



**CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD**

Speakers

May 02, 2024

[Tim Rogers](#)

Rotary-Funded
Expansion of Grace
Clinic & Pharmacy

May 09, 2024

[Julia Tapia-Ruano](#)

Who is Today's
DAR?

May 16, 2024

[Mitch Glaeser](#)

All Things City of
Alachua

Events

May 18th

[Firefighter
Appreciation
Picnic](#)

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Meeting](#)

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Please enjoy this edition of the Sunrise Rotary Club newsletter. Sunrise Rotary is an active club of about 70 members who take pride in our community. Through our service projects and fellowship, we are changing lives and making a positive difference. If you would like to subscribe a friend to our newsletter, please send their [email to Dorothy Zimmerman](#) and we will add their name.

This Week: How the Wild Game Feast Helps Expand Our Community's 'Pharmacy w/o a Cash Register'



In our community, everyone should be able to take care of their health and find the medical attention they need. One of our charter members, Tim Rogers, embodies this principle through his tireless efforts to make healthcare accessible to all. Tim's vision became a reality with the establishment of the Grace Clinic & Pharmacy several years ago. This week, Tim joins us to share the latest expansion of this vital resource, made possible by the generous proceeds of the Wild Game Feast.

The Grace Pharmacy, affectionately known as 'the pharmacy without a cash register,' gives hope to those who may not have access to essential healthcare services. Tim's dedication to removing these obstacles has transformed the lives of countless individuals in our community. Through the Grace Pharmacy, people have access to pharmaceutical products and nutritional supplements without the burden of financial constraints.

Tim will tell us how the pharmacy has forged partnerships with other entities to ensure comprehensive support for those in need. Join our meeting this week and learn what difference the vision, perseverance, and dedication from one individual can make to others.

Let's Keep BarBee Geiger in Our Prayers as She Copes with Chuck's Death



Happier times: Clark Hodge and new Sunrise Rotarian Chuck Geiger in May 2018.

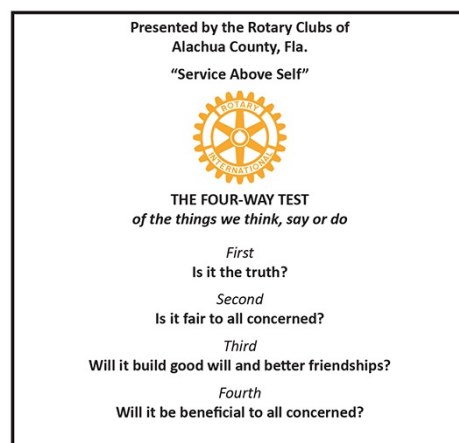
Our Sunrise Rotary family mourns the sudden passing of Chuck Geiger, a cherished member and friend. Chuck joined our club in 2018, recruited by another club legend, Clark Hodge, and he and his lovely wife, BarBee, quickly became stalwarts on both the service and social sides of Sunrise Rotary.

