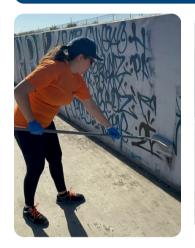


Thank you LiUNA Local 585!







Our community comes together to tackle graffiti in our neighborhoods, one watershed at a time! For our most recent graffiti abatement, Laborers Local 585 joined County Public Works staff and my office to paint over graffiti in the watershed near Eastman Road.

Together we made significant progress and covered over 200 meters of graffiti in just a couple hours. My gratitude also extends to the County Watershed team for arranging debris removal and cleanup in the watershed ahead of the graffiti abatement efforts.

Have you seen large debris in our watershed? You can report illegal dumping through the <u>Ventura County Public Works Connect website</u>. This was the fifth graffiti abatement I have held in the last two years; if you see watersheds of concern or would like to volunteer alongside me, please contact my office.

Communities Represented

Central and Southern portions of the City of Oxnard, City of Port Hueneme, Oxnard Plain, Oxnard Shores, Mandalay Bay, Silver Strand, Hollywood Beach, Hollywood by the Sea, Channel Islands Harbor, California State University Channel Islands, Naval Base Ventura County, California Air National Guard, Oxnard Airport, Ormond Beach Wetlands, and Channel Islands National Park.

Contact My Office

- **(**805) 654-2613
- District5@ventura.org

Beloved Ray D. Prueter Library in Hueneme Re-Opens in Time for Summer Reading













After more than a year of being closed for repairs and upgrades due to the 2023 winter storm, the Ray D. Prueter Library in Port Hueneme has re-opened! You can stop by and enjoy the renovations and enhancements, including a beautiful new mural that greets visitors at the entrance way.

I joined Ventura County Library Director Nancy Schram, City Librarian Anne Hogya, and other dignitaries to welcome many eager kids at a May 12th mural unveiling and grand reopening of the library. This grand re-opening is possible thanks to the hard work and collaboration of many community partners, including the Ventura County Library staff and the City of Port Hueneme.

Don't forget! Summer Reading Starts Soon! Studies have shown kids who read during summer break show significant academic and developmental benefits and often develop lifelong love for reading. This is why Ventura County offers a <u>Free Summer Reading and Activity Program</u>. The library will hold a kick-off event on June 9th – don't miss out.

Youth Advisory Council brings in experts on Homelessness and Public Works







The Fifth District Youth Advisory Council continue efforts to learn from local programs and departments that make our county function and serve the most vulnerable.

On May 5th, a panel of experts addressing homelessness provided in depth information about the resources and critical care being provided to people experiencing homelessness. Thank you to Ventura County Continuum of Care Director Jenn Harkey, Interface Director of Youth Crisis and Homeless Services Andrew Huizar, Stepping Stones Casa Pacifica Supervisor Victor Juarez, and the Partnership for Safe Families & Communities Youth Voice Co-Leader Janel Aguayo for sharing your expertise with the group.

On May 19th, City of Oxnard Public Works Director Michael Wolfe gave a detailed presentation on his department and how public works items are connected to every person – every single day. The Council was very engaged learning about the processes to maintain and repair city streets, and later expressed shock at the number of requests the Public Works team receives from Oxnard's 311 app.

Our community is truly fortunate to have hardworking youth that are dedicated to learning more about how their local governments function.

This June marks the end of the first Youth Advisory Council; we will be saying goodbye to graduating seniors. The Council will also start the recruitment process for new members for next school year. If you know a youth who might be interested in participating, please contact my office.

New Clean Power Alliance Solar and Battery Access Program Announced

Clean Power Alliance (CPA) has launched the Solar and Battery Access program for income qualified customers in Ventura County to make sustainable, renewable energy accessible with no out-of-pocket expenses for equipment and installation. The program is available to CPA residential customers who own their home and who are at or below 80% of the Area Median Income. There are 300 solar and battery systems available. To learn if you are eligible and to apply, visit CPA's Solar and Battery Access program website here.

County Unveils the Carmen Ramirez Memorial Rose Garden

On May 21st, dozens of us gathered to celebrate the unveiling of the Carmen Ramirez Memorial Rose Garden at the County Government Center, in memory of former Supervisor Carmen Ramirez. This rose garden was completed and installed by the County in honor of Supervisor Ramirez' legacy and her love of roses. May we continue to serve for the betterment of all in her memory.



Annual Peace Officers Memorial Ceremony



of community May, hundreds local leaders members. and enforcement gather for Peace Officers Memorial Ceremonies across the state. This year I attended two ceremonies in the City of Oxnard and on the grounds of the Ventura County Government Center to reflect, honor, and remember the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice to protect and serve the residents of Ventura County. My deepest gratitude goes to our local law enforcement agency partners for holding these ceremonies annually, thereby ensuring their sacrifice doesn't go unrecognized.

Homeownership Conference set for June 28, 2025

Ventura County Community Development Corporation's 13th Annual Ventura County Homeownership Conference is set for Saturday, June 28 in Oxnard. This free event promises to be a one-stop shop for all things home-buying featuring expert panels, informative workshops, lender consultations, and down payment assistance resources. Register at vccdc.org.

