

#RotaryResponds

Rotary

LIVESTREAM TELETHON

SATURDAY 2 MAY

10:00 A.M. CHICAGO 4:00 P.M. LONDON / LAGOS 8:30 P.M. DELHI

facebook.com/rotary

Rotary Livestream Telethon

We are pleased to invite you to participate in a COVID-19 Rotary Responds one-hour Telethon to raise critical funds for disaster response.

This Facebook Live event will be simulcast on the Rotary International Facebook page. The goal is to raise more than \$1 million dollars.

Rotary's 1.2 million members across the globe have taken swift action to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. More than \$3.4 million in Rotary Disaster Response Grants have already been put into action on the front lines to battle COVID-19.

Additionally, millions more have

Quote of the Month: "We must adjust to changing times and still hold to unchanging principles." Jimmy Carter been raised by our People of Action who have responded quickly and are truly saving lives. Now, we need to do more and the need for additional funding is a priority.

Please join motivational speaker Brian Rusch, as we hear stories of hope, inspiration and gratitude from Rotarians, Rotaractors and friends of Rotary from across the globe as they share what they are doing to help their communities. Here is how you can you participate:

- 1. Participate in the telethon on Facebook Live on 2 May at Rotary International's Facebook Page (*facebook.com/rotary*). The live stream will be simulcast in eight languages.
- 2. Share this event & spread the word through your social media channels.

- 3. Invite friends, family, and members of your community to watch and see first-hand what Rotary's People of Action are doing to combat COVID-19.
- 4. Post on social media during the broadcast and on the day of the event using the hashtag #RotaryResponds.
- 5. Donate as an individual or as a club at *on.rotary.org/drf*.
- 6. Encourage your Rotary District to donate District Designated Funds (DDF) at

on.rotary.org/ddf-donate.

(Note: DDF received between April 22nd and May 3rd 2020 will be considered part of the telethon fundraising total.)

So tune in to Facebook Live and we'll see you on Saturday, May 2nd between 11 AM and Noon EST!

Loneliness -Isolation or Solitude?

This text is a blend of a presentation by PDG Singh and an article by Michael Schreiner from Existential Psychology called "Isolation Versus Solitude."

PDG Singh Ajmani spoke recently to his Rotary Club about how we may perceive loneliness in different ways.

Singh says that, during this period of COVID-19, we need to manage to live by ourselves, in loneliness with limited social interactions. We need to do this for our own safety as well as for the safety of others.

As a young man growing up in India, Singh learned that if you can understand loneliness, then you can also manage it with your mindset. How you **choose** to feel about your loneliness will determine if it becomes "isolation" or "solitude."

The two words isolation and solitude may seem synonymous. However, while they both imply being alone, that is where the similarities end. They are opposite states in every other important way.

Solitude is usually actively sought after and is a personal choice that comes from an inner yearning.

Isolation is usually actively avoided and is forced from the outside.

Solitude allows for expansion and freedom of thought, providing the chance to soar above the ordinary in order to come back to the world refreshed and reinvigorated.

Isolation, on the other hand, contracts the walls and makes a prison, draining the will and leaving you exhausted.

When you feel that your loneliness is imposed by others, then you will consider it as isolation. However, when you embrace your loneliness as a welcome opportunity to introspect, and self-reflect, then you will consider it as solitude. And while isolation may be felt to be a punishment, solitude feels like a blessing.

In the human mind, our thoughts determine our perception, and our perception determines and drives our actions. This is essentially how we mentally react to any situation in life, and, by our thoughts, turn it into something positive or something



Solitude - The art of turning loneliness into something positive. Picture courtesy of success.com

negative.

We all need times in our lives to be truly alone in order to gain a new perspective and discover who we really are, but most people fear the state precisely because solitude and isolation get confused. Little is scarier than the thought of being emotionally, spiritually, and physically cut off from our fellows.

