

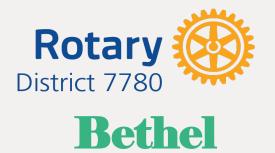
Good News from the Clubs

ROTARY DISTRICT 7780 CLUBS

SERVICE, FUNDRAISING, CELEBRATIONS & COLLABORATIONS

JUNE 30, 2025



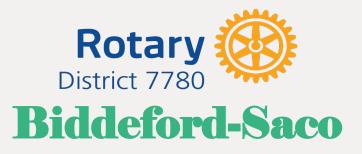


The pace is intensifying as we prepare for our biggest fundraising event of the year the annual Bethel Rotary Club Yard Sale August 5-11. The very successful sale model is a week long. But Rotarians put in time all year picking up and storing items donated by homeowners. A caravan of trucks will then deliver everything to our sale site just before the sale starts. Proceeds support scholarships, youth programs, and more. Photos from 2024

Sale, Rotarian Anne Carter in left photo and Rotarian Craig Harris in right photo.







The final element, the lighthouse, of the highly anticipated Rotary Splash Pad arrived in time for the Memorial Day weekend. The grand opening celebration was held on Wednesday, May 21 at 10:00 a.m. Over 100 people enjoyed the Splash Pad the first week.

This marks the culmination of a **three-year community-driven project** to bring a safe, fun, and inclusive water play space to families in the Saco area. The celebration will include remarks from **local and state officials**, recognition of generous **sponsors**, and attendance by **Rotarians from across the region**, as well as **schoolchildren and members of the public**.

Rotarians Brenda Pollack and Paulette Bonneau were the thankful project leaders for our club. They spearheaded the initiative with support from community partners, donors, and the City of Saco.

Editors Note: This is a correction. Last month this project was credited to the Saco Bay RC.





Bridgton-Lake Region

Bridgton-Lake Region Rotary Club's 2nd Annual July 3rd Pasta Dinner Returns

The Bridgton-Lake Region Rotary Club invites the community and other Rotarians to its 2nd Annual Pasta Dinner on Thursday, July 3, from 5:30–7:30 PM at Stevens Brook Elementary School. Reviving a local favorite, this hearty meal includes pasta with meat or tomato sauce, salad, bread, drinks, and dessert—all lovingly prepared by Rotarians and Friends of Rotary. Tickets are \$15 adults, \$10 kids under 12, with discounts for race and Fun Run participants. Proceeds support scholarships, literacy, veterans, and other local programs. As President Dr. Lisa Ryan shared, "This meal offers another delicious, affordable option—prepared with love." Join us. Photo: Rotarians Carol Madsen (left) and Lisa Ryan from 2024 Dinner.





All invited/ welcome Racers receive \$2 discount. Stevens Brook Elementary 14 Frances Bell Dr., Bridgton Tickets at the door

Adults \$15 Youth under 12 - \$10 Show Your Bib for a \$2 discount All proceeds go to charity Menu: Homemade Marinara or Meat Sauce Garden Salad Good luck to Italian Bread Dessert the runners.







Brunswick

Brunswick Rotary Celebrates 100 Years of Service and Civic Impact

On May 18, 2025, the Brunswick Rotary Club marked its 100th anniversary with a heartfelt celebration featuring U.S. Senator Angus King as keynote speaker. The evening honored a century of community service, with Paul Harris Fellow Awards presented to Don Kniseley and George Gilmore. Senator King praised the club's commitment to humanitarian values, shared moving reflections on civic engagement, and emphasized how "everyone can serve." Quoting Robert F. Kennedy, he reminded Rotarians that each act of compassion sends ripples of hope. Founded in 1925, the club continues to grow, including 21 active women, and remains deeply engaged in both local and global service.



Brunswick Coastal

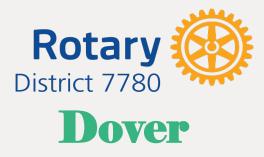


Oasis: A Lifeline of Compassionate Care

The Brunswick Coastal Rotary Club presented a Paul Harris Fellowship to Dr. Peter F. Maguire, MD for his founding of the Oasis free clinic.

Founded in 1995 by Dr. McGuire in Brunswick's Tedford-Oasis Shelter, Oasis began as a clinic for the homeless. Today, it's Maine's largest free health center—offering primary care, dental, vision, and prescription assistance to underserved residents across the region. With nearly \$1 million in free medications dispensed annually and hundreds receiving dental care, Oasis exemplifies community-driven healthcare. Serving Brunswick, Harpswell, Freeport, Durham, and Sagadahoc County, the clinic continues to expand its services while honoring its roots: providing compassionate, high-quality care to those in need.

Photo Caption: "Dr. Peter McGuire flanked by Brunswick Coastal Rotarians Jim Pierce and Mary Tennant"



Student of the Month: Parker Corbin - Dover Middle School's May honoree is described as kind, humble, and brilliantly committed. Parker's thoughtful nature and academic dedication embody everything the Rotary values in our future leaders.

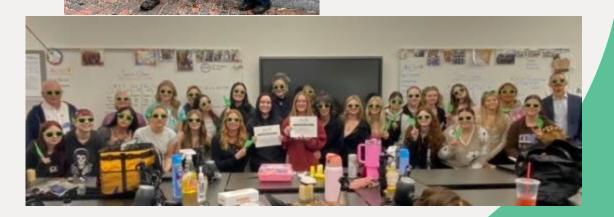
Four Receive Scholarships - Gary & Deb DeColfmacker had the honor of presenting the Dover RC annual scholarships at Dover High School for the 24th year! Among recipients were Jack Wagoner (pictured here), Rachel Bachrach, Nathon Bigelow and Addison Menninger. During the ceremony all members of the Interact Club stood and were recognized.

Vocational Pride and Purpose - Rotary awarded 250 tool certificates to students at Dover Regional Career Technical Center and recognized eight seniors stepping directly into their trades. A wig dryer, funded by a Rotary grant, helped cosmetology students recondition 250 wigs for cancer patients—another meaningful year for the Vocational Tools & Training Program, championed by Rotarian Jim Munro. (bottom)

Beautifying the Heart of Dover - Thanks to over \$3,000 in funding and countless community contributions, Dover Rotary continues its decades-long tradition of maintaining the gardens at Henry Law Park. Volunteers and local businesses came together to refresh the garden beds, enhance infrastructure, and keep the space blooming for all to enjoy.









Rotary Celebrates Launch of O-Zone Garden

The Durham/Great Bay Rotary Club, in partnership with UNH's hockey teams and the Durham Public Library, has launched the new O-Zone Garden—a vibrant space for sustainability, education, and community engagement. Built with Rotary-donated materials and enriched by NASA-sponsored seeds, the garden features raised beds, potting benches, and gathering spaces. Club members and UNH athletes teamed up to bring the vision to life. "This garden will grow food, curiosity, and community spirit for years to come," said Secretary Will Lenharth. Learn more at durhamgreatbayrotary.org.







Exeter Rotary Scholarship Committee honored 2 students at Seacoast School Of Technology, 2 students at Exeter Highschool and pays for testing at Exeter Adult ed. We were prominent in the Memorial Day Prade. And we honored Best Buddies group with a speaking opportunity and a financial donation.

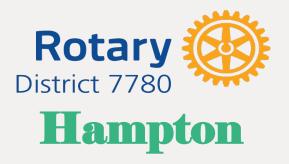




Exeter Rotary in Kathy Flygare VW







Congratulations to Our 2025 Hampton Rotary Scholarship Recipients!

Hampton Rotary is proud to continue our tradition of supporting local students. Recently we presented two scholarships to outstanding WHS seniors. ♠ ♀ Emerson Babyak & Amelia Dumont.

Pictured: Don Lamprey, Rotary Scholarship Chair, presenting the awards on behalf of our committee.

We were truly impressed by the achievements and dedication of all the applicants. Our local youth continue to inspire us with their commitment to both their education and their community.





KITTERY ROTARY AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

In June we held an awards ceremony for our scholarship winners from Traip Academy. This year three selected from the Class of 2025 from a field of 16 who submitted essays. We also awarded a check to one of last year's winners who took a gap year before starting school.

Winners included: Keira Alessi, who is a nationally ranked competitive water skier will be continuing her education at Clemson University. Camden Wiles who is acquiring aviation certifications with a view to joining Jet Blue as a pilot. Makili Matty, co-valedictorian for the Class of 2025,, will attend Colby College, majoring in Mathematics. Angie Murdock from the Class of 2024 took a gap year and has been substitute teaching at Mitchell School . She will be going to University of Maine at Orono with a view to being a teacher.

Congratulations to our scholarship recipients. Best wishes for the future!

PHOTO CAPTION: L-R out-going Kittery Superintendent Eric Waddell, Keira Alessi, Camden Wiles, Makili Matty, Angie Murdock and Rotary Co-President Brad Hirst.

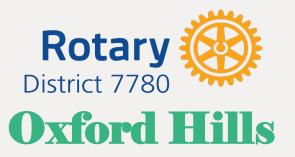




51st Annual 2 Cent Sale Invitation

The Ogunquit Rotary Club is hosting the 51st Annual 2 Cent Sale at the Dunaway Community Center in Ogunquit on Thursday, July 17, 2025 at 6:00 pm. This annual event is a highlight of the summer for many locals and visitors and features a range of raffle items that include \$1,000 cash, two nights stay at an OGT Inns property, a \$250 gas card and so much more! OGT Rotarians create themed gift baskets that are always fun to win and the crowd goes wild as each raffle table filled with prizes is announced. There is no entry fee to attend this family friendly event, and you won't want to miss the excitement. This is your official District 7780 invitation to join the fun, celebrate Rotary, and leave feeling like a winner. Photo: the 2024 2-Cent sale team.





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 the kids and let them climb in the cabs, blow the horns, try out the firehoses, talk to the drivers, and learn! Inside and outside activities, plus lots of booths with resources and info available for services in the Oxford Hills. We had over 60 Interact and high school/middle school students helping out. And it was all <u>FREE FUN</u>!

Pics: 1) Interact helpers 2) future truck driver 3) Tina Fox-Rotarian/Interact Advisor grandkids showing off their painted faces

June was a busy month with honoring OHCHS graduates including hosting the top 5% to a Club breakfast, cooking burgers and hot dogs for the Senior Picnic as well as presenting 8-\$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors at Class Nite.







Rotarians at Work: Making the Forest City a healthy and positive place to live

Portland Rotary's signature tree-planting initiative began 25 years ago with our partnership with the City of Portland. It began with Rotary Grove on the Eastern Promenade and continues most recently with the 'greening' of the Bayside Trail.

Thanks to the efforts of Mary Pat Donnellon, chair of Environmental Stewardship Committee, and the help and guidance of the city's forestry and horticulture crew, on June 20th we finished planting trees on Bayside, a project that was started by Past President Ellen Niewoehner and championed by Past President and PDG Dick Hall.







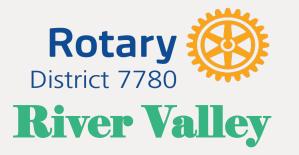
Portsmouth Rotary: Service, Celebration & New Chapters

Despite chilly weather, Portsmouth Rotary's 32nd Annual Golf Tournament welcomed 72 golfers and raised \$20,000. The club also helped restore a basketball court in Gosling Meadows, with a ribbon cutting slated for June 22, and Miami Heat player Duncan Robinson joining kids to celebrate.

This year's Vocational Award honored Angel Olmo for his ongoing community impact. As President Midge Nelson concludes her term, the club preps for its famously fun Changing of the Guard, welcoming lan Oneall. Three new members—including Rotary veterans Julia Phelps and Steve McKenzie—bring fresh energy to the team.







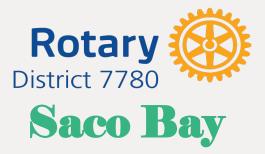
Mexico Fire Station Proposal Highlighted at Rotary Luncheon

At the June 3 River Valley Rotary Club luncheon, firefighter Jamie Theriault outlined Mexico's upcoming vote on building a new fire station on Roxbury Road. The proposed site—formerly Waleik's Store—was purchased by the town and previously approved by voters. With the current 1908 station deemed structurally unsafe after the 2023 flood, Mexico has been awarded a \$4.5 million USDA grant—one of only 12 in the U.S. The project requires a \$1.5 million town match, though residents' taxes would not increase. A "yes" vote on June 10 will help secure the town's safety without added financial burden.

Seen in the photo are Roger Whitehouse, Rotarian of the day, and Jamie Theriault!

For more information and photos, go to the River Valley RC, Rumford Maine FB Page.





The Saco Bay Rotary Club had another busy month of service and fellowship.

For a few of the highlights: A group of Rotarians met up for a few hours to do a Yard Cleanup which was one of the auction items won by a local neighbor. It is always great to help out in the community. Photo Yard Cleanup Team I-r Dan Letellier, Dave LePauloue, Jen Sirois, Chris Bedard, Chris Gordon, Mike Collard, Dru Laduke, Dave Arenstam.

At a weekly meeting Rotarian Joanne Landry shared a recap of her action-packed trip to the Philippines with the District Outreach Team. What great things Rotary International does around the world.

Later in the month a group of Rotarians gathered at Bentley's in Arundel for a night of fellowship and laughs! Photo: Bentleys with Dan Letellier, Jim & Lisa Pate, Carmen & Bob Gawronski, Dick Gendron, Joanne Landry, Curt & Kate Scamman, Jeff Slayton, Jessie & Bill Souter, Pam & Bill Gallo in no particular order.





Sanford-Springvale

The 14th Annual "Chip In Fore Charity" golf tournament

On Friday, June 6th, the 14th Annual "Chip In Fore Charity" golf tournament was hosted by the Sanford-Springvale Rotary Club and the Kiwanis Club of Sanford at the Province Lake Golf Club. Rotarian Elias Thomas in photo.

An impressive \$8,000 was raised to benefit the various projects Rotary supports throughout the year, including sending students to RYLA, and providing grants and funding to various programs in our community, such as the Sanford Mainers, YMCA, Odyssey of the Mind, and the Blue Bots at the Springvale Library.





Sebago Lake

Sebago Lake Rotary recognized for work with Veterans

David Tanguay of Windham Veterans Center Field Allen Post 148 Windham Maine presented the Sebago Lake Rotary Club with two certificates of appreciation for the efforts for the Veteran Center clean up day in May and the Wreath project in Dec.

Photo David Tanguay and Sebago Lake Rotary President, Max Bang





South Portland/ Cape Elizabeth

Bug Light Marks 150 Years with Community Celebration

The South Portland/Cape Elizabeth Rotary Club and the City of South Portland invite you to Bug Light Park on Saturday, July 26, 2025, from 11 AM to 3 PM to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Portland Breakwater Lighthouse, affectionately known as Bug Light. This iconic lighthouse, featured on the city seal and modeled after a Greek monument, opened in 1875 and stands as a symbol of maritime history and local pride.

The free event will feature crafts, games, historical displays, lighthouse reenactors, music by Ideal Music Band, food trucks, and even a regatta and tugboat water cannons! Kids can enjoy Story Walks and kite flying, while lighthouse lovers can collect Passport stamps at the Rotary tent.

A short program begins at 1 PM. Parking is available on-site and at SMCC with van shuttles. Visit <u>buglight150.org</u> for details. Come celebrate the beacon that has guided generations!





Westbrook-Gorham

Record Membership Growth – 2024-2025 saw record membership growth of 44%+ (as of 6/24/2025). 13 new members!! This includes the addition of 2 Active Corporate memberships for a total of 4. As we enter our 100th year, our Membership Chair and our whole club will be working hard to grow by another 11-12 members!!

Spring Awards & Scholarships – We were pleased to award a total of \$12,000 in Scholarships & Toolships at Westbrook HS, Gorham HS, and Westbrook Regional Vocational Center (WRVC). Our Youth Services Chair also presented Service Awards at Gorham and Westbrook Middle Schools to two 8th graders at each school who were selected by their faculty.

House Project – This school year saw great progress on our latest House Project on West Pleasant St in Westbrook. House #46!! Westbrook-Gorham Rotary has partnered with WRVC and the City of Westbrook since 1957 to build houses (and other structures) as part of the Building Trades curriculum. This three bedroom/two bath home should be completed by the end of the next school year. We are currently looking for the next building lot and have engaged officials in both Gorham and Westbrook to this end.

31st Annual Rotary Classic Golf Tournament, Monday September 22 at Val Halla Golf Course in Cumberland, Maine. Our biggest fundraiser. All are welcome to sponsor and/or play. For more info, or to sponsor or register: https://westbrookgorhamrotarygolf.org/





DISTRICT NEWSLEFTER

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

Christine Johnson, Interim District Newsletter Publisher, Westbrook-Gorham RC