

Rotary Club of Altadena

# Sparks

OFF THE ROTARY WHEEL  
AN AWARD-WINNING NEWSLETTER



February 14, 2019

## This Week Richard R. Frank CEO, Lawry's Restaurant Program Host: Mark Mariscal



This week our speaker is Richard R. Frank. He is one of the third generation of Frank and Van de Kamp family

members to work at Lawry's. He has served as President of Lawry's Restaurants, Inc. since 1992 and also as its CEO for the past 20 years. He currently is CEO and Chairman of the Board of Directors. As he has written many times, "I've been lucky to enjoy a very rewarding and fulfilling career."

Lawry's Restaurants, Inc. started with the Tam O'Shanter restaurant in the Los Feliz area of LA. It was started by his grandfather, Lawrence L. Frank and Lawrence's brother in 1922. In 1938, they opened up the Lawry's The Prime Rib, Beverly Hills with a bold idea: a single entrée restaurant featuring standing rib roasts served from a silver cart.

Don't think that Frank doesn't get his hands dirty in this business. Before jumping into the family restaurant business, he was an amateur carpenter. In 1992, he de-

*Please turn to This Week p. 3*

## Happy Birthday to Altadena Rotary & Happy Valentine's Day to all

*Brought to you by Jacque Foreman, Sparks Editor  
President Sarah is out of the country where  
internet service is a bit flakey*

*President Sarah and I have, however, communicated by email – slowed down a bit by the inadequate internet service with which she is currently dealing. We decided that it would be fun to look at at least one version of the origin of Valentine's Day since that is the day on which Altadena Rotary received its charter in 1949. So ... welcome to:*



### The Dark Origins Of Valentine's Day

*by Arnie Seipel*

Valentine's Day is a time to celebrate romance and love and kissy-face fealty. But the origins of this festival of candy and cupids are actually dark, bloody – and a bit muddled.

The drawing in the next column depicts the death of St. Valentine – one of them, anyway. The Romans executed two men by that name on February 14 of different years in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD.

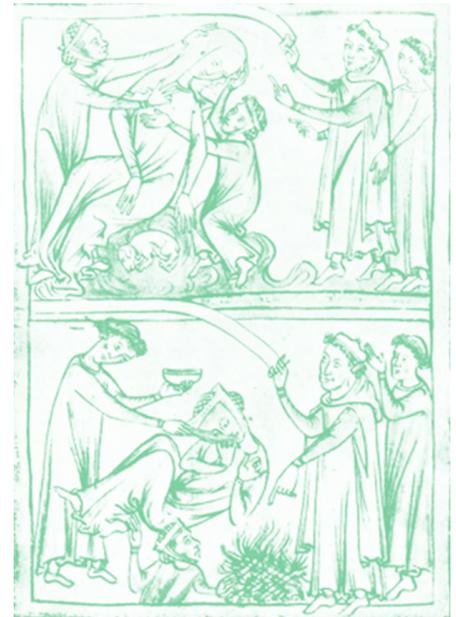
Though no one has pinpointed the exact origin of the holiday, one good place to start is ancient Rome, where men hit on women



by, well, hitting them.

### Those Wild And Crazy Romans

From February 13 to 15, the Romans celebrated the feast of Lupercalia. The men sacrificed a goat and a dog, then whipped



*Hulton Archive/  
Getty Images*

*Please turn to In Tune p. 4*

### Greeter of the Week

February 07  
Tom McCurry

February 14  
Dennis Mebringer

February 21  
Nick Santangelo

# Program Review

## Little Danny has a Farm . . .



**A**nd on that farm he has four rabbits, five goats, three pigs, two sheep, one don-

key, three mini-horses, and three chickens. But, this is not just any farm. This is a special farm for special children, those who have been diagnosed with autistic syndrome disorder (ASD). Danny's parents, Jim and



Kathy Gott (he's a former Dodgers pitcher) established the farm when they saw how their son Danny reacted to animals in the petting zoos at he LA and Orange County fairs. Last week, Danny Gott himself spoke to us about his farm.

