

## ELLICOTT CITY ROTARY DONATES OVER \$5,000 TO HOWARD COUNTY FOOD BANK

*By Temrah Okonski,  
President of the Ellicott  
City Rotary Club*

The Ellicott City Rotary Club has made supporting the local community its primary mission. When Courtney Watson, Maryland State Delegate and honorary member of the Ellicott City Rotary Club, Katie Fry Hester, Maryland State Senator, and Calvin Ball, Howard County

Foundation, individual Rotarians, and Friends of Rotary donations totaling \$2,130 which was then matched by a \$2,000 grant from Rotary District 7620. The final \$1,000 was contributed by the Howard County Community Crab Feast committee from proceeds collected at last year's event.

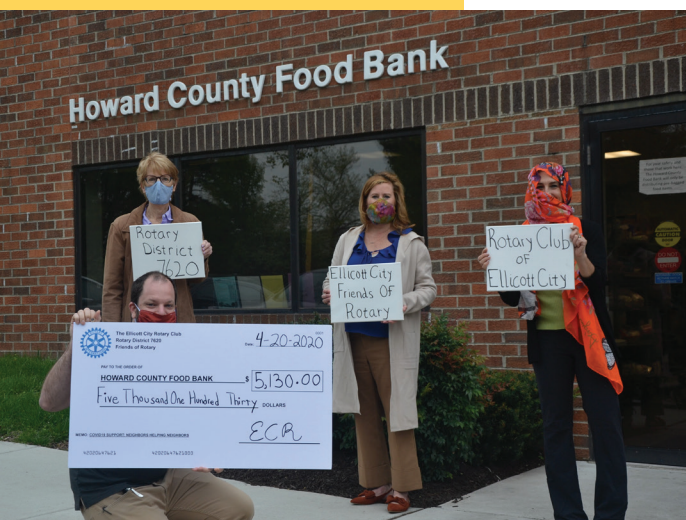
COVID-19 is severely impacting the Howard County community. One indicator is the Food Bank. Normally, it serves an average of 800 families a month. This past month it served 4,700 individuals who were in need.

Since its founding in 1928, the Ellicott City Rotary Club has supported our Community through grants, scholarships, and hands-on projects. "We are committed to helping our Community any way we can. Neighbors helping neighbors is what it is all about," Okonski said.

## PANDEMIC DOESN'T HALT COMMUNITY SERVICE

*By Dick Foot, Carroll Creek Rotary Club*

Smoketown Rotary Club enrolled in "Day To Serve," a collaborative initiative of the Governors of the states of Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and the Mayor of the District of Columbia to connect and mobilize communities to "feed the hungry and improve their communities." On April 17 Dr. Wayne Allgaier and Tom Dawson, co-chairs of the Brunswick "Day To Serve" committee, presented the program to the Smoketown Rotary Club on the club's ZOOM-powered luncheon meeting. Smoketown Rotarian Phil Graves, Chair of the Brunswick Ecumenical Action Committee On Needs (BEACON) volunteered to be the Rotary Club's point person for Day To Serve. "Day to Serve" is planned for a Saturday in September (date to be determined in the coming months).



*[Above] On April 20 Temrah Okonski, President of the Ellicott City Rotary Club, along with a fellow Rotarian and Friend of Rotary, presented a \$5,130 check to Paul McElderry, Director of the Howard County Food Bank.*

Executive all deemed supporting the Howard County Food Bank a community priority during this COVID-19 time, the club kicked into action.

On April 20 Temrah Okonski, President of the Ellicott City Rotary Club, along with a fellow Rotarian and Friend of Rotary, presented a \$5,130 check to Paul McElderry, Director of the Howard County Food Bank. "We are grateful for this gift. This money will feed our families for a whole week," McElderry said.

The gift was a coordinated effort between the Club's Friend's in Need

*[Below] Members of the Smoketown Rotary Club conduct a virtual meeting.*

