



ROTARY CLUB OF NORTH BETHESDA

Meeting on Fridays @ 7:30 AM

Bethesda Marriott

5151 Pooks Hill Rd., Bethesda MD 20814

...and on Zoom

Contact us at nbrotary.org

September 2022



Note: No Meeting on Friday, September 2

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Date	Speaker	Topic
September 9 Marriott/Zoom	Lasse Syversen	3-Minute Speaker
	Jeanne Braha, Executive Director, Rock Creek Conservancy	Rock Creek Update
September 16 Marriott/Zoom	Linda Berg-Cross	3-Minute Speaker
	Kathy Stevens, Montgomery Coalition for Adult English Literacy	Connecting Multi-Language Learners to the Community in Montgomery County
September 23 Marriott/Zoom	Kevin Flynn	3-Minute Speaker
	Betsy Wooster, Montgomery County Master Gardeners	The Rewards of Becoming a Master Gardener
September 30 Marriott/Zoom	Bruce Fowler	3-Minute Speaker
	Ralph Buglass, Montgomery County Historical Society	Offutt's Crossroads: The Early History of Potomac and its Founding Family

All meetings are at the Bethesda Marriott and on Zoom

5151 Pooks Hill Rd., Bethesda MD 20814

7:15 AM to 7:30 AM Mix and Mingle

7:30 AM to 8:30 AM Meeting

SEPTEMBER MILESTONES

	Event	Date
Bob Fangmeyer	Birthday	September 3
Jane Folliot (Rob)	Birthday	September 4
Tas Tousimis	Anniversary	September 4
Lily Waterston (John)	Birthday	September 5
John Waterston	Birthday	September 10
Kent Mason	Birthday	September 19
Gary Berg-Cross (Linda)	Birthday	September 23
Carmela Carr	Birthday	September 24

SPEAKER – SEPTEMBER 9, 2022

Rock Creek Update

Jeanne Braha, Executive Director, Rock Creek Conservancy



Jeanne Braha is Executive Director of the Rock Creek Conservancy, based in Bethesda. Jeanne holds a Masters of Environmental Management from Yale University and a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology with a concentration in Environmental Studies from Bryn Mawr College. She joined the Conservancy in 2018 after several years serving as Director of Foundation Relations for the Student Conservation Association. She spoke to our club in 2019 and appeared several times on Carla Satinsky's cable television show, "Montgomery Week in Review." The Conservancy sponsors the annual Rock Creek Extreme Cleanup, which our club has participated in for more than a decade. She will be giving us an update on issues affecting Rock Creek and the park, including proposals to widen the Beltway and expanding recreational access.

The Club needs your help! Please volunteer to provide speakers for the months from January 2023 onward! Many thanks to those who've already volunteered. Contact Linda for details.

MONTH	PROVIDING SPEAKERS
September	Kevin Flynn
October	Ron Sigelman
November	Linda Berg-Cross
December	Carmela Carr
January 2023	?
February 2023	?

SPEAKER – SEPTEMBER 16, 2022 (Marriott/Zoom)**Connecting Multi-Language Learners to the Community in Montgomery County****Kathy Stevens, Montgomery Coalition for Adult English Literacy**

In Rotary, the theme for the month of September is **Basic Education and Literacy**, one of the six areas of focus. To help us understand the current state of literacy in our community, we'll hear from **Kathy Stevens**, Executive Director of the Montgomery Coalition for Adult English Literacy. (MCAEL). Kathy joined MCAEL in 2012. She comes to MCAEL from Montgomery College, following career and volunteer experience in higher education and nonprofits, including work as a senior executive of an international, non-profit membership organization. Kathy is a fundraiser, lawyer, community organizer, and mediator. An active community member, she is one of three Co-Chairs for Montgomery Moving Forward, a Collective Impact group in Montgomery County. Additionally, she is Board Chair for the Charles Koiner Conservancy for Urban Farming and a board member for Nonprofit Montgomery. She is a graduate of Leadership Montgomery and Impact

Silver Spring's Community Empowerment Program. Kathy holds her J.D. from the University of Richmond, Ed. M. from the Harvard Graduate School of Education, and B.A. from Swarthmore College.

When she is not at her desk or at a county meeting or event, Kathy can often be found hiking with her dog Blair, finding live music to listen to, and very often hosting dinners to bring friends and family together over a meal.

SPEAKER – SEPTEMBER 23, 2022 (Marriott/Zoom)**The Rewards of Becoming a Master Gardener****Betsy Wooster, Montgomery County Master Gardeners**

Betsy Wooster, with the help of her able partner and Rotary stalwart Kevin Flynn, has vowed to work smarter not harder when it comes to managing their challenging third of an acre in North Chevy Chase. Following a long career in environmental education, Betsy retired from the U.S. Department of the Interior in 2018. Within a year she joined the Montgomery County Master Gardener program to learn more about sustainable horticultural practices. Little did she know that she would not only have access to a multitude of gardening resources and expertise but also be able to contribute to educating young people and community members through a wide variety of Master Gardener programs.

