



CREATE HOPE  
in the WORLD  
CLUB PRESIDENT  
RANDY NEFF

# THE GREEN LIGHT

THE ROTARY CLUB OF PEORIA - Club 3238  
P.O. Box 5639 • Peoria, IL 61601  
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CHARTERED 1913  
CLUB NO. 76



**Weekly Meeting at First United Methodist Church**  
**Friday, October 6, 2023 at 12:00 PM**  
**Speaker: Brad Chandler**  
**Topic: How NIL & the Transfer Portal**  
**are changing the college game.**

Can't make it to the In-Person Meeting? [CLICK HERE TO JOIN VIA ZOOM](#)  
Meeting ID: 897 6608 1791 Dial by your location +1 312 626 6799



Shelley Epstein, who spent 33 years at the Peoria Journal Star, eventually becoming an Editor, pointed to a couple of landmark events in publishing recently. Epstein told Rotarians that The New York Times has stopped publishing its sports section. Secondly, Gannett USA Today, the largest newspaper publisher in the country and the publisher of the Journal Star has advertised for the hiring of two reporters dedicated exclusively to cover singers Beyonce and Taylor Swift.



That, Epstein said, tells you about the state of newspaper publishing in the US. Since 2005, about 25-hundred local papers have been shuttered, he said, and newsroom employment has shrunk by 66-percent.

In Peoria, the subscription numbers for the Journal Star newspaper have dropped - according to Epstein - from one hundred thousand to less than twenty thousand. But, the retired PJS editor says it's not merely a matter of numbers, it's a question of responsibility lost as newspapers close down.



"There's a price to pay for the substance or lack thereof in today's newspapers." Epstein said, "There's less of a feeling of community, less civic engagement, we're not bound together by a common set of facts, by common reporting of activities. Newspapers were, for a very long time, the glue that held us together."

## 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?



Rotary  
Club of Peoria



CREATE HOPE  
in the WORLD

## ROTARY ACTION PLAN - VISION

**"Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves"**

Rotary Club of Peoria 2023-2024



## US Ambulances for Ukraine

Chris Manson, OSF HealthCare Vice President of Government Relations, who appeared before Peoria Rotarians was honored recently in Washington DC. Manson is the founder of "US Ambulances for Ukraine" and was recognized by the President of Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

On September 21, 2023, President Zelenskyy presented Manson and others from across the US with medals or commendations on behalf of the People of Ukraine for their humanitarian work following the invasion by Russia in February of 2022.

Manson said, "It was a great honor to meet the President of Ukraine. I am very humbled to receive such an honor and know that I would not be receiving this medal had I not had the support of so many people and organizations which made our effort possible".



(L) President Volodymyr Zelenskyy & (R) Chris Manson



## Midwest Food Bank



Midwest Food Bank is looking for volunteers to help label and/or package bulk food items so they can be readied for distribution to our food pantries.

**Date: Thursday November 2nd, 2023**

**Time: 1:00pm - 3:00pm**

If you would like to volunteer, please [click here to sign-up](#).

A sign-up sheet will be available at weekly meetings or email [infodowntown@peoriarotary.org](mailto:infodowntown@peoriarotary.org) to be added to list.

## Hult Center - Lobster Boil - Event



LOBSTER BOIL - Butter 'em up on the Riverfront  
OCTOBER 7, 2023 | 5:30 PM - 9 PM | WTVP Studio - Peoria

Proceeds from this year's Lobster Boil will benefit WTVP PBS children's programming and the Hult Center for Healthy Living.

The Hult Center is looking for volunteers to help with this year's Lobster Boil.

Further details about the volunteer positions will be available ASAP

If you would like to volunteer, please use the link provided in the [Green Light](#) to sign-up. A sign-up sheet will be available at weekly meetings or email [infodowntown@peoriarotary.org](mailto:infodowntown@peoriarotary.org) to be added to list.

