Girl power event set for Tuesday

Chris T. Wilson
Ojai Valley News correspondent

Keywords: Empowerment, teens, self-esteem, workshop

A program created by an Ojai mom to help her daughter and other young people navigate the many issues facing young people, is celebrating its 10-year anniversary.

The Girls Empowerment Workshop will mark the occasion at Chapparral Auditorium April 19 with an evening of mentoring and empowerment for girls 10 to 14.

The anniversary event is facilitated by recent graduates of the Chapparral High School Girls Empowerment Workshop.

“When their 10-week workshop ended, this group of girls wanted to come up with a way to give back to the community,” said Workshop founder and director Tobi Greene. “They know all too well the self-esteem busting our girls are faced with in online social media and today’s social media. They want to help their peers learn the skills and understanding to deal with these unique pressures.

Since its inception in 2006, the workshops have offered a platform for thousands of local youth to learn confidence, access knowledge and have comprehensive sex education and develop a set of healthy relationships tools and skills, Greene said.

Offered at local public and private high schools, The Boys Integrity Project, a separate but similar program focused on male students, also started in 2006. That program will make its debut at Matilija Junior High School this year.

The boys’ program began after Greene realized young men and the social issues similar to their female counterparts.

See Girl, Page A3

Ojai Valley News photo by Tim Deward

Ojella and Vine, at the Ojai Valley Inn & Spa, was recently named the county’s only four-diamond restaurant.

Ojella and Vine

Bill Warner
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Keywords: AAA, four-diamond, Ojai Valley Inn

If you’re looking for dinner at a four-diamond restaurant, go no farther than the Ojai Valley Inn & Spa (OVI), whose new Ojella and Vine received that designation from the American Automobile Association (AAA) in early February. You’ll have to travel a lot farther from Ojai before you find another; in fact, Ojella and Vine (generally known as Ovella, for short) is the only four-diamond eatery in the entire county.

“The four-diamond rating just happened organically,” said Heather Dillon, director of public relations for OVI. “The first most of us knew about it was when we read about it.

OVI has enjoyed a AAA hotel rating of five diamonds ever since 2006, so the restaurant’s new status might not come as any surprise. Dillon attributes much of the success to the collective culinary prowess of executive chef Truman Jones, who oversees all of the dining at OVI, and chef de cuisine Andrea Rodella, who directs the cooking for Ovella.

“It has been a vision of our ownership since the opening: a Californian restaurant with an Italian accent,” Rodella said. “So our culinary team worked on creating a menu that fit this concept. Yes, we did experiment and went through several tastings before opening the doors of Ovella — but it was definitely worth it.”

A native of northern Italy, Rodella brings a flavor of family heritage to the Ovella menu, described by Dillon as a blend of Californian and Italian tastes. One recipe quickly becoming a favorite dates from 1893: a bolognese as originally prepared by Rodella’s family.

See Ovella, Page A3

Shred Day set for Saturday

The 16th bi-annual Shred Day will be held Saturday in the parking lot of Ojai Community Bank at 402 Ojai Ave.

All residents within 400 meters of commercial citrus properties are asked to account for any previous plans for red-up.

Keywords: Water wars, buyout

Inn restaurant a diamond near the rough

Bill Warner
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Keywords: Water wars, buyout

The Board of Directors for the Casitas Municipal Water District (CMWD) was unanimous Wednesday in its approval of a resolution of necessity to acquire the Ojai District of the Golden State Water Company (GSWC) through eminent domain.

Meeting in regular session at the Oak View Park and Recreational Center, the board moved its decision after about six minutes afterward.

Of the 13 people who spoke at the hearing, only one was there in support of GSWC — attorney David Morran, of the Los Angeles-based law firm of Manatt, Phelps & Phillips LLC. Moran was there on behalf of attorney George Sonneff, also of Manatt, Phelps & Phillips who is serving as counsel for GS WC in the pro-

ter.

Moran summarized an April 8 letter from Sonneff to CMWD, objecting to the hearing as noticed by CMWD.

“The notice fails to comply with statutory requirements,” Moran said, citing the Procedure Section of the California Civil Code as it pertains to eminent domain. He went on to enumerate nine more points from the letter, including the hearing to be out of compliance with the Measure J bond measure.

Wednesday evening, the 7-11 Committee met and approved its final report to the OUSD Board of Education. The 7-11 Committee recommended all five elementary schools in the district remain open.

According to the Measure J Oversight Committee, moving the district offices for the purpose of leasing or developing that site at 414 E. Ojai Ave.

“From my perspective, there are several things that are hitting the District at one time,” said Jeff Palmer, who serves on the OUSD’s Oversight Committee. “We’re starting to see definition coming out of these various projects.”

