

Supporting Our Community

Throughout the month of June, there has been an increased presence of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officials in Ventura County, inciting fear in the community, as immigrants and indigenous people have become targets. Families have been forced into hiding, children are afraid their parents will go missing, and households are losing out on wages and access to healthcare.

On June 24 I directed County Staff to work to establish an Immigration Legal Defense Fund for people in Ventura County. A Ventura County Immigration Legal Defense Fund would support immigrant families facing detention or deportation, providing access to due process and basic legal protections.

I have also called on fellow elected officials to work in their jurisdictions so that we can create a collective and significant effort to meet the need of those impacted by immigration actions aimed at disrupting lives and our local economy.

My efforts are in direct response to news and community reports that people in our County are being rounded up by masked agents with no identifiable badging, and they are disappearing into a convoluted system -- states and countries away, that gives them no chance to plead their case and no legal counsel at their side during rushed proceedings -- a violation of the constitutional right to due process.

On June 27, I joined dozens of local elected leaders at a press conference to express, and reaffirm that our voices, as local leaders closest to the community, must lead these conversations, grounded in the lived experiences of the people we serve.

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

Living Authentically in Ventura County



I was honored to lead the proclamation for Pride Month during the month of June in Ventura County at the Board of Supervisors meeting on June 3. The proclamation reiterates our commitment to the LGBTQ+ community, proclaimed that the Progress Pride Flag would fly over County facilities, and honored Diversity Collective Ventura County for their service.

After the flag was raised over the Government Center, we gathered for a virtual meetup to bring together people from all over Ventura County to provide a unique, inclusive and deeply meaningful opportunity for community members to safely connect and support one another. The virtual program demonstrated solidarity and reflection on what it means to live life authentically and feel valued, not just in June but all year round.

Dozens of other celebrations and recognitions of Pride Month occurred across the County this month – from flag raisings to celebrations. It takes a whole community to show that we see each other, we respect each other, and we love each other. To everyone who helped bring this year's Pride celebrations to life: thank you!

Maligayang Araw ng Kalayaan! -- Happy Philippine Independence Day!

It was an honor to take part in the Philippine Independence Day and Flag Raising ceremony at Oxnard City Hall on June 13. This vibrant and heartfelt celebration of Filippino history and culture is a well-known tradition for Oxnard, attended and enjoyed by both Filippino and non-Filippino community members alike.

Keeping with tradition, the Filipino American

Council of Ventura County hosted the event and invited Oxnard Native Neil Ruiz, Head of New Research Initiatives at Pew Research Center in Washington DC, to speak this year and share how his experiences as a young Filippino, growing up in Oxnard relates to the work he does today. No Filippino event would be complete without food, Masarap Kitchen provided delicious, authentic Filippino food for all to enjoy.

Philippine Independence Day invites us to reflect on what it means to be free. The fight for freedom is not bound by borders. It is about human dignity, self-expression, safety and belonging. These are the things people seek and defend across all nations, no matter where you are born or where you reside.

Juneteenth National Independence Day in Ventura County



This June, I brought before the Board of Supervisors a resolution recognizing June 19, 2025, as Juneteenth National Independence Day in Ventura County. In this resolution, we honor June 19 as a day to always remember our nation's past and our continuing effort toward ensuring freedom, equality, and justice for every American. Our Board also recognized Juneteenth the Celebration of Ventura County (JCVC), who for 34 years has held

- in collaboration with additional community organizations - an annual community celebration of Juneteenth and freedom from enslavement. At this year's annual Freedom Day Celebration in Oxnard, community members gathered for entertainment, food, local artists and celebration.

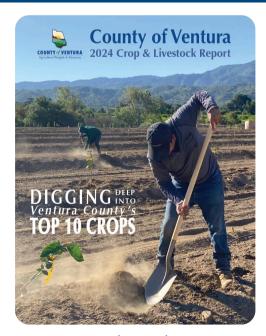
JCVC has also shared a message of solidarity and resistance as many in our community are facing policies and actions that are inciting fear and disruption, reminding our county that "resistance, resilience, and unity can be powerful forces in navigating these many challenges and working toward a better future for us all."

Digging In – The 2024 Annual Crop & Livestock Report

The 2024 Crop and Livestock Report was presented by Korinne Bell, Ventura County Agricultural Commissioner at our June 24 board meeting. The report shows total agricultural production in Ventura County for 2024 is valued at \$2.31 billion.

