



May/June 2014

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MESSAGE FROM THE VOLUNTEER VENTURA! COORDINATOR



Dear Volunteers,

In April we celebrated National Volunteer Week so we would like to join Mayor Cheryl Heitmann (see article below) and start this newsletter with a huge "thank you" to our many dedicated and diverse volunteers and organizations for their great service to our City! As usual, you have delivered during our ambitious schedule of "spring cleaning" activities for Earth Day, Arbor Day and at the Ventura Avenue Center (see items

below).

Of course we are not yet through with our special spring-cleaning events in addition to our usual monthly activities (see our Calendar of Opportunities). The annual Westside Neighborhood Cleanup & Recycling Event on June 7 gives residents a chance to spruce up and recycle. We are also looking for volunteer interns for our Public Art Conservation Program, Water Take 1 short film contest, county-wide Coastal Cleanup Day Committee and at the Visitors & Convention Bureau.

Be sure to check out the updated [calendar](#) online and as always we hope you will stay in touch with us through [Facebook](#), [the Volunteer Ventura! e-Newsletter](#), [our website](#), [Twitter](#), and by phone at 805/652-4555. Volunteer Ventura! depends on you for the success of all our activities and we are so grateful for your enthusiasm in volunteering this month and every month of the year!

--Rosie

UPCOMING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

So many ways to give back and get involved! To participate in any of our volunteer events, please see an updated calendar on our [website](#), click on the event you're interested in, and sign up.



community service opportunities

Volunteer VENTURA! January-June 2014

THIS IS A PARTIAL LIST OF OPPORTUNITIES. For updates: www.cityofventura.net/volunteeropportunities

January

				1	2	3
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February

					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	

March

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

April

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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
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May

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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June

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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

ONLINE REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR ALL EVENTS

Recurring Events:

- friends of ventura aquatic center
1st Saturday of every month, 9-11:30 am
- friends of leo robbins sailing center
1st Sunday of every month, 10 am-12:30 pm
- friends of the cornucopia garden
2nd Saturday of the month, 9-11 am (excl. March)
- harbor wetlands restoration
January 18, February 22, March 15, May 3, 9, 11 am
- friends of westpark community garden
2nd Sunday of the month, 10 am-12 pm

One Day Projects/Events:

- mik day of service
January 20, 9 am-12 pm
- arbor day tree planting
March 9, 9 am-3 pm
- earth day beach cleanup
April 19, 9-12 pm
- bmx event at the community park
May 7, 4 pm-6 pm (with community bike)



 @cityofventura

 www.cityofventura.ca



SIGN UP ONLINE!
Go to www.cityofventura.net/volunteer to view the calendar and register online for the event.

SIGN UP FOR OUR E-NEWSLETTER by clicking www.cityofventura.net/volunteer or call 455-4555.



VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENTS

Westside Community Cleanup & Recycling Event June 7

Strong volunteers, ages 15 and up, are needed to assist with the Westside Neighborhood Recycling & Collection Event on Saturday, June 7. Please arrive on time as a brief training/orientation will be



given at the beginning of each shift. Volunteers should wear closed-toe shoes, long pants, and long sleeves and be comfortable with bending and lifting heavy items. Pre-registration is required and can be done by clicking on the shift of your choice:

Shift #1: 7:30-10:30 am <http://conta.cc/1jspSen>

Shift #2: 10am-1pm <http://conta.cc/1rgmbgg>



SUMMER INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Public Art Conservation

The City of Ventura Public Art Program is looking for students or adults (ages 16 and older) who have an interest in the arts and would like to learn Public Art Conservation techniques this summer from July 14 to August 15 (5 weeks). Interns will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 am to 2 pm and focus on Public Art sculptures along our Ventura River Trail and in the downtown area. Interns will be provided with workshops to educate them on proper conservation techniques and procedures as well as the opportunity to observe demonstrations. Interns who are selected will be working outdoors and exposed to the sun and mild chemicals and solvents. Interested applicants should **fill out the application form by July 9.**



Seeking Social Media Intern for Ventura County Coastal Cleanup Day Committee

The steering committee for the 2014 Ventura County Coastal Cleanup Day is seeking a college student to assist with social media, research, ad campaigns, and fundraising as we prepare for the September 20th event. Students with a background and/or interest in environmental science and/or communications would be ideal candidates. Please send a letter of interest and a resume to Rornelas@cityofventura.net by June 6th to be considered.

