

April is Maternal and Child Health Month. Rotary makes high-quality health care available to vulnerable mothers and children so they can live longer and grow stronger. We expand access to quality care so mothers and children everywhere can have the same opportunities for a healthy future. An estimated 5.9 million children under the age of five die each year because of malnutrition, inadequate health care and poor sanitation—all of which can be prevented. Rotary provides education, immunizations, birth kits and mobile health clinics. Women are taught how to prevent mother-to-infant HIV transmission, how to breast-feed and how to protect themselves and their children from disease. All these programs are more relevant than ever during this time of health crisis.

As you are all aware, the world is caught up in a new health crisis—the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19). This pandemic is responsible for multiple changes in our lifestyles. Schools are closed, businesses are closed, new suggestions for social distancing are being made. Rotary has not been exempted from these changes. Several Districts have cancelled events including District Conferences. Many of our clubs have cancelled meetings and activities for various lengths of time (from two weeks to a month or longer). Your District leadership is currently making plans to use video conferencing for our upcoming training programs. **We have also cancelled our District Conference for this year. Rotary Inter-**

national has also cancelled the RI International Conference.

During this time of distress, many people need our help more than ever. In a recent letter from RI President Mark Maloney and RIPE Holger Knaack they point out that “this is an opportunity for us to demonstrate that ‘Rotary Connects the World’ in innovative ways. We should be closely following the advice of the WHO and local health authorities. Again, this includes canceling Rotary club events and meetings in the short term to reduce unnecessary interactions that could cause infections. We can put a greater emphasis on the work we do in our communities by helping our less fortunate neighbors cope with the effects of isolation and fear, or by supporting our health authorities to address the situation.”

I recently received the following message from David Hanna, DG of District 7120. I think it is something we should all think about:

“We are people of action. When our communities need us, we are there. I am asked ‘Dave, what can we do?’ The answer: STAY HOME! Unless you are employed in a critical service industry, STAY HOME.”

You can be helpful from home. KEEP IN CONTACT with friends and neighbors, especially those who live alone. Inquire about their physical and mental well-being. We expect depressed moods and even suicidal thoughts when people are isolated for extend-

ed periods of time. ADDRESS FOOD SECURITY in your community. Trust that cash donations will help to get food to those in need.

If you are under 65 and otherwise healthy, there may be a limited role for hands on activity, such as delivering "Meals on Wheels", bringing medication from a pharmacy to your neighbor, or providing brief child care for a single parent who needs to get groceries.

Be of counsel, electronically, to your children and grandchildren not in your household. Social isolation will be increasingly difficult for them psychologically, but so necessary for the health of our community. They will want to 'hang with their friend'. Stress that someone could die if they do that and that is not an exaggeration. Live to serve another day."

Until Next Time, Be Safe.

Yours in Rotary Service,

DG Dave



I realized that there are many servicemen and women who are in Rotary and have given their time to serve our country and they need to be recognized.....I would like recognize them and would like your club to send me a picture with name, branch of service and year's served of anyone in your club . They all need to be recognized for the invaluable service they have given us.....I know I have said recognize a lot it this request but we need to see that Rotary has many members who have helped build and protect this country. Thank you!!!

Please send all information to: goddesscindy48@gmail.com



No photo available



Gary Wood

Groton Rotary

US Navy 1954-1957

US Navy Reserves 1957-1974

Rotary People of Action



Endicott Rotary Club Members, Jim Macuch and Sharon Witte, each received a Paul Harris Fellow. This honor was presented to them by District Governor Dave Bensley



NEW MEMBERS FOR JANUARY

CLUB	MEMBER	SPONSOR
Binghamton Noon	Matthew Bull	Kevin Drumm
	Daniel Masciari	Robin Alpaugh
Cooperstown	Eliza Klassner	Mandy Robinson
Cortland Breakfast	Conrad Janke	Matthew Banazek
Endicott	Larry Kiley	Dennis Sweeney
Endwell	Tricia Andrews	Pat Kriebel
	Pete Moschak	Pat Kriebel
Johnson City	Ray Tamaru	Richard Matsushima
	Chris Curry	Transfer from Waverly
Norwich	Elizabeth Klassner	Jo Ann Smith
Owego	Steve Mandeville	Jerry West
	Meredith Sagor	Brian Eldridge
Whitney Point	Tracy Urbassik	Debbie Eaton

Membership

As most clubs are not doing in person meetings, it's time to work on membership retention. Please keep in touch by e-mail or conference calls. Please call club members to check on them to make sure they are OK and ask if they need anything. Our Rotary family has always come together to help each other. Maybe the club officers or board members could split up the membership list and call the club members once every 2 weeks or so.

Please everyone stay healthy!

Yours in Rotary,

Pat Kriebel, PDG and District Membership Chair pkriebel@stny.rr.com

Rotary People of Action

Cortland Rotary Club's recent global grant to Haiti. Patience is a virtue and it was a long road getting all the pieces in place, but we did it!

