



Summer/Fall 2016
Vol. 5 No. 1

Harbor Views



Visitors to the Channel Islands National Park Visitor Center perform the "BioBlitz dance" this spring as part of the 2016 National Parks BioBlitz, which encourages people nationwide to participate in hands-on science activities, documents species that thrive in the national parks, and celebrates our nation's biodiversity.

Celebrate the National Park Service Centennial

Join the Festivities at Ventura Harbor on Aug. 25

Throughout 2016, the National Park Service (NPS) and the Channel Islands National Park are celebrating the park service's 100th anniversary with a series of special events and lectures at Ventura Harbor.

SAVE THE DATE: On the actual 100th birthday of the National Park Service, **Aug. 25**, the Ventura Port District and Channel Islands National Park are hosting a **festival at Ventura Harbor Village featuring an outdoor screening of select stories from the new documentary "West of the West: Tales from California's Channel Islands," which explores the islands' human history. Join us at 6:00 p.m. on the Harbor Village Main Lawn, for live bands, food, instructor-led yoga and a special amber ale brewed by Surf Brewery to celebrate the NPS centennial and Channel Islands National Park. The film will start after sunset, about 8:15 p.m. Arrive early to get a spot and don't miss this fun event!**

The park is also hosting free educational lectures for the public monthly through December at the Robert J. Lagomarsino Visitor Center at Ventura Harbor, 1901 Spinnaker Drive. Visit www.nps.gov/chis for lecture information.

Ventura Harbor Boatyard – 30 Years at Ventura Harbor

Happy anniversary to the Ventura Harbor Boatyard, which celebrates 30 years in business this July 15!

Ventura Harbor Boatyard, with 44 employees, offers full-service boat maintenance and repairs for commercial and recreational vessels. The business has two lifts to pull boats out of the water for maintenance work and also offers boaters the opportunity to work on their vessels themselves, a service that very few such businesses offer.

"Boat owners can haul their boats out and do their own work. We charge them a daily rate. They can paint their own bottom or do typical maintenance. That's a unique



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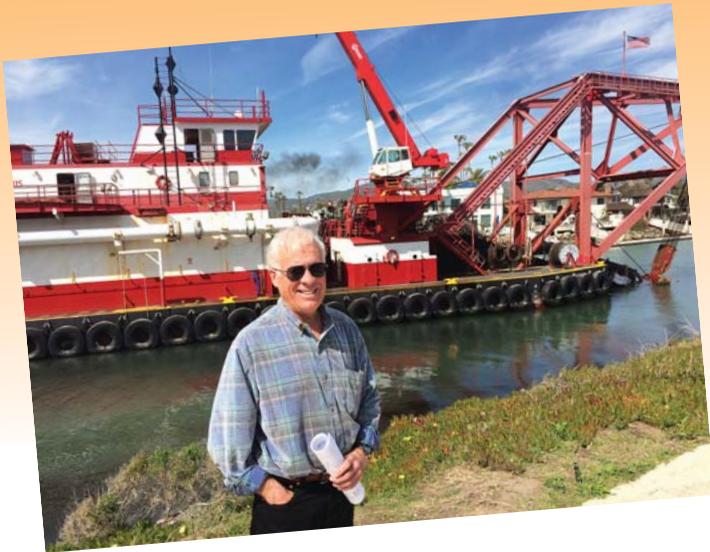
Holiday Inn Express & Suites Expansion to Welcome More Visitors

The scenic Holiday Inn Express & Suites hotel at Ventura Harbor Resort announces a major expansion and renovation project expected to get underway soon, adding more rooms with ocean views and other wonderful amenities.

Located right off Harbor Boulevard and Navigator Drive alongside the boats in Ventura Harbor, the expansion will feature 40 rooms, more than half offering stunning Harbor and sunset views. Other new amenities will include a fitness center; an enhanced lobby for check-in with an adjacent breakfast area; and a new front exterior entryway.

"Our occupancy has been so high that it's created the demand," said hotel spokesman Victor Dollar, adding that

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Richard Parsons, Port District Dredging Manager, stands in front of the dredge.

Thanks to Our Supporters! Harbor Receives Complete Dredging in 2016

The Ventura Port District Board of Port Commissioners is grateful for the successful collaborative effort that resulted in a thorough dredging of Ventura Harbor in February and March 2016.

In late December 2015 and early January 2016, coastal storms attributed to El Niño caused large deposits of sand to create dangerously shallow water in the harbor entrance. The entrance depth, normally 40 feet, was reduced to 13 feet and the channel, normally 300 feet wide, narrowed to 40 feet. As a result, the harbor entrance was restricted for a month, ending Feb. 19 as dredging was underway. About 880,000 cubic yards of sand was removed from the harbor entrance and sand trap at a cost of approximately \$7.3 million.

