

*Simi Valley
Beautiful
Program*

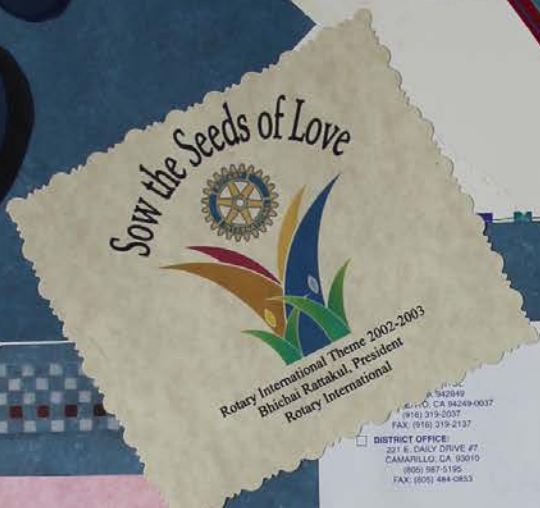
Bike Rodeo

*Job
Shadowing*

*Vocational
??? ?*



THINKING
OUTSIDE
THE BOX



**MICHELLE FOSTER
2002-2003 PRESIDENT**



Assembly
California Legislature
TONY STRICKLAND
ASSEMBLYMAN, THIRTY-SEVENTH DISTRICT
MINORITY CAUCUS CHAIR

COMMITTEES:
VICE-CHAIRMAN
GOVERNMENTAL
ORGANIZATION
MEMBER
AGRICULTURE
BANKING AND FINANCE
HIGHER EDUCATION
SUBCOMMITTEE
VETERANS AFFAIRS
SELECT COMMITTEE
CALIFORNIA PORTS
MINORITY TASK FORCES:
SMART GROWTH AND
CONSERVATION
EDUCATION

July 15, 2002

Michelle Foster
3521 Green Pine Place
Simi Valley, CA 93065-7249

Dear Michelle Foster:

I recently came across your letter to the editor in the The Star titled, "Polio eradication."

It is important that we, as people, share our views and express our concerns with the rest of our community in order to make a difference. I want to thank and commend you for taking the time to share your views and opinions on the very real possibility of a polio-free world.

As always, it is a pleasure to represent you in the State Assembly.

Sincerely,

Tony Strickland
TONY STRICKLAND
Assemblyman, 37th District

TS: kt



E-MAIL: Assemblymember.Strickland@assembly.ca.gov
WEB: <http://www.assembly.ca.gov/strickland>
Printed on Recycled Paper



Under the Stars
at The Brandeis-Bardin Institute
Celebrating Jewish Life in a Spectacular Natural Setting

Cinematic Serenade

with
New Hollywood String Quartet

Lucas Richman

Gary Imhoff
Kelly Lester

Sunday, August 18, 2002
7:30 p.m.





August 9, 2002

Ms. Michelle Foster
3521 Green Pine Place
Simi Valley, CA 93065

Dear Ms. Foster:

I am writing to invite you and a guest to a special reception with Mrs. Nancy Reagan and Immediate Past President of Rotary International, Richard King. Rotary International has awarded President Ronald Reagan the Rotary International Award of Honor, and Mrs. Reagan will accept the award on her husband's behalf at the Reagan Library on August 20th at 5:00 p.m. This event will be a small private reception held in our upstairs offices with leaders from Ventura County Rotary Club. We will conclude by 5:45 p.m.

If you are interested in staying that same evening for our regularly scheduled Reagan Forum featuring Speaker of the House, Dennis Hastert, I have included an informational flyer regarding tickets for this separate event. You are not obligated in any way to attend this event, but I wanted you to be aware it was happening.

Please accept our apologies for the last minute notice, but this opportunity just recently came together. If you can join us for this special gathering, please call Holly Bauer at 805-522-2977 by August 15th. I hope to see you on August 20th.

Best regards,

Mark M. Burson

Mark Burson
Executive Director

40 PRESIDENTIAL DRIVE, SIMI VALLEY, CALIFORNIA 93065
Phone (805)522-2977 Fax (805)520-9702
www.reaganfoundation.org

SIMI VALLEY

Rotary Club honors Reagan for working toward peace

Former President Reagan was honored Tuesday night with the Rotary International Award of Honor. The prestigious award was presented to former first lady Nancy Reagan during private ceremonies at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum in Simi Valley.

The Rotary Club award is given to those who "make significant achievements in building world peace," said Richard King, past president of Rotary International. The ceremony was attended by about 30 members of Rotary clubs.

"This man brought the whole world to a

resolution of the Cold War," King told Nancy Reagan during the small ceremony in the library's private apartments. "What this really comes with is a lot of love and a lot of gratitude to you both."



REAGAN

"I felt we had overlooked the 40th president of the United States and he was long overdue," said King, who was in charge

of selecting this year's recipient. The award is usually given to heads of state. Past recipients include former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, former U.S. Presidents Bush and Carter, and former Soviet Union President Mikhail Gorbachev. "I think it's a wonderful honor for President Reagan and it's a way for Rotary to recognize his work," said Michelle Foster, president of the Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise. Founded in 1905, Rotary Club International is the oldest service organization in the world, King said. About 12 million members are found in 204 countries. There are about 20 clubs in Ventura County.

Rotary gives out funds, thanks from Cajun fest

By Karen Hibdon

When the Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise held the second of its biannual funding giveaways on Thursday, close to 30 organizations or nonprofit agencies were awarded money.

But on Thursday, the tables were turned and the Rotarians were also recognized with a prize that reflects the spirit of the club's annual Memorial Day Weekend Cajun/Creole Festival that made the monetary giveaway possible. Louis Metoyer of the St. Augustine Creole Historical Society presented a plaque to the club, recognizing its efforts at promoting the Cajun/Creole culture and heritage.

He told the club "the reality is you are profiling from our culture, but in the process, you are helping to preserve our culture and share it with others," said Michelle Foster, Simi Sunrise president.

Indeed, the club has worked hard to make the annual two-day festival as authentic as possible. This year's event drew 15,000 people over the two days.

The money was doled out during the morning Rotary breakfast meeting at the Grand Vista Hotel. It was a time to recognize some of the seven or eight corporate sponsors of the Cajun Festival that put up money to help put on the event and therefore leave more of the proceeds for the nonprofits.

Foster said. It was also a time to recognize other service organizations and community groups who helped with the massive production.

"It has become a community effort," Foster said. Past President Bob Mitchell, who was still in office for the 2002 Cajun Festival, doled out the checks to the recipients, bringing the club's charitable donations for the year to more than \$100,000, Foster said.

Recipients Thursday were: American Cancer Society; Area Agency on Aging; Boy Scout Troops 618 and 622; Boys & Girls Club of Simi Valley; Care & Share of Simi Valley; Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence; Cub Scout Packs 3617 and 3022; Kiwanis Club of Simi Valley; Multiple Sclerosis Society; Older Adult Services Intervention Systems; the Samaritan Center for the homeless; and Sarah's House.

Also, Simi Valley Education Foundation; Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center; Simi Sunrise Charitable Foundation; Simi Valley Unified School District; Simi Valley High School cheerleaders; Free Clinic of Simi Valley; Simi Valley Friends of the Library; Simi Valley Police Explorers; Simi Valley Police Reserves; Simi Valley Soccer Foundation; Special Education Advisory Council; the St. Augustine Creole Historical Society; and the Simi Valley Family YMCA.

A check in hand - Recreation Administrator Doug Gale (right), accepts a check for \$4,000 from Marshall Shropshire of the Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise. The donation was used toward paying some of the expenses for the 2002 Hack Fins Fishing Derby and the 2002 Halloween Carnival. The Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise is an annual sponsor of both events.



God Bless America

Our Closing Song ...
"God Bless America"
Music & Lyrics By Irving Berlin - 1918

God Bless America, Land That I Love,
Stand Beside Her, And Guide Her,
Through The Night With The Light From Above.

From The Mountains, To The Prairies,
To The Oceans White With Foam,
God Bless America, My Home Sweet Home.

