



Foothill Highlands Rotary Club Bulletin 6-8-2026

From Rotary Club of Foothill Highlands <dmecklenburg.comcast.net@clubrunner.email>

Date Wed 6/10/2026 11:14 PM

To Richard Hansen <rch6242@gmail.com>

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To all members (current, former & honorary); speakers, community members and friends and family associated with our Rotary Club. This bulletin has been made just for you. We hope you enjoy!! Reminder, you're always welcome to join us for lunch on Mondays or attend any of our community service projects!



Chartered March 12, 1959
Serving the Greater Sacramento Area communities of Antelope, Elverta, Foothill Farms, McClellan, North Highlands and Rio Linda

June 8th 2026 Volume 68, Issue 27

Club Information

Welcome to our Club!



Service Above Self

Mondays at 12:15 p.m.
Lions Gate Hotel at McClellan Park
3410 Westover Street
North Highlands (McClellan),



President Elect Nominee, Christian Dumlao, ran our club meeting today while Patrick was in the bay area and incoming President Miguel Benitez was floating on a cruise ship!!

Call to Order



Christian kicked off our meeting right on time, tapping Dominic to lead us in the pledge to our flag and hosting the invocation himself. We were absent a speaker today, which was actually a nice break. After reciting the 4-way test (per Pat's instructions), Christian gave a

short intro and then we jumped into announcements after placing our lunch orders for the afternoon.

CA 95652
United States of America

Mondays at 12:15 PM



[District Site](#)



[Venue Map](#)

Executives & Directors

President
[Pat Magnani](#)

President Elect
[Miguel Benitez](#)

Immediate Past President
[Dominic Mecklenburg](#)

Secretary
[Miguel Benitez](#)

Treasurer
[Dominic Mecklenburg](#)

International Service
[Maria Teresa Ferrer](#)

International Service
[Lee Wiggins](#)

Public Image
[Dominic Mecklenburg](#)

Rotary Foundation
[Robert Spears](#)

Webmaster
[Richard Hansen](#)

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Member Birthdays

Dave Lopez
May 4

Pat Magnani
May 25

Robert Hale
June 16

Lee Wiggins
June 22

1 of 10 Service Above Self What's Wrong with the Legislature PAGE 2 PAGE 10

Established 1983 ... The best little paper in these parts!

VOLUME 45 • ISSUE 23 Serving Rio Linda, Elverta and Sacramento County JUNE 5, 2026

SEE INSIDE
THE FINALS ARE HERE By V.G. Harris
SACRAMENTO KINGS
PAGE 8

BLIND ELVERTA RESIDENT LEARNS SKILLS TO STAY INDEPENDENT
PAGE 3

Freedom Park Improvements Unveiled
Foothill Highlands Rotary Club

The Rotary Club of Foothill-Highlands' board members unveil their latest park improvements at Freedom Park May 30.

Story and photos by Abbey Wicks

RIO LINDA, CA (MPG) - New picnic tables, barbecues and surface improvements were unveiled to the public on May 29 as part of the Rotary Club of Foothill-Highlands' latest Freedom Park improvements. The park, located at 5911 Recreation Way in McClellan Park has been an area of focus for the club, with the installation of the bocce ball court last year.

Miguel Benitez, president elect of the club described the park improvements to be the club's "bread and butter."

"We love doing stuff for the community," Benitez said. The club, comprised of approximately 15 members, focuses on youth and community outreach in the unincorporated communities of Antelope, North Highlands, Foothill Farms, Rio Linda and Elverta. Its motto of "Service Above Self" is exemplified through hands-on volunteerism, charitable fundraising and collaborative partnerships, including with the North Highlands Parks and Recreation District.

Five individuals began volunteering in this part of Sacramento more than 20 years ago forming the Rotary Club of Foothill-Highlands. One of those members is Dominic Mecklenburg, 2024-25 club president, a former bank manager at Umpqua Bank in Antelope.

"Before I worked in Antelope, the reputation is all I was aware of," Mecklenburg said. "It wasn't favorable."

Most of the founding members do not live in the region they serve, however, they felt this area needed it the most, according to Mecklenburg. The organization has developed strong relationships with teachers, legislators, parents and residents.

Continued on page 2

Sacramento County's New 311 Connect Mobile App is Here

Sacramento County's updated 311 Connect Mobile Application has been launched as of May 29. Photo courtesy of Sacramento County.

Sacramento County News Release

SACRAMENTO COUNTY, CA (MPG) - Sacramento County is launching a newly updated 311 Connect Mobile Application now featuring a modern design, improved usability and enhanced security to deliver a smoother, more intuitive experience for our community.

