

ROTARY SUPPORTS VNA

August 20, 2008

The Castroville Rotary Club has made a gift of \$680 to the Visiting Nurse Association's three Adult Day Centers to purchase two carpet and upholstery deep-cleaning machines.

The Centers serve the needs of adults who are physically or cognitively impaired, whether by stroke, Alzheimer's disease, or other conditions associated with aging.

"Keeping a clean, safe environment is paramount for the health of the clients," said Elvia Perez, director of VNA's Salinas Adult Day Center at 45 Plaza Circle, Salinas. The equipment will also be used at other VNA Centers in Monterey and Seaside.

"Unfortunately, the clients are at the stage of their lives that accidents do happen," Perez said. "The Salinas Adult Day Center has a shower and laundry on site just for this reason and clients always have a change of clothing but the other two sites do not have these amenities. Making sure we can clean immediately after an accident provides a longer life for the carpet and chairs rather than renting a machine or have a vendor come in after hours," she said.

Each program provides therapeutic activities for the participants and an opportunity for important respite time for their caregivers. Besides activities designed especially for their abilities, participants interact with staff and enjoy visits from community volunteers. Transportation to and from each center may be available through the MST/RIDES program. Fees may be based on the client's ability to pay. The day's activities always include a snack and nutritious lunch.

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