



South Venice Beach Wave

MARCH 2024

The heart of South Venice since 1955

Saturday, MARCH 2, 8:00am to 1:00pm

Garden Club Plant Sale

Monday, MARCH 18 at 7:00pm

Monthly General Meeting

Thursday, MARCH 21 at 6:30pm



NEW! Bingo Night at SVCA

Saturday, MARCH 23 at 8:00am

Breakfast with The Bunny

Bring the kids! Bring the grandkids!

Egg Hunt and Photos with the Bunny



Tuesday, MARCH 26 at 5:00pm

Pasta Dinner Pickleball Fundraiser

Tickets at SVCA website



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Saturday, MARCH 9 at 9:00am

GARDEN CLUB

Monday, MARCH 18 at 1:00pm

BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, MARCH 12 at 3:00pm

CERT: Monthly Meeting

Thursday, MARCH 28 at 6:30pm
at Venice Gardens Comm. Center

Planning for Pickleball courts making rapid progress

In December, a small group of SVCA members came together to explore the possibility of converting the old and unused basketball courts behind the SVCA into pickleball courts. The SVCA Board then held a joint exploratory meeting on December 14 to hear a presentation of the proposal.



In February, volunteers began the preparation work on the old courts.

After that meeting, the SVCA Board announced a public meeting to be held on January 8 for further discussion and public input. Afterward, and after hearing the public comments, the Board agreed to the group's proposal:

The renovation of one trial pickleball court could proceed

Continued on Page 7

Meet Dan Atkins



Congratulations to the newest SVBET Trustee, Dan Atkins! The SVCA Board of Directors appointed him in January to serve a five-year term on the South Venice Beach Endowment Trust.

Dan and his wife Karen have owned a house in South Venice since 2012. At first they only vacationed here but in 2019 began construction on a new house to be their retirement home and moved into it during the pandemic in 2020.

An engineer, Dan retired in 2021 after a career in the US Air Force where he served as a senior civilian executive.

Trust Chair Joe Lewis said "We are very happy and lucky to have Dan on the SVBET board as he will be an asset, utilizing his knowledge and experience moving forward." Dan says he's "excited to be able to contribute to the community"

South Venice Civic Association

*The heart of South Venice
since 1955*

**720 Alligator Drive
South Venice Beach, FL 34293**

Phone: 941-493-0006

Email: svca@southvenice.org
Office hours: 9:00am to 1:00pm
Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday

www.southvenice.org
svca@southvenice.org

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Bobbie Drummond, Vice President
Susan Juranek, Treasurer
Paul Gilmartin, Secretary

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Mario Fiorentino Ray Martinez

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Jodie Cooper

South Venice Beach WAVE

Editor: Maureen Holland
maureenholland@comcast.net

Calvary Chapel Sonlife

Sunday Morning at 10:00am

Wednesday Night Bible Study at 7:00pm

Right Here at the SVCA



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exclusive publisher of
this newsletter

South Venice Beach Wave

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I hope everyone knows we have an incredible yoga teacher right here in the 'hood! Jodie Cooper, who also wrangles the SVCA front desk, teaches a class every Wednesday - from 8:30-9:30am here at the SVCA. All levels of expertise are welcome.

I recently attended for the first time and really enjoyed Jodie's patient, calm instruction and ability to have everyone of all levels equally engaged. I plan to become a regular. A great deal for only \$10.00!

Debbie Sullivan, SVCA member and South Venice resident

Calling all local Ham Radio operators!

Our Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is looking for a Licensed HAM radio operator with ARRES experience to help develop a communication plan and train CERT members on our hand held radios.

If you are interested, contact Kathleen Proman (kproman@yahoo.com) or Marla Wilcox (mwlcx_50@msn.com)



DON'T MISS AN ISSUE!

**This could be your *last issue*
of the WAVE if you haven't
renewed for 2024 yet!**

Do it now at southvenice.org and click on the NEW/RENEW tab—once you're renewed, you can enjoy the many new benefits available to SVCA members at our new website.

