



# The Joshua Tree



May 5, 2020

## THE NEW NORMAL AT ST. MARY?

The Coronavirus has many people on the Front-lines, including first responders, grocery store workers, and transit operators, and our hospitals are doing a massive part in the treating and accepting of patients who have contracted COVID-19. This week we welcomed from St. Mary Medical Center **Brian Henebry**, Executive Director of Strategic Services and **John Kozyra**, Chief Philanthropy Officer to speak to our members on how this pandemic is affecting hospitals in the High Desert.



Although both these men's focus is with their hospital, they are working in tandem with our other area hospitals, sharing information, policies and plans with each other. Both John and Brian shared five areas of the hospital that have changed since March of this year.

In the hospital's current state, they are receiving a steady flow of COVID-19 patients but are not overwhelmed. They have a planning team that meets twice daily, checking on available masks, sanitizers, ventilators and more, plus adopt and move new policies into place. They closely follow the CDC and WHO guidelines for caregiver and patient safety, plus strict policies for universal masking and restricting visitors. Currently, to enter the hospital you **MUST** wear a mask (sorry Steve ) and everyone's temperature is taken before entrance is admitted. If a friend or loved one is admitted, there is zero visitation allowed by anyone. They are hoping very soon to allow one visitor per patient, but time will tell. Finally, they are participating in Mayo Clinic Plasma Trails, recovered COVID-19 patient volunteer their blood to have their spun plasma injected into another patient to heal them of the virus.

While our state is slowly reopening businesses and life to (somewhat) normalcy, there is always the concern of a surge in COVID-19 cases. St. Mary Medical is prepared and ready. As mentioned above they see an average of 20 patients a day but are ready to handle a surge if needed. They are managing and preserving supplies and a specific plan has been created including special isolation areas for patients.

John and Brian also wanted to make sure that all Rotarians knew that while the perception may be to stay away from hospitals unless you have COVID-19, IF you are concerned about delayed care like STEMI, Stroke and Births, be assured safety precautions are in place to protect you. If you feel ill, call your doctor, but if have an emergency need, please do not hesitate to go to the St. Mary Emergency Department.

Unfortunately, all of this comes at a cost. The Coronavirus outbreak has created a perfect storm of financial hardships for hospitals. This has been caused by canceled non-urgent procedures, increased costs for updating the hospitals, capital spending freezes and a decreased patient volume. The daily inpatient average has experienced a 35% drop from 189 to 123 patients per day. On top of all of that St. Mary extended staff benefits for the first 6 weeks of the virus outbreak, because it was the right thing to do for their people.

Currently, there is no vaccine available to fight this virus, so the best way to prevent the illness is to avoid exposure with enhanced hygiene, social distancing, face coverings, sanitize surfaces, and cover coughs and sneezes.

## ORR'S ROARS



This week we had our 2nd Rotary meeting via Zoom and I was so pleased to have many more faces join us this week. My hope (other than getting back to being in person soon) is that we double this size next week!



During our meeting Bill Edwards took a few moments to thank all of the Rotarians who donated their "lunch money" to the Rescue Mission. With their Thrift Stores closed, they have taken a big financial hit and this kind act has helped them tremendously.

Our Fall Fundraiser is still scheduled for Saturday, October 3rd of this year, but time will tell in what way we will be able to pull this off. Please keep the date open on your calendar in the meantime.

Have a blessed week and be safe out there! I may buck against wearing a mask, but I will in these pages each week until we are back together in person!

[www.victorvillerotary.org](http://www.victorvillerotary.org)

## Raffle

In this week's raffle both **Stephanie Montoya** and **Dwight Johnson** will (eventually) receive a VTA Electric Bus 16GB USB Drive for coming closest to the number Chris was thinking between 1-50!



## Rotary Guests

This week we welcomed **Chuck Utgard** from the Rotary Club of Laughlin, **Linda Scott** joined her husband **Bill Scott** at the meeting and **Diane Anderson** was watching with **Stew Anderson**. Our only Stand-In this week was **Stefanie Montoya** who attended for **Bryan Gillespie**.