From The Mountains To The Prairies,
To The Oceans White With Foam,
God Bless America, My Home Sweet Home
God Bless America, My Home Sweet Home



CHARTER NIGHT PROGRAM

Welcoming Remarks
Sam Greene, Past Rotary International Director, Past District Governor, District 5240

Pledge of Allegiance
Rob Sherman, President-Elect, Simi Sunset Rotary Club

Invocation
Reverend Bradley Resare, Simi Sunset Rotary Club

Introduction of Dignitaries
Dinner

Introduction of Visiting Clubs
Robert Mitchell, Past President, Simi Sunrise and Santa Barbara Sunrise Clubs

Keynote Address and Presentation of Charter
Michelle Foster, President, Simi Sunrise Rotary Club

Acceptance of Charter and Introduction of Charter Members
Brenda Cressey, Past District Governor, District 5240

Award
R. Kelley Gilliland, Charter President, Simi Sunset Rotary Club

District Governor's Comments and Induction of New Members
Paul Miller, City Councilman, Past President, Simi Sunrise Rotary Club

Presentation of Gifts
Marc Vertin, District Governor, District 5240

Expression of Appreciation and Closing Remarks
Craig Foster, Past President, Simi Sunrise Rotary Club

Patriotic Song: "God Bless America"
R. Kelley Gilliland

Chas Wilson, Simi Sunrise Rotary Club

WE CHARTERED A NEW CLUB
ROTARY CLUB OF SIMI SUNSET

DISTRICT 5240
THE ROTARY CLUB OF
SIMI VALLEY, CALIFORNIA
CHARTERED MAY 21, 2002

Sow the Seeds of Love



Rotary International Theme 2002-2003
Bhichai Rattakul, President
Rotary International

CHARTER NIGHT
Saturday, September 14, 2002
Grand Vista Hotel
999 Enchanted Way
Simi Valley, California



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
CLEAN UP PROJECT
OCTOBER 12, 2002**

CELEYA CLINIC:
Part of \$500,000 medical equipment
Largest District project ever sponsored by Simi Sunrise

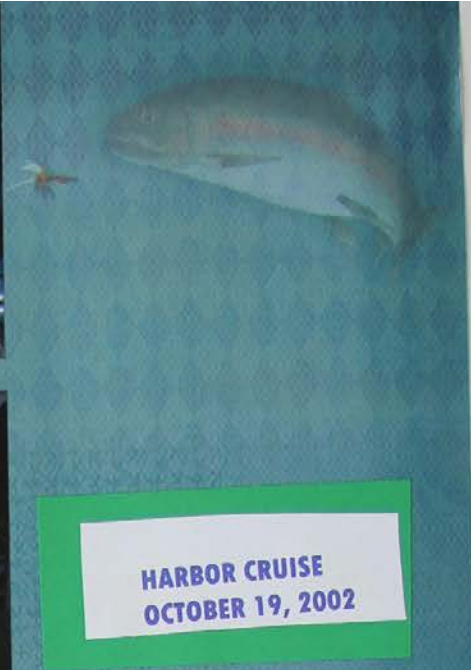
**Rotary Clean Water Well & Water Tower
Project - Zimbabwe**



**Rotary Project- Toilets- Health
GSE Team Members - Zimbabwe**



Dick Strayer with Rosita Vazques, District Governor 2000-2001



**HARBOR CRUISE
OCTOBER 19, 2002**





RI District 5240 Conference Business Session

October 25, 2002 - 4PM
Sheraton Universal Hotel
Universal City, CA.

Convener: Marc Vertin, DG 2002-03
Presiding: Brenda Cressey, DG 2001-02
Recorder: Donald Leach, District Secretary
Parliamentarian: George Palmer, DG 1989-90

Welcome/Intro of RI Presidents Representative- DG Marc

Remarks by RI Presidents Representative -Bob Brickman

Agenda

- I. Call to order / Statement of Purpose
- II. Appointments of:
 - a. Conference Recorder
 - b. Parliamentarian
- III. Adoption of Procedures - 15 Rules of Procedure
 - a. (2001 RI MOP pp. 137-146.)
- IV. Adoption of Agenda (Motion required.)
- V. Seating of Electors
 - a. (Motion required to accept Certification and Seat.)
- VI. Consideration of Resolutions (Discussion-action on those items sent to Clubs and Governors.)
- VII. Special Resolution(s) and other business
 - a. COL Deadline Dates
 - b. Bylaws Action
- VIII. Acknowledgements/Adjournment

"FULFILLING OUR PROMISE: ERADICATE POLIO"

Experience Rotary's **UNIVERSAL** Impact.

ROTARY DISTRICT 5240 CONFERENCE 2002



"It Can Be Done"

Rotary District 5240 Conference 2002

October 25 - 27

Sheraton Universal Hotel · Universal City





Rotary Family Fun Day at Brandeis

Bring your **GAMES**
Picnic Lunch
JOIN THE FUN!!!



THE BRANDEIS-BARDIN INSTITUTE

Sunday, November 3rd

10:30am till 3:00pm

\$10 per Family

for more info - Randy Greene 805-331-4353



Club's trip to India inspires action

Rotarians to help
with four projects

By Roberta Freeman

A recent trip to India has given Rotarian Raymond Cruz a renewed sense of the value of a dollar and new appreciation for the many blessings of living in the United States.

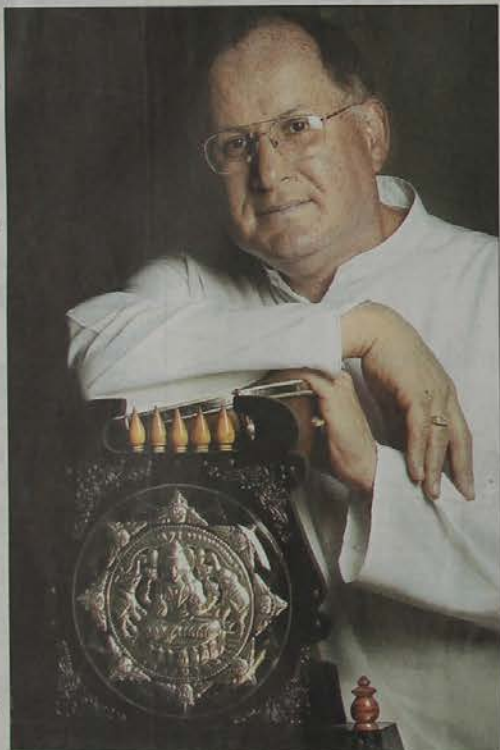
While \$10 will not cover the cost of dinner and a movie here, it would pay a teacher's salary in Poona, India, for a month. And, \$80 would restore the eyesight for two people undergoing cornea transplants.

"The possible humanitarian projects in the world are countless," Cruz said Monday. Cruz, executive director of the Simi Valley Cultural Arts Foundation, is a member of Simi Sunrise Rotary Club and handles all the international projects for the Simi Sunrise Rotary Foundation. Cruz has his chapter participating in projects in South Africa, Russia, Croatia, South Korea and Mexico. His most recent focus is a wide list of service projects needed in India.

This fall, Cruz and fellow Rotarian Ian Fernandes, who was born in India, traveled to India on a \$5,000 grant from Rotary International based in Chicago. They met with several Rotary clubs in the city of Poona in southeast India to consider working jointly on several humanitarian projects.

With Indian Rotarians serving as guides, the Simi Valley men toured schools, orphanages and villages surrounding Poona built from bricks, branches, cardboard and mud. Cruz, who has taken the lead for organizing the projects, has narrowed down the list of worthy projects and is in the midst of completing the mountain of paperwork necessary to make them happen.

In countries such as India, where poverty is prevalent and the needs overwhelming, Cruz said the guiding principle is to



Raymond Cruz, Simi Valley Rotarian, recently returned from a trip to India to determine four service projects in which the Simi Valley Sunrise Rotary Club could participate.

choose the project that will help the greatest number of people. One of four proposals Cruz is preparing provides for three water filtration systems in villages. Each will cost \$2,000.

He pointed to photographs taken during the trip, where women from the town crowd around an old brown tanker truck a few times a week to collect water in big metal buckets.

"The water in those tanks has not been purified and it

would make you and me sick. They have built up an immunity, but they still get sick, too," Cruz said.

