



A lot happening here in April!

South Venice Beach Wave

APRIL 2024

The heart of South Venice since 1955

Saturday, APRIL 13 at 8:00am
Pancake Breakfast

Monday, APRIL 15 at 7:00pm
Monthly General Meeting

A rep from Florida Power and Light will answer your questions about what it means for South Venice as they plan for underground power lines. We're also hoping to bring an authority on solar power to answer questions.

And don't miss this!

Thursday, APRIL 18 at 6:30pm



Bingo Night

Come early. We'll have an array of food from hot dogs and hamburgers to drinks and snacks. We promise a fun evening Space is limited so reserve your spot now at southvenice.org

OPEN HOUSE here at the SVCA!

Community Emergency Response Team



April 23 at 6:30pm

This is special. The Director of Sarasota County Emergency Operations and the local teams will be at the SVCA to discuss CERT issues and take questions. Everyone is welcome to attend and maybe join our team.

NEW! Taco Tuesday

Tuesday, APRIL 16

Social hour 5 to 6:00 • Dinner 6 to 7:00
PLUS - Cornhole Tournament 7:00 to 9:00

Tickets \$20

Purchase at SVCA southvenice.org



Biggest crowd ever at 2024 Breakfast with the Bunny!



Baskets at the ready, the kids were just waiting for the Bunny to say "Go"!



Once again for another year, Dianna Brannan put on the Bunny suit.

Behind the food table, Mario and Stacy Fiorentino made sure everyone got a full plate. With them is Teresa Dotson,, making sure it's all under control.



Have you renewed your membership for 2024?
If you've forgotten, you can do it now at southvenice.org

Board Matters

FROM PAUL GILMARTIN



Check out all the SVCA events on southvenice.org today! And while you're there, be sure to check out the pickleball initiative page for the latest update on renovating the court behind the SVCA.

We have raised more than \$9,000.00 toward our goal. We need your help in getting the word out— please post on your social

media accounts and email your friends, especially pickleball players, about our community project.

Financial Summary: As of January 31

• Current Assets	\$46,548
• Fixed Assets	\$30,492
• Total Assets	\$74,934
• Total Liabilities	\$ 3,099
• Total Income/gross Profit	\$10,692
• Total Expenses	\$ 6,814
• Net income	\$ 3,992

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

Executive Board Meeting Summary:

The SVCA board met on March 9 for Executive session and discussed the financials listed above. Other items included:

- Reviewed the status new chart of accounts project
- Discussed Liquor license and D&O insurance
- Updated the pickleball initiative and progress towards goals
- Reviewed the new Bingo night initiative and policy and procedures
- Discussed Grant Funding for renovating the building and parking lot
- Updated the building maintenance list
- Scheduled events for April, May and June
- Reviewed Action item list.

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

Welcome to our newest members!

Wendy Phelps-Byam	Judy Byam
Wayne Mack	Rochelle Augsbury
Lisa & Sherri Reed	Cathleen Genato
Martin & Lisa Chambers	

Membership makes us strong!

FREE WI FI AT SVCA

Network Name: SVCA guest Login: 9414930006

Julie McLaren is one of our members working hard to make the dream of a pickleball court a reality.



It's always our volunteers who make it happen!

Following a very successful first fundraiser—a Pasta Dinner on March 26—the Pickleball group are now confident they'll reach their goal and see the old basketball courts converted into Pickleball courts. Next up is a Taco Tuesday on April 16 (see details below).

And recently, member Ira Guy has generously donated a gorgeous Magladon shark's tooth - valued at \$400 - to assist with the fundraising efforts. We'll be auctioning the tooth on the SVCA website starting on April 14. You don't miss out on getting in on this one. It's a real treasure!

At the pasta dinner, Annie Jansen showed off the new t-shirts with the Club 720 logo.