Ventura Port District Commissioners appreciate the efforts of Congresswoman Julia Brownley, who coordinated with the federal Office of Management and Budget and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to secure the additional \$2.5 million needed to assure adequate dredging.

The Port District values its ongoing, positive relationships with federal officials and works hard to maintain these relationships for the benefit of the harbor community and the regional economy. In March, Commissioners Gregory Carson and Everard Ashworth traveled with Richard Parsons, the Port District's Dredging Manager, to Washington D.C. and met with federal officials and lawmakers to discuss the ongoing needs for dredging. Carson, Ashworth and Parsons met with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Office of Management and Budget officials, House and Senate appropriation officials, Senator Barbara Boxer and members of Senator Dianne Feinstein's staff, and they made a presentation to Congresswoman Brownley.

"This is an ongoing issue for us," Carson explained. "Creating those relationships and keeping those relationships strong, at all levels, is crucial to our funding."

Summer Heats Up! Lifeguards at Ventura Harbor Through Peak Season

Lifeguard service began Memorial Day weekend, courtesy of the Ventura Port District, and continues through Labor Day weekend.

Ventura Harbor beaches once again welcome the summer arrivals and offer lifeguarding services at Harbor Cove Beach, with lifeguarding coverage as well at South Beach and Surfer's Knoll beaches.

Caution is heavily advised for swimming, due to uncertain currents, and swimming is encouraged at Harbor Cove Beach, where the water is calm inside the Harbor.

Parking and restrooms are complimentary at the Ventura Harbor beach parking lots and free parking is available on Spinnaker Drive in Ventura Harbor. Harbor Cove Beach Café and Ventura Harbor Village offer beachgoers refreshments and dining options.



Visit **VENTURA HARBOR VILLAGE** COM
LOVE LOCAL ★ **SHOP LOCAL**



Lost in Socks



Island Creations Boutique

Seaside Shop

New boutiques open at Ventura Harbor Village!

Holiday Inn Express & Suites

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the hotel is almost 90 percent booked year-round. "We think our guests will enjoy having a fitness center right on the property and breakfast is included with the rooms."

The Holiday Inn Express & Suites currently boasts 69 rooms and was built in the 1980s. The city of Ventura has approved of the initial concept for the new wing so the hotel is now focusing on final details and securing permits, Dollar said. Construction will begin at the end of summer or early fall and be completed within a year, he said.

Ventura Port District General Manager Oscar Peña said: "It's exciting to see this type of expansion. Guests will be able to enjoy all the recreational activities in the Harbor including trips to the Channel Islands, whale watching and fishing."

Business Spotlight

Ventura Sportfishing out of Ventura Harbor offers fishing enthusiasts daylong and overnight excursions. Boats can be chartered or you can sign up for daily trips that leave at 4 or 5 a.m., or overnight trips leaving at 9 p.m. where fishing starts the next morning at the Channel Islands and continues all day.



What will you catch? It depends on the time of year, but in the summer, you may catch some halibut, bluefin tuna or white sea bass.

"We host a lot of families and people will bring their kids. Our trips are great for novices or those who are experienced," said owner Greg Ewart, a Ventura resident who runs Ventura Sportfishing with his wife, Teresa. "We also have a tackle shop, rental equipment and licenses at our location at Ventura Harbor Marina & Yacht Yard."

Dive, Fish & Explore from Ventura Harbor

★ **Ventura Dive & Sport/ Raptor Dive Charters:**
www.venturadive.com or
(805) 650-6500/
(805) 650-7700

★ **Ventura Sportfishing:**
www.venturasportfishing.com
or (805) 676-3474

★ **Ventura Boat Rentals:**
www.venturaboatrentals.com or (805) 642-7753

★ **Explorer Dive Boat:**
www.explorerdiveboat.com or (805) 646-0836

★ **Spectre Dive Boat:**
www.spectreboat.com or (805) 483-6612

★ **Peace Dive Boat:**
www.peaceboat.com or (805) 650-3483

★ **Pacific Sailing Lessons & Charters:**
www.ventura-sailing.com or (805) 658-6508

Visit www.venturaharbor.com



Ventura Port District
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Board of Port Commissioners

- Jim Friedman, *Chairman* (appointed: 8-6-12/expires: 6-30-17)
- Everard Ashworth, *Vice-Chairman* (appointed: 6-16-14/expires: 6-30-18)
- Gregory Carson, *Commissioner* (appointed: 6-23-08/expires: 6-30-16)
- Bruce Smith, *Commissioner* (appointed: 7-15-13/expires: 6-30-17)
- Nikos Valance, *Commissioner* (appointed: 7-27-15/expires: 6-30-19)

On the Water Fun

Ventura Yacht Club Junior Sailing Camp for Kids and Teens

Weekly sessions run through Friday, Aug. 19, in the Ventura Harbor, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

daily. This long-running camp offers children and teens ages 8-18 a chance to spend an entire week learning to sail small, one- and two-person boats. Students learn the basics of sailing, strategy, sportsmanship and safety from experienced instructors. (805) 642-0426 or www.vycyouthsailing.org



Ventura Yacht Club Junior Sailing Camp for Kids and Teens

Blue & Humpback Whale Watching

See the whales and enjoy a day on the ocean with great views of the Channel Islands.

