



The Serving Tray

Rotary Club of Kirksville -- Charter 371 -- District 6040

www.kvrotary.org



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A Message from President Debi Boughton: Our Rotary Club Board met by email and voted to cancel all the April noon meetings. The health of our members is most important. The Board will reevaluate at the end of April. Let's all think of ways to communicate with each other in new ways. Our Board will meet in April either by email or online by Zoom. If you have any information, reports or requests for the Board, please let me know. Please call each other to chat. Please email each other. Stay safe.

A Rotarian microbiologist's thoughts on COVID-19. Two weeks ago, a third-year medical student asked whether I believe the COVID-19 situation has been blown out of proportion. As of 8:55 a.m. today, there were 436,159 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 19,648 deaths world-wide. In the United States, confirmed cases reached 55,238 (278 in Missouri) with 802 deaths. So, no, the threat is real, and we must all do our part to slow the spread of this virus. Working from home when possible, limiting trips to the grocery store, cancelling Rotary meetings...these are all small inconveniences that can help slow virus transmission. About 80% of people who contract the virus remain asymptomatic or show only mild symptoms (fever, fatigue, dry cough, shortness of breath), but these people can spread the virus to others. On average, it takes 4-5 days (up to 14 days) for a person to become symptomatic after contracting the virus. The 20% of patients who develop severe or critical disease (respiratory failure, shock, multiorgan dysfunction) are the individuals who contribute to the overall case fatality rate of 2.3%. Currently, there are no specific treatments or vaccines for the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID-19, and it will take several months for those in development to become available. It is important that everyone use reputable sources for their information about COVID-19. The resource that most graphically shows the spread of COVID-19 is the near real-time interactive map available from the Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center. Links to the JHCRC and additional resources are listed here: Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center: <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/>, World Health Organization: <https://www.who.int/>, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/>, National Institute of Health COVID-19 page: <https://www.nih.gov/health-information/coronavirus>; NIH Director's page on COVID-19: <https://directorsblog.nih.gov/2020/03/19/to-beat-covid-19-social-distancing-is-a-must/> Clinical Trials for coronavirus treatments and vaccines: <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/results?cond=Coronavirus+Infections&term=&cntry=&state=&city=&dist=>



Melissa Stuart



Elastic Needed: President Elect Roy Noe is asking members for donations of any 1/4" - 1/2" inch elastic. This usually comes in a package or a roll and is often used for those involved in sewing and crafts. Currently, elastic is sold out of all local stores and on back-order online. A friend of Roy's is making 50-75 fabric masks/day for local healthcare workers. The purpose of the fabric masks are to cover the N-95 respirator masks currently used. The N-95's are only intended to be used once/patient, however, the fabric cover allows the N-95 masks to be used multiple times by simply replacing the fabric covers after seeing a patient. The N-95 masks are in high demand and short supply. Your contribution will help keep our nurses safe during this COVID 19 pandemic. Please contact Roy Noe at 660-342-0222 with any questions. Elastic can be dropped of at his office located at 1501 E Illinois St.

Shoes for Orphan Souls Campaign Update: On Sunday, Dana Delaware received an email from Larry Lunsford regarding the 2020 Shoes for Orphan Souls effort. Here is a brief summary from Larry's email: "Given that our Rotary Clubs are not meeting in person and, given that many communities are in a state of emergency, or stay-at-home orders, we will postpone our Shoes collection at this time. So, hold onto your collected monies, and keep storing those shoes you've collected. I know we will all look forward to when we can resume the Shoes collection activities, when normal times return. Our momentum will return also. At this time, though, no one can say for certain. I would hope we could have a Shoes Caravan prior to June 30th. Time will tell." Dana says he will send the moneys (\$330) that were collected at the March 11th Rotary meeting to Jeff Romine to deposit in our Kirksville Rotary Charitable Fund and earmark the funds for the 2020 Shoes for Orphan Souls campaign.