





THE INSPIRATION



Rotary District 7870



April 2024	District Newsletter 2024, Number 10	David Saturley District Governor
www.rotary7870.org		
Rotarian Editors Maureen Mooney and Martin Cohn		
 		
Rotary Theme of the Month: Environment Month		

In this issue:

Greetings From Your District Governor David Saturley

District News

Rest in Peace Past District Governor Dave Benson

PETS (April 26-27) and the District Conference/Assembly (April 27)

4-Way Test Speech Contest Semi-Finals

District Changing of the Gavel - Saturday, June 29, 2024

Want to Learn More About Our Efforts to Aid Ukrainians?

RYLA - 2024 Rotary Youth Leadership Academy Conference

Little Red School House Bricks

Coffee with Ken - Informal Zoom Get Together

Club News

Ludlow Rotary Speaker Describes Return of a New Farmers Market

Greater Keene Rotaract Club Updates

Meredith Rotary Recycles Styrofoam

Wantastiquet Rotary Tackles Affordable Housing
Free Books for Kids from Dolly Parton's Imagination Library
Meredith Rotary Holds Successful 4-Way Test Speech Contest
Hollis Brookline Held Its Annual Four Way Speech Contest
Capital City Hears About Human Rights and Justice
Springfield Rotary Club Conducts Diaper Drive in April
Ludlow Rotary Club Hosts International Exchange Students at Okemo Mountain Resort
Ludlow Rotary Club Hears from Ludlow town Manager, Brendan McNamara
Rotary Club of Concord, NH: 4 Way Test Speech Contest Yields Winner
Ludlow Rotary Collecting Eclipse Glasses for S. American Children
Tom Tsu Visits Jaffrey-Rindge Rotary
Latest Ukrainian Project, funded by Nashua Rotary Club, Completed

Fundraisers

Bellows Falls Rotary Hosts Shona Grill Pop-Up Night - April 20, 2024
Ludlow Rotary Prepares for 66th Annual Penny Sale - April 27, 2024
District Calendar
Months of the Rotary Year

Miscellaneous

Have Something You'd Like to Share with the Entire District?
Website and Social Media

Greetings From Your District Governor David Saturley



You can tell spring has arrived in our District by all the activity. Assistant Governors are meeting with incoming Club Presidents for pre-PETS, and we're only two weeks away from PETS and District Assembly.

Something you may not have heard about was the Interact Conference that happened on March 30th. This one-day event was held at Souhegan High School and planned entirely by a committee of six Interactors. Stella, Hayden, Isabelle, Ava, Lily, and Claire collaborated to craft an event centered on the theme of friendship. The day was spent learning about and discussing peacebuilding, Amigos de Honduras, Youth Exchange, and designing effective projects. A full day of learning opportunities.

Speaking of learning opportunities, registration for the District Assembly on April 27th is open for just a bit longer. There is no cost, but we do need a head count for lunch and other refreshments. Hope to see you all soon,

DG David

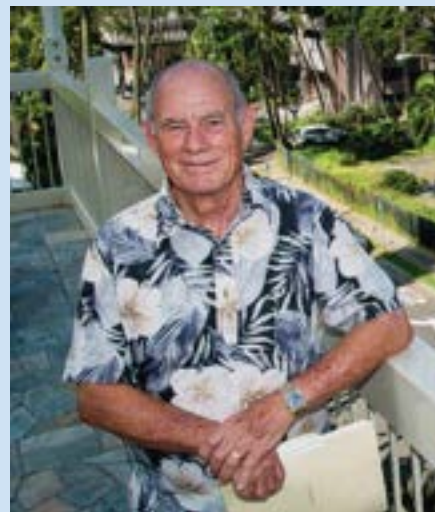
District News

Rest in Peace Past District Governor Dave Benson

PDG Dave Benson passed away peacefully after fighting a battle with ALS on April 2, 2024.

Dave was born in Hawaii and worked in law enforcement for almost four decades. He was a Rotarian for 11 years in Hawaii before moving to Vermont, where he joined the Fair Haven Rotary Club. Dave served as their Club President and was a multiple PHF and sustaining member.

