

SHINING A LIGHT ON JULY

One of the brightest [comets](#) passed earth over these past few weeks at a time, I dare say, when we all could use a bit of a distraction and a reason to look up to the skies!

ALONE we can
do so LITTLE;
TOGETHER we can
do so MUCH
-HELEN KELLER

In our community, July has traditionally been a time of bringing us all together to celebrate the "Stinking Rose" and a time to shine a light on our community, hosting the biggest and best party of the year.

When the Garlic Festival was merely a twinkle in the Founding Fathers' eyes, this must have been what they were thinking--together we can do so much! How can we bring our community together, raise some money for charities and have a great time while doing it!

This year, July has been a month of memories, activities that unite us and hopes that move us forward while learning so much from the past.

Moving into August, our wish from all of us at Gilroy Foundation to all of our readers is that you stay safe and be well.

#GILROYSTRONG

Earlier in the month, our own ED Donna Pray joined with Ken Christopher and Christopher Ranch as they celebrated a Virtual Garlic Festival each Wednesday in July. Donna brought along a taste of the famous Gilroy Foundation Wine Booth Sangria to add to the Garlic Festival scampi and calamari that Ken prepared.



July 28th marked the anniversary of the devastating events of the 2019 Gilroy Garlic Festival. To memorialize the victims & honor the first responders, we share this [story](#) of how the community came together to respond to the tragedy.

An invitation only event was held as the community viewed the memorial on [YouTube](#).

DAY IN THE COUNTRY GOES VIRTUAL IN 2020

This is going to be *fresh...*
this is going to be *fun...*
this is going to
MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



That's right...One hour of fun & entertainment
LIVE from the Neon Exchange....

All from the comfort of your home...

YOU'RE WELCOME!!!

Saturday, September 26, at 7:00PM!

Stay tuned on our website and on Social Media for all of the details ...

GRANT RECIPIENTS SEND MESSAGES OF GRATITUDE



Since we were unable to gather to announce 2020 Competitive [Grant](#) Recipients, we came up with the next best way to see their faces and find out how the money they received would be used for their organization.

Since mid-May, we have posted 15 Gratitude Videos and have been delighted with the response from our friends on [Facebook](#). We hope you had a chance to view a few of them

and we hope that we can all be together again in 2021 for the Annual Meeting and Charitable Grants Presentation!

GROWING UP GILROY: THE STORY OF BRITTANY AND ALI SOUZA

Sisters Brittany and Ali Souza grew up in Gilroy and have always been very active in the community. Now, as young adults, their career paths are most impressive and we want to share a little bit about each of these [Growing Up Gilroy](#) donors with you this month.

When I sent an email to their mom Shannon, I was delighted, that instead of hearing back from mom, each of the girls sent messages that made us very proud.



The youngest, **Ali**, reported that she is a maritime enforcement specialist in the U. S. Coast Guard. She is a petty officer 3rd class (E4) stationed at Maritime safety and security team (MSST 91105) in Alameda, CA. She shared that she loves being so close to home and is on her way to finishing her degree in Sociology at Chico State.

Ali has been the recipient of the annual award from the Kevin A. "Mike" Gilroy Scholarship Fund and also a 2017 Don Christopher Scholarship recipient.

Here's a picture from her "A" school graduation as she was promoted to "E4"!

You may remember **Brittany** as our 2014 Garlic Festival Queen along with a \$5,000 scholarship award. Graduating with a double major and minor from Chapman University, she went to work as an organizing associate at Center for American Progress, the leading progressive think tank in Washington DC. She specifically worked for Generation Progress (GP), the advocacy youth arm of Center for American Progress, specializing in democracy and voting rights.

After two years at Generation Progress, she left to work at Millennial Action Project as their Senior Policy Coordinator. Millennial Action Project works directly with our nation's leading young policymakers on both a national and state level to spur bipartisan legislation and innovative policy solutions. Her largest role is working with the Congressional Future Caucus which is the nation's first and only bipartisan caucus for young members of Congress.



Thank you for your service to our Country, for being such a fine representation of our Gilroy schools, and for being Charter Donors of the Growing Up Gilroy Fund!

BENEFITS OF DONATING STOCK

As a donor, you always want to make sure that your gift is having the most impact on the cause or group that you care about, i.e., Gilroy Foundation! A low effort way to make your donation have more impact is to give more through tax-efficient strategy. A little known secret to many potential donors is that giving your appreciated assets is far more effective than cash. You will receive the tax receipt for the fair market value at the time of donation. With so many stocks having increased in value since acquisition, your [gift of donated stock](#) will make even a larger impact!

Just recently, a donation of 10 shares of Apple stock was made to a fund; and because of the company's 2:1 match, the stock--worth a little over \$3,000--became a gift of over \$10,000!

SPOTLIGHT ON GILROY FOUNDATION NONPROFIT INVESTMENT PARTNER,

The [Gavilan College Educational Foundation](#) is a nonprofit organization established in 1994 to raise donations in support of Gavilan College programs. Monetary support is used for student scholarships, research and educational programs, faculty and departmental support, facilities, and equipment.

The Gavilan College Educational Foundation's Mission is to serve as advocates for Gavilan College and to seek additional financial resources for college services to meet the needs of its faculty, students and services.

The foundation is a vital piece of the educational experience provided by the Joint Community College District. Where state funding may fall short, the Foundation fills the gaps and provide financial resources to educators and students, and works to ensure that all those who seek higher education have the resources to do so. This is done in collaboration with our generous supporters and community partners.

"Give Where You Live"

Thank you to our Sustaining Sponsors



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