

WE MAKE CARGO MOVE

HUENEME DOCK TALK



SPOTLIGHT:
*The FUTURE of
Port and Community:
Youth + Young Adults
Make a Difference*

FUTURE of Port + Community



**The Port
OF HUENEME**
Oxnard Harbor District

2019 FALL NEWSLETTER

Your Port of Hueneme Commissioners



Jess Herrera
President



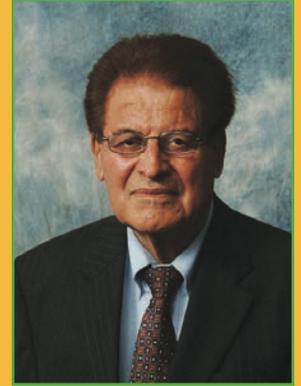
Jess Ramirez
Vice President



Jason T. Hodge
Secretary



Mary Anne Rooney
Commissioner



Dr. Manuel Lopez
Commissioner



Port Overview

The Port of Hueneme is one of the most productive and efficient commercial trade gateways for niche cargo on the West Coast. The Port is governed by five locally elected Port Commissioners. The Port moves \$9.5 billion in goods each year and consistently ranks among the top ten U.S. ports for automobiles and fresh produce. Port operations support the community by bringing \$1.7 billion in economic activity and creating 15,834 trade-related jobs. Trade through the Port of Hueneme generates more than \$119 million in direct and related state and local taxes, which fund vital community services. In 2017, the Port of Hueneme became the first port in California to become Green Marine certified and was named Greenest U.S. Port by the US Green Shipping Summit.



Dock Talk is printed on recycled paper



Message from the Board President

Greetings from the Oxnard Harbor District,

Since first being elected in November of 1994, it has been my privilege to be part of the leadership of an incredible organization, the Port of Hueneme Oxnard Harbor District. As life for me on the waterfront started out as a young dockworker, my perspective, from the docks, bottom up, might be a little different from that of others. The changes I have personally experienced and the people I have worked with have been special. I have had the privilege of getting to know and work with some great people in the maritime industry, many who were instrumental in putting Port Hueneme on the map. As time moves forward, I have seen new generations joining the Port building on the legacy of so many wonderful people and continuing the work and the tradition established by the previous generation. The Port's recent history of achievements has clearly been remarkable, but there was certainly a time when progress was not so fast.

In those early years, the Port was viewed as a small "satellite" port circling the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. The Port was characterized as either "boom or bust", "feast or famine" depending on the military deployments. The Vietnam War brought a surge of activity that had not been seen since World War II. The Pacific Maritime Association rushed to register 250 longshoremen. Supplemented by casual labor from the Employment Development Department, over 300 men per shift worked day and night, seven days a week. Many men worked weeks without a day off; "get it while it's here" was the attitude. The end of the war brought an end to the work and decimation to the longshoremen. Designated a "Low Work Opportunity Port" by the Pacific Maritime Association, a few longshoremen transferred to other ports, and many more just left the industry.

Eventually, after a few years, activity slowly returned. Then, there was a sense of excitement and anticipation as each new vessel call brought

the opportunity to win over a new customer. The arrival of Sunkist brought a surge of activity with record loads of citrus going to Japan. The arrival of Del Monte was a shot in the arm and an indication our Port was on the move. We were starting to mature one ship, one customer, at a time. The men and women who had endured the peaks and valleys of activity were now standing on firmer ground. Our reputation grew, and as the Port Director of LA said: "I know why they go to Hueneme – they take care of the work."

Today, the Port does not only take care of the work, but is also heavily invested in taking care to be the best partner possible to our community. The annual financial support to community based organizations is unmatched. Our involvement with the youth of our community from Oxnard College all the way to the elementary school level is a testimony to our staffs' dedication to informing and mentoring our citizens of tomorrow.

Our recent Project Labor Agreement with local unions for renovation of our waterfront further highlights a commitment to jobs with family-sustaining wages. Recognized as the Greenest Port in the United States, further emphasizes our care for our surrounding community and environment.

The Port of Hueneme has always been the little Port that could and can do big things. Thanks to the ability of our talented staff to work toward a common vision and their individual strengths and accomplishments, there is, as Richard Bard said, "Only One Way Forward."

Regards,

Jess Herrera

Oxnard Harbor District President



Welcome from Port Director Kristin Decas



Greetings from the Port!

Greetings from the Port of Hueneme and welcome to the Fall 2019 edition of *Dock Talk*, where we strive to keep you up to date with all the happenings at the Port.

This edition of *Dock Talk* highlights our “Commitment To Community.”

EDUCATION: One of our most rewarding and impactful programs involves engagement with our local youth and academia. We educate our youth about global trade and introduce them to the exciting opportunities in the global supply chains. We create a Port classroom setting right on the docks and host over 120 port tours every year. As you read on, you will see how many of our interns and youth are pursuing higher education and maritime-related career paths as a result of their participation in the Port’s educational programs – a true testament to the partnership the Port has built with our local students, colleges and K-12 school districts.

WORKFORCE: Hot off the press, we updated our economic impact study which reports significant economic growth from trade related activity. Jobs increased an impressive 44%, tax revenues rose 123% and overall economic activity soared an impressive 113% since 2013. The Port’s business base supports over 15,834 people in our community, as well. See page 14 for details.

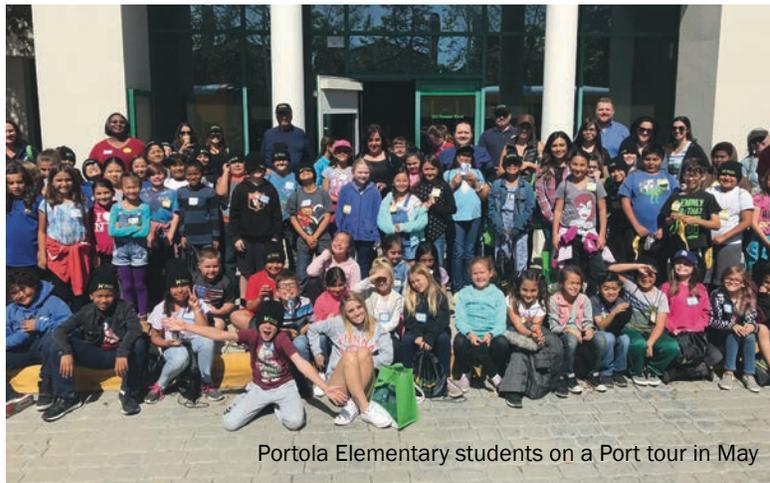
INNOVATION: With the unprecedented economic growth of the Port, we have been able to expand our reach to develop more programs and opportunities for our community. Over the past year, we have ushered in a new era of our technology incubator initiative, Maritime Advanced Systems and Technology laboratory (MAST). A collaborative with the Port, Economic Development Collaborative, Navy and Matter Labs, Fathomwerx spun off the MAST

program. Through this new and exciting program, we engage our STEM students, foster the creative spirit of our local entrepreneurs, and reduce business development barriers for startups 365 days a year. I encourage you to read more about this incredible partnership on page 10.

ENVIRONMENT: This summer, the Port and stevedore company Ports America welcomed its first ever hybrid electric crane. This piece of equipment signifies the next step in continuing our legacy as the Greenest Port in the United States, and will further build on our track record of responsible environmental stewardship. Read more on how this will improve Port operations on page 16. The Port received a \$3M grant to build infrastructure to support zero emission technology and move avocados from ship to shore on electric equipment and a fuel cell truck. In partnership with the Coalition for Clean Air, the Port will host Ventura County’s first ever Clean Air Day on October 2, 2019. You can take a clean

air pledge with us online at cleanairday.org/take-the-pledge or head to the Port Pavilion at the Banana Festival.

BANANA FESTIVAL: This fall, we celebrate our 8th Annual Banana Festival on September 28th at the Port. It’s a great opportunity to experience the inner workings of your local seaport. It’s a day of fun, education, and



Portola Elementary students on a Port tour in May

everything Port.

BUSINESS: Business was very strong in fiscal year 2019. Upon completion of our audit in the next few weeks, numbers will be released for public review. Thank you to our customers for their business and being one of the County’s most significant economic engines.

Be sure to find us on social media for real time updates, and we’ll see you at the Banana Festival and/or at other Port and community events!

Sincerely,

Kristin Decas
CEO & Port Director

Project Highlights

What's in the works at the Port?

A New Era of Modernization

Port Deepening

The harbor deepening is anticipated to start this November, and to be completed by March 2020. This and project is largely funded by a \$12.3 million TIGER Grant (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) from the U.S. Department of Transportation. The project will create over 563 new jobs, \$28 million in business revenue, \$5.8 million in local purchases, and \$4.6 million in state and local taxes.

Making Space

Demolition of obsolete buildings will allow for greater optimization of terminal space, cargo operations, and vessel berthing.

