THE DISTRICT CONNECTON



Welcome DISTRICT GOVERNOR Samantha Maruzzelli



Thank you to Craig Devenport for an amazing term as District Governor! His leadership guided us through another successful year. We are fortunate to have Craig added to our pool of PDG's with his wisdom and continued service. Cheers, my friend!

I have had the privilege of inducting some new Presidents over the last few weeks. Every installation was heartwarming because all the current presidents and incoming presidents got emotional. For us to be so involved, heart and soul, in Rotary that we outwardly show emotion about the part we play is amazing. We are moved by the trust and respect our fellow Rotarians have in us. I thank those clubs for inviting me to your intimate exchange of officers. Your emotions moved me.

We have a lot of continued work to do this year, building membership, supporting our foundation, increasing service projects, but for today I would just like to focus on one area. I encourage us all to DO MORE ROTARY. I don't mean if you worked one hour today, work two tomorrow. I mean get back to the roots of why you joined Rotary in the first place. Back to the fellowship, because life is better with a friend by your side. Get back to the service projects, the boots on the ground hard, dirty work we do to make our communities better. After-all, we are **PEOPLE OF ACTION**. Share your stories! Encourage others to join, invite your friends, coworkers, neighbors, the kid checking your groceries out. You all have the power to change the lives of all these people by simply inviting them. Inviting them to come help at a service project or attend a meeting. When you ask a Rotarian why they joined Rotary most will answer "because I was invited". Be the invitation.

Look around your clubs and our District, we are the future of Rotary and let's face it, with a few exceptions, we are getting old! We cannot let our story end with us! We must figure out how to lower the age of Rotary, we must perpetuate our beloved organization. It is up to each and every one of us, we cannot stand back and wait for someone else to fix our problems. I challenge you to make it your goal to get one new member per year in to your club then follow through and make sure their experience is everything they hope it will be.

As we move "forward together" this year, we will continue the work of the leaders who came before us, forge some new paths of our own and make way for our future leaders.

Our Theme this year is "Create Hope in the World". That perfectly sums up what Rotary is all about. Rotary International President, Gordon McInally is a down to earth, friendly and inspiring man. I have had the pleasure of meeting him several times. We are in good hands.

Our District Governor line, DG, DGE, DGN and a few PDG's meet every Monday. We also meet regularly with all Committee Chairs and Assistant Governors. We have continuity in our leadership and our commitment to serve every club in our District. We can only be successful with good communication. I encourage you to read and respond to emails, answer phone calls, invite us to your meetings and events. Read the District Newsletter. We have one job, to serve our clubs.

I am honored to serve as your District Governor. I am proud to represent the Tunkhannock Rotary Club.

Yours in Rotary Service, Samantha Maruzzelli DG



Banner Exchange 2023





















Upcoming Events

Calendar

August 2023

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|--------------------------|-------|--------------|------------|------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 Stroudfest Sept 2, 2023 (Stroudsburgs, The) | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| - Committee Meeting - De | | lline | | Fundraiser | | |
| General | Offic | ial DG Visit | Club Event | | | |

September 2nd- Stroudfest

See You There!

Don't see your event on the calendar? Email jpoperotary@gmail.com for instructions on how to add it!



House Keeping

Please make sure all of your Club information is up to date on ClubRunner.

This includes:

Club Meeting Location/Time Club Leadership Roles/Chairs

Please message Jessica Pope, District Administrative Assistant with any questions!





WHAT IS RLI??

Rotary Leadership Institute(RLI) is a grassroots coalition of Rotary districts implementing a leadership development program for "potential" leaders in Rotary. While it is an unofficial program of Rotary International, it has substantial support of a number of past Rotary International Presidents and current, past and incoming R.I. Directors.

When is RLI in District 7410?

RLI will be held on October 28th, 2023. Registration begins 7:30am. Sessions for Leadership I, II, III and Graduate will begin at 8:30AM. There will be a lunch break at noon and the sessions will resume at 1:00PM and wrap up around 3:30.

The event will be held at: Holiday Inn East Mountain Inn 600 Wildflower Drive Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18702

If you wish to come the night before, rooms will be available at the East Mountain Inn at a discounted rate of \$129.00 per night, single or double occupancy. Rooms must be reserved by October 1st, 2023 to guarantee the reduced room rate. Rooms can be reserved by calling East Mountain Inn directly at 570-822-1011.

What is the cost for RLI?

