

# THE STAFFORD HIGHLIGHT

October 9, 2024



Rotary Club of Stafford **People of Action**

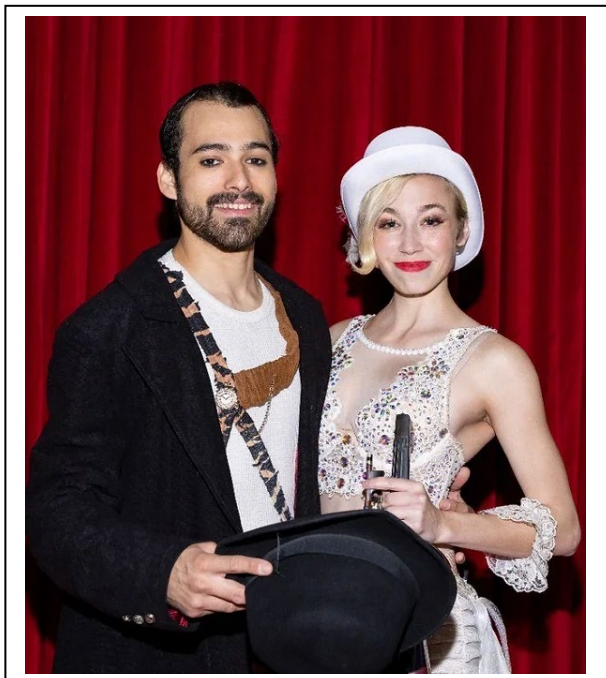
## October 9 - Montana DeBor and her husband Facundo Kramer from Menagerie Productions

Montana DeBor and Facundo Kramer have a lifetime of experience in entertainment. Montana is a classically trained musician, composer and a multi-generation Rotarian (district 7610). Facundo is a 6th-generation circus artist, director and producer.

After working for a multitude of entertainment companies from around the world they have combined their skills and

experience to create Menagerie; a production company designed to bring together the most prestigious variety acts from around the globe to give back to charitable organizations.

Menagerie Productions strives to inspire and create lifelong memories for international communities. Some of their previous partners include Clowns Without Borders, Make-A-Wish, and Boys-And-Girls Clubs.



## Club Calendar

October Is Economic and Community Development Month

- ❖ October 10/12 -Rotary Leadership Institute (registration opened!)
- ❖ Oct. 15 – Meeting with Stafford Board of Supervisors
- ❖ Oct. 15 – Discover Rotary – Howell Library
- ❖ October 24 - World Polio Day!
- ❖ November 2 - District Foundation Day!
- ❖ January 7 Get the Puck Out Polio! Noon game v. Rangers!
- ❖ February 20-22 – RI Peace Conference in Istanbul
- ❖ June 21-25 – Rotary International Convention in Calgary, Alberta

## October 2 Meeting

President Jamie presided and welcomed our guest speaker PDG Sheila Brennan.

Holly gave the Thought of the Day, a traditional greeting for Rosh Hashanah: "L'shanah tovah tikateivu v'teichateimu" (May you be inscribed and sealed for blessing in the Book of Life)

### Announcements

- ❖ Cheri will collect receipts for Via Colori expenses by Monday. President Jamie congratulated Cheri for a job well done. Via Colori was a successful, fun event. There will be an after-action meeting on November 12.
- ❖ There is a sign-up sheet for October 15th Polio Board of Supervisors meeting
- ❖ Discover Rotary event on October 15th at 6:30pm at Howell Library
- ❖ Rotary members to attend meal preparation for sick Rotarians on Sunday at 4pm at Andrea Horning's house.
- ❖ Renee to follow up with Special Olympics representative about speaking at a future meeting
- ❖ Kristy to coordinate with Nikki about alternatives to dictionary project and updated the club on Toys for Tots.
- ❖ President Jamie discussed potential speaking opportunities with the Special Olympics and the Planning Commission office, emphasizing the importance of these connections for future partnerships and volunteer opportunities

### Eradicating Polio Worldwide: Challenges and Progress

PDG Sheila shared her experiences and plans for her upcoming presentations on polio. She mentioned that she learned a lot from her first presentation and plans to change his approach for future ones. She also shared how her "pet", Trinity, has become a symbol of hope and calm for her. PDG Sheila discussed how she was surprised by the lack of awareness about polio among her friends. She emphasized the importance of keeping polio in the news and encouraged others to donate to Rotary.

PDG Sheila discussed the ongoing efforts. She highlighted the different types of polio, with Type 1 being the most dangerous and irreversible. She mentioned the use of different vaccines globally, with the US using the Salk vaccine, and the introduction of the new Nobel vaccine. She also discussed the recent increase in cases of wild polio virus in Gaza and Israel due to conflict, and the World Health Organization's efforts to vaccinate children during a brief peace period.

PDG Sheila also shared a personal story about the post-polio syndrome. She highlighted the cases of Alan Alder and Mia Farrell, who both had polio at a young age and faced significant health challenges later in life. She also mentioned a meeting with Mitch McConnell, who unexpectedly stayed and spoke at the event.

PDG Sheila led an exercise involving all attendees, including those on Zoom. The exercise involved whispering a line to another person. The participants included Julie, Kristy, Donna, Holly, Mark, Jamie, Renee, Johnny, Polly, and Cheri. The exercise was designed to demonstrate the importance of clear communication, as PDG Sheila noted that some participants had difficulty hearing. The conversation ended with PDG Sheila confirming that everyone could hear him and Jamie online.

She discussed the rapid mutation of viruses and explained how the virus spreads from person to person, potentially leading to a global outbreak. PDG Sheila emphasized the importance of continued research and awareness about the virus, particularly in non-vaccinated areas. She also introduced the Polio Plus Society, a commitment to donate \$100 annually to support polio eradication efforts. She encouraged attendees to sign up for the society and provided information on how to do so.

She introduced a unique torch, one of only three in the world, which will be featured in a global live stream on World Polio Day. PDG Sheila expressed excitement about the upcoming event and the collective efforts of many people in managing the worldwide initiative. She also led a group photo session. Donna shared her experiences, emphasizing the importance of truth and good friendships. The conversation ended with PDG Sheila thanking everyone and looking forward to the next week's gathering.



## National Night Out





October is celebrated as "Economic and Community Development Month" by Rotary123. Rotary members are passionate about providing sustainable solutions to poverty and work to strengthen local entrepreneurs and community leaders, particularly women, in impoverished communities<sup>2</sup>. Rotary members train people to become resources for their community, offering networking activities, advice on new business development, and mathematics and financial management training.

### Discover Rotary

PDG Sheila Rotarians, did you realize that you are each and every one members of our PDG Sheila Rotary Membership Committee!!! While I serve as the chair of this very important committee, I need all of your help by sharing the unique opportunities of Rotary to others in our community. We are hosting another Discover Rotary night from 6:30-8:00 on 10/15/24 at the Howell Branch in Rm 5. Bring a guest - come and help spread the word. There is so much that we have to offer!!!

For more information, or to provide the names and contact info for guests, just contact me at 549-226-7704 or Donna.almborg@earthlink.net

Thanks - hope to see you there,  
Donna  
Membership Chair

## District Conference -The Magic of Rotary

