



## President's Notes

Fellow Rotarians,

With every day we get a little closer to a return to normalcy. A number of our members have had the first dose of the vaccine and some even the second! Also hospitalizations and positive case numbers are coming down. If this positive trend continues, we are tentatively looking at having our March social in person, and thereafter look forward to returning to in-person meetings when possible. I will be reaching out to all of you via a poll to gauge your comfort level with these proposals.

Tomorrow we have an excellent speaker in Brian Hamilton. He is a businessman and philanthropist who has built a remarkable foundation to promote entrepreneurship in America. See page 2 for more of a preview.

Last week we were fortunate to hear from Dr. Tejvir Khurana, who is in the process of bringing a possible cure for Muscular Dystrophy to commercialization. Due to the confidential nature of the research, we aren't able to share a recording of his talk. What struck me was the blinding speed of progress in the field of science and how our investment both public and private in science augers well for the future of our country and economy.

We continue to have a number of opportunities ferreted out by Kevin to do what we do best: serve our community. Next week we will have the opportunity to provide meals to hard working women and men helping us implement our vaccination drive here in Mecklenburg County.

Finally, I would like to reiterate my invitation to you to continue to invite your friends, family, neighbors, associates and co-workers to attend our meetings. This is an easy way to get the word out about Rotary as we work to increase membership. The wonderful lineup of speakers will ensure that they learn something as well as see the great work of Rotary. People are hungry to serve their fellow men and women. Inviting people to our meetings gives them a structured way to do it. Additionally, it allows Rotary to answer current loneliness with a cocktail of smart, talented, service-minded friendly human beings!

## This Week's Speaker

### Entrepreneurship in America by Brian Hamilton



Brian Hamilton is an entrepreneur, philanthropist, and the leading voice on the power of ownership to transform lives. He founded Sageworks, the country's first fintech company, which developed a patented technology that has helped millions of small business owners translate complex financial information. He is also the founder of Inmates to Entrepreneurs, the longest-running program of its kind that teaches people with criminal records how to start and grow their own businesses. Finally, through his programs at the Brian Hamilton Foundation, he helps people overcome obstacles to realize their greatest potential through business ownership. Raised in a working-class neighborhood near Bridgeport, Connecticut, Mr. Hamilton has experienced the challenges of economic disadvantage and the struggle to break that cycle. He started his own businesses at an early age, which ultimately funded him being the first in his family to go to college. Mr. Hamilton has been widely featured in the press including *USA Today*, *Newsweek*, and *CNBC*, and is the recipient of many awards, including the George H.W. Bush Points of Light Award.



Rotary Club of Charlotte  
Dilworth South End  
PO Box 30473, Charlotte NC 28230  
[www.dilworthrotary.org](http://www.dilworthrotary.org)  
[dilworthrotary@gmail.com](mailto:dilworthrotary@gmail.com)

We meet the first three Fridays of the month via Zoom link ([this link includes virtual socials](#)):

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4511745271> Meeting ID: 451 174 5271

We will have in-person social meetings on the fourth Friday when permitted.

### Meeting Schedule

[Click here for our Google calendar](#)

1/29 Entrepreneurship in America with Brian Hamilton

1/31 6-7 pm Virtual Social

2/05 Second Harvest Food Bank with David L. Brown

2/12 No Meeting Presidents' Day Weekend

2/17 Board Meeting

### People of Action

2/3 Second Harvest Food Bank

2/9 NC MedAssist

2/18 Second Harvest Food Bank

2/20 Adopt a Street Clean Up

2/23 NC MedAssist

[For YouTube videos of past meetings click here.](#)

### Club Officers 2020-2021

President: Ranjit Rawley  
Immediate Past President: Kevin Kendrick  
President-Elect: Kelly Cates  
President Nominee: Jay Berube  
Treasurer: Joy Rucker  
Secretary: Jenny Kendrick  
Club Director: Rosemary Hill  
Club Director: David Hodgkins  
Club Director: Bob Teague



**Gewina Lawson, Property Manager**  
3015 S Tryon St, Charlotte NC 28217  
704-978-8560  
[southend@morningstarstorage.com](mailto:southend@morningstarstorage.com)  
[www.morningstarstorage.com](http://www.morningstarstorage.com)

## Desks for CMS Students

Kevin Kendrick



Jerry Rakvic, husband of AG Linda Rakvic, recently saw a video about a gentleman in California who spoke about how folding desks can be made for kids at a nominal cost. Jerry took the initiative to get the plans for the desk and built one himself. We've had conversations with CMS and learned that there is definitely a need for these desks as many students don't have a place outside of a kitchen table or some other shared space, to do homework and engage in other activities such as on-line learning.

