

# TWO LIGHTS

**Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth**

**April 7, 2021**



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

## Upcoming Dates:

**April 14** – Catherine McGuckin, Woodfords Family Services

**April 14** – Finance Committee meeting following club meeting

**April 21** – Joseph Cassidy, President of SMCC

**April 21** – Board meeting following club meeting

**April 28** – Eric Girard, The Family Restored

**May 5** – Club Assembly

**May 12** – Janice Gardner, Executive Director, Mad Horse Theater

**May 19** – Marty Helman, speaking about a project in Uganda our club supported

**June 12** – Winterfest 2021 **FIREWORKS** Celebration at Wainwright Fields

**June 12-16** – RI Virtual Convention

**July 21** – Lobsterbake!

## OPENING WORDS

*April 7:* Laurenz Schmidt recounted the Native American parable that some of you may have heard about the two inner wolves – one that is angry and violent and the other that is kind and peaceful. The one that “wins” is the one that you feed the most.

*Upcoming Weeks* – Please sign up on the club website to take a turn to do the opening words. Scott and I have been grumbling about how stupid this is, but if you didn’t save the link in the email, there’s no other way to get to the sign-up on the website. ***So please save the email that Scott sent you.***

### *What’s New With Our Members*

*Happy Birthday to:*

 *Ellis Speh - April 8*

 *Doug Schauf - April 13*

*Happy Anniversary to these two couples married on the SAME DAY - April 11 - in 1970:*

 *Bill & Diane Anderson*

 *Dan & Joan McDonald*

*Our sincere condolences to our District Governor Peggy on the death of her mother last week.*

*APRIL “ROTAVERSARIES” (thank you Brian King for the term)*

★ *Karen Vachon - 2 years*

★ *Tural Nadirli - 3 years*

★ *Dan McDonald - 6 years*

★ *Tom Meyers - 20 years*

★ *Phil Dub - 51 years (how is that possible???)*

*Thank you to Mike McGovern for putting together the slick Annual Report for last year (2019-20). If you didn’t save the link to it that was sent last week, you can get to it any time you want on our club website. Directions for how to get there will be sent along with this bulletin.*

*Guests this week: Sharon Fisher, Aaron Mathews, Kristina McCarthy, Brent Wilson, Bill York, Dan Davidson, Jeff Ketchum, Administrator, Pinnacle Health & Rehab of South Portland, several members of the South Portland Food Cupboard and SYBIL!!!*

**Making Summer Plans Already** – Club members received an email from Anne Swift-Kayatta asking you to respond to her with your preference for our annual summer lobsterbake. She sent details about the choices, but they boil down to:

1. The usual at Fort Williams (we do the set-up, serving & clean-up)
2. At the Hard Shell Café on Long Island (they do all the work but the schedule is not as flexible and it would be more expensive), or
3. BOTH!

If you have not responded to Anne yet, please go ahead and do so.

**Let's ALL Vax it Forward** – We are finally in the fortunate situation that everyone in the club has the opportunity to sign up to be vaccinated if they haven't already been vaccinated – hooray! So when you get your shot, in addition to doing your happy dance or however you're inclined to celebrate, please consider also expressing your gratefulness by making a donation to PolioPlus. So far 8 club members have indicated that they have made a donation or plan to. This is all strictly voluntary but if you'd like to be added to the head count just let Anne or Nancy H know.

**Community Thank You's** – Our secretary Kathy Cotter mentioned some thank you notes that our club has received recently in response to our donations. Most of them are the result of the Veterans Committee making a recommendation as to how our budgeted Veterans Assistance funds should be spent and our treasurer Nicole disbursing the funds:

Veterans:

- ✓ K9 on the Front Lines
- ✓ Vet2Vet
- ✓ Durham Warriors
- ✓ Huot Veterans House

Others:

- ✓ South Portland High School (for water bottles)
- ✓ South Portland Food Cupboard
- ✓ Shelter Box

**Pandemic Heroes, Part I** – Back in December Betty Egner, on behalf of the Foundation Committee, collected nominations for local “Pandemic Heroes.” Thank you to everyone who submitted nominations and to Betty for coordinating everything. This week we made presentations to representatives from two entities who were outstanding representatives of the many organizations and businesses that were challenged and stepped up in the past year. Anne Swift-Kayatta introduced the first three awardees and there would be nothing to be gained by editing her script so here it is.



Tonight we are honoring three pandemic heroes from Pinnacle Health and Rehab:

- ❖ Becca Ivey-Geneseo, RN—Assistant Director of Nursing, Infection Control & Prevention Officer,
- ❖ Laurie Bagley, RN—Director of Nursing, and
- ❖ Nikki Mowatt, LPN—Education Coordinator.

Becca, Laurie and Nikki make up the infection control team at Pinnacle Health & Rehab of South Portland and have been working to protect the residents, staff and community since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic.

As many of you may know, Pinnacle was until recently known as South Portland Nursing Home and has been providing residential care to some of the area's most vulnerable residents for decades. Pinnacle's residents include seniors in need of medical and residential care, adults with developmental disabilities unable to live on their own, and patients experiencing advanced Alzheimer's and dementia.

