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**Sports**  
Nordhoff athletes meet up to take the track and field.  
Page B-1



**Events**  
Theater 150 casts away with "Sea Horse," drama set in coastal village.  
Page A-10



**4 day WEATHER**  
Patchy rain, low clouds through Saturday. Daytime highs to low 60s. Nighttime lows to low 40s.

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# OJAI VALLEY NEWS

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114th Year, No. 49 Wednesday, March 23, 2005 Newsracks, 75¢, retail stores, 70¢ plus tax • Yearly subscription, \$45

## OEF appeals to keep class sizes small

Group seeks \$300k in donations in wake of Measure A5 defeat

By Jay Ford Cullis  
jay@ojavalleynews.com

When Ojai Unified School District Superintendent Tim Baird visited various community organizations during the district's campaign to pass Measure A5, along with all the questions about class sizes and senior exemptions were the usual questions of what would happen if the measure failed. Baird's answer to that speculation involved a list of teacher and staffing cuts, reduced library hours, and swelling class sizes.

But what Baird never speculated on was the wellspring of community support that would blossom in an effort to salvage a quickly sinking school

district. He might have suspected, but as in the one-room schoolhouses of old, in the realm of property taxes and local elections one speaks only when spoken to. It was a clear message that Ojai voters voiced in failing Measure A5, but in the aftermath a louder voice has risen up as the minority works to spread a clear message about individual choices — about how one person can still contribute toward the future of Ojai's educational system.

Spurred by public promises by several people to write checks as donations in lieu of the \$150 they would have paid in property tax had Measure A5 passed on March 8, last Friday the Ojai Education Foundation launched an emergency, two-week fund-raising campaign. Called "Choose to Make a Difference," the campaign is

Please see Education, Page A-3



**'Dead' Reckoning**  
Tom Ryan, piano, and Craig Marshall, lead guitar, of the Grateful Dead cover band, Cubensis, perform during the Ojai Jam Band Festival on Saturday night. The festival was held to raise money for the nonprofit RageJax Foundation. The RageJax Foundation is an organization that promotes music and arts programs to the children of Costa Rica who would normally not have the opportunity available.

Photo by Brooks Smothers

## News Briefs

**Lake Casitas nears capacity**  
As of 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Casitas Municipal Water District stopped diverting water from the Ventura River to Lake Casitas, as the lake reached 565 feet above sea level, 2 feet below the spillway. So far, 68.78 inches of rain have been recorded at Matilija Dam, and the lake has received 89,195 acre-feet of water.

The previous time Lake Casitas filled up was in February 1998.

**Help of Ojai holding Soup Sale Friday**  
Help of Ojai's Community Assistance Program will hold its annual fund-raising Soup Sale on Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Chaparral Auditorium, 414 E. Ojai Ave. Tickets are \$5 in advance, \$7 at the door, and \$3 for children. Tickets are on sale at Little House, 111 W. Santa Ana St., and the C.A.P. office at 212 Fox St. Lunch will include soup by John McNeil, salad and bread, and slices of Marie Callender's pies will be available for \$2.

**Booths sought for Fourth picnic**  
Applications for food booths at Sarzotti Park for an old-fashioned picnic in the park after the Fourth of July parade and before the fireworks concert at Nordhoff High School are now available. Booths can be for profit or nonprofit groups. Forms, information on requirements can be picked up at the Chamber of Commerce office. More information may be obtained from Nancy Hill at 646-0076.

**Senior Connection meets Thursday**  
Senior Friendship Connection for Women at Home will meet Thursday at 10 a.m. at the restaurant at Lake Casitas. For more information, call Claire at 640-9849 or Shirley at 649-3101.

## Falling tree raises concerns

Oak was planned as courtyard attraction for new hotel

By Jay Ford Cullis  
jay@ojavalleynews.com

Protected by the city's tree ordinance, the removal of mature oak trees in Ojai can also be a source of contention, as has happened with an oak tree on the corner of Montgomery and Aliso streets. The huge tree was cut down on Monday after arborist reports concluded that the tree was diseased to the point of liability to the owners.

That owner is Geoff Wells, operator of the Ojai Best Western, and he says he's as heartbroken as

anyone that the tree had to come out.

"We're kind of devastated by this whole thing," said Wells, who for almost five years has been developing the property in hopes of building a luxury inn. Wells' plans involved a ring of living quarters around the oak, with the tree sprouting from the center courtyard as the property's centerpiece. "We wanted to create a courtyard like no other," said Wells. "How many other courtyards do you know that have a beautiful,

Please see Tree, Page A-3

## Soule Park back on course with new management

By Jay Ford Cullis  
jay@ojavalleynews.com

For weeks the fate of Soule Park Golf Course has hung in the balance between its past as one of the county's premier golf courses and a future full of parched fairways and sun-fried greens.

After January's massive rains left the golf course's reservoir-fed irrigation system in shambles, course general manager Don

Miller expressed his fears that the course would turn into a dry, brown field if the irrigation system wasn't repaired post-haste.

Intense discussion ensued between the county and course lessee, the M.F. Daily Investment Company of Camarillo, resulting in the Daily Company terminating its lease with the

Please see Soule, Page A-3

## Ojai Valley neighbors

By Mae Waugh  
mae@ojavalleynews.com

In 1927, at the age of 7, Lois Topping came with her family to California from a farm in the Ozarks of Missouri.

"My father had worked on a farm for his entire life there, and came here to work at a citrus ranch. It was the first time he had ever seen an orange," says Topping. Topping and her family came to Oak View in 1928, seeking refuge from the flood in Saticoy, which washed away all of their possessions. They made a home on a "big, beautiful apricot orchard."

Topping's family were among the first people to buy property in Oak View. "Oak View was at the first stages of its growth at that time," says Topping. "We had no sewer, no street lights, only water wells and outhouses. My family was instrumental in working and seeing these necessary services were made available." In addition, Topping worked with the organization, "United Neighbors" and raised vegetables, sewed clothes for the children and sold soup for five cents a cup to raise money for the community.

Topping has lived in the same house for 60 years. With her husband, Glen, she raised two boys: Keith and Bill, who are now retired. She has a grandson who teaches at Matilija Junior High School and a great-grandson, who at 2 years old, thinks her cane is a microphone.



## Sound engineer opens Ojai lab

Two years in the making, Ojai Grammy winner's studio hear to stay

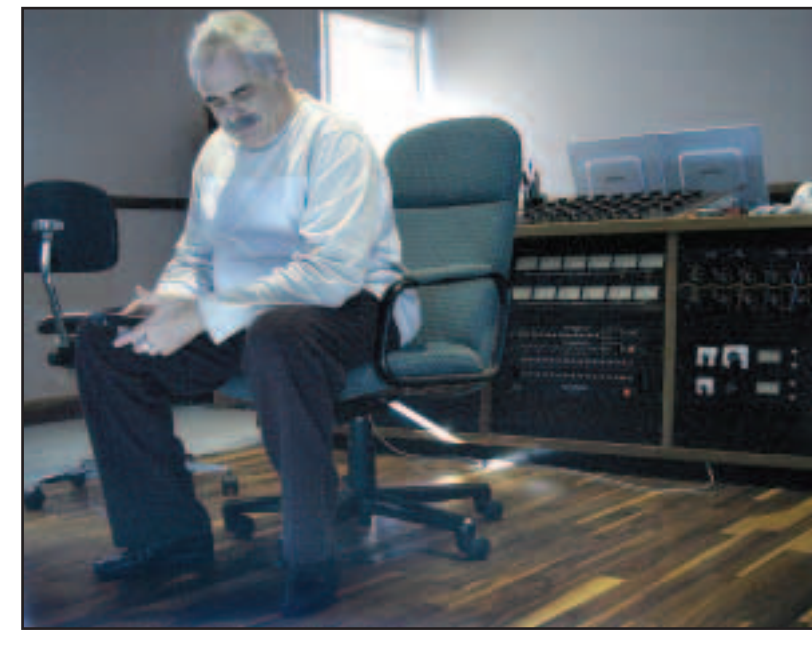
By Jay Ford Cullis  
jay@ojavalleynews.com

When it comes to audio technology, Doug Sax is right in the middle of it all.

Literally.

The Grammy-winning sound engineer has just completed construction on a new surround-sound audio mastering lab in Ojai. The founder of the Mastering Lab — Los Angeles' premier stereo mastering lab for nearly four decades — Sax said having a surround-sound mastering facility is simply the next step toward the future of home and car-audio entertainment.

"It's where it's going, and I think it has a lot of merit," said Sax after a grand opening reception recently where he showed off his new equipment to a group of close friends — most of them Grammy-winning recording engineers. "These are engineers I've worked with for 20 years," Sax said of the talented crowd. "But if I weren't able to do surround they'd go somewhere else." It's not a testament to his friendships — it's the way the wind is blowing in sound recording.



**DOUG SAX listens to tracks in his new mastering lab in Ojai.**

And it's a welcome wind for Sax, who commissioned friend and award-winning recording engineer Rick Ruggieri to design the lab. Two years in construction, it's a miracle of sound technology with custom components right down to the furniture.

"It's a very different concept from other rooms," said Ruggieri. Traditionally, engineers are behind a console with all the speakers in front of them — sometimes obscured by equipment and the console itself.

Ruggieri's design puts the engineer in the middle of six speakers, with nothing in the way to block or distort the sound. For true surround quality, Sax simply rolls his chair over a mark on the lab's hardwood floor and suddenly the sound is everywhere, immersing the listener with an almost viscous quality. In the bygone days of vinyl, mastering labs physically cut the sound tracks into a disc that would then be used to press

Please see Engineer, Page A-3

## Obituaries

Page A-2

Ruby C. Collins, 90  
Walter L. "Wally" Anderson, 57

## Index

- Around Our Valley . . . . . A-8
- Astrology . . . . . A-4
- Classifieds . . . . . B-2
- Commentary . . . . . A-5
- Health Directory . . . . . A-7
- Sports . . . . . B-1

## Also Inside

Performing Arts of Ojai, A-10  
Classified Ad of the Week

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# Ojai Peace Vigil keeps anti-war effort alive

By George Keenen

george@ojaivalleynews.com

With the passing of the second anniversary of the war Saturday, the peace movement seems to be heating up.

The People In Black have left Ojai. But people in regular clothes have taken their places, standing with anti-war signs and placards under the Pergola at Libbey Park. They are part of what they call a peace vigil, a grass-roots movement with no organizational ties.

There are regular peace vigils in many cities, including Carpinteria and Ventura. And the People In Black group still gathers in Ventura. They are standing today at 5:30 pm at Mills Road and Main Street, across from the Pacific View Mall.

Arthur Braverman has stood with both groups.

"People In Black is about mourning senseless death all over the world," he said. "Not just the war in Iraq, but 9-11 and other things as well. We didn't want to make it a political issue. This new group is about ending the war."

Sometimes as many as 10 people show up to stand and trade peace signs with motorists. Mostly, according to Clive Leeman, the reactions are favorable.

"Every week a few passengers or drivers will signal a negative reaction with their hands or voice," said Leeman. "One time a man drove by and yelled out, 'It's

complicated!' The next week he drove by and said, 'It's not so simple!'"

Some feel that standing there may be a little risky. But not Braverman.

"Standing in Ojai you're not putting anything on the line," he said. "People In Black started on the Gaza Strip! We get an occasional angry person, but I wish we had more, so we could feel we're reaching people."

It's really a lesson in learning about our community."

The following statements were given by people who have stood with the Ojai Peace Vigil.

**Walker McClelland, retired:**  
"I'm standing here because I want to emphasize that war is not the way to solve our international problems. I'm here to advance the cause of international peace. We are striving for peace in the world."

**Clive Leeman, teacher:**  
"I participate in the Libbey Park peace vigil because I believe the U.S. occupation of Iraq is a war crime. We have killed by the latest count about 198,000 Iraqi citizens. We are there illegally for one reason only, to dominate and control the Middle East."

**Carol Johnson, nurse:**  
"I'm standing here today because when this pre-emptive, corrupt, wrong-headed war started, I was doing nothing for a long time just feeling outraged and very sad about it, and I couldn't sit on the couch any longer. I decided I had to do something. Across the United



Photo by George Keenen

**SASHA WOLFE is one Ojai resident who regularly states her anti-war views as part of the Peace Vigil in the Pergola.**

States thousands of towns are holding peace vigils, so I came out to do it here, and I'll continue to do it, as long as it takes. I won't give up."

**Herb Braverman, 94:**  
"I'm here to bring about peace. Wars are usually done for profit, not for the edification and benefit of mankind."

**Marion Leeman, retired teacher:**

Marion Leeman, who taught French for 19 years at Happy Valley School, started the Ojai Peace Vigil.

"In November, I looked around to find a Peace Vigil in order to express my feelings," she recalled. "Nothing seemed to be

happening in Ojai. A number of people responded to a notice about a peace gathering, and we came together along Ojai Avenue."

"Standing here makes me feel I am taking some small action toward bringing our troops home. When people pass and express support I feel a connection with them, and try to return their sympathy, so we can all resist the terrible war in our own way."

**John Vachet, Vietnam veteran:**

"I can't accept that we've invaded a country because we wanted to depose Saddam Hussein, who we supported for

many years. It's barbaric, basically, and I don't want them to do so in my name."

**Arthur Braverman, teacher and writer:**

"I'm standing here, like I assume most of us, to try to stop the insanity of war."

**Dennis Leary, registered nurse:**

"I feel compassion for those suffering unnecessarily. If I were in their place, I'd want someone to stand up for me."

**John Diehl, actor:**

"It's something that keeps me aware of what's going on as far as

standing out here, and I have every right to stand out here and say I think this war is wrong, and I think what's going on here is crazy."

**Julie Chritiensen, singer-writer:**

"Taking a stand for peace feels like a patriotic thing to do. Before someone calls us 'traitors' I would have them be aware that it's the war we don't support, not the troops."

**Sasha Wolfe, mother:**

"I stand in support of the mother of a teen-age Marine killed by a mortar in Ramadi, a place he called a hell hole."

## OBITUARIES

### Ruby C. Collins

Ruby C. Collins, 90, of Oak View, died Friday, March 18, 2005, in Ventura after a sudden illness. She was born Sept. 25, 1914, in Missouri, and lived in the Ojai Valley for 30 years, coming from Denver, Colo.

Mrs. Collins retired from Stover Candy in 1970.

She is survived by her brother and sister-in-law, Richard "Ray" and Virginia Lindley, of Oak

View; two stepchildren, Jeanine and Peggy; nephew Johnnie; and niece Ruby Len.

She was preceded in death by her brother, Fred C. Lindley, and husband Paul Collins.

Graveside services will be held Friday, March 25, 2005, at 11 a.m. at Ivy Lawn Memorial Park in Ventura, with Pastor Scott Harrell officiating.

Arrangements are under the direction of Clausen Funeral Home in Ojai.



### Walter L. "Wally" Anderson

Walter L. "Wally" Anderson, 57, of Ventura, died Monday, March 7, 2005, due to complications from a malignant brain tumor. He was born Christmas Day 1947 in Ventura, to Walter Anderson Sr. and Barbara Anderson, and remained a county resident his entire life.

Wally spent the majority of his life in Ojai, where he attended elementary schools and graduated from Nordhoff High School in 1966. He enlisted in the United States Air Force right out of high school, spending a four-year stint as an ammunition specialist during the Vietnam Conflict.

Upon returning to civilian life, Wally tried a couple of different careers before settling at Sears, where he enjoyed 28 years as a Service Technician.

Although he enjoyed his job, his passion was hunting and fishing. A true outdoorsman at heart, Wally learned the sports and honed his skills in California, before purchasing 10 acres of land in rural Montana, where he became quite the marksman and fisherman. His land also became the site of a beautiful home and he was fortunate enough to live in it for 11 months before he suddenly passed away. While in Ventura, Wally also enjoyed scuba diving, both himself, and teaching the sport to others.

He is survived by his beloved mother, Barbara Smith of Ojai; brother Robert Smith and his wife Gail of Modesto; sisters Barbara Anderson of Ojai and Judy Ozmun and her husband Cliff of Eureka; stepsister Ramona Braun of Ventura; nieces and nephews Rommie Carmichael of Eureka, Colby Helton and his fiancée Haley of Santa Paula, Blake and Brittany Smith of Modesto, and Tyler Ozmun of Eureka; along with many other extended family members and friends.

Wally was preceded in death by his father, Walter Anderson Sr., brother Larry Anderson and stepfather Jack Smith.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m., Saturday, April 2, 2005, at the Ted Mayr Funeral Home, 3150 Loma Vista Road, Ventura, with Pastor Dan Hull of the Church of the Nazarene officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the UCLA Medical Center, 10833 Le Conte Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90095, for whose loving care and service the Anderson family will be forever grateful.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Ted Mayr Funeral Home and Crematory, Ventura.

## Ojai Retreat pushing for socially responsible films

A special event will take place on April 3 at The Ojai Retreat and Cultural Center with a panel of six Ojai film luminaries. The evening will begin with a buffet dinner at 6 pm followed by a panel discussion on "Can Movies Make a Difference?" (Making

Socially Responsible Films) and will conclude with a screening of "Angel Passing," a 28-minute film written by Catherine Ann Jones, which screened at the Sundance Film

Festival and went on to win 15 awards in the United States and abroad.

An award-winning writer, Jones will introduce the members of the panel and moderate the discussion. Jones is a writer whose films include "The Christmas Wife," the television series, "Touched By An Angel" and has produced ten plays including "On The Edge." The evening's distinguished panel will include:

Dulanie Ellis, founder of "Point of View Film;" Steve Grummette, founder of The Ojai Film Festival;" Gay Hendricks, co-founder of The Spiritual Cinema Circle and Bobby Houston, a documentary film director and 2005 Oscar winner for "Mighty Times: The Children's March."

This event on April 3 from 6 to 9 p.m. launches the "Ojai's Cultural Creatives" series which honors Ojai residents who have made a substantial difference.

The topics will include the environment, education, science and spirituality, the arts, health, business and technology.