Cost for RLI will be only \$125. Cost includes breakfast, lunch, and all your materials for the day.

How do I register for RLI?

Log on to rlinea.org and register under the upcoming classes tab for the October 28th, 2023 District 7410 and begin registration.

QUESTIONS

Contact site chairs JK Karavis 570-574-4246 or jkkaravis@comcast.net

Shelly Karavis 570-466-6468 or sheltwin16@aol.com

RLI Northeast Regional Vice Chair Hector Ortiz at richie1166@msn.com



CLUBS IN ACTION



Beautification Committee

Rotary Club of the Abingtons members of the Beautification Committee are currently planting and making Clarks Summit lovely. Co-chairs Beth Caucci and Phyllis ruzbarsky are spearheading the procurement of flowers, planting and maintenance.

Assisting are Rotary Treasurer Janice Bevacqua and 2022-2023 President Diane Calabro. L to R: Caucci, Rubarsky, Bevacqua and Calabro



Director of Outreach Visit

On Thursday Lori, Executive Director of Outreach addressed the members of the Rotary Club of the Abingtons at their weekly meeting at the Glen Burn Diner. Outreach (formerly EOTC) strives to assist families to build strong families and communities.

Located on 7th Avenue in Scranton the agency helps hundreds of individuals annually. For assistance call:570-348-6484 to discover community resources.

L to R: Rotary President Diane Calabro, Past District Governor and speaker Lori Chaffers.





Changing of the Guard

Last evening members of the Rotary, friends and family witnessed the changing of the guard as Diane Calabro retired and Virginia Johnson took the reins for 2023-2024.



Midge Garvey, Tom Zurla, Virginia Johnson and Kim Cullen



Roger Mattes, Past District Governor



Billy Angel receiving the Paul Harris Award from Roger Mattes



Scott Thomas, Noreen Thomas, Samantha Maruzzelli (incoming Rotary Governor District #7410) and Mary Tempest (Membership Director, District 7410)



Steve Selige, President Elect, Ashley Selige, Gus Vlassis Past District Governor, Anita Nealon Vlce-President



Janice Bevaqua receiving the Paul Harris Award from Chrisy Calvey Jr.





Veronica Dende, Roger Mattes, Chris Calvey Jr., Gus Vlassis who inducted the Executive Board



Billy Angel, Chris Selige, Steve Selige, Leah Rudolph, Gus Vlassis (Installing Officer), Janice Bevaqua, Veronica Dende, Anita Nealson...all Rotary Directors for 2023-2024



Gus Vlassis installing Virginia Johnson as the 2023-2024 President



Retiring President Diane Calabro receiving the District's highest award for number of new members from Membership Chairperson Mary Tempest





Joint Installation Dinner

The Rotary Clubs of Sayre and Athens, PA and Waverly, NY recently met at Tomasso's Restaurant for a joint installation of new officers for the 2023-2024 year. Guests included Craig Devenport, PDG from District 7410 in PA, Rocky Martinez, District Governor and Wendy Dies, District Governor Elect from District 7170 in NY.

The new Presidents of each club are Joseph Blood, Athens Rotary; David DeKay, Sayre Rotary; and Eric "Chip" Roberts, Waverly Rotary.

We all look forward to another great Rotary year under the new leadership of our clubs and districts. Anyone interested in learning more about Rotary should visit www.Rotary.org or speak with any of the many Rotarians in our Valley and beyond.

Shown from left to right are Joseph Blood, President of Athens Rotary, District 7170 Governor Rocky Martinez, District 7410 Governor Craig Devenport, Eric "Chip" Roberts, President of Waverly Rotary, David DeKay, President of Sayre Rotary and District 7170 Governor Elect Wendy Dies.



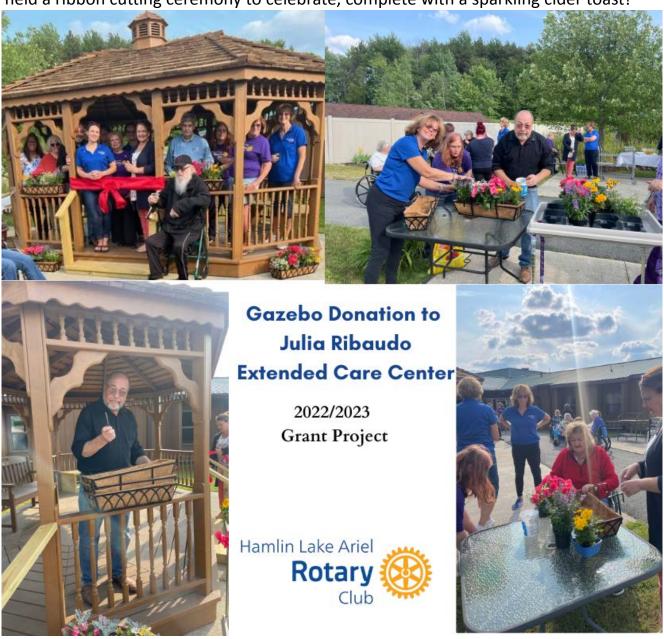




Gazebo Donation to Extended Care Center

The Hamlin Lake Ariel Rotary Club donated a Gazebo complete with a ramp, benches, and decorative flowers to Julia Ribaudo Extended Care Center. Rotarian Bill Culley and Steve Wargo completed the gazebo by building the benches, ramp, railings, and even altering the roofline for more overhead clearance.

This project was the club's 2022/2023 Grant Project and the residents at the extended care center were completely elated to receive such a donation. The facility had the gazebo blessed and held a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate, complete with a sparkling cider toast!





10th Annual Golf Tournament

The Hamlin Lake Ariel Rotary Club's 10th Annual Golf Tournament on June 5th was an astounding success! The weather was perfect and the event had a record number of golfers and sponsors. A great time was had by all!



Installation Dinner

On Tuesday, June 27th – the Hamlin Lake Ariel Rotary Club held their Installation Dinner at Overboards Restaurant, celebrated their 10 Year Charter Anniversary, and welcomed two new members! Congratulations to Carol Fox-Wallace and Debby Falvo. Welcome to our Rotary family - we are so excited to have you!

Board of Directors for the 2023/2024 Rotary Year for Hamlin Lake Ariel Rotary Club:

President: Terri Ditty

Vice President: Mary Ellen Bentler President Elect: Jill Metschulat

Secretary: Jacky Gillette Treasurer: Marisa Romano

Immediate Past Presidents: Tyler Ujvari & Jennifer Wargo

Directors: Harry Talalas, Jill Dwyer, Tatiana Black

Sargent at Arms: Ted Silver

Jill Metschulat was recognized as the 2022/2023 "Rotarian of the Year" and Tatiana Black received the "Service Above Self" award. Both Jill and Tatiana were integral parts in their Rotary Club having such a successful and productive year. Whenever needed, they can always count on Jill and Tatiana.

On July 18, 2012 – the Rotary Club of Hamlin was chartered with 25 members. Mary Ellen Bentler, Fred Sakacs, Eileen Talalas, Harry Talalas, Bill Culley, Terri Ditty, and Terry Gunning were recognized as 7 of the 25 original Charter Members. Without these members taking a chance to join one of the world's largest organizations to make change within the community, it would not be possible for this club to be what it is today. Thank you so much for everything you have done over the past 10 years to allow the club to thrive and help the community as much as it





Scholarship Awards

The Rotary Club of Hamlin Lake Ariel presented two Western Wayne High School seniors each with a \$1,000 scholarship to cover any post-secondary education related expenses.

McKenzie Laity will be attending Elizabethtown College with an intended major of Biology (Pre-Med).

Mackenzie Weist will be attending Johnson College with an intended major of Veterinary Nursing.

Pictured: Tyler Ujvari & Mike McDonnell, Rotarians with the Hamlin Lake Ariel Rotary Club, who attended the Senior Awards Night to present the scholarships.





Installation Dinner

Michele Kushmeder was installed as the 103rd President of Hazleton Rotary at the annual President's Party. This was a cocktail reception in celebration of Ms. Kushmeder's swearing in as President along with the induction of Board members and officers.

Michele has been a member of Hazleton Rotary for five years and was sponsored for membership by Jim Reinmiller.

She is serving her second term as a co-chair of the Hazleton Rotary Wine & Beer Festival. She has actively assisted with many service projects such as the Christmas Shopping Spree for area youngsters, Downtown Street Cleanup, Dictionary Project, and has assisted her fellow Rotarians with various holiday meal deliveries. In her current role as Board Vice President, she has been very busy with the task of providing speakers for weekly meetings and locations for monthly socials.

Michele has been employed by the Hazleton Area Public Library since 1991 and has served as Executive Director since 2017. She graduated from Lock Haven University with a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and holds a Masters of Library Science Degree from Clarion University. She resides in Hazleton. She serves on the Board of the Home-Free Bowling Association.

