

ROTARY CLUB of SARASOTA



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DISTRICT 6960

ZONE 34

PRESIDENT – JEFF MEYER

Classification: Vice President, Investments

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SMILE, the weekly club newsletter

ROTARYCLUBOFSARASOTA.COM

SOCIAL SEPARATION (SS) EDITION #4



DURING THESE INTERESTING TIMES, LET'S NOT FORGET THE IMPORTANCE OF SOCIALIZING BY REMEMBERING SOME OF THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS THE *PEOPLE OF ACTION* HAVE ACHIEVED BY BEING MEMBERS OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF SARASOTA.

Five years ago, the Club helped All Faiths Food Bank initiate School Based Food Pantries in Title I schools. Over the 5 year grant period, the three original pantries staffed by Rotarians have distributed 467,841 pounds of food and served 13,661 clients and 25,607 children, not including summer pantries.



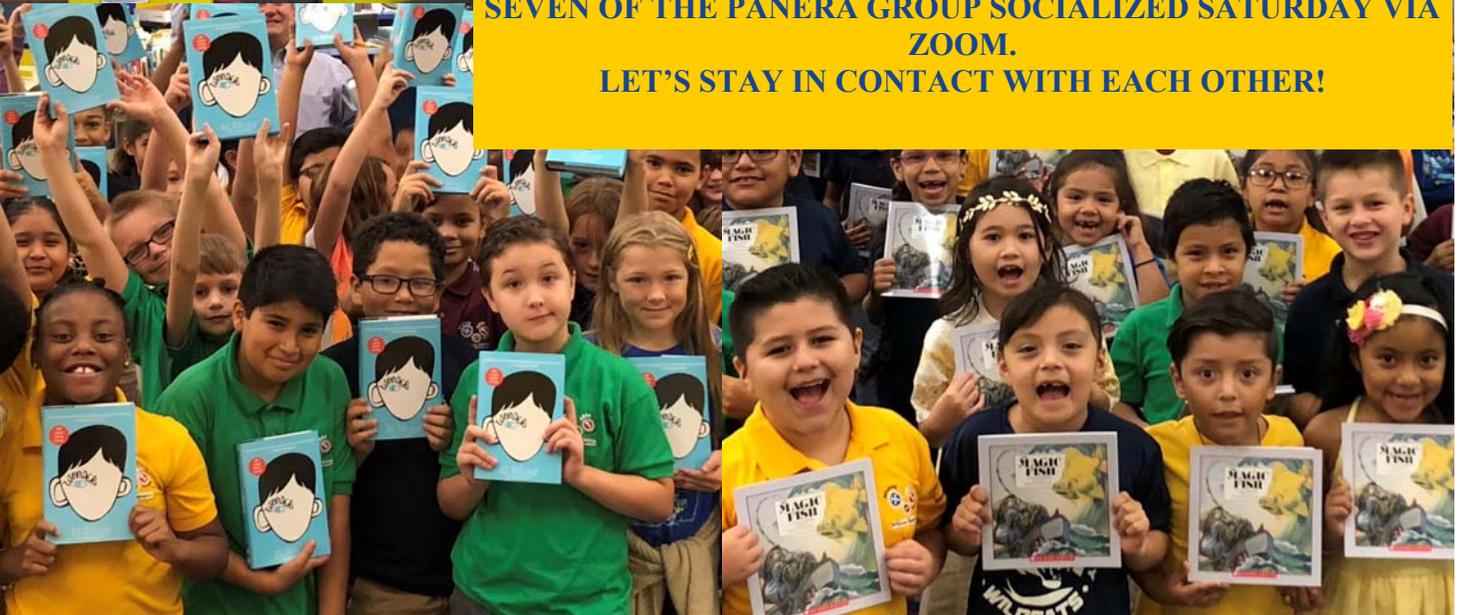


Three years ago, the Rotary Club of Sarasota initiated the Rotary Reading Project by partnering with the Suncoast Campaign for Grade Level Reading to distribute Kindergarten Readiness Bags to all of Sarasota County's pre kindergartners. The project has grown into an \$76,000 annual project funded by most of Sarasota County's Rotary Clubs and now serves over 3,000 Kindergartners and over 12,000 students and their parents and teachers. Sarasota County's third graders, compared to other systems with over 3,000 students, enjoy being the highest rated in the State of Florida's third grade reading assessment tests, but the Rotary Reading Project is helping them become even more reading proficient.



