Connections Rotary District 7430 Newsletter





www.rotarydistrict7430.org June 2020, Vol. 1, Issue 12



Dear District 7430 Rotarians,

Our June video highlights all the efforts that our clubs and Rotarians have accomplished to "Grow Rotary" in the past year. A very special Thank You to Assistant Governor Amy Sheller and Jim Herman for producing these professional quality videos each month! Your efforts are greatly appreciated by myself and all Rotarians in our district.

Click Here to view our June video message

Enjoy and stay safe.

DG Herb

The following is a summary of our progress towards several of our District's goals after 11 months for 2019-20.

	<u>Goal</u>	Achieved as of 5/31
Membership Goals		
Net Increase in Membership	100	81
Number of New Clubs	3	4*
Rotary Foundation Service Goals		
Number of Clubs Participating in District Grants	35	37*
Rotary Foundation Giving Goals		
Net Increase in Rotary Direct Participants	100	60
Net Increase in Paul Harris Society Members	25	25*
Purple Pinkie Race to Zero Polio Plus Donations	\$42,000	\$60,000*
Annual Fund – Share Donations	\$230,000	\$187,200

^{* -} Goal has been achieved or exceeded!







Save the Date for Rotary International's Free Virtual Event -

"Now More than Ever, Rotary Connects the World: The 2020 Rotary Virtual Convention"

June 20-26, 2020

Saturday, June 20, 2020

General Session 1: Together, We Connect - 8 to 9:15 am (Chicago time)

Sunday, June 21, 2020

General Session 2: Together, We Learn - 8 to 9:15 am (Chicago time)

Monday- Friday, June 22-26 Featured Breakout Sessions Each day one breakout session will be offered from 8 to 9 am (Chicago time)

For more information visit the Rotary International Convention webpage https://www.riconvention.org/en





Rotary Foundation Disaster Response Grant D7430 is Approved for COVID-19 Projects

District 7430 has recently been approved for a \$25,000 Rotary Foundation Disaster Response Grant for COVID-19 related projects. The projects are to help in our local communities.

Disaster Response is a new category of grant available through the Rotary Foundation.

Nineteen Rotary clubs in our district sent in project proposals in early April and each was approved for a \$1000-\$1500 grant. These projects include:

- 1) Assistance with food purchases for local food pantries,
- 2) Providing Food Packs and Grocery Gift Cards to local food pantries and
- 3) Providing PPE for first responders and nursing homes.

Well done, D7430 Rotarians in Action



Blue Bell Rotary Club- Global Grant Project

50,000 Residents to benefit from water project in Butaleja, Uganda, Africa

PDG Ron Smith says "So proud of our club, district and the Rotary Foundation! Wow 50,000 will benefit between clean water, WASH training and reforestation."

See the article here: https://www.monitor.co.ug/News/National/50000-residents-water-Butaleja-Kyadogo-Nabiganda/688334-5558104-yyi0jrz/index.html





District #7430 CAREmongers Report

By Marlene Heller, Allentown West Rotary

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As we head into June, Rotarians continue to find ways to put Service Above Self, proving that no matter what the circumstance, we are People of Action. Here's what the District 7430 Rotarians have been posting on the

Facebook Rotary District 7430 "CAREmongers" page since last month. (Please continue to post your news on Facebook, and we will share it in this newsletter.)

Whitehall Area Rotary is continuing to support the Whitehall-Coplay Hunger Initiative's Community Outreach Program (COP) through food distributions at St John's Lutheran Church in Whitehall and Redeemed Christian Church of God in Coplay every other Thursday. On April 23rd, the club fed over 500 residents including 263 children and 56 seniors.

Whitehall Area Rotary donated \$500 to the Animal Food Bank. With the greatly increased requests for help to "fill the bowl," we can make sure that no pet goes hungry.

On April 30th, the Rotary Club of <u>West Reading-Wyomissing</u> prepared dinner for The Hope Rescue Mission, keeping a commitment to every 5th Thursday dinner donation.

The <u>Easton Rotary Club</u> has awarded two \$5,000 emergency grants to agencies in desperate need due to the COVID-19 outbreak. The club gave the grants to Safe Harbor Easton and Third Street Alliance for Women and Children, two organizations that provide shelter and other forms of care to the area's most vulnerable. The grants were awarded to help both organizations sustain operations through the pandemic.

Allentown Rotary and the Allentown Rotary Club Foundation recently established a Covid-19 Emergency Aid Fund of \$50,000 to assist local nonprofit organizations providing food, housing, education and medical/emergency care to members of the Allentown community. In the first round of funding, grants were issued to Casa Guadalupe, \$5,000; Meals on Wheels, \$5,000; Allentown Rescue Mission, \$5,000; and Ripple Community Center, \$5,000. A grant in the amount of \$2,500 was also issued to Phoebe Home in memory of the Reverend Grant Harrity and in honor of Richard Snyder, both of whom were long-time active members of the Allentown Rotary Club.



District #7430 CAREmongers Report continued

By Marlene Heller, Allentown West Rotary

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<u>Allentown West Rotarians</u> continued to provide food for hundreds of families as the need increases. The club is filling snack packs for students through the schools and distributing food packages for families via drive-up distribution. In May, several scholarships were given at club Zoom meetings as they continue to support the students in their districts.

<u>Bethlehem Morningstar Rotary</u> held a successful fundraiser in support of its Grocery Gift Card project. As of press time, they had raised nearly \$7,000 for gift cards for three local grocery stores. They are still soliciting funds to keep this project going, and Bethlehem Area School District school principals and the Boys & Girls Club are helping to identify families who are most in need.

Rotarians are People of Action.







Allentown:

The scholarship committee is pleased to announce that Walaa Jaber from William Allen High School and Batool Salloum from Dieruff High School have been selected to receive Roger and Louise Mullin Scholarships beginning in the 2020-2021 academic year.

Each young woman will receive \$3,000 per year for a maximum amount of \$12,000 over four years.

Morrisville-Yardley Area:

Our Rotary Club Contributes to the "Mawa Lewis – a seed for all" Fund To benefit All Morrisville High School Graduating Seniors.



Rotary Club President Denny Lanctot (left), respecting the pandemic guidelines, sent the club's check for \$5,000 to Mawa Lewis, Senior Class President, and to School Superintendent Jason Harris for the "a seed for all" fund that will benefit all of the 50 or so graduating seniors this year. (The MOEF is a 501(c)3 organization that will administer the funds.)

The project came from a discussion with Superintendent Harris about how Rotary can best help the students. He told us about Senior Class President Mawa Lewis' idea about doing something for all of her graduating class, with a focus on those fellow students who lack role models in their lives and a belief that they can continue with their education and training. We invited her to speak to our club which that led to the club's support of her "a seed for all" project. The pandemic stalled her plan to solicit businesses, but a school counselor was able to get a very generous patron to make a \$10,000 donation to the project. That plus Rotary's \$5,000 donation and GoFundMe funds has put her well on the way to her goal of \$25,000, or \$500 for each graduating Senior. Go to Mawa's GoFundMe.com/f/a-seed-for-all to read about her passion for the project and where her inspiration came from.





Easton:

The Foundation of the Easton Rotary Club has awarded emergency grants of \$5,000 each to Safe Harbor Easton and to Third Street Alliance to sustain them through the current COVID-19 pandemic. Easton Rotary has served the Easton community since 1959 and the Club was anxious to assist these two agencies in their efforts to serve some of our most distressed residents.

Sarah Massaro, Director of Development, Safe Harbor Easton, stated that the funds will be used towards supporting the impact that COVID-19 has had on their facility, being able to sustain their programs, and the impact on their revenue streams and individual donations. They have remained operational throughout the crisis and because of their proactive and comprehensive response plan, they have not had a case of COVID-19 in the shelter, either staff or residents. They have had to increase staff hours to ensure that proper distancing, quarantine, and cleaning procedures are followed. The grant from Easton Rotary will helps towards these additional expenses and they are most grateful.

Alyssa Baratta, Executive Director of Third Street Alliance, stated that the funds will be used to purchase additional playground and gym equipment. With the resident's children now sheltering in place and new guidelines from the CDC, they recognize that their current equipment will not meet the new guidelines. They will purchase items that will be appropriate for children to be physically active and safe in this new environment. The grant from The Rotary is allowing Third Street Alliance to be responsive to new health and safety regulations that were certainly unplanned for pre-Coronavirus.

Pottstown:

The Pottstown Rotarians delivered 50 catered meals to three fire houses and their first responders on April 25th. We also have been collecting breakfast food items to replenish the Rolling Hills Breakfast Program which feeds over 150 children daily and have ordered \$1100 in breakfast food items replenish their pantry.







West Reading-Wyomissing:

On April 30 the West Reading-Wyomissing Rotary Club members prepared dinner for Hope Rescue Mission keeping our commitment to every 5th Thursday dinner. Thanks to all who prepared and purchased food to feed the residents.







Perkasie:

Perkasie Rotarian Rucks for Bucks



Like many Rotary clubs in the world, Perkasie has been impacted personally by COVID-19 and the local Rotary members have been coming up with ways to help their community. The members have put together many drives for masks, gloves, sanitizers, supplies, and food.

After one of the members made meals for local healthcare workers, Steven Dale decided he needed to do more. During a Thursday night Zoom meeting, Steven presented his plan to help. He decided to put his physical endurance to the test by completing a ruck called "Ruck for Bucks." This event would raise money

for healthcare works and feeding the frontline by receiving pledges for every mile he could do in 24 hours.

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Perkasie continued:

Perkasie Rotary saw his vision and helped him make it a reality. On May 15, 2020, at 8 pm Steven was off and ready to battle COVID-19 his way. Members of Perkasie Rotary took shifts walking, biking, and running with Steven thought the 24-hours. The local community was able to keep track of him with his Facebook live updates and from other posts on the Rotary page.



Not only was this event to benefit a great cause, but an opportunity for the community to get involved. Steven pushed through rain, heat, and worn shoes to complete over 70 miles in 24 hours. He completed his last mile with a police escort, plus his family, friends, and community cheering him on at the finish line.

Steven raised over \$4,500, but word is continuing to spread about the man who Rucked for 24-hours to feed the frontline. Steven and the Perkasie Rotary will now devise a plan to hand deliver meals to frontline workers of local healthcare facilities. The Perkasie Rotary is very proud of this event but they are even more proud of Steven and selfless commitment to service above self.

Allentown:

The Allentown Rotary Club and its Foundation recently established a Covid-19 Emergency Aid Fund of \$50,000 to assist local nonprofit organizations providing food, housing, education and medical/emergency care to members of the Allentown community.

In the first round of funding, grants were issued to Casa Guadalupe, \$5,000; Meals on Wheels, \$5,000; Allentown Rescue Mission, \$5,000; and Ripple Community Center, \$5,000.

A grant in the amount of \$2,500 was also issued to Phoebe Home in memory of the Reverend Grant Harrity and in honor of Richard Snyder, both of whom were long-time active members of the Allentown Rotary Club.

A second round of funding to nonprofits is expected to be made in the next 30 days on the basis of applications that will be circulated in the next several days.



What is the PAUL HARRIS SOCIETY?

An Individual Donating \$1,000 or more every Rotary year to the Annual Fund and / or Polio Plus and / or an Approved Foundation grant, becomes a PHS member. Donations can be monthly, quarterly or annually using Rotary Direct, for example.

D7430 currently has 87 Rotarians committed to this generosity.

JOIN UP and FEEL GOOD!

Download a brochure at:

https://my.rotary.org/en/document/pa ul-harris-society-brochure



Questions? Contact
Bill Erdman D7430 PHS Coordinator at
bill.a.erdman@gmail.com if you earn a
PHS lapel Insignia
when you join.

DID YOU KNOW?

The US Interstate road system was designed so that one mile in every five must be straight. These straight sections are usable as airstrips in times of war or other emergencies.



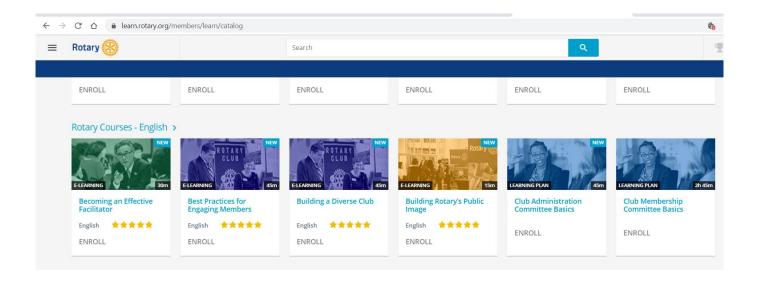


Are you looking for ideas to engage members while we're physically distancing ourselves from each other? Has your club started meeting online? Here are some of our favorite resources to help:



- ☐ Watch membership webinars and speeches from recent conventions and the International Assembly in the new Club Programming collection on Vimeo.
- □ Share the updated State of Membership presentation at your next meeting.
- □ Discover the professional and personal development opportunities in the Learning Center. From Leading Change to Building Rotary's Public Image, these online courses allow you to learn new skills from your home.
- ☐ Encourage your members to exchange ideas in the Meeting Online learning topic in the Learning Center.

Find more resources at www.rotary.org/membership.





How to Support Rotary Youth Exchange Students During COVID-19



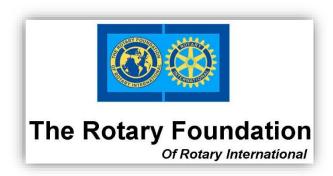
Rotary Youth Exchange students are facing unique challenges as the COVID-19 pandemic radically altered the realities of their exchange year. Some returned home, where they faced recommended periods of quarantine, while others stayed with their hosts but in a much different experience than they expected with online classes and social distancing. Rotary's youth exchange and youth protection staff gathered advice from two district leaders on how to support exchange students in these unusual times.

Interactors share thoughts about positive peace---

During Youth Service Month, we celebrate the many opportunities Rotary provides for youth and young adults to connect, develop leadership skills, and grow through service. Recently, co-presidents of the Interact Club of South Delta Secondary, British Columbia, Canada, shared what Positive Peace means to them and how Interact gives youth the opportunity to contribute to peace beyond the borders of their local communities.







The Rotary Foundation has approved more than \$4.7 million in disaster response grants to address the COVID-19 pandemic.

NEW Type 1 POLIO CASES as of May 25, 2020



	2020 YTD	2019 Total	2018 Total	2017 Total
Pakistan	47	139	10	8
Afghanistan	12	29	21	14

Pakistan and Rotary are cutting through a whirl of migrating families and cultural barriers to turn what was 'a badge of shame' into a model for disease eradication.



Help Us Achieve our Rotary Foundation Annual Fund Goal

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You can own a part of history!

A Rotary necktie OR scarf signed by Rotary International 2019-20 President Mark Maloney could be yours for a donation of \$1,000 (or more) to the Rotary Foundation. These two very special items will go fast, so act now.





Contact DG Herb (herbk.rotary@gmail.com) if you are interested in obtaining either item.

Your Foundation needs your help! This shelter-at-home and virtual meeting society has affected adversely our lives in numerous ways. It also has had an unfavorable impact on our support of OUR Rotary Foundation. Please donate what you can during June if you are able.





Membership Tip ---

Rotary's "Passport" Club A passport club is a Rotary club that gives its members a more flexible club. experience by:

- Encouraging its members to visit other clubs and participate in their club activities regularly.
- Relaxing the attendance policy.



D7430 Active Member Count

Date	No.	Members

July 1, 2019 1784

May 31, 2020 1843



Share your passion for Rotary! REFER A MEMBER!





EVERY Month is Membership Month!MEMBERSHIP IS EVERY MEMBER'S BUSINESS

Each of us should seek out good candidates for our Rotary Clubs. Ask them to a meeting or to help on one of your projects. Get them involved.



PROCEDURES & GUIDELINES 2018 Edition: These are the D7430 Bylaws. A "Quick Reference" section has been added near the beginning. Click Here The 2020 updated Bylaws were just approved in May. They will be available for download soon.

DISTRICT DIRECTORY 2019-20 The Directory is now ready for download Click Here.

NOW would be a good time to update your 2020-21 Club Officer and Committee Chair info in ClubRunner and Rotary.org. If you need assistance contact our D7430 Administrator, Sharon Rittenhouse rittenhousesharon@gmail.com.

2019 MANUAL OF PROCEDURE

Go to http://www.rotary.org and My Rotary to download a copy of the most recent issue of the Manual of Procedure listing all the rules and guidelines of Rotary.

WHAT IS ROTARY DIRECT?

Click Here for questions and answers to the program.

"ALPHABET SOUP" lists many of the acronyms that are used in the Rotary world. They are reprinted below, and they are on our D7430 website at:

http://rotarydistrict7430.org/sitepage/did-you-know



JOHN M. HANNES

ELIZABETH DAVIS

Senior Officer

The Rotary Foundation Advisor

john.hannes@rotary.org

Elizabeth.Davis@rotary.org

Feel free to use these excellent resources!

Tell Us What You Are Doing



by the 25th of each month: PDG Bill Palmer, Editor

bill966@ptd.net

or

Sharon Rittenhouse, Publisher rittenhousesharon@gmail.com





Struggling Collegeville Food Pantry Needs Help Article from the Pottstown Mercury



The Daily Bread Community Food Pantry — the fourth-largest food pantry in Montgomery County — is in crisis due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As the quarantine continues, businesses are closing permanently, and an unprecedented number of people are losing their jobs.

Consequently, more and more Montco citizens need food assistance from Daily Bread.

The pantry serves more than 300 families or 1,200 individuals each month and serves a broad area in Montgomery County — from the northern reaches of Perkiomenville and Gilbertsville to the southern areas of Collegeville and Eagleville.

"We have a lot of new people who never dreamed they would need a food pantry," said Daily Bread Food Pantry Co-Founder, Loretta Stever. "They are brought to tears when they first see the food — they didn't know what they were going to do."

"Due to the pandemic, we are seeing between 25-30 new clients each week. They have been laid off or furloughed," continued Stever. "We've never experienced anything like it."

The Collegeville Rotary consistently supports Daily Bread with service projects such as the annual Pancake Breakfast, Turkey Trot 5K Run/Walk, and numerous other events throughout the year to raise money and awareness for the organization.

With more stringent social distancing recommendations being made and enforced by the CDC and all levels of government, the Daily Bread Food Pantry may no longer be convenient for generous community members to drop off food and other items of necessity.

Collegeville Rotarians Sodiah Thomas and Joe Groarke are volunteering their time and resources to make giving to the food pantry much easier. Sodiah Thomas, owner of S&B Event Concepts & Catering, located at 25 Bridge St. in Collegeville, has



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Struggling Collegeville Food Pantry Needs Help

Article from the Pottstown Mercury continued

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turned her facility into a designated drop-off location for Daily Bread every Wednesday and Friday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Donations are quickly retrieved from the drop-off point, so animals do not get to them first.

Additionally, fellow Collegeville Rotarian, Joe Groarke is on-call to pick up supplies from the porches of people's homes.

"With everything that's going on with COVID-19, I couldn't sit on the sidelines," said Groarke, a Realtor with Keller Williams in Limmerick.

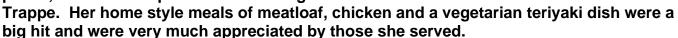
The food bank's mission dovetails with that of the Collegeville Rotary.

Rotary members throughout the world take action to make communities better. They contribute their time, energy, and passion to carry out meaningful and sustainable projects.

Right now, the Collegeville Rotary's top priority is to alleviate the suffering of those severely impacted during the COVID-19 quarantine.

Collegeville Rotary Update:

An anonymous donor gave \$1,875 to the club which was then given to S&B Event Concepts & Catering, owned by Sodiah Thomas, to provide 150 meals for police, fire and EMT personnel in Collegeville and



Shagun Fine Indian Restaurant, owned by Collegeville Rotarian Rajan Bansal and his wife, Rupika, have donated over 50 meals to first responders at Einstein Hospital in Norristown and the Collegeville police department. They have plans to donate at least 50 more meals to workers at Kimberton Whole Foods in Collegeville, Brandywine Senior Living and Providence Senior Living.

Finally, each week that the club cannot meet at Ursinus College, members have been donating money that they would have normally spent on meals at the college to a COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund set on our club's website. Each month members decide to which local organizations the funds will be donated. One of the recipients of the May donations will be The Women's Center of Montgomery County.







On May 20th, Cyclone Amphan the strongest storm ever recorded in the Bay of Bengal made landfall in some of the poorest areas of Bangladesh and India, producing winds as high as 165 mph and forcing nearly 3 million people to evacuate from their homes.

The full extent of the damage is not yet known, but with expected storm surges as

high as 10 – 15 feet, the cyclone will have a devastating impact on countless families. It is likely that many people will lose their lives, and millions may lose their homes and livelihoods. Both India and Bangladesh are already dealing with coronavirus outbreaks.

Overcrowded evacuation centers could become a hotbed for the virus, increasing the spread of the disease in an area where there is already a lack of clean water, health care and resilient housing. Families will urgently need shelter to maintain social distancing and to minimize their exposure to coronavirus.

ShelterBox deployment teams are responding to the COVID-19 pandemic in other locations. Refugee camps are overcrowded, facilitating the spread of the virus. Deployment teams are distributing handwashing supplies and wash basins along with educational materials. Having adequate shelter available is allowing families to shelter in place and practice social distancing to "flatten the curve" in camps so that the limited medical resources are not overwhelmed.

The strong support of D7430 Rotarians, both directly and through their clubs helps make this life-saving work possible. To learn more, visit www.shelterboxusa.org.









2020

July 27 -- NEW DATE District Changeover at the Steel Club in Hellertown

Sep 19 -- Vibrant Club Summit at DeSales University Center,
Center Valley, PA

Oct 9 -- ShelterBox Dinner and Auction at the Steel Club in Hellertown

Oct 24 -- Yvette Palmer 5K race to end Polio at LCCC in Schnecksville

Nov 7 -- Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) at DeSales University

Check out the
Rotary District 7430 Facebook page
for all the latest District and Club news
plus useful information.





In Memoriam We note the recent passing of Rotarians



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VITO A. COSMO, JR. - CPA, M.S., CGMA



Fort Washington, PA, passed away May 15, 2020, at the age of 57. He was a loving and devoted husband to Rosanne (Cocca) Cosmo of 27 years, and adoring and proud father to Sabrina Marie Cosmo. Vito is the proud son of Vito A. Cosmo and the late Joan (Reynolds) Cosmo.

Vito loved his wife, daughter, family, friends, APO fraternity brothers from Albright College, tax professionals, The Parkinson Council Community, St. Paul's UCC Ft. Washington family, and the gift of learning. Vito was an avid scholar who attended Albright College, B.S. in Accounting and Widener University, Master's Degree in Taxation.

Vito had an illustrious career that specialized in State and Local Taxes. He is a former partner of Pricewater-Coopers LLP, former Director of Exelon Corporation and recently retired as Managing Director of Grant Thornton.

Over the years, Vito has received many awards including the Society of Jacob Albright Scholars, PICPA Recipient of Champion CPA Award, PICPA Federal Taxation Award, Albright College Alumni Association Distinguished Alumnus Award, and Careers & the disabled Magazine.

Vito faced retirement with the same zest for life he had for his family, friends, and career. He was the President of The Parkinson Council, Member of the Springfield Rotary Club, Motivational speaker to college students, Painter, History buff, Culinary extraordinaire, Mentor to State and Local tax professionals, active church member, traveler, Rock Steady Boxer, genealogy, and clothing model for people with disabilities. He was recently admitted into the National Society of Sons of the American Revolution. Vito's greatest joy was cooking and sitting around the dining room table talking about history, travel, politics, and recipes!

Private Burial. A Memorial Service will take place at a later time. In lieu of flowers, please donate in his memory to The Parkinson Council at 555 City Avenue, Suite 480, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004.



