

# Chulatarian

Rotary  
Club of Chula Vista



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)

**ASHLEY MILO & VIVIANA CASTELLANOS**  
**Chula Vista Animal Care Facility**  
**Friday, June 13, 2025, Noon**



The City of Chula Vista has been involved in animal control since 1923. Over these years the role of animal control in the city has changed greatly. As the city has grown, additional animal services have been provided to keep pace with a growing population and an increasing number of owned animals. The shelter has played a pivotal role in the community over the years, taking in over 4000 animals in 2024. They also house and contract animal services for the City of Lemon Grove, and Imperial Beach.

The current shelter opened on October 19, 2001, it was designed to house up to 342 animals, although that number has reached as high as 592 at any one time. On any given day they welcome more than 200 guests who come to look for lost pets, adopt a new pet, buy a license, attend a low cost spay/neuter clinic, or simply come to look at the animals and learn more about our services. Animals housed at the shelter receive personalized care and comprehensive medical treatment to keep them safe and healthy.

Come hear what is new at our local Animal Care Facility!



## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS—June 6, 2025

President Jesse Fernandez called the meeting to order. Autumn Reid gave the invocation. Songmaster Chuck Bevan led us in song.

In honor of National Donut Day, President Jesse invited members to have a Krispy Kreme donut. President-elect Ben Koala introduced guests and visiting Rotarians.

Pancho the Polio Pig was passed around. The grand total for the month of May was \$328.10—amazing! Thanks everyone!

June birthdays were celebrated—Mora de Murguia, Tina Matthias, Michael Monaco, Rasha Roshdy, Reed Dinsmore and Maria Kachadoorian. Happy Birthday Rotarians!

Members were reminded to **RSVP for the In/Out event on Friday, June 27** at the San Diego Country Club. The Chula Vista-Eastlake Rotary Club is having a fundraiser and has invited us to attend. Soraya Martinez received her Blue badge—congratulations!

President Jesse invited everyone to attend the **End of the Year Social** at Casa Fernandez on **June 20**, see email

Bob Silvas discussed the drive for items for Mary's Guest House. Several members brought donations today. He then shared the Centennial Minute—great information and events in our Club's history.

Betty Waznis gave the Jim Biddle News at Noon, Ken Weimer was the sponsor.

Tana Lorah, new Rotarian and COO of Snake Oil Cocktail Co, introduced Irving Gonzalez, Beverage Director and Senior Mixologist who provided a fun, entertaining and refreshing presentation





## JIM BIDDLE NEWS AT NOON by Betty Waznis

• 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 brought to you by Ken Weimer.

Fellow Rotarian and Chula Vista City Manager Maria Kachadoorian has announced she is retiring in October. Maria began her career in the city's finance department in 1998, advancing through the ranks to become the finance director. She then became deputy city manager and later the assistant city manager. In June 2020, the City Council appointed her city manager, overseeing more than a dozen city departments and more than 1,300 employees. She is Chula Vista's first woman and first Latina to serve in the role.

Her strong background in finance is credited with helping Chula Vista weather the 2008 recession and the COVID-19 pandemic, a time during which she helped secure the deal and groundbreaking of the newly opened and long-awaited \$1.3 billion Gaylord Pacific resort and convention center. Most recently, she proposed Chula Vista's largest budget, which was given initial approval by the City Council. The \$600 million budget for 2025-26 is expected to balance, without making deep cuts to public services or using reserves, unlike that of its neighbor, San Diego, which may be forced to do both.

The County Board of Supervisors last week unanimously approved a \$2.35 million grant and related contract that will allow the U.S. Navy to rehabilitate three sites over 20 acres within Tijuana River Valley Regional Park. The Naval Base Coronado Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration Program is providing the grant. The county-owned sites currently contain dilapidated structures, underground utilities, foundations, debris and non-native plants. Naval officials feel that the cleanup increases environmental resiliency near the military base and will serve as an extra protective buffer from any hazardous air pollution. The cleanup project is expected to begin this fall and wrap up next summer.

The race to fill the vacant District 1 South County seat on the San Diego County Board of Supervisors has begun. This week, ballots arrive in voters' mailboxes and South County begins the month-long process of choosing between two general election candidates: Imperial Beach Mayor Paloma Aguirre and Chula Vista Mayor John McCann. The last day to vote is July 1.

San Diego State and four other universities officially submitted notice to depart the Mountain West conference to join a reformed Pac-12 starting in 2026-27. The Pac-12 currently has seven football-playing members: the only 2 Pac-12 remnants, Oregon State and Washington State, plus SDSU, Boise State, Colorado State, Fresno State and Utah State from the Mountain West, plus Gonzaga in basketball and other sports (but not football). The Pac-12 needs to add an eighth full member by July 1 to receive certification for the lucrative 2026-7 College Football Playoff series.

The Padres vs Giants four game series concluded yesterday with a 2 and 2 split. Each of the four games was decided by one run. Next up - Padres face the Brewers in Milwaukee, tonight at 5:10.

Our sponsor, Ken Weimer, celebrates his 33<sup>rd</sup> year of membership in Chula Vista Rotary in September. He's a key member of the Legacy Fund brain trust, and leads our bellringing effort for the Salvation Army every holiday season. Here he is hosting a fun Rotary get-together at his home. Thanks, Ken! This concludes today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon. Today sponsored by Ken Weimer.







## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS—June 6, 2025



President Jesse Fernandez presents Soraya Martinez with her Blue Badge.  
President Jesse presenting speaker Irving Gonzalez and Sales Manager Tasha with a Rotary mug in appreciation of their great job in presenting and sharing cocktails.



L-R: The lucky winners were Carmen Sandoval, Soraya Martinez and Ramon Moncada. Thank you Ken Weimer for being the sponsor of the news today.



**YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED!**



**FROM OUR FRIENDS AT THE CHULA VISTA-EASTLAKE ROTARY CLUB**

**Rotary** Club of Chula Vista Eastlake

## Noche Mexicana

*(A fundraising event benefiting our charitable programs)*

**\$110 Ticket**      **Saturday**  
**Includes:**      **June 14, 2025**  
Food      **5:00 PM**  
Drinks  
Music  
Dance  
Auction Items  
Fun

**Pay Here:**

2017 Chardonnay Terrace, Chula Vista





## DONATIONS FOR MARY'S GUEST HOUSE REQUESTED

Our club is hosting a hygiene drive to support Mary's Guest House. Mary's Guest House is a safe home for victims of human trafficking.

Bring your items to the meeting Friday, June 13th for collection.

Items requested include:

- laundry detergent (i.e. Tide pods or any)
- Downy for laundry
- Bounce, Shout (laundry stain spray)
- paper towels, toilet paper, Kleenex
- bathroom cleaning supplies
- dish soap (ie. Dawn) or dishwasher
- deodorant
- hand wipes
- toothpaste
- lotion
- feminine hygiene products
- gifts cards for Walmart, Target, JC Penney
- gift cards for food stores - Food 4 less, Northgate, Albertsons, Vons, Sprouts

June is  
**ROTARY FELLOWSHIPS**  
Month



Rotary  
District 5340