

REAVC

JULY – AUGUST 2024

"Dedicated to Those Who Have Already Served"

2024 BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF

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UPDATE ON THE JUNE 4 SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON

The atmosphere was warm and welcoming as close to 140 Retirees and guests signed in for the quarterly luncheon. Seven of the ten scholarship recipients, who were to be honored, attended with family and guests. Others still had school commitments. The 2024 REAVC scholarship recipients are: Gabriella Eckstrom, Spencer Gallimore, Victoria Garcia, Caleb Houston, Fisher Phillips, Lindsey Ramirez, Nisha Reddy, Maddox Rose, Viktor Sandor, and Victoria Stover.

After the initial opening remarks, an update was given on the Alameda Case and the work that is being done now by REAVC to protect retiree pensions. REAVC Board members have formed a committee and continue to present their concerns at the VCERA (Ventura County Employees' Retirement Association) monthly Board meeting. The issue has now been accepted by the California Supreme Court for hearing. Lawyers have donated many hours of legal advice to REAVC, but moving forward there is a need to ask the members for additional funding to assist with the costs of a presentation to the Supreme Court. Please look in upcoming newsletters for additional information on this important topic and all that is being pursued to protect your pensions and those of future employees.

The scholarship committee had applications from high school graduates (2024) to students working on their PhDs. All are bright, motivated and tireless young people who have goals to improve the world around them. Ten students were awarded one thousand dollars toward their tuition, books, etc.

Scholars shared gratitude to family members, parents and grandparents who have supported them and to REAVC for the financial contribution to their education. Listening to what they have accomplished these past years gives us all great hope about their contributions to our future.

Once again, the Chef and staff at Sterling Hills gave us delicious choices for our varied appetites. The Quarterly Luncheon is a valuable way to stay connected with past friends and co-workers and /or re-connect with those you may not have seen in years. Think about joining us for the September luncheon for tasty food, good friendships, and ways to stay updated with what is happening in our organization.

The September REAVC Luncheon is scheduled at noon on Tuesday, September 3, at the Sterling Hills Country Club on 901 Sterling Hills Drive, Camarillo. The last date to sign up or cancel without a service charge is August 22, 2024.

IMPORTANT NOTE REGARDING LUNCHEON "NO-SHOWS" AND CANCELLATION DEADLINES

REAVC is obligated to pay the full price (close to \$40) for ALL luncheons reserved, regardless of whether people attend. It is disappointing and an unnecessary expense for REAVC to pay for a meal that no one eats. Last-minute cancellations and no-shows at the luncheons are an issue for REAVC because they cause unnecessary expense to the general membership.

To address this issue and keep luncheon costs to members at \$10, the REAVC Board established the following policy:

Members who make reservations and do not show up or fail to cancel by the required date noted on the reservation form will be asked to pay the balance for the full cost of the meal, which is \$40. Therefore, you must cancel on or before the required date!

Of course, we recognize that emergencies may prevent you from submitting a timely cancellation or cause you to miss the luncheon. In that case, you may call (805) 644-7814 to request a waiver of the additional charge.

VCERA RETIREMENT BOARD NEWS – ART GOULET

April's investment results were disappointing, with a 2.0% loss bringing the portfolio value down to \$7.97 billion, or slightly below March's. However, the month of May saw a market rebound with the portfolio gaining 2.7%, boosting the market value to \$8.16 billion. For the fiscal year through May 30th, earnings have been 10.4%

At its April 29th meeting, the BoR approved a three-year extension of its contract with the Segal Company, VCERA's long-time Actuary.

On May 20th, after thorough deliberation and joint recommendations from the Chief Investment Officer (CIO) and the Investment Consultant, the BoR approved minor adjustments to VCERA's Asset Allocation targets, ranges, and benchmarks. These changes, to be phased in over the next three years, aim to slightly reduce risk while enhancing long-term gains.

The crucial role of the CIO, in collaboration with the Fiscal Staff, often goes unrecognized. They ensure that VCERA meets its retiree payroll obligations each month and has the cash needed to cover capital calls from our Private Market Managers.

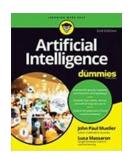
VCERA welcomes Anikka Abbott as the new Communications Officer. Anikka holds a master's degree in mass communication from the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Arizona State University. An interesting tidbit about her is that she is also an accomplished opera singer. If you would like to learn more about her, go to https://www.vcera.org/profile/anikka-abbott. We look forward to future VCERA Newsletters.

Also, VCERA is actively recruiting for an Investment Officer to assist the CIO. The number of VCERA's investments, especially in Private Markets, has increased substantially and grown more complex, necessitating additional support. More than 100 applications were received and are currently being reviewed.