He served as an Assistant District Governor and was on the Ambassadorial Scholarship Committee and served on several other committees in the district. In 2003 he initiated and chaired



the District Polio Eradication 24-hour relay which raised over \$250,000 dollars. He was District Governor in 2005-06 and was instrumental in bringing forth the District Treasure Award to our district and was a recipient of this recognition in 2010-11.

Dave did a lot for our district and was a true Rotarian through and through and will be missed by all who knew him.

To read more about PDG Dave, visit

<https://www.staradvertiser.com/2024/04/09/hawaii-news/bobby-benson-center-founder-dave-benson-remembered-for-big-contributions/>

PETS (April 26-27) and the District Conference/Assembly (April 27)

District Governor David Saturley and District Governor Elect Bill Stevens are pleased to announce that the registration for President-Elect Training Seminar (PETS) and our combined District Conference/District Assembly are now open for registration on the District 7870 Website.

The President Elect Training Seminar will begin at 3PM on Friday, April 26, 2024 and runs through Saturday, April 27, 2024. We will begin on Friday at the Courtyard Marriott Hanover Lebanon located at 10 Morgan Drive in Lebanon, New Hampshire.

PETS is intended for Presidents-Elect to help them prepare for their year as presidents of their Clubs. There is no charge for Presidents-Elect and Facilitators. If you are not a President-Elect but would like to attend PETS please contact our registrar PDG Randell Barclay about the cost of attending.

On Saturday (April 27, 2024) we will be running our PETS and District Conference/Assembly in parallel. All District 7870 Rotarians and Rotaractors are invited to attend the District Conference/Assembly at no cost.

Program highlights include :

- Finals of the District 7870 4-Way Test Speech Contest
- District 7870 Inbound Youth Exchange Students farewell speeches
- Breakout sessions available on Membership, Public Image, Foundation, Fund-raising, Service Project ideas and MORE
- District 7870 Awards and State of the District by DG David Saturley

Please plan to join us.

4-Way Test Speech Contest Semi-Finals

Sixteen speakers participated in the District 7870 4-Way Test Speech Contest semi-finals in Henniker on April 7th. Five of them will be competing in the District finals in White River Junction, VT at 1:00 on April 27th. The finals will be held at Hartford High School as part of the district POETS.



District Changing of the Gavel - Saturday, June 29, 2024

Wallingford Memorial Rotary Club, on behalf of District Governor David Saturley, is honored to host the sixty-seventh annual District Changing of the Gavel on Saturday June 29, 2024, at 12 Noon. This year our District Changing of the Gavel will be a BBQ Lunch (\$15) followed by the traditional Changing of the Gavel ceremony.



This year's District Changing of the Gavel is using a whole new format and menu. It is a lunch BBQ event. We will have an Outdoor Tent and will use the Little Red School House. The Changing of the Gavel party gives all District Rotarians a chance to start their Rotary year with Incoming District Governor Bill Stevens, and an opportunity to thank and congratulate Outgoing District Governor David Saturley for all that he has accomplished for the District over the past year.

For those who are interested we are offering two pre-gavel events:

1. We will be teaming up with the Slate Valley Rotary Club for their 5K Fun Run-Walk in downtown Fair Haven. The Run-Walk starts at 9AM on the 29th. There is a separate registration fee. You can register for this on the day of the event in Fair Haven or online with a link to follow.
2. Wallingford and Come Alive Outside are teaming up to offer a "Paul Harris History Walk" in Wallingford at 11AM. Come Alive Outside Executive Director and Rutland Rotarian Arwen Turner will lead a reenactment Paul Harris arrival in Wallingford in 1871. We will walk from the train station to the Harris home on Main Street. The walk will continue to explore other sites in

town. Wallingford Club Historian Barry Griffith will provide the context and history of Paul Harris' life in Wallingford. No reservation required for the walk and is included in the cost of the lunch. Meet at the Little Red School House.

Please register for the BBQ Lunch on the District Website under the section: "Upcoming District Events" or on the link below by June 22, 2024.

<https://rotary7870.org/event/2024-district-changing-of-the-gavel/>

So please join us for the celebration.

