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Ojai Valley News

The Ojai Valley’s newspaper since 1891

ojaivalleynews.com

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VCSD responds to dog shooting incident

Misty Volaski
editor@ojaivalleynews.com

Ventura County Sheriff's Department officials have now released the name of the deputy who fatally shot a boxer last week at the dog's Orchard Drive home. According to sheriff

spokesman Capt. Don Aguilar, the officer is Jonathon Witkoski, who has been with the Ventura County Sheriff's Department for six years. Aguilar said he had no knowledge of Witkoski ever having had complaints lodged against him, or ever having been involved in any other shooting

incident. He did not know how long Witkoski had been with the Ojai Substation. As previously reported, Witkoski and two other law enforcement officials with VCSD were responding to a call of vehicle tampering when the incident occurred. Witkoski

allegedly feared for his safety when the dog ran toward him barking, so he opted to discharge his firearm three times, killing the dog. The dog's owners claim that the animal, an 8-year-old male, has never bitten anyone and was carrying out his usual routine of running out his dog

door and barking at visitors. Aguilar said police have guidelines in place for when it is appropriate to use different levels of force to be able to control a particular incident. "Field supervisors will look at it

See Dog, Page A3

Medina to stand competency trial in murder case

Logan Hall
logan@ojaivalleynews.com

A Ventura County Superior Court Judge ruled on Monday that the court would hold a competency trial for 17-year-old accused killer, Alex Medina. The teenager was charged with the murder of 16-year-old Ojai resident Seth Scarminach in 2009.

Records show that early on in the case, Medina's defense attorneys, Scott Wippert and Robyn Bramson, declared doubt in their client's competency to stand trial. Both the defense and prosecution were scheduled to meet with Judge James Cloninger this morning for a status conference and competency trial setting. "This is a very complicated case," said Senior Deputy District Attorney Bill Haney, who is currently prosecuting the case. "At the present time, the determination of when the competency trial will proceed is largely dependent on several expert witnesses. It depends on the readiness of experts on both sides." Bramson agrees that the case is complicated. "We're going to have to figure all of that out tomorrow (Friday)," she said. "After that, it will be up to a jury

"This is a very complicated case."

— Senior Deputy District Attorney Bill Haney

to find out whether or not Alex is competent to stand trial." Court records show that Medina's defense filed a motion with the court to dismiss the case, and in a separate motion, to recuse the Ventura County district attorney's office from prosecuting the case. The reason for the motions, the defense claims, is that the prosecution withheld evidence that would be in favor of Medina. According to officials, the motion called for U.S. Attorney General Richard Moskowitz, who was present during court proceedings on Monday, to take over prosecution. "Both motions are based on the same facts," said Bramson. "The DA's office withheld evidence that is favorable to Alex in what we call exculpatory evidence. The evidence came in

See Medina, Page A3

It's My Job: Kris Ambarian, Topa Topa crossing guard

Perry Van Houten
OVN contributor

Parents of kids who travel to Topa Topa Elementary School on foot, bike or scooter can breathe easier when Kris Ambarian is on duty. Dressed in signature uniform of shorts, orange vest, baseball cap, boots and sunglasses, her job is to keep children safe as they use the school's main crosswalk. Ambarian is Topa Topa's official crossing guard, and when the

gatekeeper is at her post, you play by the gatekeeper's rules. A resident of Oak View, Ambarian grew up in Fillmore and has two children — a first- and a fourth-grader — who attend Topa Topa. She got the gig two years ago when the school put out the call for a new crossing guard. "They needed someone who's not shy, and I was perfect for the job because I have a big mouth," she says. The need for school crossing guards is very real indeed,

judging by a national study that revealed about two-thirds of drivers broke posted speed limits within 30 minutes of school hours, and many disobeyed stop signs in school zones. Ambarian has had a few run-ins with motorists. Once, she was struck by a careless driver whose side view mirror whacked her as the car passed by. Another time, a confrontation turned physical with the driver of a truck who, she says, "nearly ran

over a kid in the crosswalk." After contacting the Sheriff's Department, Ambarian was able to arrange some extra patrols before and after school, which resulted in citations for a few unsafe drivers. Traffic danger is one of the factors leading to a decline in the number of children walking to school, according to a study. In the '70s, 90 percent of kids living within a mile of school either walked, biked or found another mode of self-trans-

portation to and from school. Nowadays, that figure is more like 60 percent. Ambarian says that traffic rules apply to the children, too. They must wait for her commands — and bikes, skateboards and scooters must be walked across Mountain View Avenue, a residential street that gets incredibly busy for about 15 to 20 minutes every school day around 8:15 a.m. and 2:45 p.m.

See Ambarian, Page A3



Photo by Holly Roberts

‘Oliver!’ Opens Tonight

Ojai Art Center Theater’s “Oliver!” opens tonight and runs every weekend through April 29. Friday performances begin at 7 p.m; Saturday features two performances at 2 and 7 p.m.; and Sunday performances start at 2 p.m. The play features 50 local actors of all ages. For tickets, visit Ojaiact.org.

Want to know what’s going on in the valley this weekend? Find out at OjaiValleyNews.com

OJAI EVENTS

FREE TESTING AT OVP

Ojai Village Pharmacy, 202 E. Ojai Ave., will host free tests this Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Test your blood glucose from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and test your heart with the B Pro Cardio Pulse Wave, a non-invasive test that measures the elasticity of large, small and peripheral artery walls and tests stress heart rate, from 1 to 5 p.m. You can also test your antioxidant levels with the Biophotonic Scanner from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 646-7272 for more information.

HOWARD CREEK CLEAN UP

The Ojai Ranger District is hosting a volunteer project on Saturday on the Howard Creek Trail. The focus will be brushing and total hiking distance is five and a half miles. Bring a lunch, water, sunscreen, gloves, eye protection, hat, and wear sturdy shoes. It's a fun way to meet other outdoor enthusiasts or accrue community service hours. Forest Service will provide tools, instruction and drinks. Meet at the Ojai Ranger Station, 1190 E. Ojai Ave., at 8:30 a.m. to car pool to the trailhead, and return by 4 p.m. Rain will cancel the event. For more information, call 646-4348.

‘EASTER IN THE PARK’

Church of the Living Christ and Live Oak Church will host “Easter in the Park” on Sunday at 10 a.m. at the newly remodeled Libbey Bowl. You are invited to joinin celebrating the 40th anniversary of Teen Challenge with the CLC Worship Team, Teen Challenge Choir and special speaker, Ron Brown, director of Teen Challenge. Call 646-1296 or 646-6971 for more information.

INSIDE

Sports

Villanova swimmers break 5-year-old records.

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Arts

Grasso works showing at Ojai Coffee Roasting Co.

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SUNRISE SERVICE AT THACHER

The public is invited to an Easter Sunrise Service on Sunday at 7:30 a.m. at The Thacher School Outdoor Memorial Chapel, 5025 Thacher Road. Artist in residence Richard Winters will deliver the Easter message; students will recite passages, sing and play music. Following the service refreshments, including hot cross buns, orange juice and coffee, will be served on the pergola. For more information, call Sara Edwards at 640-3201, Ext. 234.

CORRECTION

There was a mistake in the Wednesday, April 4, story about Ojai's new police chief on the front page. The Detention Services division had a budget of \$120,000,000 when Dave Kenney administered it.



100\$ NEW SUMMER CLOTHING

Sundresses \$ 24.99 or less	Rattlesnakes are out Snakebite Kits are in	Tanks, T's. swimsuits for all, Flip-flops, sun hats, water shoes, 100\$ of shorts	Camp Stoves cots, chairs, LOWEST PRICES ANYWHERE
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Closed Easter Sunday



OJAI SURPLUS

952 E. Ojai Ave. 646-2350 Everyday



Obituaries



Doris "Dolores" Szabo

Doris "Dolores" Szabo, a former resident of Ojai, California, peacefully passed away on January 14, 2012. A memorial service will be held in her honor on Saturday, April 14, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints chapel located at 411

San Antonio Street, Ojai, California. Friends and neighbors who knew Doris are invited to attend the service.

Richard Taylor Kale Moore



We are sad to share the news that Taylor Moore, beloved son, brother, nephew, cousin, friend, began his next journey on March 31, 2012. Richard Taylor Kale Moore was born Dec. 24, 1985 in Ventura, Calif.

Even as a small boy while growing up in Ojai, Taylor gained a love of fishing and later hunting that would dominate his life in later years. If Taylor heard of a good fishing hole, he would race to get there with every lure — hooks and all — he could stuff in his pocket and always with a twinkle in his eyes! He dreamed of catching a "double digit bass." Taylor excelled at chess and was ready for a match anywhere, any time.

Taylor got the acting bug in 1998 and landed the part of "Jake" in the Disney movie, "Johnny Tsunami" (YouTube, Part 1). Traveling with his mom to Hawaii to be in the movie, Taylor began to think about how much he wanted to experience in life.

From then on, Taylor became affectionately known as "Tayman, the Traveler" — his "joie de vivre" (joy of living) was ever present wherever he went. This thirst for adventure took him to Aruba, Morocco, Cambodia, Laos, Sweden, Amsterdam, Ecuador, and Australia. He explored many countries in Europe and went to Thailand on three separate occasions. Taylor set out to write about his travels and completed a book in two years.

Taylor made many friends along the way, who kept in touch with him over the years. He became a licensed massage therapist and worked in spas in order to continue his adventures. Whenever late October rolled around and Taylor was back in California, you could find him free diving for lobster, from Malibu to Santa Barbara. He loved to spear fish for white sea bass and fish for tuna in San Diego with his dad. (If you went on a fishing boat with Taylor, i.e., "The Gentleman" out of Oxnard, you might find an anchovy in your trousers or sandwich!)

Taylor's sense of humor and his wonderful lust for life and adventure will be greatly missed by his family and friends. A celebration of his life is pending. Bless you, Taylor. Rest in peace.



Dorothy Rehberg Manfredi

August 12, 1918-
March 17, 2012

Dorothy passed away peacefully in Simi Valley, California, early in the morning of March 17, 2012, at the age of 93. She was born in Brooklyn, New York, and grew up in nearby Richmond Hill. She graduated from Cumberland Hospital School of Nursing in 1940 and began a nursing career which lasted for 58 years. She began her career at Harlem Hospital, including a long stint at Aqueduct Racetrack and at the 1964-65 New York World's Fair and concluding when she retired at the Ojai Valley Hospital Continuing Care Center in 1998 at the age of 80. She continued on as a volunteer in a hospice care capacity for some years after. She moved with husband Joe Manfredi to Ojai, California in her mid-60s in 1975 and delighted in being closer to her children and farther from the city. She hosted the weddings of two of her children at Los Alondras, the somewhat magical home they retired to and lived in together for another 35 years on Cuyama Road. Dorothy lived a truly blessed life touching deeply everyone she encountered with a pleasant smile and her genuine attention. In her 60-plus-year driving career she never received a moving violation. Amen.

"Dot" was preceded in death by her husband of 65 years, Joseph Manfredi, and by her brother, Louis. She is survived by her four children, Karen Kay (Phil) of Hidden Hills, Jeff Manfredi (Sally) of Calistoga, Tom Manfredi (Jill) of Ojai, and Jean DeMill (Gerald) of Simi Valley, with whom she lived for the last five years of her life. She had eight grandchildren, Jason, Lauren, Livia, Hannah, Joe, Isabella, Alison and John, and great-grandson Jordan. She will be remembered for her kindness, especially to children, animals and the infirm, her faith, her extraordinary good nature and for the delight she found in simple pleasures. Dot whistled while she worked.

Dorothy's family would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the devoted caregivers Begonia, Alejandra, Lucy and Michelle for the many years of loving care they provided for our Mother.

A memorial service will be held on April 9, 2012 at St. Rose of Lima Church in Simi Valley at 11 a.m., followed by interment at Nordhoff Cemetery in Ojai.

Memorial donations may be made to the Council on Aging of the Simi Valley Senior Center, 3901 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley, CA 93063 (memo: Dorothy Manfredi Memorial/Food Programs) or the Lange Foundation, 2106 South Sepulveda, Los Angeles, CA 90025, a dog and cat rescue operation.

Spiritual Cinema Night, 'From Ambition to Meaning: Finding Your Life's Purpose'

Leslee Goodman
OVN contributor

Ojai's monthly Spiritual Cinema Night, sponsored by Symphony of Life Spiritual Center and Casa de la Luna Retreat, will take place April 20 at Casa de la Luna. This month's feature is "From Ambition to Meaning: Finding Your Life's Purpose," a compelling film in which

Wayne W. Dyer explores the spiritual journey from ego gratification to a life of service and meaning.

Through the intertwined stories of an overachieving businessman, a mother of two seeking her own expression in the world, and a director trying to make a name for himself, Dyer examines the shift from the ego's goals of achievement and accu-

mulation to a life of meaning, focused on serving and giving back. As the movie unfolds, each of the characters experiences a "quantum moment," through which they begin to listen to "the music inside," with inspirational results.

A discussion will follow the screening.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the movie begins

promptly at 7 p.m. Although the event is free, donations are accepted and go to Casa de la Luna, an eco-holistic retreat and eco-spiritual technology center, which volunteers the use of its multimedia studio for the event.

Casa de la Luna is located at 710 S. La Luna Ave. in Ojai. There is parking on the property.

ments. For information on this event, call Will Castagna, Ojai Valley Fire Safe Council, at 646-7307.

Funding for this project is provided by a National Fire Plan grant from the cooperative Fire Program of the U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, Pacific Southwest Region, through the California Fire Safe Council.

