

Be a gift to the world



THE JOSHUA TREE



Rotary

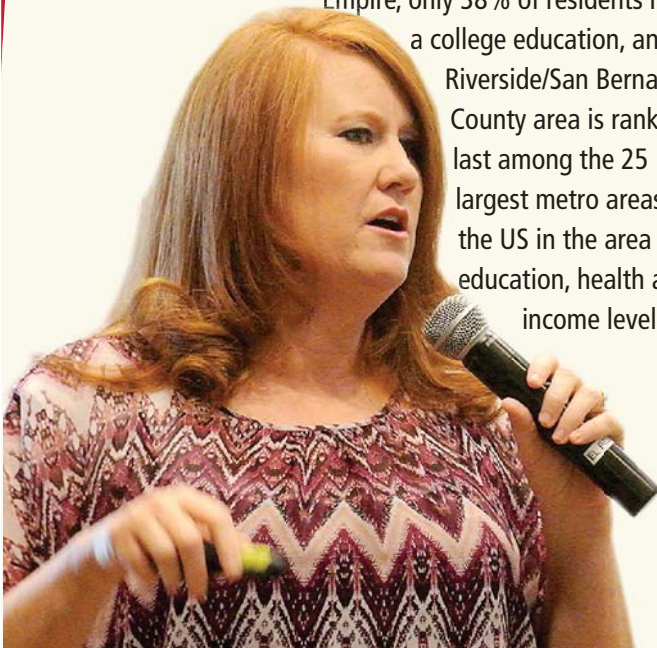
Club of Victorville, CA



April 19, 2016

Helping Those Who Cannot Help Themselves

This week we got to hear from **Cari Thomas**, Regional Director for the Inland Empire United Way, Desert Communities Region. Cari shared some alarming facts about our County, and what the United Way is doing to make a difference. In the Inland Empire, 1 in 4 children are now living in poverty. The Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario area has the highest poverty rate of any of the nation's 25 largest metropolitan areas, with San Bernardino alone having 28.3% in child poverty and 20.4% of adults in California. In the Inland Empire, only 38% of residents have a college education, and the Riverside/San Bernardino County area is ranked last among the 25 largest metro areas in the US in the area of education, health and income levels.



The United Way is working hard to do something to turn these numbers around. Even though non-profits like themselves and others are starving for resources, Cari and her team at the United Way are working hard through a variety of programs.

They start by meeting the basic family needs by providing academic support and guidance through such programs 2-1-1, Kids Pack, School Tools and more. **2-1-1** is a phone number you can call for help. They have assisted over 65,000 families who are in need of critical health and social services. **Kids Pack** feeds over 1800 homeless and very low income school children by taking over where the school breakfast and lunch programs end; by providing food to eat on the weekends. Without this program, kids run the risk of not eating again until the following Monday morning. **School Tools** equips low income students with school supplies and tools needed for academic success. Other United Way programs include the **Mentor Connection**, providing guidance and role models in people's lives and **Promise Scholars**, that helps prepare our young people for College and Career readiness.

The office that Cari Thomas runs in Apple Valley is not subsidized by the State Government or even the larger IEUW. They raise all resources themselves and keep those resources right here in our Victor Valley. Some of the ways the community assists is by companies volunteering one day for two hours filling that week's Kids Pack food baskets, or holding a drive for school supplies for the School Tools project.

As a Rotarian, it is our utmost duty to assist others less fortunate and to be a gift to the world, and we are thankful there are people like Cari Thomas, who are doing the same through the United Way, by assisting our children locally, to provide them a path through life that can be without poverty and suffering.

This Week's Functionaries

Invocation:	Van Young
Flag Salute:	Brad Letner
4-Way Test:	Marie Langley
Song:	Al Castellucci



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Tafoya Talk...

Thank you to those who took time out of their week to join us to hear from our RYLA students as well as **Cari Thomas** from the United Way. If you didn't attend, you missed some great presentations.