Finally, VCERA-sponsored SB 1189 (Limon), which would add a CTO to the list of positions that may be VCERA, rather than County, employees passed out of the Assembly on June 26 and went to the Governor for signature. There is no registered opposition to the bill.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Ben Emami uses Constant Contact to send the newsletter via email. If you need to update your contact information, please contact Ben via info@reavc.org or REAVC, P.O. Box 7231, Ventura, CA 93006. Please indicate "Address Update" on written correspondence. You can save REAVC dollars to use for other membership needs by requesting a PDF version of the newsletter by email at info@reavc.org.

PAPA B1 - BY BUTCH BRITT ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE – IT AIN'T ARTIFICIAL AND IT AIN'T INTELLIGENT



Some things really frost me. How can something be artificial and intelligent at the same time? Kinda like when I was in the military, and they had this section called "Military Intelligence." Now I met some of these folks, most weren't very smart, and artificial was more than they could pronounce. Really not very impressive. Certainly not the stalwart young heroes shown on TV,

dodging bullets, leaping over moving cars, walking away from explosions, and saving the world, in less than 60 minutes, commercials included.

Well, I wasn't much better. I failed my physical training test every year – although I tried every conniving way that I could think of to get out of taking it. I couldn't bend over from the waist and touch my toes. Something genetic – or just too fat. Nearly always ripped the seat of my pants when I tried, but that didn't stop them. No, they just sent me a notice that I had to schedule a re-test in six weeks. If I'd had any artificial intelligence or money, I would have hired someone to take the test for me. I just conveniently forgot to reschedule.

Usually once a year, they would catch all of us malingerers and march us out to the parade ground and make us take the annual test. Do you know how hot it gets on an asphalt parade ground in July? Think of that warm place down below, and multiply by 600. Darn hot!

Well, I still couldn't touch my toes, so I failed again. At least I found some stretchy pants to wear, so I didn't eternally embarrass myself with my polka-dot underwear again. I would eventually get a notice to reschedule in six weeks, or whenever I got more respectful underwear, whichever came first. I did find out that if I didn't reschedule, I wouldn't get caught again for another year, when the Military Intelligence types rounded everyone up to go to the parade grounds for the annual test.

I never did figure out why not being able to bend over and touch my toes was critical to my job. All I did was sit at a desk and fill out paperwork. Mostly forms, white ones, red ones, yellow ones, even some salacious pink ones. We didn't have copy machines back then. And worse luck, I was colorblind! I was continually sending the wrong color form to the wrong place.

You know what the penalty for sending the wrong color form to the wrong place is? I never found out because, when they sent it back, I just wrote on the top, "Yellow Form – Substitute." It must have worked, because they kept me around for 20 years, gave me a few awards and a pension, and sent me on my way. I still get periodic notices to show up on the parade ground in mid-July for the annual physical test, but I either ignore them or send back a handwritten note – "Color Blind – Substitute Yellow Form."

It's worked for 38 years. I still get my monthly pension check for valiantly defending my Country from nefarious rubber band thieves and turning in those no-gooders that did not recycle their old forms. It was dangerous! I suffered innumerable papercuts and ruined several shirt pockets from leaking ballpoint pens. They even increase my pension check every year by something called COLA. I show those Military Intelligence folks by sneaking out and spending the whole COLA amount on Pepsi.

But I am getting worried. I recently got a notice to show up on the parade ground mid-July at 05:30 (that's 5:30 AM), or my military retirement pension might be cancelled. I think it's from the new Artificial Intelligence group. They even spelled my name right, so I think that it is an Artificial Intelligence generated notice. Dem guys never quit! The last notice contained instructions to contact someone at the phone number listed at the bottom of the notice. But there was no name or phone number on the notice. The notice even set itself on fire after 30 minutes, or maybe I put it into the recycle bin.

They may not understand the hardship of being color blind, or the embarrassment of splitting my pants while trying to bend over again and touch my toes. Old PapaB has increased his prior substantial girth in the interim 38 years, and they don't make stretch pants big enough for my current physique.

They are now even threatening to cut off my pension, since I haven't answered the last 38 years of notices. If I don't show up, they must reluctantly determine that I am dead.

Hope to see you at the next REAVC luncheon. I'll be the fat old guy trying to sell See's Candy gift cards in the back, under the potted plants. If I look a little scruffier than usual and have a "PLEASE TIP" sign and a bowl in front of me, you'll know that I wasn't successful in convincing the Artificial Intelligence group that I'm not dead yet and that my military pension has been discontinued.

