

District Governor's Note

Zachary Covington, District Governor 2024-25 March 2025

Marching Forward with Rotary: Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Month

Dear Rotary District 7280 Family,

Will it come in like a lion or a lamb? As we welcome the arrival of March, we also embrace one of Rotary's key causes: **Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)**. Clean water is a basic human right, yet millions around the world still lack access to safe drinking water and proper sanitation. Rotary has long been at the forefront of addressing these challenges, and I encourage all clubs in **District 7280** to reflect on how we can contribute—whether through global or District grants, community partnerships, or local initiatives.

This month also marks a time of renewal and fresh opportunities. Spring is just around the corner, and with it comes a renewed energy for service. Clubs are planning fundraisers, service projects, and district-wide initiatives—let's keep this momentum strong as we move toward the final quarter of our Rotary year.



Rotary District 7280 is looking for its next leader—could it be YOU or someone you know?

Serving as **District Governor** is a **once-in-a-lifetime opportunity** to inspire, lead, and make a lasting impact on our clubs and communities. As DG, you will help shape the future of Rotary in our district, support clubs in their service, and represent us at the highest levels of Rotary International. Interested candidates, nominations from clubs, or questions should be sent to me at zc7280@gmail.com.

Let's keep **celebrating the impact you are making**. Continue amplifying our service by inviting new members to experience the joy of Rotary and keeping engagement high within our clubs.

As we march forward together, I challenge each of you to reflect: What legacy do we want to leave this Rotary year? How can we strengthen our impact? Let's **UNITE FOR GOOD** to finish this year strong and continue to celebrate the **MAGIC OF ROTARY!**

Thank you for your dedication to Rotary and our shared mission of service.

In Rotary Spirit,



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Zachary Covington District Governor

Dates to Remember - March & April 2025

March - Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene Month

5 - Ash Wednesday7-9 - President-Elect Learning Seminar (PELS)10-16 World Rotaract Week

March 17 - Rotary Club RYLA Scholarship Commitment Form Due March 28 - ROVA Registration money & number of students to be sponsored sent to:

Patty Meehan, District Treasurer 171 Woods Road, Greenville, PA 16125

Make checks payable to: District 7280 (not ROVA!)

April - Environmental Month

12 - Passover Begins

12 - Innovate & Inspire Rotary Spring District Learning Session

20 - HAPPY EASTER

District Governor Nominations

District Governor Nominations Call for Nominations for District 7280 District Governor Nominee 2025-26

To: District 7280 Membership

From: Zachary Covington, District Governor RE: District Governor Nominee 2025-2026

All District 7280 clubs are invited to submit District Governor Nominee nominations for the 2025 – 2026 Rotary year. The information submitted shall be in the form of a resolution, adopted at a regular meeting of the club. The named candidate must be nominated and approved by a majority of the club members. The resolution shall be certified by the club secretary. A club may suggest a candidate who is a member of another club, so long as the suggesting club first obtains the concurrence of the candidate's club.

Candidates are required to have been a member in good standing for at least seven years and have served a full year as club president. The candidates must agree in writing to have their name submitted.

The club resolution and candidate acceptance letter need to be submitted together and mailed via US Mail to District Governor Zachary Covington, PO Box 580, Clarion, PA 16214 or emailed to District Governor Zachary Covington at zc7280@gmail.com.

In accordance with the District and Rotary International By-Laws, ONLY club-suggested

Impact Night at the Races

Portersville Prospect Elvis Show Fundraiser

Join Cranberry Township Sunrise for Trivia Night

<u>Cranberry</u> <u>Sunrise Provides</u>

Cranberry
Sunrise Student
of the Month
Program

Cranberry Township Sunrise Blood Drive

Cranberry Twp Sunrise Scholarship Announcement

Easy Fundraiser Suggestion from New Castle Club

Keystone International E-Club Auction

Mars Area & Pine Richland Students Recognized by Rich-Mar

Rich-Mar Night at the Races

MHY Awarded a Grant by Rich-Mar

Bradford's Pancake Breakfast Returns March 15th

Port Allegheny Partners With Career & candidates are eligible to challenge the Nominating Committee's Decision.