Dear Harriet,

Greetings to all following our return from Haiti. The visit was brief, but during the five days we were there, I sensed a return to normalcy in the daily life of Haitians. Schools have opened, businesses are running, and the unrest has settled. The only residual problem remains an intermittent and unpredictable encounter with roadblocks. These are not frequent and overcome with security escorts that can be easily arranged.

The surgicenter has developed a fine reputation in Haiti for surgical care. Working with our surgical staff and watching them perform was indeed a treat. They all take pride in the quality of care they are offering to their patients. We still see many patients that would not be able to receive surgical care anywhere else in Haiti. Our team performed 674 operations, 46 c-sections, and 542 deliveries this past year. This includes several months where roadblocks and unrest were limiting patient's ability to travel to Fonds Parisien and our Surgicenter.

All the clinics we are now managing are busy. We average 1200 patient visits a month, (or roughly 14,000 patient visits a year). The pediatric clinic saw 3,522 children under 14 years last year for evaluation. The maternity clinic had 1,285 pregnant women seen and 542 deliveries performed. In 2019 we tested 4,300 patients for HIV at no patient expense. The Catholic Medical Mission Board is following and treating 163 HIV-positive patients at our clinic on campus.

The dedication from all our employees to help their people is wonderful to observe. We will continue to provide materials, equipment, and supplies needed by sending containers. We appreciate the assistance Heart to Heart International has given us in the past with containers. We look forward to continuing to build our relationship with Partners in Health, (Zanmi Lasante). We will hopefully provide a vascular surgery service to them for their dialysis patients.

This year we are preparing to introduce laparoscopic surgery to our general, urologic, and OB/Gyn surgeons. We will also continue an exchange program, hopefully involving Rotary International, that brings nurses and doctors to Kansas City and Research Medical Center for an educational and learning experience. Once the conditions settle completely in Haiti, we will resume expansion plans and installation of a water tower.

Of course, this is only possible with your support. Your funds go directly to our programs and employees. There is no doubt we are making a difference in Haiti. Please help us continue our support. Donations can be made two ways:

Make a direct donation to the Higgins Brothers Surgicenter Haiti, or transfer from your personal account to: HigginsBrothersSurgicenter.org/donate

Mail your check to:

**Kansas City Community Foundation
c/o Higgins Brothers Surgicenter
1055 Broadway, Suite 130**



I am grateful for your support and generous consideration, as we work every day to bring hope, health and happiness to our brothers and sisters in Haiti.

Sincerely,

Edward (Ted) Higgins, MD

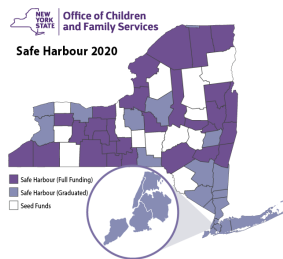


Going clockwise: Operating room nurse Melinda Meyer and friends...operating team removing mass from child's arm--- Dr Burney Miller, anesthesiologist and Tim Fundenberger, CRNA, instructing an arm block procedure for our Haitian anesthesia team--- Dr Dieunord, our medical director and Dr Julien, our dentist .



A photo of the MediBurn incinerator funded through the Rotary grant and **Cortland Rotary Club**, was just installed a few weeks ago. Believe me, the Haitians are very appreciative. Poorest nation in the western hemisphere, and many smiles and thanks!

Read carefully anything that requires your signature. Remember the big print giveth and the small print taketh away.



Crime Victim Assistance Center's Safe Harbour Program works with partners across Broome County to promote awareness & identification of youth trafficking, and provides comprehensive services to potential victims of commercial sexual exploitation. Our services are growing on a daily basis and we are currently looking for partners in the community to help us succeed in our goal of keeping children safe and providing them with basic needs and necessary resources.

CVAC volunteers generally fill two vital roles; answering our 24/7 support line, and providing medical advocacy to the local area hospitals. To do so, volunteers must apply and be able to complete our 40- hour rape crisis counselor training. Upon completion, volunteers will become certified NYS Rape Crisis Counselors through the Department of Health. Trainings are generally offered in the fall and the spring, and occasionally in the summer.

<http://www.cvac.us/>: go to Services- go to Volunteer Services

AWARDS 2019-2020

Clubs are encouraged to apply for awards.

Mark Maloney's Presidential Citation- you have until **June 30, 2020** to submit this to RI.

Interact Club Presidential Citation- you have until **June 30, 2020** to apply to RI.

Avenue of Service Award- please submit this to Pat Kriebel- pkriebel@stny.rr.com The application is below.

Helping Hands Award- this is for the best project displayed at the District Conference.

Governor's Challenge Award- contact DG Dave Bensley; yep7170@gmail.com

Membership Awards- the cut off date is **June 30, 2020**.

The top 3 clubs with the highest % increase in membership.

Clubs with 100% retention.

