



The Joshua Tree

July 26, 2022

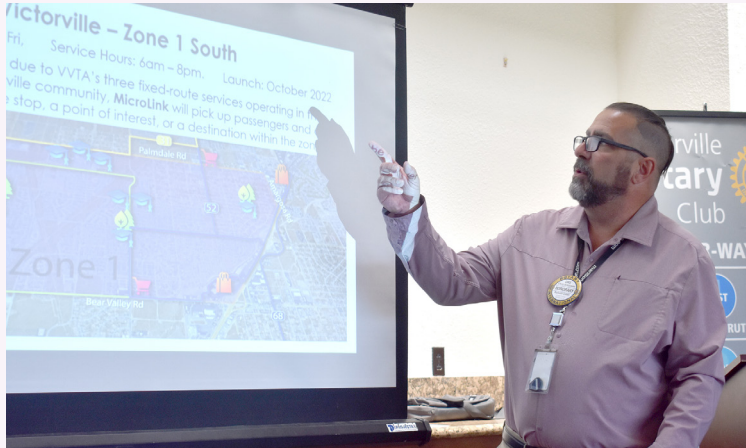
THE FUTURE OF PUBLIC TRANSIT

As the Marketing Manager and Public Information Officer for Victor Valley Transit, **Chris Ackerman** recently surveyed VVTA passengers and what was important to them. This week, Chris shared some exciting new services and announcements to address the needs of their riding passengers.

For passengers who expressed that convenience was a priority Victor Valley Transit is ecstatic that beginning Fall of 2022, a new micro transit pilot program called Micro-Link will commence adding to its existing fixed routes and ADA Paratransit services.

Micro-Link is a service that gives passengers the freedom to book a ride through an app utilizing their smartphone, similar to Uber and Lyft, within the three designated zones, and those without a smartphone will be able to dial in a reservation. A fourth zone is on the horizon if the program proves successful.

Micro-Link Zone 1 will service South Victorville from Palmdale Road, South to Bear Valley Road, between Amargosa Road and Hwy 395. Micro-Link Zone 2 will cover North Victorville from Palmdale Road, North to Hopland St, between the 15 Fwy/Village Drive and Hwy 395. Micro-Link Zone 3 service area will cover Hesperia from Main St, south to Ranchero Road, between 3rd Ave and Mariposa and the 15 Freeway, and the possible fourth zone will service Apple Valley.



Residents who do not reside near a VVTA bus stop, parents with children in schools located within the zones, and those wishing to get to local appointments without the worry or concern of being late or missing their bus home, will find Micro-Link extremely beneficial.

For passengers who voiced that reducing the carbon footprint was essential, VVTA is moving forward in its continued commitment to becoming a Zero Emission fleet with the introduction of Hydrogen Fuel Cell Buses.

Since December 2018, after CARB announced that California Public Transit Agencies were required to transition its bus fleets to zero-emission buses (ZEBs) by 2040, VVTA has remained aggressive in getting an early start on this transition.

Reducing its carbon footprint and greenhouse emissions has always been a priority by running a CNG fleet with renewable natural gas and becoming the first agency in San Bernardino County to place Battery Electric Buses into service.

After purchasing Battery Electric Buses, the agency is now moving into Hydrogen Fuel Cell Buses, as they will increase their efficiency in serving the community, such as the length of their course, charging times, miles per charge, and more. The agency plans on building infrastructure and placing orders now while funding is available.

The Hesperia station and eight buses are planned to be in service by 2024, followed by a Barstow station. The hydrogen fueling station planned for Hesperia will meet the needs of a full Hesperia Hydrogen fleet. To expand the Battery Electric Bus fleet, constant infrastructure improvements and construction would be required. With Hydrogen Fuel Cell, they don't have to constantly build to keep up, and VVTA can build infrastructure without having to add more stations and include additional buses as needed. A BEB station has a life of 6-12 years and in most cases, this means a station will be replaced every time a BEB is retired.

This Week's Functionaries

- Invocation:** Chris Ackerman
- Flag Salute:** Brad Poiriez
- 4-Way Test:** Donna Wells
- Fine Master:** Ryan McEachron

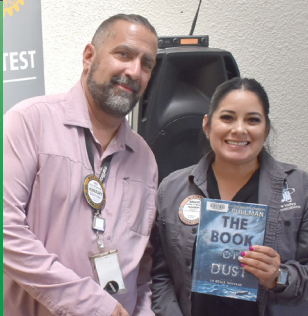
Continued on page 3



ARSALEE'S AVENUE

Thank you to our own Chris Ackerman who spoke this week on

four great services coming to Victor Valley Transit. I personally think it is wonderful that the Agency is constantly looking forward and doing different things that will make the High Desert grow and thrive.



We will have sign-ups next week for "Movie Night at the Hove's" on Saturday, August 27th beginning at 5pm at the home of Jon & Linda Hove. The movie will either be Top Gun 2 (if available) or the original film. Please remember to bring lawn chairs and a light jacket. Food will consist of hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken, and tilapia complete with Linda's secret sauce! Please sign up to attend and volunteer to bring an appetizer, side dish or dessert.