SAVE THE DATE! June 6th-8th



Butler AM Work Day



Our Rotarians rolled their sleeves up and worked at Ellen's House for a service day. Our club program is working and raising funds to complete the attic space to create a kids' play room for the women residing in Ellen's House.

Ellen's House is a sober-living home — also known as a three-quarter house — serving women transitioning back to independent living following treatment in a residential drug and alcohol rehabilitation program. As Butler County's first state-licensed recovery home exclusively serving women and children, Ellen's House assists women as they re-enter the workforce and reunite with their family following completion of a formal treatment program. The facility is family-focused and women with children are encouraged to have their kids visit and stay over.

Technical Center

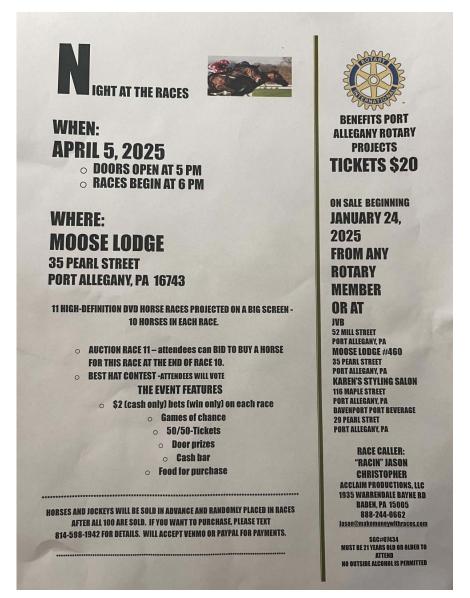
District Leaders

Zachary S. Covington **District** Governor **Aaron Matthew** Sines District Governor-Elect Mary E. Lord DG Nominee Eva Palmer District Secretary Patricia J. Meehan **District** Treasurer Ken R Fleeson District Membership Chair John Marshall District Rotary Foundation Chair Rebekah E. Deal District Public Image/PR Chair



Insulation was installed at our project, Ellen's House. This attic space will be transformed into a children's play room where women residing in the home recovering from addiction can have visitation with their children.

Port Allegheny Night at the Races



Bradford Member Receives 4th Paul Harris



Richard Johnson received his fourth Paul Harris Fellow recognition at Wednesday's Rotary Club of Bradford meeting. This recognition is a special expression of appreciation for his generosity to the Rotary Foundation and his service to the community.

Bradford Rotary Foundation Chair Dr. K. James Evans, retired dean and vice president of stu-dent affairs at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford, made the

presentation. The Paul Harris Fellow recognition is the Rotary Foundation's way of expressing its appreciation for a substantial contribution to its humanitarian and educational programs. It is named after the founder of Rotary, Paul Harris, a Chicago lawyer who started Rotary International with three business associates in 1905. Rotarians often designate a Paul Harris Fellow as a tribute to individuals whose lives demonstrate a shared purpose

Evans sincerely thanked Johnson for his dedication to the Rotary Club of Bradford and for his outstanding support of the Rotary Foundation, which uses a global

with the objectives of the Rotary

Foundation.



Rotary Club of Bradford

From left, Dr. K. James Evans, Bradford Rotary Foundation chair; Richard Johnson, Paul Harris Fellowship honoree; and Ben Kirsch, Bradford Rotary Club president.

network of Rotarians to invest time, money and expertise into projects that advance world understanding, goodwill and peace by improving health, providing quality education, protecting the environment and alleviating poverty.

As a longtime Rotarian and past board member, Johnson has worked alongside fellow club members on community service projects and other local initiatives. In addition to his involvement with Rotary, Johnson serves on the Pitt-Bradford Advisory Board and the boards of Futures Rehabilitation Center and CARE for Children. Over the years, he has also served as a board member and volunteer for numerous other organizations.

For more information about Rotary visit rotary.org or contact Bradford Rotary Membership Chair Angela Erway at bfdrotary@gmail.com.