Wildfire Safety program for Krotona School area

The next neighborhood Wildfire Safety presentation will be for homeowners in the Krotona-Taormina area; all residents, families and children are welcome. It will be held on Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at the cul-de-sac area mesa by 66 Taormina Lane. Reminder signs will be posted in the neighborhood, and light refresh-

Ojai Valley Weather Report

April 6, 2012

Seven Day Forecast

	Friday Sunny High: 76 Low: 39
	Saturday Sunny High: 77 Low: 42
	Sunday Sunny High: 79 Low: 45
	Monday Mostly Sunny High: 80 Low: 47
	Tuesday Mostly Sunny High: 75 Low: 44
	Wednesday Partly Cloudy High: 67 Low: 41
	Thursday Mostly Cloudy High: 65 Low: 40

In-Depth Local Forecast

Today we will see sunny skies with a high of 76°, humidity of 25%. North wind 5 to 10 mph. The record high for today is 103° set in 1989. Expect mostly clear skies tonight with an overnight low of 39°.

Last Week's Almanac

Date	Hi/Lo	Normals	Precip
Wed.	67/45	72/42	0.00"
Thu.	70/52	72/42	0.00"
Fri.	69/50	72/43	0.00"
Sat.	61/49	73/43	0.09"
Sun.	64/43	73/43	0.00"
Mon.	79/54	73/43	0.00"
Tue.	77/49	73/43	0.00"

Rainfall since Oct.8.82"
Normal rainfall19.17"
Departure-10.35"

Local Sun/Moon Chart This Week

	Day	Sunrise	Sunset	
Full 4/6	Friday	6:36 a.m.	7:23 p.m.	New 4/21
	Saturday	6:35 a.m.	7:23 p.m.	
	Sunday	6:34 a.m.	7:24 p.m.	
	Monday	6:32 a.m.	7:25 p.m.	
	Tuesday	6:31 a.m.	7:26 p.m.	
	Wednesday	6:30 a.m.	7:26 p.m.	
	Thursday	6:28 a.m.	7:27 p.m.	First 4/29

Local UV Index

0-2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11+

UV Index
0-2: Low, 3-5: Moderate,
6-7: High, 8-10: Very High
11+: Extreme Exposure

Weather History

April 6, 1987 - Rain and melting snow caused flooding from New England to Ohio. Flooding in the Merrimack Valley of Massachusetts was the worst in 50 years, causing 42 million dollars in damage.

Weather Trivia

Where did the term "hurricane" come from?

Answer: It was derived from Huracan, a Carib God of Evil.

www.WhatsOurWeather.com



POLICE BLOTTER

REPORTED CRIMES

- A residential burglary was reported in the 400 block of North Ventura Street on March 17.
- Grand theft of property was reported in the 500 block of North Ventura Avenue and in the 10700 block of Sulphur Mountain Road March 23.
- Commercial burglary was reported March 22 in the 3600 block of Reeves Road.
- Residential burglary was reported in the 300 block of Riverside Road March 25.
- Vehicle burglary was reported in the 300 block of Cruzero Street March 25.
- Residential burglary was reported in the 00 block of Oak Drive March 27.
- Residential burglary was reported in the 200 block of La Luna Avenue March 27.
- Vehicle burglary was reported at Matilija Hot Springs March 29.
- Burglary of a structure was reported in the 200 block of Valley Road March 29.
- Vandalism was reported in the 200 block of Waite Street April 1.
- Vandalism was reported in the 200 block of West Lomita Avenue April 2.
- Petty thefts were reported in the 400 block of Cruzero Street, 200 block of East Ojai Avenue, the 700 block of North Ventura Avenue, and the 100 block of Burnham Road during the reporting period.

CITES AND ARRESTS

- A 22-year-old man was arrested in Casitas Springs March 27 following a reported domestic incident. Bail was set at \$20,000.
- A 48-year-old man was arrested on Mari-

copa Highway March 28 on an out-of-county felony, no-bail warrant.

• A 28-year-old woman was arrested on Nye Road March 28 on suspicion of being under the influence of and possessing a controlled substance. Bail was set at \$7,500.

• A 44-year-old man was arrested March 28 on two warrants for failing to appear in court. Bail was set at \$7,500.

• A 35-year-old man was arrested in Libbey Park March 29 for public intoxication.

• A 28-year-old woman was arrested March 28 on warrants for violation of probation, failing to appear in court, and on suspicion of possessing marijuana. Bail was set at \$12,500.

• A 43-year-old man was arrested on Spring Street March 30 on suspicion of being under the influence of a controlled substance. Bail was set at \$5,000.

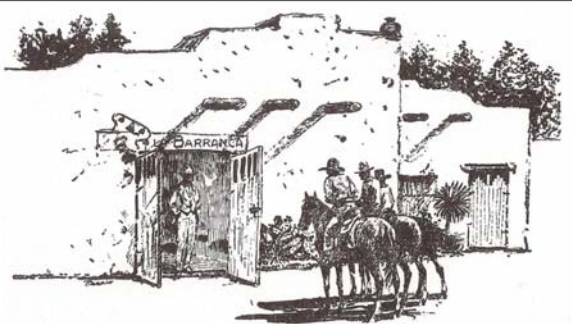
• A 30-year-old woman was arrested in Mira Monte March 31 on suspicion of being under the influence of a controlled substance. Bail was set at \$5,000.

• A 27-year-old man was arrested on Prospect Street April 1 on a \$10,000 warrant.

• A 27-year-old man was arrested on Prospect Street April 1 on suspicion of being under the influence of a controlled substance. Bail was set at \$5,000.

• A 44-year-old man was arrested on El Roblar Drive April 2 on a no-bail parole violation.

• A 38-year-old man was arrested on Woodland Avenue April 2 on warrants for violation of probation and failure to appear in court. Bail was set at \$10,000.



The 8th Annual CREW Barbecue, Auction, Trail Ride & Hike

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 2012

Join us for a Western Barbecue from QTime Barbecue Company, foot-tapping bluegrass music from The Iron Mountain Boys and wine donated by the Ventura County Wine Trail. The horse ride and hike will be led by experienced guides on the Ojai Land Conservancy's Ventura River Preserve and will start at 1:30 p.m. and finish at 4:00 p.m. The CREW will not be providing horses. The Barbecue and Auction will run from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. and will be held at Old Rancho Matilija (next to Rancho Matilija).

Auction and raffle will feature gifts from many Santa Barbara, Ventura and Ojai Valley stores, restaurants, and artists. They include Western and traditional art by Ed Borein, Otto Heino, photography by Edward Curtis as well as apparel by Patagonia and others, Messermeister Cutlery, numerous Restaurants & Coffee Bars.

\$50 per person

The CREW is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Proceeds can be used to match Fire Mitigation, Trail Restoration and Environmental Rehabilitation Grants.



In case of rain event will be held in the barn

Please contact the C.R.E.W. Office at (805) 649-8847 for tickets.

Companies interested in becoming corporate sponsors should contact Wally McCall at (805) 746-3593.

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Dog:

Continued from Page A1

(the incident), and if it warrants more investigation, he reports it to his (superior). That's not the case here ... it was an officer safety issue ... Yes, there were other options to consider, but when the officer was asked to make a split-second decision, he felt at that time that option" to use force was necessary.

At this point, Aguilar clarified, "There is no violation or deviation from any policy. There is no ongoing investigation ... The officer is still on

duty. It's business as usual." Aguilar said he did not think the dog's owners had filed a formal complaint against Witkoski, although earlier this week the family had expressed their intentions to do so. There is an option for the family to file a claim with the VCSD Bureau of Risk Management, Aguilar went on, because the dog is considered property which was damaged by VCSD officers. Although he did not know how much the family might receive as compensation, he emphasized, "They can apply for a claim and they've been informed of that."

Comment on these reports at
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Medina:

Continued from Page A1

to the prosecutor and was suppressed by them. It wasn't disclosed until almost two years later after we filed a motion for recusal."

Bramson declined to go into detail on the alleged withheld evidence, but court records indicate that the defense claims prosecutors suppressed evidence that pointed to a third party involved with the killing.

Haney says both he and Moskowitz oppose the

defense's assertion. "Both the DA's office and the attorney general were prepared to vigorously defend our position that their motion is frivolous."

Cloninger ruled that the recusal and dismissal motions be tabled until the completion of Medina's competency trial. "When exactly that might happen," commented Bramson, "I have no idea."

Medina is accused of stabbing Scarminach to death at around 2 a.m. on the 2400 block of Maricopa Highway in Meiners Oaks on April 26, 2009 during a party.

Ambarian:

Continued from Page A1

There was no formal crossing guard training, although Ambarian says she picked up considerable background in traffic law from her husband, who served as a motorcycle cop in Thousand Oaks.

Her only on-the-job equipment is a neon yellow, self-standing sign that warns, "Slow — Student Crossing," and a hand-held stop sign. "When I'm holding up the stop sign, drivers need to obey it like the flashing red lights on a school bus," says Ambarian. "I don't care if motorists get impatient. The kids are my main priority."

Comment on this report at
ojaivalleynews.com

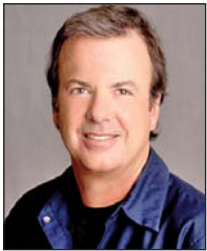


Photo by Perry Van Houten
Kris Ambarian keeps kids safe each day as crossing guard at Topa Topa.

PERRY VAN HOUTEN

OJAI VALLEY HIKING TRAILS

Foothill Trail to Cozy Dell



The network of trails on the Ojai front range sometimes allows you to combine shorter sections of trails into interesting loop hikes. My Wills Canyon-Rice Canyon column March 16 in the OVN started me thinking about other fun Ojai loop trips. Here's one that's close to town, offers a variety of terrain and great views, and takes only a couple of hours to complete.

Park at the Pratt Trailhead off North Signal Street and hike the rocky, first mile up Stewart Canyon. Cross one paved road and turn right at another, heading uphill past the locked gate and onto a dirt road. You can't miss the signed Foothill Trail, on the left just beyond a water tank.

At first, the trail climbs somewhat steeply over rocks and railroad ties, to a fork where you go left (uphill). Brush here was recently cleared by Gordie Hemphill and the Trail Boss Training Program, who work in conjunction with the U.S. Forest Service.

For about the next mile you climb-drop-repeat to the high point of the trail, before descending through a lovely meadow into Cozy Dell Canyon.

At two and a half miles the trail meets Cozy Dell Road. Go right and head uphill on the shady fire road to an overlook at about three and a half miles. That's Pratt Trail and a section of Fuelbreak Road far below you, snaking away into the distance.

Go left at the overlook. The right hand option dead ends on a ridge after about a quarter mile. Hike another 10 minutes or so to the summit and the

Pratt-Cozy Dell saddle, where big metal pipes provide a good place to sit, rest those tired dogs, and enjoy the nearly 360-degree view.

Complete the loop by taking Pratt Trail downhill from the saddle and hiking a few switchbacks, past the junction with Fuelbreak Road on your left. Continue a little way and look for a brushy, unsigned trail on the right.

This is Foothill Trail and it connects with the right-hand fork you didn't take early in the hike. You descend a bit, cross the shallow creek and pass a green, wooden gate that's been tagged. Take a left at the fork and retrace your steps back to Pratt Trail and Ojai. You can also skip this section of Foothill Trail and simply continue down the Pratt fire road.



Photo by Christen Minnick/Brooks Institute

Ninth Annual Ojai April Fools Car Show a Success

Hailey Phalen and Fox Masteller, at top, dance and play in front of the Dwayne Bower's 1972 Checker Taxi Cab at the Ninth annual Ojai April Fools Car Show, held at Chaparral School April 1. At bottom right, Chuck Testa, in helmet, shares a laugh with Bower as he puts a historical helmet on Bower's head. At bottom left, Jim Wattell from Santa Paula admires the work Ken Brown put into his Yukon yellow 1957 Chevy pickup truck.

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Ojai Valley News In Depth

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Misty Volaski interviews Emily Long



Relay for Life Event coordinator Emily Long tell Misty how to form a team in the 24-hour fundraiser walk for the American Cancer Society, coming to Ojai May 19.

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around OUR valley

THE CALENDAR OF OJAI VALLEY EVENTS

This Week

Friday, April 6
FULL MOON YOGA EVENT — featuring yoga and dance with Hemalaya, will be held today from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Mind and Body Studio at Ojai Valley Inn & Spa, followed by light refreshments with wine from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Cost: \$25. Call 646-1111 or go to ojaioresort.com.
FREE KIDS' EASTER EXPLOSION — will be held today from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Church of the Living Christ, 190 E. El Roblar Drive, featuring an egg hunt, games, live music and more fun. Call 646-1296 for more details.
"OLIVER" — creates powerful music and drama, torn from the well-worn pages of Dickens' "Oliver Twist," and comes with a warning that it may not be suitable for kids under age 10. It runs four weekends, today through April 29, at Ojai Art Center Theater, 113 S. Montgomery St.; 7:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and 2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Tickets: \$20 general, \$18 for seniors, students and Art Center members, and \$10 for youth 12 and younger. Reservations recommended: 640-8797 or OjaiACT.org.
"WOMEN OF TROY" — Senga Classic Stage Company will present "Women of Troy" today through April 29 at Ojai Valley Grange, 381 Cruzero St., Ojai, with performances on Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. (except April 7 at 2 p.m. only) and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets: \$15 or \$12 for seniors and students (group rates available); 646-4885 or franciscabeach.com.
MIGHTY CASH CATS AT JESTER — Today at 9 p.m., The Mighty Cash Cats, a Johnny Cash tribute band, will perform at The Village Jester, 139 E. Ojai Ave. No cover charge. Call 640-8001.
Saturday, April 7
VOLUNTEER TRAIL DAY —

