



News from District 7410

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Letter from the District Governor

From the Travel Desk of the District Governor:

Christmas is over and New Year’s is coming up fast. So, by the time you read this, we will have landed in January and six months of this Rotary year will have elapsed. Starting in January and through March, we will be preparing next year’s officers to take on 2017-2018. Our own Karin Breitlauch, District Governor–Elect Training in January and all the Presidents-elect for service through Pre-PETS and PETS training meetings between January and March. Full on PETS Training is March 24th and 25th in Whippany NJ, at the Hanover Marriott.

This year our own Art Peoples has chaired the Multi-District Committee and Karin has been part of the DGE group who have worked on a terrific curriculum. If you are a second-year President, there is a separate track for your group to network around your experiences. The Assistant District Governors will also be there to network and gain Rotary experience that they can share with the clubs. When it comes to PETS this year, District 7410 is hoping to be THE District with 100 percent attendance. Keep in mind that if the President-elect can’t attend, someone authorized by the Club can. And a President -elect can also consult Karin on other PETS running on different dates close to our area. That Counts as well.

So we are in the second half of the Rotary year now. It seems like a blink and a nod and the year is gone!



QuotesIdeas.com

CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE...



DISTRICT GOVERNOR CONTINUES....

This Governor has only a couple of Clubs left for Official Visits... By January's end the 'Official' visits should be done.

APRIL! Please put it in your calendar as a critical month. Why? Well, for one thing, April 28-30 is our District Conference. We are aiming at FUN, Fellowship, and Action Groups. The Friday night fun means opening sessions dinner and dancing with AM RADIO. Many know this group and we are hoping for a great turnout. Casual / Business Casual, please... Friday's are the end of the work week and we can let down our hair a little bit.

On Saturday, we have two dynamic young speakers who are making great contributions to the world on fresh water and healthy children. More on this next month. Saturday night's Dinner will be a Murder Mystery. We are encouraging people to come

dressed as their favorite detective. This event should be fun (no one actually gets murdered) and is supported with a script and some actors from the Actors Guild. These are just tidbits of what's to come... Watch next month's newsletter for more information. Registration should be ready to open by February end. The Conference will be at the Inn at Pocono Manor.

APRIL is also very important to begin wrapping up all your activities that will earn you the Presidential Citation for the year. Getting your club's contribution in for the Foundation Annual Fund; and a contribution for polishing off Pocono are part of the citation criteria. If you need more information on the Presidential Citation, there is the official criteria on the RI website.

Personally, I would love to have our District overachieve the

District Citation goal of 51 percent of the clubs able to receive the Award.

APRIL 1st is very important as well... We will be looking at every club's average age of members and # of members from the July 1st snapshot and the April 1st snapshot so we can declare which three clubs will win the \$300 scholarship to the International Convention in Atlanta. So, if you have someone going, your club may be one of the ones who can help a member or two offset some of the cost of the Annual Convention. There are 37 of us going so far. Join us. You won't be disappointed.

So on with January as we will speed through the next few months of this Rotary year as *Rotary Serves Humanity*.

Marcia Loughman, DG. 7410

Wyoming Rotarians Get Their Visit from District Governor

Rotary District Gov. Marcia Loughman met with the Wyoming Rotary Club recently at Leggio's restaurant, Dallas. She spoke about the activities of Rotary throughout the world, especially the "Polio Plus" program, which was founded by Rotary International. DG Loughman is shown at right with Wyoming Club President Mike Sobek.

There are just a few clubs left for the District Governor to visit, and she has covered a lot of territory in her first six months. She expects to have paid an official visit to every club in the district by the end of this month.

The club meets at Fire and Ice restaurant in Trucksville every Thursday evening. New members are always welcome. Call [570-239-8581](tel:570-239-8581) to learn more.



[The Rotary Club of Tunkhannock](#)

Rotarian: Human Trafficking Exists Among Us

The Rev. Lou Divis, Tunkhannock Rotarian, is on the NEPA Task Force Against Human Trafficking's Subcommittee on Outreach and Awareness. She recently gave a presentation to the Tunkhannock Rotary Club on this endeavor and the need to raise awareness of human trafficking taking place in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Per federal legislation (the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 [TVPA], and its subsequent reauthorizations), human trafficking is defined as:

a) Sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age; or

b) The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery. (22 USC 7102(9))

Trafficking occurs in sweatshops, hotels, massage parlors, domestic service etc. The U.S. ranks high as a destination for human trafficking, mainly in New York, California and Florida, but it also occurs in every other state in the nation.

Locally, Routes 80 and 81 are places where people are acquired or dropped off. The incidence is close to double digits in PA.



Rotarian Rev. Lou Divis speaking on behalf of the NEPA Human Trafficking Task Force

Lou then related several recent cases from NEPA:

2013 – a Pittston prostitution ring involved two girls aged 16 & 18;

2014 — a Wilkes-Barre man and a 16 year old used for prostitution;

2015 — a New York man charged with child sex trafficking of two Wilkes-Barre minors, and

2016 — In Stroudsburg threats, force and intimidation used to get girls to participate in sex prostitution.

In 2015, 2,874 calls were received by the Human Trafficking Hot line with 821 victims in this state alone.