Palmer led much of the discussion, Tuesday evening, and noted one issue holding up the expenditure of sorely needed Measure J funds is a lack of resolution on old

Keywords: E mpowerment, teens, self-esteem, workshop

See Girl, Page A3

Citrus spraying

Andrea Belknap
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Keywords: Pesticide spraying, Asian Citrus Psyllid

Area-wide treatment for the Asian citrus psyllid (ACP) will begin in the Ojai Valley in May, according to the Ventura County Farm Bureau.

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) sent notices of forthcoming pesticide treatment to many homes in the Ojai Valley this week, and invited community members to participate in open house meetings regarding treatment plans.

ACP is a concern to citrus growers because it transmits the deadly HLB diagnosis in its hash disease. Which there is no known cure for.

HB is widely distributed among Florida’s citrus groves, and CDFA will be holding five meetings. The first is Tuesday from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Casitas Community Center.

All residents within 400 meters of commercial citrus properties are asked to account for any previous plans for red-up.

See Citrus Spraying, Page A3
Locals honored with Rotary awards

Two Ojai residents were honored this week with one of Rotary Club International’s top awards — The Paul Harris Fellowship. Vicki Hunt and Stan Greene were both honored Tuesday at the Rotary Club of Ojai West’s morning meeting. Club members Stephanie Midgett and Pat McPherson both donated $1,000 to the club in the name of the recipients. Every Paul Harris Fellow receives a pin and certificate identifying them as an advocate of the foundation’s goals. Greene (above photo, left) receives his award from McPherson while Midgett (below photo, left) gives her award to Hunt.

Jodelle Glazer Bryant

Jodelle “Jodi” Glazer Bryant, 62, of Ojai, passed peacefully on Thursday, April 7, 2016 at Serenity Hospice House in Santa Barbara.

Jodi was born May 21, 1953 in Columbus, Ohio at the Lockbourne Air Force Base. She graduated from Ventura High School in 1971 and was a resident of the Ojai area for most of her life.

She married John Bryant at Empire Mine State Park, Grass Valley, Ca., in 1979. Together they had two daughters. Jodi devoted her life to being a caring and loving mother, wife, daughter and friend.

Jodi is survived by her husband, John Bryant; two daughters, Mindi Winakur and her husband Michael, Shannon Eatherston and her husband Michael; three grandsons, Mason, Marek and Bryant; mother Joella Glazer; two sisters, Lauri Lopez and Jill Ricci; and the rest of her family and friends.

Jodi was preceded in death by her father, Gus Glazer.

A memorial will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 23, 2016 at the Ojai Valley Community Church, 907 El Centro Street, Ojai. Pastor Michael Winakur will officiate. All are welcome to celebrate Jodi’s life at a reception following the service.

The family gratefully declines flowers, but if you would like to, make a donation in Jodi’s name to the Brain Injury Center of Ventura County, 3687 Las Posas Road, Camarillo, CA 93010. Prayers, condolences and memories are gladly accepted.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Ted Mayr Funeral Home and Crematory, 3150 Loma Vista Road, Ventura. Condolences may be left at TedMayrFuneralHome.com.

Essay contest winners named

Forty-six students submitted entries this year for the second annual Americanism Essay Contest sponsored by Ojai’s American Legion Auxiliary Unit 482. This year’s theme was “What Can I Do for My Country?”

Essay topics ranged from keeping the environment trash free to doing chores for busy neighbors and senior citizens with difficult challenges. The students also wrote about being able to walk dogs for community members, assisting the homeless and wanting to give animals adequate care and shelter.

Meiners Oaks Elementary School’s sixth-grade students in particular, encouraged by teachers Sandra Hansen and Kevin White, participated. Three of those essays chosen as winners of the Ojai American Legion Auxiliary were:

• First place, who writes: being a forever-able individual there for them.

• Second Place, who works to secure the lives of who can’t and helping to raise the homeliving in shelters.

• Third Place, who helps tutor and develops a more educational gap school students.

Each participant a certificate an students receive and monetary o

James Edwin Danisch

James Edwin Danisch, 75, of Patlekhet, Nepal, died March 29, 2016. He is survived by his wife, Oma Chase, and daughters Maraika and Jennifer. A celebration of life potluck will be held April 23 from noon to 3 p.m. at the Ojai Art Center, 113 S. Montgomery St.

Marjorie Anne Hubbard

Marjorie Anne Hubbard was born on November 7, 1925 in Columbus, Ohio at the Lockbourne Air Force Base. She graduated from Ventura High School in 1943 and later served in the U.S. and Ventura County Agricultural Departments.

Later, Anne transitioned into interior design and worked for several companies as a project manager. Her sense of style was unmatched. Eventually, she purchased Consigning Women, a women’s clothing shop. With her artful and creative, loving spirit, the shop flourished. Her shop was about much more than selling clothing and jewelry. It was a safe place where women who were facing challenges in their lives could find love, support and encouragement.