Michele is also active in her church parish where she is Vice-President of the Christian Women's Association, serves as Lector, and volunteers as the Social Media Coordinator for the parish. She has recently begun a term as a Community Advisory Board member for WVIA Public Media. Michele enjoys reading, bowling, baking and golf.

Michele's goals for Hazleton Rotary for the upcoming year align with the theme set by Rotary International's incoming President R. Gordon R. McInally "Create Hope in the World." "By continuing the valuable service projects of the club, we look to create hope within our community for better and brighter days ahead. We will look to increase our membership, tackle additional projects, and continue to look for ways to meet the needs of those facing burdens or hardship. We have such a generous group of Rotarians who are always willing to share their time and talent to put "Service Above Self." We will also participate in efforts for Polio eradication awareness and an international clean water project." explains Ms. Kushmeder.



In addition to Michele, the following Rotarians were sworn into office: President Elect-Mary Pat Stroia, Vice-President-Mark Ondishin, Secretary-Lani Drobnock, Treasurer -Pat Owens, Sergeant-at-Arms-Pat Ward, and 1st Immediate Past President- Lisa Marie Halecky. Members of the Board will be Nina Bonus, Joan Buffington, Joe Cammisa, Vianney Castro, Anne Frey, Rossanna Gabriel, Katherine Silfa, and Alan Whitaker.



Save the Date

Save the date, Saturday, August 26, 2023, for the annual Hazleton Rotary Wine & Beer Festival, 12:00PM-6:00PM, Louis Schiavo City View Park, 600 South Poplar Street, Hazleton. Check out the Rotary Club website, www.hazletonrotary.org, and the Rotary Club of Hazleton Facebook page for updated information on Hazleton Rotary activities, as well as the local newspapers.



Presidents Party

The Presidents' Party returned to the Valley Country Club and welcomed Michele Kushmeder as the 103rd President of Hazleton Rotary and honored the Presidency of Lisa Marie Halecky who served as 2022-3023 President.

President-Elect Mary Pat Stroia called the meeting to order and following the Pledge of Allegiance, and the invocation by Reverend Brian Clarke, Pat Ward offered the welcome and his ever-witty introductions.

The Rotary Club was saddened by the loss of seven members this year and a brief memorial service was led by Tim Genetti for the following: Ron Avellino, Dr. Jerry Benz, Dr. Victor Greco, Dr. Hans Koenig, Jeff Lotz, Kevin O'Donnell and Jo-Ann Yannuzzi.

Lisa Marie Halecky remarked on her presidency and thanked the membership for collaborating with her to keep Hazleton Rotary moving along in achieving its goals in 2022-23. She presented gifts to the officers and Board in appreciation for their hard work throughout the year.

Ms. Halecky also presented Paul Harris Fellowships to Jason Brenner and Terry Jones. Thank you, gentlemen for setting the example. Membership in the Ballard Society was awarded to Gene Dougherty by Gordon Bigelow.

2023-24 Board Officers and new President Michele Kushmeder were installed by Lew Dryfoos.

Before closing the meeting, Michele thanked the membership for their support and encouragement and vowed to do her best for the club and our community. She introduced Rotary International's theme for the upcoming year "Create Hope in the World" and offered a few brief remarks of inspiration. Ms. Kushmeder closed her speech, with a quote from Jonas Salk, "Hope lies in dreams, in imagination, and in the courage of those who dare to make dreams reality".





Row 1, L-R: Vice President-Mark Ondishin, Treasurer-Pat Owens, President-Michele Kushmeder and President Elect-Mary Pat Stroia.

Row 2, L-R: Board Members-Vianney Castro, Rossanna Gabriel, Outgoing Board Member-Steve Seach, Katherine Silfa and Alan Whitaker-Board Members, First Immediate Past President Lisa Marie Halecky, Board Member-Anne Frey and Sergeant-at-Arms Pat Ward.

