Rotary

ROTARIO

IMAGINE ROTARY

District 7305

The Connector - September 2022

Local Rotarian to Serve as Rotary International President

While most of us, if not all, already know that our very own Stephanie Urchick (pending confirmation after the challenge period has ended) has been elected to serve as the 2024-2025 Rotary International President, it certainly is news that is worth repeating.

Stephanie A. Urchick, of the Rotary Club of McMurray, Pennsylvania, USA, is the selection of the Nominating Committee for President of Rotary International for 2024-25, a decision that would make her only the second woman to hold that position. She will be declared the president-nominee on 1 October if no challenging candidates have been suggested.

With the world facing incredible challenges, including the COVID-19 pandemic, disasters driven by climate change, and conflict in many regions, Urchick says Rotary's leaders can offer a vision and a plan for overcoming these challenges.

"Measures taken by Rotary leadership to survive and end critical challenges often make our organization stronger and more resilient for future events," Urchick says. "This kind of essential leadership also creates new levels of cooperation, even among rivals, when Rotarians pull together as people of action to serve and solve a crisis."

Making regionalization a priority is crucial, says Urchick.

"Because Rotary operates in more than 200 countries and regions,

Quote of the Month:
"You are never too small to make a difference."
Greta Thunberg



Barring any challenges between now and October 1, Stephanie Urchick from the Rotary Club of McMurray will serve as our Rotary International President in 2024-2025.

it is vital to recognize that the organization has the potential to become more efficient and effective by understanding and reacting to how regional differences affect the way Rotarians work together to address providing service, promoting integrity, and advancing world understanding, goodwill, and peace," Urchick says.

Urchick is partner and chief operating officer of Doctors at Work LLC, a consulting and training company. She holds a doctorate in leadership studies from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She is active on numerous community boards and committees, and has been honored by organizations including Zonta International and the Sons of the American Revolution.

A Rotary member since 1991, Urchick has traveled to Vietnam to help build a primary school and to the Dominican Republic to install water filters. She studies several Slavic languages, has mentored new Rotarians in Ukraine, and coordinated a Rotary Foundation grant project in Poland.

Urchick has served Rotary in many roles, including as a director, Foundation trustee, and chair of the RI Strategic Planning Committee and the Foundation's Centennial Celebration Committee. She currently serves on the Election Review Committee and the Operations Review Committee. She is a Rotary Foundation Major Donor and a member of the Bequest Society

Stephanie's Vision Statement

I strongly support maintaining our current vision statement. There's magic as people unite to create sustainable change. Those actions have global, community, and personal impact. We've seen progress toward this vision since its adoption. We must continue to support our vision with strategies and goals reflecting what we've learned over the past few years.

Together, in 2024-2025, let's add 100,000 more members to our organization. Recruit new members and engage our current members with meaningful club experiences. Expand our North America innovative club advocate program globally for additional impact.

Together, let's help each other become more adept at digital innovation by inviting clubs to virtual 'chats' with Senior leaders and 7-minute virtual networking sessions. Relevant information is shared and members see how readily one can engage and 'connect' with Rotary leaders and each other. It also shows how adaptive our organization has become. Let's create a Rotary

App. There's no better way to spread the word about Rotary and its causes and to allow members to engage with Rotary and support it by donating to The Rotary Foundation.

Together, let's encourage members to serve others through their vocations, education, and skill sets by establishing a mentoring and coaching program for Rotarians and Rotaractors.

Together, let's finally eradicate polio. The world relied on expertise in our Polio program to assist medical experts to reach isolated areas when COVID hit. Now let's get COVID experts on board to help individuals understand the relationship between vaccine and disease prevention, and to assist with the eradication final drive.

Together, let's extend continuity with our participants on programs that have proven results, including empowering girls, world leader meetings, and public-facing events. Success breeds success, and while members must embrace transformation in order to grow, building on accomplishments is a great motivator. Our power is our people.



The District 7305 golf outing to introduce District Governor Marie Fallon (above) was a great success! The weather cooperated and the event brought in some well needed funds for our district's youth programs. Thanks go out to all of the golfers as well as our many sponsors and Rotary volunteers.