Zero-Emission Crane

The addition of a hybrid mobile crane is the next step in the Port's green initiatives. It will not only increase capacity for unloading cargo, but do so with zero emissions. See page 16 for more.

A Clean Green Port PART OF THE TRANSITION TO A CARBON-FREE WORLD



FOR CLEAN AIR: PHRESH (Port of Hueneme, Reducing Emissions, Supporting Health) - A clean air plan in partnership with Ventura County Air Pollution Control District that will assess and address the Port's emissions and goals for future of the Port in partnership with the community

GOING DEEP:

Deepening from 35 to 40 feet will produce sand to replenish local beaches

BATTERY STORAGE:
Peak shaving,
store energy

PLUG AND PLAY: Shoreside power allows vessels to turn off their diesel engines and plug into electricity at the dock

CLEAN EFFICIENCY:

State-of-the-art crane powered by electricity will revolutionize the way we make cargo move

LIGHTING THE WAY: Cutting-edge, efficient and clean LED technology in over 130 lighting fixtures on Port

ZERO EMISSION, SHIP TO STORE: The movement of cargo between the Port of Hueneme, in partnership with Mission Produce Inc. and the Port of LA, in a zero-emission hydrogen fuel cell drayage truck

MORE SPACE:

Demolition of an obsolete warehouse allows more capacity and optimization of cargo operations - less congestion, fewer emissions

A NEW ERA OF ENERGY

SOURCE: Cords and plugs to power our future cargo handling equipment like cranes and trucks

HYDROGEN FUEL CELL
CREATING A ZERO-EMISSIONS WORLD

CLEAN EQUIPMENT:

Acquiring two state-of-the-art yard trucks to demonstrate clean tech's ability to move cargo

*Fall 2019
Spotlight*

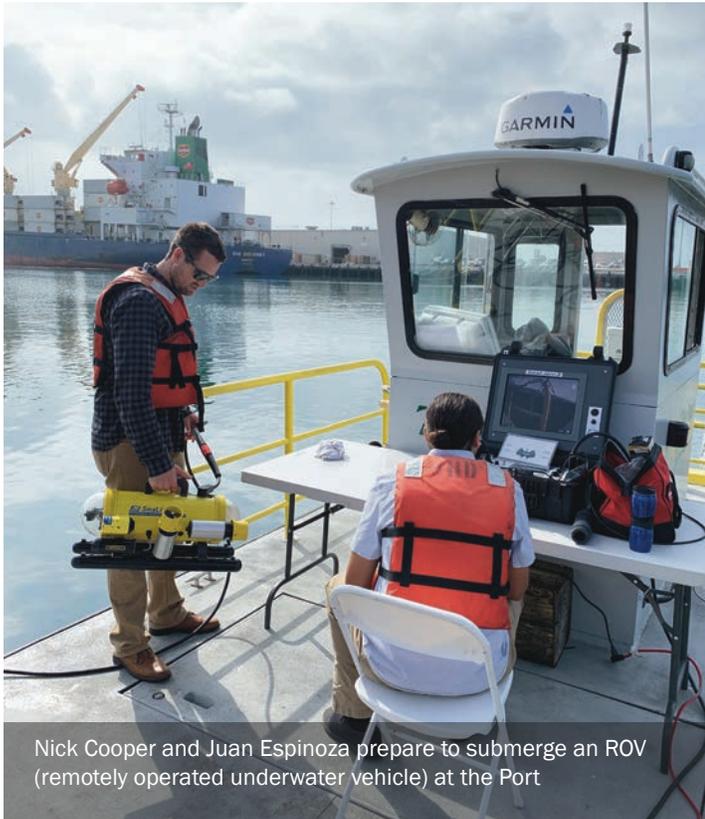
The Future of Us

*Youth and Young Adults Enhance
our Port + Community*



Since its opening nearly 80 years ago as a resource for Oxnard Plain farmers, the Port of Hueneme has undergone great growth and evolution. Today, the only deep water harbor between Los Angeles and San Francisco serves as a vibrant transit point for 1.6 million tons of cargo every year. From agribusiness to bulk cargo and automobiles and more, the Port of Hueneme is thriving like never before.

The Port of Hueneme also boasts a strong commitment to its surrounding environment and community. In partnership with its customers, the Port strives to minimize the environmental stress associated with its diverse and bustling daily trade operations. “Being green” is a way of life at the Port, both in financial and environmental impact. After all, the Port annually generates \$1.7 billion in economic activity – while providing more than 15,000 trade-related jobs.



Nick Cooper and Juan Espinoza prepare to submerge an ROV (remotely operated underwater vehicle) at the Port

As the Port looks toward its future, it can do so buoyed by a new wave of enthusiastic and talented young people. This emerging workforce will lead the Port well into its next generation. The following is an up-close look at some of the well-rounded, diverse and driven young people – each of whom received the opportunity to work at the Port of Hueneme/Oxnard Harbor District thanks to available internship opportunities.

Juan Espinoza has seen firsthand how committed the Port is to sustainable environmental practices. The 29-year-old and his family have called Ventura home for 20 years, and he currently attends graduate school at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where he is majoring in Environmental Science and Management at the Bren School, with an emphasis on Environmental Policy and Water Resource Management.

Juan applied for an internship at the Port of Hueneme/Oxnard Harbor District through the Bren School’s career services department. Working within the Environment Department, he works with the Environmental Management Framework to help ensure Port sustainability standards are meeting California

regulations and policies. His duties have included an ocean-going vessels policy and compiling records tracking ocean-going vessels plugging into the Port’s shorepower.

“It’s been great to see firsthand how invested the Port of Hueneme is to being sustainable,” said Juan, who also holds an undergraduate degree in History and Anthropology from UCSB. “Most people see industry as a crucial aspect of environmental harm. It’s refreshing to see the Port be so aware of their environmental impact and footprint.”

Juan points out that plugging into the Port’s shorepower can significantly decrease the air pollution emitted by ocean-going vessels – and in turn improve overall air quality for the community.

“I’ve really enjoyed working and exploring the Port through my internship,” summed up Juan. “I had the opportunity to ride on a tugboat as we brought a tanker in to dock. It was an awesome experience that only came about because of the internship.”

Juan isn’t the only young person to get an up-close look at the Port’s commitment to sustainability and environmental responsibility. **Nick Cooper** can relate. The Ventura resident is currently working as a research assistant at California State University Channel Islands. Like Juan, Nick also secured an internship opportunity at the Port of Hueneme/Oxnard Harbor District. His duties have included utilizing Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) and Geographical Information Systems (GIS) to determine seasonal changes at local beaches in Ventura County, along with participating in studies on beach sustainability and sea-level rise impact.

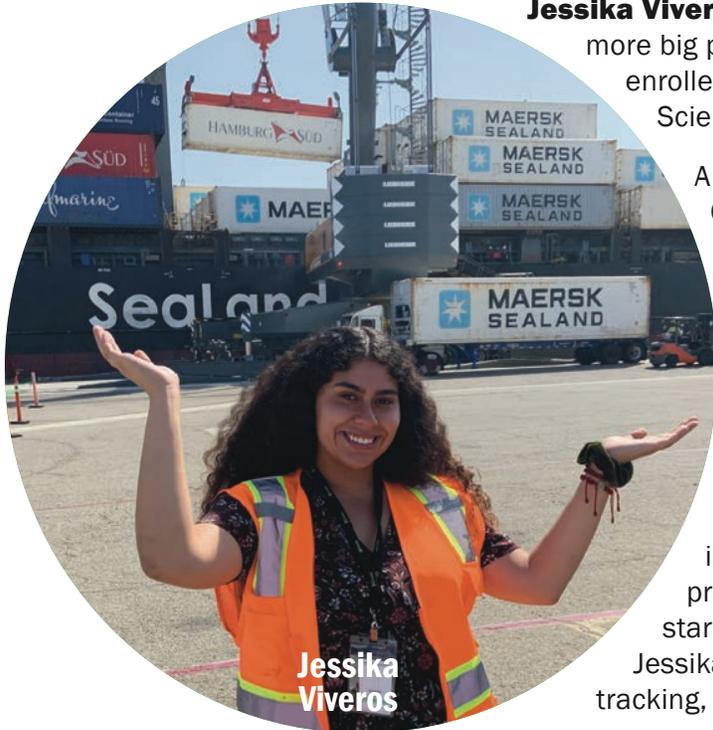
“We’re aiming to reduce storm water pollutants in the Port by implementing Best Management Practices (BMP),” explained Nick. “We’re also focused on air quality issues and understanding the new regulations that require cargo ships to use shoreline power that allows their engines to be turned off while in port.”

An avid rock climber, surfer and outdoorsman, Nick has a diverse and fascinating background that includes a backpacking trip from Mexico to Panama, teaching English as a second language at an elementary school in Granada, Nicaragua and a five-month trip to several National Parks in the western United States and Canada. He also appreciates that his internship has afforded him diversity in experiences, responsibilities and education at the Port.

