Fishtale & The Tommy Quayle Band reunite for a special music jam featuring original songs from their album release Constitution and their signature classic rock, folk and pop sounds spanning the past 25 years. Husband and wife musicians, Scott Branch and Michelle Osborne, Tom Quayle and Kelly Cox return to the stage with many of their usual suspects as music guests. Tickets are \$10 General Admission and available online, at Curious Cup Bookstore and at the theater box office on the day of the show. Produced in partnership by: The Plaza Playhouse Theater and DramaDogs, A Theater Company.

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 and tell us what you’d like to see covered in the Ojai Valley News.



Photo courtesy of Ojai Rotary West

During a recent Wednesday evening concert, director Joe Boccali takes a second to speak to the audience.

Park it!

Free Wednesday evening band concerts continue

The Ojai Band presents free concerts in Ojai at the Libbey Park gazebo Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. through Aug. 15. Every summer for the past 22 years, the Ojai Band has brought volunteer musicians together from Ojai, Ventura and beyond, rehearsing for four weeks prior to the opening performance and playing six Wednesdays throughout the summer. The band's repertoire includes a wide variety of music including patriotic marches, swing and big band tunes and contemporary favorites. Children and adults of every age bring blankets and chairs and enjoy the special ambience of the Ojai's warm summer evenings beneath the oak trees. Halfway through the performance is a special balloon march around the park, enjoyed by children of all ages. Although the band has a library of music from its 22-year run, it introduces new pieces every summer and mixes it up each week. New music is purchased with funds raised in part through the sale of balloons, lemonade and popcorn at the concerts. The Ojai Band was founded in 1991 by Sara Beeby. The band's



Photo courtesy of Ojai Rotary West

Rotarian Les Gardner sells balloons at a previous concert.

concept was based upon a similar outdoor band Beeby experienced in Chatham, Mass., on Cape Cod, which has been performing there for more than 80 years.

Bill Wagner, current director of music at Nordhoff High School, agreed to help form the first Ojai Band and directed it for its first seven seasons.

The original band had 15 members and it currently has about 35 to 40 members.

Ojai native, Joe Boccali, music teacher at Cabrillo Middle School, has been a member of the band since its inception and has conducted the band for the past 15 years.

The Ojai Band free concert series is made possible by the support of Ojai Rotary West.

Visit the Ojai Rotary West web page, www.rotaryojaiwest.org/ojai-band for more information.



Photo by Holly Roberts

Joe Boccali, conducts the Ojai Band in Libbey Park's downtown gazebo Wednesday evenings.

Money available for those who wish to take their art for grant-ed

The 2012 Gerd Koch and Carole Milton Grant Program for professional Ventura County visual artists is now accepting applications.

This groundbreaking grants program, now in its second year, is accepting applications for the 2012 round of grants. Conceived by the artists for whom it is named, a grant of \$3,000 each will be awarded to two Ventura County professional visual artists at a reception Oct. 3.

Professional Ventura County artists who live in Ventura County or who are advanced faculty members of a Ventura County college or university are invited to submit applications to the grant program.

Applications are available on the Ventura County Arts Council web site www.venturacountyartscouncil.org, or by contacting info@venturacountyartscouncil.org or calling 658-2213.

A grant can be awarded in recognition of a lifetime career or a career of four to five years of professional art making. Advanced education faculty members are welcome to apply. There is no residency time restriction.

welcomes applications from professional visual artists who are painters, sculptors, experimental photographers, or who work in collage or multimedia.

Guidelines are included with the application. Grants are for a one-year period and may be used by the artist for any purpose.

Professional exhibition history will be important in the review process.

For more information, contact the Ventura County Arts Council at info@venturacountyartscouncil.org or call 658-2213.

Artists must be exhibiting their current work in professional artistic venues, such as gallery and museum spaces.

An application fee of \$15 must accompany the application packet. A distinguished panel of jurors comprised of internationally recognized arts professionals will review all applications and select the grantees.

The panel will include: Connie Jenkins, art professor; Jack Reilly, chair, CSUCI Art Department and Joseph Piasentin, Pepperdine University art professor.

Applications must be submitted by 5 p.m. Sept. 4, to the Ventura County

Arts Council, 646 County Square Drive, Suite 154, Ventura, CA 93003-0436.

The grants will be awarded at a program honoring artists of the past and celebrating the growth of the arts in Ventura County. The reception and awards ceremony, to be held in Camarillo Oct. 3, will recognize the creative legacy of screenwriters Christopher Trumbo; and his father

Dalton Trumbo, Frank Salazar, founder of the Ventura County Symphony and Gui Ignon, a major painter in the '40s who will have a Retro-

spective exhibit at the Beatrice Wood Center in November. Also honored will be James L Webb, who served as the master printer for Rauschenberg and was registrar at the Gagosian Art Gallery in Beverly Hills and a founder of Studio Channel Islands Art Center on the CSUCI campus.

Biographies, photographs, art and organization information will be displayed.

The celebration will be co-sponsored by Focus on the Masters, and Studio Channel Islands Art Center.

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Kuhlman gets 'The Provoked Wife'

Frank Eller
contributor

While he's been a staple in the Ojai theater scene over the last decade, Richard Kuhlman is a little closer now than he's ever been. In January, he assumed the role of co-artistic director at the Ojai Youth Entertainers Studio. During the spring, he and his partner, Amy Lynn Stevenson, completed a protracted move from Los Angeles to Oak View, and now he's taken the director's helm of Transport Theatre's up-coming production of "The Provoked Wife" by the English restoration-era playwright John Vanbrugh.

Kuhlman most recently directed last year's panto, "The Emperor's New Clothes" at Theater 150, where he also directed two productions of "Inspecting Carol."

He began his directorial career at the age of 15 in his hometown of Greenhills, Ohio, and since then has tackled everything from Shakespeare to Oscar Wilde.

