

Rotary District 5280 Greater Los Angeles December 2016

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IMAGINE / DECEMBER 2016



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Rotary grants promote peaceful relations among cultures. Pgs. 5-6.

DISTRICT CALENDAR

December

- 3 PREP School for PETS
- 10 Angel City Giveaway

January

- 10 Presidents' Dinner
- 15-21 Rotary International Assembly, San Diego
- 25-30 District Humanitarian Trip to Merida, Mexico

February

- 10-12 PETS
 - 28 District Breakfast

March

- 4 Forum Against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (Pg. 4)
- 11 Pageant of the Arts

April

- 18 District Breakfast
- 21-23 RYLA

May

4-7 District Conference, Lake Arrowhead

June

- District Assembly, Carson Community Center
- 10–14 Rotary International Convention, Atlanta











IMAGINE: GIVING THE GIFT OF PEACE

Formerly called Rotary Family Month, December's international theme is now Disease Prevention and Treatment. At the suggestion of club past president Mark Zober, last March 16 the Rotary Club of Jerusalem, Israel,

invited the four
Palestinian Rotary
Clubs of Ramallah, East
Jerusalem, Bethlehem
and Albireh to a joint
meeting. Mark's wife

The Rotary clubs of Israel and its
Palestinian neighbors have shown what
can happen when people "speak Rotarian,"
the language of unity rather than division.

-by District Governor Greg O'Brien

was the program speaker. Her topic was the February 2016 RI Conference on Disease Prevention and Treatment held in Cannes. The purpose of the joint meeting, however, was to build goodwill and peace in the Middle East.

Established in 1929, the Jerusalem Rotary Club meets at the YMCA on King David Street. Its current president is a Christian Arab, Nezer Tannaus. That in itself is a first. Although the charter president of the Ramallah Rotary Club had met with Jerusalem Rotary in 2010, the occasion in March was the first time that all of the members of these clubs had gotten together.

Rotary's effort to bridge national and religious divides in the Middle
East was jumpstarted 15 years ago when then RI President Richard
King responded to the events of 9/11 by encouraging Muslim Rotarians

in peacebuilding efforts with Israeli Rotarians. Among his other accomplishments that year was the chartering of a new Rotary club in the United Arab Emirates, joining Israel, Egypt, Lebanon and Jordan as Middle Eastern nations allowing Rotary. The creation of Palestinian Rotary clubs was an idea that waited until 2010 to become fulfilled.

District 5340 (San Diego) has become involved with the Hands of Peace Project, which every year brings together Jewish-Israeli, Palestinian-Israeli, and Palestinian teens, along with local students from a variety of religious backgrounds, for 18 days of dialogue and team-building exercises. Participants stay with host families, some of which have included Rotary members. Rotary members also serve as volunteers and take part in community forums, seminars, and other peace-building events. The Encinitas Coastal Rotary Club and La Jolla Golden Triangle Rotary Club in California and the Glenview-Sunrise Rotary Club in Illinois provide financial support.

Next month, our district will send approximately 130 Rotarians and guests to Merida, Mexico. They will engage in hands-on projects involving diabetes prevention, a health clinic, water filtration systems, planting trees, supplying baking tables and sewing machines, cleaning, painting and









-Imagine: Music to My Ears, continues from previous page

restoring a pre-school, and providing musical equipment for an after-school project for at-risk students. After a bruising national conversation of late, it is also a project in peace building by extending a compassionate hand to our southern neighbors.

In some future year, perhaps, our district may reach farther and more boldly and visit the Rotary clubs of Israel and its Palestinian neighbors. They have shown what can happen when people "speak Rotarian," the language of unity rather than division. Imagine Rotary. Build it and they will come.















RI FOUNDATION: CENTENNIAL **CELEBRATION** CONTINUES

-by Michael Turner (Woodland Hills), SAG Communications

The celebration of the Rotary International Foundation is not over. There's a tendency to forget this after our October Foundation Dinner. However, the celebration will culminate at the RI Convention in Atlanta in June 2017.

In 1930, the Foundation made its first grant, \$500 to the International Society for Crippled Children, now known as Easter Seals. During its early years, the Foundation explored ways to promote what was then known as the sixth object of Rotary: advancement of understanding, goodwill, and international peace.

