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# Springtime? (check), First First Friday? (check!!) => Check it out :)

4/28/25



Almost looks like the sky is on fire!

**1) First Friday:** Game on, (hopefully and fingers crossed!). Next Friday, May 2cnd, Around 5:30 on. Potluck, bring stuff to munch on, drink, etc. We'll have tables, plates, cups, utensils, etc.. At the new usual place at the bottom of the ramp.

-**Alcohol** is not permitted on the beach in general. There is a bit of private land at the back by the bluff but we will need to keep a low profile, keep it in back, consider bringing an opaque drink container perhaps already stocked. Anyway, something we will have to feel our way through a bit.



-**Sand** The sand is iffy, there is enough to get on/off the ramp but the berm is not quite there -which means the ocean does wash up most of the way to the back at high tide. The tides should give us enough sand and low tide is at 7 so should be ok but lets keep fingers crossed!

-**Transportation:** There are a number of people in the hood that have challenges getting down to the sand. I'll be planning a pickup/dropoff service to the ramp to make it a bit more practical to get down there for those people. At least as a trial. Give me a holler if that would be of help!

**2) CalTrans:** Good god, will it ever stop???? Yes! All the construction shuts down Memorial Day to Labor day finished or not.... but the schedule is holding at present to finish the present work cycle by then. Found a good contact in Cal Trans so was able to get a few issues addressed (like an issue with some steel plates in front of Dizz's) Let me know if you see something that is a safety issue, etc.

**3) Toxic Algae:** No idea when this will let up. We are probably all seeing dead or distressed animals. Much worse than usual. Call the police non-emergency number (below) if you see any animals that need help or cleanup.

**4) Activities:** Wow, let's see... A couple of people went out whale watching. It was fabulous. Fin and juvenile Humpback loitering for over an hour and a half, hundreds of dolphin, then porpoise. All to ourselves for the whole time with one of the go-fast boats out of Newport. Definitely going to give that a try on a regular basis. There was an all-gals (and a bit of Diver Dave) birthday party a few days ago and before that, an amazing music party at Mac Brown's place. Sooo many people with instruments, voices, dancing! Tom, the main ukulele guy in town stopped by. It was a blast. Still trying to get out to some dancing nights but man, harder than I thought to start something around 9:30 -either there is already a party or bedtime is looking pretty sweet. Oh well, we will keep trying, Thursdays at Sandpiper! And Leslie had a wonderful Yappie Hour up at the park for all the doggie persons. I'm sure that will be happening again. And there is Wed Dizz's locals Happy Hour, usually a good gathering of neighbors!

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of the peninsula, etc. Give me a text or call if you have an idea or are interested in anything!



**5) AI Generated Fraud:** Yet another fraud avenue to be aware of. People are using AI to generate a very realistic voice of someone, no idea how they get the recordings to base it off of but it is happening. Talked to someone, their son called, in some sort of financial distress, etc.. They knew the son was in Mexico so it actually does happen and it may not be immediately obvious. Some people I talked to have a code word with their family. Unfortunately, that might be worthwhile thinking about for the people that you are close to. Damn!

**6) Birds chewing up cushions:** The crows I think. Suppose to be highly intelligent and apparently they have now figured out where good nesting material is to be found. See this a couple of times this last several weeks. Good news is that it is probably only in the springtime. Bad news is that there is likely little to be done except hide the cushions. Good luck!

**7) See Something Say Something:** We had a fabulous neighborhood party the other week with one mis-fire. There was a guest that misbehaved with one woman after another through the party, basically acting as if it were a hunting ground at a bar, invading personal space, unwanted physical contact, etc..

I have contacted him, removed him from the news letter and he will no longer be attending our events.

The reasons I am writing about this are several.

**First-** I want to make sure that if you are someone that was bothered by this guest, that you know he will not be in any further events or hooked in through the newsletter.

**Second-** To make a statement that the goal of all our activities is to facilitate community and connection. Among other things, this means consciously creating a safe enough space in our gatherings of good humans such that women can chose to be less guarded, more able to connect and share with the people they encounter in our gatherings. Community grows if the environment can be trusted to be safe.

**Third-** My last point is that no one said anything! I'd like to be really clear that we all have a responsibility to act if we see or experience something off. Believe me, it will

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Something ay Something!

A couple of people I talked to about this issue suggested that since it occurred at a party that only involved a relative few among the whole neighborhood (or at least the whole of this newsletter's subscribers), that maybe it wasn't a necessary communication to send out to all. I thought it over but I really feel that this is a good opportunity to have everyone think about it a bit to make sure the awareness exists so that things like this simply have no place or space to occur regardless of what mix of us it might happen in.

That's how we roll at Victoria!

**8) The new bar around the corner:** Le Patite Pali, The rebuilt motel next to the StarFish/CVS center. Perfectly lovely place. Nice job with the rooms and the general look/feel of the place. Enough of that! The only reason I'm writing about this place is the bar. Super nice, comfortable bar with about 5 seats at the bar, a couch/sitting area around a low table, outside seating. Well laid out for a small handful of people getting together and hanging out. A VERY hard thing to find in most bars -no space for standing around in a small group. Drinks are good, no well alcohol, just a small selection of good quality stuff. And some good small bites (Snacks really).

Anyway, a nice place that can be walked to!

**9) Seabutter:** Speaking of nice places.... I'm told Seabutter, the small bar over by Mozambique, has been stuck for months trying to open but having huge problems getting the permits worked out. Setting up to be a nice local place, coffee shop as well as bar I believe. Total shame....

**10) AI therapy:** On a more positive AI note, I ran into someone who used an A.I. for therapy with really helpful results. I was able to see some of the texts and was truly surprised by how empathetic the dialog was, how thoughtful the feedback was, and how insightful the questions were. I was shocked, who would have thought, etc.. Actually quite helpful and useful. Obviously taken with the usual grains of salt but it looked like yet another area of surprising usefulness. Go figure.

**11) Police:** No time or space in this newsletter for details but I went through the Citizens Police Academy recently and will write more about it another time. The short report is that I was really impressed and blow away but the really amazingly dedicated, focused, and competent people that I ran into in so many directions. I

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the issues are, the people themselves are remarkable and very dedicated to our safety -and at least to that degree, well deserving of our support as part of this community.



**12) Cold Remedy:** There are still a few people catching that awfull cold that was going around. Here's the recipe some of our neighbors (Todd and Chin) swears by that they picked up in Morocco. They use it when a major "feel better fast" Vit C boost is needed !

(All skins on except ginger - use LOTS of ginger)

2 apple, 2 pear, 2 lemon, 2 oranges. One fresh ginger root, cut up in large pieces, put in large pot of water and bring to boil - at least half an hour. Let cool. Smash it up. Add honey and drink (alot) like tea.

Whew! Done for now, May the sun shine in May and June UNLIKE March and April!!!!!! Fingers crossed although very hard to defeat May Gray and June Gloom.... Just going to think positive!

Diver Dave signing off  
:)

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