



**San Antonio Northeast Rotary Club**  
Chartered May 19, 1987 - District 5840 - Club #24625  
[www.sanortheastrotary.com](http://www.sanortheastrotary.com)



# the Nor'easter



**CREATE HOPE  
in the WORLD**

**March 12, 2024**



**Rotary**  
Club of San Antonio  
Northeast

**Salsalito Cantina Mexican Restaurant, 14535 Nacogdoches Road, San Antonio, TX 78247**  
Meeting from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.



**Rotary's Four Way Test of the things we think, say or do:**

1.) Is it the TRUTH? 2.) Is it FAIR to all concerned? 3.) Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS? 4.) Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Our guest speakers this evening are Madison High School students Alexa Huerta, Christian Berumen, and Kaci Katsuda. They will give us a report Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) experience from this past January at the John Newcombe Tennis Ranch in New Braunfels. Open to more than 150 outstanding representatives of clubs throughout District 5840, the RYLA Conference is held in January over the Martin Luther King weekend.



Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

In 1975-76, Floyd Harriman of the Rotary Club of Pleasanton was District Governor. He asked W. Dain Higdon, a Past District Governor, to select a committee to determine the possibility of establishing a Rotary Youth Leadership Award Seminar in our Rotary District. A committee was selected which included Rotarians from several clubs. At the time Dr. Duncan Wimpres, a Rotarian and a director of the Rotary Club of San Antonio, was president of Trinity University. He was approached and agreed to host the meeting on Trinity's campus. Our first RYLA was May 14-16, 1976, with 55 high school students in attendance.



**WHAT IS RYLA?**

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is an intensive leadership program for young people ages 14-30. Organized by clubs, districts, or Multi-districts, RYLA allows participants to learn new skills through civic engagement and personal and professional development opportunities. As a RYLA organizer, you can customize the content and format of your event to target certain age groups or to address specific needs and interests within the community. Your RYLA program might include workshops, interactive activities, or more formal presentations. It could be designed for secondary school students, university students, or even young adults starting their careers. You also determine its length. This flexibility allows you to develop innovative programming that meets participants' unique needs.

Through RYLA events, clubs, districts, and multi-districts equip young leaders with the knowledge and skills they need to make real change locally and globally. In turn, clubs and districts benefit from the fresh perspectives of RYLA participants and alumni.

A RYLA program should aim to:

- Develop young people's leadership skills and recognize those who are making a positive difference in their communities
- Instill a lifelong commitment to service in young people and connect them with ongoing opportunities to serve through Rotary
- Fulfill Rotary's commitment to youth service by empowering young people through leadership development

**UPCOMING CLUB CALENDAR**

<b>Thursday, March 14th</b>	Volunteer at Ronald McDonald House
<b>Tuesday, March 19th</b>	Speaker to be determined
<b>Saturday, March 23rd</b>	Rotary Day SA 2024
<b>Thursday, April 11th</b>	Rotary Night at the Missions
<b>Saturday, April 20th</b>	Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) Training

**Birthdays & Anniversaries**

LaVonna Stewart and her husband Terrance will be celebrating their wedding anniversary on March 16th.



At the start of tonight our Happy Bucks pot is at \$139. That means if your ticket is drawn tonight and you pull the Joker out of the deck, who will leave with at least \$69.50.

This Thursday, March 14th, San Antonio Northeast Rotarians are encouraged to volunteer to prepare dinner for those individuals staying at the Ronald McDonald House in the Medical Center area. The address is 4847 Charles Katz, San Antonio, Texas 78229.



Our window to arrive and serve dinner is between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Normally, dinner should be ready around 6:00 p.m. Please e-mail Russell Sturgeon at [Russell.Sturgeon@frostbank.com](mailto:Russell.Sturgeon@frostbank.com) or text him at (361) 816-1388 if you would like to volunteer for this service project.



**Happy  
St. Patrick's  
Day**

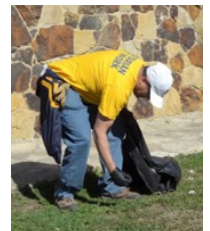


**Join Us for Rotary Day SA 2024**  
Saturday, March 23  
McAllister Park  
Pavilion #5



**Service Opportunities:**

- Tree ring mulching
- Litter pick up
- Invasive species removal
- Dog park mulching
- Painting picnic tables
- Repainting the posts and cable



**Registration Required:**

- 9:00am: Check in, breakfast tacos, orientation
- 10am - 2pm: Service Hours
- Volunteers must be 10 or older
- All volunteers must sign a waiver
- Wear your Rotary shirts, appropriate shoes and bring gloves

Scan the QR code to register



Join your fellow Rotarians in a district-wide day of service.

We had a great meeting last week at Salsalito Cantina Mexican Restaurant. With March 8th being International Women's Day, we were honored to have Past District 5840 Governor Stephanie Macchia as our speaker. Stephanie was the first female District Governor in District 5840 in Rotary Year 2010-2011. Thank you, Stephanie for a wonderful talk. I know that everyone that was in attendance thoroughly enjoyed hearing your Rotary words of wisdom.