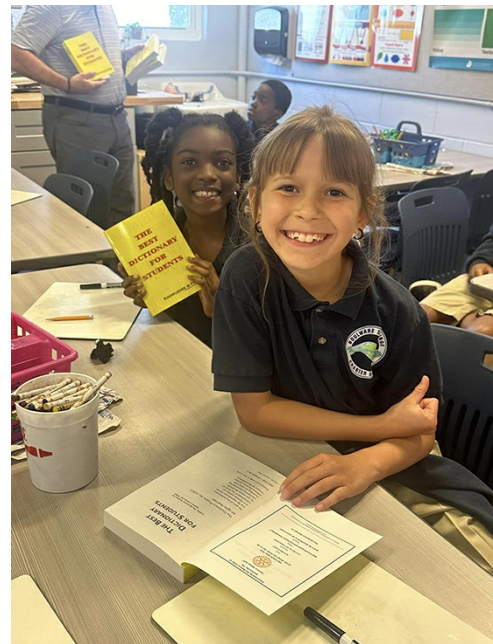
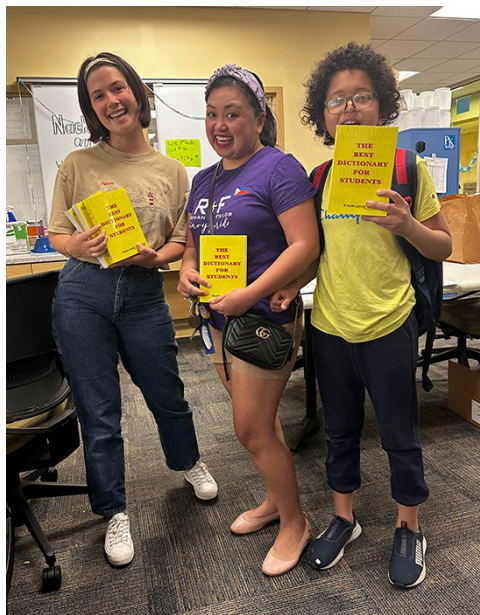
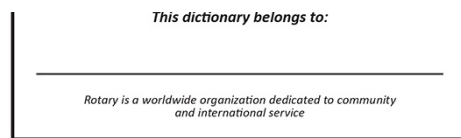
With Chuck's passing, our Rotary family must unite in support of BarBee as she navigates this difficult time. At this week's meeting, perhaps we can reflect on ways to honor Chuck's memory and offer our unwavering support to BarBee during this challenging period of adjustment.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Chuck's memory to The First Presbyterian Church, 106 SW Third Street, Gainesville, FL 32601, or to The Veteran Memorial Committee, 4631 NW 53rd Ave, Ste 101, Gainesville, FL 32653.

The Memorial Service will be held at First Presbyterian this Friday, May 3, at 2:00 p.m.

More than 2300 Dictionaries Were Distributed Last Week





Thanks so much to the Rotarians from across Alachua County who answered the call last week to prepare and distribute dictionaries to more than 2300 3rd graders in our public schools.

The effort was part of the annual Dictionary Project, a national initiative founded in 1995 that has to date distributed more than 35 million dictionaries to children in the US and internationally.

We've included a few photos from the labeling party held at the Ronald McDonald House, and then a couple more from Rotarians who dropped off the books to the classrooms. Rotarians from every one of our clubs participated, and distributed books in three days!

Educators see third grade as the dividing line between learning to read and reading to learn, so everyone should take pride in a program that helps students become good writers, active readers, creative thinkers, and resourceful learners. The dictionaries and labels were purchased with funds from our local Rotary Foundation -- another reason to support the Wild Game Feast!

Don Matz of Orange Insurance Exchange: Navigating Florida's Volatile Insurance Landscape



Thank you to Don Matz, the CEO of the newly formed Orange Insurance Exchange, who spoke to our club last week about factors driving the rising cost of property insurance in Florida, and what his company is doing about it.

The good news, Matz said, is that Florida's good building codes and recent changes by the Florida legislature are helping rates level off, at least in the residential market. In fact, some insurers who left the state are starting to come back, which is good news for beleaguered homeowners paying sky-high premiums.

The not-so-good news is that insurance rates for retail commercial property, which doesn't enjoy state subsidies, are still through the roof (no pun intended). And rates for both commercial and residential properties most like won't ever return to the rates Floridians paid even five years ago.

Thinking back on some of the sobering news that Mr. Matz shared, let's hope we see more industry experts like him who lead businesses that can respond to Florida's volatile insurance landscape, providing viable solutions for homeowners and businesses alike.