The farm was established to help autistic children. It was originally located in Altadena, but had to leave that location. They are now in a beautiful new

location in Shadow Hills. Last year, they held a large fundraiser on Memorial Day at a game between the Dodgers and the Philadelphia Phillies. They also work closely with the Dodger Foundation, the charitable arm of the Dodgers. The farm hosts an Open House once a year, and conducts field trips and school visits. They conduct volunteer days, and provide employment and job coaching. They are also involved in a partnership with the Westmoreland Academy, a school for disabled children.

Gott told us that one in fifty-nine children will be diagnosed with ASD. He quoted a noted psychologist who said that, "Autism...offers a chance for us to glimpse an awe-filled vision of the world that might otherwise pass us by."

Hey concluded by asking us if we thought that everyone deserves an equal chance, no matter their differences. Our club proudly answered with a resounding "YES!"

*Ed Jasnow* ○



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### Rotary Club of Altadena - #7183

Chartered: February 14, 1949  
P.O. Box 414, Altadena, CA 91003  
www.altadenarotary.com  
Meets: Thursday, 12:10p  
Altadena Town & Country Club  
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David Smith.....International  
To be Announced.....Asst. International  
Tony Hill.....Youth Contests/Awards  
Mike Zoeller.....Youth Projects  
John Frykenberg.....Vocational  
Editor, Design & Typesetting.....Foreman Graphics  
Photography.....Jacque Foreman

### February

#### Conflict Prevention & Reduction

Program Chair: Mark Mariscal

07 - Danny Gott, Danny's Farm

14 - Richard Frank, CEO Lawry's Restaurant

21 - John Chase - District Governor & Honoring of Captain Vicki Stuckey

28 - Jervey Tervalon - Altadena Writer, Poet & Author

### Congratulations



#### Birthdays



07 - Freddy Figueroa  
08 - Mike Zoeller  
10 - Julius Johnson  
16 - Sunny Wu Kerekes  
16 - Joan Frykenberg  
27 - Mark Mariscal  
28 - Wendy Davis Noll



#### Anniversaries



03 - Sue & Don Applegate  
17 - Ed & Mona Jasnow  
21 - Frank & Judy Cunningham

## Rotary International Expands Partnerships to another Worthy Organization



**L**ast Summer, Rotary International expanded a partnership with another worthy organization. The article below came from a press release issued by both organizations. It truly highlights how Rotary makes a difference internationally.



Preventing conflicts from escalating into violent crises is 60 times more cost effective than intervening after violence erupts, according to the Carnegie Corporation of New York. A recent partnership between the membership service organization Rotary and Mediators Beyond Borders International (MBBI) aims to bring community-based solutions to prevent conflict in more communities.

Rotary has worked with MBBI – an impact organization founded on the principle of people-centered peacebuilding – since 2013 to advance our common goals for peace. This new, partnership will enable Rotary members to train with MBBI to sharpen their mediation, dialogue and other conflict transformation skills. Rotary's 1.2 million members, located in over 200 countries

and regions, will help MBBI expand its network of trained mediators – potentially transforming conflict in communities not previously reached.

"We are excited to continue our collaboration with MBBI to build local capacity for lasting peace in more communities," said John Hewko, general secretary of Rotary International. "As trusted leaders attuned to the needs of their communities, Rotary members are well positioned to help find grassroots solutions to local conflicts."

"We are honored to partner with Rotary and thereby enhance our ability to build a *peace able* world through *service above self*" said Prabha Sankaranarayan, CEO of MBBI. "At this critical moment in time, we tackle three major factors contributing to violent conflict in the world: the largest migration of populations in the history of mankind, climate change, and economic inequality. Together with Rotary International's extraordinary global network of committed volunteers, we hope to have the dangerous dialogues and courageous conversations that can make a difference, that can not only prevent violent conflict but also build thriving communities."

MBBI's members are at the center of a movement for global peacebuilding

through advocacy, capacity building and consultations.