“I enjoyed that the Port has so many operating parts,” said Nick. “The duties of my job changed frequently to adapt to the Port’s needs, and that kept the daily work interesting and fun.”

His time working at the Port has also allowed Nick to take his classroom learnings into an everyday, real-world working situation.

“It was a real-life introduction to many of the issues that my studies have focused on throughout the years,” said Nick. “I’m learning the importance of Environmental Law and Policy – and its role in the environmental world. I’m also learning that the success of environmental management in the Port requires a collaboration from many parties and help from many people.”



Jessika Viveros has accomplished a lot in just 18 years – with many more big plans for her future. The Oxnard resident is currently enrolled at Ventura College, where she’s pursuing a Political Science degree.

A focused student, Jessika participated in a simulated Congressional hearing as a fifth-grader at Rio Rosales Elementary School. Her duties consisted of preparing and presenting statements before a panel of community representatives who acted as Congressional committee members. Inspired by the experience, Jessika decided to take additional steps to pursue an education in the political realm. Her ultimate goal, as of now, is to become a judge.

Recently, Jessika had the opportunity to begin her own internship at the Port of Hueneme. After learning about the program via her Global Trade class at Ventura College, Jessika started working with the Port’s Administrative Department. Jessika’s duties at the Port include inventory and document tracking, reception and volunteer work at official Port events.

“I love working with all the awesome people at the Port of Hueneme,” said Jessika. “It makes the environment fun and interesting. Every day is something new and it’s always exciting to see how we conquer the day.”

Jessika sees her time at the Port as a springboard to the next step in her life and career.

“My experience at the Port has given me another possibility of what I would like to do in the future,” said Jessika. “I know that I want to practice some type of law, and now I would like to see career options in logistics and trade policy making.”

Like Jessika, **Aishvari Trivedi** has accomplished a lot in a short time. Currently a student at Adolfo Camarillo High School on track to graduate in 2020, Aishvari also has also enjoyed the opportunity to work as an intern at the Port

of Hueneme, serving primarily in the Public Affairs department.

Aishvari's family came to the United States when she was just a year old, and she has called Camarillo home ever since. She's never hesitated to dream big, saying her plans for life after Adolfo Camarillo include "attending a four-year university and working as an environmentalist to save the planet." Her five-month internship at the Port helped inspire that goal even further.

"My internship broadened my perspective on global trade and logistics," said Aishvari. "From learning the skill of maintaining professionalism to acquiring knowledge on monthly Commissioner meetings, the internship was an eye-opening experience. It provided me insight to finally understand not only the basics but also the nuances of logistics management. Interning at the Port taught me how to make connections with others, balance extracurricular activities, school, tutoring and this internship."

Aishvari has a deep love for both dance and her adopted community of Ventura County. She saw her Port internship as an invaluable opportunity to contribute to that community.

"I believe that impacting your community may be the most important task that you'll ever have," said Aishvari. "Leaving behind the change you want to see in your community is your small gift to help the future societies."



I believe that impacting your community may be the most important task that you'll ever have.

— Aishvari Trivedi



Not quite out of high school yet, it's hard to imagine Aishvari not continuing to play a key role in that future.

Like Aishvari, **Priscilla Alamillo** has had the opportunity to serve a Port of Hueneme internship while still in high school. Set to graduate from Channel Islands High School this year, Priscilla was awarded her internship through her Global Trade and Logistics class. Priscilla's work at the Port has primarily included duties with the administrative and finance departments.

"I learned the value of time management and organization during the internship," said Priscilla. "From the beginning of the internship, they made sure that I understood that school was the main priority."

Priscilla is highly social and has a true passion for softball – along with considerable on-field talent. She even received Channel Islands High School's MVP Award and was named a team captain as a sophomore.

Priscilla was equally impressed with the teamwork and fun environment she experienced in her daily integration at the Port.

"I like how all my coworkers are so amiable and open to new people," said Priscilla. "Their attitudes and fun personalities make me always want to be there. There has never been a time where I was denied assistance or was put down for making mistakes."

With such an impressive collection of hardworking, humble and talented young people contributing to the Port of Hueneme's continual growth, the future at the United States' "Greenest Port" seems as bright as it's ever been. ♦

mast

Maritime Advanced
Systems & Technology
Laboratory At
The Port Of Hueneme

www.portofh.org/MAST

A New Era of MAST

The Port’s MAST lab has entered a new era of innovation, technology and collaboration. At the expanded MAST Expo and Coastal Trident in April, the Port announced its new partnership with Naval Base Ventura County, Economic Development Collaborative and Matter Labs in order to bolster public access to piloting, developing, and commercializing new technologies in data analytics, robotic systems, alternative environmental technology, cybersecurity, and much more. About the on-Port space, called Fathomwerx, State Treasurer Fiona Ma stated “This is the newest ‘Silicon Coast’ incubator housed at the Port of Hueneme: a beacon for education and problem solving happening 24-7 to come up with innovative solutions for the U.S. Navy and the Port of Hueneme.”

Read on for highlights of the MAST Lab and Fathomwerx’s latest achievements.

6th Annual MAST Technology Expo

In April, STEM students and other attendees channeled through the buzzing innovation hub at the Port’s 6th MAST Expo, where technology meets the end user and where the consumer meets the innovators, serving as a 365-day platform to incubate new technological solutions.

Oxnard Harbor District President Jess Herrera highlighted the important nexus of MAST to the large wave of students, community partners and industry stakeholders, remarking that “new technologies will move our maritime industry forward. MAST plays an important role in innovation both for experienced engineers and the young masterminds of the future.”

With over 400 participants consisting of local businesses, entrepreneurs, Port customers, students, and community leaders, this year’s Expo served as the venue to launch the next iteration of MAST. The Port, Naval Base Ventura County

(NBVC), Economic Development Collaborative and local startup Matter Labs, announced their new technology-driven collaborative.

CEO & Port Director Kristin Decas announced, “MAST is a year-round incubator for our local inventors, entrepreneurs, and students. If you have an idea, this is the place to develop it, refine it, and showcase how it can change the world. This new space will house an array of the most advanced and cutting-edge equipment and technology that will all be accessible to our community and students.”

The Economic Development Collaborative’s top executive Bruce Stenslie shared, “The MAST Expo is an excellent annual demonstration of what drives the Ventura County economy. It showcases our strengths in global trade, in advanced manufacturing, and in Research & Development opportunities at both the Port of Hueneme and NBVC. Adding the participation of our youth and educators involved in STEM learning closes the loop, helping to deliver a next generation of innovators.”

Alan Jaeger of the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Port Hueneme Division (NSWC PHD) filled the MAST space with a wealth of new machinery and equipment to get the collaborative underway. Jaeger showcased many of these technologies



Bruce Stenslie, Christina Birdsey, Erick Went, Alan Jaeger



Matterlabs

throughout the day stating, “I’m really excited to see so many different companies, students, and schools coming together to build out this ecosystem of how we inspire a culture of innovation,” he said. “The Navy has specific interests that we are looking for, and working with students and companies to help understand, collaborate, and work together is what I’m most excited about.”

The crossover connections that are happening here are incredible.

— Erick Went | Matter Labs

Erick Went, Co-Founder of Matter Labs, sat on the Opportunities for Innovation Panel and detailed his ambitions to grow MAST and ignite a surge of entrepreneurial activity throughout Ventura County. Went explained that “the collaborative will provide a unique intersection of a world of spaces that don’t often get to play together. The sweet spot here is that MAST is a collider. You’re putting together, in close proximity, things that are not always there and you’re hitting it with a bunch of energy, and all kinds of amazing things get created. Port, business, industry, students, innovators, all people out of the box are in one place, at one time with a ton of energy surrounding them. The crossover connections that are happening here are incredible.”

One compelling reason the Port makes the map as one of Ventura County’s epicenters for innovation resides in its designation as an Opportunity Zone. This new federal program taps into the entrepreneurial spirit by attracting venture capital through tax incentives. State Treasurer Fiona Ma oversees this program for California and inspired the audience with her keynote address on the possibilities that lie ahead.

Ma explained, “This Port is in one of the 879 Opportunity Zones. This is a great program that our State will use to hopefully attract private investors to many of the projects that our State wants to finance, and many of them will likely come out of this program right here.”

Local high schools from across Ventura County took part in the technology wave including Channel Islands, Santa Paula, Oxnard, Hueneme, Santa Susana, as well as Colina

Middle School and Pleasant Valley Christian School.

Channel Islands High School Junior Tania Salceda explained her experience at the event. “It was my first time at the Port, and I didn’t know we had a Port in our community. It was cool to see that the Port is actually doing amazing things for our environment, and that they are the Greenest Port of

the Year. I am proud to have the Port here!” Salceda added that her “favorite part of today was the presentation on LED lasers and how they are starting to use them in the new BMW cars.”

Ten teams of students also participated in a program spearheaded by VC Innovates to build SeaGlide robots in their classrooms. During the competition, they maneuvered their inventions through the Port’s underwater dive tank. The event culminated with an awards ceremony where Santa Paula High School took home the top prize.



