





THE INSPIRATION



Rotary District 7870



July 2024	District Newsletter 2025, Number 1	Bill Stevens District Governor
www.rotary7870.org		
Rotarian Editors Maureen Mooney and Martin Cohn		
 		
Rotary Theme of the Month: Maternal and Child Health Month		

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Greetings From Your District Governor Bill Stevens



Dear Rotarians,

I am thrilled to begin my term as District Governor for our district as we embark on a new Rotary year. I am excited for all the opportunities ahead of us to make a positive impact in our communities and around the world, while embracing the 24-25 Rotary theme of "The Magic of Rotary".

The Magic of Rotary lies in our ability to come together as a community of like-minded individuals who are committed to serving others selflessly. It is in the connections we make, the projects we undertake, and the lives we touch that we truly see the transformative power of Rotary.

I am truly honored to serve alongside each and every one of you as we work together to uphold the values of Rotary and carry out our mission of service above self. I have no doubt that with your dedication, passion, and commitment, we will continue to make a difference in the lives of those in need, and spread the Magic of Rotary far and wide.

As we kick off this new Rotary year, I encourage each of you to think about how you can contribute to our collective goals and projects, and how you can be a part of creating Magic in our communities. Whether it is volunteering your time, sharing your expertise, or simply spreading the word about the important work we do, every effort counts and makes a difference.

As you read this I have made my first (8) club visits starting where it all began for me at the Keene Rotary Club. I have met so many faces, both old friends and new.

I am looking forward to getting to know each of you better and working together to achieve our shared vision for a better world, filled with the Magic of Rotary. Let's make this Rotary year one to remember!

Thank you for all that you do, and here's to a successful and fulfilling year ahead.

Yours in Rotary service,

Bill Stevens
District Governor 2024-25



District News

Thoughts on the Changing of the Gavel



Bill Stevens emphasized Rotary's need to .."retain" ...its members, that Rotary's mission is a "state of mind", and of our collective need to "take care of ourselves," with a measure of compassion and attention to our mental health.

He insisted on readying ourselves to be "inclusive" and "bold" ... to recognize the factors that influence members to .. remain .. within Rotary... to be "respectful of the past", yet, not "restrained by it".

I believe Rotary must adopt this "mindset" and assume the stark boldness of the Duarte Rotary Club...a willingness to challenge the status quo, that has enabled 51% of the world's population the...opportunity...to join Rotary's global mission of helping people.

By: Philip F. Nadeau, President, Capital City Sunrise Rotary

Rotary Leadership Institute - Why RLI?



Engaging our members by providing knowledge combined with quality education through interactive participation – welcome to RLI 2024!

This year District 7870 will work with surrounding districts to offer the opportunity for

District 7870 clubs to grow and strengthen club leadership. Our first event will once again be in-person and will be held in St. Johnsbury, VT hosted by D7850 to the north on October 26th.

Topics will include how to effectively engage members and build confidence through club communication; our Rotary International Foundation and how to utilize resources for building

Why attend RLI?

1. Gain **knowledge** about Rotary and The Rotary Foundation.
2. Learn practices that have helped other clubs **succeed** (and those that haven't).
3. Become a better leader and a **better Rotarian**.
4. **Make friends** with Rotarians from around the district.
5. Have **FUN!**



domestic and international programs; how to build better and more substantial service projects in our communities; strategic planning and analysis to internally strengthen clubs; and discussions on public perception and public relations to build and strengthen public and community awareness of what we do and what we can offer.

Interactive learning format is the basis for all RLI programs. Lecture format is only used to provide specific information to make a point to develop a deeper understanding of a particular topic.

RLI consists of either three full day sessions or a ZOOM option divided over two nightly sessions for each course:

Course 1: My Rotary World

Course 2: The Club

Course 3: My Rotary Journey

2023 Continuing Education Graduate Level: Succession Planning for Your Membership

Questions, please email carol.powis@comcast.net. To sign up for sessions: <https://rlinea.org/>

Where will RLI-NEA courses be held?