If the person being trafficked is from a foreign country, the

pimp will take their papers so they cannot go anywhere without them. Human trafficking for sex is a \$32 billion industry worldwide. A single sex slave earns a pimp \$250,000 each year. Unlike drugs, humans can be sold repeatedly.

Globally, 27 million adults and 13 million children are victims of human trafficking. Most are female and 50 percent are children.

What can be done to stop it?

- Raise community awareness of the problem.

- Identify human trafficking victims - often hidden in plain sight.

How can you help? If you see something, say something.

SEE, "TRAFFICKING," PAGE 4.

Rotary District 7410

Grants Management Seminar and Pre-PETS Events

The Grants Management Seminars for Rotary Year 2017-18 and Pre-PETS have been scheduled. It is required that the President-Elect and another club member (preferably the Foundation Chair) should attend as part of the qualification to apply for Rotary Foundation Grants. The Pre-PETS seminar will be open to all, but is required for the President-Elect. There is no charge for these events.

Tuesday, January 31, 2017 - 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. – Registration deadline January 28, 2017

Marzoni's Brick Oven & Brewing Co.

26 Montage Mountain Road
Moosic, PA 18507
570-342-7027

Saturday, February 4, 2017 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. – Registration deadline January 31, 2017

Genetti's Banquet Hall

1345 N. Church Street
Hazleton, PA 18202
570-501-3701

Saturday, February 11, 2017 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. – Registration deadline February 7, 2017

Towanda Country Club

645 Golden Mile Road
Towanda, PA 18848
570-265-6222

REGISTRATION IS FREE BUT REQUIRED.

CONTACT: DGE Karin-Susan Breitlauch ksbvnet@ntd.net or 610-390-0351

TRAFFICKING...

Continued from Page Three.

Call the National Human Trafficking Re- Force to speak at one of your meetings, source Center at 1-888-373-7888. Locally, call please contact Rev. Lou Divis at 570-878- your police, state police and/or your County's 4670. Victim's Resource Center.

You may email her at ldivis@epix.net and If you would like a member of the Task she can help you arrange a speaker.

[The Rotary Club of the Abingtons](#)

Stepping Up in Abingtons for Salvation Army

BY EILEEN CHRISTIAN

—REPRINTED FROM ABINGTON JOURNAL—

The Rotary Club of the Abingtons will once again collect money for the many needs of the Salvation Army. For about fifty years, we have donned our warm clothes, braved any weather and taken two-hour shifts on December weekends, asking for donations. You will see us at the Pennsylvania Liquor Store on Routes 6 and 11, as we stand beside the Salvation Army's Red Kettle.

Our club holds the unique distinction of having raised more money for the Salvation Army than any other service club in the United States. And YOU, the giver, did that.

The Red Kettle campaign began 125 years ago in San Francisco. It has been the main fund raiser for the Salvation Army since then. Their mission is clear: to feed, to clothe, to comfort, to care for those in need. All the money that we raise stays in our own locale.

Heart of a Generous Community

The Scranton-based Salvation Army Center is one of 7,546 centers in communities across the United States. These include food distribution, disaster relief, rehabilitation centers, anti-human trafficking efforts and children's programs. Our usual contribution, given in January to the Commander of the Salvation Army is about \$10,000.

We are a generous nation and we are an especially generous community. When we give our hard earned money away, taking from ourselves and giving it to others, we like to know it is going where the need actually is. Too many times generosity has been misused but not so with the Salvation Army. While other charitable organizations have CEOs whose annual salary is a half million dollars, the head of the Salvation Army receives a modest house to live in and a salary of only \$13,000.

We are organized these many years by Rotarians Gail Cicerini and Diane Calabro. Gail sets up the arrangements with the Liquor Store and the



Ned Connell hands over the bell to Harry Mumford as the Rotary Club of the Abingtons continues their yearly Red Kettle collection for the Salvation Army.

Rotarians. Diane makes many trips to the kettle post, to empty the money and bring it to the bank.

Pictured above are two Rotarians who have been at almost every one of the Kettle collections these fifty years. Rotarian Ned Connell rang the bell for two hours and then was relieved by Rotarian Harry Mumford. They are both dressed for the outside temperature of 30 degrees. Standing on cold concrete for that long is tiring. These two Rotarians like all the rest of

SEE, "RED KETTLE," ON PAGE 14.

Rotary Club of Wilkes-Barre

Rotarians Gearing Up for Another Mardi Gras

Coming up on February 28th 2017, the Rotary Club of Wilkes-Barre is holding a Mardi-Gras themed event known as “Party With A Purpose” at Genetti’s in Wilkes-Barre. The event will benefit the students that attend the Wyoming Valley Children’s Association (WVCA) in Forty-Fort. Cost to attend is \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door.

