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Gold Coast Recycling & Transfer Station INCORPORATED

Happy Halloween

October 2026

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Halloween Reminder: Pumpkins are Food Waste!



When October rolls around, we sure do love our pumpkins! And I'm no different!

Whether we're carving them up for Halloween or putting them on display to honor autumn, most of us make an annual trip to the store or local pumpkin patch to pick up a few.

But we also know they don't last forever. And while we might not think of them as food waste once they go bad those decaying pumpkins and all those sloppy leftovers from carving are considered organic food waste.

In the past, most old pumpkins ended up in landfills where they produced that climate change super pollutant, methane. But that shouldn't be the case anymore. We at Harrison make it easy for you to do the right thing with your old pumpkins and all of your food waste.



Here's what to do with your used pumpkins: If you've carved them, take your pile of pumpkin guts and seeds, place them in a plastic or paper bag, secure them tightly and put them in your curbside organics (yard and food) waste cart. When your carved or whole pumpkin is ready to go, just toss it in the same waste cart, no bag necessary. Even if you only have food waste bags and no yard waste, you can still put them in your organic waste cart and take it to the curb.

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Totally RAD Trucks Bring Smiles and Support



If you've known enough children in your life, you probably know that many kids absolutely love trucks. Whether it's fire trucks, dump trucks, ambulances or any kind of heavy machinery, their fascination with these complex vehicles can run deep.

That's what makes Totally RAD Foundation's family-friendly Touch-A-Truck fundraising event such a kick. Held on Oct. 3, the event drew lots of truck-loving kids and adults who enjoyed an up-close look at lots of different vehicles, including an E.J. Harrison & Sons collection truck. It was such a treat to see wide-eyed kids watching the trash truck collection arm in action and see their big smiles. (You can see a short video of the event at https://www.facebook.com/reel/2187690535144521.)

Besides our truck, there were cranes, fire trucks, armored police vehicles, a monster truck and even a helicopter. It was also a great opportunity for families to interact with first responders and local businesses in a fun setting.

We were so happy to support this great event that raises funds for an important nonprofit organization. The Ventura-based RAD Foundation provides help to children and families that lost a parent to cancer. The foundation provides financial assistance for everyday living costs such as housing, utilities, child care, medical costs, food and college assistance. You can learn more about their efforts and how you can support them at totallyradfoundation.org/.

Benefactors' Ball Ventures Into the Cosmos



Every year the Community Memorial Foundation holds its Benefactors' Ball and every year this ball is a don't-miss local occasions. And this year was no different.

The annual event honors exceptional local physicians and philanthropists and raises money to help elevate the quality of healthcare in our community. Held Oct. 24 at the Commemorative Air Force Museum in Camarillo, this year's event carried the theme "A Night in the Cosmos" and was billed as "an evening of celestial elegance featuring live music, perfectly crafted cocktails, and a stellar opportunity to support exceptional, community-based care." George and Danielle Harrison had fun posing with Doc Brown in front of the Delorean time machine from the hit 1985 movie "Back to the Future."

Everyone dressed elegantly, and, judging by all the smiling faces, guests enjoyed the festivities immensely.

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Benefactors' Ball Ventures Into the Cosmos - continued from page 2

We at E.J. Harrison & Sons are always pleased to attend and sponsor this wonderful event that brings together so many familiar members of the community for such a good cause. All of the proceeds go to ensuring the Community Memorial Foundation can fund much-needed equipment for Community Memorial Hospital – Ventura, providing leading-edge care to local patients.

The following were honors and honorees at this year's event were:

- **Active Physicians of the Year:** Ventura Emergency Physicians, an award-winning ER team with 41 years of service, recognized for excellence in geriatric, cardiac, STEMI, sepsis, and stroke care
- **Retired Physicians of the Year:** Alexander Kowblansky, M.D.; David Lebell, M.D.; and Jerry Maryniuk, M.D. – founding members of Ventura Emergency Physicians
- **Community Leader of the Year:** Anthony "Tony" Fowkes, a founding member of the Benefactors' Ball committee

Working to Ensure a Green Festival





For the past 40 years, the California Avocado Festival in Carpinteria has celebrated one of California's most famous, fabulous and delicious fruits, and this year was no exception.