> Not available for photo: Secretary-Lani Drobnock and Board Members Nina Bonus, Joan Buffington, Joe Cammisa



LOUIS SCHIAVO CITY VIEW PARK 700 S. Poplar Street Hazleton, PA

SAMPLE OVER 50 LOCAL WINES & CRAFT BEERS
LOCAL FOOD & Hazleton
CRAFT VENDORS Rotary

Entertainment & Music by





TICKETS

Free admission for children 12 and under

All children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult

Must be 21 to drink

\$20 in advance

\$25 at the door

\$5 Designated Driver& Age 13 to 20

(only available at the gate)

hazletonrotary.ticketleap.com

All Proceeds benefit Hazleton Rotary Club Service Projects





Hazleton

ENDEDORES LOCALES DE COMIDAS Y MANUALIDADES Rotary

Música y Entretenimiento





BOLETAS

Entrada gratis para niños hasta 12 años todo niño menor de 18 años debe estar acompañado de un adulto

Debes tener 21 años para tomar.

\$20 Por adelantado

\$25 En la puerta

\$5 Chofer designado (no tomará alcohol)

\$5 Edad de 13 a 20

y.ticketleap.com

Todos los beneficios serán para proyectos de servicios del Club Rotario de Hazleton.



Installation Dinner

Honesdale Rotary inducted its slate of top officers for 2023-2024 in a ceremony at the Hotel Wayne in Honesdale on Tuesday, June 20th. Dana Scott, who has helped organize numerous events in the last year, was installed as president, followed by Kathi McKenna as vice president, Robert Schwartz as treasurer and Lynne Goodwin as secretary. Les Curry retained his position as sergeant-at-arms. The Honesdale club, which counts about 40 members, also inducted two new members: Steve Scott and Deanna Mazzotta.

"I like to be busy," said Scott in a speech to attendees, "and so many organizations need our help. I'm happy to be able to work to that end!"

Outgoing Co-Presidents Sherry Grandinetti and Bonny Cousins, along with Lynne Goodwin, received the Rotary's prestigious Paul Harris Award, which means the club contributed \$1,000 to the Rotary Foundation in the name of each member honored.

"I was shocked, surprised and humbled!" Goodwin said about her award, adding, "Joining the Honesdale Rotary Club was one of my best decisions!"

Cousins and Grandinetti spoke to the crowd about the past year and how gratifying it was to accomplish what they did. Through numerous fundraisers, such as the Paw-Parade and the Beer & Wine Garden at Honesdale's Roots & Rhythm festival, the club helped buy computers for Wayne Highlands Middle School Olympiad students, raised monies for Billy's New Hope Barn and the Victim's Intervention Program, funded an AED for Honesdale Little Baseball, contributed to the renovation of the Wayne County Arts Alliance's new building and participated in spring and fall roadside trash pickups. They also hosted a foreign exchange student, Eiji, from Japan!

"Someone told me the year would go by fast—they lied!" Grandinetti joked, adding that she really enjoyed her post.

Honesdale Rotary also sponsors an annual wellness clinic with low-cost laboratory testing and a blood drive and raises funds for Rotary International's Polio Eradication Project.

Past District 7410 Governor and District Foundation Officer Mary Ellen Bentler officiated the evening's activities, with Honesdale Rotarian Jim Mould emceeing.



And, in the true spirit of the club's service mission, the event included a basket raffle for VIP. "I truly enjoy working with everyone in this club to help make our community and our world a better place," said Goodwin, "And that I have so much fun with you all is such a bonus!!"

Visit Honesdale Rotary on Facebook for more information. New members welcome!



Photo, I. to r.: Les Curry, Dana Scott, Kathi McKenna, Robert Schwartz, Lynne Goodwin.



Honesdale Rotary Buys an AED for Little Baseball

When Adam Cottell of the Honesdale Little Baseball Association reached out to the Honesdale Rotary for help purchasing a life-saving device, an automated external defibrillator or AED, the club responded swiftly. "This was right in line with our mission to serve," said then-Rotary Co-President Sherry Grandinetti.

"We hope they never have to use it," added current President Dana Scott, "but if someone suffers cardiac arrest – a player or a spectator—the AED is within reach here at the ball field."

The Honesdale Little Baseball Association counts 160 players, ages 4-12 in its ranks in three leagues: T-Ball, Rookie and Senior. "I first reached out to Wayne Memorial Hospital," said Cottell, "and they put me in touch with Honesdale Rotary. We are very grateful. It's a relief to know we have an AED on hand if needed."

Sudden cardiac arrest is the number-one cause of death among athletes, and cardiovascular disease remains the number-one killer of both men and women in the United States. An AED is an easy-to-use, medical device that can, if necessary, deliver an electrical shock, or defibrillation, to help the heart re-establish an effective rhythm. AEDs recently received national attention when one was used to save the life of Buffalo Bills player Damar Hamlin, who collapsed on the field in Cincinnati in January.

Honesdale Rotary's close to 40 members work to benefit the local community and the world at large. Other local projects include providing shelves and a refrigeration unit for the Wayne County Food Pantry and restoring the Fred Miller Pavilion in Honesdale. In recent years, the club also donated an AED to Honesdale Friends of Soccer and helped build a new batting cage at Honesdale Little Baseball's Grove Street field. New members welcome! Visit Honesdale Rotary on Facebook.

Photo front: Camden Bunting, Tanner Cottell. Back: Matt Abbott, Chris Tallman, Paul Bunting, Adam Cottell, Rotary Past President Sherry Grandinetti, current President Dana Scott, Charlie Rollison, Rotarian Lisa Champeau.









End of the Summer Soiree

Hosted by The Rotary Club of Plymouth and President Shelly Karavis

Grotto Pizza, Harvey's Lake
August 31, 2023
Boat Rides at 4:00PM(meet at Grotto to board the boat)
Return to Grotto by 6:00PM
Dinner at 7:00PM

Order off the menu.

One check for each club in attendance.

RSVP to JK Karavis at 570-574-4246 or john.karavis@ waynebank.com for boat rides and for dinner as well.







Good-bye to Exchange Student

At the June 8 Rotary Luncheon, Tunkhannock Rotarians got the opportunity to say goodbye and best wishes for the future to exchange student Mark Holovacs from Budapest, Hungary. As a parting gift, Mark received a copy of a photo book on Pennsylvania that was signed by many of the Club Rotarians.



Multiple Paul Harris Member

At the June 2 and June 15 Rotary Luncheons at Shadowbrook, District 7410 Governor Elect and Club Foundation Chair, Samantha Maruzzelli, presented Laura Charles with her Paul Harris +1 Pin and George Gay with his Paul Harris +7 designations for their donations to the Rotary Foundation.



Laura Charles with Sam Maruzzelli



George Gay with Sam Maruzzelli



Tunkhannock Founders Day June 24, 2023

Members of the Tunkhannock Rotary manned a booth at the Tunkhannock Founder's Day on Sat. June 24, 2023. In addition to the new brochure the club has produced to help explain Rotary and summarize major programs of the Tunkhannock Club, posters were displayed to remind people about Tunkhannock Rotary's July 3rd Fireworks display at the Tunkhannock High School Athletic Field with music by PopStar Drive from 7 to 9:30 PM.

Information was also available on the Oct 14 Harvest and Wine Festival at Lazy Brook Park. Tickets for the Festival were available for sale at the booth, although online and local vendor ticket sales will not commence until Aug 14.



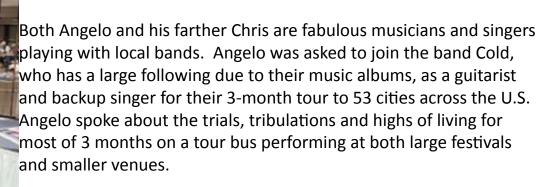
L to R: Dave Wilson, Norm Kelly and Laura Charles

Rocker Angelo Maruzzelli Spoke at June 15 Meeting

Angelo Maruzzelli was a recent guest speaker at Tunkhannock Rotary. Angelo is the grandson of Past President Al Noble and son of Past President and District 7410 Governor Samantha Maruzzelli. He was raised as part of the bigger Rotary Family. Angelo participated in RYLA as

both a student and counselor and was president of the Tunkhannock

Interact Club.





Rotary Supports Eagle Scout Project

At the June 15 Rotary meeting, Past President Ann Way (right) presented a check for \$500 to Logan Zdaniewicz to help with his Eagle Scout Project to build an outdoor sports court at Lazy Brook Park. The tiled court would be for volleyball, pickle ball and tennis play with a height

adjustable net.



Passing of Rotarian Fran Turner

It is with great sadness and the highest respect for his great accomplishments in life that we announce the passing on June 17 of the oldest Member of the Tunkhannock Rotary, Francis (Fran) C. Turner, at the grand old age of 104 years. Fran joined Rotary on August 1, 1950. He spent nearly half of his life as a Tunkhannock Rotarian, serving as Club Secretary for a record 25 years, and will be sorely missed by all.

Fran was the last of the Club's highly decorated World War II veterans and will be buried with full military honors at Fort Indiantown Gap on Thursday - 6/29/2023 at 1 pm EST.