Individual who has sponsored the most new members.

Foundation Awards will be given out at the Foundation Dinner.

Richard's Tree Peony Planting Project (4th & the Last Year)

From PDG Richard Matsushima, 3405 Almar Dr., Vestal, NY 13850

Phone: 607-770-9428 E-Mail: rdkampai@stny.rr.com

Re: Fundraising Opportunity for Your Rotary Club

This is my 4th year and the last to import Japanese Tree Peonies directly from Japan. Help me to help you. Here is how it works:

Color choices: **Pink**, **Red**, **Purple**, White and **Yellow**

Prices: \$20/plant until April 30, 2020 After May 1, \$25/plant

Please collect orders and money from your Club members/friends If checks, payable to your Rotary Club.

You'll keep \$10 for each plant sold for your club. Your Club makes a check payable to Kampai for \$10/plant (\$15/plant after May 1 with the same donation of \$10/plant to your Club.)

Shipment: Your order will be delivered to your meeting location/or pre-arranged convenient location. I've reserve up to 700 tree peonies for this Rotary Special.

Thank you for your attention. I am looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely Yours In Rotary Service,

Richard Matsushima

Richard Matisushima



District 7170's "7 Runs, 7 Counties, 7 Days"

A District wide 'End Polio Now' fund raising series of events ***June 21 – 27, 2020***

Working with our neighboring clubs, within our counties, we can share ideas, share the work, and promote Rotary throughout our District!

Small ad hoc committees from each county are being formed to lead each event. Individual Rotarians can get involved with planning, helping with publicity, fund raising, or even participating! Each of the 7 county teams will define, organize, and host a walk/run on one of the 7 days in June with the goal of raising funds for 'End Polio Now'. This also provides a great opportunity for collaboration between clubs and their communities.

Events will need a course, from a 5K to a half marathon, for participants to walk, jog, run on. City streets, country roads, rail trails, forest trails in a state park... whatever works for you in your county. The event can be as low key as a few folks meeting or as involved as a timed race on a certified course. **Whatever is planned needs to draw attention to Rotary and our 'End Polio Now' campaign.**

Five of the events will be weekday evenings but we will have daylight until at least 8:30 PM. If your club has another event or meeting during that time perhaps they can be combined.

Remember every \$ raised will be matched 2:1 by the *Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation!*

As a bonus ***DGN Evan Kurtz***, from Dryden, ***will run in each of the 7 events*** raising money for 'End Polio Now' and taking the opportunity to meet Rotarians he will be serving in 21-22 as DG.

Sun, 21st	Mon, 22nd	Tue, 23rd	Wed, 24th	Thu, 25th	Fri, 26th	Sat, 27th
				Cortland		Tompkins

Join in! Keeping in mind our RI theme for 2019-20 is '***Rotary Connects the World***'

Ask your President and other Rotarians how you can be involved!

The 7 counties of Rotary District 7170

Broome (11) Chenango (6) Cortland (2) Delaware (9) Otsego (8)
Tioga (2) Tompkins (6)

Avenues of Service

We channel our commitment to service at home and abroad through five Avenues of Service, which are the foundation of club activity.



Club Service focuses on making clubs strong. A thriving club is anchored by strong relationships and an active membership development plan.



Vocational Service calls on every Rotarian to work with integrity and contribute their expertise to the problems and needs of society. Learn more in [An Introduction to Vocational Service](#) and the [Code of Conduct](#).



Community Service encourages every Rotarian to find ways to improve the quality of life for people in their communities and to serve the public interest. Learn more in [Communities in Action: A Guide to Effective Projects](#).



International Service exemplifies our global reach in promoting peace and understanding. We support this service avenue by sponsoring or volunteering on international projects, seeking partners abroad, and more.



Youth Service recognizes the importance of empowering youth and young professionals through leadership development programs such as [Rotaract](#), [Interact](#), [Rotary Youth Leadership Awards](#), and [Rotary Youth Exchange](#).





*Dave Bensley
District Governor
2019-2020*

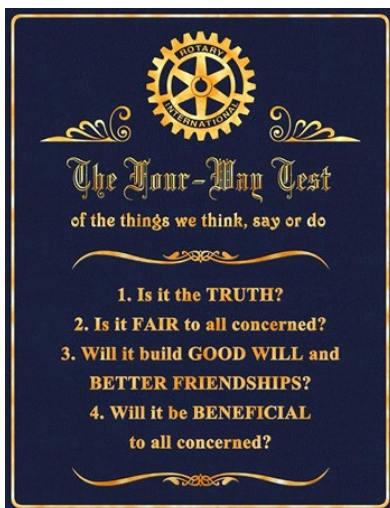
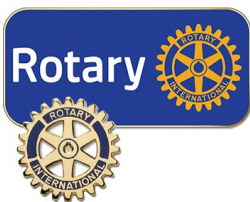
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[WWW.ROTARY
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Rotary People of Action