

## Business

**Business  
Spotlight**

**AutoTouch**

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### Green as the Emerald Isle

by Joseph Owen

We all want our cars looking and running at their best. That's why we maintain and service them regularly. To keep them looking good, most of us wash our vehicles every couple of weeks or so. But what can you do to fix that annoying and unsightly wear and tear caused by normal every day use?

Enter Francis O'Connor and his repair business, Autotouch. Fran came to the United States from Ireland in 1986 and like every other emigrant to land on these shores, he came in search of the American Dream. Owning his own business made that dream a reality. Autotouch, a locally-owned business provides a mobile auto appearance repair service in Ventura, Oxnard, Camarillo and the surrounding areas. What's unique about Fran's business is it's commitment to the environment. So often, car repairs involve pulling off a damaged part and throwing it away where it ends up in our local landfill. Fran offers the alternative of repairing that torn bumper or damaged windshield and at a much reduced cost. Even Fran's paints are all water based. Save money and save the environment, looks like a win-win situation to me! Fran specializes in a full range of interior and exterior repairs, providing a bumper to bumper, complete mobile make-over for your car. Your time is valuable and what Fran offers is an alternative to losing your car to a body shop for several days. By

coming to your home and fixing minor exterior and interior damage, Fran can rejuvenate the appearance of your car without ever leaving your driveway.

Fran repairs bumper and panel damage, scratches, rock chips, windshields, interiors and much more. A variety of restoration systems are available utilizing the latest equipment and state-of-the-art techniques. With the ability to match over 50 thousand paint colors on site and an unlimited range of leather and vinyl colors, all jobs can be completed in 4 hours or less. Since only the best quality products and methods are used, all Fran's work is fully guaranteed.

Traditionally this industry has targeted car dealerships exclusively. Now Fran puts the car owner on equal footing with the professionals in the business. Anyone who owns or leases a car will benefit from this service. Fran will be happy to give you a quote, not only on your car, but also any damage to your golf cart, motor cycle, boat, RV or trailer. Remember, a well-kept and maintained vehicle increases its value, decreases sell-



Francis O'Conner came to the United States from Ireland in 1986 and is living the American dream

ing time and extends its future.

Fran is married to a wonderful Irish lady and they've resided in the Ventura area since the early 1990's. When not involved with keeping Ventura green, Fran can be found riding one of his classic motorcycles enjoying the scenery in and about our beautiful city.

He can be reached at 377-1419 and check out his website <http://www.autotouchventura.com>.



JA Harold is giving Frank Peterson his Lifetime Peace and Community Service Award

### Ventura resident, Frank Peterson, received Lifetime Peace and Community Service Award

Venturan Frank Peterson has received a Lifetime Peace and Community Service Award from the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura

In an emotional and touching ceremony which took place at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura on Veterans Day, Korean War Veteran, Frank Peterson received a Lifetime Peace and

Community Service Award.

In a show of unity, numerous local veterans, peace, and community groups came together to honor 78 year old, local resident, Frank Peterson.

Peterson, who was instrumental in helping to establish the UU church in it's first permanent residence, the historic Terry House, decades ago, has worked for peace along members of the church and with those in the above groups for peace going back to the time of the Vietnam War.

Peterson was in the Navy as a submariner during Korea and, also as an electrical engineer in the U.S. Civil Service.

Peterson is known for his quiet intelligence and thoughtful caring actions. During the early eighties, Peterson and his wife, Lucy Duffy, were devastated by

the extrajudicial killings and "disappearances" that were a part of the daily life of residents of El Salvador.

Peterson built an 8' panel with 100 names of victims killed there and placed it as a time capsule within the walls of his own home. He and his wife also joined a caravan to El Salvador to deliver goods and cash donated by the Kennedy Foundation to the people of the area.

During the Gulf War in the early nineties, while still serving in the military, Frank and his wife protested that intervention as well. When a photo of them protesting that war hit the papers the military attempted to take disciplinary action against Peterson. The American Civil Liberties Union took up the case, won it for Peterson, thus setting a free speech landmark for military personnel and all Americans.

Then with the 2002 invasion and occupation of Iraq, each time one of our soldiers was killed, Peterson added each one's photo, name and age to a memorial wall he built in their honor. He set the wall up at numerous events in recognition of the sacrifices of these individuals. As the number of those killed continues to grow and Peterson has not been able to keep up. Still, as we now face possible escalation in Afghanistan, Peterson, who recently broke a rib in a fall, can still be seen loading and unloading the Memorial Wall as he carries it from place to place.

### "Thy Will Be Done" comes to the big screen

On Thursday Dec. 17 @ 7pm, in Theatre 2 at the Century 10 Downtown, the Ventura Film Society will present a much-requested repeat screening of "Thy Will Be

Done", our 2009 Festival world premiere.

The venue is being generously donated by Cinemark Theatres (thanks to Donna Bradford), through the auspices of the City of Ventura Cultural Affairs Division, and marks the first time the VFS will be showing a film in Ventura's only downtown cinema.

Jacob K. Cunningham's powerful and redemptive film about the life and challenges of Ventura's own Kevin Natale, was a major hit at their Festival in March.

This is a fundraising event that will allow the film to continue it's festival, distribution and outreach efforts and to offset some costs of those efforts.

Tickets are \$15 and are available in advance through:

VFS Website- <http://www.venturafilm-society.com/tickets.html>

Ventura Visitors & Convention Bureau (101 S. California St. 648-2075 / [tourism@ventura-usa.com](mailto:tourism@ventura-usa.com) w/ \$2.00 processing fee per transaction)

TWBD website (<http://thywillbedonefilm.com/Site/Home.html>)

This event will give Venturans and others a chance to see this redemptive local story and support the VFS and the filmmakers at the same time.

The film tells the story of Kevin Natale, a Ventura native who was on that day an active, ordinary fourteen year-old boy preparing for a league basketball game when twenty-one year-old and deeply disturbed neighbor Bryan Adams burst through the front door, pistol in hand - obsessed with the idea of settling a largely imagined score - and opened fire. Though Kevin survived the bullet intended to take his life, he was left paralyzed. Directed by Brooks Institute graduate Jacob K. Cunningham, the feature documentary describes not only a tragic and transformational moment, but traces the aftermath of that moment and the ongoing transformation in a powerfully human story of courage and pathos and everyday humanity.



### The future is now.

The Breeze is available online 24/7, along with useful links, staff biographies and online-only goodies.

[www.venturabreeze.com](http://www.venturabreeze.com)