On behalf of Wallingford Memorial Rotary Club,
Randell Barclay, Past District Governor 2022-23, Vice Governor 2024-25
Email: Rotary.Randell@gmail.com

Want to Learn More About Our Efforts to Aid Ukrainians?

Since Russia's invasion of Ukraine in Feb 2022, District 7870 has provided over \$212,000 in aid. Nearly half of our Rotary Clubs have participated in this effort, directly impacting the lives of Ukrainians. After 26 months of fighting, the need continues.

If your club would like to learn more about what the District has accomplished to date, why continuing our efforts is important and our hopes for future efforts, please consider inviting us to speak at your Club. Former DG John Bob Siemienowicz, Ukrainian born Sophia Sushailo and current club president Charlene Lovett have created a presentation to share with you. Our first presentation will be at the Milford Rotary Club on April 24. If you would like us to speak at your club, please contact Charlene Lovett at charlenelovett2022@gmail.com.

RYLA - 2024 Rotary Youth Leadership Academy Conference

Rotary District 7870 is partnering with District 7850 this year to have students attend their RYLA! Please click on the link to see the promotional video (<https://youtu.be/oGEF5ludjX0>) and to learn more: [Rotary Youth Leadership Academy | Rotary District 7850 \(rotary7850.org\)](https://rotary7850.org). Cost is \$385 for students to attend. Please reach out to Carson Wenz (carsonwenz123@gmail.com) if your club is interested in sponsoring a student or being more involved with RYLA.



2024 Rotary Youth Leadership Academy Conference Rotary District 7850 - Northern NH, VT, & Quebec

WHO: Students completing sophomore year
WHEN: 8 am Friday, June 21, 2024 to 1 pm Sunday, June 23, 2024
WHERE: Northern Vermont University, Lyndonville, VT
TO APPLY: Applications are accepted through your local Rotary club.
To find the nearest club, go to <http://rotary7850.org/SitePage/ryla>
To learn more, click on the RYLA link under the Youth Services tab!

Contact: Carson Wenz District 7870 RYLA Chair Carsonwenz123@gmail.com

Little Red School House Bricks

What better way to recognize a person than creating an engraved brick or paver in the Rotary Wheel in the Paul Harris Memorial Garden at the [Little Red Schoolhouse](#) in Wallingford, Vermont.

Wallingford was the childhood home of our founder Paul P Harris. The Little Red School House was built by Paul's great-grandfather in 1818. In 1928 a group of local Rotarians bought this historic building. In 1933 it was dedicated as "The Little Red Schoolhouse."

Paul Harris returned to Wallingford for the dedication ceremony. Today, the Schoolhouse acts as a historic site that stores and displays Paul Harris memorabilia and is the meeting place of the Wallingford Memorial Rotary Club.



You or your club can purchase a red brick for \$200 or a white paver for \$300. In addition, there are still 18 gear teeth available for \$1,500 each. New bricks should be installed in June prior to the Changing of the Gavel Dinner which will be held on Saturday June 29, 2024. We are also offering a presentation certificate in a folder for an additional \$15. Be sure to give us at least 2 weeks to produce and mail a certificate. You can order online with a credit card by going to:
<https://www.crsadmin.com/eventportal/Registrations/PublicFill/EventPublicFill.aspx?evtid=b498acca-4045-4ffd-9245-2bcf3a5e347b>

The cutoff for orders this year will be May 15, 2024. If you have any questions, please email me at Rotary.Randell@gmail.com

Randell Barclay, Past District Governor, Wallingford Memorial Rotary Club

Coffee with Ken - Informal Zoom Get Together

Ken Yei (Queen City RC) will be hosting his next Coffee with Ken on **Fri. May 3 at 8:30 AM** on Zoom. Coffee with Ken started during the pandemic as a way for District Rotarians to meet online and share their interests in Rotary. It also was a form for asking questions. The Zoom meeting typically lasts 40 minutes. These meetings are free flowing discussions on topics of interest to the participants. The group decides what to talk about. It is also a great way to find out what is happening around the District. Everyone is welcome. Here is the link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/78773960966?pwd=QkFlTTZkdDJyRzJIa3phTmhzam1kQT09>

If you are ready, pick up a cup of Joe and click on the link above or on the District Website <http://rotary7870.org> and join the meeting.

