



Summer/Fall 2015
Vol. 4 No. 1

Harbor Views



What's New this Summer? New Restaurants, Fish Market & Boutique Coming to Ventura Harbor Village

A food, beverage, entertainment and shopping renaissance is taking place at Ventura Harbor Village. Here's a review of "must visits" this summer:

◆ **Coffee Dock & Post**, Ventura's only waterfront coffee house, café, coastal gifts and postal services. Remodeled to take advantage of the spectacular mountain and oceanfront views of boats and harbor wildlife. Sit indoors or enjoy a new outside patio steps from the water. The new menu features café sandwiches, salads, coffees, pastries, smoothies and shaved ice with a beach vibe.

◆ **Boatyard Café**, a new restaurant offering hearty entrees for breakfast and lunch, a full bar, craft beers, Wi-Fi and live acoustic music on weekends, has opened in Ventura Harbor Village. The menu features delicious dishes and items, including homemade corned beef hash; the popular chicken fried steak; delicious charbroiled Angus burgers smothered with chili, onions and cheese; burritos; wild salmon and eggs; sandwiches; salads; chowders; appetizers like crab-stuffed mushrooms; and seasonal fish grilled or pan-seared. The restaurant boasts an iconic fisherman's bar open into the evening with a lighter menu and outdoor seating. Open seven days a week at 7 a.m. It's a refreshing, casual walk-in-and-order venue making it a "must-eat" spot for locals for lunch.

◆ **BlueWater Boutique** is the new sister shop to the

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Scott Miller Retires; New Harbormaster, John Higgins

Much has changed in the Ventura Port District since Scott Miller left his job as a lifeguard in Long Beach to join the Ventura Harbor Patrol in 1980. Ventura Harbor Village was still in the development stage and a tiny wooden house served as headquarters for the Channel Islands National Monument (now the Channel Islands National Park).



John C. Higgins

Today, Ventura Harbor Village is a popular tourist destination with vibrant shops, galleries, restaurants and waterfront activities including harbor tours plus boat, kayak and paddle boat rentals. The Channel Islands National Park's Robert J. Lagomarsino Visitor Center welcomes about 200,00 visitors annually to view a display of

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New Oceans Exhibit Opens

The Channel Islands National Park celebrates its 35th birthday this year with the opening of a beautiful new oceans exhibit in the lookout tower at the Robert J. Lagomarsino Visitor Center at Ventura Harbor. A new ocean photo collection is also on display in the auditorium. Come and see these exhibits this summer!



The permanent oceans exhibit takes

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Summertime Ocean Fun at Ventura Harbor

◆ Ventura Boat Rentals (805) 642-7753

Get on the water - kayaks, standup paddle boards, and electric boat rentals. Plus, harbor cruises.

◆ Beach Break Surf Shop (805) 650-6641

Beach Break Surf Shop makes it easy for beachtime fun. Stop by for board rentals and great beach gear!

◆ Ventura Dive & Sport (805) 650-6500

World-class diving at the Channel Islands and on summer vacations means a whole new world to explore with classes, top gear and trips with the Raptor Dive Charters out of Ventura Dive & Sport!

◆ Pacific Sailing Lessons & Charters (805) 658-6508

Learn to sail safely and confidently.

◆ Ventura Sportfishing (805) 676-3474

Three boats offer a fun fishing experience near Channel Islands plus fishing licenses and rentals!

◆ Island Packers (805) 642-1393

Whale watching, wildlife cruises, themed dining harbor cruises, or trips to the beautiful Channel Islands N.P.

◆ Youth Sailing Camps with Ventura Yacht Club (805) 642-0426

Campers ages 8-18 learn the basics of sailing, strategy, sportsmanship and safety from experienced instructors. One-week sessions from June 15-Aug. 14 at Ventura Harbor, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. daily.



◆ DIVE into Summer - World-Class Diving off Islands in Ventura www.VenturaHarbor.com

Ventura Harbor Village Marina is home to the Explorer Dive Boat, Spectre Dive Boat, Raptor Dive Charters and Peace Dive Boat; schedule a trip today!

◆ Channel Islands Kayak Center (805) 644-9699

Located next to Island Packers, this outfit helps you explore the Channel Islands by kayak. Or, sign up for a kayak caves tour!

◆ Ventura County Standup Paddleboard School (805) 415-7674

Group and private lessons, rentals and workout SUP classes at Harbor Cove Beach. Schedule in Advance.

◆ Ventura Makos (805) 312-0713

Weekly surf camps. Kids & youth.

What's New this Summer?

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popular Barefoot Boutique run by local Elizabeth Marino. The new boutique gets its inspiration from the colors reflected by the sea, with palettes ranging from deep cobalt blues and interesting tie-dye prints to clean, crisp white sand, mocha and seagull grays. The fabrics used in this boutique emphasize the relaxed and elegant California lifestyle, with soft modal cotton and linens. Create outfits with coastal flair that take you from a day around Ventura to an upscale dining experience at night. Products are made in America, with several styles of handbags in vegan, faux leather. Open daily directly across from Ventura Swimwear.