Ellwood City Hosts "The Tamburitzans"

"The Tamburitzans" (formerly the Duquesne University Tamburitzans) will perform their new production, LEGACY, on Sunday, April 6 at the Lincoln Jr / Sr High School, 501 Crescent Avenue, Ellwood City, PA at 3PM. The concert is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Ellwood City Scholarship Fund and tickets may be purchased online at ellwoodtams.eventbrite.com for \$30 Adult Advanced Reserved while tickets at the door on the day of the performance will be \$35. Student tickets (18 and under) are \$20. Additionally, face-to-face ticket sales will be held at the Ellwood City Library, 415 Lawrence Avenue, Saturday, March 8 from 10AM to 3 PM.

In their 88th season, the Tamburitzans will weave a tapestry of music, songs and dances of Armenia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Mexico, Serbia, Slovakia and Poland along with a suite of selections from the Romani (gypsy) culture. Audiences will be transported to folk celebrations in a two-hour production through intricate choreography, mesmerizing music, and unique voices. Each year, this group of college students create a unique and memorable concert experience.



Rotaract Club of SRU Fundraiser





The Rotaract Club of SRU made chocolate-covered pretzels for Valentine's Day and sold them to other students on campus! The picture shows a few members and volunteers!

Erie Hosts its Annual Ethics Symposium



Mercyhurst University

With over 100 years of service to the City of Erie, the Rotary Club of Erie will host its 14th Annual Ethics Symposium for High School Juniors at Mercyhurst University on Tuesday, March 4, 2025, from 8:30am-1:30pm.

"This event tackles the difficult issue of ethical behavior in different situations that would occur to high school students," said Karen Staab, Rotary Club of Erie President.

200 students from Erie County high schools will be in attendance in addition to teachers and Rotarians. Schools attending include Cathedral Prep, Collegiate Academy, Corry, Erie County Technical School, Fairview, Ft. Leboeuf, Girard, General McLane, Harbor Creek, Iroquois, McDowell, North East, Northwestern, Seneca. This year students from Grove City, PA, will also attend the symposium.

Rotarians from other clubs are welcome to attend and lunch is provided. Please RSVP to Karen Staab, President, at staabpsychserv@qmail.com or 814-881-8782.

Details on the day:

Dr. Rich McCarty, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Professor of Religious Studies at Mercyhurst University, will begin the day with a formal welcome to the students at 8:30am at the Mary DeAngelo Performing Arts Center.

A discussion on "Why Morality Matters" and Rotary's 4-Way Test will be led by Mercyhurst faculty Dr. Verna Ehret, Professor of Religious Studies and Director of the Evelyn Lincoln Institute for Ethics and Society, and Dr. Sarah Carey, Professor of Philosophy, and Rotarian Chris Cherry.

There will also be a presentation on the Rotary International Student Exchange Program. Rotarian Tatiana Bogatova and current exchange student Andueza Blanco from Spain will lead the discussion.

Students will see a video on ethical behavior and have a discussion led by Drs. Ehret and Carey. This will be followed by breakout sessions/small group discussions led by a Mercyhurst professor and a Rotarian.

Teachers will be earning Act 48 credits with talks from Rotarian Elizabeth Hirz, Erie County District Attorney and Detective Anne Styn. They will present on social media and human trafficking as well as student misuse of Artificial Intelligence in the classrooms.

After lunch in the Egan Dining Hall, students return to D'Angelo Center for a review of morning activities led by Drs. Ehret and Carey.

An Open Mic Session closes the day in which students discuss ethical situations led by Drs. Verna Ehret and Carey.

Closing Remarks will be offered by Karen Staab, Rotary Club of Erie President, followed by drawings for door prizes.

Rich-Mar Rotary Appalachia Impact Night at the Races

Saturday, March 8, 2025 Richland Fire Hall

Doors Open 5pm, Dinner 6pm, Races Begin 7pm

Have a Good Time With Us – Bring a Group and Bet to Win, Place or Show on Ten Races!

Dinner is included, as well as beer, mixers and soft drinks. BYOB encouraged. Many of the families in the Appalachia region around Mullens, WV are in desperate need of repairs to their homes.