All they said was "Yellow Form – Substitute - Thank you for your service."

SEE's Candy Gift Card Sales

By Butch Britt

REAVC is selling \$25 See's CANDIES gift cards at a cost to members of \$21 each. The gift cards do not expire. They are relatively easy to mail or use as holiday gifts. But remember, they are only worth \$25 of See's merchandise.



You can place an order for gift cards:

- 1. Via the postal service at REAVC P.O. Box 7231, Ventura CA 93006
- 2. By ordering over the phone at 805-644-7814
- 3. Or visit our See's CANDY table at the luncheons usually set up in some convenient location like behind the potted plants.

IN MEMORIUM

LOVED ONES LIVE ON IN OUR HEARTS FOREVER



JOYCE BEEBE ROBERT KLEE **DAVE BRANHAM GEORGE LAWHEAD**

TONNA BRODIE GLENDA S. MASON EVELYN PARKS **SUSAN PORTEUS**

MARJORIE HIER

MARY KELTING MAREE JEAN PENHART

The surviving spouse of a member is eligible for REAVC membership. Applications are on the **REAVC website at:** www.reavc.org.

QUOTATION CORNER

Keep your face always toward the sunshine, and shadows will fall behind you. - Walt Whitman

I choose a lazy person to do a hard job because a lazy person will find an easy way to do it. - Bill Gates

Breath is the power behind all things...I breathe in and know that good things will happen. - Tao Porchon-Lynch

Rabbits jump, and they live for 8 years. Dogs run, and they live for 15 years. Turtles do nothing and live for 150 years. Lesson learned. - Anonymous

CONGRATULATIONS TO NEW RETIREES					
SHAWN	ATIN	COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE	3/26/2024		
BRIAN DEAN	BAKER	SHERIFF'S OFFICE	3/22/2024		
DARRYL PATRICK	BALCOM	SHERIFF'S OFFICE	3/29/2024		
JOAN	BAZALDUA	DISTRICT ATTORNEY	3/30/2024		
LETICIA	BAZALDUA	PROBATION AGENCY	3/29/2024		
LI-MEI-LING	BARANOFF	HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY	3/30/2024		
BRUCE ANTHONY	BELLUSCHI	PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY	5/1/2024		
GLORIA JEAN	BOOGREN	HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY	3/30/2024		
WENDY TORREVILLAS	BRILLANTES	HEALTH CARE AGENCY	4/25/2024		
JASON CURTIS	CANTRALL	SHERIFF'S OFFICE	3/29/2024		
MARIA	CARILLO	FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT	4/2/2024		
STEVEN LEE	CERIO	SHERIFF'S OFFICE	3/30/2024		
DEAN DE WAYNE	соок	SHERIFF'S OFFICE	3/30/2024		
DENISE J	CORTEZ-CHAVEZ	HEALTH CARE AGENCY	3/16/2024		
THOMAS RENE	COUTURE	SHERIFF'S OFFICE	3/29/2024		
MARIA CAMPOS	DAVIES	DISTRICT ATTORNEY	4/12/2024		
ANA	DE LA VEGA	CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES	5/4/2024		
JAMES ANDRE	DE SOTO	SHERIFF'S OFFICE	3/27/2024		
ВЕТН А	DEMPSEY	HEALTH CARE AGENCY	3/2/2024		
CARLA DAY	DENNIS	ASSESSOR	3/12/2024		
JULIA A	DIXON	PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY	3/16/2024		
RANDY THOMAS	DOWNARD	SHERIFF'S OFFICE	3/30/2024		
ERNEST J	DRAGAN	RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY	3/15/2024		
JAMES ANTHONY	ESPINOZA	DISTRICT ATTORNEY	3/30/2024		
MICHAEL WEI-MING	FINE	FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT	3/30/2024		
DIANE	FOSS	HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY	4/1/2024		
THERESE JANE	GARMAN	HEALTH CARE AGENCY	4/27/2024		
MARC	GIORDANO	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES	3/30/2024		
ELIZABETH	GUERRERO	PROBATION AGENCY	3/30/2024		
MARIA C	GUZMAN	HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY	3/30/2024		
ANNA ASTERINO	HALL	COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE	4/27/2024		
ROBERT LEE	HARRIS	GENERAL SERVICES AGENCY	3/23/2024		
KEITH B	HELM	FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT	3/27/2024		
HOPE	HERNANDEZ	SUPERIOR COURT	4/9/2024		
JANETTE KATHERINE	HERTZOG	HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY	2/2/2024		
JASON	HOFFMAN	VENTURA REGIONAL SANITATION DISTRICT	4/28/2024		
MARCIA LOUISE	HOFFSTADT	HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY	3/29/2024		
CLINT E	HOOPER	HEALTH CARE AGENCY	2/23/2024		
CHRYSTAL	HORTON	FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT	3/17/2024		
TODD CHRISTOPHER	INGLIS	SHERIFF'S OFFICE	3/30/2024		
MARY ANN	JORDAN	PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY	3/30/2024		
DEBORAH-ANN DOANE	KALLA	SUPERIOR COURT	4/6/2024		
ROBERT STEVEN	KAUFMANN	FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT	2/13/2024		
LENY	LACSON	HEALTH CARE AGENCY	3/29/2024		