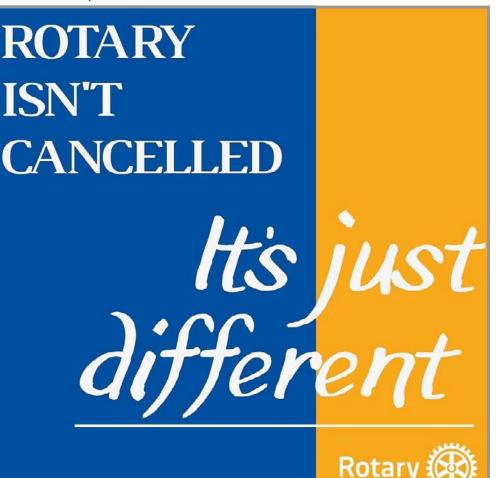
What it comes down to is human connection. The feeling of isolation can arise in solitary confinement or when surrounded by people. In the case of solitude you can ascend to the mountaintop with assurances in the back of your mind that people are waiting for you in the valley below. Isolation offers no such promise, creating devastating psychological consequences.

So, during this current quarantine caused by COVID-19 we need to decide if we are going to turn it into an opportunity for personal growth, or if we are going to let this loneliness defeat us. The decision to make a choice is yours.

Are you going to choose isolation and get depressed? Are you going to blame others and feel sad and angry? Will you start eating and drinking more while avoiding exercise and become lethargic?

Or, will you choose the privilege of solitude and stay positive? Will you stay disciplined and continue with your daily routine, work, and responsibilities? Will you practice being thankful with a deep sense of gratitude, eat right, exercise to keep focused, and do deep breathing a few times per day?

The choice is yours and will determine if you come out of this a better person.



Interact Club Earns Award

In March, Russel-Hampton, provider of all things Rotary, announced that they were sponsoring a service contest. As stated on their Facebook page: "As we connect with Rotary Clubs and Districts in our community and around the world, we see so many Rotarians who are finding creative ways to serve those affected by this pandemic in the midst of global crisis while being unable to meet in person.

We would like to recognize you! And we would like to share your ideas with others who read our newsletters or follow us on Facebook.

We are creating a contest for the most creative way Rotarians have found to serve those affected by the pandemic. We will pick the top three most creative ideas."

The response from Rotary Clubs and Interact Clubs was so overwhelming that Russell-Hampton could not pick a top three. Instead, they decided to do a random drawing with all of the entries.

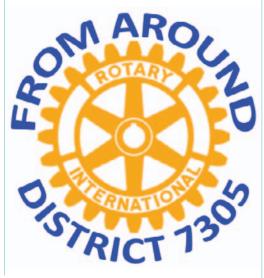
Coming in third, and earning a \$75 Russell-Hampton gift card, was the Greensburg Salem Interact Club.

Greensburg Salem Interactors, along with every student in Pennsylvania, received the shocking news in March that they would be out of school due to the Coronavirus.

Greensburg Salem

The Greensburg Salem Interact students immediately jumped into action, determined to make a difference during these difficult times.

Over 15 Interactors offered their services to local families who needed babysitters due to school being out, prior to the closing of many businesses. Students volunteered on three separate occasions for the Westmoreland County Food





Quenna Smith (center) of Conemaugh Township Rotary Club sewing volunteers, hands out masks the club made to (left to right) Angela Rizzo, Laurel View; Tim Mock, Laurel View CEO; Terry Ruparcic, Manager at Conemaugh Township EMS; and Heidi Lampel, Conemaugh Township EMS supervisor, at the Laurel View Village in Davidsville, Somerset County. Picture and text courtsey of Todd Berkey, tribdem.com

Bank, packing 250 emergency boxes, loading 1360 senior boxes, and delivering 25 senior boxes to the residents of Penn Towers in Greensburg. Students also decluttered their rooms to gather puzzles, crafts, games, and activities for individuals with disabilities who are now homebound to keep them safe from the virus. Rotary

As Greensburg Salem Interact Club members, they truly represent, embody, and embrace a life of "Service Above Self"!

Rotary Club Providing Masks

Conemaugh Twp. Rotarian Quenna Smith started making masks after seeing a plea from Somerset County commissioners. She recruited friends and area residents asking them to lend a hand in the effort.

"Everyone kind of pitched in, and I have a group of about 15 ladies who have been sewing and we've been distributing them to nursing homes, EMTs and nurses" she said. "We've delivered about 1,700 so far. It's amazing how people are stepping up."

"We've been mostly doing medical personnel but some have been made for family members and friends who have health needs," Smith said.

"We're giving them out all over." Smith said her Rotary Club's mission is to help the community and making masks is filling a need.