The Ojai Retreat is located at 160 Besant Road in Meiners Oaks (on the hill above the Ranch House Restaurant). The fee for Sunday evening, including dinner, is \$20 per person in advance, or \$25 at the door. Seating is limited. Please call 646-2536 for reservations.



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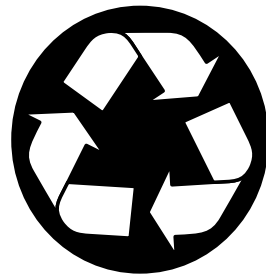
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The Ojai Valley News (SSN40598000) is published twice weekly, Wednesday and Friday, at 408 Bryant Circle, Suite A, Ojai California.

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# Soule:

(Continued from Page A-1)

county, which owns the golf course property. Last week the county hired Highland Golf, LLC as the course operator, and Rustic Canyon Golf Course general manager Mark Wipf has replaced Don Miller as the course's new general manager. Miller, who left on a good note, was confident that Highland would be able to navigate the many woes greeting the new operators before they even stepped through the front door.

And by all accounts, it looks like Miller assumed correctly. New general manager Wipf said all employees except Miller have been retained, and Highland's efforts are intensely focused on getting the course's trashed irrigation system up and running by this weekend.

"Our goal is to have the lake re-established by this weekend," said Wipf as rain began to steadily fall on Tuesday. Various showers over the last two months have helped keep the course watered, but the nearing end to the rainy season has made many nervous about the health of the course's finely manicured grass. "We don't want to go into summer without water," said Wipf. "Our first priority was saving the golf course — we were very concerned that we wouldn't have a product." Wipf said once the old system is repaired enough to keep the course in working order, plans will be drawn up for a new, state-of-the-art, automated irrigation system. Wipf estimated that could cost upwards of \$1.2 million, but stressed that the immediate concern is putting the battered course back together. "We've got a lot of work to do in a short period of time," Wipf said. "The course is a living, breathing organism," he said.

Wipf said soon an official list of repairs will be compiled by Highland and the county — the

**“ Our first priority was saving the golf course — we were very concerned that we wouldn't have a project.”**  
— Mark Wipf

most important being the washed-out bridge between holes number one and two. "That span will probably never go back to the way it was," Wipf said, adding that extensive flooding that washed out the banks around the bridge access means reconstruction rather than repair might be the only option. "Mother Nature wins — she's telling us something and we're listening," he said. Though unofficial estimates on the monetary value of the damages reached multiple-million-dollar extremes, Wipf couldn't officially estimate the amount of damage Highland had encountered because so many factors were involved in the various repair strategies discussed. "It's really hard to tell on that right now," he said.

What Wipf can see clearly is an opportunity to revitalize the course where he won his first junior tournament. "It's heaven on earth," he said of being back in Ojai after leaving his seven-year position at the Ojai Valley Inn & Spa to manage Rustic Canyon. "Everyone on staff believes the same thing — the customer comes first, and this product needs to be right for them," he said. "It's hurting, and we want to get it back to normal — and then take a step above that."

# Tree:

(Continued from Page A-1)

mature tree like that? To lose it is devastating," he said.

Though the city only requires one arborist report for issues such as this, city planning and building technician Shari Herbruck said the city uncharacteristically asked for two official reports.

"We had plenty of inspections," Herbruck said, adding that one inspector found that he could push a pencil right through one of the hollow, diseased roots. "We did our homework because we knew we would get complaints," she said, adding that the various complaints the city has received range from suggestions of fraud in the arborist reports to speculation that the city had a master plan to kill the tree. Herbruck shook off such accusations. "The city can't control the weather," she said, referring to the wet rainy season

which hastened the disease' spread.

Paul Rogers, an arborist who conducted the first studies on the tree, said wet weather conditions and actions by the previous owners all contributed to the quick spread of the fungus, *armillaria mellea* — commonly referred to as root rot fungus.

"The tree was growing in a pretty unhappy environment," said Rogers, adding that the previous property owners had a bathtub propped against the tree's trunk which was continuously filled with water. Whenever that water overflowed, it spilled down the trunk, contributing to the tree's overall decay. Originally Rogers thought the tree was healthy, but subsequent inspections revealed extensive rot in the root system and lower sections of the trunk, extending into the ground below. "About a year ago I went over to look at something else and I saw fruiting bodies," said Rogers —

outgrowths called fungal conks that precipitate a tree's demise. Rogers said the ground contamination will prevent another oak tree from being planted to replace the removed tree.

"It's a terminal cancer," said Wells. "This is not a curable disease." Wells also said the tree was leaning toward the corner of Montgomery and Aliso, and would eventually pose a serious liability. "All the weight was on that side and unfortunately that's where we had living quarters being built," he said. "You can't have something like that lingering over you as a liability." Wells said he's gone back to his architects and is considering new options to accommodate the missing tree. "If the tree wasn't there we probably would have designed it differently," he said. "We're trying to build a project, and at the same time trying to adjust for a major asset that's not there anymore."



Photo by Brooks Smother  
**THE OAK TREE at the corner of Montgomery and Aliso was taken down Monday after it was declared diseased by an arborist.**

# Education:

(Continued from Page A-1)

aimed at helping the Ojai Unified School District reduce its expected budget deficit for the coming fiscal year enough to keep class sizes from swelling to chaotic and unproductive levels. According to the OEF, \$300,000 would be enough to maintain class sizes at this year's levels, and the OEF is getting the ball rolling with a \$15,000 donation.

"We have been working during the last year to broaden our mission so that we can have an even greater impact on the educational experience of our

community's students," said OEF President Steve Jung. Formed in the early '90s to raise money to fund special activities in the district, the OEF has kept a low profile while raising several hundred thousand dollars to distribute to OUSD teachers through a mini-grant process. That money provided for special teaching equipment, textbooks, and other learning materials for thousands of OUSD students.

"Education foundations in communities across the state are raising hundreds of thousands if not millions of dollars from their communities to support their local school districts," said OEF board member Lillian Talley.

"This campaign is our first step toward OEF accomplishing what some of the other foundations are doing for their communities."

OUSD board member Steve Fields, who became an OEF board member just prior to being elected to the district board in November, agreed.

"I believe the future health of our public schools is dependent on a strong connection with their local communities," Fields said. "This public-private partnership has helped many communities build and maintain excellent local schools. Now we in Ojai must do the same," he said. All of the money raised in the "Choose to Make a

Difference" campaign will go directly toward maintaining class sizes in schools throughout the district.

"Study after study shows that student performance is directly tied to the number of students in the classroom," said OUSD superintendent Dr. Tim Baird. "Keeping class sizes as small as possible is vital to maintaining OUSD's high quality educational experience," he said.

Donations can be sent to OEF, P.O. Box 1769, Ojai, CA 93024, or can be dropped off at any of the OUSD's schools or at the administration office in Chaparral High School. All donations are tax deductible.

# Engineer:

(Continued from Page A-1)

mass quantities for sale. Things have changed, and Sax' new lab has CD and DVD players, as well as many originally mastered tracks stored on hard drives in digital posterity.

One of those originals is Ray Charles' final album, "Genius Loves Company," which Sax mastered for stereo sound in his Los Angeles facility, and then

mastered for the surround-sound disc in Ojai. Sax played the tracks for guests.

"That's really exciting," said Lisa Schmitt, listening to Charles' duet with Elton John, "Sorry Seems to Be the Hardest Word." "It's like they're right there — piano to piano." Schmitt's husband is Al Schmitt, one of the most honored recording engineers in the business.

"I think it's fantastic," said Al Schmitt of the new lab. "I've done four or five things up here

and I'm knocked out."

So is Sax, who set up the lab in Ojai so he could work closer to his new home. Like home theater before it, Sax believes that surround-sound will soon be par for home- and car-audio systems. Leading the push is a new DualDisc format which puts a CD format on one side of the disc, and the larger surround-sound tracks on the flip side.

"Everyone feels this is the thing that will kick it off," said Sax. "The companies are very

excited — that disc could be a video disc or a surround-sound disc with some video on it."

And while the technology is still in the fledgling stages as far as home use is concerned, Sax is confident. "The industry is expanding, and if audio is going to go in any direction, the only one on the table is surround," said Sax. "It isn't a rip-off — once you get into it, you start to like it."

And when it comes to surround sound, getting into it is the name of the game.

**HOLY WEEK SERVICES**

**Good Friday Service**  
7:00 p.m. • March 25th  
Choral Music • Chamber Ensemble  
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**Easter Day Services**  
8:00 a.m. Contemporary  
(Nursery and Toddler Care)  
9:15 a.m. Blended  
(Sunday School for Nursery thru 8th Grade)  
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Risa  
D'Angeles

## ASTROLOGY

# Aries first of three festivals

Esoteric astrology as news for the week of March 24 through 30:

The first of the three (Aries, Taurus, Gemini) for will, love and intelligence) spring festivals, which sets the spiritual template for the year, begins Friday (12:58 p.m.) with the Aries full sun/moon (Festival of Resurrection and Restoration). When Aries (Rays 1 and 7) pours its light into the Earth our planet begins to radiate with the light of life Itself (Aries). The Aries Festival is called the Resurrection Festival (full sun/moon) because it focuses on the fact of the resurrection (evolution) of life. This mirrors the Christian festival of the Risen Christ or Easter (Sunday) and the season of spring.

Four words — resurrection, restoration, Easter and spring — signify what this Aries festival provides for humanity. Each individual is called, from deep within, to participate in this emergence of light. Love then occurs as our Will-to-Life (Ray 1, Aries) is summoned and anchored. Our energy begins to resurrect (be reborn) out of the darkness of winter, our life's purpose is impulsive, and we experience hope, a rushing in of new thoughts (from the mind of God through Mercury), and a fading away of what is old, outworn and no longer useful. As we ponder the energies from Aries, we come to understand its esoteric keynote: "I come forth and from the plane of mind I rule."

For during Aries, and specifically during the full moon time, the life force or spirit aspect of God flows into the mental plane (our minds) through Mercury. We realize that a new kingdom is being formed on Earth — the Kingdom of Souls — releasing us from the fear of death and from the cross (tomb) of matter. As we receive and turn toward the light of Aries and connect with Hierarchy (Ray 2), we find to our surprise that our way is no longer so dark. Please join us, the New Group of World Servers, at the time of the Aries full moon by reciting the Great Invocation.

**The week:** Thursday is Holy Thursday when the Last Supper took place. Friday is the Aries full moon when love anchors the will

of God. Saturday is quiet and dark, awaiting the Light of the World to rise from the tomb. Pluto, god of the underworld, retrogrades. Power hides in the shadows. Sunday, deep-feeling Scorpio moon, is Easter, the ancient festival of Ostara, the Germanic Goddess of Spring. Tuesday is void-of-course till 3:56 p.m. when the moon enters goal-oriented Sagittarius. Sun and Mercury join. A thought from the mind of God enters form and matter. If we're quiet we'll catch it. Wednesday Venus joins the sun in Aries. We're reminded that the Lord of our World, Sanat Kumara, came to Earth from Venus to activate our minds. He also brought a colony of bees.

**ARIES:** Your mind is attempting to be spiritualized. What does that mean? That a new state of consciousness is available due to new levels of information being beamed down through the crown of your head into the cells and atoms of your physical brain. Be aware of this. It's like catching a fiery star.

**TAURUS:** You simply need to rest and sleep, so you can receive information from the Rain Cloud of Knowable Things. Look into the sky and find the Pleiades. There are two stars there, Alcyone and Aldebaran. They are responsible for your mind's illumination. Find them on a star chart and then in the heavens. Introduce yourself. They are your future.

**GEMINI:** You need a new group to work within. You also need to lead a group. What do these words mean to you? I ask this because new information will be forthcoming and you will not be able to share it with your old groups of friends. And when you don't share, you feel lost and alone. Something's coming encased in light waves.

**CANCER:** A new leadership will be asked of you at work. Be aware that when leading one must use will, mind and heart. Without the heart, which conveys love, leadership falters. A new identity is emerging. Hold it close and ask the soul how to be lovingly effective. Then no wounds occur.

**LEO:** Something should be studied for your mind is more awake and alert than ever before. Something and/or someone from a distance should be contacted. You need not be practical. But you do need to reshape and widen your horizons so a new endeavor can be contacted. You are to make contact. Read Carl Sagan.

**VRIGO:** Issues about joint resources, finances and intimacy are central in the weeks to come. Also thought processes will change as Mercury retrogrades. It is good to begin a journal of experiences with this retrograde as it deeply affects your self (Aries) identity. Thoughts slow down, revealing new information about relationships.

**LIBRA:** Very interesting fireworks may occur this week in relationships. Careful that you don't get burned or burn another through fast movements and decision, the desire to quarrel, separate or be angry, all leading to woundings. You may choose to shift and change previous relationship arrangements. Do so with love in mind. And make no definite plans.

**SCORPIO:** Great amounts of work can be accomplished. You have strength, ability, desire, aspiration and courage to approach whatever is needed and apply yourself until completion. In general all will run smoothly though with an accelerated pace. Careful at home and with family. It's not so smooth there. Apply the appropriate salvage if necessary.

**SAGITTARIUS:** The fun times should continue. New realities should appear beckoning you into new adventures, tempting you into new endeavors. You may not complete a thing, but at least you're to have fun and pleasure. Note all desires and aspirations. They have a life spirit behind them to manifest your gifts for your mind's creatively aflame with divine mind. Write.

**CAPRICORN:** Everything new will be occurring at home. You'll make it so. Whereas you've had to wait a long while before you could bring ideas of beauty into the form and matter of your home, this is no longer the case. Wherever you look you'll seek to create a new order and beauty. I only have one word for you. Shelves (everywhere).

**AQUARIUS:** You will need to summon forth strength in communication. But first you need to summon forth the identity of strength within and know that you no longer can hold other's wounds nor put up with other people's intrusions into your life and work. See yourself holding steadfast in the light of justice and right human relations. Activate boundaries.

**PISCES:** You come out of the shadows into the light. You are called to assist others in their healing. You have not only compassion but also true knowledge. Groups of like-minded people recognize this in you. You are called to service. You've been waiting for this. It's arrived. Get dressed.

Risa D'Angeles is founder and director of the Esoteric & Astrological Studies and Research Institute, a contemporary wisdom school in Santa Cruz, Calif., which also publishes Night Light News, a monthly esoteric/astrological journal available by subscription and on the Web at [www.nightlightnews.com](http://www.nightlightnews.com).

For information call (831) 426-1143, mail to Esoteric & Astrological Studies & Research Institute and Night Light News Journal, P.O. Box 2780, Santa Cruz, CA 95063, or e-mail [risa@surfnetusa.com](mailto:risa@surfnetusa.com).

# Optimists honor Ojai's youths

By Carmen Holland

OVN contributor

The Optimist Club of Ojai held its 10th annual Youth Appreciation event at the Chaparral Auditorium. Ojai Valley young people were recognized for their generous and unselfish contributions to the community. The event was attended by 225 area youngsters, families, friends and Optimists.

Optimist President Dawn Shook welcomed everyone, saying, "This kind of event is the reason I became an Optimist." Shook introduced Optimist Jill Swann, who gave the invocation, and then an energetic Girl Scout Brownie Troop 262 led the salute to the flag. Holland introduced Ojai Mayor Rae Hanstad, who read a proclamation from the Ojai City Council making the day officially Optimist Youth Appreciation Day in Ojai. In remarks made by Optimist Pacific Southwest Gov. Mark Weinsoff, of Santa Barbara, he praised the youth of the Ojai Valley for getting their lives off to such a positive start by giving of themselves. "It's the first step to becoming the kind of adults that will do good things with your lives," Wiensoff said.

After dinner was prepared and served by Optimist members, the Youth Appreciation citations were presented. Nominated for recognition by the Oak View Women's Club, were a group of kids who did much to aid adult volunteers with feeding those working to aid the flood victims in Casitas Springs. "Some of these kids had been flood victims themselves but still wanted to help," said Holland. More than

90 Thacher School student volunteers, from all over the world, were recognized for working tirelessly scooping mud in the housing area near Thacher Creek after the January storms. Students Ned Lederer and Arthur Kaneko represented these students at the event. Three students accepted the citations for the volunteers at Brighton Academy in Upper Ojai, who are involved in dozens of projects that benefit others.

The Optimists honored youngsters who work within and for many organizations, churches, schools, etc. Some of them are: Ojai Valley Youth Foundation, Ojai Library, Red Cross Youth Emergency Services, Concerned Resource and Environmental Workers, Matilija Student Council, Citrus Valley 4-H, Meiners Oaks Elementary, Ojai Valley Baptist Church, Brighton Academy, Chaparral High, Girl Scout Brownie Troop 262, Matilija Junior High, San Antonio Elementary, Nordhoff High, Boy Scout Troop 503, St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Ojai Valley Community Hospital and A Place to Grow Day Care Center.

