

<b>January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019</b>	<b>CHRONICLES OF THE ROTARY OF MURRAY</b>	<b>Issue NO. 196</b>
<b>Quote of the Day</b>	“Hope is a great tool when it comes to forming new habits and letting go of older, obsolete habits. Hope opens the door to possibility and allows us to envision change, particularly change that we desire.” Andrew Mellen	
<b>This Week</b>	Nancy Mieure will introduce Constance Alexander, who will address the relevance of poetry. Also, Josh Hendrickson will make a short presentation related to the Home of Heroes Garden being added to Murray Memorial Gardens.	
<b>Last Week</b>	Roger Reichmuth arranged an exceptional Christmas musical program. The melodious choral ensemble was combined with a solo, by Kayla Little, of “Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas” to create a mellifluous experience, which was punctuated by Pete Lancaster’s cautionary tale of the consequences of schadenfreude and Bob Valentine’s parable about an immovable donkey and irresistible ass.	
<b>Next Week</b>	Bob Hargrove will introduce Dr. Tony Brannon, Dean of the Hutson School of Agriculture, who will tell us about Rural Urban Day. This is a make-up of the program we missed on November 15 <sup>th</sup> due to a meeting cancellation because of the threat of inclement weather.	
<b>Our Guests Last Week</b>	Carol Brunn, Janice Rose, Calla Freeman, Gabriel Freeman, Pricilla Schanbacher, Dee Gantt, Shirley Martin, Janie Stenberg, Courtney Kendall, Judi Little, Anne Marie Tanner, Amanda Peacher, Grette Jobs, Chaney Curd, Jacob Puckett, Paul Rister, Eddie Hale, Stephanie Hunter, Toni Bohannon, Sam Bohannon, Mary Wray, Lee Robbins, Wyatt Robbins, Ryder Robbins, Colt Robbins, Kayla Little, Oliver Montgomery, Todd Hill, Elizabeth Hilbrecht, Jeanne Hilbrecht, Tim Hilbrecht, Bob Valentine, Kate Farrell, Teresa Speed	
<b>Club Member Birthdays This Week:</b> Rick Spann & Asia Burnett		
<b>Club member anniversaries this month:</b> Jerry Penner (‘12), Robert Norsworthy (‘16), Martha Erwin (‘15), Libby Slaton (‘14), Byron Peacher (‘13), Gene Schanbacher (‘62), Tawnya Hunter (‘17), John McConnell (‘04), Andy Graham (‘04), John Gore (‘16), & Steve Owens (‘16)		
<b>TODAY’S AGENDA</b>	<b>The Four Way Test of the Things We Think, Do, and Say</b>	
Songsters: Roger Reichmuth & Jayne Crisp Rotary Four Way Test Invocation: Scott Adair Songs: <i>R-O-T-A-R-Y</i> & <i>Auld Lang Syne</i> Sergeant at Arms: Carmen Garland Introduction: Nancy Mieure Speaker: Constance Alexander	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Is it the truth?</li> <li>2. Is it fair to all concerned?</li> <li>3. Will it build good will &amp; better friendships?</li> <li>4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?</li> </ol>	

<b>Rotary Rumors</b>
<p>When we last met, we encountered Elizabeth Hilbrecht, December’s Student of the Month from Murray High School. Her list of accomplishments coupled with her humility and gratitude put us in the Christmas spirit. Although she is already taking MSU classes, she remains undecided about where she will attend in the fall. Jack Rose presented Terry Little with the key to the city! No one is more deserving. Steve Hunter impressed us with his electrifying bow tie as he carried out the duties of Sergeant-at-Arms. A special shout out goes to Sarah Jones, Alice Parker, Carmen Garland, and James Gallimore for transforming our drab room into a chamber of holiday spirit.</p> <p>A skills gap is growing as Baby-boomers leave the workforce. While areas in manufacturing receive the most publicity, there are many other vocations affected as well. The workforce of tomorrow needs communities such as Murray to pull together and bridge the chasm between academics and careers so that young people entering the workforce make practical, informed decisions about career choices. An experience outside the classroom may help students make a better investment in their future, should they choose to pursue a post-secondary degree, while enhancing the probability of on-time completion and decreasing student debt. On November 13<sup>th</sup>, the doors of Briggs &amp; Stratton, hosted by Scott Adair, and Vanderbilt Chemical, hosted by Richard Davis, were opened to nine students. Two of the students were our RYLA Students from the Murray Area Technology Center. Dan Hicks, Principal of the Murray ATC, was asked to send students who would likely pursue a career in manufacturing or skilled trades so that they could be given a first-hand glimpse of what a career in manufacturing or skilled trades may look like. As our Club's Vocation and Careers Chair, Scott Adair encourages members to consider opening the doors of their businesses in order to spend time furthering the knowledge of students who are exploring career choices.</p> <p>Thus far, thirty-eight Rotarians have pledged or given to the campaign to raise funds for Phase III of the Rotary Amphitheatre Project. At this point, we need \$4,500 to achieve our objective. A bit more will enable the Project Committee to purchase some additional equipment. With the matching grants in place, an investment in this endeavor will be money well spent! Please see Roger Reichmuth to learn how you can help.</p> <p>Might you have a suggestion for a presentation at a meeting in 2019? The Program Committee is currently working on the schedule and would welcome topic ideas. Nancy Mieure, our Past President, is the person to contact.</p> <p>Were you out of uniform at the last Rotary event? Do you need a tee shirt or sweatshirt or hoodie declaring your association with the best Rotary Club in the world? Keith Travis is compiling a Rotary shirt order; see him quickly to take advantage of this opportunity.</p>
<b>What’s Coming Up?</b>
<p>Now is the time to mark your 2019 planning calendar for the next <i>Bill Wells Make a Difference Day</i>, which is scheduled for Saturday morning, from 9 AM to noon, on January 12<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to The Murray Bank, it looks like we have secured the paper shredder! If you are on the committee, expect Bill Marcum to call a meeting after today’s Rotary program.</p>