Anne unselfishly dedicated many years to caring for her mother making it possible for her mother to spend those last years in her own home. Anne had a tremendous love for others and much of her time was dedicated to helping her friends and family. She always strived to find ways to make a living and positive difference in the lives of others.

On a blind date in the spring of 2008 she met the love of her life, Michael Hoover. They were inseparable from that day forward. Together they enjoyed working, gardening, cooking, traveling, riding motorcycles, and they loved their life together.

They were married on her birthday in 2014. She often said these were the happiest years of her life. Her husband Michael says Anne can best be described in one word, Love.

Anne is survived by her brothers, Frank and John Hubbard, her sister, Lani Hubbard, adopted brother Roger Hoover and husband Michael Hoover.

A celebration of Anne’s life will be held at Ojai Presbyterian Church on April 17 from 1 to 3 p.m. with community sharing at 2 p.m.

Condolences may be left at TedMayrFuneralHome.com.
Future:
Continued from Page A1

"I have to tell you, I was surprised. The whole roof is spongy. When you walk on it, it gives. There are some areas of the roof where you put your foot on before you put weight on it, and it gives so much you don’t want to put weight on it," he said.

The Oversight Committee has identified priority projects at the elementary schools as well, but has so far avoided in-depth discussion while the 7-11 Committee discussed how to utilize elementary school surplus property.

Wednesday evening, the 7-11 Committee voted unanimously to finalize its report.

Olivella:
Continued from Page A1
dell’s grandmother.

"We have few signature dishes on the menu," she said. "My personal choice goes to the branzino dish. This fish is seasoned with toasted fennel seeds powder, pan seared and served with local fennel from Santa Barbara in two different preparations. One is a puree with watercress and the other is confit. The sauce that complements the dish is made with Ojai Pixies from a nearby farm."

With the removal of its south wall, the Wallace Neff Heritage Bar now shows a spacious continuity with the restaurant itself, including a new cocktail bar whose menu pays homage to the original architects with a drink called Wallace’s Muse.

The bar’s resident mixologist, Sam Gay, works a lot with traditional recipes, according to Dillon. “There’s definitely a trend these days toward going back to old-fashioned cocktails,” she said, “and he has incorporated that into his mixes.”

With a seating capacity of 240, the Olivella layout includes al fresco tables on outside patios in addition to the main dining area, as well as several rooms for private dining. One of these, a private wine room, is surrounded by a “wine library.” Dillon said an extensive collection of bottles representing the finest vintages of the world is available.

Dillon said the spring menu will be released at the end of Ojai Farmers’ Market.

The artwork on the bar is largely created by Ojai artist and feature artist Robert DeVincenzo.

To that, he 2017 Inn Keeping Award was delivered to anyone who would have had that opportunity."

Chaparral program graduate Jackie Gutierrez said: "I have learned that everyone is amazing in their own ways. I don’t have to look like a model from a magazine or a model from Instagram or any social media to be beautiful. I am a confident girl now. I no longer let people tell me how I should feel about myself. I am 100 percent comfortable with my body because I know my body will change regardless of the things I do to it and that’s OK. I now can set boundaries. I can set my rules and can take control as well. I love myself, I love my confidence. I love every little inch of me now. I know my worth and I am extremely happy."

Shelby Olerich, another Chaparral program participant, expressed similar sentiments.

"The Girls Empowerment Workshop taught me my self worth and that what I say matters and that it’s OK for me to say no and express my feelings without feeling guilty," Olerich said. "I want to do the day of empowerment and mentoring with the younger girls because I wish I would have had that opportunity and it makes you find your love for yourself and really teaches you valuable lessons about life."

The workshops are supported annually by the Ojai Valley Youth Foundation, Ojai Rotary West, Ojai Valley Lions Club, Rotary Club of Ojai and community donations.

The April 19 anniversary event runs from 4 to 8 p.m. with signup taking place at the door of Chaparral Auditorium 414 E. Ojai Ave. beginning at 3:30 p.m. Visit www.thegirlsempowermentworkshop.org for more information about the workshops.

CMWD:
Continued from Page A1

"It gives boys the chance to explore their self-image and discuss how sexual— and masculinity are portrayed in the media," Greene said. "When boys learn strong communication skills, it allows them to be active participants in healthy relationships."

The Boys Integrity Project is led by Casey Murphy, who joined the team in 2012.

Murphy’s expertise comes from working with teens in therapeutic wilderness settings. "I’ve been lucky enough to work for most of my life in jobs that I find are important to myself and to my community," Murphy said. "The Boys Integrity Project encompasses a lot of what young men are facing with these days and establishes meaningful discussions around these topics."