Local Cultural Heritage Board Recognizes Cultural and Historic Resources in Ventura County



Each year the Cultural Heritage Board of Ventura County presents Preservation Awards for projects that recognize that cultural and historic resources are an important component of a quality environment and worthy of preservation for present and future generations. This years' awardees included three from the Fifth District:

- The Japanese American Citizens League for *Excellence in Restoration* of <u>Oxnard's historic Japanese Cemetery</u>.
- Dr. Jose Alamillo and his team of student researchers for *Excellence in Grassroots Organizing and Community Development* related to their research into historical <u>Bracero farmworker labor camps</u> in Ventura County.
- Friends of <u>Heritage Square</u> in Oxnard for *Excellence in Organizations Supporting History or Historic Preservation*.

I encourage you to learn more about these projects and discover more about the rich and diverse <u>historical points of Ventura County</u>.

Oxnard and Port Hueneme Observe Memorial Day



Memorial Day observances this May brought together community members at remembrance ceremonies in the City Oxnard and in the City Port Hueneme to honor and remember those who gave their lives in service to our nation. Tributes included the placement of flags and memorial wreaths, accompanied by remarks from local leaders and veteran's groups.

Memorial Day events such as these serve as a solemn and powerful reminder of the cost of freedom and the gratitude we owe those who made the ultimate sacrifice in the name of freedom. May their sacrifice live on in the values we hold.

Migrant Education Speech and Debate Students Recognized









At the May 13th Board of Supervisors meeting our Board recognized the winners and participants of the Migrant Education Program 22nd Annual Regional Speech and Debate Tournament. The Speech and Debate Tournament offers middle and high school students in the migrant education program an opportunity to compete academically in a safe and supportive environment.

The tournament helps students sharpen

their critical thinking, research, and public speaking skills while fostering teamwork, self-confidence, and teaching students to resolve conflicts using thoughtful and strategic language.

This year 76 students from throughout the county participated in the Regional Speech and Debate Tournament on March 15th at Oxnard College. Twenty-seven students moved on to compete in the State Migrant Education Program Speech and Debate tournament in Monterey.

Channel Islands Harbor Celebrates 60th Anniversary



At our May 20th Board Supervisors meeting, the Board commemorated the anniversary of the Channel Islands Harbor. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began construction of the Harbor in 1959 to provide boating and recreational opportunities for residents and visitors. Today, Channel Islands Harbor is home to more than 2,150 boat slips, 605 residential units, 12 marinas, 4 public parks,

2 boatyards, beaches, the Channel Islands Maritime Museum, the Channel Islands Boating Center, sportfishing facilities, a hotel, restaurants, and shops. It offers opportunities for everyone from kayakers to commercial and sport fishermen, walkers to yacht owners, and diners to picnickers and cyclists.

Check out the <u>Channel Islands Events calendar</u> for upcoming events at the Harbor – like the Summer 2025 Concerts by the Sea series, Fourth of July parade and fireworks, Chowderfest, Parade of Frights (October) and Parade of Lights (December).

Popular Junior Lifeguard Program

The longstanding Ventura County Junior Lifeguard Program aimed at educating youth (ages 8-15 lifequard years) in rescue techniques including emergency medical first-aid, ocean sports, public service and marine ecology is set for summer 2025. The annual 4-week summer program is offered on a first-come firstserve basis and often fills up quickly due to its popularity. In an effort make the program more



accessible to Ventura County's underrepresented youth, the Harbor Department offers scholarships to qualified recipients identified by the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Oxnard and Port Hueneme. Since 2006, the County has awarded 259 scholarships for youth to participate, taking action to expand access and reduce financial barriers, and promoting inclusivity.

Learn more about the <u>Junior Lifeguard Program</u> or check <u>out Ventura County Parks</u> to discover local places to get outside this summer.

Ventura County Behavioral Health Awarded \$93 million State Grant



Ventura County's Behavioral Health Agency recently announced they were awarded over \$93 million in state funding as part of California's broader initiative to improve and modernize our state's Behavioral Health infrastructure and expand access to care and support for those experiencing mental health conditions and substance use disorders.

These funds will support the development of three major Behavioral Health projects aimed at improving access to care across the region:

- Lewis Road Mental Health Rehabilitation Center (MHRC)
- East County Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU)
- Proposed East County Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF)

The County of Ventura's vision and dedication to complete these three projects demonstrates is part of the Board of Supervisor's commitment to bringing residents back into our county and closer to home during treatments.

Join me for Paletas in the Park at the University Town Center in Camarillo



Please stop by my next

Paletas in the Park
Saturday, June 7
from 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM
at University Town Center
in Camarillo, adjacent to CSUCI.

I'll be there to hear your thoughts, and connect with our community.

UPCOMING BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

Budget Hearing Monday, June 16, 2025 5:00 PM

> Tuesday, June 24, 2025 8:30 AM

In-Person at the County Government Center 800 S. Victoria Ave, Ventura, CA 93009

Online at:

https://www.ventura.org/board-ofsupervisors/agendas-documents-andbroadcasts/