



*Honoring  
The City of Simi Valley  
Council On Aging's 50th Anniversary*

*Whereas, In 1974, the Simi Valley City Council resolved to establish the Simi Valley Council On Aging (COA) following a period of rapid growth with 2,500 residents age 60 or older; and*

*Whereas, The COA was created as an advisory body to the City Council on all matters related to senior citizens and on March 25, 1974, the City Council appointed the first all-volunteer COA Executive Board; and*

*Whereas, One of the COA's first and most important accomplishments was the creation of the Senior Center and Meal Site in Simi Valley at its first physical location at 4241 Valley Fair St. This was a small but incredibly vital facility that served 15 to 25 seniors who could enjoy a noontime meal, and each other's company each day; and*

*Whereas, During these early years, the COA focused on providing hot meals, socialization, volunteer opportunities and advocating for adequate health care, transportation, home repairs, tax preparation, and care for homebound seniors; and*

*Whereas, The Council On Aging's progress in the early 80's was highlighted by the groundbreaking of the new Senior Citizens Center. After nearly 3 years of planning, with the support of the City Council and numerous volunteers, the Senior Center opened to the public in July 1984. The new 10,000 square-foot Simi Valley Senior Center was built on the 42-acre civic center site and offered a variety of programs and services to the Simi Valley senior community. One of the most impactful services provided at the new Senior Center was the availability of an expanded nutrition program, which included a Meals On Wheels program that continues to this day to provide daily hot meals for homebound seniors. Thanks to the fundraising efforts initiated by the Council On Aging, the new Senior Center was outfitted with new furniture and equipment; and*

*Whereas, In 2004, the Senior Center broke ground on an expansion project that more than doubled the size of the center to 22,000 square feet. Despite delays in construction, the Simi Valley Senior Center held the grand opening of the expanded and refurbished facility in April 2006. The new facility featured a fitness room, a 21-station technology lab, three class/activity rooms, additional parking, a new reception and lobby area and a senior resource center used by local senior services agencies from more than 15 service providers. A new partnership with the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District was established to offer dozens of new classes and social clubs held onsite through its new Age 50+ program geared specifically to seniors. Additionally, the kitchen area was enlarged to accommodate the growing Brown Bag food distribution and Meals On Wheels programs; and*

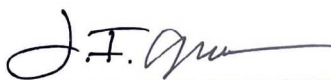
*Whereas, The senior population in Simi Valley has grown to over 20,000 people age 65 or older. The COA continues to ensure the Simi Valley Senior Center serves as a hub of activities, resources and events with over 6,000 registered members age 50 and above. 200 active volunteers served over 20,000 hours last year and their membership tracking system recorded 50,000 check-ins from seniors attending Senior Center classes, clubs, and other activities. In addition, 44,000 meals were delivered to homebound seniors, 30,000 hot noontime meals were served on site, and 6,000 bags of food were distributed through the Senior Share Program; and*

*Whereas, For 50 years, the Council On Aging has continued to work diligently to achieve its mission: to identify and serve the needs of Simi Valley seniors through the advocacy, development, support, funding and implementation of programs, events and services that provide seniors with maximum independence, safety, security, health and quality of life; and*

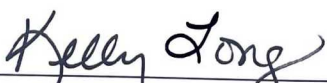
*Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, The Ventura County Board of Supervisors recognizing and celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Council On Aging in the City of Simi Valley.*

*Presented on this 6th day of February 2024*

  
Matthew LaVere, Supervisor 1st District

  
Jeff Gorell, Supervisor 2nd District

  
Janice S. Parvin, Supervisor 4th District

  
Chair, Board of Supervisors  
Kelly Long, Supervisor 3rd District

  
Vianey Lopez, Supervisor 5th District