District 7305 Golf Outing

The district Golf Outing to Introduce Marie Fallon as District Governor and benefitting our District 7305 Youth Programming was a great success.

The sun did shine and great time was had by those who attended the August 8th Golf Outing at Westmoreland Country Club.

Thank you to the volunteers who helped make this event a great success and Dan Kravetz for Chairing the event.

Many thanks to the sponsors:
Hole in One Sponsor: Rohrich
Automotive; Cart Sponsor: BIGFISH
Contracting Company; Dinner
Sponsor: PDG AI DeLucia; Walk In
Sponsor: SIKA Corporation; Lunch
Sponsors: Pittsburgh East Rotary
Club and AR Chambers; Shaping
Our Youth Sponsors: White Oak
Rotary Club; Youth Empowerment

Sponsors: Tiano Family, Turtle CreekValley Rotary Club, VOELP Associates, MAK Sales, and Upper St. Clair-Bethel Park Breakfast Club

TEE Sponsors: D7305 Interact Club, AR Chambers, ALLSTATE, Ambridge Rotary Club, Belle Vernon Rotary Club, Bethel Park Rotary Club, Bethel St. Clair Rotary Club, Bridgeville Rotary Club, Brownsville Rotary Club, Carnegie Collier Rotary Club, Charles Sakai (DMD), Churchill Wilkins Rotary Club, PDG Denny Crawford, Ebensburg Rotary Club, Forest Hills Rotary Club, Fox Chapel Rotary Club, Greensburg Rotary Club, McMurray Rotary Club, Pat Shaffer, AG, Quaker Valley Rotary Club, Spadafora Custom Concrete, Stiffel Deickmann Wealth Management Group, Swissvale Rotary Club, Tom and Marie Fallon, Washington Rotary Club, and Ziebart of McKeesport.

Text & pictures by DG Marie Fallon





Governor's Corner

Greetings District 7305 Rotarians! To the Rotarians in the clubs that I visited in July and August - Thank You. I have enjoyed meeting you. I appreciate your hospitality morning, noon or night. It has been wonderful hearing about and visiting your projects. I am impressed with the many great things that Rotarians across our District are doing both locally in the community and globally. To those clubs which I have yet to visit, I'm on my way - see you soon. I want to hear about your projects also.

September is Basic Education and Literacy Month for Rotary. This is one of Rotary's seven areas of focus. We all know how critical reading and writing are for success in life - for gaining information, communicating, making agreements, and so forth. Enhancing Basic Education skills and Literacy are essential in reducing poverty, improving health, encouraging community and economic development, and promoting peace. Improvements can reduce maternal death, improve childhood survivability and reduce poverty. They can also enable success in business or a profession.

Projects undertaken by a Rotary Club can address low adult literacy, returning youth to school, enhancing student performance, or supplementing limited school resources.

Consider how your club is, or could be, making a difference by supporting basic education and literacy in your community or somewhere else in the world. Marie Fallon, DG 2022-2023

BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY MONTH

"If you are planning for a year, sow rice; if you are planning for a decade, plant trees; if you are planning for a lifetime, educate people" - Chinese Proverb

SEPTEMBER Rotary



Club Public Image Tips

Build a Team: Find a few to help. Newsletter-Social-Website

Train Up: The Learning Center has TONS of new training for you!

Stand Out: Tell the stories that share why your club is UNIQUE.

Borrow Ideas: You don't have to do it all. Share or use good ideas you find!

Lean on Us: Engage with leaders at the District and Zone level for additional resources and help!



Need Public Image Assistance? Contact Joe Piszczor who is our district's Public Image Chair jpiszc37@gmail.com

Rotary - Did You Know?

Article by Bob Trimble
Radio Pioneer Guglielmo Marconi
Was a Rotary President.

Radio is a word that is often used in the same sentence with Marconi, but truth be told, Guglielmo's works were well before what we know as radio, but he did open the door to Hertzian wave wireless transmission. We know Hertzian waves as radio waves and that's the connection.

Although development of the first radio wave communication system is attributed to Marconi, his contribution was the practical application of 80 years of scientific advancement in the field including the predictions of Michael Faraday, the theoretical work of James Clerk Maxwell, and the experimental demonstrations of Henrich Rudolf Hertz. Nonetheless, Marconi's genius was that he actually made it work for which he was awarded the Nobel Prize in physics in 1909.