Each water filtration system would affect some 6,000 to 10,000 people for a lifetime, Cruz said. "That is an incredible investment."

The other three projects are cleft palate surgeries, cornea transplants and hearing aids.

"For \$80 we can change lives with cleft palate surgeries," Cruz said.

Children reach adulthood in India never learning how to eat or speak because of the condition and are made fun of in school, he said. A surgery that would cost thousands in the United States is possible for a minimal cost.

Hearing aids open a whole new world for Indian children, as well, he said.

Part of the process requires Indian Rotary groups to

See ROTARY on B2

B



**STAR
Simi**

www.INSIDEVC.com

Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2002

Club to help
ROTARY
From B1

provide matching funds. Cruz said matching does not translate to dollar-for-dollar, but groups must commit to some sort of matching. Some sort of matching will move forward. While the four projects will be overseen by the Simi Sunrise Rotary organization, the money will come from a variety of sources, including the local club, foundations, Rotary International and private



Thank You



JAN-0562

Sunrise Rotary gives \$2,500 scholarship

The Simi Sunrise Rotary Charitable Foundation presented a \$2,500 scholarship to the Simi Valley Adult School and Career Institute recently, money earmarked to provide scholarships for vocational education students.

Sponsors



ED FRATES
SIMI VALLEY
DAYS
PARADE

STAR Simi Valley

www.insidevc.com



LEARNING THE WRITE STUFF

Author gives kids taste of creativity

By John Fink

When John Fink, the author of the children's book "The Creative Mind," came to Simi Valley to give a presentation to the Simi Valley Rotary Club, he brought a lot of fun with him. Fink, who is also a writer, brought a lot of fun with him. Fink, who is also a writer, brought a lot of fun with him. Fink, who is also a writer, brought a lot of fun with him.



Children's author Bruce Fink gives fourth graders a taste of creativity. Fink, who is also a writer, brought a lot of fun with him. Fink, who is also a writer, brought a lot of fun with him. Fink, who is also a writer, brought a lot of fun with him.

Children's author Bruce Fink gives fourth graders a taste of creativity. Fink, who is also a writer, brought a lot of fun with him. Fink, who is also a writer, brought a lot of fun with him. Fink, who is also a writer, brought a lot of fun with him.

Thank You!

Michelle Foster

creativity

From

Michelle Foster

12th Annual
FREE
Traditional
**THANKSGIVING
DINNER**

If you have nowhere to go, or you are going to be alone this Thanksgiving...come and join us.

Wednesday, November 27, 2002

Simi Valley Senior Center
3900 Avenida Simi
(next to the Simi Valley Library)

DINNER SERVED
5:30-8:30 p.m.

TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE

CALL DIAL-A-RIDE:
583-6464
no later than Tuesday
November 26th



SPONSORED BY:
The Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise
Simi Valley Police Department Reserve Unit
Council On Aging

Thanksdancing



Joseph A. Garcia / Star staff
Inella Hoggan gives a dance lesson Thursday to Chris Miessner of Boy Scout Troop 622 at the 12th annual Thanksgiving dinner at the Simi Valley Senior Center. The Scouts helped out at the free event sponsored by Rotarians, police reserves and the Council on Aging.







Holiday Party

Saturday Dec. 7th

Rotary of Simi Sunrise

7pm to ???

Pauls Italian Villa

\$40 Per Person

Includes Dinner and Entertainment

Bring \$10-20 Nice Gift For Exchange

No Host Bar





Happy Holidays



Mervyn's
Kids Shopping
Program
12/02/02



Simi Sunrise Clean Water Project in Zambia



Man in Center with tie is District Governor Phil Whitehead D9210

Marc & Sue Vertin
Governor District 5240
2002-2003
"It Can Be Done"

444 Annett Ave., Ventura, CA 93003
Rotary Phone: (805) 650-5230
Home: (805) 654-0966
Fax: (805) 650-1667
E-mail: LoveRotary2@aol.com alt.net

Dear Michelle,

Thank you so much for your warm hospitality during my visit to your club. You really do have a great club with great fellowship. Please let all your members know how much I appreciate them and all they do for the world of Rotary and the community of Simi Valley. The social was fantastic. Sue and I enjoyed ourselves very much. Thank you for the beautiful flowers and Kahuna Santa.

Let me know if there is anything I can do to assist you in the future.

Yours in Rotary



Marc

ROTARY Africa

Vol. 76 No. 6
December 2002 / January 2003

Register before 31 December to save

Brisbane, Australia
Rotary International Convention
1-4 June 2003
The place to be in 2003!

Santa visits SOS Children's Village

WHEN Christmas Day arrives, Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Port Elizabeth Sunrise will accompany Father Christmas on a visit to SOS Children's Village to brighten the day for those youngsters who have not been lucky enough to be taken into foster care over the festive season. Last Christmas, Santa arrived in a bright red fire engine, accompanied by fire officers who took them for a ride with the siren wailing!

Special Education Advisory Committee
Simi Valley Unified School District

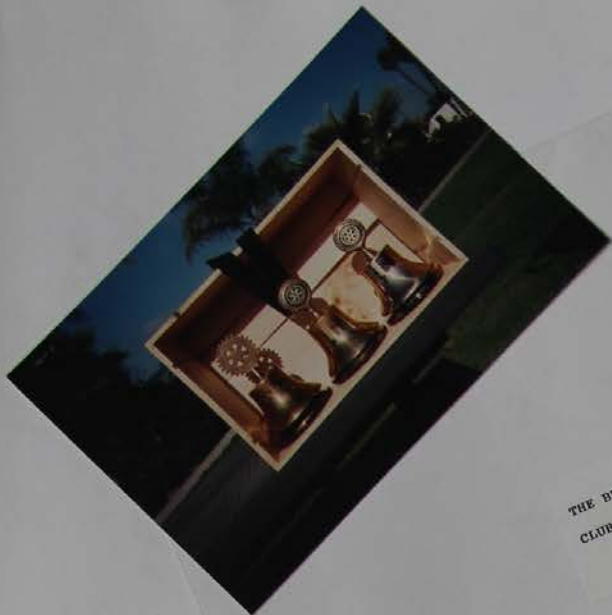
Scholarship Recipient Reception
January 22, 2003

Welcome
Introductions
Special Presentations

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL SEAC SCHOLARSHIP & TEACHER GRANT RECIPIENTS

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR MAJOR SPONSORS

Friends of The Canyons * The Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise
Farmers Insurance Group, Inc. * Wells Fargo Bank
Linwood & Susan Small * Timothy Prenta of Hartmut International



THE BELL-LESS ROTARY
CLUB OF SIMI SUNRISE

TAPED - NO DNA



TO: ROTARY CLUB PRESIDENT'S OF SIMI VALLEY
FROM: THE BELL KEEPERS
RE: BELLS

SOME OF YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED BY NOW THAT YOUR CLUB BELL IS MISSING. THEY HAVE BEEN KIDNAPPED RIGHT HERE IN AMERICA'S SAFEST CITY!!! AS YOU CAN SEE BY THE PICTURES, YOUR BELLS ARE CURRENTLY SAFE, BUT NOT WELL TAKEN CARE OF. THEY ARE IN FACT, COMPLAINING ABOUT THEIR TREATMENT. WHO CARES?

SOME OF YOU ARE PROBABLY CONSIDERING TURNING TO THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES. PLEASE FEEL FREE. IF THEY DECIDE TO TAKE YOUR REPORT, I DOUBT THAT THIS WOULD BE OF ANY IMPORTANCE TO THEM HERE IN AMERICA'S SAFEST CITY.

FINALLY, ENJOY YOUR BELLLESS MEETING THIS WEEK AND EXPECT THE RANSOM NOTE NEXT WEEK!!

THE BELL KEEPERS
HA, HA, HA, HA

TO: ROTARY CLUB PRESIDENT'S OF SIMI VALLEY
FROM: THE BELL KEEPERS
RE: BELLS

THIS WEEK WAS TO BE THE RANSOM WEEK, BUT WITH SO MUCH APATHY WE GUESS YOU PRESIDENT'S DON'T THINK WE'RE SERIOUS. SINCE WE ARE NOT SATISFIED WITH THE EFFORT BEING MADE TO REGAIN YOUR BELLS, WE HAVE INCLUDED A PICTURE OF YOUR BELLS BEING CRATED AND PREPARING TO SHIP OUT. PERHAPS TO A PLACE OF MASS DESTRUCTION, PERHAPS NOT.

