

# Chulatarian

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)

TIFFANY ALLEN  
CHULA VISTA CITY MANAGER  
Friday, January 16, 2026 - Noon

## BOARD 2025-2026

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Rochelle Carroll

Mike Green

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As City Manager, Tiffany Allen is the executive officer for the City of Chula Vista. Responsible for ensuring the effective administration of all City affairs, she drives the implementation of City Council policies, leads a municipal workforce of more than 2,000 employees, and ensures the delivery of essential services to the community.

Allen's tenure with the City spans more than two decades, during which she has held a broad range of positions primarily focused on land development, infrastructure finance, and budget management. Before becoming City Manager in October 2025, her City roles included Assistant City Manager, Deputy City Manager, Director and Assistant Director of Development Services, and Treasury Manager. Allen is known for her rich experience, strategic perspective, and exceptional public sector management expertise. Her leadership and vision have been instrumental to flagship initiatives including the development of the Chula Vista Bayfront, creation of the University and Innovation District, construction of Millenia Library, and implementation of the City's first-ever Project Labor Agreement.

Allen holds a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Oregon and a Master of Public Administration degree from Walden University. She is a member of the Urban Land Institute (ULI), Lambda Alpha International (LAI), the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), the California City Management Foundation (CCMF), and the Municipal Management Association of Southern California (MMASC). She lives with her family in Chula Vista.

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## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS - JANUARY 9, 2026

President Ben Koala called the meeting to order. Jeanette Badal gave the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance.

Songmaster Chuck Bevan selected our Chula Vista Rotary fight song for our first meeting of the year.

Upon reconvening, Rasha Roshdy introduced guests and visiting Rotarians.

President Ben reviewed upcoming programs and events, then introduced the January birthday Rotarians who were then celebrated with the Happy Birthday song.

He discussed the upcoming Rotary Means Business event happening Tuesday, January 13th, which he was very involved with forming. This is a gathering of Rotarians from across the region which provides a important opportunity to network and make new lasting contacts.

The guest speaker, David Rivera, is a passionate advocate for quality education and has spent 2+ decades in various roles to achieve that goal. He is also a successful businessman who works tirelessly for more students to meet their higher education goals. Thank you David!



Rotarians with January birthdays—including David Hoffman, Jerry May and Risa Baron—were recognized and treated to the traditional birthday song with the ‘you’re getting old added on at the end.’



## JIM BIDDLE NEWS AT NOON by Betty Waznis

● LIVE



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THIS WEEK'S  
SPONSOR

With Betty Waznis

Hello, everyone and Happy New Year! Welcome to today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon, today sponsored by Mike Green and Green and Green LLP.

Cidara, a small San Diego pharmaceutical company, has created what the scientific community has talked about for decades — a universal flu shot that fights all forms of influenza. The most recent clinical trial was so successful and so promising that pharmaceutical giant Merck recently announced it would buy the company for \$9.2 billion and oversee its final clinical testing. As you know, every year we play cat and mouse with the flu. It mutates, then scientists pick what they think is the most likely variant and develop a vaccine for it. But this new flu preventative named CD388 isn't a vaccine — it's an entirely new antiviral drug type that works directly against every flu strain by attacking a protein that is essential for them to replicate. We hope to see this available to us in the next few years.

Birch Aquarium at Scripps Institution of Oceanography has announced a remarkable first: the successful hatching of more than 3,000 Red Octopus hatchlings — an octopus native to the California coast and known for its bright red color. This marks a major achievement for the aquarium's Husbandry Team, which discovered a female Red Octopus guarding tens of thousands of tiny eggs in an out-of-the-way corner of the aquarium. The eggs were likely fertilized by a male before the octopus arrived at the facility. Over the following weeks, aquarium experts watched the eggs, each smaller than a grain of rice, as their yolk sacs shrank, the red color emerged, and their three hearts took shape. The octopuses grow to 20 inches long and are known for their problem-solving abilities and dramatic color changes, making them a sea life fan favorite. For now, the newborn octopuses will remain off public display, but visitors may have an opportunity to see them in the near future.

The California Arts Council recently announced that [Arts District Liberty Station](#) under the leadership of its President & CEO, fellow Rotarian Lisa Johnson, has been selected as one of California's 10 new state-designated cultural districts, one of now 24 districts recognized as thriving and unique cultural and artistic destinations within California. The 100-acre Arts District Liberty Station, formerly the site of the Naval Training Center is now home to more than 100 museums, galleries, studios and nonprofits and will be awarded \$10,000 from the Arts Council.

The Padres have sold out season ticket memberships for a fourth straight year. with the number sold for 2026 setting a new franchise record. The demand for Padres games has never been higher. Since the pandemic, the Padres have not ranked lower than fifth in attendance. In 2025 they outdrew every team in the majors outside the Los Angeles Dodgers with a franchise-record 3,437,201 fans at Petco Park.

SDSU Aztec men's basketball beat Boise State on Saturday in a dramatic triple overtime victory 110- 107. To follow up, they beat the University of Nevada Wolfpack 73-68 on Tuesday and will face Fresno State tomorrow.

Today's sponsor, Mike Green, practices law full time with his partner and son Ben at 227 Third Avenue. They provide good service at affordable prices. Mike enjoys time with grandchildren, Margaret 12, Benjamin 10, Benjamin 8 and Anna 6. He plays golf (badly) once a week, with the same group for thirty years. Once in a while he gets to go fly fishing with Rotary friends, a hobby that started 65 years ago when he grew up in Northern Maine. The most fun he's had in Rotary is the home building in Tijuana. He and his wife both loved the mission to Peru in 2006. Estate planning, business and real estate transactions are what they do. Need a trust? See Mike or Ben. This concludes today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon, today brought to you by Mike Green and Green and Green LLP.

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## MORE MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



Mike Green was the sponsor of the Jim Biddle News at Noon this week. Pictured with Mike, the lucky drawing winners were (l-r): Jeanette Badal, Tana Lorah and Nancy Kerwin. Congrats everyone and thank you for your support of the Chula Vista Rotary Foundation.

## 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**

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Transfer Rotarian (Chula Vista Sunrise) and educator Monica Lehpamer was presented her new Club badge by President Ben.



*Trivia Night 2026 is coming! Hosted by the Rotary Club of Chula Vista, this exciting evening of trivia and teamwork raises funds for local charitable causes.*

**ENTRY FEE**  
**\$50 PER PERSON**  
**\$400 PER TEAM**  
**OF UP TO 8 PLAYERS**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2026**  
**@ 6:00 PM**  
 (DOORS OPEN AT 5:15)

**THE VENUE AT EASTLAKE**  
 871 DISTRICT PLACE, SUITE 104  
 CHULA VISTA, CA 91914

**REGISTRATION OPENS JANUARY 10TH**  
[www.chulavistarotary.org/page/trivia](http://www.chulavistarotary.org/page/trivia)

**EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION**  
 Teams that have registered /paid in full by February 20 will receive two free mulligans (free answers!) Registration closes at midnight March 6.

**TABLE TAILGATE WHILE PLAYING**

- Bring your own food & snacks
- Beer and wine will be sold

**NO OUTSIDE LIQUOR ALLOWED DUE TO OUR LIQUOR LICENSE**

*Questions?*  
[cvrotarytrivianight@gmail.com](mailto:cvrotarytrivianight@gmail.com)



*Your participation in this fundraiser will benefit the Rotary Club of Chula Vista's Foundation Fund. Proceeds will support local charities. The CV Rotary Foundation Fund is a 501 (c)3 organization and your contributions are tax deductible. (Tax ID # 33-0544219)*

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## ROTARY FRIENDS UPDATE

Duane Buckingham is on the mend following a bout of walking pneumonia which he caught sometime around Christmas. Glad to hear he will be out and about soon—we missed him!

Our most sincere condolences to Mora de Murguia on the recent loss of her father in North Dakota.



President Ben presented speaker David Rivera with a Rotary mug. President Ben sporting one of the latest high tech gadgets—computer glasses -where he can read text messages and emails while appearing to be listening to whatever you have to say. (Make sure he is paying attention...).

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**100th CLUB CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION—FEB 2026—TBA**

**SENIOR GIFT BASKETS ASSEMBLY— March 13**

**TRIVIA CONTEST—Friday, March 13—Sign Up Open!**