Murphy runs the boys workshops annually at Ojai Valley School, Chaparral High School, Nordhoff High School and Matilija Junior High School as well as a rotating program for all public school sixth-graders.

"It’s too easy to become complacent and think that we live in a town that is without some of these larger issues," Murphy said. "That’s when we become disconnected from the youth in our community. This program helps to keep everyone engaged and aware of these contemporary issues. And that helps to cultivate trust and leadership among everyone involved."

Chaparral program graduate Jackie Gutierrez will be on hand to help with the anniversary event.

"The Girls Empowerment Workshop has made a big difference in my everyday life," Gutierrez said. "I have learned that everyone is amazing in their own ways. I don’t have to look like a model from a magazine or a model from Instagram or any social media to be beautiful. I am a confident girl now. I no longer let people tell me how I should feel about myself. I am 100 percent comfortable with my body because I know my body will change regardless of the things I do to it and that’s OK. I now can set boundaries. I can set my rules and can take control as well. I love myself, I love my confidence. I love every little inch of me now. I know my worth and I am extremely happy."

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May God bless Miss Buttons and find her a home and guardian where she will be deservedly loved and taken care of. I saw her as the “Pet of the Week” in last Friday’s paper and it prompted a wince, a sigh, and a tear. I recognize we live in a time and a world where life is as precarious as it was two millennia ago when the time frame between the fall of Rome until the era called the Renaissance was referred to by historians as the “Dark Ages.” It was an era when Rome’s glory lay in ruins and where once all roads which had previously led to Rome had become eroded byways of marauders, mayhem, and danger. Life was cheap, short and something to endure.

Miss Buttons hopefully may also be emerging from her own personal “Dark Ages.” From her picture she is an adorable-looking orange tubby and from her story she too was treated by her former family just as the barbarians treated ancient Rome with callous, malevolent indifference. They moved away and left her to fend for herself until some caring human being brought her to our animal shelter. Her report continues with “her lovely long hair was so matted it had to be clipped off.”

This is not an uncommon situation for many of the creatures at our animal shelter. Most of the residents there were at some time in their lives loved and taken care of properly, but a shift in fortune changed their world just as it does for human beings. And as we are informed by television and print media, often the abuse of any creature is both heart- and gut-wrenching. And if Dante’s description of his seven circles of hell is accurate, I say let those who abuse animals be assigned to Circle 7. The acceptance of cats by humanity has been a mixed bag. Some people associate them with evil spirits and bad luck and frequently have harassed them to death. On the other hand, the ancient Egyptians worshiped cats as gods. And both cat detractors and cat aficionados claim cats have ten lives. Of course, time, will some to the Humanes claim Miss Buttons hopeful with heart and time the one who probably conclude one of the best in a lifetime.

There are a number of sociologists who claim some people will never be fit to nurture children properly. In all likelihood, many of us have noticed a few of them in our lifetime (the parents not the sociologists). Regrettably some parents think children are expendable. Just that thought is horrifying. And for those of us who live with pets and love them as they should be loved, caring for them is second nature. Pet guardians, good ones at least, are attuned to their charges’ moods, habits and vicissitudes. And as we age and our children leave the home and begin to forge their own destinies, our pets become our children and their well-being is one of the most significant factors in our lives. I live with my Twinkles, the most precious thing in my life now. I didn’t know a thing about cats until Mr. Chips walked into my life when I was 63 years old. He opened my eyes to so much and so many things I had no notion even existed. He was the start of one of my greatest experiences which continued with Tottie. I realize officially I am Twinkles’ guardian, but I often feel she is my guardian. At this time in my life I would be lost without her. The bond is so close, we both sleep on the same pillow and sometimes when I turn over we are nose-to-nose. And I believe her attachment to me is equal to mine for her. I have lived with three cats and have loved them all and have been loved by them. The abuse of any creature is both heart- and gut-wrenching. And if Dante’s description of his seven circles of hell is accurate, I say let those who abuse animals be assigned to Circle 7. The acceptance of cats by humanity has been a mixed bag. Some people associate them with evil spirits and bad luck and frequently have harassed them to death. On the other hand, the ancient Egyptians worshiped cats as gods. And both cat detractors and cat aficionados claim cats have ten lives. Of course, time, will some to the Humanes claim Miss Buttons hopeful with heart and time the one who probably conclude one of the best in a lifetime.
OPINION

FEATURED LETTER by Jon Lambert, Ojai Valley Library Friends and Foundation

We are about to begin a new chapter in the life of historic Ojai building

The Library Bookstore building has stood in place since 1922 when it was constructed by Edmund Libbey as a real estate office for selling Arbolado Real estate. The building, designed in the Pueblo Revival style by Mead and Requa, originally had a pergola attached to the front supported by three columns. Over time the pergola was lost due to the building passing from one owner to another. For nearly 90 years this building has stood next to the Ojai Library (itself built in 1928). The building is set near the Ojai Library and the Ojai Public Library.

