



Oh no! It's TAX time!!

South Venice Beach Wave

APRIL 2026

The heart of South Venice since 1955

FRIDAY, April 3 5:15pm

***Fish Fry
Friday is
back!***



SEE THE DETAILS ON PAGE 3

FRIDAY, April 10

**TRIVIA
Night**

SEE THE DETAILS ON PAGE 3

MONDAY, April 20 7:00pm

General Meeting

Join us to get all the news, visit neighbors and enjoy coffee and desserts. Our speaker this month will be Corky Dalton, columnist at the Venice Gondolier.

FRIDAY, April 17 6:00pm



**MUSIC
BINGO
NIGHT**

DOORS OPEN 5:30pm

GAMES BEGIN 6:00pm

OPTIONAL PIZZA AND SNACKS

Prizes for Winners!

Pre-register at website

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Monday, April 13 at 3:30pm

GARDEN CLUB

Monday, April 20 at 12:30pm

BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, April 21 at 1:00pm



An army of volunteers made the 2026 Plant and Rummage Sale happen

Just look at this crowd! Here are just some of the many volunteers whose commitment made this year's Garden Club Plant and Rummage Sale happen. They took a pause in the set up work for this photo. The event was on March 7 and drew hundreds of gardeners and shoppers who scooped up the plants the Club cultivated all year for this sale. More photos on page xx. Well done!! (See more on page 5)

Albert Frick sent this delightful shot by Julie McLaren of the SVCA building and the Pickleball Courts. We shall consider this an omen for their success and ours!



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:

Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday
9:00am to 1:00pm

www.southvenice.org
svca@southvenice.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sandy Tulenko	Bobbie Drummond
Susan Juranek	Gary Parker
Rick Curwood	John Copps

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Jodie Cooper

South Venice Beach WAVE

Editor: Maureen Holland
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GOT SOMETHING TO SAY?

We love to hear from you!

SEND LETTERS TO: maureenholland@comcast.net

Names may be withheld from publication by request.

All letters are subject to review.



**Community Media is the
exclusive publisher of
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South Venice Beach Wave

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The SVCA, its Board of Directors or its assigns will not be held liable for any services provided, work performed or offers made by any advertiser appearing in *The Wave*.



At our March 16 general meeting, we heard from Venice historian Josh Goodman who spoke about the history and development of the Tamiami Trail.

Upcoming April General Meeting

Our guest speaker for the April 20 General Meeting will be Corky Dalton, a regular contributor to *The Venice Gondolier*. Corky will be talking about Florida's Invasive Species. Many of our South Venice residents are transplants from other parts of the country and may not know that plants that behaved in northern climates tend to go wild in our tropical weather.

Learn what to plant and what to remove. Planting native species benefit our wildlife and generally do better with less water, fertilizer and pruning.

As always, the meeting is open to all and will be followed by coffee and delicious homemade treats from Staci Fiorentino (who has been baking and serving at General Meetings since last year).

HOW TO CONTACT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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SOUTH VENICE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

TRIVIA NIGHT

Looking for a fun night out?

Friday, April 10
5:30pm Doors Open
6:00pm Trivia
\$5/person

Register your team of no more than 6
Prizes for winning team
Please register in advance at
southvenice.org/calendar
Snacks & beverages available for purchase

South Venice Civic Association
720 Alligator Dr. 941-493-0006



Join Us for Food & Fun!

Fish Fry Friday 4/3

\$15 Members \$18 Non-Members
Door Open at 5 pm, Dinner at 6 pm

- Choice of Fried Grouper, Fried Shrimp, Fried Combo, or Baked Grouper
- Dinner includes French Fries, Hush Puppies, Coleslaw, & Dessert
- Alcohol for Purchase

Limited Seating Available
Book Online at
southvenice.org
720 Alligator Drive, Venice



Let's get moving! TAKE A CLASS AT SVCA

Monday and Friday 8:30am to 9:15am

ZUMBA

With Tricia Petrinovich. First class is free, then either a punch card (where classes are \$5 each) or \$10 drop-ins.

More info at tpetrinovich@icloud.com

YOGA with JODIE Wednesdays

9:00 to 10:00am \$10/class

Note: No class on March 4



LINE DANCING with John Rude

MONDAYS (except third Monday) at 7:00pm

Relax, Unwind and Relax

The cost is \$10/class. Please bring your own water and come on out to have a good time.

NEW! Tai Chi/Qi Gong

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FROM TERESA GOOD, SHAMROCK PARK

What's up at the Park



Demonstration Garden Tour First Friday of each month. Meet in the Demonstration Garden. Master Gardener volunteers will be in the Demonstration Garden at Shamrock Park to answer questions, provide free tours and give expert advice on Florida-Friendly landscaping. No registration necessary.