Humpback and blue whales are attracted to the local area in summer and feed upon plankton. Typically the ocean conditions that produce this feeding phenomenon occur between June and September. From June to September, Island Packers offers an all-day whale-watching excursion to Santa Rosa Island with a visit to Painted Cave (weather permitting) on Santa Cruz Island – an experience not to be missed! (805) 642-1393 or www.IslandPackers.com



Blue & Humpback Whale Watching

Ventura Harbor Boatyard

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service," said Kim Morris, a co-owner and the boatyard's vice president. "We also offer full service and do everything from welding, mechanical work, woodwork, fabrications and mechanical work, everything to fix your boat," she said.

Ventura Harbor Boatyard enjoys serving customers from as far as San Diego. Morris added: "We have very loyal local customers too. We appreciate them all."

According to Ventura Port District General Manager Oscar Peña: "This boatyard offers a wide diversity of services to recreational vessels, yachts, charter boats and larger commercial fishing vessels. It's this diversity that contributes so much to the success of the Harbor."

There's a fuel dock right next door and all the amenities at Ventura Harbor Village and hotels are within walking distance to the Ventura Harbor Boatyard, 1415 Spinnaker Drive at Ventura Harbor.

Visit www.vhby.com or call (805) 654-1433 for an appointment.



Enjoy the Ventura Harbor Seaside Lifestyle



NEW!

Seaside Kids Club
Thursdays, July 7 -
Aug. 18, 11 a.m. - Noon.
FREE

New this summer!
Ventura Harbor Village
Seaside Kids Club is perfect
for ages 4-10. Fun themes
include "Red, White &

Blue...& Pirates Too!" in July and "Splish Splash" in August.
From nautical crafts to pirates and mermaids to bubbles and
games, kids will have a blast playing seaside.

Wet Wednesdays @ Ventura Harbor Village

Wednesdays,
July 6 - Sept. 28,
11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Ventura
Harbor Village
is celebrating
every Wednesday with shop and dine specials, live lunchtime
music, and happy hour entertainment from 4-7 p.m. Make
summer a splash with Wet Wednesdays!

Wet WEDNESDAYS
SHOP, DINE & DRINK SPECIALS + LIVE MUSIC



Steel Drum Saturdays Seaside at Ventura Harbor Village

Saturdays, July and Aug.,
1-4 p.m. **FREE**

Enjoy while shopping or
dining.

Sounds of Summer Concert Series at Ventura Harbor Village

Sundays through July and Aug., 1-4 p.m. **FREE**

Soak up the sun while listening to rock, reggae, bluegrass
and more!

5th Annual Ventura Comedy Festival

Monday, Aug. 1 - Saturday, Aug. 7

Randy Lubas, owner of Ventura Harbor Comedy Club,
hosts the annual Ventura Comedy Festival.

Rock on the Dock: Live Band on a Floating Dock

Every Saturday in
Sept., 3-6 p.m.

Dance, dine, shop and
paddle as live bands play on
a floating dock in Ventura
Harbor.



Ventura Art and Street Painting Festival

Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 10 & 11,
10 a.m. - 5 p.m. **FREE**

Local artists display beautiful
works outdoors, including glasswork,
jewelry, sculpture and crafts. Live music
throughout the weekend. Over 40 street
chalk artists create masterpieces along
the promenade.

Ponies by the Sea Car Show

Sunday, Oct. 9, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. **FREE**

Mustangs from all eras will sparkle and shine lined up on
the Ventura Harbor Village Main Lawn.

Ventura Motorsports

Sunday, Oct. 16, 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.

High-end sports and classic cars line up on the Ventura
Harbor Village Main Lawn.

HOWL-O-WEEN Dog Costume Contest

Saturday, Oct. 22, Noon

Costumed canines gather at pet-
friendly Ventura Harbor Village for a fun
and fluffy HOWL-O-WEEN Pet Costume
Contest. Prizes for Sea-Worthy, Creative/
Original and more!



Safe Trick-or-Treat

Saturday, Oct. 29, Noon - 2 p.m.

Kids and families come dressed to
have fun for a safe trick-or-treat at Ventura Harbor Village

Thrill the World Halloween Zombie Dance

Saturday, Oct. 29, 2 p.m.

Zombies roam Ventura Harbor Village as they prepare to
perform the classic Michael Jackson "Thriller" simultaneously
around the globe for the world record! Sign up to participate
or come watch!

Connect With Us! #venturaharbor



VENTURA HARBOR VILLAGE
www.VenturaHarborVillage.com