◆ **Copa Cubana** is a new Cuban-American cuisine restaurant coming this summer to Ventura Harbor Village that will feature nightly music and live entertainment by the water. Owner Andres Fernandez will offer classic Cuban dishes like rice and beans, chicken Cuban-style, paella and fried plantains, as well as full bar service.

◆ **Wild Local Seafood Co.** is opening a new daily fish market at Ventura Harbor Village in 2015. This established fish and seafood market already enjoys a large and loyal clientele from Santa Barbara, Los Angeles and Hollywood; however, this will be Wild Local Seafood Co.'s first "brick and mortar" location. It is all about sustainable fishing practices for this establishment, led by Capt. Ben Hyman. An emerging "seafood celebrity," Hyman has

almost 20 years of experience working on commercial fishing vessels for species including tuna, crab, rockfish, local black cod, local halibut and squid. Wild Local Seafood Co. does not buy or sell any farmed fish or fish caught internationally; all seafood is caught under strict California and federal guidelines for size, season and by-catch, and only with sustainable practices.

Visit Harbor Village for all your NEW Summer "must-haves": Swimwear, hats, kites, dive gear, women's summer fashion, coastal artwork and a beach break!

Scenic Waterfront Opportunity

Seaside Retail Space in Vibrant Ventura Harbor Village!

Voted year after year "Best Place to Take Visitors" by Ventura County locals

Retail Tour
Contact: Robin Baer,
(805) 642-8538





Beautification at Ventura West Marina

Ventura West Marina at Ventura Harbor completed a comprehensive remodeling project this year, transforming the marina into a modern and beautiful seaside spot for boaters and visitors to enjoy.

“We’re excited about the project and the nice things we have done for our boaters. We have the best boaters,” said marina General Manager Chuck Ormson.

Ventura West Marina offers 392 single concrete slips on the east end of Ventura Harbor. A separate marina on the western side offers 162 single wooden dock slips just 500 feet from the ocean. The marinas are walking distance to Ventura Harbor Village.

Improvements were completed to the buildings, restrooms, showers and laundry, landscaping and parking lots. The buildings were re-roofed and the exteriors painted. The Harbor Cove Café signs and sign lighting were upgraded and all exterior building lights and parking lot lights were replaced with LED fixtures. The Harbor Cove Café patron area and hallway floors were retiled. Restrooms were renovated as well.

Benches were added along the waterfront promenade and extensive concrete work improved sidewalks, curbs and gutters. New trees and shrubs were planted and the sprinkler system was upgraded. Approximately 115 existing palm trees were trimmed and over 70 new trees were planted. Curbs and speed bumps were repainted.

For information on slip availability, visit www.venturawestmarina.com.

New Oceans Exhibit

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visitors on an underwater journey through several ocean habitats beginning at ground level with the dark and mysterious deep sea and ascending the stairwell to a breaching humpback whale at the third floor lookout tower. The journey exploring the ocean’s resources and marine reserves in the national park is complete with a short dive descent in the tower elevator, complete with realistic sound effects.

Children will love the entry cutout where they take pictures of themselves as underwater divers before peering through a porthole door at bioluminescent creatures. The display includes murals, graphics and audio and light panels that depict the deep sea, open ocean, rocky reef, kelp forest, shore and surface marine environments. Videos introduce the ocean habitats, marine species and shipwrecks. The exhibit comes alive with light and the sounds of the

Scott Miller Retires

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marine aquatic life and exhibits showcasing the unique character of each park island.

Miller, who became harbormaster in 2000, is proud of the Ventura Port District’s transformation and achievements under his watch. Miller – the 2003 California Boating

Law Enforcement Officer of the Year – retired in April. John C. Higgins, a Ventura Harbor Patrol Officer since 1996, has been selected as the new harbormaster. The harbormaster’s main job is supervising the Ventura Harbor Patrol, which provides 24-hour law enforcement, rescue and emergency services in the district.

Higgins has been involved in regional rescue response planning, fighting transnational maritime smuggling, homeland security efforts, statewide tsunami planning, and he serves on the California Boating Safety Officers Association.



Scott Miller

Summer Lifeguards at Harbor Beaches

- ◆ Surfer’s Knoll Beach and Harbor Cove Beach
- ◆ Memorial Day Weekend - Labor Day Weekend
- ◆ Daily
- ◆ Free beach parking and restrooms
- ◆ Lifeguard services are funded by the Ventura Port District in support of community safety.



majestic sea.

The exhibit also features stunning images from many well-known Channel Islands photographers including Antonio Busiello, Richard Salas, Dan Harding, Robert Schwemmer, Shane Anderson, Jeff Bozanic and Tim Hauf. The displays are in Spanish and English and include tactile and sound features for disabled visitors. The Channel Islands National Park encompasses five of the eight Channel Islands (Anacapa, Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa, San Miguel and Santa Barbara) and their surrounding ocean environment. The Channel Islands are home to one of the most biologically diverse concentrations of marine life in the world – 2,000 plant and animals species including 60 species of marine birds, 27 species of whales and dolphins and five species of seals and sea lions. The Visitor Center welcomes about 200,000 people each year.

