

# Make a dream come true!

Rotary  
District 5280



ROTARY:  
MAKING A  
DIFFERENCE

APRIL 2018



Paul Netzel, Trustee Chair of the RI Foundation and PDG of District 5280, and DG Cozette Vergari meet children during their visit to Colombia. More photos on [pages 8-9](#).

Make a Dream Come True!

Rotary  
District 5280



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“Let’s celebrate and collaborate to truly make a difference.”

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## DISTRICT CALENDAR

### April

- 14 Rotary Ethics Forum
- 14 Final Presidents’ Brunch
- 21 Rotary Day of Service (See [page 18](#))
- 27–29 RYLA

### May

- 17–20 District Conference, Indian Wells (See [page 7](#))

### June

- 2 District Assembly
- 10 Shakespeare In The Park, Vets Benefit
- 24–27 RI Convention, Toronto

*Candids from Colombia. See [pages 8–9](#).*





“Thank you for making a difference  
in people’s lives.”



## GREETINGS DISTRICT 5280 ROTARIANS, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS

By Cozette Vergari, District Governor

### THE ROTARY YEAR IS MOVING QUICKLY

toward the finish line. However, there are many, many exciting things left to enjoy and accomplish as we continue to make a difference in the lives of those both near and far. And, speaking of making a difference, congratulations to all who in one way or another participated in our District Humanitarian Trips to Colombia! One hundred forty Rotarians have just returned, representing 43 Rotary Clubs in District 5280, implementing eight TRF Global Grants and five non-global grants, and supporting a total of \$966,708 of services and goods through partnerships at many levels, including Rotarians from Districts 4271 and 4281 in Colombia.

### “BETTER TOGETHER” YEAR END CELEBRATION AT THE DISTRICT CONFERENCE.

We are better together as Rotarians! Come celebrate the many accomplishments and successes of the Rotary Clubs of District 5280 at the fantastic Hyatt Regency Resort and Spa in Indian Wells, May 17–20, at our annual District Conference.

Discover how  
Rotarians Are Better  
Together at the  
District Conference,  
May 17–20, in Indian  
Wells. [Register now!](#)

It will be a fun-  
—continues



## UPCOMING EVENTS REQUIRING REGISTRATION

April 14

Final President's Brunch at the  
Historical Dominguez Adobe

April 14

Rotaract Ethics Forum

April 17

Final District Breakfast Honoring  
Our Youth

April 21

Rotary Day of Service

April 27-29

RYLA

Information and registration  
for these events is at  
[office@Rotary5280.org](mailto:office@Rotary5280.org)

—continues

filled, family-friendly weekend. There will be golf, dancing, dining, sharing of ideas and successful projects, a costume contest, a dance competition, and a kids supervised activity room on both Friday and Saturday nights while we enjoy Hospitality Night and the Governor's Ball.

Register now and take advantage of the Early Bird Discount. [Learn More](#). We will highlight how Rotarians Are Better Together, working within their own club, with other clubs, and with other Rotary Districts from near and far. It is how we continue to make a difference!

### ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION & DISTRICT CRUISE.

Celebrate with Rotarians from all over the world in Toronto, Canada, June 23-29. Build relationships and share ideas. This is a great opportunity for all Rotarians to see the internationality of Rotary at its best. Register now!! [Learn More](#). Be sure to also register for the District 5280 Evening Cruise on Sunday, June 24.

### DISTRICT 5280 PARTNERS WITH THE SHAKESPEARE CENTER OF LA TO BENEFIT VETERANS.

Tom Hanks makes his Los Angeles stage debut as Falstaff in Shakespeare's *Henry IV*, directed by Tony-Award Winner Daniel Sullivan, and they are donating their artistic talents to benefit veterans. District 5280 has reserved a block of seats for Sunday, June 10. For details check your weekly newsletter or the district website. [Reserve your seats here](#).

### DISASTER RELIEF / TREE PLANTING REACH OUT COMING SOON.

We continue to work with District 5240, to the north of us, in the areas impacted by the Thomas Fire and subsequent mudslides. We will keep you posted regarding opportunities to participate in tree-planting efforts.

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING INITIATIVE.** Yes, slavery is alive and well in our communities, while predators are making millions of dollars through the commercial sexual exploitation of children as well as labor trafficking, literally enslaving vulnerable children and adults alike. Our own children and grandchildren are at risk and can be targets so easily through the Internet. On June 3, the Rotary Clubs of Woodland Hills and Calabasas are hosting a Casino Night and Poker Tournament to help in the fight against this terrible brutality. One third of all proceeds raised will be directed toward the District 5280 Charitable Foundation, restricted for the battle against human trafficking within District 5280. (See related story on [page 14](#).)

Thank you, Rotarians, for making a difference in people's lives.

**PS: Please direct any questions to Tori Hettinger, District Office administrator, at 310.670.9792 or [Tori.Hettinger@Rotary5280.org](mailto:Tori.Hettinger@Rotary5280.org). ★**







## ROTARY'S GLOBAL CHALLENGE: IMPROVING MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

By Michael Turner (Woodland Hills), SAG Communications

**MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IS A CHRONIC PROBLEM** in which both mothers and their children suffer from malnutrition as well as limited access to health care, clean water, and suitable sanitation systems. In addition, millions of pregnant women, new mothers, and children experience severe illness or death each year, largely from preventable or treatable causes. According to the U.S. Agency for International Development and the Peace Corp:

In developing countries, between 25 and 33% of all deaths among women of reproductive age result from complications of pregnancy or childbirth. The risk of an African woman dying during pregnancy or childbirth is 1 in 16, as compared to a developed country where the risk is 1 in 2,800.

About 10.5 million infant and childhood deaths are estimated to occur in developing countries each year. Seventy percent of these deaths are due to pneumonia, diarrhea, measles, malaria, and malnutrition.

During April, Rotary's focus is on the worldwide crisis of maternal and child health. Rotary's objective is to educate those in vulnerable situations to the —continues

*About 10.5 million  
infant and childhood deaths  
are estimated to occur*

*in developing countries each year.*

*Rotarians have the tools and resources  
to educate women in developing countries  
about this issue.*



—continues  
availability of high-quality health care for pregnant women and children, so they can live a longer and better quality of life.

The high number of maternal deaths in some areas of the world also signifies the inequities in access to health services. More than half of maternal deaths occur in sub-Saharan Africa and another one third occur in South Asia. More than half of maternal deaths occur in unstable settings.

### ROTARIANS HAVE THE TOOLS AND RESOURCES TO EDUCATE WOMEN IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ABOUT THIS ISSUE.

Here are some projects that your club can support:

1. Birthing kits
2. Accredited training program for health care professionals
3. Health centers that provides pre- and post-natal care, treatment, education, and support
4. A public awareness campaign about available reproductive health services
5. Information leaflets, and meetings or workshops promoting safe motherhood

Mothers and child health will be the focus of the RI President's Peace Conference in Italy from April 27–29.



The theme will be Maternal and Child Health & Peace: Migrant Mother and Child Protection.

Robert Zinser, co-founder of the Rotarian Action Group for Population and Development and retired president for Asia at chemical giant BASF, said, "If mothers are empowered and healthy, so are their families, leading to an alleviation of poverty and hunger."★

HOSTED BY  
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ROTARACT!