The Ojai Valley Library Friends (OVLF) has utilized the building as its used bookstore, Twice-Sold Tales, since acquiring it in 2003. Because the building is a tangible reminder of Ojai’s history OVLF commissioned a historical study in 2011 that found the building was not deemed as suitable for inclusion in the State or National Register of Historical Buildings because of the changes that were made over the decades. Recognizing the importance of the structure to Ojai’s history The Friends have, at the same time, worried about the building itself. The structure apparently was built in two phases: the front area by Ojai Avenue was constructed on a concrete slab, and the rear constructed on boards laid directly on the ground. The wiring is archaic, roof in need of continual repair, the building is riddled with termites and The Friends find them selves wanting to “patch” the front facade on a regular basis. And there remains the constant worry about the building’s safety (and the volunteers and patrons within it) should there be an earthquake. All of these considerations, coupled with the need of the Ojai Library for a separate meeting space, expressed to The Friends by our former librarian, led OVLF to begin exploring various options.

After consulting with structural engineers and discussing several competing alternatives, OVLF decided to rebuild the entire structure, with one exception. The front facade of the building remains very much as originally designed and constructed in 1922, so The Friends have worked with the Historic Preservation Commission of Ojai to have the front facade named as a city of Ojai historical landmark. To enhance the historical character, The Friends have included into the construction plans a new, replacement pergola, its design based on historical photographs of the Libbey building.

Once the OVLF board of directors decided to rebuild, and add a 600-square-foot meeting room for library and community use, the group had to consider how to fund such a project. Although OVLF has had some funds set aside, and the group is very conservative about how it uses monies that have been donated by the Ojai public, it appeared that a major fundraising effort was in store. However, The Friends were surprised by a notification that Richard Geres had died and named OVLF in his will, leaving us nearly $350,000. That gift, coupled with another “legacy gift” from Nina Shelley, brought the construction project forward to where it is today.

Letters to the Editor

Don’t accept gas billing blindly

MEG GOODWIN, Ojai

Just want to give folks a heads-up that Southern California Gas Company is estimating a lot of bills, and that two people I know of had bills that were over $200 off, in the gas company’s favor.

They always say the same thing, “It was an especially cold January,” but the bills were estimated, not from physically reading meters.

Check your bill, call the number provided if you feel it’s high, and you can read them your meter numbers. They are recalculating mine now, January and February were twice last year’s bill!

Perhaps they’re trying to recoup some of the costs of the Porter Ranch fiasco? Just wondering.

Was the letter writer pedaling nonsense?

JOHN M. GRAY, Ojai

I loved the recent letter on bicycle safety on Highway 150. The writer described the road graphically. “It is poorly built and maintained. There are little to no shoulders ... forcing cyclists into the lane ...” He then goes on to say that “Highway 150 is a world-class cycling asset!”

I agree with the sentiment expressed by the writer in this letter. Perhaps the real issue is how the road is maintained and managed. We have a great asset, and we should all work to ensure that it remains safe and enjoyable for all users.

Resource is very important

TIM KENNEY, Ojai

Due to a recent medical procedure I was not able to operate my vehicle for over a month.

During that time, I relied on a wonderful resource we have in Ojai Valley, Help of Ojai. The volunteer drivers always showed up early to pick me up going and coming, and were friendly and exceedingly helpful.

I hope the community understands how important Help of Ojai is, and continues to support its mission.

Thank you, Help of Ojai.

City of Ojai? County of Ventura? Please remove those limits before it is too late

We are lucky to have these geniuses

DALE BOYCO, Ojai

Donald Trump first said that women must be punished for having illegal abortions.

Then two hours later (after the backlash), he changed his mind and said that women should not be punished for having illegal abortions.

Then Ted Cruz agreed with Trump (even though he hates him), saying that women should never be punished for having an illegal abortion.

Ted also says that he will do everything he can to make sure that abortion becomes illegal.

How can something be illegal and at the same time if someone commits that illegal act, they can never be punished for it?

We sure are lucky to have geniuses like Cruz and Trump looking out for the American people.

We need to take the money out of politics

SALLY BROWN, Ojai

Regarding Bernie Sanders saying that Hillary Clinton is not qualified to be president because of the corporate money she takes in — I have always thought that any politician who takes money from corporations is not qualified to be president because by taking corporate money, they must act in favor of the corporation and not the American people.

This is why politicians are making sure that corporations do not have to pay their fair share of taxes which they then force people to pay by taxes and cutting services in order.

This action corporate globalization of democracy!

I am so glad Sanders brought it up completely ago, and I have just realized saying so.

Mrs. Clinton makes no change to refuse corporate because we are the people, are not for corporate-bi.

