

A12 July 4, 2008

Sgt. Jenny Jones & Cpl. Bob Van Gorder Two Respected Veteran Cops Retired this Week

By STU SAFFER

A pair of longtime Laguna Beach police officers retired for permanent duty this week.

Corporal Bob Van Gorder, a motorcycle officer since 1984, was on patrol though Thursday after 27 years on the job here and sergeant Jenny Jones ended her 26-year tour in Laguna last Saturday. With her scheduled days off, Jones' officially retired this Wednesday.

Both officers are well respected by their peers and community members and both have often been acknowledged professionally for their special areas of expertise.

Sgt. Jenny Jones

"It really has gone by fast. Of course, that's true with life in general. The irony is that my first day was June 28, 1982 and my last is June 28, 2008.

"I'm thankful to the community for all that I've been blessed with. I've met a lot of nice people and developed new friendships over the years that mean so much to me."

When Jones decided to go

into law enforcement, women were a minority in departments everywhere. "Laguna gave me a chance by stepping out of the box back then, actually seeking women officers. I've had a wonderful career here and I thank God for sending me to Laguna Beach P.D.," she said.

Her career direction was set in stone one night in 1982. She was dispatched to a hit and run collision with a pedestrian, who had been hit in a crosswalk. The driver, who was speeding, was caught and arrested soon after.

"The driver was drunk and he was a kid. I can still remember thinking about how much of an impact this would have on the kid and the families of both guys.

"I remember saying later, 'This is a stupid, senseless crime that never had to happen.' That was met with a comment reminding me that no one thought it was a crime and that was true back then. Driving drunk was accepted. People laughed about it all over the country."



Staff photo by Faye Chapman

Retiring traffic cop Bob Van Gorder.

A 27-year-old Jones decided to do something about it, vowing zero tolerance for drinking and driving. "I haven't stopped doing my job with that in mind in these 26 years."

Mothers Against Drunk Driving began recognizing police officers that made 25 or more DUI arrests in 1988 with so-called deuce awards, named after the former vehicle code section for the offense, 502.

Jones has received more such awards than any other sergeant in the county, earning MADD's "Century Award" for making over 100 DUI arrests in 2004 and 2005.

"Nowadays we're known for being tough on DUIs," Jones said. She's experienced too many sad reminders of the repercussions from a drinking driver.

See Cops, page A17...



Staff photo by Jay Rubin

Sgt. Jenny Jones' last day on duty included saying goodbye to many of the locals she's come to know, including Cindy Bartz.

Opening a Lyric Window on Homelessness

By SUZIE HARRISON

Powerful riffs resound through a pedestrian walkway off Forest Avenue that leads to a cobblestone alley. Fingers that dance along a guitar's neck and a voice that betrays the performer's passion accompany the aural alchemy.

David Holland once commanded more prestigious stages, filling concerts venues with roaring crowds. That picture has faded into oblivion. Homeless for several years, Holland continues to play on the streets, still exuding a passion for music to an audience of passersby.

One of those attracted by Holland's ability and reputation was local resident Scott Hays, who included Holland's original songs on a 13-track anthology CD, "Shelter Me," created as an innovative fundraising tool to benefit the Friendship Shelter. Distribution at various retailers began late in June.

The album includes rock, folk and blues tunes by Holland and another homeless performer, Jelani Diaz, as well as other working professionals Jason

Feddy, Alec Bridges, Shayne Fair, Dave Nachmanoff, Kevin Danzig, Richard Bredece, Missiles of October's Poul Pedersen, Shawn Jones, Mick Overman, Michael Ubaldini and Lisa Lofthouse.

Though he lacked experience in the music industry, Hays conceptualized "Shelter Me" after reading about a similar project distributed nationally, "Give Us Your Poor."

Hays, a writer, understands the power of words and music, what he describes as a universal language that speaks to humankind without prejudice or boundaries. "The thread running through these compositions isn't desperation or hopelessness, but rather grace and mercy," he said. Hays readily found a community of local performers eager to contribute to Weedpatch Productions' first release.