In addition, the Foundation sponsored essay contests for secondary school students on peacerelated topics and recognized the winners at the 1931 and 1933 international conventions. In 1947, the Foundation launched its first program: scholarships for graduate study. The first group of scholars, spotlighted in *The Rotarian* magazine, began their studies in the 1947-48 academic year.

The program's criteria have changed a few times during its seven decades, and so has its name. The students have been called Paul Harris Fellows, Ambassadorial Scholars, and Rotary Scholars. But the concept of sending promising students abroad for graduate study remains the same. Today, Rotary Scholars pursuing graduate degrees receive Foundation support through global grants and district grants, and Rotary Peace Fellows study at six Rotary Peace Centers.

In 1963-64, RI President Carl Miller focused on reducing the tensions of the Cold War by bringing people of different cultures and beliefs together. In 1964, the trustees approved the Special Grants program, later called Matching Grants, which provided funding for clubs and districts to undertake projects that furthered international understanding. Members in two countries often worked together on



Rotary grants support needs in local communities.

humanitarian projects, and eventually this became a program requirement.

Over the course of the program, the Foundation awarded more than 37,000 Matching Grants worth well over \$500 million in more than 200 countries. The projects addressed a wide range of needs, providing everything

from technical training to literacy programs to clean water. For example, Rotarians from Korea and Mongolia used Matching Grants to support a multiyear project called Keep Mongolia Green. This massive reforestation effort in the Gobi







-Centennial Celebration Continues, continues from previous page



Rotary grants promote peaceful relations among cultures.

Desert is reducing the effects of sandstorms that cause health and environmental damage as far away as Korea and China.

In the late 1970s, Rotary leaders began looking for a way to inspire large international projects to mark Rotary International's 75th anniversary in 1980. In 1978, the Foundation created the Health, Hunger, and Humanity (3-H) program. In 1979, its first grant gave \$760,000 to a multiyear project to immunize six million children in the Philippines against polio.

In the mid-1980s, Rotary began a three-year fundraising campaign focused on educating club members about the need to eradicate polio and the many benefits of a polio-free world.

Rotary leaders met with other nongovernmental

organizations and government officials to convince them of the feasibility of their goal and gain their support. The campaign raised \$247 million, more than double the goal. At that time, 350,000 children were afflicted by polio every year. Today, that number has been reduced by 99.9 percent, and polio is endemic in only two countries: Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Over the
years, others have
joined the effort,
including the Bill
& Melinda Gates
Foundation and

The RI Foundation makes a significant difference in the world.

governments throughout the world. Rotary continued its fundraising efforts and as of 2015 had contributed more than \$1.5 billion to the eradication effort. In addition, Rotary's advocacy has resulted in contributions of over \$9 billion from world governments.

Literacy was another major focus of 3-H grants. Australian Rotarian Richard Walker developed a literacy training method called Concentrated Language Encounter and used a grant to start a literacy program in Thailand. It

was so successful that it was replicated in Brazil and South Africa, among other countries.

In addition, 3-H grants:

- Supplied food and milk to orphanages and hospitals in Romania
- Provided sewing machines and training to women in Uganda, so that they could support themselves and their families
- Built wells and sanitation systems in India,
 Bolivia, and many other parts of the world.

District grants fund small-scale, short-term activities that address needs in local communities and communities abroad. Each district chooses which activities it will fund with these grants. District grants can fund many kinds of district and club efforts, including:

- Humanitarian projects, including service travel and disaster recovery efforts
- Scholarships for any level, length of time, location, or area of study
- Vocational training teams

As you can see, your generous gift to the Rotary International Foundation has made a significant difference in the world. There are number of opportunities for contributing to the Foundation. Use this link to learn about them.















ANGEL CITY: A CELEBRATION FOR THE YOUTH OF SOUTH L.A.

-by Lorine Parks (Downey),IMAGINE Senior Correspondent

2016 Angel City Celebration | Saturday, December 10 | 7 a.m.—4 p.m. Ted Watkins Memorial Park, 1335 E. 103rd Street, L.A.

This is the eighth year LA5 Rotary will create a gigantic holiday party for needy children in Southeast LA. Rotarians will give them warm clothes, toys, a pancake breakfast, entertainment, carnival-type games, free flu shots, and more.

