

# The Echo

April 2026

276 N El Camino Real  
Oceanside California 92058

Office: 760-439-2911

Office hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00am to 4:00pm

(closed 12-1pm)



Photo courtesy of John Pohlman

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A graphic featuring a cheerful cartoon watermelon character with a smiling face, wearing red shoes, and holding a green starburst. To the right of the character is a large QR code enclosed in a white rounded rectangle with a black border. Below the QR code, the text "SCAN QR CODE WITH CELL PHONE CAMERA THEN CLICK LINK" is written in bold, black, uppercase letters. At the bottom, a white speech bubble with a black border contains the text "TO VIEW THIS MONTHS ECHO IN COLOR ON OUR WEBSITE" in black, uppercase letters, with three small blue circles at the bottom right of the bubble.

**SCAN QR CODE WITH CELL PHONE  
CAMERA THEN CLICK LINK**

TO VIEW THIS MONTHS ECHO  
IN COLOR ON OUR WEBSITE



# THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

## RECREATION COMMITTEE

Mary-Lou Camara  
Carol Feig  
Christy Hartig  
Dave Schaffner  
Vikki Schaffner  
Sara Thames  
Ranny Thompson

## WELCOME COMMITTEE

Beverly Behymer  
DeGina LaCour

## EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

Penny Russell  
Suzi Russell

## MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FOR LOAN

John Smith

## TABLE HELPERS

Al Ablong  
Richard Messer  
Jim O'Dea  
Chuck Smith

## NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

Christy Hartig

## LAGUNA VISTA ECHO

Editor: Monika Bull and Sarah Smith  
Website Admin: Monika Bull  
Circulation Manager: John Smith  
Distribution Helpers: Bob Jackson, Ed Martinez,  
Carla Martinez, Maria Free

## LIBRARIANS

Robert Gaffney  
Penny Russell  
Suzi Russell

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**WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU ALL!**

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN  
VOLUNTEERING, ASK SOMEONE LISTED**

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# Laguna Vista Activities

**CLUBHOUSE: Hours: 8am to 10pm**

## **SPORTS**

- **SWIMMING:** The heated pool and hot tub are found behind the clubhouse.  
**Open daily 7:30am - 9pm** (No children in the spa at any time. An adult must always accompany children in the pool. All guests using the pool must always be accompanied by a Resident. No pets allowed in the pool area.)  
**Children's hours: Mar 16<sup>th</sup> - Nov 14<sup>th</sup> 3pm - 7pm, Nov 15<sup>th</sup>-Mar 15<sup>th</sup> 2pm - 6pm**
- **WATER AEROBICS:** Led by Karen Hasemann, Tues. through Fri. 10am -11am
- **TENNIS/PICKLEBALL:** Courts are open every day from 8:00am - 10:00pm
- **HORSESHOES:** equipment by pits
- **SHUFFLEBOARD:** Wednesday's @ 5pm – Lenny
- **BILLIARDS:** Thursday's @ 6pm
- **PING PONG:** Equipment is stored
- **CHAIR EXERCISES:** Led by Al Ablong (Monday's 9:30am)

**GAMES** (All games are played in the Clubhouse)

- **CARD GAMES:** Poker-type games. Contact Mavis Aloï
- **BUNCO:** TBA
- **CANASTA:** Contact Monika Bull
- **SHANGHAI:** Contact Lillian Valdez (Friday's @ 1pm)

**TABLE GAMES:** Contact Sharon Hardin – 720-499-4629

- **CANASTA – HAND and FOOT:** 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday's at 1pm – Seats at table are open.
- **Mexican Train:** 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays at 1pm
- **Rummikub:** 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays at 1pm
- **VARIETY:** 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays at 1pm
- **Mahjong:** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 9.30am and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at 1pm

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

- **LINE DANCING:** Contact Merri McAvoy
- **CLAY CLUB:** Wednesdays 10 am to 12 pm in the laundry building



We're adding a new column to the newsletter dedicated to the important things in life: good food and things to do nearby. Each issue, we'll share a great spot to grab a bite and local happenings worth getting off the couch for.



### *Let's grab a bite*

Finney's Crafthouse 212 N. Tremont - downtown Oceanside.