"Every working musician is one or two paychecks away from homelessness," said Diaz, who occasionally sleeps at a Tustin shelter, Village of Hope. He like Holland is grateful to be included



Staff photo by Faye Chapman

Supporter Scott Hays produced a CD to benefit the Friendship Shelter.

among working professionals. "Many of the songwriters and musicians who participated on this project had stories to

share about how they were once homeless, or close to it," said Hays. "There are a lot of us who have gone through periods where we were one paycheck away from living out of our cars. Some are just less fortunate than others."

All proceeds from CD sales benefit Laguna Beach's Friendship Shelter, a refuge for homeless people who want to rebuild their lives. More than 5,000 people have benefited from the program over 20 years.

"Shelter Me" is more than a leg up for the homeless. The contributions of homeless musicians to the CD help dispel the stereotype that homeless people are drug addicts or delusional. It's also a testament to economic fragility, where seemingly secure neighbors, co-workers, and friends can slip into homelessness virtually overnight, said Friendship Shelter's programs director Mark Miller. He described Hays and his CD as a gift. "One of those things, wonderful opportunities that drops in your lap that almost seems to good to be true," he

See Shelter, page A16...

Guzzling Less Could Head Off Water Rationing Later

By ANDREA ADELSON

The Laguna Beach County Water District this week called on all customers to voluntarily curb water use by taking extraordinary conservation measures in order to avoid mandatory rationing and higher water bills perhaps as early as next year, water officials said.

South Coast Water District, which serves South Laguna, will follow suit shortly. Unless the state receives above average rainfall this season, water rationing is inevitable, said General Manager Mike Dunbar. Local residents did crank back the taps some when both water districts initially asked for cutbacks in February. The goal was a 10 percent reduction, or about 20 gallons per person per day.

Usage, though, has crept back up, said district spokesman Christopher Regan. "People get back in their old habits," he said.

Now, the supply situation is even more critical, Regan and Dunbar said.

In June, the governor declared a statewide drought and both local districts' water supplier, the Metropolitan Water District, alerted its customers to expect a smaller water allotment next year if consumption fails to shrink or if drought conditions continue.

Laguna Beach County Water District provides water service to 22,000 residents and relies entirely on MWD for its supply.

The South Coast Water District provides water to South Laguna residents and neighboring southern cities. SCWD relies on MWD for 90 percent of its supply, generating 10 percent from San Juan Creek.

If local customers don't curb their thirst and the Laguna district exceeds its water allotment,

MWD will impose higher costs for extra water which will be passed on to customers, Regan said. The district is considering adopting a staggered price system, where customers that consume more water would pay higher per unit costs.

Currently the district charges \$2.94 per unit, which is 748 gallons. A typical homeowner consumes 12 units every two months for interior use alone, Regan said.

South Coast Water District imposed tiered pricing in November 2004. Its residential customers pay five different rates depending on consumption; buyers of irrigation pay at three levels. The lowest residential tier costs \$1.13 for the first five units.

Due to the record low rainfall, California's key reservoirs are dangerously low and a court ordered reduction to protect an endangered fish has reduced water being pumped to Southern California by 30 percent, the district said.

On June 17, the district's board adopted a resolution encouraging conservation among its customers. Suggestions include turning off the tap while brushing teeth, shortening showers, using appliances only when full, repairing plumbing and irrigation system leaks, replacing high-use fixtures and appliances, sweeping driveways and patios, installing pool covers, irrigating between 8 p.m. and 8 a.m., avoiding over watering, installing smart sprinkler controllers and landscaping with native plants.

The Laguna district established a hotline to report water wasters: 342-1437.

"We're trying not to be the water police," Regan said.

Obituary

Holocaust Survivor, Marketer, Art Collector Wunderman Dies

Noted watch industry figure Severin Wunderman died of a stroke on June 25, while on vacation in Nice, France.

Wunderman, a Holocaust survivor, was a self-made man, a renowned philanthropist and an art collector.

Among the causes he supported were Holocaust remembrance, medical research, and individual self-sufficiency.