BOTTOM LINE, WE WILL RETURN THE BELLS WHENEVER WE FEEL LIKE IT. WE ARE NOT CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR IDLE THREATS OR THE LEAST BIT INTIMIDATED BY THE EFFORTS OF AMERICA'S SAFEST CITIES FINEST. PERHAPS YOU SHOULD CONSIDER THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

SAY GOODBYE BELLS, "GOODBYE"!!!!

THE BELL KEEPERS
HA, HA, HA, HA



Summer horse camps at Simi park OK'd

Park district board to allow company to offer Corriganville training sessions

By S.L. Salmons
Correspondent

Horses have long left their hoofprints in the history of Corriganville Park, from the park's heyday as a B-western and TV serial film location to today's system of trails, which lures equestrians in search of the opportunity to get away from it all.

For the first time, however, the Simi Valley park will open its doors this summer to a youth equestrian day camp.

At a recent meeting, board members of the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District unanimously agreed to grant Camp Horse Way Inc., a private enterprise, use of a portion of the nature park for a 10-week period between June and August.

The area that will be used is Camp Rotary, a pavilion and surrounding grounds jointly owned by Rotary Clubs in Simi Valley. Members of the Camp Rotary Committee contacted Horse Way owners Bob Roggenkamp of Moorpark and John Kuerdes of Thousand Oaks about using the facility at the east end of Simi Valley during the summer.

"I've been running youth horse camps for 13 years," said Roggenkamp, who runs a camp in Thousand Oaks and is affiliated with the Conejo Valley YMCA.

"In one week, we teach kids to tack and groom a horse, as well as ride. On the last day of camp, the kids take their first trail ride and we have a barbecue."

The Camp Rotary Committee will help Horse Way set up temporary pipe corrals, arenas and a wash area during the week of June 9-13.

An area of Corriganville referred to as Sherwood Forest, a naturally shady area, is expected to serve as the corral area and two relatively flat, clear areas, with a view of the wildlife corridor, likely will serve as arenas.

Ed Hayduk, park district planning and development administrator, said a minimal amount of light grading will be required to make the area horse-friendly.

The 10, one-week camps for youths ages 7 to 14 will operate from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 23 through Aug. 29. Two campers will be assigned to one horse for the duration of the camp. Each camper will learn horsemanship, the care and feeding of their respective equines, how to saddle a horse, how to clean a horse's hooves, brushing and grooming, as well as how to ride.

A total of 20 horses will be stabled at the park during the 10 weeks.

"I'm excited about this," Roggenkamp said. "I feel there's a greater need for summer horse camps for kids. At the camp in Thousand Oaks, spots fill up as fast as they open and I can only take 40 kids a week. I routinely turn kids away."

The camp in Thousand Oaks accepts open enrollment, and groups as well as individuals may sign up for one or more weeks, but the camp in Simi Valley will be different.

"We're going to accept youth groups only," said Roggenkamp. "We're going to market the camp through Boys & Girls clubs, the YMCA and maybe a couple of others, but we're not going to take individuals. We decided on this method because it just makes it a lot easier on us."

Roggenkamp expects to know by March if enough spots have been sold to operate an effective summer program in Simi Valley.

Simi Sunrise Rotary Club
Simi Valley Rotary Club

Bronze
Agencia Oak Park-Las Virgenes Chamber of Commerce
Cabrera Valley Rotary Club
Ed and Kathie Duncan
Newbury Park Rotary Club
Westlake Sunrise Rotary Club
Zonta Club of Conejo Valley Area

IN-KIND SPONSORS
Domino's Pizza
Weiser Labs
First California Bank

SCHEDULE
5:00 p.m. Registration
CLU Gym/Auditorium
5:30-8:30 p.m. Program and Dinner

DIRECTIONS TO CAMPUS

- Travel north on the Ventura (101) Freeway to Thousand Oaks.
- In Thousand Oaks, take the 23 Freeway North and exit on Olsen Road.
- Turn left on Olsen Road and continue west for 2.25 miles to Mountfield Boulevard.
- Turn left on Mountfield and continue one block to Memorial Parkway.
- Turn right on Memorial Parkway and continue to GYM/Auditorium.

- From Ventura**
- Travel south on the Ventura (101) Freeway to Thousand Oaks, exiting at Lynn Road.
 - Travel north on Lynn Road 4 miles to Mountfield Boulevard. (Note: Lynn Road becomes Olsen Road at the Avenida de Arboles intersection. Continue on Olsen to Mountfield.)
 - Turn right on Mountfield and continue one block to Memorial Parkway.
 - Turn right on Memorial Parkway and continue to GYM/Auditorium.

Partnership: d Enron

INGS CORP.

Com, Global Crossing, Arthur Andersen and
notion that big business in America is

ABOUT THE FORUM

The Matthews Leadership Forum
was founded in 1976 to develop a
close relationship between today's
business community and the
University faculty and students.

The Forum provides an opportunity
for the campus community
to engage in meaningful dialogue
on all important topics with
prominent business and
city leaders. The event is made
possible through the generous
support of local business and
community organizations.

33RD MATTHEWS LEADERSHIP FORUM

Reservations are limited and an accepted in order of receipt of registration and fee. Registration fee is \$40, which includes
dinner. You will not receive confirmation. Your packet will be held at the door. If making reservations for more than one
person from your company, please give name and title for each person.

Name(s) _____
Title(s) _____
Company's Name _____
Address _____
City _____
Phone _____
E-mail _____
State _____
ZIP _____

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____ for _____ reservation(s) at \$40 each.
Please return this form with your check, payable to California Lutheran University, no later than February 28.
For more information, call the University Relations Office at (805) 493-3151.
Return to: California Lutheran University-University Relations, 60 W. Olsen Road #1800, Thousand Oaks, CA 91320-2787.

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____ for _____ reservation(s) at \$40 each.
Please return this form with your check, payable to California Lutheran University, no later than February 28.
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Superheroes in Bad Ties

A Precious Window of Opportunity Is Closing. Can a Bunch of Glad-Hair Rotarians Really Save the World From Polio Before the Chance Is Lost?

By Susan Emerling

EVERY TUESDAY AT NOON, THE ROTARY CLUB OF Simi Valley holds its weekly meeting in a hotel ballroom. The 60 or so members—local businessmen and businesswomen, civic leaders and retirees—collect their name tags and backslap their way through the buffet line. Then, again a backdrop of Rotary banners from around the world, the club president rings a bell and the group rises for the pledge of allegiance and a song along of "God Bless America."

Then it's on to weekly reminders of birthdays, anniversaries and bawdy jokes about this year's Rotary theme: "Sowing the seeds of love." ("After 25 years of marriage, my wife and I almost have sex every night. We almost had it on Monday, we almost had it on Tuesday...") Next is the weekly bad-tie contest and the collection of "happy bucks," which triggers a round of good-humored banter as club members donate a few dollars to charity in the name of something that makes them happy. Someone kicks in a dollar to celebrate the purchase of her first home. Her realtor kicks in two, one to celebrate the sale and another to apologize for missing the new owner's painting party. A third member throws in a dollar to tease a trustee of the local community college whom "radical right-wing Republicans" want to see ousted. An insurance salesman, one of the few Democrats present, throws in a buck because he's happy that someone in the group finally called them "radical right-wing Republicans."

Before the day's speaker takes the podium, in a moment that passes without fanfare, a member announces that the Rotary Club of Los Olivos is raffling a cruise to Tahiti to support Rotary's campaign to rid the planet of polio. Heads nod and the club moves on to the next order of business. Left unsaid is any hint of a story that, despite the corny bonhomie of the day's proceedings, is as dramatic as it is astounding in its scope, ambition and logistics.

