



2024 - 2025



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Food Security

Locker Project (\$1,000)

Rotary funding supports the distribution of healthy fresh food and staples to South Portland children and their families through school- and community-based programs.

Judy's Pantry Food (\$2,500)

Rotary funding supports the distribution of produce and non-perishable items to Cape Elizabeth residents in need.

South Portland Food Cupboard (\$5,525)

Rotary funding paid for equipment needed to open a new office space for food-related paperwork processing. *SPCE Rotarians support the South Portland Food Cupboard by collectively volunteering more than 2,000 hours every year.*

Farms for Food Equity (\$1,000)

Rotary funding supports local farmers who donate to food banks and soup kitchens.

Greater Portland Family Promise (\$1,000)

Rotary funding supports the culturally relevant food distribution program designed to serve asylum-seeking families.



Veterans Support

Vet2Vet Companionship (\$2,500)

Rotary funding supports peer companionship programs that alleviate social isolation among Maine's veterans and connect them to needed services.

VOA Northern New England Emergency Fund (\$1,000)

Rotary funding covers one-time emergency expenses for veterans, such as the first month's rent, travel, clothing, or essential equipment.

Durham Warriors Project (\$1,500)

Rotary funding covered the cost for (5) 2-night stays at Maine Forest Yurts in Durham, Maine, for disabled veterans, active-duty military and their families.

Huot House (\$2,000)

Rotary funding supports transitional housing for veterans experiencing homelessness.

Maine Veterans in Need (\$1,500)

Rotary funding is used to directly support VETS with special needs, up to \$500 per individual.



Student Support

SPHS ELO Bike Repair Shop (\$300)

Rotary funding is used to purchase bike parts and cleaning supplies for the SPHS Extended Learning Opportunity Bike Shop.

Opportunity Alliance After-School AfroBeats Dance Class (\$600)

Rotary funding covers teacher fees for an AfroBeats dance class, a culturally relevant after-school program.

SPHS Student Transportation (\$500)

Rotary funding ensures students can participate in workforce development and career exploration activities.

SPMS World Cultures Day (\$3,000)

Rotary funding supported the preparation of traditional food and interactive workshops. *Rotarians volunteered to serve the delicious dishes.*

Long Creek Youth Development Center (\$500)

Rotary funding is used by the A.R. Gould School to purchase high-interest books for students.

Service-above-Self College & Yerxa Vocational Scholarships (\$10,500)

Rotary awarded 11 scholarships to South Portland and Cape Elizabeth graduates.





Community Support

Portland Wheelers (\$1,000)
 Rotary funding is used to purchase spare tires, parts and bike repair tools to keep the fleet functioning safely. In 2024 the adapted trikes rode over 9,000 miles in 2024 providing over 3,000 rides to folks who can't ride bikes on their own.

Habitat for Humanity (\$1,250)
 Rotary funding is used to offset engineering and home building costs. Habitat for Humanity of Greater Portland is building eight single-family homes in South Portland that will be sold to low-income families with an affordable mortgage.

Partners for World Health (\$1,500)
 Rotary funding is used to improve health care and reduce environmental impact by collecting surplus medical equipment and supplies and distributing them to communities in need globally and locally.

South Portland Housing Authority (\$1,000)
 Rotary funding supports South Portland Housing Authority (SPHA) indoor and outdoor activities and special events for seniors and disabled adults.



Event & Activities

Maine Special Olympics (\$357)
 Rotary donated \$357 in honor of the 357 athletes that participated in the 2025 Special Olympics. *Rotarians were in attendance to register, guide, and serve lunch to the athletes.*

Rainbow Arts Collective (\$1,000)
 Rotary funding paid for three ASL interpreters for the Mill Creek Park Pride Market and Festival featuring LGBTQIA+ artists, makers, and performers.

South Portland Boys & Girls Club 50th Anniversary (\$2,500)
 Rotary was proud to be a sponsor of the 50th anniversary celebration. It was an evening filled with laughter, memories, and heartwarming stories.

Cape Harvest Festival & Cape Family Fun Day
 Rotary volunteers joyfully serve cotton candy and popcorn to attendees of all ages.

Light Up the Night Sky Fireworks (\$5,000)
 4th Annual Light Up the Night Sky Fireworks at Fort Williams Park in Cape Elizabeth! Brought to you by Rotary, supported by the Town of Cape Elizabeth and sponsored by Port Harbor Marine.



Parks & Rec

Bug Light Lighthouse Maintenance and Education (\$4105+)
 Rotary funding pays for ongoing restoration, maintenance and beautification of Bug Light Park & Lighthouse. *Rotary docents conduct free lighthouse tours for the public and by appointment for school groups throughout the year.*

Fort Williams Sounds by the Sea (\$2,000)
 Rotary sponsors the annual summer concert series at Fort Williams that benefits the South Portland Food Cupboard.