Club News

Ludlow Rotary Speaker Describes Return of a New Farmers Market

Emma Wright, the new Director of the [Ludlow Farmers Market](#) (LFM), spoke to a recent meeting of the Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) discussing the changes made to the market's location, date of operation, and organization.

Wright, formerly of Idaho where she was involved in farmer's markets, indicated that the return of the LFM will feature a new location, new date of operation, and reduced rates for vendors for the entire season.



Previously, the market had been located on the lawn in front of Okemo Mountain School. Wright felt that this was not the best location, believing it was not in the center of the village. A new site is now being considered which may require the approval of the Ludlow Board of Trustees. But she indicated that the location would be in the center of the village to make it available to more walk-in customers.

As for the date and time of the market, which previously was on a Friday afternoon, Wright said the new market will operate on Sunday morning to allow greater foot traffic access to it.

The cost of vendors to participate for the market season will be lowered from that previously charged. Previous vendor charges were in the \$400-450 range; the new rates will not exceed \$150.

A new policy will be implemented requiring all products sold at the market to be Vermont-grown or Vermont-made.

Wright indicated that the new Board of Directors for LFM has been extremely supportive of all these changes. She added that, as the new Director, she would be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the market. Previously, Board members frequently had to serve this function due to the lack of a manager.

PHOTO: Emma Wright, Director of the Ludlow Farmers Market

Greater Keene Rotaract Club Updates

In celebration of World Rotaract Week, the Greater Keene Rotaract Club hosted an End Hunger New England meal packaging event. We had participation from numerous area organizations including Keene Elm City Rotary, Rotary Club of Keene, and Monadnock Regional High School Interact. Our 87 volunteers packaged 3,036 pounds of food (almost 20,000 meals), all of which was donated to the Keene Community Kitchen!



Meredith Rotary Recycles Styrofoam

In 2021 District Governor John Bob “JB” Siemienowicz was asked about the possibility of Rotary getting involved in removing Styrofoam from the waste stream in Vermont and New Hampshire. JB saw this as a great opportunity to inaugurate Rotary’s then-new seventh area of focus – Environment – within our District. JB engaged Gilford Rotary’s president, Rita Pierce and PDG Sandy McGonagle (also of Gilford Rotary) and subsequently, in association with Rotary, were able to establish the first Styrofoam densification unit at the Gilford’s Recycling Center. Since then, several of District 7870 clubs and clubs from our neighboring Districts now have established environmental service projects to recycle Styrofoam at the Gilford Recycling Center.



Last summer Meredith Rotarian Harry Reichlen heard about Rotary’s involvement in Styrofoam recycling. Harry collaborated with JB, Gilford’s Recycling Center and Meredith’s Solid Waste Facility in order to initiate a Meredith Rotary Styrofoam recycling service project. On March 16 Meredith Rotarians held their first Styrofoam collection day at Meredith’s Solid Waste Facility, resulting in collecting more than two large bags of Styrofoam that were subsequently delivered to Gilford’s Recycling Center. With this initial success, Meredith Rotary plans to hold future collection days once every three months.

Wantastiquet Rotary Tackles Affordable Housing

Wantastiquet Rotary, in addition to financial support, help to supply the [Bob Perry Lane House](#) with appliances.

The family was able to move into their new home on March 1st.



Free Books for Kids from Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

Since 2012, the Ludlow Rotary has made the Dolly Parton Imagination Library program a reality in Mt Holly, Ludlow, Plymouth and Cavendish. With the help of local educators, a large proportion of children resident in our area are now registered to receive these books. At the Ludlow Rotary, we have a passion to make sure our kids have every opportunity to succeed.



Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a book gifting program that mails free, high-quality books to children from birth until they begin school, no matter their family's income. Dolly was inspired to start this program by her father's inability to read and write.

The unique Dolly Parton Imagination Library program mails a new, age-appropriate book into the homes of children every month. Dolly's Imagination Library is designed to inspire the love of reading in children by spending time with family and friends sharing these wonderful books together. Dolly understands that reading is the key to a strong education, and that a child's imagination is the center of his or her dreams and creativity. By combining the two, this program inspires children to dream more, learn more, care more, and be more.