Intern needed for Water: Take 1 Short Film Contest

We are looking for a college or high school student **willing to start right away** to help with our online short film contest. Interest in film and social media including Facebook, YouTube and Twitter are a plus. The internship hours are flexible but we would like a commitment of 5-10 hours per week. Applicants should be independent workers, friendly, reliable, and comfortable speaking on the phone. Experience with Microsoft Word and Excel 2010 would be helpful. If interested, please contact Karen Waln at (805) 677-4128 or kwaln@venturawater.net.



Volunteer Opportunities with Ventura Visitors & Convention Bureau

Like talking to people? Serve as an ambassador and navigator for all visitors who enter or call the Ventura Visitors Center. The goal of the volunteer program is to enhance the visitor experience and promote the City of Ventura by providing information on the accommodations and attractions in the city and

points of interest in the region. Various shifts are available, come and join our team! For a complete Job Description & Application contact Visitor Services Manager Michele Gilmour at (805) 648-2075 or michele@ventura-usa.com.

RECENT VOLUNTEER NEWS



Fritz Huntsinger Park receives Arbor Day gift of 23 new trees

In honor of Arbor Day, students from the Ventura Charter School and Baxter Bioscience employees spent a morning in Fritz Huntsinger Park planting 23 new trees. Before fanning out across the park to begin planting, volunteers received a hands-on demonstration by the Urban Forestry staff on the proper way to plant a tree. In just under two hours, volunteers planted a variety of new tree species, including Ginkgo Biloba, Honeylocust, and Magnolia Grandiflora, to name a few. A heartfelt thanks goes out to our amazing volunteers! A special thank you to City staff who provided a learning opportunity for one of our local schools and an opportunity for one of our corporate partners to give back to the Ventura community.



460 volunteers turn out for 44th annual Earth Day event

On Saturday, April 19, 460 volunteers celebrated Earth Day by removing hundreds of pounds of trash from Surfers' Knoll beach through the Volunteer Ventura! Program. They painstakingly removed hundreds of rusty nails, shards of broken glass, Styrofoam, fishing line, cigarette butts and other unnatural debris that may have otherwise ended up in the ocean or harming unsuspecting beachgoers. As in year's past, Corporate Games companies participated in the beach cleanup as a community service project providing an opportunity for team building while earning points for the Spirit Award. Other participating groups included Bank of America employees, Benchmark Electronics, Cydcor, St. Bonaventure High School, local Girl Scout troops, and families and students of all ages from Ventura County and beyond. Special thanks go out to our local Starbucks baristas who assisted with volunteer check in and supply distribution and for providing tasty beverages for our hardworking volunteers. To check out photos from Earth Day (and other recent volunteer projects), visit our [Facebook page](#).



Ventura Avenue Center gets "Water-wise"



A recent collaborative effort between the Parks, Recreation & Community Partnerships Department (Volunteer Ventura! & Parks), Ventura Water, and landscape designer Lisa Burton of Nature By Design helped transform the water-thirsty lawn at Ventura Avenue Center (550 N. Ventura Ave) into a 'water-wise' garden! The first phase of the project required the removal of the turf. Next, the landscaping crew contoured the landscape and installed a dry streambed. This unique feature will help capture and retain any rainwater on site and help prevent runoff. Volunteers from Bank of

America, Stronghold Schools, and other community members assisted with the third and fourth phases of the project that included planting over 200 native, Mediterranean and drought tolerant plants and spreading mulch. This joint project demonstrates to the community the ways in which the City is helping to reduce its water usage while creating a beautiful wildlife habitat! A huge "THANK YOU" goes to Ventura Water for funding this 'water-wise' project!

