A recent massive dredging project at Ventura Harbor has provided for a fuller, cleaner and more Earth-friendly experience for harbor beachgoers this summer.

During the off season, the Ventura Port District’s Board of Commissioners oversaw the sweeping dredge of 470,000 cubic yards of sand at the harbor entrance and sand trap area; the dredge resulted in the thorough replenishment of Surfers Knoll and Harbor Cove – the harbor’s public beaches along Spinnaker Drive.

“The contrast between the beach contour before and after the dredging is remarkable,” said Harbormaster John Higgins. “The big soft sand beaches after the dredge are more naturally beautiful and inviting than ever.”

And upon these fresh sands is a wealth of summer fun options.

Starting with safety, the Port District is again providing lifeguard services, through Labor Day, at Harbor Cove and Surfers Knoll. The port commissioners unanimously approved the $88,682 state lifeguard contract.

In addition to swimming, surfing and sailing in the safe harbor waters, beachgoers have a variety of other

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Beaches Replenished for Summer
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summer recreational options available, as well. Among them: beach volleyball, on public sand courts at Harbor Cove provided by local coach Jack Richards of Rincon Volleyball Club; kayaking; kite-flying; and YOGAqua and Paddle Into Fitness classes and lessons, which take place in the calm waters of Harbor Cove. For nature lovers, another benefit of the beach replenishment is the emergence of more nesting grounds, on the beaches and dunes, for endangered bird species such as the snowy plover.

The harbor and its beaches are among the city's most popular summer destinations. Beach restrooms and open-air showers are available, as is free parking in the dedicated beach lots and along Spinnaker Drive. In addition, a beach ADA wheelchair is available on a first-come, first-served basis; for availability, call ahead to Harbor Patrol at 805-642-8538.

Conveniently located, the Ventura Harbor beaches are just steps from the Channel Islands National Park Visitor Center and the popular Harbor Village, with its many food, entertainment and retail amenities.

For more information on the beaches of Ventura Harbor, visit venturaharbor.com.

Commercial Fishing Improvements
FY2018-19 – FY2019-20

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fish Pier Renovations</td>
<td>$430,000</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harbor Village Dock</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacement C, D, G &amp; H</td>
<td>$4.6 million</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grant Request:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Refurbish Fisherman's Gear Storage and Net Repair</td>
<td>$230,000</td>
<td>In progress*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish Pier Crane (New)</td>
<td>$249,000</td>
<td>By 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total = $5.5 million**

In 2017, based upon data from California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Ventura Harbor was rated No. 1 in the state for poundage of fish offload and landing value. The District supports commercial fishing because it creates jobs in the region and feeds millions of dollars into the Ventura County economy.

*District staff has successfully negotiated a new lease for the Fisherman's Gear Storage and Net Repair at 1410 Angler Court. The lease term is five years plus a five-year option. Lease will commence July 1, 2019.

Welcome to Ethan McKinley, the new Superintendent of Channel Islands National Park. A 12-year veteran of the National Park Service, McKinley takes over following the retirement of Russell Galipeau. McKinley grew up in Littleton, Colorado. He and his wife, Zoe, now live in Ventura.
Oscar Peña, Port District General Manager, Retires

After 20 years of leadership at the Ventura Harbor, Oscar F. Peña retired as general manager of the Ventura Port District on April 30, 2019. Under a short-term agreement, Peña will stay on with the Port District as Business Operations Manager, overseeing real estate transactions and special projects, until a complete transition is made.

In his distinguished Port District career, Peña administered the management, leasing and staffing of the harbor under the direction of the five-member Board of Port Commissioners. The harbor encompasses 100-plus tenants that provide myriad services to residents, boaters, fishermen and visitors.

