

# Rotary



# Club of Stuart-Sunrise

## Club Meeting

Stuart-Sunrise  
Meets at Banyan Creek  
Country Club  
1701 SW Crane Creek Ave  
Palm City, FL 34990  
Time: Thursday at 07:30  
AM

## Speakers

### April 18, 2024

[Katie Bartlett, Executive Director Molly's House](#)

Molly's House, a Hospital Hospitality House located in Stuart, has been keeping families together by providing short-term affordable accommodations for the families of hospitalized loved ones and hospital outpatients since 1996.

### April 25, 2024

[Rob Ranieri, CEO House of Hope](#)

Rob will receive the rice&beans donations collected during April and give an update on House of Hope.

### May 02, 2024

[Stuart Sunrise Scholarship Winners](#)

### May 09, 2024

[Interact Club Seniors Sash Presentation](#)

## Birthdays



Michael L.  
Costopoulos  
May 10th



Michael Donnelly  
May 18th

## Club Member Anniversaries

No Years Of Service  
Found

## Rotary News for April 18, 2024

By Susan Dawson Whittington

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

â€¢ Dream team of Scott and Carrie established themselves as our Technology Team this morningâ€¦more Carrie that Scott.

â€¢ Gene read an essay from the scholarship recipient who was awarded his scholarship last night. We will meet him in a few weeks.

â€¢ Rice and beans drive ends next Thursday. The Clark kids will be joining us with their collection and Rob Ranieri from House of Hope will be speaking as well as taking the donations back to the food pantry.

â€¢ No meeting May 16, 2024 â€” Banyan Creek Clubhouse is closed that day.

â€¢ Thanks to John Fedorek for organizing a successful road cleanup last Saturday.

â€¢ Nils gave an update on our District giving:

Annual Fund Total \$168,369.29  
Annual Fund Per Capita \$122.36  
PolioPlus (not included in DDF) \$28,527.00  
Other (grants) \$29,435.00  
TOTAL TO DATE \$249,809.14

### TOP 3 PER CAPITA ANNUAL FUNDS CLUB:

â€¢ Eau Gallie \$398.30  
â€¢ Rockledge \$342.15  
â€¢ Cocoa Beach \$264.81

Happy/sad dollars were collected without incident.

The winner of the 50/50 was JD, who was invited to go with Charles to buy lottery tickets after the meeting.

Next meeting: Thursday, April 25, 7:30 a.m. SHARP

Speaker: Rob Ranieri, CEO, House of Hope

## Molly's House

By Susan Dawson Whittington

Our speaker today was Katie Bartlett, executive director of Molly's House.

Molly Sharkey was twelve years old when she was diagnosed with a rare type of leukemia. She and her family traveled the country to find treatments. In some places they were lucky to find a Ronald McDonald House, and in others there was nowhere convenient for the family to stay.

This experience prompted Molly's dream of building a house in her hometown that would be available to any family who had a loved one being treated for critical care at area hospitals. Molly passed away in May of 1992 at the age of 18 and left behind her journal filled with detailed ideas for Molly's House – down to the window seat in the library.

After her death, family and friends raised the funds to build Molly's House, and many businesses donated time and materials. Molly's House was truly a community-built project. The grand opening was held on September 21, 1996, to celebrate what would have been Molly's 23rd Birthday. Molly's House is funded through private donations, special events, some small grants and fees paid by families.

There are no age restrictions or specific diagnoses required for people to stay at Molly's House, which has 14 bedrooms, all decorated by a local designer and all with en-suite bathrooms, at a cost of \$40 per day. That fee can be negotiated or waived due to financial circumstances of the family. The house is located across the street from Cleveland Clinic North. Families have to be referred by someone in the medical field, not just physicians. Their average occupancy rate is 70%.

There are two large kitchens in Molly's House, and they have a Chef for a Day programs where local residents and clubs can come in and cook dinner for the residents. These facilities also afford families the ability to buy groceries and cook their own meals for cost-savings as well as to allow them a family mealtime experience. (Editor's Note: there are several people in our club interested in doing this.)

Katie told two stories about people recently utilizing Molly's House:

One family has a 19-year-old son who was diagnosed with cancer. The family owns a lawn care business, had one vehicle, and lives about 90 minutes from any treatment facility. The family was choosing between continuing to work OR getting treatment for their son until they found Molly's House. They were able to keep the business going while someone was able to stay at Molly's House with the son to receive daily chemo treatments.

Another recent client was found sleeping in her car because she needed to be near her husband, couldn't afford a hotel and wasn't in a position to make the 80 mile round trip daily, nor could she get to the hospital quickly if she went back home. A security guard at the hospital told her about Molly's House, and she was able to check in, get some sleep, shower and still be near the hospital.

More information can be found at their website: [www.mollyshouse.org](http://www.mollyshouse.org)



## Road Clean Up



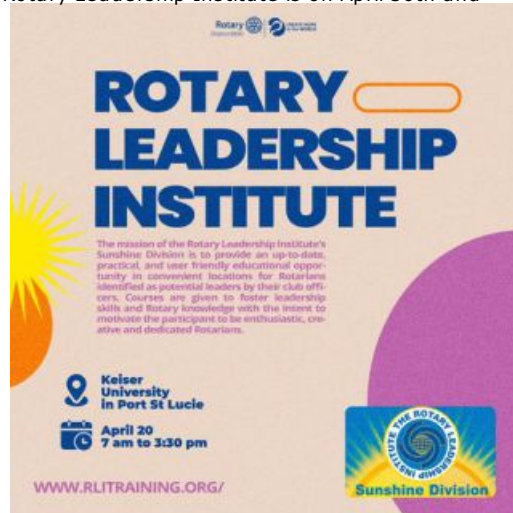
A beautiful morning for a road clean up!