# DISTRICT BREAKFAST

APRIL 17, 2018

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:  
AIYANA HAVIR

- PROFESSIONAL IN MUSIC, DANCE, THEATER & PUBLIC SPEAKING
- FORMER ROTARY YOUTH AMBASSADOR TO AUSTRIA

CONSIDER...  
SPONSORING YOUR  
INTERACTORS + ROTARACTORS  
TO ATTEND!

CROWNE PLAZA LAX HOTEL  
5985 W. CENTURY BLVD.  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90045

REGISTRATION | 7:00AM  
PROGRAM | 7:30AM-9:00AM

RSVP BY APRIL 12 | \$38  
RSVP AFTER APRIL 12 | \$43

REGISTER AT  
[OFFICE@ROTARY5280.ORG](http://OFFICE@ROTARY5280.ORG)  
310-670-9792

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**Join us and  
celebrate  
Rotary**

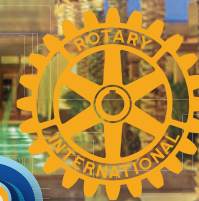
**We are  
BETTER  
TOGETHER!**

**Register  
Today**

# DISTRICT CONFERENCE 2018

## MAY 17 - MAY 20

**Better  
Together**



**HYATT  
REGENCY®  
RESORT**

**HYATT REGENCY INDIAN WELLS  
RESORT & SPA  
44-600 Indian Wells Lane  
Indian Wells, CA 92210**

**Choreographed by  
District Governor Cozette Vergari**

Some things are just "Better Together".  
Chips & Salsa... Wine & Cheese... Lucy & Ricky...  
***Fred & Ginger.***

May 17 - 20th, "swing" over to the District Conference for a jazzy,  
family friendly Rotary Weekend tango at the Hyatt Regency  
Indian Wells Resort & Spa. An entire weekend of  
Rotary fellowship and fun activities.

***Join us and celebrate Rotary. We are BETTER TOGETHER!***







*District Humanitarian Trip*  
**CANDIDS FROM COLOMBIA**

March 21–30, 2018

—continues







—continues

District 5280 Rotarians completed six projects in Bucaramanga, March 21–26. Four were global grant projects. Three concerned water and sanitation, and one was organic farming.

Continuing their mission in Bogota, March 26–30, seven projects focused on water and sanitation, malaria diagnosis and prevention, technology training and audiovisual equipment, and Operation Smile. ★



They're springing up on playgrounds at elementary and middle schools throughout Southern California.

## BUDDY BENCHES: BRINGING COMFORT TO CHILDREN

By Lorine Parks (Downey), Senior Correspondent



**THE BUDDY BENCH IS A SIMPLE IDEA** designed to eliminate loneliness and foster friendships on the playground. It's a place where any child who feels lonely can sit, and when other children notice them, they know to reach out to him or her.

One of the core principles of Rotary is to "Build Good Will and Better Friendships." Now the Buddy Bench idea has been embraced by the District's Peace Committee, which focuses on eliminating child sex trafficking in Southern California. The connection? Placing benches on playgrounds and training teachers and students about how they are a safe place for victims of violence to find

solace, comfort, and a buddy who will support them through difficult times.

The benches are produced by LAUSD students at Banneker Career and Transition Center, which trains physically challenged older children with skills that can be used to enter the job market. The benches cost between \$200 and \$300. "We need to determine how many schools are interested in a Rotary Buddy Bench," said Arlene Dickey (San Pedro). "We also plan to use materials being prepared by PDG Dr. Vicki Radel to train faculty and students."

Buddy Benches are now springing up on playgrounds at elementary and middle schools —continues





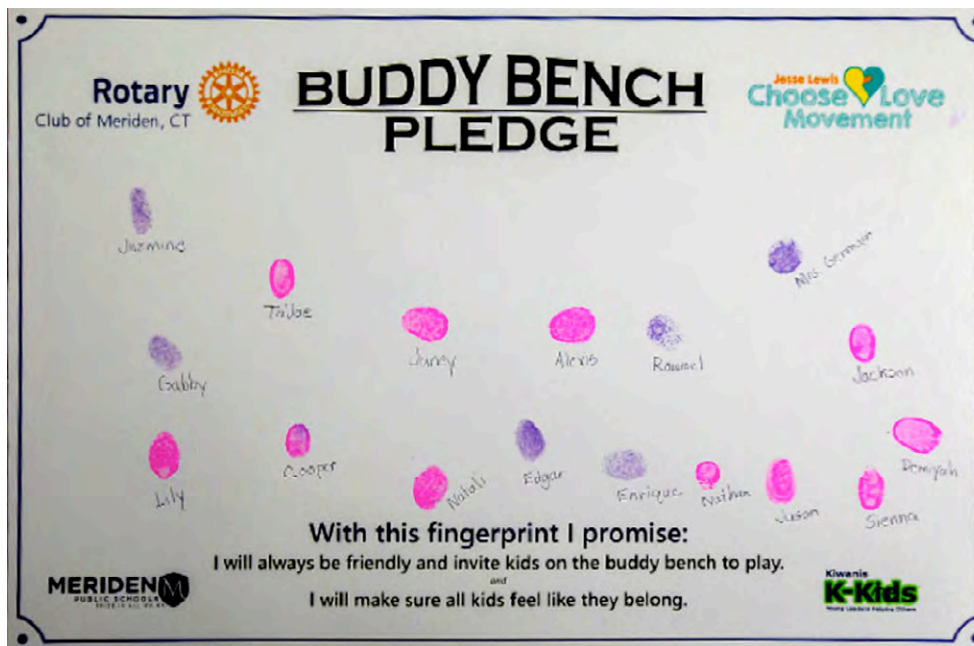


## RON'S PLAN FOR BUDDY BENCHES

Ron Supancic, pictured here, peace chair at Woodland Hills, offers this five-point protocol for Buddy Benches.

- ❶ Send a congratulatory letter to a school when it agrees to be a candidate for the installation of a Buddy Bench.
- ❷ Meet with the principal, parents, and students to explain and explore the Buddy Bench program.
- ❸ After the bench is installed, train administrators, teachers, parents, and the student council.
- ❹ Hold a school assembly to introduce students to Buddy Benches and how to use them.
- ❺ Follow up. Meet with the school from time to time to determine how the Buddy Bench program is working.

Ron's interest in the program stems from his family law practice. He's also a Certified Family Law Specialist and travels the L.A. area presenting Conflict Solutions Workshops to small businesses.



*The Buddy Bench Pledge is a key part of the program.*

—continues

throughout Southern California. "We're want to reach children early, before they're indoctrinated by the hate that's going around our nation," said Arlene. "It's our way of helping them learn how to be superheroes, friends, and leaders."

"It all started when we heard through a friend that Park Western Elementary School had written a grant to the Northwest Neighborhood Council requesting \$1,000 for a bench. The grant was so well written, it would have put professional grant writers to

shame. It was written by an 8-year-old. I thought this was an idea that must be implemented everywhere."

"I met with school officials and I was so impressed with their interest. I thought 'WOW, what a great idea.' So I went to our District and they supported it. That's why this is a District program, not just a San Pedro program."