SO WHILE WE ARE PHYSICALLY SEPARATED, LET'S NOT BECOME SOCIALLY SEPARATED. THANKS TO MAARTEN, SEVEN OF THE PANERA GROUP SOCIALIZED SATURDAY VIA ZOOM.

LET'S STAY IN CONTACT WITH EACH OTHER!



TWO MORE BOOKS FOR YOUR SEQUESTERED READING PLEASURE by Ron Rayevich

I found both of these books at the Selby Public Library, which like everything else in Sarasota is closed now. I went out to buy myself a couple of summer shirts on Saturday only to find that, except for WalMart, all the clothing stores are closed. I guess I will have to use Amazon or go naked pretty soon, which won't be a pretty sight. (*Editor's note - I hope Helen convinced you to use Amazon!*)

A Good Provider is One Who Leaves by Jason DeParle. Those of us who used to go on cruises or travel to hotels around the world (which is not allowed right now), may have wondered where all the people who work on the cruise ships and international hotels come from. They seem to speak proper English, are very courteous, and seem to be a long way from home. This book tells their story and how they have risen from poverty and have raised their families into the middle class by leaving home for distant career opportunities. It includes stories of both men and women and in some cases even their older children. It's any easy read and very informative.

The Years that Matter Most by Paul Tough. If you have children, grandchildren or even great grandchildren who are in their school years, you will want to read this. I always wanted to know how all my wealthy colleagues in the real estate industry somehow managed to get their kids (*legally that is*) into Ivy League schools or their equal, and why poor children, even those who are very bright, do not. There are plenty of scholarships available to those without means, but many kids don't even seem to think about going to better colleges, which might accept them. This book is both a commentary on our public school system and some interesting advice on what to do and what not to do for our children. (*Editor's comment: Think Rotary Reading Program.*)



Ron Long Ago



Ruth McLaren says that nine months from now we will have corona babies...and 13 years later they will be quaran-teens.



Jim Henry read 'Where the Crawdads Sing' by Delia Owens. It is an absorbing read that combines a murder mystery, coming of age, an overlook of nature, and intriguing poetry. *And even if you don't know what a crawdad is, read and learn. The novel is a wonderful, yet imaginary escape.*



JUDY'S MOVING

Just down the street, that is.



Where they live now is up for sale. So, if you know anyone who may be interested, let Judy know.

According to Nurse Judy's, Jim is impatiently but nicely recovering from recent surgery.



LOIS SCHAPER has a wonderful friend that goes on travels with her, all the while practicing physical separation. Her bicycle. She has several routes. One 40 mile route starts at the Bradenton Library on the Manatee River and takes Riverview Road out to Robinson Preserve and then Manatee Ave. to Anna Maria. She does the north loop and then the south end, eating her lunch at a park on the north end of Longboat Key. Then she returns to the Bradenton Library.

Another 40 miler begins at the head of the Legacy Trail to Blackburn Road and then Casey Key, leaving via Albee Road and following the coast, then takes #41 bus into Venice, working her way to south jetty and then out to Venice Beach and Sharkey's where she eats lunch and then returns to the Legacy Trail.

Her short 30 miler is with the Sarasota-Manatee Bike Club on a route through Palm Aire, down to Benderson Park via Honore and through the back roads ending up at Conservatory and University.

(*Editor's note: Whew! - I got exhausted just keying this in, and I did a bit of copy and paste.*)



MATTEO, the club's exchange student from Italy, is nearing the end of his year and has been with his host family, **Shelly and Andy Wilson**, all year. **Matteo's** is scheduled to head home at the end of June. He has been in constant contact with his guardian aunt. So far, she has not been affected by the coronavirus, but others have. It would be possible for **Matteo** to leave at the end of May, but his aunt, as well as **Shelly and Andy**, are happy to have him remain here. Like most of us who have hosted exchange students, they become part of our family as well.

