

APRIL 29, 2026

Rotary  
Club of Bettendorf



Service  
Above  
Self



## The meeting began with....

### Opening:

- Members recited Rotary's Four-Way Test.
  - Is it the TRUTH?
  - Is it FAIR to all concerned?
  - Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
  - Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?
- A patriotic song was sung, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### Offerings for a Moment of Silence:

- SK Nanda - "Our Troops!"

### Guest:

- Dr. Rachel Kozickowski, visiting as a potential member



## COMING UP...

May 6, 2026



It'll be a surprise!

There was a good turnout for the road trip to Argrow's Cafe. Treated to a delicious lunch and some inspirational stories, everyone who made the trip was glad they did.

## ***BRC Supports Students***

Each year, our club provides scholarships to students at Bettendorf High School, Pleasant Valley High School, Morningstar Academy, Rivermont Collegiate, and Scott Community College.

Monica Kruse recently represented the club when Morningstar student Isabella Hunt received her scholarship. Isabella plans to attend St. Ambrose next year and will visit the club sometime soon to express her appreciation for the scholarship.



## ***Habitat for Humanity Home Build***

Join your fellow Rotarians for a volunteer build day with Habitat for Humanity on Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup> at 424 E. 15<sup>th</sup> St. in Davenport. Framing and siding is scheduled to be completed, but there will likely be other tasks needed as well. Thanks to everyone who has signed up already. **A few morning slots and all afternoon slots are still available.**

Use these links to sign up:

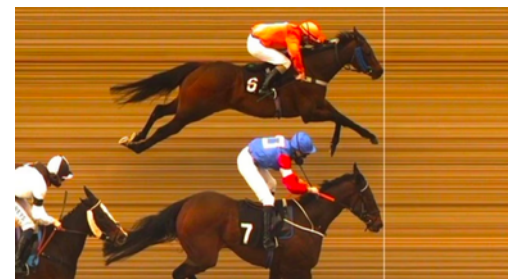
8 a.m to Noon: [CLICK HERE](#)

11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.: [CLICK HERE](#)



## ***Announcements***

- **Operation Soapbox** | Joe Champion delivered the soap that was collected and purchased to OneEighty this week. They were very appreciative of the donation.
- **Fund-A-Cause Voting** | In the spirit of this week's Kentucky Derby, the race to become the next Fund-A-Cause recipient is neck 'n neck. Habitat for Humanity, OneEighty, and Family Resources were the 3 organizations that rose to the top from a survey conducted to decide on this year's recipient. Voting has been conducted at the last two meetings for the 3 finalists, so tabulations will be done and a winner will be announced soon, unless it's a photo finish!



## Happy Bucks

- **Monica Kruse** | Monica's daughter is graduating from college, and Monica is not only happy about that, but her daughter already has a job, which is a reason to be doubly happy.
- **Deb Mueller** | Deb is happy to announce that she has a new job and is now working at Blackhawk Bank.
- **Ann Kappeler** | Ann was happy to be visiting Argrow's Cafe again. She and other Rotarians participated in a volunteer day before Argrow's Cafe opened. Rotarians painted furniture, hung items on the walls, assembled shelving, and completed many other projects. The "before" and "after" difference is amazing.
- **Brock Biggerstaff** | The BRC Venmo account has been tested and it works! Soon, members will be able to Venmo to their heart's content. More information is coming.
- **Sandy Yoder** | Sandy is happy to be back from Arizona where it was a little too hot for this early in the year.



## Lobsterfest Tickets on Sale Now

The Lobsterfest auction committee is clearly hard at work preparing for this year's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary event. Don't miss out on this must-do summer fundraiser. All the cool kids will be there.

Get your tickets now! [CLICK HERE.](#)



## We're #1! We're #1!

BRC is in charge of gallery management on hole #1 at the John Deere Classic again this year. Lots of Rotarians and friends are needed to fill the slots. Invite your friends, family, colleagues, and others to join you.

Use this link to sign up: <https://johndeereclassic.com/>

Questions can be directed to the hole captain, [Jeff Hassel](#).



## *This Week's Program*

### Argrow's House and Agrow's Cafe

Argrow's House is a safe space where free services are offered daily for women healing from violence and abuse. Services range from domestic violence support group, spiritual direction, art therapy, massage therapy, and more. Bath and body products and Argrow's Cafe are two enterprises that help to support the programs offered.

