

The Joshua Tree

January 7, 2025

150 DAYS OF LIFE-SAVING EXCELLENCE

Providence St. Mary Medical Center in Apple Valley, CA, has reached an important milestone in its mission to provide world-class trauma care. Under the leadership of **Dr. Paul Wisniewski**, affectionately known as “Dr. Wiz,” the center’s Level 4 Trauma Program has been operating for 150 days, demonstrating exceptional outcomes and laying the foundation for an even greater role in the county’s trauma care system. Dr. Wiz’s 14-year commitment to the program is a testament to his dedication to advancing trauma care in the High Desert region.

San Bernardino County is the largest county in the United States, spanning an area equivalent to the state of West Virginia. Its population of over 2.1 million residents highlights the critical need for accessible and comprehensive trauma care. The American College of Surgeons recommends one trauma center for every 500,000 people, translating to a requirement of four trauma centers to serve the county adequately. Currently, the county has four trauma facilities:

- Arrowhead Regional Medical Center (Level 1)
- Loma Linda University Medical Center (Level 1)
- High Desert Medical Center in Joshua Tree (Level 4)
- Providence St. Mary Medical Center (Level 4)

Providence St. Mary is uniquely positioned to meet the growing demand for trauma services in the High Desert region. With plans to elevate its



designation to a Level 3 Trauma Center, the facility is preparing to enhance its capabilities, expand its staff, and serve a larger patient population.

Trauma care in San Bernardino County begins with field assessments by Emergency Medical Services (EMS). Patients are categorized based on county-established criteria, such as physiological instability or the mechanism of injury. Communication between EMS and designated base stations, Arrowhead Regional Medical Center and Loma Linda University Medical Center, ensures that each patient is transported to the most appropriate facility.

While Providence St. Mary is not a base station, it plays a critical role in the county’s trauma network. As a Level 4 Trauma Center, it provides advanced trauma life support (ATLS) for initial stabilization and, when necessary, coordinates transfers to higher-level trauma centers for specialized care.

At Providence St. Mary, trauma cases are categorized into two response levels to ensure rapid and effective care:

This Week’s Functionaries

Invocation: Bill Edwards

Flag Salute: Bryan Gillespie

4-Way Test: Chris Ackerman

Fine Master: Ryan McEachron

Continued on page 2



GILLESPIE'S GAB

Thank you to Dr. Wiz for taking time this week to come out and share a vault of valuable information on the Providence St. Mary

Trauma Center.



Based on the vast amount of questions, a return visit is definitely on the cards in the future.

Our first event of the year is coming up on February 9th, Superbowl Sunday! We are still working out all of the details and will have more information soon. In the meantime, set your calendar and prepare to have lots of great food and maybe win some big money!

Also in this issue, if you didn't attend or watch on TV, please enjoy photos from the Rotary Float at the 2025 Rose Parade!

Until next week...

Bryan

Dr. Wiz

Continued from page 1

Level 1 Response: This high-alert response is triggered by severe physiological indicators, such as significant blood pressure drops, elevated heart rates, or loss of consciousness. In these cases, the hospital enters a "freeze" mode, where surgeons, anesthesiologists, imaging teams, and other staff stop their tasks and immediately respond to the trauma center.

Level 2 Response: Activated by mechanisms of injury that suggest potential severity, such as falls from great heights, high-speed vehicle rollovers, or pedestrian collisions, this response ensures swift and thorough evaluation and treatment.

The trauma team at St. Mary includes a 24/7 trauma surgeon, dedicated staff, and an around-the-clock blood bank, making it a robust and reliable trauma care facility. Notably, St. Mary operates with the same capabilities as larger centers like Arrowhead and Loma Linda, despite its current Level 4 designation.

In just 150 days of operation, the Providence St. Mary Trauma Center has achieved a survival rate of 95%, significantly outperforming the national average of 85-90% for trauma facilities. This remarkable achievement reflects the dedication, expertise, and collaboration of the trauma team and underscores the center's commitment to saving lives.

Plans to transition to a Level 3 Trauma Center are already underway. This upgrade will include the addition of a second trauma surgeon, an orthopedic surgeon, and an in-house operating team. These enhancements will enable St. Mary to care for more complex cases, treat a greater number of patients, and reduce the need for transfers to higher-level centers.

Dr. Wisniewski and his team remain committed to delivering exceptional care, advancing medical practices, and saving lives. Their work at Providence St. Mary Trauma Center is not just a testament to their expertise but also a beacon of hope for the High Desert community.



