





Cathy Gibson
District Governor

"Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change
— across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves."



# ROTARY INTERNATIONAL'S FIRST "PROGRAM OF SCALE" GRANT AWARDED to LOCALLY INSPIRED PROJECT!!

Last week Rotary International, World Vision, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation announced the launch of Rotary's first Program of Scale: *Partners for a Malaria-Free Zambia*. This \$6 million program will scale up Rotary's successful work in the Copperbelt Province to reduce malaria by 90% in two additional Zambian provinces.

Led by the **Rotary Club of Federal Way**, the program will benefit over 1.3 million Zambians and bring together Rotary clubs across the U.S. and Zambia to strengthen the national health system by working closely with local health officials and health facility staff to provide community-based education, testing, and treatment.

"We could not have been nearly as effective in reducing malaria in Africa without the generous support of **34 Rotary clubs in District 5030**, especially Seattle #4 which really launched the malaria work over a decade ago," says Program Leader and **Federal Way Rotarian Bill Feldt**. "We are very grateful to all the dedicated Rotarians in our district and around the world who are coming together to support malaria eradication."

Fighting malaria has long been a priority for the Federal Way club. For more than 10 years, members have been working with international partners, including Zambian Rotary clubs, Malaria Partners Zambia, Malaria Partners International, PATH MACEPA, Zambia's National Malaria Elimination Centre, World Vision, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. In 2019 and 2020, the club used TRF global grants to train more than 500 Community Health Workers in Zam-



MPI Founder Bill Feldt and Federal Way Rotary Club President Stephen Ball

bia's Copperbelt Province. Currently, Seattle #4 is using another Rotary Foundation global grant to train an additional 1055 Community Health Workers.

Malaria's days are numbered, and the mosquitos in Zambia have been put on notice! Partners for a Malaria-Free Zambia is coming for them.

#### **DG Message for March**

This will be another busy month for Rotarians and Rotaractors in our District. Let's start by celebrating the \$2,000,000 Program of Scale grant from Rotary International that lets local Rotary clubs and their international partners battle malaria in Zambia.

As you travel around the district, look for the **Metro buses** with new Rotary ads showcasing our care for the environment and inviting readers to take action with us. Taking action is the theme our young professionals promote in their new Rotary YouTube video that is going viral on social media: <a href="https://youtu.be/4FHxv8cv1rw">https://youtu.be/4FHxv8cv1rw</a> See page 6 for details.

The **District 5030 COVID-19 Vaccine Campaign** Task Force is off to a fast start. To support their efforts to educate and motivate, the Task Force launched a dedicated website <a href="https://www.RotaryCovidResponse.com">www.RotaryCovidResponse.com</a> designed to provide up-to-date information on where eligible Rotarians can get vaccinated and/or where they can volunteer to assist at vaccination centers across our region.

Collaborations with local **Toastmasters** continue to expand. On March 25<sup>th</sup> Rotarians and Toastmasters are teaming up again for "**50 Minutes of Fun**": it will be a fast-paced, online evening of word games, express debates and table talks. The link to sign-up is on page 4. Local Toastmasters are also interested in volunteering at Rotary service projects. Their first big opportunity will be in support of Rotary's COVID vaccine campaign.

Cheers to the Rotaractors who are celebrating **World Rotaract Week** this month with events culminating in a park clean-up on the 13<sup>th</sup>

Finally, there are about 2300 amazing Rotarians in our District. Each one serving and connecting for good. I'd like to close with a shout-out to one in particular: my fellow **Seattle #4 Rotarian Don Kraft** who is celebrating his 73rd year in Rotary. See the tribute on page 9. Way to go, Don!





# District 5030 Rolls Out New Website www.RotaryCovidResponse.org to Support Rotary's COVID-19 Vaccine Campaign

We kick off our monthly update with the exciting news that the Food and Drug Administration approved J&J's vaccine on Saturday, giving the U.S. a third tool to fight the pandemic following vaccines from



Moderna and Pfizer. The company expects to deliver 20 million doses by the end of March. The J&J vaccine is different from the others because it's a one-dose regimen and does not require patients to return for a second dose. It can be stored at refrigerator temperatures for months. The shot has demonstrated 66% effectiveness overall, with it being 72% effective in the U.S. Coupled with was the update that COVID-19 cases in the U.S. have plummeted from 300,000 a day to roughly 70,000.