Commissioners Mary Anne Rooney, Jason Hodge, and Jess Herrera join California State Treasurer Fiona Ma in congratulating the high school SeaGlide competition winners

Carmen Ramirez, Oxnard Mayor Pro Tem said, “What is really exciting to me is seeing all these young people excited to be here to learn all about the possibilities, and we have a tremendous amount of excitement in the room. You know, if you can’t see it, you can’t think it, you can’t work for it, and I’m hoping they’re catching that message with all the advice from the adults today.”

ANTX Coastal Trident – Future of Security, Technology, Collaboration

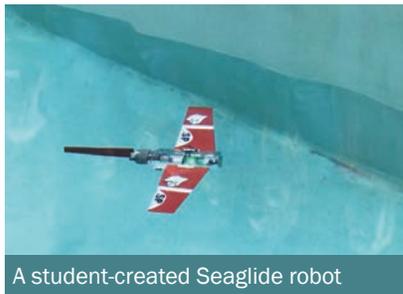
As a Navy team, donned in full hazmat gear, sprayed down a diver climbing out of a pool in a contamination simulation, and as a “DroneKiller” disabled a drone in midair, Advanced Naval Technology Exercise (ANTX) Coastal Trident and Open House started up this past July. New technologies were showcased, as well as dramatic demonstrations of security and safety procedures. The Port’s commitment to environment was evident as the entire event was run on solar power.

Nearly 300 attendees and more than 40 exhibitors were at the event to network, collaborate and share ideas on how to work together to strengthen safety and enhance community.

OHD President Jess Herrera highlighted the importance of this event. “We are pleased to continue to provide the Port as a venue to foster great ideas, collaborations and potential partnerships. Working together will only serve to strengthen technology for our port, military, business and community.”

Kristin Decas welcomed attendees to the event and

(continued next page)



A student-created Seaglide robot

mentioned the Coastal Trident Exercises have occurred at the Port since 2007, which are aimed to sharpen the collaborative response of emergency and security teams to potential real-world disasters. She touched on the success of MAST and the partnership between the Port, Economic Development Collaborative, Matter Labs, and Naval Base Ventura County.



Demonstration of contaminated diving and decontamination procedures by NAVFAC EXWC (Naval Facilities Engineering and Expeditionary Warfare Center) at ANTX

“We’ve done incredible Coastal Trident exercises here at the Port with over 200 agencies involved, to make our jurisdictional security programs more and more robust and to keep our communities secure,” said Decas. “Through MAST we are looking to grow in the security landscape. We’ve taken it to a whole new level. And today we’ve taken it even further with MAST, Coastal Trident and ANTX. We are working with our partners to innovate, test and play.”

Christina Birdsey (COO of the Port), Erick Went, Katelyn Rydberg (Innovation and Technology Transition Director of Naval Facilities Engineering and Expeditionary Warfare Center Port Hueneme) and Alan Jaeger introduced Fathomwerx, the technological workspace on Port that was spawned out of MAST collaborations.

The panel also touched upon the importance of STEM education and opportunities to connect with students. Christina Birdsey said “Our MAST event in April had close to 350 students talking to technologists and entrepreneurs, and to be able to understand what kind of opportunities are in the STEM field as well as on the Navy and maritime domain as a whole. It’s eye opening for students to see that there are all of these different types of jobs and here at ANTX are partners that are able to connect the dots and continue outreach.”

Commissioner Mary Anne Rooney was excited by the commitment of the MAST partners, panelists and attendees to promote STEM education and education of youth in these fields. “Students are, quite literally, our future. If we can continue to bring students into the conversations about science, technology and engineering, we are positioning ourselves to have the strongest

workforce in the County and experience positive growth.” Erick Went introduced the *Shark Tank*-like panel as “informed innovation,” giving inventors, technologists and entrepreneurs an opportunity to “pitch” their product to an expert panel.

Keynote speaker Paul Mann of the Naval Surface Warfare Center Port Hueneme stressed the importance of continuing technological collaboration. Events like these “enhance engagement opportunities, help us build professional networks and relationships where technical capabilities and subject matter experts of industry and academia could come together and solve problems and think differently about the solutions we need.” (See more Coastal Trident news on page 18.)

Port Hosts Startup Weekend

Also in July, innovators from around the state descended on the Port to kick off Startup Weekend Ventura County 2019. Joined by State Treasurer Fiona Ma and Oxnard Harbor District Commissioner Jason Hodge, over 70 creators spent three days innovating, collaborating, developing, and pitching their ideas to the judging panel.

Ma stated, “This is the newest ‘Silicon Coast’ incubator Fathomwerx housed at the Port of Hueneme: a beacon for education and problem solving happening 24-7 to come up with innovative solutions for the U.S. Navy and the Port of Hueneme.”

The event featured 20 mentors from the community and local companies including NBVC (NAVSEA & NAVAIR),

Trupart Manufacturing, Meissner Filtration, Steamworks, Bunker Labs LA and various individual entrepreneurs and venture capitalists. The mentors assisted the eight teams with idea development and refining their pitch for the judging panel.

“Events like these are a dream come true for a lot of us, it is exactly what we envisioned this space to be used for,” Commissioner Hodge stated. “Yes, our Port exists to provide economic opportunity and serve as a gateway for global cargo, but we also exist for events like this –to provide a space for innovation and foster an incubator to develop the



Eric Went, State Treasurer Fiona Ma and Commissioner Jason Hodge

First PLA Project in Port History Breaks Ground



City of Oxnard Councilmember Bert Perello, Tony Skinner of Tri Counties Building and Trades Council, Andy Castillo of LiUNA!, Andrew Munson representing Asm. Irwin; Patty Quiroz representing Sen. Jackson; CEO & Port Director Kristin Decas; Oxnard Harbor District President Jess Herrera; Port Hueneme City Councilmembers Steven Gama and Rich Rollins, Oxnard Chamber of Commerce CEO Nancy Lindholm; Tim Viola and Nick Shipp of Viola Constructors, Inc.; and Armando Delgado of the Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters

The final step in the Port's South Terminal Modernization came to fruition on July 22. This groundbreaking ceremony for the Port's cargo enhancement project was much more than a typical "golden shovel" event – it represented over five years of planning and execution to grow the Port's capacity and provide over 500 new sustainable jobs.

"In accordance with the Port's 2020 General Plan, this space will now provide a special concrete working area that will double the cargo handling area of the South Terminal and will provide an efficient, safe, and productive working area for our existing two harbor cranes and our newest addition, a \$7 million hybrid electric crane being provided by Ports America," stated Oxnard Harbor District President Jess Herrera. "Our Port motto states, 'There is only way, and that is forward'. Today, we have taken a step in that direction, into the future."

The additional space will accommodate increased mobility for the mobile harbor cranes, and will work in concert with the Port's deepening project. Deeping the harbor to 40 feet will allow vessels to load heavier with more cargo, the addition of the third crane will enable the ILWU to unload the extra cargo efficiently, and the modernization of the South Terminal will allow for more space for crane and container operations.

"Five years ago, our Commissioners adopted a 2020 General Plan of which the modernization of this space on Port was prioritized. Today, we see this vision come to life," said CEO & Port Director Kristin Decas. "The shipping industry has continued to evolve, transporting more fresh produce in containers – and as a result, on-dock storage has become obsolete. Soon, the space will allow for optimal

efficiency for handling of cargo, resulting in cleaner air."

During the construction, the Port's operations team, consultant Encompass Consultant Group, and contractor Viola Constructors, Inc. will be utilizing the best environmental practices for dust control, recycling the demo material, and storm water runoff protection.

In attendance at the groundbreaking, Port Hueneme City Councilmember Rich Rollins stated, "As a new councilman, I've come to appreciate the fine partnership that we have with the Port, they have been very good about working with our community. I look forward to this new project and the ability for them to expand in a very low impact manner, but still generate revenue and the economy that will help us all."

"As a Councilman for Oxnard and a resident of Oxnard, I'm grateful that there is an opportunity for the City of Oxnard to work with the harbor, and fortunate that we are in a location where there is a harbor next to us that can bring in the business and can provide jobs," stated City of Oxnard Councilmember Bert Perello.

The demolition of the 1B warehouse is under the Port's new Project Labor Agreement, ensuring that the construction projects directly support the local workforce. The project will be completed by November and will cost \$2.2 million, an



Armando Delgado of the Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters and Nick Shipp of Viola Constructors, Inc. listen to CEO & Port Director Kristin Decas explain the logistics of the project

investment the Port is looking forward to generating more cargo and creating more jobs for the local community.

Tony Skinner of Tri Counties Building and Construction Trades Council stated, "This PLA is going to ensure local hires from the Port Hueneme and Oxnard community, as well as give us the chance to expand our apprenticeship to young men and women that are interested in the trades. We also have a "helmets to hardhats" clause in there so we can put as many veterans on this project as we can. I want to say thank you to Kristin and Commissioner Herrera." ♦

Port Adds 2,201 Local Jobs, Spurs Economic Growth for Ventura County

The Port leads Ventura County's economic growth with 15,834 total jobs in 2018, an increase from 13,633 in 2015. In their newest economic study, the Port shows substantial increases in job creation, economic activity, tax revenue generated for local cities, and total economic activity.