## District News



**RLI:**

Rotary Leadership Institute is on April 30th and



registration is available on DACdb. Questions? Contact Eric Gordon, Rotary Leadership Institute Director District 6930 561-308-9305 [emgordon11@gmail.com](mailto:emgordon11@gmail.com)

**Family Day at the Ballpark:**

On March 24, Rotarians from District 6930 enjoyed an

afternoon of baseball fun watching a pre-season game between the Mets and the Marlins.

Our own District Governor threw out the first pitch of the game!



**District Conference - June 6 - 9**

Registration is now available on



DACdb for the District Conference. This is a wonderful way to meet and socialize with Rotarians from up and down the district.

Remember - the DACdb registration is for conference only - you will need to reserve your room at the Marriott separately.





## Foundation News

# The Rotary Foundation



### DISTRICT GRANTS

By Sandie Yeater, District Grants Chair  
[Sanyeater@gmail.com](mailto:Sanyeater@gmail.com)

This is a busy time of year for the District grant committee. Clubs are finalizing their 2023-24 District grants and working on submissions for the 2024-2025 grant year. This year \$55,000 is being distributed to 25 clubs. With the 2024-25 grant submission deadline of May 31, clubs have a chance to access \$64,000. Has your Club decided what they will apply for? Every Club can be eligible to apply for a grant and direct money that their members have previously contributed to Rotary. How great is that!

This grant year saw a wide variety of grants from support for dictionaries to third graders to holiday meal and food bank support. Other reoccurring grants include support for RYLA, Interact Clubs, Josh the Otter swim lesson scholarships and high school scholarships. Did you know that there are also Constitution Books for 6<sup>th</sup> grade students? And Brain Game booklets for new parents. Other grants this year included iPad for the Ernie Els Autism Center, fishing poles for a kids' fishing clinic, trees for Senegal, support for teen after school programs, a new boxing ring for a boxing club, and funding to build a house in the Dominican Republic.

What project should your Club apply for to use its grant allocation? What are your community's needs? Rotary encourages Clubs to perform a community assessment. Are your Club's members interested in advancing adult literacy? Are there a lot of migrants in your community, or is preserving the environment important to your Club members? Is your Club interested in participating in an international project? Any project that fits Rotary's areas of focus can be eligible.

Dates to remember:

- Completion of the current grant final reports MUST be done by **April 30**.
- New submissions for the 2024-25 grant cycle are due **NO LATER than May 31**, with no exceptions.
- Clubs who have not received approval of their current grant final report **WILL NOT** be considered for the 2024-2025 grant cycle.

Need help with the application in DACdb? A Zoom tutorial on applying for a grant will be held on **April 18** at 5:30 pm. Look for upcoming notices with the Zoom link.

Here's the [LINK](#) for the Zoom session on Closing Out your District Grant.

If anyone is interested - here's the [LINK](#) for the video of the District 6930 Rotary Luncheon with Rotary International President Gordon McInally.

### Polio Paul

From Facebook

A giant has fallen! Yes, to me he was a gentle giant. Paul Alexander, widely known as "Polio Paul", was only six years when he contracted the polio viral disease in the summer of 1952 which left him paralyzed from the neck down. The disease left him unable to breathe independently, leading doctors to place him in the metal cylinder, where he would spend the rest of his life. The lung, which he called his "old iron horse", allowed him to breathe. The way the iron lung works is by sucking air out of the cylinder, forcing his lungs to expand and take in air. When the air was let back in,



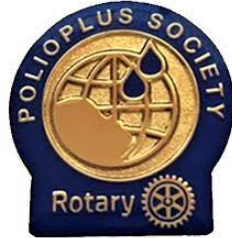
the same process in reverse made his lungs deflate.

He would go on to earn a law degree and practice law. He painted and, in 2020, he published a memoir which reportedly took him eight years to write using a plastic stick to type on a keyboard and dictating to a friend.

Alexander was declared the longest surviving iron lung patient last March by the Guinness World Records. He lived in the Iron Lung for 72 years. He died on March 11 at the age of 78.



#### **PolioPlus Society members:**



As our District Governor has traveled along the district visiting clubs, he has been promoting the PolioPlus Society. Many of you have stepped forward and said you would pledge to support this - which raises money for PolioPlus and the worldwide eradication of Polio. Did you know that as of this writing there are only THREE cases of wild-polio in the world? Two in Pakistan and one in Afghanistan.

We need to continue our vigilance and support. If you are not yet a PolioPlus Society member consider joining. It's just \$100/year pledge until Polio is eradicated. And remember all Rotary donations are met 2 for 1 by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Have you made your pledge and wonder what to do next?

There are two ways to make the donation. One person can collect \$100 checks from members and fill out a Donation Form (see attached) for each person. And then the batch of forms and checks can be mailed to RI in one envelope. The donor form is [HERE](#).

Or if the person wants to do it individually - they would:

Go to [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) and sign into My Rotary. Once you are logged in click the blue DONATE button at the top right of the page. Once the new page loads, click on PolioPlus Fund and scroll down to complete the information. You'll be clicking on the recurring donation button and deciding on how much and how often and filling in your payment method. Your name and contact information should automatically populate. That's it!! Rotary takes over from there and will give you notices of your donations as they are made.

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