Locally, Wunderman is best known for his former residence, a multi-level cliff-top home he built above Aliso Beach commonly called the Gucci house, so-called because of his success commercializing the license to market Gucci time pieces. He called the house Villa Camilla and lived there for 15 years before his departure for France about 10 years ago. Earlier in the '90s, Wunderman offered a portion of his Jean Cocteau collection for a museum in his former hometown, but was refused. Instead his donation was welcomed by Laguna Beach's sister city, Menton, France,



Submitted photo

Severin Wunderman which expects to open a Cocteau museum by 2010.

Born to Jewish parents in 1938 in Brussels, Belgium, Wunderman was able to evade capture by the Nazis with the aid of the Pere Bruno network. After World War II, he immigrated to Los Angeles and attended Fairfax High School.

A chance meeting with Aldo Gucci began a 25-year relationship that created a new

See Wunderman, page A18...

Laguna Rotary Contributes to Record-Setting Book Drive

At their recent convention in Los Angeles, Rotary International set a Guinness world record for the largest book drive ever, thanks to participating clubs including the Rotary Club of Laguna Beach.

At the invitation of the Southern California and Southern Nevada Rotary clubs hosting the convention, many of the nearly 20,000 registrants brought children's books representing their home cultures and languages for Rotary's Wide World of Books project.

This international book drive, co-sponsored by the Los Angeles Times' "Reading by 9" program, gathered a total of 242,624 books

during the drive, which ended on June 18. An adjudicator from Guinness World Records was present to certify that the Rotary project was the largest book drive ever completed in a single week.

The local club did its part, gathering over 200 children's books in the weeks before the convention, said Jan Herklerath, club president. "We're thrilled to be a part of this very special project that benefits our children by promoting literacy and cross-cultural awareness," she said.

The book drive is just one example of the hundreds of literacy-related projects supported by Rotary clubs worldwide.

2 Fish Design

VISION MEDIA

SOLUTIONS FOR YOUR VISUAL NEEDS



WEB DESIGN  BRANDING

Michelle@2FishDesign.com | T 949.683.2264 | www.2FishDesign.com

...Cops, from page A12

Her worst experience occurred several years ago after the Long Beach Grand Prix. A couple from the Midwest had spent the day in town on a belated honeymoon, while their kids remained with grandparents back home.

"They were perfectly sober as they drove out Laguna Canyon Road.

"As they were almost beyond our city limits, a car going over 90 miles an hour driven by a guy coming back from the Grand Prix who was high on alcohol and coke veered into the outbound lane and hit the couple's car head on with so much force that their car was split in half. The driver and his friend were killed instantly. So was the husband and the wife died later in the hospital. Four senseless deaths and two little children without their parents..."

Cpl. Bob Van Gorder

"I've enjoyed the people I've gotten to know in town and the people I've worked with. At work, we all get along very well - it's not all peaches and cream, but we all realize we have a good job in a great community and we do it with minimal problems and complaints.

"It has been a pleasure," said Bob Van Gorder, whose manner reveals why he has made so many friends over 27 years, mostly as a motorcycle officer with a specialty in traffic collision investigation. He has been teaching his specialty and other subjects at the Police Academy on the campus of Golden West College.

Van Gorder brings gentleness and sensitivity to a job that is often seen as cold and callous. "My philosophy has always been the same. I treat people that I come into contact with like I'd want my family to be treated in a similar situation. Without a doubt, showing dignity and respect always works best," he said.

As a motorcycle officer, Van Gorder rides his department issued bike to and from work.

Asked how he would feel turning in the keys on his final day, he replied, "bittersweet."

As a rookie, he realized law enforcement was the right career choice.

He answered a call from a distraught woman whose elderly father with Alzheimer's disease had walked away. After searching the area and finding a man, the officer drove him home.

The overjoyed daughter bolted to the car, hugging and sobbing over her father. "Then she looked at me and said 'Thank you, thank you, thank you' over and over. It was one of those cool moments and I understood the reason why I'd become a cop."