Taco Tuesday

Tuesday, April 16 5:00 to 9:00pm

SOCIAL HOUR 5:00 to 6:00 • Dinner 6:00 to 7:00
PLUS - Cornhole Tournament 7:00 to 9:00

Tickets \$20

Purchase at SVCA southvenice.org

South Venice Civic Association

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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

March General Meeting

Former Sheriff Tom Knight addressed our March meeting. Tom is running this year for the District 3 seat on the County Commission. (We heard from incumbent Commissioner Neil Rainford in February.)

Tom grew up in South Venice on Lemon Bay Drive, across from the Ferry field. He said when a teenager, his father would send him to mow it! Tom has been at SVCA many

times over the years as Sheriff, and we look forward to seeing him here anytime.



Two of the kitchen crew at the Breakfast with the Bunny were Bobbie Drummond and Heather Viallaba



These three, tummies full of pancakes, were ready for the egg hunt.

Calvary Chapel Sonlife

Sunday Morning at 10:00am

Wednesday Night Bible Study at 7:00pm

Right Here at the SVCA



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South Venice Beach Wave

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305-519-4959

In March we brought back Bingo!



Above, from left to right are Game One winner Suzanne Ralph, Game Two winner Vicki Mackey, Game Three winner Betty Anne Riggs and Game Four winner, Beverly Sheppard.

And at right, with SVCA President Sandy Tulenko, is Stephen Galinas who won the evening's big Jackpot of \$175 in Game Five.

Below, these players had a good time! And Mario and Stacy Fiorentino did a bang up job running the game that evening.



We're doing it again!

Next Bingo Night is April 18

Everyone had a great time and they all said they're coming back. So join them on Thursday, April 18—you might even win some prizes!



SOUTH VENICE GARDEN CLUB

Clippings

FROM DEBBIE SULLIVAN

Preserving Habitats One Parcel at a Time

Most of us feel helpless as we see more and more vacant land cleared for development. Conservancy organizations, however, are relying on citizens like us more than ever for donations of land and cash to purchase lots and protect them from any future development.

One group, now expanding into Venice and Englewood, is The Environmental Conservancy of North Port and Surrounding Areas. It owns 38 parcels of land totaling 12 acres and is on the hunt for more.

At our March meeting, we heard from Barbara Lockhart, the Conservancy's president and director. She said "We're protecting wildlife, native plants and trees, and pollinators . . . Nature isn't just 'over there'...it's also in the woods in our neighborhoods." You can read more about the Conservancy at www.ecnorthport.com

If you'd like to join us, we meet on the third Monday of each month at 1:00pm from September through May. Our

members are male and female gardeners with all levels of expertise and experience. Visitors are always welcome to our meetings. First visit as guest: free. Afterwards: \$5 per meeting or join (\$20/year, individual; \$25/year, family).

After the meeting, Yvonne Schuler, Helen Singer, Susan Juranek, and Sharon Johnson joined our guest, Barbara Lockhart (second from right) in celebrating the Environmental Conservancy's efforts to protect more property from development.



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- Checks will be mailed within 120 days of drawing date

Every Month is a New Chance to Win!

1 drawing for \$100

10 drawings for \$10

Winner	Vendor
Michele Crawford	\$100 Palm Harbor and Dunedin Electric
Michael Hartman	\$10 Air Masters of Pinellas
Jan Hemingway	\$10 Bill the Carpet Guy
John Lech	\$10 Century Awnings
Bave Bernfeld	\$10 Gulf Coast Pressure Washing
Rich & Brenda Gruscynski..	\$10 Jones & Sons Plumbing
Kenneth Phelps	\$10 Air Masters of Pinellas
Trammater	\$10 Haseney Electric
Andrew Fearetti	\$10 Gulf Coast Pressure Washing
Diane Mader	\$10 Battleline Termite & Pest Control
Mary Jane Belliveau	\$10 Doll Bros Carpet

Drawing Date - 3/10/2024



Above, SVCA's Trash Buddies were busy in March cleaning up Alligator Drive. Pictured are Carol Piotrowski, Blaine Tippet and Laurie Hartman.

At left is Wade McClaren, caught in the act of also doing a community service. A South Venice resident, Wade picked up trash along Ponderosa where the preserve meets the road. Thanks!