Mill Creek Park Tree Lighting (\$500)
 Rotary sponsors the annual Mill Creek tree lighting and community celebration.

Bug Light Lighthouse 150 Anniversary Celebration (\$1,000)
 Rotary funding covers planning, promotion, and underwriting for the community celebration of the lighthouse's 150th anniversary. *The celebration is a SPCE Rotary – City of South Portland partnership event.*
 FMI: <http://buglight150.org>





Literacy

Little Free Libraries (\$500)

Rotary funding was used to purchase Little Free Library cabinets for the South Portland and Redbank Community Centers.

South Portland Public Library & Cape Elizabeth Thomas Memorial Library (\$1,000)

Rotary funding is used to purchase books at each library in honor of speakers who educate and enlighten Rotarians at our weekly meetings.

2024-2025 Speakers:

Andrea Southworth, Cathy Chapman & Tom Blake, Perry Newman, Andrea King, Kelly McDonald, Jennifer Hutchins, Margaret Angell, DG Bob McKenzie, Stephanie Gill, Audrey LeBleu & Xavier McCarthy, Peter Dugas, Kate Hekick & Dora Hurt, Carolyn Delaney, Stephanie Fin, Ken Johnson, Dwayne Hopkins, Carolyn & Peter Johnson, Patrick Fox, and Judge Bill Kayatta.



Health & Wellness

Rotary International Foundation and Polio Plus Campaign (\$14,300)

Rotary funding supports Polio Plus grants for health workers and volunteers. Together they have built an infrastructure for delivering health care and improving health care to fight multiple diseases, proving that the legacy of PolioPlus is more than eradicating a deadly disease from the planet — it’s also building a stronger health system that provides better access to lifesaving interventions for the world’s most vulnerable children.

The Family Restored Scholarship Fund (\$2,000)

Rotary contributions support scholarships that provide access to sober living environments with peer support and recovery resources.

SoPo Unite (\$1,000)

Rotary funding supports a peer mentoring program at the middle school focused on behavioral health.



Leadership

Hometown Heroes – Paul Harris Fellow awards (\$5,000)

In honor of our Hometown heroes, Rotary donated \$5,000 to the Rotary Foundation.

Hometown heroes - South Portland Police Chief Ahern and Fire Chief Selberg, Cape Elizabeth Police Chief Fenton, and Fire Chief Young, and South Portland City Council Cohen - were awarded Rotary International's highest honor, a Paul Harris Fellows award for Service above Self.

RYLA Scholarships (\$9,000)

Rotary awarded 22 scholarships for high school sophomores from South Portland and Cape Elizabeth to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) program—a four-day, three-night immersive leadership camp held June 22-25, 2025, at Camp Hinds in Raymond, Maine.

Interact Clubs (\$1,000)

Rotary launched two new Interact Clubs at Cape Elizabeth High School and South Portland High School. Interact provides opportunities to participate in service projects, develop leadership skills, and build friendships while promoting international understanding.





SpringFest represents the best of what a community can be.



A little old-fashioned in the best way - reminding us that kindness, connection, and putting others first are timeless values. Community business sponsorship helped create an experience that made young people feel safe and welcome, and reminded all of us that joy is worth making room for—rain or shine.

Opening Night Magic Red Bank Comes Alive with SpringFest Spirit



SpringFest 2025 kicked off Friday in joyful style at the Red Bank Community Center.

The celebration featured an uplifting performance by the Ideal Maine Social Aid & Sanctuary Band, setting the tone with rhythm and creativity.

Kids and adults alike enjoyed cones served by Mainely



Treats, made gnome hats, engaged with community resource organizations, and danced to the tunes in a welcoming atmosphere. It was everything a community celebration should be—free, fun, and full of moments that let kids be kids.



Saturday Morning Unstoppable Gnome Fun Run

With over 100 participants—half of whom were kids ages 4 to 17—the event brought families, competitive runners, and fun-loving neighbors together. Everyone reported enjoying the course and the post-run hospitality.

Saturday Afternoon Celebration at Mill Creek Park



SpringFest 2025 was overflowing with flavor and memory-making moments. From the Unstoppable Gnome and the local talent in the food trucks and on the stage, to gnome hat making, face painting, tabletop bowling, Hometown Heroes award and the Children’s Entrepreneur Marketplace.



62 Years of Tradition Rotary Christmas Tree Sale at Mill Creek Park

100% of each year's tree sale proceeds go to making the world a bit better, brighter, safer, healthier, and kinder.

