



The Joshua Tree

May 21, 2024

THE GROWTH TO THE “NEW” ONTARIO

Mike Arias is a High Desert native and enjoys a 23 year career as the co-owner of Chicago Title, the number one Title and Escrow Sales Team in the nation for all the FNF family of companies, a Fortune 400 Company. Mike is responsible for closing over 20,000 real estate deals which include residential, commercial, industrial and land.



Mike shared with the Club this week the large amount of money that is flowing through the Victor Valley and Barstow, is close to a billion dollars. He has been tracking the local real estate market for over 15 years, keeping a close eye on housing inventory, home sales, and foreclosure data.

Below are some of the millions of dollars flowing through our region:

The Rancho Lucerne Master Planned Community took out a 2.2 million dollar loan in 2022 and is 1,372 total acres and will provide over 25 million in improvements.

In North Apple Valley, 5.1 million is going into homes at Standing Rock and Central. LGI Homes, the first public builder to come back to the High Desert since the great recession of 2008, will begin building homes in the previously abandoned walled and gated community on July 1st.

Across Hesperia, 457 lots will soon have homes from such builders as Richmond, Lenmar and others.

For the commercial/industrial market, Highway 395 is a hot place currently. The Covington Group recently paid 20.5 million and US Foods spent 10.3 million on the land alone in that area.

SCLA will continue to expand with 269 million in total for buildings and new businesses, and 100 acres of land recently purchased for 13.5 million. The Amazon empire continues to grow in the High Desert with a 1.3 million sq. ft. warehouse coming to SCLA.

Adelanto will also be part of the growth. 1,117 acres for a solar plant was purchased for 12.4 million and Lesso America paid 7.1 million for 132 acres of land to build upon.

Have you seen the beautiful upgrades to the old glass plant on Silica Road? It was purchased for 6.25 million and rumored to be manufacturing bounce houses, while two new industrial parks will be built at the location.

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This Week's Functionaries

Invocation: Chris Ackerman

Flag Salute: Ron Boyd

4-Way Test: Bill Edwards

Fine Master: Ryan McEachron



GILLESPIE'S GAB

Thank you to Mike Arias from Chicago Title for coming by and sharing how much

the Victor Valley is growing and the millions of dollars

coming through the region in residential, commercial and industrial. We look forward to having you come back for an update soon.

The Demotion Party is coming soon at the home of Dan & Kris Dever! It will be held on June 15th at 4:00pm. Please make plans to join us for a lot of fun and the announcement of Rotarian of the Year! We currently have a sign-up sheet going around so we have a good head count, so please let us know if you will be attending.

Bill Edwards shared that the Marilyn Buttlerwerth Scholarship is now open. Please email Bill to nominate someone who you feel exemplifies leadership qualities, going above and beyond to make life better for others in the community. The scholarship winner, given out three times per year, will receive \$1,000 for their efforts. The recipient does not need to be a Rotarian, just someone who is making a difference for others.

Bryan



Arias

Continued from page 1



Heading North to Barstow, the BNSF Railway will be bringing the Barstow International Gateway Project that will open 20,000 jobs. Using 2-3 mile trains, containers will travel from Long Beach to Barstow, where trucks will then take shipments East and West to their final destinations. The building of this will Project will take up 4,200 acres in Barstow, with a price tag of 1.5 billion!

Finally, Apple Valley will continue to be a

shopping mecca with ground breaking last week on the Sprouts Market, with Raising Canes Chicken opening next door. Across Bear Valley Road will see Five Below, Hobby Lobby and Marshall's.

With all of this expansion, Mike is projecting that our current population of 450,000 will grow to 800,000 in the next decade. For an example, he shared that our current Victor Valley was the way the city of Ontario looked in the 1980's. He predicts our region will be similar to the current day Ontario within the next ten years.

For more information, please visit www.chicagotitlepro.com.



**CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD**



CREATE HOPE in the WORLD

Big Blue Poker Chip



Bob Basen had the chance to pick the Blue Poker Chip, and picked a green one and saved the chance for another Rotarian. We will continue next week with 11 chips and \$275 for the one lucky Rotarian who has their ticket drawn.