The Ojai Ranger District is hosting a volunteer project on Saturday on the Howard Creek Trail. The focus will be brushing and total hiking distance is five and a half miles. Bring a lunch, water, sunscreen, gloves, eye protection, hat, and wear sturdy shoes. It's a fun way to meet other outdoor enthusiasts or accrue community service hours. Forest Service will provide tools, instruction and drinks. Meet at the Ojai Ranger Station, 1190 E. Ojai Ave., at 8:30 a.m. to car pool to the trailhead, and return by 4 p.m. Rain will cancel the event. For more information, call 646-4348.
HERB HIKE — on Sisar Creek with local naturalist-herbalist Lanny Kaufer will be held Saturday from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Learn identification and uses of native plants. Cost: \$25 for adults, \$15 for seniors 62 and older, \$15 for high school and full-time college students. No dogs. Register at HerbWalks.com or call 646-6281.
"WILD ABOUT OJAI" HIKE — Ojai Valley Land Conservancy will hold a Kennedy Ridge hike and picnic on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., led by Rick Bisaccia, OVLC preserve manager, and trail guidebook author Craig R. Carey. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water, picnic lunch and sun protection. Meet at the Oso Trailhead off Meyer Road at 10 a.m. Free to OVLC members, \$10 for non-members. Reservations required; 649-6852, Ext. 2, or marti@ovlc.org.
DEMO GARDEN WORK DAY — Volunteers are invited to work on Saturday at 10 a.m. in the Ojai Demonstration Garden, 401 S. Ventura St., behind City Hall. No experience is necessary and there is something for everyone. Stay as long as you like.
"END OF THE SPEAR" — On Saturday at 7:30 p.m., a free screening of the film, "End of the Spear," will be offered in Libbey Bowl, sponsored by Church of the Living Christ and Live Oak

Church.
Sunday, April 8
EASTER EGG HUNTS — Ojai Valley Community Church will host an Easter egg hunt for kids after its 6:30 a.m. Sunday sunrise service at Lake Casitas; call 646-4324. Calvary Chapel of the Ojai Valley will host a children's egg hunt following its 10 a.m. Sunday service at the Oak View Park & Resource Center, 555 Mahoney Ave.; call 649-1515.
WEST AFRICAN DRUM CLASS — led by Malik Sow of Senegal and Solo Soro from the Ivory Coast, is held every Sunday from 10:30 a.m. to noon at the Wrec Room, 219 E. Matilija St. Cost is \$20 per class and includes loaner drum if needed. Call 646-6150.
"DOGTOWN AND Z BOYS" — Ojai Wesleyan Church and Church of the Living Christ will sponsor a free screening of "Dogtown and Z Boys" on Sunday at 6 p.m. at Chaparral Auditorium, 414 E. Ojai Ave. This is a documentary about the teenagers from Santa Monica, called "Z Boys," who in the '70s, revolutionized skateboarding into the sport it has become. Rated PG-13 for language and some drug references. Former "Z Boy" Morgan Smith will be a guest speaker and share his story. Everyone is invited. Questions: call Adriana Olivas at 620-2867.
Monday, April 9
FREE SUBSTANCE ABUSE EDUCATION — The A.S.T.E.R. Foundation and Gladstone Counseling Center will present free "Substance Abuse Education" meetings at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 409 Topa Topa Drive, on Mondays from 6:30 to 8 p.m., April 9 through April 23, for ages 12 to adults. Patti Michaels, M.A., Psy.D. candidate, will facilitate, supervised by Bruce Gladstone, Ph.D. Call 646-9724 for more details.
"LETTERS HOME" — On Monday at 7 p.m. at the Ojai Art Center, 113 S.



movie review

Funny French film similar to 'The Help'

The Ojai Film Society will screen "The Women on the 6th Floor" (France 2011) Sunday at 4:30 p.m. at the Ojai Playhouse, 145 E. Ojai Ave. Admission is \$10 for the general public, \$7 for seniors (65 and older) and students (with full-time student ID). Subscribers with valid 2012 identification will be admitted to regular Ojai Film Society screenings free of charge. This film is not rated.

It's 1960s Paris. Jean Louis and Suzanne are a bourgeois couple living in a spacious apartment that has been in his family for generations. He is a staid stockbroker, while she spends her days in the pursuits favored by the idle rich. In the cramped and ill-tended 6th floor above their antique-filled apartment resides a very different social class — immigrant maids from Spain. As in "The Help," the maids and their employers live in alternate universes. This soon changes when a new maid, Maria, is hired to replace their long-

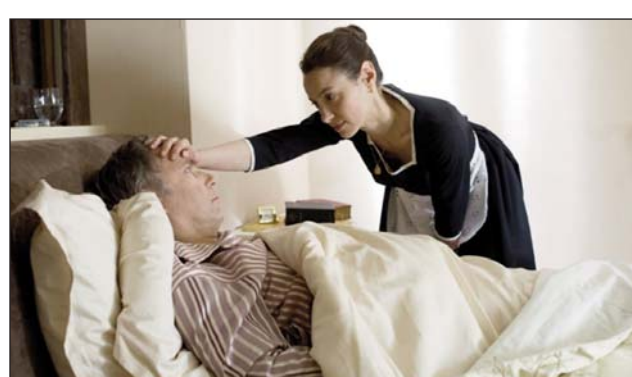


Photo submitted

The Ojai Film Society will open its spring series with the humorous French farce, "The Women on the 6th Floor," on Sunday afternoon at the Ojai Playhouse.

suffering former maid. "The Women on the 6th Floor" has something for everyone. The maids are a delightful collection of high-spirited women, each of whom has a story: from the one who conserves her meager wages so that one day she can build her dream house in Spain, to the cynical, chain-smoking left-wing radical who has no use for the moneyed class. But it is Maria, whose elegant beauty is matched

by her steely determination not to be treated as a household appliance, who is the center of the film. Her effect on her fellow maids and Jean Louis and his family will change everything. "The French ... have been making funny and agreeable movie farces forever and seeing 'The Women on the 6th Floor' makes you hope they'll never stop." — Kenneth Turan, Los Angeles Times

Montgomery St., the Literary Branch will host a reading of "Letters Home," a play about renowned poet Sylvia Plath. April is National Poetry Month. The group will celebrate the poet and poetry with the play by Rose Leeman Goldemberg, based on letters between Plath and her mother. Gai Jones portrays Aurelia Plath, and Brittany Danyel portrays the poet, with John Slade directing. Danyel was last seen at the Art Center as Mary in "It's a Wonderful Life." Jones and Slade are well-known in our community as admired directors, actors and educators. Through their efforts we'll follow the drama of Sylvia Plath's life, leading to her death from suicide in 1963 at the age of 30. Refreshments will be served.

Suggested donation: \$5.
Tuesday, April 10
"EXPLORATIONS IN THE RIG VEDA" — a three-week program with Ravi Ravindra, will be held on April 10 to 13 and 17 to 20, Tuesday to Friday, 10 a.m. to noon, and April 24 to 26, Tuesday to Thursday, 10 a.m. to noon, at Krotona School, 46 Krotona Road. The course will focus on cosmogenesis, natural order, sacrifice, and the Gayatri mantra. Series, \$35; single session, \$10. 646-1139 or schoolinfo@krotonainstitute.org.
TALK BY ARC — Arc of Ventura County is committed to securing the opportunity to choose and realize the goals of where and how they learn, live, work, and play for all people with developmental disabilities and related

conditions. On Tuesday, Fred Robinson, current CEO of Arc, and Andy Soter will brief Retired Men's Club members on the social, recreational and vocational services provided by their organization. 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 always welcome. Call 646-3497 for more information.
WILDFIRE SAFETY PROGRAM — The next neighborhood Wildfire Safety presentation will be for homeowners in the Krotona-Taormina area; all residents, families and children are welcome. It will be

Continues on next page

Saturday, April 21
11-4 @ Oak Grove School

EARTH PLAY

Four Ojai-based green organizations are teaming up to host this free, once-a-year community event. Come for food, live music, play, and new ideas.

Visit www.ojaiearthplay.org for all of the details. See you there!

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About the Presenter

Dr. John Tesman specializes in Hyperbaric Medicine and is Board Certified in Undersea and Hyperbaric medicine as well as Emergency Medicine, and is a Fellow of the College of Chronic Wound Care Specialists. Dr. Tesman has been a Hyperbarics and Chronic Wound Care Medical Director locally for the past 10 years and is the Medical Director for The Center for Wound Healing & Hyperbaric Medicine. Dr. Tesman is an active member of the Community Memorial Hospital Medical Staff.

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HIGHLIGHTING THE DIVERSE DELIGHTS OF THE OJAI VALLEY GOURMET

Ojai Valley News • Friday, April 6, 2012 A5

Valley:

Continued from Page A4

held on Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at the cul-de-sac area mesa by 66 Taormina Lane. Reminder signs will be posted in the neighborhood, and light refreshments will be served. For more information, call Will Castagna, Ojai Valley Fire Safe Council, at 646-7307. **“HELENA PETROVN BLAVATSKY AND THE BATTLE AT MENTANA”**—The Theosophical Society in the Ojai Valley will meet Tuesday at 7 p.m. at Krotona School, 46 Krotona Road. Cynthia Overweg will talk on “Helena Petrovna Blavatsky and the Battle at Mentana.” Call 646-2653. **WOMEN’S WISDOM CIRCLE**—On Tuesday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at a retreat setting in Ojai, psychologist Robyn Posin, Ph.D., will lead a discussion on “Single and Thriving in a Coupled World: The Juicy Opportunities in a Primary Relationship with Oneself.” Limited to 15 to 20 women; call 646-4518 for reservations and directions. Suggested donation: \$15 (no one turned away for lack of funds).

BECKMAN CONCERT—Ojai Youth Entertainers Studio, 316 E. Matilija St., will host a concert by Portland singer-songwriter Thad Beckman on Tuesday at 8 p.m. Tickets: \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door; available at ojaives.org or call 646-4300. **Wednesday, April 11** **MUSIC AT AZU**—Well-known Fern Barishman will entertain with all your piano bar favorites every Wednesday from 7 to 9 p.m. at Azu, 457 E. Ojai Ave. Song requests are encouraged. For reservations call 640-7987.

“BEST OF T.E.D.”—will be the title of a lecture by Darina Stoyanova on Wednesday at 7 p.m. at World University, 107 N. Ventura St., Ojai. Suggested donation: \$5 to \$10 (no one turned away). Call 646-1444.

Thursday, April 12 **“HOW TO NATURAL DETOX FROM HEAVY METALS AND OTHER TOXINS”**—is the title of a class to be taught by Khabir Southwick on Thursday from 7 to 9 p.m. at Healing in America, 107 W. Aliso St., Ojai. Cost: \$15. Space is limited; call 649-1071 or e-mail khabir@naturalhealingojai.com.

Down The Road

“SUBVERDE”—is a two-part event featuring a Terence McKenna docu-

mentary and a live trance didgeridoo performance, being held April 13 at 7:30 p.m. at Sacred Space Studio, 410-A Bryant Circle. Suggested donation: \$15-\$20. Call 646-6761. **“THE NIGHT THOREAU SPENT IN JAIL”**—will be presented by the Nordhoff High School theater department, directed by John Slade, on April 13 and 14 at 8 p.m. and April 15 at 2 p.m. at Ojai Youth Entertainers Studio, 316 E. Matilija St., Ojai. Proceeds will benefit NHS theater department. Tickets: \$10; available at ojaives.org or at the door.

BIRD WALK—Ventura Audubon Society will host a bird walk on April 14 at 8:30 a.m. at Lake Casitas, led by John Pavelko (640-9040). Should see snowy and great egrets, great blue herons, spring migrants and more. **DEFENSE FUND HIKE**—The Ojai Valley Defense Fund will host a free hike on the Ilvento Preserve on April 14, departing at 8:30 a.m. from the Horn Canyon Trailhead. Bring wildflower books, binoculars, water, snacks and wear sturdy shoes. Call 646-1200 for more information and to R.S.V.P.

RUMMAGE SALE AND FOOD DRIVE—New Hope Christian Center, 590 Old Ventura Ave., Oak View, will hold its annual benefit event to raise funds for youth programs and the Oak View Food Pantry on April 14. A rummage sale will run from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Call Pam at 649-2244 if you have donations.) Canned foods and dry goods may be dropped off at the center on April 14 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

A MORNING OF MINDFULNESS—will be held on April 14 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Being Peace Zendo, a home-based center practicing in the tradition of Thich Nhat Hanh, at 308 Drown Ave. (enter through the driveway). Enjoy walking meditation, sitting meditation, chanting, and inspirational readings. No experience is necessary. Call Kenley Neufeld at 669-8432 or visit ojaimindfulness.org for more information.

OJAI ECOTOURISM CONFERENCE—will be held April 14, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and April 15, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Meditation Mount, 10340 Reeves Road. Join an interactive conversation about creating an ecotourism initiative in the Ojai Valley with organizations and businesses from our community. Registration: \$35. Visit www.ojaiforum.com or call 646-5508.

DANCES OF UNIVERSAL PEACE—a participational meditative circle dance using chants from various

traditions to open the heart and form a sense of community, will be held April 14 at 6:45 p.m. at Sacred Space Studio, 410-A Bryant Circle. Love donation. Call 701-1327.

BENEFIT CONCERT—for Ojai musician Randy Purdue, titled “A Gathering of the Tribe,” will be held April 14 from 1 to 7 p.m. at Little House, 111 W. Santa Ana St., featuring about a dozen local favorite musicians plus a silent auction and raffle of a guitar signed by Kenny Loggins. Suggested donation: \$10. All proceeds will help cover Purdue’s medical costs. Can mail donations to: Kenneth “Randy” Purdue, P.O. Box 403, Ojai, CA 93024.

PEDDLERS’ FAIR—Ojai Peddlers’ Fair will feature antiques, collectibles, crafts and clothing on April 14 and 15, 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.

FREE BLOOD PRESSURE READINGS—On April 15 and 22 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in front of Vons, seniors at Nordhoff High School’s Health Science Academy will be doing free blood pressure readings. Donations are welcome.

“THE DIVINE COMEDY”—The Theosophical Society in the Ojai Valley will meet April 17 at 7 p.m. at Krotona School, 46 Krotona Road. Cynthia Overweg will talk on “The Divine Comedy.” Call 646-2653.

