# ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester

District 7450 www.WestChesterRotary.us **Week # 31 January 30, 2025**


## CLUB MEETING ~ January 23, 2025
## Minutes by Randy Lindel



**Corey Cahill** – returned from honeymoon – checked us in.



Call to Order by **President Catherine Friedman**

Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Gary Hess**

An inspirational message about Kitten Snowball was offered by **Phyllis Dunn**

### GUEST



We were happy to welcome back for the third straight week **Nathan Miller**, former past president of a Pittsburgh, PA Rotary club. Somebody please give him a membership application form.

### BIRTHDAYS

**Glenda Brion** wished a happy birthday to **Melissa Baxter**

**Joe Driscoll** conveyed birthday wishes **to Bill Winters**

**Kate Diffenderfer** sent birthday greetings **to Corey Cahill**







### ROTARY TRIVIA CHALLENGE FOR JANUARY

***What is the greatest distance from Chicago that a Rotary Club Banner has been displayed?*** Write your name and answer on a card and leave it at the speaker's table or email your answer to **President Catherine** at cfriedrotary@gmail.com – a drawing from all correct answers will take place at the last meeting of the month for a "fabulous" prize.

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### TODAY'S PROGRAM ~ January 30
**Chirstopher de Barrena-Sarobe**
**District Attorney of Chester County**

### NEXT WEEK ~ February 6
**Adrian Burston**
**Kennett Underground Railroad Center**

### ~ PROGRAM ~
**The Rev. Sherry Deets**
**Episcopal Church of the Trinity**
**Thistle Hill ~ transforming challenging pasts into beautiful futures.**



Rev. Sherry Deets from Coatesville spoke to us about Thistle Hills, a residential recovery program located in the hills of Coatesville. The program aims to help transform the lives of women who have been trafficked and addicted.

Rev. Deets explained that each year, thousands of mostly women are drawwn into commercial sexual activity – not by choice but because their survival demands it. Drug abuse is a frequent acommpaniment to these trafficked individuals.

Thistle Hills in Coatesville was created in 2020-2021 to provide a 12-24 month residential home for trafficked recovering women with all the support programs needed for them to redirect their lives in meaningful and productive ways. The home has room for four residents at a time and has produced two graduates to date. The current residents range in age from 40 to 55.

The home, in a regular residential neighborhood, was purchased by Chester County with Block Grant funds. And the Thistle Hill non-profit funds the on-going expenses. More information is available at: **https://www.thistlehills.org/**

Thistle Hills

## Meeting Minutes continued

### HAPY BUCKS



**Catherine Friedman** was happy for her new hearing aids. She also reported that **Suzette Webb** is recovering well from her surgery, getting about with a walker now and should be back in about six weeks.

**Mark Sammarone** was happy to see his friend **Ernest Zlotolow** in the room

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Mac Neilon** is coordinating our **3rd annual Super Bowl football pool** fundraiser at $25 per square. Contact Mac to buy your square - macneilon@gmail.com

### ROTARY 4-WAY RAFFLE




**Melissa Baxter** gave us more information about the Raffle. Each prize will be drawn separately and the winning individual ticket gets put back in the pot for the charity drawing. Checks should be made out to Greater West Chester Rotary Foundation (it's printed on the ticket).

### ROTARY LOS ANGELES WILFIRE CONTRIBUTIONS




Rotary District 5280 in Los Angeles has created a Disaster Relief Fund to collect funds that will be used to bring hope and real solutions to their community. Their Fund will provide support for immediate as well as medium- and long-term needs.

Our District 7450 has created a donation location on the District website to collect funds that will be passed through to District 5280.

If you can help, please visit:

www.rotarydistrict7450.org/disaster-relief

### 50-50

The 50-50 drawing will be **on hiatus** until our meetings return to the WC Country Club.

THE MAGIC OF ROTARY

## WEST CHESTER AREA SENIOR CENTER



The Rotary Club of West Chester's meeting location for January and February is The West Chester Area Senior Center, whose mission is: "Enriching the lives of our senior neighbors through friendship, activities, education, and nourishment." The center serves almost 2,000 seniors age 60+ each year.

In 2023-24, the Center

- welcomed over 750 seniors with 50 program
- served over 4,600 breakfasts and lunches
- presented over 700 hours of fitness classes
- gave away tens of thousands of free meals through food distribution
- provided over 500 one-on-one technology support sessions

The Center's services also includ AARP Medicare counseling, AARP Tax Preparation and volunteer opportuities.

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### BOARD of DIRECTORS 2024-2025

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### HOW TO GET IN TOUCH

Votary Committee: Anne Driscoll, Joe Driscoll, Brian Fahey, Randy Lindel, Mike Louis, Matt McKeon, Kyle Rheiner
Photography: Suzette Webb, Jeff Cantwell

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