



News from District 7410

January 2021

Joe Loughman, District Governor



CATCH THE EXCITEMENT!!

The Rotary District 7410 Silent Auction is now live and taking bids!!

CHECK IT OUT AT: <https://trellis.org/rotaryauction>

AND share it on your social media!!

Let your friends and family know to take a look.

..... If you or your club have something to add to the auction, it's not too late!! We can add items up until March 10, 2021.

New items? Picture, Value, your Name, Your club, send to stacy.ravenent@gmail.com

Auction runs from Feb 1 to Mar 14th....



Help our communities and world service



Join in our stay-at-home Online Auction February 1, 2021- March 14, 2021

Great items available to the public in support of Rotary Projects and ending Polio
Sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of Northeast Pennsylvania

Trellis.org/rotaryauction



The Abingtons
Athens
Blakeslee
Dallas
Dunmore
Forest City Area
Freeland
Hamlin
Hawley
Hazleton
Honesdale

Jim Thorpe
Kingston
Lehighton
Milford-Matamoras
Mountaintop
Mt. Pocono
Newfoundland
New Milford Area
North Pocono
North Scranton

The Passport club

Pittston
Plains
Plymouth
Pocono Mountains
Sayre
Scranton
The Smithfields
Slate Belt
The Stroudsburgs

Towanda
Trail (Factoryville)
Troy
Tunkhannock
Weaverly
Wellsboro
West End
Wilkes Barre
Winola
Wyalusing
Wyoming



Rotary Club of New Milford

New Milford Area Rotary Supports United Way's Real Men Read Program

The New Milford Area Rotary Club has generously supported United Way of Susquehanna County's (UWSC) Real Men Read signature program, which has allowed the program to expand to the Susquehanna Community School District.

Real Men Read connects volunteer male readers, MENtors from the community with kindergarten classes in schools to encourage reading and learning in young children and boost early grade reading success. MENtors commit to reading to a kindergarten class, are trained to interact, lead the children in discovery, and undergo a security clearance to participate in the program. Each kindergarten student receives a copy of the book read each month to add to their home library. The program is currently running virtually to accommodate schools, with students still receiving a book each month the program runs.

Why MENtors? With 81% of children under the age of 5 living in economically at-risk situations coupled with an increase in female-led single-parent households in Susquehanna County, UWSC determined that this was a worthwhile program. Typically, teachers are female, and so many children do not have a male mentor/positive influencer in their lives, promoting the importance of literacy. Real Men Read helps these children to see men valuing education and reading.

This program provides an excellent opportunity for students to have a positive role model who values education and encourages the love of reading. From K-3rd grade, students are learning to read, and from 3rd grade on, students need to be able to read to learn. According to the Annie E. Casey Foundation, students who don't read proficiently by third grade are four times more likely to leave high school without a diploma than proficient readers.

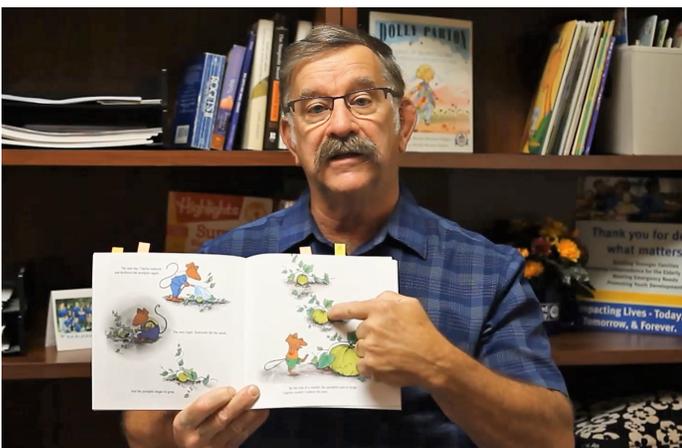
We can prepare our kids for a lifetime of success in reading and learning by merely sharing books, encouraging literacy skills, and model the importance of reading.

"The New Milford Area Rotary Club is pleased to partner with UWSC and support this important program. We recognize the importance of children having positive role models to encourage the love of reading and the value of children having books in their homes," said Tom Kurosky, New Milford Area Rotary Club President.

Thanks to community partners such as The Endless Mountains Health Systems, Frank Roia Scholarship Fund, and Visions Federal Credit Union. The New Milford Area Rotary Club is able to support such programs in the community. These gifts along with New Milford Area Rotary's contribution provided a total investment of \$2,000.00.

"As a result of this generous support, UWSC has been able to continue serving other districts in the county with the Real Men Read program while expanding this program to Susquehanna Community School District this year," said Robin Cobb, Director of Operations at UWSC.