Rotary members take action to address underlying causes of conflict by providing access to clean water and sanitation, supporting education, preventing and treating disease, saving mothers and children and growing local economies. More than \$221 million has been awarded over the past several years through The Rotary Foundation to support these programs.

MBBI joins a list of Rotary service partners including:

- Ashoka,
- Habitat for Humanity,
- the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness, and
- Peace Corps.



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## This Week

*Continued from p. 1*

signed, built and installed the big wine rack in the Vintage Room at Lawry's in Beverly Hills, followed by custom wine racks in the Las Vegas and Corona del Mar restaurants. Frank is also a third-generation Rotarian.

Come hear the latest in the world of restaurant management by a well know leader in the industry.



# In Tune

Continued from p. 1



women with the hides of the animals they had just slain.

The Roman romantics “were drunk. They were naked,” says Noel Lenski, an historian at the University of Colorado at Boulder. Young women would actually line up for the men to hit them, Lenski says. They believed this would make them fertile.

The brutal fete included a matchmaking lottery, in which young men drew the names of women from a jar. The couple would then be, um, coupled up for the duration of the festival – or longer, if the match were right.

The ancient Romans may also be responsible for the name of our modern day of love. Emperor Claudius II executed two men – both named Valentine – on Feb. 14 of different years in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD. Their martyrdom was honored by the Catholic Church with the celebration of St. Valen-

adds, “It was a little more of a drunken revel, but the Christians put clothes back on it. That didn’t stop it from being a day of fertility and love.”

Around the same time, the Normans celebrated Galatin’s Day. Galatin meant *lover of women*. That was likely confused with St. Valentine’s Day at some point, in part because they sound alike.

William Shakespeare helped romanticize Valentine’s Day in his work, and it gained popularity throughout Britain and the rest of Europe.

### **Shakespeare In Love**

As the years went on, the holiday grew sweeter. Chaucer and Shakespeare romanticized it in their work, and it gained popularity throughout Britain and the rest of Europe. Handmade paper cards became the *tokens-du-jour* in the Middle Ages.

Eventually, the tradition made its way to

Valentine’s Day.

Later, Pope Gelasius I muddled things in the 5<sup>th</sup> century by combining St. Valentine’s Day with Lupercalia to expel the pagan rituals. But the festival was more of a theatrical interpretation of what it had once been.

Lenski

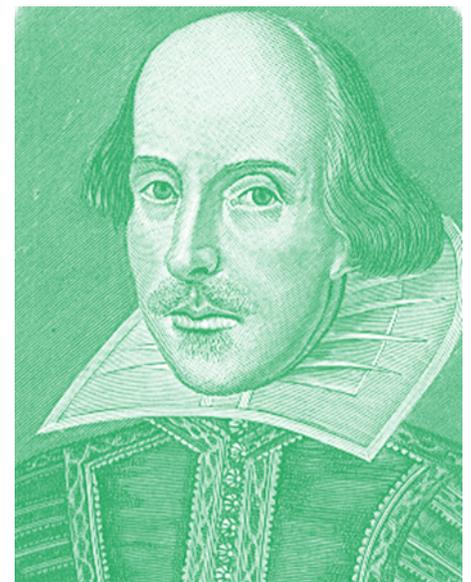
the New World. The industrial revolution ushered in factory-made cards in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. And, in 1913, Hallmark Cards of Kansas City, Mo., began mass producing valentines. February has not been the same since.

Today, the holiday is big business: According to market research firm IBIS World, Valentine’s Day sales reached \$17.6 billion last year; this year’s sales are expected to total \$18.6 billion.

But that commercialization has spoiled the day for many. Helen Fisher, a sociologist at Rutgers University, says we have only ourselves to blame.

“This isn’t a command performance,” she says. “If people didn’t want to buy Hallmark cards, they would not be bought, and Hallmark would go out of business.”