“WHO’S EATING THE ENVIRONMENT?”—will be discussed at the American Vedic Association Bhagavad-Gita As It Is Fellowship on April 17 at 7:30 p.m. at 687 Villanova Road. Your diet has more of an impact on the environment than any other single factor. Vedic culture is founded on a comprehensive altruistic philosophy that preserves the ecosystem. It thrived for thousands of years as a model civilization we can learn from. Look into those solutions and your natural roots at the next AVA fellowship. Always free. Call 640-0405.

“RAISE YOUR VIBE HEALING”—will be the title of a lecture by Diane Silvester on April 18 at 7 p.m. at World University, 107 N. Ventura St., Ojai. Suggested donation: \$5 to \$10 (no one turned away). Call 646-1444.

“REUNIONS” MUSICAL AUDITIONS—“Reunions,” a musical version of two famous one-act plays, will take the stage at Ojai Youth Entertainers Studio on June 22 through 24 and June 29 through July 1. Auditions will be held April 21 and 22 from 12:30 to 3 p.m. at OYES, 316 E. Matilija St.,

with callbacks on April 23 from 7 to 9 p.m., and possibly April 25 from 7 to 9 p.m. There are parts for three men and four women. “Reunions” will be double-cast. Call 646-4300 for more details.

OJAI YOUTHFEST—The Ojai Rotary clubs and Ojai Valley Community Hospital will host the fifth annual free Ojai Youthfest on April 22 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Libbey Park to promote Fit Kids, Fit Ojai. The event will include live music by several groups, dance performances, art activities, a climbing wall and Jolly Jumper, face painting, balloon animals, live animals and much more. Call 798-0177 or go to ojairotary.org.

“MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR PREEMIES”—Neotech is a leader in the development of innovative neonatal, pediatric and respiratory products that have helped patients around the world. Its specialty is the creation of skin-friendly products that are ideal for neonates. On April 24 at the Retired Men’s Club meeting, one of Neotech’s founders, Arnold Heyman, M.D., will discuss the company’s history, as well as some of its products. 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 always welcome. Call 646-3497 for more information. **“THE BEGINNING OF THE WAY”**—The Theosophical Society in the Ojai Valley will meet April 24 at 7 p.m. at Krotona School, 46 Krotona Road. Richard Sharpe will talk on “The Beginning of the Way.” Call 646-2653.

LOVE MOVIES!—The monthly movie night on April 25 from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at Meditation Mount, 10340 Reeves Road, will feature the film, “Amazing Grace.” Suggested donation: \$10.

See Valley, Page A6



Randy Graham

CHEF RANDY Pupusas, a fun, healthy dish

Want a fun, different and fulfilling dish? Try pupusas. A pupusa is a stuffed corn tortilla, usually served with a spicy coleslaw called curtido. This recipe makes both.

Pupusas originated in El Salvador, but emigrants have taken the dish to South and North America. They are hand-made and thick. Like all corn tortillas, pupusas are made using corn masa and are generally stuffed with one or more of the following: cheese, refried beans, fried pork rinds and chicken. The curtido is slightly salty which perfectly complements the bland (but tasty!) pupusas.

Robert recently made tortillas for us using masa. He then filled them with black beans and a mozzarella-like cheese, Oaxaca. This gave me the inspiration for my Ojai version below.

Pupusas y Curtido

Curtido:
4 cups shredded cabbage
1 medium carrot, coarsely grated
1/2 cup onion, thinly sliced
1/2 jalapeño, seeded

and finely diced
1/2 cup white vinegar
1 tsp. salt
2 tsp. sugar
1 tsp. dried oregano
Pupusas:
4 cups masa harina
2 tsp. ground cumin
1 tsp. baking powder
1 tsp. salt
3 cups warm water
1/2 cup cooked black beans, rinsed and mashed
1/2 cup Oaxaca cheese, chopped or shredded
Vegetable oil (for frying)
4 cups boiling water over cabbage, carrot, onion, and jalapeño in bowl. Steep 5 minutes. Drain.

Bring vinegar, 1/2 cup water, salt, sugar, and oregano to a boil in saucepan. Pour over cabbage mixture. Cover, and allow to cool.

To make Curtido: Pour 4 cups boiling water over cabbage, carrot, onion, and jalapeño in bowl. Steep 5 minutes. Drain.

Line baking sheet with wax paper. Roll dough into 16 balls. Make indentation in centers of each ball. Fill 8 balls with 1 tablespoon refried beans. Fill remaining 8 balls with 1 tablespoon cheese. Fold edges over filling of each ball and roll into balls once more. Press each ball into 4-inch disks. Place on wax paper.

Heat 3 teaspoons oil in skillet over medium-high heat. Add 4 pupusas at a time to skillet. Cook 3 minutes on one side, turn and cook another 3 minutes on the other. To serve, transfer hot pupusas to your plate and spoon the curtido on the side.

Randy Graham has been a lacto-ovo vegetarian for 35 years. See Valley Vegetarian.blogspot.com for his complete recipe collection.

What Do You Collect? We Want To Know!



Please Contact Us at:
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BODEE'S

Easter Menu

~ Seatings from noon to 6 p.m. ~

- **Honey Glazed Pork Tenderloin Medallions**
with Bodees Sage Honey Glaze, Roasted Pineapple Compote, Whipped Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans
- **Angus Prime Rib**
Certified Angus Prime Rib, Horseradish Whipped Mashed Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables, Crispy Onion Threads, Au Jus
- **Lobster Pot Pie**
Maine Lobster, Sweet Peas, Baby Carrots, Russet Potato, Puff Pastry Crust, Vegetables
- **Crispy Potato Wrapped Salmon**
Scottish Salmon, Crispy Russet Potato, Bodees Ranch Grown Blood Orange Infused Risotto, Bodees Ranch Grown Meyer Lemon Beurre Blanc, Seasonal Vegetables
- **Puff Pastry Wrapped Filet**
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Valley:

Continued from Page A5

Call 646-5508 or go to meditationmount.org. **"MEET YOUR LOCAL PLANT COMMUNITY"** — will be the title of a lecture by Lanny Kaufer on April 25 at 7 p.m. at World University, 107 N. Ventura St., Ojai. Suggested donation: \$5 to \$10 (no one turned away). Call 646-1444.

Ongoing Events

JANE CUSUMANO FOUNDATION — The Jane Cusumano Foundation, a nonprofit organization created to enhance cancer awareness and wellness, meets the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at Coldwell Banker's office. Anyone interested in learning more about the organization or in speaking or volunteering is welcome. For more information call Nora Davis at 646-3128 or 207-6177. Donations are welcome and can be mailed to The Jane Cusumano Foundation, 1129 Maricopa Highway, PMB 126, Ojai, CA 93023. **ROCKIN' ROOTS SOCIETY** — meets the first Wednesday of each month at an East End location. Got roots? Accomplished singers, fiddlers, pickers and other "high lonesome" sound makers welcome.

Limit six per session. Call Chris at 646-8040. **AMERICAN LEGION DINNERS** — The public is welcome to dinners sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of the Ojai American Legion Post 482, 843 E. Ojai Ave., held the first and third Fridays of each month. All proceeds benefit veterans, student scholarships and packages for troops overseas. **GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN** — meets on the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at 922 Topaz Court in Ojai. The group is open to all relative caregivers, not just grandparents. Call 646-6118. **FREE BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING** — Free blood pressure screening is offered the first Thursday of each month from 10:30 a.m. to noon at The Medicine Shoppe, 812 E. Ojai Ave. Call 646-0106. **OPEN DIALOGUES** — Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., a discussion group is held at 308 W. Aliso St. for those on a serious spiritual path to non-dualism who haven't forgotten levity. No charge. Call 640-0755 for information. **TEEN BUZZ: TALK ABOUT WHAT REALLY MATTERS** — Free meetings for teens ages 15 to 18 to talk, listen and share concerns and

Continues on Page A9



Photo by Victoria Linssen

Rainbow Over the Bridge

Locals were treated to a rainbow that arched above Rainbow Bridge Natural Foods store during the valley's last rainstorm. Submit your photos of Ojai Valley people, places and things to editor@ojaivalleynews.com.

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Dan Nelson

MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

It's Easter 2012 and two of the biggest questions pressing humanity throughout history are reignited in the minds of many: Is the end of the world drawing near and is there life beyond this mortal existence?

Dilemmas that have shaken people in every generation have taken new

Humanity is asking some big questions

form in recent years. With the well-publicized end of the Mayan calendar and the writings and movies that have presented this as an indicator of cataclysmic events soon to unfold, combined with the general fear of nuclear threat, economic crisis, meteor bombardment, terrorist extremism, changes in global weather patterns, and governmental control, the topic seems to have heightened concerns in the minds of a lot of people. Is the end of existence, as we have known it, on the horizon?

Beyond the events that have brought alarm to the masses, Bible prophesy

students have been keeping an open newspaper with increasing regularity and awe as fulfillment of last day predictions play out. "What could all this mean?" some wonder. Should we be looking to the Scriptures for answers?

It is interesting that the message of Easter is central to all the most perplexing consternations. If Jesus truly rose from the dead, the implications are vast; there is life after death, and Jesus is a credible source for information about this, plus it would mean he is alive today to authenticate his testimony and make good on his promises. Then "end of the world" anxieties

become secondary to the significance of what comes next, given the temporality of this life, and the indisputable fact that everyone will exit the planet one way or the other. The question of the historical actuality of the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead therefore becomes the pivotal matter to be resolved, the metaphorical hinge on which the door swings.

If Jesus has truly conquered death according to the biblical claims, and the faith of every Christian, then his declaration of deity, affirmation of eternity, and substitution as proxy on our behalf, are all substantiated. The only

challenge remaining is in reply to the query regarding each individual's response to his zeal; will we submit to Jesus as king or continue to conjure a competing kingdom.

The "Passion of the Christ," a term widely associated with the week culminating in Good Friday and Easter, relates the heart of God to people. He is so intent on gathering every wayward lamb into the sheepfold, that nothing is withheld that was deemed necessary. "For God so loved the world that He sent His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him, should not perish but have ever lasting life" (John

3:16).

For those serious about seeking answers to the most titanic of all questions, Jesus' words ring steady, "Seek and you shall find." This Sunday, various churches will open doors and Bibles to unveil boundless truths that God will use to restart lives, set people free, and many will be "born again." Where will you be on Easter 2012?

Dan Nelson is pastor of Calvary Chapel Ojai Valley (calvaryojai.org). The opinions expressed are those of the author, and not necessarily those of his church, the Ojai Valley Ministerial Association, nor the Ojai Valley News.

Calvary Chapel of the Ojai Valley

Calvary Chapel invites you to celebrate Easter with them beginning with a Sunrise Prayer Service at 6:30 a.m. t the Chapel, 195 Mahoney Ave., Oak View, followed by a free breakfast at 9 a.m. at the Oak View Park and Resource Center, 555 Mahoney Ave. Also at

the center at 10 a.m., there will be an Easter Worship Service and a children's egg hunt.

Call 649-1515 for more information.

Ojai Valley Community Church

Everyone is welcome to worship at Ojai Valley Community Church, 907 El Centro St., Ojai. Today

from 7 to 10 p.m., a labyrinth and meditation will be held. On Sunday at 6:30 a.m., an Easter Sunrise Service will be held at Lake Casitas with doughnuts and coffee, followed by an egg hunt for children and pancake breakfast. Then at 10 a.m. on Sunday, an Easter Service will be held at the church sanctuary.

Call 646-4324 for more information.

First Church of Christ, Scientist

"Are Sin, Disease and Death Real?" is the subject of this Sunday's lesson at the Christian Science Church, based on a passage from 1 Corinthians: "Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." The church service and Sunday school begin at 10 a.m. Testimonial meetings are held Wednesdays at 7 p.m. All are welcome.

The church is located at the corner of Oak and Blanche streets in Ojai. Call 646-4901 for information.

Our Lady and All Angels Liberal Catholic Church

Holy Week services at Our Lady and All Angels Liberal Catholic Church will include Holy Saturday at 9 a.m., a Blessing of Fire with lighting of the Pascal Candle. On Easter Sunday at 10:30 a.m., Bishop Torres will celebrate Holy Eucharist. Everyone is invited and may receive Holy Communion.

The Liberal Catholic Church promotes freedom of thought and does not require members to ccept any dogma.

Our Lady and All Angels is located at 1502 E. Ojai Ave. For information call 646-0570.

Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer

The Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer, 1290 E.

Grand Ave., invites you to celebrate with them the joy of Easter on Sunday at 9 a.m., followed by a time of fellowship. And before that, today at 7 p.m., Good Friday worship will be held, remembering that Jesus paid the once-and-for-all sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

The Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer is located at 1290 E. Grand Ave., Ojai. Call 646-2064 for more information.

Ojai Valley Baptist Church

Ojai Valley Baptist Church, 11642 N. Ventura Ave., invites you to their Easter morning service on Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Pastor Dave Page's sermon is titled "Rebounding from Failure." Sunday school classes for all ages start at 9 a.m. There will be no evening service on Easter Sunday.

Dinner, Bible study and family fun are held Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Call 646-3362 for more information.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church worships the Lord with joy and laughter, good music, short sermons and free coffee. Child care and Sunday School are provided at 10 a.m. All are welcome at the Lord's Table for Holy Communion.

Good Friday services are being held today at 12 p.m. and 7 p.m., and Easter Vigil will be held Saturday at 8

p.m.

Morning Prayer is offered Tuesdays at 6:45 a.m. and Centering Prayer on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. The outdoor labyrinth is open daily for meditation.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church is located at Bristol Road and Ojai Avenue. For information, call 646-1885.

Symphony of Life Spiritual Center

The Symphony of Life Spiritual Center practices the teachings of Ernest Holmes and the Science of Mind, "Change Your Thinking, Change Your Life." People of all ages, faiths, lifestyles and ethnicities are welcome, knowing there is only one God within all.

This Sunday, the Rev. Karen Wylie's topic will be "Rise Up, Beloveds." Services are held Sundays at 10 a.m. with a pre-service meditation and the service starts at 10:30 a.m. at the Ojai Valley Woman's Club, 441 E. Ojai Ave. Child care is provided.

