

April 7 – Gavilan Community College Update



Fellow Rotarian Dr. Pedro Avila, shared exciting updates from Gavilan Community College. Dr. Avila highlighted the encouraging increase in student enrollment and outlined several major campus improvements, including the new library and STEM facilities that will help shape the future of education in our community.

His presentation offered an inspiring look at how Gavilan continues to grow, evolve, and invest in the success of local students.

Thank you, Dr. Avila, for your leadership and for keeping our club connected to the exciting future of higher education in our region.





April 14 – Gilroy Unified School District Update

We had the privilege of hearing from fellow Rotarian and Gilroy Unified School District Superintendent Dr. Anisha Munshi, who shared important updates about our local schools and the future of education in our community.

Her presentation offered valuable insight into how California public schools are funded through state and local initiatives and the many factors that influence educational opportunities for students.



As Rotarians, we are deeply committed to supporting education, and Dr. Munshi's thoughtful presentation reminded us of the importance of investing in our schools, our educators, and our students.

Thank you, Dr. Munshi, for your leadership and dedication to Gilroy's children and families.

Happy bIRTHday



RACHEL PEREZ
APRIL 18

GLORIA DELA MERCED
APRIL 17

Rotary
Club of San Juan Bautista



SERVICE IN ACTION.



**ROTARY
AREA 8**
Community Service Project

April 18 – Area 8
Community Service Project



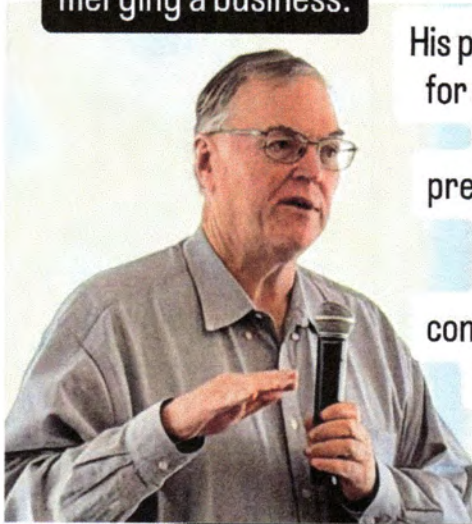
Rotarians from across Area 8 came together in San Juan Bautista for a day dedicated to improving the Japanese American Community Hall.

Led by the Rotary Club of San Juan Bautista, volunteers tackled an impressive list of projects, including landscaping, parking lot striping, painting, carpentry, kitchen organization, fixture installation, and facility improvements.

The power of Rotary shines brightest when clubs work together to strengthen our communities, one project at a time.

Thank you to everyone who rolled up their sleeves and made a difference.

On April 21, 2026, we welcomed Kevin Smith, CPA, who shared valuable insights into the often-overlooked process of selling, transitioning, or merging a business.



His presentation explored strategies for successful business succession, preserving family legacies, and preparing for future opportunities.

For many members, it offered practical advice and important considerations for business owners thinking about the next chapter.

APRIL 21, 2026. BUSINESS SUCCESSION INSIGHTS



Thank you, Kevin, for sharing your expertise and helping us think differently about planning for the future.

April 28 Scholarship Awards



One of the most meaningful events of our Rotary year.

The Rotary Club of Gilroy proudly awarded more than \$200,000 in scholarships to twenty-five outstanding students from Gilroy, Geca and Christopher High Schools. Each student shared their aspirations, future plans, and the universities they will attend this fall, reminding us all of the incredible promise within our community. Supporting education and investing in future leaders remains one of Rotary's greatest commitments. We are honored to help these remarkable young men and women begin the next chapter of their journeys.


Congratulations



Congratulations to all of our scholarship recipients. Your future is bright, and we cannot wait to see all that you accomplish.



New Blue Badge: Gary Crow

New Red Badge: Chadd Young



*MAY 1-3 • ROTARY
DISTRICT CONFERENCE*

Connection, inspiration,
and service came together
at this year's Rotary District
Conference.