## Illini Bluffs Interact Club Supply Drive

# SUPPLY DRIVE



THE ILLINI BLUFFS HIGH SCHOOL INTERACT CLUB IS COLLECTING SUPPLIES FOR THE PEORIA RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE 9/18 THROUGH 10/13. PLEASE DONATE TRAVEL-SIZE TOILETRIES, CLEANING SUPPLIES, AND PAPER GOODS IN ONE OF OUR BLUE DONATION BOXES. SCAN THE QR CODE TO SEE OUR AMAZON WISHLIST!



## Goodwill Stand Down For Homeless Veterans



The Rotary Club of Peoria has been involved with the Goodwill Stand Down for Homeless Veterans for 15 years!! This year's annual event will be held at Goodwill Commons - 2319 E. War Memorial Dr on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>

Volunteers are needed to help between 9AM - 1PM.

If you would like to volunteer, a sign-up sheet will be available at the weekly meetings. You can also email the office [infodowntown@peoriarotary.org](mailto:infodowntown@peoriarotary.org) to be added to list. Please be sure to include your up-to-date phone & email.

Goodwill will contact you about timeslots.

## 2023 District 6460 Conference / Rotary Foundation Dinner



## Wildlife Prairie Park Cougar Platform Build



Several volunteers are needed to help with prep work and building a multi-level platform for the cougars at Wildlife Prairie Park.

Date: Wed, October 18th | Prep Work at C.T. Gabbert Const. | Time: TBD

Date: Sat, October 21st | Build Platform at Wildlife Prairie Park  
3826 N Taylor Rd, Hanna City, IL 61536 | Time: TBD

If you would like to volunteer, please use the links provided in the [Green Light](#) to sign-up. Sign-up sheets will be available at weekly meetings or email [infodowntown@peoriarotary.org](mailto:infodowntown@peoriarotary.org) to be added to list.

## Holiday Social

### Rotary Club Holiday Social

**Date: Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Location: Tin Lizard Bar & Grill - East Peoria**

**Time: 6:00pm - 8:00pm | \*PLEASE JOIN US\***

**Cost: Members Free | Guests: \$15.00**

If you plan to attend, please RSVP by clicking [here](#) or emailing ([infodowntown@peoriarotary.org](mailto:infodowntown@peoriarotary.org)) We will also have a Sign-up sheet available at weekly meetings

All RSVP's must be received by noon, Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023

## Upcoming Meetings

**OCTOBER 13th - Meeting at First United Methodist Church**  
Speaker: **John Wieland**  
Topic: **Uncommon Threads**  
Greeters: **Pam Cain & Katherine Coyle**  
Inspiration/Reflection: **John Kelly**  
Attendance Prize: **Pam Cain**  
Meeting Tech: **Brad Stegall**

**OCTOBER 20th - Meeting at First United Methodist Church**  
Speaker: **Rik Edgar or Beau Sutherland**  
Topic: **Peoria Civic Center Updates**  
Greeters: **Tom McIntyre & Robert Brandfass**  
Inspiration/Reflection: **Katherine Coyle**  
Attendance Prize: **Katherine Coyle**  
Meeting Tech: **Austin Locke**

**OCTOBER 27th - Meeting at First United Methodist Church**  
Speaker: **Mark Denzler**  
Topic: **Illinois Manufacturers' Association**  
Greeters: **Pam Cain & Nick Vespa**  
Inspiration/Reflection: **Tom McIntyre**  
Attendance Prize: **Nick Vespa**  
Meeting Tech: **Jason Parkinson**

## Every Rotarian Every Year

### EVERY ROTARIAN, EVERY YEAR

Did you know that donors who gave \$25-\$50 contributed more than \$5.1 million to the Foundation in 2020-21? When every Rotarian gives every year, it makes life-changing, sustainable projects possible.

Also in 2020-21:

- \$139 million was given to the Annual Fund.
- 34% of Rotarians donated to the Annual Fund.
- 82% of Rotary clubs supported the Annual Fund.
- 2,066 global grants were awarded.