The event on Mardi Gras or “Fat Tuesday” will feature Cajun-style, Mardi Gras foods plus a wine and beer tasting, a silent auction with great baskets, and a 50/50 raffle, as well as entertainment and a full cash bar. Tickets to the event are available by calling 570-714-1246 x 306, or by emailing Donna Sedor at Dse-dor@wcvakids.org

WVCA is a non-profit organization offering early childhood education programs to nurture the development potential of all children. The agency offers a rich learning environment, individualized instruction, small class sizes, certified teachers and access to expert therapeutic support. WVCA is proud to partner with the United Way of Wyoming Valley. The WVCA is proud to say that it was



The Rotary Club of Wilkes-Barre will host its Second Annual Mardi Gras Event to benefit the Wyoming Valley Children’s Association on Feb. 28. Shown in the photo (from left) are Gus Genetti, Donna Sedor, Club President Brian Whitman and Club Vice President, Lars Anderson.



founded by the Rotary Club of Wilkes-Barre in 192The Rotary Club of Wilkes-Barre originated in Northeastern Pennsylvania in 1916 and is one of the longest running clubs in the Wyoming Valley.

The world’s first service club, Rotary began with the formation of the Rotary Club of Chicago,

Illinois, USA, on February 13, 1905. The club was started by a young lawyer, Paul P. Harris, and three of his friends. He wished to recapture the friendly spirit he had felt among businesspeople in the small town where he had grown up. Their weekly meetings “rotated” among their offices, providing the new service club with its name. Today, Rotary flourishes and includes 1.2 million men and women as club members, providing community service in 168 countries.

The Wilkes-Barre Club meets Tuesdays at noon at Best Western Genetti’s in Downtown Wilkes-Barre and follows the Rotary motto – “Service Above Self” - in all club projects.



Final Push – Calling Rotarians Volunteers

Routine Immunization @ Agra India*

Immunization Dates	Trips Dates
2016 : 15 th October	13 th – 23 rd October 2016
2016 : 19 th November	17 th – 27 th November 2016
2016 : 10 th December	08 th – 18 th December 2016
2017 : 7 th January	05 th - 15 th Jan 2017

Live experience & glimpse of Polio Tours & 2016-17, visit at:

<http://www.calindiatours.com/rotary/login.aspx>

Login ID- Rotary | Password- Poliotours
(Both username/password is case sensitive)

Or

Click below to download detailed itinerary:

www.calindiatours.com/downloads/Polio_Tour_Itinerary_India_Trip.pdf

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**1425++ Rotarian visitors, 175 Rotary Districts,
Serving since 1991**

*conditions apply *Strictly Private Circulation

District Clubs Welcome New Members...

...IN WYALUSING



Wyalusing Area Rotary Club President Anne Burgess welcomes Dr. Jason Bottiglieri as the newest member of the Club. Dr. Bottiglieri, a native of Reading, took over as District Superintendent of the Wyalusing Area School District— one of the largest districts in size in the state— at the start of the 2016-17 academic year.

...AND THE STROUDSBURGS



Ruth Ann Rocchio (left), President of the Stroudsburg Rotary, welcomes newest member, Herline Raphael (center), as Cleo Jarvis, Herline's sponsor, looks on

...AND SAYRE



The Sayre Rotary Club is pleased to welcome their newest member, Coral Streeter. Coral is the Marketing Director for Sayre Health Care Center located at 151 Keefer Lane in Sayre. She lives in the Valley with her husband John and two children. Shown with Coral is the club's current president, John Savelli.

The Sayre Rotary Club meets every Tuesday at noon at the Rail House Restaurant in Waverly, NY. Anyone interested in learning more about Rotary can visit www.rotary.org or come to a meeting. "Like us" on Face Book and you'll get an idea of what our club activities are.

..AND MORE NEW ROTARY
FACES ON NEXT PAGE...

The Rotary Club of Tunkhannock



In the photo above (from left) are Samantha Maruzzelli with new member, Wade Linden, new member Maylene Gregory, Jeannie Brady and President Ann Way. At right is newest member Jodi Crimmel with Don Davis and President Ann Way



Three New Members Inducted at Two Club Meetings

The three newest members of the Tunkhannock Rotary Club were formally inducted into Rotary at two recent meetings.

President Ann Way inducted Maylene Gregory, sponsored by Jeannie Brady, and Wade Linden, sponsored by Samantha Maruzzelli, into Rotary at the Oct 27 Rotary Luncheon at Purkey's Pink Apple.

Maylene is Branch Manager II at the Nicholson Branch of the First National Bank and will become chair of the Public Relations committee, as well as, a member of the Josh the Otter, Dictionaries and Founder's Day committees.

Wade is the father of former outbound exchange student Jason Linden, who went to Mexico, and will serve on the Drug Take Back Outreach and Exchange Student committees.

At the Nov 3 meeting, Pres.

Ann Way inducted Jodi Crimmel, sponsored by Don Davis, into Rotary. Jodi is the wife of deceased Rotarian Bob Crimmel and as a Rotarian spouse, she had been helping at Rotary events for many

years. Jodi has been a member of multiple missions to Haiti. She has now joined Rotary and will serve on the Drug Take Back Outreach and Global Projects Committees.

Officers and Directors Elected for 2017-18

At the Dec 1 Tunkhannock Rotary Annual Meeting, the election of officers and directors for 2017-2018 took place.

Samantha Maruzzelli will become President on July 1, 2017.

