



Dear Rotary Family,

As we enter October, I continue to be inspired by what I am seeing throughout District 6080. Every club visit brings another story, another project, and another reminder of what happens when people come together with a desire to serve.

And our Rotary family is growing.

Since July 1, District 6080 has welcomed more than 75 new Rotarians. That is something every one of us should celebrate. Behind each of those numbers is a person who was given an opportunity to experience Rotary because someone extended an invitation. But let's not slow down.

Keep the momentum going. Keep telling your Rotary story. Keep inviting friends, coworkers, neighbors, and community leaders to attend a meeting or join you at a service project. And just as importantly, let's make sure those who walk through our doors find a place where they feel welcomed, engaged, and valued.

It starts with an invitation, but what happens after the invitation matters just as much.

October also brings one of Rotary's most important reminders of what sustained commitment can accomplish. World Polio Day is Oct. 24. For decades, Rotarians have worked alongside our partners toward the promise of a polio-free world. We are closer than ever, but our work is not finished. I encourage every club to find a way to raise awareness, support PolioPlus, and share Rotary's story in your community.

That is what lasting impact looks like. It is people continuing to show up, year after year, because the mission matters.

We will have another opportunity to put that spirit into action at our District Conference on Friday, Nov. 6, in Columbia, and registration is now open!

This year's conference is designed to be more than a day of sitting and listening. We will learn, connect, celebrate, and serve together. Our hands-on service project with Sleep in Heavenly Peace will give Rotarians an opportunity to help build beds for children in our communities. I hope you will join Rotarians from across District 6080 for what promises to be an incredible day.

Invite someone to come with you. Bring a newer Rotarian. Bring someone who has never attended a District Conference. Let them experience the larger Rotary family and see firsthand what we can accomplish together. Register today for the District 6080 Conference: <https://www.dacdb.com/index.html?EventID=77938650>

More than 75 new Rotarians in three months is tremendous momentum. Now let's build on it.

Keep inviting. Keep engaging. Keep serving.

Together, we will Create Lasting Impact.

Yours in Rotary Service,

Brad Martens
District Governor 2026-2027
Rotary District 6080

Send your news items and
photos to District Secretary
Mary Ann Beahon at
beahon.rotary@gmail.com



Dynamic Speakers Highlight District 6080 Conference

Register Now!

<https://www.dacdb.com/index.html?EventID=77938650>

Nov. 6

9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture
Community Welcome Center

\$50 for members and \$25 for Rotaractors

Rotary
District 6080



DISTRICT 6080 CONFERENCE

CREATE LASTING IMPACT

CONNECT • INSPIRE • TRANSFORM



**NOVEMBER
6, 2026**

9:30 AM – 4:30 PM



COLUMBIA CENTER FOR URBAN AGRICULTURE
COMMUNITY WELCOME CENTER
1769 W ASH ST, COLUMBIA, MO

★ DYNAMIC SPEAKER LINEUP ★



JIMI COOK
Be The Change
Volunteers



**MIQUETTE
MCMAHON**
Teach Haiti



TJ SWEET
Speaking on
Gratitude



BRIAN SMITH
MIZZOU
WRESTLING

ENGAGING SESSIONS. POWERFUL IDEAS.



SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

Make a Difference Together!

We will be building beds for local kids
in need in partnership with
SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE.



SERVICE ABOVE SELF in action!
Let's **CREATE LASTING IMPACT** together.



REGISTER TODAY!

ROTARIANS: \$50 • ROTARACTORS: \$25

TOGETHER, WE

CREATE LASTING IMPACT



ROTARY LEADERS.
STRONGER CLUBS.
IMPACTFUL COMMUNITIES.
A BETTER WORLD.

World Polio Month & Why We Must Eradicate Polio

It's World Polio Month, and it's vitally important for Rotary clubs to educate their communities about polio and to raise funds toward its eradication. Wild polio remains endemic in Pakistan and Afghanistan, and variant polio outbreaks threaten the progress we have made against the disease. As long as polio exists anywhere, it is a threat to children everywhere. Every Rotary club should shine a spotlight on polio by advocating, fundraising, and educating on the need to end polio now. What is your club planning for this month?

Here's five reasons why we must eradicate polio.