"It's actually helping these sewers and giving them a purpose right now because they're at home and getting depressed, so it's helping them get through this time knowing they are helping others," she said.

Smith said she's ordered more supplies that should arrive in the next few days.

"As long as I have sewers who are able to continue and the need is there we'll keep making them and getting them delivered," she said.

Crafton-Ingram Food Drive

On April 18, the Rotary Club of Crafton-Ingram held their advertised Food drive at the parking lot of the Baptist church on Oregon Avenue in Crafton, PA.

Over 17 Rotarians and other volunteers gathered to accept donations. Masks and gloves were always present, and no one had to get out of their car to deliver their donations.

The volunteers removed the donations from the cars' trunks or beds and packed them in the waiting trucks and vans; 8 trucks in total.

When they finished at 12 noon, they delivered the collected food and paper products to the Crafton-Ingram food pantry. There were also monetary and gift card donations totaling close to \$3,000.

The Črafton-Ingram Rotarians would like to thank everyone who participated and donated to the success of this event, including Crafton Giant Eagle, Robinson Market District, Costco, and Crafton Dollar General.

Murrysville-Export Lunches

On April 17 the Rotary Club of Murrysville-Export conducted an event for the Redstone Presbyterian Senior Care Center, Murrysville Campus. The club decided that in these troubled times they needed to show our appreciation to the staff working at the center, providing services to residents there. While limited in what they could actually do because of existing restrictions, they decided they would order, purchase,





pick up and deliver lunches for the entire staff at the center. This included all three shifts. The meals were prepared by the Lamplighter Restaurant and members of the club turned out to make the actual delivery to the center.

The effort and gesture was greatly



Above and right: Murrysville/Export Rotarians delivering lunches to the staff at the Redstone Presbyterian Senior Care Center. Top right: The Rotary Club of Crafton-Ingram food drive for the Crafton-Ingram Food Pantry. Pictures and text courtesy of the Murrysville/Export Rotary Club.& the Crafton-Ingram Rotary Club





appreciated by the staff. Likewise, residents in the center were pleased that these Rotarians took such efforts to support the staff caring for them.

And maybe even more so, the efforts were appreciated by the club membership as a whole. Some things just make you feel good, don't they? Another example of Rotarians in action, providing Service Above Self in these trying times.



Feeding Hospice Families

For the past month, Crows Nest restaurant co-owners John Gress and Kevin Kantz have been providing free meals to the families of Interim Hospice patients thanks to a community effort and the Rotary Club of Conemaugh Township.

When Gov. Tom Wolf ordered the shutdown of all nonessential businesses last month, Gress, a Rotarian, said he knew the club was in a unique position to help the community.

"I drafted an email and sent it out to the other members," Gress said.

Upon receiving the email, another Rotarian, Cindy Kaufman, and her husband, Jim, who works for Interim Hospice, began discussing ways to help out.

"I know people can be helped here," Kaufman said. "So, Jim and I started brainstorming." The pair decided to assist the families of Interim patients and contacted Interim social worker and volunteer coordinator Kayla Galebach.

"It really is amazing, in such a hard time, to have the community rally behind people in need," Galebach said.

Interim, located in Westmont, serves communities in Cambria, Somerset and surrounding counties with care for those whose life expectancy is six months or less.

Galebach said a lot of Interim's patients are elderly, and their primary caregiver is often a spouse who is also elderly. She and Kaufman were worried about the spouses or family members having to go to the store and possibly being exposed to COVID-19, in turn exposing patients or other caregivers.

Soon, Gress and Kantz were making meals for the hospice families so they could stay home and be safe.

"We started off pretty small, only sending a few at a time," Gress said With financial hmealselp from the Rotary and private donations, the numbers began to rise. Now the Crows Nest is making 20 meals each weekday for the families served by Interim.

"It's really rewarding," Gress said. Kantz said the duo start each day by making the meals that are picked



Crows Nest owners Rotarian John Gress (left) and Kevin Kantz preparing 20 hot meals to be delivered to hospice patients at Interim Hospice. Text & picture by Todd Berkey at tribdem.com



up by Interim staff and delivered.

"It gives us a bright spot in our day in an otherwise gloomy time," Gress said. The pair said they've received a lot of good feedback about the food as well.