Betsy's background includes more than a decade with the National Geographic Society and National Wildlife Federation. She is currently serving as one of the editors of the Montgomery County Master Gardeners newsletter, which serves a very active group of 450 trained volunteers who educate County residents about safe, effective and sustainable horticultural practices that build healthy gardens, landscapes and communities.

SPEAKER – SEPTEMBER 30, 2022 (Marriott/Zoom)

Offutt's Crossroads: The Early History of Potomac and its Founding Family **Ralph Buglass, Montgomery County Historical Society**



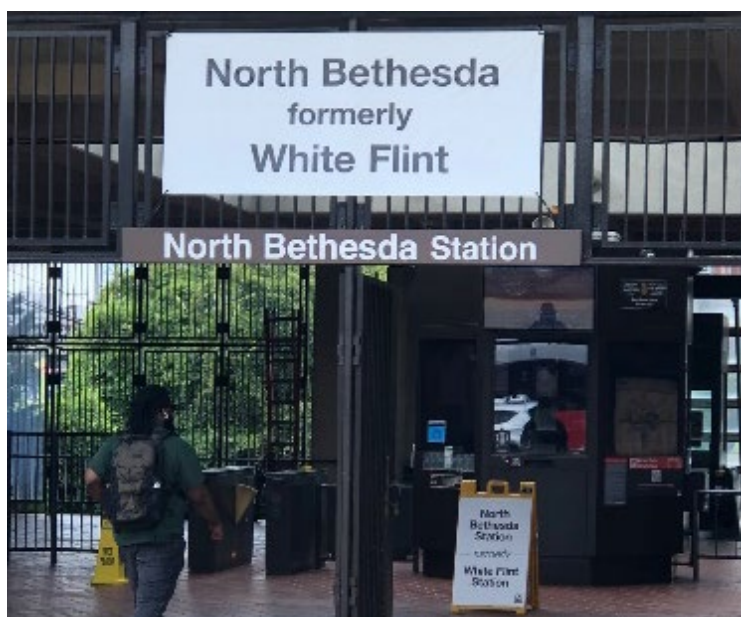
This talk and slide presentation covers the “first family” of Potomac: the Offutt’s, for whom Potomac was originally named (Offutt’s Crossroads). The talk, by a descendant of the Offutt family, explores when and how the village came to be called Potomac, with feuding among the family, the end of slavery, a business partnership gone bad, and attempted murder all playing a part—not to mention a few ghostly appearances in later years!

Ralph Buglass is a frequent speaker for Montgomery History on a variety of local history topics and a volunteer researcher for Peerless Rockville, the nonprofit historic preservation organization for Montgomery County’s seat of government. In 2020, with Peerless Rockville, he co-authored *Images of*

America: Rockville, a pictorial history of the city’s 250 years. He also teaches lifelong learning courses at American University, Johns Hopkins University, Montgomery College, and Frederick Community College. A Montgomery County native, he graduated from Winston Churchill High School, then earned a BA in American history from Cornell University and an MA in journalism from American University.

Speakers for September coordinated by Kevin Flynn.

SIGN OF THE TIMES



Well, it only took Metro a few decades to recognize something our club knew in 1974...this North Bethesda thing is going to be BIG! (Photo at the North Bethesda Metro station entrance, August 22, 2022).

ICE CREAM SOCIAL A BIG HIT!

Our club donated 120 backpacks to this year's Ice Cream Social, sponsored by Interfaith Works and held August 20 at the plaza of the Park Potomac development. It's the 5th year of our participation. After two years of Covid-related concerns, this year had a big turnout, with lots of participants, face painting, games, balloon making, a '50s rock and roll band, and a fire truck from the Rockville Fire Department.

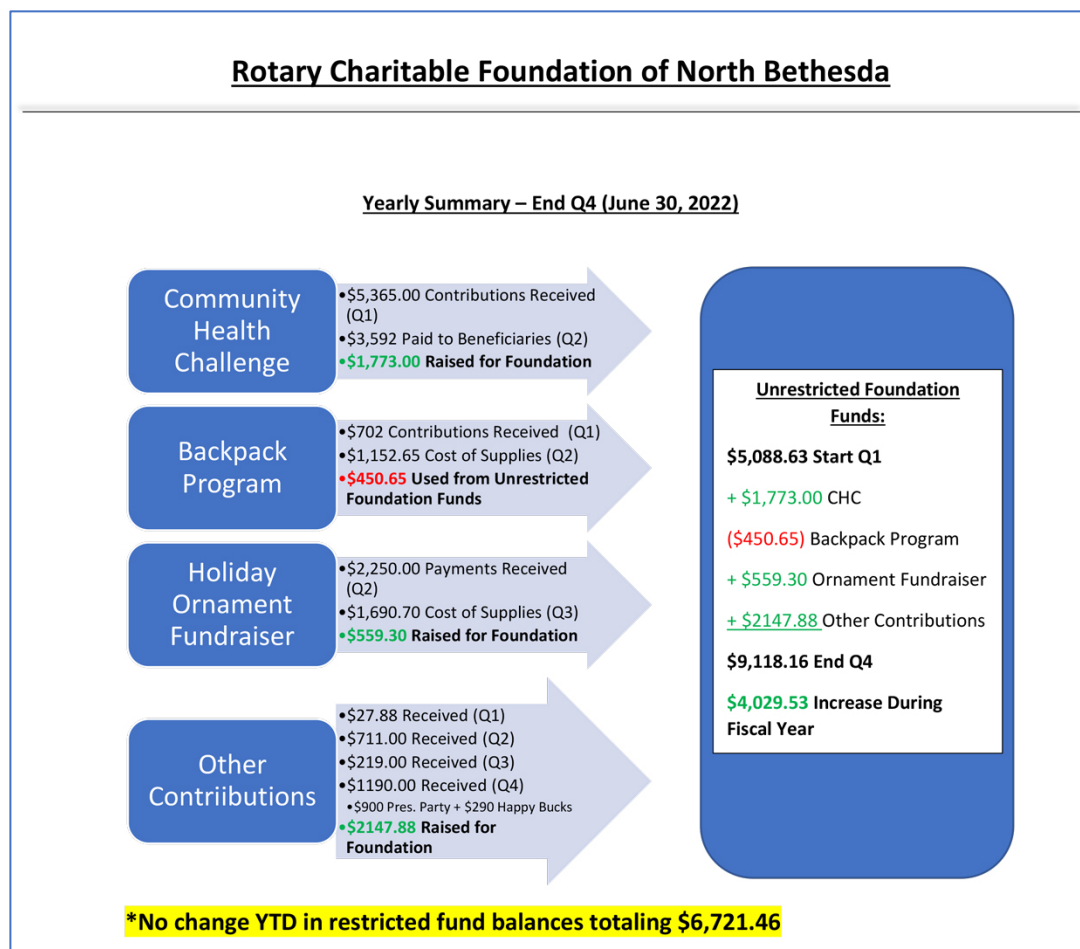
Club members and families at this event included **Steve Vaccarezza, Victoria Feldman, Rob and Jane Folliot, Ron Sigelman, Paul Arveson, Bob Sonawane, Kevin & Betsy Flynn** with daughter **Megan Zinger** and grandchildren **Zach & Emily, Sultan Chowdhury, Dan Moore, and John & Lily Waterston**. Zach's favorite exhibit was the 1953 fire truck, where he rang the bell several times.

Congratulations to Dan on winning a Kuerig coffeemaker in the raffle for backpack donors, and to John, who won a doggie gift basket which he donated to the 2 large dogs residing in Steve's basement (with his son).



CLUB FOUNDATION YEAR-END REPORT

The **Rotary Charitable Foundation of North Bethesda**, our club Foundation, ended its fiscal year on June 30. The Foundation registered a significant increase in its unrestricted funds, rising from \$5,088 in June 2021 to \$9,118 at the end of June 2022. The Foundation had notable increases in contributions, including the Foundation's share of the Community Health Challenge, the Backpack program, and the Christmas Ornament Fundraiser. A new fundraiser at the President's Party in June also gave a boost to the balance. The Foundation's "restricted" fund balance, mainly for scholarships, was unchanged in FY 2022, but funds have been committed to support two scholarships in the fall of this year. For more information on the Foundation's finances, contact Carmela Carr, Foundation President, or Kevin Flynn, Foundation Treasurer.



THE ROTARY 4-WAY TEST

Of the things we think, say, or do:

Is it the TRUTH?

Is it FAIR to all concerned?

Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?



You can access our District Newsletter here: [The Rotary 7620 INNOVATOR](#)



ROTARY CLUB OF NORTH BETHESDA 2022-2023 OFFICERS

President	Steve Vaccarezza	
Treasurer	Joe DiPietro	
Secretary	Linda Berg-Cross	
President-Elect	John Waterston	
Club Administration Director	TBD	Chairs the Club Administration committee which is responsible for performing the logistical tasks related to club meetings.
Club Service Director	Victoria Feldman	Chairs the Service Projects committee which is responsible for planning and carrying out successful service projects which focus on Rotary's Areas of Service.
Membership Directors	Ron Sigelman Bob Sonawane	Chairs the Membership committee which is developing and implementing an action plan to attract and engage members.
Public Relations Directors	Kevin Flynn Christine Syversen	Chairs the Public Relations (PR) committee which is responsible for developing and implementing a plan to create awareness of club activities and projects among club members, media, and the community.
President, Rotary Charitable Foundation of North Bethesda	Carmela Carr	
Treasurer, Rotary Charitable Foundation of North Bethesda	Kevin Flynn	