Individual Recipients were: Whitney Baird, Tristan Cassell, David Vlasoff, Justin Head, Eve Lewis, Emily Levett, Alisan Varney, Isabel Vega, Ana Elena Mejia, Maritza Mejia, Mayra Soriano, Brian Campos, Joanne Wang, Akop Balayan, Zachary Tane, Tiana Graham, Stephanie Flasch, Holly Meisch, Caitlin Smith, Mariana Razo, Chris Ramirez, Jessa Campos, Zac Hanstead, Theo Summerfield, Rob McCall, Jessie West, Katie Damas, P.J. Damas, Kimmy Sloan, Ben Kennedy, Alaric Charpentier, Gerico Charpentier, Candis Charpentier, Piper Essick, Andrea Vega, Kaitlyn Turner, Eryn O'Laughlin, Mackenzie Russell, Maheen Iqbal, Anna North, Noelle McMahan, Sonia Zatkowsky, Nicole Moore, Natalie Pierson, Katrina Pierson, Chelsea Cox, Blake Heath, Bryan Morris, Carissa Fletcher, Cassidy Fletcher, Kyler Heath, Carly Heath, Austin Pressey, Katie Andrews, Brewster Parsons,



Tristan Cassell, left, Alysa Huppler, Poliak and Justin Head

Chelsi Woolwine, John McLeod, Bobby Shane, Robert Campana, Tanya McQueen, Shawn Clark, Luke Cromwell, Molly Crombie,

Tino Sandoval, Gin Casteneda, Charly Lara, Cendy Lara, Timmy Nicholl, Martin Mares, Benito Lara, Travis Henderson, Davis Harris, Katie Bailey, Serena Bareno, Ronni Becker, Reina Becker, Mckenna Clawson, Chelsea Cross, Leilani Cross, Makenna News, Kayleigh Morrison, Roxey Mayman, Maya Puar, Emily Parks, Karen Pineda, Emily Roth, Sage Whipple, Janet Montelongo, Meagan Sanders, Garrett Breckenridge, Machaela McEttrick, Mae Waugh, Mateo Casas, Sarafina Tabrum, Albert Haack, Azra Haack, Anthony Partain, Michael Hargett, Kandice Hargett, Noem Kywi, Jose Maldonado, James Martinez, Mariela Maldonado, Adam Hunt, Amanda Rameriz, Molly Brolin, Myunghee Ku, Alysa Huppler-Poliak, Matt Russell, Chloe Walker, Davon Wilson, Brandon Blackshire, Suzanna Feliciano, Tricia Willard, Bethany Bode, Evan Nelson, Cristal Maniagua, Lauren Sims, Matt Gregory-Brown, McCoy Becker, Katya Wellborn, Joselyn Wood, Eyan Jenkins and Kayla Morrissey.

The Optimist Club of Ojai meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the American Legion Hall. Guests who want to learn more about the organization are welcome to attend the potluck dinner and meeting.

## POETRY CORNER

### Storms crash

Storms crash and roads close  
comfort of rain smacks the  
roof  
while water intently  
makes it way across the room  
as if it may yet escape the  
victim  
out the front door.  
then purple crests  
covered in snow  
cast their cold gaze  
on the busy ants below  
so troubled  
so convinced  
so absent  
all things  
balanced  
dark and light

movement and stillness  
mud and flowers  
prodigal sun pokes through to  
remind me  
I have not seen or known  
anything yet.  
more is continually revealed.  
am i magnificent enough  
to absorb it?  
I watch and wonder.

— Suzan Webb

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## Bench marks

By Rachel Rice  
 OVN Contributor

This letter is not about a memorial bench dedicated to Mike Rice that is on private property on the back side of the Arcade between Tottenham Court and Rains. It is not about the removal of the bench scheduled for the end of this month. It is also not about the bench not matching the rest of the benches in the newly designed Arcade Plaza, and it is not about the fact that the city gave incorrect information, thus the bench does not match.

This letter is about a young man named Michael Rice, born on Jan. 12, 1984, 8 lbs., 13 oz., and 21-1/2 inches long. He died from an undetected heart ailment March 9, 2003. Mike loved the Ojai Valley and loved every minute of his life. He often spoke of how blessed he was, even as a young child he always felt loved deeply. A friend of Mike's said to me just the other day, "He was very kind to everyone and loved talking about God."

To give a better idea of who Mike was I am sending this Statement of Purpose that he wrote to The Rhode Island School of Design in Providence, Rhode Island when he was applying for their Summer Art Program. (He was accepted for summers 2001 and 2002).

### Statement of Purpose

My name is Mike Rice. I am 18 years old and I live in the beautiful Ojai Valley in Ojai, California. Being from a small art related community, art has always played a major role in my life. Since I was a child I've had a deeply rooted interest in the arts, whether it was acting (I was in numerous plays in Ojai.), visual or musical (I play in our jazz band at Happy Valley School). At age 5 I joined an art class provided by famous Southern California artists, Sharon and Kent Butler. I was there for 10 years and I learned an incredible amount. I began to realize that I could not only find happiness from my artwork, but that I could, in fact, make my hobby into a career and create a lifestyle that I would love living.

In high school I literally bumped into an illustrator named Eben Matthews, who owns a design studio in Ojai. He offered to mentor me. We spent the next three years together. Under his guidance I have completed projects including web design (I designed my own web site.), poster

illustration, illustrated books, and many figure studies. Eben's studio, called "Infusion," has been valuable because I have seen the realities of a working artist's life: the late nights, the tight deadlines, and the exhilaration of another problem solved. Because of this experience I realize that illustration is the only career choice for me.

Eben is a Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) alumnus. It was Eben's influence that first prompted me to look toward attending RISD. I have seen the success and talent that comes out of RISD, and I am eager to taste some of that success for myself. I know that no matter what it takes to attend RISD I have to do it. I attended the pre-college program at RISD in the summer of 2001 as an illustrator major. I was introduced to a different spectrum of thought, and was totally immersed into an amazing source of energy. Working around hundreds of students, who are all working toward the same goal, was the fuel that fed my work ethic and my talent. At that time, my creative energy was heightened as well as theirs. By attending your summer art program I will be able to expand my portfolio and give it the strong foundation of pre-college education.

Sincerely,  
 Mike Rice

\*\*\*

My son's life was as full as one's life can be at the age of 19. He was an accomplished illustrator. He was engaged to a beautiful artist who also attended RISD for the same two summers. They were going to illustrate children's books together. He will never be forgotten and will always be in my heart.

His bench is a work of art. Please visit it in the grassy area behind Hacienda and between Tottenham Court and Rains. By the end of March the bench will be moved to Happy Valley School where Mike graduated — the campus that gave him unbelievable opportunities and a blessing of two years of almost full scholarship.

At this time I would like to thank those of you who gave to the memorial fund that made this memorial bench possible, and please always remember that this boy became a full man in every sense of the word.

The memorial bench will be replaced by the city of Ojai with a bench that matches.

Thank you.  
 Rachel Rice is a resident of Ojai.

## thumbs up, down



• A reader sends a thumbs-up to everyone who voted for Measure A-5. Thank you for your generous show of support; unfortunately, we'll need a lot of that support in the coming, difficult years.

• A reader sends a thumbs-up to local, positive youth band, Any Last Words, who are donating a portion of their proceeds from playing at the Ojai Brew Pub to the Ojai Valley Youth Foundation. This is an example of young local artists making a difference in our community.

• A reader sends a major thumbs-up to the staff of our Ojai Valley Community Hospital. In this case to Dr. Summer and his outstanding staff, especially Nurse Stacy. They could not have been more caring. Ms. Stacy even held the reader's hand all through a minor operation. Thank you, Ojai Valley Hospital — the little hospital that could!

• A reader sends a thumbs-up to the young Ojai Valley News carrier who took the time to take the paper to the door of a new subscriber and introduce himself. He also left a printed message with his name and phone in case of problems. What great P.R. for your paper!

• A reader sends a thumbs-up to actors Susan Kelejian and Ron Feltner and director Leslie Paxton for the moving production of "The Sea Horse," currently playing at Theater 150. Excellent theater takes a specific story and makes it universal by reaching deep into the viewer's own experience. Our local talent makes this gripping theater, on par with New York, L.A. and Chicago. Congratulations.



• A reader sends a thumbs-down to Lake Casitas Recreation area! They just opened up a side gate so us locals can go enjoy a meal at their cafe without having to pay the entrance fee — and now they want to take it back. The new cafe owners won't make it under those circumstances and it's unfair.

• A reader sends a thumbs-down to Ojai voters unwilling to put their money where their mouths are to support our schools and nurture our community.

• A reader sends a thumbs-down to the mini-mobile storage unit in the Arbolada. It has been tagged with graffiti and is getting worse every day. It is an eyesore and needs to be painted over. A double thumbs-down to the storage unit company for not taking care of this after repeated phone calls.

This column is meant to provide commentary on a specific act or statement and is not meant to imply blanket support or condemnation. Submit your suggestions by mail, e-mail or fax. Your name and a telephone number must be included for consideration, though they will not be published.

Thumbs may also be submitted on the Internet at [ojaivalleynews.com/thumbs.html](http://ojaivalleynews.com/thumbs.html)

## OUR READERS' VIEWS

### Rabbits deserve our compassion

3-20  
 To the editor:  
 Once again, we find ourselves on the eve of Easter. Store shelves are overflowing with sweets and the images of this rite of spring.

And, once again, I am compelled to urge anyone tempted to bring home living bunnies, to please stop and resist that temptation. Shake off the intoxicating fairy dust of the holiday, and educate yourself before bringing home a living being that, statistically and tragically, will be abandoned ("set free" or dumped at a shelter) or die before the age of 1 due to lack of information (and/or compassion) by the humans entrusted to care for him/her. Of those that aren't gone within that first year, the majority will be relegated to a life of solitary confinement on wire mesh, with little to no exercise or company and a steady diet of stale pellets and water, existing like that for years; a life of utter nothingness.

Rabbits are very intelligent, sensitive animals that typically

live in large family groups and pair-bond for life. Wild rabbits have a range of several hundred yards, and indeed, domestic rabbits need a great deal of exercise as well. I have rescued rabbits that have been caged so long that they can take only a few hops before tiring. Rabbits are a great deal of work, which can be a labor of love or an imposition, depending on your relationship and sense of responsibility. If you are truly committed to caring for a new bunny as a family member, and not a possession, wait until after Easter and adopt from a rescue agency. Some, such as Bunnies Urgently Needing Shelter in Santa Barbara, have already neutered all the rabbits and pair-bonded some. Compassion and information are all you need to vastly improve your experience. See [www.rabbit.org](http://www.rabbit.org) or [www.bunnsb.org](http://www.bunnsb.org).  
 Mona Mansfield Erhardt  
 Ojai

### Ojai celebrating vernal balance

3-21  
 To the editor:  
 We have just passed the vernal

equinox, the point at which the dark and light are balanced. The light is now increasing in the northern hemisphere. The word "equinox" comes from the Latin, "equal night," and "vernal" meaning "bloom."

In ancient days the Earth's natural cycles were honored and celebrated. Fortunately we are, more and more, acknowledging our connections with the larger whole, and with those here before us, who felt themselves to be a part of the larger cycles of life.

This week in the Ojai Valley celebrations of the vernal equinox place have been, and will continue, to take place in personal and community settings. There will be an equinox celebration March 23 at The Ojai Foundation. On Sunday, the Rev. Diane Besocke led an equinox meditation at the Symphony of Life Church prior to the service in which the Rev. Maureen Christopher emphasized the equinox, together with the promise of spring, as her theme for the day. She invited those of us gathered there to think of what qualities we would like to "plant" in our consciousness at

this special time. The children participated in the service, actually planting seeds in a big pot, nurtured by our energies, hopes and aspirations. Diane Bardwell sang a beautiful song about spirit covering the land. I am grateful to have the opportunity to participate in such meaningful and joyous community festivities.

My dear friend, Janet Janszen, still has the egg which was given to the participants as part of a celebration ritual at the Equinox Festival at Meditation Mount two years ago. At that time we did a meditation on planting seeds of new beginnings, asking ourselves what, within us, years to be born, to be brought forth in the coming cycle.

Interestingly enough, as Janet looked at the list she put inside her egg, she noted this year that everything has been realized or come into manifestation.

This is a time of the bursting forth of bud and blossom, of new birth, new life. These themes are central in the celebrations of many of the world religions and spiritual teachings such as the Festival of Aries, taking place at Meditation Mount on March 24 at 7:45, Easter this weekend, and Passover, April 24 through May 1. Let us take a moment to align with these energies, reflect on the choices we are making for the future, and "plant those seeds" in the gardens of our consciousness.

Jean M. Bates  
 Ojai

giving up some of the good life. If our home prices plummet because of rising interest rates, if our fuel becomes so expensive that our massive homes and cars are too costly to operate, if our jobs are lost or our businesses fail, if the air we breathe or the water we drink is poisoned by cooperate greed, if our valuable social programs are lost with budget cuts, if terrorists strike our homeland, if our civil liberties are taken from us, our wailing will be heard around the world, but I fear ignored.

Emerson states, "There is always some leveling circumstance that puts down the overbearing, the strong, the rich, the fortunate, substantially on the same ground with all others." There is a balancing act in nature and things fail to be mismanaged for long.

Just because we are the strongest nation in the world does not mean we cannot be brought to our knees and held there until we cry "uncle."

Making our economy work and having us all prosper in safe and clean environments comes about through a gentle balancing act. Go to extremes in either direction, to the left or the right and we place ourselves in the danger of toppling the "building blocks" that support the core structure of our prosperity and way of life. It is somewhere in between this "left and right," "red and blue," "liberal and conservative," that sanity lives.

I think that most Democrats and even some Republicans would agree that the Bush administration has redefined the word "extreme" and that his administration has divided this country more than it has brought us together. Our times cry out for the leadership that will bring us all back together as a nation and lead us down a road of reasonable actions.

As a Democrat who loves this country I will do what I can by continuing to speak out against the extreme actions of this administration that I believe draw us away from being a nation that is united, prosperous, safe and respected around the world.

I urge others to join me. Get involved, you can make a difference. For starters, go to [www.moveon.org](http://www.moveon.org), [www.aclu.org](http://www.aclu.org), [www.truthout.org](http://www.truthout.org), [www.pdamerica.org](http://www.pdamerica.org), [www.democrats.org](http://www.democrats.org), [www.venturacountyprogressives.com](http://www.venturacountyprogressives.com), [takeaction.worldwildlife.org](http://takeaction.worldwildlife.org) /action.  
 Trent Jones

### Ojai voters kept declines on course

3-12

To the editor:  
 Shame on you, Ojai voters. Shame on the 61 percent that were too apathetic to vote on Measure A5. Shame for allowing 20 percent of the registered voters to decide the fate of our children's public education. Shame on the property-owning voters who turned out to protect \$12.50 per month, less than 50 cents per day, because that paltry sum is more important than the education of the future taxpayers of America. Those future taxpayers might be the ones you rely on to fund your fixed incomes.

Please don't misunderstand — we are sympathetic to the plight of seniors on fixed incomes with each dollar worth less in goods and services every day. Even \$12.50 per month can be a burden for some. But that burden was intended for property owners in Ojai to bear. Property is not cash, but it is wealth — especially in this community. And, by the way, that fixed Social Security income is funded by the taxes paid by the parents of Ojai's schoolchildren, who are unlikely to have the same benefit when they retire.

Chances are many of the "No" voters have children, and perhaps grandchildren, now grown, who had the opportunity for a fine public education. Chances are their children's teachers were not spending their own money or begging for donations for writing paper and boxes of Kleenex in the classroom. Chances are they were not sending their children out to raise money to fund supplies for a volunteer art program, or hire a bus to visit a museum, or buy musical instruments for the use of children who couldn't otherwise afford that joy, or pay the salary of a physical education teacher. Measure A5 was not even intended to improve that deplorable state — just to maintain the status quo. Now Ojai's children will be denied even that.

Will we be so proud of our now world-class high school music program in five years when we have not nurtured the talent to feed it? Will our children know how to use the tools they need to compete in this increasingly technological world?

Please see Letters, Page A-6

## OJAI VALLEY NEWS STAFF

### Mission Statement:

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

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The Ojai Valley News, published on Wednesdays and Fridays, is locally owned and operated by Ojai Valley Newspapers, L.L.C., 408 Bryant Circle Suite A, Ojai, Calif. 93023. Phone (805) 646-1476.

Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at Ojai, Calif. under the act of March 3, 1988, adjudication decree no. 41160 by Superior Court, Ventura County, June 16, 1952. Send forms 3579 to P.O. Box 277, Ojai, Calif. 93024.

Subscription rates by carrier are \$45 for one year, \$30 for six months and \$20 for three months. Mail subscriptions are \$75 for one year, \$50 for six months and \$35 for three months.

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# Letters

(Continued from Page A-5)

Will the library time be missed by our children or will they even be inspired to read?

Shame on us for being complacent and putting our faith in the voters of Ojai.

Laura and Richard Stallings  
Ojai

## SCWC rate hike request unfair

3-16

To the editor:

Southern California Water Company (SCWC) has once again requested permission from the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to raise our water rates more than 19 percent over the next three years. Already there exists a large disparity between the fees and rates currently charged by SCWC as compared to our neighbors with other water companies in the valley. And, SCWC is the only for-profit water company in our area.

"Customers of SCWC already fork over, at times, twice the amount of other valley residents lucky enough to be hooked into companies like Meiners Oaks Water District, Ventura River District or Casitas Water District," Dan Singer, Ojai city manager, said in an article on "Water Rates" in the Ojai Valley News on 11/12/04.

We must insist that a fair and even price structure be established. We need to request that the SCWC scale back their fees to be competitive with our neighboring water companies and certainly ensure that no additional increases are granted. To accomplish this, please e-mail the Public Utilities Commission today at public.advisor.la@cpuc.ca.gov. If you prefer to use a sample letter, you may e-mail Paulette Matheson Whiting, administrative analyst in the city manager's office at paulette@ci.ojai.ca.us or reach her by calling 646-5581.

We frequently have to deal with broken water pipes at all hours of the day and night and our water service being shut off with no notice for the "repairs" to be done. They leave filth and debris in the road once they are finished. We also have to deal with sediment in the water that can ruin our appliances and plug up our watering systems. Others have complained that their water smelled like rotten eggs. Isn't it SCWC's responsibility to ensure good water quality as part of the contract with us?

The city of Ojai has investigated various means to cancel this contract without success. The only way this contract with SCWC can be terminated is to condemn their system because of poor water quality and/or insufficient infrastructure. So we must begin to document the service SCWC has provided with both the PUC and the city of Ojai.

This is our chance to speak up. If we don't, the PUC may allow the SCWC to increase our water rates yet again.

Kerri Climer  
Cynthia Lindenbaum  
Ojai

## Prop. 98 cuts thwarts voters

3-16

To the editor:

Gov. Schwarzenegger has broken his promise to protect schools and students from harmful budget cuts. His recent budget proposals undermine the education funding protections California voters said they want through Proposition 98.

