

## **Migrant Student Education**



I led the effort to recognize the participants and winners of the Migrant Education Program 21st Annual Region 17 Speech and Debate Tournament. The Speech and Debate Tournament offers migrant students an opportunity to compete academically in a safe and supportive environment. This year, 57 students from throughout the county participated in the tournament. In addition to the recognition of these students, I also presented the Ventura County Office of Education Migrant Education Program with this year's proclamation of Cesar Chavez Day.

#### **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.

#### Call Us

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- 😉 Supervisor.Lopez@ventura.org

#### Your County at Work

# **Kiddie Beach Reconstruction Project**



Reconstruction of Kiddie Beach parking lot moves forward. On April 9th, the Board of Supervisors approved additional funding to allow for the demolition and reconstruction of the parking lot at Kiddie Beach in Sliver Strand. This project will also include updated electrical and lighting for the lot, allowing for safer access to this public beach.

### **Arts, Culture, and Creativity Month**



At the April 23rd Board of Supervisors meeting, I led the effort to recognize Arts, Culture, and Creativity Month in Ventura County. The Oxnard Performing Arts Center Corporation (OPAC), Consulado de México (Mexican Consulate Office in Oxnard), and local artists participated in the presentation of the proclamation recognizing the partnership between Consulate and OPAC to bring more arts and culture to our community. This has led to a number of successful art exhibits at the Mexican Consulate building. You can view the presentation <a href="https://example.com/here.">here.</a>

## **Earth Day in Ventura County**



At our April 9th, 2024, meeting, the Board proclaimed Monday, April 22nd, 2024, Earth Day in Ventura County. First held on April 22nd, 1970, Earth Day now includes events coordinated globally by EARTHDAY.ORG including 1 billion people in more than 193 countries. The official theme for Earth Day 2024 is "Planet vs. Plastics."

# **County Sidewalk Vending Ordinance**



Our Board has received complaints from business and residents owners unpermitted regarding street vendors throughout the County. Due to the health safety concerns and failure and compliance from street vendors, our Board adopted a street vending ordinance. Our County Code Compliance Department will be conducting outreach to unpermitted vendors with information the on requirements for a permit and issue administrative penalties if compliance is not met. The outreach will be conducted

with bilingual personnel and outreach materials will be translated as well. The ordinance is specifically for the unincorporated parts of the County and does not apply to cities. Click here to view the full ordinance.

# Washington D.C. Trip



I recently had the honor of travelling to Washington D.C. with colleagues from the Regional Defense Partnership (RDP) for the organization's annual lobbying trip. Each year RDP makes the journey to Washington, D.C. to advocate for the military installation and operations of Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC). As the County Supervisor representing the District where NBVC resides, I take great pride in recognizing that NBVC and its employees are an extremely valuable community asset, not to mention a crucial component of our nation's defense. It is a great benefit to Ventura County for our federal representatives to hear firsthand the necessity of preserving and investing in Ventura County's military assets and regional economy. By assembling such a large group of respected individuals to visit D.C. each year, the Regional Defense Partnership shows our county's solidarity and dedication to preserving and enhancing N.B.V.C.

## **City of Port Hueneme Arbor Day**

In honor of Arbor Day, on April 18th the City of Port Hueneme planted a Sycamore tree outside their City Hall. The planting of this tree along with an additional 14 California Sycamores, two New Zealand Christmas trees and two Appelo Pines in various parts of the City aligns with their ongoing commitment to bettering the environment. Students from Hueneme Christian School were invited to help



city officials and staff with the tree planting and residents in attendance were given tree seedlings to plant at home. Thank you to the City of Port Hueneme for planting these beautiful trees for future generations to enjoy for years to come.

## **Food Share Oxnard College Food Distribution**



On April 1st Food Share of Ventura County celebrated 4 years of providing over emergency 500,000 food boxes and produce at the College Oxnard Park distribution site alone. My staff and I were present to help commemorate the occasion. but more importantly participate in the continued distribution of fresh food that Ventura County Residents rely upon. Although interaction with recipients is somewhat brief, I

enjoy those moments of personal interaction, I think it is a very special part of the process especially to hear the gratitude people feel for Foodshare. If you or someone you know is in need of help, or to donate or volunteer, more information can be found at <a href="https://foodshare.com/">https://foodshare.com/</a>

#### Crime Victim's Week



This year in recognition of National Crime Victim's Week, the Ventura County DA focused on Fentanyl Awareness and Prevention. Ventura College hosted a very successful awareness town hall in April where we heard from affected families, law enforcement, and dignitaries all working to bring awareness and help end this attack on our community. To learn more, including how to obtain an Overdose Survival Kit and Naloxone/Narcan, click here.

#### **Photovoice Cohort 3**



I was delighted to attend and listen to the presentations by our County's Promotoras called 'Creando Communidad: Fotovoz Presentations'. Community projects that the promotoras created during their training to learn how to better connect behavioral and mental health with public health and other community resources.

#### **Oxnard College Hosts The Latino GDP Report**



Oxnard College recently hosted a presentation on the Latino GDP report. This report was produced by UCLA and California Lutheran University's Center for Economic Research and Forecasting (CERF). According to the latest report of 2023, the economic output of Latinos in the country in 2021 was \$3.2 trillion, up from \$2.8 trillion in 2020. If you were to take Latinos living in the United States as an independent country, the U.S. Latino GDP would be the fifth largest in the world. That is larger than the GDP of India, the United Kingdom, and France. California alone, accounts for 27.2% of the 10 largest states by population, with over \$700 billion dollars of Latino GDP. You can view the entire report here.

#### La Tierra Donde Sembramos Graduation



I had the honor of attending and presenting certificates to graduates of 'La Tierra Donde Sembramos', which translates to the land where we plant or sow is an award winning program offered by Mixteco/Indigena Community Organizing Project (MICOP). This program advocates for fair employment practices and empowers and supports indigenous and migrant communities. This year, MICOP had over 50 graduates that completed this program and earned their forklift certification, learned about their rights in the workplace and improved their skills to seek better job opportunities. Page 6

## My Statement on the Oil & Gas Litigation Settlement

At our April 9th Board of Supervisors meeting, our board voted 4-1 in favor of settling with the remaining parties that litigated against the County's General Plan Policies COS 7.7 and COS 7.8, which would move our County towards greenhouse gas reduction goals and combat against climate change. COS 7.7 would require new discretionary oil wells to use pipelines to convey oil and require that the oil is not trucked. COS 7.8 would require that flaring or venting is only allowed in cases of emergency or testing purposes. I was the sole dissenting vote on the decision and here is why:

- 1.No gas operation or oil drilling operation in Ventura County is currently adhering to these policies, as they do not impact antiquated or ministerial permitted operations.
- 2. There is no evidence indicating any operation in Ventura County is being financially impacted by these policies, as the policies only apply to newly permitted operations.
- 3.No new discretionary oil permits have been applied for at the County since 2015 nor has the county received any interest in a new permit since the adoption of the General Plan in 2020.

I believe our County's General Plan was legally defensible, especially with the support of our State Attorney General who reaffirmed this in a brief he filed in September 2022. As your Fifth District Supervisor, I remain committed to ensuring the health and wellness of our residents remains top of mind. I will continue to advocate and support policy, that reaffirms our County's Climate Action and Environmental Justice Goals, for a better and healthier Ventura County.

## UPCOMING BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

Tuesday, June 4, 2024 8:30 AM

Monday, June 17, 2024 5:00 PM (Budget Public Hearing)



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/