This place hits all the marks - convenient, reasonable prices, good food, indoor booth seating, rooftop patio - and an elevator!

Monday-Friday Happy Hour - 3 to 5pm - features drink discounts and food choices under \$10 (Ex: Grilled cheese & soup for \$7)

Known for their craft beer selections (light, fruity, toasty, and malty), they have a full bar and wide selection of food choices, including: mini lobster rolls, salads, protein bowls, hot wings, tacos, pizza, sandwiches, and burgers.

I really enjoyed their turkey burger and sweet potato fries!

### *Local happenings*

The Rady Shell , San Diego

James Taylor April 28<sup>th</sup> and Paul Simon June 9<sup>th</sup>

*Please drop us a note about your favorite spot,*

[Lagunavista.echo@gmail.com](mailto:Lagunavista.echo@gmail.com) or drop in our tube #156 or #249

# April 2026

Tickets: March 3-30, March 3-31, 4-1, 4-4, 4-6 am & pm, 4-7 am & pm, 4-8

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9am Prayer Group 10 Water Aerobics 10 Clay Club 5pm Shuffleboard	2 9am Pickleball 10 Water Aerobics 1pm Canasta/Variety 6p Billiards	3 10 Water Aerobics 1pm Shanghai	4 9am Pickleball
5 9am Pickleball 1pm Mexican Train	6 9:30 Chair Exercise 1pm Canasta	7 10am Water Aerobics 1pm Rummikub	8 9am Prayer Group 10 Water Aerobics 10 Clay Club 5pm Shuffleboard	9 9am Pickleball 10 Water Aerobics 1pm Mahjong/Canasta 6pm Billiards	10 10 Water Aerobics 1pm Shanghai	11 9am Pickleball <i>9-10:30 Pancake Breakfast</i>
12 9am Pickleball	13 9:30 Chair Exercise 1pm Canasta	14 10am Water Aerobics 9:30 Mahjong	15 9am Prayer Group 10 Water Aerobics 10 Clay Club 5pm Shuffleboard	16 9am Pickleball 10am Water Aerobics 1pm Canasta/Variety 6pm Billiards	17 10am Water Aerobics 1pm Shanghai	18 9am Pickleball 11am Quarterly HOA meeting
19 9am Pickleball 1pm Mexican Train	20 9:30 Chair Exercise 1pm Canasta	21 10am Water Aerobics 1pm Rummikub	22 9am Prayer Group 10 Water Aerobics 10 Clay Club 5pm Shuffleboard	23 9am Pickleball 10am Water Aerobics 1pm Mahjong/Canasta 6pm Billiards	24 10am Water Aerobics 1pm Shanghai <i>6pm Paint n Sip</i>	25 9am Pickleball
26 9am Pickleball	27 9:30 Chair Exercise 1pm Canasta	28 10am Water Aerobics 9:30 Mahjong	29 9am Prayer Group 10 Water Aerobics 10 Clay Club 5pm Shuffleboard	30 9am Pickleball 10am Water Aerobics 1pm Mahjong/Canasta 6pm Billiards		

## ***Judy's Corner (Office Manager)***

First, thank you everyone for making this transition easier after Debbie's departure.  
I truly appreciate the support.

Over the next few months, we will be auditing residents' files to make sure everything is up to date.

I will be checking for the following documents:

- Updated HCD Registration Cards
- Emergency forms
- Birthday forms
- Directory forms
- Pet Agreements

For those that have RV Storage:

- Updated Insurance
- Updated Registration

Thank you to those who have already turned in the privacy statements and MRL Proof of Service. If you have not submitted these, please do so as soon as possible.

Coming soon:

- Personal Income Declaration Forms will need to be completed and submitted with proof of income. Those who turn in their forms will receive an incentive.
- Online Payments: Residents will soon have the option to make payments online. You will still be able to pay by check and will continue to receive a hard copy of your rent bill regardless of how you choose to pay. More information to come.



### **Coming In May**

Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup> at 5pm Mother's Day Potluck and

**COOKIE BAKE-OFF**

We are looking for judges

(you can only be a judge if no one in your household is entering the contest)

More details in the May Echo

The Carlsbad Flower Fields are open now until Mother's Day  
- if you want the full experience - purchase tickets online.