Plant Clinic – Second Saturday of every month/10:00am to noon/ Shamrock Park Nature Center/ Florida Master Gardeners will be 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.

Looking for Volunteers – Are you outgoing, love nature and looking for a fun way to spend 3 hours a day volunteering in your community? Joining us would be a great way to help our and visitors learn about our native habitats and animals. If you are interested, please email Teresa Good at tjgood@scgov.net. I would love to hear from you!

Welcome to our newest members

Carol Tira	Patricia Wright
Bill Burns	Michele Rapp
Susan Gallacher	Josee Baril
Mary Gauthier	Corey Smith

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SOUTH VENICE GARDEN CLUB

Clippings

FROM DEBBIE SULLIVAN

At our March meeting, we heard from Maria Elisabeth McIntyre, a registered Florida Beekeeper and vice president of the Suncoast Beekeepers Association presented "Honey Bees in Your Garden – How to Create a Garden that Both You and the Bees Can Enjoy."

We learned that:

- Bees recognize people they have seen before.
- They can see infrared rays, but humans can't. There are three types of bees--the queen, workers, and drones. The worker bees are the only ones that sting. The drones don't have stingers. When a bee returns to the hive, it does a kind of dance that tells other bees where to find flower nectar, how far away the flowers are, and even the quality of the nectar.
- Bees are actually playful; we saw a picture of them playing with little balls. They can recognize people and other critters, and they know friendly from unfriendly.

Absolutely fascinating talk -- the complicated role of the Queen who gets only one flight, the deadly job of the males that give their lives for the right to mate with her, and the powers of selection she has among her 20 suitors.

Some well-known bee-friendly bushes are beauty berry, fiddle wood, fire bush, and holly. Lesser-known bee-

friendly plants are swamp rose (both native and thornless); green onions (plant them and let them bloom); Heirloom asparagus, Ever-sweet strawberries, and dragon fruit.

Upcoming events:

Monday, April 20 1pm—Monthly meeting, all welcome. Forrest Hecker, Community and Employee Educator I at UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability, Sarasota County will speak on "The return of the Atala Butterfly and How to Attract Butterflies to our Yards."

Monday, May 18—Potluck dinner and last gathering until September 21, all welcome. Time to be announced.

Join us! Club members are female and male gardeners with all levels of expertise and experience. Follow us on Facebook at South Venice Garden Club Public Group.

TOP LEFT: Several club members enjoyed a visit to the Naples Botanical Garden.

LEFT: We also recently visited Echo Global Farm in North Fort Myers.



ABOVE: Mary Ann Stiling, Diane Clark, and Linda Cullinane helped sort the many donations for the Plant and Rummage Sale.

BELOW: Jessika Winski and Marilyn Schnars sold chili, hot dogs, and other food items during the sale.



From Heather's Kitchen



Heather Villalba has long volunteered in our kitchen. Here she shares her secrets!

There's something about carrot cake that feels like home. Maybe it's the warm spices, the sweetness of freshly grated carrots, or the way it always seems to appear at just the right moments—spring gatherings, family dinners, and celebrations big and small. In many families, carrot cake is more than just dessert; it's tradition. This version keeps things simple by starting with a box cake mix and turning it into something extra special with a few easy additions. It's the kind of recipe that brings everyone into the kitchen—mixing, laughing, and sneaking little tastes along the way. Whether you're continuing a family tradition or starting a new one, this carrot cake is sure to bring smiles to your table.

Better Than Box Carrot Cake—Ingredients

- 1 box spice cake mix (can use carrot cake box mix)
- ½ cup canola or light olive oil
- 4 large eggs
- 1 cup milk
- ½ cup sour cream
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 cup shredded carrots

Optional Add Ins: Mix and match to suit your taste. Be careful not to add too many as they can weigh the cake down.

- 1 cup crushed pineapple, drained
- ½ cup chopped pecans
- ½ cup sweetened coconut

- ½ cup raisins
- ¾ cups chocolate chips

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 350°F.
2. Grease two round cake pans, a cupcake pan, or a 9x13 baking dish.
3. In a large bowl, mix box cake mix, oil, eggs, milk, sour cream, and vanilla until smooth.
4. Fold in carrots and any optional add-ins.
5. Pour batter into prepared pan.
6. Bake according to box directions or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean.
7. Let cool in pan for 10 minutes, then transfer to a cooling rack to cool completely.
8. Once cooled, frost with cream cheese frosting and enjoy!