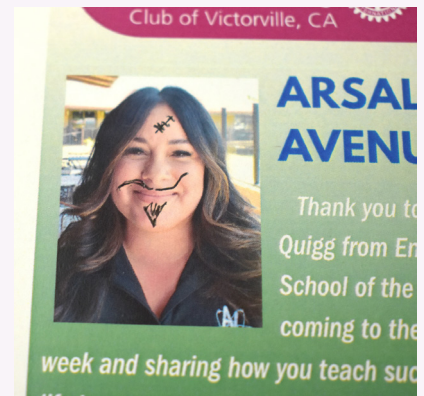
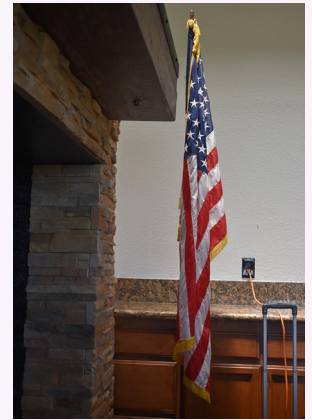
We will be having another 5th Tuesday evening meeting on Tuesday on August 30th! The event will be held at Republic in Spring Valley Lake, beginning at 5pm. Please make plans to attend this fun event. The address is 13261 Spring Valley Lake Parkway, #102, Victorville, CA 92395.

Join us next week as our program will be Mattie Brown's history with Rotary. Please come join us, we need to build attendance!

Arsalee

The Photography of David North

The next time you need someone to take photos for you, please be aware if you pass your camera to **David North**, as **Chris Ackerman** did this week. Along with the photos you see throughout this issue that were taken by David, there were many others that came up in his roll and MUST be shared below...



IMAGINE ROTARY



IMAGINE ROTARY

Big Blue Dice



Chris Ackerman had a chance to pick the Blue Dice, but drew a white one and the saved the opportunity to another next week.

We will continue next week with 9 dice and \$325 for the lucky Rotarian who picks the Blue Dice from the bag!

Ackerman...

Continued from page 1

Safety was another concern voiced by passengers and Chris reported that they are currently working with San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department to contract directly for a few deputies to service their major transfer points and take random trips on our buses, especially the routes that service around High Desert schools.

Also, on the issue of reliability, they are hopeful to return to full service on October 2, 2022. Last year, due to covid and a nationwide bus operator shortage, VTA made to make the difficult decision to move into a reduced service mode. Buses that normally serviced a stop every 30 minutes moved to 2 hours in some cases. Thanks in part to a successful "Transit Recruitment Event" they hold every Tuesday from 9 am - 1 pm in Hesperia, there are enough operators in training right now that they should be ready to return to pre-covid service, later this year.

Fine Session

Ryan McEachron returned as our Fine Master and began by giving a \$10 fine to Mike Page, for being the Program Coordinator and leaving the program early! Bill Scott shared information about his recent trip across Europe including Paris, Amsterdam, Germany and more, which earned him a \$10 fine. Also paying \$10 was Robert Lovingood for enjoying his time outside of public office and Brad Poiriez earned a fine in the same amount for talking about locomotive reduction. The final fine of \$10 went to Corey Beck who's update on Beck Oil was that they were basically, "selling gas".

Raffle

In this week's raffle, Chris Ackerman donated a Victor Valley Transit campfire mug that will be used by Brad Poiriez and a mobile charging kit that went home with Bryan Gillespie.

Rotary Guests

This week we welcomed Keolis North America General Manager Christine Ortega who attended as a guest of Kevin Kane. Our Stand-in this week was Simon Herrera for Kevin Kane.

August Birthdays

Kay Marie Gregory	August 2
Don Lager	August 11
Phyllis Fox	August 14
Ben Tafoya	August 23
Manjita Patel	August 24
Craig Garrick	August 27
Ron Hughes	August 31

August Anniversaries

Dan Dever	37 Years
Mattie Brown	20 Years
Phyllis Fox	20 Years
Brad Poiriez	6 Years
Jim Cox (Honorary)	1 Year

The Polio Pig

Collected this week: \$22.00

Polio Pig: \$17 + Chris Ackerman (Dice): \$5.00= \$22.00

Collected to Date: \$19,020.52

Total equals: 99,129 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	Need Candidates
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	Need Volunteer

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.....	Need Volunteer
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	Need Volunteer
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 Spring Valley Lake Country Club, 13229 Spring Valley Parkway, 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, 13165 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

- Aug 8: Board of Directors Meeting**
5:30 pm Meeting at ARMAC Insurance
17177 Yuma St., Victorville, CA
- Aug 27: Movie Night at the Hove's**
5:00pm at the home on Jon & Linda Hove
Movie: Top Gun
See Page 2 for more Info

Upcoming Programs

- Aug 2: Mattie Brown's History with Rotary**
- Aug 9:** Michael Johnson, Desert Community Bank
Topic: "DCB Banking, The Past, Present & Future" (Page)
- Aug 16: OPEN**
- Aug 23:** Jon Hove, CEO ROBAR Enterprises **Topic: "1955 to Today"** (Page)
- Aug 30: 5th Tuesday Evening Meeting**
5:00pm • Republic SVL
13261 Spring Valley Lake Parkway #102

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