

open to competitors from all over the world

Diane also had an opportunity to observe other matches, with competitors in the 18-32 age category, part of the U.S. National Team, on their way to the, 2012 London Olympics

Diane, as the Executive Director and Founder of WISE, feels a strong sense of commitment to a healthy, vital, excellent level of performance and as a role model.

"As the Executive Director and Founder of WISE, Women Involved in Sports Evolution, it gives me a great deal of confidence to know over the years how well our WISE, Athletic Training program works."

Diane previously, won a Gold, Silver and Bronze Medal at, 2011 U.S. National Taekwondo Championships.

Business WEV to the rescue!

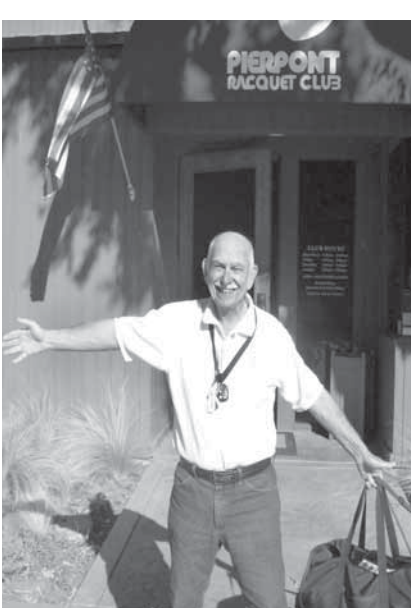
While empty storefronts are still a common sight on the south coast, a number of businesses bolstered with the help of nonprofit Women's Economic Ventures (WEV) are contributing to the local economic recovery. In an effort to build community and energize area businesses, WEV and WEV client business, Red Brick Gallery will host a free networking event on Main Street on Thursday, May 3rd from 6:00pm to 8:00pm.

In the heart of downtown Ventura, Main Street is home to a roster of WEV client businesses. WEV encourages all clients, alumni, and local business owners to stop by, connect with other entrepreneurs and learn more about the services WEV provides for all stages of the small business continuum.

Attendees will be able to enjoy wine and light hors d'oeuvres and have the opportunity to win prizes donated by WEV business clients. Free goodie bags will be handed out to the first 10 attendees

The event is free and open to the public. The Gallery is located at 315 East Main St.

RSVP preferred, but not required. To RSVP online, go to <http://wevonline.givezooks.com/events/wev-connects-on-main-street>.



Dick Baldwin was as happy as could be after beating Breeze Publisher Governor Brown in doubles at the Pierpont Racquet Club (a very rare event indeed).

Don't miss the League of Women Voters Forum for supervisor

If you missed the last forum for candidates in the District 1 Supervisor's race, you get a second chance very soon. Attend this upcoming forum and ask questions of all the 4 candidates, important issues need to be addressed.

This is a very competitive race so get involved as 2 Ventura council members (and an ex one) are running. Wednesday, May 9 at 7 p.m. at Balboa Middle School, 247 South Hill Rd.

Celebrate Mother's Day at Olivas Adobe's

Where else can you celebrate Mom on her special day with flowers, beautiful images and a tribute—all for free? The Olivas Adobe, located at 4200 Olivas Park Drive, will showcase an outdoor courtyard exhibit of the large colorful murals by Marguerite Hardeman depicting the history of Ventura, as well as its beautiful rose garden in full spring bloom plus a pictorial tribute to mothers on Sunday, May 13, 11 am to 3 pm.

California muralist Marguerite Hardeman (1911-1990) - a member of the Realistic Painters Group in Ojai who taught at Ventura College in the 1960s - created fifteen large murals, now in the Olivas Adobe art collection, that depict different moments from the founding of the city of Ventura and its early history, including the Olivas Adobe and Rancho San Miguel, the Mexican land grant of the Olivas family. Each year, the murals are displayed around the park grounds and rose garden in celebration of spring.

Members of the public can view the murals and learn the history they depict from costumed docents, then tour the Olivas rose garden. Visitors will enjoy the tribute to mothers, some famous, others unsung and even a mother owl named Olivia (who returns to the adobe for breeding each spring) on display in the Richard Senate Exhibit Hall.

