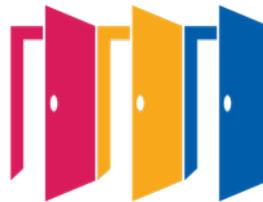


Rotary



Rotary Opens Opportunities

The SMILE

July 5, 2020

ROTARY CLUB OF SARASOTA

CHARTERED APRIL 12, 1926

CLUB NUMBER 4339

DISTRICT 6960

ZONE 34

PRESIDENT – LAURA RANDALL

The Four Way Test of Things we Think, Say or Do:

1. It is the TRUTH
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned

Upcoming speakers

July 15.....Our own Don Bruns

July 22.....Les McCurdy,
McCurdy's Comedy Theater

This week's speaker

Ashley Brown, President & CEO Women's Resource Center

On paper Ashley Brown is the President/CEO of Women's Resource Center, but she is much more. She is the imagination, catalyst and glue...



Along with her board, staff and volunteers, she is the force behind the Women's Resource Center. In 2019 WRC delivered 8300 hours of highly praised programming to over 2000 women in our region.

It's commonly assumed that women in need, often heads of household/employees/custodial parents/caregivers, are those living below the sustainable wage level. In 2019 23% of the women who were WRC's clients lived at or above the sustainable wage level while 77% were at or below it. Like everyone else women can be lumped together arithmetically to create gross statistics, but the reality is that each one is an individual with her own story, needs, and future. In our region more than 40% of our households were struggling to make ends meet and then Covid 19 arrived. For these people the pandemic aggravated existing worries and added new ones, too: children's schooling at home, rapidly changing employment and skills that make for employability, low wages for service workers, aging dependents, high cost of housing and living, gray divorce, lack of technology, multiple languages, poor transportation, and mental health issues. How can women in our region get to financial self-sufficiency and emotional health?

What are the realities and possibilities we need to understand and work with as citizens of the Region? What can we do to help in our own daily lives and positions?

Ashley is here to help us understand.

Previous meeting (July 1)

The first Club meeting of the Rotary Year was a multi-media event, demonstrating the new normal in our community. Some Rotarians met for a socially distant, mask-clad lunch at Marina Jacks, while other club members participated via Zoom. With some newly acquired technology, the Zoom Room is feeling closer than ever.

The Annual Award winners, who were revealed at the Annual Banquet on June 27th were recognized for their accomplishments and congratulated. Those lauded include Zain Hartman – Rookie of the Year, Judy VanHouten – Sean Skinner Fellowship Award, and Jim Henry – Ed Pierce Rotarian of the Year. Sarasota County Sheriff Tom Knight was distinguished as our Citizen of the Year for his leadership and humanitarian contributions to the county.

Tony Swart, the newly minted Programs Chair gave his vision on what the content of our club meetings will look like, introducing the Rotarian Minute idea. During each meeting, one Rotarian will be introduced and asked to give a 60 second (ish) reflection on a part of their life that other Club members may not know. The hope is that we will all know many of our members more through this innovative change.

ISO a creative editor for the SMILE! Contact President Laura to let her know of your interest in filling this important communications role for our Club.

What's next?

Not ready for the Marina Jack Buffet? We're still Zooming!

We'd love to see you Wednesday at lunch. The Zoom link for lunch is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85074954959>

Celebrating a birthday this week:

**Peg Cork - July 4th
Fred Derr - July 10th
Ben Bates - July 11th**

2020-2021 Board of Directors

**Laura Randall - President
Lee-En Chung - President-Elect
Dan Smith - Vice President
Jeff Meyer - Immediate Past President
Andrea Nierenberg - Secretary
Steve Cork - Treasurer
Drew Adams - Sargent-at-Arms**

**Directors
Pam Akins
Peg Cork
Zain Hartman
Ruth McLaren
Tom Melville
Paul Mlotok
Steven Stegall**

**Rotary Club of Sarasota -
www.rotaryclubofsarasota.com.**