Oxnard Harbor District President Jess Herrera stated, "For over 83 years, the Port has been Ventura County's legacy industry providing economic opportunity for our community. This new economic study once again confirms that our continued growth and success provides even greater benefits to our cities, in taxes, and our citizens in family sustaining job opportunities. The Port continues to be a growing and stable partner in our county's prosperity."

Port cargos grew to 1.6 million tons in FY2018, a new all-time high for the Port which resulted in a record number of jobs being created for local residents. Since 2015, the Port has increased its economic impact from \$1.5 billion to \$1.7 billion annually. This includes local business revenues and re-spending by direct employees.

Economic Development Collaborative's Bruce Stenslie stated, "Ventura County has been in a categorical economic slump since the Great Recession, with the county's major industries showing a lack of job generation. Offsetting those overall losses, one positive point is export trade, with the Port a primary driver of jobs and growth in our local economy."

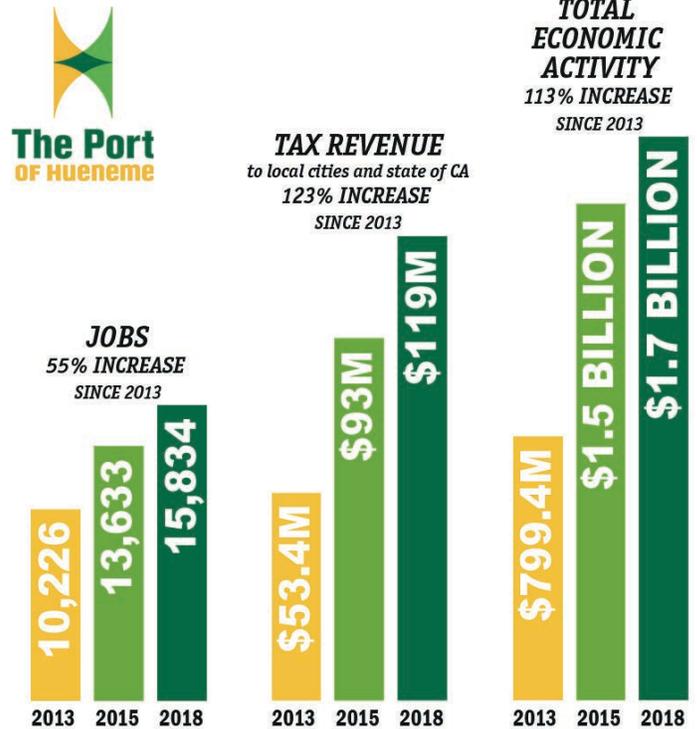
The Port's growth has also increased the tax revenues that will go directly to local municipalities and the state by 28% over the past 3 years, from \$93 million to \$119 million.

"The Port not only generates jobs, but we also generate tax revenues for the local cities through our customers that base their operations here," said CEO & Port Director Kristin Decas. "These tax revenues go directly to supporting our local schools, firefighters, police officers, city streets, health and social services, and community events." In addition to the economic benefits the Port brings to local residents, it also focuses its resources on improving the social fabric of the community through sponsorships and community events.

"As a special district, we have a responsibility to operate in the best interest of our residents which includes providing ladders of economic opportunity, and investing in the fabric of our community," said Commissioner Mary Anne Rooney. "As a Commissioner, it is critical we invest some of the District's resources with local non-profits and groups who are helping build a stronger community."

The Port sponsored over 80 nonprofits and community groups this past year, the most to date in the history of the Port. Investments were focused on groups that promote youth engagement, veteran assistance, cultural empowerment, affordable housing, increasing accessibility to healthy food and internet access. These groups included Habitat for Humanity,

the Ventura County Mobile Library Food Share, MICOP, Boys & Girls Club, Latino Peace Officers Association, Reel Guppies, and Diversity Collective, to name a few.



Since 2015, the Port's customer base has grown, spurring much of the local economic opportunity and enabling the Port to invest in the local community. Dave Peterson, Port Manager for Subaru of America, Inc. explained their role in local job creation. "Since investing in the Port of Hueneme, we have been able to employ 40 full time employees plus additional port terminal personnel, shipping line workers, and ILWU labor," he said. "Depending on the demand, we also add an additional 20-40 part-time employees on top of the 40 full timers." Port customers, like Subaru, have brought good-paying sustainable jobs to the local economy.

"Mission Produce has enjoyed working with the Port of Hueneme," said Ben Barnard VP Global Partnerships and Business Development Mission Produce, Inc. "Their dedication to continuous improvement and expansion efforts has helped us grow our Oxnard business significantly over the past few years. The improvements they have made allow a more seamless product flow on all our west coast imports into Hueneme and also allowed us to greatly expand our infrastructure in preparation for even more scheduled arrivals through the Port. This has been a great thing for the City of Oxnard and Ventura County alike as it has allowed our business, as well as others, to increase the workforce which will in return bring more revenue to the surrounding community." ♦

A Ninth Year of Financial Excellence



The Port of Hueneme's Finance and Accounting team: Andrew Palomares, Deputy Executive Director, CFO/CAO; Austin Yang, Director of Finance & Accounting; Julie Johnson, Fiscal Technician; Gabriella Sabo, Accounting Manager; Robin Campos, HR Management Specialist; Paul Lydiate, Financial Analyst

For the ninth consecutive year, the Port was recognized for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA). The award highlights the Port's FY2018 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) which was carefully reviewed by financial statement preparers, independent auditors, academics, and other finance professionals.

"As a Special District, the importance of accuracy and transparency cannot be overstated," said Jess Herrera, Oxnard Harbor District President. "We only want to perform at the very highest level within our community of which we're proud."

Andrew Palomares, the Port's Deputy Executive Director & Chief Finance Officer, says that "being honored with this distinction for nearly a decade is a real achievement, not only for our hard-working Port finance team, but for our Commissioners, Port leaders and all who work within the Oxnard Harbor District."

The GFOA established the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Program (CAFR Program) in 1945 to "encourage and assist state and local governments to go beyond the minimum requirements of generally accepted accounting principles to prepare comprehensive annual financial reports that evidence the spirit of transparency and full disclosure and then to recognize individual governments that succeed in achieving that goal." ♦

Remaining Committed to Fiscal Responsibility

For the third year in a row, the Oxnard Harbor District's Board of Commissioners voted to reduce the Port's unfunded liability by funding another \$500,000 to the District's California Employers' Retiree Benefit Trust (CERBT) account for their fiscal year ending June 30, 2019. These funds are in addition to the \$1,000,000 pre-funded during the last two fiscal years.

"I am proud to join my fellow Commissioners in making the fiscal health of the Port a top priority," said OHD President Jess Herrera. "Continuing to invest in prefunding the Port's Other Post-Employment Benefits, (OPEB) liability is a signal to the public that we are committed to planning for the future of the Port, ensuring that it is a sustainable provider of jobs and benefits for many generations to come."

Strong financial management, like pre-funding its OPEB liability, and a commitment to prudent sustainable growth has allowed the District to be fully self-supporting since its inception in 1937. As such, the Port has generated continued economic prosperity for the region without taking a cent of taxpayer dollars to operate the Port – a unique asset for the local community.

In 2017, the Oxnard Harbor District opened an irrevocable trust account with CERBT to reduce their unfunded OPEB liability. OPEB liabilities largely consist of health care premiums for current and future retired employees. It was estimated in July of 2017 that the District had approximately \$8.3 million of Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL) for its OPEB liability. This additional deposit of \$500,000 will bring the District's UAAL prefunding to over \$1,500,000, which is a significant and consistent way to reduce the District's Unfunded OPEB Liability over time. The trust, administered by CalPERS, will serve as

the pre-funding element supplementing the pay-as-you-go method currently in place. In taking steps now by adding the pre-funding element, the Port is avoiding passing on debt to future generations and preventing potential budget shortfalls in future years.

"Fiscal responsibility is an extremely high priority for the Port. The affirmative Board vote exemplifies our goal of sustainable and responsible growth," said CEO & Port Director Kristin Decas.

Andrew Palomares, Port Deputy Executive Director, CFO/CAO elaborated, "the Port has been on a fiscally prudent path by not taxing the local citizens to operate the Port daily and remains on a positive course of fiscal responsibility. It gives me a great sense of pride to work for a public agency that is not only the 4th largest economic engine in the county and awarded the Greenest Port Award, but to know that future financial decision makers will not have to worry about how they are going to fund these types of costs." The Port recognizes these steps are as much an investment in the community as they are in the Port's employees. By responsibly funding these benefits now in good economic times, the Port is reducing the risk of a budget crisis in years of economic downturn.