"The Provoked Wife" is the first restoration-era comedy Kuhlman has attempted.

Written in 1697, the play finds a young bride in a loveless relationship with her brutish husband. She must choose between passively accepting the situation or taking a young lover on the side. Vanbrugh's explicit views on marriage and women's rights made him the target of many detractors in London society at the end of the 17th Century.

"My experience as a director of newer, original plays carries over to my treatment of older scripts as well," Kuhlman notes. "I start with looking at what the author intended to say. In the case of 'The Provoked Wife,' what Vanbrugh was saying about marriage is as relevant today as it was 300 years ago.

"The most effective way to stage a play like this for

modern audiences is to concentrate on the physical and visual aspects of the space you're in," says Kuhlman. "The production of a comedy has to move very quickly. I am able to see the multiple possibilities of movement that the set and furniture allow, and I pay attention to what the actors bring to the table as they begin to relate to each other's characters."

The language of the period is also rather challenging for a director, notes Kuhlman. "Restoration language falls upon the modern ear a little like Shakespeare's words. I tell my actors that this is a different language to master and to let the poetic nature of the syntax effect everything about them including their breathing, their posture and even the way they explore their character's motivations.

"If during an argument a wife calls her idiotic husband 'a surly puppy,' that has to sound like her everyday speech," Kuhlman emphasizes.

OYES

- 'The Provoked Wife'
- Aug. 10 to Aug. 26 at 8 p.m.
- Sunday matinees at 3 p.m.
- Tickets are \$18; student and seniors price is \$15
- Call 646-4300 or (800)838-3006

"The actors have to be aware of how this heightened language lands upon the ear, and it may take a few minutes for the audience to get acclimated.

"The biggest challenge is to keep the forward action moving," notes Kuhlman. "The playwright has done his job very well, but restoration society had more patience than we

seem to exhibit today." The original script runs close to three hours, so Kuhlman and Transport Theatre's Artistic Director Linda Livingston were forced to make some editing decisions.

"Three hours is a long time to sit in the theatre," Kuhlman says laughing, "so we cut a lot of the repetitive dialogue of the language and a lot of the out-dated and obscure jokes and phrases from the script." The end result is a fast-paced, language-driven comedy that runs a little more than two hours.

The cast includes Livingston, Vivien Latham, longtime Theater 150 roustabouts Ron Feltner and David Rogge, and some fresh faces on the Ojai theater scene: Nigel Chisholm, Casey Solow, Brittany Danyel and David Stewart.

"Comic acting takes a special muscle, and the fun of a play like this is to really jump out of one's comfort zone as an actor and make the comedy fly," Kuhlman muses. "I have worked before with most everyone in the cast. This leads to an immediate trust between us when we work on a scene.

"There's one actor (Stewart) who plays the role of eight various servants," notes Kuhlman. "Some of those servants announce the arrival of the other, so his acting changes are quick." This means lots of laughs during rehearsals, and Kuhlman hopes that energy will translate to the performances.

For Kuhlman, who's been teaching improvisational acting for years, laughter is one of his primary motivations for the future. "I want to laugh when I go to the theater, so we'll be exploring the comic mask more than the tragic one. Comedy can come in many flavors and we will explore as many as we can, including some new works by famous playwrights, local up-and-coming authors and classic comedies both



Photo submitted

Richard Kuhlman is the director of the upcoming show "The Provoked Wife."

physical and cerebral.

Now that Kuhlman has settled in his new home in Oak View, he's looking forward to directing more shows. "As we discover more about the audience, we'll be finding out what they want to see. While our space is small, it's dynamic," notes Kuhlman, "and there are an amazing amount of smaller musical comedies that would be exciting to produce for this stage."

With a community of actors as diverse and talented as those in Ojai, Kuhlman will have no trouble casting his vision. "I want our audiences to be assured that when we produce theatre at OYES, the standard of quality will be unquestionable."

Those audiences will have that chance when "The Provoked Wife" opens Friday and runs through Aug. 26 with Friday and Saturday

performances beginning at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinee performances slated for 3 p.m.

Tickets are \$18 and are available online at www.brownpaper.com or by phone at (800) 838-3006. Student and senior rush pricing is \$15 per ticket, available at the door. For more information, call the Ojai Youth Entertainers Studio at 646-4300.

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Aug 5, 2012	The Preacher Blues Band
Aug 12, 2012	OJAI Songwriters Anonymous



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Monsters moonlight, more at Limoneira

Bela Lugosi, the youngest of four children, was born as Béla Ferenc Dezs Blaskó in Lugos (at the time part of Austria-Hungary, now Lugoj in Romania). He later based his last name on his hometown.

Moving to Budapest in 1911, he played dozens of roles with the National Theatre of Hungary during the period 1913 to 1919. During World War I, he served as an infantry lieutenant in the Austro-Hungarian Army from 1914 to 1916. There he rose to the rank of captain in the ski patrol and was awarded a

medal for being wounded at the Russian front.

Due to his activism in the actors' union in Hungary during the time of the Hungarian Revolution of 1919, he was forced to flee his homeland. He first went to Vienna, Austria, and then settled in Berlin, Germany, in the Langestrasse where he continued acting.

Eventually, he traveled to New Orleans as a crewman aboard a merchant ship. Lugosi was approached in the summer of 1927 to star in a Broadway production of "Dracula" adapted by Hamilton Deane and John L.

Balderston from Bram Stoker's novel.

Through his association with Dracula (in which he appeared with minimal makeup, using his natural, heavily-accented voice), Lugosi found himself type-cast as a horror villain in such movies as "Murders in the Rue Morgue," "The Raven" and "Son of Frankenstein" for Universal-land the independent film "White Zombie." Five films at Universal: "The Black Cat," "The Raven," "The Invisible Ray," "Son of Frankenstein," "Black Friday" (plus minor cameo performances in 1934's "Gift of Gab") and two at RKO Pictures, "You'll Find Out" and "The Body Snatcher" - paired Lugosi with Boris Karloff.

Boris Karloff was born at 36 Forest Hill Road, Honor Oak, London, England. Karloff grew up in Enfield. He was the youngest of nine children, and following his mother's death, was brought up by his elder siblings. He later attended Enfield Grammar School before moving to Uppingham School and Merchant

Taylor's School, and went on to attend King's College in London where he studied to go into the consular service. He dropped out in 1909 and worked as a farm laborer and did various odd jobs until he happened into acting. Once Karloff arrived in Hollywood, he made dozens of silent films. A number of his early major roles were in film serials, such as "The Masked Rider" (1919), "The Hope Diamond Mystery" (1920) and "King of the Wild" (1930). In these early roles he was often cast as an exotic Arabian or Indian villain. A key film which brought Karloff recognition was "The Criminal Code" (1931), a prison drama in which he reprised a dramatic part he had played on stage. Another significant role in the fall of 1931 saw Karloff play a key supporting part as an unethical newspaper reporter in "Five Star Final," a harshly critical film about tabloid journalism which was nominated for an Oscar as Best Picture of 1931-32. The role of Frankenstein's monster in "Frankenstein" (1931) made Karloff a star. The bulky costume with

four-inch platform boots made it an arduous role but the costume and tortuously administered makeup produced the classic image. The costume was a job in itself for Karloff with the shoes weighing 13 pounds each, and Karloff having to sleep in between two books in order for him to not ruin his monster makeup. Universal Studios now owns the copyright to the makeup designed by Jack Pierce. A year later, Karloff played another iconic character, Imhotep in "The Mummy." "The Old Dark House" (with Charles Laughton) and the starring role in "The Mask of Fu Manchu" quickly followed. These films all confirmed Karloff's newfound stardom. Horror remained Karloff's primary genre, and he gave a string of lauded performances in 1930s Universal horror films, including several with Lugosi, his main rival as heir to Lon Chaney, Sr.'s status as the top horror film star. After earning fame in "Frankenstein," Karloff played Frankenstein's monster in two other films, "Bride of Frankenstein" (1935) and

"Son of Frankenstein" (1939), with the latter also featuring Lugosi. Karloff would revisit the Frankenstein mythos in several later films as well, starting with the role of the villainous Dr. Niemann in "House of Frankenstein" (1944), in which the monster was played by Glenn Strange.

Historic Limoneira Ranch, at 1141 Cummings Road in Santa Paula, is the headquarters of mayhem where "Creatures of the Night!" will rule Sept. 22, from 6 p.m. (Bloody Mary's and other bubbling cocktail refreshments at no-host bars) to 10 p.m. when guests will "pas on" to the feasting. More than 40 fabulous regional restaurants will offer tastings of fine cuisine every zombie will love.

Feel like dancing on a grave? At 8 p.m., there will be monster mashing with entertainment by that ghoulishly-great band Men on the Moon, who will show once and for all whatever happened to the Transylvania Twist. Tickets are \$60 each, for adults only and are available by phone at 525-1890.



Photo submitted
Jeremy Renner acting in an action scene in his upcoming film "The Bourne Legacy."

'The Bourne Legacy' set

"The Bourne Legacy" is an expansion of the universe from Robert Ludlum's novels, centered on a new hero whose stakes have been triggered by the events of the previous three films; "The Bourne Identity," "The Bourne Supremacy" and

"The Bourne Ultimatum." "The Bourne Legacy" is directed by Tony Gilroy and stars Jeremy Renner, Rachel Weisz and Edward Norton. The film will be playing at the Ojai Playhouse, for more information please call 646-1011 or stop by the theater.

'Mugabe & The White African' slated

Ventura Film Society will screen "Mugabe & The White African" Aug. 21 at 7:15 p.m.

In 2008, Mike Campbell, one of the few remaining white farmers in Zimbabwe to resist President Robert Mugabe's orders to leave the country or face the violence of his "Land Reform" program, took the unprecedented step of challenging Mugabe before the South African Development

Community's International Court.

Campbell's move to sue Mugabe and his government for racial discrimination and violations of Human Rights could be called incredibly brave or very foolish. His goal was to defend his right to live, work, and pass on the mango farm he carved from the arid plains and which has become home to his family and to 500 black workers and their families.

"Mugabe & The White African" is a disturbing and provocative investigation into the roots of racism, the legacy of colonization and the heavy price paid by everyone caught up in their aftermath.

The Ventura Film Society is at 420 E. Santa Clara in Ventura. For tickets, membership and screening information, visit www.venturafilm.com or call 628-2299.

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Gypsies presents ‘Three Billy Goats Gruff’

In August, Gypsies In A Trunk will present free performances of "The Three Billy Goats Gruff."

Gypsies in a Trunk Fairy Tales in the Park, presented by Children's Dental Group, continues its 18th season of free Fairy Tales in the Park in August with, "The Three Billy Goats Gruff."

The Gruff family is taking their annual vacation from the mountain tops to the grassy lowlands. Some of the same things happen every year: they have to contend with Booger the Troll who always seems to cause trouble on their journey down the hill and across the bridge into the grassy lowlands; once they get to their vacation spot they always over eat and get lazy and all they want to do is sleep.

Maybe this year will be different. Will the Troll keep the Gruff family from enjoying their vacation? Or will the mean old troll make some positive changes that will be good for everyone? Join Booger the Troll and the Gruff family to help them along their way and find

out how their vacation turns out. This production of "The Three Billy Goats Gruff" is written and directed especially for Fairy Tales in the Park by Ken Jones. Gypsies in a Trunk Productions are directed and performed by volunteer professionals in the community who enjoy lending their talents to bring live theatre to the young and young at heart. All performances are held in relaxed outdoor settings at five locations to allow children and their families to enjoy live theatre

at its best. Performances are free to the public, but in the age-old gypsy tradition, actors pass the hat at intermission; any donation to help cover the costs of costumes and props is greatly appreciated. So gather up the kids, pack a picnic or snacks and enjoy free family entertainment.