The Crows Nest has been providing enough food in each container that someone could possibly make two meals, Gress said.

Recently, GAP Federal Credit Union joined the effort and donated enough money to provide another 20 meals, extending the efforts of the Crows Nest.

"In a crisis like we are in right now, it's hard to find things to be grateful for, especially at the end of life," Galebach said. "Having these meals has given our families hope."

Governor's Crystal Citation

DG Jim Hahn is introducing the Governor's Crystal Citation Award. This award mirrors the former Club of the Year Award in 7300 and the former Crystal Citation Award in 7330.

Every club has run at least one successful fundraiser, project, or service effort. We want you to tell us about the great things that have happened in your club. If you raised money for a local service, tell us. If you participated in a project that benefits a food bank or other local nonprofit, tell us. And, by all means, if you participated in support of workers on the front lines of COVID-19, please let us know how you "did your part!"

In order to honor you at District Conference, we need this information no later than May 15. The form is available on the district website at this link: *Crystal Citation* Please complete the form and submit it as per its instructions.

Remember, small acts can transform the world in large ways. As Rotarians, we salute those acts and want to celebrate them with you as we wind down this Rotary year. So, please get your forms printed, confer with your boards, and let's make this initial award of the Governor's Crystal Citation Award the most memorable of occasions!

Toastmasters and Rotary Partner to Help Members Grow Professionally

From 1BusinessWorld®, *1/9/2020* Members of Toastmasters and Rotary will enhance their skills, broaden their networks and increase their positive impact in communities through a new collaboration.

The ongoing relationship between the two organizations will begin at the grassroots level with local club members learning and working together. Additionally, Toastmasters will create a set of eight structured communication and leadership development courses for Rotary with a phased rollout that will be available in English in 2020, and in more languages in 2021.

"The strategic alliance with Rotary is exciting and allows both organizations to leverage our unique and similar strengths," says Deepak Menon, Toastmasters' 2019-20 International President. "We look forward to providing our current and prospective members with ongoing additional offerings that meet their evolving needs."

With its first unofficial meeting held in Bloomington, III., in March 1905, Toastmasters is a global nonprofit

Rotary, Kiwanis, Optimist, and Lions Join Together

Woven through the fabric of virtually every community on earth, service clubs of Kiwanis International, Lions Clubs International, Optimist International, and Rotary International are working safely and diligently to maintain connections with each other and our neighbors so that we can cope with and overcome the effects of COVID-19. We are leveraging the strength of our combined networks of 3.2 million members to provide comfort and hope to those feeling the effects of isolation and fear. And we are focusing our collective skills, resources and ideas to support frontline health workers and first responders as they battle this disease and save lives.

In these times of uncertainty, your local service clubs remain committed to meeting the challenge of finding innovative ways to take action

About Toastmasters International:

- Toastmasters International is a worldwide nonprofit educational organization that empowers individuals to become more effective communicators and leaders.
- Headquartered in Englewood, Colo., the organization's membership exceeds 358,000 in more than 16,800 clubs in 143 countries.
- Since 1924, Toastmasters International has helped people from diverse backgrounds become more confident speakers, communicators and leaders.
- For information about local Toastmasters clubs, please visit www.toastmasters.org. Follow @Toastmasters on Twitter.

organization with more than 16,800 clubs in 143 countries. Its members attend club meetings where they learn how to be more confident speakers, communicators and leaders. Toastmasters' vision for the ongoing collaboration with Rotary is to change more lives for the better, and positively impact communities around the world.

"Collaborating with Toastmasters will provide our members with even more opportunities to develop and improve their leadership and communication skills," said John



Toastmasters and Rotary are partnering to help members grow professionally and make a difference in their communities.

Hewko, General Secretary of Rotary International. "In turn, members of Toastmasters can connect with more people, take advantage of new speaking and learning opportunities, and make a difference in their communities through Rotary."

Rotary provides its members opportunities to develop professionally, gain world understanding, and make lifelong friendships – all while volunteering to improve lives and bring lasting, positive change to communities.

For FAQ and to learn more about this partnership, please visit *www.toastmasters.org/Rotary*.



RIP Mark Maloney (top right) and RIPE Holger Knaack (top left) recently hosted a joint virtual meeting with leaders from Lions International, Kiwanis International, and Optimist International.

together to help communities around the globe heal and thrive - and become more united than ever.