Congratulations to the following for their election to these positions: President-Elect Mike Markovitz, Vice President Ryan Visneski, Secretary Carol Ziomek and Treasurer: Sandra Lane

Directors are Rod Azar, Jon Buxton, Patty Ehrenzeller, Karen Fuller, Ron Furman, Norman Kelly, Albert Noble and John Proctor.



Editor's Note: It's time to update your 2017-18 slate of officers on the district website. The other option is to send them to Brenda Allen (her contact info is on the back page) and she'll update.

Rotary Club of Hazleton

Helping Kids Stave Off Winter Cold Since 2007

Some needy children in the Greater Hazleton Area will be provided with new coats through the Hazleton Rotary Club Kidz Coatz Project which is sponsored and supported by The Hazleton Foundation. This project has been held annually since 2007.

Working with local retailers, brand new coats were purchased for children in need from all eight elementary/middle schools in the Hazleton Area School District. The coats are distributed to those children who are confidentially identified by their teachers.

Because of the economy, the number of children needing warm coats continues annually. Last year, the Hazleton Rotary Foundation provided over 350 coats for area children, and over 400 coats were distributed in November of 2010! This winter season more than 350 coats will be given to keep area children warm.

Coats are sorted and delivered to the area elementary and middle schools by members of the Rotary Club of Hazleton and their families. Coats will be delivered to the schools shortly.

“The Rotary Foundation is very happy to be working with the Rotary Club of Hazleton, which annually provides generous financial support to this project. It does truly make you



Bringing some winter warmth to needy children were (front from left) Margo Madden, Paul Brenner, President Pat Ward and Tim Genetti. In second row are John Madden, Project Chair Megan Kennedy, Dave Haupt and Joe Lettier They sorted, packed and delivered coats for the Hazleton Rotary Club’s Annual Kidz Coatz Project. Absent from Photo-Mary Ann Haupt and Pat Korb

feel good to know we are helping children keep warm to and those community members who from school and in their winter-time play.” comments Rotary the years—it has been truly Foundation President Lex Slot. awesome!”

Christmas Plants Brighten Christmas

For the 14th consecutive year, the Rotary Club of Hazleton is here to help brighten holidays with poinsettias, amaryllis and Christmas cactus. Orders were taken by Rotary Club members earlier in November.

Proceeds from the sale are used to fund a number of the club’s community service projects.

“We want to thank everyone who purchased Christmas plants from the Rotary Club and the club members who took orders.” comments Mark Imbriaco. “Your support is sincerely appreciated. By helping our club you are also helping those in the community who benefit from our various service projects” adds Paul Brenner.

For more updated information on Rotary Club of Hazleton activities, visit the website www.hazletonrotary.org or the Rotary Club of Hazleton Facebook page.



ROTARY CLUB OF POLOKWANE D9400 SOUTH AFRICA
INVITES YOU TO JOIN THEM ON A

UNIQUE AFRICAN SAFARI

MAY & AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2017.

The Safari includes stays at **Letaba Camp** in the famous *Kruger National Park* as well as the luxurious and unforgettable **Kings Camp** in the adjacent *Timbavati Game Reserve* – both of which are the domains of Africa's **Big Five**; the lion, elephant, leopard, rhino and buffalo. Join us in an experience of a lifetime in the abundant African plains where game and birdlife abound.

The safari is limited to **EIGHT GUESTS** at the incredible price of only **US\$3290*** per person, all inclusive. Non-Rotarians are welcome. Polokwane Rotarians with guiding experience will accompany the entire safari. All profits generated will be for Rotary Community Service Charity Projects.

* *Excludes international and domestic flights.*

For more information and a full itinerary please contact
Rotarian Charles Hardy at charlois@mweb.co.za

SPECIAL EVENT – Ask us about the exciting **Rotary Foundation 100th Anniversary Safari and Gala Dinner** from the 23rd – 30th of March 2017.





Our Clubs in Action

The Rotary Club of Tunkhannock

Wrapping Our World War II Veterans in Warmest Regards

As a surprise at the Dec 15 Tunkhannock Rotary Club meeting, Quilts of Valor were presented by Billie Blakeney (PA coordinator) and Pat Golla of the Quilts of Valor Foundation to Rotarians and World War II veterans Fran Turner and Norm Werkheiser.

Thousands of quilters across the US work to create quilts that are presented to veterans from all conflicts, including World War II. Over 150,000 quilts have been awarded to service members and veterans who have been touched by war, and are nominated for this honor.

The Quilt carries a three-part message from the heart: 1) to honor them for their service, for their sacrifice and their valor, 2) to thank them for preserving our freedoms and 3) to wrap and comfort them. It is an award which comes with the love, gratitude and tears of the maker. Each quilt represents the work of one or two individuals or a group effort and is made with love, caring & gratitude. Each Quilt of Valor is presented with a hug for the individual and the recipient is wrapped in the quilt to comfort them.

Norm Werkheiser served in the U.S. Army 87th Division and his was one of the first units to cross the Rhine River into Germany. Billie made the quilt for Norm and gave it to him with a big hug and then Pat and Billie wrapped him in the quilt with love. Norm was nominated for this award by the Tunkhannock Rotary Club.

