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Ramona Sentinel

Ramona's Community Paper Since 1886

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Ramona Community Foundation grants aim to assist range of nonprofits

Everyone from disadvantaged youth interested in attending college to chamber members wanting to "set the table" for community collaboration are among this year's recipients of Ramona Community Foundation grants.



Irma Cota, left, president and CEO of North County Health Services, talks with San Diego County Regional Librarian Jacqueline Ayala and Ramona Branch Library Ellie Slade during the Ramona Community Foundation awards celebration. Sentinel photo/Maureen Robertson

Nine nonprofits received checks ranging from \$1,500 to \$7,000 during the foundation's third annual awards ceremony. The \$29,200 awarded this year brings to \$84,450 the total of foundation grants given since 2012.

Approximately 55 foundation members, friends and nonprofit representatives attended the event at Schwaesdall Winery.

After a dinner of pizza and salad, guests learned more about the foundation.

"It's not about writing a check. It's about having an impact," said Paul Zawilenski, Ramona Community Foundation Board member.

To be a voting member on the board, a person makes a \$1,000 contribution, with half going to an endowment and half going to the annual grants, said Zawilenski.

Other board members include chair Wes Brustad, chairman emeritus John Degenfelder, treasurer Neal Krenzler, and directors Kevin McNees and Donna Zick.

A special guest at the ceremony was Kathlyn Mead, president and CEO of The San Diego Foundation.

Ramona Community Foundation grants support programs and nonprofit organizations serving the Ramona community. Grants this year went to:

- North County Health Services, \$1,500 for the Ramona Community Health Fair.



Kathlyn Mead, center, San Diego Foundation president and CEO, talks with Trudy Armstrong, San Diego Foundation associate vice president of regional outreach, and Jim Piva, Ramona Community Planning Group chair. Sentinel photo/Maureen Robertson

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Ramona Sentinel Community Calendar

Today Wednesday, October 15

Showing events after 10/15. [Look for earlier events](#)

Wednesday, October 15

- 9:30am Yoga
- 9:45am English as a Second Language
- 10:00am Town Hall Bridge Club
- 10:30am ABC Preschool Storytime
- 11:00am Storytime Craft
- 1:00pm Spanish for Communication
- 3:00pm ARRIBA TEEN CENTER

Events shown in time zone: Pacific Time



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October 10 at 9:15pm

<http://www.ramonasentinel.com/2014/10/10/beats-mt-carmel-49-13/>



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The goal is to grow the health fair by increasing resources for promotion of the event, providing incentives to community members and garnering additional community support.

•Ramona West End Fire Safe Council Fire Operations



Kristi Mansolf and Rob Inglis of the Ramona West End Fire Safe Council accept a foundation grant for \$1,500 to go toward funding an all-day training for the community. Sentinel photo/Maureen Robertson

in the Wildland Urban Interface Training, \$1,500 toward funding an all-day training for community members to better prepare themselves and their homes and properties from damage if a wildland fire sweeps through the community.

•Write Out Loud Ramona, \$2,100 to launch a community-based initiative that will offer residents of all ages free, age-appropriate storytelling programs that

combine the art of storytelling by a professional actor with post-performance discussion about the stories, their themes, and how the readings relate to their individual lives and to their community.

•Ramona Chamber of Commerce, \$2,500 for The Table: A Community Collaboration. The grant will go toward a collaborative effort project in which the chamber will take the lead in setting “The Table” by organizing, inviting attendees, setting an agenda that focuses on economic and cultural revitalization, and chairs this roundtable of representatives from business, nonprofit and all stakeholder Ramona-based organizations.

•Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater San Diego to benefit Ramona Boys and Girls Club, \$3,000 for Carrying the Torch,

a program to engage young members of the club’s Torch Club in a partnership with senior residents of Ramona. The goal is to provide an opportunity for young people to learn about the history and life experiences of the older members of the community, and to give them an opportunity to share these stories with their community through personalized storybooks



Simone McCune, supervisor of the Ramona Branch of the Boys & Girls Club of Greater San Diego, explains that the foundation’s \$3,000 grant will help create a partnership between youngsters at the club and senior residents of Ramona. Sentinel photo/Maureen Robertson

•Fund for Animals Wildlife Center, \$3,100 for an Outreach & Community Education Volunteer Program to cultivate broader public awareness of the center by developing a core of trained spokespeople for community outreach events and increase the center’s volunteer base by 20%.

