



Rotary Roundup

The Sykesville-South Carroll Rotary Club, Sykesville, MD
<http://www.rotary7620.org/>

Club Leaders



Cynthia A. Pehl
President



Nancy L. Parker
Secretary



Lewis W. Wimmer
Attendance Secretary



Robert J. Nickel
Treasurer



Ellen E. Baker
Bulletin Editor



David P. O'Callaghan
Past President
iPast President



Amy L. Giannakoulis
CCO-Club Comm.
Officer



Dawn M. Wittfelt
Club Membership
Chair



Charles L. Reese
Rotary Foundation
Chair



Mary Jo Burkett
Area Governor

Rotary Roundup for February, 2023

**Deepest sympathy is expressed to Todd Brown
on the passing of his sister, Anita,
on January 20, 2023.**

Dates to Remember

February 7 – Regular Meeting - Stratosphere (8 a.m.)

February 14 – No Regular Meeting Happy Valentine's Day

February 15 – Social- Place to be determined.

February 21 – Regular Meeting - Stratosphere (8 a.m.)

February 28 – No Regular Meeting

March 16 – Service Project :Help Tony with a meal at Grace Lutheran Church

Service Opportunities

Continue to support the Pop-Up Food Pantry with a donation or send a check to the Sykesville Freedom Rotary Foundation and say it is for the Sykesville Pop-up Food Pantry. The pantry is desperately short of supplies, such as canned fruits and vegetables, cereal, pasta, and sauce. Money is always needed. The pantry operates the second and fourth Saturdays each month and help is always appreciated.

Please continue to contribute to the district-wide service project to support Ukraine by contributing to Disaster Aid USA or to the Rotary Foundation's official channel for relief funds: The Disaster Relief Fund.

Meeting Notes

January 3, 2023

The following announcements were made:

- . An additional report was given on Jeremy Wittfelt's accident and more good wishes were expressed for his recovery.
- . Karen's service is today; many members went to the viewings. Bob thanked the Club for the flowers.
- . Help is needed for the January 19th service project which is to help Tony serve a meal at Grace Lutheran Church in Westminster. That will also be the March 16th service project.
- . Virginia updated members by describing the Christmas celebration at the Boys and Girls Club and mentioned that the Springfield gifts project went well. 260 cards were sent to Springfield where there are more than 300 patients, down from the 3,000 they once had.
- . It was reported that Nancy is doing well, but no update was available on Larry.
- . Bill Hudson was congratulated on his 62nd wedding anniversary.
- . There will be a Foundation Meeting on January 10, but no Board meeting in January.
- . The Food Pantry is open January 14th and 28th.
- . There will be a Social at Amante's Pizza and Pasta at 5:30 January 11.
- . On January 19th there will be a Service project at Grace Lutheran Church in Westminster located on Carroll Street across from the Shepherd's Staff at which time food supplied by Tony will be served by volunteers among them members of this Club.
- . Dave announced that the Super Bowl Pool will be up soon. He also reported that Caroline Babylon, Carroll County Food Sunday's Executive Director, wants to coordinate resources for county food distribution and plans to hold a meeting in February to do so.
- . Cindy needs speakers.
- . Andre mentioned the availability of his car washing venue to hold fundraisers and split the profit between

Presidential Logo
2022-2023



**IMAGINE
ROTARY**

him and the Club.

- . Cindy recommended that we should read the book *The Other Wes Moore* written by the new Governor of Maryland.

Twelve members were present to enjoy a bountiful fruit display accompanying a delicious breakfast. After closing exercises, the meeting adjourned.

January 11, 2023

A successful Social was held at Amante's with 15 members and guests present. Members welcomed back Nancy and Bob.



January 17, 2023

The following announcements were made:

- . 75 bags of food were distributed on Saturday at the Pop-Up Pantry. Four new families came in addition to the regular visitors. Last week, over \$1,000 was spent in one day to purchase food. Food prices have increased, and money is needed to continue to operate the pantry. Donations can be sent to the Foundation and are greatly needed and appreciated.
- . The Football Pool is now open, and the goal is to fill two books this year.
- . Thursday is the January service project at Grace Lutheran where 45-60 people are expected to be served a dinner provided by Tony.

Dennis Boyle from Mackenzie Commercial Real Estate Services returned as the featured speaker and presented and updated an overview of the market: office, retail, industrial, and wholesale. He began by discussing the vacancy rates and said the office segment has been hit the hardest. Overall, the vacancy rate is 11.5%.

Baltimore City has an 18% vacancy rate, however Carroll County is doing better with a 6.2%. The State is bringing some of its offices to Baltimore, for the Central Business District has a 21% vacancy rate. Retail has come back strong. There is a 6.3% vacancy rate in Baltimore, but only a 2% rate in Carroll County. In Industrial, the rate is 8.9% in Carroll County and overall, 7.4%. For Warehouses, the overall rate is 5.4% while Carroll County's rate is 4.8%. The BWI corridor is expensive, so people are coming to Carroll County. He listed the following factors that are affecting the market: the high interest rate, the shortage

of goods, and the lack of workers coming to the office. 2022 was the busiest year yet for commercial real estate. Supply chain issues are still a problem. The fiber glass that used to come from China is not coming and computer chips and solid wooden doors are hard to get. Black Oak's planned hotel across from Stratosphere is not coming. In its place, Northeast Plumbing Supply is coming. Near Liberty Exchange, St. John's Properties will build two flex buildings on either side of the storage units that are there. Ryan is building 55 units for a 55 plus community on Klee Mill Road. Warfield continues to battle with the town of Sykesville, and they are 20 million dollars in the hole. The County's first adult day care has been built at the Princess Shopping Center. Goodwill is moving near Liberatore's as well as the Orthopedic Association of Maryland. Black Oak's Eldersburg Commons is doing well. There will be a car wash past Eldersburg Commons. Harvest Inn has been sold and will no longer be a restaurant. Carroll County is the #1 county for people going elsewhere to work. Dennis is renting one-room offices for people who want to work remotely. Builders are now building more rental units because the next generation does not want to buy homes. After answering a few questions and closing exercises, the meeting adjourned.