Beginning with their first fund-raising campaign in 1965, Rotarians all over the world have been washing cars, racing rubber ducks, and holding golf tournaments, flea markets and rodeos to raise money for the fight to finish off polio. They have auctioned 60-year-old bottles of scotch and a '37 Chevy, ocean cruises and a BMW. One Rotary club—today

there are more than 30,000 clubs in California, with 1.2 million members and a childhood polio victim, Cleveland. A 7-year-old girl in 11 in 41 days. A man who contracted 1948 and spent part of his club Rotary and donated more than 100,000 dollars to the fight against polio.

By focusing on its goal for the future—the merry-making civic Larry King as a bunch of guys, other insurance over lunch—has driving one of humanity's most fearsome diseases to extinction. With an estimated 100,000 deaths a year, polio is a scourge of the world. With an estimated 100,000 deaths a year, polio is a scourge of the world. With an estimated 100,000 deaths a year, polio is a scourge of the world.

One week from today, 550 of 11 governors, their spouses and 11 arrive in Anaheim from 158 countries to help free themselves up to finish the job Rotary began nearly 50 years ago.

Rotary began its seemingly quibbles seem less daunting, world seemed capable of world's goal. Who could have imagined he filled with news of anthrax, smallpox as a weapon of war? The ent place that it was 20 years ago

Karma Climber

Chris Sharma Scales Rocks Like No One Else. His Huge Hands Help. So Do

IF CHRIS SHARMA WERE AN ANIMAL, HE'D BE an iguana—a mutable, deliberate animal, a relative loser in the natural world, so quiet you'd barely know he's there. The iguana is big on hanging out, which is to say it doesn't really ask for much, other than a nice stick, or the side of a rock. It's a serene creature and quite beautiful.

Sharma is quiet, amiable, yet fairly aloof. He likes to hang out in nature, on rocks. He is a beautiful young man, 6 feet with blond hair, golden skin and blue eyes shaped like almonds. His limbs are long and coltish. His face—all smooth, broad planes—is almost biblical. He has huge hands with long fingers that grasp the any features of a rock as if they were made of Velcro. Those hands and those seemingly unnatural feats have helped make him the greatest natural rock climber in the world.

At the tender age of 21, he is in his sixth year on the pro circuit, scaling boulders and cliffs from California to Thailand. His natural coordination has made him a legend in the free-climbing world and earned him dozens of awards, including the top prize at the X Games in 1999. Last summer he won the annual George Gaither, a major event held at the Columbia River Gorge in Oregon, and he currently is atop the rankings in the Professional Climbers Association.

which tracks competitions in the U.S. Though he's been featured in climbing magazines, Sharma is not about the attention. "It's a trip he's all about trying your hardest and your limits. It's very individualistic."

Dean Fiedelman, a rock climber from Southern California who's known for years, says he has a "specific kind of vibe for a climber. He's doing it all about trying your hardest and your limits. It's very individualistic."

"I really don't think he understands how good he is," Sharma says. "Maybe he doesn't. Chris Sharma has had a beginning not an end. He's simply there. Sharma has an ability to 'forget' a one-liner with him to feel in vice, so to speak—and it's just one of those things in your body," he continues on

Rotarians add events to Cajun Festival

By Jake Finch
Correspondent

A Saturday night dance and a Creole Heritage Workshop will be new additions featured at the 14th annual Cajun Creole Festival Memorial Day weekend in Simi Valley.

The sponsor, Rotary Club of Simi Valley, kicked off the hoopla for the annual fest with a pep rally during its regular Thursday morning breakfast meeting, but planning for the event has been under way for months.

Festival chairman Gary Stewart said his goal this year is to build on the solid foundation the two-day event already has.

"For the people who have come for 13 years, maybe there's something new that will appeal to them," said Stewart. The fest is set for May 25-26 at Rancho Santa Susana Community Park.

This year's entertainment will be raised a notch, he said. Holden Raphael, who has arranged the festival's entertainment for the past four years, said many world-renowned Cajun and zydeco acts will perform, among them Geno Delafose and the French Rockin' Boogie, Sean Vidrine and Swampfire and Terrance Simien, who has toured with the Dave Matthews Band and played alongside Stevie Wonder.

"He will make you laugh, smile and dance, and he will make you cry," Raphael said of Simien.

New this year will be the Creole Heritage Workshop, coordinated by a leading Cajun/Creole historian, Mark Savoy. Savoy, and his wife, Ann, are members of the Savoy Family Cajun Band. Ann Savoy was nominated this year for a Grammy Award for her music featured in last year's film, "The Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood."

Dancing is a major draw for the festival, Raphael said, and instruction in all levels of zydeco and Cajun dance is offered both days. A Saturday night dance also is slated.

Raphael said the festival has gained national recognition for its quality, which he attributes to the organizers' desire to stay

See FESTIVAL on B2



According to the school officials, children are coming from as far away as Kambilombilo to play on the toys!

Well Done, Rotarians!

From Otto Austel: Hi Rich: You were kind enough to send out a prior Egypt update via our club email listing. Would you be so kind as to do so again? This is the final Egypt Update. Otto
FINAL UPDATE ON EGYPT
December 2002

Imagine fighting in a war where the enemy was completely invisible, or fighting in a war where only one out of every 200 enemies can be seen? This is what makes eradicating polio so difficult. We are not only fighting a formidable foe, but also an **elusive enemy**. The symptoms of polio are evident in only one of every 200 infected children, making it challenging to identify where the virus is still circulating. In order to stop the virus circulating, however, it is critical to know where it still exists, and this is part of our job; to identify where the polio virus is still secretly lurking to attack and destroy our innocent children.



Open sewage slowly flowing through the districts of Cairo

Environmental sampling is one way to enhance the poliovirus surveillance. Egypt is one of the few countries that wisely takes samples from sewers to isolate and identify the existence of polio viruses. Last year 75% of all samples taken throughout Egypt grew the polio virus. This year we are down to 10% and hopefully after we finish with our present immunization campaign this month the virus will no longer exist anywhere in Egypt. We are most serious, and every effort is being made in trying to get every single child under the age of five to swallow two drops of the polio vaccine.

Page 4 of 5



Beautiful children living in less than beautiful conditions

Most of Egypt is beautiful, but of course there are slum areas in every country. The lack of sanitation in the lower economic areas is one of the most significant challenges in disease control. This kind of an environment is ideal to help the poliovirus maintain its circulation and existence. Living in conditions with better sanitation, however, is usually not a choice that the poor can make, as they fight for food and survival. They often have no other options.

Most Egyptians live along the River Nile, but in the city of Cairo the majority live in apartment buildings, some as high as 36 stories, which fact makes it a real challenge to reach every child as we go door to door during our National Immunization Day campaigns. Few apartments under 10 stories have elevators and the few that do seldom function. The apartments of the middle and upper economic class citizens, on the other hand, have functioning elevators, but the guards in these buildings often deny vaccinators (or anyone) access without express permission of the owners. On the most part, however, we have been successful in knocking on every door and giving two drops of the polio vaccine in the mouths of every child under the age of five.



Vaccinating children at fixed posts.



Vaccination children in nurseries.

Some mothers are so anxious to have their children vaccinated that they do not wait until vaccinators arrive at their door and they bring their children to fixed vaccination posts in front of health centers. Other mothers depend on our visiting the Day Care Nurseries to immunize their children.

1/20/03



Children living in apartment buildings.



Knocking on every door.

The primary goal of our immunization campaigns is, of course, to vaccinate every child. The secondary goal, however, that is not recognized by most, is to produce a massive and widespread epidemic of the attenuated live poliovirus. By doing so, through an effective campaign, the wild poliovirus is crowded out by the competing vaccine virus and its replication is inhibited and circulation stopped. Our every hope is that, after thousands of years of existence, the year 2002 will mark the extinction of the wild poliovirus in Egypt.

My next assignment is going to be in Pakistan, where the challenges seem endless and the dangers somewhat worrisome. However, there are serious risks in every war, which often calls for sacrifice, both financial and personal. Please keep my wife "Saint" Sharon in your prayers as she struggles alone to keep the home fires burning.

Thanks to your tireless and generous support, we will soon be able to celebrate our victory in the global war against the enemy of our children, the treacherous terror and evil poliovirus.

