



Dear Rotary Friends,

This month, Rotary shines a light on Peace and Conflict Resolution—a theme that feels especially meaningful in today’s world. Peace isn’t just the absence of conflict; it’s the presence of understanding, compassion, and a willingness to listen before reacting.

At its heart, peace begins with kindness. Kindness matters—in our words, our actions, and the way we show up for one another. Small gestures of empathy can soften hard moments, build bridges, and remind others that they are seen and valued.

Peace also asks us to do good things, even when it’s not easy. Choosing patience over anger. Curiosity over judgment. Service over silence. Every time we step forward with good intentions, we contribute to a culture where conflict can turn into connection.

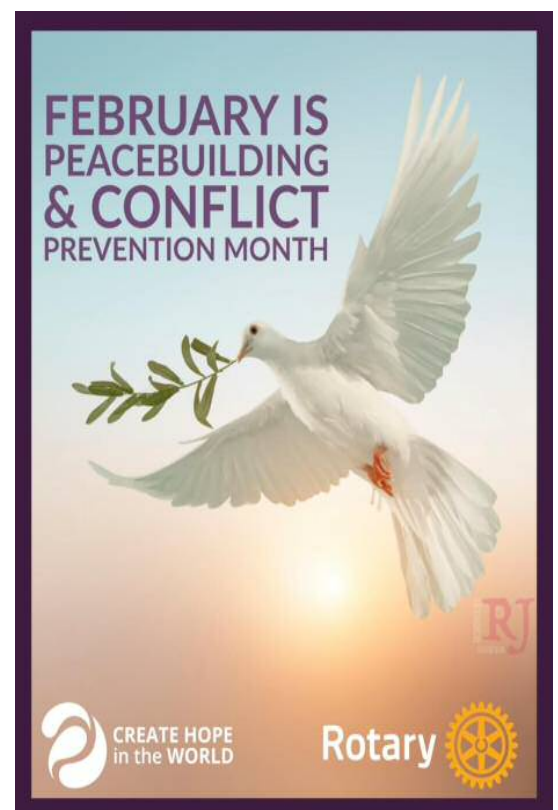
And, as Rotarians, we know this to be true: you get what you give. When we give understanding, we receive trust. When we give grace, we often find healing. Our commitment to service—locally and globally—plants seeds of peace that grow far beyond what we may ever see.

Rotary’s mission reminds us that lasting peace is built through relationships, service, and shared humanity. This month, may we each look for opportunities—big or small—to lead with kindness, do good where we can, and give the very best of ourselves.

Because when we do, we don’t just resolve conflict—we create peace.

Thank you to each of you for your commitment to peace and understanding for our communities, and the wonderful people who are part of those communities.

Andrea Brady, Rotarian  
2025-2026 District Governor  
District 6080  
Rotary Club of Springfield Sunrise



Send your news items and photos to District Secretary Mary Ann Beahon at [beahon.rotary@gmail.com](mailto:beahon.rotary@gmail.com)

# Rotary Clubs Provide Community Service in New Year

**Jefferson City Evening Rotary** prepares and donates birthday boxes each quarter for the children CASA serves so that every child feels celebrated and remembered on their special day. The birthday boxes come complete with cake mix, icing, candles, and a card—everything needed to make their day extra special.



## Jefferson City Evening Rotarians

Nick Rackers and D'Arcy Crane brought and served breakfast at Jefferson City Room at the Inn. Evening Rotarians have been helping serve meals at JCRATI for several years now.

## Springfield

**Sunrise Rotary** met off site for breakfast at Showmechuy and heard from Erica Harris about the Child Advocacy Center, Inc. Rotarians worked together making blankets that the kids that come to the CAC will cherish forever.



**Harrisonville Rotary** and their Classroom Partner, Mrs. Jimenez's 4th grade students at McEowen Elementary School, made bird feeders (wooden with peanut butter) Jan. 9.

**Harrisonville Rotary** also participated in High Five Friday Jan.

16 at Harrisonville Elementary School, greeting K-2 students with High Fives as they entered the building in the morning and helping the Wildcats start their day off right.



## William Woods University Rotaract

sponsored a university-wide service project called Hearts Around the World. WWU students were invited to share where they were from by creating

a valentine for a preschool student. More than 100 Valentines are headed to Mrs. Crawford's Pre-K class in California, Missouri, spreading love while supporting a fun Geography and English/Language Arts lesson.





**The Rotary Club of Springfield North** held its weekly meeting at the Rare Breed facility in Springfield. Rare Breed provides an opportunity for homeless teenagers and young adults to hang out during the day, along with two meals each day during the week. It also maintains a clothing and food bank where these folks can help themselves for items they need for their personal use. There's also a place where they can wash their clothes and take showers, if needed.