**For free** - there is a walking path on Armada Drive that  
offers a great view overlooking the flower fields.



**Saturday April 11<sup>th</sup>**

**from 9.00 to 10.30**



## ***Pancake Breakfast is back***

Menu

scrambled eggs, pancakes, sausage, fruit, muffins,



Orange juice, Bloody Mary's and Mimosas.  
\$8 for HOA members, \$12 for non-HOA members

Ticket sale dates:

3-30, 3-31, 4-1, 4-4, 4-6, 4-7, 4-8 , 10am until  
noon.

4-6 and 4-7 from 4pm until 7pm.

***Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. 6:00 pm***

***at the clubhouse***

***check Nextdoor for upcoming project***

***Tickets – \$20.00 Non HOA \$25. 00***

***ALL paint supplies provided. BYOB***

***Contact Sara Thames to reserve a spot***

***760-613-6470***



## *A message from Merri McAvoy – your Line Dancing Instructor – and Aunt of a Gold Medal Olympian!*



As the 2026 Winter Olympics conclude, and our “regularly scheduled” programs resume, I want to share some pride and joy with my Laguna Vista community.

My nephew Charlie McAvoy #25 on Team USA Men’s Hockey Team achieved his dream of bringing home a Gold Medal. Last time the Men’s USA Hockey Team won the gold medal was in 1980 – 46 years ago. My youngest brother Charlie Sr., my sister-in-law Jennifer, and his sisters – Holly, Heather, Kayla, and her husband Yassine, were in Milan to cheer him on and celebrate this amazing victory. After the on-ice rejoicing – Charlie made his way to his family and lifted himself up to hug my brother, his mom, sisters, his wife Kiley and their beautiful son Rhys.

Later, when he put the medal around his mom’s neck he said, “we did it”. He humbly acknowledges all the hard work and dedication my brother and sister-in-law put in to encourage him and support him on his career path to become an elite hockey player. My brother got him on the ice as a youngster at the local Long Beach, NY rink and the rest is history – practice, games, and tournaments that took the whole family on long weekend trips. I was reminiscing with a friend about a visit I made to her in upstate NY when Charlie’s family stopped by on their way to a weekend tournament from Long Beach, Long Island to Toronto, Canada. Willing to go to any lengths! Charlie completed a year at Long Beach High School and then went on to finish high school in Ann Arbor, Michigan to join the US Hockey Development Team. This led him to play for the United States Hockey League where he played in Gold Medal World Championships. After high school, Charlie played hockey at Boston University where he met his wife Kiley Sullivan, and they were married at the Boston Public Library – a beautiful event. As soon as he was of age – we all went to the 2016 NHL Draft in Buffalo, NY where he was drafted by the Boston Bruins #73. Our family were previously NY Rangers fans but our loyalty shifted to the Bruins! My four brothers were always hockey fans, and I quickly became a fan – making sure I have all the right TV channels to watch the Bruins games. Sometimes I record the games and watch them later - but you can be sure that I was up at 5am on the day of the gold medal game to watch it Live!! So thrilled, excited and blessed to share this accomplishment by my nephew, with the rest of my family, friends, the city of Long Beach, NY, and all the Boston Bruins and Team USA Hockey fans.



# FIND IT



Space No \_\_\_\_\_

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Space No \_\_\_\_\_

**It Will Be Fun**

**It Will Be Challenging**

**It's Coming May 2nd**

**At 1pm**

**Put It On Your Calendar**

**More info on how to participate next month in your May Echo**

**Hosted by Hyeong Messer and Sharon Hardin**

**Any question, please contact Hyeong Messer 979-884-5726**

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Find the words listed. Words may appear forward, backward, up, down or diagonal. Words may overlap and cross each other. When you have found a word, be sure to circle it and cross it off the list.



