



June 2026 Club News

Rotary 
District 7780

Bethel

Bethel Rotary Hosts Run for Kids & Community!

The Bethel Rotary Club hosted one of its signature community events on May 16: the annual **5K Run/Walk and 1-Mile Slime Run**. This fun, family-friendly tradition raises funds to support after-school programs for local kids, helping ensure they have safe, enriching activities throughout the year.

This year's theme celebrated the importance of staying active for fitness, confidence, and joy. We were thrilled to welcome a strong turnout of runners, walkers, Rotarians, and families—and the beautiful weather made the morning even better.

From cheering on young Slime Run participants to connecting with neighbors along the course, the event reflected what we love most about Rotary: **bringing people together, having fun, and strengthening our community.**



Bridgton-Lake Region

Local Developer McIver Draws Standing-Room-Only Crowd!

Bridgton-Lake Region Rotary welcomed local developer **Justin McIver** on May 21, drawing **over 30 attendees—triple our usual turnout** and a reminder that every Rotary activity is a membership development opportunity. McIver shared updates on major local projects, including the Bridgton Hotel opening in December and the new Montessori-themed School opening in September. He also highlighted the growth of **Music on Maine**, now attracting thousands each summer thanks to strong community support. Staff from Maine Eco Homes, the school, and the hotel added brief remarks.

President **Dr. Lisa Ryan** thanked all who contributed to the morning's energy and engagement. The program was recorded by Lake Region TV and will be available online soon.

FMI about our projects and programs, go to our website LakesRegionRotary.com and our FB Page.



Brunswick Coastal

Preparing Remembrance Garden for Judy Montgomery!

On Saturday May 2nd three Brunswick Coastal Rotary members joined Maine Master Gardeners and friends in preparing a remembrance garden for Judy Montgomery (1952–2021) at the new Tedford Housing Adult and Family Emergency Shelter in Brunswick. This was Coastal Rotary's 19th year of gardening at the Tedford properties to make them attractive to both the clients and local residents. Judy was a dedicated board member and volunteer for Tedford Housing in Brunswick advocating for emergency housing for homeless people.



Dover

Celebrating Young Folks in our Community!

Its pretty normal when Dover RC welcomes new members, has committee meetings and does some trash pickup, but this past month we also got to play Bingo. Wahoo!

Beyond that we focused on students. Active across the community, members teamed up with End 68 Hours of Hunger–Dover to pack and deliver **over 200 bags of food** for local children ahead of vacation week, showcasing an efficient new system that helped serve even more families. The club also celebrated youth leadership by honoring **Nora Schultz** as March Student of the Month at Dover Middle School. Her quiet generosity—giving her raffle-won lunch to a classmate in need—reflects the heart of Rotary service. In addition, Rotarians congratulated **17 CTE students** beginning full-time careers, supporting each with a **\$250 certificate** to launch their next chapter. Dover Rotary continues to show up where it matters.



Damariscotta-Newcastle

From May Cleanup to June Summer Fest!

As the 2025-2026 Rotary year ends, Damariscotta-Newcastle celebrates eight (8) new members: Cynthia Cannell, Dick Chase, Tim Cheney, David James, Dan Michael, Wayne Moore, Sally Pearce and Ted Silar. We also welcomed home a former member, Jim Erskine, as an honorary member!

Our focus for May has been Spring cleanup of an existing pollinator garden and prep/planting of our newest pollinator garden; both created via District 7780 Grant funds and local non-profit organizations.

The excitement for June is our SummerFest Family Fair, Saturday June 20th at Coast Rivers Conservation Trust, 12 Round Top Lane, Damariscotta (rain day Sunday June 21st), 10 am to 5 pm. Enjoy a bounce house, inflatable obstacle course, dunk tank, cotton candy, food trucks, craft tables, photo booth, live music, tug-of-war with local fire departments, silent auction (local experiences) and on-line auctions.

THE ROTARY CLUB OF DAMARISCOTTA-NEWCASTLE PRESENTS

SUMMER Fest

IN DAMARISCOTTA

JUNE 20, 2026 | 10 AM - 5 PM
Coastal Rivers, 12 Round Top Lane, Damariscotta

FOOD MUSIC BOUNCE HOUSE GAMES DUNK TANK CRAFTS SILENT AUCTION FUN!

THE AUCTION IS NOW LIVE!
BIDDING STARTS JUNE 6TH!

VISIT: Givebutter.com/c/rotarysummerfest

UNIQUE ITEMS LOCAL EXPERIENCES VACATIONS & TRIPS WEEKEND GETAWAYS and so much more!

VOLUNTEER, SPONSOR OR DONATE OR SEE OUR AUCTION ITEMS! SCAN ME!

ENJOY SOME FAMILY FUN & HELP SUPPORT LOCAL CAUSES!

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

COMMUNITY VISIONARY SPONSOR:
Tim Cheney & Medicini

OTHER SPONSORS:
Renys
Bangor Savings Bank
Hammond Lumber
First National Bank
Floor Magic
Main St Grocery
First Federal S & L
Cheney & Cos.

SAVE THE DATE!
We can't wait to see you there!

Hampton

Hampton Recognizes Powerful Partnership!

Our club named Andre Carrier a Paul Harris Fellow in April for recognition of his leadership and impact through our partnership with The Brook.

We also presented Mike Cataldo and Leslie Wiseman with a Rotary Certificate of Appreciation for their dedication to coordinating charitable efforts year-round.

Over the past few years, this partnership has allowed our club to give back more than \$200,000 to local organizations, supporting projects that once seemed out of reach.

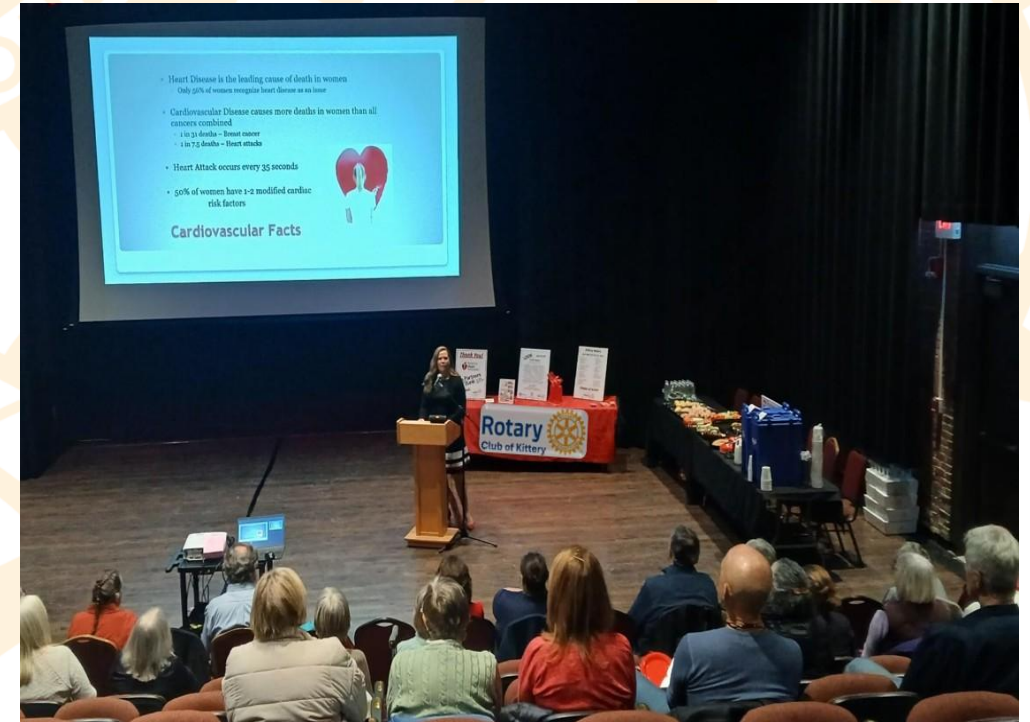
One of those projects is our current collaboration with St. Vincent de Paul to rebuild a \$127,000 community kitchen, which will provide hot, nutritious meals to those in need in the communities we serve.



Kittery

Our 2025-26 Lecture Series was headlined by a **Women's Heart Health** presentation at the Kittery Community Center, STAR Theatre with multiple health professionals participating. Other events included:

- ❖ Fellow Rotarians Laura Young & Karen O'Rourke presented the District's February **Outreach Team's Trip to India**.
- ❖ The **Pre-Dead Social Club** founder Laura Cleminson spoke about how the Club explores end-of-life discussions.
- ❖ Community Outreach & Engagement Manager at University Credit Union and Kittery Rotarian Whitney Blethen discussed **Keeping Yourself Safe from Fraud, Scams and Identity Theft**.
- ❖ CEO Jayne Van Bramer of **Sweetser** discussed their numerous behavior health services.
- ❖ Kittery Rotarian Maryna Shuliakouskaya briefed us on her **Honduras Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH)** project.
- ❖ The **AAA Traffic Safety Program** was presented by Tom Baran, AAA Northern New England Traffic Safety Education Specialist.
- ❖ Tom's brother, Steve, told us about his **Audio-assisted Clipper Rail Trail** project in Newburyport, MA.
- ❖ Kittery Rotarian & the 2026 Governor's Young Maine Volunteer of the Year Award winner, Nellie Young, discussed her **Empowering Peru through Culinary Education** project. *Congratulations Nellie!*



Ogunquit

Food Drive and Calendar Preview!

The Rotary Club of Ogunquit has been busy as the tourists start arriving and events fill the calendar. The month of May featured a food drive to benefit the Food Pantry at St. Mary's in Wells. The drive was focused on our club priorities to help women and children and several full car loads of donations were delivered to the food pantry. With drop-off locations at the Ogunquit Chamber of Commerce, Ogunquit Police Department and Wells Ogunquit Senior Center the successful food drive was a wonderful partnership with local organizations.

Coming in June we are launching the allnew Super September "2 Cent Sale" fundraiser. September calendar sales start in June and calendars can be purchased through September. Each day of September a lucky winner will be drawn for that day. There are over \$5,000 of cash and gift cards available to win with each day totaling at least \$100.

Check <https://www.ogunquitmerotary.org/> in early June for more information. You can also purchase calendars in Ogunquit on June 6 during the pride day events and June 13 during BonAire!



September 2026 Ogunquit Rotary Super September "2 Cent Sale" Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Labor Day	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15			18	19
20	21	22			25	26
27	28	29				

Oxford Hills

OH Rotary Hosts May Day, Play Day, Touch-A-Truck Day for Local Families!

The Oxford Hills Rotary Club, Community Concepts, and a terrific crew of Interactors hosted the **3rd Annual May Day Play Day & Touch-A-Truck** on Saturday, May 16—and what a day it was. More than **600 free hot dog lunches** were cooked and served by Rotarians and friends as families enjoyed a huge range of activities, including face painting, inflatable obstacle courses, nail hammering, free books, and more.

Outside, kids climbed into fire trucks, police cruisers, tow trucks, CMP vehicles, cranes, paving and pellet trucks, race cars, and ambulances—blowing horns, running fire hoses, and asking great questions. Community partners included Prevention Council, Maine Families, and Head Start. All shared resources and support. Together, we're helping strengthen families, build community, and promote child-abuse prevention.

Top Photo: Rotarians Dave Preble and President Jeff Noblin grilling hot dogs.



Portland

Portland's Epic Day of Service!

Portland had a great turnout of Rotary volunteers and their family members for our EPIC DAY OF SERVICE on May 16th. Club members rolled up their sleeves to build raised garden beds and top off existing beds with fresh soil. We appreciate our volunteers who made time on a beautiful Saturday to make a difference in our community.



Portsmouth

Portsmouth Rotary Highlights!

The Club presented more than \$51,000 in scholarship money to 17 deserving area high school students. This impressive group is going on to Boston University, Colby- Sawyer, Pratt Institute, McGill, Holy Cross, South Florida, and Miami to name a few. Four are staying at our own University of New Hampshire. Four students earned their scholarships from the Joseph J. Shanley Scholarship Fund, and one from the Dr. James B. Clayburgh Scholarship Fund. Rotarians Tristan and Cindy Shanley, John St. Pierre and Caitlin Burke, all of the Club's Scholarship Committee, gave out the \$3,000 scholarship checks.

James Petersen spearheaded a gently used clothing drive to benefit Friends in Action. Simultaneously, we are giving books at every meeting during May to stock President Ian's Little Libraries initiative.

Looming on the horizon is the Annual Golf Tournament at Pease June 12 and the Vocational Awards.



River Valley

River Valley Rotary Supports Community Through Service and Scholarships!

The River Valley Rotary Club recently highlighted two powerful examples of Rotary service in action. At the April 27 Fellowship Luncheon, members heard from **Michelle Williams**, Director of the **Good Samaritan Soup Kitchen**, now serving hundreds each week from its newly renovated home in the former Knights of Columbus building. After months of repairs, upgrades, and cleanup, the Soup Kitchen is thriving — but Williams emphasized the ongoing need for **volunteers and donations** to meet rising community demand. Photo: Dick Lovejoy, Rotarian of the Day and Williams.

Just weeks later, on May 18, the Club held its popular **Lobster Luncheon Fundraiser**, which helps provide scholarships to students at Dirigo High School, Mountain Valley High School, and Region 9. Thanks to generous donations from Mountain Valley Variety and Hannaford's Rumford, and the hard work of Rotarians who began preparing meals at 7 AM, hundreds of lunches were delivered across the region.

Together, these efforts reflect Rotary's commitment to strengthening families, supporting youth, and serving the River Valley community.



Saco Bay

Honoring Students of the Month at 3 High Schools!

The Saco Bay Rotary Club wrapped up its 14th year of honoring Students of the Month from our three local high schools (Biddeford, Old Orchard Beach, and Thornton Academy). Congratulations to all the honorees we celebrated in the 2025-26 school year! Our club also took some time this month for fellowship at the Lincoln in Biddeford. Several members continue to volunteer each month and serve at two community meal programs, Bon Appetite in Biddeford and the Saco Meals Program!



Sanford-Springvale

Honoring HS Seniors and Interactors!

We honored nine outstanding high school seniors at our annual Scholarship Breakfast. An impressive \$20,000 was awarded to these deserving individuals in support of their post-secondary pursuits. Congratulations to the following recipients:

Lillian Preston (Sanford Regional Technical Center) - \$2,500

Devenny Brickett (Massabesic High School) - \$2,500

Matthew Hebert (Sanford High School) - \$2,500

Cooper Manser (Noble High School) - \$2,500

Ava Hudson (Sanford High School) - \$2,000

Abraham Medrano (Sanford Regional Technical Center) - \$2,000

Ryan Nguyen (Noble High School) - \$2,000

Felix Rothwell (Noble High School) - \$2,000

Caitlin Harvey (Ossipee Valley Christian School) - \$2,000

In addition, members of Sanford High's Interact Club recently visited St. Thomas School to lead three different academic center activities for kindergarteners. Kudos to Claire, Alessandra, and Margaret for their commitment to "Service Above Self!"



Sebago Lake

Busy Sebago Lake Rotary!

On May 8th we held our Spring Lobster Roll Dinner Fundraiser, serving over 125 Lobster roll meals as folks drove through to pick up. The club holds this event twice annually, Spring and Fall. Then on the Epic Day of Service the club and friends held a cleanup at the Windham Veteran's Center, painting picnic tables and spreading mulch, while others went to place flags at several cemeteries in the area. Two events that share service and friendship.



South Portland-Cape Elizabeth

SpringFest & World Cultures!

The South Portland-Cape Elizabeth club collaborated with the City of South Portland on May 15-16 to put on SpringFest, a community celebration. The weather could not have been more perfect for people to enjoy children's games and activities, live music, touch-a-truck, food trucks and a cornhole tournament. We took advantage of the day to honor the librarians of our two communities as PHF's aka Hometown Heroes.

The week before we sponsored World Cultures Day at South Portland Middle School and some of our members helped distribute food from around the world.



Westbrook-Gorham

Problem: One somewhat neglected, underlit and littered alley in downtown Westbrook which provides a primary walking route from a new parking garage on Vertical Way to Main St business and activities.

Solution: Downtown Westbrook "Adopt-an-Alley" Beautification Project District Grant

Westbrook-Gorham Rotarians partnered with the City of Westbrook and Discover Downtown Westbrook (DDW), a non-profit, Main Street America-accredited dedicated to revitalizing the downtown district, supporting local businesses, & turning the city into a vibrant, walkable, & creative destination.

The City identified unused planters, moved them into place, and approved plans. W-G Rotary performed fall cleanup, then planted mums & tulip bulbs to add color while waiting for the project to kick into full swing this spring. The planters have now been refreshed and planted with a wide variety of flowering annuals. Paint has been sourced and the planters will be painted this summer in colors selected by DDW to coordinate with the City's marketing logo. Blue, green & white solar "fairy lights" will be wrapped around mature trees to add color, warmth and light to this space until the fall, when we'll return for fall clean-up! DDW's future plans include a mural, and we'll be there to help!!