He found others, too.

"July 8, 2004 is a day that had the greatest impact on me. Cheyenne McKean who was five died that day and her little sister Sienna, three, was critically injured when their mom's van was crashed into by a driver who ran a red light coming off the 73 on El Toro Road.

"I have the family's picture in my locker and think about them everyday. The dad gave me permission to present the crash as a case study [at the police academy]. He said he hoped that it would reach the recruits and help them see why running a red light was an important part of their enforcement of the law."

Van Gorder was the first unit dispatched to the scene of the origin of the 1993 firestorm. "It moved so fast and I could see in just a short time that it was going to do a lot of damage because there was no way to stop it as it raged into three canyon that all ran into town at some point. This

was one of only two times when I was scared - really scared. I was also sent to the L.A. riots after the Rodney King verdict, and that was scary, too."

Millions of people watched a police officer and a fireman on cable TV as they walked house-to-house kicking in doors of still-moving homes on June 1, 2005 in the immediate aftermath of the Bluebird Landslide. Watchers also saw them rescue an older couple from their destroyed home.

"We were a great team," Van Gorder said, describing his partner that day, Battalion Chief Jeff LaTendresse.

Retirement Plans

Both retiring officers hope to work part time with the department.

"I'm going to throw myself a retirement party," Jones said.

Van Gorder will spend more time with his wife and two children, ages 25 and 23.

He will also continue teaching at the police academy.

Both will spend a lot more time pursuing their hobbies.

For Jones, it's golf and fishing. Van Gorder plays the guitar and mandolin. He has appeared with LBHS' Gary Shapiro for the years in the "No Suits Allowed" fundraising concerts.

"Shap and I are playing at the Sawdust on July 30. Come see us. We're pretty good together."

Van Gorder also plans to start playing in coffee houses and he'll continue playing at church.

Laguna has been fortunate to have two such dedicated and loyal servants for the so long and they will be missed.

WHISK Cleaning Services, Inc.
 We Specialize In:
 * Office Cleaning, Beach Rentals, Closet Organizing, Banks, Warehouses, etc.
 * Window, Carpet, Tile and Upholstery Cleaning * Day Porters/Laborers
 * Garden Cleaning/Landscaping/Tree Trimming
 If You Want Anything Clean, We Can Do It!
 For more information call our office at: **714-856-0117** Fully Insured
 or e-mail us at: belynda.velez@sbcglobal.net

STREET LEGAL
 "At Tomberlin, Products are our Passion, Service is our Obsession."
 Four Wheel Hydraulic Brakes
 Digital Speedometer/Odometer
 Independent Front Suspension
 On-Board Digital Charger
 Turn Signals and Horn
 Lexan/Glass Windshield
 3-pt Rear View Mirrors
 Color Matched Canopy
 High Mount Stop Lamp
 Windshield Wiper
 DOT Headlamps
 3-pt Seat Belts
 Lockable Trunk
 Aluminum Wheels
 Walk-Away Braking
 25 mph Top Speed

*Meets Federal LSV/NEV Standards, Contact your Local and State Laws For Street Use.

Come Down and Check Out The All New Street Legal Anvil

CANYON GOLF CARS

All Makes and Models
Sales/Rentals/Full Service/Batteries
 2715 Laguna Canyon Rd.
760-275-4126 • 949-497-3205

