

THE STAFFORD ROTARY HIGHLIGHTER

JUNE 15, 2022



Rotary  **People of Action**
Club of Stafford

This Week's Program: Club Assembly

President Elect Cherice will present her vision and plans for Rotary Year 2022-23.

The Rotary theme for 2022-2023 is "Imagine Rotary"



IMAGINE ROTARY

CLUB CALENDAR

June Is Rotary Fellowship Month

- June 15- Club Assembly
- June 22 – Dr. Thomas Taylor, SCPS
- June 29 – Installation Banquet at Renato's
- July 6 - Mr. Derrick Carr , CPRP
- July 13- Dr. Janet Gullickson, President of Germanna Community College
- Sept. 24 -25 – Via Colori

June 8 Meeting

President Jake presided and welcomed guests Melody Grattic and Doug Gately. Our June 22 speaker will be Dr. Thomas Taylor, Stafford County Public Schools Superintendent. Mountain View High School Interactors will also be in visiting.

Be sure to R.S.V.P. for the June 29 Installation Banquet by June 24.

Program

Our speaker was Michael McLaughlin, Chief Operating Officer of the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority. VPRA was created in 2020 and is responsible for promoting, sustaining, and expanding the availability of passenger and commuter rail service in the Commonwealth.

Transforming Rail in Virginia is a generational infrastructure investment that will expand and improve passenger, commuter, and freight rail in Virginia, creating a vital connection in America's national rail network between the Northeast and Southeast corridors.

New Passenger Rail Benefits

Transforming Rail in Virginia provides more capacity for high-quality transportation choices. Expanded passenger rail services will be available because of the program:

- ❖ Doubles state-supported Amtrak service between Washington, DC and Richmond, VA, resulting in nearly-hourly service in this corridor
- ❖ Increases Amtrak service to Newport News, VA and Norfolk, VA
- ❖ Increases Amtrak service between Washington, DC and Roanoke, VA
- ❖ Extends Amtrak service from Roanoke, VA to the New River Valley
- ❖ Increases Virginia Railway Express (VRE) Fredericksburg Line service by 75% including the addition of late night and weekend service.

Mr. McLaughlin discussed the specific projects needed to achieve these service improvements:

- ❖ Long Bridge Project
- ❖ Alexandria Fourth Track Project
- ❖ Franconia-Springfield Bypass Project
- ❖ Franconia-Lorton Third Track Project
- ❖ Siding Projects which are three miles long to allow passing freight trains
- ❖ The Richmond to Raleigh Corridor

During the Q&A Mr. McLaughlin discussed the new station at Potomac Shores, the possibility of fare increases, labor shortages, safety and security. It was a very informative program.



Several club members joined Nelda and Donnell at the reception honoring their 60th anniversary. As one attendee stated, "Lovely church setting with warm and inclusive church service." The cakes were good too.

FIRST WOMEN AS ROTARY PRESIDENT 2022-23



Jennifer Jones, member of the Rotary Club of Windsor-Roseland, Ontario, Canada, will become Rotary International's president for 2022-23, a groundbreaking selection that will make her the first woman to hold that office in the service organization's 115-year existence. Jones, whose confirmation comes at a unique time in history, is inspired by how the organization and its global members continue to adapt, connect and serve their communities in new ways during the coronavirus pandemic. Jones says she wants to harness this moment of change to develop metric-driven goals that challenge us to innovate, educate and communicate opportunities that reflect today's realities.

"We know that Rotary is a place where leaders and those with the vision and drive to create change can thrive. And such leaders are found from every age, gender, race and background. Diversity, equity and inclusion should begin at the top, and for us to welcome new leaders into our organization and expand our ability to make an impact, we need to build stronger bridges that help everyone see themselves reflected, celebrated and valued here in Rotary," Jones said.

Jones also notes her tremendous pride in the way Rotarians have shown leadership in responding to and helping protect communities against COVID-19. So far, Rotary has provided \$29.7 million to support clubs in their response to COVID-19, with projects ranging from large-scale, transformative activities such as providing medical equipment to hospitals to small-scale, short-term activities like purchasing thermometers, protective medical gear, or other items for frontline medical professionals. "Silver linings rise out of the most challenging circumstances," Jones said in her vision statement. "Our members are resolute in finding ways to aid those in need as the pandemic continues to underscore how Rotary is a global force for doing good in the world."

As Jones looks ahead to her presidential term, she confirms that she's prepared to take on existing and new challenges as society continues to evolve at a rapid pace, and like Rotary presidents before her, is eager to set Rotary on course for a robust and vibrant future. "Years ago, I asked one of our incoming presidents what he wanted his legacy to be. He very quickly told me he wasn't interested in building a legacy and that he was interested in getting to work," said Jones. "Those words have always stuck with me, and I too simply want to get down to work."

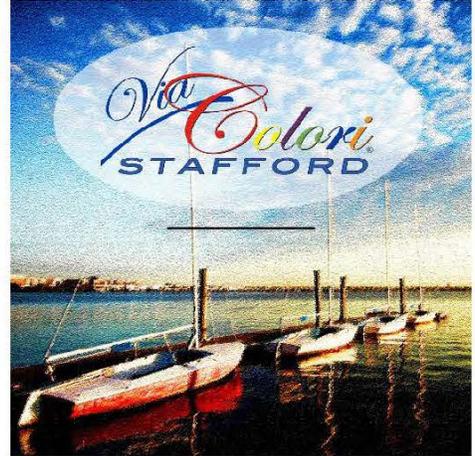
September 24 & 25, 2022

9:00am-5:00pm

Join the magic of Stafford County !

Via Colori® Stafford is a free community festival that showcases the street painting wonder of 50+ local artists as they create masterpieces on the asphalt of the Hwy 630 East (exit 140), Courthouse Road commuter lots. During

the weekend, there will be food trucks, a children's creative area, music, community vendors, sponsor booths and thousands of guests. Businesses, groups, families and individuals are invited to sponsor an artist's square. Your name will be prominently posted by an artist's creation and on the *Square Sponsors* board and a Sponsor Table will be available for promotional materials (\$500 +). You will also be recognized during the event and provided a receipt for your 501(c)(3) donation.



Contact Name: _____

Business/Group/Family Name : _____

Sponsorship: \$250 - 4'x 4' ft \$500 - 6'x 6' ft \$1000 - 10'x 10' ft

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Use QR code below or make checks payable to **North Stafford Rotary Foundation** with **Via Colori Stafford** noted in the memo section. Mail to 18 Vanburgh Ct Stafford, VA 22554 Questions: email ViaColoriSales@gmail.com

