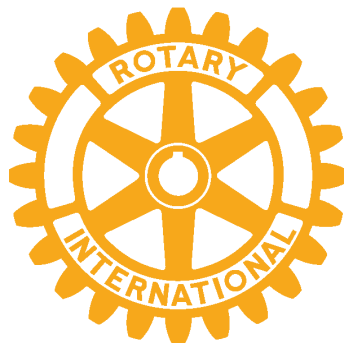


Rotary



Spoke

Rotary Club of Hickory
Chartered 1921 – Hickory, NC - USA

April 4, 2019

Today's Program: Catawba County Partnership for Children



**Catawba County
Partnership For Children**

"Investing in Young Children"

Our speaker today is Kim Holden, Executive Director of the Catawba County Partnership for Children. Currently celebrating its 25th year, the Partnership for Children is our community's early childhood service hub.

The agency works to identify and address our community's most significant challenges for young children and their families. Through partnerships with other child-focused agencies such as Catawba County Social Services, Catawba County Public Health, and our three school systems, CCPC works to determine what Catawba County children need in order to be prepared

for lifelong success and to provide programming to respond to those needs.

The work of the Catawba County Partnership for Children is based on a substantial amount of research that confirms the importance of a child's first 2,000 days of life. In fact, a significant percentage of a child's brain is developed within his or her first five years, so it is absolutely critical as a community that we maximize our impact during this window of opportunity for each child in Catawba County.

The Partnership receives support from Smart Start, as state grant focused on ensuring that children enter school healthy and prepared for success and from the North Carolina Pre-Kindergarten Program. The rest of our funding comes through the generosity of the Hickory Rotary Club, other local civic organizations, the Catawba County United Way, foundations, corporations, and individuals. Through this combination of local and state funding, the Partnership is able to provide a number of well-coordinated, effective, and highly collaborative early childhood programs, such as our community's Imagination Library program. All of these programs are considered to be research-based and are focused on children from birth to age 5 and on their families.

For more information about the Catawba County Partnership for Children, visit www.catawbakids.com.

Rotary Annual Blood Drive

On Thursday, April 11, we will have our Annual Blood Drive at Lake Hickory Country Club from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The Red Cross will set up donation stations in the front dining area of the club and allow us to utilize the lounge for waiting and recuperating with snacks and refreshments and viewing live coverage of Round 1 of the Masters Tournament (for any of you golfers). The Blood Drive will serve as our Rotary Meeting for that week, so please come out and give if you can. Appointments can be scheduled ahead of time at <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time>.

(continued on page 2)

Club Business and Announcements

Rotary Annual Blood Drive (continued from page 1)

If you've never used "Rapid Pass", we highly recommend it as it allows donors to conduct most of the pre-screening for blood donations online and can significantly speed up the process of donating.

If you are unable to give blood, please bring a ball (preferably basketballs or kick balls) to donate. We will be accepting them on behalf of the local Boys and Girls Club.

If you've never given blood before, we hope that you will consider making this drive your first. Perhaps you will find inspiration and encouragement from the story of the Taylor family below.

On December 27, 2012, Jim and Shrestha Taylor gave birth to their son, Aaron James Taylor. Aaron was born at a below average size and after confirmation through several tests, it was apparent he had a very rare, severe liver condition called neonatal hemochromatosis. Not much is known about this rare disease, and the only viable treatment is liver transplant. On January 12, Aaron got a second chance at life with a liver transplant; however, complications caused that donor liver to fail. A second transplant on January 27 was also unsuccessful, and Aaron passed away on February 19, 2013. During his short life, Aaron received 115 individual blood products. The father, Jim, had usually given blood maybe once a year in the past but now has a greater sense of responsibility for giving regularly and more often.

Jim says, "When I donate, I feel a direct connection to Aaron, just like I felt a connection to the anonymous people whose gifts kept Aaron alive. For me, donation sessions are times of meditation. I think about Aaron. I wonder if he is proud of me and if he knows how much I love him. I think about my platelets and where they will go as soon as the donation is over. I like to think some of it will help a child like Aaron and I hope that child's parents will worry a little less because of this small contribution."