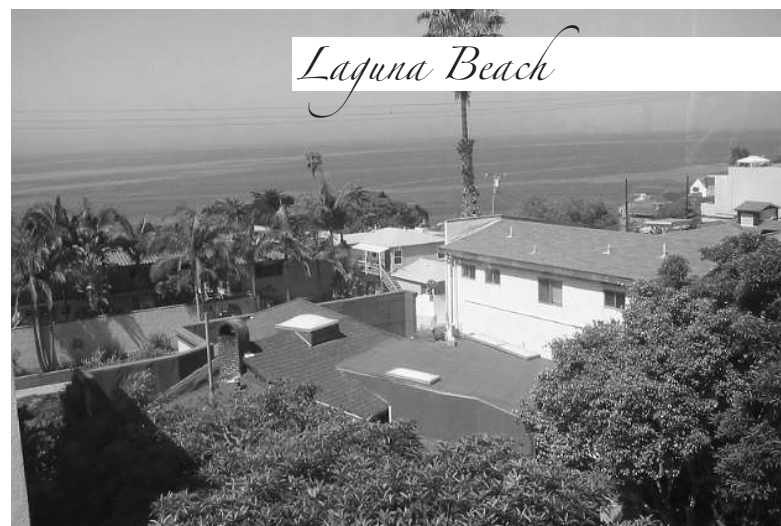
Leasing • Property Management • Vacation Homes
949.497.5454 900 Glenneyre Street • Laguna Beach, CA 92651



Oceanfront penthouse apartment all new upgrades with fireplace, hardwood floors, and granite counters. 3bd, 2ba with private deck, underground parking. Offered for lease \$4,950 monthly



Storage Garage for Lease on Glenneyre \$275 month
 Approx 490sqft upstairs space in Downtown Laguna with wood floors \$1,750 month
 Almost 1000 sqft office space in Village with reception area and 4 offices \$2,310 month
 Retail On Broadway/ Great foot traffic \$4,200 month



1bd Woods Cove condo with fantastic ocean views and carport parking. Fully furnished and available for vacation monthly at \$2,700

Unfurnished

- DP 1bd studio with full sized closet, bright bath, upgraded kitchen and on site laundry \$1,095 month
- Lower 1bd with walk in closet and full bath. Shared patio, parking and storage space, and coin-op laundry \$1,350 month
- Walk to beach from this 2bd 2ba with private patio, walk in closet, and large master bath \$1,500 month
- 2bd front row condo on the green in West Nine. Large two car garage, appliances included, and a nice patio \$1,800 month
- Downtown location large 1bd with huge deck, full kitchen, dining and living room. Ocean Views \$1,850 month
- Ocean Views from this 1bd upstairs apartment with full kitchen and lots of windows. Parking incl-walk everywhere \$1,850 month
- Fabulous remodeled upper apartment with ocean views, 1bd, and 1 garage. Open floor plan \$1,900 month
- Townhouse style home with 2bd, 2 patios on the ocean side of PCH with a two car garage \$2,195 month
- 2bd plus den condo in downtown Dana Point. City views and appliances included \$2,300 month
- End unit 3bd plus den or office, pet friendly. Two large decks overlooking quiet community are great for entertaining \$2,500 month
- Resort Living in this 3bd 3ba townhouse close to beach and shops. 2 car garage for your convenience! \$2,500 month
- Whitewater views in the Lantern Village. 2bds and extensively remodeled. Assoc amenities \$2,700 month
- Niguel Shores home w 180 degree ocean views from almost every room. 3bd, 3ba upgraded flooring and surfaces \$2,900 month
- 3bd home in North Laguna with small backyard, appliances, gardener, and water included \$2,950 month
- 3bd Laguna home with newly landscaped front and back yards, remodeled kitchen and baths, and a 2 car garage \$3,200 month
- 3bd with Ocean Views, wood floors, fireplace and remodeled kitchen and baths. Partially furnished \$3,200 month
- Remodeled 2bd in Village walking distance to Thalia Beach. Wood floors, gourmet kitchen, ocean views \$3,500 month
- Arch Beach Heights 3bd home. 2,200 square feet and a two car garage with great ocean views \$3,400 month
- Detached Spyglass cottage with 3 bds, peek a boo ocean views. Light and bright with upgrades \$3,950 month
- Corona Del Mar Village 3bd Mediterranean home with luxury appointments, high ceilings & 2 car garage \$4,500 month
- Penthouse Ocean View Apartment in the heart of the Village. 3bds, 1 garage, and totally remodeled! \$4,950 month
- European style home with great ocean views. 4bd remodeled with distressed wood floors \$5,000 month
- 180 Degree Ocean View Home in North Laguna. 3bds + pool house with bath. Very bright & hardwood floors \$5,750 month
- Upper Victoria Beach Remodel. 4bd with pano views, large deck, and master retreat \$7,500 month
- Rustic Contemporary 4bd highly upgraded home w granite counters & stainless appliances \$7,999 month
- Ocean side of PCH, never before leased! 3bd state of the art home w 2 car garage and luxury touches \$10,000 month

