

# Rotary Rotary Opens Opportunities

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## **KNOCK, KNOCK, OPPORTUNITIES ARE KNOCKING**

How do you like the new name and format for the Rotary Magazine. I still find myself referring to it as the Rotarian Magazine.

Marshalltown President Mary Giese asked a Rotarian in her club to report on an article from the Rotary Magazine. Mike Schlesinger volunteered. He reported on how to run a successful food drive from the December issue. After visiting the area food bank to find out needs in the Marshalltown community, he met with the local Hy-Vee. Hy-Vee has agreed to bag up needed items at a bargain price. These bags can be selected by shoppers and donated to the food bank.

In the January issue, an article “History’s Hard Lessons” talks about discrimination, tolerance, and Rotary’s values. I believe tolerance is a start, but it would be too easy to fall back to “unacceptable”. We must remove the “un”. When Rotarians **accept**, then we will be demonstrating Rotary’s real values.

Page 18 of the Rotary Magazine, “Rotary Clubs Around the Globe” highlights the story of the Rotary Club of Boone’s Welcome Train. I believe this has occurred because Bill Tubbs sends the District 6000 News to RI personnel. Sharing your club projects with Rotarians through the District 6000 News is not only valued by our friends across the District, but can show Rotarians across the globe what is happening here in our state.

January 19 Governor Reynolds declared January as Human Trafficking and Slavery Month. Ames Rotarian, Dr. George Belitsos is a driving force with Iowa Network Against Human Trafficking and Slavery. Clifford McFerren and the Rotary Club of West Liberty were recognized for their educational programs and overall focus regarding human trafficking.

The District Conference has been modified because of the pandemic. The Conference will be held Saturday, April 24 at the Ankeny Courtyard Marriott. This will be a “hybrid” event from 5-9:00. “Living the Five-Way Test” will be the theme for an evening of stories and fellowship with Rotarians around the District. Registration is available on the District Website: <https://rotary6000.org>

Proud to be a Rotarian,

*Steve Dakin*