*For the perfect tree to light your night,
Rotary trees are a pure delight!
Freshly cut, so green and tall,
The merriest choice to deck your hall.*



President's Report

Thank you for allowing me to be president this year. I appreciate your support and hard work to make our communities better. – Nancy Irving

Fellowship

Give me a B, give me an E, give me a V. Gooooo Bev!

1. Sea Dogs Game – July 31; sponsored by an anonymous donor, coordinated by Nicole
2. Sounds by the Sea: Rotary picnic on August 12
3. September 21 Chuck and Patty organized dinner and show. Dinner was at 43 North followed by the play “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat” at Lyric Theater.
4. Bridge walk with Portland Rotary Club to celebrate World Polio Day. Pints for Polio followed at Broadway Bowl.
5. Lion’s Club dinners – October 12, November 9, January 25, February 22, March 22, April 12, May 17
6. Bev coordinated the December 19 mid-year/Holiday party at Purpoodock.
7. Bev and Kathy coordinated a Potluck dinner with live band in February
8. Doug led the charge to get members to the Maine Mariners game on April 4th with the Portland Rotary. 35 members and guests signed up to attend.
9. June 4 - Tom got the club access to visit the Cape Elizabeth Historical Preservation Society. Club members had dinner at the picnic shelter in Fort Williams before exploring the museum. Thanks to Dee Dee for encouraging the club to see the venue.
10. Sea Dogs Game - June 19; sponsored by an anonymous donor, coordinated by Nicole
11. Bev planned Changeover night on 6/25.
12. Anne organized a very successful Lobster Bake that was enjoyed by Rotarians and guests. The Lobster Bake continues to be one of our most popular events.

Classification Talks

Chris got us these and other great speakers.

1. Tom Meyers on August 7 and April 30 (and we could have and wanted to hear more.)
2. Doug Schauf
3. Aaron Filieo



Membership/Leadership

What can a physicist, engineer, attorneys and a college administrator get done in one year? A lot!

1. Scott stepped in as chair as Brent needed to step back from the role.
2. The new member mentoring process was discussed in a “Membership Moment” at several club meetings.
3. New members are matched with mentors.
4. There is a “New Member” checklist to discuss with a prospective member, so the person understands club expectations of members. This includes the need to work at the Christmas Tree sale, Springfest and on at least one committee.
5. New members submit a biography to be accessed in Clubrunner under the member’s profile.
6. There are 5 members on the Membership Committee – Scott, Bob Danielson, John, Tony and Tiffanie. Tiffanie is a new member to the club.

Community Activities

Sari knows people and gets things done, with a little help from her (Rotary) friends.

1. Monthly service at the South Portland Food Cupboard
2. Art in the Park selling popcorn – August 10. Chuck is the Pop-Meister!
3. Bug Light Open house for Open Lighthouse Day - September 14
4. Cape Harvest Festival at CE Schools. Club members served popcorn and cotton candy.
5. Participated in Crutches for Africa on February 1
6. Club members helped at Special Olympics on February 26
7. Community Fair at South Portland Community Building on April 29
8. Open Bug Light for grammar school children on April 29
9. SPRINGFEST!!!! May 16 & 17. Jim, Nicole, Tony, Bev, Adrienne – where would we be without you?
10. May 19 - Cape Elizabeth Public Works & June 5 with South Portland Public Works – Organized by Tony.
11. June 8 - CapeFest (a.k.a. Family Fun Day) serving popcorn & whoopie pies. David, Jr. and Chuck popped into this one.
12. Sari created a grant application last year which has been refined for this year.



Youth Services

Ray H-E-A-L-E-Y, who is young at heart, did an incredible job with his committee members John and Tony.

1. \$500 grants were given to both community libraries to purchase children's and young adult books. The re-establishment of having speakers sign a bookplate to go into the donated books.
2. 22 students (12 from Cape Elizabeth and 10 from South Portland) were approved to attend RYLA this year under John's leadership.
3. Rotary members spent a fun morning and/or half day interacting with and supporting athletes participating in local/regional Special Olympics trail games.
4. The South Portland Interact club had a successful clothing drive in the fall.
5. Celebrated the South Portland Boys and Girls Club 50th Anniversary and made a \$2500 contribution to the club.
6. David Bagdasarian, Jr. is leading the Interact Club for Cape Elizabeth. Tony took on the South Portland Club.
7. Award of the first \$500 Yerxa Vocational Career Scholarship. Kathy made this happen.
8. Awarded \$10,000 in scholarships for students in South Portland and Cape Elizabeth.

Publicity

We have some savvy, creative and talented club members.

1. Sari came up with a great handout listing the accomplishments of the club for Rotary Year Ending in June 2024. The work was turned into a standup banner to be displayed at public events.
2. Jim did an amazing job promoting Springfest and the Christmas Tree Sale (with help from Matt).
3. Tony, Bev, Kathy and Scott got an information sign for the club reading info@spcerotary.org. Dan Davidson assisted Tony in hanging the signs.

