

# MARCH 2026



*Greetings from our 2025-2026*

DISTRICT GOVERNOR  
Tim Genetti



As February concludes and March approaches, anticipation grows for the arrival of Spring's warmer temperatures and improved weather. As winter draws to a close, our Membership sprint is also concluding. Over the past seven weeks, I have observed a remarkable dedication to our District demonstrated by our Clubs. Last week, on my weekly emails to the Club Presidents, I wrote about watching "Miracle: The Boys of '80" on Netflix (it is terrific) and I want to draw a parallel between our current membership campaign and the legendary 1980 Olympic hockey team. Just as the underdog U.S. team overcome enormous odds through teamwork, determination, and belief, in a common goal, we are also rallying together to achieve something remarkable. Our campaign embodies that same spirit.

Subsequently, I received an email from Bill Rockafellow, President of Hawley, regarding another film that represents our District. The movie is Hacksaw Ridge. It is a true story based on the life of

Desmond Doss, a World War II Army medic who saved numerous lives during the Battle of Okinawa. While I deeply respect our service members and veterans and do not equate our challenges with theirs, it is the shared perseverance and determination that motivates us as Rotarians. We are facing a membership challenge, but our commitment propels us forward. Desmond reported during his debriefing, "I just kept saying, "ONE MORE...JUST ONE MORE!" Since the beginning of January, we have added 57 new members. We still need 48 more members to reach our goal.

Thank you to everyone. I am so proud of our District. Keep up the great work and One more member.... Just one more member!

Sincerely,  
DG Tim

# Register for the Multi District Conference!

Join us for our 7 District Multi District Conference and early bird registration

Click on : [NOTYOURTYPICALCONFERENCE.ORG](https://NOTYOURTYPICALCONFERENCE.ORG)



**Rotary**  Regional Leadership Summit  
Districts 7390, 7410, 7430,  
7450, 7475, 7490, 7505

**Rotary Regional  
Leadership Summit for Peace**  
In conjunction with the Lincoln Leadership Institute  
**April 17-19, 2026**  
**Wyndham Gettysburg**

# Rotary District 7410 Polio Plus Application



As a Rotarian and supporter of Polio Eradication, Rotary's #1 international priority, I wish to participate in this child focused humanitarian effort as a member of the PolioPlus Society of Rotary District 7410.

I hereby commit to making an annual donation to the PolioPlus program of the Rotary Foundation as follows: (select one)

- \$100 per year to PolioPlus (this is the minimum amount to become a PolioPlus Society member)
- A contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ per year to PolioPlus (more than \$100)
- A contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ only this year; unfortunately, I cannot do this every year

Society members will receive a PolioPlus Society membership pin and Paul Harris credit. Make your donation online at [www.rotary.org/donate](http://www.rotary.org/donate) and select the Polio Fund, or through your Rotary Club and the Rotary International donor form. If made on-line, one can establish a recurring donation.

E-mail or mail the donation acknowledgement you receive from Rotary International and this form to me the District PolioPlus Society Coordinator at [davesolopalmer@gmail.com](mailto:davesolopalmer@gmail.com) or Dave Palmer, 443 Mateer Road, Hop Bottom, PA 18824. Contact Dave for questions at 570-498-6637.

Until the last child is immunized, and the world is certified polio-free, every child is at risk.

Name:

Signature:

Date:

Club Name:

Phone Number:

E-Mail:

Your PolioPlus Society pin will be presented to you at your club meeting or other appropriate meeting you might desire, to insure you are recognized for your commitment to eradicating polio from this earth.



## ROTARY INTERNATIONAL REGIONAL SERVICE AWARD WINNER

Congratulations to Joseph Riccardo of Scranton. The February 2026 edition of ROTARY Magazine recognized his award of a Regional Service Award for the Americas.

Joseph and sixty-one other Rotarians from all over the world were honored for their outstanding contributions to Rotary's polio eradication efforts in the Rotary Year 2024-2025.

Joseph received his local recognition via a District Governor presentation in calendar year 2025.



## **SAVE THE DATE**

### **To attend the 30th Annual, Statewide Pennsylvania Immunization Conference**

**Thursday, June 18, 2026**

**8:30 AM - 4:30 PM**

7:30 AM: Begin to check into the conference, have breakfast, visit the exhibits, and network.

Location: The Hershey Lodge, 325 University Drive, Hershey, PA 17033.