Major Francis Turner - US Army retired of the 2nd Armored Division –was also awarded a Quilt of Valor. Fran was a leader of the 17th Combat Engineers and his division liberated Belgium in Sept 1944. He was part of the first U.S. Army combat unit to occupy Berlin. Fran's quilt was made by Christine Lynch from New Jersey. Billie presented the Quilt to Fran with a big hug and Pat and Billie wrapped him in the quilt with love. Mr. Ted Podewil from S. Carolina nominated Fran for his Quilt of Valor.

Each quilt was accompanied by a certificate, which read as follows: "On behalf of the Quilts of Valor Foundation in recognition of your service and sacrifice for this nation, it is a privilege to serve honor and comfort you through the award of a Quilt of Valor. Though we may never know the depth of your sacrifice to protect and defend the United States of America, as a gesture of gratitude from a grateful



In photo above, Billie Blakeney (left) and Pat Golla (right) present Fran "Sir Francis" Turner with his "Quilt of Valor." At right, another World War II vet, Norm Werkheiser, is lovingly wrapped in his quilt in appreciation for his service to his country.



nation we award you this Quilt of Valor."

Both Norm and Fran were surprised and very pleased that people showed their appreciation for their service.

This was the second surprise honor recently bestowed on 97-year-old Fran Turner for his service during World War II. He had just returned from the 70th annual Reunion of his WWII 2nd Armored Division at Fort Benning GA. Fran was knighted in the Order of St. George and he joked that we now have to call him Sir Francis. *(Note! The Order of Saint George is the top award given to members of the Army's mounted force by the United States Armor Association of the United States Army.)*

For more information about the Quilts of Valor Foundation or to nominate a veteran see www.QOVF.org

Rotarians Ring in Holidays at Red Kettles



Jerry Panisak, Lisa Finkelstein, Hazleton Rotary President Pat Ward and Gary Lagana ring in the Holiday season by taking part in the Greater Hazleton Salvation Army Kettle Drive at Wal-Mart on Saturday, Dec. 17th.

Ringin' Out Old Year in Hazleton

Hazleton Rotarians/family/friends have been active partici-

pants in this annual project emphasizing the Rotary Club motto of "Service Above Self" for a number of years. This year's Red Kettle project chair was Alan Whitaker.

Store entrances were manned on behalf of the Salvation Army from 8AM-3PM.

Other participants were John and Brenda Beltrami, John and John Patton Jr., Joe Cammisa, Terry Jones, Lew Dryfoss, Paul Malone, Tim Genetti, Jason and Paul Brenner, John and Margo Madden, Donna Delehanty, Rich and Susan Moore, Paul and Ella Oswald, Kevin O'Donnell, Joan Buffington, Pat Owens, Lani Drobnock and kids and Michele Ustynoski,



Dallas Duo Takes Turn

On December 9th and 10th the Dallas Rotary Club rang the bells for the Salvation Army bringing in hundreds of dollars to help with their seasonal mission to provide a nice holiday for families in need. Taking their turn are PDG Art Peoples (left) and Past President Todd Buckley.



Seeing RED in Sayre

Sayre Rotary Club members and family recently spent a day ringing the bells for the Salvation Army Kettle Campaign. Shown are Rotary Club member Jeff Paul (left) and his step-daughter Emma and Rotary Club member Justin DeVine. This is one of many community service projects the club enjoys each year. The Sayre Rotary Club is always looking for community minded individuals to join the club and enjoy the many opportunities to serve those less fortunate than ourselves.

The Rotary Club of the Abingtons



Rotarians Make Christmas Brighter for Head Start Kids

The Rotary Club of the Abingtons buys and wraps an individual present for each child in the area Head Start Classrooms. Pictured with the array of presents are: Bruce Valentine, president; John Hambrose, chairman of the event; Abington

Heights High School Interact Club members Sophomore Maddy Sykes, Seniors Kali Schirra and Sarah Jonsson, Freshman Grace Gilmore, Sophomore Morgan Bruno and North Scranton Head Start Teachers Jessica Davailus and Carol Walters.



RED KETTLE...

Continued from Page 5.

us, never complain about the discomfort of collecting. Instead we smile, thank the giver for such generosity and wish each person a Merry Christmas.

When you hear the sound of the little bell, draw near the Red Kettle. Drop in whatever money you can. Who knows what good your contribution can do, when it is placed where it is needed, for the love of humanity?



A Winning Team for Christmas Season

This is the Salvation Army kickoff for the Rotary Club of the Abingtons. Pictured from left are Rotary President Bruce Valentine; Rotarian Howard Hyde who has rung the bell for almost 50 years; Rotarian Co-Chair Diane Calabro; Salvation Army Captain Lawrence Shurtleff, and Rotarian Co-Chair Gail Cicerini. The Club members will be ringing the Salvation Army bell throughout December at Lynch Plaza, Chinchilla.

[The Rotary Club of Plains](#)

A Reminder Why We Are Rotarians

On December 14, 2016, the Plains Rotary continued its tradition of providing a Christmas party for special needs children and their families. The children and family members were served dinner by the Rotarians. Each child received a gift from Santa Claus. A special gift was given to a boy who had his bicycle stolen, the Rotarians presented him with a new bike.

