

The Joshua Tree

March 2, 2021

LOS ANGELES TO LAS VEGAS IN 3 HOURS

This week we were so happy to have **Greta Seidman** from Brightline West come and speak to the Club and give everyone an update on the project. The company goal for Brightline is to connect city pairs that are too long to drive and too short to fly. The project will connect the 260 miles between



Victorville Rotary Club
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the average travel time from Los Angeles to Las Vegas will be 3 hours, with the train traveling at 200mph. There will be 50 million one-way trips made annually between these two destinations with 85% of them by car or bus. At full operations, Brightline expects to attract approximately

Las Vegas and Los Angeles. It began in March of 2019 when it acquired XpressWest and over the next year and a half it extended right-of-way and other key permits as well as acquiring station land. This year financing will be complete, and construction will

22% of the market or 11 million one-way trips each year. The economic impact will be about \$9 Billion with \$1 Billion in tax revenue. For our economy, it will mean 40,000 construction jobs and 1,000 permanent jobs.

be underway. The expected opening will be in 2024.

The trains will be zero-emission electric trains that will remove 3 million cars from the road and 400,000 tons of CO² annually. Materials used throughout trains and station will include reclaimed, recycled and sustainable sourced products. All stations will meet or exceed LEED-certification standards and they will have electric vehicle charging stations at each facility. They also have promised to plant a tree for every round trip completed.

Brightline is expecting 11.3 billion riders annually, with



Continued on page 2

This Week's Functionaries

Invocation: **Chris Ackerman**

Flag Salute: **Steve Orr**

4-Way Test: **Steve Orr**

ORR'S ROARS



Thank you so much for Greta Seidman who not only shared great information on the upcoming Brightline Train and all the great benefits it will have to our surrounding communities



but was our first in-person speaker in many months! We look forward to riding the train in 2024!

With more and more of the High Desert opening, we are doing the same, and will hopefully be back with a Fine Session as soon as next week. Watch your pocketbooks!

Steve

www.victorvillerotary.org

BRIGHTLINE

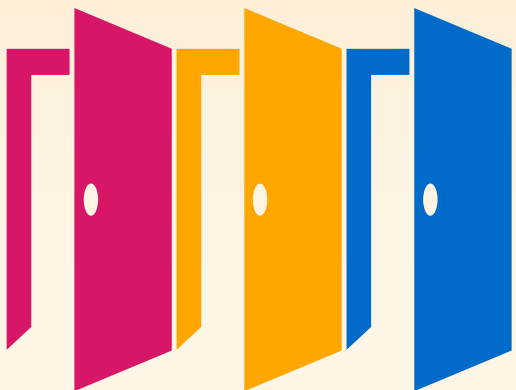
Continued from page 1



Train ticket prices will be on par with the cost of gas and parking. The elevated train experience residents and tourists have come to expect (and love) in South Florida will be offered along this route as well, including but not limited to free on-board Wi-Fi, fully ADA accessibility from station to train, a wide selection of food and beverage, checked luggage and hotel check-in services.



Rotary
Club of Victorville, CA



Rotary Opens Opportunities

Big Blue Dice



Steve Orr had a chance to grab the Blue Dice, and did it! Steve took home \$375 and left the luckiest man in the room.

We will start anew next week with 14 dice and \$200 for the Rotarian who can pick the Blue Dice out of the bag.

Rotary Guests



Our guests this week included VVTA Operations Director **Simon Herrera**, who attended the meeting with **Kevin Kane** and **Coleen Luque** who shot our meeting for marketing.

Our only Stand-in this week was **Jason Montana** who attended for **Don Lager**.

The Polio Pig

Collected this week: \$12.00

Collected to Date: \$17,744.23

Total equals: 96,602 Doses!

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

Spoon of Exception

The Club felt it was time to bring the Spoon of Exception back



and it was a battle between **Kevin Kane** and **Steve Orr**, but in the end, Kevin Kane won out with a bid of \$50 and will have the Spoon for 5 weeks.

Kevin chose to use his first week to talk about Victor Valley Transit's Vaccine Xpress! The VVTA Vaccine Xpress is a FREE Door-to-Door Service to your vaccine appointment in Victorville or Apple Valley! If you are an interested and qualified, first book a vaccine appointment for the Hook Community Center or Our Lady of the Desert Catholic Church at sbccovid19.com/vaccine/locations.