Otto Austel, MD
Rotary Volunteer
CDC/WHO Polio Eradication Medical Officer

From Dick Strayer: The attached are pictures of an international project by Lora. I have just been completed. I think we should run the pictures in the bulletin so people can see what we are doing.

Rotary Park - Mikomfwa



The sign declaring that this park is a joint-effort by The Rotary Foundation, The Rotary Club of Simi-Sunrise (California USA) and The Rotary Club of Luanshya.



The children sang in appreciation!



The headmaster expressed his gratitude to the Rotarians who were on hand. Ndelela School was threatened with closure until the play park was proposed.



Parents and the community have gotten involved by helping to paint and repair the two schools between which the playground toys were situated.



Rotarians and school staff were on hand to witness the official handover of the toys to the children of Mikomfwa. The park is between Ndelela and Bwanayina Schools.



Ruby Chisenga read a thank you speech.



It did not take long for the children to find themselves on the toys!

California State Assembly
**Certificate Of
 Recognition**

PRESENTED TO:

Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise

IN HONOR OF:
*Your Contribution and Continued Support of the
 Simi Valley Unified School District's Special Education
 Advisory Committee
 2001-2002*



January, 2003

Tony Strickland
 Tony Strickland

MEMBER OF THE ASSEMBLY

37th ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATURE

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

This certificate is awarded to
Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise

In recognition of continued support to the

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Dennis Carter
 Dennis Carter - President, SEAC

1/22/03

Date

Dennis Carter
 Dennis Carter - Director, SVUSD Student Support Services

1/22/03

Date

**Certificate of Special
 Congressional Recognition**

Presented to
Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise
SEAC Major Donor
for meritorious achievement

January 22, 2003

Elton Gallegly
 ELTON GALLEGLY
 Member of Congress



California State Assembly
**Certificate Of
 Recognition**

PRESENTED TO:

Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise

January 22, 2003

IN HONOR OF:

*Your dedication to education as a scholarship donor
 for the Special Education Advisory Committee,
 Simi Valley School District 2001-2002.*

- Congratulations and keep up the great work!

Keith S. Richman
 Keith S. Richman, M.D.

MEMBER OF THE ASSEMBLY

38th

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATURE





BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF VENTURA
STATE OF CALIFORNIA



Commends
Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise

For your generous support of the 2001/2002

**Special Education Advisory
Committee Scholarships**

Presented on Wednesday, January 22, 2003

January 22, 2003
Date

Joey Michel
Ventura County Supervisor, Fourth District

CALIFORNIA STATE SENATE

**certificate
of
RECOGNITION**



Presented to

Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise

*In recognition of being honored
by the Special Education Advisory Committee
for
being a major donor to the SEAC scholarship fund.*

Congratulations and best wishes.

January 22, 2003

Tom McClintock

Tom McClintock

SENATOR





Santa Anita Park
0-5E27-6BHE-4BB5
12-APR-03 29
Race 4 S ANITA
*5 WIN \$5
2
1 BET TOTAL \$5
7962 12APR03 0002214 13 42 19
0-5E27-6BHE-4BB5

Santa Anita Park
0-E412-6B90-4BB5
12-APR-03 29
Race 1 S ANITA
*10 DOUBLE \$10
2 of 5
1 BET TOTAL \$10
0060 12APR03 0001521 12-01 08
0-E412-6B90-4BB5

Santa Anita Group Events
Welcome to our group guests today

- Aracata Albertsons
- Arroyo Race Office
- Bronck, Pennie & Condon
- Burroughs, McChaugy and Bockett
- Burbank Family Day
- California Chapter of Ford Truck World
- Chaffey High Class of 1953
- Diabetes Enthusiasts
- French Canadian Club of Los Angeles
- Glenview Party
- Hillside Home for Children Celebrates 90 years
- Huntington Pasadena Osteopodics
- Little Red Feather Racing
- Los Angeles Hardwood Lumberman's Club
- Magnolia Park Masonic Lodge #618, Burbank
- Motion Picture & Television Fund
- Old Republic Time
- Phi Beta Psi Sorority
- Rancho Air, Inc.
- Reverend Maria Whipple
- Sara Krupp's 18th Birthday Celebration
- SVU California Landscape Contractor's Association
- Tommy's Lady's Retirement Party
- UCLA Bruin Alumni

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For more information, call the
Department at 1-800-...





Oxnard Rotary Golf Tournament
 Simi Sunrise Four some: Gina, Brady, Lora, Michelle



**GSE
 TEAM
 from
 BRAZIL
 March
 2003**

Flag-raising ceremony new to Cajun Festival

The 14th annual Memorial Day Weekend Cajun Creole Music Festival will have a decidedly patriotic flair this year, with the addition of flag-raising ceremonies on each day of the two-day event.

The May 24-25 festival is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise. It will be at Rancho Santa Susana Community Park and features Cajun food, zydeco music, dancing, a Mardi Gras parade and vendor booths. In addition, this year, at 11:45 a.m. daily, Boy Scouts and veterans will raise the American and MIA flags and Chas Wilson will sing the national anthem.

American Medical Response will sponsor installation of the flagpoles and the ceremony. "It's in celebration of Memorial Day and the men and women who have given their lives for this country in the past and still do it today," said Dennis Barbee, Simi Sunrise president-elect and corporate sponsor program chairman for the Cajun Fest.

The festival is the major fund-raiser for the Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise, with all proceeds benefiting local community organizations. More than 12,000 people are expected to attend this year's event, Barbee said.

A total of 21 corporate sponsors have offered support. For sponsorship information, call Barbee at 501-4322.

Rotary Club in Simi Valley seeks scholarship applicants

From staff reports.
 The Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise is seeking candidates for its annual scholarship awards for graduates of high schools in Simi Valley.

The club annually awards \$7,500 in scholarships, made possible by proceeds from events such as the Memorial Day weekend Cajun Creole Festival held each year. There will be \$1,500 available to a student from each of the four high schools — Simi Valley, Royal, Santa Susana and Apollo, as well as another scholarship for any other qualified applicant.

The applications will be available after Tuesday at the counseling offices at each of the high schools, or from the Rotary Scholarship Committee, which can be reached through Roger Cogger at 526-4444.

The deadline for application submissions is May 1.





Group
study
exchange



Get



Together



With



Members





An estimated 12,000 people attended the event

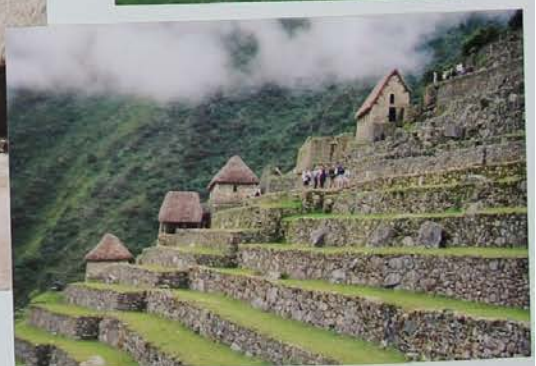
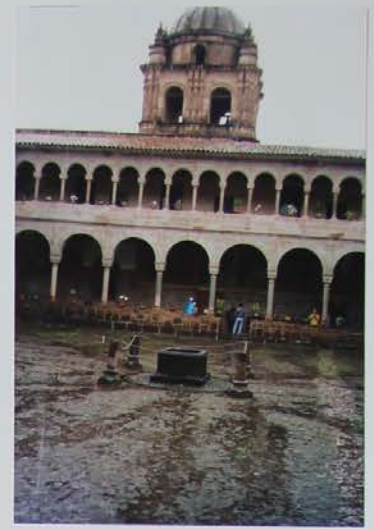


Steve Petralongo promotes
Sunrise Rotary's Cajun Festival



Simi Valley
Street Fair
May 2003





Discovery Grant Trip to PERU





On the dance floor, Jimmy Harvey of Oak View, right, dips his partner, Marilyn Kass of Los Angeles, while listening to the music of Lisa Hayley & Zydeco at Rancho Santa Susana Community Park in Simi Valley, Saturday.