The Plains Rotary received the following thank you letter from a parent. When you read the letter you will know why we are Rotarians and why we work so hard to raise funds to help those in need.

Hi, this is Tanya, my son Lamar and I attended the Plains Rotary Club Christmas party at the Woodlands for the special needs children. My son Antwan was supposed to be there but he was sick. I just want to say how much we appreciate everything you all have done. Words can't express how much it meant to us that you replaced Lamar's bike that was stolen and brought a lock to our house so it wouldn't get stolen again. And Antwan loves his gift as well. It broke my heart when his bike got stolen because I knew there was no way of replacing it for him. And to see the smile on his face when he seen that bike come through the doors brought tears to my eyes because if it weren't for you all he wouldn't have a bike. We are really struggling this year to make ends meet. Honestly that bike for Lamar and the Headset for Antwan is about the only gifts they are getting besides the ones their older brother is getting them. My oldest son attends LCCC and works a part time job so he is getting them something because we were not able to buy anything this year. And the jackets that you all donated to them is an-



Rotarians from Plains hosted their annual Christmas party for children with special needs at the Woodlands.

other blessing. I've been out of work for about a year due to some health issues so the only income that is in the house is Antwan's disability check. I was just diagnosed with a severe case of obstructive sleep apnea and I'm waiting to get the c-pap machine. My sleep apnea is so bad that I stop breathing sometimes more than 63 times in an hour so basically I never sleep because I never get to the REM state of sleep. I have lost several jobs because I just don't have the energy. I'm constantly either sick or just so exhausted that it's getting harder to function for normal everyday tasks. It's so bad this year that I have absolutely nothing for their stockings either.

So again thank you all so very much and God Bless.

**Dr. Paul F. Muczynski, Secretary
Plains Rotary Club**

[The Rotary Club of Tunkhannock](#)

Keeping Scenic Stretch of Route 6 Pristine

Since 1997, the Tunkhannock Club has participated in the Adopt a Highway Program, adopting a two-mile stretch of Route 6 in Tunkhannock. Twice a year, usually in the Spring and late Fall, Tunkhannock Rotarians clean-up both sides of the roadside along Route 6 from the Fire-side Restaurant to beyond Route 87 towards Meshoppen.



Although much of the material found is typically garbage and debris, other more interesting things have also been found in the past, such as money, shoes, pants and miscellaneous items. All money found is donated to the Club.

On the roadside (above) with Mike Markovitz, Mike's son, Glenn Holcombe and John Proctor At right, are (from left) Andres Mendez Perez, Clean Up Chair Norm Kelly, and Stefano Sicca.



and organized this event. The Rotarians were joined by two of their exchange students, Andres Mendez Perez from Mexico and Stefano Sicca from Italy.

Norm Kelly is co-chair of the Roadside Clean-up Committee

Candy Canes Reap Christmas Toys for Kids

Every year on Black Friday (day after Thanksgiving), Tunkhannock Rotarians their families, friends and members of the Tunkhan-

nock High School Interact Club collect monetary donations from shoppers at various shopping locations within Tunkhannock to buy "toys for kids for Christmas". Shoppers are offered candy canes as a thank you for their donations.



This fund-raising event has been undertaken by the Tunkhannock Rotary Club for more than 25 years and is known as Candy Cane Day or has been referred to affectionately as the "annual dodging of the cars" event. Rotarians and Interactors were very grateful for the donations from shoppers and for the hot coffee, cocoa and donuts provided by Dunkin Donuts.

Cheyenne Davy (Interact), Ron Furman, Terry Furman & Olivia Schmeckenbecher (Interact)

Because of the success of this year's collection, on Dec 1 Candy Cane Chair Mike Markovitz presented checks for \$1,000 each to Mary Foley,

SEE, "CANDY CANES," PAGE 18.

[The Rotary Club of Tunkhannock](#)

Dictionaries Passed Out for 13th Year of Third Graders

During November, the Rotary Club continued its 13-year tradition of distributing dictionaries to third grade students at the four elementary schools (Mill City, Evans Fall, Roslund and Mehoopany) in the Tunkhannock Area School District. The Club has purchased and distributed over 3,300 dictionaries to third graders over this period. Since the beginning of the Dictionary Program, Rotary clubs have handed out over 19 million dictionaries.

Even in this digital age, the third graders are always excited to receive their own dictionaries. The Rotarians are always gratified by the enthusiasm of the children and amazed when they ask "do you mean this is now my book and I can take this home and keep it forever and ever?"

Their teachers plan games and activities that encourage the students to use them, like having them find the longest word and try to pronounce it. The dictionaries are



Roslund Elementary School third graders hold up their dictionaries.

Helping "Women with Children"

The Tunkhannock Club established in 2000. The made a contribution of \$350 to the Women with Children (WWC) Program at Misericordia University. Katherine Pohlida, the Director of the Ruth Matthews Bourger Women with Children Program at the University, recently spoke to the Club about this initiative that was

ing, financial assistance, access to quality child care and an array of social, academic and family enrichment programming to single mothers.

The WWC Program at Misericordia is one of only
SEE, "WOMEN," PAGE 19.

more than a traditional dictionary. They contain information on: weights and measures, science elements, sign language, the world, the states, the presidents, the planets and much more. The dictionaries help the students complete the school year as better writers, active readers and creative thinkers.

