

# **THE WINDJAMMER**

More online at Facebook.com/JuneauRotary or www.JuneauRotary.org

## UPCOMING

**February 10** Pat Pitney, State OMB Director

**February 17** Club Assembly

**February 24** Retired Chief Justice Walter Catpeneti

## GREETERS

**February 3** Jim Strader John Venables

**February 10** Karen West Robert Rehfeld



2014-2015 Rotary International Theme:



## This Week's Program: Bruce Van Dusen, Polaris House

Bruce is the Executive Director of Polaris House, Inc. He came to Alaska in August of 2013 to accept this position. Bruce's previous employment included six years as the Bureau Chief of the

Office of Family and Consumer Affairs for the State of Indiana. Prior to this Bruce worked for Midtown Community Mental Health Center, Indianapolis, IN. While there, He provided psychiatric case management and directed the center's clubhouse services.



Bruce's formal education consists mainly of a degree in substance abuse counseling. In 1996 He graduated from Ivy Tech State College with high honors and a

member of the honor society Phi Theta Kappa, Alpha Tau Epsilon.

Bruce's personal experience, and as a sibling of a person with mental illness, has provided a spring board to his professional career. Insights borne of experience have been valuable when forming and building treatment programs used by individuals, community organizations and government entities.

Polaris House in Juneau can be found on Willoughby Street across from the Driftwood. Polaris House is dedicated to the recovery of men and women with mental illness by providing opportunities for members to live, work, and learn while contributing their talents through a community of mutual support.

# **ROTARY INTERNATIONAL NEWS:** *INTENSE SUMMER PROGRAM GIVES ISRAELI AND PALESTINIAN TEENS NEW PERSPECTIVES*

Students from Israel and Palestine sat together at a local art studio in Encinitas, California, USA, one day last summer, drawing portraits of one another and learning how to live in peace.

Kelly Mellos, an organizer of the project from the Rotary Club of Encinitas Coastal, says that drawing someone who is sitting so close helps break down social barriers between the young people. "They see how many



similarities there are between them," she says. "And they begin to understand we are all just people. There is a respect and trust that builds."

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# MENU FOR TODAY'S MEETING

Classic Pot Roast with Potatoes and Carrots Corn Pudding Green Salad Butterflake Rolls and Butter



## **QUICK UPDATE FROM INTERACT**

The Juneau Douglas High School Interact Club has recently finished their annual Teen Homeless Awareness Sleep out and fundraiser. We spent 12 hours camped out in boxes on December 6th, 2014. Our club set a goal of raising over \$2,000 in donations and pledges, and managed to raise about \$1,600. We are asking each club to help us reach our goal by donating \$250. Half of the money raised will be donated to the Zack Gordon Youth Center and the remaining half will go to help homeless students at JDHS.

### **ROTARIAN MAGAZINE: PERMANENT EXILES** ROTARY PEACE FELLOWS ARE HELPING REFUGEES START OVER.



Every 10 minutes, a baby is born without a state – without citizenship in any country. The crisis in Syria and conflicts in South Sudan, the Central African Republic, and many other nations are producing new generations of refugees, internally displaced persons, and asylum seekers. Increasingly, they are long-term exiles who are spending years, even decades, in makeshift refugee cities with their families, unable to return home.

The number of people forced from their homes by war and conflict has surpassed 50 million for the first time since the end of World War II, when the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees was created.

Working to help this growing population of refugees – from those who are struggling in massive encampments in Africa and Southeast Asia, to people who have resettled in Europe and North America – are some of the graduates of the Rotary Peace Centers. (Nearly 900 Rotary Peace Fellows have graduated from the program since its inception in 2002.) These humanitarians are providing basic food and shelter, job training, education, and other support so the refugees can rebuild their lives.

Full story online at http://therotarianmagazine.com/permanent-exiles/

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