Transforming Students

“We break every rule,” says Rob Staley, director of the Crossing Educational Center, an accredited alternative school with centers throughout northern Indiana. “Our emphasis is on students who’ve had barriers in life or struggled with school. We live life with them. They are hungry for someone to care about them.”

A longtime public-school administrator, Staley says the Crossing, a nonprofit organization, opened in 2003 with two teachers and eight students. It now has a $3 million budget for 11 locations with 400 students and 62 teachers. It often works cooperatively with an area’s public school system.

The Crossing schools are for students who are not successful in a traditional school environment. “Our vision is about transforming to impart knowledge and deal with the heart,” Staley said. “We’re the last knot in the rope for these kids. If they don’t make it in our program, they’re going to jail or they’ll die.”

Rachel, a Crossing student, shared that family problems caused her to lose focus on school performance. “Because of the Crossing,” she said, “I feel I have possibilities with my life now.”
THE DOWNTOWN CLUB
Next Meeting: September 19, 2011

"OPENING DOORS THROUGH SERVICE"

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Greeters</th>
<th>John Alexander &amp; Roger Sipe</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cashier</td>
<td>Larry Stoppenhagen</td>
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<td>Invocation</td>
<td>Ruth Corn</td>
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<td>House</td>
<td>Zach Higgins, Tim Schenkel, Randy Rider, Dick Sievers</td>
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<td>Song Leader</td>
<td>Todd Stephenson</td>
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<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>Ron VerLee</td>
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<td>Spin Editor</td>
<td>Kelly Updike</td>
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| Program         | Nancy Louraine, executive director, Turnstone
|                 | “Turnstone - A New Look”    |

Upcoming Program

Sept 26  Dr. Jonathan Walker, Amber Recker and Floyd Lancia from the Anthony Wayne Club, “Your RI Foundation Contribution at Work”

Member Anniversaries

Amy Kelly  13 years  Sept. 3
John Peirce  17 years  Sept. 6
Lauren Griffith  26 years  Sept. 9
Tom Beaver  22 years  Sept. 25
Mike McKay  12 years  Sept. 27
Tom Wooding  30 years  Sept. 28

Neighboring Club Meetings

Tuesday
- Angola: 12pm, Sunset Grill, Orland Road
- Auburn: 12pm, Italian Grill
- Bluffton: 12pm, River Terrace Estates Chapel
- Churubusco: 12pm, St. John Busco Church
- Columbia City: 12pm, Parkview Memorial Hospital
- Garret: 12pm, Railroad Inn
- Huntington: 12pm, LaFontaine Center
- Kendallville: 6:15pm, Four County Vocational Co-op Building
- Ligonier: 7am, UMC Church, Townline

Wednesday
- Anthony Wayne: 12pm, Hall’s Guesthouse

Thursday
- Albion: 12pm, Albion Public Library
- Berne: 12pm, Parkway Chalet
- Butler: 12pm, American Legion
- Decatur: 12pm, Back Forty
- North Manchester: 12pm, Manchester College

Friday
- Warsaw: 12pm, Ramada Plaza Hotel

Complete list at www.rotary6540.org
Happy Birthday to You

Ken Lizer Sept. 1
Larry Stoppenhagen Sept. 7
William Shustowski Sept. 11
Bruce Haines Sept. 15
Todd Stephenson Sept. 16
Brent Berger Sept. 19
Dan Katter Sept. 21
Zachary Higgins Sept. 23
Bill Gabbard Sept. 24
Dee Hoffman Sept. 25
Leonard Goldstein Sept. 27
Jim Cress Sept. 28
Stan Abramowski Sept. 29

Sept. 26 Meeting

Club members who are Paul Harris Fellows are asked to wear their medallions to the Sept. 26 meeting, where the meeting’s program is “Your RI Foundation Contribution at Work.”

Mark your calendar

Sept. 23 is the fall fundraiser; help the club reach its $15,000 goal to support our programs.

Oct. 20 is a rescheduled fall fellowship date. Look for more info from Pres. Mike about this fireside chat.

Nov. 4 is the foundation dinner.
Pay It Forward

There are lots of opportunities to serve at Washington Elementary School: Rotary Reads, Give-Back Day (a student service day) and Study Connection, where you can serve as a weekly (every Tuesday) tutor, substitute or tutor-buddy. See Lona Antil, who was honored by Pres. Mike Kelly with this week’s Gold Standard Award, for more information.

