



# Good News from the Clubs

ROTARY DISTRICT 7780 CLUBS

SERVICE, FUNDRAISING, CELEBRATIONS &  
COLLABORATIONS

JUNE 1, 2023





## Biddeford-Saco

**Congratulations to all the 8th grade students representing St. James School, Thornton Academy Middle School, Biddeford Middle School and Loranger Memorial School, for their winning essays, "What the Word Family Means to Me". The 28th Annual Rotary Essay Contest was held on May 18, issuing \$2250 in prize money, a combination of student awards and donations in their names to organizations of their choice. The top three winners from each school were honored and the first-place winners were invited to read their essay before an assembly of Rotarians, parents, school administrators, and teachers.**







## Bridgton-Lake Region

May was a busy month in western Maine. Our Club honored Citizens of the Month, Lake Region HS Seniors who had exhibited strong community service as well as excelling in other areas. With their parents they were treated to a celebratory breakfast and acknowledged for their accomplishments with certificates, gift cards and Rotary information.

Ten years after installing the first community gardens at the Bridgton Community Center, Rotarians partnered with Master Gardeners to build 4 new replacement gardens. The gardens beds now number over 40.

Finally, in partnership with the Lake Region HS Votech Carpentry instructor, 4 Little Free Libraries were built for towns in the Bridgton area. Seventh graders proudly displayed one of their constructed LFL.

For more information on these projects, see our website: <https://lakeregionrotary.com> or our FB





## Brunswick

**We hope you've marked your calendar and  
registered your team.**

**JOIN US FOR A DAY OF FAMILY FUN & FUNDRAISING!!  
SATURDAY, JULY 1, 2023**

The Rotary Club of Brunswick presents the First of July Games on the Mall & Cornhole Tournament, near the gazebo on the outdoor Mall in downtown Brunswick on Saturday, July 1, 2023. FREE Games starting at 10 am, featuring sack races, pie eating contests and more. Free fun for the whole family!

Starting at 12 noon, a Brunswick Rules Cornhole Tournament Community Fundraiser will begin. Three players per team. Enter to win bragging rights! Sponsorships available. Individuals may register for \$10 per player and sponsored team captains may register for \$100 per team. Registration is online at [www.BrunswickMaineRotary.org](http://www.BrunswickMaineRotary.org) by clicking on the "Cornhole Tournament & Community Fundraiser" link.





## Damariscotta-Newcastle

The Central Lincoln County YMCA has given their annual Character Development Award to the RC of Damariscotta-Newcastle. Our Club has been a close community partner of the Y for many years, participating in events, contributing to mission-based programs, and supporting the professional development and education of Y employees to ensure that individuals have access to the resources they need.

Our Club continues its work on the District 7780 Grant funded pollinator garden at Coastal Rivers Conservation Trust headquarters in Damariscotta. Having identified the garden location, marked boundaries, and prepared the area for planting, we ordered native plants and designed the layout to certify the garden as an official Maine pollinator-friendly garden. A permanent interpretive sign will assist with educating visitors, volunteers and staff about the importance of pollinators to our community and to the Earth. Thousands of visitors come to Coastal Rivers site annually as well as to the seasonal Farmers Market held a few feet away. We hope this will inspire creation and respect for pollinator gardens.







## Dover

The Rotary Club of Dover presented the April Student of the Month award to 8th grade Dover Middle School student Kennedy Blair, who received overwhelming praise from all who know her.

We had so much FUN as we read to the Kindergarten through 4th grade students at Woodman Park School as part of our Rotary Literacy Program. The kids loved the stories & poems and asked us to come back soon.

Also, we handed out dictionaries to the 3rd graders and a Thesaurus to the 4th graders. They look forward to using them with their school work.

The Dover High School Rotary Interact students helped to make Joe B. Parks Riverwalk beautiful at Dover Clean Up Day. Interactors also helped beautify downtown Dover with plantings at the Henry Law Park Rotary Garden.





## Durham-Great Bay

**JOIN US!!**

**Durham Great Bay Rotary Club**

**Summer Fest**

**June 17 – 12-6PM**

**Boulder Field / University of NH**

**More Details Coming Soon!**

A photograph of people sitting on a grassy field, looking towards a festival area with tents and trees in the background.

*Save The Date*  
DURHAM GREAT BAY ROTARY  
*SummerFest*

**JUNE 17TH 12-6PM**  
**Boulder Field | University of NH**

Join Durham Great Bay Rotary Club for an event that you will not want to miss. Our first annual Summerfest is sure to be a blast for all ages. Admission is free, donations are welcome.

*Live Music, Food Trucks, Cornhole  
Tournament, Vendors, Kids  
Activities, Bouncy House, and More*

**More Details Coming Soon!**



## Hampton

This month the Hampton Rotary Club had their annual “Distinguished Citizen of the Year” event. Congratulations to Wendi Lewis for being picked to receive this award. Wendi is a local mother, volunteer and paraprofessional at Marston School. She has spent years in the Parent Teacher Association, Friends of the Lane Memorial Library, and the Village Preschool board, all while raising two children of her own and working full-time in Hampton schools. Pictured L-R President Elect Charlie Davidson, event organizer, Wendi with award, and Martha Clyde and Larry Marsolais, co-presidents.

The criteria for this award involves playing a very active role in our community, contributing to the general benefit of the community, and performing over and above in the activities that this citizen is involved in. Rotarians and family of Rotarians are not eligible. We celebrated Wendi on May 2nd and thanked her for her important role in our Hampton area community!

The best part of this event is that it was a complete surprise to the recipient so Wendi had no idea until she walked in!







## Oxford Hills

The Oxford Hills Rotary Club is pleased to welcome its newest member, Mike Carter. Mike is a teacher at Poland Regional High School as well as minister of the First Congregational Church of South Paris (where the club meets). He lives in South Paris with his wife, Jo-Ellen. Congratulations and welcome to OH Rotary, Mike! Shown L to R: Sponsor Curtis Cole, Mike Carter and Club President George Rice performing the induction ceremony and presenting him with his badge and mug.

OH Rotary held their annual May Day Play Day, a free fun day for local elementary students., including face painting, cookie decorating, coloring, nail pounding, sidewalk chalk art, Norway Fire Dept Smokehouse tours, and much more. Free popcorn & hot dog lunches along with a backpack with toothbrush, toothpaste and other treats were given away to over 250 students that attended. Students and parents were happy and thanked us. The high school Interact students shown with Rotarian and Interact Advisor, Tina Fox., were a huge help in hosting this event.





## Portland

We welcomed our newest member. Following in the footsteps of his mother and grandfather, Sam Chipman joined the Portland Rotary Club. Here he is being proudly introduced by his mother, Past President Amy Chipman. Welcome Sam!

In partnership with the City of Portland, the Portland Rotary Club continued its efforts in the 'greening' of the Bayside Trail. On May 10<sup>th</sup>, the environmental services committee, under the leadership of Past President Ellen Niewoehner, planted another 10 trees along the trail.

Portland Sunrise Satellite Club assembled 35 personal care kits for Maine Needs. These kits are handed out to folks who live outside and include items like sunscreen, chapstick, nail clippers, and even a Dunkin' Donuts card. In the photo L-R: Betty and Dave Parsons, Art Howe and Quinn Slayton.







# Portsmouth

## 30th Annual Portsmouth Rotary Golf Tournament

June 9th, 2023

Pease Golf Course, Portsmouth NH

Registration 8:00 AM

Shotgun Start 9:00 AM

Net proceeds will be distributed by Rotary's Basic Needs Committee  
to provide food, clothing and shelter through local non-profits.

**Register here!!!**

**<https://events.golfstatus.com/event/3be3918b-9e30-45f6-8f94-3262b400689b/details/registration-details>**

For information on how to sponsor our tournament,  
please click on a "Sponsorships" or email our Rotary

Tournament Chair, Marie Brownell

[marie@brownellinsurance.com](mailto:marie@brownellinsurance.com)

We need volunteers!!! Sign up here, it will be fun!!

> **<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4AA4A62CA3FBC34-golf>**





## Rochester

Rotary District # 7780 Grant provided Rochester Rotary with the financial means to establish a Green Space for the Waypoint Center, including Raised Bed Planters, a supply of plantings, three weather-resistant picnic tables with umbrellas, and an outdoor gas grill. Rochester Rotarians provided the labor to build the raised beds and fill them with loam to be ready for spring planting.

The initiative aims to enhance the outdoor environment at Waypoint for the benefit of young people in the community. The Waypoint Center is a Drop-In center for unchaperoned teens and young adults. The Center provides counseling, clothing, food, shower facilities, laundry facilities, and secure personal lockers.

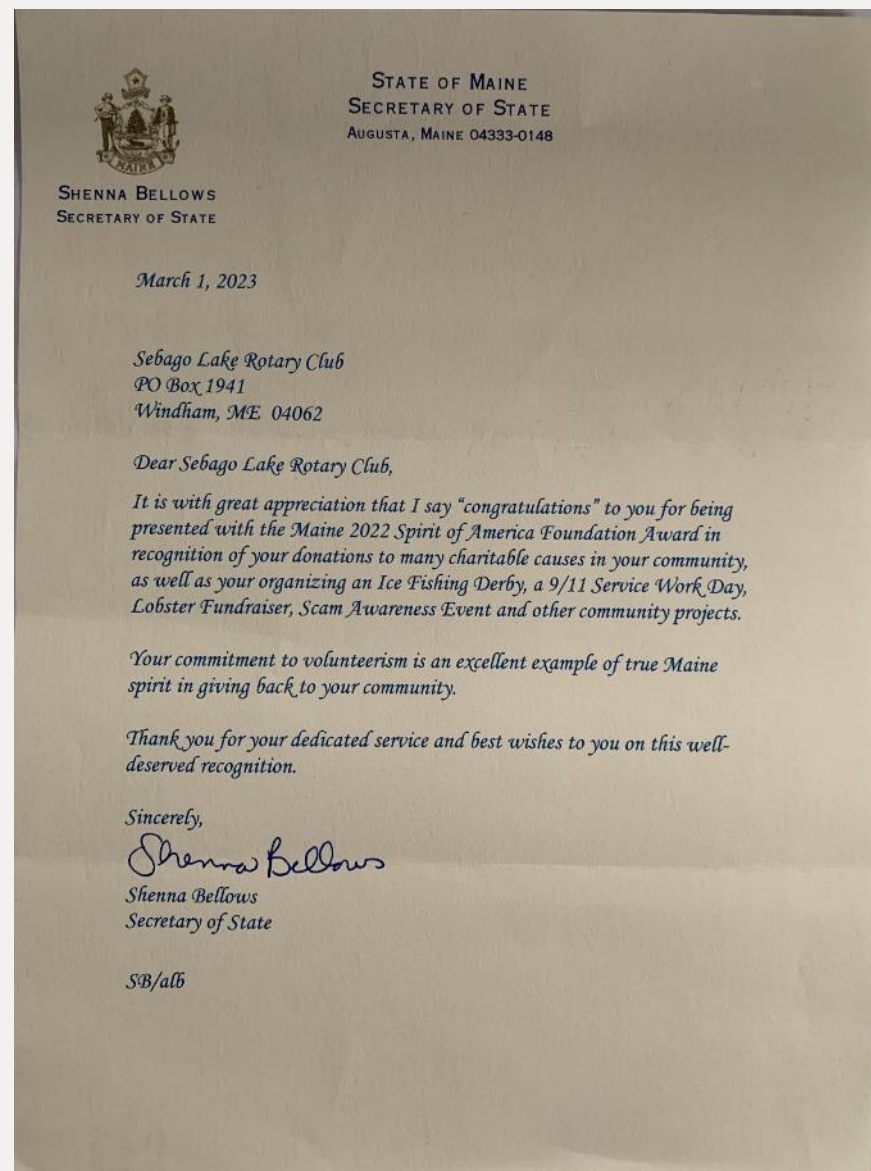
During the ribbon-cutting ceremony, distinguished guests included DG Claudia Frost, City Manager Blaine Cox, and NH State Representative Dan Fitzpatrick.





## Sebago Lake-Windham Area

Kevin Scofield, President of the Sebago Lake-Windham Area RC, proudly shared the letter the club received from Secretary of State Shanna Bellows. They were presented with the Maine 2022 Spirit of America Foundation Award in recognition for the club's contribution to the community. Specifically mentioned was their organizing of the Fishing Derby, the 9/11 Service Work Day, the Lobster Fundraiser, and the Scam Awareness Event. Congratulations, Kevin and all your fellow Rotarians.





## South Berwick-Eliot

This year we did our Electronics Recycling Fundraiser with the Marshwood Education Foundation, a grass roots parents and educators organization that provides mini-grants to educators for projects that teachers would love to see happen at their schools. By sharing the work and the publicity we got to know the involved parents better, as well as the teachers who helped out on the project. We used an electronics recycling company. Folks brought their unwanted electronics and electrical devices and paid a fee for helping them recycle their unwanted items. Our two organizations, in turn, split the \$3800 we earned that Saturday morning. The funds we received will go towards our scholarship fund. We also had available our Rotary pamphlet and information cards for prospective members.



**TURN YOUR OLD ELECTRONICS**



**INTO SCHOOL GRANTS/SCHOLARSHIPS**

**SOUTH BERWICK/ELIOT ROTARY CLUB  
AND THE MARSHWOOD EDUCATION FOUNDATION  
ELECTRONICS DRIVE 2023**

<b>APRIL 29</b> SATURDAY	<b>MARSHWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL</b> ELIOT, MAINE	<b>8:30AM-1PM</b> RAIN OR SHINE
-----------------------------	--	------------------------------------

Instead of paying a fee to the transfer station to throw out your old electronics, pay less (\$2-\$40 per item) and safely recycle it. All proceeds will go to the South Berwick-Eliot Rotary Local Scholarship Fund.

Safely, recycle your old electronics with Universal Recycling Technologies of Dover. Data wiped from devices. Just drive up and the South Berwick-Eliot Rotarians will handle the rest.

**COMPUTERS • LAPTOPS • MONITORS • ROUTERS • PRINTERS • TVs • PHONES • AC UNITS  
ELECTRICAL & COMPUTER COMPONENTS • POWER CABLES • KITCHEN APPLIANCES**

CASH, CHECK, CREDIT CARD & VENMO TO BE ACCEPTED EMAIL US: ELECTRONICSDRIVE2023@GMAIL.COM  
\$5-40 COVERS RECYCLING FEES





## Westbrook-Gorham

Westbrook Mayor Michael Foley, public service workers, and city leaders joined the members of Westbrook-Gorham Rotary Club for a ribbon cutting celebrating the Rotary gift of a state-of-the-art solar charging pole for mobile devices at Riverbank Park. The pole was the culmination of 14 months of Rotarian efforts securing a district grant, planning with city leaders, and budgeting club funds for the installation and public relations. Members will be completing the park beautification phase of the project in the Fall by planting 200 purple crocus bulbs for polio eradication.

Attendees learned about Rotary's 7 areas of focus and were availed information on how to become members. Other highlights included presentation of \$1000 to the director of My Place Teen Center and a lunch of delicious hotdogs and toppings from Westbrook's Millside Creations Hotdogs. Scott Linscott, thanks for most of event photography. Club President Christine Johnson in red and Mayor Foley in navy blue were present throughout event.

The event gained media coverage on WGME TV and in local publications.



# **DISTRICT NEWSLETTER**

**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: [RotaryNews7780@gmail.com](mailto:RotaryNews7780@gmail.com).**

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

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

**Michelle Lester, District Newsletter Publisher**