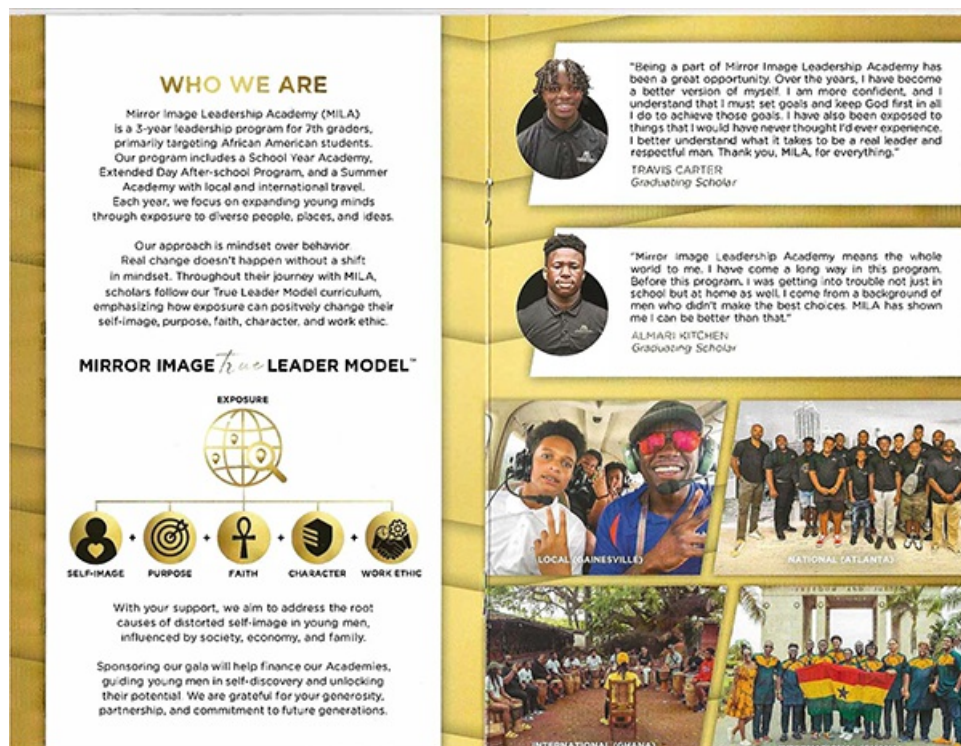
Someone is Working Hard to Help the Hilton Up Its Game



Savoring the perfect morning at Sunrise Rotary: toasted bagel with all the trimmings and fresh fruit. We are so appreciative for the culinary delights curated by the dedicated Sunrise Rotarians who are working with the Hilton to up its breakfast game. Thank you for ensuring such delicious options are now becoming available at our meetings!

Seeking Donations for Mirror Image Gala Silent Auction

By Rick E. Medina



Dear Fellow Sunrise Rotarians:

I have offered to help organize the silent auctions for the inaugural Mirror Image Leadership Academy Gala fundraiser which is taking place on May 16, 2024.

I am looking for the following:

- 3 table sponsors at \$250
- gift certificates for dining at local restaurants.
- small art, pottery, or glass pieces.
- services gift certificates such as at hair/barber/nail salons and spas.

I am grouping the donations with the goal to have 20 themed auction items.

Thanks for any assistance you can provide. To learn more about Mirror Image, click the image above to see a larger version.

Rick

Email: [Rick Medina](mailto:Rick.Medina@sunrise-rotary.org)

Cell: 352-538-1441

Want to Help Out This Worthwhile Community Nonprofit?



Want to get involved with a worthwhile community nonprofit that makes a difference in the lives of children and families in our community?

The Children's Trust invites you to become a Volunteer Community Reviewer for their competitive proposal solicitations aimed at supporting vital programs.

What does it mean to be a Volunteer Community Reviewer? It involves collaborating with Trust staff to evaluate applications submitted for funding, ensuring that the chosen programs make a meaningful impact. As a reviewer, you play a crucial role in shaping the future of our community by leveraging your knowledge and commitment to enhance the lives of those served.

The Trust encourages active community members with a passion for improving the community to consider this valuable opportunity. Your participation will contribute to the selection of programs that address the specific needs of our community, fostering positive change for generations to come.

[Visit this link to learn more.](#)

Firefighter Picnic

By David Ferro



Just a reminder that we are hosting the Firefighter Appreciation Picnic on May 18 beginning at 11 am. The confirmed location will be announced at the meeting this week.

We will be "passing the hat" to take collections to help with the cost this Thursday and next Thursday. We are also looking for volunteers for set up, serving, and clean up. I'll pass the clipboard around again this Thursday.