"LA5 does all this with the help of the City of Los Angeles, the LA Fire and Police Departments, the Department of Parks and Recreation, other Rotary Clubs, Rotoract and Interact Clubs, and many community supporters," said Marjorie Heller, chair of the Angel City Celebration.

Many components will make a full day for children and their families.

 The Celebration's Resource Fair will focus on gang prevention and empowering parents with information on after-school enrichment programs for sports, academics, and healthy living. At least 30 agencies and organizations will set up these information booths.

- At the Book Faire, children's eyes are opened to the joys of reading. The LA County Library Department and Molina Foundation will supply the books. Librarians and volunteers will work closely to encourage reading and improve reading skills.
- Gifts will be given to children ages 4 through 10. To receive a gift, a child (with parents) must have his or her "passport" stamped by no fewer









-Angel City Celebration, continues from previous page











- than 15 exhibitors. Although lines may be long and some children will be small and shy, all are delighted to receive winter clothes and toys.
- A pancake breakfast will be served for all guests in balloon-filled rooms.

The largest Rotary service project in District 5280, Angel City Celebration started seven years ago and has evolved from a simple toys-and-food giveaway in a church parking lot to an event featuring many components intended to improve the quality of life for underserved families with young children in South LA.

"Angel City offers a safe environment in which South LA families can enjoy a fun-filled day in the park," commented Marjorie.

Last year more than 4,000 children were served, and this year's Angel City promises to be even more successful. Although guests often must wait patiently, the faces of the mothers and fathers show how grateful they are to Rotary.

After the fun there are massive cleanups to do, but many Rotarian hands make light work. At the end of the day, it's the children's smiles that make all the efforts worthwhile.

For more information, contact Marjorie
Heller at AngelCityCelebration@gmail.com or
323.463.0304. ■

(Photos from the 2015 Angel City Celebration)









STUDENTS WILL LEARN LEADERSHIP SKILLS AT RYLA

-by Wallace Lew, Past District Interact Representative

RYLA 2017 is set for April 21–23 at Alpine Conference Center in Blue Jay

I am one of the counselors for the 2017 Rotary Youth Leadership Assembly (RYLA) in our District. The three-day youth leadership camp is designed to teach students from grades 9–11 leadership skills that they can bring back to their Interact clubs. During the camp, they will make new friends from local Interact clubs and schools, and there will be workshops, speakers, and interactive activities that effectively teach participants how to become better leaders. I attended RYLA four times, and it is honestly the best experience I've had as a high school student.

This year we are allowing only three students per Interact club sponsored by your club. For example, if you sponsor two clubs you can send six students. Once you have submitted your payment and the number of available spots has been reevaluated, you may be able to send additional students. The only information I need now is how



many students your club will sponsor and if you will meet the **December 16 payment deadline**.

Since the District expanded, space is very limited, so it's first-come, first-serve. Also, if you do not sponsor an Interact club, you may send any students in grades 9–11 (preferably), but 12 graders will be accepted as well.

The cost per student is \$190, which is due by December 16 to avoid a late fee of \$20. Make checks payable to Rotary District 5280/RYLA and mail to RYLA, 2618 Vargas Way, Redondo Beach, CA 90278. If you have any questions contact me at liewallace@gmail.com.









\$26.50 PER ROTARIAN CAN HELP ERADICATE POLIO

-by Shirley Giltzow (Lawndale)

Did you know that Rotary International's Foundation began 100 years ago? The first donation to the Foundation was \$26.50. To celebrate this milestone, each Rotarian throughout the world is being asked to donate \$26.50, or for large clubs, \$2,650 in total to Polio Plus. Wouldn't it be wonderful if every Rotarian in our District would donate this amount to finish the job of eliminating polio forever? We already have clubs that have reached this goal. Can we count on your club to reach this goal? Last year, we were the first District in the world to have 100% of its members donate to Polio Plus. Let's do it again this year!

We have much to celebrate, as the number of cases reported in 2016 is only 32, in three countries, as of the last week in November. But the battle is not over! Three cases appeared in Nigeria recently, which had been poliofree for almost two years. We need to keep our fellow Rotarians aware that we haven't vet reached the finish line!