Just in the last several years, California schools have suffered more than \$9.8 billion in cuts. Statewide, these cuts translate to school closures, increases in class size, layoffs of teachers and support staff, and a devastating shortage of librarians, counselors, nurses, custodians and

groundskeepers.

Many schools lack basic supplies and instructional materials. Schools are cutting art and music programs, extracurricular activities are no longer affordable, after-school programs have been decimated and school maintenance is underfunded.

California voters approved Proposition 98 to protect schools and students. The governor shouldn't ignore the voters, our students or our schools.

June Sears, Camille Houston, Joann Yabrof, Pamela Phillips, Cindy Michie, Sarah McCune, Cathy Maynard, I. Colborn, Martha Ditchfield, Vickie Hughart, Valerie White, Chris Hess and Kent Houston

## Steelhead costs put off to future

3-17

To the editor:

Pat Hartmann's letter, "Lots of money being spent for fish dinner," seems to be representative of a group of individuals who allow their indignant egos to interfere with their education. The letter is so rife with misinformation that I thought I might attempt to disarm the anger with some common knowledge.

Although a lot of money was spent to construct the Robles Fish Passage, it had nothing to do with fish dinners. Nor did it have anything to do with fishermen. The fish passage was constructed to allow fish to go both upstream and downstream, just as they would before the Robles Diversion dam was built in the 1950s. The reason so much money was spent on the fish passage is because instead of building it at the time the diversion dam was built, which was then a requirement, Casitas Water District chose to wait half a century until it was mandated by the federal government.

If you look at the bottom of Matilija Dam, you will see the remnants of a fish trap, constructed so that fish could be transported from below the dam to above it. The people who built the Matilija Dam and the Robles Diversion Dam knew that they were blocking the migration of steelhead that had been breeding in the Ventura River for eons. They knew that what they were doing would deplete the ecology of the river. It was decided to pass that problem on to the next generations. Passing debts on to future generations was not invented by President Bush, although he is breaking all records for it.

Hartmann is incorrect in stating that no fishermen are appearing on the banks now that the passage has been built. I am a fisherman, and I have been on the banks many times this calendar year, as have some of my fishermen friends. We have not been fishing, of course, because it is illegal to fish in the Ventura River. That is not a problem to me nor to any of my fishing associates. I am enjoying how beautiful our river is now that it has water in it. And with water, there is hope that I might see some steelhead. I am not disillusioned by the fact that I haven't seen any yet. Not seeing them doesn't mean that they aren't there. The fish aren't being "reintroduced" as Hartmann says. They are being given the opportunity to proliferate on their own by affording ample water and passage to historical breeding areas.

In regards to Ms. Hartmann's and Mr. Ruch's anger over sections of San Antonio Creek and Thacher Creek being designated as critical habitat for the steelhead, they have concerns that need to be voiced. We all know that these creeks do go dry

for long periods and would not support resident fish. We also know that water flows downhill. If these tributaries of the Ventura River are not protected, then the Ventura River is not protected.

The Southern California steelhead is the ancestor of all Pacific Coast steelhead. It has adapted to the harsh local conditions of long periods of drought and high water temperatures. Comments from the "old-timers" about how the creeks "always went dry" and that they never saw trout in a dry stream bed are perhaps correct, but do not account for the fact that there are steelhead in Southern California streams. This year steelhead have been photographed in Mission Creek in Santa Barbara and a few years ago there was a famous pair at Soule Park. How many more are there? Considering the fate of the pair at Soule Park, it is perhaps best that sightings and locations are left unreported.

Finally, Hartmann incorrectly implied that the plan to remove Matilija Dam is solely for the steelhead. In fact, the removal of the dam is necessary because it is a huge liability to the county and the people below the dam. The cost to remove it is great, and again, this is because the previous generation left us holding the bag.

Of course, many people, perhaps the Hartmanns also, feel that passing debts on the future generations is the natural course when we find present demands uncomfortable.

Larry Yuva  
Ojai

## Beware of U.N. land grab treaty

3-18

To the editor:

Americans must strongly oppose and object to another United States' giveaway of control and ownership of national property to the United Nations. The proposed U.N. treaty is called "The Law of the Sea" (LOST) and concerned Americans will not hear much about it until it is practically a "done deal," as with other ominous measures that have been passed.

LOST will facilitate the largest global "land grab" in history. It will make the United Nations steward of of the world oceans, including mineral- and energy-rich regions on the ocean floor. And — who controls the U.N.?

For more information, see www.THENEWAMERICAN.com (March 7, 2005 issue).  
Ruth Schneider  
Ojai



Photo by Leslie Vallee-Miller

## Where's the Corned Beef?

Lois Samuelson, left, and Edie Isham are joined by an unidentified guest as they sample some of the potluck fixings at Help of Ojai's Little House. The annual St. Patrick's Day community event was attended by an estimated 120 people.

## Ojai Valley

### GARDEN CLUB

By  
Jeannie  
Barnett

Hello, to all you wet and weary gardeners! It looks like Mother Nature has decided to be kind to us, and give us some nice weather for a change. Of course, as I write this, it's beautiful — warm and sunny. There's no promise this weather will continue, so get outside and take advantage of it while it lasts.

The ground may still be too soggy for any planting, but you

can break up the packed and muddy soil, and let the fresh air do its work. This would be a great time to do soil amendments. Sad to say, but some of our trees, shrubs and plants may have been damaged beyond repair by the past storms. Now is the time to remove them, and decide what will replace them.

I had to make a trip to the nursery for some potting soil. Even though it's too soon to plant in my garden, just looking at the pots and flats of all the blooming flowers was enough to get me thinking about which ones will go where — when the time is right.

And that "right time" isn't too far off. So get out the nursery

catalogs, visit the local nursery, thumb through your gardening magazines, and start to plan what you're going to plant for that spectacular garden we all hope to have, be it small or large.

The monthly meetings of the Ojai Valley Garden Club are over for the summer, and will resume on Oct. 12, at the Ojai Valley Woman's Club, located at 441 E. Ojai Ave. in Ojai. The first meeting of the 2005-2006 season will start with a tea at 2 p.m. The announcement will be in the Ojai Valley News approximately two weeks beforehand. In the meantime, be sure to check out the Garden Club's display case, on the front of the post office. For more information, call 646-0072.

## The Write Stuff

E-mail is our preferred method of receiving letters, though we will accept handwritten letters, provided they are legible.

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# Health Directory

## & Medical Guide

### Health Insurance Q. & A.

#### What seniors should know

## Foundation betting on Hospital

**Ojai Valley Boys to entertain at Casino Night; last year's event raised more than \$30,000**

By Nita Whaley  
OVN contributor

Local wranglers and gaming enthusiasts are dusting off their cowboy gear as they head for the barn and the third annual Western Casino Night fundraising event to enhance services at the Ojai Valley Community Hospital.

Sponsored by the Hospital Foundation Guild, this year's event is slated for April 30 at Rancho Dos Rios (the Ojai Valley Inn Ranch and Stables) on Creek Road, from 6 to 10 p.m.

"Last year's event was a sellout and raised more than \$30,000 for the benefit of our nonprofit community hospital," said Charlene Hartenstein, chair of this year's Casino Night. "Once again, we're going to offer a fun-filled evening of food, music, gaming, auction items and prizes."

The Ojai Valley Boys — made up of local musicians John Perry, DeWayne Boccali and Bob Jones — will entertain the wranglers and cowpokes with country western standards and other foot-stomping selections.

The \$65 admission tab includes southwestern-style "vittles," a beverage and \$100 in "funny money" to use in

gambling for prizes and trolley transportation from Camp Comfort to the rancho. Las Vegas-style gaming tables will feature roulette, blackjack craps. Familiar faces in the Ojai Valley will be dealing at the blackjack tables.

A raffle and silent auction will give guests a chance to ante up for a variety of donated items and raise additional dollars for the Ojai hospital.

"This informal event is an opportunity for people across the valley to show their support for our local hospital and have a great evening in the process," Hartenstein said. "Sponsorships, as well as ticket sales, are critical to our success, and we hope businesses and individuals will come forward as sponsors."

The wife and daughter of Ojai physicians, Hartenstein grew up with the hospital and got involved with the guild as a way to help strengthen hospital facilities and services.

Working with Hartenstein on Western Casino Night are committee members Laura Baker, Mel Calvin, Alice Chesley, Brenda Farr, Kathleen Habliston, Nancy Hammond, Barbara Hirsch, Carolyn Huntsinger, Anne Kaplan, Joan Kemper, Linda Law, Barbara Pops, Jan Rains, Peggy Russell, Joyce West and Nita Whaley.

Tickets for the April 30 event may be purchased at the Hospital Foundation Office, 640-2317. Information on sponsorship opportunities is also available at that number.



Photo by Don Anderson

**CHARLENE HARTENSTEIN, left, along with Kathleen Habliston and Laura Baker, check out the riding gear at Rancho Dos Rios as they begin work on the Ojai Valley Community Hospital Foundation's third annual Western Casino Night. The evening of gaming, western music and southwestern grub raises money for the Ojai Valley Community Hospital.**

## Simple surgery can correct kids' flat feet

By Jim Sooy  
OVN contributor

Flat feet in children can lead to serious, even debilitating foot conditions later in life if left untreated says Jeffrey Haupt, DPM, president of the Orange County Podiatric Medical Association. "Surgery corrects the condition that has not responded to conservative treatment, allowing a growing youngster a much higher quality of life than would otherwise be possible,

achieving a high level of patient and parent satisfaction."

"Flat feet or pes plano valgus, is confirmed by a number of physical findings including X-ray and MRI confirmation. There are flexible flat feet and rigid flat feet. We see flexible flat feet most often. This condition, if left untreated, may or may not worsen as the youngster continues to grow. Rigid flat foot, on the other hand, is usually congenital or inherited and does not typically respond to

conservative or non-surgical treatment," continued Dr. Haupt.

"Left untreated the flat feet of childhood can lead to hammer toes, bunions, arthritis or other serious foot problems as adults. Parents usually come to our office with a youngster complaining of clumsiness, cramping and fatigue or limping with collapsed arches that turn inward. Conservative treatment includes taping arch supports or custom made orthotics, physical therapy, stretching exercises and anti-inflammatory medications."

Podiatrists surveyed suggest that the vast majority of patients with flat feet will respond to conservative care. Haupt and his colleagues only recommend subtalar implant surgery, inserting a small titanium device that corrects pathologic foot deformities by allowing normal articulation of the subtalar joint while deterring excessive pronation, when conservative measures have failed to eliminate the symptoms of pain, frequent tripping, postural fatigue, or reluctance to participate in physical activities.

"Flat feet are often difficult to distinguish in children younger than 6 because the arch has yet to

develop and some will simply outgrow the condition." Foot pain in children is not normal and is sometimes misdiagnosed as growing pains. Its presence should be a reason to schedule an appointment with a podiatrist as soon as possible.

"While conservative or nonsurgical treatment works for a majority of patients, for those it fails, subtalar implants provide reliable and reproducible results," says Haupt, who has performed several hundred of such surgeries on young people between the ages of 6 and 16.

Like all surgical procedures there are possible complications including under or overcorrection, surgical scars, pain, swelling, stiffness. For more information on correcting flat feet or to find a qualified foot and ankle surgeon in your area visit [www.podiatrists.org](http://www.podiatrists.org), the California Podiatric Medical Association web site.

The California Podiatric Medical Association is California's professional association for doctors of podiatric medicine (DPM) or podiatric physicians and surgeons.

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By Nita Whaley  
OVN contributor

**Q.** I'm turning 65 soon and am looking into insurance options to supplement Medicare. Should I consider a plan with prescription drug coverage?

**A.** The rule of thumb is that if your prescription drug costs exceed \$3,000 a year, a Medigap (Medicare supplement) plan with prescription coverage may be cost-effective for you. These plans (H-I-J), however, tend to run about twice as much a month more than a mid-range Medigap plan. We do not expect the H-I-J plans to be available in 2006, when the new Medicare Prescription Drug Program goes into effect, but they may be continued for current enrollees.

The new Medicare Prescription Drug Program, known as Part D, will pay 75 percent of your prescription costs after the first \$250 up to \$2,500 a year. There will be no coverage between \$2,500 and \$5,000 a year. Once your prescription costs exceed \$5,100, Medicare will pay 95 percent of the costs.

Part D premiums will begin at \$37 a month (\$444 annually). If you do not sign up for Part D when it first becomes available and decide to take it later on, you will have to pay a penalty of 1 percent a month for the period you do not take Part D.

So, unless your prescription drug costs are excessive, you would be wise to wait for Part D.

**Q.** Can I enroll in Medicare and Medi-Cal at the same time?

**A.** Yes, but enrollment cannot be done through the same form or at the same office. People with Medicare may be eligible for Medi-Cal if their income and assets are below a certain level. Medicare is administered through the federal Social Security Administration while the state/federal Medi-Cal program is administered through the County Human Services Agency.

If you're eligible for Medi-Cal, you will not be responsible for paying your Medicare premiums. Neither will you have to pay deductibles or co-pays if you use doctors who accept Medi-Cal. You will have prescription drug coverage through Medi-Cal as well.

If you are single and have less

than \$2,000 in assets (\$3,000 per couple), contact a HICAP counselor or HAS to see if you might qualify for Medi-Cal. Meanwhile, be sure to apply for Medicare a few months before turning 65.

**Q.** Will Medicare pay for a nursing home?

**A.** Medicare provides some nursing home coverage, but this coverage is restricted to short-term stays after discharge from a hospital. Medicare does not pay for long-term care in a skilled nursing facility (SNF) or assisted living facility.

Medicare Part A provides limited payment for care in a SNF only if you have a qualifying hospital stay. This means an inpatient hospital stay of three consecutive days or more, not including the day you leave the hospital. You must enter the SNF within 30 days of leaving the hospital. After you leave the SNF, if you re-enter the same or another SNF within 30 days, you don't need another three-day qualifying hospital stay provided you're being admitted for the same medical condition.

For each benefit period in a SNF, Medicare pays for 100 percent of eligible charges for the first 20 days. For days 21 through 100, the beneficiary has a daily co-payment of \$114 a day, and Medicare pays the balance of eligible costs, if any. Medicare payments end after 100 days.

Your benefit period ends when you have not been in a SNF or a hospital for at least 60 days in a row or if you remain in SNF when you have not received skilled care there for at least 60 days in row. There is no limit to the number of benefit periods you can have.

*Nita Whaley is a Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) volunteer counselor/community educator certified by the California Department of Aging and working under the auspices of HICAP/Area Agency on Aging for the County of Ventura. Medicare recipients are invited to submit questions to this column by writing to HICAP, c/o Help of Ojai, P.O. Box 621, Ojai CA 93024. Please include your name and telephone. To make a personal appointment, call Help of Ojai at 646-HELP.*

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## This Week

### •Wednesday, March 23

**OJAI HEALING CIRCLE** — The Ojai Healing Circle will meet today from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Ojai Valley Birth Resource & Family Center, 319 E. El Roblar Drive, Meiners Oaks. All are welcome to share ideas about spiritual energy healing and exchange hands-on healing. Donations accepted. Call Marilyn Salas at 640-7101 for more information.

**CARE-GIVING COURSE** — Help of Ojai will offer a Care-giving Course for family care-givers on Wednesdays from 6 to 9 p.m., beginning today and running for six sessions. Covering all phases of care-giving, this course is designed to help families and care-givers acquire the skills they need to provide safe, confident home care. To register or for more information, call Shirley at 646-0161.

**OJAI POETRY FESTIVAL MEETING** — The Ojai Poetry Festival Committee will meet today at 7 p.m. at the Ojai Library, 111 E. Ojai Ave. The 2005 Ojai Poetry Festival is just around the corner. If you are interested in volunteering for this organization that brings world-renowned poets to Ojai, come to the meeting. Call Tami at 640-9399 for more information.

**•Thursday, March 24**  
**SENIOR FRIENDSHIP CONNECTION MEETING** — Senior Friendship Connection for Women at Home will meet Thursday at 10 a.m. at the restaurant at Lake Casitas. For more information or to R.S.V.P., call Claire at 640-9849 or Shirley at 649-3101.

**COMMUNITY MEDITATION IN ARIES** — Thursday at 7:45 p.m., a Community Meditation Meeting in Aries will be held at Meditation Mount, 10340 Reeves Road. The evening will include a ceremony of light, live music, a talk by Lynn Hebenstreit, a guided meditation and a blessing for the world on the terrace. Donations are welcome. Call 646-5508.

**•Friday, March 25**  
**SOUP SALE** — Help of Ojai's Community Assistance Program will hold its annual fund-raising Soup Sale on Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Chaparral Auditorium, 414 E. Ojai Ave. Tickets are \$5 in advance, \$7 at the door, and \$3 for children. Tickets are on sale at Little House, 111 W. Santa Ana St., and the C.A.P. office at 212 Fox St. Lunch will include soup by John McNeil, salad and bread, and slices of Marie Callender's pies will be available for \$2.

**PEACE VIGIL** — Come light a candle and join the Peace Vigil held every Friday from 5 to 6 p.m. at Libbey Park along Ojai Avenue by the fountain.

**"THE SEA HORSE"** — Theater 150, 918 E. Ojai Ave., will present "The Sea Horse," starring Susan Kelejian and Ron Feltner and directed by Leslie Paxton, through March 27, with shows on Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$15, two for one on Sundays, \$8 with student ID on Fridays and Saturdays only. Call 646-4300 for reservations. (M25)

**"BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS"** — The Ojai Art Center Theater will present Neil Simon's "Brighton Beach Memoirs" through April 16 (for mature audiences). The play is part of an autobiographical trilogy dealing with the author's early life growing up in Brooklyn. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 7 p.m. For reservations call 640-8797 or online @oiaiaact.org. (A15)

**MUSIC AT MOVINO** — Friday at 8:30 p.m., the Chasm Jazz Trio will play world fusion music at Movino Wine Bar & Gallery, 308 E. Ojai Ave., 646-1555.