An easy way to register your preschool child or children for this program is to visit the children's section of Ludlow's Fletcher Memorial Library, where there is a display of Imagination Library books and lots of registration cards. Registration cards can also be obtained from the Ludlow Rotary, PO Box 216, Ludlow, VT 05149. The privacy of the children is strictly honored.

The signature book of the Imagination Library, "The Little Engine That Could", is recognized by most parents. The books are addressed and mailed directly to the children, much to their delight. The mailings start about six weeks after the date of registration.

Researchers have concluded that children that participate in this type of program get a real boost in their performance – doing much better in kindergarten and throughout their academic career. We think this investment in our children is more than worth the cost.

As participation in the Imagination Library increases, the Ludlow Rotary welcomes outside financial assistance in this important work from those that are not immediate members of the families that benefit. The books each child receives cost about \$25 per year. You can contribute to the Ludlow Area Rotary Charitable Fund, Inc. (a 501(c)(3) organization), indicating

“Imagination Library” in the memo section of your check, and mailing it to the Ludlow Rotary address shown above. So far, the most frequent contributors are grandparents whose grandchildren live out of the area.

For additional information, please contact Tom Harris at thomas.harris@wellsfargoadvisors.com. Further information about the Ludlow Rotary, its projects and membership opportunities is available at www.ludlowrotary.com.

Meredith Rotary Holds Successful 4-Way Test Speech Contest

On March 20th Meredith Rotary held its annual 4-Way Test Speech Contest with six contestants from Inter-Lakes Middle High School and Moultonborough Academy. The goal of the Four Way Test Speech Contest is to have the students apply the questions the Four Way Test asks and apply them to everything they say and do. As in past years, the contestants’ speech topics were quite unique and varied. This year’s speech topics were: The value of school, Rotary exchange student experience, What is human life?, The value of internships, Public transportation in England and US, and Customer service in a digital world. The contestants received cash awards from Meredith Rotary and contest winner Ben plans to participate in the District’s Four Way Test Speech Semi-Finals to be held on April 7 at Henniker Community Center. The Semi-Finals winners will then go on to the District’s Finals competition to be held on April 27 at the Rotary District Training Assembly at Hartford High School in White River Junction, VT.



Hollis Brookline Held Its Annual Four Way Speech Contest

The Hollis Brookline Rotary hosted its annual Four Way Speech Contest on Tuesday, March 19th, at The Lawrence Barn in Hollis. Eight courageous Hollis Brookline High School sophomores individually took to the podium to apply the principles of Rotary International's Four Way Test to their own chosen topic. Each topic was



different, and represented the student's idea of an ethical matter. The contestants spoke with the intention of persuading the audience, filled with family and friends, to agree with their point of view.

The Four Way Test reads: “Of the things we think, say or do: 1. Is it the TRUTH? 2. Is it FAIR to all concerned? 3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS? 4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?”

The brave contestants are all students in Mrs. Marie Salamone’s College Composition class. They spent a couple of weeks writing, tweaking and studying their speeches. Each speech was between 5 and 7 minutes.

The students who participated are Kaylee Barchard, Caroline Crawford, Anika DiVirgilio, Sarah Hendrickson, John Masiello, Molly Morrissey, Kit Penasack and Genevieve Scales. The 1st place winner was Genevieve, 2nd place Kit Penasack and 3rd place Kaylee. Genevieve will be a contestant at the semi-finals in Henniker on April 7th.

PHOTO: Mrs. Marie Salamone proudly posed with her students before the contest.

Capital City Hears About Human Rights and Justice

Katrina Lantos Swett, President of the [Lantos Foundation](#), addressed the Capital City Sunrise Rotary Club at the club’s weekly meeting . The Foundation is a leading global initiative to advance human rights and justice. Her presentation highlighted the Foundation’s history and continued efforts supporting and empowering those on the front lines of human rights struggles.



