



April 3, 2026
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Editor:
Mr. Bunny Rabbit

Ground Breaking Hamilton Natural Play Area

Saturday, April 18th, 9am - 2pm

Please join us for the ground breaking for the long awaited Natural Play Area at Hamilton Meadow Park School. Our Climate Action Team has been working with Sustainable Marin Schools to get this going.

Lunch will be provided by the Marin Covenant church.

Please let Randy Baker know if you can help out. Email is best at vernalfalls1@gmail.com

District Celebration 2026



**Westin Hotel
San Francisco Airport
May 02, 2026**

Every Piece Matters

Please join President Lynn, President-Elect Peter, and fellow Novato Rotarians at the District 5150 Celebration on May 2.

In addition to supporting your Rotary district you will enjoy a fabulous day/evening of Rotary fun!

Find more information, and register here:

<https://rotary5150.org/events/celebration26/>

The BIG WHEEL

P.O. Box 657
Novato, CA 94948

The Four-Way Test

"Of the things we think, say or do:

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?"

Captain Gil Rud From the Prairie to the Pacific: A Blue Angels Journey Thurs., April 23, 2026 7 pm to 8:30 pm



Captain Gil Rud will share his journey from rural North Dakota to the cockpits of U.S. Navy jet fighters, and ultimately captain of a flagship aircraft carrier, USS Constellation, responsible for the welfare of 5,000+ sailors.

His success as a naval aviator led to the ultimate reward- "Boss" of the world-famous Blue Angels, overseeing their successful transition to the F/A-18 Hornet.

Tickets: Adults \$30 • Students \$15
www.novatospeakerseries.com

Earth Day Project 56th Anniversary!

Sunday, April 19th, 9am -12pm

An Earth Day project is planned at McInnis Park where four Rotary Club's (Novato, Novato Sunrise, Ignacio, and Terra Linda) will volunteer to pull weeds, plant drought resistant shrubs, and spread bark.

Please help celebrate the 56th anniversary of Earth Day (actually on April 22nd) and make the planet healthier!

Contact Randy Baker for Details
vernalfalls1@gmail.com

Upcoming Programs & Events

April

- Apr. 10 **CAT/Environmental Sustainability**
- Randy Baker
- Apr. 17 **No Meeting**
- Apr. 23 **Novato Speaker Series**
- Apr. 24 **IVC Farm** - Gretchen Shubeck (Novato Sustainability Coordinator)
- Apr. 25 **4 - Club Social**

May

- May 1 **Youth Services** - Ross Millerick
- May 8 **Teacher Recognitions**
- May 15 **Meeting at Jonas**
- May 22 **Social at Nova-Ro**
- May 29 **No Meeting**

ROTARY CLUB OF NOVATO 2025/2026 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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Holly Axtell
International Service

Jorg Pühr-Westerheide
The Rotary Foundation (TRF)

Ross Millerick
Youth Service

Patty Dougherty & Sonia Seeman
Membership

Sonia Seeman
Jonas Center Liaison

Peter Oser
President, Nova-Ro Corp.

Brad Williams
Chair, Novato Rotary Endowment

Tom Rickey
Past President



NMCS Food Packing

We arrived for the weekly food give away on the Tuesday before Easter at the North Marin Community Services building on Novato Blvd. to pass out 250 bags of extra food for Easter. The \$5000 worth of food, donated by the Club, had been packed in the bags in the morning by Charlie Stickfaden, Marty Wickenheiser, Marisa Remak, Robert Jackson, Sonia Seeman, Marsha Molloy and Larry Harrison.



Rotary



Club of Novato

YES, BIG WHEEL EDITORS ARE STILL NEEDED

Support the most interesting Rotary Club ever!

Help share our meetings with family, friends and members unable to attend.

All you need to do is supply typed notes of the meeting. NO Formatting!

Contact Bill Vespa at zip@sonic.net

Rotary Big Wheel Sponsor

H&J Tire

AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE

845 Vallejo Avenue, Downtown Novato
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Burt Hoffmann
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(415) 897-1185

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- Alignment
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- Tuneup



Utility Boxes

A Community Service Project in coordination with Novato Leadership, City Workers and Rotary.

Randy Baker took the Lead for sign up. 11 utility street boxes were chosen for our second round of street beautification.

City of Novato participants were: Drew Bendickson, Community Services Division Manager; Sarah Bailey, Recreation Coordinator; Alexandra Kambur, Recreation Division Manager; Katie Gauntlett, Parks, Recreation, & Community Services Director.



Participants from the Rotary Club of Novato included Randy Baker, Charlie Strickfaden, Marisa Remak, Marty Wlckenheiser, Mark Bosch, & Jay Magtibay.

The four photos in the lower right show a box during prep and nearly completed. The Artists have entered a selection process and all of their art materials are provided by Artists. Penny and Marisa

