

# The Joshua Tree

**February 28, 2023**

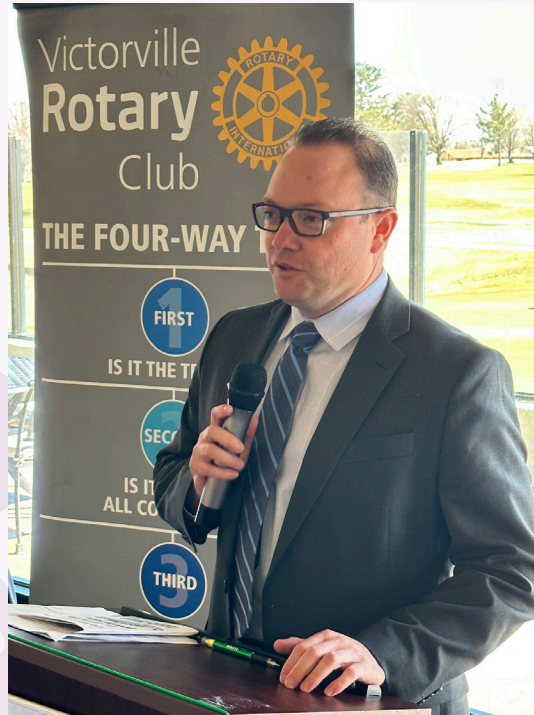
## A VISIT FROM THE VVUHS D

This week the Rotary Club heard from **Carl Coles**, the new Superintendent from the Victor Valley Union High School District. He presented an update on the exciting things happening for students in the High Desert.

The District instructs middle and high school students from grades 7 - 12. Over 9 schools, the current enrollment is 11,000 students with 1,000 staff members. A whopping 84% are economically disadvantaged students, 12.7% are learning the English language and 14% are special education students.

VVUHS D is the region's first high school district, established in 1915. Its flagship school, Victor Valley High School, was the area's only high school until 1967 when neighboring Apple Valley built its own (with other nearby cities later doing the same).

Today, VVUHS D has three comprehensive high schools (Adelanto, Silverado and Victor Valley high schools); two schools of choice (Cobalt Institute of Math and Science and University Preparatory School); one junior high (Hook Junior High School);



one grade 7-12 academy (Lakeview Leadership Academy); one virtual academy (Victor Valley Virtual Academy); and two alternative schools (Goodwill High School and Victor Valley Adult School).

Through all of this the VVUHS D is committed to preparing students for college and the workforce through rigorous curriculum and programs before, during, and after school. Their Heritage Program closes the achievement gap by increasing college readiness for African-American students.

The district has a long, rich history of championship athletics. Sports program are offered at all schools with the exception of continuation and virtual schools. All

programs are not sports based either. Each school has an average of 25 campus clubs, giving students the opportunity to explore their interests and interact with like-minded peers. Schools in the district also provide a variety of excellent visual and performing arts programs.

The district has accomplished goals in obtaining an 85% graduation rate and met the UC/CSU requirements of 38.5%. Carl ended his presentation by reminding Rotarians that the Victor Valley Union High School District is truly a place for everyone; a great place to learn and a great place to work.

Find out more at <https://www.vvuhsd.org>.

### This Week's Functionaries

**Invocation:** **Bill Edwards**

**Flag Salute:**

**4-Way Test:**

**Fine Master:** **Ryan McEachron**



## ARSALEE'S AVENUE

Thank you to Carl Coles for joining us this week to share all of the exciting activities

taking place at the Victor Valley Union High School District. We look forward to many more wonderful updates under your administration.



Congratulations to all of our wonderful STAR Students we honored this week from the Adelanto School District.

James Rightmire has provided another fundraising opportunity for the Club. On March 26, Majestic Cycles will host a huge bicycle race in Victorville and our Club has been approached to pour beer that day. Our Club will sell & pour beer at the event and we will split the profits 50/50 with El Dorado Broadcasters. Our goal is to raise \$10,000 that day and we need volunteers from the Club to make that happen. Please see me or Steve Murray to sign up.