Springfield Rotary Club Conducts Diaper Drive in April

Throughout the month of April, Springfield Rotary Club is sponsoring a diaper drive to benefit the [Diaper Bank](#) at Springfield Area Parent Child Center. Any size, any brand! Please drop them off at the following locations in Springfield: Community Bank, Edward Jones (River Street), M&T Bank, Springfield Town Library, State Farm Insurance, and VTel.

The Rotary Club of Springfield, founded in 1927, is an active community service club of more than 40 members who engage in community and human service projects both locally and internationally. For more information, visit <https://springfieldvtrotary.org/>.



Ludlow Rotary Club Hosts International Exchange Students at Okemo Mountain Resort

In early March, International Exchange Students and their Rotary International sponsors gathered for the weekend at Okemo Mountain Resort for snow sports and building international friendships. The students, who are studying in southern Vermont and New Hampshire for the school year, had a great time skiing, snowboarding and riding the Mountain Coaster courtesy of Vail's Epic Promise grant program. The program supports local communities where Vail resorts are located.



This weekend has become a tradition with the Okemo Mountain Resort where staff arrange for lunches, ski and board rentals, and lessons for the students. This year students were from Brazil, Belgium, Paraguay, Venezuela, Romania, Croatia, Germany, Peru, Japan, Netherlands, France and Spain. Program leader, Jim Rumrill commented that many students find this weekend to be one of their favorite experiences during their exchange year. The Romanian student received pre-trip orientation from a Rotarian in her home country who felt the Okemo Resort weekend was the highlight of her Rotary exchange more than 20 years ago. The memories and friendships formed this weekend last a lifetime for the students.

The Youth Exchange Program ski weekend in March was a great success due to the Okemo Mountain Resort staff who helped make it so successful.

Anyone interested in learning more about being a Rotary youth exchange student is invited to contact Jim Rumrill, Chairman at (802) 380 2766 to receive information about the program.

Ludlow Rotary Club Hears from Ludlow town Manager, Brendan McNamara

On the anniversary of his appointment as Ludlow Town Manager, Brendan McNamara addressed the Ludlow Area Rotary Club on matters affecting the Town and Village. In a lively and interactive discussion, McNamara briefed the Rotarians on the status of municipal infrastructure, such as the wastewater treatment plant and sports fields reconstruction, the reopening of local businesses and repairs and improvements to area roadways.



With his first Town and Village meetings behind him, McNamara said he is now anxious to substantively address the significant issues ahead, including settling flood related matters with FEMA, addressing issues related to the proposed merger of the Ludlow Town and Village, and school and athletics challenges in light of declining student populations.

McNamara urged area resident involvement, and welcomed residents to make their voices heard on matters affecting the Ludlow area communities. He thanked everyone for the tremendous support he has enjoyed in his first year in the position, especially in the aftermath of the July 2023 flood.

In other business at the meeting, Rotarians discussed the upcoming 66th Annual Penny Sale. Supporting businesses should supply their prizes to a club member or deliver to Cota and Cota by Monday, April 15 for full publicity in the evening's program.

The Ludlow Area Rotary Club meets on Tuesdays at DJ's Restaurant in Ludlow. If you are interested in more information on the club or are interested in joining please contact Kevin Barnes, Membership Chairman at (802) 228-8877, to receive an invitation to a meeting.

Photo courtesy of Kevin Barnes.

Rotary Club of Concord, NH: 4 Way Test Speech Contest Yields Winner

Wednesday, March 27 was a special evening for the Concord Rotary Clubs, as The Capital City Rotary joined forces with Rotary Club of Concord to host 21 students from local schools bring their best speeches to the Phenix Hall on Main Street! There was a good crowd on hand to appreciate the 5-7 minute speeches and there was a spectacle to behold!

Concord HS , Merrimack Valley HS, Concord Christian Acad, and Bishop Brady HS showed off their best ideas, and their skills in presentation . In the end, Bishop Brady HS swept the evening for the three top spots as their 10 students had the odds in their favor, however, the scoring was tight all around!

All smiles as President Karyn and Committee Chair Lucy presented the Certificates ! Good luck to all in the District 7870 Competition!!!



Ludlow Rotary Collecting Eclipse Glasses for S. American Children

The Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) has announced that it will be collecting the special glasses used to observe the recent solar eclipse.