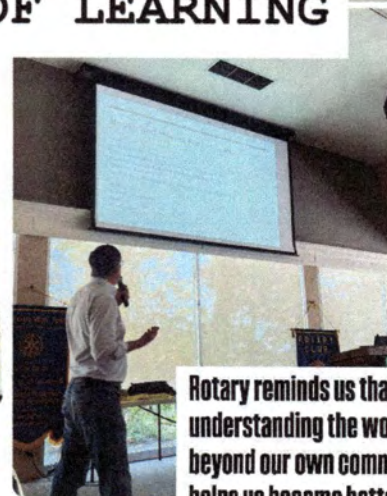
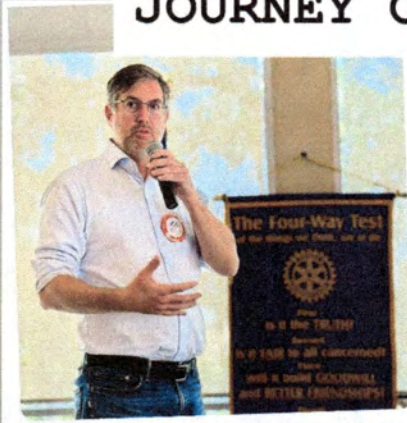


The Neal J. Hoffman
Outstanding Young
Rotarian Award.
Jana Dlakova, Rotary
Club of Gilroy.
Presented to an
exceptional Rotarian
age 45 or younger
who has shown
outstanding
leadership within
their club and/or
the district.



Our very own Jana Diakova
receiving her award at the
District conference in Reno

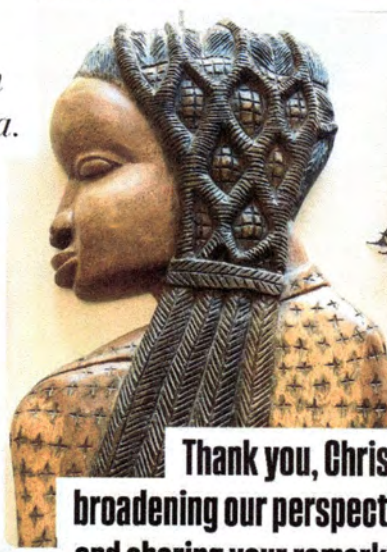
MAY 12 • LIBERIA: A JOURNEY OF LEARNING



Rotary reminds us that understanding the world beyond our own communities helps us become better global citizens.



Our fellow Rotarian Chris Demers took us on a fascinating journey to Liberia, sharing his experiences living and working with humanitarian organizations in West Africa.



Thank you, Chris, for broadening our perspectives and sharing your remarkable experiences.

MAY 15 • BIKE NIGHT AT GILROY GARDENS

WHAT A WONDERFUL
EVENING OF FUN,
FELLOWSHIP, AND
COMMUNITY AT BIKE NIGHT
AT GILROY GARDENS.



MEMBERS AND FRIENDS ENJOYED
BEAUTIFUL WEATHER, GREAT
CONVERSATIONS, AND THE
OPPORTUNITY TO SPEND TIME
TOGETHER OUTSIDE OUR REGULAR
MEETINGS. EVENTS LIKE THESE
REMINDE US THAT ROTARY IS NOT ONLY
ABOUT SERVICE PROJECTS AND
MEETINGS, IT IS ALSO ABOUT
BUILDING FRIENDSHIPS AND
CREATING LASTING MEMORIES.



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO
JOINED US FOR THIS SPECIAL
EVENING.



MAY 19 • WELCOMING FRIENDS FROM THE PHILIPPINES

Rotary friendships truly know no borders.



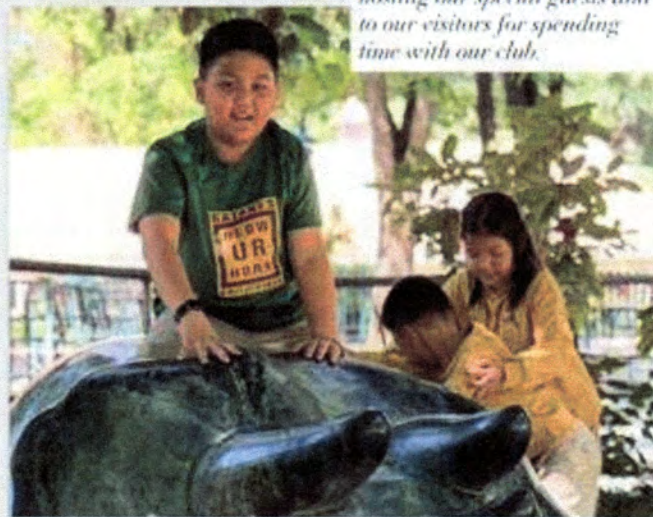
We were honored to welcome President-Elect Melvin Mari and his wife Kathy from the Rotary Club of Zamboanga City, Philippines, as guests of fellow Rotarian Gloria Della Merced.