2024 FAMILY MEMBERSHIP
Still just \$70

HOW TO CONTACT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sandy Tulenko
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619-368-6749

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941-275-5401

Ray Martinez
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305-519-4959

Board Matters

FROM PAUL GILMARTIN



Don't forget to renew your membership for 2024—and if you're not currently a member, we welcome you to join as well. Just go to the SVCA website at southvenice.org. While you're there, check out the new Pickleball Initiative page for the latest updates on the renovation of the old courts behind the SVCA.

Financial Summary: 2023 Closing report

- Current Assets: \$39,329
- Fixed Assets: \$30,492
- Total Assets: \$69,822
- Total Liabilities: \$ 1979
- Total Income/gross Profit: \$56,179
- Total Expenses: \$55,047
- Net income: \$ 1789

Members can always request a copy of the Financials from the office during business hours.

Executive Board Meeting Summary:

The SVCA board met on February 12 in Executive session and discussed the financials listed above. Other items included:

- Held annual appointment of officers and committee chairs
- Reviewed 3rd party contracts
- Discussed the Pickleball initiative and fundraising
- Discussed building and grounds maintenance issues
- Discussed membership drive for spring
- Discussed the spring event schedule and initiatives
- Bringing Bingo back with a Bingo Night in March
- Discussed grant opportunities

SVCA members can find minutes and agendas at the office during business hours.

Welcome to our newest members!

Susan Breckinridge	Dorothy Hubbard
James (Jerry) Bannon	Constance Miller
Ann & Rick Schuessler	Besty Smith
Paul & Patty Weinwurm	Chris Kiger
Kevin Landry	Susan Heck

Membership makes us strong!

Thank you to long time residents Peter and Cathy Heitmann who just purchased Lifetime Memberships

REMEMBER! You can rent the SVCA

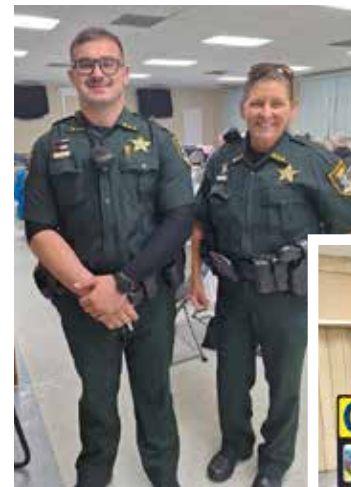
For information and rates, contact Jodie in the office



Mario Fiorentino handled the microphone for a Q&A with Commissioner Neil Rainford (below) at the February meeting.



Deputy Duff introduced Deputy Aryan who will share duties here.



Monica Magill was promoting the new pickleball initiative. She had all the info and sign up sheets!



Members enjoyed meeting Commissioner Rainford





FROM SUSAN JURANEK

Our members always make a difference

Thanks to our volunteers, many improvements were made to the SVCA this month – both inside and outside.

The hall has been repainted

If you've been inside the SVCA building, maybe you noticed the new interior paint colors? The new look is fresh and current and has made a huge difference in the whole vibe of the hall. Many thanks to Bobbie Drummond, Suzanne Ralph, Teresa Dotson, and Julie McLaren for their hard work! It looks just great!

Our 'front yard' had an early spring cleaning

Outside, the front of the SVCA, we had a sprucing up of our landscape with the help of these volunteers: Eileen Sherlock, Judy McIlwham, Kevin Hart, Ginny White, Mike and Kathy Burton, Ken Kowalski, Mario and Stacy Fiorentino, Susan Juranek and Sandy Tulenko. Bill Juranek also replaced the handicapped parking signs. We continue to dream and talk about ways to fund improvement to our parking lot.

And more, a dollar at a time . . .

A long-standing member, Donna Pietras, created and donated a beautiful quilt for us a raffle off. We did just that at the February meeting. Congratulations Linda Scaglione, who won the quilt.

Donna's donation generated \$89.00 - and that will go to our building improvement fund.

We appreciate you, Donna - thank you!

We are so very grateful to our volunteers for their willingness to give their time, energy and talents. Thank you for improving our community!!



FROM SANDY TULENKO

A successful CPR workshop

On February 17, our own Rich Tullis, a certified Red Cross CPR instructor, conducted a workshop on life saving techniques here at the SVCA. He volunteered his time and expertise to demonstrate CPR techniques and provided an opportunity for those attending to practice CPR - on both adult and infant mannequins.

Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation techniques are constantly changing and Rich brought us up to date on the newest guidelines for performing it. Participants were also given the opportunity to use a training defibrillator and to practice the Heimlich maneuver.

If you were not able to attend the workshop this time but would like to be notified if we schedule another one, just call the office to have your name put on a list. Workshops are limited to 14 participants.



New Wi-Fi logins at SVCA

We've made some network changes so you'll have to reconnect to access our free Wi-Fi

Network Name: SVCA guest

Login: 9414930006



FROM TERESA GOOD, SHAMROCK PARK

What's up at the Park



Ecotalk and Walk – Friday, March 1, 2:00 to 3:30pm in Classroom. Ages 12 and up. FREE. Join Dr. Katherine Clements, UF/IFAS Extension Sarasota County ecology and natural resources educator for a 45-minute talk on identifying non-native, invasive plants and animals. Learn how and when they were introduced to our region, and what you can do to be a responsible property owner. Weather permitting, we will also take a walk and try to spot some invasives! Registration required at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/708671905747>

Invasive Plant Pull – Saturday, March 2, 9:30 to 10:30am. Meet at Nature Center. Ages 12 and up. FREE. Show your support for our environment and learn how to manage invasive species. The group will get some hands-on experience pulling those pesky invaders! Wear long pants and sneakers or closed toed/closed heel shoes and bring water and garden gloves. Sunscreen and bug spray are recommended. Please contact Parks Naturalist, Teresa Good with questions. tjgood@scgov.net. Registration required at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/708677402187>

Demonstration Garden Tour First Thursday of every month. 9:00 to 11:00am. Ages 18 and up. FREE. Meet in

the Demonstration Garden. Master Gardener volunteers will be there to answer questions, provide free tours and give expert advice on Florida-Friendly landscaping. No registration necessary. For information, call 941-861-5000.

Seasons and Serendipity Stroll Friday, March 8, 9:00-10:30am. Ages 12 and up. Meet at Nature Center. Join park naturalist for a leisurely, guided walk in the park. You'll learn about Florida Scrub Jays, Gopher tortoises and the important role prescribed fire plays in restoring and maintaining Florida's fire dependent ecosystems. No registration necessary. For information, call 941-861-5000.

FROM GAIL PARKER

SVCA Book Club



The Book Club met February 13 and we had a good discussion on our latest read, *The Little Liar* by Mitch Albom. Afterward, we made our reading selection for March, which will be *The Heaven and*

Earth Grocery Store by James McBride. It has been on the New York Times best seller list for many months, so should be readily available.

The Club's March meeting is March 19 at 3:00pm at the Civic Association. As always, new members are welcome! Just drop into one of our regular meetings, held on the second Monday of every month.



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On February 9, the SVCA Trash Buddies did a clean up at The Grove. They filled up five bags with debris and litter collected that day. Above are Blaine Tippett and Carol Plotrowski. While Carol doesn't live in South Venice, she has a serving heart and wants to help. As always, Marla Wilcox was behind the camera.

Community Improvement Projects UPCOMING WORKDAYS

To join one of our teams or learn more contact Marla Wilcox at 303-818-3641 or Marlawilcox63@gmail.com

ALLIGATOR DRIVE CLEAN UP

Saturday, March 9 - 8:00am

(meet in the SVCA parking lot)

THE GROVE - MAINTENANCE

Saturday, March 16 - 9:00am

(meet on Quincey between Seminole and Grant)

CERT: Community Emergency Response Team



Thursday, Mar. 28 6:30pm

Joint meeting at Venice Gardens Community Center.

New volunteers welcome!

Yoga with Jodie

EVERY WEDNESDAY FROM 8:30 TO 9:30AM



Jodie Cooper, a Registered Yoga Teacher, will guide you through all levels, from the very beginner to more advanced yogi – where YOU are with YOUR body. The fee is \$10.00 per class. Please bring your own yoga mat and any props you may find helpful.