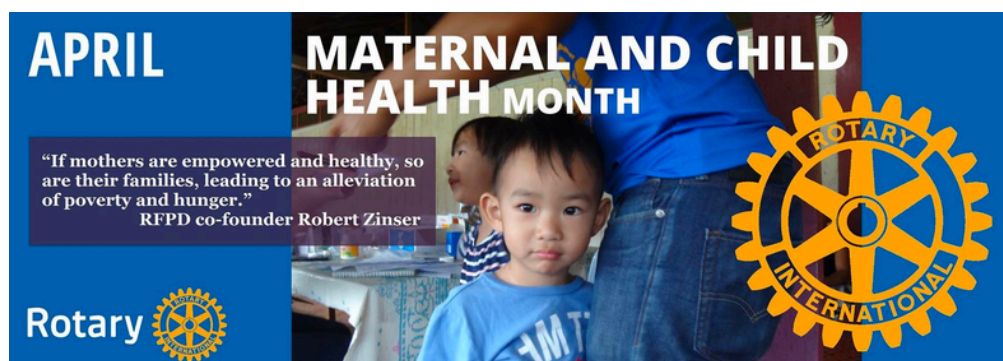


Named after founder Dr. Kit Ford's grandmother, Argrow's House had "humble beginnings" but is now thriving and on a path to continue supporting those in need of its services for many years.

Michelle Reeves, the bath and body enterprise expert, says the program and her current position has given her "a greater purpose in my life". Dena Neece experienced domestic violence and substance abuse, but after receiving support from Argrow's and other community resources, she says she "now knows what real love is". Dena is the Cafe Manager and organizes food for the cafe, catering, and food truck business.



Argrow's partners with many area organizations, including OneEighty, Tapestry Farms, Transitions, and others. Find out more about Argrow's programs and enterprises at [Argrowthouse.org](http://Argrowthouse.org).



Support The Rotary Foundation and you support mothers and children around the world.

Contact our [Foundation Chair, SK Nanda](#) for more information or visit [The Rotary Foundation website](#).

*Rotary makes amazing things happen, like:*

#### **Community health worker capacity building**

Rotary strengthened community health systems and increased the capacity of community health workers in the Republic of the Congo, Mozambique, Nigeria, and Zambia.

#### **Cervical cancer prevention**

In Sri Lanka, Rotary collaborated with the ministry of health to support policy change to improve cervical cancer screening protocols. They advocated for HPV vaccinations which is now part of the national immunization program.

#### **Preventing diseases with vaccines**

Rotary worked to immunize 100,000 children across 9 Pacific Islands by working with the local health system to create sustainable delivery of vaccines.

# Happy May Birthday

**1st**  
Decker Ploehn

**13th**  
Marty Clifton

**29th**  
Sharon Sarver

**2nd**  
Sarah Potter

**26th**  
Mitch Dietrich

**30th**  
Deb Boland

**11th**  
Eric Reinsch



# Happy BRC Anniversary

**52 Years**  
Tim Downing

**20 Years**  
Ann Kappeler

**8 Years**  
Sandy Yoder

**40 Years**  
Decker Ploehn

**16 Years**  
Penny McGimpsey

**4 Years**  
Pat Engelhaupt

**25 Years**  
Greg Blaske

**12 Years**  
Lee Marbach

**1 Year**  
Veena Wulfekuhle  
Marsha Luedtke





## Club of Bettendorf

### Club Executives

#### President

Penny McGimpsey  
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#### President Elect

Marcia Erickson  
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#### President Nominee/Club Service

Brock Biggerstaff  
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#### Immediate Past President

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#### Directors

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#### Youth

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#### Rotary Foundation

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#### Executive Secretary

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#### Treasurer

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## LOCAL ROTARY CLUB MEETINGS...

#### Monday

12:00pm | Davenport | River Center  
12:00pm | Moline | Trinity Lutheran Church

#### Tuesday

12:00pm | Rock Island | QC Botanical Center

#### Wednesday

12:00pm | Bettendorf | Tanglewood Hills Pavilion  
5:00pm | Davenport | Mini-Meet | Lunardi's

#### Thursday

7:00am | Iowa Quad Cities | J-Bar  
12:00pm | East Moline | Christ United  
Methodist Church  
12:00pm | Milan | Pinnacle Country Club

#### Friday

12:00pm | North Scott | Hilton Garden Inn,  
Bettendorf