Performances will be held Saturday in Camarillo at 11:30 a.m. at Valle Lindo Park, 889 Aileen St. and in Ventura at 4 p.m. at Barranca Vista Park, 7050 Ralston. Ample seating is available on the ground at both loca-

tions, you may bring blankets, lunch or snacks.

We love Fido too, but pets have a tendency to upstage the actors so please leave Fido at home if possible.

Visit www.fairytalesinthepark.com for directions and maps.

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Shimabukuro plays Libbey Bowl Oct. 6



Jake Shimabukuro poses for a portrait.

Photo by Tracy Bennett

Jake Shimabukuro's newest CD will be released a few days before his Libbey Bowl appearance at the Ojai World Music Festival Oct. 6. Shimabukuro is in the studio with Alan Parsons, engineer of the Beatles' "Abbey Road" and Pink Floyd's "Dark Side Of The Moon," working on an album that will not only take him to the next level, but will redefine the ukulele itself. The release will be followed by a 30+ date U.S. tour.

On the new LP, Shimabukuro will infuse his "buoyant musicianship and brisk proficiency" with the rock 'n' roll technique that has earned him the title of "Jimi Hendrix of the ukulele". Shimabukuro has defied the limitations of his four-string, two-octave instrument with his astonishing covers of "While My Guitar Gently Weeps" and "Bohemian Rhapsody."

Tickets for the Ojai World Music Festival are available at www.ojai-worldmusic.org or by phone at 646-8907. Shimabukuro will be



Photo by Danny Clinch

joined by four-time Grammy nominee, Cedric Watson and his Bijou-Creole Band.

Curtain falls on ‘music’ more to come

As the curtain closes on "The Sound of Music," along comes another musical. This time a Rock 'n' Roll classic, "Grease." It will open Sept. 7 and play through Oct. 7.

Directed by Buddy Wilds, produced by Frank Malle, with musical direction by Andy Street, "Grease" promises to be a toe-tapping, finger-snapping theater experience.

The Ojai Art Center honors the life and art of Karen Lewis in its galleries during August. She is a studio painter whose subjects include still life, chairs in studio settings, landscapes and large groups of people. She is

also a plein air painter of the Ojai landscape and a printmaker who explores solar plate etching and monoprints.

Lewis turns 80 this year. The public is invited to help celebrate her birthday with an art reception and party Saturday, from 1 to 6 p.m. Music, food and beverages are part of the festivities. The exhibit will be on display until Sept. 5.

The OAC film branch, under the direction of Steve Grumette, will present a screening of "The Welcome: A Healing Journey for Veterans and Their Families" Monday at 7 p.m. This is an important

and moving film which won the award for Best Documentary Feature at the 2011 Ojai Film Festival.

"The Welcome" offers a fiercely intimate view of life after war: the fear, anger and isolation of post-traumatic stress that affects vets and family members alike. As we join these vets in a small room for an unusual five-day healing retreat, we witness how the ruins of war can be transformed into the beauty of poetry. Here our perceptions are changed, our psyches strained and our hearts broken. And at the end, when this poetry is shared with a large civilian audience, we

begin to understand that all of us are a vital piece of "The Welcome" as veterans try to find the way back home.

Their examples of unflinching honesty, courage and love lift us, inspiring all once again to feel our common humanity, always the first casualty of war. Refreshments will be provided. Suggested donation is \$5.

The OAC welcomes back Gale McNeeley for a Sunday afternoon performance of "Jacques Brel, Cabaret" in the gallery at 2 p.m. Jacques Brel, who wrote the world-famous song, "If You Go Away," was a Belgian singer-songwriter of the 1950s, '60s and '70s. "Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris," a review of his songs, has played to audiences around the world. Brel was

a major influence of David Bowie, Leonard Cohen and Rod McKuen. His songs have been recorded by Ray Charles, Judy Collins, John Denver, Nina Simone, Frank Sinatra and Andy Williams. Singer Gale McNeeley has performed on Broadway, in regional theater, in movies and on TV.

Musicians Batty Faas on the piano and Chuck Osborne on the accordion provide textures to Brel songs, placing them solidly in the Cabaret setting.

Suggested donation is \$10. For reservations call 406-4997.

A hot time in the old town will happen Aug. 25. Valarie Pettiford and Sharon McNight present "Broadway Comes To Ojai" at the Art Center's annual benefit. Pettiford has illuminated stage,

screen and television as one of the finest actress/singer/dancers today. She has received numerous awards and was nominated for a Tony Award for "Fosse" on Broadway.

For the last three years she has been a guest artist with the Pasadena Symphony. She has recorded an album titled "Hear My Soul," being sold at www.cdbaby.com.

McNight is also a Tony-nominated artist and has performed on Broadway and off Broadway. She earned recognition for her one-woman musical "Red Hot Mama" about Sophie Tucker. She has had six, critically-acclaimed, three-month tours of Europe including performances in Germany, Switzerland, Belgium, France, England and the Netherlands.

See OAC, Page C7

Boccali Vineyards

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Every Sunday in July & August
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Kabbalah experience comes to Soul Centered

Those who have always been curious about Kabbalah have a unique experience to learn all about it. Andrew Feder will be teaching "The Essence of Kabbalah," from 2 to 4 p.m. Aug. 18 at Soul Centered, a metaphysical shoppe.

Feder is a clairvoyant and a spiritual advisor with

more than 30 years experience with practical Kabbalah and metaphysics. He spent six years in Israel studying Kabbalah under a holy man known as "The Mo'ah." When he returned to the United States, he continued studying under the psychic, mystic, and healer Janeau St. Clair.