**SAN PEDRO'S FIRST BENCH** was installed at Barton Hill Elementary School in San Pedro, on Monday, February 26, 2018 at 8 a.m., which is when the school day begins. The

group placed the sturdy, cinnamon-colored bench near the playground and the inscription reads: "Rotarians for Peace/Buddy Bench/San Pedro Rotary Club."

"I have worked with many other clubs," commented Arlene, "Redondo Beach, Historic Filipinotown, Wilshire, Lawndale, and Gardena. By the end of 2019 there will probably a buddy bench at many LAUSD schools. Many clubs across the District have committed to funding at least one bench, and Arlene is raising funds to install benches at all San Pedro schools.

"We currently do not work with other organizations," commented Arlene, "although I see in the future opening the project up for sponsorships. The 18–22-year-old students who go to Banneker are learning wood working, and we are provided with Buddy Benches. That is one of the most successful parts of this program. It's a win-win."

**SOFIA DE LA VEGA** from Woodland Hills is working to bring Buddy Benches to schools in her area. "We learned about Buddy Benches when we met with Vicki Radel. During the meeting, Arlene Dickey —continues





**“A Buddy Bench** is an instrument of peace,” said Arlene Dickey (San Pedro), pictured. “It’s a safe place for victims of violence to find comfort. It’s a place to go if you’re feeling lonely or sad. It’s a place for children to go who need a friend, because everybody deserves a friend.”

—continues

shared a website that has information about the history of Buddy Benches in San Pedro.”

“We’re collaborating with the Calabasas Club to develop our program, which has been supported by Woodland Hills President Paul Gross, as well as his three predecessors. We’re also are working closely with LAUSD and the Las Virgenes School District.

“Each school will decide where to locate the benches,” explained Sofia. “The hope is that this will put an end to bullying on school campuses and create a gracious, loving, and

compassionate environment. The funds for the project will come from a District grant as well as club funds.

“I became interested in Rotary when I learned that it was sponsoring the World Peace Conference in Ontario, Calif., in 2016. As soon as I learned of this, I joined the club and became active on the Peace Committee.”

**“A BUDDY BENCH** is an instrument of peace,” said Arlene. “It’s a safe place for victims of violence to find comfort. It’s a place to go if you’re feeling lonely or sad. It’s a place for children to go who need a friend, because everybody deserves a friend.” ★



Save The Date

SATURDAY APRIL 14, 2018

## ROTARY COMMUNITY PEACE CONFERENCE APRIL 2018

### WAGING PEACE: PERSPECTIVES FOR ACTION

What can we do in today’s conflicted world to make a meaningful impact on progress towards peace? Join us to learn from today’s children, who are our future peacemakers, and yesterday’s survivors in an inspiring program.



#### Program includes:

- Glendale Unified School District English-Japanese Immersion Program students will present their peace projects exploring the cost of war and the hope for peace
- Winner of peace speech contest for high school students (First prize: a trip to Hiroshima)
- Survivors of the Hiroshima Atomic Bomb (“Hibakusha”)
- Japanese Americans who were interned in the U.S. during World War II
- Notable world leaders in promoting peace including Rotary Peace Fellows
- Origami paper crane making workshop to fold 3,000 cranes for peace organizations in U.S. and Japan
- Hiroshima tree that survived the A-bomb: seedling gift presentation

This event is part of a year-long Peace Educational Project through a Rotary Global Grant, hosted by the Rotary Club of Little Tokyo.

**When:** Saturday, April 14, 2018

**Time:** 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

**Place:** Japanese American Cultural & Community Center, Aratani Theatre  
244 S. San Pedro Street, Los Angeles 90012

**Contact:** Makiko Nakasone  
Email: [LittleTokyoRotaryClub@gmail.com](mailto:LittleTokyoRotaryClub@gmail.com)



# FREE! COMMUNITY PEACE CONFERENCE: LEARN FROM HIROSHIMA SURVIVORS

By Makiko Nakasone, AG, Little Tokyo

## THE FIRST FREE AND OPEN

**TO ALL** "Rotary Community Peace Conference" will be held in Little Tokyo on Saturday, April 14. This is part of the reverse Global Grant Project that the Little Tokyo club is hosting. This may be our last opportunity to listen to the Hiroshima survivors and Japanese American internees. Please finish your tax return early, and join us at this very important event!

Little Tokyo started the GG Educational Project at the Glendale Unified School District last fall, and this Rotary Community Peace Conference will be the finale of the project. The purpose of this project is to help youth understand how common people's lives change dramatically and instantly because of war. The GUSD

students have completed their Peace Projects and will be displayed at this Peace Conference. Other students will participate in the Peace Speech Contest, with the winner traveling to Hiroshima this summer.

Other speakers include the Rotary Peace Fellow Captain D F Pace from the Philadelphia Police Department, who was featured in the February 2017 Rotarian magazine; Peace Leadership Director of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation in Santa Barbara Paul Chappell; and bullying prevention program Challenge Day co-founder Yvonne St. John-Dutra from Oakland.

We will also fold 3,000 Origami paper cranes, a symbol of peace, to donate to the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park



*The Atomic Bomb Dome: A symbol of Hiroshima and a focus for prayers for world peace.*

and the Japanese American National Museum. Immediately after the Peace Conference there will be a Survivor Persimmon Tree Replanting Ceremony. Survivor trees in Hiroshima have become a symbol of hope and peace, as people had thought that nothing would survive for 75 years after the bombing. To their surprise, new buds started to grow the following spring.

**THE ROTARY COMMUNITY PEACE CONFERENCE IS NOT JUST FOR THE YOUNG** but for all who are concerned in today's conflicted world and want to be peace builders. Hiroshima survivors and the Japanese American internees are aging rapidly, so don't miss this very special opportunity! ★







**“Sex trafficking is my number one priority,”** said DG

Cozette Vegari, pictured.