Photos by Karen Quincey Loberg / Star staff

Festival serves up catfish, hush puppies



Amber Verrett, a transplanted Louisianian living in Gardena, gets a taste of home at the Cajun Creole Music Festival in Simi Saturday.

Cajun Creole Music Festival offers zydeco, French boogie

By S.L. Salamone

Correspondent
In Simi Valley when someone says breakfast, people are likely to think bacon and eggs. But if you grew up in southern Louisiana like Jay Davis did, you are more likely to think of eggs, grits and alligator. Davis is the operator of one of the many eateries that are part of the Cajun Creole Music Festival being held at Simi Valley's Rancho Santa Susana Community Park this Memorial Day Weekend. The festivities started Saturday and continue today. "I hear people say that it tastes like chicken," said Davis speaking in a heavy

southern accent. "Well, it doesn't taste like chicken. It doesn't taste like anything else you've ever tried. It's tender and juicy, and the first time you try it, you'll be back for more." The Natchitoches native spends a good part of the year traveling with nationally recognized Cajun bands, but this is his first time in Simi Valley. This is a real, pretty place to hold this festival," said Davis. "Everyone should give alligator a try. I grew up on it. We didn't have bacon or pork sausage in the morning. We had eggs and alligator."

See CAJUN on B2

Bayou comes to Ventura County

WHAT: 14th annual Cajun Creole Music Festival presented by the Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise. Proceeds to charity.

WHEN: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. today.

WHERE: Rancho Santa Susana Community Park, across the street from the Metrolink Station, Los Angeles Avenue and Stearns Street, Simi Valley.

ADMISSION: \$15, children under 12 admitted free when accompanied by a paying adult.

DETAILS: Day begins with a patriotic flag-raising at 11:45 a.m. Festival promises plenty of Cajun and Creole food specialties as well as traditional fare, nationally known zydeco bands, dancing, the Budweiser Clydesdales, a Wells Fargo stagecoach and a NASCAR.

Today's band lineup — Sean Vidrine & Swampfire, Nathan & the Zydeco Cha Chas, Savoy Family Cajun Band, Terrance Simien, Tom Rigney & Flambeau, Geno Delafosse & French Rockin' Boogie.

INFORMATION: 520-4894

On the Net:
www.rotaryclubofsimisunrise.com

Festival-goers taste jambalaya, dance to zydeco

CAJUN
Page B2

and grits, then eating it since it was 7 or 8 years old. Alligator is good food.

The Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise presented the festival, which is the largest fund-raiser for community organizations. Along with the food, which

includes jambalaya, crawfish, and other Cajun specialties, the event also features live music, dancing, and a parade.

For the younger set, the festival features a parade of the Budweiser Clydesdales, a Wells Fargo stagecoach, and a NASCAR race.

The Red Hat Society is for women over 50 who are out to have a good time with no restrictions. The Woodland Hills Red Hat Society is one of the many chapters of the Red Hat Society.

While many of the members of the Red Hat Society were busy setting their pictures, others were already on the dance floor.

The Red Hat Society is for women over 50 who are out to have a good time with no restrictions. The Woodland Hills Red Hat Society is one of the many chapters of the Red Hat Society.

2003

10 — NEWS / SUNDAY, MAY 25, 2003 / DAILY NEWS

STEPPING OUT IN SIMI



Gilbert Bonner shakes a maraca as he sells ethnic clothing to the Cajun music beat at Simi Valley's festival Saturday.



Joe Shropshire to the Daily News

Cajun Creole music festival attracts crowd for food, fun

By Grace Lee
Staff Writer

SIMI VALLEY
Thousands turned out Saturday for the start of the 14th annual Cajun Creole Music Festival offering live music, along with deep-fried alligator tails and more conventional favorites such as jambalaya and catfish.

The event, sponsored by the Simi Sunrise Rotary, has raised about \$1 million over the years for some 50 charities, including the Boys & Girls Club and the YMCA.

"We're trying to bring something special to the community that they can enjoy," festival chairman Gary Stewart said. "It is the largest fund-raiser put on by a charity group in the county."

For many, the festival at Rancho Santa Susana Park has become an annual tradition.

"We've been coming here for 10 years," said Wanda Stroud of Oxnard, as she lounged in a beach chair, listening to the music. "We come out with friends and we hang out. The music's awesome and it's a nice reunion with friends in Simi."

For Barry Adam of Simi, the biggest draw is the jambalaya. "You just can't get it like this anywhere else."

Joe Davis, who traveled from Louisiana to offer her recipes, also sold lobster puffs and alligator tails on a stick.

Compared to home, she said, the festival here "measures up, absolutely."

Mary Muzac, originally from Haiti, said the festival gave her a small taste of home, where Mardi Gras preparations span three months. And the music Saturday was as good as her favorite tunes from home, she said.

"You just can't sit still with it. When (the music) starts, you just have to move."

— Laura Reel
Festival participant

On the dance floor, partygoers of all ages twirled to live fiddle music. Laura Reel, who drove from Victorville with her family, said the bands were worth the trip.

"You just can't sit still with it," she said. "When (the music) starts, you just have to move."

The festival will continue through today, opening at 11 a.m. at Stearns and Los Angeles Avenue. Stewart said the idea for the original Cajun Festival was something of a fluke.

"Fourteen years ago, one of the Rotary Club members had a Cajun band," which he said was reason enough to build the event around the music.

"Now top Cajun bands from all over show up," Stewart said. "From all over the United States."



Six-year-old Haley Silvers from Glendale tries on a Mardi Gras hat at Simi's Cajun festival, which continues today.

Good Times Roll at Simi Valley's Annual Cajun, Creole Festival

Gumbo, jambalaya and entertainment were all on the agenda Saturday as the 14th annual Cajun Creole Music Festival got underway in Simi Valley. The two-day charity fund-raiser, being held at Rancho Santa Susana Community Park at East Los Angeles Avenue and Stearns Street, is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise. While Christy LeBlond and Jim Phillips show off their boogie, Louisiana native Kenny Menard, now a Thousand Oaks resident, plays the accordion with his band. Along with the bands, dancing and Cajun cuisine, today's attractions include a Mardi Gras parade. About 15,000 are expected at the weekend festival. Gates open at 11 a.m. today and close at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15 at the gate, and free admission for children under 12.



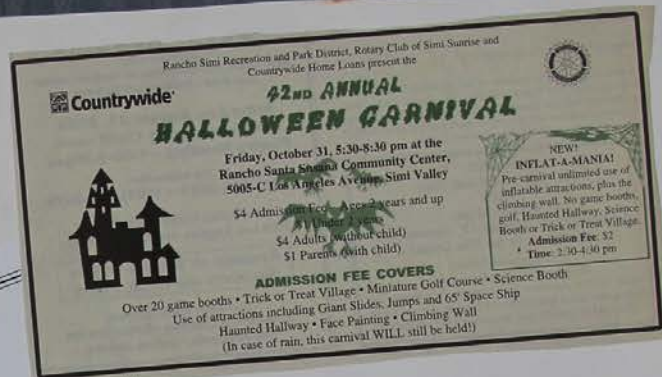
PHOTOGRAPHS BY RICHARD DEKATYAKA FOR THE DAILY NEWS

Cajun
Creole
Music
Festival



Michelle Foster's
Demotion
June 2003





Certificate of Appreciation

This certificate is presented to

Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise

As an expression of appreciation and commendation for faithful service of the County of Ventura, State of California.

We hereby recognize the outstanding contribution you have made to the County of Ventura, State of California, through your service to the Attorney's Office and the Multi-Disciplinary Interview Center.

Given this 23rd day of October 2003

Gregory D. Totten
GREGORY D. TOTTON
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF VENTURA



November 12, 2003

Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise
P.O. Box 11
Simi Valley, CA 93062

Dear Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise:

Please accept this certificate as an expression of our appreciation for the outstanding contribution you have made to Safe Harbor East, a Multi-Disciplinary Interview Center in Simi Valley.

Thank you for your caring support of victims of crime.

