

The Joshua Tree



March 4, 2025

THE BIRTH OF S.A.R.T. OPERATIONS

Providence St. Mary Medical Center in Apple Valley, CA, is proud to announce the upcoming launch of its Sexual Assault Response Team (S.A.R.T.) department, set to open in April 2025. Spearheaded by **Katie Berrios**, with support from **Nicole Orr**, the S.A.R.T. program will provide critical services to survivors of sexual assault in the High Desert region.



The need for such services is more pressing than ever. According to national statistics, someone is sexually assaulted every 68 seconds, with 91% of victims being women. In the High Desert cities of Adelanto, Apple Valley, Hesperia, Victorville, and Barstow, 381 sexual assaults were reported between 2019 and 2021—an average of 10 reported victims per month or 120 per year. However, sexual assault remains one of the most



underreported crimes, with estimates suggesting that up to 63% of assaults are never brought to the attention of law enforcement.

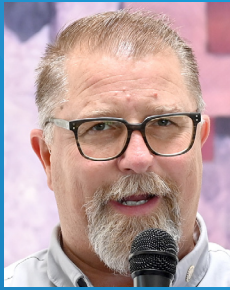
The S.A.R.T. program will be staffed by five registered nurses trained to provide compassionate, trauma-informed care to patients aged 12 and up. Operating 24 hours a day, the department will offer comprehensive services, including forensic exams, suspect exams, follow-up care, phone consultations, and mental health support. Children under 12 will continue to receive care at the Loma Linda Child Advisory Center.

In collaboration with community partners like Partners Against Violence, S.A.R.T. will also provide advocacy services, accompanying patients to meetings and assisting with law enforcement interactions. The team is actively working with local non-profits to train volunteers in identifying individuals who may benefit from S.A.R.T. services.

To create a calming, supportive environment, the S.A.R.T. exam room will be renovated with new flooring, paint, furniture, ceiling tiles, and a forensic camera—designed to feel more like a spa than a hospital room. An exam bed that folds into a chair will further enhance patient comfort.

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This Week's Functionaries
Invocation: Chris Ackerman
Flag Salute: Angel Espino
4-Way Test: Brad Poiriez
Fine Master: David North



BILL'S BANTER

Thank you to both Nicole Orr and Katie Berrios for stopping by this week and

giving us an update on the S.A.R.T.



(Sexual Assault Response Team). We are looking forward to its opening April and helping many in our community.

Our next service project will be making our Easter Baskets, which will take place on April 15th. There is still time to donate, so sign up, donate, and make these baskets our largest yet! We are also looking for volunteers to help pass out the baskets in teams. Please sign up and see lives changed right before your eyes!

On September 6th we will celebrate our 75th Anniversary as a Club with a big fundraising event at the Spring Valley Lake Community Center! With great food and a look back on our many years as a Club, we will also be giving away \$10,000 that night! We will be selling 100 tickets at \$250 each with one lucky person getting some surprise wealth! We are looking for people to join the event committee, so please let me know if you'd like to be a part of the fun!

Until next time...

Bill Edwards

S.A.R.T.

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The S.A.R.T. program is not a revenue-generating initiative but a testament to Providence St. Mary Medical Center's commitment to serving the community.

Join us in raising public awareness about sexual assault and available resources. Volunteer to become a victim advocate, support partnership opportunities with local organizations, and help identify funding opportunities to sustain the program.

Together, we can create a safer, more supportive community for survivors.

Rotary Club of Victorville, CA



THE MAGIC OF ROTARY

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Big Blue Poker Chip



Bill Edwards had the chance to draw the Blue Chip but picked a green one and saved the chance for another. We will continue next week with 11 chips and \$275 for the lucky Rotarian who can draw the Blue Chip!

Rotary Guests

Our stand-ins this week were **Penny Edmiston** for **Maureen Mills** and **Stefanie Montoya** who attended in place of President **Bryan Gillespie**.

Fine Session

David North was our Fine Master and began by giving **Bill Scott** a \$20 penalty for his weird obsession with the forensic camera during the presentation.



It was then time for see how many people were paying attention to the announcements earlier in the meeting, with financial penalties to those who failed. **Jim Cox** was charged \$75 for not knowing what that our upcoming fundraiser was our 75th Anniversary, and **Dr. Derek King** failed to know the event is on September 6th, so he was also penalized \$75. **Angel Espino** failed to listen that one lucky person at the event will go home with \$10,000, so he was fined the same amount and **Mike Johnson** was unaware only 100 tickets would be sold, but he came late so he was only charged \$50.

Raffle



Bill Scott was the big raffle winner this week! First, he won a set of leather Rotary drink coasters from **David North** and a Victor Valley Transit on-the-go coffee mug from **Chris Ackerman**. **Brad Poiriez** also received a VVTA coffee mug, and David also donated a bottle of wine that will be enjoyed by **Arsalee Morales**.

Bill Edwards gave away two gift cards, one from In-n-Out Burger that will be enjoyed by **Jim Cox** and a Target card was won by **David North**.

March Birthdays

Darron Poulsen	March 6
Todd Sturges	March 25
Steve Murray	March 28
Bryan Gillespie	March 28

Wedding Anniversaries

Dan & Kris Dever	65 Years
Chris & Leeann Ackerman	29 Years

March Anniversaries

Terry Caldwell	54 Years
Russ Stringham	33 Years
Steve Murray	21 Years
Manjita Patel	15 Years
Angel Espino	1 Year

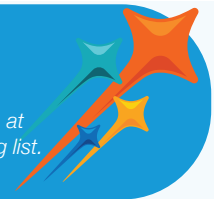
The Polio Pig

Collected this week: \$28.00

Collected to Date: \$21,166.83

Total equals: 103,312 Doses!

*One dollar equals 2 Doses of Vaccine!
\$500 pays for a Polio Clinic!*



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

April 7: **Board of Directors Meeting**
5:00pm Fellowship
5:30pm Board Meeting
Location: Robar Enterprises
17671 Bear Valley Road, Hesperia, CA

Rotary
Club of Victorville, CA



Upcoming Programs

- Mar 11:** **George Hensel Ethics Essay Contest**
(Boyd)
Darron Poulsen, General Manager
VWRA **TOPIC "VWRA Operations Update"** (Gillespie)
- Mar 18:** **OPEN**
- Mar 25:** Ryan McEachron **TOPIC**
"Understanding the County Board of Education" (Page)
- April 1:** **Junior High 4-Way Speech Contest**
(Johnson)
- April 8:** **OPEN**
- April 15:** **Rotary Easter Baskets!**

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