Info: www.nps.gov/channelislands, #FindYourPark

Events Coming to Ventura Harbor

Summer & Fall 2015

Blue & Humpback Whale Watching Through September 2015

Whale-watching cruises with Island Packers offer a chance to see the whales as they travel, plus enjoy a day on the ocean with great views of the Channel Islands.

www.IslandPackers.com

NEW: Surf 'N' Suds Beer Festival on the Village Main Lawn Saturday, June 13, 11:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Tickets are on sale for one of this summer's hottest events. Organized by DEEP Surf Magazine, the Surf 'N' Suds Beer Festival features 45-plus craft breweries and wineries offer tastings and a live music stage. Tickets range from \$20 for designated drivers to \$65 for VIPs. VIP entry is at 11:30 a.m.; general admission is at 12:30 p.m.

www.SurfBeerFest.com

Ventura Yacht Club Juniors Sailing Camp at Ventura Harbor

One-week sessions run Monday, June 15-Friday, Aug. 14 at Ventura Harbor, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. daily

Campers ages 8-18 learn the basics of sailing, strategy, sportsmanship and safety from experienced instructors. Scholarships are available. (805) 642-0426 or

www.VCYouthSailing.org

Free Sounds of Summer Concert Series – Ventura Harbor Village Carousel Stage

Sundays from June 21-Labor Day, 1 - 4 p.m.

Soak up the sun while listening to music including surf, reggae and rock tunes.

www.VenturaHarborVillage.com

Steel Drum Saturdays at Ventura Harbor Village

Saturdays during July and August, 1 - 4 p.m.

Perfect seaside entertainment while walking the promenade. www.VenturaHarborVillage.com

10th Annual Pirate Days Festival at Ventura Harbor Village: "X Marks the Spot: Ten Years of Pirates"

Saturday and Sunday, July 18-19, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

This signature Ventura Harbor Village event celebrates a decadelong festival with professional pirate live-action shows, pirate-themed activities, treasure hunts, pirate costume contests, vendors and more. Pirate Marketplace opens at 11 a.m. and live pirate entertainment is from 1 - 4 p.m. Admission and shuttles are free.

www.VenturaHarborVillage.com



Ventura Port District

www.venturaharbor.com

Oscar Peña, General Manager

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Board of Port Commissioners

Jim Friedman, *Chairman* (appointed: 8-6-12/expires: 6-30-16)

Everard Ashworth, *Vice-Chairman* (appointed: 6-16-14/expires: 6-30-18)

Bruce Smith, *Commissioner* (appointed: 7-15-13/expires: 6-30-17)

Gregory Carson, *Commissioner* (appointed: 6-23-08/expires: 6-30-16)



Ventura Art and Street Painting Festival – Village Main Lawn and Promenade

Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 12-13, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

An outdoor display of works from a variety of artists, including glasswork, jewelry, sculpture and crafts. Over 30 artists create beautiful chalk paintings along the Promenade. Proceeds support FOOD Share. Admission and parking are free. www.VenturaHarborVillage.com

Rock on the Dock!

Saturdays in September, 3 - 6 p.m.

Dance, dine, shop and enjoy great water views as live bands play on a floating dock in the Ventura Harbor.

www.VenturaHarborVillage.com

California Coastal Clean Up Day at Ventura Harbor

Saturday, Sept. 19, 9 a.m. - noon at Harbor Cove Beach and Surfer's Knoll

Join the volunteers gathering to remove debris from the coast, creeks, rivers, lakes and shorelines around California. Please bring your own bags and wear gloves.

www.VenturaHarborVillage.com

Fourth Annual Ventura Comedy Festival

Monday, Sept. 21-Sunday, Sept. 27

Randy Lubas, owner of Ventura Harbor Comedy Club, hosts the annual Ventura Comedy Festival. A weeklong celebration features top comedians performing at multiple venues in Ventura and Ventura Harbor. Celebrity judges select a new champ named "Ventura's Funniest Person."

www.VenturaComedyFestival.com

Ride the FREE Downtown-Harbor Trolley

◆ NEW HOURS: 11 a.m. - 11 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday (Ride for FREE; hourly pick-ups)

◆ Trolley stops include: Amtrak platform at the Ventura County Fairgrounds on Harbor Boulevard ~ the Visitors & Convention Bureau at California and Santa Clara streets ~ Pierpont Boulevard at South Seaward Avenue ~ Rhumb Line Restaurant, 1510 Anchors Way ~ Ventura Harbor Village. The trolley will also stop at local hotels: Pierpont Inn ~ Crowne Plaza Ventura Beach Hotel ~ Ventura Beach Marriott Hotel ~ Four Points by Sheraton.

◆ Call the driver directly at (805) 827-4444 for a location update or hotel pick-up. For schedule details visit www.venturatrolley.com