Although this is a free event, a donation of a non-perishable food item for Food Share would be appreciated.

Boys & Girls Club speaker series

Boys & Girls Club of Ventura schedule for the Community Speakers Series for Club teens held weekly at two of the five Club centers.

Speakers scheduled for 4pm Monday's at the Robert Addison Center on Olive Street:

May 7, 2012 - James Jordan, insurance man, returns by popular demand to talk to the teens about 'life'

May 14, 2012 - Albert de la Rocha, National University Center Director and



Karen Flock and Pam Berstler test Dan's soil for permeability

Saving the ocean one garden at a time

by John Burke
Landscape architect

On a recent Sunday, two dozen people gathered at Dan Long's midtown bungalow trying to clean up our local beaches. Meanwhile, half a mile away, volunteers formed up at Harbor Cove for a beach clean up. The group in Dan's front yard wasn't lost; they were just taking a different path. They were participating in a gardening workshop aimed at cleaning up pollution before it gets flushed into the ocean.

Surfrider Foundation and the City of Ventura teamed up to present the program called Ocean Friendly Gardens. It's a nationwide landscape-training program. To learn more go to the Surfrider Foundation website, the City of Ventura website or call Jill Sarick at 652-4501.

The program shows people how their front yard can be beautiful and fight pollution. It includes classroom sessions and practical workshops in sustainable gardening.

Volunteer Cynthia Hartley spearheads Surfrider's local OFG program. Although she does surf Cynthia said it was her love of sea birds that led her to get involved. By helping Dan Long recreate his front yard landscape she can make the storm water in the Sanjon watershed just a little bit cleaner.

Pam Berstler, from Green Gardens Group in Los Angeles taught the workshop. As an arborist I attend a lot

of horticultural workshops. They can be deadly. This one was fun plus they had pizza.

Last month, workshop participants attended a class taught by Ms Berstler. Sunday they put their classroom knowledge to work poking and prodding Dan Long's front yard. They made mud pies and scoured the ground for mushrooms.

By getting their hands muddy they hoped to turn this typical city lot into a pollution fighter. An OFG certified designer will now work with the Long's to create a plan. On May 12th the group will reconvene to install the garden.

It's just one lot but for Cynthia it's a start. She thinks once people see how beautiful these gardens can be they will want one too. It takes cooperation and Cynthia has reached out to local leaders like the Midtown Council, which was represented at Sunday's workshop by Pamela Hazard, Karen Flock and Dan Long.

Dan plans to lead by example. By turning his lot into an Ocean Friendly Garden he can begin to repair the many insults to the old Sanjon watershed. If enough of his neighbors follow suite the old Sanjon Barranca may flow once again. In time it could become a beautiful natural amenity instead of a sad little concrete ditch that floods Harbor Boulevard every time it rains.

former assistant director of Boys & Girls Club of San Diego.

May 21, 2012 - Ron Hargrave, actor, professional musician, Lana Antione and a drummer will perform and tell stories of early Hollywood.

Speakers scheduled for 4pm Tuesday's at the Bill LeFevre Center on Johnson Drive:

May 8, 2012 - Tim Jones, Founder & President of Jones & Maulding Insurance Co.

May 15, 2012 - Lisa Ragone, retired Oxnard Police Dept. Sergeant on preparation for law enforcement as a career.

May 22, 2012 - Donna Roff, Librarian at Ventura College.

May 29, 2012 - Shaun Tomson, World Champion Surfer, best-selling author

For additional information and involvement opportunities call 641-5585 or check the website at

www.bgclubventura.org.

S.P.U.H.S. reunion looking for you

Santa Paula Union High School class of 1972's 40-year Reunion Dinner & Dance will be held on Friday, Aug. 10 at Ventura's Pierpont Inn and Spa, 4:30-11:00 p.m. Join the fun and reconnect with old friends. \$50.00 per person for more great memories. Overnight group room rates of \$85.00 per night. For room reservations, call the Pierpont 643-6144. For more details, and payment options, visit www.spuhs72.org or contact Craig Seabaugh at E-mail: craig.seabaugh@gmail.com.