**CINDY PABLA**  
VICTOR VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL  
SCHOLARSHIP COURTESY OF  
**Rotary**  
Club of Victorville, CA

*Congratulations to Cindy Pabla from Victor Valley High School as being one of our Scholarship Recipients!*

**Rotary**  
Club of Victorville, CA



**ROTARY  
CONNECTS  
THE WORLD**

## My Quarantine Time



At Options For Youth, our teachers are providing distance learning and consistently following up and checking in with our students. Staying Positive! From Stephanie Montoya



Chris Ackerman and his kids spent a Saturday taking on...and conquering The Hilltop House in Apple Valley!



David North is using his Quarantine time trying seeing how green his thumb is with some Gardening at the homestead.

## Lessons from Coronavirus

I was so bored I called Jake from State Farm just to talk to someone. He asked me what I was wearing.

**2019: Stay away from negative people. 2020: Stay away from positive people.**

The world has turned upside down. Old folks are sneaking out of the house, and their kids are yelling at them to stay indoors!

**You think it's bad now? In 20 years our country will be run by people home-schooled by day drinkers...**

This virus has done what no woman had been able to do...cancel all sports, shut down all bars, and keep men at home!!!

**Do not call the police on suspicious people in your neighborhood! Those are your neighbors without makeup and hair extensions!**

Since we can't eat out, now's the perfect time to eat better, get fit, and stay healthy. We're quarantined! Who are we trying to impress? We have snacks, we have sweatpants - I say we use them!

**Day 7 at home and the dog is looking at me like, "See? This is why I chew the furniture!"**

Does anyone know if we can take showers yet or should we just keep washing our hands???

**I never thought the comment "I wouldn't touch him/her with a 6 foot pole" would become a national policy, but here we are!**

Me: Alexa what's the weather this weekend? Alexa: It doesn't matter - you're not going anywhere.

**Can everyone please just follow the government instructions so we can knock out this corona virus and be done?! I feel like a kindergartner who keeps losing more recess time because one or two kids can't follow directions.**

I swear my fridge just said "what the hell do you want now?"

**When this is over...what meeting do I attend first...Weight Watchers or AA?**

Quarantine has turned us into dogs. We roam the house all day looking for food. We are told "no" if we get too close to strangers. And we get really excited about car rides.



## VICTORVILLE ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

### Board of Directors

President 2019-2020 .....	Steve Orr
Immediate Past President .....	Margaret Cooker
Treasurer .....	Donna Wells
Executive Secretary .....	Margaret Cooker
Publicity/Public Relations .....	Kevin Kane
Club Service .....	Bill Edwards
Community Service .....	Paul Earle
International Service.....	Ben Tafoya
Youth Service/RYLEA & TLC .....	Arsalee Morales
Vocational Service .....	Dr. Bowtie Brian
Grants/Speech Contests .....	TBA
Scholarships.....	David North
George Hensel Ethics Essay Contest .....	Ron Boyd
Membership.....	Don Lager
Billing Officer .....	Esther Mears

### Members-at-Large:

Dwight Johnson • Jon Hove • Rob Kilpatrick

### Positions & Committee Chairs

BOD Secretary .....	Marilyn Buttlerwerth
Programs .....	Mike Page
Public Service.....	Rick Bessinger, Teresa DeAtley & Greg Benson
Sergeant At Arms.....	Arsalee Morales
Dan Stover Music Contest.....	Dr. Bowtie Brian
S.T.A.R. Students .....	Jim Barnes/Robin Cackler
Fundraising/Flowers and Gifts .....	Steve Orr
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

<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., Denny's, 14165 Main St., Hesperia San Bernardino Crossroads, Hilton, noon, Barstow, Rositas, 540 Main St, 12:00 p.m.
<b>THURSDAY:</b>	Apple Valley, Rusty Bull, AV, 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
<b>FRIDAY:</b>	San Bernardino North, Elks Lodge, 12:05 p.m.



**I'M  
A  
PROUD  
MEMBER**

[www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

## Upcoming Rotary Programs

**May 12:** Susannah Meehan, Director of Clinical Operations , Heritage Victor Valley Medical Group  
**Topic: The COVID-19 Impact on Medical Groups (Orr)**

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