"The global effort against COVID-19 depends on actions taken in every country. As people of action, this is our time to connect with each other to offer immediate help to people in need." - Mark Daniel Maloney, Rotary International President, 2019-2020.

"The scale and magnitude of this global pandemic requires our world's citizenry to heed the advice and

cautions of the experts. The work and plans of our collective members and volunteers must not cease! Our immediate response after the crisis will be necessary to support local Governments respond to the many social and economic challenges that will ensue in its aftermath." -Adrian Elcock, Optimist International President, 2019-2020.

"Great challenges test us, but they also bring us together. Lions are finding new ways to safely serve. Our Lions Clubs International Foundation has granted over one million dollars to help communities facing extreme rates of COVID-19, and additional grant requests are being received daily. Our communities depend on service clubs, and we will be there, supporting and strengthening them just as we always have together." - Dr. Jung-Yul Choi, Lions Clubs International President, 2019-2020.

"During these difficult times, we're seeing everyday heroism across the globe. I encourage us all to recognize the health and safety professionals who are putting their own health at risk for the greater good. To the educators, grocery workers, delivery drivers and the countless professionals who can't stay home, the Kiwanis family thanks you. We all play an important role in keeping our friends and neighbors safe. Please follow the advice of the World Health Organization, your local health agencies and the instructions given by your Government. Please, stay safe." - Daniel Vigneron, Kiwanis International President, 2019-2020. From rotary.org







Six Areas of Focus Banners

The Marketing Department at Rotary has produced six new promotional banners showing off Rotary's Areas of Focus. These are available for your club to download. You can use them to make hanging banners, or pull-ups. These resources, and many more like them, are available at the Brand Center. To find them, log into your My Rotary account at *rotary.org*. Hoover over *News & Media* and click on *Brand Center*. Click on *Materials*, then choose *Promotional Resources*.



World Immunization Week

Celebrated in the last week of April, World Immunization Week aims to promote the use of vaccines to protect people of all ages against disease. Immunization saves millions of lives every year and is widely recognized as one of the world's most successful and cost-effective health interventions. Yet, there are still nearly 20 million children in the world today who are not getting the vaccines they need.

The theme this year is **#VaccinesWork for All** and the campaign will focus on how vaccines – and the people who develop, deliver, and receive them – are heroes by working to protect the health of everyone, everywhere.

The main goal of the 2020 campaign is to urge greater engagement around immunization globally and the importance of vaccination in improving health and wellbeing of everyone, everywhere throughout life.

As part of the 2020 campaign, WHO and their partners aim to:

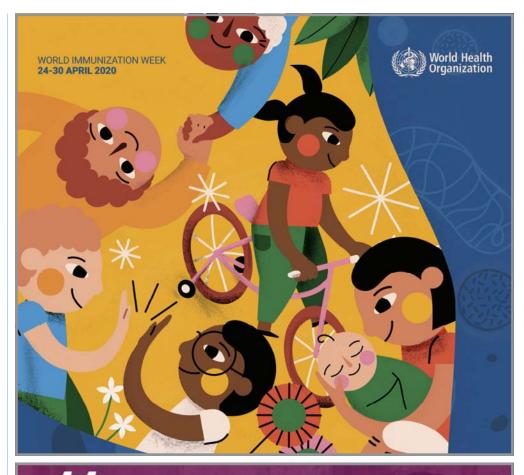
- Demonstrate the value of vaccines for the health of children, communities and the world.
- Show how routine immunization is the foundation for strong, resilient health systems and universal health coverage.
- Highlight the need to build on immunization progress while addressing gaps, including through increased investment in vaccines and immunization.

Given that WHO has designated 2020 the International Year of the Nurse and the Midwife, WHO will highlight nurses and midwives for their crucial role as early vaccine champions for new parents and parents-to-be.

Celebrate With Rotary

Each year, Rotary and our partners vaccinate more than 400 million children against polio. When children receive the polio vaccine, their pinkie fingers are marked with purple ink so health workers will know which children are protected.

Raise awareness of vaccination and polio eradication efforts by painting your nails, or your pinkie, purple. Or customize our new



VACCINES WORK. THE FIGHT TO END POLIO IS PROOF.

#ENDPOLIO

#VACCINESWORK

WORLD IMMUNIZATION WEEK 2020

Rotary 🛞 📫

ENDPOLIO.ORG

End Polio Now artwork with your signature and words of support. For a chance to be featured on Rotary's social media channels, take a photo of your purple pinkies or customized artwork and share it on your page using the hashtags **#EndPolio** and **#VaccinesWork**. By WHO & Rotary

Jonas Salk's Son Sees Hope in COVID-19 Efforts

By Sean D. Hamill, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, April 12, 2020

"There would be 'poetry' if Pitt teams created COVID-19 vaccine." As horrific as it is, it is not lost on Peter Salk, that this year's 65th anniversary of the announcement on April 12, 1955, that his father, Jonas Salk, had created the polio vaccine, comes in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic that has researchers across the globe racing to create a vaccine.

"We've seen so much success with vaccines over the years, with polio and even influenza," said Dr. Salk, who lives in California where he is president of the Jonas Salk Legacy Foundation, as well as a visiting professor of infectious disease and microbiology at the University of Pittsburgh, where his father created the polio vaccine. "But I know now with this coronavirus, there is the feeling of helplessness, that there is nothing you can do."

"And there is a lot of controversy over how this pandemic has been handled around the world," he added. "But what's stood out for me is the way people have come together and sheltered in place. The degree of societal cohesión, how humanity has coalesced around this. My hope is that this is the silver lining in this."

"I'm just hoping one side of this experience is that we'll come out of this on the other side as more cooperative, nationally and internationally," he said.

His father spent seven years researching and creating the polio vaccine, which at the time was considered the most feared disease in the U.S. because of its impact on children in particular.

The infectious disease, spread through infected fecal matter and saliva, infected about 40,000 people a year in the U.S., and 600,000 a year around the world, many of them children, in the years before the vaccine was introduced. In many cases, people recovered from its effects of muscle weaknesses and other impacts, but in thousands of cases each year, people died, or exhibited various levels of paralysis.



Peter Salk receives a polio vaccine from his father in the spring of 1953 while his mother watches. Picture courtesy of the University of Pittsburgh

Before his father's vaccine, one case of polio in a neighborhood or town could cause people to avoid a pool, park, building or town if people believed that was where a child was infected.

Dr. Salk, now 76, said he recalled one summer his parents said they were not taking a regular trip from their summer home on Lake Erie to Cedar Point amusement park in Sandusky, Ohio, "because of the possibility of a polio case there."

When the polio vaccine was in clinical trials, Dr. Salk's father signed him and his brother up as test subjects, as were thousands of other kids in the Pittsburgh area. Like the rest of the country, he cheered when polio was virtually eliminated from the U.S. just seven years later, with a 97% reduction in cases after the vaccine was introduced.

Dr. Salk said as proud as he is about his father's accomplishments, he remains troubled by the lingering presence of polio in pockets around the planet, primarily in poorer countries because of a combination of vaccine problems and poor decisions by local governments.

Last year, he said, there were 175 cases of naturally occurring "wild" polio cases in Afghanistan and Pakistan. There were another 364 cases of polio caused by the oral vaccine version, which uses a live polio virus to create immunity in people.

The problem, he said, is that the oral vaccine version can get lodged in people's stomachs and grow into the virus itself, triggering the disease instead of conferring immunity against polio. The vaccine appears to grow in locations where residents have high levels of malnutrition and there may be other, competing viruses running through a community.

The result, he said, is an ongoing, frustrating battle to stamp out the last few cases in the world.

"On one side of the conversation, this is a tremendous amount of progress from where we were not so long ago," he said. "But on the other hand, there are too many cases occurring, when we had a chance to completely eradicate the disease."

He worries, now, however, that the coronavirus will ended up causing problems in the fight against polio.

"I think the [polio] eradication program is going to take a hit from some of the coronavirus efforts, because of the focus [in funding and research] on the coronavirus," he said.

He said he has watched happily as two teams of researchers at his and his father's academic home, the University of Pittsburgh, have announced two different COVID-19 vaccine projects.

9

Rotary

Rotary District 7305

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"These are two, really important efforts at the University of Pittsburgh. I hope the best for them," he said.