Agenda includes national, state, and local subject matter expert (SME) speakers.

Continuing medical education (CME)/Units, including nursing and pharmacy credits, will be available.

Once registration opens later this month, you may choose to attend in-person or virtually (live course).

For more information, apply to be a conference exhibitor, register to attend, and book hotel accommodations (if needed), please [visit the 30th Pennsylvania Immunization Conference \(PIC 2026\)](#).



2026

# Hazleton Friends of Scouting Dinner



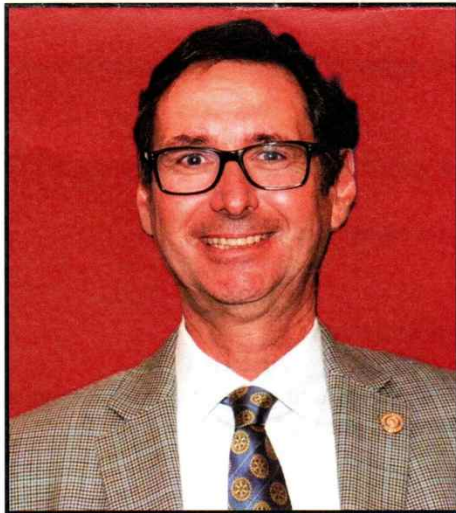
**Wednesday May 6, 2026**

**Valley Country Club**

Sugarloaf, PA

6:00pm Reception 7:00pm Dinner and Program

**Join us in Honoring**



**Mr. Tim Genetti**  
**Distinguished Citizen**

AND

**Mr. Kenneth Vilcko, Sr.**

**Wayne Oberst Good Scout Award**

**Please see reverse for  
Dinner Reservation  
and  
Sponsorship Opportunities**

You can now pay online at:  
<https://donations.scouting.org/council/502/appeal/8549> Please be  
sure to mail or email your completed  
sponsorship form by 4/27/2026



**Gifts Made Local—Stay Local.** Uses of proceeds of gift(s) submitted herewith are hereby restricted exclusively to the funding of Minsi Trails Council, Scouting programs and its operations.

# Submit to the Newsletter!

**Thank you to everyone who contributes to the  
monthly Newsletter!**

**Instructions to submit your articles and photos to the newsletter:**

**Please send submissions to the email box:**

RotaryDistrict7410Newsletter@gmail.com

**Please remember to keep your content:**

- Simple & Brief, Limiting all articles to a total of 2 pages.
- Connecting to trending topics or events if possible

Also, please submit your newsletter articles in **one Word Document with photos attached separately, not in the body of separate emails or in the document.** This helps assure that all of your articles are included in the newsletter and nothing gets lost.

# Upcoming Events

## Calendar

March 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Gift Card & Designer Purse Bingo (Mountaintop)	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Grants Training and Pre-PELS
15	16	17	18 Grants Training and Pre-PELS	19	20	21 Grants Training and Pre-PELS
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11

- Board Meeting Event (Club)
- Club Event (Club)
- Club Meeting (Club)
- Committee Meeting (Club)
- Deadline (Club)
- District Event (Club)
- Fundraiser (Club)
- General (Club)
- Official DG Visit (Club)

[3/14 - District 7410 - Grants Training and Pre-PELS](#)

[3/18 - District 7410 - Grants Training and Pre-PELS](#)

[3/21 - District 7410 - Grants Training and Pre-PELS](#)

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# Connect with Us!

 [RotaryDistrict7410@gmail.com](mailto:RotaryDistrict7410@gmail.com)

 [RotaryDistrict7410.org](http://RotaryDistrict7410.org)

 [@RotaryDistrict7410](https://www.facebook.com/RotaryDistrict7410)



**Rotary**   
District 7410

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# Public Image Committee

**Don't forget!**

**Visit the [Public Image page](#) to:**

*-Download a printable/fillable ["Connect With Us" business card](#) to pass out to prospective Rotary members.*

*-Find a link to take you directly to [Rotary Internationals Brand Center](#). Here you can create and download videos, images, brochures, logos, business cards, flyers and much more.*

*-Download a copy of the [District Directory](#).*

*-Download your [club logo](#).*

# Public Image Committee

## Membership Growth Starts With Public Image: Let's Make Rotary More Visible!

Rotary District 7410 is doing incredible work, supporting youth, serving communities, funding scholarships, responding to local needs, and showing up where it matters most.