- **D7850 -St.Johnsbury, VT – In Person October 26, 2024**
- **D7910 Marlboro, MA TBD**
- **D7930 – Wakefield, MA – Virtual. TBD**
- **D7870 – VT/NH – Virtual. Tentative – February 18 & 20**
- **D7950 – Bourne, MA - In Person TBD**
- Other locations throughout NYS and PA

District 7870 and the Rotary Foundation - What a Year!

Rotary year 2023-2024 was an amazing year for collaborations with The Rotary Foundation through District and Global Grants. Twenty-seven Clubs secured District Grants to help them to do big things in their communities. They provided scholarships, beautified public areas, improved park access, provided school supplies and backpacks, worked on affordable housing and much more. The impact that Rotarians have in their communities is amplified by receiving funds from The Rotary Foundation to make their projects possible.

District 7870 also had eight Global Grants approved in 2023-2024. These ranged from an Ambulance in Turkey to Check Dams, Blood Banks and Menstrual Health Education in India to a Pediatric Dental Facility in South Africa. Reading the words on the page does not convey how powerful these projects are and the lives they change. A big shout out to the Clubs who were international partners and participants in these grants.



I got a call from PDG Venu Rao after he visited prior years' Global Grant projects in India in the Spring. He was overwhelmed by what he witnessed. He had visited a hospital where the local Rotary Club had established a Human Milk Bank in the neonatal ward. One hundred and fifty babies are born each week in that hospital and 15-20% of those are premature and their mothers are unable to nurse them in many cases. Before the milk bank, the babies were fed formula and developed many infections and illnesses, after the milk bank all the premature babies stayed healthy because they received immune protection from human milk. The head of the hospital was astounded and thrilled at such an outcome.

I am thrilled at this outcome! I get teary eyed writing about it. I have learned so much since becoming involved with Global Grants. We have human milk banks in the US and they play an important role in the health of premature infants. How exciting for Rotarians to see this need elsewhere and then through the power of the Rotary Foundation and collaborating Rotarians, Clubs and Districts around the world bring an amazing solution to a community in need. Many of you have heard me say that The Rotary Foundation is my charity of choice because I know that the funds are used by Rotarians to make a difference in the world. When I see the wonderful, inventive, high impact things that you are doing with District Grants and hear the stories from Rotarians participating in Global Grants, I know the money I donate to the foundation is being put to good use. Thank you to each of you for being good stewards of The Rotary Foundation's dollars.

Please Save the date, **Saturday, November 16** for a District Foundation Event. It will be a lunch event and it will be a great opportunity to learn more about The Foundation and how it helps bring the Magic of Rotary to your clubs, our District and the world.

District 7870 Annual Golf Tournament - September 30, 2024

SAVE THE DATE!
DISTRICT 7870 ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH, 2024
AT



ADDITIONAL DETAILS TO FOLLOW



Call for Nominations for District Governor 2027-2028

Nominations are now being accepted for the position of District Governor for the Rotary year 2027-28. Please consider nominating a qualified candidate from your club. Application materials and a job description are available on the District Website <http://rotary7870.org> in the site pages section entitled “District Governor Application Materials”. Note: you must be logged into the District website to access these materials. District Governor (to serve 2027-2028).

Qualifications for District Governor are as follows:

- Nominee must be a Rotarian in good standing of a Club in the District
- Nominee must be of outstanding personal caliber and must maintain full qualifications of membership · The integrity of the Nominee’s classification must be without question
- Nominee must be a member of a functioning club, in good standing, that has no outstanding indebtedness to Rotary International or District 7870
- Nominee must have served as a Rotary Club President for a full term · Nominee must have been a Rotarian for at least seven (7) years at the time of taking office
- Nominee must demonstrate willingness, commitment, and ability, (Physically and otherwise, to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of the office of District Governor) Traditionally, the nominating committee also looks for Nominees with a record of club and district participation, an outstanding attendance record, and demonstrated civic interest in their community.

Rotary International suggests that Nominees have necessary computer skills, and Rotary International also mandates attendance at the Governors-Elect Training Seminar and the International Assembly.