And so the celebration of Valentine’s Day goes on, in varied ways. Many will break the bank buying jewelry and flowers for their beloveds. Others will celebrate in a SAD (that’s Single Awareness Day) way, dining alone and binging on self-gifted chocolates. A few may even be spending this day the same way the early Romans did. But let’s not go there. ○



## Congresswoman Judy Chu to Speak at Eliot Arts Magnet Academy for Women's History Month

### ***Big things can't happen without speaking up!***

The Women's History Month Assembly at Eliot Arts Magnet Academy has grown in just one school year. It began with a suggestion. In the fall of 2017, I asked the Principal of Eliot Arts Magnet Academy: "Can we honor Women's History Month?" To my surprise, the request was met with pure exuberance from Principal Lori Touloumian, and that wasn't all. Not only would she celebrate the month honoring women, she wanted a full public assembly.

### ***Casting a simple idea out into the world can reap tremendous success that grows***

For those who don't know, Women's History Month has an interesting bipartisan history. Feminists from the 1970s created a groundswell of support as they talked openly about the lack of attention paid to women's contribution in history in our schools. They pushed on our politicians, and, on March 7, 1982, President Reagan signed a proclamation that created *Women's History Week*. That was a first, and it didn't stop there.

Five years later – after a California organization called *The National Women's History Project* petitioned congress to create an entire month for women's history – again President Reagan issued Presidential Proclamation 5619: "From earliest times, women have helped shape our Nation. Historians today stress all that women have meant to our national life, but the rest of us too should remember, with pride and gratitude, the achievements of women throughout American history."

Creating Women's History Month involved many members of congress, and creating Women's History Month at Eliot

was also a group effort. First, we had to create a topic for the student essays and artwork. Touloumian decided it would be "Why are women's rights necessary for democracy." Then the middle school teachers had to delegate the assignment to the students. And, in order for that to happen, I created a slide show designed to visually explain the history of women through two waves of activism; suffrage and women's liberation. (This was a visual crash course, including online links so teachers could further explore the information.)

From here, I was invited to join the principal and her leadership team as they huddled around the conference table to discuss details, anticipate problems, and most important, build a rubric for the teachers in order to assist them in assigning the work.

Watching this professional public school team work together to implement a new idea in a short amount of time was amazing. Then we had to plan the assembly. We wanted to open Eliot's doors to the whole community, so we invited our local politicians and their field representatives, including Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Mayor Terry Tornek, Assemblyman Chris Holden, Senator Anthony Portantino and our Superintendent, Dr. Brian McDonald. Representatives showed up, including members of the Altadena Town Council. All the students who were on the stage received official certificates from each office.

McDonald was so impressed that he suggested we have the assembly this year on a Saturday so more people could attend. This year, on Saturday March 2, the Women's History Month Assembly in PUSD is a district-wide event, which means it includes all the middle schools in the Pasadena Unified School District. Additionally, this year



we have a keynote speaker: Congresswoman Judy Chu.

The essay and art topic for this year is

"Women and the Three Ls: Learning, Labor, and Leadership." This is inspired by our first female Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, Christine Lagarde, and is adapted from her speech "Daring the Difference: The 3 Ls of Women's Empowerment" Here are two quotes from Lagarde:

- Women's education is not a threat, it is a blessing. We must make it a global priority, because it is one of the leading causes of our day.
- ... it is not surprising that girls and women are the main victims of extreme poverty in the world today. They make up 70 percent of the billion people trying to eke out an existence on less than a dollar a day. They are the first to be submerged by economic crisis. We must do better than this.

### ***Learning, Labor, and Leadership.***

These are big topics discussed globally by our top leaders, and today, as you read this, PUSD middle schoolers are discussing them, too.

As a parent and an Altadenean, I am proud to say that Eliot is the birthplace of the PUSD middle school collaborative honoring Women's History Month. Please join us on March 2! For more information see the flyer on page 8. ○

I'TS NEVER TOO LATE TO

WINE

MUSIC

Love....  
Chocolate!

Sip red wine, savor the delectable chocolate creations of Chef Ed and enjoy the music of Jordan Preston! Bring your special someone, friend or partner!