**•Saturday, March 26**  
**WILDFLOWER HIKE** — Saturday at 9 a.m., join Ojai Valley Land Conservancy's preserve manager, Rich Handley, on a hike through the Ventura River Preserve

on the scenic Wills-Rice Canyon trail. Enjoy an exquisite Oak Savanna woodland and spring wildflowers. Bring water and a snack. Pre-registration required; space is limited. Call 646-0251 to save a place.

**OJAI VALLEY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE** — Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Ojai Valley School will hold an admission open house at its lower campus, 723 El Paseo Road, Ojai. Take a campus tour with current students and learn about the school's academic and extracurricular programs. Call 646-1423 for more information.

**HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION EVENT** — The Pollution Prevention center is taking appointments from residents of the Ojai Valley and surrounding areas for its next Household Hazardous Waste and Electronic Waste Collection Event on Saturday. Call 289-3339; business call 987-0717.

**MUSIC AT MOVINO** — March 26 at 8:30 p.m., legendary jazz and blues singer Preston Smith will perform at Movino Wine Bar & Gallery, 308 E. Ojai Ave., 646-1555.

**•Sunday, March 27**  
**EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE** — Sunday at 6 a.m., an Easter sunrise service will be held at Lake Casitas, with free entry, coffee, hot chocolate and doughnuts. Pastor Paul Bergmann of Ojai Valley Community Church will deliver a message titled "The Fourth Nail." OVCC will hold a traditional service at 10 a.m. at the sanctuary located at 907 El Centro St. at the corner of Loma Drive. Call 646-4324 for more information.

**EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE AT THACHER** — The traditional Easter sunrise service will take place Sunday at 7 a.m. at the Outdoor Chapel of The Thacher School, 5025 Thacher Road, lasting about 30 minutes and followed by refreshments on the school's pergola. The public is invited to join the students and faculty.

**•Tuesday, March 29**  
**MEINERS OAKS LIBRARY STORY HOUR** — The Meiners Oaks Library Story Hour meets every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. These free programs are open to all parents and children. Meiners Oaks Library is located at 114 N. Padre Juan Ave. Call 646-4804 with questions.

**MUSIC AT MOVINO** — Tuesday at 7 p.m., spend an evening with John Locke on the keyboards at Movino Wine Bar & Gallery, 308 E. Ojai Ave., 646-1555.

**"FIRE IN THE HEART: TRANSFORMING FEAR TO FREEDOM"** — The Theosophical Society in the Ojai Valley will host Richard Moss speaking on "Fire in the Heart: Transforming Fear to Freedom" Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Main Hall on Krotona Hill. Call 646-2563 for more information.

## Down the Road

**OVERNIGHT HOMELESS SHELTER** — Intake reception at each of the rotating, overnight homeless shelter, church-facility sites is between 6 and 8 p.m. through March 31. To volunteer program assistance or arrange donations of food or clothing, call Rick Raine at 477-2230 and leave a message. Tax-deductible monetary contributions can be made to OVFS Treasurer, 930 Grand Ave., Ojai, CA 93023.

**"BIG EGOS AND BAD POETS"** — Open Word at Bart's Books, 302 W. Matilija St., will be held April 1 beginning at sunset (6:23 p.m.), sign up and spoken mike. Featured readers begin at first star (7:37 p.m.), with selections from Keroac, Buckowski, Ginsburg and Ferlingetti. Call 646-3755 for more information.

**"CHOGYAM TRUNGPA RINPOCHE: HIS LIFE AND VISION"** — a public program being held April 1 through 3 at the Ojai Valley Dharma Center, 213 N. Montgomery St. The Vidya dhara, Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche is one of the great inspirations of the Kagyu and Nyingma lineages of

Tibetan Buddhism. He presented the dharma in myriad ways that were designed to penetrate the unique confusion of western students. The weekend begins an ongoing six-week course which is an introduction and exploration of his teachings and his legacy, based on the new book, "Chogyam Trungpa: His Life and Vision" by Fabrice Midal. The course will be taught by Patrick Sweeney, holder of Trungpa Rinpoche's lineage through the Vajra Regent Osel Tendzin, and senior teachers of the Satdharma mandala. Cost: \$125. Friday, April 1, 7:30 p.m., free public talk; Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., followed by a hosted lunch. For more information call 640-0931, or visit [www.satdharma.org](http://www.satdharma.org). (M30)

**VOLUNTEER TRAIL DAYS** — Come celebrate the outdoors and join the Ojai Ranger District of the Los Padres National Forest for Volunteer Trail Days on April 2. Local trails need your help and volunteers play a big part in their upkeep. People of all ages and abilities are invited to conduct light maintenance on local hiking trails. Work usually involves both brush removal and light treadwork with hand tools. The Forest Service will provide tools and instruction for proper use. Meet at 9 a.m. (weather permitting) at the Ojai Ranger Station, 1190 E. Ojai Ave. The day will end around 3 p.m. Bring water, lunch, sunscreen, gloves, eye protection and sturdy boots. For more information, call Heidi Anderson at 646-4348, Ext. 309.

**"50 YEARS WITH SMOKEY THE BEAR"** — Wheeler Gorge Visitors Center will present the charming video chronicling the creation and evolution of Smokey the Bear, "50 Years with Smokey the Bear," on April 2 at 10 and 11 a.m., noon and 1, 2, 3 and 4 p.m. (running time 24 minutes). The public is invited at no charge. Call 640-9060 for more information.

**"CAN MOVIES MAKE A DIFFERENCE? MAKING OF SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE FILMS"** — A panel and discussion with award-winning filmmakers Cathrine Ann Jones, Steve Grumette, Gay Hendricks, Dulanie Ellis, John Diehl, and 2005 Oscar-winner Bobby Houston will discuss the making of socially responsible films today, from the point of view of director, producer, actor and writer, on April 3 from 6 to 9 p.m. at The Ojai Retreat, 160 Besant Road, Ojai. Dinner begins at 6 p.m.; 6:45 p.m., panel discussion; 8:15 p.m., screening of "Angel Passing" by Cathrine Ann Jones. Cost: \$20 for advance reservations or \$25 at the door. Call 646-2536; limited seating. (A1)

**"TALK ABOUT GOD'S POLITICS"** — St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, at the corner of Ojai Avenue and Bristol Road, is sponsoring a group to study and discuss a new book by Jim Wallis titled "God's Politics," with the subtitle, "Why the Right Gets It Wrong and the Left Doesn't Get it." The book presents "A New Vision for Faith and Politics in America." More information about the book and the author can be found at [www.sojonet.net](http://www.sojonet.net). Weekly meetings will be held in Fisher Hall (building to the left of the church) beginning April 3 from 5 to 7 p.m. and continuing until June 5. Light refreshments will be served. Franna and Mac McClelland will be the facilitators. Call them at 646-4965 to register. There is no charge for this class.

**HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY MEETING** — The Ojai Valley Horticultural Society will meet April 4 at 7 p.m. in Kent Hall at Little House, 111 W. Santa Ana St., Ojai. Guest speaker Bob Sussman, owner of Matilija Nursery in Moorpark,



Photo by George Keenen

## Re-making the Grade

Work continues day and night on the Arnaz Grade, which has been reduced to two lanes for much of the winter due to intense storms. Meanwhile, Lake Casitas neared its 254,000 acre-feet capacity yesterday afternoon for the first time since Feb. 5, 1998. The lake is about 2 feet below the spillway.

will talk on "Landscaping with California Natives." The public is welcome and there is no charge. Refreshments will be served. You're welcome to bring plants, cuttings and produce to share in the monthly raffle. Call Joanne at 640-7135 for more information.

**MEINERS OAKS LIBRARY BOOK CLUB MEETING** — The next meeting of the Meiners Oaks Library Book Club will be held April 5 at 6:30 p.m. at the library at 114 N. Padre Juan Ave. The book, "The Moonstone" by Wilkie Collins, will be discussed. The meetings have been changed to the first Tuesday of the month. Call 646-4804 for more information.

**"ARE YOU AN APRIL FOOL BEING CHEATED?"** — April 5 at 7:30 p.m. at 687 Villanova Road, The American Vedic Association's Bhagavad Gita As It Is Fellowship will discuss cons and cheats. Don't be fooled by carpetbag gurus. Always free. Call 640-0405.

**"THE SACRED ART OF FILM"** — The Theosophical Society in the Ojai Valley will host Annell and Travis Brock speaking on "The Sacred Art of Film" April 5 at 7:30 p.m. in the Main Hall on Krotona Hill. Call 646-2563 for more information.

**OJAI LIBRARY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP** — The Ojai Library's Book Discussion Group will meet April 6 at 7:30 p.m. to discuss "Lolita" by Vladimir Nabokov. The library is located at 111 E. Ojai Ave. Everyone is invited to join the group. Call 646-1639.

**FRIENDSHIP CONNECTION MEETING** — The Ojai Valley Chapter of Friendship Connection for Women at Home will meet April 7 at 9:30 a.m. at the residence of a member in Ojai. Call 640-6730 for more information.

**YOUTH FISHING DERBY AT ROSE VALLEY** — Wheeler Gorge Visitors Center will host its first youth trout fishing derby on April 9 at 7 a.m. for boys and girls, ages 4 to

15, at Rose Valley. Call 640-9060 for more information or see the flier at the Visitors Center.

**GARRETT LEMIRE MEMORIAL GRAND PRIX** — A professional bike race in downtown Ojai will be held on April 10 in honor of Garrett Lemire. More than 600 elite and professional bike racers are expected to take part in this prestigious national event. The race is in honor and memory of Garrett Lemire, a young man from Ojai, who was killed at a bike race in Arizona two years ago. To volunteer or for more information contact Bob Coble at Bicycles of Ojai at 646-7736.

**EARTH WALK** — Co-hosted by Oak Grove School and the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy, EarthWalk is a gentle, two-mile stroll from Cluff Vista Park (Ojai Avenue at Canada), through the Ojai Meadows and on to Oak Grove School for the Earth Day festival opening. Optional walker sponsorships and direct donations will support the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy and Oak Grove School. All walkers will receive a free prize drawing ticket and a voucher good for a ride home on the Ojai Trolley. Those who make a donation of any size will also receive an Earth Day water bottle. Information: Call 646-8236, Ext. 104.

**EARTH DAY CELEBRATION** — On Sunday, April 17, from noon to 4 p.m., Oak Grove School will host its Earth Day Celebration. Stop by the campus for live entertainment, arts and action activities, including

toddler and teen areas, world foods, a marketplace of arts and crafts, interactive ecology and wellness exhibits and an alternative vehicle display. In addition, the student garden will sell plants, host hands-on garden activities and showcase its student-built, strawbale greenhouse. Admission is free. There are fees for some activities. Call 646-8236, Ext. 340. (A15)

**VENDORS NEEDED** — The Ojai American Legion Auxiliary is seeking vendors for its annual Spring Flea Market and Crafts Fair, to be held May 7 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the American Legion Hall, 843 E. Ojai Ave. Lunch will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Vendor spaces cost \$20. All proceeds from this event are used for projects that directly benefit our veterans, families in need in the Ojai Valley and scholarships for students. For an application or more information, call Mary at 649-2705.

Please see Valley, Page b-3

## Ongoing

**INTUITIVE AURA-SOMA READINGS** — by Deborah Lynn Axson, at the Ojai House, 304 N. Montgomery St. On-call daily, 640-1656. Check it out at [www.whatsyourcolor.net](http://www.whatsyourcolor.net).



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Photo submitted

**STEVE AND HANNA MITCHELL** wait for the start of the Los Angeles Marathon. The father-and-daughter duo finished the 26.2-mile race just under their goal of six hours.

## Father-daughter duo sets marathon goal

By Jay Ford Cullis  
jay@ojaivalleynews.com

On Sunday, March 6, Ojai resident Steve Mitchell and his 13-year-old daughter, Hanna Mitchell, ran in the 20th running of the Los Angeles Marathon. Both finished within a second of each other — Steve clocking in at five hours, 56 minutes and five tenths of a second, and Hanna at five hours, 56 minutes and three tenths of a second. A grueling 26.2 mile run through the heart of Los Angeles, both said the it was the challenge — not the completion of the race — that mattered the most. "After seven months it was nice to be out there and see the fruits of our labor," Steven Mitchell said. Still, it was no walk in the park. "We had to push each other," he said. "But we met our goal, which was to break six hours — barely, but we did it."

He said the two hit a mental and physical wall at 20 miles, feeling the effects in their feet and legs. For Hanna, whose longest run before the marathon was 22 miles, it was a chance for father and daughter to support each other through a tough experience. "It was mostly fun, but

sometimes it got really hard," Hanna Mitchell said. "Dad encouraged me and I encouraged him," she said. "He's not a big talker when he runs, but we did talk," she said.

They weren't alone as they pounded the pavement. "We had a lot of friends," Hanna said, referring to the Ventura Roadrunners Club, who they trained with leading up to the race. Steve Mitchell found out about the race from a co-worker who's a member of the club, and Hanna said she saw about 50 Ventura Roadrunners during the course of the day.

Because Hanna is homeschooled, Steve thought the race would provide a good opportunity for physical education. The two did long weekend runs on the beach along the Rincon, and during the week they ran on the Ojai Valley Trail. "It was challenging for both of us," Steve Mitchell said. "I'd come home from work and be tired, and she'd get me to go."

And though Hanna came in slightly ahead of her father, rivalry and competition were no match by support and encouragement. "That was our whole purpose — to do it together," he said.

# Wheeler Gorge benefits from 'Scenic' book

*Local site one of just two visitors centers in entire Los Padres National Forest*

The Wheeler Gorge Visitors Center is rapidly transforming itself from being a brief footnote in Jim Blakley's recent book on "Scenic Highway 33" to becoming an important destination for entertainment and educational information. This year there will be something going on for everyone on every Saturday from April 2 to Aug. 27. You name it — lectures, animal shows, nature walks, trail service training, plant identification hikes and weed removal, a combined U.S. Forest Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service career forum, two "meet the author days" and video shows — there will be much to see and do. This year all programs are free, except for the fishing derby and the "Birds of Prey Live" program. With the support of sponsors and the community, we hope to keep the center open and active next year.

There are only two visitors centers in the entire Los Padres National Forest. They are located at Big Sur and Wheeler Gorge. Only one center is located on a scenic highway and has a campground across the highway — Wheeler Gorge! The Wheeler Gorge Visitors Center is under special permit use with the Los Padres Forest Association in cooperation with the Ojai Ranger District Office of the Los Padres National Forest. The Rocky Mountain Recreation Company, at Wheeler Gorge, is also an important sponsor of the center.

Adults, do you remember singing the song, "Smokey the Bear," as a kid? The opening

program at Wheeler Gorge Visitor Center on Saturday, April 2, will be "Fifty Years with Smokey the Bear." This charming video, a nostalgic look back for adults and entertainment for kids, chronicles the creation and evolution of Smokey Bear. It will be shown on the hour every hour from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Also in April, the Los Padres Forest Association (Ojai Chapter) is hosting its first youth trout fishing derby on April 9 at 7 a.m., for boys and girls age 4 to 15. This event will be at both lakes at the Rose Valley. On the Friday before the derby, call the WGVC at 640-9060 to confirm that the road up is open and also watch the weather reports. If the event rains out or the road closes, the event will be rescheduled for May 7. A registration fee of \$5 is requi

ed, payable at Rose Valley. All proceeds will go to operating costs of the WGVC. First, second and third prizes will be awarded at both lakes in two age categories, ages 4 to 9 and ages 10 to 15.

For more information on the fishing derby or other programs at the WGVC, keep an eye out for our schedule in the calendar section of this newspaper. An events brochure with dates and program descriptions can be picked up at Pergson's Archery, Hunting and Fishing Supplies, Oak View Barber Shop, Dahl's Market, True Value Hardware Store at the "Y," Ojai Valley Surplus, the Ojai Visitors Center, the Wheeler Gorge Visitors Center and the Ojai Ranger Station.

The Ojai Chapter of the Los Padres Forest Station meets on the first Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the Ojai Ranger Station located in Ojai at 1190 E. Ojai Ave. All guests are welcomed. We need a secretary to take minutes, a web master and a financial planner.



Photo by Erik Taylor/Brooks Institute of Photography

## Sweet, Sweet Music

**Mitch Barrett**, half of the duo, **Zoe Speaks**, plays his dulcimer at a recent performance at the Montessori School as part of the Performances to Grow On concert series.

## 'God's Politics' study planned

*Group forms to discuss influential book by evangelical Christian about intersection of religion and politics*

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, at the corner of Ojai Avenue and Bristol Road, is sponsoring a group to study and discuss a new book by Jim Wallis titled "God's Politics," with the sub-title, "Why the Right Gets It Wrong and the Left Doesn't Get it." The book presents "A New Vision for Faith and Politics in America." More information about the book and the author

can be found at [www.sojo.net](http://www.sojo.net). Weekly meetings will be held in Fisher Hall (building to the left of the church) beginning April 3 from 5 to 7 p.m. and continuing until June 5.

Light refreshments will be served. Franna and Mac McClelland will be the facilitators. Call them at 646-4965 to register. There is no charge for this class.

## STORE WIDE BRING ON THE SPRING SALE!

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Ask about our company discounts.  
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Saturday: at American Hay along with the sale  
It special event day for animals and kids  
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Low cost dog and cat vaccinations by Doc. Lewis for questions please call 646-2442 all pets must be on leashes or in carriers.

### SATURDAY IS KIDS DAY

Easter egg hunt for children up to 10 years old starts at 1:00 sharp.  
Prizes and lots of fun.  
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Tickets will be sold for pony rides, jolly jumps, come visit our petting zoo.  
Baby Chicks, Ducks, geese, and baby dwarf Nigeria goats on sale for Easter.  
Certified dealer for ULTIUM byPURINA for performance horses.

Local 4Her's will be helping out with the day.

Also Presenting Previews if Western And Indian Art Collection from the Day's Estate which will be for purchase.

