



Rotary Club of Florence

President: **Frank Schneider**
 Secretary: **Carrie Herrmann**
 Treasurer: **Ian Addington**
 SGT-at-Arms: **Shawn Carroll**
 P. Elect: **Peter Weickgenannt**



Mondays 12 pm at the Hilton
 7373 Turfway Rd, Florence KY
 Box 6027 Florence KY 41022
 District 6740
 859-334-0157



TODAY'S VIRTUAL SCHEDULE, APRIL 13th, 2020

- 11:45 Brown Bag Buffet Snacking Starts (\$0)
- 12:00 President **Frank Schneider** Presiding
Team 1 Prayer, Pledge and 4Way Test
- 12:15 Jacob B. and Roger B. on supporting our community during this COVID19
- 1:00 Meeting Adjourned

TODAY'S ZOOM PROGRAM LOG-IN

1. Download the free ZOOM software [iPhone/iPad App](#), [Android App](#), [Mac](#), or [Windows](#).
2. Click or type this browser link (case sensitive) t.ly/BkXKn
3. Or from a Cell, click +1 646 558 8656<tel:+1%20646%20558%208656> US (New York)
4. If asked, Meeting ID: 870 361 148
5. If asked, Password: 41042

PEOPLE OF ACTION

- * **Jim Ferguson**, after meeting with the Foundation Board, has been tasked with coordinating our efforts to help YMCA (Day Care Workers, 1st Responders) & Master Provisions (feeding a myriad of food insecure citizens) during this Pandemic period we all are experiencing. **Jacob** brought it to the club's attention that the RC Durr YMCA is still operating in a VERY limited role with very little funding help. They are currently caring for children of first responders. They are caring for them while the parents are serving our community and also are feeding their families in general.
- * Both **Jacob Brooks** and **Roger Babik** will be speaking at our Monday "virtual" Rotary meeting to help Rotarians understand the need our community is facing.
- * **Jim Ferguson** spoke with a gentleman from the Cincinnati Rotary Club and their foundation has committed \$100,000 for the next 4 weeks to supply their first responders and families with care and dinner. The estimated cost for this (400-450 families) is around \$25,000 per week. Our need is much less and Jacob estimates they will need \$10,000 each week with \$5,000 of the \$10,000 needing outside help (i.e. Donations from Rotary, private donors, ETC).
- * **Jacob** presented this need to our club's Foundation Board. The Board has agreed to use some of our current funds in our possession to assist the YMCA and lend a Rotary hand to include Master Provisions. What this means is for every dollar we are able to raise over the next 3 to 4 weeks, the Foundation will match it dollar for dollar up to \$5,000.
- * **Julia Pile** is working on a donation link from our Web-page to Rotarian's and the public. It will be on the front right side of the page at <https://florencerotary.org/>
- * **OUR 1ST QUARTER COMMUNITY SERVICE PARTNER:** Our first quarter CSPs are GO Pantry and New Perceptions. To volunteer with Go Pantry, email roger@masterprovisions.org or sign up at gopantry.org to help at one of their 1Q pack events: March 4/5 (Wed or Thurs) March 8 (Sun). See **Shawn Carroll** for volunteer opportunities at New Perceptions. We have **\$140 of \$500** in donations from Rotary members so far this quarter. This will be matched and split equally between GO Pantry and New Perceptions. Donations may be made payable to Florence Rotary Foundation and given to **Billy Santos** or **Greg Palmer**.
- * **4 PRESIDENTIAL INITIATIVES:** GROW +20; RAISE 20K; DEV. 20K; DIVERSITY
- * **MEAL AD** \$100/quarter & runs weekly. **PATRON AD** is \$100/year runs every 3rd week.
- * **VOLUNTEER HOURS:** Please turn in to **Carrie Herrmann**
- * **WHO ARE WE:** We are a community service organization focusing on "service above self". Guests are always welcome. More info: www.florencerotary.org or [Facebook](#).
- * **PHOTOS NEEDED FOR DACDB.** To upload your photo, 1st login [here t.ly/P33Pe](https://t.ly/P33Pe) then click [here t.ly/y55d0](https://t.ly/y55d0). **DACDB COORDINATOR SOUGHT:** See Frank for more info.