“I had the privilege of meeting with LA City

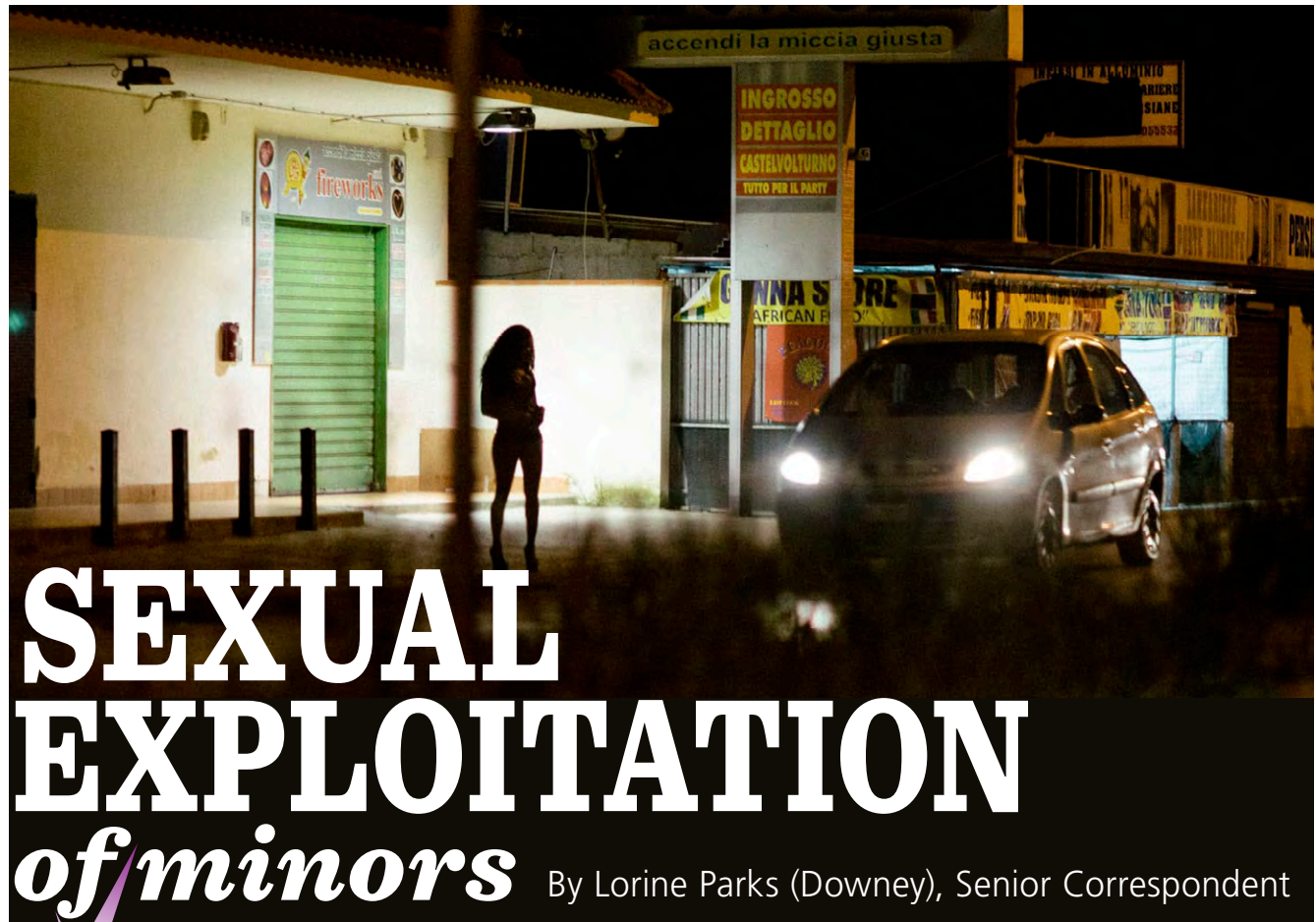
Councilmembers and with women who are leaders in the cross section of homelessness, domestic violence, and human trafficking.

“There is a real problem in our own backyard: sexploitation and trafficking. Statistics that struck me . . .

“When I first starting speaking on this issue,” Cozette said, “and researched the statistics, which are tough to determine, I would cite the average age of children who are sexually exploited as 13 years. Today, the statistic has moved to age 12, which sickens me. The average age is decreasing.

“Additionally, the number of times a child is sexually exploited is as often as seven times per day!!! A pimp can make \$100,000 to \$150,000 a year per child because victims of child trafficking are used over and over again. That has more than doubled the statistic I was using after a period of a couple of years.

“And the average life expectancy after a child is dragged into that life is just seven years.”



## STAR COURT, PART I

*In an exclusive interview, Judge Catherine Pratt of the Los Angeles Superior Court in Compton, tells how she has pioneered a way to connect and build new and better relationships with these exploited children.*

**WHERE TO BEGIN?** “One on one,” said Judge Pratt. “We believe in individual support for these

sexually exploited minors.” No shackles, no orange jumpsuits when they come into her courtroom.





*Judge Catherine Pratt in her 12th floor courtroom in Compton*

Over seven years ago Judge Pratt secured a \$350,000 grant federal, and at her request 50 girls were directed to her uniquely dedicated courtroom that works exclusively with victims of child sex trafficking. She named it the **STAR** court, an acronym that means *Succeeding Through Achievement and Resilience*.

Resilience means “the maintenance of high levels of positive affect and well-being in the face of adversity,” said Judge Pratt. “It is not that resilient individuals never experience negative affect, but rather that the negative affect does not persist.”

The largest share of the grant money went toward

securing advocacy workers for her team. “We try to treat them as normal and give them normal experiences, like weekend outings. We have some funds, but we could use outside help with this. We go bowling, horseback riding, and remember their birthdays with cupcakes. All this is on time outside the court.” The cost of cupcakes comes out of Judge Pratt’s own pocket.

This new approach to empowering young victims is at the forefront of reducing human trafficking in Los Angeles County. It is a program that works and is a model for others to follow. The STAR Court has strong relationships with local law enforcement agencies and community partners.

—continues

**Do you have trouble, or do they, relating to you as a blonde white woman, when 80% of these girls are Afro-American, and most of the rest are Hispanic?** “You have to take time to get to know them,” answered the judge, “one by one and build trust. They come into the system trusting no one. One day a girl asked me if I had been ‘in the life.’ That’s their way to describe someone who has been involved in prostitution. She said to me, ‘You really seem to get it. You understand us and you get it.’ That made me proud.”

**The men who control these victims are treated as child molesters.**

Every day minor children, girls from 9 to 17, are arrested for prostitution. They are taken off the streets and brought into courts, an action that serves to push them into jail and prisons, and victimized by the real criminals, men who want nothing more than to sell their

bodies for money, sometimes many times over in one night. These men who control them are treated as child molesters.

A composite picture of a minor arrested for child prostitution: age 12–14, comes from an abusive home, and has looked for sympathy in sexually suggestive online sites. She has run away and been “befriended” by a pimp, who pays for her visits to a nail salon. She has his “brand” tattooed on her face. The motel room is rented by the pimp: she has no money and, being a minor, couldn’t rent —continues





—continues

one anyway. The pimp tells her the day's charges: "He said 80 for sex, 50 for head," one girl said. Ironically, she was afraid to ask for outside help "for fear of getting into trouble."

These young "defendants" in STAR Court are vulnerable and fragile. They often come from troubled homes and in trying to find approval and self-worth, instead find themselves unable to escape virtual sex slavery. Outcome, if there is no intervention: prematurely old and likely to be dead in a few years of disease or violence.

**WHAT DRIVES JUDGE PRATT?** "My older sister, who essentially raised me, was in a very abusive relationship, and that man ended up killing her."

THE AVERAGE AGE OF A  
TRAFFICKING VICTIM IS

**12 YRS  
OLD**

**When was that?** "Twenty-two years ago, but who's counting."

Judge Pratt and the County Probation Department create a handpicked team to help each girl embark on the process of recovery. They partner

with child advocates and legal advocates from nonprofit organizations and agencies like the county Department of Children and Family Services and the Public Defender's Office.

Continuity is important. **How to keep tabs on them?** "I mandate that they come before me at least every month," commented Judge Pratt. "In most juvenile courts, the offenders see the judge twice a year. One really important ingredient is consistency. Consistency in seeing the same judge and the same public defenders each time, so they don't have to tell their stories to new people every time."

**The pronoun "I" does not seem to be a part of Judge Pratt's vocabulary. Who then is we?**

"The team: me, the social case worker, the public defender, probation officer, interested parties from nonprofits," said the judge. "We take them to doctor appointments, see they get suitable clothes to wear to school or to job interviews." As of today she and her team have worked with 500 girls.

