

Rotary



Club of Merced

Club Meeting

Merced
Meets at Merced Elks Lodge
1910 M Street
Merced, CA 95340
Time: Wednesday at 12:00 PM

Club Leaders



[Cyril L. Lawrence](#)
President



[Brenda J. Callahan-Johnson](#)
Secretary



[Edward C. Spinardi II](#)
Treasurer



[Clark Kellogg](#)
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Susan Coston](#)
Youth Services Chair



[James G. Marshall](#)
Rotary Foundation
Chair



[R. Neil Morse](#)
Membership Chair



[David P Spangler](#)
Attendance Secretary



[Steve M. Tietjen](#)
Past President

Events

No Events found

Speakers

August 21, 2024

[Kimiko Vang & May-Ci Xiong](#)
Merced County Youth Resiliency
Center

August 28, 2024

[Dave Dunham](#), UC Merced
Athletic Director

September 04, 2024

[Matt Serrato](#)
Mayor, City of Merced

Birthdays

Merced Rotary - Wednesday August 21, 2024 - Youth Resiliency Center

Join us at Merced Rotary, Wednesday, August 21, 2024 for lunch and our speakers, Dr. Kimiko Vang, Director & May-Ci Xiong, Division Director of the Behavioral Health and Recovery Services of Merced County. They will be speaking on the Merced County Youth Resiliency Center.

Merced County Youth Resiliency Center

The Student Resiliency Center offers mental health services such as trauma reduction, suicide prevention and provides behavioral health-related professional development for school staff. The center is located in the Thorington building on Main and N Streets (Other offices in the building include the Empower Program, Foster and Homeless Youth Services, California Youth Health Behavior Initiative, Family Resource Center and the Virginia Smith Trust).

Dr. Kimiko Vang has served as Director of the Behavioral Health & Recovery Services (BHRS) Department and Public Guardian/Conservator of Merced County since January 30, 2023.

Dr. Vang is highly committed to Merced County, which she has called home for more than 30 years. She is a proud alumna of Merced High School and Merced College. Dr. Vang graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in sociology with a minor in ethnic studies, and a Master of Social Work from California State University, Stanislaus. She also earned a Doctor of Social Work degree from the University of Southern California.

As a first-generation college graduate, Dr. Vang is grateful for the educational opportunities that were available to her in Merced and the Central Valley. Dr. Vang had a humble beginning, having been born in a refugee camp in Thailand. She and her parents immigrated to France where she grew up in a suburb of Paris. Her family immigrated to Merced when she was an adolescent. Dr. Vang lives with her husband and son in Merced County where they enjoy spending time with family and friends.



Kent Floro
August 24th

David P Spangler
August 28th

Wedding Anniversaries

Stuart Spencer
August 27th

Years of Service

Curtis A. Riggs
09-01-1976
48 Years

Brenda J. Callahan-Johnson
09-01-2008
16 Years

Last Week at Merced Rotary

President Cyril went over three items from the club survey. We will be working on the areas of welcoming new members, reviewing our fund raising opportunities. Some possible projects are a UC Merced tennis complex court or sign, backpacks for kids, special Olympics, and/or a shade cover at the McNamara Pool.

Several gifts were given to the President, and appropriately fined. For a troll calendar from Norway - fine \$50.00 to Tom Wilkins. Tom had so many details about the trip Cyril fined him extra.



A Grand Canyon baseball from Kent Floro who was in Arizona to see his son pitch was a fine of \$10. (On July 30, the Nationals traded Dylan to the Arizona Diamondbacks). Kent said that he could have brought a signed baseball, but didn't have enough notice.



Last but not least was Danica Gatney, \$10.00 fine for 4 farm fresh eggs from her "non-profit" farm.

Linda Tatum gave Cyril a book of the history of Rotary clubs from 1905 to 1955, and received a thank you, no fine.

Cyril also had Joerg report on visitors to our club next spring. The Open World project is an exchange project where our club will host an international delegation of 6 people, tour them around the area and help establish relationships.

Our speaker was Jill Cunningham, Vice President, External Relations at Merced College and Executive Director of Merced College Foundation.

Monday at Merced College was the first day of classes and the energy was flowing on campus with the students back. The college opened the new Dreamscape classroom. Jill offered a field trip to the club to come and see it. The classroom is a new revolutionary way of interacting and teaching biology. The groundbreaking of the new Ag Tech Innovation center is coming in October. Transformative for the community, Merced College was picked to host this center. The students will learn all aspects of food in the valley from farm to fork. The food produced will be available for the community to purchase. Enrollment has surpassed last year's levels with about 5,000 full-time equivalent students (about 15,000 total students).



Queen Kathleen had the winning ticket, and received a free lunch.