



# Interact

Rotary District 7305  
APRIL 2022



Last month we told you of the Interact District Governor's plans to present the Interact Institute to Interactors in Rotary District 7305.

There will be two one hour virtual sessions, one on Tuesday, April 19 and the other on Tuesday, April 26 at 7 p.m. each night. Two half hour sessions will be offered each night. The topics for the two evenings will be: Interact Opportunities, Membership, Leadership Strategies and finally, Projects. An Interact Advisor/Interact Leader will facilitate each session. Which sessions will be which night has yet to be determined but mark your calendar now to participate. You will be asked to register prior to the sessions and then you will receive a link via email to join the group on the evening(s) you select.

Interact District Governor, Connor Herrington, has wanted to try this activity during his year and has put a lot of planning into this event!

Watch for more info the second week of April!!

Recently an Interact Club Advisor inquired about "cords" that could be worn at graduation ceremonies for those who are members of their school's Interact Club.

After doing some research I found that the wearing of cords for graduation ceremonies is a custom that is left up to each school district. Some permit it and some don't.

I was able to find a company that supplies the cords and I was able to find a colored cord that is close to "Interact blue". The cords cost \$6 each BUT there are some pretty significant discounts for bulk purchases (the cost drops to \$3.75 when you order 100 and to \$3.50 when you order 300). Is there any interest in doing a bulk purchase for those Interact Clubs whose school districts permit the wearing of cords at graduation?

Even if your school district doesn't permit them to be worn at graduation a lot of graduating seniors like to display them at their graduation parties. Think about it and let me know if there is any interest or not. You can email me at [mbarnhar@verizon.net](mailto:mbarnhar@verizon.net) BEFORE the end of April.





# Interact



## Rotary District 7305

### APRIL 2022 - Page 2



*As part of the Greer Johnstown High School Interact Club's continued involvement within our district's Aevium initiative, our club members presented positive messages of support, guidance, and education surrounding issues of depression, suicide, and other concerns facing children and teens at both our Middle School and Elementary School!*



As Black History Month comes to a close, we recognize that the teaching of Black History should never end, but we did enjoy highlighting dozens of influential and inspiring African American current and historical figures within our Interact BHM School Exhibit! Thanks to ALL of our Interact members who contributed by researching and creating a poster for our exhibit!



*We weren't going to miss out on going to see our favorite preschoolers during Read Across America Week! This month we read "Grandma's Gardens", and we also made sure that every student received a copy to add to their home libraries.*







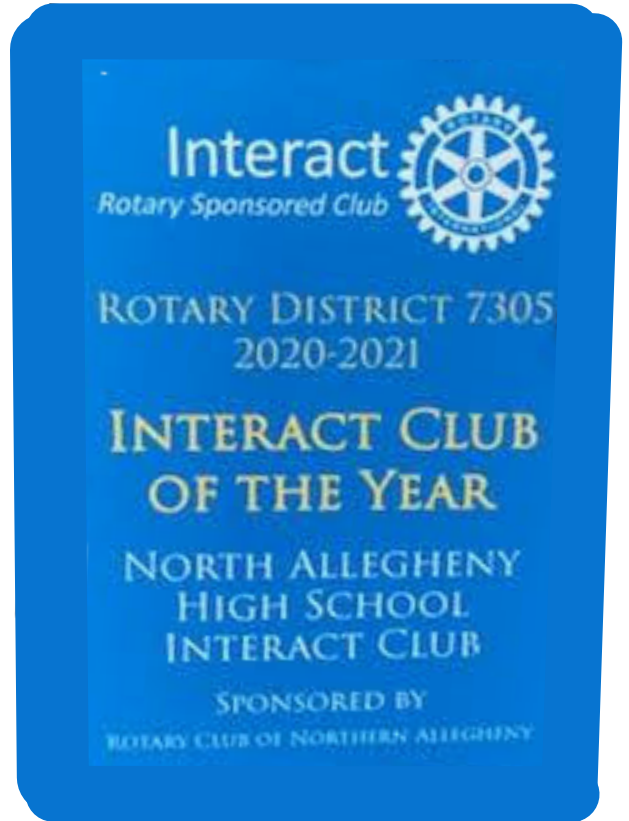
# Interact



Rotary District 7305  
APRIL 2022 - Page 3



*With every ending comes a new beginning. As Read Across America Week comes to an end, our Read, Return, Repeat Library boxes are just beginning to fill-up for the season! Recently our Interact members stocked our library boxes around the city of Johnstown with a new selection of books!*



The Rotary year ends on June 30, so it's time to start to think about the Rotary District 7305 Interact Club(s) of the Year.

Every Interact Club in the District is eligible to submit a Nomination Form on their own behalf. Forms can be found on the District 7305 website ([www.rotarydistrict7305.org](http://www.rotarydistrict7305.org)) and follow the Interact tabs. A link to the Nomination Form was included in the email by which you have received this newsletter.

The deadline to submit your completed Nomination Form is May 31. All of the directions are included in the Nomination Form.

GOOD LUCK



# Interact



Rotary District 7305

APRIL 2022 - Page 4



The Bethel Park Interact Club has been busy and we have many other exciting events planned!

We are participating in the Rotary Zone 33/34 challenge "You've Been Served."

We have done:

- ~ February act of kindnesses - words of affirmation cards created and placed around Independent Middle School and the high school
- ~ Origami flower bouquets for school secretaries and nurses
- ~ Made dog toys and have boxes out for animal shelter donations.

Also:

We are preparing for our induction, which will be held on Wednesday, April 13, at 7pm in the Independence Middle School Auditorium, featuring Hannah Shin as our guest speaker

Upcoming Events:

- ~ March to Sack Hunger Drive non perishable food drive for SHIM (entire month)
- ~ Participating in Big Brother Big Sister bowling fundraiser March 26 (donating \$150)
- ~ Egg Hunt April 2 doing craft volunteering opportunity with Rotary
- ~ Hosting Sensory Friendly Movie Night for BP special needs students (confirmed 4/22) in IMS Cafeteria (flyer below)
- ~ Pancake Breakfast volunteering opportunity with Rotary April 30

~ Smiles from Sean coin drive for CHIP in month of May

~ Flower sale with presale available Saturday May 7, 2022 in BPHS parking lot. Form to follow

IN HONOR OF AUTISM AWARENESS  
AND ACCEPTANCE MONTH, JOIN  
US FOR A

## SENSORY FRIENDLY MOVIE NIGHT FEATURING ENCANTO

WHEN: FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 2022- 7 PM TO 9 PM  
DOORS OPEN AT 6:30PM

WHERE: INDEPENDENCE MIDDLE SCHOOL  
CAFETERIA AND AUDITORIUM

COST: SUGGESTED DONATION \$2 PER PERSON

Proceeds benefit Outreach Teen and Family  
Services & Autism Society of Pittsburgh  
Staff from Outreach Teen and Family Services  
will be available all evening.  
Join us for Hands on Activities, Sensory Breaks,  
and Something for Everyone!







The Our Lady of Sacred Heart (OLSH) Interact Club participated in their rescheduled “MLK Day of Service” which was canceled in January due to snow. Martin Luther King Jr. Day is the only federal holiday designated as a national day of service, where individuals are encouraged to volunteer to improve their community. The group decided to spend the day at the Mooncrest Neighborhood Program (MNP), located just four miles from OLSH. MNP serves persons in the community experiencing the effects of poverty and promotes “spiritual, intellectual, physical, social and emotional development for children and families living in the Mooncrest neighborhood.”

The all-day visit to Mooncrest began with a delivery of items like cereal and nutrition drinks from the school’s food pantry. The next few hours were spent doing spring cleaning tasks throughout the center. Surfaces, furniture, walls, and windows all received a thorough scrubbing from the Interactors.

After learning about the many free resources and services available at the center, students participated in two weekly adult programs with the Mooncrest residents - the Faith Sharing group and Pokeno! The afternoon was spent finishing up some much-needed tasks, such as relocating some shelving, organizing books, and shoveling the sidewalks. The drive through the community on the way back to campus was somewhat somber, as students saw the many small units which sometimes house more than one family due to the increasing cost of rent. “The students left feeling more grateful for the

many blessings in their own lives, and with the desire to return to do more good,” said Interact Moderator Cheryl Karashin. “They reflected on how they are aware that the needs throughout the world are vast, as they shared their surprise at the level of need so close to home.”

The group hopes to schedule a regular opportunity to perform service at the MNP After School Program, which takes place daily and serves upwards of 70 community students in grades K-8. The Club would like to engage some members of the OLSH Spanish Club to help with communication and ESL tutoring, and Mrs. Karashin is hoping to get other faculty members involved as well.





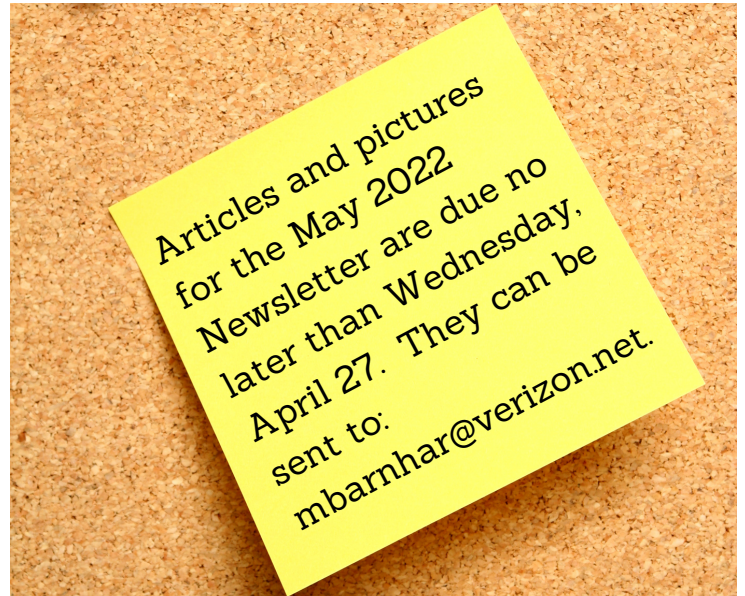


# Interact



Rotary District 7305

APRIL 2022 - Page 6



*(The message below was sent via email to all of the participating Interact Clubs in Rotary District 7305. This project was spearheaded by Melissa O'Brien who is the advisor for the Greensburg Salem Interact Club. Thanks for a job well done by all!!)*

I would like to say it has been an absolute pleasure partnering with you and your schools to fundraise for ShelterBox as they support evacuees from Ukraine.

We had 12 schools participate: Greensburg Salem, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Bethel Park, South Fayette, Latrobe, Norwin, Albert Gallatin, Uniontown, Portage, Laurel Highlands, Chartiers Valley, and Montour. Through our joint efforts, we sold over 1,000 shirts! While I do not know the exact total we will receive to donate, my estimate is over \$7000, which is so exciting.

