

Chulatarian

Rotary
Club of Chula Vista 



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ROTARY CLUB
OF CHULA VISTA

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The weekly newsletter of the Rotary Club of Chula Vista
Chartered February 16, 1926 - Club Number 908 - District 5340
Meets Weekly, Noon, 4475 Bonita Road, Bonita (Chula Vista Golf Course)

SEAN MURRAY
CYGNET THEATRE
Friday, April 12, 2024 - Noon



Sean Murray is Artistic Director of Cygnet Theatre. He co-founded Cygnet in 2002 along with his partner Bill Schmidt, and **this** year is Cygnet's 20th Anniversary year. Over the years, Cygnet has become a leading, professional Theater Company in San Diego that consistently brings adventurous, entertaining and thought-provoking live theater to its audiences.

Sean is an extremely talented artist –he's a director, an actor, a set designer...he does it all! His theatre credits are too long to list, but to name a few of his over 60 productions, the following are productions for which he garnered awards:

For A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC, he won the SD Critic's Award, Best Director
For Bed and Sofa, he was awarded the SD Critic's Award, Best Director, Best Musical Revival

Escanaba in da Moonlight - SD Critic's Circle, Set Design

The Elephant Man - Patté Award for Direction

In 2000, Sean was named one of San Diego Magazine's "50 People to Watch" and in 2005 he was named Producer of the Year by the San Diego Critic's Circle.



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MEETING HIGHLIGHTS FOR APRIL 5, 2024

President Mora de Murguia called the meeting to order. Cheryl Shields gave the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance. Our music man Joe DeMers and our Songmaster led the Club in song with Raindrops Keep Falling.

President Mora shared updates and announcements on Club activities.

Foundation Chair Lane Pearson shared a special presentation on The Rotary Foundation, highlighting the six areas of focus, Annual Fund, Polio Plus and more. Our Club has 16 members who are NOT yet Paul Harris fellows. Let's get that to 100%! Any questions about it, please contact Lane.

Risa Baron was the sponsor for the Jim Biddle News at Noon. The lucky winners were Ramon Moncada, Ken Weimer, and Max Scrivens.

Chula Vista Elementary School District Superintendent Dr. Reyes introduced Rochelle Carroll and Giovanna Castro from his staff who were also in attendance. Rochelle coordinated the District-wide Speech Contest.

Four students presented their winning speeches. As always, they were intelligent, articulate and an inspiration.

The thought of the day from Michael J. Fox: Optimism is the cure for many things.

ROTARIANS AT WORK DAY

On **Saturday, April 27, 2024**, Rotary District 5340 Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force will be having a work morning at a local recovery home in the South Bay.

We will be working inside the house (cleaning and repair), and in the yard, improving landscaping and providing needed clean-up. These work events are vital to support the facility and to show the residents that people can be kind.

No special skills are needed - just a good spirit and willingness to work.

If you are interested, **please contact Kimberly Schafer** (kschafer108@gmail.com). Due to the need to keep the location confidential and a clear list of volunteers, each volunteer will need to contact Kim to sign up.

The location will be shared with volunteers in the week prior to April 27, and must be kept confidential.

JIM BIDDLE NEWS AT NOON by Betty Waznis



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LIVE



Brought to you by:

THIS WEEK'S
SPONSOR

With Betty Waznis

Hello, everyone and welcome to today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon. Today sponsored by Risa Baron and Republic Services.

Last week, the few surviving veterans of World War II's "Ghost Army" were honored for their service during a Congressional Gold Medal ceremony on Capitol Hill. The mission of the secret "Ghost Army" unit, which numbered about 1,100 troops, was to fool and divert German troops, a mission so undercover that it was only declassified in 1996. They inflated fake rubber tanks, created fake airfields, blasted recorded sounds of marching troops through loudspeakers, created fake uniform patches, painted trucks with fake markings, and more. The ruses forced German commanders to spread their defenses thin and let the U.S. army operate with less resistance, saving the lives of an estimated 30,000 soldiers.

Just over two weeks after doctors at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston placed a genetically edited kidney from a pig inside Richard Slayman, the 62-year-old is recovering well at home and relishing "one of the happiest moments" of his life, he tells us. He had suffered from kidney failure and a failed kidney transplant and was at death's door. On March 16, he became the first living person to receive this kind of genetically edited transplant. Human and pig kidneys are of similar size. To reduce the risk of Slayman's immune system attacking the transplanted pig's organ, researchers needed to make 69 edits to the pig's genetic code. This advance could mean a bright new future for the more than 800,000 Americans suffering from kidney failure, who require dialysis to stay alive. Currently, only one out of four people waiting for a kidney transplant will get one. Medical experts hope that this advance will make dialysis obsolete.

Some noteworthy San Diego sports events this week - Larry Lucchino, who as a top executive with the San Diego Padres championed the design of Petco Park died on Tuesday at the age of 78. With its iconic view of the San Diego skyline, the newly redesigned Gallaher Square gathering place and the Western Metal Supply company façade providing a unique atmosphere, many MLB players have said that Petco is their favorite place to play, and our fans love it.

The Padres are off to a strong start, just under .500, in 3rd place in the NL West Division. Next up: they meet the Giants at their home opener in San Francisco in the first of a three-game stand. Game starts today at 1:35. Our SDSU Aztecs made it to the NCAA Sweet Sixteen, for only the 4th time. They faced off against the heavily favored, first seeded, returning national champs, University of Connecticut Huskies. The 13-seeded Aztecs kept pace with the nation's top ranked team through the first half but finally lost 52 to 82.