Their visit served as a beautiful reminder of Rotary's global reach and the friendships that connect us across continents and cultures. Sharing stories, experiences, and fellowship strengthens the bonds that unite Rotarians around the world.



Thank you to Gloria for hosting our special guests and to our visitors for spending time with our club.



MAY 26 • UNDERSTANDING
GLOBAL POPULATION
TRENDS



On this day, we welcomed
Dr. J. Timothy Londergan,
Professor Emeritus of
Physics from Indiana State
University, who shared
fascinating research on
global population trends
and declining birth rates
around the world.

JUNE 2 • GILROY POLICE MOTOR UNIT VISIT



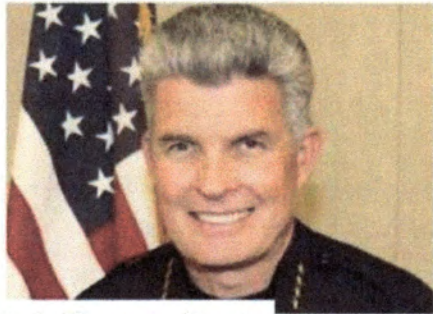
Lights, sirens, motorcycles, and plenty of fascinating insights made for an unforgettable Rotary meeting.



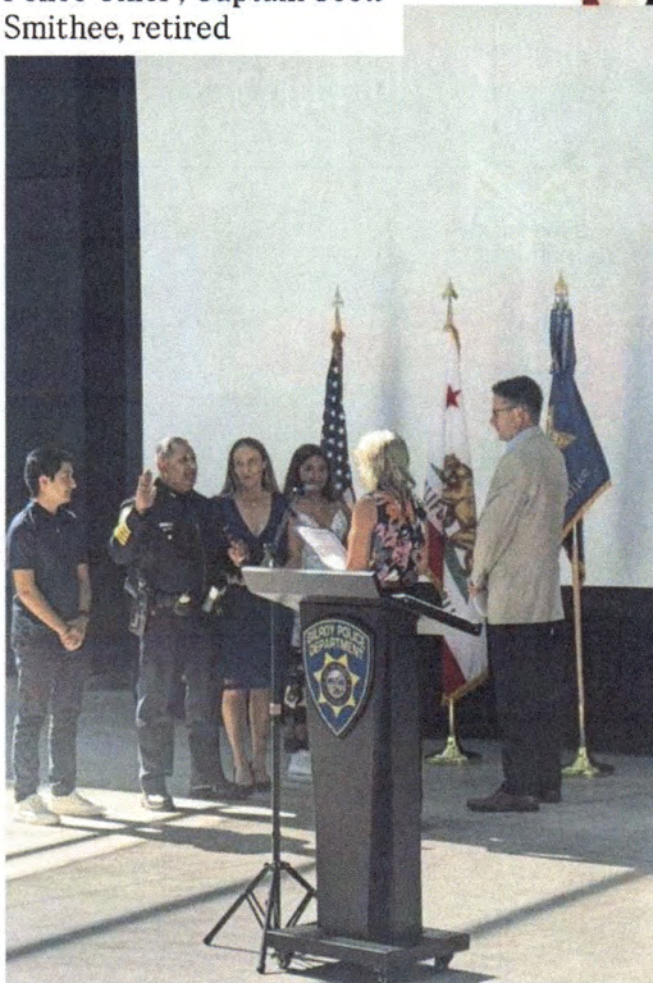
Several officers from the Gilroy Police Department's Motor Unit joined us to share their expertise and give members an up-close look at the specialized equipment they use to serve and protect our community every day. Meeting outdoors on the Elk's patio allowed members to explore the motorcycles, learn how radar speed enforcement works, and watch impressive demonstrations of the motorcycles' maneuverability through a cone course.



June 4 - Gilroy Police
Department's swearing-in
ceremony for our new Police
Chief and fellow Rotarian,
Chief Brandon Sanchez.



Police Chief , Captain Scott
Smithee, retired



JUNE 6 • SENIOR BARBECUE AT CHRISTMAS HILL PARK



One of Rotary's greatest traditions is caring for the members of our community who helped build it. Rotarians from our Gilroy Rotary Club came together at Christmas Hill Park to serve lunch and share fellowship during our annual Senior Barbecue. The event provided an opportunity to connect with local seniors, enjoy conversation, and celebrate the generations that have contributed so much to our community.

Service often happens in simple moments: sharing a meal, offering a smile, and spending time together. Thank you to all of the hard-working volunteers who helped make this annual tradition possible.

