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Speakers

October 25, 2023

[Jacquelyn McCormick + Peter Radu, City of Berkeley](#)

"Housing, Homelessness, and Mental Health in Berkeley"

November 15, 2023

[Grier Graff, Endowment Secretary + Tina Etcheverry, Endowment Treasurer](#)

"Berkeley Rotary Club Endowment Report"

November 22, 2023

NO MEETING

Happy Thanksgiving!

Events

No Events found

Birthdays

Lewis Ames
October 27th

Joanne Dickerson-Harper
October 29th

Joan Collignon
November 3rd

Pate D. Thomson
November 5th

Elizabeth Holl Tyler
November 16th

Maurice Gene Marcus
November 19th

Club Announcements

Next Meeting. Wednesday, October 25, 12:30 PM PT (at First Presbyterian and on Zoom): Jacquelyn McCormick (Chief of Staff to the Mayor of Berkeley) and Peter Radu (Neighborhood Services Manager, City of Berkeley) will present "**Housing, Homelessness, and Mental Health in Berkeley.**"



The speakers are provided by Team #4, the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker Team; Marcia and O'Neil Dillon, Captains. This is a hybrid meeting. For information about attending in person, visit www.berkeleyrotary.org; email info@berkeleyrotary.org for the Zoom link.



Civil Discourse Session this Wednesday. The Berkeley

Rotary Monthly Civil Discourse meeting will be held this Wednesday, Oct. 25, at 2:15 PM by Zoom. Due to recent events in the Middle East, this month's topic will be: "Has the October 7 Hamas incursion into Israel changed your opinion about a solution in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict?" Please attend to share your thoughts and, if possible, bring a friend with a point of view that is opposite of yours. Contact Peace Committee Chair Maxim Schrogin (maximds42@gmail.com) for more information and the Zoom link.



A Berkeley/BARSHEEP October Fest! It's Berkeley Rotary's turn to host the Friday BARSHEEP TGIF this month. There's no better place to celebrate Oktoberfest than at Trumer Brewery, whose German-style Trumer Pils has been brewed in Berkeley since 2004. Trumer has opened a brand new taproom in their brewery at 4th and Camelia, and we'll meet there on Friday, October 27, from 5 to 7. The brewery is now producing half a dozen new beers along with their standard Pils. Soft drinks, of course, are available. The club will provide some snacks, or you can order more substantial sandwiches and wurst if you like to go with your libation. We hope to see you at **1404 4th Street on Friday, October 27, from 5 to 7.** Contact President Libby for information: eh Tyler6@gmail.com

A Night of Celebration and Appreciation

By Irene R. Hegarty

On Saturday, October 21, a festive celebration of RotaCare Richmond and appreciation of its donors included an appearance by Rita Moreno, a wonderful musical performance by a talented young pianist, a toast to Pate



Thomson, and even a special, newly named orchid, Masdevallia Rita Moreno!

The pianist, Cullen Luper, a student at San Francisco Music Academy, began the evening with jazz versions of old favorites and selections from Beethoven's Pathetique Sonata in C

Minor. He was amazing.

Rita Moreno, a steadfast supporter of the clinic, sang "Dream" by Johnny Mercer, remarking that in times of struggle and challenge, we always have our dreams and hope, and that this is what the clinic offers to those in need. Addressing the donors in the audience, she said "You are the soul behind this amazing project." Steve Beckendorf and Anne Pardee presented Rita with a special orchid, created by John Leathers of Hawk Hill Orchids and named for Rita, to her surprise and delight.

Clinic Manager (and Berkeley Rotarian) Amit Randhawa talked about his path from volunteer to staff, how the clinic has developed over that time, and its new directions as the staff helps to link clients with social services as well as health care. Omar Esteban, a previous clinic volunteer who served as a Spanish interpreter, now serves as a Community Health Worker to help clients access needed resources.



At the end of the program, Pate Thomson announced that he would be retiring from the board of the clinic after years of leadership. From the beginning of the clinic, his contributions as a doctor, mentor, fundraiser, and cheerleader have been key to its success. As Rita put it, "for those who don't know Pate, he's the one with the halo."

Berkeley Schools Fund: Two Years into a New Mission

By Joan Collignon



Erin Rhoades, the executive director of the Berkeley Public Schools Fund, spoke to the club on October 18 and shared the history of the Schools Fund, thanking Berkeley Rotary for its historic and continuing involvement. She then focused on the Fund's new mission.

Concerned about the ongoing achievement gap in the Berkeley public schools, the Schools Fund decided two years ago to disrupt this pattern. Its mission became "To champion equitable public education for students, families, and our community." With the aim to bridge the gap and reduce disparities so that all students thrive, all of the Fund's grants now focus on this core mission and are directed to the following areas:

- Equity grants to boost literacy;

Grants to increase educator diversity, including a partnership between the school district and Berkeley City College to build a pathway at Berkeley High for students interested in teaching as a career;

- Grants for STEM programs, particularly outside of the school day and at summer camps.

Looking ahead, the Schools Fund will be offering scholarships to music camps for 5th and 6th graders. It is also addressing food insecurity. A grant provides healthy snack foods in key spaces at the high school, and volunteers regularly deliver provisions to Berkeley families in partnership with the Berkeley Food Network.

[Read More](#)

Seeking an End to Alzheimer's and Dementia

Join Berkeley Rotarians on November 4 in support of the Alzheimer's Foundation Walk to End Alzheimer's. This will be the 5th year we've walked together as Team Berkeley Rotary. We'll meet at **Pier 27 on the Embarcadero in San Francisco on Saturday, November 4, at 10 AM**. We'll walk en masse down the Embarcadero to Fisherman's Wharf and back. You may choose a route of one or three miles. Many take BART and meet at the Ferry Building for lunch before heading back to the East Bay. Here's the link to sign up, or contact Joan Collignon: joancollignon@gmail.com.

http://act.alz.org/site/TR?fr_id=16408&pg=team&team_id=824250

