

Chulatarian

Rotary
Club of Chula Vista 

UNITE
FOR
GOOD

rotary 

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)

TINA CHIN
LIVING COAST DISCOVERY CENTER
Friday, May 1, 2026, Noon

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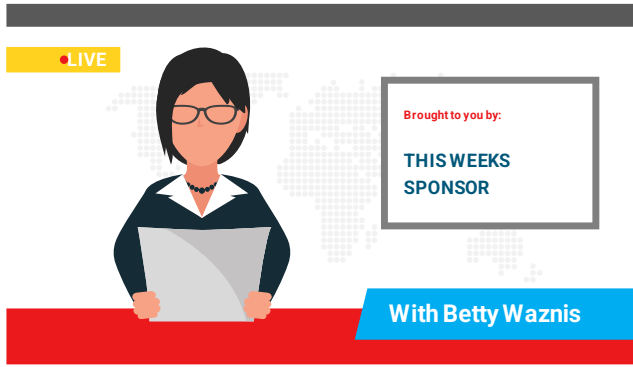


Come with me, Tina Chin, Education Manager, to take a sneaky peak into the world and work of the Living Coast Discovery Center. A steadfast pillar in the Chula Vista community since 1987, LCDC strives to inspire the community to connect with and care for our coastal environment.

The Living Coast is more than an aquarium and a zoo. We offer: guided bat hikes, volunteer and docent opportunities, community clean ups, tabling at events and fairs, field trips, composting masterclasses, up-close animal encounters, rentals, and more.

Looking for a worthy cause to support? Check out our website: Home - The Living Coast Discovery Center.

Come volunteer at the Living Coast!



**JIM BIDDLE
NEWS AT NOON**

**BY
BETTY WAZNIS**

Hello, everyone. Welcome to today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon, today brought to you by Jan Mellinger.

Florida's attorney general on Tuesday opened a rare criminal investigation into OpenAI's ChatGPT over whether the artificial intelligence app offered advice to a gunman who killed two people and wounded six others last year at Florida State University. Evidence shows the chatbot advised the killer on what type of gun and ammunition to use, whether a gun would be useful at short range, what time of day and at which location would allow for the most potential victims, and how many to kill for significant media attention. Prosecutors state that if it had been a person at the other end of that screen, they would be charged with accessory to murder.

A life jacket worn by a passenger on the Titanic as she escaped in a lifeboat sold at auction on Saturday for \$906,000. It was worn by a first-class English passenger and is signed by her and other survivors from the same lifeboat. Only a handful of life jackets worn by survivors still exist today. It was the star among items in a sale of Titanic memorabilia held at a British auction house and sold to an unidentified telephone bidder for twice the the presale estimate.

LA County residents were sentenced to jail last week after staging fake bear attacks on their luxury cars, then attempting to collect more than \$141,000 in insurance payouts. The fraudsters had a person in a bear suit climb into the cars and use claw-like kitchen utensils to leave scratch marks, then filed claims to defraud three different insurance companies. The California Department of Insurance began its investigation, called Operation Bear Claw, after an insurance company flagged a suspicious claim about a bear rifling through a Rolls-Royce in January 2024 in Lake Arrowhead. The defendants claimed that the bear had scratched and damaged the interior of their Rolls-Royce.

Photos and video footage submitted with the claim show what appears to be a bear opening a car door, crawling around in the back seat of the car and swatting at the dashboard. Investigators later discovered fraudulent claims submitted to two other insurance companies that claimed a bear had damaged the interior of two Mercedes on the same date and at the same location. After its investigation, the department concluded that the culprit was not, in fact, a bear. A biologist from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife determined that the animal was clearly a human in a bear suit. Detectives found an elaborate brown bear costume and kitchen meat-shredding handles, known as meat claws, while executing a search warrant.

A Wall Street journal article this week headlined our Padres closer Mason Miller as "Baseball's Unhittable Pitcher". The 27-year-old had transformed from an undistinguished Division III college pitcher into a dominant prospect after a surprise Type 1 diabetes diagnosis his junior year. With correct medicine and diet he went from a stringbean 160 at 6 foot 5 to 260, moved to Division I and was drafted by the Oakland A's in 2021 before the Padres acquired him last year. He's struck out 71% of the batters he has faced this season with scorching pitches, one locked at 105 miles per hour and is tied for most scoreless innings 33 and 2/3s in Padres pitching history. A spectacular 9th inning comeback in Game Three gave the Padres the series win against the Rockies yesterday. Next up – a regular season 2-game series Saturday and Sunday afternoon against the Arizona Diamondbacks at Mexico City, in a stadium 7500 feet above sea level.

Today's sponsor, Jan Mellinger, is a licensed marriage and family therapist who recently retired very happily after 23 years at Scripps Health. She currently works part time doing therapy by telehealth. Some pretty interesting hobbies in her past – she raced Porsches and is a certified Porsche driving instructor. She showed horses competitively and now occasionally shows cats. She's an art quilter and loves to cook. Jan's been a Rotarian for 35 years, was Chula Vista Rotary's second woman president, and comes from a Rotary family. Her grandfather, Reg Seabrook, was an active Chula Vista Rotarian from the mid 1950's to his death in 1974. He was the president of the San Diego Country Club here in Chula Vista; he arranged for Eisenhower's helicopter to land there for the presidential Chula Vista visit sponsored by our club in 1960.

This concludes today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon, today brought to you by Jan Mellinger.

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TWO OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP!

The Just In Time My First Home event is Saturday, May 9th.

We need 5 volunteers to help set up a young person who has transitioned out of the foster care system.

Volunteers will help as shoppers, movers, and set up.

Food drive to help stock the Just In Time food pantry will be May 1. Items to bring include the following:

- Ready-To-Eat Items (Tuna Helper, Protein Shakes, Microwavable Rice and Beans, etc.)
- Snacks (Protein Bars, Applesauce, Nut Butters, Jerky, Trail Mix)
- Canned Goods (Vegetables, Fruits, Soups, Pastas, Beans)
- Dry Goods (Rice, Pasta, Instant Noodles, Cereal, Quinoa, Oatmeal, Granola)
- Cooking Essentials (Seasonings, Cooking Oils, Flour)

CONTACT BOB SILVAS FOR MAY 9— bsilvas@silvygroup.com



WORLD
IMMUNIZATION
WEEK 24-30 APRIL

Rotary  

The banner features a group of diverse people, including a woman in a blue headscarf, a woman holding a child, and a man in a white lab coat, all smiling. The background is a vibrant purple and yellow pattern.

GOOD-BYE POLIO
THANKS ROTARY



**UNITE
FOR
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY DEAR ROTARIANS!



Nathan Oestreich – May 9

Zaneta Encarnacion – May 9

Carmen Richardson – May 10

Mauricio Lutteroth – May 13

Neisha Hernandez – May 19

Bud Wilson – May 22

Lane Pearson – May 22

Rick Richardson – May 25

Kathi Mits – May 30

Jon Miller – May 31



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MAY IS
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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE RED SHOE DAY—Wed, May 20

BIKE EVENT—MAY 30—@ Child Development Association (Bonita)

**INSTALLATION/OUTSTALLATION LUNCHEON
Friday, June 5—Noon**

DISTRICT 5340 GOVERNORS' DINNER—June 26, 5:00 pm

**2026 ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
TAIPEI, TAIWAN—June 13-17**