Finally, I am happy to announce that my Demotion Party will be held on Saturday, June 24th at 5pm and the home of Dan and Krisi Dever.

Arsalee



## S.T.A.R. STUDENTS

This week the Club honored students from the Adelanto School District with S.T.A.R. Student Awards. The Rotary Club of Victorville's S.T.A.R. Awards recognize those students who have made a marked improvement in their academics, attitude and/or attendance. Attending the event to hand out awards was Adelanto School District Interim Superintendent (and Club Member) **Michael Krause**. Certificates were handed out with Representatives from the offices of US Congressman Jay Obernolte, and San Bernardino County Supervisor Paul Cook.

From Columbia Middle School came **Nathan Gonzalez**. Nathan is helpful and kind and he always gives 100% and is willing to go above and beyond. Earlier in the year he broke his leg and was on crutches, this did not stop him, and he came to school almost every day with a smile on his face and a positive attitude. All of his teachers agree he is a one-of-a-kind kid.



Next from El Mirage School the Club met **Britney Perez**. Britney has shown incredible growth and improvement between her first and second quarter report cards. She raised her STAR math score and was able to raise her grade in Language Arts as well. In a major jump, she climbed from a B- to an A+ in science. Britney has been a dedicated member of El Mirage's Future Business Leaders of America Club and has showcased her incredible teamwork and leadership skills.



Recognized from George Visual and Performing Arts was **Prince Gervi Hill**. His teachers describe him as a student who has made academic growth in all subjects and in reading, he has made astounding growth, particularly in the fluency area. Prince is a student that displays good work habits and is always ready to participate in the classroom, completes his

Continued on page 3



# IMAGINE ROTARY





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## Big Blue Dice



*John Wickum had the chance to grab the Blue Dice, but picked a white one and saved the chance for another Rotarian. The pot continues to grow next week with 8 Dice and \$350 for the lucky Rotarian who can grab the Blue Dice.*

## S.T.A.R. Students

*Continued from page 2*

assignments and is ready to learn.

Joining the Club this week from the Melva Davis Academy of Excellence was **Brenda Giron Gonzalez**. Brenda takes great pride in her schoolwork and challenges herself to always do better. Brenda's grades have improved, and she currently has straight A's. Brenda has taken on the role of peer tutor in her class and helps to keep other students on task.



Finally from Mesa Linda Middle School the Club was introduced to **Ethan Escobar**. Ethan is good student that cares about all his assignments and he gets along well with his peers. Ethan has no missing assignments and he will tackle extra work if he is given the opportunity. Ethan has a sense of personal discipline that is rare today.



Congratulations to all deserving S.T.A.R. Students!

## March Birthdays

<b>Diane Anderson</b>	<b>March 14</b>
<b>Todd Sturges</b>	<b>March 25</b>
<b>Steve Murray</b>	<b>March 28</b>
<b>Bryan Gillespie</b>	<b>March 28</b>

## March Anniversaries

<b>Terry Caldwell</b>	<b>52 Years</b>
<b>Russ Stringham</b>	<b>31 Years</b>
<b>Steve Murray</b>	<b>19 Years</b>
<b>Manjita Patel</b>	<b>13 Years</b>
<b>Matthew Farias</b>	<b>4 Years</b>

## Rotary Guests

Along with parents and family members of our S.T.A.R. Students, we were joined by **Corrine Mora** from Congressman Obernolte's office and **Samuel Stoup** from Supervisor Cook's office. Also introduced were Principals **Karen Ward** and **Sytarria Ridley**.



Also this week we welcomed Realtor **Kyle Vizzo**, who attended with **Bob Basen, Kris Riley** PIO with the VVUHSD, and **Christine Turner** who serves as

board member with the Adelanto Elementary School District.

## The Polio Pig

**Collected this week: \$32.00**  
**Collected to Date: \$19,591.52**  
**Total equals: 100,271 Doses!**

*One dollar equals 2 doses of vaccine!  
\$500 pays for a Polio Clinic!*



### VICTORVILLE ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

#### Board of Directors

President 2022-2023 .....	Arsalee Morales
President 2023-2024 .....	Steve Murray
President 2024-2025 .....	<b>Need Candidates</b>
President 2025-2026 .....	Bill Edwards
Immediate Past President .....	Jon Hove
Treasurer .....	Donna Wells
Executive Secretary .....	Margaret Cooker
Club Service .....	Steve Murray
Community Service .....	Bryan Gillespie
International Service.....	Ben Tafoya
Youth Service/RYLEA & TLC .....	Ryan McEachron
Vocational Service .....	Bill Edwards

**Members-at-Large:** David North, Mike Johnson, Rob Kilpatrick & Ron Boyd

#### Positions & Committee Chairs

BOD Secretary .....	Pam Murray
Billing Officer .....	Esther Mears
Dan Stover Music Contest.....	Dawn Quigg
Flowers and Gifts .....	Linda Hove
Foundation & Grants .....	Margaret Cooker
4-Way Speech Competitions .....	Mike Johnson
Fundraising.....	Arsalee Morales
George Hensel Ethics Essay Contest .....	Ron Boyd
Joshua Tree Editor .....	Chris Ackerman
Membership.....	Steve Murray
Programs .....	Mike Page
Publicity/Public Relations .....	<b>Need Volunteer</b>
Public Service.....	Rick Bessinger, Teresa DeAtley, Jeff Armstrong and John Wickum
Sergeant At Arms.....	Steve Murray
Scholarships.....	David North
S.T.A.R. Students .....	Maureen Mills and Michal Krause

The Victorville Rotary Club meets every Tuesday for fellowship  
at 11:30 a.m. and meeting at 12:00 noon at the Bear Valley  
Country Club, 13229 Spring Valley Parkway, Victorville

#### Make-up Days and Locations

<b>MONDAY:</b>	San Bernardino East, Imperial Palace, noon
<b>TUESDAY:</b>	Rancho Cucamonga Sunrise, 7:15 a.m. Empire Lakes Golf Course Rancho Cucamonga, 12:00 p.m., Etiwanda Gardens
<b>WEDNESDAY:</b>	High Desert/Hesperia Club meets 7:00 a.m., Mile High Cafe, 8832 Orange St., Hesperia San Bernardino Crossroads, Hilton, noon, Barstow, Rositas, 540 Main St, 12:00 p.m.
<b>THURSDAY:</b>	Apple Valley, <i>No Longer Meeting</i> Ontario, 12:15 p.m., Doubletree Hotel San Bernardino, Denny's at I-15, 7 a.m. Redlands, Masonic Temple, noon
<b>FRIDAY:</b>	San Bernardino North, Elks Lodge, 12:05 p.m.

## Calendar Dates

### Mar 13: Board of Directors Meeting

5:00pm -Fellowship  
5:30 pm Board Meeting  
ISU ARMAC Insurance Agency  
17177 Yuma St., Victorville, CA

### April 22: District Assembly

Sitting Bull Middle School  
Apple Valley, CA • 8am - 12 noon

### May 5-7: District Conference

Horseshoe Hotel & Casino  
Las Vegas, NV  
4-Way Speech Contest (Saturday Breakfast)  
Dan Stover Music Contest (Saturday Lunch)

### June 24: Demotion Party

5:00pm • Home of Dan & Krisi Dever

## Upcoming Programs

**March 7:** Cindy Bostick **Topic: "12 Principles for Producing Results"** (Johnson)  
**Dan Stover** (Club Level)

**March 14:** **George Hensel Ethics Essay Contest** (Boyd)

**March 21:** Richard Radcliff, WVC Professor **Topic: "TBA"** (Acosta)

**March 28:** Mike Johnson **Topic: "Thunder, Lightning & Peace: High Schooler CEO Aiding Veterans with Trauma"** (Johnson)

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