But here's the honest truth: if people don't see Rotary, they can't join Rotary.

Membership growth isn't only about recruiting. It's also about visibility, making sure our communities recognize Rotary as a group that is active, welcoming, and relevant. When Rotary becomes more visible, membership growth naturally follows.

Our District Governor has shared that membership is a pressing priority, and without growth, districts can face difficult changes in the future. The good news is: we can strengthen our clubs simply by improving our public image and making it easier for new people to discover us.

### 10 Public Image Tips That Lead to More Members

#### 1. Share impact regularly

Post what you did, who it helped, and why it mattered.

#### 2. Show people in action

Service photos and candid moments beat "check pics" every time.

#### 3. Use plain language

Keep Rotary terms simple so newcomers instantly understand what you do.

#### 4. Always include an invite

Add: "Guests welcome!" or "Message us to visit a meeting."

#### 5. Host a casual open house

A "Rotary 101" coffee or meet-and-greet lowers the pressure to join.

#### 6. Be visible in the community

Wear Rotary gear and bring a banner/table to local events.

#### 7. Highlight member spotlights

Share why members joined and what Rotary means to them.

#### 8. Partner and get tagged

Work with schools/nonprofits and ask them to tag your club online.

#### 9. Keep your club page active

Update meeting info, post recent photos, and pin a "Visitors Welcome" post.

#### 10. Follow up fast with guests

A quick thank-you and personal invite back makes a big difference.

# CLUBS IN ACTION



## Essay Winner

We have a Rotary District 7410 Essay Contest contestant! Winning the local Rotary Club of the Abingtons contest was Abington Heights School District student David Dzurec, and 2nd place Caden Moher. We are very proud of these young men and their captivating essays on the theme of UNITE. David received \$50 and Caden \$25 this morning at an Interact work meeting.

Best of luck at the District level, David!

Photo: Interact facilitator Adam Baker, Caden Moher, Rotary Club of the Abingtons liaison Leah Rudolph, and David Dzurec.



## Paul Harris Medal

A Paul Harris medal was recently awarded to Anita Nealon, President-Elect of the Rotary Club of the Abingtons. Seen here with Anita is Chris Loftus, President.





## In Memory of Francis Tartella

Dunmore Rotary Club lost a long time member on February 9 2026 it was a sad day for Dunmore rotarians. Our long tenured member, Francis Tartella, passed away.

He was a member of the club for well over 40 years Francis was an officer for the club for many years proudly being a Paul Harris Fellow. He rarely missed a meeting and graciously offered a devotion each meeting. His favorite project seemed to be the dictionary project. Delivering dictionaries to third grades brought him joy. He always had a joke, poem or life advice. This past fall, his talk was exceeding long and well thought out. He also loved filling the Christmas stockings and help distribute them to the Borough. Francis attended every event thru out the year. His son, Francis, would help transport him the last few years.

In his professional career he served as a lab manager at Regional Hospital until his retirement. In 1984 Francis served as a Navy corpsman in the Navy Reserve achieving the rank of Senior Chief. He also volunteered at the Anthracite Museum at McDade Park. His knowledge of coal was second to none and he reveled in leading school children on tours.

Francis is survived by his sons Tim, Francis, and Colin and daughter, Mari, and three grandchildren. RIP to our friend. Service above self and you lived it.

-Louise Powell McLafferty



## Blood Drive

All are warmly invited to join us for the Annual Larry Ditty Memorial Blood Drive in partnership with the American Red Cross and the Rotary Club of Hamlin on March 10th. This meaningful event honors Larry's legacy of service by giving the gift of life to those in need. As always, your participation reflects the very heart of Rotary's commitment to helping others.

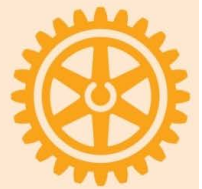
To register, please visit [redcrossblood.org](https://redcrossblood.org) and use sponsor code: **Ledgedale**



