

HOME DINING RECREATION TRAVEL COMMUNITY HEALTH

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LIVING

MARCH 2011



IN GOOD TASTE

The people, places, and designs that influence every day of our lives.

By Mark Langton

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March 6–May 1: EATING APPLES IN PARADISE

Contemporary Arts Forum, Santa Barbara. Twelve local, contemporary artists are featured, with works inspired by writings that describe Santa Barbara's idyllic existence. Included is *The Moreton Bay Fig Tree*, a freestanding abstract painting/installation by Los Angeles artist Sarah Cain. (sbcaf.org)

March 11–13: VENTURA HOME & GARDEN SHOW

Ventura County Fairgrounds, Ventura. Hundreds of exhibitors display the latest ideas for the home and garden including landscaping, green products, and energy-saving tips. (capitalshowcase.com/ventura.html)

March 18–20: ZINFANDEL FESTIVAL

Various locations, Paso Robles. Celebrate the zinfandel wine varietal with some of the country's best examples from Paso Robles. Along with public tastings and special auctions, Rex Pickett, author of *Sideways*, signs his new book, *Vertical*. (pasowine.com)

March 19: PINK FLOYD LASER EXTRAVAGANZA

Bank of America Performing Arts Center at the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza, Thousand Oaks. House of Floyd performs its nationally acclaimed show featuring live Pink Floyd classics, backed by a laser light show, video graphics, and special effects. (toaks.org/cap)

March 19–20: SAN LUIS OBISPO HEALTH & FITNESS EXPO

Alex Madonna Expo Center, San Luis Obispo. Dozens of health, fitness, and exercise exhibitors will be on hand. There will also be sports demonstrations, seminars, and a variety of medical-testing services. Admission is free. (slohealthandfitness.com)

March 19–27: OJAI WORDFEST

Various locations, Ojai. This is the inaugural event showcasing some of Ojai's writers and authors, many of whom are nationally recognized. There will also be cooking classes with cookbook authors, self-help sessions, poetry readings, and more. (ojaiwordfest.com)

March 26: MICHAEL SCHELLE

California Lutheran University, Thousand Oaks. This New Music Concert features Pulitzer Prize-nominated composer Michael Schelle's works, which have garnered grants from prestigious organizations including the National Endowment for the Arts, the Rockefeller Foundation, and the American Symphony Orchestra League. (callutheran.edu/music)

April 9–10: WINE 4 PAWS

Various wineries throughout San Luis Obispo County. Sample from more than 50 wineries, with a portion of proceeds benefiting Woods Humane Society. (wine4paws.com)

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Here's an idea:

VENTURA FILM SOCIETY MONTHLY SCREENINGS:

The Museum of Ventura's newly built Smith Pavilion is now home to twice-monthly screenings from the Ventura Film Society. Celebrated films will include *Séraphine* (based on the life of French painter Séraphine de Senlis), and *The Philosopher Kings* from Los Angeles filmmaker Patrick Shen. (venturafilmsociety.com)

Family Fun

Through April 2: ART IN THE GARDEN

Museum of Ventura, Ventura. See the works of a dozen local artists who were commissioned to create garden sculptures in celebration of this year's Ventura Music Festival. Materials used include metal, Italian alabaster, carved mahogany, and blown fusion glass. (venturamuseum.org)

March 11–13: SANTA BARBARA INTERNATIONAL ORCHID SHOW

Earl Warren Showgrounds, Santa Barbara. Exhibitors display hundreds of stunning orchid species from North and South America, the South Pacific, and Asia. Blooming plants, corsages, orchid-themed artwork, and gardening supplies will be available for purchase. (sborchidshow.com)

3/11-13

March 18–20: TASTE OF SOLVANG

Solvang. Enjoy three days of the town's best foods and desserts along with Santa Ynez Valley wines. On Saturday, the main event is the Walking Smorgasbord, which features more than 40 tasting stops. (solvangusa.com)

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March 19: KIDFEST

Conejo Creek Park North, Thousand Oaks. Geared for kids of all ages, Kidfest is free and includes arts and crafts, dog agility shows, sports, games, and live music. (kidfest.us)

March 26: THE GREAT RACE OF AGOURA HILLS

Chumash Park, Agoura Hills. One of the largest running events in Greater Los Angeles also includes a fitness expo with dozens of exhibitors, healthful food, and live entertainment. (greatraceofagoura.com)

March 26–27: RAILFEST

Fillmore Downtown Central Park, Downtown Fillmore. The Santa Clara River Valley Railroad Historical Society in cooperation with the Fillmore & Western Railway Depot presents a weekend full of trains—vintage and scale models—and other types of family entertainment. (scrvrhs.com)

April 2: COLONIAL AMERICAN EXPERIENCE

Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum, Simi Valley. Experience the American Revolutionary living history exhibit, where 18th-century colonial life is depicted. Demonstrations and interpretations of metalwork, military life, and food preparation are included. (reaganlibrary.com) ■