Raffle

Bill Edwards donated a "Starry Night" light set that will be used by **Stew Anderson** and a plant bracket that was taken home by **Angel Espino**. Bill himself won a bottle of Merlot from **David North** and **Bob Basen** bought three Rotary Raffle Tickets and **Ryan McEachron** won two of them and Bill nabbed the other one!

Fine Session



Ryan McEachron was our Fine Master this week and began by fining **Bob Basen** for the great job of getting the Program for this week's meeting. Ryan will be taking his dog in to see **Dr. Ron Boyd** soon, so Ron was told to pay \$10.

It was found out today that **David North** has served on the Apple Valley Planning Commission for the past three years earned him a \$30 penalty, \$10 for each year. **Stew Anderson** has two golf balls, one in his yard and the other in his pool, which earned him a fine of \$20, \$10 for each ball.

Finally, **Bill Edwards** was ordered to give up \$10 for sharing the upcoming Backpack Giveaway event in July.

District Assembly



Bryan Williams, representing the Rotary Club of Victorville was announced as the District 5300 winner for the George Hensel Ethics Essay contest! He shared his essay at the District Assembly in Pomona on May 18th. He received \$3000 and his teacher, **Anna Lovato**, received \$1000. Bryan and his mom shared that he will be attending the University of Chicago on a full ride scholarship. The Club's winner for the Speech Competition, **McKenzie White**, finished runner-up at the event.

Congratulations Bryan and McKenzie on a job well done!



The Polio Pig

Collected this week: \$14.00

Polio Pig: \$9 + Dice (Bob Basen) \$5 = \$14.00

Collected to Date: \$20,475.33

Total equals: 101,929 Doses!

One dollar equals 2 Doses of Vaccine!

\$500 pays for a Polio Clinic!



VICTORVILLE ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

Board of Directors

President 2023-2024	Steve Murray
President 2024-2025	Bryan Gillespie
President 2025-2027	Bill Edwards
President 2027 - 2028	Please be Interviewed
Immediate Past President/Special Projects.....	Arsalee Morales
Treasurer/Scholarships	David North
Executive Secretary/Foundation/Grants	Margaret Cooker
Club Service/Membership	Bryan Gillespie
Community Service/Speech Contests	Mike Johnson
International Service.....	Ben Tafoya
Youth Service/RYLEA & TLC/Ethics Essay.....	Ron Boyd
Vocational Service	Bill Edwards

Members-at-Large: Rob Kilpatrick & Bob Basen

Positions & Committee Chairs

BOD Secretary	Pam Murray
Billing Officer	Esther Mears
Dan Stover Music Contest.....	Bill Edwards
Flowers and Gifts	Linda Hove
Foundation & Grants	Margaret Cooker
Fundraising.....	Arsalee Morales
Joshua Tree Editor	Chris Ackerman
Membership.....	Bryan Gillespie
Programs	Mike Page
Publicity/Public Relations	Rob Kilpatrick
Public Safety.....	Rick Bessinger, Teresa DeAtley, 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 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

- June 10: Board of Directors Meeting**
5:00pm Fellowship
5:30pm Board Meeting
Location: Robar Enterprises
17671 Bear Valley Road, Hesperia, CA
- June 15: Demotion Party**
Home of Dan & Kris Dever
13166 Waco Road, Apple Valley, CA
4:00pm
- July 13: Movie Night at the Hove's**
Movie: August Rush (2007) PG-13
More information soon

Upcoming Programs

- May 28:** Ryan McEachron, CEO, ISU ARMAC
Insurance **TOPIC "Insurance Industry
Update"** (Page)
- June 4:** Al Hom and Dennis Hom, **TOPIC
"Growing Up in Victorville"** (Johnson)
- June 11:** Ashley Palmer, CTSA Manager, Victor
Valley Transit Authority, **TOPIC "VVTA
Programs that Benefit Seniors and
Disabled"** (Ackerman)
- June 18:** Steve Murray and David North, **TOPIC
"State of the Club"**

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