Hartke, Wayne	11-Apr
Raverty, Patrick	13-Apr
Howard, Adam	14-Apr
Keeling, Barbara	21-Apr
Wolfer, David	25-Apr
Hodges, Joy	30-Apr

Frank Schneider
Meal Sponsor
GATEWAY REHABILITATION HOSPITAL
513-781-8940

Jim Ferguson
Meal Sponsor
APEX REALTY GROUP
859-907-5466

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Rick Hayden
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Peter Weickgenannt
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Beth Long
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Mike Bailey
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John Steffen
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Shawn Carroll
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 Articles Written By: Patrick Moynahan
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Conservation District is Hellbender Hunting

Written By: J. Patrick Moynahan, Mar-08

If you stumble across a hellbender in a Boone County creek, give Susan Brown a call.

What you're looking for is a big, flat salamander that's 9-15 inches long, lurks on the bottom and looks "kinda creepy and slimy." The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service analyzed a water sample in a search of its own but didn't find hellbender DNA ... or did they?.

"We waited months and months and months to get results back from the lab," said Brown, education specialist for the Boone County Conservation District. "They finally called and said, "It's inconclusive."

"I really think we have them here because Gunpowder Creek looks like ideal habitat."

The hunt for hellbenders, a near threatened species, was among the projects Brown highlighted during a recent presentation to the Rotary Club of Florence. The conservation district partners with state, federal and non-profit organizations on numerous projects and programs aimed at managing and preserving natural resources.

The projects cover a wide array of projects including agricultural landowner services, stream cleanup and management, water quality assessment, forest and wildlife studies and youth and family educational programs.

"Our job is to be on the front lines of protecting the soil, the water, the air, the forests and the wildlife - all the natural resources that make this county a great place," Brown said.

For example, the conservation district put together watershed plans for Woolper Creek and Gunpowder Creek in collaboration with Sanitation District #1, the Kentucky Division of Water and other organizations. The agency also assisted Gateway Community and Technical College and Camp Ernst with storm water runoff control.

In addition, the conservation district helped the non-profit Boone Conservancy turn a gravel pit in Belleview Bottoms into a recreational area with a lake, hiking trail and birding loop. The area, known as Conservancy Park, is home to a native cactus species and freshwater jellyfish (that don't sting), according to



Brown.

"There's great fishing there," she noted.

Brown said the conservation district has begun to ramp up efforts to manage forest health. Students from Thomas More University and Northern Kentucky University participate in water quality and wildlife data collection and surveys. The

conservation agency has conducted plant studies, reptile surveys, moth studies and salamander surveys.

The conservation district launched a bat survey in early March. They set up equipment in Boone County woodlands with special microphones that listen to bat calls at night, Brown explained. With help from a software program, they can determine whether gray bats and Indiana bats, in particular, inhabit the county.

"If we find these species, we could potentially get more funding opportunities to help protect the forests," Brown said.

The public can get in on the action, too, through the conservation district's educational programs. The district stages a Conservation Kids Camp for youngsters 9-12 who explore natural resources through hikes, fishing and scientific studies.

It also started a leadership academy called L.E.A.F. - leadership, exploration and fun - for teenagers 13-15. The students learn leadership and survival skills while participating in such outdoor adventures as fly fishing, canoeing and hiking.

Each month the conservation district hosts a family program that explores Boone County's natural areas. Professional naturalists and educators lead wildflower walks, owl prowls and salamander searches.

The next salamander searches are March 20 and March 21 at Middle Creek Park in Burlington.

"We play in the creek a lot," Brown said.

Might even find a hellbender there, she thinks.