International

Let's get to know each other with International Service.

1. October 14 - Indigenous Peoples' Day celebration at Redbank Community Center lead by Hannah.
2. December 2 & 5 - the club volunteered at Partners for World Health lead by Hannah.
3. Donations of \$1500 to Partners for World Health and \$1000 to Shelter Box.
4. The club gave \$6500 to the Rotary Foundation and \$4000 to Polio Plus. The club AND our members gave \$17,405 to the Rotary Foundation and \$10,288 to Polio Plus.
5. Eight members received new Paul Harris Fellow pins.

Grants

This is the first time in at least 15 years (if not more) our club has applied for District and Global Grants.

1. Sari wrote a District Grant funding a \$30,000 refrigeration unit for the South Portland Food Cupboard's new location. Our club gave \$8000 towards the purchase. Sari asked the South Portland Housing Authority to contribute, and they gave \$10,000. Tony was instrumental in obtaining funds from other Rotary Clubs to get the additional needed funds.
2. Nancy is working on a District Grant with Mbali, Uganda and Partners for World Health. To be continued next Rotary year.

Other As if we didn't do enough already!

1. Creation of a Caring Committee lead by Adrienne and Anne.
2. Head Pop-Meister a.k.a. Chuck Redman, searched for and secured a popcorn machine for the club.
3. Quarterly meeting with past, current and future club presidents were held.
4. Quarterly meeting happened with the Finance Committee.
5. Our webpage address was simplified. Thanks to Scott, no dashes are required!
6. Hannaford recognized the club's good works by letting us participate in "Bloomin 4 Good", \$1 donation to the club for every specially marked bouquet purchased.
7. Various gardening projects led by Catherine Callahan.
8. Partially paid for the painting of Bug Light to get ready for the 150th Anniversary. Tony secured a grant from New England Lighthouse Lovers for additional funding.
9. Change in the way Springfest is recorded. It will now function like the tree sale so the president knows what can be spent on July 1! It needed to be funded, and the board members held back some spending this year to allow the transition to happen partially from the current Rotary year. It will take a couple more years to fully fund the transition. The change will allow the club to operate more decisively in the future.

Some members were called out in the above synopsis of what the club did this year. I know people have been missed in the list and I apologize to all of you that have been omitted. As a club, we have done amazing work and it could only happen with help from all of you. Many thanks to our officers and directors this year and to the entire membership for making The Magic of Rotary.

With gratitude and love, **Nancy Irving, 2024-2025 President**





2024-2025 Membership

Nicole Albert, *Rotary Foundation & Springfest Co-chair*
Beverly Altenburg, *Director Club Administration*
Bill Anderson
David Bagdasarian
David Bagdasarian, Jr.
Peter Bennett, *President Elect*
Tiffanie Bentley
Jim Britt, *Chair Public Relations & SpringFest '25 Chair*
Paul Butler, *Honorary*
Frank Butterworth
Catherine Callahan
Kathy Cotter, *Secretary*
Bob Danielson
Michele Danois
Dan Davidson, *Honorary*
Peter DeGennaro
G. Dobson, *Honorary*
Justin Dobson
Catherine Dorrington
Phil Dube
Marj Dugan, *Treasurer*
Aaron Filieo
Jeff Gabrielson
Sari Greene, *Director Community Service*
Tom Hamerski
J. Robert Hanson
Nancy Hawes, *Bulletin Editor*
Ray Healey, *Director Youth Services*
Jeff Hobbs
Nancy Irving, *President*
Scott Irving, *Director Membership & Webmaster*
Bob Knupp, *Club Protection Officer*
David Langdon, *Honorary*

Mark Leasure
John LoBosco, *RYLA Coordinator*
Bill Lohrman
David Lourie
Matt McAleney, *Social Media Chair*
Dan McDonald, *Immediate Past President*
Michael McGovern
Maryann McGreehan
Tom Meyers
Dan Mooers, *Honorary*
Adrienne Murphy
Marc Mutty, *Honorary*
Jill Nadeau
Chuck Redman, *Vice President*
Sybil Riemensnider, *Honorary*
John Roberts
Doug Schauf
Laurenz Schmidt
Tom Simpson, *Honorary*
Doug Smith
Chris Speh, *Program Chair*
Eleanor Speh
Patty Sprague
Sue Sturtevant
Anne Swift-Kayatta
Michael Tranfaglia
Dee Dee Wacksman
Tony Wagner, *Interact Advisor & SPFC Coordinator*
Sam Wilkens-O'Brien
Brent Wilson
Dick Yerxa
Bill York, *Honorary*