Everything you count on from 311 is still at your fingertips, now with the following key improvements:

- Modernized User Interface**
The app features a refreshed appearance with an updated color palette and graphic style. Redesigned navigation helps users find what you need faster.
- Unified Account Experience**
App authentication now fully matches the 311 Connect web portal. Your Sacramento Countywide user profile powers both the app and website.
- New Service Request Type**
A new service request type, Report Illegal Fireworks, is available directly through the app.
- What To Expect**
If you already have the 311 Connect Mobile

Cool Down at the Pool Bash
Rio Linda High School Opens Pool for Season

By Khushi Salgia

RIO LINDA, CA (MPG) - The sounds of laughter, splashing water and upbeat music will officially welcome summer to Rio Linda as the annual RLE Pool Bash returns to celebrate opening day at the local high school pool.

Hosted jointly by the Rio Linda Elverta Recreation and Park District and the

AVORIO DENTAL
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NO INSURANCE? NO PROBLEM!
\$108 New Patient Visit!
- Cosmetic
- Implants
- Smoking & Sleep Apnea
- Emergency
916 483 5566
@doctorpenpatel

Robert Hale
Janice Hale
June 22

Join Date

Joe Kaiser
May 1, 1986
40 years

Maria Teresa Ferrer
June 30, 1998
28 years

Did you see we're famous? Yes, PE Miguel and PP Dominic were interviewed at Freedom Park back on Media Day and the article was written about our contributions and support. So cool!! Read the complete story online at (cut and paste into your browser)

<https://www.theriolindanews.com/>

or click below to view the pdf link:

https://locable-assets-production.s3.amazonaws.com/uploads/resource/file/1297881/RLN_2006-05-2026.pdf?timestamp=1780530047

WEEKLY CLUB CALENDAR

06/13 to 6/17 = International Conference in Taipei

06/15 **DARK**, Holiday Week (Juneteenth)
06/22 Edwin Gomez - Educator, Weave, Inc.
06/29 Demotion Dinner @ Lion's Gate Hotel

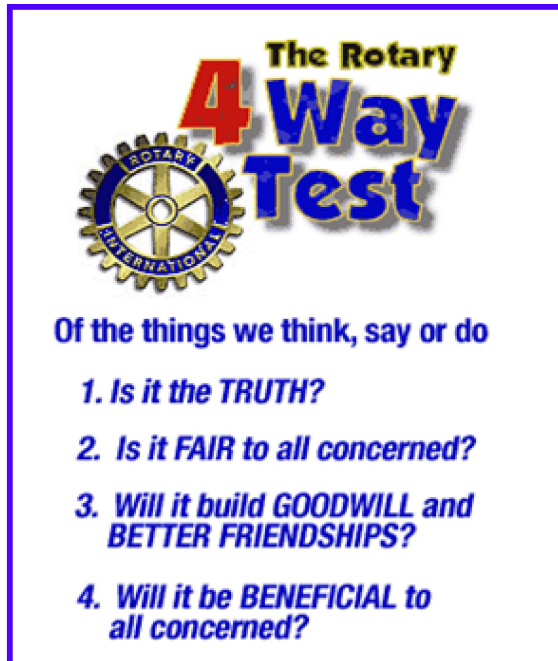
07/06 Amanda Sylva, Society of St. Vincent de Paul
07/13 "Bulletins in Club Runner" by Dominic
07/20 **11:30 Board Mtg + DG Visit to our club!**
07/27 Fellowship Day (NO MTG) = Country Potluck

08/03 Reg Meeting, Program TBD
 08/10 Reg Meeting, Program TBD
 08/14 (FRI) = Board Meeting
 08/17 Reg Meeting, Program TBD

10/29 to 11/1 = District Conf & Fdtn Dinner in TAHOE!

Visiting Rotarians and Guests

Prospective Club Member Denise Hawkes, Warehouse Manager for Hallsten Corporation was in the building today! Something tells me we'll be ordering a badge and pin soon...



Announcements

An email went out with sad news since our last meeting. Honorary Rotarian Karla Curran has passed away. She died on 5/22 at the age 91, and she will be missed. Our club has sent flowers to the Curran family. Services for Karla will be held on 6/26 at 11am at the Carmichael Presbyterian Church. Additionally, if you'd like to send a card, here's the best address:

The Curran Family
 c/o Jenny Curran
 6600 Bush Way
 Carmichael, CA. 95608

Camp RYLA is coming up, and our camper, Owen Briggs, is scheduled to attend week #1, which runs June 14-19th.

Pat's last Board meeting is Tuesday night, 6/9 @ Top Golf in Roseville. RSVP to Pat for the headcount. Tee time is 530pm.

Demotion Dinner is 6/29 @ Lion's Gate Hotel. No Host Cocktails at 615pm, Dinner service starts at 7pm.

RSVP to Roland with headcount and meal choice (Beef, Salmon or Vegetarian).



Touch-A-Truck is BACK! See the flyer above. While our Rotary Club doesn't have any super cool big rigs, Hallsten Corporation does so they will represent at this NHRPD event and support the cause in our community on our behalf. Teamwork baby!!



Vocational Minute

We had one of our last vocational minutes today, Mr. Bob Spears from State Farm who we featured last issue when he celebrated 50 years at State Farms. Wowsers!!

