Rotary Club of Las Vegas Southwest Article for District 5300 Highlighter 9/30/25

For over twenty years, the Rotary Club of Las Vegas Southwest has worked with various elementary schools to put shoes on children. The project, called "Happy Feet", provides a great hands-on opportunity to serve our community and made the lives of young people just that much happier.

Each month during the school year, and working with the school counselor, one grade is selected and the counselor measures each child's feet and sends us the sizes. We work with Skechers to buy the shoes and then on the selected day, Rotarians and other volunteers, show up and literally put the shoes on the children, making sure they are the right fit, etc. Each child also receives two pairs of new socks.

Interactions with the children are heartwarming and they are always appreciative. It is not just the children who benefit, but the Rotarians and other volunteers all report that this project is one of the most fulfilling.

For the past five years or so, we have been working exclusively with a Title 1 elementary school in an underprivileged area. The school, William E. Ferron Elementary School, was named after an early Las Vegas pioneer who arrived in Las Vegas in 1915. He was a pharmacist and a prominent Las Vegan who served as mayor and who was also a charter member of the Las Vegas Rotary Club.

Follow us on our <u>Facebook page</u> or go to our <u>website</u> for newsletters, pictures, etc. Here are a couple of pictures from our <u>Happy Feet project on 9/23/25</u>, along with an historical picture of the first Rotary Club in Las Vegas (Mr. Ferron is front row center.)