Following your vaccine appointment booking, please contact VVTA at (760) 948-3030 and inform the scheduler that you would like to schedule a ride for the Vaccine Xpress. You will be picked up and dropped off from your home to and from the vaccine appointment, FREE of charge!

Victor Valley Transit is proud to partner with the City of Victorville, Town of Apple Valley, California and County of San Bernardino to bring this service to the community.

Raffle



In this week's raffle **Arsalee Morales** went home with a couple of gifts. First, she will do some shopping with the \$25 Midway Home Solutions gift card she received from **Don Lager**, then she will sit

back and enjoy the bottle of Chardonnay she took home from **Dwight Johnson**. Dwight himself went away from the meeting with some goodies including a DCB calendar from **Esther Mears**, and a glasses repair kit from President **Steve Orr**. **Tina Escareño** will get a little break from the pump with the \$25 ARCO gas card she took home from President Orr.



VICTORVILLE ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

Board of Directors

President 2019-2021	Steve Orr
President 2021-2022	Jon Hove
President 2022-2023	Arsalee Morales
President 2023-2025	Jessica Perez
President 2025-2026	Bill Edwards
Immediate Past President	Margaret Cooker
Treasurer	Donna Wells
Executive Secretary	Margaret Cooker
Publicity/Public Relations	Kevin Kane
Club Service	Bill Edwards
Community Service	PLEASE VOLUNTEER
International Service	Ben Tafoya
Youth Service/Ryla & TLC	Arsalee Morales
Vocational Service	Jessica Perez
Grants/Speech Contests	PLEASE VOLUNTEER
Scholarships	Esther Mears and Arsalee Morales
George Hensel Ethics Essay Contest	Ron Boyd
Membership	Don Lager
Billing Officer	Esther Mears

Members-at-Large: Dwight Johnson & Rob Kilpatrick

Positions & Committee Chairs

BOD Secretary	Marilyn Buttelerwerth
Programs	Mike Page
Public Service	Rick Bessinger, Teressa DeAtley
Sergeant At Arms	Arsalee Morales
Dan Stover Music Contest	Dr. Bowtie Brian
S.T.A.R. Students	Jim Barnes/Robin Cackler
Fundraising	Bill Edwards
Flowers and Gifts	KayMarie Gregory
Joshua Tree Editor	Chris Ackerman

The Victorville Rotary Club meets every Tuesday for fellowship at 11:30 a.m. and meeting at 12:00 noon at the Green Tree Golf Course Clubhouse, 14144 Green Tree Blvd., Victorville

Make-up Days and Locations

MONDAY:	San Bernardino East, Imperial Palace, noon
TUESDAY:	Rancho Cucamonga Sunrise, 7:15 a.m. Empire Lakes Golf Course Rancho Cucamonga, 12:00 p.m., Etiwanda Gardens
WEDNESDAY:	High Desert/Hesperia Club meets 7:00 a.m., Denny's, 14165 Main St., Hesperia San Bernardino Crossroads, Hilton, noon, Barstow, Rositas, 540 Main St, 12:00 p.m.
THURSDAY:	Apple Valley, ZOOM Meetings, 1st, 2nd and 4th Thurs Ontario, 12:15 p.m., Doubletree Hotel San Bernardino, Denny's at I-15, 7 a.m. Redlands, Masonic Temple, noon
FRIDAY:	San Bernardino North, Elks Lodge, 12:05 p.m.

Calendar Dates

Mar 5 & 6: PETS for Jon Hove & Arsalee Morales

Mar 8: Board of Directors meeting
5:30 pm Meeting *In-Person or Zoom*
DCB Board Room, 2nd Floor
Hesperia and Silica Roads

June 12-19: Taipei Convention (Virtual)

Upcoming Programs

Mar 9: Jan Gonzales, Superintendent & Maureen Mills, Victor Elementary School District
Topic: Educating Students in the Pandemic (Coker)

Mar 16: **4-Way Test Speech Contest (Club level)** (Perez)

Mar 23: **OPEN**

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