While we have an opportunity to make some of these, Jerry determined that the cost he incurred was about three times what the maker of the video said it would cost. *After sending this to Linda for approval, she added the following:*

After talking to Jerry, he wouldn't have a problem with "getting the word" out there.

He did emphasize the need for "backs" to haul the wood and assemblers.

He had no storage space at the wood shop, and had to haul his supplies back and forth, which made the project a little rough.

I have to say he did love the challenge, but he's concerned about the finished weight of the desk (20 lbs) and some students being unable to lift their desks.

Possibly, Jerry can brainstorm with some interested woodworkers to "lighten-up" the desks weight AND we can approach Home Depot/Lowes for donations and/or discounted supplies.

Any and all suggestions will be greatly appreciated.

By the way...the cost in the video is \$30.00 per desk. I loved that the video showed a group "build" with 20 volunteers putting out 40 plus desks! This would be a great community service project if we could find a big space with power tools/volunteers/wood workers. Just a thought.

**Our ask here is simple: if we can find a more reasonably-priced source for wood, would you be interested in helping to build these desks? And if not, would you be interested in donating funds to help purchase the wood? If you know of a space big enough to accommodate a socially-distanced group project, please let Kevin (bkkendrick@outlook.com) or Linda (lindalee3751@gmail.com) know.**

**Thank you very much for considering this! Please let me know if you're willing to provide sweat equity or green equity!**

## Sedgefield Middle School

Jenny Kendrick

**Friday is the last day to donate to Sedgefield Middle School's Attendance Raffle.** This raffle targets students who have no more than two unexcused absences during February will be placed in a raffle to win one of three prizes. They are in need of donations of these items:

- First Prize: a Huffy mountain bike (\$154.99) and Schwinn helmet (\$25.99)
- Second Prize: a Fire 7 Tablet (\$49.99)
- Third Prize: Midola Headphones (\$19.99)

[They have supplied an Amazon gift list so the items can be sent straight to the school.](#) If you would prefer to send a check or gift card, you can make the check out to Sedgefield Middle School. Include "Attendance Raffle" in the note section. Mail checks to Wendy Johnson-Willis, MSW, Sedgefield Middle School, 2700 Dorchester Place, Charlotte NC 28209.



### JANUARY

#### Birthdays

01 Barbara Horstmann  
08 Howard Castleman  
24 Michael Deeb  
26 Amarja Webb

#### Partner Birthdays

17 Patty Britton (Alan Loeser)

#### Anniversaries

Howard Castleman—30 years  
Romy Cawood—3 years



To access the on-line contribution portal for *Coins for the Alzheimer's Research Trust (CART) Fund*, go to [www.mycartfund.org](http://www.mycartfund.org)

1. Log in and use your DACdb login credentials.
2. Use MAKE A CONTRIBUTION to make future contributions.
3. Contact any of these District CART Co-Chairs if you have any questions:

Anna Davis,  
[annadavis@bellsouth.net](mailto:annadavis@bellsouth.net)  
AG Linda Rakvic,  
[lindalee3751@gmail.com](mailto:lindalee3751@gmail.com)  
AG Matt Cooksey,  
[alexhabitat@aol.com](mailto:alexhabitat@aol.com)

Checks for CART should be made payable to the *CART Fund* and mailed to Post Office Box 1196, Mooresville, NC 28115.



**Dilworth Neighborhood Grille**  
911 E Morehead, Charlotte NC 28204  
704-377-3808

[dng@neighborhoodgrille.com](mailto:dng@neighborhoodgrille.com)  
<http://www.dilworthgrille.com/>



**Mrs. Miracle & the Attendance Team**

**Presents:**

## **February Attendance Incentive**

If you are present for the entire month of February  
(with no more than 2 unexcused absences), you are eligible to

**WIN!**

Raffle drawings will occur for each grade level.