Please upload all nominations and supporting documents on the District Website <http://rotary7870.org> under the Site Page “District Governor Application Materials” no later than September 6th, 2024. Submissions uploaded after September 6, 2024 will NOT be considered. Interviews of the candidates for District Governor 27-28 will take place during October 2024, invitations will be forwarded to each candidate. Specific times will be assigned to each candidate. Failure to appear for any reason will automatically eliminate the candidate from consideration.

Thank you for ensuring that all qualified candidates receive this information.



Coffee with Ken - Informal Zoom Get Together

Ken Yei (Queen City RC) will be hosting his next Coffee with Ken on **Fri. Aug. 2 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

CCSRC Community Service Awards

The Capital City Sunrise Rotary awarded two 2024 Community Service Awards both in the amount of \$1000.00.

These were not scholarships but awards for Merrimack Valley High School Seniors Olivia Seeley and Owen Piper as a reward for their service to their community to be used for any purpose they wish.

The first Capital City Rotary Community Service Award was given in 1990 and awarded to Concord High School senior Jennifer Berryman for her initiation of Concord H.S. Community Service Day.



Jaffrey-Rindge Rotarians Learn About Rwanda Project

With a number of guests present at the Cathedral of the Pines early morning meeting, the Jaffrey-Rindge Rotary welcomed fellow Rotarian Katherine Richards and Jennifer Paone, both from the Elm City Rotary Club in Keene, who presented information on the Rwanda One4One program that they have been spearheading the past several years.

Jenifer is working to obtain grants to support the Rwandan community by providing genocide widows with an income opportunity crafting native fabrics. Katherine, pictured, shared the sad story of how over one million



Rwandans were victims of genocide in 1994 as a result of two feuding tribes. Yet, from the ashes of despair, Rwandan women, with the help of the Elm City Rotary Club, are learning how to use native plants to extract dyes and to create attractive colorful scarves that can be sold to generate income, both in Rwanda and outside the country.

Cox Inducted as 2024-25 Springfield Vermont Rotary Club President

The Rotary Club of Springfield Vermont recently inducted Springfield resident Debra Cox as its club president for the 2024-2025 Rotary year.

Rotary club members serving as officers with Deb this year are President-Elect Sue Dana, Secretary Marty Cohn, Treasurer Michelle Chamberlain, Immediate Past President Emma McGuirk and directors-at-large Jeff Mobus, Patricia Putnam, and Bill Dakin.



Deb has been active in the Rotary Club of Springfield since 2021, serving as the President Elect and Board Member. She has participated in many of the club's projects including the Rotary Youth Food Distribution at the YMCA , food drives for the Springfield Family Center, Trex Plastic Challenge, Christmas Cheer at Kurn Hattin, and club fundraisers.

As an Investment Adviser for Primerica Advisors for 34 years, she is dedicated to helping individuals and small businesses achieve their financial goals. Deb has served the Brattleboro Sunrise Rotary Club, the Deerfield Valley Sportsmen's Club, the Whitingham Community Church and the Whitingham Lions Club. She is the Media Chairperson/Council Member for the Precision Valley Baptist Church.

She notes that inappropriate outerwear clothing is a barrier to children's physical activity in child-care settings. As Springfield Rotary president, Deb hopes to bring awareness to the need for appropriate outerwear clothing for children ages 3-6.

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.



PHOTO (l-r): Secretary Marty Cohn, Treasurer Michelle Chamberlain, President-elect Sue Dana, Directors Patti Putnam and Jeff Mobus. Seated Springfield Rotary Club president Deb Cox and past president Emma McQuirk. Missing from photo, Director Bill Dakin.

LRC Honors Changing of the Gavel

Members of the Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) gathered at the summer home of member Tom Harris for their annual "Changing of the Gavel" and picnic. The summer picnic was highlighted by the introduction of the new LRC President, George Thomson, as he assumed that responsibility from Thomas Ray, the outgoing President of the club. At that time, Thomson honored Ray with a plaque for his leadership and guidance of the LRC for the past year. Pictured above, from left to right, are Thomson and Ray. In addition to this ceremony, LRC members enjoyed the fun and camaraderie of each other offered by the lakefront site of the picnic.



