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Orange High School Library Gets a Make Over thanks to the Orange Rotary Club

(Orange, CA) – Students at Orange High School will now be able to enjoy a clean, bright school library, thanks to several hard working volunteers from the Orange Rotary Club.

Lead by the desire to improve the school, club members, under the leadership of President Heidi Larkin-Reed and Community Service Director Cliff Nelson, took on the library.

Thanks to the club and others, the library received new tables and chairs, new paint and carpeting. The new tables and chairs were funded with a grant from Rotary International and Rotary District 5320. Rock Harbor Church, who meets on the campus, also jumped in and provided assistance with new carpeting and volunteers.

"We completed the project in a week!" said President Larkin-Reed. "We had great community support with volunteers from our club, Rock Harbor Church, Orange High School ROTC students, Highland Learning Center students and many caring individuals."

"Orange Rotary Club members donated about 1200 to 1500 Rotary man and woman work hours to get the job done," said Nelson. "Our intention was to upgrade our local Orange High School's to the 21st Century starting with the old, well-used library. Computers over 15 years old, broken chairs and tables, damaged carpet, poor window blinds all mean safety issues and poor conditions for all users."

After the project was completed, the group celebrated with a ribbon cutting, organized by Orange High School Principal Ernest Gonzalez.

The Orange Rotary Club, ninety-five members strong, is making Orange High School the focus this year and next year's hands-on project.

The library project began when Orange Rotary Club members toured the facility, guided by Principal Ernest Gonzalez.   About fifteen club members participated in the tour and were saddened to see the condition of the school.

"Orange High school is the oldest school in Orange and it shows," said Larkin-Reed. "The school opened in 1964 and 49 years of use has taken its toll. Unfortunately, the school has not received funds to keep up with the wear and tear and the students, the neighborhood and the community are suffering for it."

Fundraiser Set
To fund further projects at the school, the Rotary Club is planning a fundraiser with part of the proceeds going to the Orange High School project.

"We are holding a dinner and auction on Friday, April 4 to be used as a fundraiser to raised dollars for the club's school next project," said Larkin-Reed. The event will be held at The Vintage Rose, 1160 N. Tustin Street, #1170, Orange CA. Cost to attend is $75 per person with sponsorships available."

"We can make a slight dent in what is needed with this project, but we need to have the entire community get behind the effort," said Larkin-Reed. "There are bigger needs within the Orange Unified School District schools."

If you are interested in assisting the Orange Rotary Club or would like more information, please email President Larkin-Reed at orangerotary@yahoo.com or Orange Rotary Club, P.O. Box 5882, Orange, CA 92863-5882 or visit www.orange-rotary.org.

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