

Rotary



Club of Gilmer County

Club Meeting

Rotary Club of Gilmer County normally meets on the Second and Fourth Mondays at Albert E Harrison Hall
180 S Dalton Street
Ellijay, GA 30540

Events

August 24th
Club Meeting Cancelled

September 7th
Board Meeting

September 14th
Club Meeting

September 16th
Farmers to Families Food Boxes Delivered

September 28th
Club Meeting

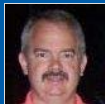
Club Leaders



Shanna P Downs
President



Jared Arrant
President-Elect
Community Service
Chair



Marvin Chance
Secretary



Jerry D Johnson
Club Executive
Secretary
Vice President



Charles Pults
Treasurer



Penelope Oldfield
Marshall
Rotary Foundation
Chair

Paul Nealey
Sergeant-at-Arms

Email: GilmerRotary@gmail.com; Website:
www.GilmerRotary.com

No club meeting will be held on Monday, August 24. Club President Shanna Downs states we can expect to have the next regularly scheduled meeting on September 14. Watch your email for a forthcoming announcement.

2020-21 District Matching Grant Approved



On March 11, 2019, our Rotary meeting heard from Gilmer High School Principal Carla Foley (pictured left at that meeting) about the new Synergy Project. She reviewed the research conducted to identify the needs Gilmer High School students feel. Then she presented the school's comprehensive plan to provide students with wrap-around services to meet all the identified needs. Rotarians were glad to receive this update and applauded the efforts of the school system. Later our board agreed to pursue a grant application with District 6910 to provide funding for the project.

At the end of July District Foundation Chair Bruce Azevedo notified our club Foundation Chair, Penelope Marshall, that, "The Gilmer County grant application titled 'Gilmer High School Wrap Around Project' for 2020-2021 has been approved by the District. The district allocation will be \$2,600.00 in

matching funds to assist with the success of the grant project. These funds will be available by the end of August. They will be matched by an equal amount of funds from our club.

So, what is the Wrap-Around Program?

How many students will this grant affect: We have approximately 1150 students at Gilmer High School. Through our food pantry, clothes closet, academic success center, social-emotional success center and family success center, about 80% of students are served.

What services do you provide: We provide a variety of services through our various centers, including:
food, clothing, hygiene supplies, social-emotional/mental health support, academic support, college planning and prep, mentoring opportunities, etc...

Main Objectives: Our ultimate goal is to increase our graduation rate by decreasing barriers for our students. Within this objective, each center has their own objectives including, to ensure student's basic needs are being met, providing mental health support when needed, providing assistance to post secondary opportunities, and connecting students with local mentors.

What are the humanitarian efforts: 25% of unemployed in Gilmer County are between the



Scott C. Chastain
Youth Services
Chair



Nathaniel Andrew
Ashurst
iPast President



Patricia Schaeffern
Kenney
Assistant Governor

Birthdays

Jared Arrant
September 17th
Scott C. Chastain
September 22nd
Paige Green
September 23rd

Wedding Anniversaries

No Wedding Anniversaries
Found

ages of 18-24. Although our graduation rate has averaged above 90% for the past five years, we know that many of our students are not adequately prepared for post secondary opportunities whether that be college, technical school, or the workforce. When surveyed, students described barriers to school success that range from a lack of food/clothing, to just knowing how to apply to college, to applying for a job. Through our centers, we strive to remove these barriers to ensure our students are ready for whatever may lie after graduation.

Food Box Project Coming to Club



Rotary Club of Gilmer County is making plans to participate in the US Department of Agriculture Farmers to Families Food Box Program as a community-based distribution center. USDA is purchase millions of dollars worth of fresh fruits and vegetables, a variety of dairy products, in a combination box of fresh produce, dairy or meat products. Suppliers will package these products into family-sized boxes, which will be distributed by food banks, community and faith-based organizations, and other non-profits, including our club. About 1000 boxes will be delivered to the Amicolola EMC North District Office in Ellijay for distribution by the club to

the Gilmer Community Food Pantry, the school system, and other non-profit groups. Georgia's farmers sell about half of all they produce to restaurants and non-grocery food services like school cafeterias, many of which have closed because of the spread of COVID-19. The federal program is an effort to provide relief to farmers while salvaging crops that might otherwise be wasted. You can find out more about the program go to the KUSDA website at: <https://www.ams.usda.gov/selling-food-to-usda/farmers-to-families-food-box> .

The boxes are expected to arrive in Ellijay about September 16. Club members and other volunteers will be needed to handle the boxes. If you are able to assist contact Community Service Chair Jared Arrant at 706-835-6955 or jared.arrant@edwardjones.com.

And if you are aware of other groups that could assist in distributing the boxes please let Jared or other club officers know.

Farmers to Families Food Box

USDA is partnering with farmers, ranchers, specialty crop producers, food processors and distributors, and non-profit organizations to ensure that all Americans have access to the fresh and wholesome food they need during the COVID-19 national emergency.