Cream Cheese Frosting—Ingredients

- 8 oz cream cheese, softened
- 8 oz unsalted butter, softened
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 lb powdered sugar (about 4 cups)
- Squeeze of lemon

Instructions

1. In a large bowl, beat the cream cheese and butter until smooth and creamy.
2. Add the vanilla extract and a squeeze of lemon. Mix until combined.
3. Gradually add the powdered sugar, beating until smooth and fluffy.
4. Continue mixing until the frosting is thick enough to hold its shape but still easy to spread.

This frosting is rich and creamy—a perfectly sweet finishing touch for this carrot cake!

GOT AN EVENT? You can rent the hall!

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DID YOU KNOW?

SVCA is now in its 76th year!

Yup! A group of residents formed the SVCA in 1955 and we've been going strong ever since. And this newsletter has been published continuously since its first issue in 1956. Thousands of members and volunteers did it. Hundreds of leaders who stepped up and served on the Board, various committees. And the amazing individuals who took the initiative and organized events—both civic and social. Our history makes us matter—it defines us as a community.

YOU are today's members and volunteers. Know that your membership fees are the engine that keeps us going. Supplemental revenue from rentals and events are very important, but it's your membership that makes us who we are—and keeps the lights on! Just as important, your membership is your commitment to our community. Maintaining the community hall and grounds cost more each year so WE NEED TO GROW OUR MEMBERSHIP.

You can help! So here is an ask from your SVCA—can you recruit just one neighbor? We will get stronger with every single membership and you can be part of that.

So, what does your neighbor get when they join?

There are regular social events where we can meet with our neighbors and enjoy local bands, dancing, dinners. with music. They can be part of the Garden Club, the Book Club, multiple classes including Yoga, Zumba, Tai Chi and Line Dancing. Members get this newsletter every month and discount tickets to our events. They get access to our new Pickleball Courts. Plus at our monthly meetings, we hear from County officials and other interesting speakers. Most important though, with their membership they support our ability to be their voice in the County.

How they can join — It's easy! They can join online, call the office with a credit card, or better yet, stop over during office hours.

The heart of South Venice since 1955

For 70 years, the SVCA has been here for South Venice, for YOU!



**With your support, we are a strong voice
in Sarasota County**

MEMBERSHIP MAKES US STRONG!

When we're strong, we are heard at the County on civic and service issues that affect South Venice— like tree trimming, ditch mowing, code enforcement, mosquito spraying, drain maintenance, zoning, permitting, water and sewer.

Together, we work to keep South Venice Beach a community to be proud of!

70 YEARS OF: Beautiful Neighborhoods Initiative • Water Quality Task Force • Siesta Waterway Clean-up • Trash Buddies • Shamrock Park Clean-up • Community Emergency Response Team • International Coastal Cleanup • Government Affairs Committee to track issues and liaise with Sarasota County

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

APRIL 2026

			1	2	3 ZUMBA 8:30—9:15am FISH FRY 5:00pm	4
5	6 ZUMBA 8:30—9:15am LINE DANCE CLASS 7:00pm	7 TAI CHI 10:00am	8 YOGA 9:00am	9	10 ZUMBA 8:30—9:15am TRIVIA NIGHT 5:30pm	11
12	13 ZUMBA 8:30-9:15am BOARD MEETING 3:30pm public 4:00pm executive	14 TAI CHI 10:00am	15	16	17 ZUMBA 8:30—9:15am	18
19	20 ZUMBA 8:30—9:15am GARDEN CLUB 12:30pm GENERAL MEETING 7:00pm	21 TAI CHI 10:00am BOOK CLUB 1:00pm	22 YOGA 9:00am	23	24 ZUMBA 8:30—9:15am	25
26	27 ZUMBA 8:30—9:15am LINE DANCE CLASS 7:00pm	28 TAI CHI 10:00am	29 YOGA 9:00am	30		

**South Venice Civic Association**

720 ALLIGATOR DRIVE, South Venice

**Happy Spring! From:****MASTER PLUMBERS****Plumbing**

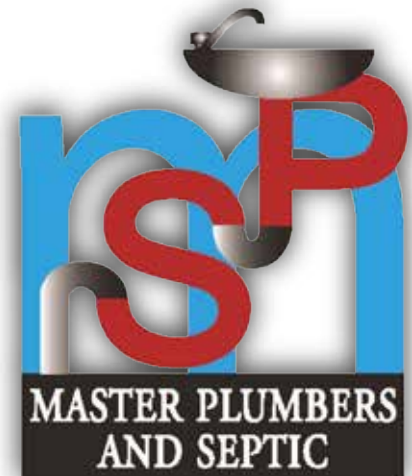
- Repipes & Repairs
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- Backflows
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We only know him as MAMA'S BESTIE, but we do know that this future gardener (or fireman?) came to help set up for the Garden Sale—and pick up some tips!