•Ramona H.E.A.R.T. Mural Project, Ramona Tree Trust and San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy, \$4,000 for the production of a mural at 2405 Main St.

The mural will depict the historic colonnade, Ramona Grasslands, and the Coast to Crest Trail.

•Burn Institute, \$4,500 for

Ramona beats Mt. Carmel 49-13

Ramona High School’s Bulldogs send a strong message in their first league football game beating Mt. Carmel 49-13 in home game tonight, Oct. 10.

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Representatives of the Ramona H.E.A.R.T. Mural Project, Ramona Tree Trust and San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy accept a \$4,000 grant for a mural at 2405 Main St. Sentinel photo/Maureen Robertson

Fire and Burn Prevention Education program that will help the Ramona community prepare for wildfires, provide education to children about fire safety, and install smoke alarms in the homes of seniors.

•Disadvantaged Youth Alliance, \$7,000 for the

Educational Empowerment Initiative. Disadvantaged students identified by school counselors will receive professional guidance through the entire college application process including personal financial aid and scholarship assistance. Students will participate in extensive career assessments to help them identify their strengths and major of study.

In previous years, the foundation has funded programs such as emergency equipment for a Ramona CERT

trailer, an art program for Ramona Elementary school students, programs at the Ramona Boys and Girls Club, a safety fence at The Grange, equipment for the Guy B. Woodward Museum, lighting equipment for Ramona High School, two programs that provide developmentally disabled children and returning veterans with physical therapy through therapeutic horseback riding programs.



Neal Krenznel, Ramona Community Foundation Board member, and Susan Day with the Burn Institute talk before the awards ceremony. Sentinel photo/Maureen Robertson

Ramona Community Foundation was founded in 2009 to raise dollars in Ramona to support the community of Ramona. It is a Ramona-specific effort to meet the needs of the community by encouraging and increasing philanthropy. All funds benefit Ramona residents and nonprofits serving Ramona programs and are tax-deductible.



John Schwaesdall pulls a pizza out of the pizza oven at his winery. Sentinel photo/Maureen Robertson

In addition to contributions from Ramona foundation members, grantmaking dollars come from the Matt McLaughlin Endowment Fund at The San Diego Foundation. The Matt McLaughlin Live Here, Give Here Matching Program, established to benefit the North County region, allows the Ramona foundation to double its impact by matching the grantmaking

portion of all membership dollars.

To learn more about the foundation, visit www.ramonacommunityfoundation.org or contact Trudy Armstrong at

Trudy@sdfoundation.org or 619-764-8602.

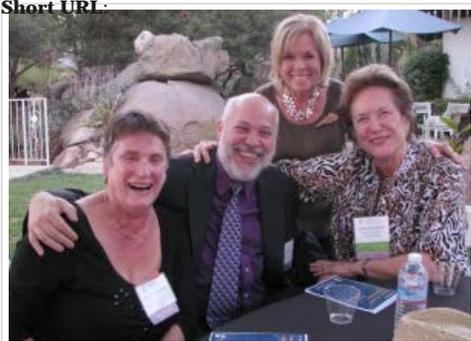
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- 2. [Ramona Community Foundation plans Sept. 26 grants celebration](#)
- 3. [Ramona Community Foundation invites nonprofits to first of four free workshops](#)
- 4. [Ramona Community Foundation to hold second of four workshops](#)
- 5. [Foundation celebrates inaugural awards](#)



Kathlyn Mead, San Diego Foundation president and CEO, visits with Dr. Bob Argyelan, Ramona Chamber of Commerce executive director. Sentinel photo/Maureen Robertson

Short URL:



Mural project advocates, from left, Diane Conklin, Robert Krysak, Carol Angus and Judy Nachazel. Sentinel photo/Maureen Robertson

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