Handing off the Gavel - Queen City Rotary

The Queen City Rotary Club extended its heart-felt thanks and gratitude to outgoing Chair Shilpi Mehrotra and welcomed new Board Chair Natalie Jutras during a ceremony held recently at the Puritan Back Room in Manchester. "Shilpi was an inspirational leader during the past year and helped our club flourish," noted Jutras. "We truly appreciate her service and strong commitment to our mission."

In addition to numerous service and volunteer projects, the club donates over \$50,000 each year to youth centered non-profits in Greater Manchester.

"What an amazing year it has been," said Mehrotra. "I thank the club for trusting me to serve as the President of our amazing Rotary. Through the club's involvement, dedication, and guidance, we successfully hosted two major fund-raisers, organized a new signature event-an Evening at the North Pole for inner city children, and volunteered at numerous events to serve the Manchester community. I'm excited that we will continue this momentum as I pass on the gavel to Natalie."

The club also recognized members Jayna Stevens and Andrea Kuhlman with Paul Harris Awards and presented Spoke awards to Monica Labonville and Jutras. Club member -and its first-ever female president-Franne Cirillo-received a special award for her decades long service to the club. A special Paul Harris Award was also bestowed to Mayra Montes of the Puritan Back Room.



Composed of more than 50 community and small business leaders, the Queen City Rotary Club seeks to improve the lives of area youth and others through community service, volunteerism, and charitable giving. On a yearly basis, the club performs thousands of hours of community service and donates over \$50,000 to a host of nonprofits. The club meets every Thursday morning at 7:30 AM at the Backroom, guests are welcome. To learn more, please visit www.queencityrotary.org

Springfield VT Rotary Awards Local Scholarships

Bob Flint, Jim Fog, and Ed McQuaide, members of the Springfield Vermont Rotary Club scholarship committee, selected Lilly Farnsworth and Marshall Simpson as winners of this year's local scholarships. Each will receive \$3000.

Lilly is planning to attend Roger Williams College to study architecture. Marshall is planning to attend Wheaton College to pursue a career in nursing.



Funds for the scholarship awards came from the annual Springfield Rotary Penny Sale, which will return this October.

PHOTO (l-r) Springfield Rotary Club President Deb Cox, Jim Fog, Lilly Farnsworth, Bob Flint, Marshall Simpson, Ed McQuaide.

Bridgefords Inducted as Springfield VT Rotary Club's Newest Member

Bill Bridgefords, a senior recruiter for the Peace Corp, was inducted as the Springfield VT Rotary Club newest member during the club's regular meeting held on July 2 at [Maebellines](#).

Bill was sponsored by Springfield Rotary Club Immediate Past President Emma.

PHOTO (l-r): Rotary Club Immediate Past President Emma McGuirk, Bill Bridgefords, and Rotary Club President Deb Cox.



Elm City Rotary Grants Scholarship to Community's Unsung Heroes

The Keene Elm City Rotary Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the winners of the 2024 Unsung Hero and Ken Jue Scholarships. The club's annual Unsung Hero Scholarship recognizes individuals of the Monadnock Region who have engaged in significant service above self. Such service may be in the applicant's community, place of worship, school or family and may have come at a cost to that person's academic or personal career.

This year's Unsung Hero scholarship winners received \$1,340 each. All graduated from Keene High School.

- Chase Johnson will study Musical Theater at UNH Durham.
- Betzy Mills will study Marine Biology at Roger Williams University.
- Aaliyah Tacy will study High Performance Automotive Mechanics at University of Northwestern Ohio.
- Eleanor Haywood will do graduate studies in Social Work at London South Bank University.
- Evelyn Proctor will do Doctoral Studies in Biochemistry at UNH Durham.
- Evelyn Proctor was also awarded \$1,000 for the Ken Jue Scholarship. The Ken Jue Scholarship recognizes an Unsung Hero who has personal experience in or plans to study or work in the areas of mental health, physical health, social work or advocacy for inclusion of marginalized persons.