DONATE BLOOD  
IN MEMORY OF  
LARRY DITTY

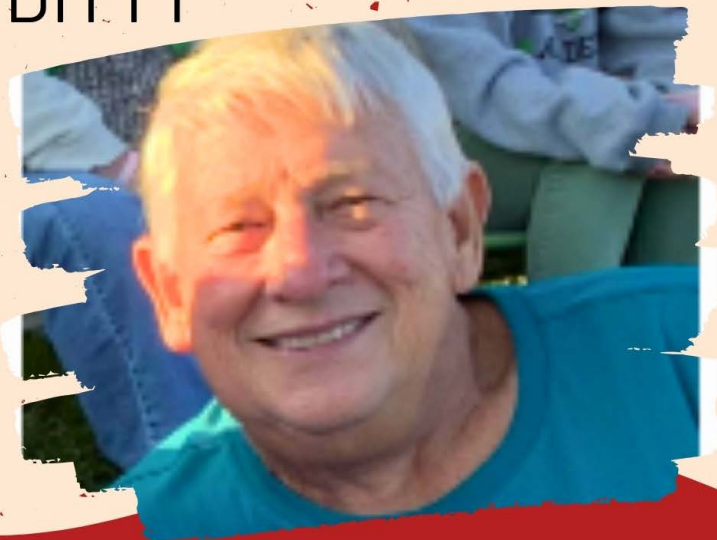
Hamlin Lake Ariel

**Rotary**  
Club



BLOOD DONORS ARE LIFE-SAVERS.

**SAVE A LIFE,  
GIVE YOUR  
BLOOD.**



COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE IN MEMORY OF LARRY DITTY

**MARCH 10th 2026 1-6 PM**

**LEDGEDALE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

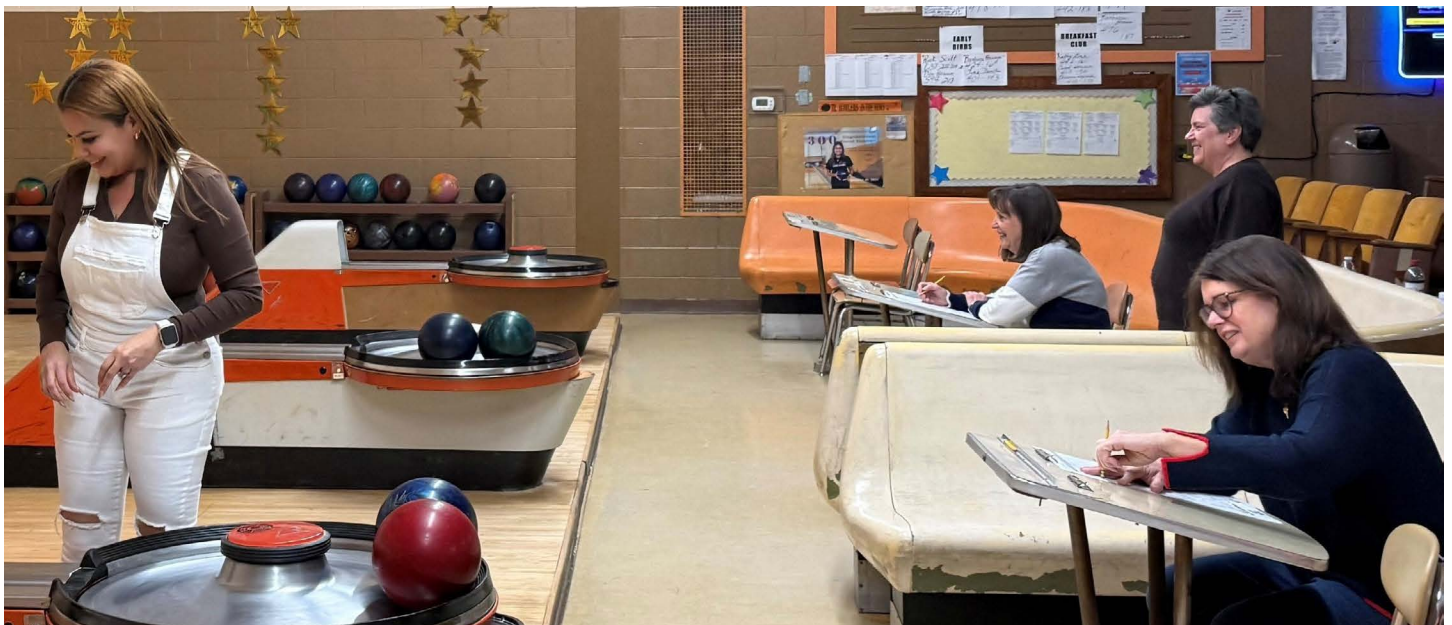
529 Goose Pond Rd, Lake Ariel, PA 18436



## Hazleton Rotary Monthly Socials

In addition to weekly meetings, Hazleton Rotary enjoys one monthly Club Social a month, arranged by the club's Vice President. Socials give members the chance to just relax and get to know each other better.

The social for February was bowling/board games on Friday, February 27th, 6-9pm, St. Michael's Lanes & Recreation Center-300 Fern Street-Freeland. It was a good time for all!





## Warrior Cafe

On February 11th, The Milford-Matamoras Rotary Club had the pleasure of having an exceptional lunch in the Warrior Café at the Delaware Valley High School. The lunch was hosted and prepared entirely by the Culinary Students from the Career Technical Education Program. The students were wonderful and the food was delicious!

Chef Alex Niosi explained to the Rotary members that he runs an instructional program that prepares students for employment related to institutional, commercial or self-owned food establishments or other food industry positions.

Pictured left to right Jamie Dykstra, Rotary President, Culinary Students and Chef Alex Niosi. The Milford-Matamoras Rotary Club meets every Wednesday at the Dimmick Inn at 12:15PM. Anyone interested in becoming a member, contact Jamie Dykstra at 201-388-7107 or come visit us at a meeting.



## New Member Induction

On February 11th, the Milford Matamoras Rotary Club inducted the following new members to its club: Mike Dickerson is a long-time Pike County resident who loves his church, family and helping non-profit organizations. Mike was President and CEO in the banking industry before he retired.

Colleen Rettinger is a wonderful addition to the club that is involved with Delaware Valley Soccer & Lacrosse booster clubs and many other community organizations.

Darian Rivera will bring to our Rotary Club his expertise in event coordination and administration and is involved with Black Bear Film Festival and Grey Towers.

Our Rotary Club is very excited for our new members and they are not just joining a club they are joining a family where ideas grow, friendship flourish and the fun never ends.

Pictured left to right Shaun Burger, Rotarian, Michael Dickerson New Member, Jeff Rettinger, Colleen Rettinger, New Member, Jamie Dykstra, President, John Messer, Rotarian and Darian Rivera, New Member.

The Milford-Matamoras Rotary Club meets every Wednesday at the Dimmick Inn at 12:15PM. Anyone interested in becoming a member, contact Jamie Dykstra at 201-388-7107 or come visit us at a meeting.





## Volunteers in Medicine

We had one of our meetings this month in a new location. We met at the Volunteers in Medicine in Wilkes-Barre. We were able to tour their building and hear the life saving services they provide to those who are employed, but do not have access to healthcare coverage.



## Purse Bingo

Purse Bingo 2026 was a SUCCESS! We had a blast! We had a nice showing from the community and a great core of volunteers. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend or donate time/items. We will be using the funds to help our backpack food programs in the Crestwood School District which provides food over the weekend to children in need.



## NEW MILFORD AREA ROTARY WELCOMES NEW MEMBER

The regular meeting on February 18th included the induction of new member Lorri Norton. Lorri is the Branch Manager of Honesdale National Bank in Halstead and also represents the Honesdale National Bank Corporate Membership. Lorri holds a degree in Business Management and Marketing, She is a former member of the Sidney Rotary Club and resides in Binghamton New York.

Lorri is excited to be involved with Rotary again and offers energies to give back to her community and the world.

The club currently consists of thirty-seven members actively serving the community and world and welcomes new membership. Contact information can be found at [www.facebook.com/newmilfordrotary](http://www.facebook.com/newmilfordrotary) or [NewmilfordpaRotary@gmail.com](mailto:NewmilfordpaRotary@gmail.com)





## Plains Rotary Inducts 5 New Members

The Plains Rotary Club, dedicated to serving families in Plains Township and surrounding areas, is proud to welcome 5 new members to the club. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 6 pm. Meetings are held at the Doubletree by Hilton.

Shown at the induction ceremony are, L to R, new members Ciro Cinti, Frank Dominick, Chris Gallagher, Jeff Gallagher, and Kelly Ranielli, Plains Rotary President Joe Grilli and District Governor Tim Gennetti.





## Rotary Clubs Visit Culinary School

The Rotary Clubs of Plymouth and Wyoming recently visited the Joseph A Paglianite Culinary School for a demonstration and dinner meeting. The clubs were treated to a fabulous dinner and fellowship. Joseph Paglianite was a long standing member of the Rotary Club of Plymouth and major donor to the school's culinary program. Both clubs donated to the school's Foundation.