**Drawings will be held on February 26, 2021**

**School Success starts with Attendance**



**1st place**



**2nd place**



**3rd place**



Please join us for

# THE FOUNDYS

**District 7680 Rotary Foundation Celebration**



**Via Zoom**

**Saturday January 30th, 6:00-8:00pm**

**If you're tired of Zoom calls too, this is the perfect event for you!** Okay but seriously, we promise this will be a fun evening!

**6:00-6:30pm - Virtual Mingling**

**6:30-8:00pm - The Foundys**

- What's Your Why?
- Follow The Money
- Who Stepped Up?

**Featuring:**

**Keynote Speaker: RI Director, Peter Kyle**

**Emcee: Hadley Perry Pacheco**

**Register here:**

<http://bit.ly/DACdbLogin>

- Login → district tab → calendar → find the event → click "register now"

**Zoom link:**

<http://bit.ly/2021FoundysZoom>

**Donate here:**

<https://raise.rotary.org/district7680/fundraiser1>



Peter Kyle



Hadley Perry Pacheco

The  
**Rotary**  
Foundation







L-R David Hodgkins, Dilworth South End; Karen Vagianos, Dilworth South End; Lydie Surget, Charlotte International; Jerry Coughter, Charlotte; and PDG Beth Trotter, Meck South

Not pictured: Kevin Kendrick, Dilworth South End







Infinite Possibilities: Series 2

# Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Presented by Rotary District 6960

*Darryl Keys, Governor, District 6960 and Cyndi Doragh, Chair, Infinite Possibilities*

We hope your New Year is off to a great start! We have some exciting news to kick off 2021. District 6960 is launching **Infinite Possibilities Series 2: Diversity, Equity & Inclusion** with our first webinar taking place on January 29.

We had an outstanding response to **Series 1: Women in Rotary**, engaging thousands of Rotarians from around the world! Diversity, Equity & Inclusion promises to be just as amazing.

This four-part webinar series offers you the opportunity to hear from several very dynamic speakers who will offer vision, encouragement, enthusiasm and motivation to grow your membership. We encourage you to invite not only your fellow Rotarians, but prospective members as well.

Register now for the first session: **Strength in Diversity**, with a very special host, Valarie Wafer, Rotary International Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Task Force Chair, who will lead an esteemed group of panelists through discussions on how strength lies in differences, not similarities. Joining Valerie are Joshua Innis, Paul Amoury, and Rea Vrandecic.

As we bring major Rotary International speakers to the forefront, we have every confidence you will find each one-hour webinar well worth your time and attention. The following is our series schedule:

**January 29, 2021, 1 pm: Infinite Possibilities—Strength in Diversity** [Register here.](#)

**February 26, 2021, 1 pm: Infinite Possibilities—Embracing our Differences** hosted by Rotary International Director Stephanie Urchick, with featured speakers Past RI President Barry Rassin and Rotarian Brian Rusch of District 5150 in California. [Register here.](#)

**March 26, 2021, 1 pm: Infinite Possibilities—Investing in Equity** hosted by District 6960 Governor Darryl Keys with featured speaker Xavier Ramey, fellow Rotarian from Chicago. [Register here.](#)

**April 30, 2021, 1 pm: Infinite Possibilities—Celebrate Diversity** with special guest speakers Rotary International President Holger Knack, Rotary International Director Peter Kyle and Anna Ekack. [Register here.](#)

We look forward to seeing you there.



**Mission:** Rotary Works is an initiative provided for Rotarians and Rotaractors within Zones 33 & 34 experiencing career transition. This initiative is comprised of three distinct programs, providing education, networking, and/or financial resources for participants, providing mentorship opportunities for personal and professional development.

**The Project:** The first Rotary Works program to launch will be our Career Development Professional Series, which will be offered via Zoom. Each month, [beginning December 9](#) at noon, with an overview of our Series, we will collaborate with business professionals in career development, exchanging ideas and having conversations with experts in their field. These "mentors" will provide information and inspiration for those in attendance seeking opportunities of self-exploration, self-improvement and ultimately seeking employment or entrepreneurial prospects.

Coming in the spring, Zones 33 and 34 will provide a "Job Board," where you will be able to search for employment opportunities, post open positions, request a mentor, become a mentor, and find valuable and relevant career transition resources.

Finally, we are establishing an Impact Fund designed to assist Rotarians and Rotaractors in Zones 33 and 34, who may have experienced financial stress an opportunity to apply for a one-time grant of \$500.

