

Chulatarian

Rotary
Club of Chula Vista 

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ROTARY CLUB
OF CHULA VISTA

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Rotary 
Club of Chula Vista

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)

ASSEMBLYMEMBER
DAVID ALVAREZ
Friday, December 12, 2025 - Noon



Assemblymember David Alvarez was elected to the California State Assembly in June of 2022 to represent the 80th Assembly District. The 80th Assembly District includes the communities of Barrio Logan, Logan Heights, Sherman Heights, Bonita, Lincoln Acres, Otay Mesa and San Ysidro, along with the cities of Chula Vista, National City and Imperial Beach.

He is the first in his family to receive a college education receiving a B.A. with Distinction in Psychology from San Diego State University. Given the importance of education in his life, he has started a scholarship to support students from immigrant backgrounds to fulfill their educational goals.

Assemblymember Alvarez serves as Chair of the Assembly Budget Subcommittee on Education Finance and the Select Committee on CA-MX Binational Affairs. Additionally he is a member of the following legislative committees: Budget, Education, Government Organization, Insurance, and Water, Parks, and Wildlife. Assemblymember Alvarez is also a member of the Select Committee on California's Lithium Economy, Select Committee on Downtown Recovery, Select Committee on Permitting Reform, Select Committee on Retail Theft and Select Committee on Sea Level Rise and the California Economy.

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CLUB HIGHLIGHTS & GOOD CHEER



Gary Bryant was spreading community good cheer and stopped by the Southwestern College Cares program with a check. L-R: Trina Eros, SWC Cares Coordinator (and past recipient of our Above and Beyond award), Gary and Sofia Salgado Robitaille, fellow Rotarian and Executive Director of Advancement & Community Engagement at SWC.

From a student survey conducted at SWC, 66% experienced at least one of the following: food insecurity, housing insecurity, or homelessness. SWC Cares provides a safety net of support for these students to improve student retention and wellness. Programs include a Jag Kitchen Pantry, Cares Close & Diaper Bank, Technology programs and emergency cash grants.

Thank you Rotarians for your contributions to the Chula Vista Rotary Foundation, which enables us to support this program and many others in our community.



Autumn Reid and Duane Buckingham did an excellent job on their volunteer bell ringing shifts for the Salvation Army. They were at the Sprouts on Third Avenue in downtown Chula Vista. Thank you!

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JIM BIDDLE NEWS AT NOON by Betty Waznis

LIVE



Brought to you by:

THIS WEEKS
SPONSOR

With Betty Waznis

Hello, everyone, and welcome to today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon. Today's news brought to you by Nathan Oestreich.

Last week the Chula Vista City Council voted to move ahead with an ambitious plan to transform much of the former Rohr factory site into a 45-acre complex of high-technology manufacturing facilities, corporate offices and a promenade of shops, restaurants and hotels. The complex, tentatively named The Bay, would complement the new Gaylord Resort and help make Chula Vista a regional contender to attract high-paying jobs and tax-generating visitors. The plan was proposed by San Diego-based developer Wohl Property Group, which has a track record of revitalizing disused industrial sites. Wohl bought the property in 2019 and is currently completing environmental cleanup work in partnership with Collins Aerospace. Over on the other side of Chula Vista, on the border with Bonita, a different part of the Rohr legacy is also undergoing transformation. Chula Vista City park staff are planning a major overhaul of Rohr Park, a 60-acre multi-use park once owned by Rohr Industries and used as an employee recreation center. Fred Rohr was a firm believer in the value of outdoor exercise and bought the park for that purpose in 1955. He died in 1965 and a year later, Rohr Industries sold the park to the city of Chula Vista. Since then, residents have grown up riding the little steam train, playing soccer and softball on the park's athletic fields, walking the paths and nature trails and holding family get-togethers there. City officials now want to upgrade the park to modernize equipment, rehab restrooms, enhance sports facilities and potentially add new features, including pickleball courts, an amphitheater and an archery range. Chula Vista residents endorsed many of those changes in a recent series of community meetings with the top three goals emerging as "promote sports equity for all youth," "enhance recreational infrastructure and safety" and "improve parking and regional access." Others are communicating with the city to make sure that there are still open nature areas for peaceful walks, wildflower viewing and the equestrian arena that many Bonita residents use to exercise their horses. The city has not settled on a final plan and is still accepting feedback.

SDSU Aztec football finished in a tie for first place in the Mountain West conference but lost out on a spot in the conference championship game due to some complex tiebreaker rules. However, the team is bowl-eligible and has been awaiting its bowl game assignment, to be announced this Sunday.

The dream is over for another exciting local team - San Diego FC - at least for this season. San Diego's wildly successful debut season, one in which they were predicted by many to finish last in the standings, has ended. Last Saturday the Vancouver Whitecaps came into a sold-out Snapdragon Stadium - one of many sell-outs - and defeated SDFC 3-1 to advance to the Major League Soccer championship game. Our club is just the second expansion team in MLS history to reach a conference final in its debut season.

Today's sponsor, Nathan Oestreich, was born in Corpus Christi, Texas, and graduated from high school in La Grange Texas, where his brother, Phil, was a former president of the Rotary Club. Nathan joined Lemon Grove Rotary in 1985, then left Lemon Grove Rotary to support his two Scripps Ranch High School sons through Scripps-Mesa Rotary (now defunct), then joined Penasquitos Rotary which became San Diego North, (now defunct), then back to Lemon Grove Rotary (now defunct), then La Mesa Rotary, then Chula Vista Sunrise Rotary (now defunct) and now here with us. Nathan holds several college degrees and was recognized in July for holding CPA certification in Texas for 50 years. He is technically retired from the Charles W. Lamden School of Accountancy at SDSU, but is on the class schedule for Spring and Fall 2026. Nathan has lived in Chula Vista for about twelve years and is happily married to Nam Hee Cho. For exercise, Nathan cycles the Sweetwater River Path and the San Diego Bayshore Bikeway. This concludes today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon, today brought to you by Nathan Oestreich.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY DEAR ROTARIANS!



TOM DAVIES DECEMBER 7

KEN WEIMER DECEMBER 8

MICHAEL OLIVERI DECEMBER 9

CHUCK BEVAN DECEMBER 10

KATHLEEN CARROLL DECEMBER 16

MARY JOHNSON DECEMBER 18



Gary Bryant presented a \$500 check on behalf of our Club to Chief Kennedy and the Chula Vista Police Foundation. The funds will support their 2025 Holiday Meal & Toy Giveaway which is scheduled for next week. Over 500 families will be identified ahead of the event. They send their thanks and appreciation to us.

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RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE DINNER & PROGRAM



Clockwise: Kimberley Marshall said JERRY MAY taught her WELL!
One third of the Shields triplets and nurse in training, Caroline, Gary, Carmen, Beta & Reed Dinsmore (back from Vermont!). SWC Choir.
Armando (Max's friend), John Lorah, Autumn Reid and our good friend MAX Scrivens—all great choppers!
CEO Chuck Day, photo bomber Tina Matthias and Gary presenting yet another check. **More next week!**

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NEXT WEEK!

3rd ANNUAL

Bake Sale Auction

Homemade or Bakery-Made
Sweet or Savory
Irresistible Treats

*Pies, Cookies, Brownies, Bars,
Cakes, Bread, Candy, Toffee, etc.*



Cookie Contest

Cookies will be judged on
Taste, Texture, Presentation, & Creativity

*Enter the cookie contest for a chance
to win \$100*

DECEMBER 19TH HOLIDAY MEETING

DONATIONS WILL SUPPORT OUR ROTARY PROGRAMS

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KATHLEEN SENDS HER THANKS!

Joe Carroll, husband of Rotarian Kathleen Carroll, had a very successful surgery and is doing GREAT!

Thank you Rotarians for your kind thoughts and prayers.

IN THE NEWS

Tina Matthias was on News 8 recently on an Earth8 segment on her Sustainable South Bay work with local schools. It has generated another big wave of interest and request for assistance from schools in regions all over California.

<https://www.cbs8.com/article/news/local/outreach/earth8/chula-vista-students-turn-lunch-into-climate-action/509-d77d219f-da22-4021-a587-efdece7c850e>

(It plays after a short 8 sec water district ad.)

SEND IN YOUR NEWS!

**Recent milestone? Big event? Career change?
Under the weather?
Let Rotary in on your news—share with
President Ben or Exec Sec Carmen**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Friday, December 19 - **Holiday Program & Bake Sale!**

Friday, December 26 - **DARK - No Meeting**

Friday, January 2 - **DARK - No Meeting**

Saturday, January 3 - **Veterans' Home Take Down Decorations**

Friday, January 9 - **FIRST MEETING OF THE NEW YEAR!**

Friday, January 9 - Food Distribution at St. Mark's—8:30 a.m