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT - CAPSTONE INTERNS

Mayor Honors Volunteers

Mayor Cheryl Heitmann honored our volunteers at a recent City Council meeting by presenting a proclamation recognizing National Volunteer Week and all of our community volunteers from who have contributed over 40,000 hours of service through Volunteer Ventura! this year. "We are fortunate to have a thriving volunteer program with thousands of volunteers," she said during her comments.

Representing the diversity of volunteers were individuals such as Ray Klaybouch who is in his 80s but still volunteers regularly and recently helped to install a new landscape at the Ventura Avenue Center. Mr. Klaybouch gave back, yet again, by presenting the mayor with a painting of the Moose Lodge where the meeting was held. Other volunteers honored included mother and son duo, Terri & Billy Huston, husband and wife team, Pete and Vicki Treviño, student volunteer Delilah who assists in the Print shop, volunteer photographer Nicole Messner and volunteer groups such as the Olivas Adobe docents represented by Ernie and Rosie Calvillo, the Volunteers In Policing, faith based groups, and corporate groups including Bank of America, Clark Construction, and long-time volunteer group, Amgen, whose volunteerism with our City inspired them to unite with colleagues around the globe to participate in service events.

Volunteer Ventura! Coordinator Rosie Ornelas accepted the proclamation on behalf of all City volunteers and thanked the volunteers, "Every task you do and every hour you contribute is an important part of the larger picture. By generously sharing your time, energy, and talent, you take action and help address the challenges in our community."





THANK YOU!

We thank these community partners for supporting *Volunteer Ventura!* events

Bank of America employees, Stronghold School, and the community volunteers who came out and helped to install over 200 native plants at the Ventura Avenue Adult Center.

The City Church Generation Interns for installing the beautiful posters in the Big Bellies downtown - not once, but twice!

Orchard Community Church members who worked so hard in the hot sun to replenish the sand under the playgrounds at Chumash Park.

The Downtown Suburban Kiwanis who cleaned up Marina Park and beach.

SBHS students, US Navy Seabees, and community members who removed iceplant at the Ventura Harbor Wetlands.

City staff and community volunteers who assisted with our High School Job and Volunteer Expo.

The Generation Interns for cleaning up Pacific Skate Park, helping to get the BMX Park ready for Nationals, clearcoating our utility boxes downtown, maintaining the rose garden at the Olivas Adobe, and assisting with the Volunteer Ventura! warehouse cleanup over Spring Break!

Surfrider Foundation and community volunteers for weeding the dunes at Surfers' Point.

Our partners from Starbucks for coming out to the Cornucopia Community Garden Work Party and the Earth Day Beach Cleanup to volunteer *and* for providing tasty beverages for *all* of our volunteers!

The hundreds of volunteers who came out and celebrated Earth Day by cleaning up our beaches in the Ventura Harbor!

Jessica's 3rd/4th grade classroom at Ventura Charter School and the Baxter Bioscience employees who came out and planted new trees at Huntsinger Park!

*Thank you to the many volunteers who serve our community all year as docents, Police Department volunteers, litter picker uppers, tutors, and countless other ways!

Our volunteers make Ventura a better place to live!

GET INVOLVED WITH *VOLUNTEER VENTURA!*

Check out our [calendar of events and register online!](#)

1. Subscribe to our bimonthly e-newsletters [HERE](#).
2. Like us on  Facebook www.facebook.com/volunteerventura
3. Follow us on  Twitter [#volunteervta](#)

Rosie Ornelas, Coordinator (805) 652-4555 rornelas@cityofventura.net
Cary Glenn, Supervisor (805) 658-4732 cglenn@cityofventura.net

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