THE MAGIC OF ROTARY

Big Blue Poker Chip



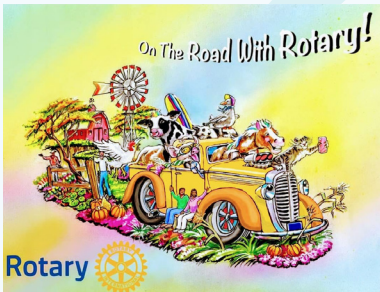
Ryan McEachron had the chance to draw the Blue Chip, but drew green and saved the chance for another next week! We will continue next week with 13 chips and \$225 for the lucky Rotarian who can draw the Blue Chip!

Rotary Guests

This week, we welcomed **Henry Phan** from Providence St. Mary who attended as a guest of **Mike Page** and **Stefanie Montoya** who assisted the Club with **Bryan Gillespie**.

Rose Parade Float

Enjoy these photos of Rotary's 2025 Rose Parade Float.



Raffle

Bill Edwards gave away a gift pack of a S'mores cocoa mug set that will be enjoyed by **Rob Kilpatrick**. Rob will also enjoy attending the new play, "Bachelors at Broadway" at Victor Valley College, with a pair of tickets from the Victor Valley Community Concert Association. **Ryan McEachron** also won a pair of tickets to the play, and he will bring the bottle of wine he received courtesy of **David North** to the show.

Fine Session



Ryan McEachron was our Fine Master and in the spirit of the 2025 year celebration, all fines were in the amount of \$25.

Those getting fined began with **Bill Edwards** in celebration of the Rescue Alliance's 25th Anniversary Gala coming

up in March, **Bob Basen** for announcing his "semi-retirement" as he will only working 3 days a week in the new year, and **Rob Kilpatrick**...well, just because.

The final \$25 fine went to **Angel Espino** for sharing that the best investments this year will be in technology and healthcare. While there won't be high returns, they still should be in the positive.

Rotary
Club of Victorville, CA





VICTORVILLE ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

Board of Directors

| | |
|--|------------------------------|
| President 2024-2025 | Bryan Gillespie |
| President 2025-2027 | Bill Edwards |
| President 2027 - 2028 | Please be Interviewed |
| Immediate Past President | Steve Murray |
| Executive Secretary/Foundation/Grants | Margaret Cooker |
| Treasurer/Scholarships | David North |
| Youth Services/Ethics Essay | Ron Boyd |
| Club Service & Membership | Bill Edwards |
| Community Service/Speech Contests | Mike Johnson |
| Vocational Service | Please Volunteer |
| International Service | Ben Tafoya |
| Member At Large, Young Leaders Contact | Arsalee Morales |
| Member At Large, Special Projects | Rob Kilpatrick |

Members-at-Large: Bob Basen, Darron Poulsen, Angel Espino

Positions & Committee Chairs

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| BOD/PP Secretary | Pam Murray |
| Special Billing | Esther Mears (TBD) |
| Public Service Awards | Please Volunteer |
| Teacher Mini-Grants | Angel Espino |
| Dan Stover Music Contest | Angel Espino |
| Joshua Tree Editor | Chris Ackerman |
| Read B4K | Please Volunteer |
| Foundation & Grants | Margaret Cooker |
| Food Baskets | Please Volunteer |
| Interact (Junior Rotary) | Please Volunteer |
| Programs | Mike Page |
| Fundraising | Stefanie Montoya |
| S.T.A.R. Students | Angel Espino |
| Club Learning Facilitator | Please Volunteer |

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

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| 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: | San Bernardino Crossroads, Hilton, noon, Barstow, DiNapoli's Firehouse, 1358 E Main St, Barstow, CA |
| THURSDAY: | Apple Valley, Rusty Bull, 13685 John Glenn Rd, Apple Valley, 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

- Jan 13:** **Board of Directors Meeting**
5:00pm Fellowship
5:30pm Board Meeting
Location: Robar Enterprises
17671 Bear Valley Road, Hesperia, CA
- Feb 9:** **Super Bowl Party**
TBA

Upcoming Programs

- Jan 14:** **VVC Superintendent Dr. Dan Walden**
(Acosta)
- Jan 21:** **Dan Stover Music Contest** (Espino)
- Jan 28:** **High School 4-Way Speech Contest**
(Johnson)
- Feb 4:** Col. Tony Marshall USAF Retired **TOPIC**
"Millionaire Minds Kids Aviation Club" (Page)
- Feb 11:** Rob Kilpatrick, Sr. Project Manager,
Dave Evans & Associates **TOPIC**
"History of the High Speed Rail from LA to Las Vegas" (Page)
- Feb 18:** **Area High School 4-Way Speech Contest** (Johnson)
- Feb 25:** Melanie Ajanwachuku **TOPIC** **"Fueling Life: How Smart Nutrition Choices Empower Health and Longevity"**
(Page)

Design & Layout By



Printed By