Both nursing home residents and staff are considered to be at high risk for contracting disease due to the congregate setting of skilled, long-term care facilities.

The unit that these three professionals comprise has been responsible for more than a thousand negative tests, has put in place safeguards to ensure the safety and ongoing health of their 65 residents, and has engaged in an ongoing internal public information campaign to reinforce best practices in the facility and to provide accurate and relevant information to residents, their families, staff, and others.

Over the past year, their efforts have:

- Avoided all outbreaks of COVID in the facility and ensured that no resident contracted the virus. (To be clear, there have been positives in staff [in staff only,

not residents], but each instance it has been contained, did not spread within the facility or among the population, and did not result in serious illness.)

- Achieved a 97% inoculation rate among residents. According to the CDC, the national average\* is 78%.
- Achieved a ~70% inoculation rate among staff, compared to a national average\* of 38%.
- Operated two vaccination events in which no doses were wasted or destroyed.
- Continued to coordinate ongoing vaccination efforts for new residents and staff.

[\* according to CDC report Feb 2021; averages are median figures]

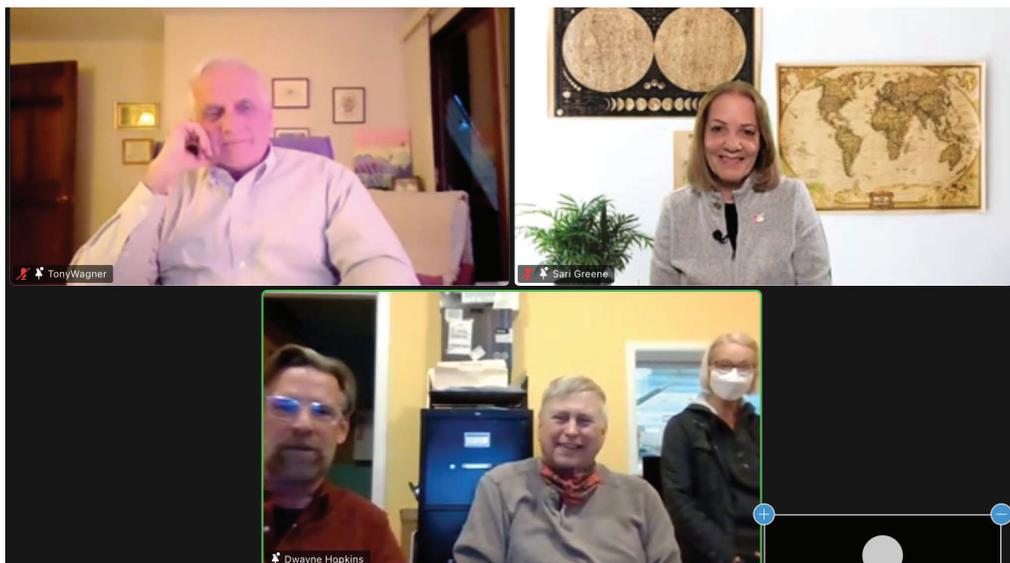
For all these achievements and more to help our community, especially the most vulnerable among us, the Rotary Foundation is awarding Paul Harris Fellow status to Becca, Laurie and Nikki as representatives of all the staff at Pinnacle Health and Rehab of South Portland. Congratulations and thank you!

**Pandemic Heroes, Part II** – The second organization that we honored was the South Portland Food Cupboard, and receiving Paul Harris Fellow certificates were Dwayne Hopkins, Executive Director and Jim Welch, Warehouse Manager. Tony introduced Dwayne, who has been at the Food Cupboard for four years, replacing Sybil as the Executive Director. (And it should be noted that the Food Cupboard would not even exist without Sybil’s founding and nurturing of it for nearly two decades – and it still bears her imprint in its emphasis on quality of the food and respect for the customers.) Sybil had big shoes to fill but Tony and Sari both noted Dwayne’s excellent leadership.

Sari introduced Jim Welch, whom she described as:

- A force of nature,
- A Food Cupboard Encyclopedia, and
- It’s in his DNA to go the extra mile!

Dwayne and Jim noted that they were able to join us at our Zoom meeting on a computer that our club donated to the Food Cupboard!



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

Officers

President – Michael Geneseo  
President-Elect – Dave Bagdasarian  
Vice-President – Jim Britt  
Secretary – Kathy Cotter  
Treasurer – Nicole Albert

Directors

Club Administration – Bev Altenburg  
Youth Services – Katelyn Estes  
Community Services – Tony Wagner  
International Services/Foundation – Peter Bennett  
Membership – Laurenz Schmidt  
Director-At-Large – David Lourie

Committee Chairs

Visibility Co-Chairs – Fran Bagdasarian & Matt McAleney  
Webmaster – Jim Britt  
Bulletin Editor – Nancy Hawes  
Program Chair – David Bagdasarian

**DISTRICT 7780 GOVERNOR**

Peggy Belanger, Rotary Club of Kennebunk Portside

**ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT**

Holger Knaack, Rotary Club of Herzogtum Lauenburg-Molln, Germany