Among his notable achievements, Peña negotiated a 50-year ground lease in early 2000 for Portside Ventura Harbor, a massive multiuse waterfront development that includes 300 homes, 20,000 square feet of commercial space, a public park and a marina. “I’m grateful for the collaborative efforts Mr. Peña delivered over the last 20 years, to bring Portside Ventura Harbor to fruition,” said Michael Sondermann, president of Sondermann Enterprises Inc. and partner of Portside Ventura. “His knowledge of how complicated private-public partnerships work was instrumental in getting Portside to the finish line.”

Today, the Ventura Port District employs 35 full-time employees and generates $8 million in annual revenue. Thanks to Peña's efforts, “the Port District has grown into an economically diverse and fiscally sound community asset of which the city can be proud,” said Board Chairman Chris Stephens.

“I've greatly enjoyed working with tenants in the harbor and a dedicated staff that has contributed to the District's success over the years,” Peña said. “Needless to say, many volunteer board members have provided the leadership needed to make the Ventura Harbor what it is today.”

In retirement, Peña will focus on rebuilding his home, which was destroyed in the 2017 Thomas Fire. He also plans to spend more time with his wife and three daughters and he looks forward to traveling.

New Appointments

Continued from page 1

New Casa: Ventura Harbor Village welcomes Casa de Regalos to its new location near the Channel Islands Courtyard! A longtime retailer in the Village, Casa de Regalos offers original Ventura wear, seaside gifts, authentic Hawaiian shirts and coastal decor.

Sailing for Kids: Youths ages 8 to 18 are invited to sign up for the Ventura Yacht Club’s annual Summer Sailing Camp taking place in the Ventura Harbor. One-week camps run through Friday, Aug. 16, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. For details and an application, visit vycyouthsailing.org.

Brian Pendleton Takes Helm

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Navigable harbor and a seaside destination that benefits residents, visitors, fishermen and boaters.

A longtime community activist, Pendleton serves on a number of local boards, including for the Ventura Chamber of Commerce, where he is chairman of the Economic Development & Legislative/Government Affairs Committee.

Pendleton holds a bachelor's degree in public administration and a master's in real estate development from USC and he's a licensed real estate professional in California. He and his wife, Arlene, and three children, Matt, Shane and Melissa, are longtime Ventura County residents.
### A New Way to See Wildlife

This summer, Island Packers adds a longer wildlife viewing trip to its schedule. Its new Three-Quarter-Day Wildlife Viewing Tour travels farther and stays at sea longer than its popular Half-Day Wildlife Viewing Tour.

The new tours last five hours and generally travel to the west end of Santa Cruz Island; half-day (3.5-hour) tours take passengers to the eastern channel, cruising the shoreline of Anacapa Island, with a closeup view of Arch Rock.

Tour prices start at $28. For more details or to book a trip, visit islandpackers.com or call 805-642-1393.

### Just in Time for Summer ...

New bike racks have been installed at Harbor Village, inviting visitors to travel healthy, be Earth-friendly and enjoy the harbor sights up close on two wheels!

### 30 Years at Ventura Harbor Village

Congrats to Ventura Dive & Sport and to its owners, James and Christy Smith, on delivering three decades of diving excellence in Ventura Harbor Village. Thanks for providing world-class diving courses, gear, rentals and excursions, including to the Channel Islands, for 30 years!

### Connect With Us! #VenturaHarbor

Ventura Harbor participates in 100% Green Energy via Clean Power Alliance

### Ventura Port District

VenturaHarbor.com  
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Phone 805-642-8538 • Fax 805-658-2249

**Board of Port Commissioners**

- **Chris Stephens**, **Chairman** (appointed: 7-1-17/expires: 6-30-21)
- **Brian Brennan**, **Vice Chairman** (appointed: 8-1-16/expires: 6-30-20)
- **Jean Getchell**, **Secretary** (appointed: 6-4-18/expires: 6-30-19)
- **Everard Ashworth**, **Commissioner** (appointed: 6-16-14/expires: 6-30-22)
- **Jackie Gardina**, **Commissioner** (appointed: 3-4-19/expires: 6-30-21)