Feder will explain the essence of Kabbalah, and explore the spiritual concepts in how it relates to the Universe, the soul, thoughts, healing, guides, karma and more. Additionally, Feder will cover the topic of numbers and reincarnation within the path of Kabbalah, and how one can use this informa-

tion to manifest, heal and experience universal love.

This class will be hosted in Soul Centered's geodesic dome, at 311 N. Montgomery St. in Ojai. The class is \$20 in advance, or \$25 at the door. For information, visit www.soulcentered.com or call 646-8222.



Photo submitted

Andrew Feder will teach "The Essence of Kabbalah," from 2 to 4 p.m. in Soul Centered's dome Aug. 18.

OAC:

Continued from Page C6

For the past three years, Edmund Andreas and Herb Hemming have planned and organized an evening of exceptional entertainment with all proceeds to benefit the Art Center.

Artists such as Lorna Luft, Roslyn Kind, Sam Harris, Kay Starr and Amanda McBroom have graced the OAC stage. This year guarantees to be the best yet. It is a special treat to have talent of this caliber

come to Ojai. The evening starts at 7 p.m. with appetizers, wine and a silent auction of unique items.

The show starts at 8 p.m. After the program everyone is invited to stay and meet the artists and enjoy homemade desserts. Tickets are \$85 for general seating, \$125 for VIP seats. Call 646-0117 to be part of this enjoyable night.

The 2nd Annual Awesome Artist's Garage

Sale is coming. The Ojai Art Center is requesting donations of arts-related objects. This is an opportunity to scale down, to lighten the load, to make room for new items. Look in your attics, basements, closets and bring your unwanted items to the Art Center on Thursday, Aug. 30, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. They are looking for old paintings, canvasses, paints, frames, books, art supplies, etc. The

Awesome Artist's Sale will be Saturday, Sept. 1, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 646-0117 for further info.

Jammin's music on the OAC patio wraps Sunday, and features the Ojai Songwriters Anonymous, from 6 to 9 p.m. on the OAC patio. Admission is \$10.

The Ojai Art Center is at 113 S. Montgomery St. in Ojai. Visit www.ojaiartcenter.org or call 646-0117 for more information.



Photo submitted

James Gaffigan

James Gaffigan set to play Granada Theater

James Gaffigan, widely regarded as one of the most talented young American conductors working today, will lead the Academy Festival Orchestra in its final concert of the 2012 Summer Festival season at the Granada Theatre Saturday. Featuring Ives' "Three Places in New England" and Mahler's revolutionary "Symphony No. 1," the concert will begin at 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$10.

Hailed for the natural ease of his conducting and the compelling insight of his musicianship, Gaffigan was appointed chief conductor of the Lucerne Symphony Orchestra and principal guest conductor of the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra in January 2010.

His international career was launched when he was named a first-prize winner at the 2004 Sir Georg Solti International Conducting Competition in Frankfurt, Germany. Since then he has worked with the Munich and Rotterdam philhar-

monics, the Dresden Staatskapelle, the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin and the Camerata Salzburg, among others. In the United States, Gaffigan has served as guest conductor of the Cleveland Orchestra, the Chicago, St. Louis, Detroit, Cincinnati, Houston, Indianapolis, Vancouver, Seattle and New World symphonies and the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, among others. In 2009, he completed a three-year tenure as associate conductor with the San Francisco Symphony, having previously served as assistant conductor of the Cleveland Orchestra. Mr. Gaffigan made his professional opera debut at the Zurich Opera in June 2005, conducting "La Bohème," and last year led performances of "The Marriage of Figaro" at the Houston Grand Opera.

The Granada Theatre is at 1214 State St. in Santa Barbara. For tickets and information, visit www.musicacademy.org or call 969-8787.

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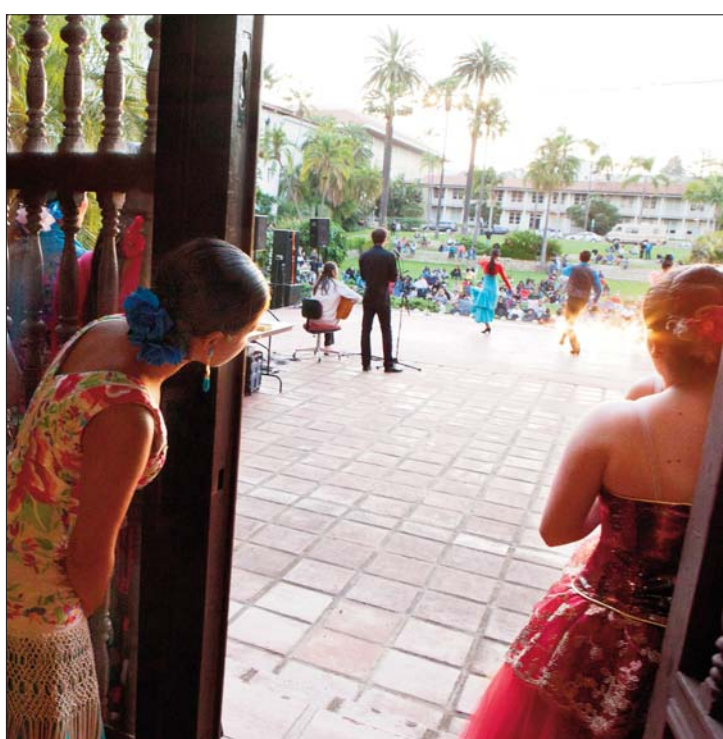
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Ojai Artist Spotlight

Photographer Victoria Linssen captured these images of dancers as they waited for hours (right) in the Santa Barbara Courthouse July 30 to perform auditions for a spot in the Old Spanish Days Fiesta. While waiting to audition, a couple of dancers (above) watch those who are on stage performing. The dancers hoped to get coveted spots on prime nights to dance in front of an audience at the sunken garden. Due to so many applicants this year, the judges were running hours behind schedule.