It may take to happen, but I hope it happens, so why don’t we be leaders and start doing it now instead of taxing money by if who want more politics.

thumps up, thumps down

A reader sends a thumbs-down to inconsiderate clerks at a store who...
This Week

Frida y, April 15
THIRD FRIDAY MUSIC EVENT — OVA arts, 108-B N. Signal St., will host its free Third Friday Music, today from 6 to 8 p.m., featuring local favorites, Smitty and Julija, plus snacks, wine and Paixie Pies. Call 646-5062.

Saturday, April 16
JOIN IN PARK CLEANUP — Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon, members of the Rotary Club of Ojai West will be doing a spring cleanup of Rotary Community Park, at the “Y” intersection of West Ojai Avenue and Maricopa Highway. The community is invited to join club members in beautifying this iconic entry to Ojai. Bring a hat, sunscreen, wheelbarrow and shovel to help spread new mulch throughout the park.

WHEELER GORGE VISITOR CENTER OPEN HOUSE — The Wheeler Gorge Visitor Center, 17017 Maricopa Highway across from the Wheeler Campground, will host an open house, Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Visitors can have their photo taken with Smokey Bear and Juniper, from the Santa Barbara Zoo, and participate in kids’ crafts and other activities. Wheeler Campground, 17017 Maricopa Highway.

FRIDAY NIGHT MUSI C — At Chaos, 1182 W. Ojai Ave., on the stage from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m., will bethe Kathryn Temple Band, featuring Kimberly Temple. Call 646-8101.

VOLUNTEER TRAIL DAY — The Ojai Ranger District is hosting a volunteer project Saturday on the Chorro Grande Trail. The project will focus on minor trail restoration in the burn area from the Chorro Fire. Total hiking distance will be 3.5 miles. Meet at the Ojai Ranger Station, 1190 E. Ojai Ave., at 8 a.m. to carpool and return by 3 p.m. Bring lunch, water, sunscreen, gloves, eye protection, hat, camera and wear sturdy shoes. It’s a fun way to meet other outdoor enthusiasts or accrue community service hours. Tools, instruction and drinks will be provided. Rain will cancel the event. For more information, call Heidi Anderson at 646-4348, Ext. 109.

FREE GARDENING WORKSHOP — The Ventura County Master Gardeners Program will offer the free workshop, “What’s Bugging You in Your Garden?” Saturday from 9:15 to 11:30 a.m. at the Arc Center, 210 Cañada St., Ojai. Phelps Phillips, retired pest management advisor, UC Cooperative Extension, will discuss pests in the home garden and answer questions about local problems and the use and abuse of pesticides. Limited to 75 attendees. Register online at http://ucanr.edu/ucanrweb/cft/Hort/Freeworkshop/.

TOURS — Saturday at 10:30 a.m., Ojai Historical Walking Tours depart from the Ojai Valley Museum, 303 W. Ojai Ave. (approximately one-hour tours of downtown historical and cultural attractions). Docent Barbara Washburn will lead the April 16 tour. Cost is $7 or $15 per family. Drop-ins are welcome. For reservations or tours during the week, call 640-1390.

AUTHOR TO TALK AT LIBRARY — The Ojai Library, 111 E. Ojai Ave., will host Camarillo first-time author Philip Brown, Saturday at 1 p.m., sharing insights gained during his writing journey, from penning the first rough draft of a story through publication. He will also read from his book, “Light Runner,” a fantasy for young adults. Brown also teaches high school and is inspired by his students. The event is free and open to the public. Call 218-9146.

OJAI WINE WALK — Saturday from 5 to 9 p.m., guests will take a wine-tasting tour through 10 shop and art gallery locations in the Arcade and Arcade Plaza. Proceeds will benefit Ojai Youth Entertainers Studio programs, and YES will provide child care with reservations. Visit www.ojaiwinewalk2016.eventbrite.org, call 646-4300.

“WE STILL WANT OUR MTV: MUSIC OF THE 1980s” — The Household Gods and Friends will perform in a concert to benefit the music department at Nordhoff High School, Saturday at 7:30 p.m. “We Still Want Our MTV: Music of the 1980s” will be performed at Matilija Auditorium, 703 El Paseo Road, Ojai. Tickets: $20 at the door or at nhsmusic.com.

SUNDAY, APRIL 17
SPRING BOUTIQUE — From the Heart of Ojai will host a boutique, Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 313 Topa Topa Drive. Organic bath products will be on sale. Most items are priced under $10! New products and new scents will be featured. Come and get your Mother’s Day gifts! For more information call 798-3334 or visit From The Heart of Ojai on Facebook. (A 15)

CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT — The Ojai Art Center, 113 S. Montgomery St., will present flutist Sarah Wass and pianist Traci Eisslinger in a spring-themed concert inspired by nature, Sunday at 3 p.m. Their program includes works by Vivaldi, Schubert and Messiaen, whose music pays tribute to birds, flowers and stars, as well as highly accessible contemporary works by Gubaudulina and Schocker. Tickets sold only at the door: $10 general admission, $8 Art Center members and students. For information, call 640-8327.