1. TO IMPROVE LIVES

Today, 19 million people who would otherwise be paralyzed by polio are walking, and 1.5 million people who would otherwise have died are alive.

2. TO INVEST IN THE FUTURE.

If all eradication efforts stopped today, within 10 years, polio could paralyze as many as 200,000 children each year. A polio-free world will be a healthier world for children everywhere.

3. TO IMPROVE CHILD HEALTH.

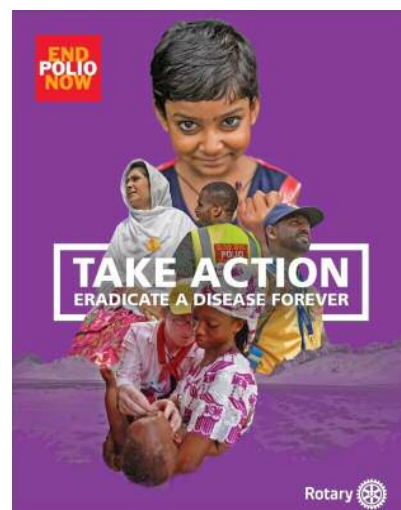
Polio surveillance networks and vaccination campaigns also monitor children for other health problems, like vitamin deficiency and measles, so we can address them sooner.

4. TO LOWER HEALTH CARE COSTS.

The global effort to eradicate polio has already saved more than \$27 billion in health care costs since 1988, and expects to save \$14 billion more by 2050.

5. TO MAKE HISTORY.

Polio eradication will be one of history's greatest public health achievements, with polio following smallpox to become only the second human disease eradicated from the world.



Here's a fun way to raise funds for PolioPlus. Encourage members of your Rotary club and people in your community to enroll their pets in the Kennel Klub and get a bandana for their pet. Joining the Kennel Klub is a 2-Step process:

1. Commit to an annual donation of \$10/month or \$100/year until the world is declared Polio Free. Make your tax-deductible donation at <https://my.rotary.org/en/donate> and select the POLIO PLUS fund.
2. Fill out the Kennel Klub membership Google Form online. Copy and paste this link into your browser: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdqooESLnAfH6cO5F9VaKB2KnEILZTkV-DxzqtOs657CqRfWQ/viewform>

More information was in September's District Newsletter.



District 6080
Youth Exchange Committee

ONLINE INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS ABOUT ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE FOR ROTARY CLUBS AND ROTARIANS



DISTRICT 6080 ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE

Short-term exchange (summer)

Family-to-family exchange

Ages 15-18

International camps

Ages 15-29

Long-term exchange (academic year)

Ages 15 ½ - 18 ½

REGISTER NOW

Join members of District 6080's Youth Exchange Committee to learn more about Rotary youth exchange opportunities. We'll explore types of exchanges, club responsibilities, and how the district committee can help your club promote youth exchange.

ONLINE

Use the QR code below to register.

Sun, Oct 18, 2026 @ 7 pm

Tues, Oct 20, 2026 @ 7 pm

Additional details:

Website: rye6080.org/

Email: chair@rye6080.org



Columbia Rotary Partners with Heroes to Hives

By Rachel Augustine and Walt Lantzy, Rotary Club of Columbia



Columbia Rotarians and the Boone County Beekeepers Association partnered to prepare the specialized hives for installation at MU Extension's Jefferson Farm and Garden.

In a major boost for local military veterans and sustainable agriculture, the Rotary Club of Columbia has partnered with the Heroes to Hives Missouri Chapter to fund and build a new training honeybee apiary. The apiary is located at the Jefferson Farm and Garden Extension and Education Center, a program of the University of Missouri

Utilizing a Rotary District 6080 grant, club members purchased and assembled six specialized AŽ hives to establish the program's first dedicated in-person training facility in central Missouri. Rotary also purchased military service emblems and a Rotary emblem to be displayed at the facility.

Healing Through Agriculture

Founded in 2015 by Army veteran Adam Ingrao who lives in Michigan, Heroes to Hives has grown into the largest beekeeping agricultural training initiative of its kind in the nation. The program offers a nine-month curriculum—



combining online coursework with hands-on field instruction—to address key challenges faced by service members, including PTSD, civilian reintegration, and post-service economic opportunity.