Ojai United Methodist Church

Everyone is welcome to the Ojai United Methodist Church, 120 Church Road, every Sunday at 10:15 a.m. for worship for all ages. The sanctuary is open Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon for personal prayer and meditation. Adult Bible study begins at 9 a.m. Praise time is at 10 a.m. Sunday School for ages 0 through 8 is held at 10:15 a.m.

A Tenebrae, Good Friday, service will be held today at 7 p.m.

On Easter Sunday, Pastor John Robison's sermon will be "An Empty Tomb, What Does It Mean to You?" Scripture will be from John 20:1-18. Come hear the

See Churches, Page A9



ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Join us.

Palm Sunday & Easter Services, 10 AM

Palm Sunday 10 AM
Maundy Thursday 7 PM
Good Friday 12 PM & 7 PM
Easter Vigil 8 PM
Easter Sunday 10 AM

CORNER OJAI AVE & BRISTOL RD.
 PHONE: 646-1885 EMAIL: STANDREWS.OFFICE@SBCGLOBAL.NET

Join us this Easter season!

Good Friday Service
Friday, April 6th at 7 p.m.

Easter Celebration
Sunday, April 8th at 9 & 11 a.m.

Easter Egg Hunt
Sunday, April 8th at 10 a.m.



First Baptist Church of Ojai 930 Grand Avenue 805.646.3333 www.fbcjai.org



Good Friday Meditation Labyrinth
 April 6, open 7-10 p.m. OVCC
 Self guided meditations on the last seven sayings of Jesus on the Cross.

Easter Sunrise Service at Lake Casitas
 April 8 6:30 a.m.
 Free parking across the street from the event area. Donuts and coffee before service, followed by egg hunt and pancake breakfast. Donations to benefit local charities. Bring a chair and blanket.

Easter Service at OVCC Sanctuary
 April 8 10:00 a.m.
 Sunrise Easter message offered in a church setting.

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 Ph: 646-5737 or 646-7768

CHRISTIANS COMMITTED TO WORSHIPPING AND GLORIFYING GOD IN CHRIST

All are welcomed so th together we can seek to know God through Jesus Christ.

SUNDAY
 Worship - 10:00am
 Bible Study - 11:30a
 Evening - 6:00pm *
 * No evening service Sunday

KID'S EASTER EXPLOSION

Friday April 6th doors open @ 6:30-8:30

egg-hunt! games! live music! fun!

at Church of the living Christ
 190 E. El Roblar Dr. Ojai CA
 805 646 1296

Passing the Buck

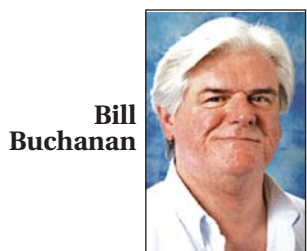
Why can't we get it right?

Read Bill's commentaries at ojaivalleynews.com/passingthebuck.html

You know, you would think that as much practice with killing as we have had in this country, we would be able to get it right. I am speaking of the Trayvon Martin fiasco that has dominated the news lately. There is so much incompetence, hyperbole and deception in this case, it is hard to know where to begin.

Let's start with the police. Florida, like many other states has a "stand your ground" law, which allows a person to use deadly force when faced with the threat of serious injury or death from another person or persons. That sounds reasonable. If someone attacked me or a loved one, I would be justified in using whatever force necessary to repel the attack.

While I don't mean to convict George Zimmerman, as so many have already done, the early reports do not seem to indicate that Zimmerman was directly threatened by Trayvon Martin. Rather, 911 tape transcripts indicate that Zimmerman followed Martin, even after he was instructed not to do so by the 911 operator. If this is accurate, Zimmerman was not exactly "standing his ground." It sounds as if he was stalking and perhaps confronting Martin rather than the other way around. If so, how could the police possibly justify not placing Zimmerman under arrest? Years before, Zimmerman was charged with "resisting an officer with violence" and "battery of a law enforcement officer." Zimmerman's ex-fiancée also filed a restraining order against him, alleging domestic violence. This does not convict him, but he doesn't appear to be Gandhi either. Given his



Bill Buchanan

record, how could the police simply allow him to go free?

Then, adding fuel to the fire, factor in Al Sharpton, Jesse Jackson and Spike Lee. These men, and others like them, have called for protests, rallies and demonstrations. Spike Lee gave out Zimmerman's address so he could be hounded by the public. Unfortunately, he gave out the wrong address. Consequently, an innocent elderly couple was continually berated and threatened. I hope they have a good attorney.

As for Al and Jesse, the main goal here is not to address injustice or racial bias. The main concern seems to be: "Exactly how much publicity can we get out of this?" I would feel much safer coming between a suicide bomber and his target than coming between Jesse or Al and a TV camera. At least with the bomber, you have a chance.

These are the same guys who have been virtually silent about young black men being murdered by other young black men, a problem of epidemic proportions in our country. Where is their outrage and anger on that issue? Why are they not holding rallies to try to stem that violence?

Additionally, let's not forget our old pal, the national media. Just when you think the national media has slashed its standards as much as it can, it digs the

hole a little deeper. First, there were the comments by that editorial embarrassment, Geraldo Rivera. Rivera claimed that the "hoodie" worn by Martin was as responsible for his death as the shooter himself. He later issued a weak apology for his inane remarks.

Finally, there are the photos. The national media has almost unlimited resources. But rather than obtain current photos of the two men involved, photos which were initially released of both men were several years old. In Trayvon Martin's case, it makes him appear much younger, and more vulnerable. In George Zimmerman's case, he is shown in an old 2005 booking photo. He is overweight, unshaven, and wearing an orange jail jumpsuit. They might as well put a big "I am guilty" label across it. The photo is in stark contrast to more recent photos that have surfaced. It is an intentionally manipulative attempt by the media to sway public opinion and try the case before it gets into the court system. It is pitiful and insulting to the American public.

There are many issues in this case that deserve serious consideration and discussion. But instead of using this tragic event to have constructive discourse about legal, racial and criminal issues that confront our country, it has disintegrated into a media circus. That is sad.

You would think that with as many senseless killings as we have in this country, we would know what to do. Unfortunately, we can be assured of getting a lot more practice.



intent, and eventually convicted, after a trial where I was unable to mention any of the harassment or preceding events (Ventura County, California Criminal Case #2010013619 FA).

I believe the harassment stems from the following: the Ventura County Sheriff's Office is more interested in making revenue than keeping drunk drivers off the road, and my free shuttle service doesn't make that easy. Local ex-police have shared with me, although no one will go on the record, the Ojai sheriffs have been reprimanded that Ojai doesn't have as many DUIs, per capita, as other surrounding towns and cities, and isn't generating as much revenue for the county. And that the Sheriff's Office is run like a corporation, wanting to make a profit.

The Free Designated Driver/Downtown Shuttle continues to run every Friday and Saturday nights, until I have to start serving my 180-day sentence on April 16, 2012. And I continue to use my own vehicle, gas and insurance to keep it going, receiving only donations from the people I get home safe.

I'm attaching some of the court documentation and ask that you please review it. I can provide more or schedule a call if that is beneficial. Please let me know if there is anything you can offer to assist me in what seems to be an ongoing effort to make Ojai's Free Downtown Shuttle, and me, stop.

Kind regards,
Adrianus "Dutch" Vanhemert
214 Bryant Street
Ojai, CA 93023
(805) 340-6850
CC: Robert Clark, City of Ojai, City Manager
Captain Dunn, Ojai Sheriff's Department
Joseph Fletcher, City of Ojai, Attorney

Susie L. Means, City of Ojai, Finance Director
Ventura Star Free Press
Ojai Valley News
ACLU
Mothers Against Drunk Driving

City threatening, not doing its job

VALERIE G. BULLOCK, OJAI

On the front page of the March 30, 2012 edition of your paper was an article describing my public comment during the March 27, 2012 Ojai City Council meeting. I would like to clarify some points made in your article.

First, the city of Ojai has not issued a citation against us that I am aware of.

Second, the city has a policy that it only enforces code violations if someone makes a written complaint. During a meeting in his office, Rob Clark, city manager, claimed that a complaint was filed against us by Betsy Clapp. He would not give us a copy of the complaint, but did show it to us.

We have lost well over \$100,000 complying with the city's enforcement

actions, but after repeated requests the city will not give us a copy of the complaint form made against us. It is a public record and the city should have given it to us within 10 days after our request. The document was also not provided to us when a certified copy of our entire complaint file was provided to us by the city clerk.

We have made the request in two letters to Mr. Clark and copied every member of the council, including Mayor Betsy Clapp. Yet, in violation of the Public Records Act, we have not been provided the document. Why does the city threaten us with fines, but does not follow the law itself? I do not want to waste my time suing the city, but I am forced to protect my family because the city has threatened us with a \$1,000-per-day fine. This experience is a huge waste of time and money for us. The city should be doing its job correctly and not wasting time and money on legal fees because it failed to comply with the law.

My conclusion is very simple. Either Ms. Clapp

Continues on Page A9

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Seder Saturday Jewish tradition

GLORI YOUNG, OJAI

Passover, the Festival of Freedom beginning tonight, is when we commemorate our ancestors' redemption from Egyptian slavery.

During this season of liberation Jews all over the world will honor the tradition by celebrating at a Seder (which means "order") and will hear again the story of the exodus from Egypt when the pharaoh, after many plagues devastated his people, allowed the Israelites to cross the Red Sea into the promised land. We read the story and eat the matzos and other traditional food like matzo ball soup and gefilte fish.

Our community Seder will be Saturday night at Soule Park Golf Course Banquet Room. All are welcome. For information, call me at 646-2131 or 640-8878.

Appealing to a higher authority

ADRIANUS "DUTCH" VANHEMERT, OJAI

This is a copy of a letter I sent to the state attorney general on March 26, 2012.

...
Kamala D. Harris
California Attorney General
P.O. Box 944255
Sacramento, CA 94244-2550

Dear Madam Attorney General,

I write in the hopes that you might offer assistance in addressing the harassment I've experienced at the hands of the Ventura County Sheriff's Department over the last four years. My attempt to have zero DUI arrests in one small town, by offering a Free Downtown Shuttle to anyone who needs a ride rather than driving drunk, has resulted in my being detained in the county jail several times, multiple traffic stops, tickets for dubious reasons and finally, an arrest and felony conviction started by my honking my horn in hello to a friend.

A brief summary: I moved to the small town of Ojai, California in Ventura County 25 years ago, and in the ensuing 21 years, I received only two driving tickets.

In February 2008, in response to an Ojai resident being convicted of manslaughter after driving while drunk, I started a Free Downtown Shuttle Program where, using my own vehicle, gas and insurance, I drive anyone who asks home for free. Initially, I enlisted 11 local restaurants to offer free rides home their patrons if requested, with the restaurants covering my costs. In the last four years, since starting this program, I've been pulled over 20 to 30 times and have received 10 tickets. While many of these stops weren't documented ("friendly" stops), the experience is the same. And most often, the sheriff involved was Officer Harris.

Many of the tickets received were ultimately dismissed. In one case involving multiple tickets issued, which were issued in a short time frame on the same night, the judge, in response to my claims of being harassed, reprimanded Officer Harris, commenting the volume of tickets issued "didn't look good."

Also, at this point, I started to receive cease and desist letters from the city of Ojai, claiming I didn't have the business license to do what I was doing. So I obtained a license.

Then I received cease and desist letters from the California Public Utilities Commission, claiming the Free Downtown Shuttle lacked the necessary TCP number. But a Free Downtown Shuttle doesn't require a TCP number and the PUC stated I was able to continue the program.

Early in 2010, in the face of ongoing harassing vehicle stops, I attempted to file a harassment complaint with the Ojai Sheriff's Station. After an argument with the captain in charge, I was asked to leave.

In April 2010, I was pulled over by Officer Harris for honking my horn. After a verbal confrontation, and feeling frustrated by the ongoing treatment, I got in my car and drove to the local police station, to again try to file a complaint. I was tazed at the front door of the police station (injuring my hand and suffering a concussion), charged with felony evading arrest with willful

thumbs up, down



• A reader sends a thumbs-up to Mike Lenehan for having the sand to stand his ground and articulate his position. "You knew you would be assailed by the Birkenstock and brown rice bunch, as well as the John Hannahs of the world, whose intellectual acumen, like George Orwell's, should not be questioned, and certainly not laughed at!"

• A reader sends a thumbs-up to Teri Ford and family for raising \$5,000 for Loretta Cassidy, who's fighting cancer. "Great job!"



• A reader sends a thumbs-down to the peeping tom on Creek Road. "You lose your renters that way!"

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.



Mission Statement:

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

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Lenny Roberts, senior editor	234
Linda Griffin, copy editor	227
Jodie Miller, business manager	218
Michelle Delema, classifieds	210
Michelle Delema, circulation	212
Mike Dawkins, advertising sales mgr.	228
Logan Hall, reporter	235
Mike Miller, sports	236
Ashley Turbyfill, production	221
Nancy Sandstrom, production	217
Real Estate	222
Mel Bloom, columnist	237
Colleen McDougal, cartoonist	(805) 861- 0607

Valley:

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challenges will be held near downtown Ojai on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Call for more information and to register, Kathy Leary-Wilde, MFT, 218-9798. **MINDFULNESS PRACTICE AND SANGHA** — is held Thursdays from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. at Being Peace Zendo, 308 Drown Ave., a home-based center practicing in the tradition of Thich Nhat Hanh. Enjoy sitting and walking meditation. No experience necessary. Enter through the driveway. Call Kenley Neufeld at (347) 878-3569 or visit ojaimindfulness.org for more information. **SELF-ENRICHMENT AT LITTLE HOUSE** — A group of genial seniors meets every Friday at 10 a.m. at Little House, 111 W. Santa Ana St., Ojai, to bend, stretch, stimulate, exhilarate and recreate their minds. Featured are speakers, group participation, armchair travel, hot topics, current news, etc. with refreshments being served.