And finally, some hope on the horizon for the Jaguars of Southwestern College. Oscar Rodriguez has been named head football coach at Southwestern College, a program with beautiful facilities but just five wins over the last three seasons. Rodriguez has 20 years experience at the high school and college level, and was named NCAA Division III AFCA National Assistant Coach of the Year in 2017.

Our sponsor, Risa Baron, is a New York native who moved with her family to California after high school. Once she experienced January in San Diego, she never wanted to leave. Risa is an SDSU graduate and was the first in her family to attend college, earning degrees in Political Science and Public Administration. She joined Republic Services in March 2021 as Municipal Manager, working closely with San Diego County and the cities of Chula Vista and San Diego to manage their franchise contracts.





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Dr. Eduardo Reyes with his staff and the four winning students in the recent CVESD Speech Contest: Melody Berry – 4th grade, Daphne Romero-Zuniga – 5th grade, Carter Spotser – 6th grade, and Syara Platero – Middle School



News sponsor Risa Baron presents the much-coveted Jackie's Jams assortment to the lucky drawing winners: (l-r) Ken Weimer, Ramon Moncada and Max Scrivens. Congrats!



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Free Public Event

ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS SUMMIT

FUN ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES
Featured Booths
Hands-On Activities
Project Showcase & Contest

Sunday May 19, 2024 | 10am - 3pm
San Dieguito County Park, Del Mar, CA

 District 5340  edcodistrict.com
"We'll Take Care of It"

Rotary Night at the Padres

Padres vs. Colorado Rockies

Free Joe Musgrove & Theo Bobblehead to the first 40,000 fans.

Tuesday May 14, 2024 | Game Starts at 6:40 PM

Seats are located in left field at "The Point"

Game Ticket: \$58.00 | Limit Per Person: 4 Game Tickets

The electronic ticket(s) will be emailed to you by Patty Fortin, 5340 District Administrator 30 days before game day.

CALENDAR—UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

April 12-14—Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)

Saturday, April 20— Tijuana Home Build

Saturday, April 27 - Rotarians at Work Day (see page 2)

May 22—RED SHOE DAY—For Ronald McDonald House

**SAVE THE DATE - June 24—District Governor's Dinner—
Del Mar Hilton**

SAVE THE DATE—Friday, June 28—Installation/Outstallation



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TIJUANA HOME BUILD IS APRIL 20!



Project Mercy has changed the family for whom we will be building a home. The recent pounding storms made access to the building site in a steep hill area very difficult, especially for sedans. The Secundino family will receive their home in a few months.

Meet the Simbron Ximeo family! Jessica Ximeo (33) and Alberto Simbron (39) are from Veracruz. Alberto is a mason's assistant and earn 3000 pesos per week (\$176) when he can find work. Daughter Kenia (14) likes school, where she is doing very well. She likes to read and draw. She wants to be an architect when she grows up. The younger daughter Daniela is playful and helps her mother with housework. She wants to be a doctor when she grows up.

(From their application) In Mother Jessica's own words: *One of the biggest challenges living here is the lack of running water. We have to buy it from a passing tanker truck and it is expensive and not readily available. We borrow an electrical line from a neighbor, but the electricity is weak and intermittent. Our house is not well built because we have had to use whatever material we could afford. At night, the cold wind and dust blow in and when it rains, the dirt turns into a mud flow. These living conditions aggravate the asthma of my daughters and makes them very uncomfortable. Our economic situation is not very good. We can barely afford basic food and household needs. My daughters have big ambitions for their futures, so I tell her to study hard so that they can get a scholarship because maybe financially, we can't afford to help them. However, I hope that tomorrow their dreams will be fulfilled.*

Having a decent house is very important to us more than anything, to have a warm place for my daughters. We don't have enough money to buy a jacket or thick blankets to get through the cold, and I want them to be more comfortable.

I would be very grateful if you could support us with a house. May you give us the opportunity and may God bless you always. Thank you.

Questions? See or contact Carmen SF—csandovalzf@gmail.com - 619 948-1703



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PROJECT MERCY HOME BUILD UPDATE



Above: The slab for Simbro Ximeo Family was recently poured and ready for the next step - construction day, Saturday, April 20. Their current home is pictured.

IDEAS FOR SIMBRON FAMILY— Gently Used is Good

Food— Beans, rice, oil, cereal, dry milk, etc.

**Pots, pans, cooking utensils
Storage items—bins, tupperware**

Tools - hand tools, shovel, hoe, broom

**Homegoods—sheets, blankets, towels
Folding tables—card, tv trays, chairs**

Warm coats for 11 & 14 year girls

**Everything is a treasure to the
family—thank you!**

**GOOD-BYE POLIO
THANKS ROTARY**



(NEWS AT NOON continued) Her prior experience included work at the San Diego County Water Authority, SDG&E and Caltrans. As her husband likes to tell people, every organization she has worked in required her to wear a hard hat. Among her other accomplishments, she is past President of I Love a Clean San Diego and President of SDSU Alumni Association.

She and husband David are also small business owners. Their family, including son Jonah and daughter Hannah all have a role in Jackie's Jams, the family business. David and a team of employees handcraft the specialty jams using fresh ingredients from local growers, while Risa handles the administrative side. Jonah is in charge of Operations and Purchasing, and Hannah helps with corporate and mail orders. Risa said she never dreamed of owning a small business, but says, "It has brought us the most joy and is one of our greatest accomplishments." On April 1, they celebrated their 14th year in business. This concludes today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon, today sponsored by Risa Baron and Republic Services.