

# Community rallies around friend with slew of Ojai events

Ojai residents launched a fundraising campaign this week for local bartender Dawn Rosa, who has recently undergone a mastectomy due to breast cancer. As a direct result of her illness, Rosa has experienced some very difficult times, financially and otherwise. To that end, her friends have put together a series of events to help raise funds for her personal and medical expenses, and also to raise awareness of cancer and the importance of regular self-checks.

First up, this Saturday marks Red Nose Day, a day to raise awareness of the upcoming fundraisers. Nigel Chisholm, owner of The Village Jester and The Vine, and one of the event organizers said, "National Red Nose Day is a venerable British event where people all over the country do something silly to raise money for good causes. Red Nose Day has come to the USA and will take place nationally on Thursday, May 21. That evening at The Vine, we are having a huge event for Dawn, with music, raffles, and an auction of Dawn's framed and signed professional photographs. It's going to be great! There will be special 'Dawn drinks,' my staff are donating their tips, and every penny raised will go to Dawn. This

year we are fundraising for our friend, but next year we will be doing this again to raise money locally for another Ojaian in need."

In the spirit of fun, community and to promote the upcoming fundraising events, local businesses have pledged to both wear and display red noses for Dawn's Red Nose Day this Saturday. In each participating store and restaurant throughout the week, patrons may pick up a nose and a postcard with a list of the special events planned to raise money for Dawn. There is no charge for a nose although any and all donations are gratefully received. The main object of the day is to spread the word about the fun events to come and to remind everyone of the importance of vigilance and early action when monitoring our own health.

Ojai Cares, a cancer resource group, has helped Rosa with advice and resources. It provides information on all aspects of cancer, including how to perform self-examinations for lumps in the breast. Ojai Cares is at 960 East Ojai Ave, and can be reached at 646-6433 or through their website, [www.ojaicare.org](http://www.ojaicare.org).

Sunday, the Ojai Youth Entertainers Studio (OYES) will host "The Night of the New Dawn."

"Mystery Science Theater 3000" meets some of Ojai's favorite local actors in a one-night-only performance. Veteran local director and actor, Richard Kuhlman, has persuaded 10 well-known local actors to donate their time and talents in support of Rosa. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at The Vine, 308 East Ojai Ave, where discounted drinks tickets are also available for pre-sale. One hundred percent of all ticket, drink and food sales will go to Rosa. The show starts at 8 p.m. Sunday at OYES, 316 E. Matilija St.

Next Thursday, May 21, starting at 8 p.m., The Vine is hosting "Tunes for A New Dawn," a night of music, barbecue and special drinks, with all proceeds, including the bar staff's tips, going to Dawn. There will be a raffle and an auction as well. All of the proceeds go to Rosa.

Then, May 28 at 8 p.m., at The Hub is hosting "Down and Dirty Tunes for a New Dawn," an evening of live music with beer, wine and tequila specials. All proceeds from beer, wine, and tequila specials will go to Rosa.

For more information on Rosa, and the events planned for her, join the page "A New Dawn" on Facebook. Donate directly to her at [www.gofundme.com/dawnsfund](http://www.gofundme.com/dawnsfund).



Photo submitted

Dawn Rosa shows off her red nose to raise awareness for cancer.

# Enter your work in the Ojai Valley Lavender Festival art competition

Artists working in two dimensions are invited to submit their work for a juried competition in conjunction with the Ojai Valley Lavender Festival, held this year on Saturday, June 27, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Libbey Park.

Selected artists will have their work displayed and available for sale in the Art Pavilion at the festival. In addition, participating artwork will be on view at OVA Gallery in Ojai from June 17 through 26, with an artists' re-

ception on June 19 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Artists must submit their work in person on Sunday, June 14, or Monday, June 15, from 4 to 6 p.m. at OVA Gallery, 108 N. Signal St., in downtown Ojai. Artists will be notified

of their acceptance or non-acceptance on June 16, and work not accepted must be picked up on June 17 at OVA Gallery.

Competition awards for first, second and third place will be given, along with three

honorable mention awards.

Artwork sold before the Libbey Park event should remain in the show, but marked with an orange "sold" sticker. For work sold, a 20 percent commission will be taken by OVA

Gallery or the Lavender Festival Association.

For further information about this juried competition, contact Patty Van Dyke at [pattyvandyke11@gmail.com](mailto:pattyvandyke11@gmail.com), or Nancy Horwick at [nhorwick@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nhorwick@sbcglobal.net).

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