

**ABSENCES – July 28**

There must have been a few

**MAKEUPS – July 28**

None known

**VISITORS – July 28**

Maybe

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Ryan Benson, Chase Wright, Logan Johnson

**PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

August 11	John Griscom	Rotary volunteer hours program
August 18	District Governor's Official Visit	
August 25	Danny Garrett	Troy Haas – Brownell Travel

**News of the Weird**

On July 3, Andover Township (New Jersey) police received a call about a dead body found under a deck in the town. "The detective and officers began to check the area under the deck when they did indeed confirm a deceased (human) body was contained within the doghouse," police said, according to Law & Crime. Two days later, Brian Cheda-Hackembruch, 25, and Matthew R. Thomas, 27, were arrested for disturbing or desecrating human remains -- but not with murder. It appears the deceased was a resident of Hopatcong, New Jersey, who died from a "medical emergency." Cheda-Hackembruch and Thomas placed the body in the trunk of a car belonging to the victim, then called a towing company to have the car moved to Andover. Then, the two allegedly moved the body to the doghouse belonging to an unsuspecting family. Police didn't clarify the relationship of the victim to the suspects or any motive for their elaborate plan. [Law & Crime, 7/8/2021]

The Bloomington (Minnesota) Police Department is having the books thrown at it after calling people who take volumes from Little Free Libraries "thieves." In early July, the department posted on Twitter: "After some thefts from little libraries in our city, officers and staff came together to donate a bunch of books to the libraries. Now people can use and enjoy them again." But Fox News reported that people weren't buying it: "How can you steal something free, officers?" one responder wrote. The BPD also tweeted that someone had been taking the books to sell for profit, which also invited scorn. Finally, the department admitted that using the word "theft" was "a human error," and apologized. [Fox News, 7/6/2021]

A woman from West Yorkshire, England, called in sick to work so that she could attend the Euro semifinal soccer game in London on July 7, Metro News reported. Nina Farooqi, 37, thought her company would be short-staffed that day, and therefore probably wouldn't let her have the day off. But when her photos popped up on the BBC, her employer called her and said not to bother coming in the next day. "I didn't get any sympathy at all and they said 'That's it.' We're through to the final, I'm still on that high, but I've also lost my job," Farooqi said. "I'd do it all over again. Football is my life." [Metro News, 7/9/2021]

*Rotary Projects Around the Globe*

**Mexico:** In Ciudad Juárez, one woman's work to protect children from street violence has blossomed into Soles de Anapra, a center serving some 80 young people. Since 2014, the Rotary Club of El Paso, Camino Real, Texas, had been donating goods to Lourdes Contreras for the after-school program she ran out of a small house. In 2015, the club decided to find her a bigger, better space. With \$25,000 donated by the 16 clubs in Ciudad Juárez and two partners in New Mexico — the Rotary clubs of Los Alamos and Silver City, frequent contributors and visitors to the center — and \$10,000 raised from a 5K run sponsored by the Eaton Corporation, the club purchased a 6,000-square-foot warehouse in 2016 and went to work. In April, the club completed a refurbishment of the building, carried out even as the pandemic temporarily halted the after-school program.

\$30 million in economic impact for the city's hotels, restaurants, retailers and attractions.

"As a global membership organization that brings people from all continents and cultures together to share, learn and take action to bring positive and lasting change to communities around the world, we are thrilled that our first in-person international convention since 2019 will take place in Houston," said Rotary's International President Shekhar Mehta. "And for the first time ever, our annual event will be open to members of the public who want to connect, learn and be a part of our work to grow and change lives."

**USA/Wisconsin:** In October, about a dozen Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Eau Claire Morning, Wisconsin, along with some of their family members, used a product called Invisible Spray to stencil temporary, water-activated artwork on sidewalks throughout the city. Rainworks, manufacturer of the hydrophobic, nontoxic liquid spray, donated the product, which allows users to create designs that only appear when the sidewalks get wet. At a cost of about \$130, 16 ounces can cover up to 110 square feet. "We thought in the difficult times of the pandemic, we could bring smiles to our community" and inspire other organizations to do the same, says Sarah Stackhouse, a co-president of the club. A "thank you" below an image of a firefighter's hat was traced outside a fire station, while a drawing at the entrance to a theater featured musical notes and suggested "singing in the rain."

**France:** The Rotary Club of Nice Riviera Côte d'Azur has tackled an outsize number of projects in France and beyond in recent years. It worked with a sister club, the Rotary Club of Norwich, England, to install a rainwater recovery system in Ho, Ghana, and has done fundraising for cancer research. The Rotarians also donated to a charity that purchased garden planters valued at more than \$6,000 for local pediatric medical facilities in Nice. The club also raises funds for cancer research. At local grocery stores, in exchange for a donation of 1 €, club members offer tokens used to unlock shopping carts.