After the event, Club members are entertained by the thank you notes that come from many of the students, in which they detail how they are using their new dictionaries, in some cases to write their thank you notes.

Some of the students have commented that they especially like the section on sign language.

Candy Cane...

Executive Director for Interfaith Friends, and to Patricia Skrynski, Executive Director of Wyoming County Children & Youth. The money will be used by these organizations to buy Christmas toys/gifts for children in need or in foster care in Wyoming County.



Candy Cane Chair Mike Markovitz presenting \$1,000 checks to Pat Skrynski of Wyoming County Children & Youth and Mary Foley of Interfaith Friends.

Rotary Club of Hazleton

Needy Kids Treated to Boscov's Shopping Spree

It was a morning filled with the Christmas spirit for some lucky area youngsters and Rotary Club members and their families who got together on Sunday, December 4, at Boscov's for a special holiday shopping spree.

Sponsored and supported by the Rotary Foundation, the project is a co-operative effort by the Rotary Club of

Hazleton, the United Way of Greater Hazleton and Boscov's. Over 30 children whose names were provided by The Salvation Army, Catholic Social Services, Commission on Economic Opportunity and United Charities were given

SEE, "SHOPPING SPREE," PAGE 20.



: Hazleton Rotary Club members/families/friends get ready to take some area children on a Holiday Shopping Spree at Boscovs on Sunday, December 4th.

Women...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18.



From left are Sandy Johnson, assistant director, Bourger Women with Children Program; Katherine Pohlidal, director, Bourger Women with Children Program; Ann Way, president, Tunkhannock Rotary Club, and Sister Jean Messaros, RSM, vice president, mission integration

The Rotary Club of Tunkhannock



Tunkhannock Rotary President Ann Way (left) presenting a \$200 check to Tara for the chorus trip.

eight such programs in the United States. The Program empowers economically disadvantaged single mothers by providing the opportunity to complete a college degree, creating brighter futures for themselves and for their children. This \$350 donation will provide \$25 each for 14 children in the program for Christmas.

Something to Sing About

At the Dec 15 Tunkhannock Rotary Club Meeting, members of the Tunkhannock Area High School Chorus, under the direction of Tara Kasperowski, serenaded the Club with Christmas songs from their recent concert. This was followed by a sing-along of Christmas carols. After the singing, President Ann Way presented Tara with a check for \$200 to help defray transportation costs for the upcoming chorus trip to Columbus Ohio in May.

The Rotary Club of the Abingtons



Shopping Spree...

CONTINUED FROM P. 19.
an hour to purchase gifts for themselves and/or family members.

Special thanks is extended to Boscov's for opening their store early for this community service project and for providing refreshments for everyone once the shopping was ended.

Rotary Foundation President Lex Sloom was Project Chairman. The following Rotary Club members, as well as some family members/friends, served as chaperones: Joan Buffington, Gary & Kathy Lagana, Kathi & Ting Oh, John & Brenda Beltrami, Tim & Michelle Genetti, Bill & Mary Lynne Spear, Ron Avellino, Pat & Kathy Ward, Terry Jones, Lisa Finkelstein, Lex & Jennifer Sloom, Rosalie Rudegear, Barbara Layne, Marty Gallagher, John & Margot Madden and Kat Rawhouser, Eckley Ameri Cops volunteer.

Rotarians Make Renewed Commitment to Boy Scouting

Recently, the Rotary Club of the Abingtons reviewed and signed their Boy Scouts of America's Annual Charter Partner Agreement with Boy Scout Troop #160. Rotary member Leah Rudolph was named the liaison between the two organizations.

For more than 75 years the Rotary Club of the Abingtons has sponsored Troop #160. All the Rotarians seen here (with the exception of Leah Rudolph) were Boy Scouts.

Shown above are (all from left) are: first row: Bill Fleming, John Petry, Leah Rudolph, Gus Vlassis, Dom Scott, Warren Watkins, Howard Hyde, Ned Connell, President Bruce Valentine. Second row: Dale Collins, Senior District Executive of Boy Scouts of America Dan Beard District's Stephen Lenceski, Scout Master Throop #160 John D'Elia, Roger Mattes. Third row: Dave Griffin.

Second Paul Harris Apiece for Duo

Dr. Harold Nelson and Jim Pravlik were each received a second Paul Harris medal in recent presentations.

Pravlik received his from Past District Governor Gus Vlassis at a recent Rotary Club of the Abingtons meeting held at the

"HARRIS," PAGE 21.



In photo above, Dr. Harold "Skip" Nelson (right) is shown with PDGs Warren Watkins and Gus Vlassis. At right, Jim Pravlik (right) with PDG Vlassis



[The Rotary Club of the Stroudsburgs](#)



Tommy Farda (center) receives recognition for his support of the Satellite Club's work towards the purchase of a wheelchair swing for the Resica Community Playground.

Honors Abound at December Gatherings

On Thursday, December 8th, Rotarian Neil Simpson was inducted as the club's newest Paul Harris Fellow. At the same meeting, Michelle Baehr and Dave Fox received Paul Harris Level 3 and Level 2, respectively. Also on that day, the club welcomed its newest Rotarian, Herline Raphael, sponsored by Cleo Jarvis.

