

VIBRANT CLUB NEWS

February 10, 2021



COVID, Vaccines and Building Bridges in our Communities

By Carol Ferguson
District 7430, Polio Plus Coordinator
Rotary Club of Doylestown

We are all so close to seeing the benefits of the COVID19 vaccines right here, in our five counties: Berks, Bucks, Lehigh, Northampton & Montgomery. As Rotarians, we've been asked to serve in any way possible. Rotary leaders are urging members to connect with their local health agencies to determine how Rotary can support COVID-19 vaccine efforts. "We need to spread the message about the power of vaccines to save lives."

At the 2020 Rotary International Convention, they asked us to help "[Build the Bridges](#)" [regarding vaccines in our own communities](#). When I read their recommendation from a COVID update in late December, there was no doubt we could bring it home to the communities in our District. Our counties all have [Immunization Coalitions](#) that have been actively engaged in the vaccine message and working hard to combat the vaccine hesitancy that exists in our areas. At the same time, each of our counties is focused on and prioritizing getting every resident, that can be, vaccinated for COVID-19.

Most of us are not health care professionals. What can WE do? What projects can we engage in? How can we serve in a way that is COVID safe?

From a personal perspective, having served on the Bucks County Immunization coalition for many years, these coalitions love engaging with volunteers who believe in the value of vaccines. They have specifically asked that Rotarians come on board to participate. Both Bucks and Montgomery Counties have asked for volunteers to assist the professional health care in staffing the mass vaccination centers that will be necessary to vaccinate all residents for COVID-19. All volunteer positions have our safety as their priority. Rotarians from both locations have answered that call. Perhaps your county has asked for volunteers in various capacities as well.

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Because of COVID, the Bucks County Immunization Coalition has had to put a hospital project on the “back burner”. They have been recognizing the need for vaccine information materials to be packaged for new parents. The Doylestown Rotary Club is now engaged in a “stay at home, COVID safe” project to put these packets together so that they can be distributed to all new parents at three of our largest hospitals and clinics.

We will be putting 5,000 of these packets together as individuals (within our own homes). All the while, we will be joining together in spirit as a Club, combatting vaccine hesitancy, by fulfilling a project that provides effective resources to the parents of the babies born in our own community.

There's not a doubt in my mind that all of our Clubs can serve in a very special way, to support our community through this crisis. Both of these opportunities directly correlate to the critical message that we've been asked to share: Vaccines Work!

Carol Ferguson
District 7430, Polio Plus Coordinator
Rotary Club of Doylestown



SERVICE is one of Five (5) Core Value of Rotary. Our motto for many years has been "**Service Above Self!**" and Paul Harris said this "**Whatever Rotary may mean to us, to the world it will be known by the result it achieves.**"

D7430 Polio Plus Chair, Carol Ferguson reminds us that now more than ever, we have the opportunity to **serve** our communities. As Rotarians, we know firsthand that the Rotary PolioPlus work around the world has saved countless lives. I encourage you to take action as Carol has recommended and get involved.

Stay safe, stay well!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Janet".

Janet Kolepp, District Governor

"Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change — across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves."



Rotary District 7430 “CAREmongers” Column

By Marlene Heller
Allentown West Rotary

Allentown West Rotarians continue to serve the community by delivering produce from Second Harvest. In December, they served over 200 families, and that number continues to grow. They also bought, packed, and delivered holiday bags for Parkland CARES Food Pantry. Contents of the packages were donated by Rotarians and included a blanket, popcorn, sugar cookie mix, frosting and a holiday themed cookie cutter. Gift bags and cards were donated by AW Rotarian Brad Meier and his State Farm team.



Allentown Rotary gave a Covid-19 Response grant to Lily's Hope Foundation, allowing families to focus on the health of their fragile newborns. Lily's Hope recently reached a milestone of 2400 families supported.



Doylestown Rotary anchored a parade of cars, including many from the Doylestown at Dusk car show, in memory of long-time beloved Rotarian and past President, Bruce Rutherford. He founded the car show, which became a major fund-raiser supporting the Doylestown Rotary Club community grants.

Warminster Rotary presented a \$500 check from the Warminster Rotary Foundation to Love Feeds of Willow Grove of SDA. It provided 150 meals to the community.



“CAREmongers” continued

Springfield Township Rotary Club continued its support of Harston Hall, a long-term care organization. Many residents do not have family or friends close by, and Harston Hall was seeking members of the public to shop, wrap, and deliver gender-neutral gifts for distribution among the residents. Rotary heard the call and offered to collect donations from the community, shop, wrap, and deliver to make it easier and safer for the Springfield Township Community to participate. The club raised \$800 via a Facebook request alone, enough to package 100 gifts. A small group of Rotarians dressed in festive gear dropped the gifts off at the door and were met with great appreciation from staff members. Each gift had a personal hand-written note, telling residents that their community was thinking about them during the holiday season.



Allentown West Rotary Club gave two grants in January; one to Community Bike Works for safety equipment, and one through the Lehigh Valley Aging in Place, given to Meals On Wheels and used to replace worn heat bags used to deliver hot meals to clients. Also in January, Allentown West honored Allentown Police Chief Glenn Granitz with a Paul Harris award, in recognition of his management style that focuses on the use of crisis personnel to deescalate tensions, and his view of the police as guardians as of the community.

Nazareth Rotarians spread good works over several months thanks to a jump start from the District 7430 Covid grant funds.

The club purchased summer reading backpacks for 600 young learners, a new sign for the Nazareth Lunch food distribution program, 100 experiment kits for students to do at home STEM projects and 55 bags of groceries for households within the local school district for weekend food support.



CLUB NEWS.....

North Penn Rotary to be Featured in the Rotarian Magazine

Congratulations to the North Penn Rotary Club! The club's annual Lansdale Day Arts & Crafts Festival fundraising event held in June will be featured in a future Rotarian Magazine article.

Lansdale Day Art & Craft Festival is North Penn's major annual fundraiser; uniquely disguised as a very successful community art & craft festival featuring local artists, artisans, businesses and sponsors.

"Lansdale Day" has been held on the first Saturday in June for the past 43 years. The 2021 event will take place on Saturday June 5th - located on W. Main Street in downtown Lansdale. This is an outdoor festival filled with talented artists and artisans who hand create unique and beautiful items for sale.



Catching Up with Springfield Township Rotary

The Springfield Township Rotary Main Club has launched our **Springfield Township Community Relief Fund**. The mission of the emergency fund is to help low-income individuals who are struggling to shoulder the burden of a short-term emergency expense.

Teach Rwanda Global Grant

The Springfield Township Rotary Club is coordinating with other local and Rwandan Rotary clubs as well as TEACH Rwanda to qualify for a global grant. The funds would cover the construction of a kitchen for a Rwandan demonstration pre-primary and elementary school. As you know, Rotary seeks to sustainably improve communities around the world. The addition of a new kitchen to this Rwandan school will allow it to earn more income to achieve sustainability, lead to an increase in attendance of healthy children, reduce stunting, uplift the community, and meet new Rwandan school regulations. Currently, students receive one snack a day at school, which does not even satisfy their basic nutritional needs. A new kitchen will provide students with meals that will have a more meaningful impact on their physical and mental health, increasing their learning capacity.

If you are interested in partnering with our club on this very special project, please reach out to Springfield Township Rotary Club!

Flourtown Springfield Community Refrigerator

Springfield Township Young Professionals (STRC YP) and Main club are working together to establish a community refrigerator to address food insecurities within Springfield Township. The refrigerator will be stocked by the community. All food will be freely available to anyone in need. Springfield Township Young Professionals and Main clubs are currently working on sourcing a refrigerator, location, and permission to establish the refrigerator.



SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY RELIEF FUND

MISSION

To help low-income individuals who are struggling to shoulder the burden of a short-term emergency expense.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Applicants must be residents of Springfield Township.
- Those applying must provide proof of employment within the past year or proof that someone in the household is employed or is receiving a form of retirement income.
- Only one grant will be awarded to a household in 12 months.
- Total requested cannot exceed \$1,000.
- Grants will not be given in the form of cash to the applicant. Grant will be paid directly to the vendor or given as a gift card to a store to purchase needed items or services.
- Grants will not be used to pay taxes or credit card debts.

Please note: Applicants must complete the application in full and provide verification of requirements to be considered

For more information, please visit:



springfieldrotary.org



[@springfieldtownshiprotaryclub](https://www.facebook.com/springfieldtownshiprotaryclub)

Easton Rotary Club Shares Some “Beary” Special Love

The Rotary Club of Easton has purchased teddy bears to be distributed to cancer patients at the SLUHN Anderson Campus Infusion Center. This project is done around Valentine’s Day each February and is spearheaded by Rotarian Terry Pundiak. Over 1,000 teddy bears have been distributed in the last 11 years. Each bear is tagged with a special note that says “Roses are Red, Violets are Blue. To help you feel better, here’s a teddy for you”.



Souderton Telford Rotary

Just as snowflakes started to fall in our area, the Souderton Telford Club made a delivery of winter accessories to students at E. M. Crouthamel Elementary School.



The annual holiday celebration for over 40 children from the North Penn Valley Boys & Girls Club and Indian Valley Boys & Girls Club

was moved outside this year to the parking lot of Zion Mennonite Church in Souderton PA. The celebration was coordinated by ST Rotarian, Suzi Berry, with help from Souderton Area High

School's Interact Club, Perseverance Volunteer Fire Company, Travel Haus and Souderton Police. Generous gifts were provided by the club as well as K'NEX.

Members of the club and friends took the MLK Day of Service seriously! The day is meant to be a "day on, not a day off" for service. A volunteer driven, non-profit, in our community, [Care & Share Thrift Shoppes](#), is in need of volunteers. Many of Care & Share's "traditional" volunteers are in high risk groups for exposure to Covid, and are sheltering at home. Club members enjoyed spending the afternoon at Care & Share and interacting with members of the community.



Whitehall Area Rotary News

On December 5, Whitehall Area Rotary held its 4th annual Jingle Bell Run/Walk. Even in a pandemic, this year's socially distanced event was the most successful to date, raising more than \$6,000 for those they serve. The event, held along the scenic Ironton Rail Trail, attracted 108 runners, 25 walkers and 1 virtual runner. In addition, the online raffle auction was quite successful! Special thanks to the sponsors – BB&T; Fellowship Community; Campbell, Rappold & Yurasits LLP; Concannon Miller; and Overhead Door – for their support. Even the Grinch and Cindy Lou Who showed up!



Because of the generosity of their members, in December, the Club was able to donate Aldi gift cards to two families in need with children who attend Whitehall Coplay High School. The District Registrar commented, "Truly, your kindness and compassion is a light that shines a bright beacon of hope and promise during these uncertain, unsteady times."



In December, the Club also supported the residents of Fellowship Manor, a Whitehall-based skilled nursing facility, with a donation for gift stockings to make their holidays merry and bright!

In mid-January, Rotarians turned out as volunteers to show their support for the kick-off of the new Whitehall-Coplay Food Pantry.

Area 8 Rotary Club News

On Christmas Day, members of the **Newtown Rotary Club** and the Presbyterian Church were joined by their families and friends to help prepare the meals to be delivered to over 210 people who are living in the motels on Routes 1 and Route 13, the Lower Bucks Homeless Shelter, and families from Council Rock School District.

Angel Tree 2020 was another great success for the **Newtown Rotary**, Newtown Presbyterian Church, Newtown Post Office and Northampton Library. Angel Tree starts with the wish of a child or their parent, attached to an Angel placed carefully on a Christmas Tree at the Newtown Post Office, the Northampton Library, or the Newtown Presbyterian Church. The Angels are selected by local people with holiday spirit in their hearts, the wishes are fulfilled, the gifts are placed beside the Angel Trees, and then the Rotary Club of Newtown transports all the gifts to the Newtown Presbyterian Church where the youth group sorts the gifts to be given out. Families who placed the Angel Wishes come to the church to pick up the gifts, rain or snow not a deterrent.



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Area 8 Rotary Club News continued

The **Morrisville-Yardley Club** reached out to devastated Guatemalans after two hurricanes, flooding, and landslides decimated the poverty-stricken central parts of the country. They sent \$500 for immediate aid and are pursuing a global grant to help in this area of the world.



The **Rotary Club of Warrington** held a car raffle in November – the 2000 Classic Corvette picture below. The price per ticket was \$50, with each Rotarian held accountable for selling 5 tickets or more. When the total tickets were counted and the cost of the car deducted, the club netted \$21,000 plus a \$5000 sponsorship by a local bank. This fundraiser replaced their traditional ones, cancelled due to Covid-19. The monies will be used to support local non-profits and Club charitable programs.



ROTARY CLUB OF
WARRINGTON, PA
WARRINGTON
ROTARY CLUB
FOUNDATION

Event Sponsored By



Upper Perkiomen Rotary Club Packs Treats



Thanks to the District 7430 Covid Relief Grant Funds the Upper Perk Rotarians were able to pack 100 treat bags to be delivered to area seniors through the Open Link in Pennsburg next Friday. The treat bags are filled with heart shaped pasta, sauce, activity books, pens, pencils and a sweet treat. A huge thank you to Michele Hohlfeld and Lori Ritting, Community Co-Chairs for organizing the event and President Sarah Toback for lighting a fire in the garage to keep us warm.

West Reading-Wyomissing Rotary Club Helping Harvest

In early December club members volunteered with Helping Harvest to pack 440 boxes of food. That's 11 pallets ready to be distributed to neighbors in need! Then in late December many hands made light work distributing!



Kutztown Rotary In the Kitchen

Rotary at work! Kutztown Rotary took time out one weekend in January to prepare and deliver 35 meals to community members in need through Kutztown Kitchen. People of Action!



Spring Township Centennial Rotary Making a Difference for Veterans

Spring Township Centennial's Interact Club of Berks Catholic helped organize and hand out supplies for veterans at Veterans Making a Difference!



Bethlehem Rotary Club Food Pantry Donation

Congrats to the Bethlehem Rotary Club for presenting a check for \$13,000 to the Northeast Community Center Food Pantry. These are the proceeds of the very successful Tastes & Tunes 2020.

Pictured: Jill Long, T&T Co-chair; Grace Young, NECC Marketing Director; Paula Johnson, NECC Executive Director and Bethlehem Rotary President Pete Mikolay



Reading Rotary Park Clean-Up

People of Action from the Rotary Club of Reading organized a park clean-up in one of Reading's treasures-Pandora Park. They partnered with Zoo Much Fun, Reading Public Works Dept., Becky Ellis, Pamela S Gockley, Councilperson Marcia Goodman-Hinnershitz Partnerships in helping to make Reading a better place.



RIPE Shekar Mehta Announces 2021-2022 Rotary Theme

2021-2022 Rotary Theme: “Serve to Change Lives”



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

Rotary International President-Elect Shekar Mehta told a personal story of testing the strength of candidates for wheelchairs to see if they could push the wheels. A candidate without legs strode up to Shekhar on his hands and Shekhar realized that the dirt of the floor would be something he had to accept in gripping the candidate's hand. The candidate had plenty of strength and Shekhar's attitude toward his own role changed. Shekhar tells us that serving changes the lives of those served and the attitudes of those serving.

Service is transformational. Please consider this story as we move into the new Rotary year.

DGE Bob Hobaugh

(Continue to use the Rotary Opens Opportunities theme through June 30.)

Public Image Happenings



Welcome to February's District 7430 Governor's Public Image Challenge!

February our focus will be on Rotary branding for the websites and social media pages of our D7430 Clubs. [CLICK HERE](#) for this month's video which highlights the "Why" of branding and then provides some "How To" tips. Thanks to marketing/branding experts [Val Deneen](#) of the Emmaus Rotary and [Shawn Deiter](#) of Bethlehem Morning Star and [Amy Sheller](#), Kutztown Rotary, for lending their time and expertise to the creation of this video and to this month's logo review efforts.

For Clubs who are registered for the Challenge, we will use the links provided in your registrations as the starting point for a review of club logos and Rotary International branding on the Internet. Public Image team representatives will then notify each club's representative to confirm compliance or to work with each one to update digital resources and update the appropriate web pages.

If your Club has not registered for the Challenge yet, why not do it today, [using this link](#). We've also updated the [Public Image page on the District 7430 website](#) with links and files of useful information related to the proper use of logos and the advantages of consistent branding. Why not take a look - your feedback and suggestions for additional tools/resources are welcome.

We will also continue to share posts in our Facebook workgroup to help the Club representatives with web branding efforts. Here's [a post explaining the evolution](#) of the Rotary brand starting in 1905.

Next month we will turn our attention to telling Rotary stories via newsletters, press releases and online posts.



Share Your Rotary Stories!
Your D7430 Public Image Team

CLUB EVENTS.....

Here are club events happening around the District in December and January. Be sure to add your events to the District calendar in ClubRunner **and send your event flyers to rittenhouses Sharon@gmail.com by April 5 to be included in the next issue.**

VIBRANT CLUB NEWS will come out every other month on the 10th.

Springfield Township Rotary Club Fresh Fruit Sale

In an attempt to bring back a favorite past Fundraiser safely, and increase Club fundraising dollars to continue our good work, we are bringing back our Fresh Fruit Sale. We've taken our Sale online! Sales of any fresh, delicious fruit will go toward defraying the many costs associated with running our programs. We will be taking orders until 2/23/21.

Link to sale:

<https://freshfruitorder.org/springfieldrotaryfreshfruit/Shop/ProductsList.aspx>



Collegeville Rotary Music Bingo



[Click Here for Details](#)



Donating to Rotary means clean water and sanitation. Health and hope in areas that were once ravaged by diseases like polio. Economic development and new opportunities.

Thank you to these Rotarians that made a commitment to support the work of Rotary with their first donation to **The Rotary Foundation**. With your help, we can make lives better in your community and around the world.

Matthew Kloiber	Allentown RC	Jackie Silveri	Harleysville RC
Rosaria Stoops	Allentown RC	Valerie Assmus	Harleysville RC
Kathleen E Ott	Allentown West RC	John Mertz	Harleysville RC
Patricia Witcher	Allentown West RC	Mona Gold	Harleysville RC
Michele Stiener	Allentown West RC	Robin Jordan	Harleysville RC
Madeline Sachdev	Bethlehem Morning Star RC	Jillian Barton	Hatboro RC
Maria Dietrich	Bethlehem RC	Martyn Palmer	Hatboro RC
Carrie Maddigan	Bethlehem RC	Lisa Grace	Hatboro RC
Michelle Morton	Bethlehem RC	Richard Fidele	Horsham RC
Natalia Griga	Blue Bell RC	Carrington Smith	Lehigh Valley Passport Club
Earl Wismer	Easton RC	Edward Normann	Lehigh Valley Passport Club
Lynn Schoof	Easton RC	Kirk Brown	Lehigh Valley Passport Club
Kevin Basara	Emmaus RC	Michael Carolan	Lehigh Valley Passport Club
Jean Onyambu	Emmaus RC	Frank Petrocelli	Lehigh Valley Passport Club
Michael Mihalik	Emmaus RC	Anne Beasty	Lehigh Valley Passport Club
Shannon Boyle Schuster	Emmaus RC	Karen Jensen	Lehigh Valley Passport Club
Rachel Baxter	Emmaus RC	Richard Jensen	Lehigh Valley Passport Club
Susan Wenner	Emmaus RC	John Frey	Lehigh Valley Passport Club
Stephen Stauffer	Emmaus RC	Richard Warnke	Quakertown RC
Craig Collins	Emmaus RC	Sandra J Cox	Saucon, Center Valley RC
Lori Weber	Emmaus RC	Stephen A. Strack	Slatington RC
Tyler Suzadail	Emmaus RC	Justin Kresge	Upper Perk RC
Paul Nye	Harleysville RC	Kevin Crail	Warminster RC
Charles Heckenberger	Harleysville RC	Nicole Schwartz	Warminster RC
James Hardy	Harleysville RC	Lou Altomari	Warrington RC
Noah Phillips	Harleysville RC	Pat Fedele	Warrington RC
Lisa Reiss	Harleysville RC	Mary McMahon	Whitehall Area RC

CLUB RESOURCES.....



District Website

www.rotarydistrict7430.org

Follow us on facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/District7430>



Rotary International Website

www.rotary.org

Rotary International Club & District Support

John Hannes, Senior Officer

john.hannes@rotary.org



Rotary International TRF Support

Elizabeth Davis, The Rotary Foundation Advisor

elizabeth.davis@rotary.org



Technical Support

Monday-Friday 9 am-5 pm

905-829-5299

BUCKNO LISICKY & COMPANY
Certified Public Accountants & Business Consultants



**Rotary Opens
Opportunities**