Best of Venice Winner for 2023



Best of Venice

Blair Post, HAS, BC-HIS, ACA

Board Certified Hearing Instrument Sciences
American Conference of Audioprosthology

I want to say thank you to everyone who voted for us in the Best of Venice awards from Venice Gondolier.

I appreciate all the support and everyone who took their time to vote for us.

Your support and continued encouragement has resulted in us being awarded Best of Venice, multiple titles and multiple years as both winner and finalist, Reader's Choice multiple years, and Small Business of the Year.

I am proud to have consistently offered service that is recognized by you and honored to receive so many awards over the years that our wall of awards has expanded onto another wall. Thank you for entrusting me with your hearing, I am glad I earned your respect.

Every day I hear stories about how hearing problems have interfered with enjoying life. I've always had one mission, to help everyone who comes to me to hear their best and engage in life.

Fifteen Years ago, I opened my own office and chose to treat all my clients as if they are family. Twenty-two years ago, when I chose this profession, I was inspired by my mother MaryEllen. She was already wearing hearing aids due to an ear surgery. Back then I was new to the industry and was not fully aware of how technology worked. As my ability grew, I noticed that the aids my mother was wearing were not the best for her needs. She was very social and would benefit from better technology. I was able to help her hear her best for her level of activities so she could have her best life.

If she was still with us today, I know she would be celebrating all the people who have been able to engage in their own life with more ease and better understanding.



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Pickleball Initiative *Continued*

within the proposal that it was to be financed 'out of pocket' by the initial group of Albert Frick, Stanley Carnes, and Monica Magill. It was proposed that the renovation of the one court would serve as a trial to refine the cost of renovating the existing recreational court and to determine if the work product done by grass root volunteers would meet the expectations of SVCA members interested in pickleball recreation at the Community Center facility.

The work crew renovating the SVCA Court of 'Dreams' grew from the initial group of three to six - and the latest work session brought 12 hardworking, enthusiastic parties. The existing status is that the preparation of filling the existing cracks for the trial court is nearing completion and will be moving on to the painting stage.

In the meantime, the Pickleball Initiative Group elicited a quote from the company who renovated the tennis courts at Shamrock Park for the County Parks and Recreation Department. Sports Surface Pros LLC proposed to renovate the existing recreational pad to accommodate four pickleball courts.



There is now a page on the SVCA website for making donations to help fund the project. (Go to southvenice.org

and click on the tab at the top of the home page labeled SVCA Pickleball.)

Our fundraising goal is \$20,000 to renovate all four courts, improve the recreational area to include shuffle board and cornhole, and update the landscaping including a new pathway from the parking lot to the pickleball courts. There are multiple tiers for donors and each has benefits to the donor. They are:

Founder \$4000. This includes a lifetime membership to the SVCA, the ability to name one of the courts (name subject

Court of Dreams

Pasta Dinner Fundraiser

Dinner/Salad/Dessert

TUESDAY, March 26 5:00 to 8:00pm



\$25.00 per person. Get your tickets at southvenice.org. Funds will help in updating our courts for pickleball, shuffle board and cornhole. We'll also be beautifying the grounds with plants and benches.

A Reminder!

SVCA email address and web addresses have changed.

Please adjust your contact lists.

Note also that the new URL is very similar to the old one. The new website is southvenice.org (not southvenicebeach.org).

NOTE: If you have not received any emails from the SVCA in the past two months, either we do not have an email address for you or your address is incorrect in our system. If this applies to you, please call the office to update your information.

Call Jodie at 941-493-0006 or email her at SVCA@southvenice.org

to negotiation with SVCA Board of Directors and must be approved as appropriate), a Plaque with founder's name at the courts, a Walkway Paver engraved with your name and donation tier, and ceramic Coffee Mug engraved with SVCA Pickleball Logo

Gold - \$1000. This includes a three year SVCA membership, your name on the Pickleball Gold Supporter Plaque by the courts, a Walkway Paver engraved with your name and donation tier and a ceramic coffee mug engraved with SVCA Pickleball logo

720 Club - \$720. This includes a one year SVCA membership, your name on the Pickleball 720 Club Supporter Plaque by the courts, a Walkway Paver engraved with your name and donation tier, an Exclusive Metal Water bottle engraved with SVCA Pickleball logo and a ceramic coffee mug engraved with SVCA Pickleball logo

Silver- \$500 This includes a one year SVCA membership, your name on the Pickleball Silver Supporter Plaque by the courts, and a Walkway Paver engraved with your name and donation tier.