**How successful has this been?** "In over seven years, working with 500 girls, we have a 72% success rate."

**What is success?** "It varies from day to day. In this case it means they have not been rearrested as juveniles or adults for prostitution or a related crime.

"What we want is for them to become independent young women, staying away from their pimps and becoming capable of thinking and making decisions for themselves. That shows that they have learned self-respect."

—continues





—continues

### Does she tell them what to do and where to go?

"If I did, I would become their next pimp," said Judge Pratt. "That is, if I thought for them and ordered them around, I would become the authority figure and control them just as pimps do. We want them to think for themselves, make decisions for themselves."

**Do they slip, after meeting her in court?** "Of course they do. They violate probation, some try to run away. Sometimes they will tell us, as soon as they get into court, 'I tested dirty for marijuana.' But we believe, it's not how many times you fall down, it's how many times you get up again."

**If the girls are tempted to go back to the sex trade by their pimps while they are on probation, how can they be stopped, if you don't believe in locking them up, that is.** "There are ways. If the 'home' gets wind of their plans to leave, they can move them to a remote location. Sometimes it's just as simple as removing their shoes. They aren't going far without shoes, 20 miles from a paved road."

Judge Pratt favors rehabilitation over punishment, so she does not immediately dismiss the prostitution-related charges against the girls. Thus, they can remain eligible for wraparound services offered by Los Angeles County's juvenile justice system, including placement in a group home or juvenile hall—a safe place away from pimps—gang intervention programs, educational opportunities, job training, and even family reunification services.



*Victimized children are controlled by fear.*

"I like to use gift cards," Judge Pratt said, "so they can get the simple ordinary necessities, like appropriate clothing to wear to school."

65% of  
Judge Pratt's  
girls are  
graduating  
high school  
with their  
age group.

**What kind of cards?** Target, Walmart, and Ralphs. She uses some of the grant money for things the kids wouldn't normally get, to mark birthdays, the end of probation terms, and other milestones. "We asked one girl what restaurant she wanted to go to for her birthday, and she said she had never been to a restaurant in

her life. And she was 18."

"Most of these kids have experienced betrayal, if not worse, from people in positions of authority that skews their view of the world," Judge Pratt said. "One girl even testified before Congress about foster homes that only operate for the pay check. The girls

become a commodity, and then the foster homes are no better than the pimps who exploit them for the same dollars.

"What we're trying to do for these kids is to show them there are people in positions of authority who do care. We have 65% of our girls graduating with their peer age group from high school. That is amazing when you consider how much they have moved around."

**WHICH DO YOU REMEMBER BEST, YOUR SUCCESSES OR FAILURES?** After a long pause, "The failures. There aren't too many. So far, in our 500 girls there have been no suicides, though there were attempts. Two girls were killed, one by an overdose, another when her pimp ran over her with a car."

Judge Pratt does everything in her power to ensure these girls have a stable place to live, receive regular counseling and mentorship, and attend school as they work toward graduation. "For the first time in their lives, our girls feel like they have a personal champion cheering them on every step of the way." Education and job skills, mental health counseling or trauma therapy, substance abuse rehabilitation, and other programs are stressed.

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IN THE MAY ISSUE, Part II: What are the Community Resources for Saving These Girls? ★







FRIENDS OF THE  
LA RIVER



Day of Service  
Rotary District 5280

# ROTARY DAY OF SERVICE

LET'S CLEAN UP THE LOS ANGELES RIVER!

## 04.21.18

**SPEND QUALITY TIME  
WITH FAMILY & FRIENDS  
FOR THE LOS ANGELES  
RIVER GREAT CLEAN UP!**

9:00AM-12PM | SATURDAY  
BOND PARK | 3222 LOS FELIZ BLVD.  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90039

SIGN UP: [WWW.ROTARY5280.ORG](http://WWW.ROTARY5280.ORG)



## Triple Crown Donor Recognition Program



One of the Districts in Zone 25/26 has adopted a district administered Rotary Foundation recognition program called the **"TRIPLE CROWN DONOR"**. This program honors Major Donors or Arch Klumph Society members who are also members of both Bequest Society & Paul Harris Society.

District 5280 has a long history of supporting The Rotary Foundation. Our Rotarians may want to consider achieving the **Triple Crown Donor** status. For your reference, below are informational links and brochures to join each donor program.

*Thank you for your continuous support of The Rotary Foundation.  
Our efforts will continue to make it possible to eradicate polio and build peace and goodwill.*

