

Rotary



Club of Fox Chapel Area

Club Meeting

Fox Chapel Area
Meets at Lauri Ann West
Community Center
1220 Powers Run Rd
Pittsburgh, PA 15238
Time: Wednesday at 11:45 AM

Birthdays

Ron P. Frank
March 11th
Jack D. Adelson
March 14th
John M. McCaslin
March 24th
Carol A. Wood
March 24th
James E. Herald
March 27th
David A. Longhini
March 30th

Dealing with the Tragedy of a Young Child's Death



Heather Bradley, whose organization helps grieving parents deal with the death of a newborn or young child, will be our speaker this Wednesday, March 12.

Heather is Founder and Executive Director of Pittsburgh Bereavement Doulas, whose mission is to provide compassionate guidance through the process of birth, meeting baby for the first time, making the time together meaningful, and saying goodbye.

As with a traditional birth doula, her organization, working with a physician or midwife, provides physical, emotional and informational support during labor and birth but has special training in perinatal loss. Bereavement doulas will work with parents to honor this birth and help them make decisions based on their unique values, beliefs, and preferences. With gentle care, a doula will explain what is happening, what is about to happen and what could happen.

Heather, a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh, has spent the last 28 years serving women as a labor and postpartum doula and formerly founded Pittsburgh Doula Network, a postpartum doula service. She is a native Pittsburgher residing in O'Hara.

She founded Pittsburgh Bereavement Doulas after a dear friend and repeat postpartum client lost her second child, Madeline, to stillbirth in 2016. After witnessing the profound loss and grief, her eyes were opened to the silent tragedies that women and families were experiencing all around her and how ill-equipped most people, including herself, were in handling it.

We meet at the **Lauri Ann West Community Center** located at 1220 Powers Run Road in O'Hara Township starting at 11:45 AM.

If you haven't already signed up to attend the meeting and are planning on attending, please email Bill Gordon at bagordon2@comcast.net no later than 5 p.m. Monday so we can give the caterer the number of lunches she needs to provide. **If you have special dietary needs – gluten-free, vegan, etc. – please let Bill know when you register.**

Link to attend Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82862414969?pwd=a4fa39amoELZwEScf54dGUfHah8Sim.1>

Link to Website: <https://foxchapelrotary.com/>

Tokyo Firebombed, Allied Armies Advance

By Thomas P. Benic

This being the 80th anniversary of the final months of World War II, with nearly all our founding Fox Chapel Area Rotary Club members in 1970 involved in the conflict, we present this week-by-week history of that conflict. Some 405,000 Americans, nearly all servicemen, died in World War II in which 65 MILLION men, women and children were killed worldwide

On the night of March 9, 1945 the United States Army Air Forces (USAAF) sent 279 B-29 Superfortress heavy bombers to Tokyo where they dropped tons of incendiary bombs over the next 48 hours that destroyed and burned out a 16 SQUARE MILE section of the capital city of Japan. The raid killed more than 90,000 and possibly as many as 130,000 Japanese people, mostly civilians,



and left one million homeless. It was the most destructive single air attack in human history. The Japanese air and civil defenses proved largely inadequate; 14 American aircraft and 96 airmen were lost.

The palace of Emperor Hirohito was not targeted, however, and the emperor and his war ministers were not injured. The Japanese war planners gave no indication after the raid that it would affect their war plans at all or that they were even contemplating surrender.

Tokyo and many Japanese cities had been hit by a number of precision bombing raids in the past year as island-hopping American forces drew within range of the B-29s. But this was the first firebombing raid of a major city in which the intense heat of incendiary bombs started fires that burned all wooden structures and melted many metal ones.

The extensive destruction caused by the raid led to these tactics becoming standard for the USAAF's B-29s until the end of the war that would last another five months.

There has been a long-running debate over the morality of the March 9-10 firebombing of Tokyo, although the raid was viewed as militarily successful. .

In Europe, the last German forces west of the Rhine withdrew and units of the U.S. First Army captured Bonn and Godesburg this week in 1945.

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