

Rotary
District 7780



News from the Clubs

ROTARY DISTRICT 7780 CLUBS

SERVICE, FUNDRAISING, CELEBRATIONS
& COLLABORATIONS

FEBRUARY 1, 2022



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District 7780



Clubs Collaborating

Almost 350 various stuffed animals were collected and distributed to the children receiving their COVID-19 Vaccines at the Sanford location of the York County Emergency Agency Vaccination Clinic.

A huge Thank You was expressed by YCEMA staff to RC's of Sanford-Springvale, Wells, Saco Bay Sunset and KennebunkPortside!! The Kids were thrilled!

Photo 1: Lawrence Furbish, Barbara Sutcliffe (Sanford-Springvale RC), YCEMA staff Tyler, & Peggy Belanger (KennebunkPortside)

Photo 2: Danielle DeFelice (Wells RC), and Peggy Belanger.



Bethel

The Bethel Rotary Club is honored to partner with Telstar High School as a sponsor of their Student of the Month program! Each month the staff chooses one student from each grade that exemplifies Rotary's ideal of Service and good citizenship.

The November/December Honorees are:
Grade 9 - Ella Akers, Grade 10 - Matt Bean, Grade 11 - Emily Cummings and Grade 12 – Frank Campra. Congratulations to these fine young people!





Bridgton-Lake Region

“Our Rotary Club ROCKS!!!”, said Rotarian Emma Bodwell on Thanksgiving weekend when she heard that an elderly couple, clients of hers, needed help carrying wood into their house for their wood stove. She messaged club members and literally within minutes responses came back asking where and when. After carrying wood into the house, Rotarians and family members cleaned out the front gutter and stacked a whole row of wood on the back porch. President elect Aaron Hagan was so excited by this spontaneous project that he began looking for others during January, after our holiday rush of traditional projects was over.

Rotarian and Health Officer Cathy Pinkham sometimes works out of the Bridgton Community Center with Rotarian and Executive Director Carmen Lone. They saw the need and started a Sand for Seniors Project and asked club members to help. So Aaron is putting a team together, rounding up buckets, seeking men with trucks and permits from the town sand lot to get the project going. The January 29 snowstorm is a great incentive. FMI, go to <https://lakeregionrotary.com> or our Facebook Page.





Damariscotta-Newcastle

Since January 1st, 5 new Rotarians have joined The Rotary Club of Damariscotta-Newcastle. Claire Sommer (Marketing Director at Lincoln County TV and Pumpkinfest & Regatta volunteer), Angie Waltz (Camden National Bank Senior Relationship Banker), and Roberta Scates (Floor Magic Office Manager) all joined via our L.E.G.S. (Locals Engaged in Group Service) satellite program. Two other new members have each been Rotarians for 20+ year in other areas: Dorrie Hispschman (Director of Development CLC Y) in Wisconsin and Sanibel-Captiva, Florida and Eddie Cheung (retired manufacturing owner) in Southern California and in Durango, Colorado, where he also held District officer positions. The 3rd Annual Festival of Trees was a great success. Volunteers and visitors alike enjoyed the trees donated and decorated and full of prizes/presents by local businesses and the Damariscotta-Newcastle Rotary. 21 lucky folks each won a tree and the presents/prizes. Even DG Dick Hall came to help the L.E.G.S. (Locals Engaged in Group Service) Rotarians greet visitors and sell raffle tickets!



Rotarians PP Gary Stone (Wealth Management @ The First of Damariscotta), Debby Schling (Newcastle Realty) and Karen-Ann Hagar (CLC Y/Community Navigator) enjoying volunteering.

Festival of Trees





Dec. 3 4-7pm
Dec. 4 9am-3pm



at the American Legion Hall in Damariscotta
Food sold by the American Legion Auxiliary
Admission is FREE
Tickets for Trees: \$1 each

Event Sponsored by First National Wealth Management 



Trees donated by local businesses.
Monies raised are spent back in to the community!

Thank you to all of our sponsors for this event!

First National Wealth Management • Renys • Hilltop Stop • Floor Magic
Supplies Unlimited • Main Street Grocery • Cheney Financial • Newcastle Realty
Colby & Gale • Camden National Bank • Coastal Car Wash • Lincoln County News
Quick Turn Auto • Twin Village Taxi • Skidompha Library & Bookshop
Reilly Well Drilling • The American Legion • Strong Hancock Funeral Home
Sprague Transport & Excavation, Inc. • Bangor Savings Bank • Midcoast Collision
Lincoln Home Staff & Residents



Damariscotta-Newcastle L.E.G.S

The Rotary Club of Damariscotta-Newcastle L.E.G.S. (Locals Engaged in Group Service), a satellite program, has been joyfully giving funds to local non-profits: Stepping Stone (transitional housing), Community Energy Fund (heating fuel assistance), C.H.I.P., New Hope Midcoast, and the local Humane Society.

Members also helped out by selling tickets for the Festival of Trees, along with DG Dick Hall.





Dover

Guess who visited the Rotary Club of Grand Bahama Island? Melissa Lesniak attended the early morning Rotary meeting with fellow Rotarians and guests to hear and learn from the guest speaker. A 50-year Rotarian shared his journey through Rotary and the opportunities it has brought him throughout the years.

So many came out on a cold winter morning to partner with the Rotary Club of Dover for Don't Trash Dover. Thank you to Rotarians and family members, Dover High School Interact students and the Dover Democrats for taking the time to fill many trash bags.





Freeport

Help Fill a Basket! Drop Off an Item!
Every month, between September and June, Freeport Rotary Club holds a Food Drive for the Freeport Community Center food pantry. This past January, Club members delivered a pickup truck full of food and needed paper products and \$174 in cash donations to the pantry. Rotarian and Past President of the Freeport Club, Jerry Gould, put a face to the Event.





Oxford Hills

Collecting mobility devices for Crutches 4 Africa, George and Patty Rice recently delivered a trailer load to the warehouse in Old Orchard Beach. A press release in the local paper resulted in additional donations. The OH Club has donated 4 loads to date; the next load is in progress! Pic: George and Patty Rice.



Our Interact Club provided sweets and treats for attendees at the Annual Christmas for Teens Benefit Concert. They raised \$2,000 to donate to the Christmas for Teens project. Great job Interactors! Pic: L to R: Interactors Cameron Sherbinski, Michaela Holbrook, Cody Roy, Abby Fickett, Zaya Turner.

Every January, Vocational Service Month, the Club recognizes community members. Invited guests share their story of how and why they are living and working in the Oxford Hills. A Certificate of Appreciation is presented to them for their time and efforts. Club Member Dan Hart, Vocational Service Director, is the coordinator of these programs. Pic: L to R: Monica LaVerdiere, Owner of Bearfoot Realty, and Rotarian Ed Smith, OH Vocational Service committee member.





Portland

Portland Rotarian Paul Tully placed a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, in Arlington National Military Cemetery, in Arlington, Virginia, on December 17, 2021. This was Paul's second year, in the last three years, with Wreaths Across America. He is part of a group of forty volunteers invited by the Dodge Company that go annually. Paul was asked to lay the wreath last year-but all public participation was cancelled, due to COVID. So, he was asked again this year. The ceremony was on Friday, December 17th at 1:15pm followed by Wreaths placement on Saturday, December 18. Thank you, Paul for participating in this annual laying of Wreaths Across America, at Arlington Cemetery.





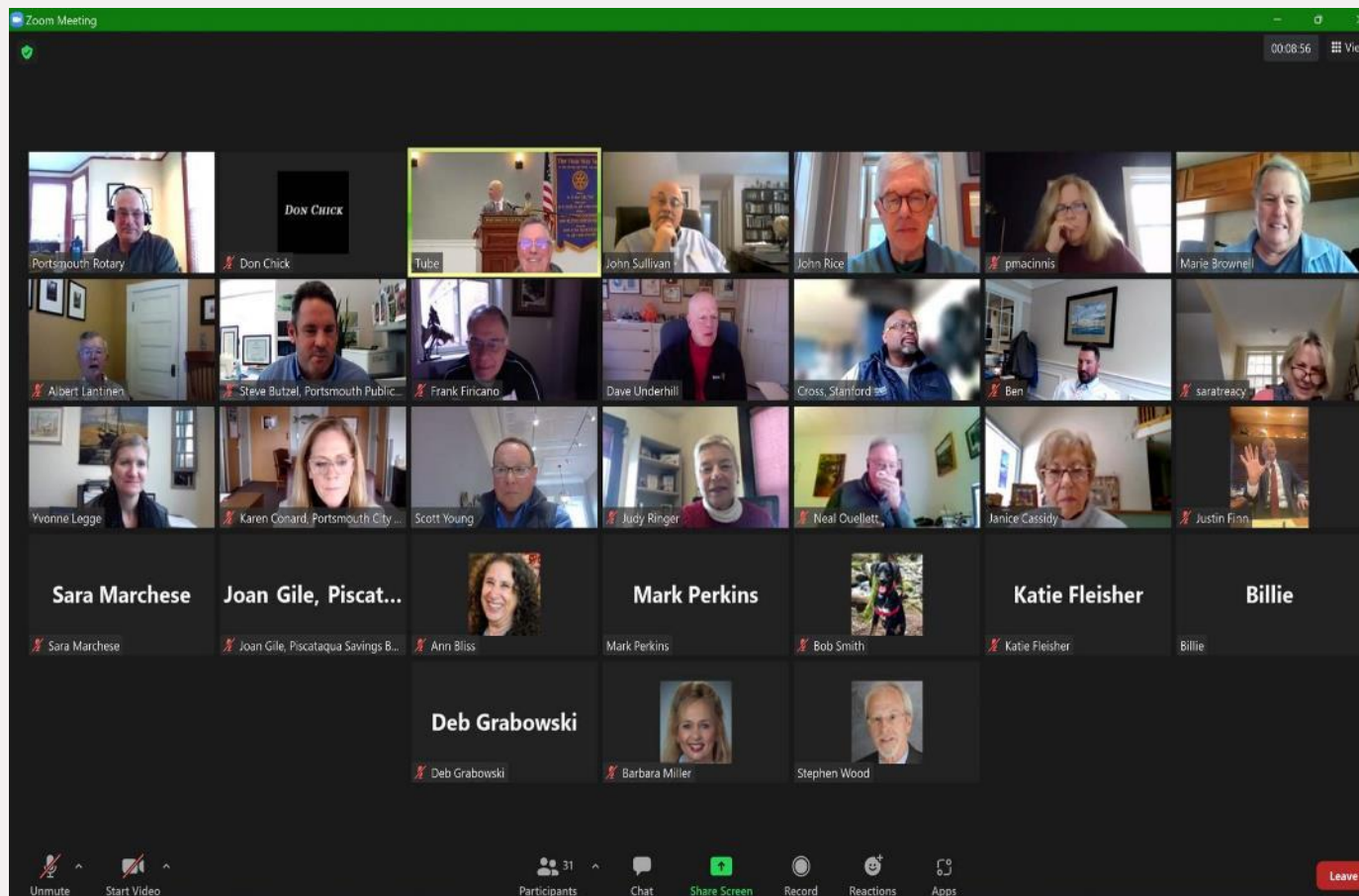
Portsmouth

Still meeting via Zoom.

Marie Brownell's Golf Committee is hard at work on this year's tournament slated for June 10 at the Pease Golf Course. Registration is at 7am and tee-off starts at 8am. We invite you to sign up and take your own shot at winning the Rotary Trophy.

The William Cash Committee donated \$2500 dollars to Traip (Kittery, ME) Academy's Project Graduation and \$17,500 dollars to the Portsmouth Women's Club. Our commitment will also include a hands-on project later. Meanwhile our support of the Salvation Army Soup kitchen, under Sara Treacy's leadership, has resumed.

Speaker Guests over the past month included Kennebunk Rotarian and Police Chief Bob McKenzie and Portsmouth Public Library Director Steve Butzel.





Sanford-Springvale

JANUARY THAW is a fundraising event to secure and donate cold weather clothing items for the homeless. \$10,000 was raised through ticket sales, donations and a matching grant from an area business. The event was conceived by Past DG Elias Thomas III and implemented by him and his daughter, Heather Beaupre, Past President and now Co-President of the Sanford-Springvale RC.

The event had residents in the area gather for good food and drink, and at the same time donate funds and warm clothing items to benefit the homeless population in the City of Sanford. Thomas and his daughter presented the idea to owners of Kai Asian Fusion who prepared fantastic Sushi, Tempura and other Asian delicacies. This all came together in a partnership of the Rotary Club, Sanford Housing Authority and the Sanford Police Department.

The items were distributed during the Point in Time count, which is a yearly event to count those who are unhoused so that the state and community knows what is needed for funds and programs.

Photo L-R: Diane Gerry, Director, Sanford Housing Authority; Detective Colleen Adams, Community Liaison, Sanford Police Department; Eric Small, Deputy Chief of Police; Craig Andersen, Chief of Police; Heather Thomas Beaupre, Co-President, Sanford-Springvale RC; Elias Thomas, Member, Sanford-Springvale RC.





DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

If you didn't see your Club News in this issue of the District Newsletter, it is likely we did not receive it. We love to hear from all of you. About 75 words and a couple of photos. Send your material to: RotaryNews7780@gmail.com.

Thank you for all you do for your Club, the District and the World.

Carol Madsen, District Newsletter Editor

RC Bridgton-Lake Region