All seniors are welcome. Call Dolores at 640-0088. **HOSPITAL AUXILIARY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** — The Ojai Valley Community Hospital Auxiliary needs new members. The auxiliary has a variety of duties within the hospital to use skills or interests pertaining to helping others. Call 640-6936 or 640-2224. **BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP** — Women who have triumphed over breast cancer, women still undergoing treatment, and those considering treatment — all meet to share tips, choices, experiences, strategies and encouragement on the third Thursday of each month from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at Help of Ojai's West Campus, 370 W. Baldwin Road. Newcomers are welcome. Call 218-9798 for more information. **ENGLISH AS SECOND LANGUAGE CLASSES** — English as a Second Language classes are offered through Ojai Unified Adult Education at Meiners Oaks School Mondays from 3 to 7 p.m. (call 640-4378) and in Room 6 at Ojai Unified

District offices, 414 E. Ojai Ave., Mondays and Wednesdays from 6 to 8 p.m. Call 640-4330. **CASUAL BRIDGE** — games are held every Thursday from 8:45 a.m. to noon at Little House, 111 W. Santa Ana St., Ojai. Call Donna Hunt at 646-2980 or just drop by. **READING TUTORS NEEDED** — Training for volunteers to tutor for the Adult Literacy Program is offered by the Library Services Agency. Call 641-4484. **PINK MOMENT SANGHA** — Meditation in the tradition of Thich Nhat Hanh, second and fourth Mondays from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at The Ojai Retreat, 160 Besant Road, Meiners Oaks. Free. Contact Ginny at 646-5707. **TAROT CARD READING** — Tarot card reader Donna Ellen reads the cards every Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. at Ojai House, 304 N. Montgomery St. Drop in or call 493-7707 for an appointment. **OJAI SONGWRITERS** — A free weekly meeting of open-minded creative musicians and lyricists, who recognize the value of

the collaborative sharing of ideas and music. Call or e-mail Scott, 640-1004 or hscottsmith@sbcglobal.net. **FREE MAMMOGRAMS** — The Ojai Valley Community Health Center, 1200 Maricopa Highway, offers a Breast Cancer Early Detection Program which includes free breast exams for women 40 years old or older and free mammograms for women 50 and older who do not have any medical coverage and cannot afford these services. Call 640-8293 to see if you qualify. **WESTON A. PRICE FOUNDATION** — The local chapter of the national nonprofit Weston A. Price Foundation meets every month on the third Sunday at 1 p.m. at Ojai Valley Community Church, Room 301, Leis Hall, 907 El Centro St. Learn about local, sustainable food resources, lacto-fermented foods, raw milk, and pastured meat and eggs. Call 640-3706 for information. **WORLD OF ONE** — a support group for widows and widowers, meets at Little House, 111 W. Santa Ana St., the third

Wednesday of the month from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Call Help of Ojai, 646-5122. **MEDITATION AND HEALING WORKSHOPS** — Weekly meditation and healing workshops are run by two well-known British healers, now living in Ojai. For details call Roger or Kim at 640-0211. **QUILTERS ANONYMOUS** — meets every Tuesday from 9 a.m. to noon at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, 185 St. Thomas Drive. Beginners are welcome and membership is free. Call 649-5956 for information. **HOME SECURITY PATROL** — The Ojai Valley Security Patrol provides home security for when you are on vacation. Call the Ojai Police at 646-1414 for information. Neighborhood Watch programs are also available. **NOAH COMMUNITY SING** — A fun community sing, open to individuals and families, is held the third Sunday of each month from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at Living Aikido Dojo, Oak View Park and Resource Center, 555 Mahoney Ave., Oak View. Donations accepted. For more infor-

mation, call Craig at 637-4829. **DIVORCE SUPPORT GROUP** — meets Wednesday evenings. For information, call Andrew at 208-4428. **OJAI BREAST-FEEDING HELP LINE** — is staffed by lactation professionals. Telephone counseling, information and referral are available free to the community. Ojai Breast-feeding Help Line: 646-5865. **FREE PRENATAL CLASSES** — Clinicas del Camino Real offers free weekly prenatal classes in Spanish and English at all of its nine sites countywide. They are held on Monday and Thursday evenings throughout the year. In Ojai, the location is the Ojai Valley Community Health Center, 1200 Maricopa Highway. Call 640-8293. **SCHOOLINKS HOME-WORK CENTERS** — SchoolLinks Homework Centers are open at the Ojai Library, Meiners Oaks Library and Oak View Library Mondays through Thursdays from 3 to 5 p.m. when school is in session. Call 289-0368.

Churches:

Continued from Page A7

Hallelujah Handbells and Handchimes play. Coffee fellowship follows the service.

You are also welcome to attend Tenebrae (Good Friday) service on April 6 at 7 p.m.

For more information, call 646-3528. The monthly newsletter may be read at ojaiumc.org.

Ojai Presbyterian Church
Ojai Presbyterian Church

welcomes all who wish to come and worship with them. Today at 7 p.m., a Service of Darkness will feature choral music with a chamber ensemble.

On Easter Sunday, a special brass quintet will be featured at all three services. During the 8 a.m. and 9:15 a.m. services, the Praise Tam Choir will sing "Jesus Is Alive" and will be joined by soloists J.B. White and Kortney Whaley during the offertory, performing "Sing Hosanna." At the 10:45

a.m. service, the Chancel Choir will sing "An Easter Fanfare" and during the offertory the brass quintet will play "Rejoice the Lord Is King."

Three morning services are offered. The first is a contemporary service at 8 a.m. with nursery and toddler care. At 9:15 a.m., a contemporary service is offered with Sunday School for nursery through eighth grade. At 10:45 a.m. a traditional service is held with a children's program for nursery through fourth

grade. The Presbyterian Church is located at 304 Foothill Road. Call 646-1437 for information.

Ecumenical Ministry of the Unity of All Religions

The Ecumenical Ministry of the Unity of All Religions will celebrate Easter Sunday at 11:30 a.m. Thor Reyes, a resident minister of EMUR, will talk on "The Basis of Human Goodness."

The EMUR chapel is located at the World University Plaza at the

corner of Ventura and Matilija streets. Services are held the second Sunday of every month. For more information, call 646-1444.

Holy Cross Church

All are invited to celebrate Easter on Sunday at 10 a.m. at Holy Cross Church. Children are offered classes after the children's message and rejoin teens and adults for Holy Communion at the end of the service. This week a new series begins: "Learning from a

Dangerous Criminal." The focus on Easter will be "Changing Ideas About Jesus."

A Service of Darkness will be held on Good Friday, today at 7 p.m., with music by Bill and Anna Wagner.

Holy Cross wants to help you experience God by saying yes to Jesus every day.

Holy Cross Church is located at 1212 Maricopa Highway. For more information call 646-5652 or go to holycrossojai.org.

Letters

Continued from Page A8

signed the complaint as Mr. Clark said she did, or she did not sign the complaint. If I were the mayor I would be very upset if Mr. Clark falsely filed a complaint in her name.

We just want to be treated fairly. The city has gone to extraordinary lengths to attack us, but does not itself comply with the law. Nor does it enforce

the same laws against other residents. Why are we being harassed? Is this the form of city government that we want?

Thank you for covering this issue.

Poor students can be bright, too

STEVE WEED, OJAI

Re: Kathi Smith editorial

First off, I appreciate the service you provide to our community. Secondly, I completely agree that our

national priorities are terribly skewed toward short-term profits.

The old saying in OD is that you get what you measure. We measure the reading, writing and arithmetic so that is what we get. Until our society begins to measure (i.e., value) creativity, critical thinking skills, etc., we will continue to get what we get.

I do have a bone to pick: you spoke as if gifted students are a different sub-set of student than

poor students. I realize that administratively you manage funds to address these needs as if they are separate.

However, I trust we both realize there are bright students who are poor. Regardless of their abilities we owe it to our students on a moral basis, to educate them well. It is good public policy to educate poor students but never from the perspective that they are not able to be bright.

So as you write a public

editorial, remember your audience. Some are well off and some are not. Some are Caucasian and some are not. It would be very easy for a person of color to read bias into your comments.

Dog shooting so unnecessary

ELISABETH ARVIN, OJAI

Most of us who live in Ojai will surely be wishing to reach out in sympathy to the family of the dog who was killed so unne-

cessarily — but legally. Words just don't help much!

It would be reassuring to know that anyone capable of such mindless brutality was no longer allowed to carry a gun onto one's property without request, invitation or supervision.

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Ojai Valley

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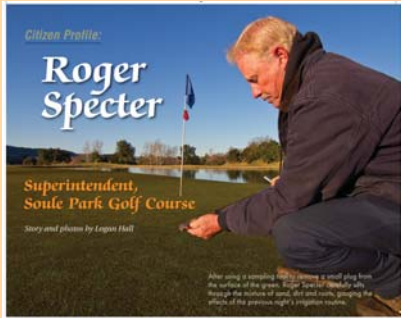
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CITIZEN PROFILE



OJAI WEDDINGS





Junior tennis members dominate tournament

Rick Thompson
OVN contributor

Most of the juniors in this spring's World Team Tennis competed this weekend in the Libbey Park VCJTA Tennis Tournament and, despite rain and wind, it was completed in fine fashion.

Rosie Quackenbush dominated the Girls' 12-and-Under Novice division winning all four of her round-robin matches, then defeated Allison Gennette 8-6 in the finals. Rachel Quackenbush finished second in her flight with 11 games, while Bria Schraeder finished with 6.

Mikel Elizalde captured first in the Boys' 12s Novice, winning 21 games in the round-robin, then won 7-6 over Mason Dochteman in the semis, and defeated Alex Stefanov 6-3 in the finals. Other WTT players in the largest division of the tournament were Mark Zeilsdorf finishing with 17 games, Jose Lopez with 13, Max Mendoza with 12, Nate Rhodes with 6, and Adrian Ocone with 2. Victor Becker of Ojai scored 11 games.

Jaiden Cox captured the Girls' 14s Open with 18 games, while second was Emma Russell with 13

games, and Inga Parkel finished third with 11.

Joseph Quackenbush took first in the Boys' 18 Open beating Daniel Mitchell 6-2, 4-0 (retired) in the finals.

Miguel Magana won the 18s Novice and defeated Jeremy Brooks 8-5 in the finals. Brooks defeated Kevin Rapp 8-5 in the semis.

Olivia Adelman captured the 14s novice taking 22 games in the round-robin, then defeated Serina Applebaum 8-2 in the finals. Alana Adelman scored 16 in her round-robin to take second in her group. Sara Mitchell finished right behind with 11 games.

Calvin O'Dair finished second in the 14s Novice. He won his group with 18 games, but lost 8-6 in the finals to Dan Coulson. Jake Farner scored 15 in his group, Aaron Nelson got 11, Gavin Shreiner got 7, and Griffin Shraeder finished with 2.

WTT players finished first through third in the Boys 16 Open, with Mark Riedmueller winning with 18 games, Ben Mitchell with 16, and Derry Brooks finishing with 14. Kevin O'Reilly also played in the open division.

Julianna Adelman won both her matches to win

the Girls' 18 Novice division, while Naomi Lu finished second.

Margaret Quackenbush finished second in the Girls' 16 Open winning 16 games. Nikki Neumann, of Ojai, finished third with 10 games.

Jules Thompson had a busy Sunday, playing in two divisions. She finished second in the 10s Novice with 13 games. Five other players were in the round-robin, including WTT players Claudia Adelman, Claire Quackenbush, and Elizabeth Russell. Thompson finished second in the 10s Open losing to Katelyn Shin 6-4 in the finals.

WTT players in the Boys' 10s Novice included Elias Simon who finished with 16 games, and Daniel Ortiz who scored 7. Other Ojai players competing were Dakota Martin with 12 games, and Rhodes Cole with 9.

Fabio Lauretta scored nine games in a very hard-fought Boys' 14 Open division that was won by Spencer Ekola.

Junior WTT players were competing individually and as teams in the tournament.

The winning team will be announced at the WTT awards ceremony later this month.



Photo by Holly Roberts

San Antonio fifth-grader Caroline DelVecchio shows off her racket skills during a recent Quick Start Tennis Clinic at her school. Tennis is on everybody's mind in the Ojai Valley as the Ojai Valley Tennis Tournament quickly approaches.

San Antonio Elementary benefits from Quick Start

Holly Roberts

OVN contributor

The free Ojai Quick Start Tennis program, coordinated by Philippe Gache, and offered through the Ojai Recreation Department as a cooperative effort with the Ojai Valley Tennis Club wrapped up another session with third-through fifth-graders at San Antonio Elementary School recently. Volunteer coaches, primarily tennis enthusiasts from the Ojai community, worked with

approximately 90 students during the two-week session. Even students who had never picked up a tennis racket soon learned how to connect with the slow bouncing, low density foam ball and were rallying across the net in no time. The Ojai QS program will take a brief break during April to allow for the many tennis-related activities surrounding the annual Ojai Valley Tennis Tournament, then resume with its final session of the school year at Meiners

Oaks Elementary School in May. However, be sure not to miss the upcoming second annual Quick Start Tennis Challenge which will take place during "The Ojai" on April 26 at 3:30 p.m. at the lower Libbey Park tennis courts. Students from throughout the valley who have participated in the QS program are invited to play.

Contact Gache at ojaquickstart@gmail.com or 649-1720 to register or for more information about the tournament.

High Performance Tennis Clinic being held tomorrow

Tomorrow at 9 a.m. the Youth Activities Committee of the Ojai Tennis Club, sponsor of the Ojai Valley Tennis Tournament, will conduct the seventh annual High Performance Youth Tennis Clinic. Ojai's young tennis players, ranging from in age 10 to 17, will take over all eight courts in Libbey Park for the day, where they will receive professional

instruction from the best tennis coaches in the valley, including Rick Thompson of the Ojai Recreation Department, Ryan Gaston, head pro at the Ojai Athletic Club, Todd Dickey, Nordhoff High School boys' tennis coach, and Mark Weil of the Weil Tennis Academy.

The participants, who have been nominated to participate in this clinic, will play with the various

coaches, concentrating on learning high performance skills. Lunch is sponsored by Toppers Pizza. The High Performance Clinic, under the direction of Ojai Tennis Club board member Craig Fugle, is presented as a service to the local tennis community, by giving special attention to the development of young players.



Photo submitted

Soule Park Paddle Tennis Hosts Free Events

The Soule Park Paddle Tennis Project will be hosting two free paddle tennis clinics for kids at the Ojai Valley Lions Club Paddle Tennis Center at Soule Park on April 13 and April 20 from 4 to 5 p.m. Kids 5 to 14 are welcome to sign up. Paddles, balls and instruction will be provided. Paddle tennis is a great sport for children, as the strokes are easy to learn and the court is smaller than a tennis court. The strokes are the same as for tennis, so paddle tennis is a gateway sport for tennis. Kids of all ages and all skill levels are invited to come out and try the sport for free. Instruction will be provided by the Soule Park Paddle Tennis Project. Paddle tennis is a good family sport, and players are welcome to come out every Saturday and Sunday at 10 a.m. to try the sport. Paddles are available as well as basic instruction to newcomers. To register for the clinics, e-mail ojaipaddletennis@yahoo.com or call Heidi at (562) 449-7298.

Senior Men's Club plays net scramble

Last Monday, the Soule Park Senior Men's Golf Club held a Four-Man Team Net Texas Scramble.

In flight one, first place went to Bill Wood, Mike King and Ray Throckmorton, who shot a 47.33 net. In second place was the team of Todd Tanner, Hugh Black, Jim Davis and Al Gross, who came in with a 49.5.

In flight two, first place went to Dave Sparks, Layton Griffith, Bill Nugent and Tom Odle, carding a tournament-low of 37. Second place went

to Roy Steichen, Andrew Nielsen, George Lawhead and Gary Markley, with a very solid 41.5.

At the luncheon that followed the meeting, the members voted to continue the 8 a.m. shotgun starts.

Soule Park Senior Men's Club is open to men aged 55 years or older of all skill levels. Play is on Mondays, except on Monday holidays, when play is on Wednesdays.

Anyone interested in joining the club can call Jim Maxwell at 646-2003.

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valleynews.com**



Photo submitted

Campana Breaks Two School Records

Villanova Preparatory School swimmers recently broke three school records at the Ventura County High School Championships. Senior Amanda Clark broke her own record in the 50 freestyle. Her teammate, sophomore Erin Millage, broke the girls' 500 freestyle record, which was set in 2007. Edward Campana, pictured above, won the 50 freestyle event and broke his older brother Robert Campana's record set in 2007. Campana also recently broke Villanova's school record in the 100 freestyle event.



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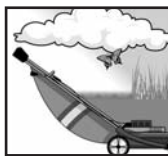
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7	5	9	2	8	4	1	6	3
4	2	1	3	5	6	9	8	7
6	8	3	7	9	1	5	4	2
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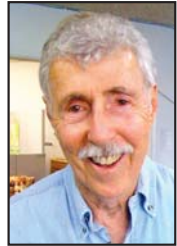
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Mel Bloom

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

Random thoughts while sitting at a concert

Before the cravat (the precursor of the necktie) men often wore their shirts open at the top until some woman inquired, "Why do you guys try to pass yourselves off as gorillas? You would be more attractive if we didn't have to look at your hairy chests." So, men began to button up, and over the centuries a wide variety of neckwear appeared in haberdasheries and around the throats of the male sex, the latest derivation being the necktie.

Often when things evolve they take a natural course and just "go with the flow" and nobody pays attention unless the evolution takes a hazardous turn. That's what has happened with the wearing of the tie. There are no hard-and-fast rules for tie wearers. There may be theories by self-anointed connoisseurs who declare "striped ties should not be worn with checked shirts" or "the Windsor knot is better than the four-in-hand," but only the uppity and those who aspire to uppityness pay attention to such dictums. In short, tie wearing is left to the individual and could be called laissez faire or benign anarchy.

Frankly, I never have given much thought to tie wearing. Years ago when I had a regular job, it was de-

rigueur to appear at the office wearing a tie. In those days, prior to the hippie revolution, all wore ties at the office and especially at weddings, funerals and fancy restaurants. In fact, I recall once I tried to get into Chicago's Pump Room without a tie and it created quite a ruckus which only subsided when my uncle slipped the maitre d' 10 bucks, a sum back then tantamount to a slam dunk.

Recently I attended a wonderful concert by Ojai's Camerata and though there was not a tie to be seen in the audience, the five male singers on stage at the Ojai Art Center were each wearing a tie, and I might add, a suit. They looked so spiffy, had they been wearing shades, they could pass for the CIA or the FBI. But what intrigued me most were the ties.

In attending a musical one has to concentrate on what the singers are singing; and if the chorus is singing, one has to totally concentrate because the more people singing, the more diffuse become the words on the ears of the audience. It is much easier to understand lyrics from a soloist than from a group. The Camerata concert consisted of 24 songs, only four of which were sung in English. The other 20 were delivered in Italian, Latin, German, Hungarian, and French. Since I haven't yet mastered English, I was completely lost as far as an understanding of the lyrics was concerned. But that was advantageous because I could just sit back and luxuriate in the melodies without engaging my brain. That's when the neckties became a focal point of my mind's wandering.

Of the five tie wearers, two men wore ties which extended below the navel while two wore ties which ended above the navel. The fifth tie extended neither below nor above but seemed to have hit the bull's eye right smack on the navel as far as I could determine. I wouldn't testify under oath that is absolutely true because in

the first place the man was wearing clothes and I couldn't see through them. And in the second place, the precise location of the navel depends upon the doctor or midwife who is delivering the baby and where the umbilical cord is cut. And in the third place, the position of the navel is not determined by surveyors. It has a generalized area in which it fits. To my knowledge a navel has never appeared on the forehead. Or the cheek or nose for that matter. I'd wager 99-plus percent of all navels are near the geographic center of the belly.

As the glorious melodies filled the room and enveloped the audience in a collective comfortable reverie, I couldn't help but think I was on to something very significant, something I could share with all humanity. It may not be as important as Isaac Newton's law of gravity or Dr. Salk's vaccination against polio, but in the infinite scheme of things, it may ultimately be looked upon as something important.

I recognize five men are not a sufficient number to qualify for a valid survey. But one has to begin somewhere and if one can't state with certainty, one can at least see the beginning of a trend. I will not be so cavalier as to proclaim 40 percent of all tie wearers wear their ties above their navels while another 40 percent let their ties hang below the navel and the final 20 percent of ties land directly on the navel. But I don't feel it is out of order to claim this ratio in all likelihood is close to accurate for men who sing in cameratas.

All manner of interesting things float through our minds as we are just sitting, sitting and listening to wonderful music.

LAURA STINCHFIELD PET PSYCHIC

Which story do you like better?

Let's pretend that you are a rescue dog named Sprite. Your person loves to tell your rescue story. When you are with her, she tells almost everyone she meets. You have heard the story over and over again. I am going to tell the same story two different ways. I want to ask you, "Which story do you like better?"

While you read the stories, I want you to remember that people create a picture in their minds of everything that they think and say (consciously or not). These pictures and the feelings that come with them are how animals begin to understand people's thoughts and words. The clearer the picture, the clearer the message.

Story 1: You should have seen Sprite when he was first rescued. He was a mess. He had mange. His fur was dull and missing in spots. He had fleas and ticks all over him. They told me he was in a high-kill shelter. His kennel marked in red — meaning he was going to be killed that day. If you went to go pet him he would shy away from your hand, cringe and then bolt. Someone must have hit him. I couldn't even pick up a broom without him submissively urinating. Can you imagine someone beating a dog with broom? I hate people. He took

forever to come around. Sometimes he will see people with hats and a beard and suddenly cower behind me. That must have been his abuser — a man with a hat and a beard. Poor Sprite! He still carries the memory of abuse all these years. It is terrible. He has it good now though. Don't you Sprite? He is spoiled rotten.

Story 2: Doesn't Sprite look good! He once had a skin issue but look how awesome he looks now. He is all fluffy and soft. Have you heard of Maia's Legacy Rescue? They saw him at a high-kill shelter and thought instantly that he is an amazing dog. They got him safe and out of that shelter just in time. Just my luck! He had an angel watching out for him, didn't you Sprite? He has come so far. Before if you went to go pet him he would shy away from your hand, cringe and then bolt. Remember that, Sprite? Now he allows a lot of people to pet him and if an old memory arises, he doesn't bolt anymore, he hides behind me. I am so glad he feels that I am safe. We are working on men with hats and beards. He is getting better. Some men with hats and beards are nice. Aren't they, Sprite? You know what is so cool. He can walk past a broom now without being nervous. He may give it a strange look, but he can

prance right by that broom. I just love my Sprite. I am so proud of how far he has come. Good job, Sprite! He is loved more than anything now. Can't you tell?

If you were Sprite, which story would you like better?

Some things to think about: Why do people become so attached to the negative rescue story? Who looks good in the negative story? Who looks good in the positive version? Which story creates positive momentum for the future?

Everyone in rescue (myself included) has been guilty of telling the first story. I urge you to take some quality time to rephrase your rescue animal's story. Really think about your words, the pictures they create in your mind, and the feelings they give off. Find something positive and make that look and feel wonderful to all. Not only will your animals be thankful, but you may even begin to see steady progress in their behavior. They may seem happier, more confident, and more secure. They may also listen better. Because when they do listen they hear good things rather than having to relive the negative.

I must add, for all who rescue, thank you for rescuing and doing all that you do!

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Bella



Bella is a beautiful 4-year-old shorthaired cat. She is a little shy at first but affectionate and loving when she feels comfortable. Bella is spayed and gets along with other cats. She should live inside only.

Amore



Amore is a 5-year-old female horse who was rescued. She came to the shelter quite underweight but is now healthy and ready for adoption. Despite her poor beginning she is one of the friendliest horses we have had at the shelter.

Ricky



Ricky is a 3-year-old Shih Tzu mix. We don't know his history but he seems friendly with dogs and people. He walks nicely on leash and likes to play. Ricky is neutered. His adoption fee is \$125.

Tawnie & Moo



Tawnie and Moo are two friendly Chihuahua mixes who came in together. Tawnie is spayed and Moo is neutered. It would be ideal if they could be adopted together. They have been waiting since July 2011 for someone to make them part of their family.

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Saturday, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.



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EASTER in the PARK

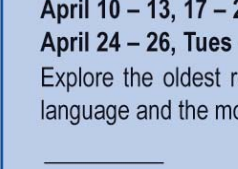
is back at Libbey Bowl
April 8th 10 AM

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April 13 - 15
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PUBLIC NOTICES

OV03-22-12
Published Ojai Valley News
March 23, & 30, 2012
April 6, 2012
NOTICE OF
APPLICATION TO SELL
ALCOHOLIC
BEVERAGES
Date of Filing
Application: March 14,
2012
To Whom It May
Concern:
The Name(s) of the
Applicant(s) is/are:

MARCHEY, INC.
The applicants listed
above are applying to the
Department of Alcoholic
Beverage Control to sell
alcoholic beverages at:
133 E. OJAI AVE.
OJAI, CA 93023-3209
Type of license(s) applied
for:
41 – On-Sale Beer And
Wine – Eating Place
OVN03-25-12
Published Ojai Valley News

March 30, 2012
April 6, 13, & 20, 2012
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
File Number 20120321 -
10003750-0 1/1
Ventura County Clerk and
Recorder
MARK A. LUNN
File Date: 03/21/2012
THE FOLLOWING
PERSON(S) IS (ARE)
DOING BUSINESS AS:
THE HAIR SHOP
Street Address of

Principal Place of Business
(P.O. Box or PMB not
acceptable):
236 W. OJAI, CA 93023,
Ventura County
Full name of 1st
Registrant (Individual)/
Corporation/Limited
Liability Company:
NANCY MASON
Residence Address of 1st
Registrant (P.O. Box or
PMB not acceptable):
237 N. ALVARADO
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 3-21-12.
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.)
Nancy Mason, Owner
/s/NANCY MASON
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.

FAX: 646-4281

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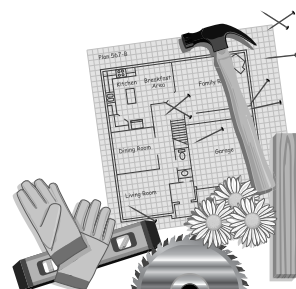


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MAINTENANCE

all about pets

Featured here
are some of our
beloved local pets.



Esther - The Goat



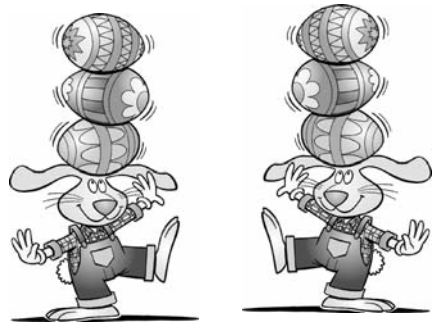
Snooker and Snipper
out shopping.



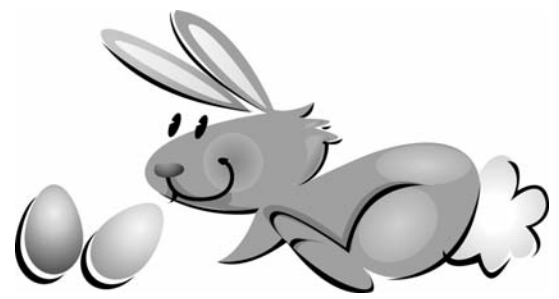
Tiffany looking
for a treat.



Kiwi defending her territory.