*Nick Sobeck, President, Rotary Club of Wyoming , Kimberly McLendon, LCCC Culinary Instructor and Coordinator, JK Karavis, Rotary Club of Plymouth President.*

## Rotary Club of Plymouth Welcomes Armor Program

The Rotary Club of Plymouth welcomed the Wyoming Valley West ARMOR Program to a recent meeting. ARMOR stands for Attention, Responsibility, Motivation, Organization, and Respect. Members of the faculty discussed goals and objectives and answered questions from Rotarians.



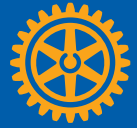
*First Row Jeff Hanadel, Sara McGrath and Maureen Boich from the Wyoming Valley West ARMOR program, Janet Franchella, Plymouth Rotary. 2nd row, Rotarians Laura Keller, Ann Butz, Heidi Kobusky and JK Karavis*

## YES Day

Another great YES day event for Junior Achievement at Hanover Area Junior/Senior School. Working with 7th graders today on the STEM program.



ROTARYPOCONOS.COM



ROTARY OF THE POCONO MOUNTAINS

# NIGHT AT THE RACES



**SUNDAY** | **HOSTED @**  
**MARCH 29TH** | **THE POURHOUSE**  
ROUTE 390 | MOUNTAINHOME

**EVENT OPENS 4PM** | **POST TIME 5:30PM**

*Live Music!*

★ the musical stylings of  
**JOE O'MALLEY!**  
*(event open to post time)*



Everyone is invited!  
Enjoy a fun and exciting night of horse racing and raffles. Come out and play!  
It's easy... no experience needed!

- DERBY HAT CONTEST
- 50/50 TICKETS
- LOTTERY TICKET TREE RAFFLE
- BASKET OF CHEER RAFFLE

## Grant Presentation

During a combined meeting of the Trail Rotary Club and the Lackawanna Trail High School Interact Club, Ellen Kanton, Trail Rotary President, presented two AED units to Principal Cody Opalka. Community concerns with prehospital response due to lack of volunteers was the impetus for Trail Rotary's grant application.

Trail Rotary was awarded a Rotary International District 7410 Grant of \$1000. The grant funds coupled with a \$1500 donation from Trail Rotary funds of \$1500, and LTSD funds purchased the two AED units and accessories. The LTSD provided in-house training of staff and faculty and another free training for community member will be held this spring.



## Day of Service

On Saturday, January 17th, the Lackawanna Trail Interact Club held a day of service to honor Martin Luther King Day at Lackawanna Trail High School. Under the guidance of Katie Beichler, Interact Advisor and assisted by My Brothers Keeper Quilt Group, 22 sleeping bags were made and delivered to local shelters.

The volunteers included Interact members members from Drama Club, FBLA, and National Honor Society. Over 500 pairs of socks were collected by the FBLA and will be donated to local shelters.

Approximately 20 students and staff volunteered to help set up, make sleeping bags, place 2 pr of socks in each bag, and break down and pack the sleeping bags for delivery!

Joan Kupetsky, Trail Rotary member and Volunteer with My Brothers Keeper Quilt Group coordinated the activity.



## What's New With Rotary Youth Exchange

For the year 2025-2026 we are hosting 3 students. Martin from Ecuador hosted by Tunkhannock Rotary Club, Asi from Turkey hosted by the Wellsboro Rotary Club and Andrea from New Zealand hosted by the Mountaintop Rotary Club.

Andrea was with us from January 2025 until December. Our Rotex this year is Charlotte Sponsored by the Newfoundland Rotary Club. We have been joining District 7430 for trips and activities. Here are some photos of the trips and events we have done each month this year.



September-Orientation in Horsham  
(Martin, Asi and Andrea with students from district 7430)  
Governor Tim Genetti joins us at Orientation



October-Philadelphia  
(Martin, Asi and Charlotte)



November-NYC  
(Asi and Martin)



December-Christmas Festivities  
(Asi and Andrea Making Gingerbread Houses)



January-Tour of the Capital  
(Martin and Asi with students from district 7430)



Charlotte Presenting to students

Charlotte is eager to share her culture and stories with local students. If your school or club would love to host a fun, informative presentation, we would be thrilled to visit!

# Happy International Women's Day!



**Rotary** District 7410

*Celebrating Women in Rotary*

*Inspiring Change, Making a Difference!*