Lastly, we are looking for the following items to help make the event special:

- Big cooler x 4
 - Cornhole x2
 - Frisbee
 - Football
 - Soccer ball.
 - Lawn Darts (just kidding)
-

Another Rotary Volunteer Opportunity: Youth Leadership Event in June

You are cordially invited to volunteer at this year's Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), which will be held on June 21, 22, and 23 at Stetson University.

As you may know, RYLA is a premier leadership conference designed to foster youth development and is a key initiative under the Rotary International banner. This year, we anticipate welcoming 100-125 high school students who have completed their freshman or sophomore years.

These students, selected by Rotary Clubs within District 6970, will participate in a series of leadership workshops, activities, and lectures at no cost, thanks to the support of our clubs. As Rotarians, we have the privilege of shaping these young leaders by sharing our experiences and skills.

We are seeking volunteers for various roles throughout the weekend, from overseeing activities to facilitating sessions. Whether you can spare a few hours or can commit to the entire weekend, your involvement would be invaluable. For those able to stay for the full event, accommodations will be provided at Stetson University. We would welcome any and all involvement.

Volunteering at RYLA not only supports our youth but also strengthens our Rotary community. It's an excellent opportunity to engage with fellow Rotarians and make a positive impact on the lives of young people. Please consider donating your time to this worthy cause.

If you are interested in volunteering, please visit this link : <https://www.rotarydistrict6970.org/ryla/volunteers/> or reply to this email with any questions. We are grateful for any time you can offer.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to help nurture the next generation of leaders. Together, we can make a significant impact.

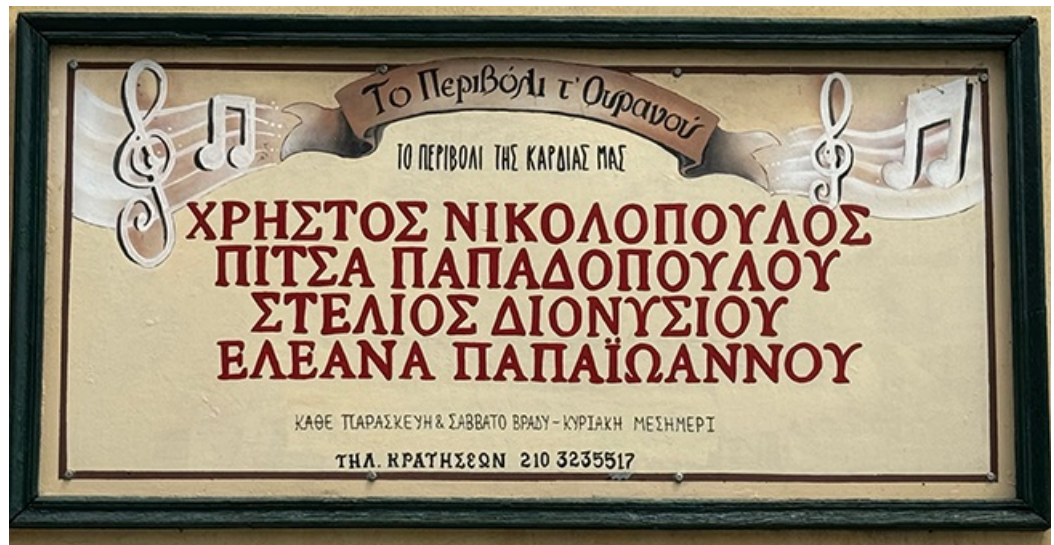
Transition Dinner: Mark Your Calendar



Out with the Old; In With the New! Mark your calendars for June 20, 2024, for the Sunrise Rotary Club Transition dinner. The location will be Embers Wood Grill. Details will be provided later.

Quote of the Week

By James Cato



"It's all Greek to me."

--Jim Cato

Join Us

Gainesville Sunrise
Meets at Hilton University of Florida Conference Center Gainesville
1714 SW 34th Street
Gainesville, FL 32607
Time: Thursday at 07:00 AM



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