There are many creative ideas to raise \$26.50 per member. Your club could have a wine and appetizers event for a charge of \$26.50 per Rotarian/couple, with members donating the wine and appetizers; hold a club-sponsored "garage sale;" or have a bike ride or walkathon with sponsors. We have so many creative Rotarians! What ideas can you share with clubs in our district to raise money to eradicate polio?

One easy way to get involved is through social media. Imagine if every club in the world tweeted and posted about our goal to eliminate polio



Rotarian Marie-Irene Richmond-Ahoua, left, Cote d'Ivoire PolioPlus Committee chair, inoculates a baby against polio while going door to door with an immunization team in the village of Adjin, Cote d'Ivoire.

forever! That's thousands of social media accounts across the globe sharing the message about polio eradication.

Please let me help you in reaching this goal of a donation of \$26.50 per Rotarian. I will help you complete the multiple donor forms to help make the donation process easier. For more information contact me at Shirley_ giltzow@live.com.











CLEAN WATER FROM ROTARY FOR KENYA

-by Lorine Parks (Downey), IMAGE Senior Correspondent

December is designated by RI as Disease Prevention & Treatment Month. This story features a project by Downtown Los Angeles Rotary to bring clean water to a village in Kenya.

As every Southern Californian knows, there is nothing more beautiful than

For five years, the Downtown Los Angeles Rotary Club has been working to provide a reliable source of clean rainwater to the students at four schools and a medical dispensary at the Osongo Primary School in Migori, Kenya. Previously the community had gotten water from a nearby creek at the bottom of a small valley. The water is not clean, and during the dry season it is difficult to find.

Four years ago, Peter Lattey, president of the Downtown Los Angeles

This project also helped revitalize the failing Migori

Rotary Club, received a plea for help from the president of the Migori, Kenya Rotary Club. The Migori Club was failing, and they needed help. After some discussion, it was decided that the Migori Club should find a service project that would raise their profile in the community. Thus was born WASH, a water and sanitation project.

Now, with the joint power of myriad Rotary entities,

water is available in four school schools and a clinic in Kenya. Funding was provided -continues on next page

(Left) A student gets drinking water from a polluted water source. This was the sole source of water for Adugo Primary School and is a 30-minute walk from the school.









-Clean Water from Rotary for Kenya, continues from previous page

by: Rotary International's Global Grants of \$41,000 in 2013/14 and \$48,000 in 2014/15; \$1,650 from Downtown Los Angeles Rotary; \$1,500 from LA5; plus funds from 10 District 5280 clubs, District 5280, the Slinger Allenton Club, District 9212 in Kenya, and the Suna-Migori Club. The project has directly impacted hundreds of clinic patients and over 1,500 students and their families.

This part of Kenya gets plenty of rain, twice a year, but the groundwater

is often of poor quality.
The best solution to
the water issue at the

schools was to collect

After water tanks were placed, school attendance and enrollment increased.

rainwater from the school building roofs and store it in above-ground tanks. With the Rotary grants, the schools secured two 10,000-liter tanks (about 2,600 gallons each), a handwashing station, and a two-door, wheelchair-accessible latrine.

Rotary provided the tanks, the plumbing, and skilled labor. The community dug the 25-foot deep latrine and provided the bricks, materials for the base of the tanks, and unskilled labor. This initial project was the result of a year-long collaboration between Peter Lattey and Ben Onam, now a past president of Suna Migori Rotary.

As soon as the tanks were in place, school attendance and enrollment increased. Girls were not missing as much school, and students were spending more time in class. At the clinic they now have more water and soon will install a shower for birthing mothers.

Peter, now a past president of Downtown L.A. Rotary, has made several



Suna Migori Rotarians inspect the water tanks at Kokach Primary School.

trips to assist with construction and to audit completion of the project.

"An important benefit of this project," he said, "was the improvement of educational opportunities for the girls from Osingo. By having a clean source of water at the schools, the girls will be relieved of the task of walking miles every day to get water. They will instead be able to spend that time in school becoming better educated."









-Clean Water from Rotary for Kenya, continues from previous page





Many studies have shown that educating girls and young women is a critical factor in economic and social development. "This source of clean water will help curb water-borne diseases and help eliminate school dropout by girls," Peter commented.