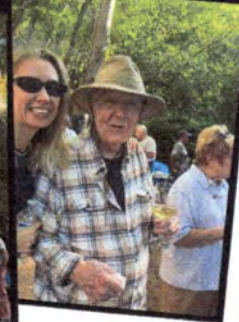
JUNE 9 • RENZ GULCH BARBECUE



PERFECT WEATHER, GREAT
FOOD, AND EVEN BETTER
COMPANY MADE THIS YEAR'S
RENTZ GULCH BARBECUE
ANOTHER MEMORABLE
ROTARY TRADITION.

FOR DECADES, MEMBERS
HAVE GATHERED AT RENZ
GULCH TO ENJOY
FELLOWSHIP AND
CELEBRATE THE
FRIENDSHIPS THAT MAKE
OUR CLUB SO SPECIAL.
SPECIAL THANKS GO TO
RICK PATEREAU AND HIS
DEDICATED TEAM OF CHEFS,
WHO HAVE BEEN KEEPING
THE GRILLS GOING FOR
MORE THAN THIRTY YEARS.

***Some traditions
become part of a club's
history, connecting
generations of
Rotarians through
shared meals, stories,
and laughter. Renz
Gulch continues to do
exactly that.***





Nita Edde-Mitchell
June 11

Happy Birthday

Nita Mitchell with
Future Rotary District
Governor Kamal Della

JUNE 16 • GOLF AND LEADERSHIP



Thank you, Joanne, for an engaging and inspiring presentation.



We were delighted to welcome Joanne Lee, PGA coach at CordeValle Golf Club, who shared her expertise, experiences, and passion for the game of golf.



We welcome our new member Colleen Allen

JUNE 23 • TREES TO READ UNDER

Last week, Rotarians installed the final six benches, completing the bench portion of our Trees to Read Under project. The final bench was installed on June 23, marking an important milestone for this special community effort.

Together, we have planted 100 trees and installed 40 benches throughout our schools. New books have already been delivered to many school libraries, and additional books are still being purchased for Mt. Madonna High School. It has been rewarding to see how the simple idea of connecting nature and literacy has taken root in our community.

Most importantly, this project would not have been possible without the support of so many people. Thank you to our fellow Rotarians, school staff, volunteers, donors, community partners, and everyone who helped bring this vision to life. Your generosity and dedication have created spaces that students will enjoy for years to come.

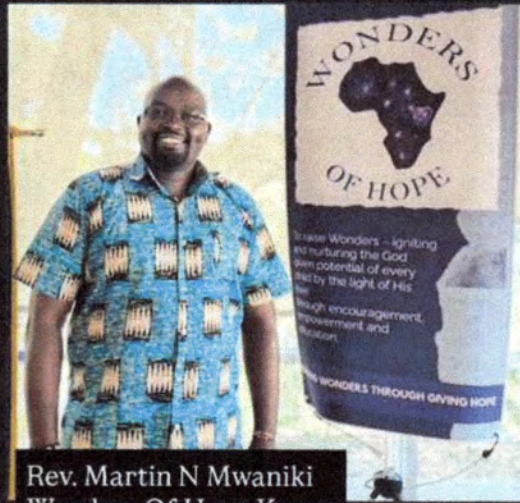
The goal of Trees to Read Under has always been simple: to inspire a love of reading while creating peaceful outdoor spaces where students can relax, learn, read, and dream.

One tree, one bench, and one book at a time.





Annie Fortino, speaking to us on her founding of the nonprofit organization 'Wonders of Hope.



Rev. Martin N Mwaniki
Wonders Of Hope Kenya



June 23 - Wonders of Hope Foundation



Walking with Dignity ~ 2026



Our Spring Community Service Project, "Walking with Dignity 2026", a campaign to provide shoes to local families in need.



Thank you to everyone who helped make this possible

**It is with great sadness that we
share the passing of our dear
friends and fellow Rotarians,
Susie Connell Bible and
Marv Thomas.**

Susie Connell Bible

Susie was a cherished member of our club and our community. Her kindness, generous spirit, warm smile, and joyful laugh touched everyone fortunate enough to know her. She embodied the very best of Rotary.



Marv Thomas

Many of us have so many fond memories of Marv. Until recently, Marv had been an active member of our Gilroy Rotary Club for 48 years, since 1978. He was so proud of his perfect attendance at our meetings for so many years.

**Susie and Marv will be deeply
missed, lovingly remembered,
and forever remain part of the
Rotary family.**

Paula Goldsmith Flowers



Having a flowery fun time at
our final Board Meeting of the
2025-2026 Rotary year.