Rotary North members collected socks, underwear and T-shirts, which they presented to Rare Breed staff during the visit. Members were also given a tour of the building to learn more about the work Rare Breed staff does.

**The Rotary Club of Columbia** partnered with the American Red Cross to host a community blood drive on Dec. 18, helping support the ongoing need for lifesaving blood donations. The drive collected 23 units of blood from 22 donors, making a meaningful impact on local hospitals and patients in need. Notably, 27 percent of the donors were first-time blood donors, highlighting the event's success in engaging new members of the community in blood donation.



## Registration Now Open for 2026 Missouri RYLA

Would your Rotary club like to make a positive impact on the lives of high school students in your community? You can do just that by sponsoring local high school students to attend the Missouri Rotary Youth Leadership Awards Academy (MO RYLA). Registration is now open! **Register your selected students at <https://www.IsMyRotaryClub.org/App/?ID=368> (follow the link or copy and paste the url in your browser).**

The Missouri RYLA Academy (MO RYLA) is a four-day/three-night service leadership academy that introduces Rotary's "Service Above Self" philosophy to students entering grades 10, 11 or 12 in the fall. The curriculum, developed and administered by professional educators, includes a personality self-assessment, team-building activities, and a two-day service project simulation. Our program is recognized by Rotary International as one of the model RYLA programs in the world. It was the only break-out session about RYLA at the 2019 RI Convention in Hamburg, Germany.

MO RYLA has been going strong for over 30 years. In the last three decades, over 2,000 students statewide have participated. Missouri Rotary Districts 6040, 6060, and 6080 partner to administer this premier academy. The staff is composed of professional high school guidance counselors, educators and outstanding Rotarians from around the state.

There are two sessions of MO RYLA: June 28-July 1 and July 12-15. The program runs Sunday through Wednesday and is held in Warrensburg, on the campus of the University of Central Missouri.

There is no cap or limit on the number of participants a club can send. Students are allowed to select their preferred academy session date, with each session maxed at 100 participants.

The program is designed for rising high school sophomores, juniors and seniors. We do not accept incoming freshmen or those who will be high school graduates (fall 2026). There is no GPA requirement, and family members of Rotarians, such as children or grandchildren, are eligible to attend.

Due to the success of the academy, spaces fill quickly. We strongly recommend that you do not delay selecting and registering students. Many families make their summer plans months in advance and we find that is the number one reason why students have to decline the opportunity to participate.

The most common question from clubs is "How do clubs find and select students to attend?" Many clubs work with their local high school guidance counselors to find the right kind of students. What does that mean? Here is a list of helpful selection tips: <http://www.missouriryla.com/helpful-selection-tips>

Bottom line, we are looking for students who have a heart for service.

**The registration fee is \$600 per student that will be billed to the club on or about April 1.**

It is important to take note of the following deadlines:

Jan. 1: Sign up/registration for both sessions opened

April 30: Sign up/registration for both sessions closes

May 20: Last day for club refund of \$575 if the student withdraws. No refunds after May, 20.

Jan. 1 - May 20: If your club has a student withdraw before May 20 and does NOT want a refund, you can sign up a replacement with either gender

May 21 - June 5, 2026: If your club has a student withdraw after May 20, you can sign up a replacement, but it may have to be with a student of the same gender.

For further valuable program information, video and tips, check out [www.missouriryla.com](http://www.missouriryla.com).

In August 2023, MO RYLA was the feature article in the Rotary International magazine. Check it out! [Rotary International Magazine 2023 MO RYLA Article](#). There's also an article written by a former RYLarian that really shows the impact this Academy makes on participants.

After Rotary clubs have registered and paid for their selected students, I will work with your club, students and their families directly to finish their registration process.

Please feel free to check back to the website from time to time to see our updates and learn more about this internationally acclaimed Rotary International youth program.

I look forward to working with you, your club, and the student(s) you sponsor.

If your club would like to book a presentation from me and/or one of our wonderful RYLA board members, please shoot me an email.

Have a GREAT 2026!

Miki McKee Koelsch, Executive Director

[missouriryla@gmail.com](mailto:missouriryla@gmail.com)

314.422.7894

# Other News from Various Rotary Clubs in District 6080

## Fundraising

**Jefferson City Evening Rotary** will hold an Uno Tournament Feb. 21 at Grace Episcopal Church, 217 Adams St, Jefferson City. Fun for the whole family. There will be only ONE winner. Get your group together for a night of fun benefiting Evening Rotary's youth projects. \$15 per person. Chili and chili dog supper and includes one "Really Wild" Uno card. Additional "Really Wild" UNO cards available for purchase. Doors and dinner open at 6 p.m., tournament starts at 7 p.m. Space is limited, Message to reserve your spot.