"Beekeeping requires focus, patience, and calm," program organizers noted, highlighting how honeybee colony management offers therapeutic benefits alongside practical agribusiness skills.

Since establishing Missouri as its first state chapter in 2021, the program has enrolled more than 1,700 veterans across the state. The new Columbia apiary site bridges a critical geographic gap, allowing central Missouri veterans direct access to physical hive handling, colony inspections, and pest management training from April through October. The Jefferson Farm beehouse facility also hosts a variety of public education activities and other community outreach events.



“Heroes to Hives addresses multiple critical needs among Missouri veterans,” said Karen Funkenbusch. More than 60 percent of participants entered the program with a service-connected disability, ranging from physical limitations to post-traumatic stress disorder, she says.



Heroes to Hives Yard Boss Kirk Funkenbusch (left) paints hives with a member of the Boone County Beekeepers Association.

By incorporating accessible hive technologies, hands-on adaptive learning, and complementary wellness activities such as Tai Chi, the program ensures that veterans of diverse abilities can participate fully and safely. As a result, 77 percent of participants reported improved mental health, demonstrating the program’s dual role in agricultural education and veteran wellbeing.

The program also plays a pivotal role in strengthening Missouri’s agricultural economy. Over 70 percent of participants are completely new to both beekeeping and agriculture, yet more than 40 percent reported either starting or actively developing a beekeeping enterprise following completion of the program.

Collectively, Missouri Heroes to Hives graduates have established more than 3,000 new beehives, contributing to an estimated 8 percent increase in statewide honey production.

Innovative Design for Accessibility

A key feature of the new local apiary is its use of Slovenian AŽ hives. Unlike traditional vertical honeybee hives, AŽ hives are engineered for accessibility inside a custom designed building, making colony management significantly easier for veterans facing physical or mobility challenges.



In addition to donating the hives, the Rotary Club of Columbia donated signs representing all branches of the U.S. military to be displayed above the hives.

The initiative was by Rotarians Rachel Augustine, Carl Korschgen and Walt Lantzy, who collaborated to secure grant funding. Korschgen worked directly with Karen Funkenbusch, leader of the Heroes to Hives Missouri Chapter, to assemble the six AŽ hives on site and populate them with honeybees.

Addressing a National Need



The specialized hives are housed in a custom Bee House designed for individuals with limited mobility.

Beyond supporting veteran wellness and entrepreneurship, the project helps address a growing national crisis: an aging demographic of American farmers and a decline in honeybee populations.

By equipping veterans with sustainable beekeeping techniques, the initiative fosters a new generation of agricultural stewards dedicated to protecting vital pollinators.

Service Projects Contribute to Community Betterment



Bolivar Rotary is partnering with Citizens Memorial Hospital, the Polk County Library and the Polk County Health Center to support new mothers and babies through the club's "Bundles of Hope" project. Through the project, the Bolivar Rotary Club funded essential supplies to help families who need additional support during the first weeks after a baby arrives.

The club purchased bottles, diapers and postpartum supplies that staff at the CMH OB/GYN and Pediatric Clinic are

distributing to patients with the greatest need. The Rotary donation also expanded the Polk County Health Center's diaper bank supply, increasing the number of families it can serve.

Children's board books purchased through the project were shared with families at the CMH Baby Fair. The Polk County Library partnered with Rotary to provide the books and connect parents with early literacy resources and children's programming.



The \$1,820 Bundles of Hope project included \$675 from a Rotary District 6080 Simplified Grant, \$1,000 from the Bolivar Rotary Club and \$145 from private donors.



Laurie-Sunrise Beach Rotary conducted a food drive to benefit food for Morgan County at Town & Country supermarkets in Laurie. September is National Hunger Awareness Month.

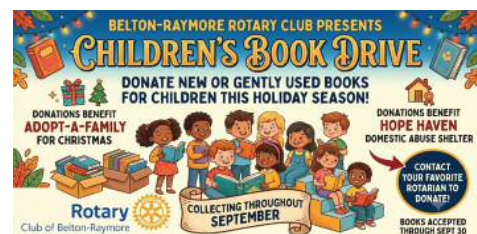
Jefferson City West Rotarians joined members of the Jefferson City West Side Business Association on Sept. 26 to

clean up Rotary Service Park. The club has helped maintain and improve the space over the years, and this cleanup continued that commitment.



Willow Springs Rotarians David Nanneman, Arlene Arnold, Teresa Waggoner and Michele Myers spent an evening cleaning up the Steve Norman Memorial Park so it will look great for Bear City Fall Festival.

Belton-Raymore Rotary is collecting new and gently used children's books through September, Rotary's Literacy Month. The plan is to donate the gently used books to Hope Haven and include the new books in the Adopt-A-Family program at Christmas.



Fulton Rotary Expands Interact & Rotaract Networks

Fulton Rotary now sponsors two Interact clubs and two Rotaract clubs in Callaway County, all advised by Fulton Rotarians. Pam Doss is Fulton High School Interact advisor. Ellie Viox, who was Interact president in her hometown of Edwardsville, Illinois, in 2019-20, is advisor of the new Interact at North Callaway High School. The new club was launched by students who attended RYLA this summer. Haley Gilmore advises the William Woods University Rotaract and Amanda Gowin and Sarah Backer are Westminster College Rotaract co-advisors.



The Rotaract Club of William Woods University partnered with the Fulton Book Fairy Project for its first service project of the year. Members helped assemble



special gift bags for expectant mothers in the Fulton community.

The gift bags were distributed to new and expecting mothers at the John C. Harris Community Center. The free Community Baby Shower was presented by the Callaway County Health Department WIC and MCH programs and sponsored by Healthy Blue and Home State Health. Diapers, baby clothes and books were provided. Raffle prizes and vendor booths were available.



WWU Rotaract also visited McIntire Elementary School during Rotary's Literacy and Basic Education Month to help third graders with spelling and personal narratives.

Westminster College Rotaract and Fulton High School Interact members helped out with Open Table in September. Open Table serves meals to the community several evenings a week. Fulton Rotary prepares and serves dinner the third Thursday of each month.



Rotary Clubs in District 6080 Take Rotary on the Road



Jefferson City Breakfast Rotary women supported the Celebrity Waiter Dinner Fundraiser for the Little Explorers Discovery Center. Breakfast Club Rotarian Carrie Tergin served as one of the evening's celebrity waiters. The club has proudly supported Little Explorers through several projects over the past year.

Springfield Sunrise Rotarians spent a Friday afternoon together at Billiards.



Southern Boone Rotary, a club that's just starting, recruited members at the Fall Fest in Ashland Sept. 12.

Springfield Metro

Rotary took Rotary on the Road to the The Excel Center Springfield. Jeff Simpson, Director, and Heather Harden, College & Career Readiness Specialist, provided a tour of their facilities.



The Excel Center offers people aged 18 and older the opportunity to obtain their high school diploma for FREE. The Center is funded through Goodwill and state grants. And, this is not a GED program. Students actually graduate with a "for real" high school diploma. Approximately 155 students are currently enrolled locally between the day and night classes.



Fulton Rotarians had a great time at United Way's Studio 54 event Sept. 1. The event was planned and organized by Rotarian Laura Burg, executive director of Callaway United Way. Rotarian Jacque Brazas is Callaway United Way president.

Jefferson City West Rotarians had reasons to cheer for both sides when two Rotary Youth Exchange students met on the soccer field Sept. 22. Davi Siqueira Teixeira, from Brazil, played for Jefferson City High School, while his

friend Pietro, from Italy, played for Helias Catholic High School. Club members attended the junior varsity match at the Helias soccer fields to support both students. The outing brought Rotary fellowship to the sidelines and gave members a chance to share in the students' lives beyond club meetings.



Central Missouri Rotary Celebrates Anniversary



The Greater Warrensburg Chamber of Commerce recently joined **the Rotary Club of Central Missouri** to celebrate the club's five-year anniversary with an official Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at The Club at Sandstone Country Club.

During the event, Past District Governor Jerry Franklin shared a look back at the history of the Rotary Club of Central Missouri, reflecting on the club's steady growth, service initiatives, and community presence since its founding in 2021.

The Rotary Club of Central Missouri also installed and dedicated a new Peace Pole at Warrensburg Veterans Park, offering local residents a permanent symbol of harmony, unity and global goodwill. The ceremony took place on Flag Day, June 14, highlighting the importance of honoring the American flag and paying tribute to those who have served in the military to safeguard freedom. The dedication also served as a focal point to launch local commemorations for the upcoming 250th anniversary of the United States, honoring America's enduring legacy of service and peace.



Fulton Rotary Presents Law Enforcement Award



Investigator Jacob Muehring (2026 Recipient) and Charles Anderson (Fulton Rotary's G.W. Law Award Chair).

Fulton Rotary presented the 28th annual G.W. Law – Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award to Jacob Muehring, an investigator with the Callaway County Sheriff's Office. Muehring is a member of the DEA task force and team lead of the sheriff's Special Response Team (SRT), tasked with directing the team in times of crisis.

The award was presented during a luncheon Sept. 9 at the VFW. The date was chosen to coincide with remembrance of the heroic efforts of officers 25 years ago during the Twin Towers tragedy on Sept. 11, 2001.

Named for former Callaway County Sheriff George W. Law, who was mortally wounded during an ambush in 1873, the award was established in 1998 as a means for Fulton Rotary to provide recognition to a law enforcement officer who demonstrates the Rotary ideal of "Service Above Self" while serving the citizens of Callaway County. It also

provides an opportunity to say thank you to the law enforcement community as a whole for the job they do on a daily basis.



Previous recipients of GW Law Award in attendance.

Rotary Fundraising Provides Community Donations



Belton-Raymore Rotary hosted its 17th Annual Golf Tournament at Creekmoor. 64 golfers teed off at 9 a.m. and after their round enjoyed a silent auction and a meal provided by Belton Regional Medical Center. The weather was perfect and everyone attending had a great time! It looks like this year's event will net about \$14,700. That beats the old record of \$14,200 set in 2023, and represents a \$2,500 increase over last year's bottom line. A big reason they were able to do that despite having seven fewer teams than last year was all the great silent auction items donated by members. This year's silent auction brought in \$2,210 compared to \$865 in 2025.

Bolivar Rotary gave \$500 toward scholarships to pay for Spiritual First Aid training that will equip first responders, medical personnel, educators, faith-based leaders and community partners with practical, evidence-based skills for a unified, coordinated approach to crisis care. Spiritual First Aid is a non-sectarian, POST-approved 8-hour certification course being launched by the Bolivar Police Department's Tri-Lakes Area Crisis Intervention Team Council.



Laurie-Sunrise Beach made a donation to support the Morgan County Caring for Kids Coalition. Kurt Flickinger, club president, presented a check to Monica Cable of MCCFKC after she spoke to the Rotary club. MCCFKC supports children's needs with school supplies and a holiday program that provides holiday cheer for needy children.

Laurie-Sunrise Beach gave a donation to the Sunrise Beach Fire Protection District to support the SafetyNet Program, which provides support and immediate financial relief to the spouses and children of local law enforcement officers, firefighters, paramedics, EMTs, and correction officers who have lost their lives performing their duties. As needs continue, the SafetyNet Program may also provide ongoing financial support.

Other matters that may also receive the assistance of the SafetyNet Program may include critical care needs such as health and dental costs and home maintenance and repairs. And, because the SafetyNet Program wants to help ensure the future of the surviving families, the ongoing financial support for educational growth is very important.



Left to right: Firefighter Jeremy Snyder, Firefighter Jennifer Hollandsworth, Rotarian Angie Lee, Deputy Chief Rob Odenwald, and Captain Jack Haggard.

People of Action
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE
TOGETHER

Rotary 
CLUB OF CENTRAL MISSOURI

WHEELS IN MOTION 5K

RUN. WALK. BIKE.



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2026

RACE STARTS AT 9:00 AM

 *Local Kids,
Stronger
Tomorrows.*



RACE DAY SCHEDULE FOR PARTICIPANTS



7:30 AM – 8:45 AM

Check-In & Same-Day
Registration



8:45 AM

Welcome and Pre-Race
Announcements



9:00 AM

*Wheels in Motion
5K START*



10:00 AM

Finish Line Celebration
& Awards



RACE CATEGORIES

KIDS (Ages 5 - 13)

MEN'S DIVISION

Ages 14 - 39

Ages 40 +

WOMEN'S DIVISION

Ages 14 - 39

Ages 40 +

Medals Awarded for
First, Second, and
Third Place in Each
Category!