Both are encouraging developments, but there is still much to be done before we can **get back to normal** and we cannot become complacent to the risks that still exist while we wait for our vaccines against the virus. In this regard, you will be pleased to learn that the Vaccine Task Force in 5030 (VCF-5030) has been busy. We will be launching our website

(www.RotaryCovidResponse.org) in early March. This will provide up-to-date information on vaccination efforts and activities within the U.S. and Washington and it will also allow for Rotarians to volunteer their talents and time to the vaccination efforts underway in 5030. We have also added a useful search tool that allows those of you looking for vaccination centers to identify them and within your local area.

We are also underway with the development of our own District 5030 PSA to promote the VCF-5030 campaign to engage Rotarians in their efforts. This will be distributed to all our clubs in 5030 with the goal of motivating our Rotarians into acting in support of the vaccination programs. You can make a difference by either telling your own vaccination story to others (personally or via social media), so they too will get vaccinated and help us **get back to normal**. Even our own DG Cathy Gibson, DGE Howard Cohen, and DGN Kae Peterson were recently vaccinated.

They shared these pictures of their experience getting the injection to encourage others to do the same! I hope that we will see many more Rotarians sharing their pictures via Facebook or Twitter with the following tags

#RotaryResponds,

**#PeopleofAction** and **#Rotary** in celebration of your vaccination story. All it requires is for each of us to take the lead and it will inspire others to do the *same*.





#### **World Rotaract Week**

World Rotaract Week is an annual celebration of the success and the importance of Rotaract in communities around the world. Join the experience 8-14 March to connect with others and share your celebrations. Learn four ways that you



can take action and observe World Rotaract Week this year on the Rotaract Facebook page.

Events planned by our District's Rotaract clubs include:

**Tuesday March 9<sup>th</sup>** Virtual Card Making Event (Zoom Event) Grab your paper, markers and any other art supplies to help us create some much needed cards for those who are fighting health battles on top of the global pandemic. We will provide all details for where to end them and what should be included in the card.

Thursday March 11<sup>th</sup> Guest Speaker Zoom Event

Saturday March 13<sup>th</sup> Rotaract Park Clean Up - Time 11-2 In-Person Socially Distanced Event. Rotaractors from all over the District are invited to join us at a local Seattle Park to do a general clean up. We will be appropriately socially distanced and the District is providing the tools needed for the event! Contact Darby Martin darby.c.martin@gmail.com for more details.



"RACE MATTERS to ROTARY"
A District 5030 Forum

**SAVE-THE-DATE** 

Saturday, April 17, 2021 @ 9AM

Join Rotary International Director Valarie Wafer to learn what Rotarians are doing around the world to promote diversity, equity and inclusion. We'll have a robust Q&A followed by break-out sessions to discuss and determine next steps for Rotarians locally.

Advance registration here: <a href="https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMqf-iprT4sEtwPB3VAt0t8FGngLVuDWXfe">https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMqf-iprT4sEtwPB3VAt0t8FGngLVuDWXfe</a>



#### **District 5030 Peacebuilders**

#### **Small Group Book Discussions**

The Winter/early Spring Peace Book Club Selections are below. There is still time to grab a copy, read, and join a book discussion. If there is continued interest, we can continue convening into April.



Together

Together: The Healing Power of Human Connection in a Sometimes Lonely World by Vivek H. Murthy, MD book discussions: Thursday, March 18<sup>th</sup> @ 5pm & Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup> @12pm via Zoom. https:// www.vivekmurthy.com/together-book.



Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents by Isabel Wilkerson book discussions: Tuesday, March 16<sup>th</sup> @ 5pm & Monday, March 29<sup>th</sup> @ 12pm via Zoom. <a href="https://www.isabelwilkerson.com">https://www.isabelwilkerson.com</a>.

**Book Discussion Facilitators Wanted:** Would you like to facilitate one or more of our upcoming book discussions? If so, contact District Peacebuilder Committee Chair Jessica Bhuiyan at RotaryPeace5030@gmail.com.

#### **District Peace Convenings**

In an effort to bring one another together – to gather, connect, share, and brainstorm – plan to attend one or both of the District Peace Convenings hosted the District Peacebuilder Committee.

This is a chance to learn what peacebuilder clubs are doing around the District, inspire fellow Rotarians to jumpstart their peacebuilding efforts, establish potential partnerships, and begin thinking about future District Peacebuilding engagements, projects, and programs.

District Peace Convening #1 on Wednesday, March 24<sup>th</sup> @ 5pm District Peace Convening #1 on Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup> @ 10am via Zoom.

To RSVP for any and all of the upcoming Peacebuilding activities, please send a note to RotaryPeace5030@gmail.com and specify which program, date, and time (even if more than one) you would like to attend. Corresponding Zoom link information and details will then be sent as we get closer to each activity date.



In Peace, Jessica C. Bhuiyan

Click on the picture to the right to watch the 3.5 minute video about what D5030 is doing to help create peace locally and globally.



### **District Training Opportunities**

# Welcome

**NEW MEMBERS** 

Rotary District 5030

# New Member Orientation and Social

Tuesday March 23rd, 5:00-6:00 pm

Registration Link:https://zoom.us/meeting/register/ tJEvf-ChqjMoHtH9BtoNjKtr2FQgNi7EfV9C Once registered you will get the link to login at the scheduled time.

# Rotary Foundation Refresher on Giving Levels and Recognitions



### Tuesday, March 30 @ 5PM

Join District 5030 Foundation Committee Chair Jeff Brennan for a fast 45 minute refresher on Foundation Giving Levels and Recognitions. Demystify AKS, EREY, PHF and more. Learn how to track your own giving on <a href="https://www.rotary.org">www.rotary.org</a>.

Register here: <a href="https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYqcuGtpzMtGdZsR8LQF74FWgePDVh6xqgi">https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYqcuGtpzMtGdZsR8LQF74FWgePDVh6xqgi</a>

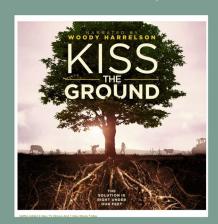
# The Festival of Training is Coming in May AND it's Open to Everyone!

The entire month of May will feature zoom workshops about club and leadership positions, how to engage members, ways to add fun to Rotary meetings, International projects, grant writing and much more!

Whether you are taking on a new role in Rotary, or want to learn a new skill, if you are a new or seasoned Rotarian, there are learning opportunities for everyone. Most workshops will be offered on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings throughout the month of May. An official calendar and registration links will be coming out next month.



SAVE THE DATE! APRIL 24, 2021 7:30 PM



The Environmental Rotary Club of Puget Sound is proud to present a virtual movie night in celebration of Earth Day. We will show the documentary *Kiss the Ground*. Details will follow. We hope to see you on zoom!

Sponsored by





An Evening of Word Games, Express "Debates" and fast-paced Table Talks

Thursday, March 25, 2021 @ 7 PM



### Back by popular demand!

Get ready for "50 Minutes of Fun" with local Toastmasters. Enjoy an evening of online word games, "express" debates and fast-paced "table talks." Register today: <a href="https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwsd0-ppz0oHNAAvFCCw7mmwm4jdvMalUeX">https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwsd0-ppz0oHNAAvFCCw7mmwm4jdvMalUeX</a>



Achieve your professional development goals by accessing Toastmaster's content online at the Rotary Online Learning Center (www.rotary.org)

Become a more effective presenter, communicator, and leader by taking a series of courses developed exclusively for Rotary by the experts at Toastmasters International. These courses in Rotary's Learning Center will help you grow professionally and personally. They include:

- Develop a Speech, on developing content based on your topic, audience, and goals
- Deliver a Speech, on the basics of giving a speech
- Inspirational Speech, on how to engage, persuade, or inspire an audience
- Interpersonal Communication and Networking, on building and maintaining professional relationships and networks
- <u>Leadership Basics</u>, on topics like motivating others, integrity, and team inclusiveness
- Leading a Team, on creating a positive environment, setting goals, and delegating
- Collaboration, on understanding and developing leadership and collaboration skills
- Building Consensus, on developing the skills needed for effective and inclusive leadership

Expand your opportunities by building your skills!





The RYLA Ascend program launched on February 28. Thirty-two (32) students from District 5030 joined 173 students from Districts 5020 (Western WA/Vancouver Island, BC)

and 5320 (Central CA) for a month of leadership development. Despite rumors that students are "Zoomed-out," our attendees were very engaged. I even received an email from a parent at the end of the first day letting us know that she is happy her daughter is in the program! Even though we're virtual this year, initial feedback suggests this is going to be a fantastic month of growth for students and Rotary members, alike.

#### THANK YOU DISTRICT 5030 RYLA VOLUNTEERS

Many thanks to all of the District 5030 volunteers who have are contributing their time and talent to making this year's virtual program a success: Josh Gerstman (Kent), Jodi Robinson (Federal Way), Rhylie Frye (Northshore Rotaract), Leilani Nahaku (Arizona State Univ. Rotaract, D5495; formally Kentlake Interact and Green River Rotaract), Braeden Camarota (President, Seattle Univ. Rotaract), Aishreen Deol (Kentlake Interact and Green River Rotaract), Darby Martin (Seattle City Rotaract), Lori Church (Reston), Margaret Strader (Vashon Island), Lauri Hennessey (Seattle 4), Debra Gumbardo (University District), and DG Cathy Gibson (Seattle 4).

