

THE INSPIRATION



Rotary District 7870



May 2025	District Newsletter 2025, Number 11	Bill Stevens District Governor
www.rotary7870.org		
Rotarian Editors in our 6th year! Maureen Mooney (Merrimack, NH) and Martin Cohn (Springfield, VT)		

Rotary Theme of the Month: Youth Service Month

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Greetings From Your District Governor Bill Stevens

Dear Rotary Family,

As your District Governor, I have the privilege of witnessing the profound impact that our youth programs have on the lives of young people in our communities. This year, I have been particularly inspired by our Youth Exchange, Interact, and EarlyAct programs, which empower youth to explore their potential and engage actively in making a difference.

May is recognized as Youth Service Month by Rotary International, a time dedicated to highlighting the importance of youth involvement in service projects. It serves as a reminder of our commitment to fostering leadership, encouraging service, and providing opportunities for the next generation.



Reflecting on our recent Youth Conference held on April 19th, I was filled with admiration as I observed the energy and enthusiasm radiating from our Interact members. The conference served as a platform for our young leaders to connect, share ideas, and collaborate on projects that benefit their schools and communities. It was heartening to see these students, many of whom are the future leaders of our Rotary, stepping forward with their visions for change and their eagerness to make a difference. Their passion and commitment remind us that investing in our youth is crucial for developing the next generation of leaders.

Additionally, at our District Assembly on April 26th, I was proud to witness presentations from our incredible Youth Exchange students. These young ambassadors shared their experiences, challenges, and transformative moments from their time abroad. Their stories highlighted not only personal growth but also the importance of cultural exchange in fostering understanding and tolerance in our increasingly interconnected world. Each presentation reinforced the value of the Youth Exchange program, showing how it cultivates global citizens who are prepared to contribute thoughtfully and compassionately to society.

Moreover, the synergy between our Youth Exchange and Interact programs underscores a holistic approach to youth engagement. Interact clubs often serve as a launching pad for students interested in the global experiences provided by Youth Exchange. Our EarlyAct programs, which focus on younger children, further enrich this pathway by instilling Rotary's values from a young age. Together, these initiatives cultivate a generation of empathetic leaders who understand the importance of service, connection, and diversity.



As we continue to support and expand these programs during Youth Service Month and beyond, let us remember that the success of our Rotary mission lies in empowering the youth of today. It is our responsibility to nurture their potential, provide them with opportunities, and guide them as they navigate the challenges of the world. The energy I witnessed at both the Youth Conference and the District Assembly affirms our collective commitment to this cause.

In closing, I encourage all clubs to actively engage with our youth programs. Whether by sponsoring an Interact club, supporting a Youth Exchange student, or launching EarlyAct initiatives, each effort contributes to a brighter future. Let us work together to inspire young minds and encourage their passions, ensuring that they carry forward Rotary's legacy of service above self.

Thank you for your dedication to Rotary and our youth.

Yours in Service, Bill Stevens District Governor 24-25

District News

D7870 Announces 2025-26 District Grant Opportunities

District 7870 is pleased to announce the availability of District Grant Funds for the 2025–26 Rotary year. With approximately \$31,000 in grant funding available, clubs are invited to submit applications for up to \$1,000 each to support meaningful community service projects. At a minimum, grant funds must be matched dollar-for-dollar with club funds.

District Grants are an excellent way to extend your club's impact locally while engaging members in hands-on service. To ensure equitable



distribution, grants will be awarded based on the number of applications received and total funds requested.

Last year's grants included: Gear Up for School backpack program, scholarships, vision testing in South Africa, food insecurity, providing coats for children, seasonal gifts for children, Rotary Youth Exchange events, RYLA, Amigos de Honduras, cultural center bathroom restoration, after school programs, vocational training for women in Rwanda, Styrofoam recycling program, school desks for students in Haiti.



<u>Key Grant Guidelines</u>: Funds must support a specific community project (local or international). The project must include active Rotarian participation. Clubs must be current on all financial obligations to Rotary International and the District. Clubs which received a district grant for 2024-25, must have uploaded the final report to the district website by April 15, 2025. A club representative must attend a required "District Grant Final Report Training" every year to receive district grant funds. Choose one of the dates below, it should take less than ½ hour. See District Website Calendar for links. Clubs must enter at least the six Priority Goals in Rotary Club Central. We hope clubs will enter more goals.

Important Dates

Application Deadline: Midnight, May 31, 2025

Award Notification: By July 15, 2025 Fund Distribution: By August 15, 2025 (pending final TRF approval) Final Report Due: April 15, 2026

<u>How to Apply</u>: Clubs must submit applications online via the District 7870 website under the drop down menu for "Grants and Donations" (<u>https://rotary7870.org/</u>)

Need Help? For assistance, contact:

- AG Geoff Souther, District Grant Chair <u>districtgrants7870@gmail.com</u>
- PDG Randell Barclay, Stewardship Chair <u>Rotary.Randell@gmail.com</u>
- Dianne Barclay, District Rotary Foundation Chair <u>Dianne.FHRotary@gmail.com</u>

Let's continue to do good in the world - in our own communities and around the world!

District Changing of Gavel - Sunday, July 13 at 1pm Wallingford

Wallingford Memorial Rotary Club, on behalf of District Governor Bill Stevens, is honored to host the sixty-eight annual District Changing of the Gavel on Sunday, July 13, 2025, at 1PM (13:00). This year our District Changing of the Gavel will be a BBQ Lunch (\$20) followed by the traditional Changing of the Gavel ceremony.

This year's District Changing of the Gavel is continuing to use the 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 Donna Deos, and an opportunity to thank and congratulate Outgoing District Governor Bill Stevens for all that he has accomplished for the District over the past year.

Please register for the BBQ Lunch on the District Website under the section: "Upcoming District Events" or on the link below by July 6, 2025.

https://rotary7870.org/events/changing-of-the-gavel-2025/

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: <u>Rotary.Randell@gmail.com</u>

Rotary District 7870 District Governor Bill Stevens Presents the Willing Finalists in the 2025 4 Way Test Speech Contest

Rotary District 7870 Governor Bill Stevens presents the winning Finalists in the 2025 4 Way Test Speech Contest .

The 2025 edition of the 4 Way Test Speech Contest, conducted at the Londonderry High School, Londonderry NH, was noted by Albert St. Pierre, coordinator of the event... as "exceptional."

Differences in the candidate scores were noted to be razor thin... with all demonstrating an impressive knowledge of their subject

matter and an admirable command of communication and presentation skills.

Truly inspiring performances ... by all ... and a snapshot of our nation's future leaders.

Student Finalists (L-R): Champion: Noah Cava, Nashua West Rotary (Noah's topic and presentation was the traditional concept of the ... High School "Honor Roll"....it's misapplication and unintended effects on the general student population.) Nora Smith (Henniker Rotary), Adrushya Iyer (Hollis Brookline Rotary), McKinley Keaffaber (Catamount Rotary)



Club News

Jaffrey-Rindge Rotary Goes "Batty" with FPU Professor

At the breakfast meeting on Thursday, April 10 at Franklin Pierce University, members enjoyed a great presentation from Professor Jacques Pierre Veilleus, of FPU, who shared valuable insights about the endangered status of bats in New Hampshire. As a Professor of Biology and Chair of the Division of Sciences, he has engaged for years in extensive research into the declining population of bats in New Hampshire. His presentation was met with many enthusiastic questions from Rotarians about the impact of the endangerment from what is called "White-nose syndrome (WNS)," a fatal fungus disease that has killed

millions of bats throughout the United States. He works closely with the NH Fish and Game, monitoring several mines throughout the state in a repeat study every 7 years to correlate data on possible recovery.

Ludlow Rotary Presents Check to Okemo Valley Television

Ludlow Rotary President elect Kevin Barnes, left, presented Patrick Cody, Okemo Valley Television with a \$2,000 check for equipment for their new podcasting program.

Photo (l-r) Kevin Barnes and Patrick Cody Credit Kim Lampert

Concord Rotary Among Top Teams at Rock 'N Race Raising Over 4K

On May 7, members of the Rotary Club of Concord NH joined thousands of runners, walkers, and supporters at the annual Rock 'N Race—a signature community event benefiting the Payson Center for Cancer Care at Concord Hospital. This year, the Concord Rotary proudly ranked among the top five fundraising teams, contributing over \$4,000 to the cause.

Funds raised through Rock 'N Race directly support the Payson Center's commitment to providing comprehensive, compassionate cancer care to patients across central New Hampshire. Beyond clinical treatment, donations help cover services that health









insurance often doesn't—such as nutrition counseling, nurse navigation, support groups, and financial assistance—ensuring patients and families receive care that supports the whole person.

The event, now in its 22nd year, continues to serve as a powerful reminder of what a community can do when it comes together for a shared cause. Music, signs of encouragement, and crowds of supporters lined the route, creating an atmosphere of hope and solidarity for those facing cancer. Concord Rotary was honored to take part in this effort, and even prouder to contribute to the vital, life-changing work happening every day at the Payson Center. The team was composed of 18 Rotarians, family, and friends of Rotary. Many Rotarians also helped organize the race and event, including team co-captain Laurel Trahan, as well Christine Laroque.

One of the best fundraiser events was the fundraising meal at a local Concord restaurant. Not only was it a successful fundraiser, but Rotarians came together for lunch and dinner! Overall, participating in the Rock 'N Race not only supports the community, but it builds community for the Concord Rotarians.

Rotary's Penny Sale Returns to Ludlow with Big Turnout

The 67 th annual Penny Sale, sponsored by the Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC), returned to Ludlow in full force on April 26.

Thanks to the donation of gifts from over 100 area businesses and individuals, the Penny Sale was able to give away over \$20,000 in merchandise and cash, plus



award cash to some lucky people during the raffle ticket drawings at the conclusion of the event. The items donated included ski passes, cash, restaurant gift cards, wheelbarrows, televisions, bicycles, adorable stuffed animals, plants, tools, maple syrup, gas cards, and many other surprising gifts.

According to Penny Sale co-chairperson, Kim Lampert, "the crowd in attendance was wonderful and large, many old-timers returning and many new faces welcomed.

Winners in the raffle ticket drawing included: Sherry Davidson: \$50; Al Frye Sr: \$100 + \$25 for being in the building; Daniel Ladd: \$150; Cindy Fluette: \$250 + \$25 for being in the building; and Kristen Riveiro: \$500



Kim expressed her thanks to the students at area schools who delivered prizes to winners during the three rounds and sorted tickets prior to the event. They represented Ludlow, Cavendish, and Mount Holly Elementary schools as well as Green Mountain and Springfield High Schools. She also thanked all the businesses that denoted gifts for the Penny Sale. In particular, she thanked Cota & Cota, Benson's Chevrolet, and Ludlow Electric for their behind the scenes efforts.

As a result of the Penny Sale, the LRC will be able to offer \$12,000 in scholarships to area graduating seniors to further their educational programs. The Penny Sale has been the primary source of funding for this scholarship program. Over \$250,000 has been awarded by the LRC in scholarships to area students since the program started.

Jim Rumrill, co-chairperson of the Penny Sale, indicated that he was "extremely pleased by the community's response to the penny sale". He added a reminder that the Penny Sale would be returning next year on the last Saturday in April.

Miss New Hampshire Speaks to Capital City Sunrise Rotary Club

Emily Spencer, Miss New Hampshire 2024, is greeted by Nancy Watson, Assistant Secretary of the Capital City Sunrise Rotary with a list of children's books, one of her choosing to be donated, in her name, to the Children's room in the Concord NH Public Library. Emily addressed the "Sunrise " Club on the morning of 4/24/25, her last public event before she passes her crown to Miss NH 2025. Emily spoke of her life changing experiences representing New Hampshire and her heartfelt and steadfast advocacy for those individuals whose abilities pose a challenge accessing the rights, privileges and advantages the majority of our citizens traditionally enjoy. Emily is the founder of "Miss Inspiration", a



non-profit program designed to raise scholarship funds for young women with disabilities through an adaptive pageant. She has been a true and genuine champion for young women by fostering confidence and a sense of empowerment in one's ability to effect a positive impact through one's actions.



A Successful Capital City Sunrise Rotary Club Fundraiser

May, 8th, 2025...7:30 amKen Fuller, Merrimack Valley School District Principal(foreground); Mike Manning, Capital City Sunrise Rotary Club Treasurer; and Megan Plaza, Miss Teen New Hampshire; as they watch Max, a Merrimack Valley High School student drawing a winning Raffle Ticket from the hundreds purchased for a chance to win a \$400 Gift card at the Serendipity Day Spa in Pembroke, New Hampshire.

Three subsequent names were drawn for 2nd, 3rd and 4th place awards each of \$100 Market Basket Gift Cards. Net proceeds of

over \$1,500 from the Raffle, an ongoing fund-raising event, will be directed back into our local communities to support community projects and charitable organizations.

A grateful thank you to "Serendipity Day Spa", Voted the Best Day Spa in the Capital Region " ... and to " Market Basket " (Demoulas) with their bedrock legacy of "loyalty, discipline, respect, honesty and fairness " ... and a growing , faithful, and appreciative customer base.

Springfield Rotary Conducts Another Successful Diaper Drive

The Springfield Rotary Club hosted a successful diaper drive in April to benefit the Springfield Area Parent Child Center Diaper Bank. Thanks to the response by the community, 1833 diapers and 1220 wipes were collected, as well as \$1157 in monetary donations.

The club was appreciative of the collection site locations: Springfield: Community Bank, M&T Bank, Springfield Town Library, VTel. Chester: Chester Hardware, M&T Bank. Ascutney: Thrive Thrift Shop & Community Resource Center.

For more information about the Diaper Bank, visit <u>https://sapcc-vt.org/services/diaper-bank/</u> 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 <u>https://springfieldvtrotary.org/</u>.

Photo (l-r) Kayla Bapp, Coordinator of the Springfield Area Parent Child Center Diaper Bank and Springfield Rotary Club Immediate Past President Emma McGuirk.







Rotary of White River Junction Hosted "Social Evening"

The Rotary Club of White River Junction gathered on April 16 at the RiverRoost Brewery on South Main Street in White River Junction. President Amanda Rogers organized a 'Social Evening' and extended invitations to the Rotary Clubs of Windsor and Woodstock. Over 30 Rotarians and guests enjoyed a fun evening of conversation, food (catered by Big Fatty's Barbeque) and beverages. White River Rotarians hope to make this a regular monthly event.

International

International Coffee with JB - An Informal Zoom Get Together

The next International Coffee With JB will be held at 8:30AM on June 6th 2025. You can join by using the link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/78773960966?pwd=QkFlTTZkdDJyRzJIa3phTmhzam1kQT09

Youth Exchange - Informational Zoom Call - May 27, 2025

You are cordially invited to attend an informational Zoom meeting regarding the Youth Exchange Program

Tuesday, May 27, 2025 at 6pm

Watch your inboxes for the invitation.



This is your chance to see if this program will open your hearts and change your lives as much as it has all of ours. Just look at all those faces.

We are always looking for more people to join in on this tremendously rewarding experience. Together we make the world a better place. This program is the flagship in accomplishing this. Join us!

Yours In Youth Exchange Service ~ changing all of our lives for the better, Jim, PDG David & DGE Donna



Fundraisers

14th Annual Bow Rotary Car Show - May 17, 2025





Greater Keene Rotaract Hosting a Karaoke Night - May 21, 2025



Newport Rotary Penny Sale - May 31, 2025



Penny Sale

May 31 Doors open at 6PM, prize rounds begin at 7PM

Newport Community Center 15 Meadow Road Newport

Come and see our new community center and help fund our scholarships and other service projects.

150+ prizes plus refreshments Business donations, baked goods, gift cards, hand-crafted items, gift baskets

For information: Charen Urban, President (603) 995-1248



Brattleboro Rotary Club's 50th Annual Charity Golf Tournament -June 5, 2025



Merrimack Rotary Electronics Recycling Fundraiser - June 7, 2025

MERRIMACK, NH - The Merrimack Rotary Club will host an Electronics Recycling Fundraiser on Saturday, June 7, 2025 (always first Saturday in June) from 8am - 12pm at the Merrimack Town Hall (6 Baboosic Lake Road, Merrimack) for the 5th year in a row. The proceeds support rewarding scholarships and impactful community projects in town and beyond.

Recycling as easy as 1, 2, 3!
(1) Drive up.
(2) Pay the recycling fee assessed by the Club volunteers as per posted fee schedule.
(3) Drop off. No need to get out of the car – we unload!



Merrimack Rotary Sat., June 7, 2025 8am-12pm

Merrimack Town Hall Parking Lot

For info on items accepted and fees: www.merrimackrotary.com Drive by - Drop off (we unload your car)



ANYTHING ELECTRONIC! ~ Unused business or household electronics ~ Working or Non-Working ~ Items or Parts

Your privacy is protected! All items containing data are being kept secured until destroyed. Guaranteed: A 95% recycling rate. Components disassembled and RECYCLED and, most importantly, not ending up in landfills.

Fee Schedule as follows (unchanged since 2021):

- Telephones, Circuit Boards, Cables, Hard-Drives (if pre-removed from computers), Handheld Video Games, Small speakers, Calculators, Answering Machines, Keyboards, Mice, etc. -- \$5
- Radios, Stereos, CD/DVD/Blue Ray, Modems, Cameras, Electronic Typewriters, Cell Phones, Tablets, or iPads -- \$10
- Computers, Laptops, Projectors, Fax machines, Copiers, Printers, Servers, Vacuums, Game Consoles, VCRs -- \$20
- Televisions under 27", Monitors, Flat Screens under 27", Dehumidifiers, Microwaves, Large Speakers -- \$25
- Tube TVs, TVs 27" and over, Air Conditioners -- \$35
- TV or Stereo Wood Consoles & Projection TVs, Very Large Speakers, Very Heavy Items --\$50

DO NOT bring for disposal: smoke detectors, oils, paints, thinners, batteries, tires, items containing mercury-such as fluorescent, CFL light bulbs and other types of light bulbs, thermometers, capacitors, ballasts, or any other hazardous waste, toxic waste or unlisted items. Cash, credit cards, or checks payable to: "Merrimack Rotary Club."

Please note: The Rotary Club of Merrimack reserves the right to refuse to accept at their sole discretion any item which may be presented for disposal during the Club's fundraising event. It is also the sole responsibility and financial liability of any such presenting party to completely remove any such unaccepted object(s) from the event's site immediately upon refusal of acceptance by the Club. For more information, contact: Wolf von Schoen 603.943.1614 & Chris Christensen 603.424.2542 ~ merrimackrotary@gmail.com ~ www.merrimackrotary.org.



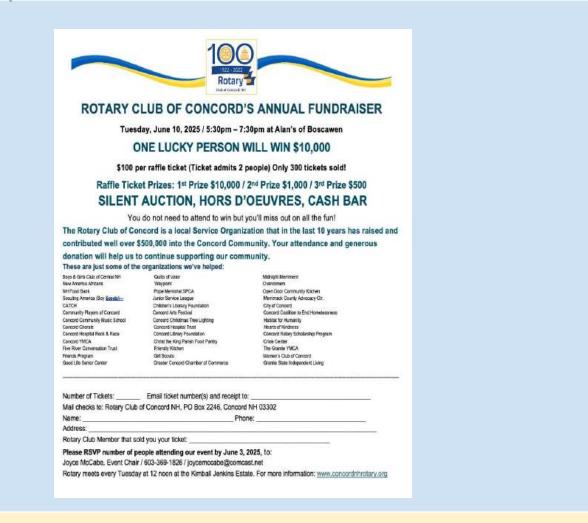
Shred-A-Thon Event in Claremont - June 7, 2025

Need to get rid of sensitive documents without shredding a few pages at a time? The Claremont-Sugar River Rotary Club will be hosting its annual Shred-A-Thon event on June 7 in Claremont, NH, from 9am – 12pm at the Claremont Savings Bank on 145 Broad Street. This is a donation-based fundraiser that gives people a secure and easy way to destroy documents no longer needed.

Simply bring unwanted documents to the event, and Club members will assist in getting the documents to the truck which will shred them onsite. Donations will be used to help fund club sponsored events. Your participation not only supports the local Club, but also Rotary's efforts to protect the environment through sound recycling practices.

For additional information, please contact Charlene Lovett at <u>charlenelovett2022@gmail.com</u>.

Rotary Club of Concord - Annual Fundraiser June 10, 2025





Milford Rotary's 100 Holes of Golf Offers 50/50 Split with Other Clubs - June 20, 2025

The Milford Rotary Club will hold its 31st Annual 100 Holes of Golf in One Day fundraiser on Friday, June 20 at Amherst Country Club. This event has become one of the District's largest and best-known fundraisers, attracting golfers from throughout the region to play 100 holes on a dedicated course—a golfer's dream.

A significant amount of the money raised comes through the sale of raffle tickets, which provide cash prizes totaling \$12,500 including a \$5,000 top prize. In



addition, each raffle ticket offers six discount coupons worth more than the \$20 ticket price. It is an easy sale! The Milford Rotary Club makes ticket sales available to other Rotary Clubs in the District through our 50/50 program. Each participating club receives half of all the income from the raffle tickets they sell, and an online sales option is available through our event website! For more information, contact Jay Dinkel at Jay.dinkel@comcast.net or 603-801-1601. Visit our event website at <u>Golf100Holes.com</u>

Run for Rotary Fun Run 5K - June 29, 2025





District Calendar

So much going on within the clubs in the district! Be sure to regularly check this District Calendar of Events: <u>http://rotary7870.org/events/calendar</u>. Do you have an entry for the District online calendar? Please email your entry to: <u>prrotary7870@gmail.com</u>.

Months of the Rotary Year

Many months of the year are designated by Rotary International for special significance. 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. Please limit your photos to one per article. 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: June 14th, 2025 at 6 PM.

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:

