

The Rotary Spokesman

Newsletter of the Rotary Club of West Pine Bluff

Thursday, December 12, 2024



Benjamin Redix Project Making a Difference

On Thursday, 5 December 2024, the Rotary Club of West Pine Bluff heard about the Benjamin Redix Project from Rotarian Neisha Robinson. Benjamin, Neisha's son, lost his life tragically the day before he was to graduate from White Hall High School. He was a stellar athlete and an influential student on the campus. Neisha and her family founded the Benjamin Redix Project in his honor, and the program in making a difference in the lives of participants, both providers and recipients of the project services.

A narrative of the project activities is provided in the photos below this article. Everyone is welcome to become involved in the project. There is a place for everyone who wishes to help make the project a success.



-BRP-

BENJAMEN REDIX PROJECT

Mission

The mission of the Benjamin Redix Project is to enable student athletes to realize their full potential and encourage them to grow as individuals to become productive adults. The BRP also provides assistance to parents of athletes to help with costs, transportation, and other obstacles that may prevent students to participate in athletics. Our goal is to ensure that student athletes have every opportunity to reach their full potential academically, athletically, mentally, and socially.

Benjamin Redix
18 year old Star athlete from White Hall, AR. On May 18, 2023, he passed away a day before he was set to graduate. Not only was he a great athlete, but many would say he was kind, respectful, a man of few words, and that he loved life! At his time of death, he was ranked #1 in the State of Arkansas in the Triple Jump. He received various awards and recognitions such as All State in football and track, was named the Kevin Bonnette player of the week, and a Track and Field award from Arkansas Preps among his other achievements. He was the recipient of the White Hall Booster Club scholarship and the Steve Strahan Memorial Scholarship. He signed a National Letter of Intent with Southern Arkansas University on a full track scholarship. The City of Pine Bluff proclaimed May 27th Benjamin Redix Day to honor his life.

GET INVOLVED

DONATE

If you would like to donate to the foundation, please scan this QR code. Donations can also be mailed to PO Box 21142 White Hall, AR 71602. Sponsorships available. BRP is a 5013c Nonprofit.

FIND US

Facebook - Benjamin Redix Project

BRP - Beast of the Week

benjaminredixproject@gmail.com

Thanks for your support!

Club Meeting

West Pine Bluff Meets at Pine Bluff Country Club with Zoom Meeting Meeting ID: 882 2017 7860 Password: wpbrotary 1100 W. 46th Avenue Pine Bluff, AR 71603 Time: Thursday at 12:00 PM

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Club Leaders



[Miloud Bahadi](#)
President



[Kevin Harris](#)
Club Programs Chair
President-Elect



[Michael S. Heisler](#)
Sergeant-at-Arms
Service Projects Chair
iPast President

BRP

SPORTS CAMP

BRP sponsors a sports camp for boys and girls. The sports camp is sponsored by UAPB Athletics.



SCHOLARSHIPS

BRP sponsors a scholarship for a graduating senior in Jefferson County school districts.

BEAST OF THE WEEK

BRP - Beast of the Week is an award given to a stand out football player during the football season. The award is for students in Jefferson County. The award is voted on by the public and awarded throughout the football season.



BRP

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMNT

BRP partners with community groups, organizations, churches, and others.



BRP ANNUAL GALA

BRP Annual Gala is held the 2nd Saturday in April. The Gala helps raise funds for the foundation.

MENTORSHIP

BRP - has a mentorship program for boys called Project Boys to Men. This program is geared towards boys ages 10- 18. It offers life skills, outings, and other activities.