Bronze- \$100. This includes your name on the Pickleball Bronze Supporter Plaque by the courts, and a Walkway Paver engraved with your name and donation tier.

Donation of your Choice – a donation in any amount you choose.

In addition to the donation tiers the fundraising committee will be canvassing the local businesses for support, starting a Go-Fund Me page, canvassing the local pickleball player groups and hosting a series of fundraising events in March, April and May. As donations are received, we will be moving forward with funding the courts.

If you are interested in receiving more information on this project and/or becoming involved in the SVCA Pickleball Initiative, you can contact Albert Frick at albert@albertfrick.com or Paul Gilmartin at boardmembergil@gmail.com.

MARCH 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Plant Sale Set up Noon to 9:00pm	2 Garden Club Plant and Rummage Sale 8:00am-1:00pm
3 Calvary Chapel Service 10:00am	4	5	6 YOGA 8:30-9:30am ART CLASS 12-3pm Calvary Chapel Bible Study 7:00pm	7	8	9 SVCA Board Meeting 9:00-11:00am Alligator Drive Cleanup 9:00am
10 Calvary Chapel Service 10:00am	11	12 BOOK CLUB 3:00pm	13 YOGA 8:30-9:30am ART CLASS 12-3pm Calvary Chapel Bible Study 7:00pm	14	15	16
17 Calvary Chapel Service 10:00am	18 GARDEN CLUB 1:00pm General Monthly Meeting 7:00pm	19	20 YOGA 8:30-9:30am ART CLASS 12-3pm Calvary Chapel Bible Study 7:00pm	21  New! BINGO NIGHT 6:30pm	22	23 Breakfast with the Bunny 8:00am Egg Hunt—Photos!
24 Calvary Chapel Service 10:00am	25	26 Pasta Dinner Fundraiser 5:00 to 8:00pm	27 YOGA 8:30-9:30am ART CLASS 12-3pm Calvary Chapel Bible Study 7:00pm	28 CERT 6:30pm Community Emergency Response Team at Venice Gardens CC	29	30
31 Calvary Chapel Service 10:00am						



Old friends Rick Curwood and Maureen Holland at the February meeting. Both are 30-year SVCA members, former Board members and are also two of the five founders of the Beach Endowment Trust.

At the Garden Club's February meeting, Eileen Sherlock had her hand full with plant purchases. Eileen and her husband Russell are also long-time SVCA members and frequent volunteers at SVCA events.




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HOME SALES January 16 to February 15, 2024

Address	HTD	BE	FB	Built	Pool	Garage	Lot Size	ADOM	List Price	Close Price
41 CORNELL RD	1,139	2	2	1980	None	1	8,000	0	\$205,000	\$205,000
316 PELICAN RD	942	2	2	1985	None		8,000	55	\$279,500	\$211,000
400 E BAFFIN DR	1,104	2	2	1980	None	1	8,000	2	\$230,000	\$212,897
875 ROYAL RD	1,118	2	1	1973	None		8,000	94	\$239,000	\$217,500
624 CYPRESS RD	1,200	2	2	1979	None		8,000	47	\$279,000	\$270,000
251 ZEPHYR RD	923	2	2	1978	None	1	8,000	31	\$315,000	\$307,000
887 NANTUCKET RD	949	2	2	1988	None	1	8,000	63	\$359,000	\$330,000
5375 GRINNELL RD	1,116	3	2	1978	Private		10,702	8	\$330,000	\$330,000
736 MANGROVE RD	1,728	3	2	2003	None	2	8,000	22	\$369,900	\$340,000
551 GARDEN RD	928	2	2	1988	None	1	8,000	43	\$359,900	\$345,000
2680 CARMINE RD	1,406	2	2	1975	None	1	8,000	62	\$349,900	\$349,900
911 SENECA RD	1,532	2	2	1973	None	1	8,000	74	\$379,000	\$350,000
3912 COLEMAN RD	1,310	2	2	1978	Private	1	8,000	3	\$379,990	\$365,500
240 PALMETTO DR	1,270	2	2	1978	None	1	10,000	52	\$379,000	\$373,000
500 PELICAN RD	2,408	3	2	1979	Private		12,000	118	\$474,900	\$400,000
350 BAHAMA RD	1,563	2	2	1977	None	5	17,749	11	\$549,900	\$525,000
3131 QUINCY RD	2,254	3	2	1991	Private	2	13,419	2	\$575,000	\$565,000
525 CYPRESS RD	1,926	3	2	2023	None	3	10,000	38	\$625,000	\$595,000
4124 POMPANO RD	2,071	3	2	1991	Private	2	21,862	1	\$649,000	\$638,000
5080 LEMON BAY DR	2,665	3	3	1974	Private	4	50,343	53	\$850,000	\$795,000
4850 LEMON BAY DR	1,380	2	2	1978	None		61,880	116	\$849,000	\$800,000