## New Membership

We welcome you to join us at an upcoming Rotary Club of Peoria meeting to see what it's all about.

To learn more about The Rotary Club of Peoria and becoming a member, click the Rotary Membership Image

If you have any questions email [infodowntown@peoriarotary.org](mailto:infodowntown@peoriarotary.org)



## Rotary Club T-Shirts

THE NEW ROTARY CLUB OF PEORIA T-SHIRTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR \$15.00! WE HAVE SEVERAL DIFFERENT SIZES - IF YOU DON'T HAVE A ROTARY T-SHIRT - STOP BY THE CHECK-IN TABLE AND PICK ONE UP.



## Every Rotarian Every Year Fundraiser

Between now and the end of the December, we are taking donations for raffle prizes for the EREY Fundraiser.

Prizes should be at least a \$25 value.

Raffle tickets will be \$25/each and will go on sale in December. You can enter your raffle ticket in the prizes all of January.

Winners will be announced on February 2nd.

If you would like to donate any items for the raffle, please contact: Emily Jacob-Rudesill

([emilyj@fosterjacob.com](mailto:emilyj@fosterjacob.com))

*There will be a donation sign-up sheet available at the weekly meetings .*

## Foundation Minute



FOUNDATION MINUTE - WHAT'S YOUR ROTARY FOOTPRINT?



Besides the obvious outline of an appendage, a footprint means many other things: the impact of an action, the area occupied or affected by something, or the legacy left by an individual on others. We ponder the footprint our loved ones or lost national leaders leave behind in the days and years after their passing.

Rotary leaves footprints in many ways too - through its humanitarian service in local communities and in thousands of grant projects carried out all over the globe. Being a Rotarian changes each member in unimaginable ways - you are changed by being around people determined to improve the lives of others. But none of this good work is possible unless each Rotarian creates his or her own footprints - through the donations made to OUR ROTARY FOUNDATION.

Each Rotarian's donation record - YOUR ROTARY FOOTPRINT - is tabulated in your Donor History on My Rotary. So, if your passion is warm coats, you can calculate how many children are warm based on your donations to the Annual Fund, which supports district grants - and you can see how many children you saved from paralysis by your EPN donations.

Whether you joined Rotary last week or 30 years ago, you have a footprint. Check it out!

**Rotary**  
Club of Peoria



## Member Celebrations

# OCTOBER

**Birthdays**  
&  
**Anniversaries**

**LET'S  
CELEBRATE!**

### Birthdays

Member	Date
<b>Pam Cain</b>	<b>10/8</b>
<b>Katherine Coyle</b>	<b>10/15</b>
<b>Tom McIntyre</b>	<b>10/16</b>
<b>John Day</b>	<b>10/18</b>
<b>Susie Stockman</b>	<b>10/26</b>

### Anniversaries

Member	Years
<b>Jodi Lindsay</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Glen Miller</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Bernie Drake</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Robbie Robertson</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Don Johnson</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Susie Stockman</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Walt Ruppman</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Tim Miller</b>	<b>42</b>

### Club Officers

President - Randy Neff  
 President-Elect - Jana' Stevens  
 Secretary - Caitlin Behrends  
 Treasurer- Gina Driscoll  
 Immediate Past President - Tom McIntyre

### Board Members

Robert Brandfass  
 Melissa Entzminger  
 Charlie Greer  
 Emily Jacob-Rudesill  
 Jason Parkinson  
 Cedric Volkmer

### Contact Us

Melissa Brewer  
 Executive Secretary  
**OFFICE:** 309-676-5432  
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**EMAIL:** [infodowntown@peoriarotary.org](mailto:infodowntown@peoriarotary.org)  
*Office Hours: By Appointment*  
**Website:** [www.peoriarotary.org](http://www.peoriarotary.org)

Rotary Club of Peoria, IL



**Rotary**



Photo Courtesy of the Journal Star