Community Improvement Projects



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

VENETIAN WATERWAY CLEAN UP

Saturday, April 13 - 8:00am

(meet at Shamrock Park by the tennis courts)

CERT: Community Emergency Response Team OPEN HOUSE right here at the SVCA

April 23 at 6:30pm

This is special. The Director of Sarasota County Emergency Operations and the local teams will be at the SVCA to discuss CERT issues and take questions. Everyone is welcome to attend and maybe join the SVCA team.



Best of Venice Winner for 2023



Call Your Husband

Blair Post, HAS, BC-HIS, ACA

Board Certified Hearing Instrument Sciences
American Conference of Audioprosthology

Karen has created her own favorite joke and it goes like this. A woman says, "I can't get my husband to come in and get hearing aids."

Karen says, "No problem. I'll call and yell at him. I would talk to him but he isn't wearing hearing aids."

Every time she gets to say this she cracks up. I am more amused by her laughing at her own joke.

Getting husbands to come in for hearing aids is the one talent I haven't mastered.

Recently a couple came in. As they were completing the new paperwork the husband said to his wife, "why aren't you filling out forms? You need a hearing test as well." She looked at Karen, who was at the front desk, then said softly, "I have very sensitive hearing. I said that to trick him into coming in. He needs help but won't get it." He didn't hear a word.

Karen walked them into my office and said under her breath, "He thinks they are both getting tested. I told them we might only have time for one. He has a big loss, he didn't understand me twice. She has sensitive hearing."

After the test it was obvious he could be helped with hearing aids. I had even said, "You may not realize how hard it is for you to hear your wife's voice. Your loss shows me that you will struggle to hear her without hearing aids. You married her so listening to her and this should be your priority. Hearing aids will help with this."

As he was leaving he turned to Karen and asked, "How do I return demos?"

Karen mentioned to me later, he'll drop them off, he won't wear them. His wife tricked him to come in. He isn't ready to receive help.

I wasn't surprised when he walked in a couple of days later to return the demos and mentioned he didn't wear them much. I assured him, when he is ready we will be here to help. When you decide you want help, we are here for you.

I don't want your wife to trick you to come in. If you have noticed strain in talking to one another due to not hearing words clearly and want to know if hearing aids could ease tensions and eliminate miscommunications, call our office for a free demo. There is no obligation, no contract, just our commitment to help you hear with ease. Call, 941-244-9300, for an appointment.



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FROM GAIL PARKER

BOOK CLUB:

What we're reading



Our April meeting will be on Tuesday, April 9, at 3:00pm here at the community center. We've all been reading *Tom Lake* by Anne Patchett and we'll discuss it at the meeting. It's a beautiful and moving novel about family, love and growing up.

As the summer approaches, our club get-togethers are drawing to a close. Our final meeting for this season will probably be in

May, as half our group goes back North for the summer - unless, of course, we get an influx of new members, which is always possible. Please join us if you are interested. And if you can't come in April or May, we will start up again in September and we hope you can join us then.

Art Classes wrapping up

Carol Merenda has been teaching her art classes here at the Civic Association for years—to our members and others.

But those classes are no more—Carol is retiring. We wish her many good years ahead and time to devote to her own paintings.



FROM TERESA GOOD, SHAMROCK PARK

What's up at the Park



Demonstration Garden Tour First Thursday of each month. 9:00 to 11:00am. Age 18 and up. FREE. Meet in the Demonstration Garden. Master Gardener volunteers will be there to answer your questions, provide free tours and give expert advice on Florida-Friendly landscaping. No registration necessary. For information, call 941-861-5000.

Plant Clinic – First and third Saturdays in April and May. 10:00am to noon. Florida Master Gardeners will have a table set up in the nature center, ready to answer your plant questions. Whether it's an identification question or you are having trouble with your grass, skilled volunteers will be ready to help! No registration necessary, just stop by anytime between 10:00am and noon. While you're there, check out the nature center displays and kids zone!