State of the Market

from **KELLEY ANN AYERS**, Ayers & Associates Real Estate

Examining the real estate activity from January 16 to February 15, 2024, South Venice Beach experienced a slight uptick with 21 closings, albeit still slightly below the historical market activity for this period. We are feeling the challenges of competing with an influx of new construction homes more so than recent years, particularly noticeable with 55 new homes priced under \$600,000 in Venice alone. Many of these new homes come with HOA fees and deed restrictions, aspects not universally appealing for those seeking second homes or relocating to the area.

In this timeframe, the highest sale in South Venice Beach was 4850 Lemon Bay Drive, closing at \$800,000. This property stood out with its impressive features, including a beautiful renovation, elevated structure on stilts with wrap-around decks, water views, and a prime location next to the Beach Ferry. Conversely, the lowest sale was a 2/2/1 on Cornwell, located near Englewood Rd. (Rte. 776), selling for \$205,000. The market's average statistics remained steady, with an average selling price per square foot of \$278.98, an average sale price of \$405,943, and an average of 43 days on the market. Presently, the South Venice Beach market displays 33 pending homes and 107 active listings, spanning a price range of \$220,000 to

\$1,149,000.

Despite the challenges of inventory and higher interest rates, the market remains promising for both buyers and sellers. Our office at 718 Albee Rd W in Nokomis, continues to showcase expertise with the recent sale of twenty-five homes. We can be your hub for navigating the thriving real estate market. And as always, if you come visit we invite you to enjoy an ice cream treat at Sweet Melissa's conveniently located next door.

Disclaimer: The sales information was gathered from the Multiple Listing Service (MLS). The sales were by various participants of MLS. All information deemed reliable but not guaranteed.

Garden Club News

FROM DEBBIE SULLIVAN

At our February meeting, Sophie DeMartine, from Florida Native Plant Nursery and Landscaping in Sarasota, treated members and guests to a seven-step approach to planting for pollinators (birds, butterflies, bees, bugs, and others).

The Garden Club meets the third Monday of each month at 1:00pm at the SVCA. Our monthly programs feature speakers, hands-on projects, plant raffles, and field trips. Members include both female and male gardeners with all levels of expertise and experience.

Visitors are always welcome. Your first visit will be as our guest.

Afterwards it's \$5.00 per meeting - or you can just join the club (\$20/year, individual; \$25/year, family). Proceeds benefit community gardening-related projects and/or scholarships. Hope you can join us!

Our kitchen team, all terrific cooks, posed for the camera: Rosann Rastelli, Barbara Ferguson, Jessica Winski, and Marilyn Schnars.



Local realtor Alicia Wolff and neighborhood resident stopped by for a cartload of plants.



New SVCA members Mike and Kathy Burton have joined the Garden Club too!








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To protect, preserve and improve our community's character, conditions and quality of life. To bring South Venice together to promote our civic, social, intellectual and recreational interests.



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AC TUNE-UP OR
MAINTENANCE CONTRACT