APRIL

Word Search



- APRIL
- ARBOR DAY
- BLOOM
- BLOSSOM
- BUNNY
- BUTTERFLY
- CATERPILLAR
- CHICK
- DAFFODIL
- EARTHWORM
- EASTER
- FLOWERS
- GARDEN
- GRASS
- HATCHING
- KITE
- MUD
- PICNIC
- POND
- PUDDLE
- RAIN
- RAINBOW

H	T	J	N	I	B	O	R	K	F	C	K	K	K	M	M	L
L	E	A	S	T	E	R	Y	X	I	J	S	C	M	K	S	L
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R	A	L	K	Z	P	Y	D	M	K	R	M	L	V	M	N	B
P	I	M	B	R	A	L	L	I	P	R	E	T	A	C	C	M
S	N	G	H	G	H	D	R	G	N	I	H	C	T	A	H	U



- ROBIN
- SEEDLINGS
- SHOWERS
- SPRING
- SPROUT
- SUNSHINE
- TULIP
- UMBRELLA







# FROM YOUR EMERGENCY TEAM



We recently have added several new members to our EMERGENCY TEAM. Please consider being a backup for our team throughout our park. We always need backup help when one of our team members goes on vacation. We are a committed group of able-bodied volunteers willing to help our most vulnerable residents in the event of an emergency. Heading up our Team is Penny Russell Sp. 191 as Captain, Suzi Russell Sp. 191 as Co-Captain, (6) Area Leaders and (24) Block Captains. Here's our team:

AREA 1: Area Leader - Rick Goyette Sp.99

Block Captains:

- BC1A - Dana & Bill Malone Sp.100
- BC1B - Cindy O'dea SP.272  
(Asst. Cyndy Crisp Sp.228)
- BC1C - Rick and Jenny Muncie Sp.4
- BC1D - Carol Fieg Sp.16

AREA 2: Area Leader - JoAnn Farnsworth Sp.216

Block Captains:

- BC2A - Michael Gallagher Sp.24
- BC2B - Charlie & Kris Sandberg Sp.219
- BC2C - Richard & Hyeyong Messer Sp.236
- BC2D - Sharon Hardin Sp.262

AREA 3: Area Leader - Penny Russell Sp.191

Block Captains:

- BC3A - Terry Spear Sp.36
- BC3B - MaryBeth & Norman Laing Sp.204
- BC3C - Nancy Brown Sp.199
- BC3D - Chuck Smith Sp.34

AREA 4: Area Leader - Christy Hartig Sp.183

Block Captains:

- BC4A - Bruce Mara Sp.52
- BC4B - Betsy Stokke Sp.57
- BC4C - Leslie Rutherford Sp.170
- BC4D - Sid Rayfield Sp.141

AREA 5: Area Leader - Suzi Russell Sp.191

Block Captains:

- BC5A - Chuck Roberts Sp.70
- BC5B - Marsha Gallager Sp.148
- BC5C - Dave Schaffner Sp.80  
(Asst. Rodney Pates Sp.130)
- BC5D - Maria & Mike Free Sp.134

AREA 6: Area Leader - Rodney Pates Sp.130

Block Captains:

- BC6A - Nancy Jean Dunlap Sp.111
- BC6B - MaryLou Camara Sp.128
- BC6C - Cathie Knox Sp.116



# Library Corner

## **LIBRARY CORNER FOR APRIL 2026**

If you have books you wish to donate to our Laguna Vista Library, **PLEASE DROP THEM OFF AT SPACE #191**. If your books are older than 2000, please donate them directly to the Public Library or your favorite charity. When returning books, **PLEASE** put them back in the right alphabetized section so your fellow readers can find them. *Enjoy the reads!*

The Women by Kristin Hannah – The Women is the story of one woman gone to war, but it shines a light on all women who put themselves in harm's way and whose sacrifice and commitment to their country has too often been forgotten. A novel about deep friendships and bold patriotism.

Onyx Storm by Rebecca Yarros – AUDIO BOOK - After nearly eighteen months at Basgiath War College, Violet Sorrengail knows there's no more time for lessons. The battle has truly begun and now Violet must journey beyond the failing Aretian wards to seek allies. She will do anything to save what she loves—her dragons, her family, her home, and him.

The Wedding People by Alison Espach - Phoebe Stone arrives at the grand Cornwall Inn wearing a green dress and gold heels, not a bag in sight, alone. She's immediately mistaken by everyone in the lobby for one of the wedding people, but she's actually the only guest at the Cornwall who isn't here for the big event. She's here, at rock bottom, and determined to have one last decadent splurge on herself.

