

**Life is Like a Camera--
Just focus on what's important
Capture the good times
Develop from the negatives
& if things don't work out....
Just take another shot!**

'TIS THE SEASON

It's pretty safe to say that November and December are two very busy months! With the flurry of activity here at the Gilroy Foundation, we decided it best to combine our last two issues of the year and share all that Gilroy Foundation has been a part of.



2018 was another year of growth and good works for Gilroy Foundation. At the December 6th Holiday Party, we took the opportunity to thank our Fund Donors, our Boards and our volunteers. We said Farewell to Kurt Michielssen and Teresa Costa, both who had served several terms on our Board of Directors; we welcomed Jennifer Speno and Chef Carlos Pineda, new directors on the Board.



Over this past year, we hope YOU have seen the difference Gilroy Foundation makes in our local nonprofits, in our schools and in our local community through the grants and scholarships distributed-making a real difference in people's lives.

SHARE THE MESSAGE with area nonprofits, local schools and community organizations that the 2019 Gilroy Foundation Grant Cycle is now open. Applications may be downloaded from our website.

As we move through the Holidays and into the New Year, Gilroy Foundation extends its gratitude for your generous support and sends wishes for all of the best to you and your families in 2019.

MEMBERSHIP IN GILROY FOUNDATION

In late November, letters were mailed to more than 600 listings on our database inviting them to [become a member](#), renew their membership or add to their Fund.

Since 1980, Gilroy Foundation has awarded over \$13 Million in grants and scholarships. We need your continued support to respond to the growing needs of our local community, both now and in the future.

Check out the benefits of being a member of Gilroy Foundation and make your gift today. Thank you to all whose commitment we have already received.

[Join or Renew Your Membership](#)



YOUTH BOARD "HOLIDAY GIVING TREE" AT WESTSIDE GRILL

'Tis the Season of Giving.....and once again members of [Gilroy Foundation Youth Board](#) gathered to set up and decorate a "Giving Tree" Holiday Toy Drive at Westside Grill. Thanks to the generosity of people like you, the gifts keep coming in and **the drive has been extended to December 21!**

Toys are being distributed to children served by Rebekah Children's Services and St. Joseph's Family Center. If you still plan to give, simply drop your unwrapped toy under the tree at the entrance of Westside Grill. "It is in giving that we receive."



MORE ABOUT THE YOUTH BOARD-Roya Wallace

Gilroy Foundation's Youth Board has been very active in our community this Holiday Season!

They started out the season by volunteering at The Lord's Table/St Joseph's Family Center prior to Thanksgiving, distributing food to families who otherwise wouldn't have had a Thanksgiving Dinner. A few days later a group of students set up the Giving Tree Toy Drive at Westside Grill.

We had another group of students volunteer at Gilroy Foundation's Annual Holiday Party. They were a tremendous help! Finally, they returned to the Lord's Table to distribute food to the less fortunate once again during the holiday season.

The Youth Board is comprised of a remarkable group of local students ranging from 6th grade to seniors in high school. They are all about community and volunteering and we are so very proud of their efforts! *More to come in 2019....*



WE FOUND A WAY TO GIVE, TOO!

With so much good being done throughout our local community, our office was inspired to jump right in and find a cause that our small group of elves could manage. We chose the Blessing Box in Downtown Gilroy on Monterey Street.

We made a token drop off one Thursday in December, and have delivered the rest of our donations of socks, toiletries, food and baby items to the Blessing Box Angels who will continue to fill the box over the holidays and beyond.

What a great feeling it was to take up this small collection!

GIVE THE GIFT OF STOCK

Did you know....

[donations](#) of Appreciated Stocks, Bonds and Real Estate to Gilroy Foundation have tax benefits to you? You can maximize your gift AND reduce your taxes.

When you donate stock, bonds or real estate, you can take a tax deduction for the full market value at the time of the donation....not what you paid when you purchased it. Consult your tax advisor with specific questions.

MEET BOARD MEMBERS LORI KENT AND CHRIS ORDAZ

It's been such a pleasure to introduce you to the [Board of Directors](#) of Gilroy Foundation this past year.

A Gilroy native, **Lori Kent** has been actively involved in the Gilroy Foundation since 2002. She is also a member and past president of the Gilroy Assistance League. A graduate of UCSB, she was an elementary teacher in the Gilroy Unified School District for eight years. Lori has two sons and has served on many parent volunteer committees. She currently works with her husband, Larry Kent, at Kent Construction, a local general contracting firm.

Chris Ordaz is a 3rd generation Gilroyan. Chris has been in the real estate industry since 1984 and is currently an instructor at Gavilan Community College teaching real estate classes. Chris is also president of CDO Properties Inc., a real estate renovation company. Chris has volunteered throughout the years for the Gilroy Garlic Festival. He also volunteered for 10 years as a Paid Called Firefighter for the City of Gilroy. He has been a 20+ year member of the Gilroy Sportsmen Chefs. Chris has two grown daughters Kaylyn and Claire.

Thank you to Gilroy Foundation Board of Directors for supporting the work of the Foundation in 2018!

SUSTAINING SPONSORS SUPPORT THE MISSION OF GILROY FOUNDATION

Gilroy Foundation provides a vehicle for individuals, families and corporations who share a common commitment to the future prosperity and well-being of the community to come together to build an endowment that will last in perpetuity.

The Foundation's operating costs are covered by 1% administrative fees from the endowed funds and by our two annual events, the Gilroy Garlic Festival and "A Day in the Country." These fees and fundraisers cannot alone keep up with the growing costs of our operation and programs, so the Sustaining Sponsor program has helped to bridge that gap.

Thank you to **Christopher Ranch**, **Exciting Gilroy Toyota**, and **Pinnacle Bank** for your support again in 2018. We look forward to....and sincerely appreciate....your ongoing support!

"Give Where You Live"

Thank you to our Sustaining Sponsors





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