The potential to help those in need is a top priority for us. More information on these programs will be available soon on the [Rotary Works website.](#)



There are an estimated **60,000** children in Meck Co. that have few, if any, **books** in their homes and almost **48,000** children who live with **food insecurity**. A Parent shouldn't have to choose between nourishing their child's body and nourishing their child's brain.

**Let's help them do both.**

# Feed the Body, Feed the Mind



Charlotte Dilworth South End Rotary and Promising Pages are joining forces to donate book pantries to organizations supplying meals to local families and throughout food insecure areas of our city. You can be part of nourishing the most vulnerable members of our community by donating to help us supply books, bookshelves, and bookmarks to food pantries.

#### Corporate donations:

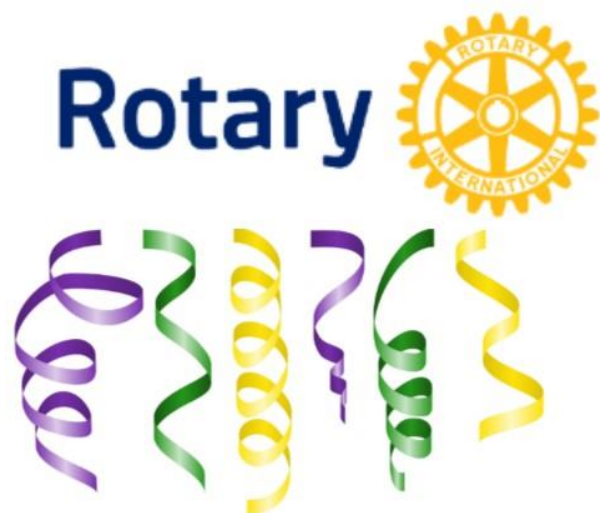
- \$100 - Bookworm (recognition in our promotional materials)
- \$250 - Librarian (Bookworm + name/logo in newsletter)
- \$500 - Reading Champion (Librarian + name/logo on bookmarks)

Individual donations above \$50 will be recognized by name listed in newsletter

For more information ,contact: Promising Pages at [info@promising-pages.org](mailto:info@promising-pages.org) or Charlotte Dilworth South End Rotary Club at [dilworthrotary@gmail.com](mailto:dilworthrotary@gmail.com)

*Please make checks payable to Dilworth Charities\* and in the note section, add Feed the Body, Feed the Mind.  
Mail to CDSERC, PO Box 30473, Charlotte NC 28230*

\*Dilworth Charities is a 501(c)(3)



Gastonia Evening Rotary  
PRESENTS



## Mardi Gras Trivia Night & Raffle

**When:** Saturday, February 27, 2021 at 7:30 pm EST

**Where:** On Zoom from the comfort of your own home!

**How:** Use our [reservation form](#) to claim admission for your virtual table of up to 10 people. Make a donation through our [PayPal](#) link and you will receive log in instructions for this event in Zoom.

**Try Your Luck at our popular raffle:**

**Grand prize:** 3 night stay at The Ashworth in Ocean Drive Beach, SC between 09/28/2021 thru 03/27/2022, based on availability. 4 BR, 3 Ba Ocean Front in the heart of OD (\$700+ value)