PDG JD Sung

District Rotary Foundation Chair

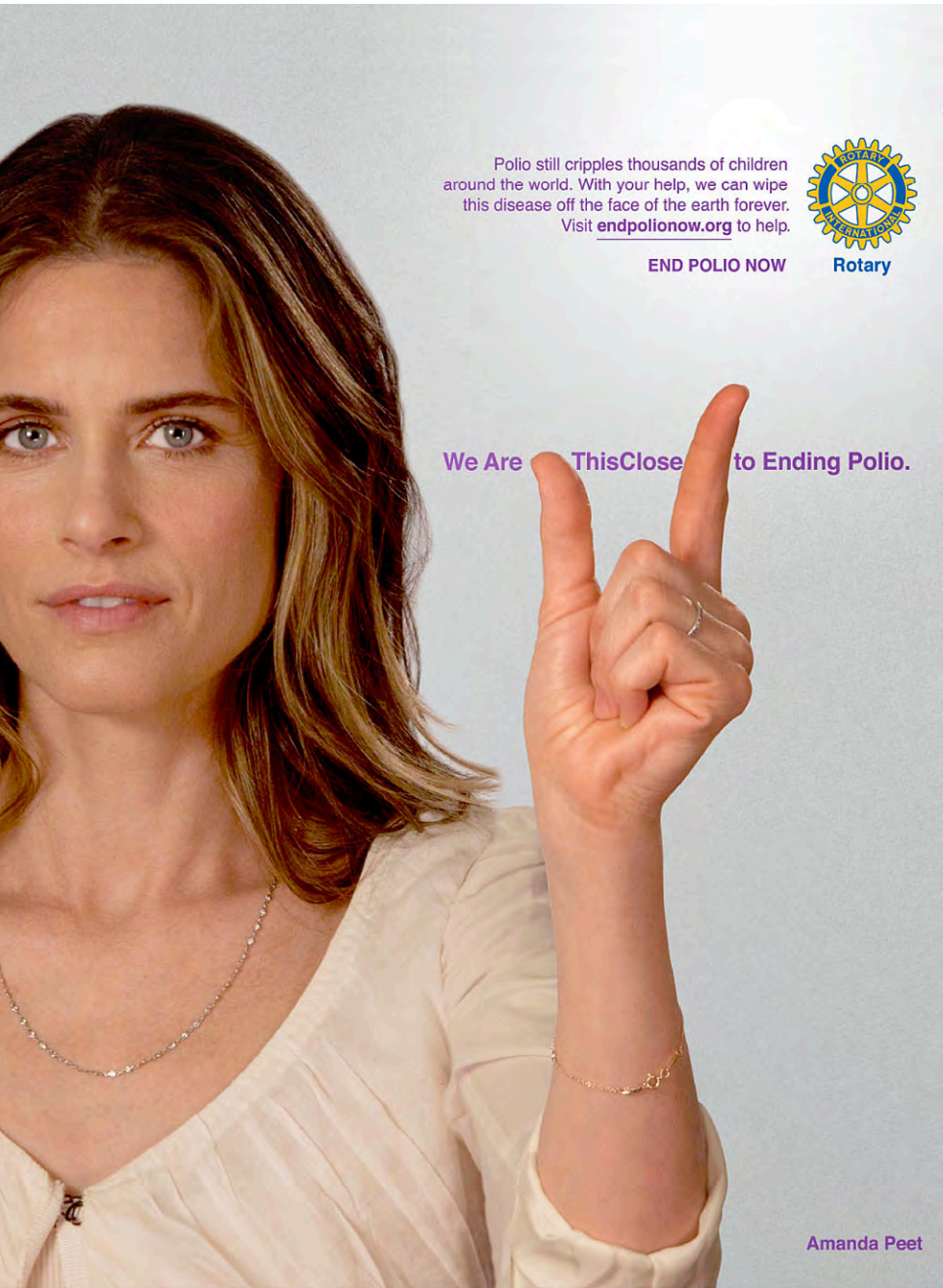


Program	Definition	Resources
<b>BEQUEST SOCIETY</b>	When you give \$10,000 or more via your estate plans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Website</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Your Rotary Legacy Brochure USA (330)</a></li> </ul>
<b>PAUL HARRIS SOCIETY</b>	When you elect to contribute \$1,000 or more annually to the Annual Fund, PolioPlus, or an approved Foundation grant.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Website</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Paul Harris Society Brochure (099)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Your District Paul Harris Society Coordinator</a></li> </ul>
<b>MAJOR DONOR or ARCH KLUMPH SOCIETY</b>	When your cumulative donations reach \$10,000 for Major Donors or \$250,000 for Arch Klumph Society.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Rotary Giving Works (168)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Arch Klumph Society brochure (308)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Major Donor Form</a></li> </ul>

Donor Recognition Programs: [The Rotary Foundation - Donor Recognitions](#)  
Direct downloads of program brochures and this flyer: [Triple Crown Donor Downloads](#)








Polio still cripples thousands of children around the world. With your help, we can wipe this disease off the face of the earth forever. Visit [endpolionow.org](http://endpolionow.org) to help.

**END POLIO NOW**



**Rotary**

**We Are ThisClose to Ending Polio.**

**Amanda Peet**



**WAPI**  
WATER PASTEURIZATION INDICATOR

*The WAPI can be used for pasteurizing over most fuel sources including wood, charcoal, gas and solar cookers.*



In many parts of the world women and children spend hours traveling great distances in unsafe territory to scavenge for scraps of wood and brush for the daily fire. The WAPI requires much less time and scarce fuel than boiling.



Did you know that every day approximately 6000 children under 5 die from water borne illnesses? One child every 14 seconds... over 2 million each year. In fact, water-related diseases are responsible for 80% of all illnesses and deaths in the developing world. Worldwide, about 1.3 billion people do not have access to safe drinking water, including nearly half of the population of sub-Sahara Africa.



**THE WAPI**

**WHAT IS A WAPI?** (Water Pasteurization Temperature Indicator)? A WAPI is a simple low-cost device containing a special soy wax that, when melted, allows users to determine when water, milk and other liquids have reached pasteurization temperatures. And...the WAPI is reusable and virtually indestructible. Disease-causing organisms in water, milk and other liquids are killed by exposure to heat in a process known as pasteurization. The WAPI pasteurization is accomplished in less time and with much less scarce fuel than boiling. What does this mean? In many parts of the world women and children spend hours traveling great distances in unsafe territory to scavenge for scraps of wood and brush for the daily fire. To boil liquid requires 212 degrees F. The WAPI stretches the use of the fuel because Pasteurization takes place when the liquid is heated to 149 degrees F (65 degrees C) for a short period of time rendering it free from microbes, including E Coli, Rotaviruses; Giardia and Hepatitis A virus. The WAPI indicates that liquid has reached 160 degrees F rendering the liquid pasteurized and safe for drinking.



**YOU CAN HELP!**

**Donations:** 100% of your donations are spent to acquire the supplies required to build the WAPIs. Checks to: Monterey Peninsula Sunrise Rotary Club. Send to PDG Don Kremer, 615 17th Street, Pacific Grove, CA 93950.

**WAPI KITS ARE HERE!**

**Interested in making WAPIs?**

The Monterey Peninsula Sunrise Rotary Club has WAPI Kits available. The WAPI Kit comes in a small box with assembly instructions and the materials needed to build 200 WAPIs. The cost of the kit is \$85 plus shipping. That's \$.42 per WAPI. Why is this cost so reasonable? The club purchases the supplies in large quantities at substantial discounts which are passed on to you. This is a great hands-on project for Interact, Rotoact, Rotary Clubs and other organizations. The WAPI is simple and fun to build. Your club should have a WAPI party and save lives! To order WAPI Kits contact PDG Don Kremer at [WAPI@pacbell.net](mailto:WAPI@pacbell.net).

**Distribution:** If your Rotary club or organization has international projects in third world countries and people are drinking unclean water, then the WAPI is an important life-saving tool. If your organization has not identified a project, make WAPIs anyway. We will assist you in finding a project.




WAPI is a World Service Project from the Rotary Clubs of District 5230. We have distributed about 21300 units to date. They have gone to Uganda, Zimbabwe, Ghana, Mexico, Honduras, Armenia, Turkey, Sudan, Kenya, Tanzania, South Africa, Nepal, Mexico, Panama, Christmas Islands, Rwanda, Iraq, New Guinea, Ivory Coast, and Senegal, thus far.

**REMEMBER: WAPIs are saving lives as you read this brochure. Need more information? Contact: PDG Don Kremer District 5230 at [WAPI@pacbell.net](mailto:WAPI@pacbell.net). Access [integratedsolarcooking.com/makewapis](http://integratedsolarcooking.com/makewapis) for more information.**





# PAGEANT OF THE ARTS: AWARD WINNERS

## AWARD WINNERS

### ART

First	Noella B Kim	Beverly Hills
Second	Alexandra Irwin	Inspire High School (online home school)
Third	So Min (Vivian) Noh	Palos Verdes Peninsula

### DANCE

First	Noelle Schultz	Connections Academy
Second	Eli Caballero	University
Third	Bianca Gomez/Urban Movement	Lincoln
Third	Meledy Garcia/Urban Movement	Lincoln
Third	Sandra Rios/Urban Movement	Lincoln
Third	Julian Juarez/Urban Movement	Lincoln
Third	Kim Castorena/Urban Movement	Lincoln
Third	Tiffany Cuevas/Urban Movement	Lincoln
Third	Kelvin Morales/Urban Movement	Lincoln
Third	Jayleen Lopez/Urban Movement	Lincoln
Third	Helena Almader/Urban Movement	Lincoln

### MUSIC

First	Louisa Tampi	Granada Hills Charter
Second	Katelyn Hunter Robinsin	
Third	Camryn Brooks	Ramon C. Cortines School of Visual & Performing Arts

### SPEECH

First	Melissa Barales-Lopez	Garfield
Second	Alexis H. Dugel	Palos Verdes
Third	Jae-yi Kim	Beverly Hills



(Above) Beverly Hills High student Noella B. Kim received the first-place award in the Art contest for this painting.

(Left) Noelle Schultz took home the top award in the Dance category. She attends Connections Academy.