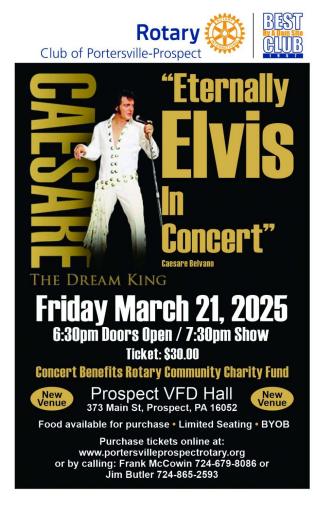
We will install new roofs and windows to provide leak-free and warm conditions before the next winter.

The Night at the Races is a major fundraiser to support our mission. Contact Bill Ruhe at 412-576-5770 or william.ruhe@gmail.com for tickets. Thank You!

Donate or buy tickets:



Portersville Prospect Elvis Show Fundraiser



March Finds the Rotary club of Portersville Prospect ending one fundraiser and working on one of our larger fundraising events, which is our Elvis show.

On March 21 we will have it all set up and tickets sold online and by members and on the phone. There will be food to purchase, pop, and basket raffles and an envelope game for everyone to enjoy, along with some great music from our past that helps us get our footing for the future.

Purchase tickets online at: www.portersvilleprospectrotary.org

or by calling: Frank McCowin 724-679-8086 or Jim Butler 724-865-2593

Join Cranberry Township Sunrise for Trivia Night

JOIN US for Trivia Night on Friday March 21st!

Please join the Rotary Club of Cranberry Township Sunrise for Trivia Night hosted by Buzz Worthy Pub Trivia. Enjoy a fun and competitive evening filled with great questions, great company, and great prizes! Table seating up to 8 people per table. Singles, couples, etc. are



welcome.

Dinner will be served with a cash bar along with raffle baskets, 50/50, and a silent auction with some superb items including a certificate for a complimentary 4-night stay in a King or Double Queen Room at Compass Hotel by Margaritaville Anna Maria Sound and a certificate for \$50 off your total bill at Floridays Woodfire Grill & Double Compass Hotel by Margaritaville Anna Maria Sound and a certificate for \$50 off your total bill at Floridays Woodfire Grill & Double Compass Hotel by Margaritaville Anna Maria Sound and a certificate for \$50 off your total bill at Floridays Woodfire Grill & Double Compass Hotel by Margaritaville Anna Maria Sound and a certificate for \$50 off your total bill at Floridays Woodfire Grill & Double Compass Hotel by Margaritaville Anna Maria Sound and a certificate for \$50 off your total bill at Floridays Woodfire Grill & Double Compass Hotel by Margaritaville Anna Maria Sound and a certificate for \$50 off your total bill at Floridays Woodfire Grill & Double Compass Hotel by Margaritaville Anna Maria Sound and a certificate for \$50 off your total bill at Floridays Woodfire Grill & Double Compass Hotel by Margaritaville Anna Maria Sound and a certificate for \$50 off your total bill at Floridays Woodfire Grill & Double Compass Hotel by Margaritaville Anna Maria Sound Ann

REGISTER AT:

https://registrations.dacdb.com/Register/index.cfm?EventID=77814924

DATE: Friday, March 21st TIME: 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM]

EVENT: The Rotary Club of Cranberry Township Sunrise TRIVIA NIGHT

LOCATION: Cranberry Elks 2249 Elks 20720 Rt.19, Cranberry Township, PA 16066 (Around

back in the banquet room). COST: \$25.00 per person

Seating is limited—don't miss out on this exciting night!

Reserve your spot today!

Cranberry Sunrise Provides



Since 2008, the Cranberry Sunrise Rotary Club has been providing "A Student's Dictionary" to Seneca Valley and Saint Kilian third grade students. This year's presentation brings the total dictionaries distributed to nearly 10,000.



Cranberry Sunrise Student of the Month Program



The Rotary, in conjunction with Seneca Valley schools, has been doing the program since 2008. Today, the program has recognized more than 146 4th grade students who exemplify the Rotary motto of "Service above Self."

Students are recognized at a celebration breakfast that includes parents, siblings, grandparents, school administrators, teachers, faculty members, and multiple Rotarians.

Each student receives an award certificate. Their names are also placed on an award placard which is displayed in the school and the award announced is published in various media outlets.

