



# ROTARY SPOKES

## Rotary Club of Ventura

Est. May 1, 1919

"The Friendliest Club in Rotary"

December 10, 2023

### COAT SHOPPING



Thanks to the club members and Interact students who used the generous donation from SoCalGas to buy coats to augment the donated coats we will be giving to children at our Westside Holiday Event December 16.



## ROSE PARADE FLOAT

On September 9, club members went to Irwindale to put in a hard day's work preparing the Rotary float for the Rose Parade.



## BELLRINGER



Club members rang the bell at four locations on December 9 to support The Salvation Army.



**KRISTIN TAYLOR** was awarded for her leadership and boundless energy for Coats for Kids.



**SALLY CRAIN** was honored as a Julius Gius Memorial Rotary Foundation fellow.

## **CITY MANAGER BILL AYUB**

Ventura City Manager Bill Ayub addressed the club at our meeting December 6, 2023. The City Council appointed Bill on August 8, 2023. The position follows his 37 years in law enforcement, including four years as the Ventura County Sheriff.

As City Manager, Bill oversees 11 departments and over 700 employees. Council meetings are now Tuesday evenings at 5 p.m.

One of the projects the city is undertaking is Project Homekey, which is converting the La Quinta Inn on Valentine Road to supportive housing. Montalvo Safe Routes to School has added new sidewalks, bike lanes, curb ramps, and pedestrian crossings.



Main Street Moves has been extended to June 2024. Downtown parking will be expanded, funded by charges of \$1.25 per hour for off-street parking, and \$1.00 per hour in the structures. The project will include public restrooms, cleaning, maintenance, security, and more.

Improvements to the Ventura Pier have been aided by a \$40,000 grant. Surfers Point Phase II has received a \$16 million grant...a big help but not enough to complete the project.

Bill encourages all to view the holiday decorations at City Hall.

**A big thanks to Keith Moschetti for supplying notes  
and photos from our December 6 meeting!**

### **HAPPY CLUB ANNIVERSARY!**

Beverly Ward  
2 years

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

Chrissy Stagemna  
December 11

Antonio Castro  
December 14

## MEETING DECEMBER 6, 2023

**Attendance: 32**, including guests Bill Ayub and Rich Tomas

**Lunch:** Ham, mashed potatoes, salad, and vegetables

**Flag salute/introductions/inspirational message: Abiel Acosta.** “Every great dream starts with a dreamer.”

**Song: Bev Ward, Clyde Reynolds and Jessica Brandon:** “This Land Is Your Land”

### **Announcements:**

**Jessica Brandon** announced the winners of the **Great Rotary Bake-off Competition:** Kelly, Sally, Madhu, and Crista.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

(For more complete and up-to-date information, check the ClubRunner app on your phone, or our website)

**December 13 lunch meeting: Pacific High School Interact** presentation (not fundraising). Pacific High Interactors/ASB Student Leaders will share with us about their school and what makes it special, a brief update of last year (their first as an INTERACT CLUB) and what is in the works for this year. The students have been learning about the local opioid crisis and will engage in advocacy activities in January. On Dec 8, District Attorney Erik Nasarenko met with the students and engaged them in conversation and learning about the crisis. Students will be fining so be ready to get stumped. And, while this is not a fundraiser, President Neal has generously agreed the Happy Dollars from this day will go back to support the work of the Interact Club. **ALSO:** We will also start the business portion of our meeting at 12:20 (instead of 12:30) so **Councilmember Doug Halter** can give us an update from City Council.

**Dec. 16: Westside Holiday Event**, 9 a.m. & 1 p.m., Arise Ventura Church, 831 Olive St., Ventura. Distribute jackets, toys, and more to Westside families. Sign up online to help serve approximately 650-700 individuals.

**Dec. 20 lunch meeting: The Price Is Right—Rotary Edition.**

**Dec. 27: NO MEETING THIS WEEK**

**Jan. 3 lunch meeting: Club Assembly and New Year’s Fun.** Topics include a report from the Beachside Bash, and a report from our new Treasurer, Brenda Allison-Hutchinson.

**Jan. 10 lunch meeting: Kellye Patterson, Vocational Programming.**

**Jan. 17 lunch meeting: Lorelle Dawes, Director of Expanded Learning, Ventura Unified School District.**