Tickets are now available to win a motorcycle! **Margaret Cooker** has tickets for a chance to win a 2015 Honda GROM125F Motorcycle! Tickets are \$25 each and all proceeds go towards the Club. Please take some tickets and sell them around the community and let's raise some money!



Mike Page reminded all Past and upcoming Presidents to attend the Past Presidents Meeting on Monday, April 25 at 5:30pm at the Green Tree Golf Course Bar. Should be a very interesting meeting...

News has come across my desk to keep your thoughts and prayers on **Diane Anderson**, the wife to **Stew Anderson**, as she is about to head into surgery. Please pray for a safe operation and a quick and healthy recovery.

Finally, please make your plans to join us at a Fireside Chat on Thursday, April 28 at 5:00pm over at Midway Home Solutions with your host, **Don Lager**. It will be a great time to network with fellow Rotarians, as well as a great event to bring potential members.

CONGRATULATIONS!!

We are pleased to announce that the winner of the High Desert Regional 4-Way Speech Competition was **Nadine Crosby**, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Victorville. Nadine will be advancing to the District level competition this Saturday in San Diego!

Spoon of Exemption: Van Young

This week **Van Young** with the Salvation Army shared his "Success Story" part III. This week's story dealt with an elderly husband and wife couple who had to take care of their adult handicap son. Due to circumstances, they also had to take in an infant grandchild. From living on Social Security, they ended up losing their home, and soon it was three adults and an infant, living in a car.

Due to assistance from the Salvation Army and the families determination to turn their circumstances around, they are now living in a home, and have weaned themselves off of receiving supplies from the Salvation Army. Van Young loves to see stories of success like this, when he and his staff have to view so many negatives.

The Polio Pig....

Collected this week: **\$14.42**

Collected to Date: **\$13,058.62**

Total equals: **87,9185 Doses!**

One dollar equals 2 doses of vaccine!

\$500 pays for a Polio Clinic!

Lucky Blue Dice



It seemed like **Caroll Yule Day** as she was our Fine Master, Raffle Emcee and got the chance for the winnings, but only came away with \$5 for a white dice selection.

We continue next week with 11 dice and \$275 up for grabs for one lucky Rotarian who can select the blue dice.

Raffle Prizes

After not winning any gifts last week, **Gary Adams** came back and took home a calendar from DCB, and a pair of tickets to the Girls Night Out event, courtesy of **Dwight Johnson**. **Chris Ackerman** also won a pair of tickets, but gave them up to our speaker **Cari Thomas**. Although we haven't seen her in a while, **Teressa Coomes** came back and took a couple of gifts away for attending the luncheon. She won a Midway shirt from **Don Lager** and a couple of tickets to the upcoming Pet Expo from Dwight. Due to his generosity, **Dwight Johnson** won a 365 Devotional book from **Robin Cackler**, **Ben Tafoya** received a bag of flavored popcorn from **Debbie Clarkson** at Victor Valley Christian School and **Marie Langley** won a \$25 gift card to Louisiana Cajun Seafood Restaurant.

Finally, the most sought after prize of the day were a couple of VVTA Bus Thumb Drives from **Kevin Kane**. The lucky winners were **Don Lager** and **Caroll Yule**.

Fine Session

Caroll Yule was our Fine Master this week and ran various Rotarians through a test in Politics and Presidents. Those who answered correctly were fine free, but those who were wrong, received fines of \$10. Those receiving \$10 fines were **Kevin Kane, Steve Murray, Mike Page, John Kroencke, Don Lager** and **David North**.

Only **Teressa Coomes** walked away without a fine...

Rotary Guests

This week we were honored to have Victor Valley College President **Robert Wagner** in attendance, as a guest of **Al Castellucci**. We also welcomed **Paul Stark** from Parade of Pianos and pianist **Hugo Sanchez**.

Our Stand-in's this week were **Cathy Caruso** for **Mary Hennessy**, **Tony Cooker** for **Dr. Hough** and **Robin Cackler** for **Pastor Paul Earle**.