Sincerely,

Diana M. Mendoza
Diana M. Mendoza
Program Coordinator, Safe Harbor East

Enclosure





Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise and Mervyn's Team Up to Help Families For the Holidays

For low income parents, sometimes just paying rent and putting food on the table is nearly impossible. Providing new clothes for their children to wear is almost a luxury. As the holidays approach many families find financial difficulty at this time. To help out people in our community, the Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise and Mervyn's have teamed up to help families for the holidays.



On Saturday, December 6th, the Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise hosted their Holiday Shopping Spree at Mervyn's in Simi Valley. On that day these organizations helped low income families to shop for clothes for the holidays. Many wonderful people in the Simi Sunrise Rotary Club would greet families who came into Mervyn's on this day, to help them during their misfortune. Simi Sunrise and Mervyn's helped assist families financially for them to come in and shop.

Continued on page 6
Continued from page 1

Rotary Club

On this day families who were going through some financial difficulty would come in and receive money to shop for clothes for themselves and they're loved ones for the holidays. This event helped many people in our community during their difficulties this Holiday season. Starbucks Coffee also donated a large amount of drinks for the families shopping on this day. Families who came in got a big Holiday lift of spirit thanks to everyone who contributed.

For families going through hardships during these holidays, this was a great event to help residents during their rough times. Many families were thankful for the Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise and Mervyn's to help them out for the Holidays. This day was a terrific success with the help of everyone that contributed. Happy Holidays to all the families who came out and to everyone who helped make this day a great success.

Volunteers dish up holiday dinner at Simi Valley Senior Center

By Roberta Freeman

Freeman is a Ventura County Star columnist.

Alice and Hector Ochoa, both 85, were grateful to have arrived at the Simi Valley Senior Center a half-hour early for the Thanksgiving dinner on Wednesday.

"You have to come early or you don't get a seat," Alice Ochoa said.

That appeared to be true as outside a long line snaked around the center. Minnie Alessi, 79, and Bert Stever, 83, patiently waited at the end of that

line for their turn for dinner.

The couple said they had to park in no man's land but said the dinner was worth the walk.

"We see all of our friends here. It makes it joyful," Alessi said.

Simi Valley volunteers showed up in force for the 13th annual Thanksgiving feast at the senior center, organized by Simi Valley Rotary Sunrise. In addition to the Rotarians, the volunteers included local Boy Scouts and the leadership

class from Sinaloa Middle School.

By early afternoon, a few dozen volunteers were busy preparing the traditional Thanksgiving meal for an expected 400 to 450 guests.

While some were elbow-deep in giant tubs of dressing, others carved generous portions from 30 donated turkeys, cooked ahead of time by Mavericks restaurant.

Others, including City Councilman Paul Miller, busied themselves rolling mountains of plastic eating utensils in

paper napkins, and setting festive tables in fall-colored cloths.

Bob Mitchell, a hardwood lumber broker and past president of Rotary Sunrise, has never missed a year since the organization became involved in preparing the dinners more than a dozen years ago. His job each year is preparing the yams, adding marshmallows and other secret ingredients from a recipe he said hails

See SENIORS on B2

B2

COUNTY



Michelle Yee / Special to The Star
James Xu, 11, of Boy Scout Troop 623, helps Jane Gaylor, a retired Simi Valley schoolteacher, with her plate during Thanksgiving dinner at the Simi Valley Senior Center on Wednesday.

Rotarians, Scouts serve dinner

SENIORS
From B1

from South Dakota.

"It gives me an opportunity to pay back a little," Mitchell said. "To help people a little less fortunate than me."

Chris Mitchell, another Rotary member, volunteered to organize this year's event. Free and open to the public, Mitchell said the guests are primarily senior citizens, but include some homeless and other needy families.

Advertisements for the event are posted around town at nursing homes and service agencies such as the Samaritan center.

"If you don't have anywhere to go," Mitchell said. "You are welcome here."

Rotary Clubs Team Up to Build 100 Bicycles For Children



During the holiday's many children look forward to the gifts they receive from loved ones. For



many other children the holidays are not much to look forward to. To help brighten up the holidays



for some children, the Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise volunteers each year to build bicycles for children



in need. On December 16, the Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise held its annual Bicycle Assembly.



This year the Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise and Mervyn's

Rotary Clubs Team Up to Build 100 Bicycles For Children

Continued from page 1
of Simi Valley Noon Time

rotarians for the children. The Rotary Club of Simi Valley built one hundred bicycles for children to receive during the holidays.

After all the bicycles were built, the Rotary Club distributed the bicycles to many organizations that then distributed them to the children. The bicycles are distributed to churches, boys and girls clubs, Case & Shaw, and many other non-profit organizations that work with children. These organizations work with families and children throughout the year and know that many families are very thankful to receive the bicycles.

Simi Bike Works, Mid Valley Properties, and Vanities are admirers throughout the community. The Rotary Club of Simi Valley have once again made the holidays a very special time for the many children who received a brand new bicycle built with love.

Assembly

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise

In Honor of

*Your Generous Support and Dedication
to the Community of Simi Valley
as a Major Donor to the
Simi Valley Unified School District
Scholarship Program*



May 13, 2004

Tony Strickland
Tony Strickland
Assemblyman, 37th District



Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition

Presented to

*Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise ~ Major Donor
2004 SVUSD Scholarship Program ~ Special Education
for meritorious achievement*

May 13, 2004

Elton Gallegly
ELTON GALLEGLY
Member of Congress

By Aron Miller, 579-1946; amiller@VenturaCountyStar.com

Burglar steals woman's mobility

By Aron Miller

amiller@VenturaCountyStar.com
What kind of person would steal a sick lady's wheelchair from her own property, especially during the holidays?

Well, someone did it in Simi Valley over the weekend, and the local cop is trying to find out who.

The victim was Donna Davis, 49, who has multiple sclerosis and can't walk. She needs her \$800 wheelchair to get around. She hasn't left her house since Sunday.

That's where the trouble came around and snatched hers and her dead mother's wheelchairs off her front porch.

"I was stunned," Davis said Wednesday. "I couldn't believe it."

Davis' daughter, Adrienne Fowler, was downright angry.

"Who would steal someone's wheelchair?" she said.

"Taking Davis' was bad enough. But grabbing her mother's, which served as a backup, was the clincher. Grandma's wheelchair was a deluxe model worth much more than Davis' \$800 variety, she said.

The incident came at an especially bad time.

See WHEELCHAIRS on B2

MS patient's wheelchairs taken

WHEELCHAIRS
From B1
In the mother and daughter's front room, in the 3900s block, in October they moved in with Davis' mother, who had all kinds of medical equipment. Davis' mother's wheelchair was a deluxe model worth much more than Davis' \$800 variety, she said.
The incident came at an especially bad time.

Rotarians will replace stolen wheelchair

By Aron Miller

amiller@VenturaCountyStar.com
A Simi Valley community service group agreed Thursday to buy a new wheelchair for a local woman who had hers stolen over the weekend.

Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise voted during its morning meeting to purchase a wheelchair for Donna Davis, who has multiple sclerosis and can't walk.

Someone took Davis' wheelchair, and another that had belonged to her dead mother, from the front porch of her Simi Valley home Sunday night.

Davis, 49, has been confined to her house since. Police have no suspects.

Her family can't afford to buy her a new chair, and her medical insurance provider will not pay for it, her daughter, Adrienne Fowler, said.

The old one cost about \$800, and her mother's was more expensive. Davis used it as a backup in case hers broke. Her mother died in October.

The two chairs were outside the home in the 3600 block of Valencia Avenue underneath a tarp.

A Rotarian saw an article in Thursday's newspaper about the theft and recommended that the group buy Davis a new wheelchair, said Dennis Barlow, the club's president.

"We thought that was something that fit our creed and our work," he said.

The group's gesture touched Fowler, who said she didn't want any handouts but reported the theft to police because she was so angry that someone would do such a thing.

"It was very, very sweet and not what we expected," she said. "Unfortunately, we are in the position where we really can use it."

Rotary members were in the process Thursday of picking out a wheelchair. They were discussing it with Davis and her doctor and were expected to give it to her today or Monday.

Senate

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION



Simi Sunrise Rotary Club

Thank you for your generosity and support of the Special Education
Advisory Committee scholarship program

May 13, 2004

Tom McClintock
Senator Tom McClintock