Cranberry Township Sunrise Blood Drive



The Rotary Club of Cranberry Township Sunrise, in conjunction with ARMCO Credit Union, held a blood drive on February 6th. Over 20 pints of blood were collected to support lifesaving blood for surgeries, cancer treatments, chronic illnesses, and traumatic injuries.

Cranberry Twp Sunrise Scholarship Announcement

The Rotary Club of Cranberry Township Sunrise is proud to offer scholarships in honor of lifelong Rotarians Jerry Andree, Frank Petrone, and Jerry Schreibeis. For the 2025-2026 academic year, three scholarships totaling \$7,000 will be awarded to graduating high school seniors.

Two scholarships, the Frank Petrone and Jerry Schreibeis, are exclusive to seniors attending the Seneca Valley School District, and the third scholarship, Jerry Andree, is offered to any senior student living in Cranberry Twp. who will be attending a secondary trade school. Each scholarship will be awarded for the 2025-2026 academic year.

If you are a senior at the Seneca Valley School District, you can apply for the scholarships through the career placement office. If you are a graduating senior living in Cranberry Twp., but not attending Seneca Vally, you can apply for the Jerry Andre Scholarship by requesting a scholarship application at cwheinlein@acig.com

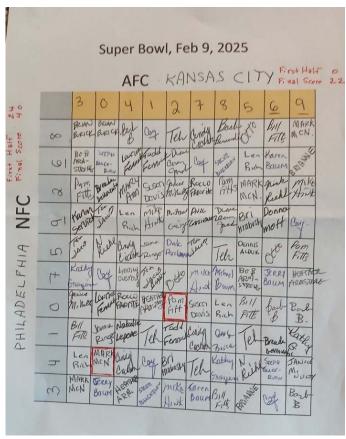
Deadline to apply: Monday, March 3, 2025

Easy Fundraiser Suggestion from New Castle Club

This is a small, easily managed fundraiser that we have done at the New Castle Rotary for two years. Each year it made \$250 for our club, but we expect it to make \$500 next year. One person can handle it, and it creates a bit of fun for the

members. Half the proceeds went to the club, and half went to the pool winners.

A lot of folks are familiar with pools of



this nature. In case you are not, here are the steps we followed this past year:

- 1. Print a sheet with 100 squares (10 horizontal x 10 vertical), with room at the top and the side for numbers.
- 2. Sell the squares for \$5.00 each. Have the purchaser write their name in their squares. You can sell the squares to members, their family or anyone you wish. Start selling in December or earlier, to make sure you sell all the squares before you draw the numbers.
- 3. At our February 2 meeting, we drew the numbers 0 thru 9 randomly and had them written on the horizontal and vertical axes. The randomness ensured

that nobody got all the "good" numbers. At that time, we knew which teams would be in the Super Bowl, and we wrote them in also.

- 4. We paid out \$50 based on the half-time score, and \$200 based on the score at the end of the game. Winners were paid with \$50 bills.
- 5. Winners were determined by the last digit of the score. The half-time score was Philadelphia 24 and Kansas City 0; so the \$50 winner was the person opposite the 4 on the Philadelphia side and the 0 on the Kansas City side. The final score was Philadelphia 40, Kansas City 22; so the \$200 winner was the person opposite the 0 on the Philadelphia side and the 2 on the Kansas City side.
- 6. We had e-mailed a picture of the completed grid to all club members, so they could track their progress during the game.

Next year, we plan to raise the price to \$10 per square. We will pay out \$50 after the first quarter, \$100 at half-time, \$50 after the third quarter, and \$300 at the end of the game. This totals \$500. The club will keep the other \$500.

To make sure we sell all the squares, we will ask some of the members to take the sheet to their place of business and see if their employees want to purchase squares. And, we will start earlier, probably in November.

This kind of pool can be used for many different occasions. Examples: college football championship; world series; hockey championship. It could be used for events not related to sports, but sports pools are the ones we are most familiar with. A PA Small Games of Chance License makes it legit. All in all, it was a fun project easily managed by one person.

Keystone International E-Club Auction







Time to Clear Out & Help Out

We're super excited to announce our upcoming Online Auction Fundraiser to support current and future projects, and we need your help to make it a smashing success!