#### THANK YOU TO CLUBS SPONSORING STUDENTS

Sponsoring clubs, include Bellevue Breakfast, Covington, Edmonds, Enumclaw, Kent Sunrise, Kirkland Downtown, Lake Forest Park, Lake Union, Maple Valley, Mercer Island, Mill Creek, Northshore, Sammamish, SeaTac-Tukwila, Seattle 4, Seattle International, Shoreline, Snoqualmie, Renton, University District, University Sunrise, Vashon Island, and Woodinville.

#### **RYLA Fuels the Creation of New Clubs**

Rotary program alumni make ideal members because they're already part of the Rotary family. Find out how alumni from District 5830 were inspired to <u>start their own Rotary club</u> after they participated in Rotary Youth Leadership Awards camps. The group hopes to be a bridge to help young leaders move from Rotary programs into Rotary membership.





#### Shorecrest HS Interact Club

Our club thrives on connection with others, with each other, and the acknowledgement of an even greater need for service

during COVID. We know that there are so many people struggling in a variety of ways, ranging from food and home insecurity to experiencing feelings of isolation. By addressing these challenges in our events and projects, we know that we are making the biggest impact we can.







# Spring Bus Ad Campaign Launches this Month



Watch for northend and eastside buses with Rotary ads.



# YOUR PUBLIC IMAGE TEAM IS WORKING FOR YOU!

(You are on the team, too).

HELP WANTED: Are you a Marketing and Advertising guru? We need your expertise on the Public Image Team. We meet regularly to keep Rotary out there, Social Media is a way to GROW ROTARY. email me if you want to check us out. We are having FUN, come visit. robinleeroat@gmail.com

Please encourage your members (who are on FB) to join ROTARIANS OF DISTRICT 5030, this is a great place to share events and get support from fellow Rotarians. Please use it. We want to know what you are doing?

INSTAGRAM? If you do not have a club Instagram account yet... please consider it. Someone in your club knows how to work it. This is where young people are going for information and Fun...!

Please use the form <u>below</u> to give us ACTION photos, it's EZ https://form.jotform.com/202116947703049

### **Campaign Goes on YouTube**

Check out this brief YOUTUBE Video/Promo staring some our District's Young Rotarians and Rotaractors. Thank you Larry Dominico for filming these wonderful young people. Share it with your friends! <a href="https://youtu.be/4FHxv8cv1rw">https://youtu.be/4FHxv8cv1rw</a>































Join our D5030 International Service Committee Chairs Zoom meeting on **March 17, from 5:30-7:00pm**. Contact Larry Logue at <a href="mailto:literary@gmail.com">lttlarry@gmail.com</a> to receive a link to the meeting.

- Have you ever wanted to participate in an international project but don't know where to start? Come hear about some projects being developed by D5030 clubs in Ethiopia, India, Georgia, Gambia, and learn about available financial and technical support for your projects.
- Do you have an international project but need to find additional partners to help fund your project? Come and share your project with like-minded Rotarians who may be willing to support you.
- Or does your club have some funds available to help another worthy project? Bring your \$\$\$, - there are several great projects for you to choose from.





Congratulations to Sten Crissey and his team of Seattle 4 Blood Donation Volunteers! Their Event at the Seattle Aquarium on February 16 and 17 was amazing! It was well attended and the help they gave Bloodworks NW was essential!

#### **Testimonial from PDG Alan Merry**

I started donating to Bloodworks soon after taking a job at Group Health Cooperative back in 1995. I figured that I ought to help the Health Care Industry out since I wasn't a doctor, nurse or other essential care worker. Lending my arm periodically made me feel that I was contributing somewhat to the cause.



What struck me was how easy donating was. it was a great way to take a break from work. The cookies and juice weren't that bad either.

Group Health has since changed to Kaiser Permanente, and then I retired. Donating blood is still easy, however, and the cookies and juice remain that little security blanket after the donation is done. I'm proud that my last donation was my 88<sup>th</sup>! 11 gallons given impacting 264 lives!

Please join me in being a blood donor. I have this hope that someday we can think that Every Rotarian Every Year pertains to Blood Donation just like it pertains to giving to the Rotary International Foundation. What do you think? Schedule your donation by clicking on https://dslnk.co/Rotary5030 today!

# Research to Action: Science and Solutions for a Planet Under Pressure

by Maria Claudia Norena

The inaugural <u>District 5030 Environmental Sustainability</u> <u>Committee (ESC)</u> secured an agreement with <u>Project Drawdown</u> and the <u>National Council for Science and the Environment (NCSE)</u> for Rotarians to attend the <u>NCSE Drawdown 2021 Conference</u> on January 6-9, 2021. D5030 Rotarians joined thousands of participants from 86 countries to hear world-renown experts.

<u>Project Drawdown</u> is a nonprofit organization that seeks to help the world reach "Drawdown"—the future point in time when levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere stop climbing and start to decline steadily. Since the 2017 publication of the New York Times bestseller Drawdown, the organization has emerged as a leading resource for climate solutions information. Get a free downloadable copy of The Drawdown Review.

The mission of NCSE, now the Global Council for Science and the Environment (GCSE), is to improve the scientific basis of environmental policy and decision-making. GCSE specializes in programs that foster collaborations on research, education, environmental, and business.(Gcsedrawdown2021.org. 2021)

#### Click to access recordings of sessions:

Scaling Up Solutions to Global Environmental Challenges: Critical Roles for Scientific Research "We are facing multiple planetary crises. Science is our bedrock, and through bridging, science policy, and action, we have the opportunity to change our path toward sustainability." GCSE Opening remarks by Inger Andersen, Executive Director of the UNEP.

NCSE Lifetime Achievement Award NCSE Lifetime Achievement Award to Ms. Christiana Figueres, Former Executive Secretary, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The award honors those who have impacted through research, education, diplomacy, and innovative technologies.

Role of Technology in Accelerating Science and Solutions for a Planet Under Pressure As one of the leading global companies, Microsoft invests in sustainability, focusing on carbon, water, waste, and ecosystems, highlighting innovative technologies to address the most significant sustainability challenges. Presenter: Amy Luers, Global Lead, Sustainability Science, Microsoft.

<u>Pressure</u> Panel discussion regarding the global water crisis and the possible pathways to benefit people and nature.

Additional recordings (partial list) are available in the NCSE Drawdown 2021 Conference-<u>YouTube channel.</u> (NCSE, 2021)





The 2021 Rotary International Convention will be held virtually.

Visit <u>convention.rotary.org</u> for more information about refunds and the upcoming virtual event.

# 2021 VIRTUAL ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

June 12—16, 2021

#Rotary21



# We look forward to seeing you at future conventions!

2022	Houston, Texas, USA	June 4-8
2023	Melbourne, Australia	May 27-31
2024	Singapore	June 8-12
2025	Calgary Canada	lune 21-25





The schedule for awarding the 2021 (first) Rotary Scholarship is:

May 15th Announce the scholarship to incoming students

June 15th Applications due
July 1st Award the scholarship

August Communicate selection to Rotarians

To learn more or donate visit bellevuesunriserotary.org/rotary-scholarship.



Improving medical care in under served Washington communities

# Thank you to our donors. So far, over \$6300 Donated through February 15, 2021

Jeffrey Brennan Kaitlin Brown \$20 or More Per Sterling Johnston **Robert Kearns** Member - Rotary Real Estate Club of: Janet Thompson Brietta Easterlin **Dave Mincks** Bellevue Sunrise Chris & Geri Carlson **Russell Taylor** Seattle Northeast Kent Noon

# District Conference - October 2021 Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Your Rotary District Conference Planning Committee s looking for talented Rotarians to help with the planning and execution of the event.

This is your chance to meet Rotarians outside of your club and expand your Rotary family. We are specifically seeking volunteers with event planning experience and people with a talent for marketing and promotions.

For more information or to join the committee, please contact Conference co-Chair Diane Tebelius dtebelius@lesourd.com or Trent Mummery trent@onetrent.com.





### Congratulations Don Kraft on 73 years in Rotary!!



Don Kraft has been a Rotarian in Seattle since 1948! The black & white photo from 1952 shows Don sharing a laugh with fellow Rotarians Ray Chinn and William Nye in the University District Rotary Club.



After six years, Don transferred his membership to the Rotary Club of Seattle, the fourth oldest Rotary club, where he has been a faithful member ever since. Highlights of his Rotary resume include serving as president of the Rotary Youth Foundation (predecessor to the Seattle Rotary Service Foundation) in 1960 when it had full responsibility to fund and operate the Rotary Boys Club - now the Rotary Boys and Girls Club. In 1973-74, Don served as club president of Seattle #4. For the club's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1984, Don led a \$3 million campaign to build a new home for KCTS public television in Seattle. In 2009, Don was chairman of the Seattle club's centennial celebration, which raised \$4 million to build a new home for Family Services, now Wellspring Family Services. Both efforts are considered among the largest projects ever conducted by a single Rotary Club. This year Don has been attending Rotary via Zoom like the rest of us. It lets Don maintain his amazing 70 years of perfect attendance in Rotary.



#### Ezra Teshome: A Hero in Our Midst

Ezra arrived at Seattle from politically unstable Ethiopia in 1971. Five years later, he graduated from **Seattle University** with a pre-law degree. He'd planned to return to Ethiopia, work for a year and then attend law school in the U.S. Continued turmoil in Ethiopia altered his plans and he was granted asylum, stayed in Seattle and built a highly successful career with State Farm Insurance. He married Yobi in 1979. They have 4 accomplished children and 4 beautiful grandchildren.

Ezra joined University District Rotary Club in 1984. He immediately became an active member. He was elected club president in 1996. That year, he attended a peace conference in Ethiopia hosted by the RI president. He learned more about Rotary International's campaign to eradicate polio. Every year thereafter he returned to Ethiopia with American and Canadian Rotarians to help with immunization and other projects to improve education, health and welfare. Many members of our club have participated. Dave Weaver was Ezra's right-hand man on most of the trips.

In 2010, Ezra was honored by the **World Affairs Council** - **Seattle** with a World Citizen Award for his contributions to public understanding of international relations and the promotion of community involvement in world affairs. The entire continent of Africa was declared free of the wild polio

virus in 2020, in no small part due to Ezra's efforts. Ezra served as Governor of **Rotary District 5030** in 2013-14. He and Yobi volunteer their time on multiple leadership councils and task forces in Seattle and beyond. Currently, Ezra is a trustee at Seattle University.

Ezra is above all a Rotary citizen. He passes on and multiplies the kindnesses that have been visited upon him. He sends gifts to recognize member milestones. He visits our club members when they're ill. He supports members when leadership opportunities arise because he cares about every person. We're proud and happy to honor this hero in our midst: Ezra Teshome.





#### From Rotary International President Holger Knaack



In 2019, Rotary International's Board of Directors articulated a vision and commitment to advancing diversity and inclusion throughout Rotary by adopting our firstever Diversity, Equity,

and Inclusion (DEI) Statement.

This Statement is the foundation for creating an organizational culture that reflects today's world. It enables us to fully deliver on the central tenets of our work: promoting respect, demanding ethical leadership, and creating more just, open, and welcoming communities for all people.

Earlier this month, the Board engaged the DEI experts at PwC, a multinational business consulting group. They will help us develop perspectives and practices for

making DEI part of our shared experiences as Rotary members. The goal is to support all members and participants – particularly those from communities traditionally underrepresented in the organization – so that they see our clubs, programs and our leadership ranks as places where they are welcomed and encouraged to celebrate all aspects of their lived experiences.

As we begin this work, Rotary's leadership is united in stating that Rotary does not tolerate speech or behavior that promotes bias, discrimination, prejudice, or hatred because of age, ethnicity, race, color, abilities, religion, socioeconomic status, culture, sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity. There is no place within Rotary for racism, homophobia, transphobia, sexism, classism, or ageism. We do not believe that this is a political stance and we do believe that we should openly discuss these issues within our organization.

Rotary's diversity strengthens us. Diversity is one of our core values, and the tremendous breadth and variety of experiences, cultures, and perspectives that are represented in our organization are what make us unique.

Rotary is learning. We know that this journey will take time and lead to challenging conversations, deep self-reflection, and new opportunities for discovery and growth. We must all feel empowered to speak out respectfully and hold ourselves and each other accountable when our actions do not reflect Rotary's ideals. Look for more opportunities to be a part of this shared journey. We want participation, input, and ideas from our members all over the globe as we strive to show what's possible when we uphold our commitment to diversity and respect for all.





### **Duvall Rotary Serving Veterans**



Every year the Rotary Club of Duvall serves breakfast to Veterans during the Sno Valley Senior Center Veterans Day Breakfast. This year, due to COVID, the Rotary Club came out to the Senior Center and assisted with meal delivery/distribution and packing up of lunches for our the seniors in the Snoqualmie Valley Community. These nutritious packed meals provide food security for all. This is a very rewarding and enjoyable experience. The club did so this year in smaller numbers, stayed socially distanced, and wore masks for protection from the virus. Seniors really enjoy these lunches and appreciated the Rotarians friendliness and enthusiasm. Over 130 lunches were served.

### **Covington Rotary Cleans Up**



Members of the Covington Rotary teamed up with the Green River Rotaract Club to pick up litter near Covington's core shopping district. This event was a great example of our club's spirit - working with our local youth to improve our city and our area and having fun in the process. We are now working to put together our annual auction in May to raise money for our projects - weekend food provisioning for local school kids, college scholarships, Shop with a Cop and other endeavors.

# **Rotary Club of Issaquah Helping Kids**



Our club's motto says it all: Engaging business and community members to support youth and those in need. We live in a largely affluent community that unfortunately has significant pockets of people in need - particularly youth. It is very easy to not see them, or even to ignore them when seen. Our club understands the very real problems these people face and works very hard to empower them to meet and overcome their challenges. Our beneficiaries include the Issaquah Food and Clothing Bank, The Garage - A Teen Café, Life Enrichment Options (and other programs serving youth and young adults with developmental disabilities), and many other programs that work with the underserved by providing more than simple hand-outs.

# **Send Us Your Rotary Club Photos**

We're looking for photos depicting Rotarians in Action. This link will take you to the submission form. <a href="https://form.jotform.com/202116947703049">https://form.jotform.com/202116947703049</a> (Do not send photos of children unless you have a signed release from their parent.)

# Mercer Island Rotary's Operation "Nightwatch"



Operation "Nightwatch" to feed the homeless. Rotarians make 100 carry out dinners once a month.





#### The Little Spanish Library Grande on Vashon

The Vashon Rotary Racial Justice Task Force has built a Little Free Library for our Latinx Community. It is not little; we wanted to accommodate 100-150 books Our library measures about 18.6 cubic feet (compared to a typical Little Library that is about 2.7 cubic feet).

The project necessitated coordination with and support from many groups. The Vashon Island School District has supplied books, support and provided guidance. Superintendant Slade McSheehy, and school librarians Kathleen Lawrence and Cynthia Gregorich have been involved from the start. The Outreach Committee of the Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit solicited books from their membership as part of their annual holiday "Giving Tree". The Vashon Public Library also donated books and committed to donate more as we need them. Shawn Hoffman of IGA allowed us to use the area near his grocery store's south door.

Current Rotary President Amy Huggins named Rotarians Lin Holley and Kim Richards co-chairs of the Task Force. Captain John Burke is the construction manager, with George Spano. We coordinated with Cynthia Ramos and Nicole Gehlbach of Comunidad Latina de Vashon, who provided us with many great ideas to make the library special for their community. Forty children of the Latinx community painted small tiles to decorate the library.

Wisconsin Rotarian Todd Bol started the LittleFreeLibrary.org in 2009. There are now libraries in at least 88 countries, including a Rotarian project library in Ghana. Our library is on the LFL World Map, which is accessed through their website, LittleFreeLibrary.org. We are registered as library # 108628. We plan to have a grand opening (date TBD), ribbon-cutting etc. (as

restrictions allow.)

Los lectores latinx de Vashon, Washington disfrutan de libros en español y libros bilingües, gracias al Club Rotario de Vashon, la Comunidad Latinx de Vashon, el Distrito Escolar de Vashon, la Iglesia Episcopal del Espíritu Santo, y varios donantes individuales. ¡Vengan todos a disfrutar de los libros de la Pequeña Biblioteca Gratuita! "Toma un libro; deja un libro."



**Ballard Rotary Club** is passionate about St. Luke's Edible Hope Kitchen, Ballard High School, and the Seattle Centra Maritime Academy. We love to engage with youth and help them in any way we can. For decades our club has worked hard to clean the street in Ballard with our street adoption program.



The Rotary Club of West Seattle has been known as the "fun club" and that's because we like doing Rotary Projects together AND to laugh a lot during meetings. Due to COVID we haven't done a lot of projects together except for cleaning up seniors yards in October. The pictures here are from that "fun" crew.

In-place of more in-person service projects, the members have been giving very generously to Happy Bucks. The dollars raised have gone to the West Seattle Food Bank, Westside Baby and the Senior Center of West Seattle. An amazing \$14,151 was donated during 2020. It feels good to have the Club Members step up in a way they can and continue to support our community.



# International District Rotary is Helping two low-income housing projects

The Rotary Club of Seattle - International District is helping to support Low Income Housing Institute (LIHI) on two housing projects for the homeless. When club member, Sharon Lee, Executive Director of LIHI, approached the club for support, members quickly mobilized to put together a campaign to raise funds and collect new/gently used items to furnish the two housing projects that will be opening for residents in mid-March. Your help is greatly needed TODAY: <a href="https://seattleidrotary.ejoinme.org/lihi">https://seattleidrotary.ejoinme.org/lihi</a>

Clay Apartments, a 76-unit building in Capitol Hill was recently acquired by LIHI to serve homeless individuals and veterans, providing an "unprecedented opportunity to capitalize on the current market conditions to quickly and cost effectively provide housing for the most vulnerable populations". The Clay Apartments will become permanent affordable housing for homeless people. The Executive Pacific Hotel in downtown Seattle will be housing 150 homeless people for 10 months. Those residents will be coming in with very few belongings and support to furnish those spaces is greatly needed as well.

Monetary donations made through the donation page will go towards furnishings and basic needs items for the two housing developments. Donations of new/gently used items from the list will also be welcome and appreciated. The Seattle – International District club will be coordinating pickups and distribution to LIHI for items that people would like to donate. Club Secretary, Judy Ginn, <a href="mailto:riginn@juno.com">riginn@juno.com</a>, will be coordinating pickups for item donations. Feel free to reach out to Club President, Henry Wong, <a href="mailto:henry.n.wong.tn@gmail.com">henry.n.wong.tn@gmail.com</a>, for more details or questions about the campaign.

DONATE NOW: https://seattleidrotary.ejoinme.org/lihi



### Renewal Food Bank Van Replacement.



What do you get when you take a delivery van and use it for more than a decade to deliver groceries around the Puget Sound to families with chronic food insecurity?

Almost 180,000 miles and a list of necessary repairs that just doesn't make any sense, that's what. But the need for food never ends, so neither can the deliveries. That's why Bellevue Breakfast Rotary Club teamed up with the Bellevue Eastside Rotary Club, Bellevue Rotary Club and Rotary Club of Mercer Island along with Rotary District 5030 on a \$25,000 grant to help replace the van and keep those deliveries moving.

The replacement van Renewal Food Bank selected is a 2019 Chevrolet with just about 13,000 miles on it. It's clean, white, in great shape, and all lettered up with the Renewal logo and the Rotary logo as well. It should serve the food bank and the people of the east side for many years to come.

# **Mill Creek Rotary Club Project**

Since April, our club has been conducting bi-weekly drive4food. We have 5-10 drivers who pick up food donations at donors' homes so that it helps them help others. Cash is used for fresh meat, dairy and fruits. The \$750 urgent grant went directly to the Mill Creek Food Bank. The grant was added to the \$16000 that had been collected from Rotarians and Mill Creek supporters, in addition to the 63,402 pounds of food and supplies collected by our Drive4Food campaign since April 17<sup>th</sup>. We are now at 72,376 pounds and \$23,149.

Together we can respond to food insecurity in our community and make a positive difference.



#### **District Newsletter Deadline April 1st**

Up to 1/2 page dedicated to each club. Limit articles to no more than 300 words plus one picture. Pictures and Ads need to be in .jpg format. Ads are limited to 1/4 page without prior approval. Put DISTRICT NEWSLETTER in the subject line.

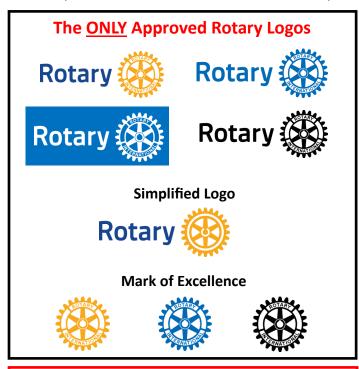
Send to: carmamckay@gmail.com



# NO BULL... Rotary's Identity at a Glance

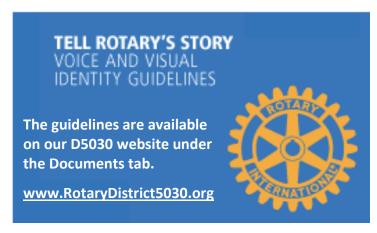
Here are Rotary International's approved logos and color palette. The full guidelines are available at the Rotary International website <a href="www.rotary.org">www.rotary.org</a>. Rotary Logo Use... NO BULL... <a href="https://youtu.be/VaTQt hAolk">https://youtu.be/VaTQt hAolk</a>. Use the correct logo in your submissions to the newsletter or your submission may be rejected. Please change all of your social media accounts to the correct logo. That includes Website, Linked In, Twitter, Instagram, Personal signature on email, etc.

Note: Your Rotary Club is a member of Rotary International. You are a member of your club. The ONLY individual who is a member of Rotary International is your District Governor. So, when you list Rotary on your Resume, Linked In, etc. please list it as The Rotary Club of XXX. Do not list it as "member of Rotary International".









# New Rotary's Area of Focus icons are on their way!

RI is currently finalizing the production of new icons for Rotary's Areas of Focus. They will be available on the Brand Centre in the coming weeks. The icons will be available to be used as individual icons, as well as grouped options that include all 7 icons in one graphic. A thorough guidelines document will be included with each download.