... educating
girls and young
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and social
development

"After the success of the first Global Grant," said Peter, "we decided to expand the project into a fourphase program, with each phase being a project of about eight schools upgraded in a Rotary year. Phase III and IV will be in 2016/17 and 2017/18. At the end of this time we will have provided clean water and sanitation facilities to more than 15,000 students in 28 rural schools and at least two rural clinics in Migori, Kenya."

The Suna Migori Rotary is now a vibrant, active club and is recognized as a group that gets things done for its community. "When we started this project, the county government wanted no part of it. Rotary was seen as just another NGO that was probably corrupt and almost certainly incompetent," said Peter. The local Rotarians finished the project in four months and the grant was closed out two months later.

But this success story is not cut and dried (pun intended), and it does not end there. "Phase II had an interesting bonus to it," commented Peter. "The $-continues\ on\ next\ page$

(Left top) A handwashing station on the exterior of a new latrine at Osingo Primary School. (Left bottom) Clean water for the students. Many of these children had never had water coming from a tap before.









-Clean Water from Rotary for Kenya, continues from previous page

headmaster of one of the schools asked if we could do something to provide sanitary pads for the girls so they wouldn't have to miss classes every month. We wanted to help but in a sustainable way. We decided to fund a startup, a women-owned business to manufacture and sell low-cost, washable sanitary pads.

"The pads will last several years," Peter continued. Join the Humanitarian Safari to Kenya to see the impact of these projects.

"but the cost is less than the cost of a six-month supply of disposable pads and they won't clog up the latrines or be thrown into the bushes." School canteens will get a discount. Once the business is established, there will be permanent jobs for at least a dozen women and a sustainable supply of washable sanitary pads for the girls and women of Kenya.

Phase III of the program has involved the Nairobi East Rotary Club as the host club, working with the Suna Migori Club. "This grant includes something extra," Peter said. "We will be assisting the Inuka Soccer club, which provides training and focused activity for young men during school holidays. It keeps them away from drugs and trouble and gives them an opportunity to gain a college scholarship or a position at one of the professional soccer teams in Kenya.

"We are currently in the authorization phase for this Global Grant," Peter reported. "We expect it to be funded in December and completed early in 2017. This is a \$54,000 grant for phase IV, to provide clean water and sanitation at eight rural primary schools with more than 4,000 students."



Peter Lattey "Sr." surrounded by some of the boys.

Can this story get any better? Let Peter tell it.

"I have traveled to Kenya four times to organize this project and have come to know and respect the wonderful Rotarians there. One of them has even done me the honor of naming his son after me, so now there is a beautiful little boy called Peter Lattey, Jr. in Kenya."

Want more? In order to give Rotarians an opportunity to see the impact of these grants firsthand, LA Downtown Rotary and District 5280 are arranging a Humanitarian Safari to Kenya from January 8–19, 2017. This will be an exciting trip, and there are still a few spaces available.

Please contact Peter at 310.968.3252 or <u>peter@peterlattey.com</u>. He also is available to present this project to your club's meeting. ■









2016 Zone Institute

"CONNECTING FOR GOOD"

-by Makiko Nakasone (Little Tokyo), Assistant Governor

Every so often I am reminded how Rotary tries trains members so we can improve our leadership skills. So I was thrilled when DG Greg O'Bried asked me if I wanted to attend this year's Zone Institute, as I'd heard it to be a great opportunity for further learning.

Zone Institute is an annual gathering, where past, present, and incoming district governors and senior leaders share information, build connections, and exchange ideas about Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation. This year, we met in Santa Barbara, November 10–13. The theme, "Connecting for Good," carried over from the 2015 Zone Institute in Hawaii, explored how we connect for the good of our communities. Special guests included RI President-elect Ian H. S. Riseley; RI Past Presidents Bill Boyd and Cliff Dochterman; and an extraordinary inspirational speaker, John O'Leary.

On the first and the third days, we were hotel-confined from early in the morning until late at night listening to RI leaders and guest speakers on topics ranging from The Rotary Foundation to human trafficking to women in Rotary. I was assigned to breakout sessions on The Rotary Foundation, which was an extremely educational experience, as I am currently involved in a Global Grant project.

What I found fascinating from those breakout sessions were the importance of learning if the international partner is in good standing in terms of the Foundation's regulations before a joint project is initiated, and that clean water and sanitation could be the major RI endeavor after



From the left: RIPE Ira Riseley, his wife and Rotarian, Juliet, Makiko Nakasone, and Marcia and Brad Howard, RI.