Guglielmo was raised in a wealthy family and was tutored at home. One of his tutors was a high school teacher who interested his student in the latest developments involving electricity. Guglielmo's focus was more on the commercial application



Guglielmo Marconi was not only a Nobel Price winning radio pioneer, he was also a Rotarian who once served as Club President.

of electricity rather than the science involved. He was persistent and he conducted his own forward-thinking experiments. His first patent was filed in England in 1897 and then in the U.S. titled: "Improvements in Transmitting Electrical Impulses and Signals, and in Apparatus therefor". He was 23.

Five more British patents followed by 1906. Thirty patents followed that one. He seems to have been more of a Ben Franklin, Tom Edison kind of inventor rather than an Isaac Newton or fellow Italian, Galileo.

To put Marconi's impact in perspective, it is necessary only to compare the communications level of the world in which he was born in 1874 to when he died in 1937. Marconi foresaw this in 1934 when in an interview in the Rotarian, he said, "Speech is more intrinsic importance than sight, and, to my mind, man's great superiority over the animal kingdom lies in his unique ability to communicate with his fellows in detail"

Johnstown Incline Flag Plaza

The Rotary Club of Johnstown has maintained the Flag Plaza at the bottom of the Johnstown Inclined Plane for years. It is meant to show that the city is a vibrant community that has prospered thanks to its international connections.

The plaza is supported by the Johnstown Public Works Department, the West End Lions Club, and the RC of Johnstown.

The flags are provided yearly by Rotary and include 32 international flags representing countries with a link to Johnstown. Also flown are the flags of America, Pennsylvania, the United Nations, the city of Johnstown, and Rotary.

At a ceremony in late August, all the updated flags were raised and the refurbished flag plaza was handed over to city Mayor Frank Janakovic. The event was covered both by local TV and the local paper. In all, a great example of collaboration between local charities.



Supporting Local Charities

On August 2, past district governor Denny Crawford of the Rotary Club of Northern Allegheny had the honor of awarding contribution checks to three different local charitable organizations.

Accepting a check on behalf of The Verland Foundation was Assistant Governor Vickie Buzzelli. The foundation believes that every person deserves a safe, enriching, and stable environment in which to thrive with dignity and respect. Their mission is to provide individualized, innovative care and ongoing support for people in their community with complex physical and intellectual challenges. They accomplish this by leading the way in transformative care, for those with complex needs, allowing all individuals the power to live a life of dignity and contribute to our society to the full extent of their abilities.

Representing Purple Stride was Kelly Riddle. Purple Stride puts on walks in support of pancreatic cancer research. In 2022, the Pittsburgh Purple Stride organization raised almost \$400,000!

Ed and Elaine Snyder from Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP) were also presented with a check. SHP is a 501c(3) charitable organization providing hand-made beds to children who don't have beds of their own. Not only do they deliver these beds to children in need, they also partner with organizations, churches, businesses, and individuals to build them at events called Build Days!

This past Rotary year The Rotary Club of Northern Allegheny distributed approximately \$20,000 to organizations like these in the club's local area.



Past District Governor Denny Crawford presenting Ed and Elaine Snyder from Sleep in Heavenly Peace with a check on behalf of the Rotary Club of Northern Allegheny.





Top: The Brownsville Rotary Club manned the Bouncy House at Brownsville Community Days. Providing the kids with some bouncy fun were Lew Hosler, Nettie DellaPenna, Dave Polvinale, Scott Campbell, and Eadi & Harry Zetty. Above: Another group of Brownsville Rotarians got together to put up flags for the Community Days and Riverfest. Pictured are Patty Columbia, David A. Polvinale, Nettie DellaPenna, Maria Fetock, Kristy Duke, Jane Bock, and Scott Campbell.

Brownsville Rotary Club

Brownsville Community Days is held annually in downtown Brownsville. This year's event started off with the Brownsville Area High School Falcons' 5K run/walk. After the race, participants had a chance to visit vendors and food stands while being entertained by the band The Classics.