Great Time Had By All

At the annual Rotary golf outing, Rotarian Kenn Kunze demonstrated to his team that grass divots are not just a sign that you’ve made a terrible shot. They can also be used as a stylish hair accessory to transform your look and help you blend into the natural scenery of the course. Kenn also noted that this newly discovered golf accessory helps his team to hit the [*modified British expletive*] ball. By the way, thanks to Rotarians who supported this event: more than $3,000 was raised for Cleo Fox student music scholarships.
Rotary International Theme
2011-2012

Rotary Officers

President, Rotary International
Kalyan Banerjee
Vapi, India

President Elect
Sakuji Tanaka
Yashio, Japan

Rotary District 6540
District Governor
Mike Crabill

District Administrative Assistant
Barb Mort

Web Information

Fort Wayne Rotary Web Page
www.fortwaynerotary.org
www.clubrunner.ca/fortwayne

Rotary International
www.rotary.org

Rotary District Web Page
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The Washington School annual picnic is without question one of the most enjoyable events on the Rotary calendar! Just plain good old fun! Even the persistent rain couldn’t put a damper on the evening! The night is a wonderful opportunity that brings students, parents, teachers and Rotarians together in a relaxed social environment.

Washington School Principal J. R. Ankenbruck kicked off the night with PowerPoint presentation highlighting the academic successes of the past school year and laying out the goals for 2011-2012. One new program of note is “ABOVE THE LINE”! The “Above the Line” program promotes the “3 R’s” – “Respect for Yourself”, “Respect Others” and “Respect Washington”!

Sounds a bit like our own “4 Way Test”! How you act will fall into one of these three areas, “Above the Line (Way to go!)”, “Below the line (Fix it plan.)” or “Bottom Line (Never Okay)!”. The idea is to keep
your behavior and actions “Above the Line”. Examples of behavior that would fall “Below the Line” are “pushing”, “name calling” and “throwing trash on the floor”. “Bottom Line” behavior, “fighting, cheating, stealing” is “Never Okay”. Principal Ankenbruck also used this venue to promote the school’s PTA and encouraged parents to become more actively involved with this group. After J.R.’s presentation, the students and parents went to the student’s classroom to meet their teachers. After that, the real fun began- the picnic dinner! A menu of hot dogs, chips, watermelon, cookies and fruit juices were a big hit with all – including our Rotarians! Helping out with the event were Carole Fuller, Jane Wilks, President Mike Kelly, Randy Roberts, Stan Abramsoki, Brent Berger, John Peirce, Deb Beckman, Larry Stoppenhagen and the husband and wife teams of John and Patricia Alexander, Lona and John Antil and Dave and Laura Borgen. (This really is a great opportunity to get your family involved in a Rotary event). Special thanks to Washington School Committee Chair Lona Antil!
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2011-2012

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August 17, 2011

Dear Rotary Club,

Thank you so much for the opportunity to allow me to attend International Music Camp. I had an absolutely amazing time! I was a first chair flute (#5 out of 25 girls) and I was very musically challenged. I was placed in the International Youth Band, and the International Wind Ensemble. The International Wind Ensemble was designed to challenge more advanced players, and I was DEFINITELY challenged!

The International Youth Band played:
Marriage of Figaro by Mozart
Pavane by Gabriel Faure
La Virgen de Macarena, with a solo by Dr Larry Griffin
Imani by Sean O’laughlin
Galop by Shostakovich

For International Wind Ensemble we played:
Whirr Whirr Whirr!!! By Ralph Hultgren
Danny Boy, with a trombone soloist
Valdes (the Norwegian national anthem)
Eine Kline Yiddish Ragmusik by Adam Gorb
See Rock City by Brant Karrick

All of the music was intense and challenging. I loved it! Besides music, I had a great time meeting new people! I met musicians my age from Norway, Sweden, and Austria that I became very close with. It was exciting to meet people who love music as much as I do. All in all, the food, the people, the music, and the entire experience was phenomenal. Thanks again for the wonderful opportunity. A picture of the International Youth Band is included with this letter, and a sound recording of the band playing our music will be sent soon!

Sincerely,

Kayla Myers

Kayla Myers