IAN PATRICK	LAUGHLIN	SHERIFF'S OFFICE	3/30/2024
MARLA	LIRA	CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES	3/2/2024
JERRY	LOPEZ	SHERIFF'S OFFICE	3/29/2024
PATRICIA	LOPEZ	CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES	3/30/2024
SILVIA	LOPEZ-NAVARRO	HEALTH CARE AGENCY	4/12/2024
DIANA	LUGO-ZENNER	HEALTH CARE AGENCY	4/27/2024
ROBERT ALAN	MACLEAN	SHERIFF'S OFFICE	3/30/2024
BARBARA L	MAKI	SUPERIOR COURT	3/16/2024
KAYE	MAND	COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE	3/30/2024
JACQUELINE	MC CAULEY	HEALTH CARE AGENCY	3/30/2024
JEAN	MCPHERSON	HEALTH CARE AGENCY	4/27/2024
JEFFREY SCOTT	MILLER	SHERIFF'S OFFICE	3/30/2024
YOLANDA	MONTESINOS TORRALBA	HEALTH CARE AGENCY	4/7/2024
GARY	MORALES	SHERIFF'S OFFICE	3/29/2024
PATRICIA SUSAN	MORUA-WIDDOWS	SUPERIOR COURT	3/16/2024
JANET L	NIEVES	HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY	3/30/2024
VIRGINIA TORRES	ORTIZ	HEALTH CARE AGENCY	3/20/2024
YOLANDA	PASMANT	HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY	3/30/2024
IMELDA	PEINADO	HEALTH CARE AGENCY	3/20/2024
DIANE	PEREZ	HEALTH CARE AGENCY	3/23/2024
JEFFERY T	PRATT	PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY	3/30/2024
KIMBERLY L	PRILLHART	RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY	3/30/2024
LISA MARIE MCCALL	PULIDO	CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES	3/23/2024
ARLENE MARIE	RAMIREZ	SUPERIOR COURT	3/27/2024
BETSY ANN	RAMIREZ	DISTRICT ATTORNEY	4/27/2024
MARTHA T	RICO	PROBATION AGENCY	3/17/2024
DELLA	ROSALES	SHERIFF'S OFFICE	4/24/2024
BRIDGET	RUIZ	SUPERIOR COURT	4/6/2024
FRANCES FARANAK	SALEH	SHERIFF'S OFFICE	3/22/2024
LENA	SANTISTEVAN	HEALTH CARE AGENCY	4/26/2024
ADONEA NITA	SCOTT	FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT	3/30/2024
ANGELICA	SCOTT	HEALTH CARE AGENCY	3/14/2024
SUSAN	SEILER	RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY	3/30/2024
JENNIFER ANNE	SEZZI	SHERIFF'S OFFICE	3/27/2024
ROBERT CLIFTON	STEELE	SHERIFF'S OFFICE	3/22/2024
CHARLES A	SULLENBARGER	FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT	3/3/2024
ROBERT BRUCE	SZCZEPANEK	FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT	3/27/2024
ERIC LEE	TAYLOR	SHERIFF'S OFFICE	3/29/2024
JOEL	TIVIN	VENTURA COUNTY LIBRARY	4/19/2024
CYNTHIA	TUAZON	HEALTH CARE AGENCY	3/30/2024
DEXTER	TUAZON	HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY	4/1/2024
ROSA CARMINA	VALLADARES-RENTERIA	HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY SUBERIOR COURT	3/2/2024
WILLA ANN KIMBERLY RAE	VIETINGHOFF WILBUR	SUPERIOR COURT HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY	4/13/2024 3/18/2024
MONA	WOOLWINE	PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY	3/18/2024 5/11/2024
JOHN ROBERT	WRIGHT	SHERIFF'S OFFICE	3/30/2024
JAIME LUIS	ZENDEJAS	PROBATION AGENCY	3/31/2024
WHITE EOIS	LENDERO	THOUSE HOLDER	3/31/2024

REAVC LIST OF SOCIAL SERVICES

The first number to call for information or "where to find whatever" is 211. This help line has an incredible list of all County services and is available 24 hours a day. The following is a list of varied services throughout the County, some of which have been shared with us by other seniors who recommend them.

