

# Rotary



## Club of Franklin Daybreak

### Lack of Indoor Plumbing in USA?

By George David Waechter Saturday, September 26, 2020

While most Americans take running water completely for granted, millions of our neighbors struggle to get enough clean water to survive. More than 2.2 million Americans still don't have running water or basic plumbing, like a flush toilet. 44 million more don't have clean water that's safe to drink.

[Watch a Video!](#)

For years, residents of O♦Toole, West Virginia, depended on a ramshackle water system consisting of an uncovered tank and a precarious network of pipes. Toilets emptied directly into streams♦right next to the drinking water pipes. Running water was intermittent, because the pressure was so low, and tap water came out dirty. Local volunteer firefighters offered a temporary solution, letting residents fill jugs from county fire hydrants, but simple chores like laundry became exhausting as people spent hours each day hauling water. Some residents that we interviewed cut their daily water use to just five gallons; others showered under rain gutters during a downpour. In nearby Mile Branch, West Virginia, water from private wells comes out cloudy or brown. It wasn't always this way; people could drink from and bathe in their creek without concern until early 2018, when they noticed a change in the water. Now the creek runs black from time to time, and residents worry that it may be related to mining and fracking operations. Longtime resident Judy has become a citizen scientist, collecting and testing water samples and educating herself about water contaminants and health risks.

In the town of Keystone, West Virginia, water is just one of many municipal services to break down due to the lack of a tax

### Highlands School and Sarah Holbrooks

By Angela Dills on Monday, September 28, 2020



Sarah Holbrooks, Assistant Principal at Highlands School shared the school's experience transitioning to Plan B and its successes. Thank you to our teachers and staff for keeping the students safe and the schools clean.

### Haiti mobile health unit

By Angela Dills on Monday, September 28, 2020

The fruits of our global grant are on the move in Haiti! As a joint project with First United Methodist Church of Franklin and Rotary District 7670, we helped buy and stock a mobile health unit for New Hope Hospital, a hospital serving the people of the Cap Haitien area in Haiti. Many thanks to Billi Black for spearheading this project!



### Upcoming Meeting Schedule

No meeting September 29.

The Fifth Tuesday social at Fred Jones's cabin up Wayah has been moved to October 6 due to the anticipated weather this week.

October 6 Social Dinner served at 6 pm. Please plan to stay until at least 7 pm as the road up is one-way. RSVP to Fred. More details to follow via PMail.

Beginning in October, we plan to meet at the First United Methodist Church. A Zoom option will be provided for those preferring to attend virtually. (<https://wcu.zoom.us/j/98420426924>)

October: Economic & Community Development

Oct 6: We will have a morning meeting! At the First United Methodist Church. Program: Ronnie Beale; Greeter: Aaron Garrett; Invocation: Jeff Butler; 50/50: Mike Martone

Oct 7: Board meeting. 8 am. Location: First United Methodist Church.

Oct 13

Program: Arthur Phalo; Greeter: Luke Smith; Invocation: Tiffani Tallent; 50/50: Angela Dills

base: the police department was shuttered in 2018, and the remaining city employees work only a few days a week.<sup>75</sup> Ida, a longtime resident, told us that in her home there is just enough pressure to use one faucet at a time. She showers reluctantly because of the poor water quality and uses bottled water for drinking and cooking.<sup>76</sup> Residents often go without running water because the town cannot afford needed equipment,<sup>77</sup> but they are afraid to speak up about it because they fear their water will be shut off entirely.

Communities in parts of rural Appalachia face three key water challenges: lack of household water access, poor water quality, and lack of wastewater services. Some areas, like Keystone, use run-down coal camp water systems private systems constructed by coal companies to serve their workers that were abandoned when the companies folded. Others, like Mile Branch, are not connected to systems at all, because remote locations and mountainous terrain make the cost of line extension to relatively few households untenable. Instead, residents collect water from 57 Part Two: Who is affected 58 Closing the Water Access Gap in the United States: A National Action Plan mine shafts or use surface runoff from mountainsides, artesian springs, and streams. These sources are often polluted by industrial runoff, and accessing them is difficult, particularly for residents who do not own a vehicle.

Many households that are not connected to sewer systems and cannot afford septic systems straight-pipe wastewater into the same water resources that other residents collect for drinking water, causing major health concerns including chronic skin rashes, MRSA and staph infections, and gastrointestinal issues like H. Pylori.

Communities are developing interim strategies: in Beverly, Kentucky, the Red Bird Mission offers a community water kiosk connected to a utility in the adjacent county. Some residents visit the kiosk at night to avoid being seen, an indication that life without water access still carries a stigma. In OToole, a crowdfunding campaign raised money to pay for the line extension to connect homes to the county water system; a local nonprofit provided volunteer labor. Thanks to these

Oct 20: Club Assembly

Greeter: Beverly Mason; Invocation: Kristy Smith; 50/50: Dave Jones

Oct 27:

Program: Eric Haggart; Greeter: Chuck Sutton; Invocation: Roger Plemens; 50/50: Charles Thun

## Events

No Events found

## Birthdays

No Birthdays Found

## Wedding Anniversaries



[Vicki Lawrence](#)  
October 7th



[Angela Dills](#)  
October 21st

## Years of Service



[Teresa Murray](#)  
5 Years



[John Evans](#)  
3 Years



[Ward Collins](#)  
2 Years

contributions, residents now have access to clean, running water in their homes, although they still lack wastewater treatment.

This is an excerpt from a publication produced by DigDeep.com - a non-governmental organization focused on identifying and remedying water security issues in the United States. For more information: visit

[Our Work](#)  [DIGDEEP](#)



## Club Leaders



Fred Jones  
President



Angela Dills  
President-Elect  
Club Admin Chair



Dana Murray  
Secretary



Vicki Lawrence  
Treasurer  
Youth Services Chair



Rick VanGilder  
Service Projects Chair  
International Service  
Chair



Dale B. West  
Membership Chair



Ronald F. Winecoff  
Rotary Foundation  
Chair



Tiffani G. Tallent  
Youth Services Chair

Eric Haggart  
Club Public Image



Chair



Teresa Murray  
iPast President



Kenneth Nicholson  
Assistant Governor