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# performing Arts

Highlighting the diverse incarnations of the performing arts throughout the Ojai Valley



**Calendar of Events**  
please send info to:  
editor@ojaivalleynews.com

## Movino site for world fusion music

Friday at 8:30 p.m., the Chasm Jazz Trio will play world fusion music at Movino Wine Bar & Gallery, 308 E. Ojai Ave., 646-1555; Saturday at 8:30 p.m., legendary jazz and blues singer Preston Smith will perform, and Tuesday at 7 p.m., spend an evening with John Locke on the keyboards.

## Poetry Fest seeks volunteers

The Ojai Poetry Festival Committee will meet today at 7 p.m. at the Ojai Library, 111 E. Ojai Ave. The 2005 Ojai Poetry Festival is just around the corner. If you are interested in volunteering for this organization that brings world-renowned poets to Ojai, come to the meeting. Call Tami at 640-9399 for more information.

## 'Brighton Beach' continues run

The Ojai Art Center Theater will present Neil Simon's "Brighton Beach Memoirs" through April 16 (for mature audiences). The play is part of an autobiographical trilogy dealing with the author's early life growing up in Brooklyn. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 7 p.m. For reservations call 640-8797 or online @ojaiact.org.

## Open Word opens at Bart's Book

Open Word at Bart's Books, 302 W. Matilija St., will be held April 1 beginning at sunset (6:23 p.m.), sign up and spoken mike. Featured readers begin at first star (7:37 p.m.), with selections from Keroac, Buckowski, Ginsburg and Ferlingetti. Call 646-3755 for more information.

## 'Peter Pan' seeks aid to take wing

Matilija Junior High School and Ojai Theater Company are in the planning stages of presenting the Broadway musical, "Peter Pan," this spring at the Matilija Auditorium. This program will hold auditions that will be open to all teenagers, ages 12 to 19. Their fall musical, "Grease," was a big success.

Because of the expense of rigging the auditorium to fly the actors, the program is seeking a sponsor to help cover the cost. The added track and harnesses would be an asset to the school and auditorium in doing future productions.

If you are interested in getting "Peter Pan" off the ground, contact Barbi Rice at MJHS, 640-4355, Ext. 1660, or Cheri Harris at 798-2100.



Allison Janney, left, and Tony Shalhoub, above.

# Stars align for OPC readings

Fund-raising event for playwrights retreat set for April 2

By Philip Sokoloff  
OVN contributor

The Ojai Playwrights Conference will present a star-studded, fund-raising event titled "April Fools ... Suffering Fools Gladly" on April 2 at 6 p.m. at Matilija Junior High School Auditorium, 708 El Paseo Road, Ojai.

Robert Egan directs readings from Shakespeare, Moliere, Chekhov, Beckett, Pinter, Miller, Hellman, Kushner and more by Brooke Adams, Nichole Ansari, Brian Cox, Allison Janney, Richard Jenick, Mary McCormack, Richard Schiff and Tony Shalhoub. Some material may be inappropriate for younger children.

Premium ticket holders will attend a gala dinner and celebrity auction at the nearby restaurant Azu at 8:30 following the reading. The \$50 general admission includes reading, hors d'oeuvres and beverages. A \$200 premium ticket includes the preceding plus gourmet dinner with the cast and a live auction conducted by the celebrity cast. For reservations and information call 640-0400.

Each year the nonprofit Ojai Playwrights Conference presents a festive one-night-only celebrity reading event which subsidizes its annual summer retreat in which plays of significant quality are developed and prepared to take their place as important new contributions to the American theater. Plays developed at the

conference receiving recent major productions include Jon Robin Baitz's "The Paris Letter" and Charlayne Woodard's "Flight" (at the Kirk Douglas Theatre) and Stephen Belber's "McReele" (in current production by New York's Roundabout Theatre Company).

Concerning the program, Egan elaborates, "Scenes, monologues and songs celebrating the sacred fool throughout the ages ... from Shakespeare to Moliere to Chekhov to Beckett to Pinter to Miller to Hellman to Kushner to our most contemporary writers ... The fool has played a key role in reflecting the absurd humor and profound depth of what it means to be truly human."

Egan has once again assembled a stellar cast: Tony Shalhoub, the Emmy Award-winning star of "Monk"; Brooke Adams, star of "Days of Heaven," "The Dead Zone," "Key Exchange," and who starred with Shalhoub on Broadway in "The Heidi Chronicles"; Mary McCormack, a regular on "The West Wing," star of the miniseries "Traffic," the series "K Street" and feature films "Full Frontal" (for Robert Altman), and the delightful British comedy, "High Heels and Low Lives," and more; Brian Cox, of the coming "Running With Scissors," "Troy," "X-Men 2," "The Bourne Supremacy"; and Nichole Ansari, star of German films and television who will star in the coming feature "Hard Four"; Allison Janney and Richard Schiff of "The West Wing" and more.

This celebrity reading event has sold out the past two years. Early reservations are suggested to avoid disappointment.

# 'Tartuffe' to debut for Fool's Day

Classic comedy gets modern treatment

By Kathleen Kaiser  
OVN contributor

Casting has been completed and rehearsals are under way for the spring production of "Tartuffe." Moliere's timeless comedy has been translated and adapted by Freyda Thomas and reborn with a modern twist. The Santa Paula Theater Center will present this Ojai Shakespeare Festival production, which opens April 1 and runs through May 8.

This modern adaptation of Moliere's classic satire takes place in the American South where "Tartuffe" is reconceived as a charismatic but conniving televangelist. Written in modern verse, this adaptation adheres closely to the structure and form of the original. Moliere's legendary comedic characters are delightfully at home in this modern-day version.

"We have assembled a wonderful mixture of characters," states director John Slade. "This new spin on 'Tartuffe' brings out the best in actors, all the cunning, intrigue and fast-paced comedy of first-class theater. I am delighted to have actors from both theaters plus a few new faces to Ventura County are among the players."

Cast in the order of appearance are: Mrs. Pernell, Leslie Nichols; Orgon, John Hankins; Elmire, Rena Petrello; Maryann, Jennifer Carnahan; Damis, Jewels Eubanks; Valere,



Photo by Amy Tomsick

## Sea Horse' scene

Theater 150, 918 E. Ojai Ave., will present "The Sea Horse," starring Susan Kelejian and Ron Feltner and directed by Leslie Paxton, through March 27, with shows on Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$15, two for one on Sundays, \$8 with student ID on Fridays and Saturdays only. Call 646-4300 for reservations.

Matt Misenhimer; Cleante, Gary Grossman; Tartuffe, Matt Howell; Dorine, Peggy Steketee; Ms. DeSalle, Connie Bauer; and as the Agent Loyal, Ron Rezac.

The production team includes set design by Jeff G. Rack; lighting design by Christian West; costumes by Randy Pool; and Karl Krause as stage manager.

Performances will be Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. with Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m. Tickets will be available online at www.ojashakespeare.org or through the SPTC box office at 525-4645.

## Native American storyteller helps set up 'Village of Tales'

Gayle Ross will be among the storytellers for this year's Village of Tales, April 29 to May 1, at Libbey Bowl and other downtown Ojai locations.

She is a descendant of John Ross, principal chief of the Cherokee Nation during the infamous "Trail of Tears." Her grandmother told stories and it is from this rich heritage that her storytelling springs.

Ross has appeared at most major storytelling and folk festivals in the United States and Canada, and in concert halls and theaters throughout the United States and Europe, often appearing with some of today's finest Native American musicians and dancers.

Ross, who has published several of her stories in illustrated books, has spoken at meetings of the American Library Association, the International Reading Association, and the International Board of Books for Young People. She was a commentator in the Discovery Channel's award-winning documentary, "How the



Gayle Ross

West Was Lost." and her stories have been featured on National Public Radio programs.

For more information, visit www.ptgo.org or phone 646-8907.

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SONGWRITING & PERFORMING, taught by Alan Thornhill. Wednesday, 7-9pm  
4 weeks, April 6 - 27 • \$100. The class will encourage songwriters in the process of structuring and composing songs and also touch upon performing original songs. (adults)

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## Rangers, 'Cats break in new Nordhoff track

Villanova's first track and field team in over 30 years brings a good show

By George Keenen

george@ojaivalleynews.com

A track meet, even an informal one, is a celebration of the human body and its seemingly endless ability to extend its limits.

That said, it's also a pageant, a spectacle, and a heck of a lot of fun.

Last Wednesday, Villanova's track team visited Nordhoff for a nonleague tune-up. Nobody kept score — it was just a chance to get the bugs out of the timing system and photo-finish equipment.

But the meet was notable for several reasons.

It was the first meet held on Nordhoff's new all-weather track. It was the first time Villanova had fielded a track team in years. And it was the first meet for Villanova's new coach, Esther Clark.

A former Nordhoff track coach, Clark is now the Wildcats' track coach for boys and girls, was an NCAA National Champion in the 800 meters in 1982 for Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and was a nationally ranked high jumper. She has recently been certified with USA Track & Field to coach all events.

"I am very excited to be coaching at Villanova," she said. "It's a great feeling to be a part of pioneering a new program for the Wildcats."

Villanova has been training on one of the last high school dirt tracks in the county. The school's long-term goal is to have a new track, but its immediate goal is to develop a successful program. They are currently working at acquiring the essential equipment they will need to train properly for the sport. Already, a shot-put area is being poured and a long-jump pit is being competed.

As a coach and former athlete, Clark thinks that training on a dirt track and then racing on an all-weather surface makes an athlete feel faster.

"Teams with a dirt track really appreciate and look forward to running on an all-weather surface," she said. "It especially makes a difference in the sprints. Of course, this would tend to be psychological, but in track and field this can produce confidence which can play out to faster splits."

Nordhoff boys' track coach Dave Settem was also pleased with the new NHS track.

"It makes a tremendous difference to be able to practice in almost any condition," he said. "It has also made a difference with the athletes, improving



Photo by Erik Taylor/ Brooks Institute of Photography

SCOTT DOYLE TRIES OUT THE NEW equipment during Nordhoff's first track and field meet on their new all-weather track. Though no scores were kept, the day sparked a good-natured rivalry with the VPS crew.

motivation and creating an environment they can be proud of."

On the day, the Villanova boys won the 100 meters, the 200 meters, the four-by-100-meter relay and placed second in several other events. Nick Scolari won the 100 meters in 11.11 seconds, a strong showing this early in the season.

"Villanova stood up real strong against Nordhoff," said Clark, "being as we had only 22 people, and Nordhoff had over almost 100. Arah McNamara — a former Youth County hurdle

champion — won the 100-meter hurdles in 16.79 against two strong Nordhoff hurdlers. That is an outstanding time and ranks her at the top of the county. Jee Hun Rhim won the 200 meters in 24.87, another outstanding time."

For NHS, the following athletes did well, according to coach Settem: James Lind tied his personal best in the high jump at 5 feet, 88 inches. Sharylyn Long tied her personal best in the high jump at 4 feet, 10 inches. Evan Jenkins ran 53.67 in the 400 meters. Sasha O'Brien threw the shotput 36 feet, 4 inches.

Cody Stanley threw the shot 45 feet, 8 inches. Megan Lewis ran 27.69 in the 200 meters and 1:05 in the 400 meters. Alyssa Robinson ran two minutes, 34.70 seconds in the 800 meters. Angelica Smith ran 50.57 seconds in the 300-meter hurdles.

"This was a wonderful start for a new program that's been nonexistent at Villanova for the last 30 years," said Clark. "These kids are just doing really, really well, and I see a wonderful future for Villanova and hopefully a nice new rivalry between Villanova and Nordhoff."

## Nylander garners Rotary honors

Top three-point shooter in CIF-SS named Rotary Athlete of the Month



Photo by Leslie Vallee-Miller

SENIOR SARAH Nylander broke over 10 records while playing Nordhoff girls' basketball.

Sarah Nylander was recently honored by the Ojai Rotary Club for being their Athlete of the Month.

A senior co-captain and starting guard on this year's Nordhoff varsity girls' basketball team, Nylander led the Lady Rangers to a record of 7-1 in league (20-6 overall), to take their second consecutive Frontier League championship.

Early in the season, Nylander earned all-tournament honors at the Nordhoff Tournament, where the Rangers placed third. She averaged 28 points a game in the Ventura Optimists Tournament (where NHS placed seventh), and earned MVP honors at the Providence Tournament (where the Rangers placed first).

Nylander finished first in the entire CIF-Southern Section in three-point shooting, sinking 79 of them with 38 percent accuracy.

She finished the season with the second-best, points-per-game average in school history, averaging 19.0 points per game.

"Ny" also averaged 5.4 rebounds and 3.5 steals per game (third on the team in both categories). She also broke five school records this year: most free throws made in a game, with 15 best free-throw shooting percentage for a season, at 82 percent; most three pointers in a game, with seven; most three-pointers in a season, with 79; and most three-pointers in a career, with 190.

Nylander plans to continue her pursuits as a student-athlete at Hope University in Fullerton next year.

## NHS hitters play Cards right

By George Keenen

george@ojaivalleynews.com

Lady Ranger Camille Flores scored the game-winning run in the top of the seventh last Thursday as Nordhoff's softball crew defeated Bishop Diego, 3-2.

"It was a confidence builder," said NHS coach Tom Husted. "We pulled one out in our last at bat."

Nordhoff (3-2) jumped on the Cardinals for two runs in the first.

Katherine Lewis and Diana Garvin singled. Shanice Garcia then pushed across both runs on another single and an error by the Cardinal first baseman. BDHS scored one in the first and one in

fourth and the game remained tied until the top of the seventh.

Nordhoff pinch-hitter Flores got on base and advanced to second on an error. Lewis' sacrifice bunt moved Flores to third. Lauren O'Donnell then hit a shot to the BDHS shortstop, who made an error on the throw, and the go-head run came across.

Bishop Diego threatened in the bottom of the seventh. The Cardinal pitcher bunted and stole second, but ended up dying on third as Ranger Brittany Pulido struck out the last two Cardinal batters to end the game.

Pulido pitched a complete game with 12 strikeouts.

"She dominated," said Husted.

## NHS, VPS golf find mixed results

St. Bonaventure put another notch in the loss column for Villanova's boys' golf crew, who hosted and lost the match, 238-188.

Villanova's Mero Marme posted a one-under 34; Koji Hirota came in second with a 40; Travis Riis continues to improve with a 43; Esteban Cho logged a 51, and Ben Malkin shot a 60 to round out the VPS scoring. With a 33, Seraph Ryan Sack earned medalist honors on the day.

VPS regained lost ground against Ojai Valley School, 216-318. Marme again shot a one-under-par 33, while teammates Hirota and Riis posted a 40 and 41, respectively. It was Riis' lowest score of the season. The victory put NHS at 4-2 overall.

In Nordhoff boys' golf action,

the Ranger squad dominated against Dos Pueblos, 398-448 at Glen Annie Golf Course.

Leading players were Wyatt Amend (82), Anthony Bonsignori (84), and Kenta Fujikura (85).

The Rangers came back to Soule Park for a four-team match. Team results are as follows: Hart, 369; Buena, 374; NHS, 405; and Hueneme, 466. The 18-hole match found Bonsignori posting 76, and Amend posting a 77.

When Nordhoff faced Fillmore, it was NHS on top again, 411-435. Bonsignori had the low score for NHS, with 77; Brian Holland followed, with a 78.

In a NHS-Hueneme re-match, NHS came out on top, 421-512. Bonsignori came in with a career-best 70 on the par-71 CBC base course.

## Erik edges Manny — give us a rematch

Bud Furillo's

### Steam Room



Catamounts are ideal skiing conditions. They do have them in Vermont. Stowe comes immediately to mind.

The team with the B-average athletes knocked off the Orangemen of Jim Boehm. Syracuse usually leads college basketball in attendance, playing its games in the Carrier Dome, where the football team competes as well.

First-round surprises are what make the round of 64 interesting. Then Vermont had to go against Michigan State and the Spartans didn't take any prisoners. They won by 11 points.

Regional semifinals will be played tomorrow and Friday. Basketball wasn't all that I had to watch on the magic lantern.

I paid \$44.95 for an HBO fight at 130 pounds between Erik

Morales of Mexico and Manny Pacquiao of the Philippines. It was money well spent if you like prizefighting and I do.

Writing about it was a strong suit in the glory days of L.A.

In the past I've complained about being held up by the price of Pay Per View fights. Erik and Manny gave exceptional performances with the former winning by two points on the three cards turned in by the officials.

They all had it right, 115-113, which is unusual.

A rematch is in order and there will be one as soon as Manny gets his right eye to stop bleeding. A cut was opened by a butt which referee Vic Drakulich didn't see. He said it came from a punch.

But this fact wouldn't have

changed the outcome because Manny hung in there after the fifth-round gash to finish the 12 rounds.

The little guys sold out the indoor stadium at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas. The size of the hotel rivals that of Ojai.

The time has come to eliminate the instructions in the ring from the referee before the first round. This is nonsense. The ref always begins by telling the principals he gave them instructions in the dressing rooms.

Just as bad is the excited interpreter for the Mexican fighters who screams at the señor trying to get some rest. Advice from old guys with round heels is the last thing a fighter needs.

The respite will come when the fighter wallops the interpreter for shouting. It must happen.

## On Tap

Wednesday

• Nordhoff boys' golf plays at Soule Park vs. Ventura, 1:10 p.m.

• Thacher boys' tennis plays at the Warner Center against Viewpoint, 3 p.m.

Thursday

• Nordhoff boys' tennis plays at Thacher, 3:30 p.m.

• Nordhoff swim team competes at home vs. Fillmore and Santa Clara, 3 p.m.

• Nordhoff boys' golf plays at Montecito Golf Course vs. Carpinteria, 1:30 p.m.

Friday

• NHS baseball plays at San Marcos, 3:30 p.m.

• NHS varsity boys' volleyball plays against the Alumni, 6 p.m.

• Thacher boys' lacrosse plays at home vs. Chaminade, 3:30 p.m.

Saturday

• Thacher boys' lacrosse plays at home vs. Dunn, 3:30 p.m.

• NHS track and field competes at the Pasadena games at Occidental College, and at the Easter Relays at Santa Barbara City College; both are all-day events, running through Sunday.

