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Holiday giving is a Bobalu tradition

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Last week marked yet another year with the [Bobalu Berry Farms](#) staff celebrating the holiday season by giving back. Each year the team in Oxnard, CA, works together to support a local non-profit with



some friendly competition.

Food Share, of Ventura County, a member of Feeding America, hosted an annual CAN-tree event allowing businesses and organizations to build holiday trees from canned food. Over 100 participants building more than 300 trees, including Bobalu Berry Farms, competed to build the most creative holiday trees to win various awards, including the coveted People Choice Award. Following the competition all the canned food is used by Food Share to provide meals for those in need within the community.

This year, the Bobalu team pulled out all the stops and built a strawberry field right in the middle of plaza in downtown Ventura. Two rows of cans were covered by a blanket of real strawberry plants that fed into one giant strawberry tree built entirely by cans.

Winning an award is always the goal for the staff at Bobalu. However, the fun of working together each year to build the CAN-tree and be part of a greater effort to support the community is at the center of their focus. Maria Lopez was the driving force this year with her creative idea of building a strawberry field along with a tree. "We love being part of this community every day, but also look

forward to this event and the holiday spirit we all get when we participate as a group to support this cause,” Lopez said of Bobalu.

Voting has now ended, so the staff is still waiting to hear if they won the award even though they are all proud of the support they are providing to the community this holiday season.

This year marked the 12th year the Food Share CAN-tree event was held in Ventura, and each year more than 300 trees are created for this fundraiser. Each tree takes about 600 cans to build, which results in a significant annual food drive during the holiday season. This was the fifth year Bobalu participated in the event with the team elevating their designs and participation each year.

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