Do you have any cool items, unique experiences, or awesome services you could donate or secure for our auction? Here are some ideas:



- Gifts (got new stuff or want to re-gift something?)
- Experiences (a fun class, a weekend getaway, a tour!)
- <u>Collectibles</u> (retro finds or quirky treasures!)
- Services (spa day, pet-sitting!)
- Hand/Homemade stuff (what has earned you bragging rights: knits and art/woodworking/pottery pieces, photo prints, jewelry, baked goods, ANYTHING)

Fill out the form below to participate and donate

As an online club with members across the world, for tangible items, we are hoping you will directly ship your item to the winner.

We will reimburse you for the shipping fees.

Here is the link for the online form: https://keystonerotaryclub.org/auction/

Mars Area & Pine Richland Students Recognized by Rich-Mar



Seated Above from Left to right: Tiffany Gathers, Noah Mackie, Mackenzie Mercuri, Luke Goodworth, Addison Naillor, Eva Fratto

Standing is Chuck Berry, Rich-Mar's New Generation's Chairman

At our luncheon meeting on February 19th, the students seated above were honored for both their academic excellence and their service to the community. Contributions were also made by Rich-Mar to a charity of each student's choice. Also in attendance at the meeting were their parents and principals from the two high schools. Congratulations to these outstanding young adults.

Rich-Mar Night at the Races



Rich-Mar Rotary and all of our guests were the big winners at our annual Night at the Races' fundraiser on Friday, February 21. We had close to 100 bettors and a lively night of fun. We had a very successful fundraising outcome!

During the evening, we also presented Nick Guido and the Pine Richland Youth Center with a \$5000 donation, demonstrating our commitment to this community. Pictured below is Dan Goss, organizer of the Night at Races and PRYC Board Member, with President Dave and Nick.

Thanks to Dan for his tireless efforts along with those main club and satellite volunteers who set up, took bets, served as bartenders and cleaned up!

MHY Awarded a Grant by Rich-Mar



Above: Rich-Mar President Dave Hein Presents a Check in the Amount of \$5,000 to the MHY Family Service's Karen Harvey

The grant will be utilized by MHY Family Services to provide funding for new basketball hoops in the gym on the MHY Family Services campus. An additional \$5,000 grant will be provided in July.

President Dave is also contacting other Rotary Clubs in communities served by MHY Family Services in hopes of securing additional funding for the project from them.

Bradford's Pancake Breakfast Returns March 15th

Bradford Rotary Club's Annual Pancake Breakfast will make its much-anticipated return 9 a.m. to noon on March 15, after a years-long hiatus.

To be staged at the Masonic Lodge, 625 South Ave., "this beloved tradition," organizers said, "is a perfect way to enjoy a hearty meal while supporting local Rotary initiatives." Attendees can enjoy an all-you-can-eat pancake feast, complemented with sides of eggs, sausage, juice and coffee. Organizers noted that only the pancakes are unlimited.

New this year, Rotary will offer a Kegs & Eggs option to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, "featuring a festive way to start your morning with a little Irish spirit," organizers said.

Tickets, which are available now, can be purchased from an Rotarian, Bradford Area Chamber of Commerce, CARE for Children or Burns and Burns Insurance. Proceeds benefit Bradford Rotary Club's community service projects and initiatives. For more information, contact Ben Kirsch, Rotary Club president, at (814) 368-7161 or bdkirsch@burnsandburns.com.

Port Allegheny Partners With Career & Technical Center



Photo by Pam Fischer

Students in the Early Childhood shop at the Seneca Highlands Career and Technical Center lent a hand to the Port Allegany Rotary Club when the club hosted its annual Christmas Party for Port Allegheny Elementary School students with special needs. In preparing for the event, the class wrapped gifts to be given by club members to the children. A few days later, the class attended the weekly Rotary meeting, held at the local Moose Lodge, and assisted the Rotarians in serving lunch and helping Santa hand out gifts. The Early Childhood class is pictured with their teacher, Kim Mooney (seated) and CTC Director, Jim Young, who is also the president of the local Rotary Club.