Elm City Rotary Club has awarded more than \$105,000 to Monadnock area students since the Unsung Hero Scholarship was started in 2002. Applicants for the Unsung Hero are automatically considered for the Ken Jue Scholarship, which was created in 2022, after the death of long-time Rotary member Ken Jue. Jue was a mental health advocate, who was active in non-profits throughout the Monadnock Region and beyond. In addition to a cash award, students are also assigned a mentor from the Elm City Rotary Club who is available to assist them with networking throughout their studies and after graduation.

Scholarship applicants must be a Monadnock Region resident, at least 16 years old, already accepted to an accredited institution of further learning or training and in need of financial support. Candidates do not need to be a full-time college student in a degree awarding institution. The scholarships are designed to include part-time students who are enrolled in the trades, continuing education and certifications.

The scholarships' application can be found at

<https://clubrunner.blob.core.windows.net/00000002934/en-ca/files/homepage/scholarship-application/KECR-Scholar-App.pdf> . Applications are due by March 31 each year.



Paul Harris Award Honors Retiring FPU President

At the Jaffrey-Rindge Rotary Gavel Night recently at the Cathedral of the Pines, a Paul Harris Fellowship Award was presented to Kim Mooney, outgoing President of Franklin Pierce University. The University has been the "home" of the Jaffrey-Rindge Rotary Club for many years, and Kim has been a loyal supporter of the Club and all of its activities. With Kim is her husband and fellow Rotarian, Greg Walsh (L), who will also be missed at our chapter meetings when the couple moves to their Connecticut retirement home.



The Award was presented by Bill Raymond (R), who also was recognized for his "service above self" after 12 consecutive years as Treasurer of the Jaffrey-Rindge Rotary Club.

Milford Rotary - Wrapping-Up the "74" and Rolling Into Our "75th"

The Milford Rotary Club has had a busy spring and roll into summer as we closed out our 74th year of creating hope and jumped into a new year, our 75th, of creating more Rotary magic!

After a very successful 44th annual Senior Citizens Chicken Barbecue in May where we cooked and served 300+ lunches to area Seniors, the Club jumped right into scholarship season to help the younger members of our communities. In total \$52,000 in academic and vocational scholarships were awarded to twelve students from Souhegan High School and Milford High School as well as eight first-year renewals to students who received a scholarship in 2023. These scholarships are a vital part of our commitment to Youth Development and Community Service.



As one former recipient wrote "The Milford Rotary Scholarship is invaluable to me and its worth goes far beyond the monetary value associated with receiving the award. As I use this scholarship to pursue my Community and Environmental Planning major at UNH, it serves as a way to recognize the hard work and determination I put into my academic and personal life during high school. Awards like these are a way for organizations to connect to students within the Souhegan area directly, building a stronger community where all students are given the opportunity to pursue a career they have the most passion in."



Hot on the heels of scholarship season we drove straight into the 30th annual Milford Rotary 100 Holes of Golf In One Day Tournament! This event is our premier fundraiser and after months of planning, the event came off without a mulligan! Many thanks to the **Rotary Clubs of Henniker, Nashua West, Charlestown, Hooksett, Lowell, and Amesbury** for participating in our 50/50 program along with the ten local nonprofit organizations who sold raffle tickets. Together, with our generous sponsors and raffle ticket purchasers, we had another record-breaking year of fundraising! Along the way in June, we celebrated outstanding club service and welcomed our new officers. Congratulations to Paul Grummett who was named as this year's Stan Powers award recipient in recognition of his commitment to Rotary and to our club reflective of the dedication exemplified by the late Stanley Powers (a Rotarian extraordinaire and father of our District's beloved Peter Powers). Pictured is Paul receiving his special "Stan Powers sized" lobster from Allise de Smet and President Todd Leo.

Accepting the gavel for the 2024-2025 Rotary year was Alexander Buchanan. This is Alec's second time serving as our Club President and a first "repeat" for our Club. He received a resounding round of applause as Steve Desmarais congratulated him. Alec is excited to move our 75th year of community service and making Rotary magic forward!

The Milford Rotary Club was chartered in 1950. This new Rotary year marks our 75th Year of Community Service. To kick-off our 75th Celebration, Milford Rotarians marched in the annual Amherst NH July 4th parade. During the coming year, along with the usual magic we create, the Club will be making special 75th Commemoration donations to all the five towns we serve and hosting some special events. Additionally, The Town of Milford is graciously allowing us to display 75th commemorative banners around the Milford Oval.

Next up for Milford Rotary is the 59th Annual Milford Rotary Swim Meet on July 20-21, 2024. We'll be hosting 15 teams from across Southern New Hampshire at this invitational swim meet where no team or event fees are charged. The teams and athletes get to come for FUN and competition experience. The Milford Rotary holds the world record for the longest continuously operated Rotary Club swim meet! Come Join Us!



Hopkinton Rotary Hosts Brian Nolen from NH4Ukraine

Hopkinton Rotary recently had Brian Nolen from NH4Ukraine speak at our breakfast meeting, ...direct from Ukraine. Our zoom connection worked perfectly and Brian updated us on his organization's humanitarian aid work directly affecting war torn areas. The organization's workers are all volunteers paying their own way, and every dollar raised goes directly to food, diapers and necessities for the Ukrainian community.

Please consider having Brian speak to your local Rotary club, and we challenge your club to send a \$2,000 check like we did. Brian can be reached at bpnolen@gmail.com and the organization's website is NH4Ukraine.org



Rotary Club of Nashua West finds New Connections with the Greater Nashua Chamber of Commerce

What was happening on July 10th for the Rotary Club of Nashua West? After 53 years as a club we joined with The Greater Nashua Chamber of Commerce for an epic Business After Hours with 95 Chamber members and potential Chamber members in attendance.

We inspired attendees about Rotary and Rotary West and we may be expecting some new guests at future club meetings!

The club wishes to thank Dr. Scott Huffer and his team at Focused Eye Care for opening their newly renovated space for us all to enjoy.



PHOTO: Nashua West Rotary members (L to R) Dr. Scott Huffer, Betsy Houde and Mark Levesque, along with Nashua Rotary member and Chamber President Wendy Hunt.



Souhegan Valley Rotary Club Works with the Hillsborough County Court Drug Court

The Drug Court, which is coordinated by the Hillsborough County Court under the direction of Judge Jaclyn Colburn, has been nationally recognized for its service. Clients of this program go through a grueling process to turn their lives around from addiction and crimes related to this insidious habit. At the end of this process clients go from years of [recidivism](#) and jail time to being productive citizens, and in many cases, return to responsible family lives.



Souhegan Valley Rotary Club has participated in the Drug Court graduation program for several years by sponsoring personalized graduation gifts to every graduate. Last year, the club started a ToolShip program to support the graduates. ToolShip is like a school scholarship, except in this case tools of the trade are offered to a graduate of the Drug Court.

This year, a graduate of the program, Stefan Baringer, who was back in the community and had started his own DryWall and Framing business was identified as a recipient of the \$1000 Souhegan Valley Rotary Club ToolShip award. He was presented with a DeWalt table saw, a framing nailer and a pneumatic air hose. Last year, Jesse Harbeck, who was gainfully employed as a car mechanic was presented with tools worth \$1000.

Judge Jaclyn Colburn had this to say about the partnership between Souhegan Valley Rotary Club and the Drug Court: *“The community partnership between the Hillsborough County South Adult Drug Court and the Souhegan Valley Rotary Club has been incredibly valuable. The rotary club has been a steadfast supporter of our program. Its contributions, including the “Toolship” (tool scholarship) provided to a graduate to assist them in furthering their trade, is a prime example. The support of community organizations like the Rotary club, aids us in helping our participants to better their lives and by extension to make our community safer.”*

PHOTO: Graduates from the Drug Court

Note from Tim McNamara (Coordinator): *Thank you and the Souhegan Rotary Club so much for having us present at your meeting around our program. As well as your continued support of the Hillsborough County South Adult Drug Court. It really means so much to us to have the support of community leaders like you all.*



Bennington, VT July 4th Bell Ringing Celebration

The Bennington Rotary Club presented the 11th year of the Rotary Bell Ringing Celebration on July 4th. It is appropriate to recognize what the Founding Fathers did that July 4th in 1776 when they put their signatures on the Declaration of Independence. Thomas Jefferson knew the importance of the document that he wrote and he encouraged his countrymen to celebrate that day and every July Fourth thereafter.



The Rotary July 4th bell ringing event was inspired by Rotarian and Past President Jerry Albert. His research revealed that in 1963, both houses of Congress passed Concurrent Resolution #25 which reads in part: “Whereas the tolling of the Liberty Bell at Independence Hall, Philadelphia, Pa., at 2 o’ clock in the afternoon of the 4th day of July, 1776, proclaimed the signing of the Declaration of Independence; now, therefore, be it Resolved, that the Congress hereby (1) declares that the anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence should be observed each year by the ringing of bells throughout the United States at the hour of 2 o’ clock, eastern daylight time, in the afternoon of the 4th day of July, or at such other time on that day as may be determined by local authority, and (2) call upon civic and other community leaders to take appropriate steps to encourage public participation in such observance.

Bells were once the fastest means of communications in any town. U.S Navy ships also have bells. Used for signaling, keeping time, and sounding alarms, bells are an important part of a ship’s routine and readiness. Our bell comes from USS Bennington, an aircraft carrier that served our nation from 1944 through 1970.

Members of Bennington Rotary ring the bell 13 times. Once for each of the original states. This year DG Bill Stevens rang the bell for Delaware with ADG Diane McCormick ringing for Georgia. As I am sure many of you know, Vermont is the 14th State in the Union. The State of Vermont was born in Bennington. So it is only fitting that we ring our bell one more time...for Vermont! Each year Bennington Rotary recognizes an outstanding individual or organization with the honor to ring the bell the 14th time. This year we honor the Bennington Fire Department and to ring the bell for Vermont was Lieutenant Jazmine Hollister of the Bennington Fire Department. She joins past recipients including the Bennington Historical Society, Oldcastle Theater, Miss Teen Vermont Pageant, the Bennington Rescue Squad, Mount Anthony Interact Club, the Vermont National Guard, the North Bennington Village School, the MAU Chamber Singers, and Patricia Johnson, RN-SVMC. Concluding the July 4th Bell Ringing Ceremony members of the Green Mountain Boys reenactment company (which includes several Bennington Rotarians) closed the ceremony with a musket salute.



Capital City Sunrise Rotary Club: Scholarship Award

Capital City Sunrise Rotary Club Assistant Secretary Nancy Watson presents the annual Franklin Savings Bank scholarship award to a Merrimack Valley School District graduating senior on June 3, 2024.



International

International Rotary Grant Underway in India

This project provides the local farmers with a way to store water from the yearly rainy season in order to let them use the stored water during the dry season to irrigate their crops. This is a life changing project bringing much needed prosperity to the region.

The project was partially funded in this district by:

District Dedicated Funds from D7870

Hollis-Brookline Rotary

Wallingford Rotary

Souhegan Valley Rotary

Capital City Sunrise Rotary

Merrimack Rotary



PHOTO: Construction of 4 check dams in arid zones of Rotary International District 3190 near Pavagada, Karnataka , India.



Fundraisers

Splash Dash 5K - August 10, 2024



hosted by the
Greater Keene Rotaract Club

Saturday, August 10th

7:30 AM - walkers
8:00 AM - runners

with prizes to follow!

SPLASH DASH 5K

Registration is now **OPEN!**

Early bird registration (through July 20th) : \$25 per participant.
Beginning July 21st : \$30 per participant.
Ages 12 & under : \$15 per participant.

See event registration page for group discounts!

LOCATION:
Keene Family YMCA

scan here to sign up!




*Participants who sign up by July 15, 2024 will receive an event t-shirt.

Participants should prepare to be splashed as they cross the finish line at this family friendly event!

Questions? Email us at rotaractsplashdash@gmail.com

Putt and Pour Tournament - August 19, 2024



PUTT and POUR TOURNAMENT



Monday, August 19, 2024

2:00 PM
Haystack Golf Club

18 mini golf style team scramble putting tournament.
4 people per team.

GOLF * PRIZES * RAFFLES * DINNER

Gift auction, following the tournament

\$90 per person- Golf and dinner
\$40 per person- Dinner only, 4:30 PM
\$75 Tee Sponsorship
Bring your own putter and ball.

www.RotaryDFV.org

Rotary Club of Rutland's 3rd Annual Build Better Friendships Pickleball Tournament - Sept. 7-8, 2024

Pickleball is continuing to explode in popularity and is being embraced by our schools and senior centers alike, it continues to be the fastest growing sport in America. No matter the level of play, beginner, or experienced player, pickleball boasts the health and well-being of everyone through exercise and social interaction.



The Rotary Club of Rutland will host the **Third Annual Build Better Friendships Pickleball Tournament (BBFPT)** in partnership with Vermont Sport



& Fitness, Rutland Racquet Club and Rutland Recreation & Parks Department to be held **Saturday, September 7 and Sunday, September 8, 2024**. The tournament features non-sanctioned competitive play in the round-robin format. Registration is now open, visit www.rutlandcityrotary.org.

The courts throughout the region will host 80 plus tournament players per round plus spectators. In addition to the actual tournaments, as we have for the prior events, there will be a Pickleball Clinic at Monsignor Connor Park. The last two years we have taught 70 “newbies” the game with Denise and Jim Bellew, two of our area’s top pickleball facilitators. A host of accomplished support people will be on board making this a great opportunity to learn the sport the right way, with safety always in mind.

The Second Annual Build Better Friendships Pickleball Tournament turned out to be another great success as we brought contestants from Glens Falls, Burlington, Woodstock, Manchester’s VT and NH and beyond. We did “Built Goodwill and Better Friendships” as several of the contestants have played together since and our pickleball groups continue to grow. Fact is; the lion’s share of last year’s “newbie” players is now playing to a much higher level and several will play in this year’s event.

Covid-19 did take a toll on our ability to raise the funds we need to do what we do best, community service and we needed to catch up. We needed to find a fundraiser that can be grown from year to year. Rutland is suited for a large pickleball tournament, and it worked for all, and we had a great time doing so. Let us make Rutland **“Pickleball Central in Vermont,”** or New England for that matter.

About Rotary Club of Rutland

Founded in 1919, the Rotary Club of Rutland is one of the oldest Rotary Clubs in New England. Our membership has always reflected a wide diversity of local business leaders and community partners with a commitment to Service Above Self. The focus of the Rotary Club of Rutland is community service. Throughout the year we are active in a variety of hands-on projects as well as mentoring and knowledge sharing activities.

For more information please contact: Steve White: stevewhitevt@gmail.com, 802-236-1951



Putt and Pour Tournament - September 28, 2024

Announcing the 2024 **Driven to Serve** Bethel Area Rotary Golf Tournament. The tournament will be held at 1pm on Saturday, September 28 at Montague Golf Club in Randolph, Vermont. The Bethel Area Rotary Club is a proud part of our communities and of Rotary International, a global network of more than 1.2 million members. Locally, we support the towns of Barnard, Bethel, Pittsfield, Rochester, Royalton, Stockbridge, and Tunbridge.



Our service projects include:

- International Youth Exchange
- Food Shelf Support
- Community Garden
- Project Happy Holidays
- Wild Woods Halloween Event
- Providing Local Scholarships
- Global Relief Projects

There are two ways to support our **Driven to Serve** Rotary Golf Tournament fundraising event, including:

1. Gathering a foursome to play golf on September 28
2. Tournament/hole sponsorship or prize donation

Contact Jenny Hewitt - hewittvt@gmail.com or 802-779-1257 or Jeanne Conde - BethelAreaRotary@gmail.com with questions, to sign up a team of 4, or to make a donation.

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 – Maternal and Child Health Month

August – Membership & Extension 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 – Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention Month

March – Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene 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: August 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:

