



My fellow Rotarians,

We're on the downhill side of another successful Rotary year and I know we collectively share pride in what we've done together. For example, I had a visit from my neighbor, Bill, who delivers Meals on Wheels. He gave our Club a *thank you card* signed by many of the recipients of the Rotary blankets. He told me that a good number of the seniors were moved to tears at our gesture. We might think of this as an annual event?

We've also got some very important events coming up.

- The Foundation Dinner April 11^{th,}
- Luck of the Irish Bingo March 16th
- Dragon Lady scholarship fundraiser on March 21^{st,}
- The District Conference in Fallon in May
- The Rhonda Haselip event on May 22nd (we're providing lunch)

And of course, let's not forget the elephant in the room.... the Duck Race! You can bet Mike and Joe will be coming to all of us for



help on that one! I certainly think it's safe to say that Rotary is continuing to make its mark on our little town. Let's keep up the good work!

Yours in Rotary Pride, Barry



Keeping Our Seniors WARM!!

Our Rotary Club ordered 200 wonderfully soft and warm blankets to distribute to Seniors.

- 60 Alturas Homebound
- 23 Alturas Senior Center
- 50 Alturas Warnerview
- 40 Surprise Valley Homebound & Senior Center
- 23 Surprise Valley Long-term Care

We'll save 1 for the District Conference Basket, and only have 3 left! So we voted to order 50 more!

Thank you Elizabeth Cavasso for designing and ordering. Thanks to Barry Pierce and Gail Eppler for organizing and delivering blankets. And thanks Barry, Gail, Linda Morin, Karen Shimamoto, and Interactors Paisley Knight and Ranota Mendez for putting bows on the blankets! And a special thanks to our Rotarians for supporting this wonderful project!









Leslie Boyle - CEO Alturas Ranches

Thanks Rotarian Casey Cockrell for inviting CEO Leslie Boyle of Alturas Ranches to a recent Rotary lunch meeting. Leslie has been CEO since 2019 and was their Operations & Sales Manager beforehand.

Alturas Ranches is about 50,000 acres owned and managed by the Barry Swenson Family. They grow primarily alfalfa, wild rice, and wheat, as well as raise Angus cattle. They have about 40 permanent employees, and increase to close to 100 employees during the summer.

Their wild rice is featured in various markets including Amazon Prime, and their alfalfa pellets are shipped around the world for animal feed with a crude protein of 15%.

Their latest project is to use their square mile reservoir on the Madeline Plains for solar power. They are leasing the surface to a solar company to generate power and to offset pumping costs.

Alturas Ranches has a generous scholarship program offering upwards of \$20,000 for eduction! AR has and continues to be an amazing supporter of our local youth programs and sports teams. Thanks Leslie!















LUCK OF THE IRISH "BINGO"

March 16, 2025

J.E. Niles Room - Niles Hotel 1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. (Doors open at 12:00 noon)

PRIZES: HAMS / PIES FOR TIED GAMES
BLACK OUT \$150

RAFFLE BASKETS / DOOR PRIZES

For additional information contact Gail Eppler 530.526.8270 or Dianna Bass 530.708.1086





And the winners are:

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Dates to Remember

February 14 Valentine's Day February 17 President's Day

March 16 Luck of the Irish BINGO

March 21 Dragon Lady Scholarship Dinner

April 11 Foundation Dinner

Facilitators for Upcoming Meetings

Feb 4 Karen Shimamoto

Feb 11 Fellowship (no Program)

Feb 18 Timi Blankenship

Feb 25 Dick Read (Assembly)

Mar 4 Alan Cain

Mar 11 Fellowship (no Program)

Mar 18 Lori Galvin

Mar 25 Karen Shimamoto (Assembly)





Modoc Producers - Farm to Home and Farm to School!

Thank you Leah Larsen and Dick Mackey for sharing what producers of vegetables and meat provide to our local community. Joining Leah was her spouse Brian Taylor and daughter Maya. They are from Ft. Bidwell and Alturas and own Bidwell Canyon Farms. Dick has Canyon Creek Ranch out of Alturas.

Bidwell Canyon Farms grows 40 different varieties of vegetables. They have permanent beds, with lots of care of their soils. They use interplanting, for example lettuce combined with peppers. Leah has a degree in botany, and Brian does construction. Their two girls go to high school in Alturas, and were home-schooled until 8th grade.

They have been in business for 12 years, supplying produce to restaurants like the Hotel Niles, two food hubs and Saturday markets.

Leah recently was awarded a 3-year grant to teach life skills in food production. She works with the Alturas Headstart program to incorporate vegetables into breakfast, lunch and dinner menus. She is working towards a school garden and even a culinary program at the school - so important to know how to cook! They will build a four-season greenhouse and have vegetables and roots year-round!



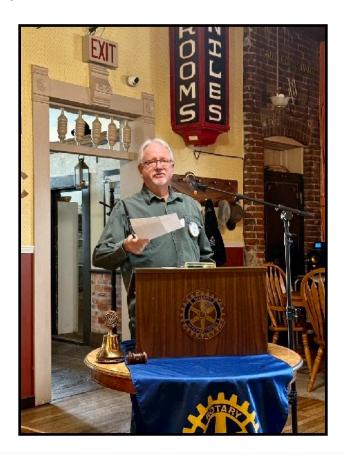
Dick Mackey has supported the Saturday market in Alturas with vegetables from his hoop house and garden. He also has organic grass-fed beef and wood-fired pottery for sale. Like Leah and Brian, Dick believes local produce and food is important for our community. His products are also available through Modoc Harvest, and online food hub.

Dick is also involved in heritage apple trees. He will be participating in a grafting workshop in March.

Contact Leah and Brian at bidwellcanyonfarm@gmail.com.

Contact Dick Mackey at dickmackey123@gmail.com

thanks so much !!



And there is always Rotary Trivia to stump you!!! Thanks Alan for entertaining us each week..... and earning the Club some \$\$

Just a pretty picture of Summer Lake in North Lake County Oregon







From your Newsletter Editor - Karen Shimamoto

Please let me know how I can include items in our newsletter of interest, fun, and

Wow.... Proud to be a Rotarian ???