Grant for the purchase of a much needed wheelchair swing for the Resica Community Playground.



President Ruth Ann Rocchio congratulates Paul Harris Fellows Michele Baehr & David Fox.



President Rocchio congratulates Paul Harris Fellow Neil Simpson.

Additionally, the Stroudsburgs Satellite Club held a Peppe's Bistro Pizza Night Fundraiser on December 8th. A big huge THANK YOU to Tommy Farda from Peppe's for his help and support in helping the club add funds to its Foundation

[The Rotary Club of Dallas](#)



Rotarians Host Seniors at Christmas Luncheon

On December 9th the Rotary Club of Dallas provided a beautiful Christmas party luncheon and gifts for 60 members of the Dallas Senior Center at Fred DiMaria's Appletree Terrace. Seated (from left) are Randi Teed and Trinity Sprague, volunteers from Misericordia University, and Rotarians Consuelo Gogates-Martin, Eric Martin and Fred DiMaria. Standing are Rotarians Sandy Peoples, John Doerfler, and Maureen Doerfler and Laurie DiMaria.

Harris...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20.

Ramada, Clarks Summit. Jim has been a member of the Abingtons club for ten years and currently serves as Co-Chair of the Program Committee.

Dr. Nelson has been a Rotarian for 21 years. Rotary International's highest award represents "Service Above Self" and a \$1,000 donation will be presented to the Rotary International Foundation.

New Rotarians

District 7410 — 2016 Club Data

Abingtons	Stephen Lenceski
Forest City Area	Amanda Cino
	Marissa McAndrew
Hamlin	Laura Rowe
Hazleton	Michele Ustynoski
Milford-Matamoras	Ernie Olsen
Newfoundland	Michael Dawson
	Rebecca Dawson
Sayre	Coral Streeter
Smithfields	Joanne Bruno
	Angela Dalby
	Donna Hodge
	Damary Bonilla-Rodriguez
Stroudsburgs, The	Nathan Johnson
	Tameko Patterson
	Herline Raphale
	David Super
	DeAna Susinskas
	Claudette Williams

Club	Total Memb.	New Memb.	Attend. %
Abingtons	57	1	48.54%
Athens	16		
Blakeslee	12		75.00%
Dallas	43		
Dunmore	13		70.00%
Forest City Area	12	2	64.60%
Freeland	10		
Hamlin	36	1	45.37%
Hawley	29		
Hazleton	84	1	34.20%
Honesdale	39		44.00%
Jim Thorpe	25		44.00%
Kingston	20		61.00%
Lehighton	9		
Mid-Valley (Dickson City)	2		56.00%
Milford-Matamoras	25	1	60.00%
Montrose	20		
Mountaintop	22		63.00%
Mt. Pocono	19		
New Milford	16		
Newfoundland	40	2	65.71%
North Scranton	22		86.00%
Pittston	16		50.00%
Plains	19		65.00%
Plymouth	22		
Pocono Mountains	21		62.00%
Sayre	18	1	78.00%
Scranton	38		0.00%
Slate Belt Rotary	25		40.00%
Smithfields	21	3	40.00%
Stroudsburgs, The	100	7	65.07%
Towanda	14		
Trail (Factoryville)	17		45.00%
Troy	23		73.00%
Tunkhannock	63		
Weatherly	10		
Wellsboro	44		0.00%
West End	16		
Wilkes-Barre	30		
Winola	15		
Wyalusing Area	28		38.00%
Wyoming Rotary	19		61.00%





District 7410

President – Rotary International 2016-2017

John F Germ (Chattanooga, Tennessee)

District Governor 7410 – 2016-2017

Marcia Loughman

201 Marcaby Lane

So. Abington TWP, PA 18411

Phone: 570-780-2103

Email: madio@epix.net

District Officers

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Newsletter Publisher & Webmaster

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1. Nancy Brittain (Sayre) nbrittain@stny.rr.com

Athens, Sayre, Towanda, Troy, Wellsboro

2. Norm Kelly (Tunkhannock)

normkelly@sbcglobal.net

Forest City, Montrose, New Milford, Trail, Tunkhannock, Winola, Wyalusing

3. Al Kobe (Honesdale)

Jaques2.49.ak@gmail.com

Hamlin, Hawley, Honesdale, Milford-Matamoras, Newfoundland

4. Karen DeMatteo (The Stroudsburgs)

karenandrotary@gmail.com

Blakeslee, Mt. Pocono, Pocono Mountains, Slate Belt, The Smithfields, The Stroudsburgs, West End

5. Paul Brenner (Hazleton)

paul.brenner.54@gmail.com

Freeland, Hazleton, Jim Thorpe, Lehigh-ton, Mountaintop, Weatherly

6. Joe Loughman (North Scranton) ctssm@epix.net

The Abingtons, Dunmore, Mid Valley, North Pocono, North Scranton, Scranton

7. John John, (Pittston)

johnj@goldenbusiness.com

Dallas, Kingston, Pittston, Plains, Plymouth, Wilkes-Barre, Wyoming