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Best of Venice 2025



Relaxing with Technology

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I'm going to share a story about "Joe".

Yes, his name has been changed to protect him. During his regular cleaning, he mentioned that he felt constantly on alert when his kids were in town. While out to dinner, he had to look at who was speaking to make sure he heard clearly. When at home, he was always listening for someone to speak to him.

Joe bought mid-level technology four years ago when he lived up north. Now that they are full-time residents and more active with people coming to visit, he has noticed that his hearing aids aren't keeping up.

I offered him a chance to try premium-level hearing aids for a few days so he could hear the difference. Premium technology offers better clarity in noisy situations, and I recommend my socially active clients try them.

He came in beaming.

Joe shared that he and his wife went to eat at Bogey's and golf was on one of the channels. His wife was talking about one of the kids while he was watching the golf. He responded to her question, and in mid-sentence, yelled about the amazing golf shot that just happened.

He went on to explain that in that moment, he realized he was just hanging out. He wasn't intensely focused on his wife while out to eat. He was just being casual.

With his new hearing aids, he has enjoyed being relaxed and at ease while listening to his family and friends when they get together.

As I shared with him, the higher the technology the more heavy lifting they will provide so you can relax. Some of the new dual chips have technology that listens for clues to enhance hearing. If people walking is noticed then the speech module will brighten in anticipation of someone talking to you. When the clanking of dishes is heard, the chaos of noise is dampened. All this occurs in the background without your need to do anything.

If you would like to try hearing aids that can help you relax while out with friends and family, call me to demo premium hearing aids.



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HOME SALES January 1 to February 28, 2026

Address	HTB	BE	FB	Built	Pool	Garage	Lot Size	ADOM	List Price	Close Price
610 ALLIGATOR DR	1,942	2	2	1993	Private	6	14,820	249	\$749,000	\$748,000
4741 LEMON BAY DR	1,482	3	2	1955	Private	1	12,000	8	\$559,000	\$551,000
931 PIEDMONT RD	1,976	3	2	2003	Private	3	12,000	1	\$520,000	\$520,000
1198 JAMAICA RD	1,611	3	2	1986	Private	2	12,000	172	\$449,900	\$430,000
5848 DIANA RD	1,614	3	2	1999	Private	2	8,000	11	\$449,000	\$427,500
1157 DUQUESNE RD.	2,117	3	3	2025	None	2	10,543	3	\$404,750	\$410,000
350 BUCKNELL RD	1,599	4	2	2025	None	2	8,000	173	\$419,900	\$405,000
3181 FALLOW RD	1,911	4	2	1999	Private	2	16,000	118	\$399,000	\$395,000
2679 ENGLEWOOD RD	2,117	3	3	2024	None	2	8,000	609	\$425,250	\$390,000
2593 ENGLEWOOD RD	1,755	3	2	2024	None	2	8,000	616	\$398,942	\$387,000
2941 DATURA RD	1,773	3	2	1979	Private	2	10,000	151	\$395,000	\$385,000
3695 SHAMROCK DR	1,454	3	2	1979	None	1	8,000	4	\$369,000	\$365,000
55 TULANE RD	1,353	3	2	1996	None	2	8,000	167	\$349,000	\$349,000
664 LINDEN RD	1,512	3	2	2024	None	2	8,000	631	\$352,425	\$340,000
201 DRAGON RD	1,471	3	2	1966	Private	1	12,000	28	\$334,900	\$334,000
881 POLARIS RD	1,143	2	2	1974	Private	1	12,000	53	\$349,000	\$330,000
330 FALKLAND RD	1,267	2	2	1979	None	1	8,000	25	\$324,900	\$323,000
1560 POINCIANA RD	1,688	3	2	1963	None		12,975	35	\$320,000	\$315,000
2983 ODESSA RD	1,750	2	2	1985	None	2	8,000	113	\$319,900	\$307,500
960 PORPOISE RD	1,285	2	2	1979	None	1	8,000	63	\$325,000	\$305,000
3091 SUNSET BEACH DR	1,079	2	2	1966	None	1	9,000	24	\$309,000	\$305,000
229 S QUINCY RD	1,470	2	2	2013	None	1	8,000	7	\$285,000	\$290,000
1460 EVEREST RD	1,200	2	1	1968	Private	1	12,000	309	\$299,999	\$289,000
4700 NEPTUNE RD	1,101	3	2	1973	Private	2	12,000	272	\$290,000	\$275,000
220 MORNINGSIDE RD	1,057	2	2	1970	None	1	8,000	28	\$269,900	\$269,900
3170 GALIOT RD	2,408	4	2	1974	None		8,000	40	\$289,000	\$265,500
322 OLIVIA RD	988	2	2	1987	None	1	8,000	20	\$269,900	\$264,000
4445 ALLIGATOR DR	1,072	2	2	1973	None	1	8,000	7	\$268,500	\$260,000
460 GRANT RD	1,373	2	2	1977	None	2	8,000	3	\$235,900	\$250,000
4850 NEPTUNE RD	929	2	2	1977	None	1	8,000	123	\$249,000	\$249,000
3151 SUNSET BEACH DR	966	2	1	1966	None	1	10,291	15	\$249,900	\$238,500
161 DRAGON RD	1,064	2	2	1981	Private	1	10,000	6	\$207,000	\$227,400
1040 JAMAICA RD	1,271	2	2	1972	None	1	10,000	47	\$229,900	\$208,000
1472 NANTUCKET RD	1,003	2	2	1989	None	1	8,000	326	\$269,500	\$205,000
655 CARMEL RD	818	2	1	1971	None	1	8,000	8	\$195,000	\$195,000
5984 DIANA RD	1,150	2	2	1973	None	1	8,000	35	\$249,000	\$195,000
280 EIDER RD	1,128	2	2	1977	None	1	8,000	3	\$185,000	\$187,000
36 TULANE RD	1,072	2	2	1968	None	1	8,000	10	\$219,999	\$140,000

