

The Spoke

Rotary Club of Danbury

www.danburyrotary.org ,

District 7980

June 3, 2020

P.O. Box 788, Danbury, CT 06813

From the Editor's Desk:

UNICEF has estimated that 1,800 children, worldwide, die every day of diseases related to unclean water. Providing a village with clean water is a virtual life saving act.

Rotary has made clean water a priority internationally, and we were fortunate to hear from two dedicated Milford attorneys, Jane Holler and her husband, Dan Marecki, who recognized a pressing need in Uganda, and established Uganda Farmers, Inc to assist the poor rural farmers of Uganda. One primary goal of theirs was to provide several communities with precious clean water.

When Make-A-Wish provided 17 year old cancer survivor Danielle Burns of Toland a chance to meet Taylor Swift and Michele Obama, she chose to raise money to bring clean water to two schools in Africa—and to fulfill her wish she was flown to Uganda to present her gifts in person. Nothing could be better than that.

Jane and Dan were brought to us by Rotarian Don Thomas of the West Haven club.

Next week, on June 10th we'll have a Power-point presentation by Dr. Judy Toski Welsh. Judy is the Medical Director of the Lakewood Hospital E.R., a part of the Cleveland Clinic, who went with a group of her colleagues from the clinic to NYC to help out during the worst time of the COVID-19 crisis. Tell your friends to join us on Zoom for that meeting. It should be a unusual presentation involving a true heroic act of courage.

Ralph

Tary's Rotary Minute:

All Rotarians are always looking for new projects, and unique club activities. In 1985 Rotary District 166, in Paris France, and our District 7980 set up a two week exchange for Rotarians rather than the traditional act of exchanging students. The members from our district decided to go visit Paris in the spring and the Parisian Rotarians came to the USA in the summer. Now that sounds fun, doesn't it?

Tary

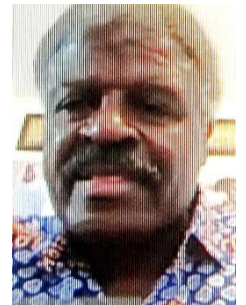


Again we had a Virtual Luncheon. Our Speakers, Jane Holler and Dan Marecki, Told their Remarkable Story of How they Brought Clean Water to the Children of Uganda:

Having visited Uganda, and watching children drinking water out of a polluted stream filled with cattle, Jane Holler was moved, in 1907, to create Uganda Farmers Inc. This NGO has now drilled 13 deep water wells, and is

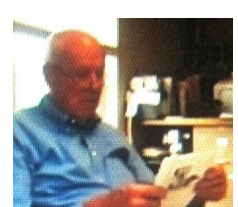
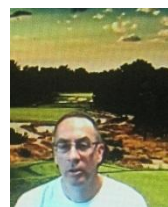


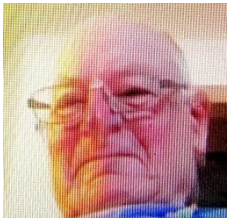
working on several more. The initial bore hole costs \$8,500, but the final cost with pumps, piping and storage facilities generally runs about \$20,000 to \$30,000—a pittance compared to the lives it saves. Danbury Rotary was invited to become investors in their work. This is an item that will come before the Board.



All of the Rotarian present are doing well. We are still planning a picnic and a Passing the Gavel program. We'll keep you all informed of the particulars.

Below: Attendees, Left to Right-- Barry Rickert, Mike Kan, Fred Kayal, Ray Kish, Frank Cahill, Jeff Kass, Ralph Welsh, and Tary Tarlton. (Page 2, Peter Maier). *Mark Havira was voice only.*





...and a good time was had by all.
Zoom Address Is: 621-257-872

Drinking Bad Water, and the Joy of Clean Water!



The Spoke Always Aims to Please:

I am proud to say we haven't missed a Spoke since January 4th 2006. Come next January, we will have either mailed, sent an e-mail, or provided a hard copy of the Spoke every week to our membership for 14 years. Is this a guarantee? As long as I am the editor, it is. I fully subscribe to the motto of the U.S. Postal Service: **"Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds."** We can add COVID- 19 in there, now.

I am also extremely proud of the District's reception to our newsletter. **For 3 years our little newsletter was judged to be the best in the District**—until they dropped the "best newsletter" award and now give out citations. Perhaps we had something to do with that decision. I hope

Rotary Club of Danbury 2019-2020

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Allison Fulton	Dr.Ralph S. Welsh
Dr. Fred Kayal	

No Spoke issues missed since 1/4/06
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Food for Thought:

- Get in the habit of putting your car keys and billfold in the same place when you're entering your home.
- Don't insist on running the life of others—especially the lives of your grown children.
- When you rush into a decision, you usually leave a lot of important facts behind.
- Respond promptly to an RSVP invitation.
- Always remember that you never get a second chance to make a good first impression.
- Be open to new ideas, especially if they come from people you normally disagree with.
- Don't use time or words carelessly. They can't be retrieved.
- Always show respect for 'all' people who work for a living.

so, but it was surely fun while it lasted. I believe the Spoke is an important 'spoke' in the wheel of our club, helping to keep it rolling even during this very difficult time. We need to keep up our club membership, and quickly add to it when things begin to open up.

Your Editor, Ralph

**SERVICE
ABOVE
SELF**

News-Times 5/31/06

NOTEWORTHY



Welsh



Lindel

■ The newsletter of the Rotary Club of Danbury received first-place honors out of 62 clubs in the district at the Rotary International District Convention in Hyannis, Mass.

Dr. **Ralph Welsh**, editor, and **Randy Lindel**, past editor of "The Spoke," were singled out for the award. "The Spoke" is e-mailed and faxed to members and is distributed at a weekly luncheon.