Ventura Crisis Line 800-273-8255
Area Agency on Aging VCAAA.org
Food Share Foodshare.com
W.I.C. FNS.usda.gov/wic

Knights of Columbus Kofc.org

Home Helpers homehelpershomecare.com
Many Meals manymealsofcamarillo.org

Ventura Avenue Adult Center 805-648-3035 Independent Living Resource Center ilrc-trico.org Livingston Hospice Care lmvna.org

Senior Concerns seniorconcerns.org

Home Caregivers of Ventura caring.com/senior-care 800-973-1540

Senior Council on Aging, Camarillo NCOa.org

Camarillo Council on Aging cityofcamarillo.org/residents/seniors

Housing Resources guide Camarillo cityofcamarillo.org
Ventura Downtown Lions Club venturalions.org

Salvation Army ventura.salvationarmy.org
Help at Salvation Army needhelppayingbills.com
Catholic Charities catholiccharitiesusa.org
Livingston Visiting Nurses Bereavement Group Imvna.org-grief&bereavement

Turning Point turningpointfoundation.org
Project Understanding projectunderstanding.org

One Stop showers, mail delivery vchca.org/health-care-for-the-homeless

Four Generations Foundation fourgenerations foundation.org
Senior Support Line camhealth.com/senior-support-line
NAMI National Alliance nami.org programs and services

Ventura Counseling/Wellness Center venturacwc.org

Alzheimers Association alz.org

Oxnard Rescue Mission vcrescuemission.org
Genesis Program genesisprograms.com

Prototypes healthright360.org/agency/prototypes

AA Alcoholics Anonymous aaventuracounty.org

Alanon/Alateen alanonventura.org al-anon.org

On Right side is Alateen

Dept of Rehab dor.ca.gov

Housing Hotline hud.gov/states/california/renting 800-477-5977

United Parents unitedparents.org

Whole Person Care wholepersoncare@ventura.org 805-339-1122

Diversity Collective diversity collective vc.org

Rainbow Umbrella diversity collective vc.org/services/#youth-services

Veteran's Crisis Line veteranscrisisline.net

Bereavement groups at Churches, etc. griefshare.org

Sliding scale therapy:

Jewish Family Services federation@Jewishventuracounty.org

Cal Lutheran clucounseling.org

New Beginnings thenewbeginningscenter.com



Job postings are up! To find out more: Go to **VenturaVote.Org** Email: electionworker@ventura.org Call: 805-654-2664



Please join us! Ventura County Election Worker positions are posted for the November 5, 2024, General Election.

We hope you will consider applying for this short-term employment with the Ventura County Elections Division, whether or not you've previously worked in an election.

The skills, commitment and professionalism of County workers are the qualities that we want in the Election Workers we hire. Ventura County is known for its well-run. secure elections and we would love you to be part of our team.

For more information:

Go to: venturavote.org

Email: electionworker@ventura.org

Call: 805-654-2664

AUGUST 22 IS THE LAST DAY TO SIGN UP!



REAVC Autumn Luncheon

Tuesday, September 3, 2024, at 12:00 p.m.
Sterling Hills Country Club
901 Sterling Hills Drive, Camarillo, CA 93010
(Doors Will Open at 11:00 a.m.)

COST: \$10 for REAVC Members and Guests

We will celebrate Autumn and hope you will join in the fun!!!

Reservations must be made in advance by completing the form below and mailing it, along with a check payable to REAVC, to the following address: REAVC - Luncheon P.O. Box 7231

Ventura CA 93006-7231

Registration form for the REAVC Autumn Luncheon September 3, 2024.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name(s) of REA	VC Member(s):		
Phone No.:	Email: (*Required for Conj	firmation)	
Name(s) of Gue	est(s):		_
	Payment Included for:	Member(s) at \$10.00 =	
		Guest(s) at \$10.00 =	
		Total Amount Enclosed:	

The deadline for both reservations and cancellations is Thursday, August 22, 2024!

IMPORTANT NOTE: Anyone who makes a reservation, does not attend the luncheon, and fails to cancel by August 22, 2024, will be responsible for the entire cost of the luncheon. An exception may be made in case of an emergency. Only attendees who provide an email will be sent confirmation of their reservation.

Reserve early! Once the seating limit is reached, reservations are wait-listed. For questions regarding reservations or cancellations, please contact: Anne Dana at 1-805-320-6408, or info@reavc.org