Great Big Beautiful Life by Emily Henry - Alice Scott is an eternal optimist still dreaming of her big writing break. Hayden Anderson is a Pulitzer-prize winning human thundercloud. And they're both on balmy Little Crescent Island for the same reason: to write the biography of a woman no one has seen in years—or at least to meet with the octogenarian who claims to be the Margaret Ives. The God of the Woods by Liz Moore - Early morning, August 1975: a camp counselor discovers an empty bunk. Its occupant, Barbara Van Laar, has gone missing. Barbara isn't just any thirteen-year-old: she's the daughter of the family that owns the summer camp and employs most of the region's residents. And this isn't the first time a Van Laar child has disappeared.

Got favorite authors or books? Your neighbors would love recommendations! Please let us know by emailing us at:

Penny (pr-lv@marketec.com), Suzi (sr-lv@marketec.com), or drop us a note at #191. Don't forget that the Oceanside Public Library will deliver books right to your door if you are a library member. Call 760-435-5600 for more information. Is it time for a Book Club? If interested, contact Penny at pr-lv@marketec.com.



# Cooking with Chef John

## BEST TUNA CASSEROLE

### Yield:

1 (9x13-inch) casserole

### Ingredients

- 1 (12 ounce) package egg noodles
- 1 (10.5 ounce) can condensed cream of mushroom soup
- 1 (10.5 ounce) can condensed cream of celery soup
- 2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese, divided
- 2 (5 ounce) cans tuna, drained
- 1 cup frozen green peas
- ½ (4.5 ounce) can sliced mushrooms
- ¼ cup chopped onion
- 1 cup crushed potato chips



### Directions

1. Gather all ingredients.
2. Fill a large pot with lightly salted water and bring to a boil. Add egg noodles and cook until tender yet firm to the bite, 7 to 9 minutes; drain. Meanwhile, preheat the oven to 425 degrees F (220 degrees C).
3. Mix noodles, condensed soup, 1 cup cheese, tuna, peas, mushrooms, and onion in a large bowl until evenly coated.
4. Transfer the mixture into a 9x13-inch baking dish.
5. Top the mixture with crushed potato chips and remaining 1 cup of cheese.
6. Bake in the preheated oven until cheese is melted and edges are lightly golden, about 15 to 20 minutes.
7. Serve hot. Enjoy!

# Happy Birthday Wishes April

Lillian Valdez	April 1	<i>Famous Birthdays This Month</i>	Charles Smith	April 15	
Elaine Robillard	April 1	<i>Robert Downey Jr.</i>	April 4	Greg Creighton	April 15
Nancy Fox	April 2	<i>Dennis Quaid</i>	April 9	Mavis Aloï	April 15
Charlie Pearson	April 3	<i>Seth Rogen</i>	April 15	Shirley Perry	April 16
Angela Roth	April 3	<i>Leonardo da Vinci</i>	April 15	Lawrence Jones	April 17
Christy Hartig	April 3	<i>Charlie Chaplin</i>	April 16	Toni DeGruccio	April 18
Robert Wilson	April 9	<i>Queen Elizabeth</i>	April 21	Lisa Smallwood	April 22
Richard Peterson	April 11	<i>William Shakespeare</i>	April 23	Rosalee Morrow	April 24
Tom Morrow	April 11	<i>Ella Fitzgerald</i>	April 25	Thomas Carroll	April 24
Maria Morgan	April 12	<i>Al Pacino</i>	April 25	Betsy Stokke	April 25
Jane Allen	April 13	<i>Carol Burnett</i>	April 26	Amelia Palmer	April 27
Steven Sims	April 14	<i>Sally Hawkins</i>	April 27	Adrienne Maas	April 29
Robert Lefter	April 14	<i>Harper Lee</i>	April 28	Christina Locke	April 30
Belinda Hungate	April 14	<i>Duke Ellington</i>	April 29	James Stefaniak	April 30

## April – The Gentle Warrior

Wow! Being born in April means your soul experienced a life of intensity—you were either a fighter or a warrior, always ready to act on your wishes, desires, and convictions. Your soul evolved through action, speed, and impulsivity, so in this lifetime, you're learning to slow your roll. You're embracing action through [patience](#), determined to get to the finish line but at your own chill pace. By blending desire with patience, you become successful in this incarnation.