According to Kim Lampert, LRC Treasurer, these glasses will provide children in South America and elsewhere as a valuable tool for students, and people in general, to use during the October 2024 annular eclipse which will occur in Latin America.

The glasses may be dropped off at three convenient locations in Ludlow which will include: (1) Benson's Chevrolet, Inc. 25 Pond St (2) M&T Bank 213 Main St and (3) Fletcher Memorial Library 88 Main Street.

People unable to drop them off at these locations may also use the LRC's Penny Sale on Saturday, April 27 at the Ludlow Gymnasium starting at 6 PM. Members of the LRC will collect glasses through April 30. For additional information, contact Kim at 802-228-4000.



Tom Tsu Visits Jaffrey-Rindge Rotary

At the breakfast meeting on April 11 at Franklin Pierce University, the Jaffrey-Rindge Rotary Club welcomed Dr. Tom Tsu in celebration of Earth Month. . Tom Hsu, a resident of Jaffrey, is a physicist with a PhD from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and he is the author of ten middle and high school science programs. He serves as the Chair of the Jaffrey Conservation Commission and is known in town as a singer/songwriter who hosts the "Open Mic" nights at the Park Theatre. His presentation on the high cost of energy in New Hampshire and the growing opportunities to use modern heat pumps to bring these energy costs down was timely and well-received by the Club.



Latest Ukrainian Project, funded by Nashua Rotary Club, Completed

A couple of months ago, the Nashua Rotary Club opted to fund the purchase of sleeping bags and pads for 73 Girl and Boy Scouts and nine volunteer instructors in Kharkiv. Working with Rotary Clubs in Poland and Ukraine, District 7870 transferred \$4000 to purchase the equipment in-country. This month, the Scouts and their instructors received the Ukrainian manufactured items, completing District 7870's latest Ukrainian project.



The impact is twofold. Located in eastern Ukraine, Kharkiv is only 20 miles from the border with Russia and often targeted. When the sirens sound in the city, as they often do, families leave their beds to relocate to safer places. They move to interior places such as hallways or bathrooms or relocate to basements or bomb shelters. Having a warm sleeping bag and pad on which to sleep makes finding rest easier during air strikes.

Beyond the humanitarian aspect, the project also created an economic opportunity. Ukraine needs to keep its economy as strong as possible to sustain economic resiliency in a wartime environment. This project allowed local businesses to increase productivity for the benefit of their own citizens.

Time and time again, District 7870 has demonstrated its ability to have a direct impact on Ukrainians who have suffered 26 months of war. Many thanks to the Nashua Rotary Club for their generous contribution. If you would like to contribute to a project, please contact us. Tax-deductible donations should be made out to District 7870 Foundation with Ukraine relief written in the memo line.

Charlene Lovett
President, Claremont-Sugar River Rotary Club
sugarriverrotary@gmail.com

Fundraisers

Bellows Falls Rotary Hosts Shona Grill Pop-Up Night - April 20, 2024

The Bellows Falls Rotary Club is hosting a Shona Grill Pop-Up fundraiser at the Moose Lodge in Bellows Falls Saturday, April 20, from 4:30-7pm.

Do you miss those savory burgers and tasty fries that only Kim Bovill and her dedicated staff can create? Well, the wait is almost over. For one night, you can get the Shona Grill burger, fries, Shona salads, and, of course, lots of maple mayo. Veggie burgers will be available as an alternative. Food will be served in to-go containers to sit down and enjoy at the Moose with a cocktail or beverage of your choice, or you can simply take it with you to eat at home. Enjoy live music from Eric and The Steamrollers during the event.

The evening will also be the launch of Rotary's Spring Raffle to benefit local scholarships and Rotary's many initiatives.



Money raised from this event will go towards the local scholarship fund and local service projects. The Bellows Falls Rotary Club recently celebrated its 100th anniversary, marking a century of service and dedication to the community. Since its establishment in November 1923, the club has been a pillar of support, working tirelessly to improve the lives of individuals and families in Bellows Falls and the surrounding areas. Through various initiatives and projects, the Rotary Club has made a significant impact on education, healthcare, and community development. From providing scholarships to local students to organizing fundraisers for important causes, the club has consistently demonstrated its commitment to making a positive difference.