PRICING

\$40

PER RUNNER

- Run
- Walk
- Bike

KIDS UNDER 5

FREE!

REGISTER TODAY! SCAN TO
SIGN UP



TOGETHER, WE CREATE LASTING IMPACT.

Corn Hole Tournament to Raise Money for PolioPlus

All Proceeds will go to
PolioPlus to help
eradicate Polio
world-wide!



**Meriwether's Cafe
Rocheport, MO**

1 pm, Oct.11, 2026

\$25 per two person team

**CORN HOLE
TOURNAMENT**
sponsored by the

Rotary Clubs of Fayette & Rocheport

For more information or to register your team,
contact Gale Schafer, 573-239-0491 or Erik Martinez, 817-480-3404.
Teams may register in Rocheport between noon and 1 pm on Oct.11.

Open to the Public

World Polio Day is October 24, the birthday of Jonas Salk, the American researcher who changed history by developing the first polio vaccine in 1955. Each October, Rotary Clubs around the world mark the occasion with events and fundraisers supporting Rotary International and its partners in the eradication of polio around the world.

For the past several years, the Rotary Clubs of Fayette and Rocheport have teamed up for an afternoon of cornhole, prizes and a little friendly competition — all while helping Rotary work toward a world without polio. This year, Rotary District Governor Brad Martens has challenged every club in the district to raise \$1,500 for Polio Plus. Last year, the Fayette Rotary Club exceeded that goal by raising more than \$1,800, and members hope to raise even more this year.

The Cornhole Tournament will be Saturday, Oct. 11, beginning at 1 p.m. at Meriwether's Café and Grill in Rocheport. The two-person, double-elimination tournament is open to everyone, with an entry fee of just \$25 per team. The winning team will take home \$50 in prize money, while the top team made up of Rotarians will earn the coveted "bragging rights" trophy. There will also be a trophy for the youth team, made up of players 18 years or younger, that finishes highest in the tournament.

Meriwether's will have food and drinks available for purchase throughout the afternoon, making the tournament a great opportunity to enjoy some food, watch the competition and support a good cause. Proceeds from the tournament and raffle will support Rotary International's End Polio Now campaign and its continuing effort to eradicate polio worldwide.

Registration for the tournament is from noon to 1 p.m. on-site at Meriwether's. For details or early registration, contact Gale Schafer at 573-239-0491 or Erik Martinez at 817-480-3404. Come toss a few bags, cheer on the players, try your luck in the raffle and help Fayette Rotary take another step toward a world free of polio!

Fayette Rotary to Raffle Four Prints as Fundraiser



Autumn Haven by David Maass



Door Co, WI by Audrey Casey



Winter Sunset by Arnold Alaniz



Spring Blossom by Thelma Larry Butler

Four framed prints depicting beautiful scenes from nature and the changing seasons will be raffled by the Fayette Rotary Club in the coming weeks. Proceeds will support local Rotary projects as well as Rotary International's effort to eradicate polio worldwide.

Tickets are \$5 for a chance to win your favorite of the four prints. Tickets will be available at the Fayette Rotary Cornhole Tournament at 1 p.m. Oct. 11 at Meriwether's Café in Rochepport and at the club's Trivia Night beginning at 6 p.m. Nov. 14 at St. Joseph's Hall in Fayette.

The four framed prints offer something for nature lovers.

"Winter Sunset," a 47-by-36-inch painting by Arnold Alaniz, captures the beauty of a winter landscape at sunset.

A signed print by Audrey Casey features Door County, Wisconsin, in winter. Number 263 of a limited edition of 500, the print measures 36 by 26 inches.

"Spring Blossom" by Thelma Larry Butler offers a colorful spring scene. The 25-by-28-inch print depicts a village in the spring.

Completing the collection is "Autumn Haven" by David Maass, featuring wood ducks in a fall setting. The 34-by-28-inch print is number 1,194 in a limited edition of 1,900.

The final drawing for each of the four prints will take place during the Rotary Trivia Night on Nov. 14. You do not need to be present to win.

Whether your favorite season is winter, spring or fall, one \$5 ticket could bring home a beautiful piece of artwork—and at the same time help support Rotary projects close to home and the worldwide fight to end polio.