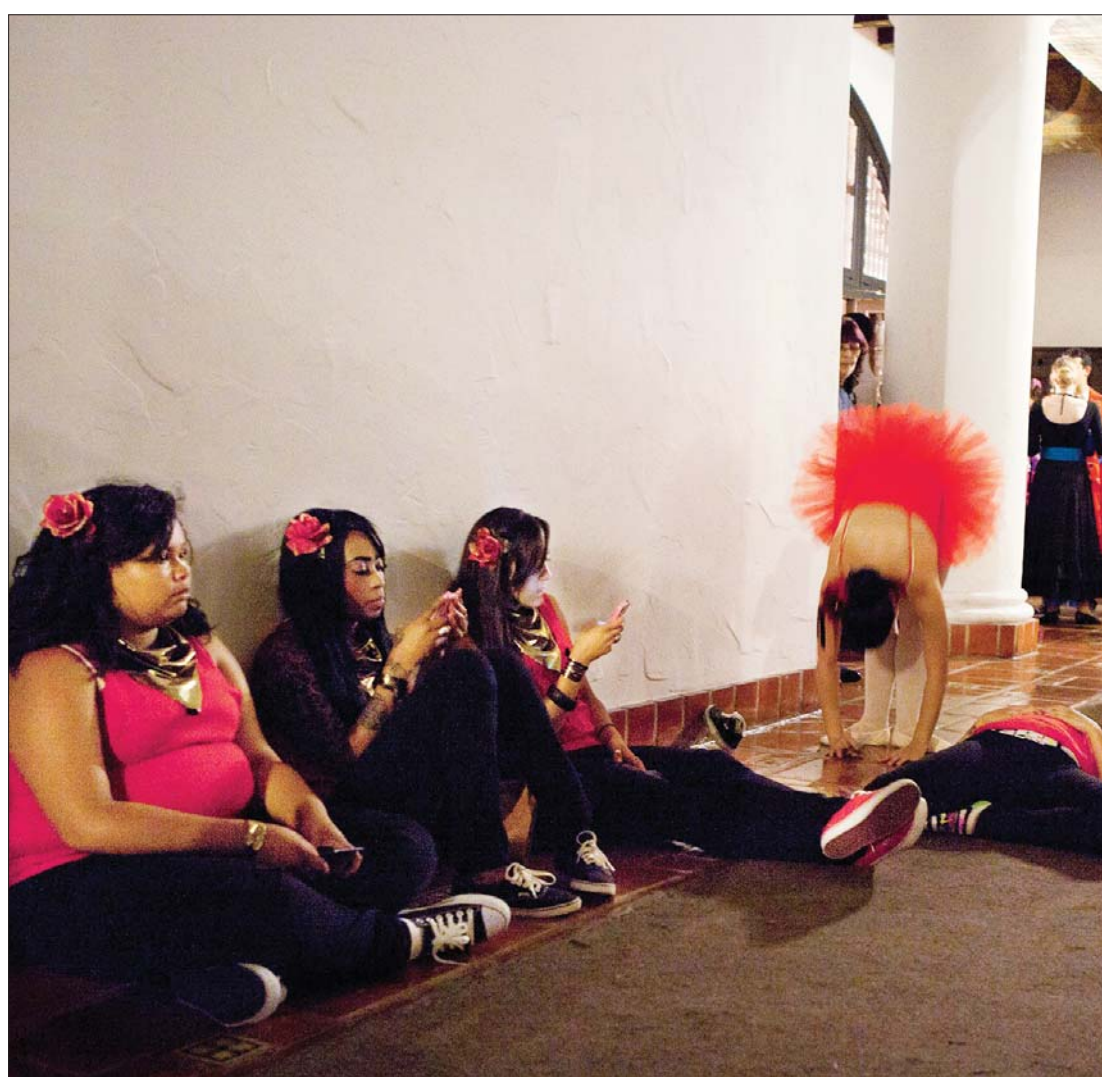


Photo by Victoria Linssen/BrooksInstitute

'Jammin' comes to an end at OAC

Ojai Valley has long been acclaimed as an incubator of creativity and expression. Ojai Songwriters Anonymous has been providing a safe, fertile environment for the creators and the creation of music for 10 years. The Ojai Songwriters presentation at Jammin' at the Art Center Sunday from 6 to 9 p.m., will be an "out of the closet" performance for home-grown music, as well as a showcase of some of the valley's fantastic performing talent. Emcee is founder of the group, Smitty West. You will hear a broad spectrum of performances, ranging from budding songwriters, to professionals performing their

own works. Smitty West, MAVRIC music award-winning songwriter and Ojai community musician, formed the group in 2001 to create a "safe space where musicians, poets, lyricists and other artists can come to receive candid criticism and a supportive environment to write, publish, perform and record their works." "This will be a unique look at the art of song writing, presented in a casual and relaxed atmosphere," says West. "We'll all be on stage taking turns, playing each other's songs, jamming a little, supporting a lot. You'll hear how the songwriter trade is plied, and get a taste of the results"

The performers include, Robert Shelor, Dave Hutchison, Kerri Climer, Bob Ryman, Julija Zonic, Dane Whitman, Richard Kaller, Mark Solomon, as well as Smitty West. They will discuss and perform their own works, as well as each other's. Don't miss this last-of-season concert at the Ojai Arts Center at 113 S. Montgomery St. Tickets are \$10, call 646-1107 for more information. Ojai Songwriters Anonymous meets the first Monday of each month at 3 p.m. at Euterpe Studios, and is free to attend. For more information, contact Smitty West at smitty@smittywest.com or visit www.smittywest.com online.