Polio Update - 12 December 2024

Country or territory	Wild virus type 1 confirmed cases								
	Full year total						01 Jan-03 Dec ¹		Date of most recent case
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2023	2024	
Pakistan	12	147	84	1	20	6	6	56	06-Nov-24
Afghanistan	21	29	56	4	2	6	6	25	05-Nov-24
Mozambique	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	10-Aug-22
Malawi	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	19-Nov-21
Iran	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA
Total (Type 1)	33	176	140	6	30	12	12	81	
Tot. in endemic countries	33	176	140	5	22	12	12	81	
Tot. in non-end countries	0	0	0	1	8	0	0	0	
No. of countries (infected)	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	
No. of countries (endemic)	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	
Total Female	18	72	59	2	10	4	4	31	
Total Male	15	104	81	4	20	8	8	50	

Polio this week as of 4 December

Wild Polio Virus Summary:

The number of wild polio cases for **2024** as of December 4, 2024 is **81**. There were 56 in Pakistan and 25 in Afghanistan.

The total number of wild polio cases for **2023** were **12**. There were 6 in Pakistan and 6 in Afghanistan.

You've still got time to make a donation to our PolioPlus Fund. Every donation helps!

Community Service Opportunity - 21 December 2024

The Rotary Club of West Pine Bluff will serve as the hosts at the Enchanted Land of Lights and Legends display in Regional Park on the evening of 21 December 2024 from 6:00-9:00 PM. All Rotarians and guests are invited



David L. Sims
Rotary Foundation Chair



Nyeshia Aldridge
Club Director



Roy W. Ferrell
Club Director
Sergeant-at-Arms



Santrice M. Kearney
Club Director



ShaNeisha E. Robinson
Treasurer



Scott Kirk Solomon
Public Image Coordinator
Public Relations Chair



Robert Jaye Thompson
Secretary
Sergeant-at-Arms
Membership Chair



Linda F. Bateman
Club Learning Facilitator

to participate in this community service project. Rotarians are People of Action committed to Service Above Self.



All volunteers are welcome!

Kevin Harris, President-elect



Miloud presented Kevin with a President-elect lapel pin.
One more step to being Club President 2025-2026.

December 2024 Schedule of Activities

DECEMBER IS



DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT MONTH

"Treatment without prevention is simply unsustainable."

Bill Gates



www.rotary.org

Date	Program/Speaker/Activity
December 5	Neisha Robinson, Benjamin Redix Memorial Foundation
December 18	Club Board of Directors Meeting, Reynolds Building
December 19	Club Annual Meeting
December 21	Club Hosts Enchanted Land of Lights and Legends in Regional Park 6-9 PM
December 26	Merry Christmas - No meeting

Please plan to participate in our service project for the month. Michael is our Service Project Chair and will give us the information later.

2024-25 Program Coordination Chair

Kevin Harris

Weekly Club Meeting Invitation

The Rotary Club of West Pine Bluff invites you to join us for our regularly scheduled meetings. Since the time of separation due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have chosen to give members the option to meet virtually as well as in person. The invitation for our virtual meetings is below. All members are asked to place the meeting on their schedules and join us. Phone and computer connections are available. This is the weekly invitation that you should save and share with others. Fellowship is one of Rotary's core values along with service. Our meetings allow us to fellowship with each other and build relationships that bridge the divisions that we create in our community. We know that you and others are busy, so we ask you to plan to join us even if only for a short while so we will know how things are going for you. Everyone is welcome to our time of fellowship.

Topic: RC of West Pine Bluff Zoom Meeting
Time: This is a recurring meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88220177860?pwd=bHdKL1VLHUyREtadXlsa0RiYXhlZz09>

Meeting ID: 882 2017 7860

Password: wpbrotary

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,88220177860# US (Houston)

+12532158782,,88220177860# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)
+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
Meeting ID: 882 2017 7860
Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88220177860>



Birthdays



[James L. Bacon](#)
December 17th



[David L. Sims](#)
December 31st

District Leaders



[Sherry E. Polsgrove-Taylor](#)
District Governor



[Brian W. Jones](#)
DG-Elect / RI Convention
Promotion



[Shawnee Michelle Cooper](#)
DG-Nominee / District
Grants Chair