United Way's goal is to expand the Real Men Read program to all six districts as funding and volunteer support permits.



Real Men Read MENtor, Dave Palmer reading *The Biggest Pumpkin Ever*.



From left: Brian Lione, New Milford Area Rotary Club Foundation Chair, Robin Cobb, UWSC Director of Operations, Tom Kurosky, New Milford Area Rotary Club President

To: Club Presidents, Secretaries, and Youth Activities Coordinators

The time frame for the Rotary District 7410 District Essay Contest for 2020-'21 is upon us. The contest is open to students who are in the final two years of high school. The goal of the contest is to get some visibility for Rotary in your community, and to foster creativity and positive outlook.

The District winner will receive \$1,000.00 at the time of the District Conference. There will be a second place prize of \$500.00 and a third place prize of \$250.00. Each club may only submit one essay from each high school in its service area. It will be up to your club to judge your local entries, and to determine if there will be a local prize. Many clubs invite the winner and his or her family to a Rotary meeting to read their essay and be recognized. It is also up to club membership to determine if a local winner should receive a monetary award.

A local (club) deadline of January 29 is suggested. Given the current pandemic, schools are following diverse models for instruction. One constant, is that no outside personnel are allowed in school buildings. If you have made consistent contact with a teacher, school counselor, or administrator, I would recommend contacting that individual as soon as possible to request their participation.

The theme for this year's essay is derived from our Rotary International President, and one of Rotary's main causes: "How can you personally take the opportunity to protect the environment?" All additional information and details for the contest may be found on ClubRunner under Youth/Essay. Please ascertain if the Student Guidelines and poster may be delivered to the school, or if they should be emailed.

Entries from clubs must be received by the District Chair on or before February 26.

Please email your club's entry (entries) to 7410essay@gmail.com. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Kate Farrell Kurosky, District Essay Chair

439 Chenango St., Montrose, PA 18801

kfarrellkurosky@gmail.com (570) 309-8087



BEAR LODGES

THE GETAWAY FOR GROWNUPS

Three Beautiful Locations

<https://www.bearlodgeswellsboro.com>

Complete a stay by May 14, 2021 and they will donate 20% to Polio Plus. Any stays between May 15 to Nov 14, 2021, they will donate 10% for weekday stay and 5% for weekend/holiday. Gift Certificates and book purchases also apply.

Use POLIO, in all caps, for the coupon code on website www.BearLodgesWellsboro.com.

Rotary Club of The Stroudsburgs



Sharing a joyous hug for helping out a local food pantry in the Stroudsburgs with a donation prior to the pandemic are Hope Christman (left), PVEN Food Pantry, and Club President at the time, Lucille Piggott-Prawl.

**“Everything
we do opens
another
opportunity
for someone,
somewhere”**

HOLGER KNAACK



Rotary Club of Sayre



For many years, Sayre Rotarians have been ringing the bells for the Salvation Army. This year is no different – despite COVID-19 the members spent two afternoons ringing the bells, only one at a time and with masks on. Shown is Ryan Skovira, Sayre Rotary President. Helping the Salvation Army 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 – not only in our community, but around the world. At the same time, membership in Rotary provides a great opportunity for networking and fellowship. The Sayre Rotary club is not meeting in person at the present time but once the pandemic is resolved, they will once again meet every Tuesday at 12:10 pm at the Grille at the Station, Lehigh Avenue, Sayre. Anyone interested in learning more about what membership in the Sayre Rotary club has to offer can go to www.rotary.org Also, be sure to ‘Like us’ on Face Book!

DISTRICT 7410 ROTARIANS!

Please support Operation Honduras "OH" 2021 through our "7 White Gifts" <socially distant> Mission.

Many reading this are traveling veterans of OH's 23+ year mission to serve the poorest of the poor of Honduras. Due to COVID, this year we can't bring our usual team of 10-45 construction/medical/administrative/ you name it! volunteers to perform our typical "hands on" work. This work took the form of building: schools, clinics, homes, a chapel and so much more. Our medical footprint includes fitting over 14,000 patients with hearing aids thanks to Starkey! Fourteen thousand (14,000) is not a typo. **District 7410 has been "the backbone" of OH.** Rotarians from our district also lead THE GIFT OF SIGHT program that fit over 6,000 patients with new prescription eye glasses-patients select their own frames out of 16 attractive options. Please add free cataract surgeries, free oral surgery (thank you Solfanellis!), twenty six (26) buildings, a new well (thank you Belons!), and so much more to our resume. Please see operationhonduras.com for brief history.