Furnished

- North Laguna Cottage with 1 bd remodeled with travertine, wood floors, queen bed and small living area \$900 week
- North Laguna 1bd with sit down ocean views. Walk to everything right in front of Heister Park \$1,500 week
- Ocean View vacation home w 2bds, high-end furnishings, granite counters & stainless appliances. Sleeps 4 \$1,800 week
- Charming home North Laguna 3bd 2 ba close to beach, sleeps 6 \$1,850 week
- 2bd weekly rental in the Village with gorgeous extensive gardens. Peaceful and nicely decorated, roof top deck \$2,000 week
- Cute and Clean, upgraded cottage with lots of charm and ocean views from deck. 2bd, fireplace, sleeps 4 \$2,000 week
- Fabulous Upper Victoria Beach home w remodeled kitchen and baths. Wood floors and designer furnishings \$2,250 week
- Village 3bd with 2-car garage walk to beach, lots of living space and a nice patio and yard. Pet friendly \$2,250 week
- Spacious 3bd with ocean and Catalina views. Easy walk to Montage and shopping \$2,250 week
- Ocean side of PCH, this 4bd home sleeps 10, has great views and nice backyard with spa. Steps to beach \$2,500 week
- Village Cottage with all the modern amenities and great cottage style. 2bds sleeps 4ppr walk to beach \$2,500 week
- Woods Cove 3bd home with view of Victoria and Moss Point from two decks \$3,500 week
- Ocean Front Apartment in Woods Cove. Access to beach and easy walk to town \$3,800 week
- Oceanfront designer apartment on Brooks Street Beach. 3bds and great views, sleeping 8 \$4,000 week
- One bedroom beach getaway ocean close with private steps to beach. No kitchen \$1,000 month
- Woods Cove 1 bd condo for 4ppr. Deck with ocean view, laundry and parking \$2,500 month
- 2bd Village Cottage with huge ocean view deck. Walk to town and beach for up to 6 ppl \$3,000 month
- 3bd with full ocean views, high-end furnishings, and lots of light. Big view deck and lots of light \$3,500 month
- Gated Community steps to beach & assoc. pool 2 bd 2.75 ba condo, plasma TV \$4,000 month
- 3bd Single level Village Home for long term or vacation. Great patio and spacious living area with fireplace \$4,750 month
- Walk to town, Heister Park, and beach. 2bd 1ba vacation sleeps 6 \$5,000 month
- Pano Coastline view from this Downtown 3bd condo. Patios off living room and master \$5,500 month
- Custom Victoria Beach home. Incredible ocean views, 3bds, private backyard, sleeps 8 \$5,500 month
- Fantastic seaside cottage overlooking surf and sand. 180 degree views of ocean. 3bds \$5,500 month
- Pano Ocean and Canyon Views from this 4bd custom home totally upgraded \$5,500 month
- Seaside Cottage overlooking private Tortuava Beach. 4bd with ocean view decks \$6,500 month
- Gated Emerald Bay year lease. Single level 4bd home with golf cart incl. Pool, tennis, and more! \$10,000 month
- Craftsman cottage North Laguna 2 bd, 2 ba, new kitchen & baths \$10,500 month
- 5bd Tuscan Villa with pool, theater, and gym. Over 7000sqft of exquisite design \$37,500 month

Your Leasing & Management Experts

41 Years in Laguna Beach and Surrounding Areas

Joan Courtney, Melissa Freschauf, Margo Grover, Nicola Petersen, Arlene Shevitski, Kim Thacker, Melinda Zoller, Marie Azaula

Visit our site for up to date info and pictures!
www.FirstTeam.com
 949.497.5454