

# TWO LIGHTS

Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth

October 28, 2015

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

**November 4** – Club Assembly

**November 11** – Ellie Speh, Children's Garden (*Note that even though this is Veteran's Day, we WILL be meeting*)

## ASSIGNMENTS

	<u>November 4</u>	<u>November 11</u>	<u>November 18</u>
Invocation	Phillips	Redman	Riemensnider
Raffle Gift	Carignan	Carson	Conroy
Conductor	Cotter	Daniels	Danielson

*A gift certificate to Gritty's donated by Ali Carignan was won by David Rogers..*

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

**October 30, 6:00 – 10:00** – Dress up to Drive Out Human Trafficking

**November 9** – District Spending Webinar

**November 10** – Soup Kitchen

## *What's New With Our Members*

*Thank you to Anne Swift-Kayatta and Kathy Cotter for cleaning up all the supplies in the fire barn!*

*Thank you to Mike & MaryAnne Tranfaglia, Alicia and Bob Danielson, and Nancy Hawes for hosting Polio Dine-Around dinners!*

**South Portland Schools Nutrition Program** – Our speaker this week was Jane Eberle, former state legislator and Director of Business Partnerships for the South Portland School Department. Jane visited our club to thank us for our donations to the schools' nutrition program, to tell us why they need the money, and how they spend it. Based on the recently released report by Supt.

Ken Kunin, there are 3,085 students in the SP schools (city population = 25k). Of these, 41% qualify for the free and reduced meals program. But what about the students (and there must be many) who just barely do not qualify for the free and reduced meals program? The School Department wanted to make sure that no child went hungry, even if they didn't qualify for assistance. So they asked us to provide money last year for a pilot program: if a student goes through the lunch line and tells the "lunch lady" that they don't have money, the lunch lady doesn't ask any embarrassing questions – she just lets the child eat lunch and charges the cost of the lunch to the funds that we have provided. We donated \$500 for this program last year and presented a check to Jane this week for another \$500 for the current year.

**End Polio Now** – One of the events celebrating World Polio Day was a livestream event on October 23 featuring Kirsten Bell, Heidi Klum, Mike McGovern and other notables. While it was entertaining, it was also very informative. For instance we learned from CDC Polio Eradication Branch Chief John Vertefeuille that there have been just 51 cases of polio so far this year. He also described the differences between the

- inactivated polio vaccine – cannot cause polio, but has to be administered by a trained professional, and
- oral polio vaccine – easily administered by anybody, but (rarely) can cause polio.

As part of the polio endgame, immunizers are gradually switching to the inactivated vaccine with next April being a key date for phasing out oral polio vaccine.

He also answered the question, if we really are "this close," why do we need to keep giving money to polio eradication?

- Because if polio exists anywhere in the world, everyone is potentially at risk.
- Within the 20 years following eradication, the world will save tens of billions of dollars (I didn't catch the exact number).
- The infrastructure put in place by polio eradication is making it possible to conduct routine immunizations of children throughout the world for many more preventable diseases.

If you weren't able to attend a Polio Dine-Around dinner, your contribution to eradicate polio would still be welcomed.

Speaking of the Polio Dine-Arounds, here are some photos from the dinners. *(And on a personal note, I'll add that you don't have to be a gourmet chef like Mike Tranfaglia to host a dinner – you can even have a store-bought cake for dessert! The dinners are a lot of fun, whether you're a host or a guest, so please consider hosting one next time around!)*





**ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTH  
PORTLAND/CAPE ELIZABETH, MAINE**

[www.sp-ce-rotary.org](http://www.sp-ce-rotary.org)

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