February 16, 2019  
2-4 p.m.

CHOCOLATE

The Terraces at Park Marino  
2587 E. Washington Blvd.  
Pasadena, CA 91107  
RSVP: (626) 798-6753

# Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Reserve Deputy Program

Back in the 1800s, the Sheriff would look to the community to form a posse and deputize citizens to assist him in the apprehension of horse thieves, murderers, or other criminals. Thankfully, we have thousands of full-time deputies to perform those duties today, but, in 2018, just like the 1800s, the Sheriff is looking to the community to find citizens to volunteer and help by becoming reserve deputy sheriffs.

Reserve deputies undergo the same training and background checks that full-time deputies receive. It's a year-long process, but, after graduation, reserve deputies can perform a wide array of duties and service to the community.

The *Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Reserve Program* is one of the largest in the country, with over 600 all-volunteer sworn reserve deputy sheriffs. Last year they worked 182,000 hours keeping the citizens of Los Angeles County safe. Those 182,000 hours represent millions of dollars in savings to taxpayers.

Patrolling our communities is only one of many functions performed by reserve deputies. Lifesaving search and rescue missions are performed every week by reserves as part of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Search and Rescue Program. Last year reserve deputy sheriffs performed 684 missions throughout the county, saving countless lives.

Another opportunity for reserve deputy sheriffs to serve is by becoming a member of the Sheriff's Department's Posse. Posse members work patrolling trails and various community events on horseback.

Reserve deputies also help solve crimes by working in many of the Sheriff's Department's detective units, such as Homicide Bureau, Narcotics Bureau, Fraud and Cyber Crime Bureau, and Special Victims Bureau. We also have reserves who ride street and off-road motorcycles for the Department.

Reserve deputies come from all walks of life and from a wide variety of professions. The common thread of all is a burning desire to give back to their community and assist their fellow citizens.

If you are interested in signing up – just like citizens did over a 150 years ago – there is a **reserve deputy academy scheduled to start in February 2019**. Please contact the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Reserve Forces Detail at 323-526-5100 and ask for Assistant Director Mike Leum to get started.

2 N D A N N U A L

# WOMEN'S HISTORY CELEBRATION

ESSAY READING

ART EXHIBIT

**Keynote by Congresswomen Judy Chu!**

SATURDAY  
MARCH 2ND, 2019  
1PM

A PUSD MIDDLE SCHOOL  
COLLABORATIVE EVENT  
HONORING THE  
WOMEN'S MOVEMENT  
& WOMEN'S LIBERATION

*with*

SPECIAL

GUEST PANEL:

CONGRESSWOMAN *JUDY CHU*

SENATOR *ANTHONY PORTANTINO*

SUPERVISOR *KATHRYN BARGER*

ASSEMBLYMAN *CHRIS HOLDEN*

SUPERINTENDENT *DR. BRIAN McDONALD*

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT *DR. MARISA SARIAN*

ELIOT  
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magnet

ELIOT ARTS MAGNET ACADEMY 2184 N. LAKE AVENUE, ALTADENA, CA



**Altadena  
Libraries**

**Second Saturdays, 6:30pm  
at the Altadena Main Library  
600 E. Mariposa Avenue**

# Second Saturdays



**October 13\***

**Upstream**  
*Reggae, Soca, Caribbean*

**November 10**

**Past Action Heroes**  
*80s & 90s Covers*

**January 12**

**Pasadena Playboys**  
*Country*

**February 9**

**JazzZone**  
*Smooth Jazz, R&B*

**March 9**

**The Allan Wasserman  
Jazz Ensemble**  
*Jazz*

**April 13**

**Sangre Nueva**  
*Salsa*

**May 11**

**The Leapin' Lizards**  
*Rockabilly, Blues, Swing*

**June 8**

**Harbor Groove**  
*Latin Rock*

**MADE POSSIBLE BY FUNDING FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE ALTADENA LIBRARY**

*\*October 13<sup>th</sup>'s Second Saturday Concert is sponsored by the office of Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger.*