• Thacher baseball plays at Carpinteria, 2 p.m.

• Thacher girls' lacrosse plays away at Dunn, 3 p.m.

## Lemire bike race to return to Ojai

The second annual Garrett Lemire Memorial Grand Prix, a professional criterium bicycle race, will be held April 10 in downtown Ojai.

The bike race is in honor of Garrett Lemire, a young Ojai cyclist who was killed in a tragic bike accident during the Tucson Bike Classic on March 15, 2003. Garrett was riding for Team KB Home at the time.

More than 800 riders are expected to participate in this event. There are eight races starting at 7 a.m., with the last race ending at 2 p.m. Races are divided into groups based on riders' abilities. Riders must have a bicycling license issued by the USA Cycling Association, which determines riders' abilities based on winnings and standings in other bike races. Riders from all over the United States and Canada, and as far away as New Zealand and Australia, will be participating. The women's professional team race will begin at 11:35 a.m., followed by the men's race at 12:35 p.m.

One of the professional teams entered in this year's race is the women's T-Mobile team. Mari Holden, a U.S. Olympic medalist and world champion in 2000, is on this team and will be racing in Ojai. Though she now lives and trains in Colorado, Holden graduated from Ojai Valley School. She is the first U.S. Olympic road cyclist to win an Olympic medal since 1984.

Along with several other professional riders, Holden will be available for autographs at the race.

The Ojai race is receiving national attention by being part of the USA Cycling National Racing Calendar. NRC events are very important for professional bike racers and their teams, since the racers earn points, and occasionally awards and prize money.

Lemire was an avid cyclist who always wanted a large bike race to be held in Ojai. He was a natural athlete, say friends and family,

who started playing basketball at age 7. His real passion was cycling, however, which he started early with mountain biking. He then switched to road racing when he was 16. Like other dedicated cyclists, he trained hard, riding 60 to 80 miles a day, five days a week.

Lemire was also a talented musician. The music program at Villanova, where he attended high school, dedicated its new music program in his honor.

At his memorial service in Ojai, approximately 300 cyclists participated in a memorial ride through Ojai.

It is rare for a death to occur in a cycling event. While much attention is dedicated to safety at bike races, Lemire's tragic accident will be a constant reminder, and as a result, future races will be made much safer. At the Sea Otter Classic in 2003, riders decided jointly to abruptly halt the race because of what they felt to be unsafe traffic. They also donated their prize money to the Garrett Lemire Memorial Fund.

In tribute to him, friends and family donated to the Garrett Lemire Memorial fund for the first annual Ojai race in 2004. This year, the race is again being sponsored by friends and family, as well as national and local sponsors. Bike safety is an important focus for the Garrett Lemire Memorial Trust. Proceeds from the trust are being used to hold bike safety classes in all local public schools in the Ojai Unified School District.

Students in first through sixth grade will learn about the safety of helmets, riding rules, and basic handling skills. The classes are being led by local professional cyclist Ryan Yee. "We want to introduce bicycling to the kids and show them how fun it can be — while still being safe," says Yee. So far, the group has been to Topa Topa and Meiners Oaks elementary schools, where more than 800 students participated in the class. See glmgp.com or bicyclesofjai.com to register.

# OJAI VALLEY NEWS

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### PETS & ANIMALS

**ZEBRA** finches, \$10, weekends, 640-3065.

**PAPILLON/PHALENE** pups, APRI, ACA, 12 weeks, M/F, shots, wormed, microchips, \$1,200 ea., 805 482-0909.

### SELL YOUR LOVED ONES HERE!

To place an ad call 646-1476, Ext. 10

### PETS & ANIMALS

**BUDDY**  
A 2-yr.-old mini pinscher/corgi mix, who's sweet & loving.  
**THE CANINE ADOPTION AND RESCUE LEAGUE**  
Pet Adoption Center  
3004 Telegraph Rd.  
Ventura, CA 93003  
(805) 652-1001  
[www.carlvc.org](http://www.carlvc.org)

**LABRADORs**, white & yellow, country race, AKC, gorgeous, must see, \$550 and up, 701-4092.

### RENTALS, APARTMENTS

**2 + 1**, downtown Ojai, lots of light, np, n/s, \$990 mo. + dep., 646-3587.

**LARGE** upstairs 2 bedrm, 2 bath, air, all appliances, laundry, carport, no pets, \$925, 646-3450.

**LG. 2** bedrm, 2 ba., private patio, parking, Indry, \$975, 106 W. Oak, 640-0668.

**OJAI**, great location, fully remodeled, spacious 1 + 1, pool, Indry rm, n/s, n/p, \$1,025 mo., 405 E. Oak St. #A, 644-4108, lv. msg.

### RENTALS, CONDOS

**2 + 2**, quiet area, f/p, garage, patio, laundry hook-ups, trash paid, new carpet & paint, n/s, n/p, lease required, \$1,450 mo., \$1,500 dep. 644-2684.

**BRAND** new! Los Arboles Condo, 4 bdrms., 3 baths, vaulted ceilings, fireplace, walk to town! \$2,850 per mo. Year lease. Larry Wilde, agt., 320-0005.

**CREEKSIDE** condo, n/s, 2 bedrm., 2 ba. + loft, pool/jac. pets on approval. \$1850, avail 5/1. 646-8169

### RENTALS, COTTAGE

**DESIGNER** cottage, Park Rd., 1 + 1, a/c, w/d, deck, garden, water/trash/gard., \$1,100, 640-8439.

**OJAI** 3 + 2 house at 412 Mallory Way, \$1,600 + deposit OAC. The Becker Group, 653-6794.

### RENTALS, COTTAGE

**OJAI** cottage at 412 Mallory Way, \$850 + dep. OAC. The Becker Group, 653-6794.

### RENTALS, DUPLEX

**2 + 1**, clean & nice, yard & garage, trash/gardener/wtr incl., \$1,025 mo., 94 Burnham, 646-3711, Mark.

### RENTALS, HOUSES

**1 + 1**, 143 El Plano on large corner lot, pets OK, \$1,250, Ron, 646-4911.

**1 + 1.5**, lg. screened patio, garage, laundry rm. n/s, n/p, lg. yard w/grdnr., water/trash pd, \$1,500 mo., \$1,500 dep. 640-1346.

**1** bedrm. cottage, close to town, fresh throughout, \$850 mo., water, trash, grndr pd. Agent, 646-2013.

**3 + 1.5**, near downtown, n/s, n/dogs, \$1,750 mo., avail May 1st, 646-9879.

**3 + 2** Ojai home, panoramic views, remodeled throughout, \$2,800 mo., 231-6322, view at: [www.geocities.com/drxargell](http://www.geocities.com/drxargell)

**3 + 2**, M.M. area, f/p, super clean, grdnr., n/s, n/p, avail 4/1, \$1,700 mo. + \$1,700 dep., 640-1133.

**ADORABLE** M.O. 2 + 1 + bonus, hot tub, lg. pvt. garden & deck, dbl. carport, work shed, 761 Fernando, \$1,600 + dep., 640-6930.

**ARTFUL** 3 + 1, furn., dntn, n/p, n/s, util. incl., 6-8 mo., \$1,900 mo., 646-4957.

**AVAIL** April 3, great location, nice 2 + 2 w/garage, corner lot, hdwd flrs., \$1,595 mo. 269-209-1516.

**O.V.**, 3 + 2, \$2,200, mtn. & lake views, 649-1952.

### RENTALS, HOUSES

**CHARMING** bungalow (in town) 2 + 1 w/dining rm. & det. gar., lg. hardwood fls. lg. fenced yard, \$1,575. Call Kathy, 646-1313.

**CUTE** downtown Ojai cottage, 2 + 1, \$1,750 mo. + utils. (805) 377-4288

**DOWNTOWN** Ojai, 2 + 1, new carpet, flooring & paint, \$985 mo. + dep. Agent, 649-6915.

**EAST** End 2 + 1 on pvt. acre, f/p, views, decks, more, \$1800 n/s. 798-1061

**EAST** End, 5166 Reeves Road, ranch-style, 3 bedrm., 2.5 ba., 2,000+ sq. ft., \$2,200 mo. 646-6712.

**EAST** End, large 3,200 sq. ft., 4 bdms. or 3 + office, 2.5 baths, family room, dining room, f/p, patios, utils. pd, \$3,000 mo. + dep., Agent 646-2013.

**EAST** End, nice module, 2 bedrm, 2 ba., n/s, n/p, utils. pd, \$1,500 mo., 640-0485.

**FUNKY** 2 + 1, wart studio, hardwood floors, hookups, carport, \$1,550, 652-1050.

**LAKE** Casitas M.H. senior park, 1 bedrm., 1 ba., incl. space, \$700 mo. 701-4092

**M.O.** 2 + 1, hardwood floors, cute, \$1,200, wtr/trash, 640-8439.

**MIXED-use** zoning, ideal for studio artist, downtown Ojai, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, walk to stores, off-street parking, \$1,500 mo., (805) 640-3058.

**NEW** 2 bedrm., 1 ba., a/c, dishwasher, laundry rm., n/s, n/p, \$1,500 mo., first + dep., refs., 646-7766.

**O.V.**, 3 + 1, lg rms, hdwd flrs., garage, lg. lot. Avail. now, \$1,700 mo. 967-7587

**OJAI** 2 + 1, fireplace, 8 acres, all utils. incl. \$1,595 mo. Agent, 798-1998.

### RENTALS, ROOMS

**ROOM** w/view, East End, private entrance & bath. \$650, incl. util., 646-7575.

### RENTALS, STUDIOS

**5** ac. horse ranch, pvt. entry, kitchen, bath, close to town, elec./gas/cable/water incl, \$950 mo., \$750 dep., avail now, 646-4104, call after 6pm.

**LARGE**, quiet, n/p, \$1,000 mo., utils. incl., 646-3935.

**M.O.**, charming, \$750 mo, utils incl, n/p, 646-6229.

### RENTALS, STORES & OFFICES

**MEDICAL** office, directly across the street and facing Ojai Valley Hospital. Conference rm, reception area, admin ofc., pvt. patio w/trellis, 1,650 sq. ft., \$2,145 mo., 646-9518.

**NEWLY** finished medical office next to hospital, avail for P/T use. 646-7195

**OJAI: Large Office Suites**  
408 Bryant Circle  
K: 2,400 - 2,850 sq.ft.  
Available now!  
G: 5,850 - 8,400 sq.ft.  
(the Bryant St. Gym)  
Available April 1, 2005  
(805) 563-9400

**SECOND** floor office, directly across the street and facing Ojai Valley Hospital, reception area, 1,600 sq. ft., \$1,920 mo., 636-9518.

### RENTALS WANTED

**QUIET**, responsible tenants looking for house to rent for one year, 2,800 sq. ft. or larger. 760-487-1337.

### RVs, TRAILERS 5TH WHEELS

**'02** Forest River Sandpiper, triple slide 5th wheel, 30 ft., one owner, very immaculate, \$22,500. 646-5624.

**'97** Prowler Fleetwood 5th wheel, 28 ft., sleeps 6, roof air, awning, microwave, TV, queen bed, single slide, includes bike rack, whl covers & whl locks, \$10,995, 647-8219, email: [bng438@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bng438@sbcglobal.net)

### SERVICES OFFERED

**CUSTOM** slipcovers, free estimates. Erica Germaine, 640-6965.

### DON'T forget to check out the SERVICE DIRECTORY

**MAE** Waugh: professional dog-sitter (& house-sitter). "I will sit on your dog while you're away." Call me! 452-0489.

### SITUATIONS WANTED

**RN** looking for private duty position. Hospice specialty. 798-0588.

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Get fast results when thousands of readers see your vehicle and read its description.  
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### NEW YORK TIMES PUZZLE

No. 0313

### LABORATORY MAZE By PATRICK MERRELL / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

When this puzzle is completed, solve the maze in the grid, traveling through the openings in the squares, beginning at 69-Across, ending at 103-Down ... and passing over the word spelled at 71-Across 18 times. As you proceed, the consecutive letters of 71-Across will always be in their correct order, in straight lines reading forward, backward, up or down.

- |  |  |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|
| <b>ACROSS</b>                                    | 53 Hit a dead end mazewise?                        | 114 Epitome of simplicity               | 17 Parks in Alabama                             |
| 1 Speaking sites                                 | 58 Term  | 115 Go over again                       | 18 "Every man will be a ___ if he can": Thoreau |
| 7 D.C. lobbying grp.                             | 59 Set   | 117 Solve a lab maze almost inaudibly?  | 21 Arrives suddenly without formality           |
| 10 Olympian Griffith Joyner, familiarly          | 60 Mark and Shania                                 | 123 Brave cover                         | 25 Pommies frites seasoning                     |
| 15 One covering the infield                      | 61 Asia's ___ Sea                                  | 124 "My Fair Lady" is based on his work | 27 State biggie                                 |
| 19 Elocuted                                      | 62 Assent in les Alpes                             | 125 Foundations                         | 32 One of a Hindu trinity                       |
| 20 Like most magazine personality tests          | 64 Feather holder                                  | 126 Cars known for backfiring?          | 33 Q.E.D. part                                  |
| 22 Melville work                                 | 66 Thither   | 127 Options for traders                 | 34 Designer Gemreich                            |
| 23 Passé   | 67 Jazz guitarist Montgomery                       | 128 High lands                          | 35 Had passed its expiration date               |
| 24 Smell victory, in a lab maze?                 | 69 Begin   | 129 "Tasty!"                            | 36 Outermost of the Aleutians                   |
| 26 Attempted activity in "The Barber of Seville" | 71 Lab maze runner                                 | 130 Clue for a car mechanic             | 38 Transfer                                     |
| 28 Suffix with ideal                             | 72 Pit sight                                       |   | 41 Play the role of                             |
| 29 Eye lasciviously                              | 75 Works around town?                              |   | 42 Garbo film "Queen ___"                       |
| 30 Org. with a key-holding eagle in its logo     | 78 ___ milk  | <b>DOWN</b>                             | 43 Trim   |
| 31 Cheat, in a lab maze?                         | 80 Stuffed food                                    | 1 Veiled participant                    | 44 Deliverer of many pkgs.                      |
| 37 See to  | 81 Materialize                                     | 2 Maze threat                           | 46 Didn't play                                  |
| 39 Computer woe                                  | 83 Article of the Constitution about the judiciary | 3 Austronesian language                 | 47 ___ generis (unique)                         |
| 40 "The Confessions of ___ Turner"               | 84 Dove  | 4 "Vette option                         | 49 Anticipatory                                 |
|  |  |   |   |

Ongoing Events

FREE E.M.F. TESTING — Test the electric and magnetic fields in your home or office. Know how common household E.M.F. exposure damages our health and puts young children at risk of developing leukemia.

BEREAVED PARENTS' SUPPORT GROUP — Find comfort with other parents who also have lost a child. Monthly Tuesday evening meetings at Help of Ojai.

RAPE SURVIVORS SUPPORT GROUP — Sponsored by the Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence, a free rape survivors drop-in group meets every Monday from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at 1030 N. Ventura Road in Oxnard.

information. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT H.S. THRIFT SHOP — Volunteers who can commit to two to three hours a week are needed at the Humane Society of Ventura County Thrift Shop in Ventura.

LIFE CENTERS OF VENTURA COUNTY — offer free pregnancy testing, confidential caring assistance and educational information. Call anytime, day or night: Camarillo, 987-9936; Oxnard, 486-2721; Santa Paula, 525-4908; or (800) 973-7334.

WORKSHOPS AT LITTLE HOUSE — Wake up your mind and enjoy life! Be creative! Join the ongoing workshops at Little House, such as the Creative Writing Group, Self-Enrichment Discussion Group and Theater Games Workshop.

"MEETINGS WITH GANGAJI" — "Meetings with Gangaji" airs every Monday at 9:30 p.m. on cable Channel 10.

Channel 10. Gangaji points to the true fulfillment that is now and always present as one's own self.

GOT ROOTS? JAM, REHEARSE, RECORD WITH OTHER COUNTRY MUSICIANS — every Wednesday from 7 to 10 p.m. at Orchard Studios in Mira Monte.

PACIFIC CURRENTS SAILING CLUB — Enjoy sailing? Single? Join the Pacific Currents Sailing Club for its meeting held the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Villa Sirena Recreational Room.

GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN — meets on the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at 922 Topaz Court in Ojai.

VENTURA CHESS CLUB — The Ventura Chess Club meets evenings weekly at the Church of the Foothills.

6279 Foothill Road in Ventura, for rated play. Call 486-3842 or 641-0024.

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.

OJAI VALLEY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY — The Ojai Valley Horticultural Society meets the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at Little House, 111 W. Santa Ana St. in Ojai.

OPEN DIALOGUES — Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., a discussion group is held at 206 E. Aliso St. for those on a serious spiritual path to non-dualism who haven't forgotten levity.

BIRD WALKS — for new and experienced birders. The Ventura Audubon Society conducts weekly bird walks in the Ojai Valley and Ventura County.

Web site at www.VenturaAudubon.org. For more information, call J.P. at 640-9040.

"LAW TALK" — The Ventura County Bar Association sponsors a television talk show called "Law Talk" every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. on Ojai's cable Channel 10.

OCEAN VIEW TOASTMASTERS — meets every second and fourth Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Ventura TownHouse Vista Room, 4900 Telegraph Road, Ventura.

HOSPITAL AUXILIARY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED — The Ojai Valley Community Hospital Auxiliary needs new members.

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.

646-9752, Ext. 19. PINK MOMENT SANGHA — Meditation in the tradition of Thích Nhất Hạnh, held Mondays from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at The Ojai Retreat, 1600 Besant Road, Meiners Oaks. Contact Katy at 646-7097 or katymeigs@sbcglobal.net. "WORDS OF PEACE" — The "Words of Peace" program is aired on Channel 10 on Wednesdays at 4 p.m. The weekly program features highlights from the message of peace by Prem Rawat, also known as Maharaji. Rawat travels the world inspiring people to find peace within. ENGLISH AS SECOND LANGUAGE CLASSES — English as a Second Language classes are offered through Ojai Unified Adult Education at Meiners Oaks School Tuesdays from 6 to 8 p.m. (call 640-4378) and in Room 5 at Ojai Unified District offices, 414 E. Ojai Ave. Mondays and Wednesdays from 6 to 8 p.m. Call 640-4330. READING TUTORS NEEDED — Training for volunteers to tutor for the adult literacy program is offered by the Library Services Agency. Call 641-4484. Fax calendar listings, 646-1476.