Ecowalk: Unique Parks and Preserves – Friday, May 10. 9:00am to 11:00am. Meet outside Nature Center. Join a UF/IFAS Extension Sarasota County ecology educator, and the Park's naturalist to learn more about our amazing and

unique Florida ecosystems. Take a leisurely stroll through some of our most beautiful and environmentally sensitive lands that have been preserved in Sarasota County for future generations. **Registration required** at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/708847019517>

ALSO FOR NATURE LOVERS

Mangrove Chapter, Native Plant Society nature walks

The public is welcome to these Society Walks. For more information contact mangrovechapter@fnps.org

Chapter Meeting: Tuesday, April 9, 1:00pm. The Society will host "Designing a Backyard Wildlife Garden on Manasota Key-30 Years' Experience," an informative program at Lemon Bay Environmental Center, 570 Bay Park Blvd., Englewood. Dr. Bill Dunson, emeritus professor of biology and member of the Lemon Bay Conservancy will describe the evolution of his property as he wintered on Manasota Key the past 30 years. BYOPicnic social at 12:15pm. This event is free and open to the public.

NATURE WALKS

Friday April 12, 9:00-11:00am: Dr. Mary Davis leads a walk at the Sleeping Turtles Preserve North, 3462 Border Road, Venice. The walk will take you into the riparian forest of the

Continued on Page 9

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

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.

APRIL 2024

	1 Events Committee Meeting 4:30PM	2	3 YOGA 8:30-9:30am Calvary Chapel Bible Study 7:00pm	4	5	6 SVCA Board Meeting 9:00-11:00am
7 Calvary Chapel Service 10:00am	8	9	10 YOGA 8:30-9:30am Calvary Chapel Bible Study 7:00pm	11	12	13 Pancake Breakfast 8:00 to 10:30am Venetian Waterway Clean up 8>00sm
14 Calvary Chapel Service 10:00am	15 GARDEN CLUB 1:00pm General Monthly Meeting 7:00pm	16 BOOK CLUB 3:00pm New TACO TUESDAY Pickleball Fundraiser 5:00 to 8:00pm	17 YOGA 8:30-9:30am Calvary Chapel Bible Study 7:00pm	18 BINGO NIGHT 6:30pm	19	20
21 Calvary Chapel Service 10:00am	22	23 <u>AT THE SVCA</u> Sarasota County CERT Open House 6:30pm	24 YOGA 8:30-9:30am Calvary Chapel Bible Study 7:00pm	25 Relay for Life 3:30 to 9:30pm	26	27
28 Calvary Chapel Service 10:00am	29	30	<p>NEW IN MAY: Fish Fry Friday!!</p> <p>On May 17, get ready to kickstart your weekend with a burst of flavor and excitement? Look no further than Fish Fry Friday! A delicious meal that will satisfy your cravings. No Fish Fry is complete without the array of sides - French fry's, coleslaw, hush puppies, and tartar sauce. Fish is not your choice we will also offer shrimp for those that crave it. Join us for an evening of Fun and Food.</p> <p>Secure your spot by booking online at southvenice.org. Tickets \$15.00.</p>			

Mangrove Society *continued*

Wild and Scenic Myakka River. Learn about protection of the river's watershed and how the river interacts with the surrounding palm and oak hammocks. Event is free and all are welcome.

Thursday, April 18, 9:00-11:00am: Dr. Bill Dunson will lead a guided nature walk at Myakka State Forest, Main Entrance, 2555 South River Road, Englewood. Following the 1.5-mile Gordon Smith Trail, participants will observe spring flowers and discuss factors influencing the ecology of the sub-climax pine flatwoods. Close examination of near pristine natural wetland and its circular zones of vegetation will be highlighted. Depending on conditions, about 80 native plants may be seen on this trail. Meet in the parking lot about one mile east of River Rd. The State Forest has a \$2 entry fee to be paid online. All are welcome.