The top 10 Crops for 2024 were:

- 1. Strawberries
- 2. Avocados
- 3. Nursery Stock
- 4.Celery
- Raspberries
- 6. Lemons
- 7. Peppers
- 8. Blackberries
- 9. Blueberries
- 10. Tomatoes



Learn more about the report_at <u>awm.venturacounty.gov/crop-reports</u>

Ventura County Fire Department Academy 62 Crosses the finish line!

The men and women of Ventura County Fire District's (VCFD) Academy 62 are ready to serve. Over the course of several rigorous months, members of the academy faced classroom instruction, live drills, and intense physical demands designed to prepare them for the unpredictable realities they will encounter as Ventura County Firefighters.

A graduation ceremony in June, attended by hundreds of friends and family, honored the graduate's individual achievements as well as the spirit of teamwork that defines fire service. As part of the ceremony, family members and loved ones became part of the pinning ceremony.

As these new firefighters step into the field and their journey of service begins, they bring with them not only a high level of technical skill and strong values, but also the resilience, discipline and integrity that was instilled in them from the exceptional leadership and training within the VCFD. Congratulations Academy 62, I wish you a long and rewarding career with the VCFD!



Apostille Pop-Up Shop coming to Ventura County



On July 29, the CA Secretary of State will bring in person Apostille services to Ventura County. The event will run from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the County Government Center.

An Apostille is a certificate that authenticates the signature of a California public official on a document for use in another country.

I appreciate the partnership between the Secretary of State and the Ventura County Clerk Recorder Michelle Ascencion to bring this event to our area.

These events can be popular and wait times may be a couple hours, you may want to arrive early.

Learn more at www.sos.ca.gov/notary/request-apostille

The Sun was Out and the Paletas Were Cold





My most recent "Paletas in the Park" event was a real treat! Thank you to everyone who stopped by to chat at University Plaza adjacent to the California State University Channel Islands campus. It was nice to meet neighbors from University Glen. Living on state land, in a university setting, brings with it unique opportunities and specific concerns. Community members showed up ready to ask questions and share ideas. Getting the feel of a community and hearing the specific compliments and challenges related to them, helps inform my decision-making process.

The "Paletas in the Park" series is an opportunity for us to meet in a relaxed setting, where attendees can bring questions, comments, or concerns to my attention. It also provides an opportunity to showcase the great outdoor spaces available in the Fifth Supervisorial District. And it's a good excuse for a sweet treat. Stay tuned for the next date and park where we can meet!

Milestone Celebration for Port Hueneme Boys & Girls Club

The Boys and Girls Clubs Port Hueneme Clubhouse is all set to undergo renovations this year and soon re-open as the Premier America Boys and Girls Club of Greater Oxnard and Port Hueneme. The renovations include a new STEAM lab that will elevate the experience of kids and youth who attend the club.

The Boys and Girls Club of Greater Oxnard and Port Hueneme joined the Premier Credit Union &



Premier America Foundation to create a unique partnership that benefits our local youth and support the renovations. At a recent wallbreaking celebration, to the delight of everyone gathered, Premier presented a donation of one million dollars for the Clubhouse. Investments like this truly matter for kids in our community.

As the County Supervisor representing this area, I'm excited to see local businesses investing in the future of our youth. Kids thrive with support and encouragement, they should feel free to be themselves and be accepted for who they are. Their day-to-day experiences at all of Ventura County's Boys and Girls Clubs helps to build their confidence and gives them a sense of possibility.

First Fifth District Youth Advisory Council Cohort Wraps Up Work

The first cohort of the Fifth District Youth Advisory Council recently completed their first term! We are seeing something transformational occur in local governance; younger generations are coming to the table and their voices are being heard.

When I first decided to establish a Youth Advisory Council. knew governance should include all ages. Youth, working-age adults, and older people should all have a voice in shaping the policies that affect their lives. It didn't take long to see the high level of social awareness and commitment community that youth in the Fifth District possess, and I can't wait to see what next year brings.

At the June 17th Board of Supervisors Meeting, I had the honor of publicly recognizing the members of the Youth Advisory Council. We also sent our best wishes to graduating seniors who are moving on to new and exciting things – and shared our gratitude for creating a path for others to follow. Congratulations District Fifth District Youth Advisory Council, you have made your Supervisor very proud!

If you know someone interested in the Fifth District Youth Advisory Council, please visit my website. The application for the next year will be posted this summer.







UPCOMING BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

Tuesday, August 12, 2025 8:30 AM

Tuesday, August 26, 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/