

One Profits Most Who Serves Best! • Service Above Self

The Wellesley Rotascope

Rotary Club Number 6594, Chartered March 26, 1946

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www.WellesleyRotary.org

WELLESLEY ROTARY—CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF SERVICE—March 26, 2021

Alex Doe

Wellesley resident and youth representative

March 2, 2021

Tuesday, March 16, 2021—Alex Doe, Wellesley resident & Rotary scholar—Zoom meeting at 6:30 PM

Friday, March 26, 2021 Wellesley Rotary is 75 years young! Happy Birthday WRC for 75 years of Service!

<u>Tuesday, April 6,</u> <u>2021</u>—Club Visioning Continued— (The Rotary Foundation & Environmental Services)

Tuesday, April 20, 2021—TBA



<u>The Rotary Club of Wellesley</u> <u>Mission Statement</u>: To serve others with a focus on strengthening communities in the areas of health, education and sustainable living

Keep up-to-date on District Happenings...

Visit the District website (rotary7910.org)

Wellesley Rotary Club meets at the <u>Wellesley College Club,</u> <u>727 Washington Street</u>, from 6:00 to 8:00 on the first and third <u>Tuesdays</u> (unless announced otherwise). A sandwich buffet (at a fixed price of \$30) is offered (\$32 if charged). Parking available. Signups required so please look for the President's e-mail.

PLEASE NOTE...

A *Service & Fellowship* meeting is usually held on the **first Tuesday of the month** and a Rotary Speaker meeting on the **third Tuesday.**

See <u>Upcoming Programs & Events</u> (left) or check the Club website for more information.

For the foreseeable future Wellesley Rotary will be meeting via ZOOM.

Visit the Club's website for more details: (www.WellesleyRotary.org).

On Tuesday, March 2nd, a blockbuster program entitled Wellesley Rotary Food Insecurity Forum and organized by President Vin Spoto, opened with a welcome and an outline of the meeting and how Wellesley Rotary got involved with the food insecurity issue in Wellesley. This was followed by the Pledge, and an Invocation by **Toby Kell**. Starting with Senator Cynthia Creem, who introduced Greg Reibman of the Newton-Needham Chamber of Commerce, she talked about the State's \$175K program to assist struggling restaurants (\$75K for Newton, \$60K for Brookline & \$40K for Wellesley). Maura Renzella, Wellesley Youth Director and social worker representing the Town, said that restaurants were identified and the program was "off and running." She further explained that town resources were identified to help "connect meals with residents". She was happy about support to help the vulnerable. Laurel Lyle of the Wellesley Service League has volunteers who help deliver meals, and works with the Wellesley Police and the Wellesley Health Department. Simone Rogers and Jim Rodrigue ("Kids Backing Kids") spoke about student efforts to help students with poverty and food insecurity in public schools using a "recipe bag". Gary Arthur, a restaurant professional, works in the full commercial kitchen at the Village Church to provide up to 500 meals, cooked and delivered, to Wellesley residents and surrounding ...continued towns.



The Rotary Club of Wellesley, Inc., P.O. Box 81206 Wellesley Hills, MA 0248I

MEETINGS: 1st & 3rd Tuesday Evenings at 6:00 P.M. Wellesley College Club, 727 Washington St. Wellesley, MA 02482— 781-283-2700

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"It's quite a challenge," he said with 84 volunteers, "sometimes too many in the kitchen!" He is also working with Temple Beth Elohim who was represented by Ilene, and Amy (Benjamin). Karen Mondell and President Deborah Cogill of the Wellesley Friendly Aid talked about their response to individuals including seniors with Roche Bros. holiday gift certificates. They also provide financial assistance to those in need. Since Covid there has been low contact and remains so. They are in need of volunteers. VP Megan LeBlanc and Amy Hernandez of the Wellesley Educational Foundation support "Schofield (School) Cares". They do not work with food insecurity, instead with social workers in the school community. Stephanie Flynn, President of the WH Junior Women's Club focused on grants and scholarships which can be used for food insecurity. Dinora Torres of the MBCC Rotaract Club spoke about their "Garden in a Box" (with gardening tools and seeds) to encourage planting and growing one's garden. For \$60 they promote food cultivation. Vin Spoto talked about Wellesley Rotary's efforts in support of fighting food insecurity including fundraising. Laurel Lyle, President of the Wellesley Service League, provide meals for senior women's Friendship Circle and partner with mobile farmer's markets. They are "constantly reinventing"! Rotarian John Adams spoke for those not present (Foundation for the Metro West; Wellesley Food Pantry and Council on Aging) who also address food insecurity. Many interesting discussions and questions followed moderated by President Vin. Groundwork was laid to exchange ideas at future meetings; to get the word out there, and to promote a "digital book" as a resource for combating food insecurity. The meeting ended as a positive step forward for the Wellesley community.

Rotary and its GPEI* partners celebrate a monumental achievement, say global eradication of wild polio is possible with the continued dedication and persistence of Rotarians

*The **GPEI** is a public-private **partnership** led by national governments with six core **partners** – the World Health Organization (WHO), Rotary International, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), UNICEF, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and, most recently, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.

Since 1996, countless Rotary members from across Africa and around the world have raised funds, immunized children, and promoted vaccinations, enabling the GPEI to respond to and stop polio outbreaks. More than 9 billion doses of oral polio vaccine have been provided throughout the region, preventing an estimated 1.8 million cases of paralysis. Each year, about 2 million volunteers help vaccinate 220 million children against polio multiple times in the African region.

Rotary members have contributed nearly \$890 million toward polio eradication efforts in the African region. The funds have allowed Rotary to issue PolioPlus grants, to fund polio surveillance, transportation, awareness campaigns, and National Immunization Days.

Dr. Tunji Funsho, chair of Rotary's Nigeria Polio-Plus committee, noted Rotarians' tremendous contributions to polio eradication efforts in Africa. "From raising funds and immunizing.. *...continued*



<u>ANNIVERSARIES</u>