**Lake Ozark Daybreak Rotary's** 30th Annual Daybreak Rotary Gala is March 28 at Lodge of Four Seasons, starting at 5:30 p.m. This year's theme is Luck of the Lake. Join us for an unforgettable evening celebrating 30 years of community, friendship and giving back. Enjoy dinner, entertainment and exciting auctions — all while supporting great local causes. Questions? Contact Jennifer at 573-480-6012 or Brad at 573-256-5922.

**Laurie-Sunrise Beach** raised funds by volunteering for the 2025 Lake Of The Ozarks Shootout. *Left to right:*

*Rickie Smith, Shana Aubuschon, Leah Martin and Gerry Phillips.*



## Donations



*Rotarian Grace Schnieders*

**Jefferson City West Rotary** adopted a local Boys & Girls Club family, helping make the holidays a little brighter and a little warmer. Thanks to the generosity of their members, they were able to provide gifts and support that they hope brought joy, comfort and a reminder that the community cares deeply.

A special thank you to Miracles 4 Margaret Foundation for donating the beautiful blankets included with the gifts. Their kindness added an extra layer of warmth—both literally and figuratively—to this effort. Moments like this are what Rotary is all

about: coming together to serve, support, and uplift our neighbors, especially during the holiday season.

## On the Road

**Fulton Rotary** toured the Dollar General Distribution Center Jan. 28, giving members a better understanding of what happens in their 27 acres of indoor space. Rotarians Collin Clement and Tim Stewman served as tour guides.



*Collin Clement*

# ***Annual Metro Rotary Trivia Night***

**Presenting Sponsor: TL Properties, LLC**

5:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 6, 2026

**Fundraiser benefits the Child Advocacy Center  
and other Metro Rotary charities!**

A \$40 single ticket or \$300 table of 8 includes:

- dinner buffet catered by Big Daddy's BBQ
- beer, soft drinks, set-up
- Most importantly - Trivia!
- 50/50 Raffle
- Tickets are available and from any Metro Rotarian, or
- register: <https://columbiametrorotary.org/trivia-night/>
- email Shane Winter: [swinter@midamerica.net](mailto:swinter@midamerica.net)

**Doors open at 5:30; Dinner at 5:45; Trivia at 6:30 p.m.**

Knights of Columbus Hall, 2525 N. Stadium Blvd., Columbia, MO 65203



# Sharpen Your Skills With Rotary Public Image Toolbox

**Thanks to the Public Image Team in Zones 33 /34 for this helpful information.**

## **Use the Rotary Brand wisely**

Maximize the impact of your Rotary endeavors by leveraging the Rotary Brand wisely. Visit the [Rotary Brand Center](#) for access to club logo creation, images, and short videos to effectively promote your club. No login required – it's all at your fingertips!

Never visited the Rotary Brand Center? [Watch this Video](#) and learn how to best navigate this tool. Following are a few very helpful links:

- [Create your Club Logo](#)
- [Do's and don'ts when using the Rotary Brand](#)
- [Brand Elements \(colors, typography, use of the Rotary name and more\)](#)
- [Images, videos and audio](#)
- [Easy customizable templates to promote your club, project or program](#)

## **More Branding Resources & Guidelines**

Explore additional branding resources, guidelines, and downloadable sample plans that can be incredibly useful. Simply click on any of the following links to delve deeper into these valuable resources.

- [ROTARY'S STORY – Voice & Visual Identity Guidelines Brand Guide](#) (.pdf)
- [Rotary's Areas of Focus – Visual Guidelines](#) (.pdf)
- [PEOPLE OF ACTION – Campaign Guidelines](#) (.pdf)
- [Why your CLUB'S PUBLIC IMAGE matters](#) (.pdf)
- [Sample photo release form](#)
- [Rotary International Licensed Vendors](#)
- [One-Time Trademark Release Authorization for producing promotional materials with the Rotary logo](#)

## **Videos for Elevating Brand & Public Image**

Discover a collection of informative short videos crafted to address various topics ranging from Brand Consistency to Elevating Your Club's Public Image, and mastering the art of creating captivating photos and videos, among others. Explore the link to empower your Rotary Club today.

- [Support Rotary's Action Plan](#)
- [Why Your Club's Public Image Matters](#)
- [Branding Consistency Is Key](#)
- [Your Public Image Campaign](#)
- [Effective Storytelling](#)
- [Compelling Photos and Videos](#)
- [Optimizing Online Presence](#)
- [Promote Your Event](#)
- [World Polio Day](#)
- [Working With Media Outlets](#)
- [Interviewing With The Media](#)