At our meeting, we also presented the staff at Salsalito's Cantina a framed sign showing that the San Antonio Northeast Rotary Club is proud to meet each Tuesday at the restaurant. We recently changed our meeting frequency from the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month, to every Tuesday.

Please come out and join us. Salsalito Cantina Mexican Restaurant is located at 14535 Nacogdoches Rd, San Antonio, TX 78247. We meet in the private room at the front of the restaurant. Our meeting starts at 6:00 p.m., but you can arrive as early 5:30 p.m. for some club social time.

**SALSALITO**  
CANTINA  
MEXICAN RESTAURANT

**Rotary honors a tireless advocate for women and girls  
The 2024 Sylvia Whitlock Leadership Award recipient promotes women's health and empowerment  
by Etelka Lehoczky**

The 2024 recipient of Rotary International's Sylvia Whitlock Leadership Award is a successful entrepreneur, a Rotary member of 20 years, and a tireless advocate for women and girls. Manjoo Phadke, of the Rotary Club of Pune Deccan Gymkhana, Maharashtra, India, has helped more than 100,000 girls and women through her many projects. "I've always felt that women think of themselves as 'lesser,'" she says. "I want to keep giving them confidence that they are not 'lesser,' and they can do whatever they set their minds to."

"Manjoo's professional and social accomplishments, positive attitude, and passion have set her apart as an influential leader and catalyst for change," says Shailesh Narayan Palekar, the district Rotary Foundation chair for District 3131, who nominated Phadke for the award. "She is a lady who is very, very determined to work for young girls and women, and that is something that makes her exceptional." Phadke has pursued numerous initiatives to support women's health, including organizing clinics to offer medical checkups and mammograms and leading campaigns to promote menstrual hygiene.

"Unfortunately, in India, women have this tendency of neglecting themselves," she says. "For example, if there is one liter of milk, women think it should be given to the men or the boys. We have to make them understand that if the woman of the house is healthy, the entire house can be healthy."

She has worked extensively to increase the rate of vaccination against human papillomaviruses (HPV), the cause of almost all cases of cervical cancer. Not only did she help to secure US\$800,000 in grants from The Rotary Foundation to pay for vaccinations, but she also negotiated their prices directly with vaccine suppliers. She ultimately helped secure savings of nearly two-thirds off the regular price per dose.

"The cost of two doses of the vaccine was ₹8,400 [about US\$100] in India at that time, which was very, very high," Palekar says. "We wanted to do about 10 global grants to vaccinate 25,000 girls. So, she used all her negotiating skills with the vaccine companies and brought the rate down to ₹3,400 [about US\$40] — about 40% of the actual rate in the market." The project ultimately met its target, vaccinating approximately 25,000 girls in rural and tribal areas.

Phadke also helped design and launch Project Asmita, a program that uses specially made videos and booklets to educate girls in life skills such as financial, digital, and legal literacy, as well as self-defense, nutrition, and menstrual health. The project, which also distributes free vitamins and sanitary napkins, has reached an estimated 100,000 girls and has become one of her district's signature initiatives.

Designing the program was a natural step for Phadke, who runs a vocational education institute for lower-income students called SkillArbor. The institute takes a "learn while you earn" approach, connecting participants with employers on their first day in the program. As an entrepreneur herself, Phadke says, she has a special interest in helping women who want to run their own businesses. Her district recruited about 1,000 girls for a driver's education program that enabled the participants to go into business as delivery drivers. "We thought that if girls can be taught to drive, they can be employed as delivery girls for supply chain companies," she says. "We also gave them some vans to ferry children to school."

Phadke has conducted free workshops for women entrepreneurs for more than a decade, working closely with organizations that include the Maharashtra State Rural Livelihood Mission, the Utkarsh Welfare Foundation, and the Indra Group of Institutes. Her favorite success story was from a 17-year-old who started a business teaching other girls martial arts.

"She just started offering martial arts classes, and her business went on to become very successful," Phadke says. "She told me, 'I've now grown into a big business, and I'm earning a respectable amount of money, and everybody around me is amazed at that.' It really touched my heart." She also helps women understand the legal system and their rights. For six years she served on the women's safety committee of the Pune police commissioner, advising 10-12 women per week on legal literacy, financial planning, and conflict resolution. "She's been a wonderful leader," Palekar says. "People are very comfortable interacting with her and working with her."

Phadke is Governor of Rotary District 3131 and has served her club as president, Foundation chair, and membership chair. One of her favorite programs is Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), which she has helped her district organize since she joined Rotary in 2003.



Manjoo Phadke, of the Rotary Club of Pune Deccan Gymkhana, Maharashtra, India, is the 2024 recipient of Rotary International's Sylvia Whitlock Leadership Award.