TUESDAY, APRIL 19
BIRD WALK — The Ventura Audubon Society will host a bird walk Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. at Lake Casitas, led by Adele Fergusson (415-3404). May see rufous hummingbirds, grosbeaks and orioles, as well as ducks, geese and waterfowl.

THE PROPERLY OPTIMISTIC MIND: THE MESSAGE OF J KRI SHNAMURTI — with David Moody, Ph.D., will be presented April 19 through 22 at Krotata School, 46 Krotata Hill, Ojai. The teachings of Krishnamurti are vitally interesting and important to many listeners, but they are also famously difficult to fully understand. In this series we will gain new insights into the meaning of his work. Tuesday from Friday, 10 a.m. to noon. Cost: $10 single session, $35 series.


SUNDAY NIGHT MUSIC — The Ventura Audubon Society will host a bird walk Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. at Lake Casitas, led by Adele Fergusson (415-3404). May see rufous hummingbirds, grosbeaks and orioles, as well as ducks, geese and waterfowl.

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Please call 646-0117 to get in on the Great Art WALK! It’s coming May 1.
Wednesday, April 20
“HAPPINESS IS FOUND OUTSIDE THE BOX” — The Ojai Retreat, 160 Besant Road, will host Thayne Whipple, Wednesday at 7 p.m. He will keep us guessing about what is around the next corner as he weaves together a personal journey of adventure and practical wisdom. Whipple has sailed the Pacific, lived in Bangladesh, received patents for his work in the financial sector, and written several books of poetry. His insights and practical wisdom. Whipple will speak at 7 p.m. Suggested donation: $10. Call 646-5508 or visit meditationmount.org for more information.

Thursday, April 21
“THE WIZARD OF OZ” — Villanova Preparatory School, 12096 N. Ventura Ave., Ojai, will host performances of “The Wizard of Oz,” April 21 through 24 at 7:30 p.m. in the outdoor amphitheater. Bring your own seating. Tickets: $10; reserve by calling 646-1464.

FULL MOON COMMUNITY MEDITATION — A community group meditation at the full moon of Taurus will be held April 21 at 7:30 p.m. at Meditation Mount, 1040 Reeves Road in Ojai, as an act of celebration and service to invoke, anchor and distribute blessings to the world. Contemplative music begins at 7 p.m. Suggested donation: $10. Call 646-5508 or visit meditationmount.org for more information.

“DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS” — Besant Hill School, 8555 Ojai-Santa Paula Road, will host performances of “Dirty Rotten Scoundrels” at the Zilk Theater, April 22 and 23 at 7 p.m. Admission is free; for mature audiences only. Call 646-4343 for more information.

BOY SCOUT PANCAKE BREAKFAST — Boy Scout Troop 504 will host its annual pancake breakfast, April 23 from 7 a.m. to noon at Chaparral Auditorium, 414 E. Ojai Ave. Join them for breakfast, brunch or lunch and help support their hikes and campsouts. Tickets are $7 at the door, but mention this news article and your ticket is only $5.

VINTAGE FAIRE — The Ojai Art Center Theater, 113 S. Montgomery St., will hold auditions for “Annie Get Your Gun,” April 22, 23 and 24 from 4 to 7 p.m. They are seeking strong singers and actors for many ensemble as well as speaking roles. Directed by Tracey Williams Sutton and produced by Bill Spellman, the play runs July 1 through July 31. Call 646-0117, 646-8797 or go to ojaiact.org.

“THE INNER LIFE OF J. Krishnamurti” — with David Edmund Moody, Ph.D., will be presented April 23 and 24 at Krotosha School, 46 Krotosha Hill, Ojai. Krishnamurti offered evidence of his inner life in three published diaries. These diaries include observations of people, cities, and above all nature, in addition to descriptions of profound meditation and uncanny perceptions of something he considered infinite and sacred. Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to noon. Cost: $10 per session. 646-1139, schoolinfo@krishnamurti.org or www.krotonainstitute.org. (AL3)

OJAI HISTORICAL WALKING TOURS — Saturdays at 10:30 a.m., Ojai Historical Walking Tours depart from the Ojai Valley Museum, 130 W. Ojai Ave. (approximately one-hour tours of downtown historical and cultural attractions). Docent Elise DePuydt will lead the April 23 tour. Cost is $7 or $15 per family. Drop-ins are welcome. For reservations or tours during April 20-27, call 646-1390.

