

**Rotary**  
District 7780



# News from Around the District

ROTARY DISTRICT 7780 CLUBS  
SERVICE, FUNDRAISING AND  
CELEBRATIONS  
MAY 2021





## Bethel

April was a wonderful month for the Rotary Club of Bethel! We welcomed two new members: Catherine (Cat) Ingraham (top photo) and Mary McCormick Smith (bottom). Cat is a development consultant and Mary is a retired teacher and ski instructor.

We also confirmed the dates of two upcoming fundraisers: our Annual Yardsale & Auction, August 10-16th and our Rotary 5k (and 1 mile for ages 12 and under). For those who would like to participate in the live event, the date is Sunday, Sept 19th, and for those who would like to participate virtually, you can do so anytime between Sept. 10-19th. Registration is encouraged online at [www.RunReg.com/bethelrotary5k](http://www.RunReg.com/bethelrotary5k)





# Boothbay Harbor

After nearly a year of being closed, the Rotary Barn in Boothbay Harbor opened again in early April 2021. It will be open Saturday mornings from 8:30-11:00, weather permitting, selling donated flea market items such as books, rugs, kitchenware, lamps, pots and pans. They also take tools and collectibles and even some furniture. They currently have several boats to sell. Masks will be required. Please join us for another year of amazing bargains. For more information contact:

[iredougfowle2@gmail.com](mailto:iredougfowle2@gmail.com)





## Bridgton-Lake Region

The Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce hosted its first event since the pandemic on Thursday, April 8. Awards were given for outstanding members for the year 2020.

Among the winners were Bridgton-Lake Region Rotary Club for Nonprofit of the Year and Rotarian Nicholas Orgo as Business Person of the Year. Accepting the award above is President Elect Jessica Putnam, President Julie Forbes and Past President (2019-20) Carol Madsen.

We are a proud bunch of Rotarians!!



Save the Date – RCBLR Annual Golf Tournament – September 18, 2021



# Brunswick

Brunswick Rotarians, family, and friends met at the Mall for our first in-person gathering since last March. Everyone brought their own lunch and enjoyed catching up! Under the able direction of the Brunswick Park & Rec facilities maintenance department, club members then split into three teams to clean up the Mall, the Bike Path, and Nathaniel Davis Park (behind Tess's Market). A fun and satisfying beautiful spring afternoon was enjoyed by all!





## Dover

Community Services workers installed bicycle racks around the city donated by the Rotary Club of Dover. The Rotary Club's donation, made possible in part through a grant from Rotary District 7780, provided 14 bicycle racks to encourage exercise and bicycle use within the city.

And we joined in with others of Don't Trash Dover as a group of volunteers who departed from Garrison Elementary School and picked up litter in the surrounding area.

Dover has a series of member highlights, latest is of new member and banker Ian Oneail. To follow, go to: [Stories | Rotary Club of Dover \(doverrotary.com\)](https://doverrotary.com/stories)





# Exeter

The Exeter Rotary Club is raffling some of the most exclusive and distinguished wines in the world with the goal to raise \$10,000 for local non-profit organizations. The Club received an unexpected gift of wines from a very generous donor, Linda Chestney, in memory of her husband Allan Blake, a wine connoisseur and collector. These high-end wines have a total value of over \$8,000 and each bottle has a value between \$65 to \$1000.

Tickets are available online at either [www.go.eventgroovefundraising.com/exeterrotarywinerafile](http://www.go.eventgroovefundraising.com/exeterrotarywinerafile) or [www.exeterrotary.org](http://www.exeterrotary.org). The raffle drawing will be held Tuesday, May 4th at 5:30pm at VINO E VIVO and will be streamed on social media. Only 100 raffle tickets will be available for purchase from April 13 through May 3.

GOOD LUCK!!





## Kennebunk Portside

Kennebunk Portside Rotarians celebrated Earth Day 2021 by gathering to pick up trash at Colony Beach and along Ocean Avenue, Kennebunkport. This was a meaningful way to see friends during the pandemic and also to honor Rotary International's recent addition of "supporting the environment" to its key areas of focus for Rotary club projects. Club member and District Governor, Peggy Belanger, was there to lend her hand.

Photo one: Rand Gesing, Harvey Flashen, Susan Gesing, Gil Page, Ki Leffler.

Photo two: left to right, District Governor Peggy Belanger, Harvey Flashen, Ki Leffler, Charlie Coleman, Rand Gesing, Susan Gesing, Assistant Governor Bob Wester, Dave Jourdan, Kate Howell, Gil Page.





# Kittery

## 1st Annual Kittery Together 5K Run/Walk Challenge

Join us for the 1st Annual Kittery Together 5K Run/Walk Challenge to support Kittery Rotary Club, working tirelessly to support our community during the COVID-19 pandemic

Use the race as a motivation tool to stay active and keep that resolution going, compete against family and friends, or just support those who are working to provide for Kittery Community during this difficult time. 100% of the net proceeds will support local non-profits, schools & local people in need.

Some of the community projects that Kittery Rotary does:

SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS: Scholarships, Books, and Student of the month.

FEED LOCAL FAMILIES: Footprints, End 68 Hours, and Table of Plenty.

COMMUNITY: Helping those in need with shopping, masks, and hand sanitizer during the Covid-19 pandemic; volunteering and supporting BLOOD DRIVES.

INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS: Eradicating Polio, Water Projects, Literacy Projects, Life and Hope Haiti, and Rotary Children's Fund.

<https://runsignup.com/Race/ME/Kittery/KitteryTogether>

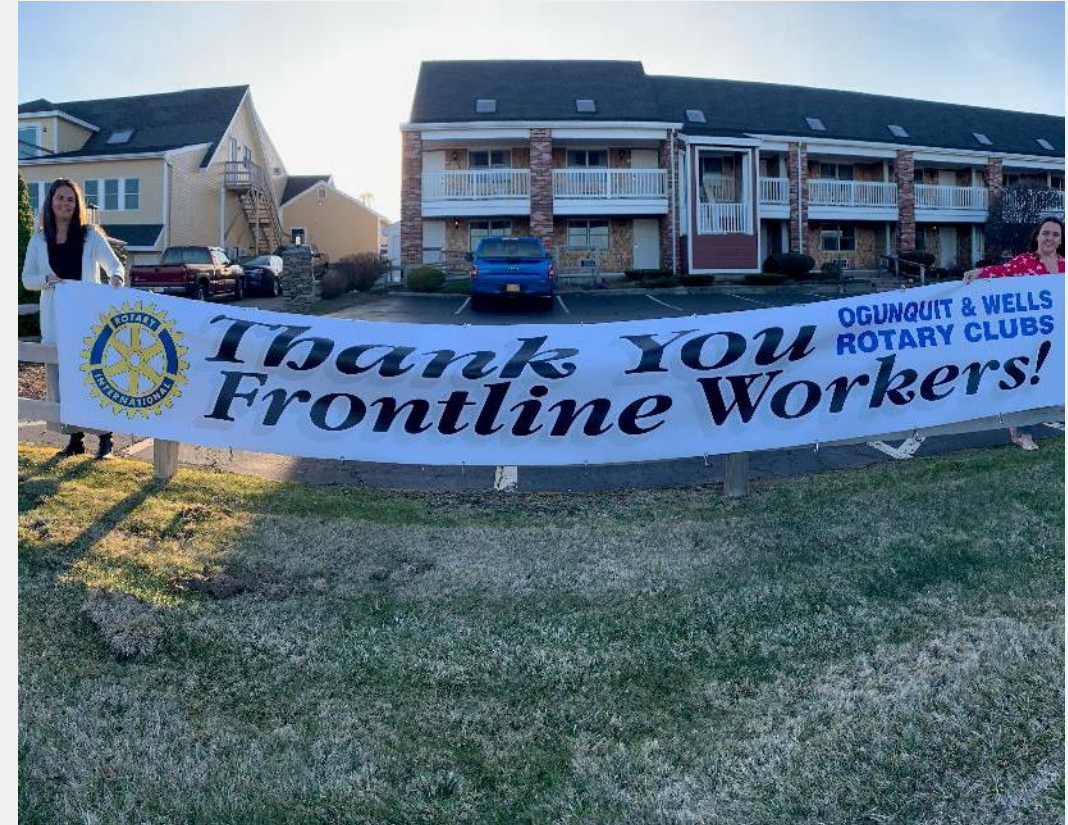




# Ogunquit & Wells Clubs

## Ogunquit and Wells Rotary Clubs Partner to Thank Frontline Workers



How can we possibly thank all of the people who have worked tirelessly throughout this pandemic? Educators, first responders, grocery store workers, trades workers, medical professionals, the list goes on. These are the people who have not stopped working and for many working additional hours under tough circumstances to keep us safe and continuing with everyday life. The Ogunquit and Wells Rotary Clubs collaborated to thank our community members who have given so much over the last year. The clubs jointly purchased a banner from Ocean Graphics in Wells. It will hang for two weeks on Route 1 in Wells in front of the junior high school and for two weeks on Route 1 in Ogunquit. A special thank you goes out to Wells Police Chief Joanne Putnam for helping to coordinate and to the Ogunquit Fire Department for putting up the banner in both locations. Ogunquit Rotary Treasurer Erin Haye and Wells Rotary President-Elect Danielle DeFelice worked together on this important thank you project and hope that it brings a smile to the many who have worked, and continue to work, so hard through this pandemic.





# Oxford Hills

The Rotary Club of Oxford Hills spent the morning on Saturday 4/24 raking, mulching and winter cleanup at Moore Park in South Paris in honor of Earth Day. Thirteen volunteers including Rotarians, spouses and family showed up with rakes, clippers, leaf blowers, wheelbarrows and trailers to pitch in and work together to beautify the area.



## Rotary

### Lobsters For Scholars

The Rotary Club of Oxford Hills Presents

**Lobsters for Scholars**

**First Prize = Seafood Meal Cooked for 12 people includes Lobster, Clams, Corn, French Fries, watermelon, cooked and packaged for serving at your desired location also includes \$100.00 for your purchase of beverages of choice. We will travel within 50 miles of South Paris on your desired date.**

**Second Prize = \$100 Gift Certificate for Lobster Dinner at Oxford Casino**

**Third Prize = \$50 Gift Certificate to Smedbergs for Live Lobsters**

**Only 75 chances to be sold    Donation Only \$30.00**

**All proceeds benefit the Scholarship Fund for OHCHS graduates**

**We have tent available if desired**

**Tickets available from any Oxford Hills Rotarian or call:**

**George Rice 207-890-3122 or [gwrice124@charter.net](mailto:gwrice124@charter.net)**

**Drawing to be held on June 9, 2021**

**For visit [www.oxfordhillsrotary.org](http://www.oxfordhillsrotary.org)**



L TO R: BECKY KAURUP, PETER KAURUP, GEORGE RICE, DAVID KNOX, MIKE MORIN, LIZ KNOX, JOHN GRIFFITH, ABBIE EARLE, JOSIE MAINS, TINA FOX, MADDY MAINS AND LIZ KNOX, BELOW,

# Portland

In fall 2020, Portland Rotarians planted purple crocuses in Rotary Grove, a small park located near the city's Ferry terminal. Two thousand “Purple Crocuses for Polio” were planted last year in *Rotary Grove*. They're showing signs of spring in 2021. It'll take a few years for the crocus garden to really take shape. Thanks to Rotarian Paul Gore for the signs there describing the project.

For those looking for weekly updates from Portland, contact [bobmartinmaine@gmail.com](mailto:bobmartinmaine@gmail.com) to subscribe to The Windjammer, a very professional looking newsletter produced with ClubRunner.





# Portsmouth

## Turning 60 Never Felt So Good!

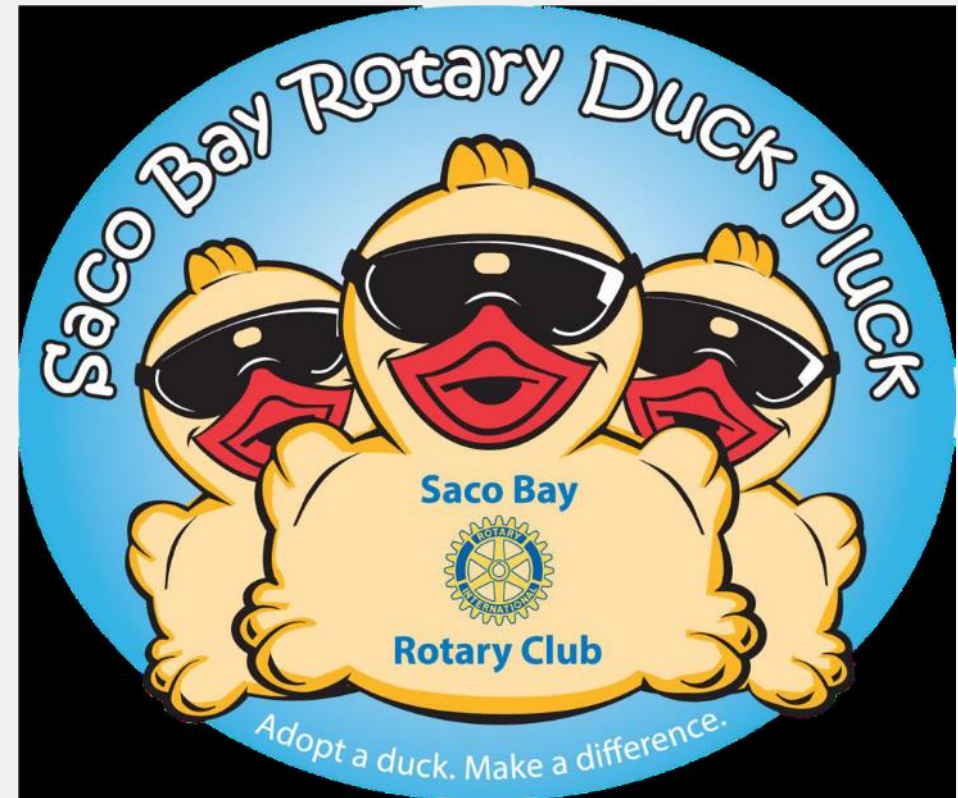
On February 25th, Club President Jon Flagg turned 60 years young. On a whim, he asked family, friends and colleagues to donate \$60 to Portsmouth Rotary, instead of lavishing him with presents to mark the occasion. A local attorney, Flagg thought it would be fun to raise a few bucks, not thinking it would amount to much. But what started as a joke, ended up raising \$7,500. With approval of the Rotary BOD, the monies were then gifted to Red's Good Vibes of Greenland, NH.

Red's Good Vibes was founded in 2020 when schools closed and family's were hurting, due to the pandemic. Three siblings focused their efforts to provide groceries, warm clothing and toiletries to those in need. Also serving hot meals, from their food truck. The 3 siblings, Caitlin, Meghan and Michael were inspired by memories of their late brother Robert "Red" McGrath. Red who died in 2017 always wanted a truck that could help those struggling financially. For over a year, as a non-profit organization, with a warehouse in Greenland, Red's Good Vibes has delivered groceries to between 80 and 100 households a week, within 30 miles of Portsmouth. Delicious free meals are served from the bright red truck. Red's Good Vibes is a mobile giving organization. It is their mission to provide support and relief to the community with a smile and no judgement. President Jon delivered the \$7500 check to Caitlin McGrath-Levesque who called it a "game changer" for their organization.



# SACO BAY

Rotary Club of Saco Bay is pleased to bring back Duck Pluck 2021! Limited personal interactions over the last year have left many clubs scrambling for ways to fundraise which makes every dollar raised this year ever so important. The Duck Pluck will be in partnership with a Concert in the Park to be held in Old Orchard Beach – August 19, 2021 from 6 pm to 8 pm. To learn more and/or purchase ducks to support Saco Bay Rotary go to [www.Rotaryduckpluck.com](http://www.Rotaryduckpluck.com).





## Sanford-Springvale

On Thursday, April 22, to celebrate Earth Day, volunteers from the Sanford-Springvale Rotary Club, Great Bay Services, the Sanford Police and Fire Departments, and Goodall Hospital worked to clean up trash along Route 109 in South Sanford near Walmart and the Airport. It was a cold and windy morning, but a truck and trailer were filled with refuse from the side of the road. Admittedly a small step, but many small steps can help make our community more appealing to visitors and the Earth a cleaner and better place.



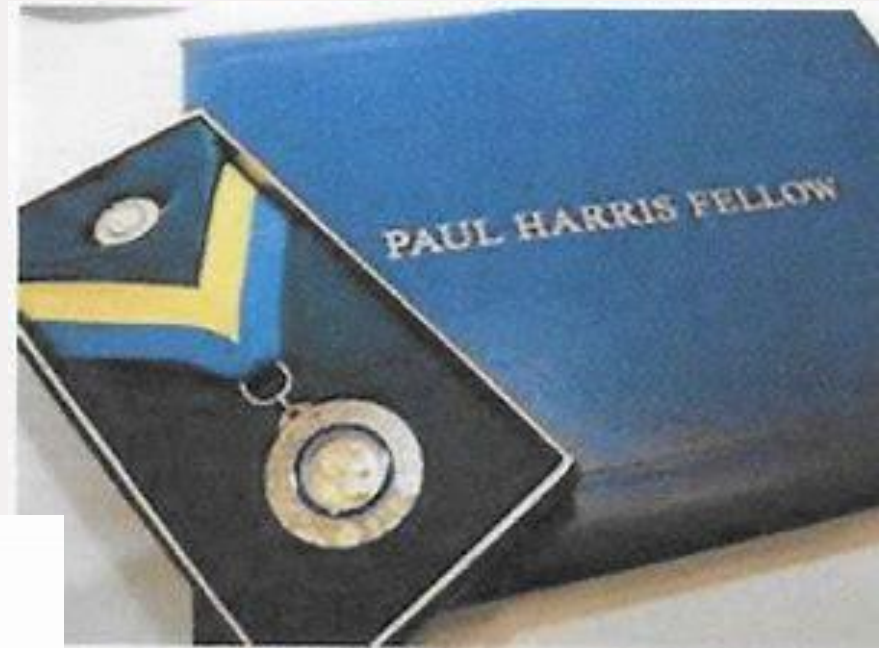
## South Portland Cape Elizabeth

### *Recognizing Leaders In The Community*

The SPCE Rotary Club presented Paul Harris Fellow awards to three nursing staff leaders at Pinnacle Health & Rehab of South Portland for their outstanding effort to protect the residents, staff and community since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The recipients are Laurie Bagley, RN - Director of Nursing, Becca Ivey-Geneseo RN - Assistant Director of Nursing and Infection Control & Prevention Officer, and Nikki Mowatt, LPN - Education Coordinator.

At the same time, the club presented Paul Harris Fellow awards to South Portland Food Cupboard leaders Dwayne Hopkins, Executive Director and Jim Welch, Warehouse Manager for their outstanding support to the community. During the pandemic, the food pantry shares a week's worth of healthy and nutritional food items and more if necessary. They follow all COVID recommendations for volunteers and food distribution.



## Westbrook-Gorham

During the first two weeks of April, several Westbrook-Gorham Rotarians volunteered at the Westbrook EMS Vaccine Clinic in the Westbrook Community Center. Club members greeted people and checked them in. They also managed the waiting areas both pre and post vaccine.

Westbrook EMS is equipped to provide both J&J and Moderna vaccines, depending upon availability. Clinic operations were on hold for a couple of weeks, but resumed in the last week of April. Westbrook-Gorham Rotary volunteers will be there to support this effort for as long as it takes!

Pictured: (l-r) Dan Willett, Westbrook Fire Dept Captain Gary Wagner, President Kathi Perkins (seated), Christine Johnson, and Scott Linscott. Other club volunteers not pictured are PE and Westbrook Fire Chief Andrew Turcotte and Michael Fandell.





If your club wasn't  
represented here...

Please ask your club  
president or club public  
information coordinator to  
email club news to:

[rotarynews7780@gmail.com](mailto:rotarynews7780@gmail.com)

- Photos and stories courtesy of  
the respective clubs and their  
websites, members and  
Facebook postings.