RYLA Students Share Their Experiences

Last weekend a group of students attended the RYLA Camp in Crestline and lives were changed, not only for them, but for the facilitators who volunteered as well. Our Rotary Exchange Student, **Rikke Seji Biedsgaard** led the presentation by opening with a RYLA video. At its conclusion we heard from some of the students who were moved by their experience at RYLA.

Rikke shared that even though her time here in America has been a life changing experience, RYLA helped develop her skills to be a leader. **Janis Huerta** from University Prep has always been quite shy, but her time in Crestline really helped her come out of her shell. The biggest takeaway for her was learning how to speak in front of people. **Ashley Rodriguez** left RYLA empowered to make positive changes



in our local community. **Elizabeth Martinez** from Victor Valley Christian has always lacked confidence in herself and left RYLA feeling stronger and ready to take on new challenges. Finally, **Adam Jansen** from VVCS learned that when talking with someone, it is important to understand who they are and their experiences, to understand life from their point of view.

Steve Murray encouraged everyone who calls themselves a Rotarian to take advantage of the RYLA experience and be a facilitator next year. Steve says, "It will be your biggest Rotary moment of your life!" Steve then shared that our own **Margaret Cooker** was the unsung hero of RYLA 2016, where she served as the Medical Facilitator, and working alone, took care of all of the students medial needs, while others had fun.

VICTORVILLE ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

Board of Directors

President	Ben Tafoya
Immediate Past President	Steve Murray
Treasurer	Donna Wells
Executive Secretary/Foundation	Margaret Cooker
Incoming President/Membership	Dwight Johnson
Publicity/Public Relations	Kevin Kane
Club Service & President 2016-17	Dan Munsey
Community Service	Brad Letner
Youth Service/Scholarships	Ginger Ontiveros
Vocational Service	Jim Barnes
International	Dan Dever

Members-at-Large:

Rob Kilpatrick • Mark Taylor • Russ Stringham

Positions & Committee Chairs

BOD Secretary	Marilyn Buttelwerth
Sergeant At Arms.....	Gary Adams
SongMaster	Al Castellucci
Programs	Mike Page
Wine, Jazz & More	Dan Munsey
Cards and Calls	Pam Murray
Newsletter	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 Adelanto Club meets 2nd Wed. at Chamber Room at Maverick Stadium at 11:30 a.m., and the 3rd and 4th Wed. at Astro's Burgers, 11619 Rancho Rd, Adelanto at 8am. San Bernardino Crossroads, Hilton, noon, Barstow, Quigley's Outlet Center, Lenwood, noon University Prep, 13853 Seneca Rd, 2:00 p.m.
THURSDAY:	Apple Valley, Apple Valley Country Club, noon 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

April 25: Past Presidents' Meeting
Green Tree Golf Course Bar Area
5:30pm

April 28: Fireside Chat with Don Lager
Midway Home Solutions
14444 Astar Dr., Victorville
5:00pm

June 25: Demotion Party
4:00 p.m. • Dever's Home, Apple Valley

Upcoming Rotary Programs

April 26: Dr. Roger Wagner, President / Superintendent, Victor Valley Community College (Yule)
S.T.A.R. Students from Riverside Prep

May 3: Melda Gaskins, Principal, Cobalt Institute of Math & Science, Topic - "An Introduction to a School Worthy of Praise." (Williams)

May 10: Elementary 4-Way Speech Contest (Barnes)
S.T.A.R. Students from Helendale

May 17: Dr. Wettstein (Dermatologist) (Orr)

Design & Layout By



The Joshua Tree is a Weekly Publication of the Rotary Club of Victorville
P.O. Box 734 • Victorville, CA 92393 • www.victorvillerotary.org

If you are not receiving your newsletter, please contact Editor Chris Ackerman at chris@signifydesigns.com or 760-559-1686 to be added to the e-mail or mailing list.