



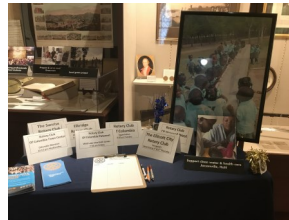
NEWS CONNECTION

ROTARY DISTRICT 7620 NEWSLETTER

CENTRAL MARYLAND AND WASHINGTON DC, USA

HOWARD COUNTY CELEBRATES WORLD POLIO DAY

Rotarians know that Polio is a crippling and potentially fatal infectious disease. Rotary has been working to eradicate polio for more than 30 years. In honor of World Polio Day the Howard 7 partnered with the Howard County Historical Society Museum to present: Polio: Yesterday's Lessons are Lessons for Today.



Temrah Okonski, the President of the Ellicott City Rotary Club spearheaded this event held on October 26. The event brought Rotarians and community members together for a lecture and fellowship time in the stately Ellicott City Historic Society Museum in downtown Ellicott City. The near eradication of Polio is because of a model cooperative effort between global health organizations that included Rotary. To date this is one of the world's largest successful health drives being a combined private and public partnership. Participants listened to Ken Solow, Past District 7620 Governor and Dare to Dream producer, explain how the work between Rotary and the World Health Organization changed the outcome of Polio. Linda Jessup a Rotarian from Silver Spring, author, and Polio survivor told her completing life story. Then retired pediatrician Dr. Williard Stanford explained why our society is still at risk for epidemic diseases. "Polio is our history and so it made sense to partner Rotary with The Howard County Historical Society", Okonski reflected.

ROTARY DISTRICT 7620 NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

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On October 17th, the Rotary clubs of Martinsburg and Shepherdstown hosted a climate youth summit. Most of the 130 student attendees were Interactors from six local high schools. Joseph Richardson, President of the Rotary Club of Southern Frederick County, was a speaker at this event.

District 7620 also has Youth events throughout 2019-2020. Visit rotary7620.org to learn more.



ROTARY CLUBS OF CARROLL CREEK & SO. FREDERICK COUNTY RAISE \$140,000 WITH ANNUAL EVENT



For much of the last two decades, Rotary Clubs in Frederick County have partnered to deliver a German-inspired festival for all ages to raise money for the Frederick Community. Despite the unseasonably warm weather, Frederick's Oktoberfest 2019 was another success for the host clubs!

The 2019 Festival was held on Saturday, September 27-28 at the Frederick Fairgrounds. Serving over 4700 brats, 170 kegs of beer, over 6000 attendees enjoyed the event. The event also included German music and dancing, a Kids' Zone, the 2nd Annual Oktoberfest Games, and a Rotary tent showcasing the work of

all six clubs in Frederick County. All of this combined to create an event that raised over \$140,000 this year. Both clubs received a portion of that money, along with local Interact clubs (who helped with parking), and other community partners.

The Rotary Clubs of Carroll Creek and Southern Frederick County work nearly year-round to produce the festival, a two-day event that requires over 400 volunteers to implement. 2019 Event Chair, Ashley Waters, shared, "This event is what Rotary is about; service above self and collaboration for community impact. I can't wait to see these funds support and aid Frederick."



LEFT: Some members of the Rotaract Club of American University spent time making baked goods for residents at the Casa Ruby LGBT Community Center in Northeast DC.

BELOW: The Rotaract Club of Howard University volunteered at the Race for Every Child hosted by Children's National Hospital in DC.



RYLA 2020 REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

Early Bird Registration for RYLA 2020 is \$360.00 per student. Early Bird registration ends on December 30. After January 1, registration for RYLA 2020 is \$410.00 per student. Registration closes on February 12.



Learn more at ryla7620.org.

SUCCESS OF A MULTI-CLUB GLOBAL GRANT PROJECT IN INDIA By Paul Mahata, Project Manager

Nine clubs of District 7620 (Mt. Airy, Bonds Meadow, Westminster, Sykesville-South Carroll, Rockville, Montgomery Village, PG County, Howard West, and South Frederick County) initiated a global grant project three years ago to provide clean drinking water and sanitation training to 17 high schools and a village in rural part of eastern India, where average daily income of a person is about \$2/day. The project is officially known as "Water and Sanitation for Purulia (WASPUR)" #GG1744166. The project is near completion with 14 schools done. Three more schools and one village will be completed by December 2019.

This is a true success story of a multi-club global grant project. The total grant value for this project is \$52,516. All nine clubs raised \$12,433 and the district matched with a DDF grant of \$12,433. The Rotary Foundation (TRF) matched with \$21,650, and we were able to secure a third-party donation of \$5,500, including a cash contribution of \$500 from the international host club (Rotary Club of Purulia). About 25,000 students and villagers will be benefitted by this project. So, the project offers clean drinking water with an investment of only \$2 per person. The nine clubs have gained extensive experience in applying for and managing a global grant project. We will be happy to share this experience with clubs who are thinking about doing a global grant project.

Paul Mahata will accompany about twelve Rotarians and their spouses to do site visits of the high schools and a village (in Purulia, Eastern India), where the global grant project has been completed. Following the site visit, the Rotarians and their spouses have an option to do some sight seeing such as: Agra's world-famous Taj Mahal, Jaipur's palaces (with a side trip to a Tiger Reserve), and finally New Delhi's Red Fort. These three cities make the "Golden Triangle" of India.

Trip duration: Jan 29 – Feb 12, 2020.

If you are interested, please contact Paul Mahata by Nov 9, at Pmahata@verizon.net ; 301-275-9730.