APRIL 8, 2012



OJAI VALLEY NEWS - GARAGE SALE MAP

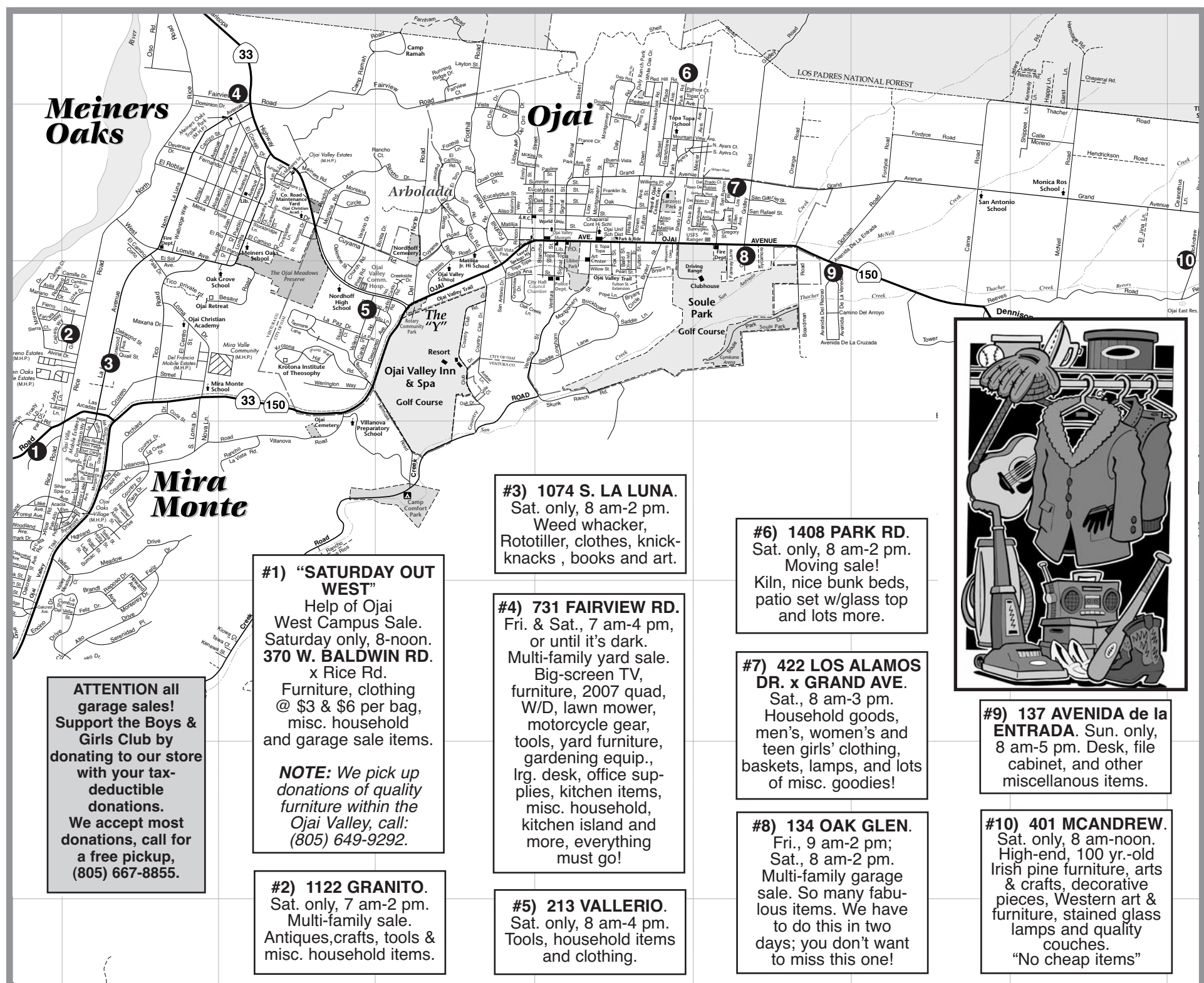




Photo by Mike Dawkins

Curves Members Donate Lots of Food
Dozens of Ojai Valley Curves members banded together and donated 1,546 pounds of food for the gym's 14th annual food drive. Help of Ojai Valley outreach coordinator Karen Kaminsky stands by the mountain of food accompanied by the Curves team. Pictured are Penny Watson, left, Kaminsky, Debbie Roper, new owner Megan Edwards and Barbara Vize. Not pictured is Curves team member Carla Jakab.



Photo by Hethir Rodriguez

Horn Canyon herb walk set for April 14

Ojai naturalist-herbalist Lanny Kaufer will lead an herb walk in Horn Canyon in the East End on April 14. Hikers can expect a very short creek crossing and a gradual uphill walk of about one mile each way, stopping frequently to identify wild plants and discuss the many ways that native and naturalized plants have been used, and continue to be used, by the Chumash people, herbalists, foragers, campers and gardeners for food, medicine, survival, crafts and more.

The walk will begin with a car pool from The Thacher School parking lot at 9 a.m. and return there by noon. The cost is \$25 for adults, \$15 for seniors 62 and older, and \$15 for high school students 13 to 17 and full-time college students. Kids 5 to 12 can go free with an adult by prior arrangement. Toddlers must be in a carrier. No dogs allowed. Registration is at Herb Walks.com or by calling 646-6281. Participants will receive a confirmation e-mail with all necessary information.

Kaufer has been leading interpretive native plant walks and hikes in Ventura County since 1976 for groups of all ages. He is regarded as a local expert on the edible and medicinal uses of local indigenous and naturalized plants. Kaufer acquired much of his knowledge in field study with well-known herbalists and ethnobotanists. He studied with the late William LeSassier and has co-led workshops and expeditions with noted herbalists, such as the late Chumash plant expert Juanita Centeno, the late Michael Moore, Michael Tierra, Amanda McQuade Crawford, Sidney Yudin, Fred Siciliano and Chumash educator Julie Tumamait. Kaufer has appeared as a guest on McQuade Crawford's VeriaTV series, "What a Relief!"

Kaufer graduated from the University of California at Santa Cruz, in 1974 with a degree in biology. While there, under the supervision of his biology professor, he did extensive independent studies in the field of naturopathic medicine and worked in the university's arboretum. He has taught science, health and natural history at Santa Paula High School, Happy Valley School, Ojai Valley School, Mountain View High School and Renaissance Continuation High School. He also served as outdoor education director at Happy Valley School, Ojai Valley School, Mountain View High School and Renaissance Continuation High School. He recently retired from teaching science and special education at Santa Paula High School.

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'Chimpanzee' comes to Ojai for Earth Day

Ojai will host a special gala screening and party for Disney's newest feature film, "Chimpanzee," on Earth Day, April 22. This special screening begins at 4 p.m. at the Ojai Playhouse, 145 E. Ojai Ave. A post-screening party will be held at La Fonte restaurant in the Ojai Arcade.

Not only will guests have a chance to see the extraordinary story of a young chimpanzee named Oscar, they will also be directly contributing to the welfare of more than 130 residents at Chimp Haven, a sanctuary for chimpanzees retired from medical research or no longer wanted as pets or entertainers.

The event is co-produced by the Ojai Film Society and Chimp Haven, the National Chimpanzee Sanctuary in Keithville, La. Asked why Ojai was selected for the special screening, Chimp Haven's national advancement director, Karen Allen, explains, "When Disney confirmed that Chimp Haven could have a screening, we chose Ojai, because Chimp Haven has been privileged to have many supporters in the area who care about chimpanzees. That fact, combined with the Ojai Film Society's interest in bringing excellent film experiences to the community, made Ojai the perfect choice for this opportunity."

Jim McEachen, president of the Ojai Film Society, concurs. "The Ojai Film Society not only has the opportunity to bring this extraordinary film to the Ojai Playhouse, we can offer the community the opportunity to support chimpanzees who deserve



Photo submitted

a humane retirement. It's a good fit for both organizations."

Chimp Haven has a 200-acre wooded campus where many of its chimpanzees live in large social groups, much like they would in the wild. It is the only sanctuary in the United States capable of caring for chimpanzees infected with the HIV virus or hepatitis, a vestige of their former years in biomedical research. Half of the sanctuary's population is made up of infected chimpanzees.

"The chimpanzees have paid an extreme personal price in the quest for human medicine and vaccines. We owe them a humane retirement," says Chimp Haven President Linda Brent. "Opportunities like this film screening

help us raise funds to pay for that retirement as well as to educate people about chimpanzees.

"Anyone seeing this Disney Nature movie will leave the theater with a profound respect for chimpanzees, and a clear understanding of why they need to be treasured and protected."

After the screening on April 22, chimpanzee behavioral experts Drs. Linda Brent from Chimp Haven and Steve Ross from the Lincoln Park Zoo will answer questions from the audience about chimpanzee behavior.

Space is limited, so early reservations are recommended. Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased online at ojaifilmsociety.org or call 646-8946.

Wilderness first responders

Darcy Gamble
OVN contributor

What would you do if there was a medical emergency and you could not call 911? If your work took you into the back country you might consider getting certified as a wilderness first responder. The Ojai Valley Land Conservancy and Concerned Resource and Environmental Workers now have wilderness first responders on staff. Rick Bisaccia, OVLC's preserve manager, and Camille Holly, C.R.E.W. supervisor, recently completed training, studying and testing to become certified wilderness first responders. This certification is not easily attained and the community is lucky to have such ambitious first aid-minded people. The staffs of OVLC and C.R.E.W. are proud to employ people with such excellent skills.

The wilderness first responder training was held at UCSB by the Outdoor Adventure Program over the course of eight days. Bisaccia said he was completely consumed with his work for a minimum of 13 hours each day. This elite program is designed for outdoor profes-

sionals such as backcountry guides, rangers and river runners. Anyone can enroll in the program if they are passionate about outdoor safety, but not everyone gets certified. Bisaccia, a long-time outdoors man and naturalist, said after passing the exams, "I became aware of so many things that can happen to you out there. So, be careful, watch where you are and where you put your feet!"

Wilderness first responder certification is the Cadillac of first aid training. The curriculum includes anaphylaxis, asthma, spine injuries, dislocations, tick and snake bites, burns, a three-year cardiopulmonary respiration certification, and much more.

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OJAI VALLEY NEWS

Why We Give

Vondriskas Family

We give to the Ojai Valley Defense Fund because we know that it is imperative to be prepared, in advance. The Defense Fund serves as a community chest, a sentry waiting and ready to protect our valley and its future generations — our children, your children, and their children — from outside threats of a magnitude that would destroy our local economy, our environment, and all the reasons that brought us to live here in the first place. It is a way that our generation, those with young children, can do our part for the community, at a time when spare time to volunteer is scarce.

Why do YOU give? E-mail a photo and 150 words or less, telling us what organization(s) you donate to and why to editor@ojaivalleynews.com, with the subject line "OVN Giving."



Garden Club meets

Sherry Smith
OVN contributor

The Ranch House was the site for the annual meeting of the Channel Islands District of

California Garden Clubs, Inc., hosted by the Ojai Valley Garden Club. Living Treasure Lavonne Theriault of Ojai entertained the audience with a behind-the-scenes talk on

the history and evolution of music in Ventura County.

Sixty-two members from six clubs met to mingle, renew old friendships and share the accomplishments of the past year. Reports on field trips, educational programs, demonstrations and fundraising events were given by each club president. Announcements of upcoming flower shows, conferences and educational opportunities were followed by a Chinese auction which concluded the luncheon and left the attendees in great spirits.

Anyone who is interested in gardening, plants and friendships is invited to attend the Ojai Valley Garden Club general meetings. April is the annual garden tour and May is the annual luncheon for members. For further information, contact Joan Egbert at 644-3813.



Photo submitted

Shown above are Joan Egbert, left, and Darlene Gorey from the Ojai Valley Garden Club.



Photos by Rick Ricksen

Chinese Brush Painting Comes to Ojai

The Ojai Academy for the Arts held a fun, free Saturday event on March 24 for children and adults, partnering with local artist Valerie Freeman and Monica Ros School to bring the art of Chinese brush painting to the community. Monica Ros donated space and supplies, and Freeman provided an experienced artist's guidance as artists of all ages experimented with the grace and beauty of simple strokes. Rick Ricksen, founder of the Ojai Academy for the Arts, was pleased with the level of activity, "I thought it was really special to watch adults and children side-by-side, learning to do something new, creative and fun."

Amman Imman gives water talk at Montessori

Holly Roberts
OVN contributor

Debra Kahn, the education awareness director of the nonprofit organization Amman Imman, spoke to Montessori School of Ojai students on World Water Day, March 22, to raise awareness about the plight of the Tuareg and Fulani people from the Azawak region of West Africa. The region's 500,000 inhabitants currently must walk up to 35 miles a day to search for dirty water while individuals live with less than 1 gallon of water per day. One in two children dies before the age of 5 due to lack of and/or unclean

water or food. The Amman Imman organization is dedicated to saving and improving lives by supplying permanent and sustainable sources of water to this region through the drilling of bore holes which access a huge natural aquifer 600 feet beneath dry land. The Wells of Love program seeks to educate and raise funds through schools and non-profit organizations around the world.

Sixty Montessori Schools across the United States recently raised approximately \$120,000, which helped to construct one of the new bore holes that provides water for 35,000

people. The Montessori School of Ojai has participated in the Wells of Love program for the past two years by collecting change in empty water jugs and raising awareness within their community. Upper elementary and middle-schoolers joined director Debra Kahn on a one-mile walk around campus carrying 1-gallon water jugs in allegiance to their African student counterparts, most of whom spend each day searching for and collecting water rather than attending school. For more information, visit ammanimman.org or call 649-2525..



Photo by Holly Roberts

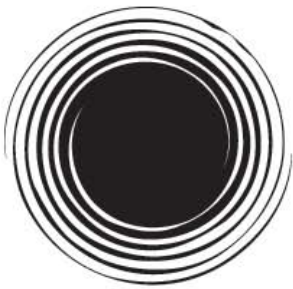
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