Photo submitted

Ojai Songwriters performing at Jammin' at the Art Center Sunday include (from left) Dave Hutchison, Richard Kaller, Smitty West, Bob Ryman, Kerri Climer, Robert Shelor, Paul Weaver, Jeffrey Scharf and Laurie Hope.



PINE MOUNTAIN CLUB, California is the site on Aug. 17-19, for the fourth annual arts & cultural festival that takes place in the Los Padres National Forest. Event Features Native American storytelling, digital storytelling videos songwriting competition, and an amateur playwright competition with plays about humankind's relationship with nature and ecological challenges.

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* Native American
Storytelling:
Alan Salazar and Dee Dominguez.
* Video Film Fest of Youth's Digital Storybooks with \$200 Prize:
Saturday August 18, 2012: Reader's Theater presentations
* 1:30-3:30 p.m. Round 1
* 7:30-9:30 p.m. Round 2
To vote, audience members must attend one of the entire rounds.
Sunday August 19, 2012, 1:00 p.m.
*Presentation of Playwright First Prize Award \$500
*Followed by Song Writing Competition and First Prize Award \$500
During the 3-day event, the adventurous can take guided hikes to Mt. Pinos by "Naturalist for You."

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10-minute Eco-Drama Plays
'Keeping the Balance'
Between Humankind & Nature
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Voted by Audience

Plays reflect the ancient Chumash spirit of *Iiyikshup* (the village 'where everything is in balance').
Finalist plays will be performed in a Pine Mountain Village readers theater near the base of *Iwihinmu*—Mount Pinos—the Chumash 'center of the world.'

To get here from Valencia, take North Interstate 5 to the Frazier Mountain Road/Frazier Park (exit 205) and go west on Mt. Pinos Way (the road name changes to Cuddy Valley Road). After about 12 miles, turn right onto Mill Potrero Hwy at the fork in the road, follow sign and drive 6 miles into Pine Mountain Club.



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Photo submitted

The Improv Workshop ends with a showcase open to the public. Performers in July's showcase include Mike VanStry (from left), Amy Marie Orozco, Morris Danhi, Kat Garcia, Judy Sirianni and Phil Moreno. In front with flowers is Asa Olsson, the workshop instructor.

Improv workshop will continue

Due to popular demand, Asa Olsson's Improv Workshop will begin its third eight-week run in September at the Plaza Playhouse Theater in Carpinteria, according to Melinda Bie, media representative for the nonprofit.

Held on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., the workshop begins Sept. 11 and ends Oct. 30. The final meeting will be a showcase open to the public.

"Along with improv

basics and acting techniques, we'll play theater games, do scene studies, practice breathing techniques and work on letting go of inhibitions," says Olsson, an accomplished actress, director and drama coach. "It's a very fun and safe environment."

Conducted on the stage of the Plaza Playhouse Theater, Improv Workshop is open to anyone interested in performing more freely in any part of their lives and thinking

quickly on their feet. Enrollment is limited to 20 participants and is on a first-come, first-serve basis.

The workshop fee is \$96 and may be paid online at www.PlazaTheater-Carpinteria.com or by sending a check to Plaza Playhouse Theater, Attention Improv Class, 4916 Carpinteria Ave., Carpinteria, CA 93013. Sorry, no drop-ins allowed. For more information call Asa Olsson at 901-3554.

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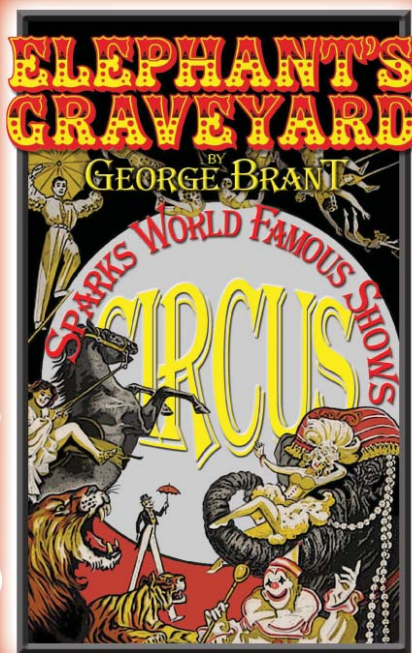


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Enjoy dinner and a mule

If you find mules irresistible, don't miss Dinner and a Mule Movie at the Museum of Ventura County's Agriculture Museum in Santa Paula Aug. 17.

The summer evening will begin with dinner at 6 p.m., followed by the first Ventura County screening of "Mula: The Long-Eared Hero of the Old Spanish Trail," with an introduction by the filmmakers.

Dinner includes a full taco bar with dessert and soft drinks and popcorn with the movie. A no-host bar is also available.

Admission is \$20 and \$10 for children under 12. Santa Barbara filmmakers Susan Jensen and

Paul Singer will introduce the movie at 6:45 p.m. It follows the story of the California Mule Rush, when thieves plundered ranchos and missions, stealing thousands of prized California mules to take over the Old Spanish Trail to sell in Missouri. Learn why California mules were worth 10 times the price of horses at that time and hear about these hard working animals from today's packers, breeders, traders and mule drivers. Filmed in California, Mississippi, and Tennessee, the film is underscored with the music of award-winning Dave Stamey and Juni Fisher.

"Mula: The Long-Eared

Hero of the Old Spanish Trail" is the seventh in J & S Productions' Vaquero series.

The Museum of Ventura County's Agriculture Museum is at 926 Railroad Ave. in Santa Paula near the Depot and next to the railroad tracks. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday. Admission is \$4 adults, \$3 seniors, \$1 children 6 to 17, free for Museum of Ventura County members, and for children ages 5 and younger. On first Sundays of the month, general admission is always free. For more information, go to www.ventura-museum.org or call 525-3100.