Data is based on information from Stellar MLS and sourced by Ayers & Associates Real Estate, Katheren E. Ayers Licensed Real Estate Broker, for the period December 16, 2025 to January 15, 2026



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State of the Market

From **KELLY ANN AYERS, Ayers & Associates**



Spring has arrived in Venice, bringing beautiful weather, Gulf breezes, and steady real estate activity across South Venice Beach - there is truly no better time of year to appreciate just how special our coastal lifestyle and along with those picture-perfect blue skies, this community draws people here year after year. Whether it's a morning walk along the shoreline, a bike ride, or an afternoon on the water, this is the season where South Venice Beach really shines. It also continues to be one of the most comfortable and inviting places to call home—not just because of the weather, but because of the lifestyle. With easy access to the beach ferry, boating, fishing, and the Legacy Trail nearby, our community offers a relaxed coastal feel that is increasingly hard to find elsewhere.

By the Numbers—January 1 – February 28, 2026

- Average Sale Price: \$324,482
- Median Sale Price: \$306,250
- Average Price per Sq. Ft.: \$230.54
- Median Price per Sq. Ft.: \$237.87
- Average Days to Contract: 122 days
- Median Days to Contract: 44 days
- Sale-to-List Price Ratio: 96%
- Lowest Sale: \$140,000
- Highest Sale: \$748,000

The first two months of 2026 show a steady and balanced mar-

ket in South Venice Beach. With 38 properties sold, buyer activity remains consistent, particularly considering this is still early in the year.

What we are seeing right now is not a strong seller's market, nor is it a buyer's market. Instead, South Venice Beach is experiencing a stabilizing market. Inventory levels, pending activity, and pricing trends are beginning to find a more natural balance, creating a healthier environment for both buyers and sellers.

In addition to closed sales, there are currently 97 homes actively on the market, with prices ranging from \$207,000 to \$830,000. There are also 41 homes pending, ranging from \$200,000 to \$1,775,000. This broader snapshot gives us a clearer picture of overall market momentum and buyer demand.

The median sale price of just over \$300,000 reflects what many buyers already know—South Venice Beach continues to offer exceptional value for a coastal community in Sarasota County.

One of the more interesting trends is the difference between the average days to contract (122 days) and the median (44 days). This tells us that while some properties are taking longer to sell, well-positioned homes are still moving relatively quickly.

Additionally, with homes selling at approximately 96% of list price on average, the market reflects realistic pricing and solid negotiation balance between buyers and sellers.

For sellers, this is a market that rewards proper preparation and pricing. For buyers, opportunities still exist.

As we move deeper into the spring season, we typically see increased activity with seasonal residents in town. South Venice Beach remains one of the most desirable and accessible coastal markets in the area.

If you are curious about your home's value, I am always happy to provide a complimentary, no-obligation market analysis.



Welcome to the best neighborhood in Sarasota County!



ONE MISSION *for our community*

As we head into our 70th year, we'll continue working to bring South Venice together to promote our civic, and recreational interests.

South Venice Civic Association

*The heart of South
Venice since 1955*



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