Make a Dream Come True!  APRIL 2018





## Membership Nook:

# WHY ROTARY? DO YOU HAVE AN ANSWER?

By Kathleen Terry (Manhattan Beach), SAG Membership

It is important for each of us to answer this question especially when trying to recruit a new member. Do you know your why? Can you verbalize it for others?

The importance of knowing the why is so wonderfully discussed in this TED video—How Great Leaders Inspire by Simon Sinek—Great organizations ask these three questions.

Why > How > What Apple answers Why—People don't buy **what** you do, they buy **WHY** you do it. They have the Passion for what you have the passion for. [Check out this video.](#)

If you don't know your why, [check out this video.](#)

**THE CHALLENGE.** I challenge anyone who reads this column to share with me your elevator speech

that answers the “Why” and explains with Passion “Why Rotary?” Or, better yet, ask your club members at the next meeting, and send me their responses.

I'd love to share your statements with other clubs in next month's Membership Nook. Send them to me at [Terrymanna2@gmail.com](mailto:Terrymanna2@gmail.com). ★





# SERVICE ABOVE SELF: HELPING THOSE IN NEED

By Sarah Furie (Angel City Rotoract), Rotoract Correspondent

## ANGEL CITY ROTARACT CLUB WORKED A DINNER SHIFT at The

Midnight Mission in Downtown Los Angeles on Sunday, March 18. It's a wonderful organization that helps people who are homelessness and offers

them recovery services, counseling, training, transitional housing, and more. A few Rotoract Clubs in the District have volunteered there before because we agree with the organization's mission and want to support their efforts.

We went right to work when we arrived; we were shown where the gloves, hairnets, and aprons were located. It was 3 p.m. and the kitchen was bustling! Employees and volunteers were cooking, cleaning, and preparing food. We spent the first

half-hour cutting vegetables, tomatoes, and lettuce, which was later thrown together into a salad. For some, this does not sound like a fun time, but we felt so grateful to be able to help.

Next, we helped with the drinks. An employee blended fresh fruit in a giant pot,



*Midnight Mission Angel City: Joey Maltese, Sarah Furie and Luis Ramirez*


and we poured the juice into cups. We ended that activity by lining up the drinks at the end of the assembly lines near the silverware.

Now comes my favorite part: serving the food. I'm a people person, so my favorite part is getting to talk with the public. I love serving them with a kind smile, saying hello, and wishing them a good rest of the day. We got in the assembly lines and served chicken, rice, salad, bread, and whoopee pies. Some came back for seconds.

Cleanup was pretty quick and the employees and regular volunteers have a good, efficient system to empty the trays, clean the floors, wipe the tables, and clean the kitchen. Pretty soon, the volunteer shift was over and we were parting ways. One of the men in charge thanked us and said, "Thanks for coming. You guys are life savers!" I turned around and said to the man who just orchestrated the serving of 400 meals, "No. Thank YOU. YOU are a life saver." ★

*Make a Dream Come True!* ★ APRIL 2018





# ROTARACTORS: APPLYING THE FOUR-WAY TEST TO DEFINE ETHICS

## ROTARACT CLUBS FROM ZONES 25 AND 26

will compete in a day-long Ethics Forum on April 9 at Loyola Marymount University. Teams will be required to employ the Four-Way Test in analyzing issues faced in schools, at work, in sports, or at home, as well as within diverse communities around the globe.

Teams are expected to be creative in selecting their topics and developing their positions, which should be based on facts, not hyperbole. They also will need to persuade the judges, some of whom are active or retired judicial officials, with the logic of their arguments and how they apply to the Four-Way Test. As an example, it is easy to say that something is “fair to all concerned,” but demonstrating this concept in concrete terms will be more challenging.

In addition, teams will be judged on their preparation, organization and persuasive ability. The teams must clearly articulate their solution, explain the relevance of their arguments and how they apply to the Four-Way Test, and demonstrate how their solution is realistic and practical, as well as legal and



ethical. Teams will have 10-minutes to deliver their presentations.

Last year the UCLA team, pictured above, won the competition. Rotarians and guests are invited to

attend the Forum, which will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. For additional information, contact SAG Vocational Service Chair Margie Hernandez at [margiehpaddilla@hotmail.com](mailto:margiehpaddilla@hotmail.com) or Ethics Forum chair Victor Ibarra [v13141ibarra@hotmail.com](mailto:v13141ibarra@hotmail.com). ★





## CHRIS REYES COMPLETES SECOND MARATHON TO SUPPORT POLIO PLUS

**CHRIS REYES COMPLETED HIS SECOND LOS ANGELES MARATHON TO RAISE FUNDS TO SUPPORT POLIO PLUS. HE WAS SUPPORTED DURING THE MARCH 18 EVENT BY FELLOW ROTARACTORS. HERE ARE SOME OF CHRIS' THOUGHTS ABOUT THE RACE:**

**1) It was a huge honor** to be the team's fundraising leader/coordinator. I was the person who pushed every team member to get their fundraising page up and the person who kept actively asking for donations. I'm glad that LA5 President Charisse Older gave me and a couple other Rotaractors the opportunity to do this. We had set a goal of \$10k and we raised \$6k for Polio Plus, but I am pleased with the results.

**2) Every team member made it across the finish line.** What you don't know is that Christopher Becerra blew out his knee at Mile 20 and painfully, but successfully, powered through the last 6.2 miles.

**3) This the first marathon for my dad,** Christopher Malonzo Reyes, and he made it in fewer than seven hours. I'd convinced him to participate, since he wanted to do it the last time I ran. Props to the 45-year-old big man.

**4) I highly recommend running at least one marathon** in your lifetime, because it's not as scary as it seems. I find motivation in running when it comes to causes, and I'm happy that there are many people who trust in my abilities/beliefs.



🕒 **Finish Time**

**6:14:20**

**14:17 min/mile**





# SOUTH BAY BEER & WINE FESTIVAL

*Imaginative Club Project*

## REWARD YOUR PALATE AT THE SOUTH BAY BEER AND WINE FESTIVAL

By Lorine Parks (Downey,) Senior Correspondent

**UNLIMITED WINE, BEER AND FOOD** from top-shelf wineries, breweries, and restaurants await guests at the South Bay Beer & Wine Festival on Sunday, May 20. Treat your palate and have a blast

with your friends on the beautiful Palos Verdes Peninsula. And best of all, you get to keep the glass! The event's proceeds will fund community outreach

programs of the Rotary clubs in the South Bay and harbor area. "All the food and beverages are donated by local microbreweries, wineries and restaurants," said Karen Greenberg, one of the —continues







**MEET KAREN GREENBERG, A FOUNDER OF THE BEER & WINE FESTIVAL**

**How did Karen become interested in Rotary?** “I was introduced to Rotary by a fellow UCLA Bruin nine years ago. I had a slow start, but once I had that ‘Rotary Moment’ I was hooked.” This Rotary year she’s an AG, last year she co-chaired the Foundation Dinner on the *USS Iowa*.

**And what was the epiphany?** It was when her club, Lomita-Torrance Airport, partnered with South Bay Sunrise on a District Grant to purchase an optical reading computer for paralyzed clients at the Harbor Regional Center. Karen was touched by the possibilities the device created, and she knew then that Rotary does great things.