He has taken particular note of one part of one of the teams' efforts, by researchers Dr. Andrea Gambotta and Dr. Louis Falo at Pitt.

Dr. Falo has been working for some time on a so-called "microneedle array" to get a vaccine into a person's body rather than a needle injection, or an oral liquid, which both have problems. The microneedle would be placed on a person's skin, like a Band-Aid, and the vaccine would be in the needles themselves as a mixture of sugar and a target protein, and simply be absorbed into the skin.

"I have an affinity with the microneedle array for use in the polio vaccine," he said. "It may also have to do with my childhood dislike for needles."

Whichever vaccine ultimately is shown to work, Dr. Salk said he hopes the desires for speed won't outrun the desire for safety.

"One has to be careful in introducing new vaccines," he said. "We have to go as quickly as we can but we have to go cautiously. We shouldn't just introduce a vaccine that came through just a basic clinical trial."

He said while he hopes any of the teams around the world put the first COVID-19 vaccine together, given his father's work there on the polio vaccine, there would be "some poetry" if the COVID-19 vaccine was discovered at the University of Pittsburgh.

Rotary and COVID-19

In the midst of a global pandemic, we understand that attention to polio eradication will be temporarily diverted, and this makes it all the more vital for Rotarians to remain strongly committed to fighting polio and not let our progress be eroded.



Rotary's Four Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do:

- 1. Is it the truth?
- 2. Is it **fair** to all concerned?
- 3. Will it build **goodwill** and **better friendships**?
- 4. Will it be **beneficial** to all concerned?



Dr. Peter Salk, son of polio vaccine inventor Dr. Jonas Salk, says "There would be 'poetry' if Pitt teams created COVID-19 vaccine." Picture courtesy of Salk Institute

In every corner of the world, it seems that not a single person or community is unaffected by COVID-19. You may be wondering how to stay focused on our work eradicating polio when we are dealing with a pandemic caused by a virus for which there is not yet a vaccine - a situation similar to what the world faced with the poliovirus not so long ago.

The COVID-19 pandemic response requires worldwide solidarity and an urgent global effort. The Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI), with thousands of polio workers and an extensive laboratory and surveillance network, has a moral imperative to ensure that these resources are used to support countries in their preparedness and response.

We can be proud that in the everconnected world of global health, the polio infrastructure that Rotarians have helped build is already being used to address - and stop the spread of - the new coronavirus, in addition to serving countless other health needs. In Nigeria, Pakistan, and Afghanistan, where polio personnel and assets have a significant presence, workers from all GPEI partners are engaged in surveillance, health worker training, contact tracing, and more. In 13 countries, polio volunteers have been deployed to address COVID-19 preparations and response.

We recognize that the COVID-19 emergency means that some aspects of the polio eradication program will be affected. While addressing the new challenges of today, the most important thing that Rotary members can do to continue the fight to end polio is to sustain our commitment. We are aiming to reach our fundraising goal of \$50 million this year so we can work to safely reach all children with the polio vaccine. In the midst of a global pandemic, we understand that attention to polio eradication will be temporarily diverted, and this makes it all the more vital for Rotarians to remain strongly committed to fighting polio and not let our progress be eroded. By Rotary International



Rotary



SAVE THE DATE - MAY 2, 2020

ROTARY COVID-19 LIVESTREAM TELETHON FACEBOOK.COM/ROTARY

CANCELED - MAY 11, 2020

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION DATE AND VENUE TBD

CANCELED – MAY 30, 2020

ONE ROTARY SUMMIT DATE AND VENUE TBD

CANCELED – JUNE 6-10, 2020

2020 ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION HONOLULU, HAWAII

SAVE THE DATE – JUNE 25-28, 2020 SUBJECT TO CANCELATION

DISTRICT CONFERENCE Seven Springs Mountain Resort

CANCELED – JUNE 27, 2020

THIRD GRADE SPELLING BEE SEVEN SPRINGS

SAVE THE DATE - JULY 24, 2020

ROTARY NIGHT AT THE RACES THE MEADOWS

SAVE THE DATE - AUGUST 14, 2020

DISTRICT 7305 GOLF OUTING GREENSBURG COUNTRY CLUB

SAVE THE DATE - NOVEMBER 8, 2020 [TENTATIVE]

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION LUNCHEON Rivers Casino

