Friday, April 26, 9:00-11:00am: Dr. Mary Davis will lead a guided walk at Oscar Scherer State Park, 6202 Oscar Scherer State Park Dr., Nokomis. Mary will talk about the mosaic of plant communities that are characteristic of this SW Florida flatwoods ecoregion and the management challenges in providing habitat for the endemic Florida Scrub Jay. Meet at the Nature Center at the end of the entrance road. There is a \$5 fee per vehicle to enter the park. All are welcome.



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HOME SALES February 16 to March 15, 2024

Address	HTD	BE	FB	Built	Pool	Garage	Lot Size	ADOM	List Price	Close Price
941 DEVON RD	944	2	2	1972	None		8,000	77	\$250,000	\$235,500
1380 JAMAICA RD	815	2	1	1962	None	1	8,000	5	\$260,000	\$240,000
1184 PORPOISE RD	660	2	1	1960	None		8,000	21	\$249,000	\$250,000
415 TERRAPIN RD	944	2	2	1981	None	1	8,000	75	\$285,000	\$275,000
508 CYPRESS RD	1,050	2	2	1978	None	1	8,000	61	\$275,000	\$275,000
425 TERRAPIN RD	990	2	2	1989	None	1	8,000	9	\$289,900	\$285,000
280 W SEMINOLE DR	1,420	2	2	1974	None	1	8,000	10	\$320,000	\$300,000
631 HOBART RD	1,458	2	2	1988	None	2	10,000	10	\$339,900	\$304,000
1640 SATURN RD	1,512	3	2	1994	None	2	12,000	32	\$369,000	\$320,500
1208 PALMETTO DR	1,583	2	3	1964	Private		10,000	12	\$364,500	\$364,500
540 TERRAPIN RD	1,541	3	2	2005	None	2	8,000	11	\$395,000	\$365,000
2701 SHAMROCK DR	1,793	3	2	1995	None	2	10,000	47	\$369,900	\$369,500
748 PONDEROSA RD	1,445	3	2	1978	Private	1	8,000	38	\$399,000	\$375,000
724 CITRUS RD	1,674	3	2	1982	None	2	8,000	2	\$399,900	\$395,000
580 DOLPHIN RD	1,160	3	2	2004	Private	2	12,000	75	\$459,000	\$435,000
1041 POINCIANA RD	1,914	2	2	1989	Private	2	12,000	179	\$450,000	\$445,000
4004 COLEMAN RD	1,973	4	2	1986	None	2	10,001	46	\$449,900	\$449,900
531 CABANA RD	1,530	3	2	2022	None	2	8,000	126	\$464,900	\$460,000
1242 HUDSON RD	1,726	3	2	2023	None	2	8,000	6	\$595,000	\$592,500
288 NIGHTINGALE RD	2,118	3	2	1987	None	2	24,000	92	\$750,000	\$685,000
4910 LEMON BAY DR	2,194	3	2	1978	None	2	58,360	84	\$1,224,900	\$1,150,000

State of the Market

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

Real estate activity in South Venice Beach from February 16 to March 15 showed a slight uptick with 21 closings, although it remains slightly below historical market activity for this period. This increase in activity is notable despite challenges posed by an influx of new construction homes, particularly those with HOA fees and deed restrictions, which may not appeal universally to potential buyers seeking second homes or relocation options.

During this time, the highest sale here was the property at 4910 Lemon Bay Drive, which closed at \$1,150,000. This property's standout features included a beautiful renovation, full furnishings, a wrap-around deck, water views, and a prime location next to the Beach Ferry. On the other end, the lowest sale was a 2-bedroom, 2-bathroom property on Devon near Baffin Dr, which sold for \$235,500.

The market's average statistics remained steady, with an average selling price per square foot of \$280.54, an average sale price of \$408,162, and an average of 48 days on the market. Currently, there are 35 pending homes and 126 active listings in South Venice Beach, ranging in price from \$218,000 to \$1,149,000.

Despite challenges such as inventory issues and higher interest rates, the market shows promise for both buyers and sellers. At Ayers & Associates offices, at 718 Albee Rd West, demonstrated our expertise with the recent sale of twenty-five homes. Our office serves as a central hub for navigating the thriving real estate market, offering seamless transactions and even inviting visitors 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.



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