The 13th Annual Ducky Race, held on the Monongahela River, was sponsored by the Brownsville Area Revitalization Corporation. In this event, hundreds of sponsored ducks take the Duck Dive and drift down the river. At the finish line, the lucky owners of the first 17 ducks to arrive all won fabulous prizes.

Another successful event for the Rotary Club of Brownsville!



McMurray Fishing Derby

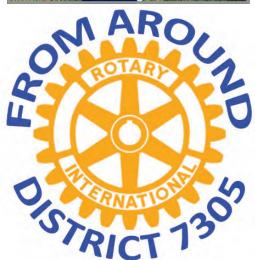
On Saturday, August 20, the Rotary Club of McMurray and the Peters Township Parks and Recreation Department held their Annual Fishing Derby at Peters Lake Park.

Over 90 kids participated in the fun and there were prizes for everyone that registered. Special prizes were given for the first fish, smallest fish, biggest fish and most fish.

Thanks go out to Michelle and her team at the Parks and Recreation Department for all their work. Also thanks to the Peters Township Police Department and Fire Department for being on hand. A great time was had by all.

The McMurray club is already looking forward to seeing everyone again at next year's fishing derby!







The Rotary Club of McMurray Fishing Derby was, once again, a great success. Great fun was had by both participants and the Rotarians arranging the event. Pictures & text courtesy of PDG AI DeLucia

Crafton-Ingram Rib Fest

Not only did the annual rib fest feed lots of people, it also raised around \$21,000. Among other things, the club will use these funds to support other local charities like The Boy Scouts, Senior Center programs, Brothers Brother Foundation, Meals on Wheels, Crafton Volunteer Fire Department, scholarships, CIT baseball programs, and a new digital sign for Crafton Borough (just to mention a few...).

With the addition of funds raised at the club's annual golf outing, the total amount provided to organizations in their community exceeds \$40,000 per year!



Above: Cheri Mack and Geri Taylor cutting up some watermelons for the Crafton-Ingram Rib Fest. Below: Manning the ticket booth were Mark Grenadier, Sharon Wilson, Chuck Sakai, and Don Bennett.



Conemaugh RC & Camp Parc

The Conemaugh Township Rotary recently donated \$1,500 to Camp Parc to assist with this year's program. The Club has supported the program for many years, donating both time and money.

Camp PARC provides a residential summer camp program and year-round recreational and social activities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their neurotypical peers. These opportunities encourage fun, social interaction, and friendship among its participants, all while creating valuable respite for parents and caregivers.

Camp PARC has been serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and providing an opportunity for individuals and groups to volunteer since 1960.

Penn Hills National Night Out

On Tuesday, August 2nd, Penn Hills Rotary hosted the first ever National Night Out event in Penn Hills. National Night Out is a nationwide event that promotes relationships between first responders and the community, and is always held on the first Tuesday in August.

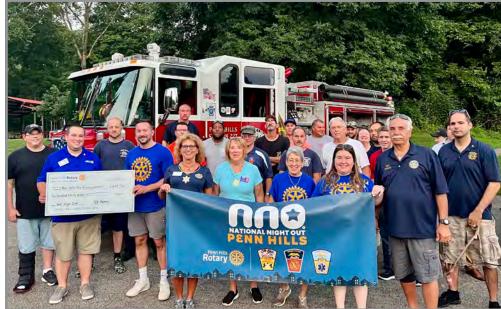
Rotary brought together all six Penn Hills volunteer fire departments, the police department, K-9 unit, Penn Hills EMS, along with the Allegheny County Sheriff's office and other local organizations to interact with the community. The event was at Penn Hills Community Park, where Rotary gave away hot dogs, Rita's Italian ice, Turner's tea, and first responder-themed giveaways for children.

This free community event was a success and the children enjoyed getting inside of fire apparatus and going for a ride 100 feet into the air in the ladder truck. Rotary also collected and matched all donations for improvements at the Penn Hills Volunteer Fire Training Center. Events like this also expose Rotary to the community and allow our club to continue recruitment efforts. National Night Out has gave our club a lead on two new possible members! We look forward to hosting this event again in 2023. Pictures & text courtesy of Tyler Tomasino



The Rotary Club of Conemaugh Township is a long time supporter of Camp Park, an organization that provides services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Pictured above are Ted Risch, Camp PARC Executive Director, Judy Risch, Camp PARC Program Director, Robin Yancey, camper, Les Holsopple, Rotarian, Courtney Hersh, camper, Jasmine Leslie, camper, and Sarah Worst, Rotarian. Text & picture courtesy of Jason Kaplitz.