PolioPlus. There are currently 780 million people who do not have access to clean water, and 2.5 billion people lack proper sanitation in the world.

If your club is looking for an international partner, you may want to explore the districts in Brazil, where \$2 million in District-Designated Funds are sitting unused in a bank according to TRF Trustee Mario Cesar Martins de Camargo.

The Institute was so fulfilling that on the second day we spent hours cleaning the vans, painting the walls, and labeling the books for the Boys and Girls Clubs in Santa Barbara. Through our service, more than 350 students at the two clubs benefitted. In the evening, 500 Rotarians and their spouses attended a charity concert by Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue along with 1,500 fans from the community.

I returned home very inspired and wanted to share my experience with all of you. \blacksquare











Imaginative Club Projects

SHOWTIME HOLIDAY SPECTACULAR

-by Lorine Parks (Downey), IMAGINE Senior Correspondent

"The Showtime Cabaret is a new fundraiser for us," says Connie Hui, president of Bellflower Rotary. "We are trying something new, with a daytime cabaret for adults and kids on Saturday, December 3. Doors open at 11 a.m. to give guests time to check out the auction items. Lunch is at noon, and the event ends at 3:30 p.m. It's an opportunity for family time and for fun together with Rotary fellowship."

"Silent and a live auctions are included in this fundraiser," Connie added,

"[and the proceeds will be used] for our Back to School Shopping project, Shoes

For Kids, Vision To Learn, and scholarships.

"We also support Angel Step Two, which is a transitional housing program," Connie explained, "targeting battered, substance-addicted women and their children. The Southern California Drug and Alcohol, Inc. program maintains a house right here in Bellflower. That makes it special for us.

"What a warm and fun-filled night we always have when we visit the residence at Christmas," Connie said. "We start by sharing dinner that we bring, then we move on to presents for the mothers and their kids. We finish by singing Christmas songs and laughing a lot."

Bellflower's Showtime Fundraising Cabaret and Dinner will be at the Pomona Valley Mining Company, a mountain-top lodge offering American comfort food and killer scenic views. Décor is rustic traditional. Donation for tickets is \$100/person. For more information contact Connie Hui.









CLUB 63

News for and about District 5280 clubs



Bellflower Rotary partnered with Vision to Learn to examine 464 students and provide 373 prescription eye glasses.



LA5 Rotary participated in the United Way HomeWalk and to raise funds to end homelessness!











-Club 63, continues from previous page

Del Amo, Lomita-Torrance
Airport and South Bay
Sunrise Rotary Clubs
UCLA vs. USC Tailgate
Dinner was held on
November 16. Past president
Danny Fredricks, left,
and President-elect Neal
Bracewell from Torrance Del
Amo show off their favorite

The eighth annual **Torrance**



El Segundo Rotary

colors to each other.

President Frank Glynn
appoints one member
to have a special day at
a club's meeting. The
anointed Rotarians dress
in their favorite outfit, lead
the Pledge of Allegiance,
tell a joke, coordinate the
program, and offer 10 facts
about themselves that others
do not know. Here we see
"Queen" Elyse Beardsley
granting a magical wish
to fellow Rotarian Claire
Sinnett.





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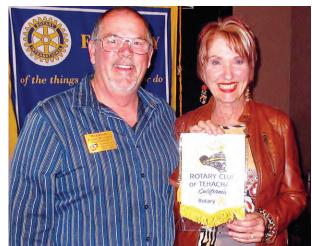


-Club 63, continues from previous page



In celebration of Veteran's Day, LA Rotary had a panel discussion to gain a better $understanding\ of\ the\ challenges\ of\ transitioning\ out\ of\ military\ service\ into\ civilian$ law enforcement. Panelists included: United States Navy Captain Chris Janke, LAPD $Commander\ Horace\ Frank,\ and\ LASD\ Assistant\ Sheriff\ Todd\ Rogers.$

Senior AssistantGovernor Kathleen Terry delivered a presentation at the **Tehachapi Rotary**. President Patrick Donahue presents Kathleen with a club banner.





Lynn Miller, front, and Eva Hainer from Woodland Hills Rotary helped pack 80 Thanksgiving baskets for families from Fullbright Elementary School.