"Donating blood can save lives. I've seen it happen in my work and I've seen it happen in my personal life. I just finished up donating over 16 gallons of platelets since Aaron passed and hope to keep it up the rest of my life."

"I know my Red Cross donation center and the people there well. Most of them know me and why I am there. They do a great job and are always professional. But I can tell when they worry. I can tell when fewer donors are coming in. I ask them, and they admit when things are bad."

"When the Red Cross says there is a shortage, they are not exaggerating. I now know from experience that they are saying, in part, that somewhere there is a father waiting on the donation that will save his son's life. When the Red Cross asks for help, what that means is a new dad is praying for a miracle. These are things we cannot dismiss."

"Healthcare professionals cannot succeed without the right tools and supplies. Blood does not come from a fancy medical factory—it comes from generous donors. We must all do what we can to protect and save human life because one day we may find ourselves praying for a donor."

Please consider donating on Thursday, April 11, where 45 minutes of your time can equate to a lifetime for someone else.

Rotary Club of Hickory Officers and Board of Directors

Officers	July 2018 – June 2019	Board of Directors	Terms Expiring
Linda Lutz	President	John Bates	June 2019
Gerry Knox	President-Elect	Hank Guess	June 2019
Tara Bland	President-Nominee	David Williams	June 2019
Leslie Ferrell	Secretary	Michael Blackburn	June 2020
Jan Bohmuller	Assistant Secretary	Bruce Bumbarger	June 2020
Lynn Loehr	Treasurer	Cliff Moone	June 2020
Kelly Farr	Assistant Treasurer	Philip Reed	June 2021
		Anne Williams	June 2021

Last Week



Last week, Bonita Ferretti (photo at left) reported to the club about updates to the schedule for Rotarian Idol All-Stars. She also shared with club members the contestants' video auditions. On Thursday, April 4, there will be a public kick-off party for the event at Café Rule. This year's contestants will be present for the free event. The party goes from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Café Rule will provide appetizers, and there will be a cash bar. Bonita also reported that sponsors and advertisers are still needed for the event, and she urged club members to participate if at all possible. Tickets for the May 17 event will be available at this week's meeting.

Also last week, Todd Hogue was inducted into club membership. A photo of that induction ceremony is below.



Next Week

Next week, there is no regular luncheon meeting. Instead, we will have our Annual Blood Drive at Lake Hickory Country Club from 11:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Please see the article about the drive on pages 1 and 2 of this edition of the *Spoke*. In two weeks on April 18, we'll hear from Taylor Dellinger, Senior Data Analyst for the Western Piedmont Council of Governments. Mr. Dellinger will give a presentation on regional economic and development trends. The presentation will cover a variety of topics including Hickory-Lenoir-Morganton Metropolitan Statistical Area (or Hickory MSA) and Catawba County population trends, unemployment, and labor force statistics, employment by industry, and housing data.

Club Member Weekly Assignments

Date	4-04-2019	4-11-2019	4-18-2019	4-25-2019
Greeter	Mary Burritt	Annual Blood Drive	Deaton Smith	
Invocation	John Bates	(LHCC: 11:00 – 3:30)	John Bates	Rotary Club of Hickory's Spring Break!
Visitors	Tony Reed		Tony Reed	
Sunshine		No luncheon meeting		No luncheon meeting
Program	Leslie Ferrell		Tara Bland	
Speaker		No <i>Spoke</i>	Taylor Dellinger	No <i>Spoke</i>
Topic	Partnership for Children		Western Piedmont Council of Governments	
Raffle	Juliet Good		David Myers	



BE THE INSPIRATION

2018 – 2019
Rotary Theme



Rotary International

Barry Resin
President

Rotary District 7670

Isaac Owolabi
District Governor
Jason Herman
Assistant D.G.



Of the things we think, say, or do:

1. Is it the truth?
2. Is it fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build good will and better friendships?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

The *Rotary Spoke* is published weekly by the Rotary Club of Hickory, PO Box 2628, Hickory, NC 28603.

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Rotarians, please e-mail information on your upcoming program or other Rotary event to the editor two weeks in advance of publication. (E-mail text or a Word document; please—no fax.) