

Be always at war
with your vices,
at peace with
your neighbors,
and let each
new year find
you a better
man.

~Benjamin Franklin

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District 7780 News

**Gary Speers
District Governor**



www.rotary7780.org

January 2012

Greetings District 7780 Rotarians!



Santa, G.M. and the Ogunquit Rotary Moose enjoy Christmas Carolers

With the beginning of the New Year we reflected upon several of the end of year club events and celebrations that featured District 7780 Rotarians hosting our youth.

Judy, G.M. (Governor's Moose) and I particularly enjoyed listening to the

wonderful group of 5th Grade Students sing at the annual Ogunquit Rotary Christmas Dinner. G.M. and the Ogunquit Moose were suitably decked out in holiday attire and joined Santa in leading these talented youngsters in song, prior to Santa providing educational gifts to the Schools represented. Kittery, Bethel, York and Kennebunk Portside were among the clubs sharing their descriptions of their events supporting needy young people in our District during the holiday period and we know many other clubs donated funds and gifts from fund raising efforts such as the tree and wreath sales we visited at Freeport Rotary or saw documented on the Portsmouth Rotary Facebook site. Damariscotta-Newcastle Rotary hosted young families in need at two very well attended free movie matinees as part of their District Simplified Grant Project. The Rotarians hosting the events had as much fun as the kids!

As we head into the second half of our Rotary year we really are looking forward to joining clubs at their events as they reach out to aid, assist and support our young people in need. Just let us know when and where!

~Gary

Save the Date! Save the Date! Save the date!



Monday, Jan. 30 —

Mid-Year Leadership Dinner. Fire-side Inn - Westbrook, Maine. 5:00pm Cash bar, 6:00pm Dinner. For all club presidents, presidents elect and vice presidents.

February 9-12 -

National Immunization Day against Polio & Rotary Work Project INDIA. FMI Contact ELIAS THOMAS thomas@metrocast.net

Saturday, March 3 —



RLI at York County Community College, Wells, ME.

Friday, February 17—

The World Understanding & Peace Dinner at the Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland, ME. Governor Gary is emphasizing the strength of the clubs and the work that it takes from all of us for peace to blossom. Each club will have a chance to nominate a "peacemaker" from amid its ranks to be celebrated at the dinner. Details on registration and the nominating form will be out soon.



HOTEL AND CONVENTION CENTER

March 8-10 —

Multi-district President-Elect Training Seminar for all 2012-13 presidents, Sheraton Conference Center, Framingham, MA.

Thursday, March 2 —

Read Across America Day

FMI Contact Penny Jett pennjett@comcast.net



Saturday, March 24 -

District Assembly

Friday, March 30—

South Portland—Cape Elizabeth 50th Anniversary Celebration Gala. Kalyan Banerjee will be the honored guest. Time and location TBA.



Saturday, March 31 —

RLI at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, Lebanon, NH.



May 6-9 —

Rotary International Convention in Bangkok, Thailand.

May 18-20 —

District Conference at the Harraseeket Inn, Freeport, ME. Harraseeket is now accepting reservations at the conference rate. It's important to get your reservation in early to be sure you get the Roary rate. You can call them at 207- 865-9377



Friday, March 30, 2012.

Mark your calendars!

Rotary International President, Kalyan Banerjee of Vapi Gujarat, India is coming to Maine to attend South Portland-Cape Elizabeth Rotary's 50th Anniversary Celebration Gala. A District wide (and beyond!) invitation is going out to help honor President Banerjee's visit and this milestone for the SP-CE Rotary.

Governor Elect's Corner

We're This Close!



***-Marty
Peak-Helman,
District
Governor-
elect***

***Pictured
here with
Dr. Bob Scott***



The Rotary Foundation is just a few dollars away from successfully completing the \$200-million Gates Challenge. Just as exciting: India has now been polio-free for 11 months.

As terrific as this news is, it would be premature to celebrate. That's because the \$200-million figure is just a chunk of the total. Rotarians have collectively raised \$1 billion for polio eradication over the past 30 years, and there will be a need to raise even more in the years ahead. And even though the tide has turned in India, this year the virus reestablished itself in three African countries that were previously deemed polio-free: Chad, Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo. There's more: Imported cases have led to outbreaks in a dozen other countries scattered across Africa and Asia. Yes, it's far too soon to celebrate.

I participated in a polio immunization trip to Chad last month, and the experience emphasized the hurdles we face in eliminating the disease. We should not be surprised that the countries where polio is still (or again) endemic are those that are experiencing civil strife, or weak or corrupt governments, or poor infrastructure, or a combination of these factors.

Civil strife is paramount: The International Red Cross considers the incidence of polio to be the result of war. The reasoning? During periods of conflict, immunization efforts falter or stop, and the disease takes new root – and spreads back across national borders.

Corruption is a huge deterrent: Rotary's Polio Plus campaign insures that funding goes directly to "boots on the ground," but in corrupt governments, political will and local buy-in are harder to ensure.

Infrastructure is an ongoing issue: We traveled over roads that were clearly impassible during the rainy season, and to clinics that were poorly funded and even more poorly equipped. Meanwhile, clean water and public health systems remain oxymorons.

Then there's the matter of human capital: During our trip we heard frequently of the difficulties of maintaining a "cold chain" of refrigeration in areas that have frequent power outages and no trained mechanics. And we also saw that too frequently, witch doctoring is more popular than western medicine.

A highlight of the trip to Chad was the opportunity to spend a day with Dr. Bob Scott, who leads Rotary's polio initiative, and who posed for the photo here. He points out that because many polio patients do not themselves exhibit paralysis, for every recorded case of polio, there may be as many as 200 more cases that go undetected. Worse, the patients in these undetected cases remain active carriers of the virus. Then there are those cases that take place so far away from clinics or healthcare workers that even though they may result in paralysis or death, they never get reported at all.

Yes, it's far too soon to celebrate, but don't get me wrong: These challenges are not insurmountable. Of course the last push to eliminate polio is the hardest. That's why it's the last. But we've met these challenges elsewhere, and we will meet them again. Make no mistake, the goal of a polio free world is a matter of "when," not a matter of "if."

And when we reach that goal, we will have met our promise to the children of the world.

The Generosity of Rotarians

In a short ten weeks, Rotarians around the world have pledged enough funds for the Vermont / New Hampshire Recovery project to put the grant 60% over their grant goal of a quarter of a million dollars! With what is pledged, District 7870 can ask for a \$400,000 grant from the Rotary Foundation (TRF). The generosity of Rotarians is truly amazing!

Twelve districts pledged \$106,000 which will be matched \$1:\$1 by The Foundation. These funds came from districts in Taiwan, South Africa, British Columbia, Prince Edward Island, Florida, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maine, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont and New Hampshire. One hundred and eight clubs in Quebec, Ontario, New Jersey, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Maine, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Shropshire, England pledged \$125,333. This response shows the heart and value of the national and international connections built through Rotary.

In our own district, seventeen clubs pledged more than \$9500 to help our New England neighbors. Our district will add \$10,000 to that from our District Designated Funds. These funds are available as a result of monies contributed to The Foundation by Rotarians right here in our district. The decision of how to allocate a portion of our contributions is made by our District Foundation Committee. Foundation funds are spent throughout the world in the form of Matching Grants, as well as for other projects. It is nice to know that the good made possible by the Foundation can also be used right in our own back yard.

~Carolyn Johnson, District Governor Nominee

Rotary Roosters Christmas Donation



Left to Right, Dave Murphy, Chairman, Christmas for Children, Bethel Rotary. Steve Etheridge, owner, Rooster's Roadhouse Restaurant & Pub



Rooster's Roadhouse Restaurant & Pub Donates \$5,000 to support local Holiday Charities. The local restaurant owners, staff and most importantly it's patrons help to raise monies throughout the year at events such as an annual Oscars Party, a July 4th Flotilla down the Androscoggin River & several Customer Appreciation events. A record breaking \$5,000 was raised in 2011, and the restaurant owners, Steve Etheridge and Gary Szpara recently presented a donation of \$2,500 to support the Bethel Rotary Foundation's "Christmas for Children" and another gift of \$2,500 to the local grassroots charity "Christmas for Families". Both of these charities will help provide holiday gifts to local children and families in need this year.

District's Volunteers Return From Rotaplast Mission

Our District's seven non-medical volunteers returned December 10th from a successful Rotaplast mission to Afagnan, Togo. (Locate Afanyagan, Togo on Google Maps about 40 miles northeast of the capital Lome.) The District team members were Ellie Andrews, Joan Correll, Ann & Steve Demeranville, Joan Nickell, Jim Price and Leonard Seagren. Each person paid their own way, and District 7780 Clubs donated \$50,000 to sponsor this mission. It was a life changing experience for the team to support medical volunteers performing corrective surgeries for children with cleft lips and cleft palates as well as burn victims and other disfiguring conditions. The St. John of God Hospital staff commented about the kindness of the volunteers and their concern for the patients and their parents.

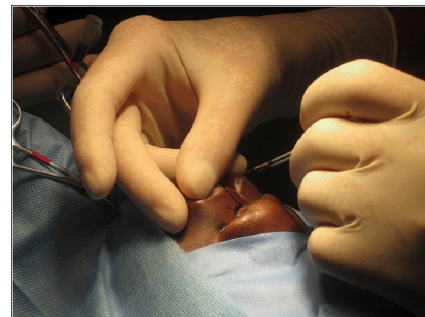
A key factor in the success of this mission was the ability to enlist local support. Afagnan does not have a Rotary Club, and the six Lome Rotary Clubs were not directly involved. However, a former member of the Rotary Club of Lome named Gerard was our host and went out of his way to support the team. Also a past District 9100 Governor named Hilaire happened to be in the right place at the right time to help solve some logistic issues. The lesson learned is to always secure local Rotary support in advance of such endeavors. Finally the team needed a translator who could speak Watyi, the local language. Brandon volunteered his services, and supported us from start to finish.

Our greatest joy was to see the parent's faces when they entered the post anesthesia care unit (PACU) to see their child.

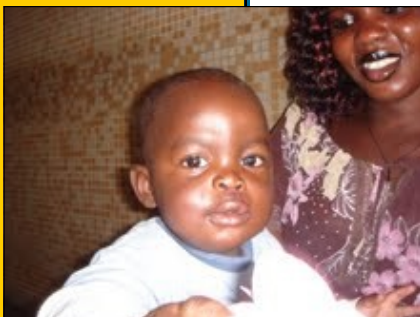
~James Price, PP, PAG, Breakwater Daybreak



*Rotarian Joan
Correll with a
father and patient*



Surgeon stitching a cleft lip.



*After
Surgery!*

Rotaplast 
Saving smiles, changing lives.

News from Area 3

~ **Peggy Belanger, Assistant Governor**
Kennebunk, Kennebunk Portside, Kittery, Ogunquit, Wells & York

During the month of November I had the privilege of visiting all 6 rotary clubs in Area 3. As always, I was welcomed with open arms. Rotarians definitely know how to make people feel welcomed and appreciated! My visits reinforced what I already knew about these wonderful clubs, they are giving, compassionate, committed to serving their communities and beyond. The Rotary motto of "Service Above Self" is clearly demonstrated by Area 3, as you will see in my update. I am so proud to be working with a phenomenal group of Rotary Club Presidents. Their Leadership has been outstanding!

Kennebunk

Holiday Cheer and Giving was very evident during RC of Kennebunks' Holiday Dinner for area senior citizens. I had a wonderful time helping them serve meals and the music provided by their very own Fuzzy Farnsworth of Straight Lace was fabulous.

Wells

In Oct. the Rotary Club of Wells partnered with the Wells H.S. Lady Warriors and "Shootin' For A Cure" for the 12th Annual Chuck Cumming Memorial Golf Tournament and split \$15K in charitable proceeds and donations. \$7500 was presented to the Lady Warriors to benefit the new breast care centers @ York Hospital in Wells and York. They have led several successful fundraising projects to support the Wells Park and Rec Pavilion, Wells H.S. concession stand, Harbor Park Pavilion and Wells Activity Center, St. Mary's Food Bank, Soup's On, and scholarships to Wells H.S. and YCCC. Of note is that in Sept., Wells RC broke ground, and started installation of a four-sided clock adjacent to the town center following completion of the Wells Corner project. Great public image Wells.... Congrats !

Ogunquit

People will say it's all about "location, location, location". Well it's certainly true of the Ogunquit RC meetings held at the Beachmere Inn, at Ogunquit Beach. If you're looking for a make-up meeting with a view, that's the place! A BIG Thanks goes to Ben Oliver who agreed to continue his Presidency after the resignation of the '11- '12 Co-Pres. As of December, they have provided nearly \$5000 in Community Support for programs or projects like the Natural Access Beach Wheelchair, LifeFlight, York Food Rescue and the Memorial Library Roofing Fund. Specially created thank you cards were received from the Wells 5th graders who attended the Christmas dinner they hosted and for the (25) books donated to the elementary school library.



Kennebunk

Moose enjoying punch and selling Christmas tree recycling tickets at Club Christmas Party at Duffy's



Kennebunk President Bibber with Moose and Santa at senior holiday lunch at St. Martha's on 12/1 /11



The moose and Kennebunk President Bibber at a regular club meeting at Duffys. The speaker was Andrew Young, English teach at Kennebunk High School and advisor for the school's paper The Rampage, and the Paper's student management team

Kennebunk Portside

Hosted the Southern Region Rotary Distr. 7780 Foundation Roadshow at the Nonantum Resort in K'Port on Nov. 15th. Approximately (70) Rotarians from Kenn., Wells, Ogunquit, York, Kittery, Elliot, So. Berwick, Seacoast Portsmouth, Portland, and Brunswick attended. The club had a successful fundraising summer between the annual Riverfest Duck Race and 1st annual Road Race. Portside spent many hours this fall refurbishing Beachwood Park. The (2) weekends of Kennebunkports' Prelude festivities provided a wonderful opportunity to sell raffle tickets and raise just over \$1000 for the clubs' general fund. The club is pleased to pitch in and help people in the community in times of need during the Holiday Season and all year long. Portside annually participates in Caring Unlimited, adopt a family Holiday Giving – Rotarians purchased all the gifts the family requested and delivered them unwrapped to Caring Unlimited – a wonderful feeling to know that this family will have a Happy Holiday with gifts under the tree for the whole family.



*All gifts collected for
Caring Unlimited*

York

Congratulations to Ashley Randall, York's candidate, chosen for the Germany GSE ! I am very impressed by Melvin, their "Moose on the Loose", travel experiences. His record might be hard to beat as he's traveled worldwide. Melvin's scrapbook is VERY impressive ! RC of York has held many successful fundraising activities and community events including their very popular car raffle and striper tournament @ York Harbor. They've been seen @ the the York Library Clean-up, reading to second graders, having brunch with the staff of their local rehab. unit and purchasing/delivering Christmas trees to those who requested help. Of note, is that in 2012 the RC of York will be celebrating their 30th Anniversary !



The Kittery Rotary Club

With the aide of the Kittery Lion's Club, the Rotary Club of Kittery sent another van load of crutches and walkers to the District 7780 collection point for Crutches4Africa.

The Rotary Club of Kittery enjoyed a great social gathering at Tulsis Restaurant in

Kittery. Every month with a 5th Tuesday the Club has been meeting in the evening for a social in lieu of our routine morning meeting. The Kittery Rotary Club

Moose "Foster" oversaw the distribution of free cookies and cocoa at the Kittery Holiday parade. President Brad Hirst and PDGx2 Marie Williams present Barbara Moulton, a Paul Harris Fellow on behalf of the club.

Barbara has organized the community service organization "Kittery Holiday Baskets" for 35 years and volunteered in the Kittery Schools for 40 years. Kittery Holiday baskets provides food, clothes, and toys to over 130 Kittery families each year. The Rotary Club of Kittery has supported the effort ever since it was chartered in 1987



Club News...

Good Food for a Good Cause



The Rotary Club of Bethel held its Fall Country Breakfast at Gould Academy's Ordway Dining Hall



Sunday River Resort's 12th Annual Santa Sunday. 250 skiers and snowboarders signed up for Sunday's 12th Annual Santa Sunday to raise money for the Bethel Rotary Club's annual "Christmas for Children" Program. Shown receiving a check in the amount of \$2,220 is Lynn Wilson, Rotary Club of Bethel.



Rotary Club of Bethel and Bethel's Chamber of Commerce partner in the lighting of the Christmas tree. This was preceded by a "Jingle Bell Walk" to the Common. Santa and Ms. Claus arrive on a Fire Engine. Santa visits with children of all ages.



District Governor Nomination Notice

This is a formal notice to District 7780 Rotarians to submit nominations for the position of District 7780 Governor for the Rotary year 2014-2015. The future leaders of our District are those Rotarians identified, encouraged and supported by our clubs, then submitted as worthy candidates to the District Nominating Committee.

The candidates are interviewed by the committee on their merits alone; no campaigning or politicking efforts on their behalf are permitted. The Rotary International Guidelines for District Elections document is available from your club President for your reference and must be explained to any potential candidate.

The Candidate must be a District 7780 Rotarian in good standing, Past President of a Club, minimum of 7 years as a Rotarian and have a good knowledge of the Rotary District's operation. District level experience as a Committee Chair or an Assistant Governor is highly desirable but not mandatory.

A Signed Resolution from the club and the completed applications must be on the District Governor Nominee Data Form and Resolution Forms only, endorsed by the Club and signed by the Club Secretary. Your Club President and Assistant Governor have these forms in electronic version.

Deadline date for submission of the completed application to the District Governor by U.S.P.S. Mail only! (**Post Mark required**) at:

**Gary G. Speers D.G.
35 Evergreen Road
Newcastle, ME 04553**

By January 15, 2012. (MANDATORY POSTMARKED Deadline Date)

Thank You for your careful consideration in this important duty, **Gary**
Gary G. Speers, District 7780 Governor 2011-12

VISION WORKSHOPS HELP CLUBS IDENTIFY IDEAS FOR FUTURE

District 7780 has a dynamic program to help Clubs take a first step to become stronger. A team of trained district facilitators can guide your members through a process of *visioning*—imagining together what your club wants to be in five years in terms of what you stand for in the community, what you want your membership to look like, and where you want to focus your energies for fundraising, service, etc. The essence of visioning is to see the club not as it is, but as it could be. The process gets everybody engaged and moving in the same direction.

Our district has 28 trained facilitators available to work in teams to conduct visioning workshops. Seventeen clubs have participated in the past year.

Many ideas are generated during a workshop to create a picture of each club's desired "future." This vision becomes the catalyst for mapping the club's direction.

Sanford-Springvale Club Coordinator Neal Meltzer wrote this about his club's recent visioning experience, "Many participants have already remarked about how invigorating the process was. We look forward to 'putting some meat' on the bones and actualizing some of the incredible ideas that were generated." Club President Lawrence Furbish added, "I think it was very useful to the club and I look forward to our continuing on the road begun."

For information on scheduling a visioning event, please contact Tony Wagner, Club Visioning Team Coordinator, tony.bellner@gmail.com. *~James Price, PP, PAG, Breakwater Daybreak*



Introducing Vision Facilitation to club members



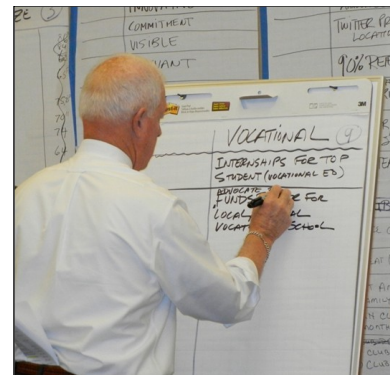
Club members contribute thoughts on what they want their clubs to be by 2016



After a visioning . Facilitators celebrate with Sanford-Springvale with President Larry and the club moose



Members select the best ideas – What are the club's top priorities?



The facilitator captures every idea on the flip charts

Rotary International District 7780**Gary G. Speers****District Governor**

Greetings Club Presidents,

Please consider this as the formal invitation to Division C Club Presidents (Bath, Bath Sunrise, Boothbay Harbor, Breakwater Daybreak, Bridgeton-Lake Region, Brunswick, Brunswick Coastal, Casco Bay Sunrise, Damariscotta-Newcastle, Falmouth, Freeport, Portland, Scarborough, South Portland-Cape Elizabeth, Topsham Espresso, Westbrook-Gorham, Sebago Lake, and Yarmouth to submit nominations to serve as a member of District 7780's Budget & Finance Committee for the year 2012-2015. The future leaders of our District are those Rotarians identified, encouraged and supported by our clubs, then submitted as worthy candidates to the District Nominating Committee.

The candidates are interviewed by the committee on their merits alone; no campaigning or politicking efforts on their behalf are permitted.

The Candidate may be any District 7780 Rotarian in good standing. A Signed Resolution from the club and the completed applications must be on the attached District Budget and Finance Committee Club Resolution Forms only, endorsed by the Club and signed by the Club Secretary. Deadline date for submission of the completed application to the District Governor by U.S.P.S. Mail (**Post Mark required**) at:

Gary G. Speers D.G.
35 Evergreen Road
Newcastle, ME 04553

By January 15, 2012. (MANDATORY POSTMARKED Deadline Date)

Thank You for your careful consideration in this important duty,

Gary

Gary G. Speers

District 7780 Governor 2011-12

CLUB NOMINATION FOR DISTRICT BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE

To: Marie A. Williams, Chair District Nominating Committee

MAIL TO DISTRICT GOVERNOR GARY SPEERS AT

**35 Evergreen Road
Newcastle, ME 04579**

On behalf of the Rotary Club of _____, I certify that the
Rotary Club of _____, at its regular meeting
on _____, 20____, adopted the following Resolution:

"The Rotary Club of _____ hereby suggests the
name of _____ of the Rotary Club of _____
to serve as a member of District
7780's Budget & Finance Committee for the year 2012-2015."

Dated: _____, 20____

President, Rotary Club of _____

Certified by: _____ Secretary, Rotary Club of _____



*Steve Wight sharing a laugh at **Bethel Rotary Club's Senior Christmas Luncheon.***



*Rotarian Jim Monahan of the **Bethel Club** prepares his traditional raisin sauce for the Annual Senior Ham Dinner—Christmas Luncheon. Jim will celebrate his 94th birthday this month!*



Call for Matching Grant Applications

Does your Rotary club have a great idea for a project that they would like to accomplish? If the project fits in one of the following areas of focus:

- Peace and conflict prevention and resolution
- Disease prevention and treatment
- Water and sanitation
- Maternal and child health
- Basic education and literacy
- Economic and community development

Consider filing a Matching Grant application. These grants typically support a humanitarian project in a developing nation. Matching Grants require a partnership between two clubs, one in the rotary district where the project will take place, and one in the developed world. The local host club typically provides the on-ground expertise and oversight, and the international club raises most of the money necessary to accomplish the grant.

District Designated Funds are currently available to help fund your Matching Grant project. This is possible because Rotarians in this District have given generously to the Rotary Foundation in previous years.

The deadline for filing an application with the Rotary Foundation is March 31, 2012, but the process should be initiated well before the deadline.

For more information about Matching Grants reference the District website or contact the District Grants Subcommittee Chair:

Mary Tennant,
District 7780 Grants Subcommittee Chair
RC Brunswick Coastal
16 Sadler Drive, Brunswick, ME 04011
Cell: 207-725-7915 Bus: 207-442-0473
maryetennant15@yahoo.com

More Club News...

Little Larry with the Sanford High School Choir. The Choir visits Sanford-Springvale Rotary Club, they sing to us, then take a bus, provided by our Club to sing at area nursing homes. It is a very pleasant occasion and their performance is enjoyed by all!



Mark, Larry, Jackie, Kim and Arline. Participating in the Sanford-Springvale clubs Visioning Workshop



***Rotarians Train
the Trainer in
Togo on LN4 Hand
Prosthesis***

Breakwater Daybreak Rotarian Jim Price and **Bethel** Rotarian Ellie Andrews trained two volunteers on December 8 in Afagnan, Togo how to fit the LN4 hand and use it to grasp objects. The Togo volunteers, Madrid and Brandon, had assisted the recent Rotaplast mission, and expressed interest in the LN4 after viewing a DVD showing amputees using the prosthesis. Brandon has identified a 14 year old boy who lost his hand two years ago as a potential recipient. Ellie and Jim also trained a Rotaplast volunteer from Mexico who plans to take an LN4 hand to her Rotary Club in January.

**FEBRUARY
9-12, 2012**

**National
Immunization
Day against
Polio & Rotary
Work Project
INDIA**

Join PDG Elias Thomas III when millions of children in India will receive the polio vaccine.

In addition, please join a cooperative project with Rotarians in New Delhi, serving as common laborers in the construction of a WATER CONSERVATION DAM in the state of Rajasthan, in cooperation with the ROTARY INDIA WATER CONSERVATION TRUST

Contact

**ELIAS
THOMAS**

**ethomas@
metrocast.net**

**Home:
207-636-2222**

**Cell:
207-432-2222**