EARTHDAY — Oak Grove School, 220 W. Lomita, Ojai, will host a free screening of the documentary film “Asphalt and Super Glue.” Chumash Education Committee will take advantage of this day to educate non-Chumash. Learn more about Chumash culture and how they used this local super glue. Contact Ojai Trees for more information. Contact Chumash Education Committee at ChumashEdu@gmail.com. Call 805-993-9958. The deadline for April 25.

MEN’S CLUB TALK — The Ojai Valley Historical Society, 130 W. Ojai Ave., will host a free talk on April 30. If you wish to plant in your yard, you can help selecting the right tree. Ojai Trees.org or call 993-9958. The deadline for April 25.

OJAI TREES NEX DATE — Ojai Trees will host a free talk on April 30. If you wish to plant in your yard, you can help selecting the right tree. Ojai Trees.org or call 993-9958. The deadline for April 25.

Join us tomorrow for our Pixie Spa Open House: Saturday, April 16th, 3-7pm

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For more info and to RSVP please visit JewishOjai.com/Passover or call (805) 613-7181

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Adults $36 Children $25 Family $100 Sponsor $500 ~ No one will be turned away due to lack of funds.

For more information and to RSVP please visit JewishOjai.com/Passover or call (805) 613-7181

Wednesday, April 20
HELP A HORSE CA — California Coastside, 101, will celebrate Help A Horse Day, April 24 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 600 W. Lomita Ave. The public is invited to tours of the facility, trail riding, and an event with refreshments and people and horses. For more information, e-mail e-california@coasthalseres.org or call 649-1090.

“TOWN TALK” — The Ojai Valley Museum, 130 W. Ojai Ave., will host a “Town Talk” by Buddy Wilds and Reade Koontz. Buddy Wilds will speak at 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 20, and Reade Koontz will speak at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 21.

Ojai Village Veterinary Hospital
Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Four will go to tournament

Ted Cotti
Ojai Valley News Correspondent

The Soule Park Men’s Golf Club held its annual Southern California Golf Association (SCGA) qualifying tournament Saturday.

Scott Snowbarger and Robin Williams took the gross title, combining for a best-score of 7-under-par, 65. Matt Murphy and Bruce Leichtfuss were the net-division victors, posting a best-total 11-under-par, 61.

Both pairs will represent the club at the SCGA Best-Ball Championship this summer.

“Considering where the flags were, those were really good birdies,” said Murphy. This will be the first time Murphy and Leichtfuss have earned the honor of representing the club together. “I think it’ll be cool to go,” said Murphy.

The SCGA regional qualifier will be held at Rustic Canyon. The championships are slated for La Purisima Saturday. Saturday’s closest-to-the-pin contest winners were Jim Irvine on the third hole, Paul Wadsworth on six, Sapp on 10 and Charlie Casey on 16.

The next tournament is slated for May 14 and May 15.

Leaping ahead of the competition

Gremlin Division competitor Brooke Flores takes off in the long jump in a recent Ojai Valley track and field meet against Ventura. The Roadrunners will compete against the Nipomo Panthers Saturday. Their next home meet will be the junior varsity finals April 30. The finals will take place May 7 in Moorpark.

Mother-daughter team looking to rebuild ‘Nova softball program

Mike Miller
mike@ojaivalleynews.com

The mother-daughter team of Dana and Jenny Hanson believe they can do what many recent coaches have failed to do, build a winning softball program at Villanova Preparatory School (VPS). For years, the program has been doomed by low player turnout and a lack of experience, team speed, so when we get on base we are going to run. We lead the league in stolen bases after playing just four games,” she said.

The junior class the coach is so high on consists of Teresa Bartholo, Ciara Lenehan, Grace Davis, Rebecca Saccardo and Olivia Dorenkamp. Sophomore Megan Kaser has been the Lady Wildcats’ main in runs batted. Leading the team in runs batted is so high on consists of Teresa Bartholo, Ciara Lenehan, Grace Davis, Rebecca Saccardo and Olivia Dorenkamp. Sophomore Megan Kaser has been the Lady Wildcats’ main in runs batted. Leading the team in runs batted is Olivia Dorenkamp.
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Level: Advanced

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**THE OJAI VALLEY NEWS** has an immediate opening for a motor vehicle newspaper carrier, delivering in the Ojai Valley early Wednesday and Friday mornings. The ideal candidate will have a great work ethic, be a self-starter, pay attention to detail and be dependable. This is an independent contractor position so no employee benefits are provided. Requirements: Valid driver’s license & car insurance, familiar with the Ojai Valley and have dependable transportation. To be considered please drop off your resume, or complete an application. Attn: Ally: circulation@ojaivalleynews.com, or pick up an application at 101 Vallerio Ave.

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County Clerk of Ventura on the date 04-15-2016.

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