For more information about the Shona Grill Pop-Up event or the Bellows Falls Rotary Club contact Sam Howard at saamjm@gmail.com or 802.376.9983.

Ludlow Rotary Prepares for 66th Annual Penny Sale - April 27, 2024

The Ludlow Rotary Club is at it again. The final stages are in place for the 66th Annual Penny Sale. This annual event will be held on Saturday, April 27, 2024, at the Black River High School auditorium in Ludlow. The Penny Sale starts at 6:00 p.m. and admission is free!

The Penny Sale is currently one of the largest fundraisers undertaken by the Ludlow Rotary Club. The proceeds are used for college scholarships for area high school students living in Cavendish, Ludlow, Plymouth and Mt. Holly. In addition to the scholarships the proceeds are used for local school events and community projects such as the Cavendish/Proctorsville Greven Field, LPC-TV, Black River Valley Senior Center, Apple Blossom Cotillion, Mountainside House, Black River Museum, Black River Good Neighbors, the Rotary International Youth Exchange program as well as other worthy causes.



The prize list is long. Over 400 prizes totaling more than \$25,000 in value will be given away during the evening! To name just a few of the donated prizes: bicycles, ski passes, local restaurant gift certificates, power tools, Red Sox tickets, home maintenance items, theater tickets, gas cards, fire safety items, propane grill cylinders, garden tools, maple products and the all-time favorite – cash! We will also have a swap table available for those of you who may want to swap your prize with another winner.

Our club is celebrating its 97th Anniversary this year and we will be giving away to the first 85 kids a free gift! Come help celebrate our 97 years of community and international service!

Our cash raffle of more than \$1000.00 is always exciting. You do not need to be present to win the cash raffle but an additional \$25.00 will be added to the winning ticket if present. Rotarians will be out and about selling raffle tickets at Shaw's and elsewhere in Ludlow on weekend afternoons from now until the evening of the Penny Sale. Raffle tickets are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00.

The prizes for the Penny Sale have been donated by area businesses and the Ludlow Rotary Club is grateful for their generosity. Mark your calendars now for Saturday, April 28, 6:00 p.m. the Black River High School auditorium in Ludlow. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Refreshments will be available.

For some, this "Mud Season Event" is an annual tradition. So, if this is your first Penny Sale or your 66th, we hope to see you for this fun-filled evening. Again, a special thank you to all the businesses for your generous donations and participation.

If you have any questions, please contact Kim Lampert at 228-4000 or www.ludlowrotary.com. Remember, admission is FREE! Visit our web page at www.ludlowrotary.com to see our club's projects and events! The Ludlow Rotary club meets weekly at DJ's Restaurant and is celebrating our 97th year!

District Calendar

So much going on within the clubs in the district! Be sure to regularly check this District Calendar of Events: <http://rotary7870.org/events/calendar>

Do you have an entry for the District online calendar? Please email your entry to: prrotary7870@gmail.com.

Months of the Rotary Year

Many months of the year are designated by Rotary International for special significance. Here are the ones for this Rotary year:

July New Rotary Year

August Membership and New Club Development Month

September Basic Education and Literacy Month

October Economic and Community Development Month

November Rotary Foundation Month

December Disease Prevention and Treatment Month

January Vocational Service Month

February Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution Month

March Water and Sanitation Month

April Environment Month

May Youth Service Month

June Rotary Fellowships Month

Miscellaneous

Have Something You'd Like to Share with the Entire District?

Updates and short (1 page) articles, along with images (**Word and JPEGs only. NO PDFs please**) may be submitted to Martin Cohn and Maureen Mooney at prrotary7870@gmail.com to be included in the Monthly Newsletter. The District Newsletter is a means of communicating with other clubs in our district: items of interest, upcoming events, fundraisers or opportunities for service. **Deadline for next Newsletter Submissions: May 15th, 2024 at 9:00 AM.**

Website and Social Media

Be sure to check (and share) the Rotary District 7870 **website** at: www.rotary7870.org.

Be sure to join (and share) the Rotary District 7870 **Facebook page** here:

