



# The Rotary Club of Boulder Valley - February 3, 2026

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*Tuesday February 3, 2026, 11 AM--3 PM. SEEC (Sustainability, Energy and Environment  
Community) located on East Campus at 4001 Discovery Dr., C120 C-AB*

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***Mark Burnett, Our President 2025 - 2026***

Fellow Rotarians,

It seems these days that the only things we read about in the news are intractable crises. There are countries dealing with debt crises. There are humanitarian crises (which many Rotarians are actively trying to alleviate). We hear about geopolitical crises, climate crises, and protectionism crises. Many are concerned about how AI will impact the world, and the young are stressed about their economic and financial futures. However, in spite of this understandable doom and gloom, a crisis regarding where our club meets each week has been averted due to the hard work of Margot.

This problem arose when CU decided to remodel their catering kitchen. Since CU caters most of our weekly meals, this was going to be a problem for our meetings. Due to the massive goodwill (and connections) that Margot has developed over the years, she was able to spring into action and reach out to the proper individuals to ensure that our meetings continue with no interruption.

However, it will require a bit of extra flexibility and attentiveness on our part. For the next few months, we will be meeting either at the SEEC, a handful of different rooms, or upstairs in the room next to the cafeteria. Also, during the months of March, April, and May, we will not be meeting at CU at all on the third Tuesday of the month due to our club's exploration of alternative meetings. *Thus, it is imperative that everyone pays close attention to the newsletter to make sure we each show up at the right place!*

So, thank you, Margot, for averting one crisis.

In addition, there are a couple of people that often get overlooked in the busyness of our club. I would like to recognize and thank Joan for religiously preparing this newsletter every week. And a gracious thank you to Jeff and Brian for taking responsibility to care for and place the Rotary signs each week.

One last thing: the RYLA website opens for registrations tomorrow. If you know students that are currently in 7th grade (YRYLA) or 10th-12th grades (RYLA), please encourage them to consider registering.

For those of you looking to get a little more community time—and perhaps increase your longevity—our next Third Thursday is planned for **February 19**.

It is when we work together to Unite for Good that the world becomes a better place.

*Mark Burnett*



***Please send JPG photos only (no PDFs) and copy NOT attached to a string of previous comments.***

***The necessary information is swallowed whole and can't be accessed.***

Joan Scott is assisting with the Newsletter and can receive information to be published through [leacachjs@gmail.com](mailto:leacachjs@gmail.com).

Posts circulated via Clubrunner are provided by our club members who should be consulted regarding any comments or questions regarding the contents. Please read to the bottom of each post for contact information.

***For the Speaker, please send a photo, brief biography, and topic description to me for the newsletter!***

***Articles of interest for our club and Rotarians are gratefully accepted.***

***I am merely the messenger.***

***RCBV Anniversary Party Date and Location TBD.***

***Super Bowl Squares Game/Fundraiser!***

It's time for the third annual Super Bowl Squares game/fundraiser! Help support our scholarship fund by buying a "square" (or more than one!). No football knowledge necessary!

Here is a link to the game: <https://www.superbowlsquares.org/BVRC> Feel free to forward the link to friends and family as well! We'd like to get all 100 squares "picked" as soon as possible.

*Mark Lumsden*

***Speaker: Michael Block, CEO of All Roads***



Michael Block is the CEO of All Roads (formally known as the Boulder Shelter for the Homelessness). After a career in international trade including and founding his own firm, Mike left the private sector with the goal of having an impact on our community and those with the least fortune. Starting as a volunteer, Mike has been involved with All Roads for nearly two decades. He has held a multitude of staff positions from Street Outreach provider, Shelter floor staff, Housing Case Manager, Director of Programs, Chief Housing Officer and in 2023, was asked to be the CEO. In addition to his responsibilities at All Roads,

Mike is a Commissioner at Boulder Housing Partners and holds a seat on the executive committee of the County's regional homeless response and coordination efforts – Homeless Solutions for Boulder County. Mike is a tireless advocate for the needy and has found a home at All Roads due to its dedication to both compassion and pragmatic, data driven results.

Mike has lived in Boulder for almost 30 years and his daughter will graduate from Boulder High in the spring.

*Eric Rutherford*

## **Locally Haiti: *Petit Trou, Haiti***







Hello, Darryl and all!

- First, **thank you** for your amazing support. As you can see, it's made an incredible difference. (More photos attached from this week, and [please see here for a short, relevant video if interested.](#))

Second, confirming we received the final payment. **Thank you so much, Darryl.**

Finally, we're on top of the signage and look forward to sending photos of that along with our final report. The project is complete - and a big success!

With gratitude to all of you,

*Wynn*

Here is another example of our club's efforts to improve conditions in Haiti. Our club worked with Locally Haiti on a District International Grant championed by David Harper and Joan Scott several years ago to build gardens in Petit Trou, Haiti. Recently, we participated in another District International Grant (Strengthening Food Security and Health in Petit Trou de Nippes Rotary District 5450 DG25-029) championed by the Boulder Rotary Club in partnership with Locally Haiti to build a garden near the area's recently constructed hospital. Our club committed \$1,500 in cash and \$1,500 DDF and David Harper also contributed \$3,000 individually for this \$33,000 project. See the update from Locally Haiti and the attached pictures showing the impressive gardens.

