

Chulatarian

Rotary
Club of Chula Vista



**CREATE
LASTING
IMPACT**



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)

**ROTARY CLUB OF
CHULA VISTA**

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WENDI MESSINA

SOUTH COUNTY Y

Friday, October 23, 2026 - Noon



South Bay Family YMCA has been proudly serving the Chula Vista and the Eastlake community since it was chartered in 1960.

Dedicated to empowering people to be healthier in spirit, mind and body, the Y believes a strong community can only be achieved when we invest in our kids, our health and our neighbors. Together they work to expand opportunity, build strength and grow impact by being the catalyst to transform lives and community.



MEETING HIGHLIGHTS – OCTOBER 16, 2026

President Rasha Roshdy called the meeting to order. Treasurer Bill Torre was the Songmaster of the Day. President-elect Risa Baron introduced guests and visiting Rotarians. One of the guests including an Eastlake High senior, Kilina, who is doing a project on the value of relationships through her political science class.

Our Rotary District is sponsoring a Polio Walk. Link will be sent to members. We are sending additional contributions this year as the speaker's gifts.

President Rasha reminded us there are only 69 days until Christmas (!). Most of us groaned – this year has passed by way too fast.

Irma Flores with the Salvation Army invited us to attend their Community of Compassion Gala Fundraiser on November 14, 5-8 pm. Information was on the tables or contact Irma at Irma.flores@usw.salvationarmy.org.

Gary Bryant shared about Christmas in October on October 24th. See sign-up sheet. House is at 1178 Oleander.

Tina Matthias needs your shirt size if you will be helping with their annual Beautify Chula Vista event, Sat. Oct. 24, 8-noon.

Ana Fernandez with the Tijuana Club invited us to their 95th Anniversary Dinner on October 29th, 6pm. Please let her know if you plan to attend and you can pay at the door.

Trina Aros with Southwestern College gave us an update on their Cares programs and JAG Kitchen. They also have a Cares Closet which provides clothing to students for interviews etc. They are hosting a Hunger & Homelessness week November 16-19. Community members can drop off donations in a drive through on the 19th. She thanked Rotary for our ongoing support of their work.

Board Secretary Rochelle Carroll highlighted the upcoming Halloween meeting – dress up! – and asked us to sign up to help at the Food Packing event, Saturday, November 14, 1:00 to 3:00 pm.



L-R: This week's News sponsor Leon Redondo with Jon Miller, Duane Buckingham and Nancy Kerwin.

LIVE



Brought to you by:

THIS WEEK'S
SPONSOR

With Betty Waznis

JIM BIDDLE

NEWS AT NOON

BY

BETTY WAZNIS

Hello, everyone. Welcome to today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon. Today's sponsor is Leon Redondo.

Damage from a week of high surf and El Niño brought many warnings from officials. One alert was for owners of electric vehicles that were submerged by flooding. Electric vehicles are susceptible to starting a fire when their batteries are inundated with salt water, which is more conductive than fresh water. Fires fueled by unstable, damaged lithium batteries spread quickly and are difficult to put out and they can occur days or even weeks after saltwater exposure. In several instances, fires erupted while the impacted EVs were being towed on flatbed trailers. Flood damage not only to electric vehicles but also hybrid vehicles and other battery-operated devices such as e-bikes, golf carts and electric scooters should be handled with utmost care. Fire officials say that if you notice smoke, hissing, popping or unusual heat, move away immediately and call 911. Do not attempt to move the vehicle or extinguish the fire yourself. They also warned that if the car had been partially submerged it shouldn't be driven or charged, even if it appears to operate normally.

Pope Leo began walking, resumed his regular diet and celebrated Mass in the hospital Wednesday as he recovered from surgery to remove a cancerous mass from his lung. Tests showed the 71-year-old pope was recovering normally. Tuesday's [surgery confirmed](#) that Leo has [lung adenocarcinoma](#), the most common type of lung cancer. Surgeons removed the lower lobe of his right lung. After one lobe is removed, the remaining lung tissue can gradually compensate, especially in otherwise healthy, physically active people. Pope Leo is known for his interest in sports, including weekly tennis games and swimming. The pope broke with a tradition of secrecy surrounding health issues by sharing his diagnosis and surgery plans. The Vatican has long been secretive about the health of popes and tightly controlled any such information, giving rise to a popular Italian saying, "The pope is fine until he's dead." So Leo's decision to announce that he had a nodule and was undergoing surgery was groundbreaking.

A new cat has been discovered in Bolivia, the first time in more than a century that scientists have confirmed a new feline species in the world, according to a study published a few weeks ago.

Named *Leopardus tilcayo*, after its local name, the little cat weighs roughly five pounds, is spotted with a slender body and has a light brown coat patterned with dark rosettes. It looks a bit like a leopard that shrank to the size of a house kitten. It's similar to another small leopard but genetic tests have revealed that it is an entirely new species.

The exciting Padres season is over. They won 91 games, made the postseason for the third year in a row, hosted and won a postseason series, and played a very competitive National League Division Series. The Padres are one of only nine teams to make the postseason at least five of the past seven seasons. Just five teams have won more playoff series than the Padres in that span. A J Prellers post season conference reaffirms that the ultimate goal, from everyone from the owners on down, is to be playing at this time of year on the big stage in a World Series.