PUBLIC NOTICES

OVN03-04-05 Published Ojai Valley News March 9, 16, 23 & 30, 2005 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File Number 05-03826 THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: Yang Ying Fitness, 929 Devereux Dr., Ojai, CA 93023 Full Name of Registrant: Anthony Leckie 929 Devereux Dr. Ojai, CA 93023 This Business is conducted by an individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 3-1-05. BY SIGNING BELOW, 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. (B&P Code § 17913) Anthony Leckie s/ANTHONY LECKIE Date: 3-3-05 THIS STATEMENT WAS FILED WITH THE COUNTY CLERK OF VENTURA COUNTY ON 03/03/2005. I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS COPY IS A TRUE COPY OF THE ORIGINAL STATEMENT ON FILE IN MY OFFICE. PHILIP J. SCHMIT Ventura County Clerk NOTICE - THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT MUST BE FILED BEFORE THAT TIME. 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., Bus. & Prof. Code).

organization's compliance with nationally established Joint Commission standards. The survey results will be used to determine whether, and the conditions under which, accreditation should be awarded to the organization. Joint Commission standards deal with organizational quality, safety-of-care issues, and the safety of the environment in which care is provided. Anyone believing that he or she has pertinent and valid information about such matters may request a public information interview with the Joint Commission's field representatives at the time of survey. Information presented at the interview will be carefully evaluated for relevance to the accreditation process. Requests for a public information interview must be made in writing and should be sent to the Joint Commission no later than five working days before the survey begins. The request must also indicate the nature of the information to be provided at the interview. Such requests should be addressed to: Division of Accreditation Operations Office of Quality Monitoring Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations One Renaissance Boulevard Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181 Or Faxed to 630-792-5636 E-Mailed to complaint@jcaho.org The Joint Commission's Office of Quality Monitoring will acknowledge such requests received 10 days before the survey begins. An account representative will contact the individual requesting the public information interview prior to the survey, indicating the location, date and time of the interview and the name of the surveyor who will conduct the interview.

information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime. (B&P Code § 17913) William J. Gilbreth s/W.M. GILBRETH Date:3/17/05 THIS STATEMENT WAS FILED WITH THE COUNTY CLERK OF VENTURA COUNTY ON 03/17/2005. I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS COPY IS A TRUE COPY OF THE ORIGINAL STATEMENT ON FILE IN MY OFFICE. PHILIP J. SCHMIT Ventura County Clerk NOTICE - THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT MUST BE FILED BEFORE THAT TIME. 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., Bus. & Prof. Code).

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 4/2000. BY SIGNING BELOW, 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. (B&P Code § 17913) Tracy L. Cross s/TRACY L. CROSS Date:3/17/05 THIS STATEMENT WAS FILED WITH THE COUNTY CLERK OF VENTURA COUNTY ON 03/17/2005. I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS COPY IS A TRUE COPY OF THE ORIGINAL STATEMENT ON FILE IN MY OFFICE. PHILIP J. SCHMIT Ventura County Clerk NOTICE - THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT MUST BE FILED BEFORE THAT TIME. 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., Bus. & Prof. Code).

Roblar, Ojai, CA 93023. Mailing Address: 505 El Roblar, Ojai, CA 93023. Full Name of Registrant: Marica Thompson 4675 Matijija Canyon Rd. Ojai, CA 93023 Full Name of Registrant: Justin Sayre Thompson 4675 Matijija Canyon Rd. Ojai, CA 93023 This Business is conducted by husband and wife. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed herein. BY SIGNING BELOW, 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. (B&P Code § 17913) Marica Thompson s/MARICA THOMPSON Date:Feb. 28 '05 THIS STATEMENT WAS FILED WITH THE COUNTY CLERK OF VENTURA COUNTY ON 02/28/2005. I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS COPY IS A TRUE COPY OF THE ORIGINAL STATEMENT ON FILE IN MY OFFICE. PHILIP J. SCHMIT Ventura County Clerk NOTICE - THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT MUST BE FILED BEFORE THAT TIME. 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., Bus. & Prof. Code).

OVN03-27-05 Published Ojai Valley News March 23 & 30, 2005 Full Name of Registrant: April 6 & 13, 2005 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File Number 05-04884 THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: Star Connections, 1202 Loma Dr. #28, Ojai, CA 93023. Mailing Address: 1202 Loma Dr. #28, Ojai, CA 93023 Full Name of Registrant: Mary E. Dixon 1202 Loma Dr. #28 Ojai, CA 93023 This Business is conducted by an individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 2-07-05. BY SIGNING BELOW, 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. (B&P Code § 17913) Mary E. Dixon s/MARY E. DIXON Date:3/11/05 THIS STATEMENT WAS FILED WITH THE COUNTY CLERK OF VENTURA COUNTY ON 03/18/2005. I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS COPY IS A TRUE COPY OF THE ORIGINAL STATEMENT ON FILE IN MY OFFICE. PHILIP J. SCHMIT Ventura County Clerk NOTICE - THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT MUST BE FILED BEFORE THAT TIME. 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., Bus. & Prof. Code).

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT MUST BE FILED BEFORE THAT TIME. 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., Bus. & Prof. Code).

OFFICE. PHILIP J. SCHMIT Ventura County Clerk NOTICE - THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT MUST BE FILED BEFORE THAT TIME. 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., Bus. & Prof. Code).

Residential (R-0-1) and the Zoning designation of one of the lots is Single-Family Residential (R-0-2). The proposed project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act under Section 15305. Minor Alterations in Land Use Limitations. Property Owners: Diana M. Rossetti-Johnson; Andrew K. Whitman and Heidi A. Whitman; and Leonard K. Jenkins and Elizabeth Jenkins. Further information about this project is available from the Community Development Department at 401 South Ventura Street, Ojai, California, Mondays through Thursdays from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., or by calling (805) 640-2555. Anyone who seeks to challenge the decision of the Community Development Director in court with respect to this matter may be limited to raising only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice or in written correspondence delivered to the City at or prior to the public hearing. March 21, 2005 s/KATRINA RICE SCHMIDT for Robert Casias, AICP Community Development Director City of Ojai

We will publish your Fictitious Business Name for you for ONLY \$65! Call (805) 646-1476 Ext. 27



Service Directory

OVN03-20-05 Published Ojai Valley News March 18, 25 & 30, 2005 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File Number 05-04649 THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: The Ultimutt Pet Spa in Ojai, 959 E. Ojai Ave., Ojai, CA 93023 Full Name of Registrant: Lisa Cole 959 E. Ojai Ave. Ojai, CA 93023 This Business is conducted by co-partners. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Sept. 1, 1993. BY SIGNING BELOW, 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. (B&P Code § 17913) Lisa Cole s/LISA COLE Date:3-16-05 THIS STATEMENT WAS FILED WITH THE COUNTY CLERK OF VENTURA COUNTY ON 03/16/2005. I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS COPY IS A TRUE COPY OF THE ORIGINAL STATEMENT ON FILE IN MY OFFICE. PHILIP J. SCHMIT Ventura County Clerk NOTICE - THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT MUST BE FILED BEFORE THAT TIME. 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., Bus. & Prof. Code).

OVN03-21-05 Published Ojai Valley News March 23 & 30, 2005 April 6 & 13, 2005 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File Number 05-04563 THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: Soule Park Golf Course, 1033 East Ojai, Ojai, CA 93023 Full Name of Registrant: Highlands Golf, LLC 1033 East Ojai Ojai, CA 93023 State of incorporation/organization/registration: CA This Business is conducted by a limited liability company. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed herein. BY SIGNING BELOW, 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. (B&P Code § 17913) Highlands Golf, LLC Richard C. Price s/Richard C. Price Manager/Member Date:3/15/05 THIS STATEMENT WAS FILED WITH THE COUNTY CLERK OF VENTURA COUNTY ON 03/16/2005. I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS COPY IS A TRUE COPY OF THE ORIGINAL STATEMENT ON FILE IN MY OFFICE. PHILIP J. SCHMIT Ventura County Clerk NOTICE - THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT MUST BE FILED BEFORE THAT TIME. 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., Bus. & Prof. Code).

OVN03-22-05 Published Ojai Valley News March 23, 2005 Public Notice The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations will conduct an accreditation survey of Ojai Valley Community Hospital's Laboratory Services on April 18-19, 2005. The purpose of this survey will be to evaluate the

ACCOUNTING & TAX Profit from experience. Get: • results using financial analysis. • proven business strategies. • easy answers to tax questions. • safety of a licensed CPA ROGER E. WILDE, CPA/ABV RWilde@WeValue.Biz 646-9409

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OVN03-23-05 Published Ojai Valley News March 23 & 30, 2005 April 6 & 13, 2005 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File Number 05-04649 THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: The Ultimutt Pet Spa in Ojai, 959 E. Ojai Ave., Ojai, CA 93023 Full Name of Registrant: Lisa Cole 959 E. Ojai Ave. Ojai, CA 93023 This Business is conducted by co-partners. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on Sept. 1, 1993. BY SIGNING BELOW, 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. (B&P Code § 17913) Lisa Cole s/LISA COLE Date:3-16-05 THIS STATEMENT WAS FILED WITH THE COUNTY CLERK OF VENTURA COUNTY ON 03/16/2005. I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS COPY IS A TRUE COPY OF THE ORIGINAL STATEMENT ON FILE IN MY OFFICE. PHILIP J. SCHMIT Ventura County Clerk NOTICE - THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT MUST BE FILED BEFORE THAT TIME. 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., Bus. & Prof. Code).

OVN03-24-05 Published Ojai Valley News March 23 & 30, 2005 April 6 & 13, 2005 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File Number 05-04680 THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: Huerta Alta Ranch, 110-1/2 Longhorn Lane, Ojai, CA 93023 Full Name of Registrant: Huerta Alta Ranch, LLC 110-1/2 Longhorn Lane Ojai, CA 93023 State of incorporation/organization/registration: California This Business is conducted by a limited liability company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 12/29/2004. BY SIGNING BELOW, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who declares as true

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OVN03-25-05 Published Ojai Valley News March 23 & 30, 2005 April 6 & 13, 2005 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File Number 05-04747 THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: TLC Housewares, 516 N. Las Posas Rd., Camarillo, CA 93010. Mailing Address: 516 N. Las Posas Rd., Camarillo, CA 93010 Full Name of Registrant: Tracy Lea Cross 11600 Flowerwood Ct. Moorpark, CA 93021 This Business is conducted by an individual.

OVN03-26-05 Published Ojai Valley News March 23 & 30, 2005 April 6 & 13, 2005 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File Number 05-03491 THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: Ojai School of Ballet and Creative Arts, 505 El

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# Roots and Shoots chapter formed

By Tracy Hulett  
OVN contributor

A group of 15 home-schooled children aged 5 to 13 have formed a local chapter of Roots and Shoots in Ojai called Earth Hawks. Roots and Shoots engages and inspires youngsters through community service and service learning. Founded by Dr. Jane Goodall, this global program emphasizes the principle that knowledge leads to compassion, which inspires action. The group's mission is to foster respect and compassion for all living things, to promote understanding of all cultures and beliefs, and to inspire each individual to take action to make the world a better place for people, animals, and the environment. Additional information about Roots and Shoots can be found at rootsandshoots.org.

The children of Earth Hawks voted the National Disaster Search Dog Foundation to be the recipient of its fund-raising efforts. The NDSDF recruits dogs rescued from abuse or abandonment, gives them professional training, and partners them with firefighters to find people buried alive in the wreckage of disasters. The Search Dog Foundation ensures lifetime care for each dog; once rescued, these dogs will never need to be rescued again. This foundation

was founded and operates in Ojai. These are the same dogs that helped out recently in the La Conchita mudslide and the train derailment in Los Angeles. More information about the NDSDF can be found at NDSDF.org.

In order to raise money for the NDSDF, Earth Hawks partnered with Much Ado About Shakespeare, LLC, which is a professional education program that introduces the works of Shakespeare to home-schooled children. This season's performances include "As You Like It," "Love's Labor's Lost" and "A Winter's Tale." Several members of Earth Hawks recently performed in the Shakespeare plays as well as organizing the fund-raising event. Earth Hawks sold refreshments and crafts pre-show, during intermission and post-show. Earth Hawks raffled items donated by local businesses such as Patagonia, Surfclass.com, Ojai Monart Art School, Much Ado About Shakespeare, LLC and The Gourmet Detective. In addition, Earth Hawks sold organic chocolate bars from the Endangered Species Chocolate Company chocolatebar.com. One hundred percent of the profits raised over these two evenings were donated to the NDSDF Foundation. Patagonia provided the use of its Grand Room and lighting and sound equipment to hold the event.



Photo by Brooks Smothers

## Outside Slider

Joy Golbere and her daughter Grace, 13 months old, go down a slide at Sarzotti Park during a Mom's Club outing. The Mom's Club of Ojai is a nonprofit organization that identifies itself as "moms supporting moms." Vice president, for the last year, Michelle Haas, believes that "Children are our most-precious resource." For further information and weekly Mom's Club updates call 412-0105.

# Conference finds co-sponsor in Oak View

Energy consulting and development firm signed on for 19th annual GasMart in New Orleans

By Pat Hitchcock  
OVN contributor

Flexible Energy®, an Oak View-based company, was a co-sponsor of the 19th annual GasMart Conference, which was held March 16 through 18 in New Orleans, (www.gasmart.com). Flexible Energy is a consulting and development firm specializing in advanced distributed energy technologies including natural gas-powered cogeneration.

GasMart is an independent forum for natural gas industry leaders, including Federal Energy Regulatory Commission commissioner Joseph T. Kelliher, to discuss the state of natural gas worldwide. Natural Gas is a key element in our nation's energy supply and the price and demand for natural gas has soared to record highs as it becomes the fuel of choice for power generation, heating and industrial processes. The conference, featuring a panel of experts, covered a wide range of

topics including supply and strategic reserves, futures, hedging, price risks, and advances in liquefied natural gas.

Flexible Energy has developed on-site energy solutions for a wide range of clients and industries nationwide including food processing leaders such as Kraft Foods, Inc. and 5-star resorts operated by Hilton Hotels. Local projects include the newly renovated Ojai Valley Inn & Spa.

"Ultra high-efficiency on-site generation is the only practical solution to California's energy problems, and natural gas is an important part of that puzzle. To control energy costs, you need more than technology; you must thoroughly understand the dynamics of the market and plan accordingly.

GasMart allows industry leaders, government regulators and gas producers to stay up-to-date in this time of unprecedented change to our energy infrastructure. We are proud to be a co-sponsor of such

an important conference," said Douglas Lochner, chief executive officer of Flexible Energy, Inc.

Flexible Energy helps organizations take control of energy costs by implementing ultra-high efficiency on-site energy solutions. These systems provide electrical and thermal energy at efficiencies above 90 percent.

By comparison, the electrical grid has an overall efficiency of only 30 percent. By generating power on-site and utilizing the waste heat produced during the generation process, organizations can drastically reduce their energy costs while lowering emissions and helping the environment. On-site generation also relieves stress and congestion on the electrical grid, reduces the need for additional power plants and lowers our dependence on foreign oil.

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# Heroes abound at NFL awards show

Last Wednesday, the Ojai Valley Neighborhood for Learning presented the inaugural Neighborhood Heroes Awards in a ceremony at the Ojai Playhouse. The awards honored nominees in four categories — educator, youth, neighbor, and business. Winners received a plaque and a movie-themed gift pack designed by youngsters in the Ojai Valley Youth Foundation's Generation Communications program.

Kim Hoj was honored in the neighbor category, Lana Starbard as educator, Nordhoff High School senior Caitlin Smith for the youth award, and the Ojai Playhouse was honored in the business category for their continued support of the Neighborhood for Learning's programs.

Nominations were collected over a two-month period and more than 50 nominations were taken in all.

Educator nominees: Jim Bailey, Peggy Brown, Belinda Chambers, Bonnie de la Cruz, Laura Fernandez, Dana Huffman, John Hoj, Kim Hoj,

Adan Lara, Theresa Levi, Patrice Magill, Sara McCracken, Joy Maquire-Parsons, Tina Medel, Liz Memel, Pauline Mercado, Teresita Montoya, Amber Pike, Marilyn Ryan, Michelle Smith, Lida Wachniuk, Jennifer Wing, Mary Wolk, and Lana Starbard.

Neighbor nominees: Suzy Kaufer, Barbara Kennedy-Beaver, Adan Lara, Carmen Lara, Ward McDaniel, Carolyn McMahan, Cathy Moon, Theresa Nordyke, Joyce Parkell, Sandra Scott, Carol Smith, and Kim Hoj.

Youth nominees: Cendy Lara, Maribel Lara, Sandra Martinez, Amilla Ortiz, Inga Parkell, Josh Pisciotto, Austin Pressey, and Caitlin Smith.

Business nominees: Bonnie Lu's Country Café, Dr. James Gay, Dr. Lois Barnes, Dr. Tim Williamson, Mary Ann Williamson, R.N., FNP, Local Hero Books, Meiners Oaks Donut Shop, Ojai Coffee Roasting Co., Ojai Creates, Ojai Ice Cream, Ojai Library, Ojai Valley Community Hospital, Rainbow Bridge Natural Foods, pharmacist Roger Lancaster, Table of Contents, and the Ojai Playhouse.



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Check here if you would like to add or make a correction to the current white pages of the Ojai Valley Directory.

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Listings or advertisements are also available in the **YELLOW PAGES** for an annual charge.

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