The Penn Hills Rotary Club's second annual National Day Out was a great success. The event is an opportunity for the community toe meet and get to know their first responders.

Cornhole For Charity

The Northern Allegheny Rotary Club's "Cornhole Tournament for Charity" was a success! The club would like to thank everyone who came out to play and show their support!

A total of 34 players in 17 teams competed for cash prizes and bragging rights. A big shout out to the top teams:

1st Place: Cable Orthodontics Team 1 with players Clint Cable & Chris Weaver from Shaler Rotary.

2nd Place: North Boroughs Bags with players Bill Neely & Dave Kelble from the North Boroughs Rotary Club.

3rd Place: Cable Orthodontics Team 2 with players Jonah Cable & Jacob Cable.

It would seem that the Cable family has some real cornhole talent...

The event netted about \$3,000 that will be added to the clubs account for distribution to local charities and non-profits that their club members are compassionate about.

Hard Work Enables Playtime

The Rotary Club of Fox Chapel Area has wrapped up the 2022 edition of our support for the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania at Beechwood Farms DiscoverGround. A great collaboration thanks to their Service Lead George Dull and his many friends. The Club provided financial support that went directly to materials and tools used to keep the DiscoverGround hopping.

Members put on the gloves to tackle four days of projects. If you haven't visited Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve, it is a jewel. 134 acres of nature for all to enjoy. One of those acres is the DiscoverGround Nature Play Area for kids. This play area is all natural, not your typical playground. Imagination reigns.

The DiscoverGround features a sandpit, a tree house, a climbing trunk, tunnels, toad stools logs, water play, and now a new leanto fort. Operations Director Brian Shema says, "Time spent in this unstructured space enables children to build confidence, use their imagination and appreciate what nature can offer."



Clint Cable and Chris Weaver from Shaler Rotary (Cable Orthodontics Team 1), accepting the first place prize in the Northern Allagheny Rotary club's "Cornhole Tournament for Charity" from club President Andrew Bradburn.









Members of the RC of Fox Chapel Are jard at work. Top picture: Back Row - George Dull, Andrea Lehman, Richard Wolf, Bill Mooney. Front Row - Dan Mendenhall (Facility Steward), Bob Trimble, Fred Harchelroad, Steve Murphey, and Dan (from Beechwood).

District's First Community Based Rotaract Club

In the August issue of Rotary Magazine, Jennifer Jones, our current President stated ... "It's time for Rotary to take our next step in advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) across our organization." The Rotary Club of Delmont-Salem had already begun to embrace this especially opportunity in the winter of 2021-22. How did they do that you might ask? It all began with some informal

conversations between Harold Hicks. District Membership Attraction Subcommittee Chair and Immediate Past President of the Club and several of the adult baseball players and their families at the Miracle League of Western PA in Murrysville. Harold witnessed a terrific opportunity for teaching leadership skills to many of these adults and enhancing their lives through Rotary fellowship. Conversations continued until one day in March when a group from the District Membership Committee met with players and family members to talk about Rotaract and the opportunities that Rotary offers. Why is this so unique? Everyone of the players is a person with disabilities. Although many of them would encourage us to recognize them as persons with special abilities. The only limits they encounter are those that they have been restricted from. Each has a unique gift that enables them to do just about everything that the rest of society does. They may require some assistance or support but who in this world doesn't rely on others.

The mission of Rotaract is to provide an opportunity for men and women to enhance the knowledge and skills that will assist them in personal development, to address the physical and social needs of their communities, and to promote better relations between all people worldwide through a framework of friendship and service. It is exactly what families were looking for in a year-round program of friendship





On July 26, the community based Rotaract Club of Delmont-Murrysville was chartered. The club is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Murrysville-Export and currently consists of 21 adults who all have intellectual or developmental disabilities. Present at the charter night were (left to right): Shiela Crystaloski (Murrysville-Export immediate Past President), District Governor Marie Fallon, Chris Tomley (Murrysville-Export Club President), Dominick Fogle (Charter Rotaract President), Janicesa Rockwell (Carter Rotaract Secretary, and PDG Vince Costa. Picture and text by Harold Hicks

away from the playing field. The unofficial motto of Rotaract has been observed to be – Fellowship through Service. All of the committee members recognized how Rotary could play a significant role in fellowship.

In June of 2022, the prospective club submitted a Rotaract Certification Form to Rotary International to become the 82nd club and the first ever communitybased rotary club in our District. Most Rotaract Clubs in the United States are affiliated with Universities and Colleges. Whereas, elsewhere in the world community-based clubs make up over 70% percent of the membership. On June 28th, the certification was accepted, and a charter was issued to the new club now known as the Rotaract Club of Delmont-Murrysville. They will be holding two meetings a month in the Delmont Public Library. The first steps will be developing their constitution and working through their Bylaws.

On Tuesday, July 26th District Governor Marie Fallon and Immediate Past District Governor Vince Costa were on hand to present the club with its charter and to install the first officers. That night, Dominick Fogle of Delmont accepted the honor of becoming the first club president. Likewise, Janicesa Rockwell of Pittsburgh accepted the charge to be the charter Secretary of the club. Chris Tomley, President and Sheila Crystaloski, Immediate Past President were present to welcome the new club and talk about future opportunities. Chris mentioned that he is looking forward to the innovative ideas the club has for service. In August, they hope to fill out the balance of the club officers. Past International Director of Zone 33, Stephanie Urchick was unable to attend because of other commitments. She, however, welcomed the new club and encouraged them to align with the focus areas of Rotary International as they seek important community projects in a letter addressed to the club president. DGN John Hartman, an integral part of starting this club sent his best wishes and pledged the support of every Rotarian in the district.

On Charter night, the club began with 21 adults who have intellectual or developmental disabilities. All of them are ready to serve and lead in the community with the assistance of 10 mentors who also joined the club. The mentor corps is composed of parents and caregivers. The passion of these new Rotaractors was enthusiastically observed by DG Fallon when President Fogle committed to encourage those

without disabilities to become a part of this fantastic opportunity. Since that night he has proposed three new club members.

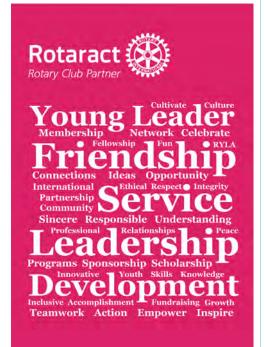
The club's first service project will be walking in the Delmont Community Daze Parade with the Delmont-Salem Rotary float and assisting at the club's booth in the park.

For those not familiar with Rotaract. the RI Rotaract Handbook defines Rotaract as "a service club for young people ages 18 and up who are dedicated to finding innovative solutions to the world's most pressing challenges while developing leadership skills and making friends from around the world. Rotaract clubs are members of Rotary International. Rotaract clubs decide how to organize and run their own clubs, manage their funds, and plan and carry out activities and service projects that are important to their communities. Clubs that sponsor

Rotaract clubs offer guidance and support, and work as partners in service."

The club is looking forward to being an integral part of the District and to interacting with other Rotaract Clubs in the District and the world.

If you wish to congratulate President Dominick Fogle and the members of the club, please write in care of Harold Hicks, Rotaract Advisor, 836 Indiana Avenue, Blairsville, PA 15717. Start up donations would be appreciated.





Rotary Youth Exchange is Back

District 7305 is hosting three youth exchange students this year. All the students recently arrived safely, attended the inbound orientation and started school. It has been a busy few weeks.

Lana from Germany is attending Shaler Area High School, Gaon from South Korea is attending Fox Chapel High School and Ilysa from Thailand is attending Carrick High School. They are all very excited to meet Rotarians and experience Western PA culture. (See picture above. Also in the photo is Jo from Italy who is hosted by District 7280)

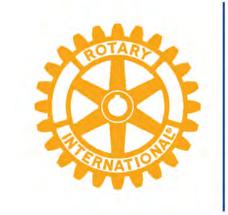
If you are interested in participating in activities with these students, or being involved with the committee,

please email Committee Chair Wayne Skelley at: kidzilv@gmail.com

The Rotary Youth Exchange Committee is looking ahead and is already starting to plan for next year.