We are continuing the OH mission in a socially distanced manner by providing below "7 White Gifts":

OH GIFT #	DESCRIPTION	COST(each)	GOAL amt
1	Reading glasses	\$0.50	2000+
2	Prescription eye glasses	\$25	400+
3	Cataract surgery (1 eye)	\$100	100+
4)	GIFT OF SOUND	\$200 (2 hearing aids)	120+
5)	Tele-medicine/ZOOM KIT	\$1000	10+
6)	El Refugio FOOD BANK	\$1000	1+
7)	Pagoda Uniforms	\$1000 (1 classroom)	1+

You may be thinking "I want more details/assurances before I donate". We at OH say, "Great! Skeptical donors who demand total transparency are often the most generous. See the website or call or email Jim Davenport of Dunmore Rotary (570.814.9570cell/ophonduras@aol.com) for more details. Another reader may be thinking: "My club has resources and is looking for a good social distance international project NOW but we prefer 'hands on". Great! You can purchase the tele-medicine "ZOOM KIT", reading glasses or hearing aids directly. An OH volunteer will travel to your club to accept the donation-then you follow the ZOOM meetings and possibly see the look on a boys face when he can hear his mothers voice for the first time in his life. We know this joyous, tear generating, look because we have seen it many times thru OHs GIFT OF SOUND. Rotary gives us this reward!

Another reader might be thinking "how does my club donate to this again?". Many ways:

a) mail a check payable to Operation Honduras (or WVPC); 201 Bear Creek Blvd.-Suite A Plains Twp., PA 18702 (memo your Gift#)

b) Buy the donation! Very easy for Gift#s: 1, 4 & 5. Have it shipped to your club; take pictures. Invite a new member to review and possibly offer new ideas. OH will transport it from your club to Honduras-you can follow its travels in early February.

c) Wire direct to our in-country Honduras volunteers; this could apply to Gift#s: 3, 6 & 7. OH provides wiring instructions and method to follow the path of your generous gift-like a tracking number.

Our in-country OH volunteers are already at work testing patients:

Lets keep being Rotarians during these most difficult times. Any help is most appreciated.

Happy Holidays!
Jim Davenport
Dunmore Rotary





PETS - President Elect Training Seminar

I wanted to reach out to each of you congratulating you on being President Elect of your club. I am looking forward to working with each of you and your clubs.

I hope you are aware of PETS (President Elect Training Seminar) which we do with 5 other Districts and it is usually held in New Jersey. Unfortunately we will not be able to have this Seminar in person so it will be held Virtually on every Tuesday night in March from 7PM to 8:30 PM. The DGE's are working on making this fun and interesting this year. You will also be required to do some training in the Learning Center at Rotary.org so more to come on PETS

Our district will have a Pre Pre PETS on January 13th at 7 PM and this will probably last an hour and of course Virtual. We are working on making this a fun night of getting to know each other. In the past this was a get together but again we can not do that this year.

I will be doing Internationally Assembly Virtually also and that will be from Feb. 1st to the 11th so we will then have a Virtual (ya I know Virtual again) on February 24th at 7PM and this virtual meeting will be for me to share PE Shekhar Mehta's message from International Assembly.

Please put these date on your calendar and let me know if you have any issues with these dates. More to come

I did send this email to the club presidents that do not have a President Elect listed on the District Web site.

Looking forward to working with you for the 2021-22 Rotary Year

Mary Ellen

DGE District 7410

(570) 499-8901



Rotary Club of Tunkhannock

Tunkhannock's Multiple Paul Harris Fellow



Pres. Terri showed virtually the Paul Harris +4 pin that she has received to be awarded to George Gay, which represents his \$5,000 of cumulative donations to the Rotary Foundation.



Tunkhannock Welcomed Newest Member



At the Jan 14 Zoom Rotary Meeting, Club Membership Chair Mary Tempest introduced the Club's newest member Jonathan Ebersole, who told everyone a little about himself.

Jon transferred to the Tunkhannock club from the Rotary Club of Elizabethtown, PA in Dec. 2020. He recently moved in Nov. with his wife and children outside Tunkhannock to be closer to his extended family. He offers Medicare Consulting Services; he works from home. Several members know his wife who is from the Tunkhannock area.

Thank You to Essential Workers

Jan 13 was the kick-off of the Tunkhannock Rotary PR Campaign to thank essential workers, including those in Rotary, for their efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic and to promote continued mask wearing.

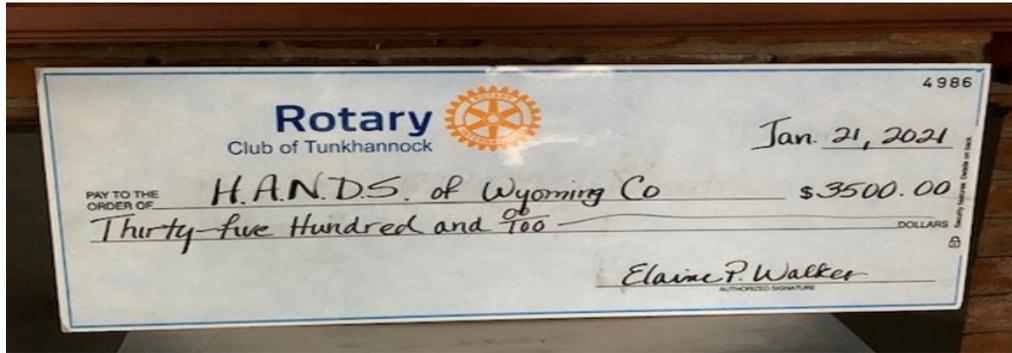
A half-page ad appeared in the Jan 13 Wyoming County Press Examiner and digital graphics appeared on the Club Website, both of the Club's Facebook pages (Club and Harvest & Wine Festival), Instagram and on a slide at the Dietrich Theater. On Jan 14, it appeared in the Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce newsletter.

Phase 2 of this PR campaign started in late Jan and in early Feb with posters, road signs and billboards with the same message.

Rotary Club of Tunkhannock

Rotary Supports HANDS FANS Camp

At the Jan 21 Tunkhannock Rotary Zoom Meeting, Club President Terri Detrick virtually presented guest speaker Cathy Franko, Executive Director of HANDS of Wyoming County, with a check for \$3,500 to help support the 2021 FANS Camp.



In her presentation, Cathy provided an update on the 2020 FANS Camp, (partially supported by Rotary) and some of the other programs at HANDS.

The Focused Activity Nutrition Success (F.A.N.S.) Camp takes place during the summer, coordinated by Cathy Franko and Brenda Mills, assistant program director at HANDS.

Pre-pandemic, the camp provided children between 5 and 12 years of age with the opportunity to enjoy non-competitive sport activities, yoga and strength building. The children learned how to interact and make new friends, as well as learned about nature, science, math, engineering and art. In addition, there is a nutrition program to promote a heart healthy lifestyle.

But due to COVID-19, the FANS Camp went virtual in summer 2020 and was expanded to 8 weeks in length. Google classroom was utilized for the FANS Camp. Online, the kids could learn yoga, healthy snacking and partake in a variety of educational and fun activities.

The children were also provided with seeds to plant their own backyard gardens, since they could not work in the HANDS garden, which was planted and maintained by the HANDS staff instead.

Cathy reported that 44 families signed up for the 2020 camp, which is more than in a typical year.

She indicated that they are currently planning for the 2021 FANS Camp, hoping that it can be a blend of in person and online activities, although they will be prepared for a full in-person or a full online Camp depending on the state of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Although the annual Rotary donations to several community organizations are usually funded by the proceeds from the Oct Rotary Harvest & Wine Festival at Lazybrook Park, the Festival did not take place in 2020 due to the COVID-19 restrictions.

However, Rotary has maintained a reserve fund for the eventuality that one year the Festival might not take place, so that reduced donations could still be made to support some key community organizations.

For the first time in 12 years, the Club has had to reduce the number of organizations supported and reduce the amounts provided to organizations. It is hoped that the 2021 Harvest and Wine Festival will take place on Oct 9, 2021 and the community organization support will be able to return to its previous levels in 2022.

BLAKESLEE ROTARY TAKES TO LOCAL REALTORS FOR FUNDRAISER

With all the mandates in effect due to COVID-19, non-profits are having difficulty raising funds for their organizations.

While most non-profit organizations have multiple fundraisers throughout the year, 2020 did not fare well with holding large gatherings to raise the funds that these organizations rely on.

With the help of local realtors, Blakeslee Rotary initiated a "Closing" fundraiser. This fundraiser was led by Rotary member Maggie Flartey-Kaminski, CEO of Century 21 Select Group in Blakeslee, PA.

The idea was that with all the homes being bought and sold we could ask local realtors to join us in our fundraising efforts. Keeping up with some fundraising while also keeping with the guidelines set forth by the state and CDC.

The goal was to have a \$5.00 donation for every closing during a certain period.

We could not be any happier that many realtors jumped on board. Without hesitation, they were thrilled to be able to help.

Because of them the Rotary raised \$1,180.00

We would like to thank the following realtors for their contributions:

Century 21, Blakeslee
Century 21, Pocono Pines
Century 21, Lake Harmony
Dembinski Realty
Pocono Mountain Lakes Realty
Lake Naomi Real Estate
Realty Executives



Image: created by Chris W.