Dear Darryl & Friends at Rotary:

Your generosity has supported the development and management of a 1.6-acre farm adjacent to our new community hospital in Petit Trou. As proposed and envisioned, this land is being used for vegetable and fruit tree production, nurturing of plant starts and seeds, and

community-based training on food production, soil health, and conservation. This grant has played a key role as we work towards developing a holistic approach to health, wherein local agriculture and food security are integrated with clinical care and community health.

### **Grant Utilization**

To date, we have expended \$43,252.97 [Locally Haiti used its own funds to cover expenses above the grant funds).

**Remaining to be completed:** Final Plantings, placement of Rotary Sign to acknowledge the contributions of the participating Colorado Rotary Clubs, and Final Report.

### **January 12, 2026 Progress Report:**

Strengthening Food Security and Health in Petit Trou de Nippes Rotary District 5450 DG25-029

Dear Darryl & Friends at Rotary:

Your generosity has supported the development and management of a 1.6-acre farm adjacent to our new community hospital in Petit Trou. As proposed and envisioned, this land is being used for vegetable and fruit tree production, nurturing of plant starts and seeds, and community-based training on food production, soil health, and conservation. This grant has played a key role as we work towards developing a holistic approach to health, wherein local agriculture and food security are integrated with clinical care and community health.

### **Grant Utilization**

To date, we have expended \$43,252.97. All receipts can be found in the Google Drive shared via email.

### **Measurable Progress**

- Water well drilled on site
- Land plowed
- Irrigation system installed
- Plant nursery constructed
- Planted the following (listed first = most recent)
  - 1,500 hot peppers
  - 1,200 bell peppers

- 1,016 okra plants
- 216 additional plantain trees (in addition to the 336 below)
- 532 pineapple trees
- 336 plantain trees
- 174 melons
- 950 Tacoma stans (flowering bush, for soil health, conservation, beauty, reproduction)
- 66 Carmona (flowering bush, for soil health, conservation, beauty, reproduction)
- 33 palm trees
- 34 ixora (flowering bush, for soil health, conservation, beauty, reproduction)
- 9 Damme Marie trees
- Grown from seed as starts, but not yet planted:
  - 40 cherry trees
  - 30 star fruit trees
  - 35 palm trees
  - 15 mango trees
  - 5 avocado trees

**Challenges & Solutions:** The water well, solar-powered pump, and irrigation system have been installed. However, this system has been modified due to plans for installation of a reverse osmosis potable water system on the grounds of the farm and hospital. This system was not envisioned at the time of the grant, and thus our original design had to be adjusted. The current system, while provisional, meets all farming needs and is achieving the same goals and outputs as the original system proposed. Once the clean water system is installed, the irrigation system will be updated for the long-term.

**Training & Community Engagement** Food security and nutritional training has continued with a cadre of 52 Community Health Workers (CHWs). Pierrette Decime, our lead technical advisor, led these trainings along with Patrick Desir, Lisson Michel, and the local team.

**Unexpected Successes & Benefits** Pierrette Decime, our lead agricultural advisor, has been a huge support over the past few months and her engagement, with support from Rotary, has

been immense benefit to the project, the community, and Locally Haiti. Pierrette came to our team after being laid off from the Botanic Garden in Les Cayes due to USAID cuts, and we are hopeful that this project will be the beginning of a long relationship. In addition, we've engaged with the Agricultural University of Anse a Veau, a nearby city, and have 20 interns participating (2x per week each) in planning, labor, and development. Finally, many of the trees provided were donated or provided at low cost by local farmers eager for the success of this project.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you to Wynn for the reporting and the excellent work of Locally Haiti!

*-Darryl*

### ***BV Rotary Upcoming Service Projects***



Please plan ahead to join in some or all of these upcoming service projects, bring friends and consider getting together with fellow Rotarians before or after the event to add a more social component.

*February* – Flower distribution – CANCELLED – the Flower Show has a different manager and they have decided to not go forward with this distribution.

*March* – Sister Carmen food bank – date TBD

*April* – Possible work with PLAY Boulder, perhaps Caroline’s Canopy

*May* – this is our big month of service!- Rise Against Suicide support for their 5k event-

*EPIC Day of Service* – many details to follow- Bolder Boulder Aid Station support

*Caroline Himes*

## **District 5450 Rotarians - Great Networking Opportunities**



Dear District 5450 Rotarians - see below for great training/networking opportunities coming up through February. All Zoom sessions will be recorded and posted on the **District Website Training page**.

**[CLUBRUNNER NOVA: BULLETINS](#)**

*Thursday, February 5 | 4:00 to 5:00 pm via Zoom*

**ROTARY 101**

*Thursday, February 12 | 7:00 to 8:00 pm via Zoom*

**\*\*\* FREE QUEEN SLEEPER SOFAS & LAMPS for non-profit organizations.** Must pick up in Breckenridge. Contact [Drew Roberts](#) for information. \*\*\*

**\*\*\* [CLICK HERE TO VIEW CLUB EVENTS!](#) \*\*\***

**JOIN OUR UPDATED FACEBOOK PAGE!!!**

***Interested in becoming an event sponsor? [Click here for more info!](#)***

*Bev - Beverly Mendel*

District Operations Manager

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