Would your club be interested in sponsoring an exchange student for the 2023-24 school year? Sponsoring an exchange student is a rewarding experience and serves as an international project. Reach out to Wayne Skelley for more information.

The application process for new students starts soon. If you know high school students who would like to study abroad for a year, tell them to check out our website at exchangestudent.org and to contact our committee.



rotary youth exchange

Rotary District 7305

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Visit us on Facebook
www.rotarydistrict7305.org

POLIO IN NUMBERS

Wild virus confirmed cases in 2022 Global Total: 20 (6)

Wild virus detected from other sources in 2022 Global Total: 17 (66)

As of August 23, 2022. Numbers in brackets represent full year total numbers in 2021.

POLICE Just a plane ricle away...

Rotary Statement on Recent Polio Detections in US and Europe

"The recent detection of the vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 case in New York, USA, and isolates in several environmental samples collected in London are stark reminders that as long as polio exists anywhere, it is a threat everywhere. It also highlights the importance of vaccination as the only form of protection against polio and other vaccine-preventable diseases and the work that needs to be done in our communities to encourage the uptake of vaccines. Also, as the world gets closer to zero wild poliovirus cases, it is increasingly important to track all forms of the virus wherever they may appear, including in polio-free regions.

"The U.S. is still considered low risk for paralytic outbreaks of polio due to the high level of vaccine coverage across the population. If a child has received the entire course of vaccines, the risk of becoming paralyzed by polio is negligible. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 92.6% of children aged 24 months are fully vaccinated against polio, slightly below the 95% World Health Organization target.

"The best things countries can do to protect themselves from polio until the disease is eradicated from the world are to: maintain high vaccination coverage and robust disease surveillance and be ready to respond in the event of an outbreak to minimize the risk and consequences of polio re-introduction or re-emergence anywhere.

"The world currently has a unique opportunity to stop virus transmission for good. Still, all

Rotary's Four Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do:

- 1. Is it the **truth**?
- 2. Is it fair to all concerned?
- 3. Will it build **goodwill** and **better friendships**?
- 4. Will it be **beneficial** to all concerned?

parties, including donors and country governments, must re-commit to polio eradication by fully supporting the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) 2022-2026 strategy. This focuses on adopting an emergency posture while generating greater accountability and ownership from country governments to eradicate wild polio and end variant poliovirus (cVDPV) outbreaks.

"Rotary, a global service organization with over 1.4 million members, has been at the center of the worldwide effort to eradicate polio for over three decades. Every year, through our funding partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Rotary commits \$150 million to the global effort to eradicate polio. We have contributed more than \$2.6 billion and countless volunteer hours to end polio forever. Together with our partners, we engage communities everywhere to encourage high vaccination rates, immunizing over 400 million children annually. More than 20 million people are walking today who otherwise would have been paralyzed because of our efforts and those of our partners in the GPEI.

"The time for urgent action is now. A new vaccine has been deployed – novel oral polio vaccine 2 (nOPV2) – which is more genetically stable to stop outbreaks of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus effectively. With sustained political and financial commitments, the GPEI is confident that we can achieve a world in which no child is paralyzed by polio again."

From Rotary International; Airplane graphic by Debbie Vance



SAVE THE DATE



ALL EVENTS SUBJECT TO CANCELATION OR RESCHEDULE DUE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

SAVE THE DATE - SEPTEMBER 27-OCTOBER 2

ZONES 33-34 LEADERSHIP SUMMIT HYATT REGENCY INNER HARBOR, BALTIMORE, MD



SAVE THE DATE - OCTOBER 13

DISTRICT INTERACT CONFERENCE
GREENSBURG COUNTRY CLUB



SAVE THE DATE - TBD

MID-YEAR REVIEW



SAVE THE DATE - June 23-25

DISTRICT 7305 CONFERENCE STATION SQUARE



SAVE THE DATE - TBD

PETS PRESIDENT ELECT TRAINING SEMINAR



SAVE THE DATE - TBD

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION LUNCHEON



SAVE THE DATE - TBD

DISTRICT ASSEMBLY