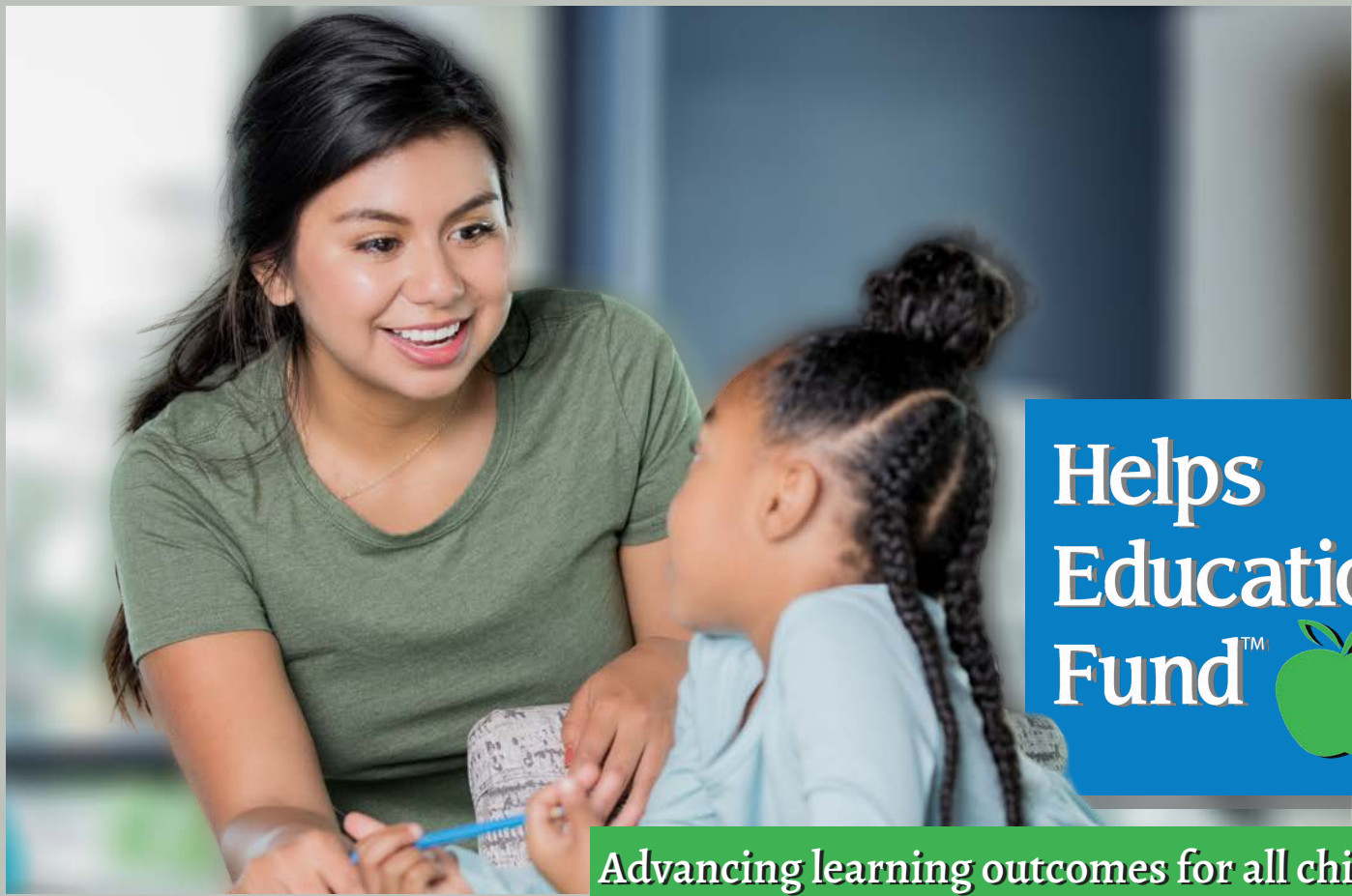
**2nd prize:** \$150 Visa Gift Card for Dinner at a Local Restaurant

**3rd & 4<sup>th</sup> prize:** Gift Card to Total Wine Company

**Additional Prizes:** Cases of Assorted beers

**Tickets:** \$10 each or 3 for \$25

**THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS**  
TO PURCHASE TICKETS OR FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:  
**[www.gastoniaeveningrotary.org](http://www.gastoniaeveningrotary.org)**



**Helps  
Education  
Fund™** 

**Advancing learning outcomes for all children  
and promoting equity in education.**

**Helping Early Literacy With Practice Strategies (HELPS) is an evidence-based, research-validated program proven to improve children's reading fluency.**

**The highly scripted program is prescribed to be delivered three times a week, with each session lasting 15 minutes.**



### **Training**

All tutors must complete a virtual HELPS training to learn how to implement the program.

[Click Here to Register](#)



### **Background Check**

All tutors must pass a school district background check to be able to tutor at one of our elementary schools.

[Submit CMS Background Check Here](#)



### **Tutor 1 Hour**

Our tutors serve at least 1 hour per week with 2 elementary school students.

[Create Volunteer Matrix Account](#)

## **Get in touch:**

Program Director: [kimberly@helpseducationfund.org](mailto:kimberly@helpseducationfund.org)  
Tutor Manager: [shelleah@helpseducationfund.org](mailto:shelleah@helpseducationfund.org)

