







Amy Kapostasy District Governor

ROTARY DISTRICT 6630 NEWS

Mike Johns, Jr Editor

February 2018

Inside this issue:

TRC Stow Munroe Falls News	2
Swim-a-Thon	2
Become a Friend of the Speech Contest	2
RI President's Rep Writes	3
N Ridgeville Hosts Spring Fling	3
West Shore Summer Fest	3
Aurora Interact Making a Difference	4
Nordonia Hills Human Trafficking Summit	4
Mentor Rotary Derby Day	4
8th Annual Fairlawn Speakeasy	5
TRF Direct	5
ClubRunner Updates	5
Rotary Night with the Cavs	6
Rotary Enlightened	6
Rotarian Publishes First Book	6
Medina Rotarians Undertake Grand Plan	7
Grand Plan cont'd	8
News From TRC Berea	9

Governor's Letter

Dear Members and Friends of Rotary District 6630:

District Governor's Letter to follow under separate cover



TRC of Stow-Munroe Falls Present Comfort and Security Bags to the Children of Summit County

By: Christina M. Gary

At their morning meeting on January 17, 2018, The



Andrea Denton Sandy Deluca Christina Gary & Dan Mazzola

Rotary Club of Stow-Munroe Falls assembled, packed, and presented 400 comfort and security bags to Summit County Children



Assembly Line

Services to be given to the children of Summit County when agency intervention is necessary. These bags will be used by the children to transport their belongings during the transition.

SPECIAL SPACES

Items provided inside the bag will offer the children comfort and security during times of crisis. Packed inside each duffle bag were a blanket, a toothbrush,



Bags Packed

toothpaste, and an ageappropriate comfort item, such as a stuffed animal, crayons, coloring book, journal, or Rubik's Cube. The bags, blankets, and



Jim Laber and Mike Dunton

comfort items were obtained through a matching grant through Rotary District 6630. Toothbrushes and toothpaste were included thanks to a generous donation from the office of Dr. Amanda Donnelly, D.M.D. and her staff at Donnelly Family Dentistry in Cuyahoga Falls.

In 2016, the number of children in agency custody



Christina Gary with Dr. Amanda Donnelly and Staff

with SCCS was 685, which was an increase from 2015. Sandy DeLuca, Community Relations Su-



Leslee Salhany

pervisor for SCCS, stated that unfortunately, this

number increased again in 2017.

Grant chairperson, Christina Gary, explained to her club that the 400 bags as-



Mounds of Bags

sembled and presented will only touch the lives of a fraction of the children that will be in agency custody "But it is our this year. hope that the bag will replace the trash bag typically used to pack the children's belongings. the blanket will provide them security during this time of uncertainty, and the comfort items will ease their fears even if for just one moment. We want to give our children here in Summit County something to call their own during this time."

The Stow-Munroe Falls Rotary Club meets on Wednesday mornings at 7:30 a.m. at Silver Lake





RI President's Rep Writes

Greetings 6630, I know this finds DG Amy and all my friends in Ohio actively "Making a Difference" in this second half of the Rotary year.

Minnesota is "weathering" our frozen tundra, drowning our Viking sorrows and busy rolling out the red carpet for Sunday's big Super Bowl game (the Twin Cities should be back to normal & calm again by the time you are reading this). Even though we are currently the "Ice Box" of the country it is not deterring the Eagles & Patriot fans from visiting Minnesota!

How can it be almost a year since my visit? Thanks to Editor Mike I have had the pleasure of keeping up on the great work you are doing in 6630. It's obvious by all the events your clubs are engaged in you are keeping Rotary & your district vibrant and having fun while doing it. PDG Jim & I are Facebook friends...even though he's been 'put-out-to-pasture' he & Linda have not slowed and continue to keep their Rotary involvement in the forefront! Cindy & I had the joy of spending time with DGE Bev & DGN John in Itasca Illinois last fall at Zone Institute & DG Training. There is no doubt the future of 6630 is in great hands! (My condolences go to DGN John for getting stuck with me as his Training Facilitator J) Cindy & my prayers & thoughts have been with our gracious 2017 Conference superhosts Marsha & Jack. Hopes are they are back in the full swing of life & Rotary. Cindy & I continue to plan some



type of Rotary project travel venture with our DG Classmate's Cheryl & Steve without success to date. We vow to make that happen someday soon.

Life & Rotary continue to be good to Cindy & I. RI President Ian has blessed the two of us again this year to represent Juliet & He in Hot Springs Virginia at the 7570 conference next month. Like 6630, there is nothing more inspirational than partaking in the celebration of Rotary's accomplishments.

My personal congratulations and heartfelt thanks come your way for the huge Rotary accomplishments DG Amy & your clubs are making this year. There is no doubt that the 6630 clubs under the leadership of Governor Bev will "Be the Inspiration" necessary to continue to make your communities and the world a better place!

Tim & Cindy

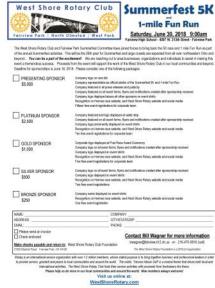
2017 Rotary International Presidents Representatives for John Germ. Tim Murphy

District 5950 Foundation Programs & International Chair.

Rotary Club of Edina President 2006-2007

District 5950 Governor 2015-2016 612-719-9745

tim.murphy@murphyauto.net



North Ridgeville Hosts Spring Fling

Fellow Rotarians Invited To Spring Fling

The Rotary Club of North Ridgeville invites all fellow Rotarians to join them at the club's annual Spring Fling Reverse Raffle on March 10, 2018, at Tom's Country Place located at 3442 Stoney Ridge Road, Avon, Ohio 44011. Festivities begin at 6 p.m.

For more than 20 years our Spring Fling event has combined fellowship and fun with raising funds for myriad service projects. For \$120 per couple you receive two dinners, an open bar and one chance at the grand prize of \$3,500. Flying solo? Single tickets are \$80 (one dinner, open bar and one chance at the grand prize). Not a gambler? You can still join us for food, drinks and fun for \$40. Extra chances at the big money can be purchased for \$40.

The fundraiser also features many sideboards, games of chance and a Chinese auction.

To purchase tickets, please contact Club President Doug Charboneau at 440-281-5925.

Are you interested in donating items to be included in the Chinese auction? Call Kimberly Cromwell, auction chair, at 440-327-1949. All gift basket donations will be acknowledged in the event program.

Hope to see you there!

The Aurora Interact Club is "Making a Difference!"

By: Melissa Foster Rotary Club of Aurora

This is the first year for the newly created Aurora High School Interact Club. The club boasts over 150 members and is the largest club at Aurora High School in Aurora, Ohio.

Since August of 2017, the Interact students have participated in an array of activities such as: The Aurora Fall Festival, The Aurora Inn Zombie Fest, The Turkey Trot at Sunny Lake, Middle School tutoring, Rake N Run for the elderly, collecting canned goods during trick or treat time, high school court yard gardening, the elementary school mother/son dance, Salvation Army Red Kettle bell ringing and sharing the story of Rachel's Challenge and the Sandy Hook Promise.



Our current collaboration with our local Rotary Club of Aurora is a community tree museum project. Interact students are working with Rotarian Ben Askren, who is also an employee of our Parks and Recreation Department. Together they are researching over 400 types of trees and creating templates for signs to be made. In the spring the students will also assist with mulching and planting. This tree museum will be open to the public in the spring on Town Line Road.

The word is out that our young people are ready and willing to serve others in their community!

Nordonia Hills Hosts Human Trafficking Forum

The Nordonia Hills Rotary hosted a Community Forum on Human Trafficking at their High School on February 15. Survivor and activist Theresa Flores was the keynote speaker,

along with Juvenile Court Magistrates Rob McCarty and Jamie Blair. and Summit County Victims Assistance Outreach Coordinator Jan Apisa. Flores Ms. recounted her very moving and tragic personal story of having been sold into human trafficking at the age of 15 by a boy she knew from school. After the presentation, a person who had been trafficked and who

was in the audience introduced their self to Ms. Flores who was able to provide guidance. She said, "That's always the best part of speaking to groups - meeting people who I can help". Juvenile Court Magistrates



McCarty and Blair explained their program called Restore Court and how they are resolving trafficking issues under the new Safe Harbor Law. Jan Apisa talked about Backpage, a web-

site used to recruit and then sell juveniles, and provided statistics in Summit Rotarv County. plans to continue its mission of creating awareness by assisting with the SOAP project started by Ms. Flores and work with area local hotels. Soap is wrapped with paper containing the Human Trafficking Hotline and placed in hotel bathrooms. Approximately

\$92.00 in cash donations were collect-

ed and given to Victims Assistance of Summit County.

"ANNUAL DERBY DAY" Date: Saturday, May 5, 2018 Doors open 4:30 p.m. Time: Race time 6:34 p.m. Mentor Harbor Yachting Club Place: 5330 Coronada Drive Mentor, OH 44060 (440) 941-3150 Tickets: \$45 per person **Optional Derby Squares: \$25 each** Win, Place, Show, and more · Bourbon tasting · Games of chance Hat contest Food stations · Cash bar

Mentor Rotary Foundation

Get your tickets today! Contact: derby5050squares@gmail.com

The 8th Annual Speakeasy Charity Casino

The Rotary Club of Fairlawn Fundraiser April 14, 2018:

Fairlawn, Ohio: The Rotary Club of Fairlawn will host its 8th annual Speakeasy Charity Casino Fundraiser on April 14, 2018, from 6:00 -11:00 p.m., at the Hilton Akron/Fairlawn. The Rotary Club of Fairlawn will join forces with Stewart's Caring Place, Akron Children's Hospital and Crown Point Ecology Center to make this a very special event in our community.

The Rotary Club of Fairlawn has raised over \$1 million for children in this community and around the world since 1964. Through the Fairlawn Rotary Foundation, this year's proceeds will help local organizations that support children's education, health and welfare. Stewart's Caring Place, Akron Children's Hospital and Crown Point Ecology Center will also be receiving proceeds from this event.

The Speakeasy Charity Casino will be a fun-filled evening of dancing to a live band and games where everyone's a winner. Guests at the Hilton Akron/Fairlawn will enjoy a nostalgic 1930s speakeasy atmosphere with professionally run simulated poker, blackjack, craps and roulette (all proceeds from the evening go to charity). A sit-down dinner will be provided along with oral and silent auctions, raffle entries for fabulous prizes, a cash bar, a "best-dressed" costume contest and fun at the gaming tables. The ticket price is \$125 per person. Of course, the real winners will be the charities and children of our community.

The spring fundraiser is one of the ways Fairlawn Rotary Foundation raises money for local organizations and schools. The club's efforts to support local charities and build goodwill throughout the community stem from Rotary's motto, "Service Above Self." Rotary's compassion stretches well beyond the Akron community as it works to combat polio, poverty and illiteracy on national and international levels. Rotary focuses its time and efforts on service projects encompassing peace and conflict prevention and resolution. disease prevention and treatment, maternal and child health, and economic and community development.

To order tickets to the Speakeasy Charity Casino, please contact Darethann Krill at 440-813-6230 or at darethannk@gmail.com. More information is available on the Rotary Club of Fairlawn Ohio Facebook page. Corporate sponsorships are also available starting at \$395. If you are unable to attend the event, but would like to help, please send checks to the Fairlawn Rotary Foundation, Inc., at P.O. Box 13063, Fairlawn, Ohio 44334. The Fairlawn Rotary Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3).



Hello Website Administrators,

This is to let you know that your ClubRunner website has been upgraded to the Impression Next-Generation theme. We upgraded your club to this new theme as the theme you were using was no longer supported. We notified your Club website administrators about this next-gen upgrade several months ago.

Now that your Club is on a new theme, you may wish to take advantage of new and updated functionality in ClubRunner.

Add a Carousel to your website: This guide shows you how the Carousel Widget works: https:// www.clubrunnersupport.com/ article/1308-widgets-carousel

This guide covers best practices for the carousel photos and has stock images: https:// www.clubrunnersupport.com/ article/1398-2017-carousel-bestpractices-images

This guide covers creating a photo album: https:// www.clubrunnersupport.com/ article/729-photo-albums

Adding a (new) Banner to a Next Gen theme: https:// www.clubrunnersupport.com/ article/1429-how-do-i-add-a-banneron-a-new-next-gen-theme

Changing the Menu logo - This guide covers how to change and work with the menu logo: https:// www.clubrunnersupport.com/ article/1319-how-do-i-upload-themenu-home-icon

Should you have any further questions or concerns, please let us know!

Sincerely, Shawn P. ClubRunner Toll Free: 1-877-469-2582 International: +1-905-829-5299 Stay up to date with ClubRunner -Like us on Facebook! Follow us on Twitter Access training, videos and help guides



Rotary Night with the Cavs

Do not miss it! The CAVS are coming back!! The Rotary and Rotary

Youth Exchange might see the CAVS clinch the division title. The new

CAVS are exciting, especially with Larry Nance, Jr. Be sure and

sign up now for a great evening with the Exchange Students at the

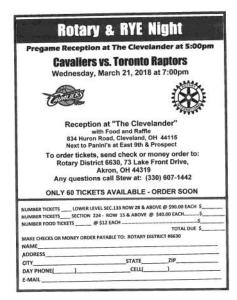
5:00pm-6:45pm pre-game reception at the Clevelander Bar and Grill.

The Clevelander is located at 834 Huron Road, about 1 ½ blocks from

the "Q".

We will also have a pre-game free raffle for everyone with some nice

CAVS items. Be sure and sign up soon!!





PAINESVILLE ROTARY'S ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

A Murder Mystery Dinner

April 7, 2018 @ 6:00 PM Dinner served @ 7:00 PM \$60 per person-Open Bar

Chinese & Silent Auctions

St. Noel's Party Center 35200 Chardon Road Willoughby Hills, Ohio

All proceeds benefit Lake Health/University Hospital Seidman Cancer Center and other Painesville Rotary Local Charities. Thank you for your

For Tickets Contact: The Painesville Rotary

Rotary Enlightened about the Future of Publishing

The Rotary Club of Hudson got a glimpse of future print and digital publishing from Michael Shearer, General Manager and Editor of Gatehouse Media's Kent area markets, including the Hudson Hub-Times. He addressed how the digital revolution is encouraging publishers to embrace technological change in the ways they deliver information to the public.

This includes the extensive use of social media.

Mr. Shearer advised that reader traffic on mobile devices has grown to 50 percent of all news consumption by the public. In addition, Facebook

has become the number one driver of readers to stories and current information. This includes features about business, education sports and community life. Opportunities for publishing company growth are now concentrated on the digital side.

Mr Shearer explained that 'content is king" and digital publishing allows the publisher to know what articles are being read which, in turn, determines the direction of future copy. The performance of digital advertising can also be tracked. Electronic feedback helps in serving readers of all ages and interests.

In light of rapidly changing media preferences, The Hudson Hub-Times has launched new digital services for its customers. My Town NEO.com, its all-



completely new. redesigned website, covers news across seven communities and provides simnavigation. pler ThriveHive, its #1 digital agency, helps customers market their businesses online, including assistance

with websites building.

Mr Shearer emphasized that his guiding principles are to entertain, inform and make life easier for readers. And, Gatehouse's business role is to provide what is best for the communities they serve.

Rotary appreciates Michael Shearer's candid appraisal of the publishing business and enjoys its continuing relationship with the staff of the Hub-Times.

Rotarian Publishes 1st Book

I am past president of the Westlake/ Bay Rotary Club, and my first novel was released earlier this month by the Greenleaf Book Group. The Company of Demons, a thriller set in Cleveland, is available at Barnes & Noble, many independent bookstores, and Amazon. I thought that you might be interested in mentioning the book in a District newslet-

ter.

My website is

http://www.michaeljordanbooks.com. I have a long history with Rotary, including serving as president of the Saginaw, Michigan Rotary Club, current membership in the Longboat Key, Florida, Rotary Club, multiple Paul Harris recognitions, and participation on a Group Study Exchange team to Argentina in 1982.

District 6630 Newsletter Policy Submit story suggestions to Mike Johns, Jr. at stonecut@sbcglobal.net. We accept article ideas about club and district successes, including fundraisers, publicity efforts, service projects, and membership drives. Please include descriptions, high-resolution photos, and contact information in your email. Due to the high volume of submissions, we cannot promise to feature your story. PLEASE USE "ARTICLE FOR DISTRICT NEWSLETTER" IN THE SUBJECT LINE

Medina Rotarians Undertake Grand Plan

My name is Kelly Low. Back in 2009-2010, I was President of the Medina Rotary Club. There are two Rotary Clubs in Medina, Ohio – Thursday Evening (Medina) and Tuesday morning (Medina Sunrise).

Another member of our club at that time was Bill Cohen - we actually joined the Medina Rotary Club around the same time in mid-2006. Bill was heavily involved in the Medina Chamber of Commerce and was known as "Banner Bill" for his banner business. For years in front of the hospital, most event banners used were done by Bill. Through the chamber and city council involvement, he became a good friend of former Mayor Jane Leaver. In the end of 2009, at the end of her tenure as Mayor, Mayor Jane asked Bill if the Medina Rotary Club could put together an "entrance to the city" welcome sign with placards of community service groups and listings of churches. Bill said he would make it happen. Mayor Dennis Hanwell was elected Mayor and began service in 2010. Theoretically Mayor Hanwell has been working with me on this project since his first day in office.



Bill brought the idea to me and we started brainstorming. Route 18 is our major entrance route so we drove up and down the street many times looking for locations suitable for a large sign. There are not many!

About a month later, he saw a small advertisement in the Wall Street Journal. Nonprofits or government entities could apply to the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to get a piece of the remnants of the Twin Towers. Bill asked me if I wanted to try, and my immediate response was Yes! I filled out a threepage application and created a cover letter request on Medina Rotary Club letterhead. Mayor Jane and I signed it, and we sent it off. We had no idea what size of remnant we would be awarded – if any. The application was no guarantee.

In the spring of 2011, I took a phone call saying we had been awarded a piece of steel. I responded asking if the lady could FedEx it to us at my home address. She laughed and said "No, I don't think it can be Fed-Ex'ed!". I thought, well, my dad has a pick-up truck- I wonder if that would work. I was thinking that I could drive out to New York and pick it up. Again, she said no, I think you're going to need a flatbed.



We had no idea of the size of the steel we had been granted. We didn't know if it would be the size of an iPad or bigger. In the end, we were awarded a piece of steel 9'3" long, 31 inches tall and 2 feet wide. The bolts have 2-inch-wide heads. It is an I-beam from the North Tower, weighing approximately 1 1/2 tons. World Truck of Medina donated a truck and driver to go to JFK Airport in New York City to pick up the beam. It has been housed at Standard Welding in

Medina. No better place to store the steel than at a steel fabrication company. The beam arrived in Medina in late summer, 2011.

Another friend of Bill's was a local architect. Bill said to him: we can't just stick the steel on the ground, we have to do something amazing with it! There were now two questions. First, what direct links does Medina County have with 9/11? Answer: Flight 93 flew over our heads (southern part of the County) shortly before crashing in Shanksville, Pennsylvania. Just to think that we were safe on the ground in our homes, businesses and schools while there was a fight for life literally going on above our heads should give us pause to think and reflect.

Secondly, where can Route 18 fit something bigger than just an entrance sign? The first desirable location was on the hillside just west of Yours Truly restaurant. The land was privately owned and adjacent to the county park entrance. We worked steadily with the Medina County Parks (Tom James) and Medina Township Trustees to see if it would be viable. At the time, ODOT was about to implement plans to widen Rt. 18, which would impact the project. We spent about two years trying to work it out only to have the deal eventually fall through due to the high cost of the land. Next, we went to Spring Grove Cemetery Friends of the Cemetery. They were not interested.

Bill and Jane both were struck with cancer -Bill, of the liver, and Jane, of the lungs. Both succumbed in 2014 about a month apart. It is true that on his deathbed at Hospice of Medina County, I promised him I would see this built.



Eventually we started talking to the Cleveland Clinic / Medina Hospital. The 9/11 Memorial and entrance sign to the city would've been situated next to the small War Bond building. During a year and a half period, it became difficult to get architectural plans submitted and then approved by the Clinic. Uncertainty led us to try to find a more permanent location.

Moving off of Route 18 impacted the project by reducing Cont'd on pg. 8 ^{Cont}

Grand Plan cont'd

it from both an entrance to the city and the memorial to being solely a 9/11 Memorial. In March 2017 someone suggested that we look at the property next to Fire Station # 1 on Huntington Street. It is city property and is not suitable for building. It is surrounded on two sides by residential areas, Huntington Street and the fire station. The firefighters care for the land and mow the grass. After walking the property, it was agreed that it would be a wonderful spot, especially considering the first responders who were involved in 9/11 and one block away are the offices of Medina County Veterans Services.



Again, at that point it would not be an entrance to the city, just the 9/11 Memorial but at that point I didn't care-- I just wanted to get it built and have a wonderful memorial encompassing all of the original goals that Bill and I had, including:

--getting everyone in the county involved--it's not just Medina City but it is a countywide memorial

--getting children involved and educating them about our reality, our stories--what we felt to know that our country was attacked that day and how it has changed the American way of life

--showcasing a true remnant of a 1,368 foot tall building to provide a

dose of the reality of the destruction that day

--providing information for future generations

-- a park where, with a pavilion and walking paths and benches, school children and others could go and just sit to contemplate what happened that day

People who had been first responders or in the military got called into action that day-and some gave their lives for it. Many people joined first responder organizations and the military because of what happened that day.

Regarding the final selected location at Fire Station #1, from what I understand it is the main training center for first responders for Medina County. There is a small community room, restrooms and someone is there all the time. There is electricity to run a line for a floodlight up to the memorial. There is plenty of overflow parking at Regal Cinemas across the street.

At that point we were waiting for the final design from the architect. He had to resign from the project so at this point we were back to square one on the design front. We went to several local landscape design companies who are familiar with working with the city. We received two designs and budgets. Medina Rotary Club members chose the winning design. Mayor Hanwell and the Parks Director agreed with the design. To be efficient and simplify things, we wanted one company to do it all The cost to build the Medina County 9/11 Memorial Park will be \$80,000. Our fundraising goal is \$100,000 so there is a small nest egg for future maintenance needs. We will give that extra money to the city, and it will be dedicated to the memorial. Once it is built, Medina City will own it and take care of it. # 1 Landscaping of Medina won the contract.

Great Lakes Construction has donated a piece of granite 9' x 3 1/2' x 2' which will be used in the Memorial to provide information about the events of September 11, 2001. There will also be a walking path, pavilion, park benches and picnic tables. Several aspects of the design reflect the tie to flight 93. Midwest Engraving will run the paver program. We are trying to use all county-wide resources.

A group of 15 community members met this past week to discuss marketing and fundraising ideas. After February 13th, there will be a Go Fund Me page for donations, a paver program and sponsorships will be offered, a story program for anyone to share their experiences from 9/11 (will be made into a book and provided each year to every 5th grader in Medina County eventually), pancake breakfasts, and more. We will also offer to every school building in Medina County the opportunity to have a first responder or Veteran in uniform attend the school with the actual beam and provide a talk about the events of 9/11. Age-appropriate educational materials are being developed for this aspect of the project.

We do not want the events of 9/11 to be reduced to a paragraph in a history book. Hopefully the Medina County 9/11 Memorial Park will provide some hands-on education for future generations.

All questions and comments or suggestions should be directed to:

Dr. Kelly Low The Medina Rotary Club 330.607.8670 medinarotary@gmail.com

News From TRC Berea

Linda G. Kramer Public Image Chair Rotary Club of Berea Scholarship program enters its 50th year

College Now Greater Cleveland is a scholarship program unique to this area. It provides college funds and mentors for students who might not otherwise have a chance to attend college, said Madeline Rife, who is the mentoring program manager for College Now. She spoke to Berea Rotary in January.

College Now was founded 50 years ago as the Greater Cleveland Scholarship Program. Over the years, it found that students needed more than just funds to have successful college careers. The program added mentoring with local professionals to help guide students through their four years of college. The name change followed.

Rife said there are around 1,100 local students in the program and they are partnered with 1,100 mentors, who undergo background checks and an orientation before they are paired with a student.

Around 60 BW students are part of College Now and there is a College Now representative at Berea-Midpark High School.

Rife said mentors are asked to meet their students at an annual get-together and then interact with them three times a month online. The mentors' goal is to encourage and motivate the students and in the end "to let them see that Cleveland is a good place to live and work," Rife said.

It's important for the students "to have someone to support them," she said. "Many times, families can be supportive but they don't understand the college experience."

The students are required to seek funding sources elsewhere. "College Now fills in the gap after other resources," she said. The program is supported by corporate donations. It receives no government funds.

For more information, visit www.collegenowgc.org.

New Outreach Office serves Berea veterans

Chaplain Willie Springer is the coordinator of the new Veterans Outreach office. A Vietnam vet, Springer is a pastor and a certified counselor whose job it is to connect with local vets and connect



Willie Springer meets with Rotary military veterans Linda Kramer, Air Force; Bob Huge, Army; and Gino Tosi, Navy

them with needed services.

Springer told Berea Rotarians that 15 per cent of Berea's 18,000 residents are vets and their families. Many veterans have to deal with PTSD, health issues, psychological issues, unemployment, underemployment, anger management and in some cases the criminal justice system.

"Often veterans won't seek help," Springer said. "They're too proud. They feel pain but you'd never know it."

An Army combat veteran himself, Springer says working with veterans "is a healing mechanism for me."

Springer has begun several projects including a Veterans Support Group and Round Table that meets every other Saturday 10 a.m. to noon at the Berea Recreation Center, 451 Front St. Any vet and/or their families are invited to discuss issues and ask questions. There also will guest speakers on a variety of topics. He also hosted an open house on Feb. 15 where residents could check out his office in the Huntington Bank Building, 31 E. Bridge St., Suite 300.

The Veterans Outreach Office is part of the We Honor Veterans national program and its Hospice-Veterans Partnership. The outreach office will partner with community organizations to reach out to vets in a variety of ways. On Feb. 14, H-V P partners and volunteers visited the Northwestern Healthcare facility.

You can reach Chaplain Willie at (440) 973-4567 or wspringer@cityofberea.org.

Spring training & Tribe ready to go

Spring training is under way and the home opener is April 6. The Cleveland

Indians are set to make another run for the World Series, John Bowers told Berea Rotarians. Despite losing several players to free-agency, including Carlos Santana, the Tribe will build on that incredible 22-game winning streak of last season.

"We are in good shape to contend for the World Series this year," said Bowers, who is manager of ticket partnerships for the Indians. When Rotary District schedules our End Polio Now day at the stadium, Bowers is the guy we deal with.



John Bowers with the Cleveland Indians front office poses with President Bob Huge and Past President Judy Stull

Returning are Cory Kluber and the rest of the starting rotation plus a very strong bullpen, Francisco Lindor, Jose Ramirez, and a newcomer Yonder Alonzo at first base.

"We have one of the lowest ticket prices in baseball," Bowers said. "We try to keep it affordable." So far, the team has sold more than 13,000 season tickets– that tops last year's total.

Now about that Chief Wahoo decision. Bowers said the Dolan Family, owners of the team, moved to eliminate the Chief Wahoo image from the uniforms in 2019 but to retain Wahoo gear in the Team Shop. The decision was a long time in coming, he said, with the team phasing out the logo slowly over the past several years. MLB made it clear that Cleveland had to demote the Chief by the All-Star Game in 2019, when the Indians will host.

Bowers said the Indians received lots of emails and tweets about the decision and "a lot of people were upset." But, he added, of 100 calls on average only 18 negative comments were traceable as clients – that is, the people were in the Tribe's data system as ticket buyers. The dominant Cleveland Indians logo will be the stylized "C."