

# **Good News from the Clubs**

ROTARY DISTRICT 7780 CLUBS

SERVICE, FUNDRAISING, CELEBRATIONS & COLLABORATIONS

JUNE 3, 2024





Bethel had another celebratory month!

Pictured at left is Telstar High School Junior Tehya Buck and her mother Heidi. Tehya was recognized as a recent Student of the Month. She is also the recipient of a Rotary Grant to attend a week-long enrichment course at the Maine College of Art this summer.

At top right, hese six Telstar Middle School students attended a meeting to share highlights of a Spring Vacation week Science Trip they took to Florida, with financial assistance from Rotary. Pictured I-r: Bailey Watrous, Sydney VanBuren, Brooklyn Deprey, Ava Head, Bella Black, Quinn Coolidge.

At bottom, Rotarians gathered in early May at the Sunday River Brewing Co to enjoy a meal and celebrate all the great work we have done together this past winter.







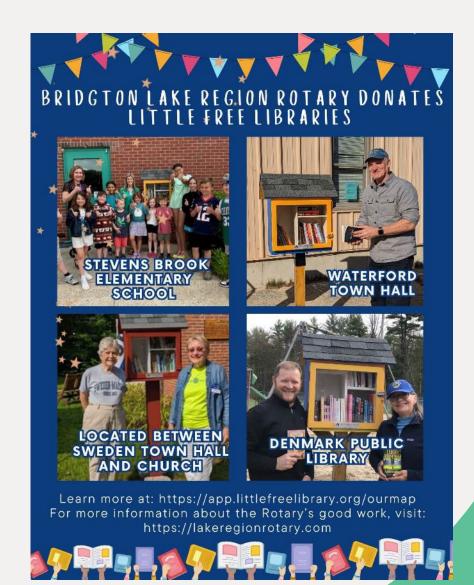
# **Bridgton-Lake Region**

Over the past year, the Bridgton-Lake Region Rotary Club has placed the four Little Free Libraries built by the Lake Region Vocational Center in Waterford, Sweden, Denmark and at the Stevens Brook Elementary School in Bridgton. They are a welcome addition to each of the communities and are all being used to share books with no obligation to return them. Library visitors take the books home and make them their own.

Little Free Library is a non-profit organization whose goal is to inspire readers of all ages by having individuals, businesses or civic organizations sponsor a network of 24/7 little library boxes. Visitors are encouraged to take a book or drop one off in good condition for others to share. The books are always changing so it's fun to visit the Little Free Libraries to see what's new. There are over 150,000 Little Free Libraries in the world. You can find one close to you wherever you are by visiting <u>https://app.littlefreelibrary.org/ourmap</u>.

Rotarian and Past President Aaron Hagan, emphasized that, "The Little Free Libraries are part of the Bridgton-Lake Region Rotary Club's commitment to literacy and promote a culture of reading by making books as accessible as possible."

For more about our activities, see <u>https://lakeregionrotary.com</u>.





### **Brunswick**

This May's 28th Annual Bike Rodeo and Family Safety Day was held at the Brunswick Park's and Recreation Department. 150 children participated.

Children took their bikes thru a course, with Masons and Brunswick Rotarians making sure they stopped, yielded, looked both ways, and stayed on course. The course itself was chalked out and signed by long time Wheeler and Bike Rodeo organizer Rich Cromwell and his trusty assistant Mark. The Brunswick Police Department registered the children's bikes, with a very large orange fox giving high fives to all.

Rotarians greeted the children as they arrived, and checked them in. Rotarian Patty was the MC. A big thank you to our local Walmart for donating 6 new bicycles and to the bag stuffers for the gift bags given out to children once they had completed nine stations in the event.

A total of 12 bicycles were given out. Each child also received water bottles with gifts inside from Center Street Cycle. Another wonderful event for children coordinated and put on by various local organizations in Brunswick.









Damariscotta-Newcastle Karl's Kids program again provided new helmets for all the participants in the Great Salt Bay School Annual Bike Rodeo. (top photos)

Rotarians were joined by Coastal Rivers Conservation staff and volunteers for Spring cleanup at our pollinator garden and Rotary Way bench and landscaping (both projects funded by District 7780 Grants). (bottom right)

Rotarian Tom Anderson joined the local Memorial Day parade.











Great evening at the Dover High School Rotary Interact Awards Banquet. Proud of all the students in their participation in the community service projects throughout the year. The final thought "learn to grow and be a good person". Service above Self.

The Mexican hats, maracas, and music filled the room as the Rotary Club of Dover visited the residents at the Wentworth Home during our Senior Community visit. We learned how much they love music and virgin margaritas. The residents shared their stories about where they were from and how they came to the Dover area. They loved their gift bags. The socks and nightlights were a hit.

Svea Miller recently received the Dover Middle School Student of the Month award. She is a dependable, hardworking, and loving student who actively participates in all her classes. She is concerned about the environment and created a website that educates others. Last year she helped initiate a club, the Earth Activists. She respectfully incorporates her knowledge of the environment into class discussions and asks deep and thoughtful questions. She is a well-rounded individual and a model student. Congratulations, Svea!









Ogunquit Rotarians on Memorial Day

Ogunguit Rotarians honored and remembered the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. Rotarians Erin Haye, Susan DeQuattro, Peter Woodbury and Alice Pearce (I-r in top photo) represented The Rotary Club of Ogunguit in the annual Rotary Memorial Day parade. Rotarians Peter Woodbury and Elizabeth Ford continue their outstanding project to honor veterans by retiring old flags and creating the beautiful stars and message that were distributed on Memorial Day and throughout the year. The message with the star says, "I am part of our American flag that has flown over the U.S.A. I can no longer fly. The sun and winds have caused me to become tattered and torn. Please carry me as a reminder that you are not forgotten." If you would like more information about the star project, or if you would like to request stars to distribute, please contact the OGT club at www.ogunguitmerotary.org.







First ever combined OH Rotary May Day Play Day & Touch-A-Truck by Community Concepts Inc was held recently. Face painting, sand art, lego construction room, multiple bounce houses, free books, hot dogs, popcorn, nail pounding, free music AND tons of trucks! Firetrucks, cranes, PACE ambulance, race car, heavy equipment, mud truck, bus, trash trucks, towing trucks, and more! Families came with kids and let them climb in the cabs, blow the horns, try out the firehoses, talk to drivers, and learn! Inside and outside activities, plus lots of booths with resources and info available for services in the Oxford Hills. Over 60 Interact and high school/middle school students helped out. And it was all <u>FREE</u> <u>FUN</u>! Photo top: PP Dave Preble cooking hot dogs,

Congratulations to member, Dave Knox, Norway Fire Chief, who graduated from his radiation treatments last week! President Beth let him ring the Rotary bell to celebrate! And Bob Schott presented him with his very own Norway Ladder Truck!! Congrats, Dave!! We're glad you're part of our Rotary family and this is now behind you!! Pic: L-R President Beth Abbott, Dave Knox w/his own ladder truck, Bob Schott presenter.









Portland

WHO'S YOUR HERO?

Portland Rotary is pleased to announce its 6th annual Flags for Heroes event.

On Sunday, July 21st, 150 American flags, honoring 150 life heroes, will be flown at the Sea Dogs game and then displayed for two weeks at the Maine Mall. Visit <u>www.flagsforheroesmaine.com</u> to sponsor a hero and learn more.

To honor the great work Rotary does, we are offering two complimentary general admission tickets to the Sea Dogs game to every club in the district. More information will be provided to club presidents shortly.

Thanks to: the Portland Radio Group, Sea Dogs, Maine Mall, and Rowe Auto Group.





The club awarded 17 \$3,000-dollar scholarships to area high school seniors from Berwick Academy, Philips Exeter, Portsmouth High School, and St. Thomas Aquinas. Rotarians Lindsey Reid, Caitlin Burke, Tristan Shanley, Nancy Clayburgh, and others did all the challenging work to bring these awards to completion.

The 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Golf Tournament will be dedicated to the late Marie Brownell and held on June 14 at Pease. Donations and golf teams are needed. <u>Click HERE</u> for registration details.

Past President James Petersen spearheaded an extraordinarily successful clothing drive that helped Friends in Action and their Durham Thrift shop.

Lastly, a successful first-ever Comedy Night was held at the Rep on May 7, adding to the \$110,000 goal for monies needed to fund the India Rotoplast trip. Rotarian Aileen Dugan coordinated the initiative.





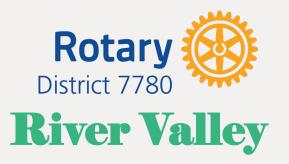
President Legge doesn't take golf seriously ....



 ... but there's nothing more important to her than raising \$ for our community. 31st Annual Portsmouth Retary Club Colf Tournament Pease Golf Course Jun 14, 2024

Rotary

Rotary Club of Portsmouth N



The River Valley club proudly hosted the Top Ten High school Students for lunch on May 20, 2024!

Each student told the Rotarians who they were, what they did during high school, and what their plans were for college.

Photo (I-r): The top Ten Students, Thomas Danylik - MVH Principal, Dave Duguay Rotarian of the Day!

A featured speaker at a recent Luncheon was Christopher Brennick, Extended Learning Opportunity (ELO) Coordinator, Mountain Valley High School. He explained how an ELO experience takes place outside the classroom and focuses on students career interest. Photo (I-r): Charlie LeDuc, Rotarian of the Day, and Christopher Brennick.







# Saco Bay Sunset

Club member Carol Marcotte traveled to Poland in April/May as part of the District Outreach team visiting local club projects with an emphasis on mental illness.

As the Rotaract advisor at University of New England, Carol was especially interested in exchanging information about the UNE Rotaract club with Rotaractors from the Rotary Club Krakow and Rotaract Club of the University College of Enterprise and Administration during the Poland visit. The UNE Rotaract club plans to visit Poland in May 2025. Both Poland Rotaract clubs will be part of the itinerary. The three clubs are discussing a multi-country project.

On July 6, the Club will hold a cornhole tournament to raise funds for a project in Poland to support Ukrainian Refugees. Join us.







## **Sanford - Springvale**

It was an honor to celebrate a number of outstanding local students at this morning's annual Rotary Scholarship Breakfast. Nearly \$20,000 was awarded to nine deserving individuals in support of their postsecondary pursuits.

We extend our most heartfelt congratulations to the following graduating seniors:

Lydia Church, Sanford Regional Technical Center; Ben Tanguay, Massabesic High School; Hailey Tarbox, Sanford High School; Alison Curcio, Sanford High School; Charles Carroll, Massabesic High School; Sophia Tounge, Sanford High School; Michaela Tibbetts, Noble High School; Jacob LeBrun, Massabesic High School; and Haley Stevens, Massabesic High School.

Best wishes, students, for a bright and prosperous future!







Sebago Lake Rotary partnered with the Sebago Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce on the Sebago Lake Polar Dip on Saturday, April 13th, in memory of Rotarian George Bartlett. The event which usually occurs during the Rotary's fishing derby in February was postponed due to unsafe conditions. Although close to 60 degrees and sunny on the 13th, the lake was only 38 degrees! The event raised over \$5,000 for Feed the Need, supporting the twelve food pantries in the Sebago Lake Region.

Photo is Mark Wasowski and Robin Mullins - two of our club Rotarians who bravely took the plunge and raised \$2,000 of the total \$5,000 themselves!!





### Westbrook-Gorham

On May 21, a gorgeous sunny day, we celebrated the installation of our District Grant Funded Sun Charge Systems Solar Charging Pole at the Gorham Skatepark. The Skatepark is a well-used outdoor community recreational resource located near an elementary school, ball fields, & the Public Safety building. The pole is equipped with multiple USB--C and USB-3 charging ports, and two touch charging pads.

Guests from the Town of Gorham, including their Development Director and Parks & Recreation Director, learned about the station's technology, and got a chance to give it a try. They loved the touch pad chargers!!

We thanked our partners in this venture - Gorham Parks & Rec for their help with receipt and installation, and Gorham Savings Bank for closing a funding gap. Without their support, this project would not have been possible. Of course, we also thanked District 7780 and all donors to the Annual Fund of the Rotary Foundation. As part of the celebration, we all enjoyed lunch from Millside Creations, a local food truck.

A paid ad will appear in the Gorham Times during the week of May 27. Additional banner and table-top branding for the pole will be installed by the end of May to close out the grant.





'The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn. the more places you will go." ~ Dr Seuss

#### GORHAM SKATEPARK

WELCOME TO

Solar Charging Pole Courtesy of

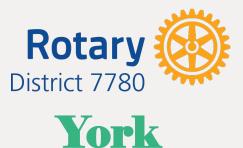








Three of the five pole banner designs to be rotated seasonally



York Middle School Interact Club held a penny wars fundraiser to raise money for Common Man for Ukraine. The club was awarded a matching grant from York Rotary Club. Total raised was \$336.00.

Pictured are YMS Interact Officers and York Rotary Club President, Ben Lovell.





### DISTRICT NEWSLEPPER

If you didn't see your Club's News in this issue of the District Newsletter, it is likely we did not hear from your President or PR person. We would love to hear from every club. Forward about 75 words in a Word document and a couple of separate photos with the identities of people in them, especially Rotarians. Keep photos flattering, please. Send your material to: <u>RotaryNews7780@gmail.com</u>.

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

Carol Madsen, District Newsletter Editor, Bridgton-Lake Region RC

Dennis Moulton, District Newsletter Publisher, Portsmouth RC