Now time to turn our attention to SDSU in the new Pac 12. They're no longer the big dog in a conference for the first time in more a decade, Gonzaga is filling that role. The Aztecs are sitting 4th in the Pac-12 standings with a 1-4 record. The team has dealt with a fluid roster as roughly 30 players have been sidelined due to a combination of injuries and an unusual mumps outbreak that drew national attention. SDSU basketball plays its first exhibition game at Tucson tonight against Arizona, who is ranked in the top five nationwide.

Leon Redondo was born in the Philippines and immigrated to the US in the early 90s. He is married to Cecilia; they have one adult son named Xavier. They have been residents of Chula Vista for more than 30 years. Leon has been a member of Chula Vista Rotary for over 14 years. He retired from SDG&E in 2022 and is enjoying life by having a weekend feeling every day.

This concludes today's edition of the Jim Biddle News at Noon, today sponsored by Leon Redondo.

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HALLOWEEN FUN!



CV ROTARY CLUB

Costume Fun

Dress in your Halloween best for an
afternoon of Rotary fun and fellowship!

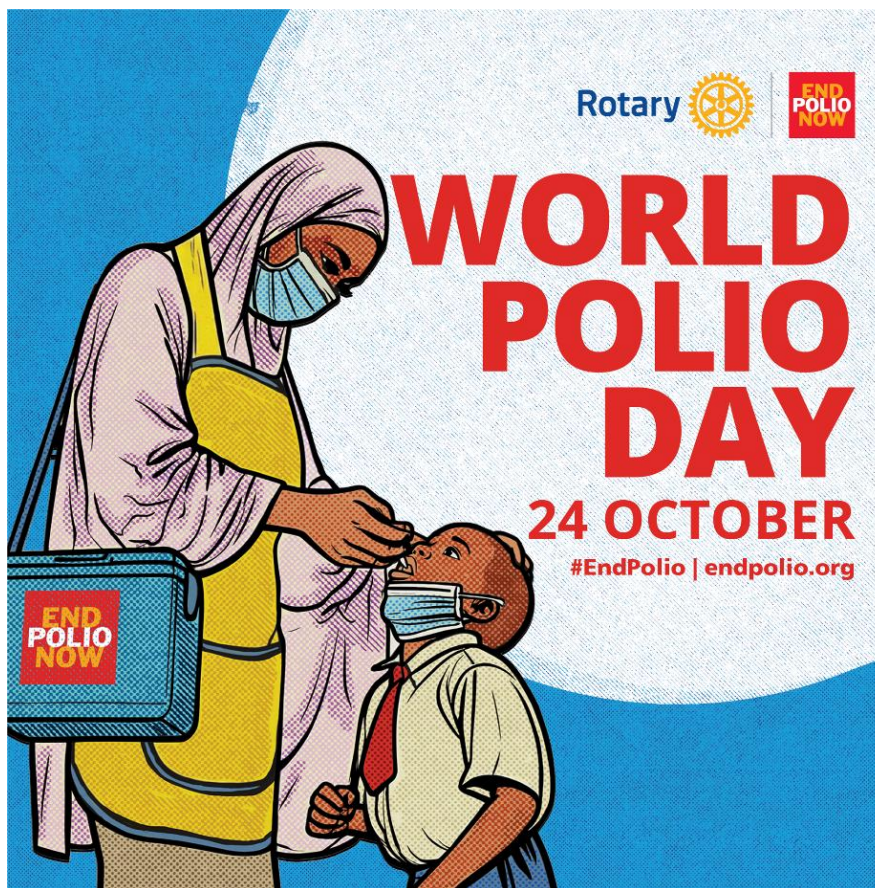
**FRIDAY
OCT 30, 2026**

Chula Vista Golf Course

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM



**CREATE
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Volunteers Needed!



Register to
volunteer by
scanning the
QR code



HELP US PACKAGE 10,000 MEALS FOR SOUTH BAY FAMILIES IN NEED!

Saturday, November 14

1:00 - 3:00 pm

**Hilltop High School Cafeteria
555 Claire Avenue, Chula Vista**

Sponsored by

Rotary
Club of Chula Vista



Interact
Hilltop High



Have fun while fighting hunger!

Join us for a high-energy hands-on volunteer project where you'll help assemble thousands of nutrient-rich meals in just a couple of hours!



**CREATE
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Beautify CHULA VISTA



Join us!
Saturday, Oct. 24
8 am - NOON

Rotarians in Action

Staging Site:
South Bay Salt Works
1470 Bay Blvd, CV, CA 91911

- Pick up litter and recyclables
- Have fun!

VOLUNTEERS:

- Meet at your designated location (provide your own transportation)
- Bring snacks or lunch and reusable/refillable water bottles
- Wear appropriate clothing/shoes, bring work gloves and buckets for litter (if available)
- Community service hours forms will be provided upon request
- Visit www.beautifychulavista.org - print, sign and bring your participation waiver

Questions? environmentalservices@chulavistaca.gov • (619) 691-5122

For more information & registration visit: www.beautifychulavista.org





















L-R: Trina Eros with Southwestern College CARES program and President Rasha Roshdy with donations for the JAG Pantry brought by Rotarians.

OKTOBERFEST FUN FOR YOUTH PROGRAMS



L-R: Chula Vista in the house! Duane Buckingham, Sergio Gutierrez, Ana Fernandez (Tijuana RC), Fernando de los Santos, Mora de Murguia, Jim Biddle (!!!), Jan Mellinger, Krystina Torres, Gina Woodard were all in attendance at District 5340 Oktoberfest last weekend.