Photo submitted

'Mula' FilmMakers Susan Jensen and Paul Singer

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A veterans journey comes to Ojai

At 7 p.m. Monday, the Art Center Film Branch will present a screening of "The Welcome: A Healing Journey for Veterans and Their Families," an impor-

tant and moving film that won the award for best documentary feature at the 2011 Ojai Film

Festival.

Author and journalist, Jannette Jauregui, who has spent the last decade documenting the experiences of America's war veterans, will be on hand to take part in a question-and-answer session after the screening.

Jauregui remembers the epiphany all too well. As she lay in a hospital bed after an appendectomy in New York City, she took stock of her young life to that moment. "I was working a dream job as an associate producer for the 'Today' show," she said. "But I didn't really like New York and I wasn't really doing what I loved."

The surgery revealed a malignant tumor, which was removed from her abdomen, and Jauregui went back home to Santa Paula to recuperate.

"I started re-prioritizing," she said. Choosing not to go back to New York, the 29-year old freelance writer and journalist with a master's degree from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University in Chicago began working in Burbank for "Today" while pursuing her passion for military history.

"I was also writing about

the health care industry as a freelancer. I had trouble getting insurance after that incident and began to think about that a lot more," she said.

Jauregui knew what she wanted to do. Blessed at an early age with ambition and ability, she was 19 when she wrote her first story about a World War II veteran, Tony Vasquez Sr., of Santa Paula.

"It was the first time he had talked about the war in that setting," Jauregui said. "He'd joined a veterans support group in the '90s, but this was the first time he was open about the experience to someone beyond that group."

The Ventura County Star published the story on its opinion page on Memorial Day 2001. Jauregui, then a student at Ventura College, was hooked.

"As an aspiring journalist, seeing my name in print was awesome, but there was more to it than that," Jauregui said. "I was at a Memorial Day celebration in Santa Paula with Tony when the article came out, and I saw the way people thanked him, told him that they'd read his story. It was very fulfilling."

Jauregui went on to California Lutheran University, where she graduated with a communications degree, all the while writing about veterans and their stories, publishing many of them in The Ventura County Star.

"I found a real passion for working with the veterans and getting to know their stories, and that led me to go on a trip with a documentary filmmaker to Europe," she said.

Jauregui went as a journalist and wrote about the experience of visiting the D-Day invasion site with four soldiers who were there in 1944.

"It was an unbelievable experience," she said.

The experiences have become part of a new book Jauregui has written called "Ventura County Veterans: WWII to Vietnam." The images in this book pay homage to some of those individuals - men and women who sacrificed so much to preserve freedom. From the European and Pacific fronts of World War II, to the snowy winters in Korea, through the tribulations of the Vietnam era, her book goes beyond the broad scope of war and

into the personal experiences of Ventura County's heroes.

"The book was published by Arcadia Publishing as part of their Images of America series, and I'm just so honored that I got to do it," Jauregui said.

Jauregui now teaches part time in the communications department at CLU while continuing to interview and work with veterans. She writes a column, "On War and Life," for The Ventura County Star.

Last year, she got a part time job at the Veterans Home in Ventura.

"I love it. I work in the dining room and get to be with these amazing people. I get to see them every day," she said.

"For me, it's more than just a personal accomplishment. First and foremost, it's a tribute to these men and women who have served their country."

The Ojai Art Center film branch will screen "The Welcome: A Healing Journey for Veterans and Their Families" Monday at 7 p.m. in the Ojai Art Center theater. A \$5 donation is requested. Call 646-0117 for details.

'A Jacques Brel Cabaret' slated

John Hankins
contributor

Imagine visiting the exciting city of Paris and walking "The City of Lights" at sunrise ... what songs would you sing in your head?

"I found myself singing Jacques Brel songs," said Gale McNeeley, an inspiration that led to his latest show developed just this year, "A Jacques Brel Cabaret." It will play only once, at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Ojai Art Center Theater.

"In an age where the classic troubadour seems to have vanished, Jacques Brel reminds us of the need for songwriters who translate universal emotions into song," McNeeley said.

Usually, the actor-singer from Santa Barbara County does a lot of comedy in previous shows seen at Ojai ACT the last three years. This performance is different. "I think my audience, who is used to seeing mainly comedies, should know it's going to be a change," he said. "They'll come away from it feeling like they've lived through it

all."

The Brel mystique hit McNeeley when he was in New York acting and saw the musical review, "Jacques Brel Is Alive and Well and Living in Paris." He was immediately captivated by an artist who made every song a story. Brel's own life story was of a singer who gave up touring to act in major films and then gave that up to sail, but the demand for his chansons remained and he occasionally did perform, such as at Carnegie Hall.

The Belgium-born Brel, who died in 1978 at age 49, was a major influence in Europe and in America, where the singer-poet Rod McKuen first started translating his songs, followed by covers by the Kingston Trio, Frank Sinatra, Judy Collins, Rod Stewart, David Bowie, Leonard Cohen and Ray Charles, among more than 30 listed in Wikipedia. The review features the English lyrics except for one or two in French.

Backing up McNeeley to truly evoke "La Ville des Lumières" are his long-



Photo submitted
Gale McNeeley

time collaborator, Betty Faas on piano and Chuck Osborne on the accordion, attuned to recreate the cabaret experience.

The three have been touring the "Brel" show in San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara the last few months, and the Ojai show is the last of this year's tour, so it's a unique chance to welcome its first year.

No reservations are necessary at the performance, 2 p.m. Sunday at the Ojai Art Center, 113 S. Montgomery St. There is \$10 suggested donation at the door that will help benefit Ojai ACT.



Photo by Dean Zatkowsky

'Night Must Fall' will take you on a ride

A 'Night Must Fall' runs though Aug. 26. Show times are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$17 (general), \$15 (seniors and students). Group bookings available. The Ojai Valley Grange is at 381 Cruzero St., in Ojai, visit www.franciscabeach.com or call 646-4885 for reservations.



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