**What’s next for Karen?** She’s chair of the 2019 Humanitarian Trip to Peru. “We’ve gone there,” she says, “and are working on global grants and other funding. The Peruvians are fantastic, and I’m working with Jessica Linan, District 4455, and president of her club, Lima Sunrise. She has been wonderful.”

—continues

festival’s founders. “Our only expenses are the venue, marketing, pop-up tents, tables and chairs, disposable plates and utensils, and ice.”

Karen is modest: The South Bay Beer & Wine Festival attracts the best in wine, beer, and food from the entire Southern California region.

**HOW DID THIS EVENT BEGIN?** “The first SB Beer and Wine Festival was in October, 2013,” said Karen. “We found out that this was not a good time of year, since breweries are involved in October Fest and wineries are harvesting grapes.”

Community outreach programs will be beneficiaries of the event.

**HOW BIG IS THE EVENT?**

“We limit the number of available tickets to 1,600, though we have requests for more. General admission is \$75 and allows you to wander and enjoy unlimited imbibing. VIP tickets are an additional \$39 and includes:

- Entrance an hour earlier at noon
- Parking onsite as opposed to across the street
- High end spirits, including Aquila Tequila, Tito’s Vodka, three bourbons, reserve wines and beer, and special food
- Special VIP tent

“Last year we sold 200 VIP tickets,” said Karen, “with people feeling left out, so this year we expanded it to 300. We are also working on providing more shade for general admission. Our classic rock band, Detour,

is returning. We also are increasing the number of participating restaurants.

“We skipped 2014 and 2015,” said Karen, “and started doing the event again in 2016. This year will be our fifth festival. We are trying to consistently have it the same time each year, the weekend between Mother’s Day and Memorial Day. I was the first chair for the first two years, and David Henseler is the now the chair. He’s been chair for the past two years.

“This is a community event,” commented Karen. “We promote it through Facebook and other social media, Beer Paper LA and other publications, the local chambers of commerce, and through the organizations we support. We even have a US trademark for the name: South Bay Beer & Wine Festival and a [website](#). Rotarians, by the way, have a special promo code that gets them a \$15 discount off general admission: IMAROTARIAN.”

**THERE’S MORE TO THE STORY.** When Karen organized the first festival, she was president of the Lomita-Torrance Airport Rotary and her cohorts were Marianne and Bob Kelchner and Elaine Thompson. The next year, Karen, Bob, and Marianne left the club and joined South Bay Sunrise. Lomita-Torrance Airport, with fewer than 10 menters, decided they could not put the necessary work into it, so Karen, Bob, and Marianne made it a South Bay Sunrise event.

Seeing that even South Bay Sunrise was a little small, with 25 members, they invited several other clubs to partner with them. Palos Verdes Peninsula and El Segundo accepted.

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The event is held at Ernie Howlett Park in Rolling Hills Estates. “Although the venue could accommodate more than our 1,600-person guest limit, we have additional people from 100 participating breweries, wineries, restaurants, as well as volunteers.

“In addition, there will be more than 80 exhibitors, who energetically participate each year to raise money for our charitable beneficiaries. There also will be a silent auction and an opportunity drawing. We have several fabulous trips. We are doing something new this year by offering vendors a free business-card size ad in the event program, where they can provide a discount, special promotion, or just information.”

All foods and beverages are donated by local micro-breweries, wineries and restaurants.

Another new thing is that the program will be handed out at the end of the event, so guests will take it home and use the promotional ads.

“There’s more,” said Karen. “We will have 10–15 local artists displaying their work. They will be the only vendors who can sell their items, and their booths will be integrated with the food and beverage booths.”

#### WHAT GROUPS OR PROJECTS DOES THIS BENEFIT?

The biggest beneficiaries are the Wounded Heroes of America, headquartered in Hawthorne; Harbor Regional Center, Torrance;

Switzer Learning Center, Torrance; Vision to Learn; Friends of Torrance Exceptional Athletes; and the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Los Angeles Harbor. Funds have also have benefited scholarships, the College Bound Program, and performing arts programs. This year we will be adding Pediatric Therapy

Network, and the clubs will have booths where they will distribute information on Rotary and sign up prospective members. ★



To **BUY YOUR TICKETS** for the South Bay Beer and Wine Festival on Sunday, May 20, at Howlett Park in Rolling Hills Ests.

Remember **special promo code** for Rotarians is **IMAROTARIAN**, which gets \$15 off general admission.







## CLUB 62

News from District 5280 Clubs



Westchester's "Badges & Boots" award ceremony honored police and fireman who protect, serve and save lives on Los Angeles' Westside.

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**Santa Clarita** will be serving it  
delicious Dutch Oven Peach Cobbler  
at the Cowboy Festival in Newhall  
on April 19 – 22.



**Sunland-Tujunga** celebrated the fifth anniversary of the Sunland Welcome Nature Garden created by club President Roger Klemm and volunteers! A completely native, drought-tolerant garden brings the beauty of native plants up close.



**Rotary Club of Historic Filipinotown  
Cordially Invites You to Show Our**

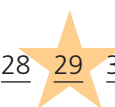
*ROTARY PRIDE*

Saturday, May 12, 2018 6pm-12mn

With a FUN evening of *Dinner*,  
**LIVE BAND ENTERTAINMENT**,  
**DANCING** & DOOR PRIZES  
with Surprise Presentation

Filipino Cultural Center (FCC)  
1740 Temple St., Los Angeles, CA.  
\$50 per person (\$65 per person after May 3, 2018)  
*(Proceeds to Benefit Rotary Project in the Community and International)*

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**Woodland Hills** held a Peace Panel entitled, “Chaos, Conflict, Kumbaya: Can Religion Solve the Problems in our Community? World?” From the left: Taleb Alsafi, Resident Quran Reciter, the Islamic Society of the West Valley; Shaikh Suhail Mullah, Resident Scholar, the Islamic Society of the West Valley; and Dr. Ross Porter, director of Faith Formation & Evangelization, St. Mel Catholic Church.



**Rotario de Latinas Unidos** is offering two scholarships for high school seniors who are planning to attend a four-year college, community college, or trade school. [Click here](#) for the application, which is due by April 20.

(Right) **Westchester** held a successful Casablanca-themed fundraiser for the club’s Foundation. The event was held at the Annenberg Community Beach House. ★



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# OTHER NEWS

from District 5280



The 2018 3-2-1 to End Polio Fun Run! St. Patrick's Day in Griffith Park.

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## Why do we have a Rotary Bell?

In 1922, RI organized an attendance contest and the challenge was that the losing clubs would join in giving the winning club a prize. The New York City Club was declared the winner and they were awarded a bell that came from HMS "Victory," which was Admiral Nelson's vessel at the battle of Trafalgar. Since then, the bell has been used at Rotary meetings to signify order, discipline, and the time to start the meeting.



**Prepping for adventures in Colombia.** Natalie Whitsett (Crenshaw-Park-Hills-Heights), pictured left, and Steve and Sonia Mohr (El Segundo) and daughter Auriel, shown right, at the orientation for the just-completed humanitarian trips to Bucaramanga and Bogota, Colombia.



On 13 March Rotary celebrated Rotaract's 50th anniversary

(Right) Breakfast enjoyed at the **Membership Workshop**, held March 3 in the South Bay. ★