Billed as a weekend of "Peace, Love and Guacamole," the Oct. 2-4 festival once again lured tens of thousands of avocado aficionados to Linden Avenue for days and nights of food, fun and a full lineup of entertainment.

Our love for this wonderful community event knows no bounds and E.J. Harrison & Sons has been, and remains a proud sponsor. But our support goes above and beyond and serves as an example of how we work together with vendors and the community to keep everything green with maximum recycling results and minimal environmental impact.

If you were to count as you walked the festival grounds, you would have found 320 Harrison recycling containers.

"Anywhere around the food court or the festival, there's going to be a food recycling cart and a recycling cart," said Harrison's Donald Sealund, adding there were no carts for trash. "So they can put all their organics and food waste in the brown container, and all the wrappings and bottles and cans and plastic stuff goes inside the blue recycling container."

Sealund works with all vendors ahead of time to promote using all recyclable materials for food service. Because not everyone

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Working to Ensure a Green Festival - continued from page 3

is perfect in choosing the right container, Harrison crew members circulate throughout the day to pick through containers and make sure everything is in its right place.

Ultimately, contents of food and organics recycling containers end up at Agromin's ReHarvest food recycling system in Oxnard and recyclables are sorted at Gold Coast Recycling in Ventura.

It ends up being a very long weekend for Sealund and other Harrison staff, but a rewarding one when we reflect on the results.

City Leaders Tout Local Accomplishments

Two recent events celebrated the great work being done by leaders and staff in the cities of Ventura and Camarillo.

Members of the E.J. Harrison & Sons family were on hand for the Camarillo State of the City event held by the West Ventura County Business Alliance on Oct. 22 at the Commemorative Air Force Museum hangar at Camarillo Airport.

The reception was a wonderful opportunity to mingle with local city and business leaders while enjoying drinks and hors d'oeuvres in the unique setting.











With a beautiful antique plane as a backdrop, Camarillo Mayor David Tennessen highlighted many of the city's accomplishments and priorities and provided multiple examples of what makes Camarillo such a great place to live and do business.

On Sept. 17 the Ventura Chamber of Commerce hosted its annual State of the City breakfast at Crowne Plaza Ventura Beach featuring Ventura Mayor Jeannette Sánchez-Palacios.

The mayor highlighted the many areas of progress across the city's five strategic priorities: climate change and environmental stewardship; economic vitality and development; homelessness; infrastructure; and public safety.

Both events proved that we have amazing local leaders, businesses and local community members dedicated to caring for and improving the cities we call home.

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Stories of Inspiration Highlight CSUCI President's Dinner



Every time I attend the annual California State University, Channel Islands President's Dinner, I come away with a deep appreciation for how important the institution is to Ventura County's position as an outstanding California community. By highlighting the amazing and important work being done by university students, faculty and alumni, the event makes you realize great things are happening in our own backyard.

Take the event's student speaker, Samantha Ledezma, as an example. Majoring in health science and chemistry, Samantha is focused on women's health, underserved populations, and improving access to healthcare. As part of a research project, she focused on the experiences of patients and volunteers at Westminster Free Clinic, which provides healthcare services to uninsured individuals and families throughout Ventura County. Her experience helped her see the importance of using research to address critical healthcare needs within local communities. She's pursuing a joint M.D./Ph.D. program to become both a medical provider and a researcher.

Just imagine what this young lady is going to accomplish! And that's just one student! And there were many more such stories on this night, filled with recognition for the outstanding work of students, professors and alumni.

Jim Harrison and I, along with other members of the Harrison family, joined more than 300 community and business leaders, alumni, and university supporters to hear and enjoy these stories. All of us came away inspired by the work being done on and off campus.

As long-term sponsors of this event, we are proud to support the work of the university in fostering future leaders in multiple fields.

Connect with us! @ejharrisoninc

Sincerely,

Nan Drake

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