Today, we got some additional color from his past. Bob's academic studies took him all the way thru a Masters Thesis in Insurance. He was excited to begin with State Farms and never looked back. The moment he decided to go into business for himself, he also made the choice to retire his neckties! Like a good Rotarian, Bob Spears is always there!!!

Fun Stuff

The other fun fact Bob shared was more around his passion project. Bob loves music, and he REALLY loves vinyl. He has an enormous collection of records and CD's, and was very proud to share that he has a record for every hit song in the Top 100 charts from 1955-1999. That was no surprise after learning that Bob has 70,000+ records (45's)--that is not a typo people!! If there was anyone that should buy a spare needle or two for their turntable, well, bingo!



FINES AND RECOGNITIONS



TODAY's collection was \$51.

Here's the end-of-year status for Polio Plus and our club. Our annual goal is to raise \$1000, which is usually easy to do. Well, with 1 meeting left plus the demotion, we need \$45.80 June 22nd is our last official meeting and hopefully the carafe will be fully loaded for us to reach the finish line!

Happy Thoughts! JOE was BACK!! He led the charge by ringing the bell and generating some nice club revenue for operations (\$100). He missed us and we missed him. The broken bones in his arm are healing nicely. They said he'd be able to lift a Corona again in 4-6 weeks. Roland spun the wheel and, guess what, it landed on a "2" which meant every Rotarian must pay \$2ea. More club revenue!! Finally, Denise got in on the action. She spun the wheel for fun and it landed on a \$6 happy thought which she quickly paid in FULL, all cash, small bills. Done deal!!



BELL RINGERS, GONG BONGERS PAUL HARRIS STUFF

Miguel Benitez	(B)(GRIF)	PHF+3
Christian Dumlao	(P)(B)(GRIF)	PHF
Teresa Ferrer	(GRIF)	PHF+1
Robert Hale	(B)(GRIF)	PHF+1
Richard Hansen	(B) (GRIF)	PHF+ 8
Crystal Harding	(GRIF)	PHF
Joe Kaiser	(B)(GRIF)	PHF+ 8
Patrick Magnani	(B)(GRIF)	PHF+3
Dr. Steven Martinez	(GRIF)	PHF
Julian Love		
Dominic Mecklenburg	(P)(B)(PHS)	PHF+ 8
Sam Morgan	(B)(GRIF)	PHF+8
Brent Seizer	(P)(GRIF)	PHF
Bob Spears	(B)(GRIF)	PHF+ 3
Lee Wiggins	(B)(GRIF)	PHF+ 7
Roland Wright	(Bx2)(GRIFx4)	PHF+ 8

Bell Ringer & Gong Bonger Codes:

(B) = Bell Ringer is \$100 to our Club
(GFHF) = Gong \$100 to Club Foundation
(GRIF) = Gong \$100 to RI Foundation
(PHS) = Paul Harris Society \$1000 to RI Fdtn

Highlights of Todays Meeting

Today's meeting featured no program or speaker, but we enjoyed some great food and fellowship!! Check out our club calendar for all the excitement planned ahead for the next 30-45 days!!

Fellowship



In Loving Memory

JOHN HALLSTEN

1924 - 2019

**Donate to the Foothill-Highlands Rotary
Club "John Hallsten Vocational Service Fund"
A non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.
EIN 68-0392810**

**In honor of the life and memory of John Hallsten,
this fund will be used specifically to further
Vocational Education.
[Students in our Rotary service area may apply].**

**Mail checks to:
Foothill-Highlands Rotary Club
P. O. Box 6
North Highlands, CA 95660-0006**

Rotary Club of Foothill-Highlands



FOOTHILL FARMS - ANTELOPE - MCCLELLAN PARK - RIO LINDA - ELVERTA - NORTH HIGHLANDS

Rotary Club **Vocational Scholarship Award** Application 2021

Student Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email _____

Current School: _____

Current Class Level: _____ Target Graduation Date: _____

GPA: _____ Student related to a Rotarian: Yes ___ No ___ Explain: _____

Minimum one page essay is required on what Community Service means to you. Please reference our Rotary Theme "Service Above Self" please attach essay to this application when submitted.

Intended college, university or trade school: _____

Intended Vocation and career goal: _____

List any Community Service hours: _____

Have you been an active member in one of the following? Check any that may apply:

RYLA: Interact: Rotaract: RYE:

Have you volunteered and worked at Community Service Events? _____

If Yes, Please Explain: _____

Would you attend our Rotary Club weekly lunch meeting as a guest speaker? _____

Intangibles, e.g. this student has overcome a hardship: _____

Note: Award recipients will be contacted and notified
Return to: Roland Wright @ Rwright@hallsten.com (916) 417-1426

Type caption here

Thanks for reading our Club Bulletin this week! The transition from Microsoft Publisher into Club Runner for our Bulletin production will continue to evolve. If you see something missing or that you would like to add or change, we welcome feedback. It will slowly but surely come together! Have a great day everyone!!!

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This email was sent to Richard Hansen by Dominic Mecklenburg

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United States of America



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