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) identifies this type of pre-funding OPEB as "best practice". Based on an independent valuation report, the Port's Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL) for OPEB was approximately \$8.3 million as of July 1, 2017. Establishing the OPEB Trust will greatly reduce this number. ♦

Port Welcomes First Zero-Emission Crane

The Port joined stevedoring company Ports America at the beginning of July to welcome a zero-emission mobile harbor crane all the way from the Port of Bremerhaven, Germany. The new addition is the next step in the Port's green initiatives. It will not only increase capacity for unloading cargo, but do so with zero emissions.

"The addition of the Liebherr hybrid crane is the next step in building upon our track record as the Greenest U.S. Port, and a signal to the community that we follow through on our promises to grow in sustainable ways," said Oxnard Harbor District President Jess Herrera.

The new crane represents a \$7 million investment by Ports America, one of the Port's premier stevedoring companies, and top partners in continuing the legacy of sustainable jobs at the Port. This new addition joined the Port's other two mobile harbor cranes. The crane is a hybrid, with the capacity to run on diesel or electricity. It will plug into the Port's electrical infrastructure currently being implemented as part of the Port's \$3 Million ZANZEFF (Zero And Near Zero-Emission Freight Facilities) grant. The crane is integral in supporting the Port's vision for the world's first zero-emission ship to store avocado. The crane has the capability to move anywhere on port, however its primary home will be on the South Terminal, handling containerized cargo in support of the Port's banana and fresh produce operations.

"The addition of this crane is a piece of the larger vision for the Port, a move to zero emission cargo handling equipment and toward a carbon free economy," said CEO & Port Director Kristin Decas. "This will not only provide cleaner air for our community, but it will also increase productivity for our customers, thereby increasing capacity, and sustainable economic growth." With the addition of the new crane, the Port will be able to handle more cargo at higher efficiencies, and more cargo means more sustainable jobs and increased prosperity for the community.

Casey Dexter, Ports America General Manager stated, "Ports America continues to invest in the Port of Hueneme. The important addition of a Liebherr hybrid mobile crane provides our fruit customers the needed support and service

for years to come and will further enhance the ongoing applications of green initiatives. Ports America is committed to the Port of Hueneme and its community."

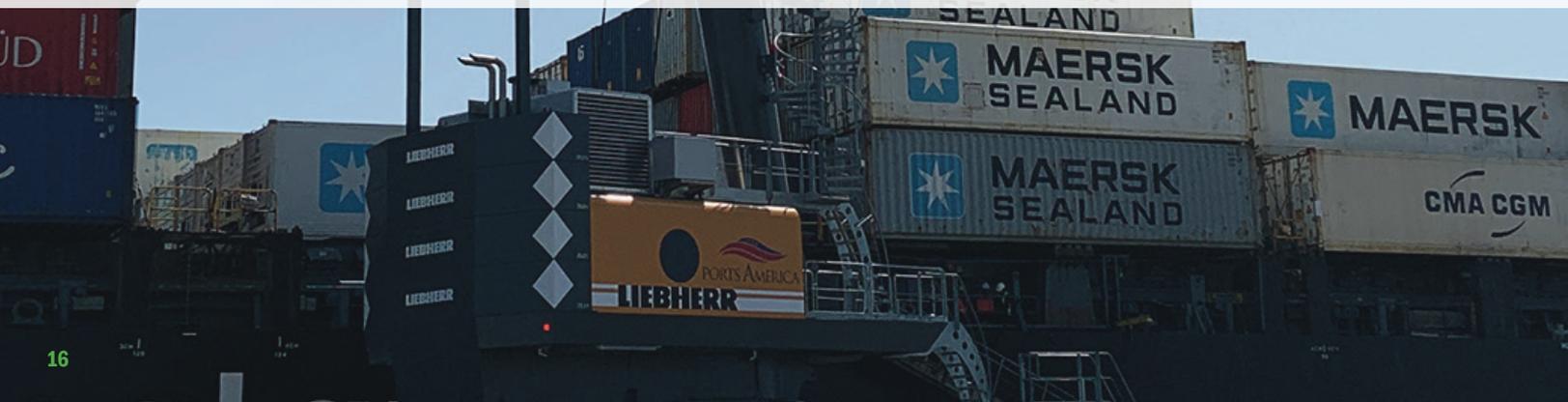
The crane was unloaded in several pieces off the NYK Cassiopeia Leader by the ILWU and Mammoet workers. Taking about two hours to unload just the base of the crane, the months of planning and collaboration finally paid off as all the pieces of the crane were successfully unloaded onto the Port's North Terminal.

"We had to coordinate with a lot of third parties, it is a bit complicated as we [NYK] are the carrier, Ceres is the stevedore unloading the crane, and the crane is actually bound for Ports America who is also the shipper... Liebherr, the manufacturer, is here to actually assemble the crane, and Mammoet is another third party here operating the SPMT (self-propelled modular transporter) device... and T & T Crane Company had to unload the SPMT to assist in unloading the crane," said Jack Duesler of NYK Shipping Lines. "NYK's job is to get it safely to the first point of rest".

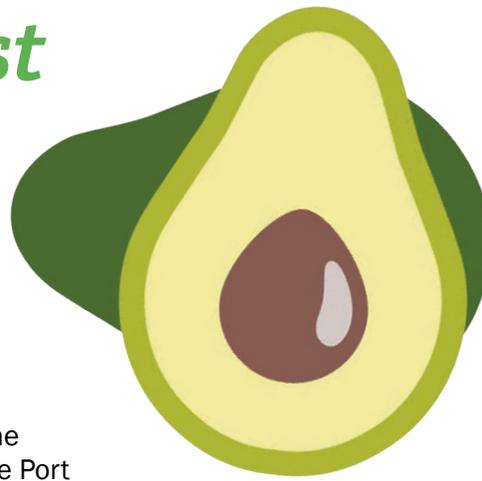
The crane was assembled and became operational within a few short weeks of its safe delivery to the dock.

The Port's customers stand to benefit from the increased ability to load and unload cargo in a more efficient and cleaner way. Chuck Caulkins, Port Manager for Del Monte Fresh Produce at the Port of Hueneme explained, "the addition of a third mobile harbor crane in Ports America's arsenal will greatly improve the efficiency of Del Monte's operations in the Port of Hueneme. The hybrid characteristics of the new crane are important to Del Monte's global sustainability efforts. This milestone could not come at a better time as Del Monte celebrates its 40th anniversary partnering with the Port of Hueneme."

Timothy Child, Chief Operation Officer for Sealand-A Maersk Company, a liner service that calls on the Port, stated, "we welcome the Port's investments to reduce air emissions from cargo operations. This aligns with our own progress in reducing supply chain environmental footprints. Our customers and stakeholders increasingly demand low carbon transportation and cleaner air around ports." ♦



The World's First Ship to Store Zero-Emission Avocado Project



Continuing their legacy of commitment to the community and the environment, the Port of Hueneme joined project partners at the Port of Los Angeles in April to kick off a \$3 million investment to provide zero emission avocados to Ventura County and the State. The project is a result of a joint application with the Port of Los Angeles for the statewide Zero- and Near Zero- Emission Freight Facilities (ZANZEFF) Grant solicitation funded through the state's Cap and Trade dollars.



City of Oxnard, Oxnard Chamber of Commerce, Port of Hueneme joint tour of Mission Produce New Cold Storage Facility in Oxnard

“We are celebrating the fact that we have received this \$3 million grant to provide electrical infrastructure to our Port, which will support electric cranes and zero emission cargo handling equipment, including yard tractors which will strengthen our economy and improve our environment, specifically in disadvantaged communities.” said OHD President Jess Herrera.

Cap and Trade is a statewide initiative that puts billions of dollars to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the economy and improving public health and the environment — particularly in disadvantaged communities. The Port's portion (\$3 million) will fund the electrical infrastructure needed to support electric cranes

and zero emission cargo handling equipment, reducing emissions at the Port. The Port will provide a \$200,000 match to the grant funding for a total project cost of \$3.2 million.

The spirit of collaboration will continue as the equipment funded through the ZANZEFF grant will be utilized by the Port's private customers to transport their cargo from the ship to the shore. This segment of the Port's goods movement supply chain will now have the capability to be completely zero-emission. Kristin Decas, CEO & Port Director said “we celebrate Earth Day as a day of partnership to clean our air, and advance technologies to innovate the path forward to cleaner air at our ports.” In addition to the two electric yard trucks, the Port's project will largely include the infrastructure to make charging electric cargo handling equipment feasible on-dock.

Steve Barnard, President and CEO of Mission Produce commented, “We commend the ZANZEFF partners on finding innovative ways to reduce carbon footprint. Mission prides itself on being an industry leader of innovation in the avocado category. It is great to have partners such as Port of LA and Hueneme who take the same type of initiative.” ♦



The Port's Chief Operations Officer Christina Birdsey, CEO & Port Director Kristin Decas and Oxnard Harbor District President Jess Herrera in front of the hydrogen fuel cell truck that will be used to move produce

13th Annual Coastal Trident: The State's Largest Security & Emergency Response Exercise



Blasts, sirens blazing, helicopters circling above head, mock triage centers, simulated oil spills, and over 20 emergency and law enforcement agencies descended on the Port of Hueneme on June 19 for the state's largest security and emergency response exercise – Coastal Trident.

“The Port’s Coastal Trident exercise is aimed to sharpen the collaborative response of our emergency and security teams to potential real-world disasters. Partnering with our local, state, and federal partners in these exercises allows us to share best practices, test lines of communication, and increase our overall preparedness,” said Oxnard Harbor District President Jess Herrera.

Coastal Trident encompasses a variety of exercises taking place throughout the region over a weeks-long period and includes over 150 local, state, and federal agencies. The exercise focused on the response efforts and communication plans if an emergency were to occur at the Port.

At 9:30am, a mock explosion rattled the Port’s South Terminal kicking off the simulation. Actors portrayed bleeding and dying victims being rushed to the triage station set up on Wharf 2. Shortly after being notified, the following agencies responded to the scene and established a unified command: Port Hueneme Police, Oxnard Police, Oxnard Fire, Oxnard Office of Emergency Services, Oxnard Harbor District, Ventura County Fire, Fillmore Fire, Ventura County Sheriff’s Department, Ventura County Office of Emergency Services, NBVC Dive Team ,Naval Construction Team One, Ventura County Sheriff’s Bomb Squad, Ventura County Emergency Medical Services Agency, Ventura County Sheriff’s Air Operations, Lifeline Ambulance, Ventura City Fire, FBI Hazardous Evidence Response Team, and United States Coast Guard.

By 9:40am, the Port’s Incident Command Center was established at the 105 Security and Operations building. Members of Port management were joined by representatives from the various agencies involved along with their Public Information Officers at the Incident Command Center. To make it authentic, colored dye was used to show areas of oil and liquid fertilizer spilled during the explosion, draft press releases and social media posts were created, and phone calls from the public were responded to by the Port’s PIO. As the simulation unfolded, 31 mock casualties were reported and treated at the local triage center.

As reports came in from the dock, it was reported that the explosion was an act of domestic terrorism, complete with flyers depicting threatening messaging. The VC Sheriff’s Bomb Squad and Dive Team recovered two dummy deceased bodies and mock devices including a chemical spreading device, undetonated bomb, and a remote-controlled drone device. At 11:30am, the Port hosted a staged press briefing with Port Hueneme Mayor Will Berg and members of the press.

In review of the exercise, CEO & Port Director Kristin Decas stated, “Over the past few years, as our county has endured fires, floods, and mass shootings, we have learned that we can never be overprepared for an emergency situation. And, as we saw today, Coastal Trident is aimed to bring our local, state, and federal agencies together to improve our communication and cooperation with one another and the public.”

In addition to the public agencies involved, members of the innovation and tech community also observed the exercises to assist with developing any new technologies or products that would assist in real-world emergencies at the Port. These companies are a part of the Port’s Maritime Advanced Systems and Technology Lab (MAST) and aim to invent products for the maritime industry.

At the outset of the exercise, the Port’s Chief Operating Officer Christina Birdsey explained, “We are excited to host our 13th annual regional maritime security exercise. The value in having many of our regional stakeholders involved in an exercise like this is that it allows for each of the agencies to not only test our plans, but to continue to learn from each of the participants and further improve our response abilities to security threats. Testing technology and better understanding potential gaps will only prove to grow innovation, improve communications and solidify partnerships.” ♦



The Ventura County Fire Department’s Hazmat team and Ventura County Sheriff’s Department Bomb Squad identifying mock cyanide at the scene of the simulation

Congressional Roundtable on Climate Crisis with Congressmembers Julia Brownley & Kathy Castor

The Port welcomed Congresswoman Julia Brownley and Congresswoman Kathy Castor on May 31 for a roundtable discussion addressing the climate crisis. Brownley, recently appointed to the Congressional Select Committee on the Climate Crisis stated, “I was delighted to bring Chair Castor here to the Port of Hueneme as it is an innovative and growing port, a huge economic engine to our district – and the most amazing thing about it is that it is growing in a very green clean way. I am extraordinarily proud to represent the Port of Hueneme.”

“I’m impressed with what’s happening here at the greenest, cleanest port as they’re transitioning to electric vehicles and have batter storage pilot projects,” Climate Crisis Committee Chair Congresswoman Kathy Castor stated. “What we have to do across America is transition to a 100% clean economy, and part of that is going to be in the maritime industry. I have to say that the Port here is setting a very good example for what other ports need to be doing.”

“As the Greenest Port in the United States, we are continually propelling our operations forward to become greener and cleaner. We are honored to lead our county in implementing green technologies and practices that will be the new standard for ports around the world,” said Oxnard Harbor District President Jess Herrera. “Today’s Congressional roundtable discussion on climate change was a time to reflect on how the industries throughout our county are preparing for increased weather events in the future and changes to our everyday lives. I applaud Congresswoman Brownley and Congresswoman Castor for their leadership in addressing this pressing issue.”

CEO & Port Director Kristin Decas stated, “It’s a distinct honor to enjoy the company of our Congresswoman and the Chair of the Select Committee on the Climate Crisis hosting a roundtable with key partners. Today, we roll up our sleeves and explore innovative solutions to create resiliency to climate change.”

In addition to the roundtable discussion, the Port showcased clean cargo handling equipment including electric forklifts, propane-powered boom lifts, electric scissor lifts, shorepower electric plug in containers, and the Port’s hybrid fleet of vehicles. The Port is not only utilizing green cargo handling equipment to move the cargo, but the cargos themselves are getting greener and cleaner as well.

The Port imports and exports electric automobiles including Teslas, BMWs, and Jaguars along with a variety of hybrid vehicles. Also highlighted were 130 high mast lights that have been retrofitted with LEDs, eco-friendly pilings made of recycled bottles that support the wharf, the harbor’s clean sand that will help to renourish local beaches, the Port’s storm water management system, and the Sea Bin – a floating skimmer that filters debris out of the harbor.

The Port also featured the new improvements that are underway to make them even greener in the very near future: a joint clean air plan with the Ventura County Air Pollution Control District, a \$3.2 million investment in the charging infrastructure to support electric cranes, a hydrogen-fuel cell truck, and electric yard tractors which will help pilot the world’s first zero-emission ship to store avocado (see page 17). ♦



From left: Jonathan Parfrey, Executive Director, Climate Resolve; Kristin Decas, Port Director and CEO; Giles Pettifor, Environmental Manager, Port of Hueneme; Jess Herrera, Oxnard Harbor District President; Congresswoman Julia Brownley, Congresswoman Kathy Castor; Dave Pedersen, General Manager, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District; Alyssa Mann, Nature Conservancy; Andrew Palomares, Port Deputy Executive Director, CFO/CAO; John Salvate, California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) Assistant Chief; Dave Stone, California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) Assistant Chief; Karen Schmidt, Regional Affairs Manager, Clean Power Alliance

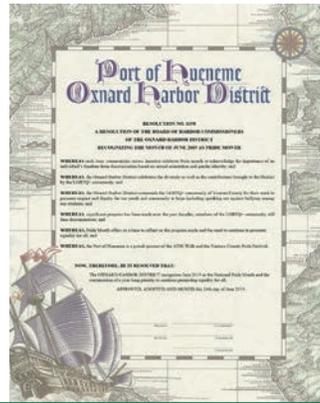
Ventura County Mobile Library

Boasting the first bookmobile service in California (delivered by horseback in 1924), the new VC Mobile Library debuted in May, and the Port is a proud supporter. Not only does the library promote the love of reading throughout the County (including areas local to our Port community), the fuel-efficient vehicle features cutting-edge technology, including free wi-fi, a 3D printer and more.



Proud to Support Pride

The Oxnard Harbor District Commissioners acknowledged June as Pride month as well as the contributions brought to the District by the LGBTQ community, including Ventura County Pride events and the AIDS Walk, both organized by Diversity Collective Ventura County (DCVC). DCVC's Executive Director Joseph Summers said that "being recognized and affirmed by leaders at every level has a profound affect on the LGBTQ community's mental and physical health. We deserve to be affirmed, recognized, and a priority in the fight for equality."



technologies of the future."

The three winning teams all presented new app concepts:

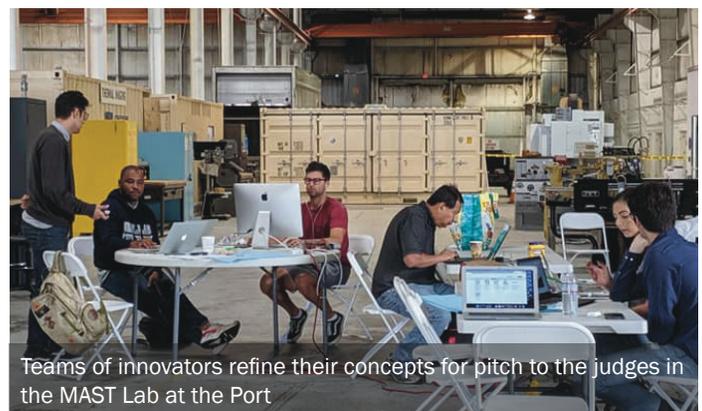
- 1st Place: "Get it Done" –to connect budget sensitive startups with new service providers looking to provide free of low-cost services in exchange for expand their portfolio of work.
- 2nd Place: "Local Friends" – to connect travelers or new residents of an area to local people who share the same interests, much like an activity specific tour guide showing new people what their new city has to offer.
- 3rd Place: "CompU" – for small businesses to issue points to frequent customers for purchases and referrals, including an option for sharing referrals with friends instead of the entire public.

Students from California Lutheran University, UCSB, and local Ventura County high schools were among the eight teams of creatives taking aiming to develop and present their concepts to the judging panel. The three winning ideas earned three months of support services and workspaces.

"Encouraging innovation, fostering startups, and supporting entrepreneurship is in the Port's DNA," said Kristin Decas. "The partnership you saw this weekend is an indicator of more of what is to come from the Port's MAST Program."

Brian Went, Co-Founder of Matter Labs, stated, "This Startup Weekend was unique in its partnership with the Port of Hueneme. Hosting it at the Port gave a creative twist which inspired the participants in developing their ideas. I am delighted to see the Port opening its doors and being a leader in fostering innovation and startups in our region."

Various members of the community made this event possible including NewCo, Health Care Foundation of Ventura County, Pacific Coast Business Times, RX/MAX Gold Coast Realtors, Hub101, Sandbox, Kickass Café, and 805 Startups. ♦



Teams of innovators refine their concepts for pitch to the judges in the MAST Lab at the Port

Around the World for International Trade Week

Trade consulates, multinational companies, and Ventura County's local business community convened on May 21 to talk trade, tariffs and the new USMCA agreement at the Port of Hueneme.



Oxnard Harbor District President Jess Herrera welcomes attendees

Oxnard Harbor District President Jess Herrera welcomed attendees stating, "Trade, it's a beautiful thing. It drives economic growth, enhances efficiency, and increases innovation." Herrera continued, "Leading economists will attest that the presence of a seaport spurs higher wages for the local workforce, provides greater access to higher quality goods, and serves as an economic engine for the people in that community – our community is living proof of that." The



Left: Port CEO & Port Director Kristin Decas emceeds the event
Right: Brian Peck delivers the keynote address

Port serves as the direct link between California's growers and manufacturers to the global market, generating over 15,834 direct and indirect jobs.

CEO & Port Director Kristin Decas emceed the event and reflected, "As you see here today, our relationships with our trading partners are very strong. We just celebrated the Port's largest trading year to date with 1.6 million tons of cargo, and we look forward to building on that success." Decas continued, "The more trade our customers bring through our Port directly translates into more family-

sustaining jobs for our community and resources to invest in our social programs and green infrastructure."

Argentina, Bangladesh, Belgium, Canada, Ecuador, Guatemala, Hong Kong, Mexico, and Peru took attendees on a trip through their country's traditional cargos and emerging markets as they forecasted growth and investment opportunities in 2019. The Port's largest trading partner by tonnage, Guatemala, was present to build on the recent Sister Port relationship developed between the Port of Hueneme and Puerto Quetzal, Guatemala.

Santiago Böche Sánchez, Director Representative of Workers, Puerto Quetzal stated, "It's a new born agreement we signed last January, so we have good expectations for it in terms of new ways to explore and share technologies, products, and operations." Sánchez continued, "[Today] was a very good experience, as it brought together, in one place, very different perspectives on the economic future and we will take this experience back home to make stronger positions regarding the economic situation that we are in."



Left: Trade Commissioner Carlos Moreno explains Argentina's trade priorities for 2019
Right: Julia Son of HKTDC addresses the attendees

Hong Kong Trade Development Council representative Julia Son showcased Hong Kong's position as a world leader for international trade. "The Heritage Foundation consistently names Hong Kong as the 'freest economy in the world' for trade." Son further explained that Hong Kong's corporate tax rate is 16.5% along with a simplified tax system that promotes investment.

As Argentina looks to expand trade with North America, Carlos Moreno, Trade Commissioner, Consulate General of the Argentine Republic stated, "The U.S. is Argentina's third largest commercial partner behind Brazil and China, mostly trading through the east coast of the United States. We are working to expand to the west coast as connectivity has improved."

Brian Peck, the Director of the Center for Transnational Law and Business at USC's Gould School of Law served as the keynote speaker for the event. Peck expanded on the current priorities of the Trump Administration, highlighting the focus shifting from unilateral pressure to multilateral pressure when it comes to trade agreements. Specifically, the U.S., EU, and Japan appear to be working in concert to drive pressure on China.

Peck touched on the impact these agreements have at the local level. “It’s great to see a regional port first-hand that is very important to the local economy of Ventura County with the agriculture and autos. For me, it is a learning experience on the importance of trade at the local level. Seventy percent of the U.S. GDP is based on trade, and so it goes for the national level, the state level, and the local level.”

U.S., Mexican, and Canadian representatives weighed in on the new USMCA (U.S./Mexico/Canada Trade Agreement) during a roundtable discussion moderated by David Habib, Jr. of the District Export Council.

Gavin Nardocchio-Jones, Consul and Program Manager of Political-Public Affairs of Canadian Consulate identified Canada’s priorities in negotiating the agreement. “For



David Habib, Jr. moderates the USMCA Panel with Richard Swanson of the United States, Roberto Rodríguez Hernández of Mexico, and Gavin Nardocchio-Jones of Canada

Canada, number one is preserving NAFTA and our trilateral territory, number two is keeping a rules-based system of trade where there are dispute mechanisms, investor protections, and ultimately where we have a clear and concise timeline for renegotiations without a sunset clause.”

Nardocchio-Jones foresees the Canadian Parliament ratifying the USMCA by the end of the current session, which ends July 1st. He concluded, “There is wide bi-partisan support for USMCA in Canada.”

Richard Swanson, Director of the Pacific South Network for the US Commercial Service, US

Department of Commerce stated, “The USMCA resulted in significant updates to the existing NAFTA, including improving market access for manufacturing and agricultural exports, as well as the inclusion of important new provisions in areas like digital trade and good regulatory practices.”

During the roundtable discussion, Roberto Rodríguez Hernández, Consul General of Mexico, Oxnard stated, “Mexico is supportive of the USMCA as it is important that we have agreements instead of disputes to benefit our people and improve travel among our countries.” He continued, “Mexico has over 50 free trade agreements in place including one we are expanding with Japan, as they like to import Mexican-made products.”

To cap off the event, the Oxnard Harbor District Board of Commissioners presented awards to three companies exporting through the Port of Hueneme.

Mary Anne Rooney, Oxnard Harbor District Commissioner presented ZPower LLC the New and Innovative Exporter Award, saying “This company is doing great things in our County, employing over 400 Ventura County residents and is revolutionizing the world of rechargeable microbatteries, and exceeding \$20 million in export related revenue in their first year as a company.” ZPower LLC is the only company in the world manufacturing recyclable silver zinc batteries, exporting many of them to Europe.

McCain Foods USA was presented Exporter Achievement Award for their rise in produce exports by OHD Vice President Jess Ramirez. “McCain Food USA’s main product is frozen french fries through the Port of Hueneme; however, their company is much more than that. I applaud them for their ‘Be Good. Do Good’ philosophy which promotes strong work ethics and a commitment to supporting the environment and communities around them.”

Jess Herrera, President of Oxnard Harbor District presented General Motors USA with this year’s Automotive Exporter of the Year award referencing the company’s automotive exports through the Port to Japan and Korea.

To wrap up the event, President Herrera concluded, “This was a great event to start the World Trade Week. Hopefully,



Oxnard Harbor District Commissioner Mary Anne Rooney, Vice President Jess Ramirez, and President Jess Herrera present the 2019 Export Awards to ZPower LLC, McCain Foods, and General Motors



we will keep expanding this as it is so important to our community, Ventura County, and California. Our Port’s strategic location is very important to serving all of this area, and we expect to continue doing so in a great way that provides great paying jobs.” ♦

HUENEME DOCK TALK

FALL 2019



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK



FOLLOW US ON TWITTER



FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM



CONNECT WITH US ON LINKEDIN



SUBSCRIBE TO OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL



JOIN OUR MAILING LIST
Email "subscribe" to info@portofh.org

www.portofh.org

 Printed on recycled paper



The Port
OF HUENEME
Oxnard Harbor District

#WeMakeCargoMove

Foreign Trade Zone #205



WORLD TRADE CENTER
OXNARD

The Port of Hueneme

333 Ponoma Street
Port Hueneme, CA 93041
Phone: 805-488-3677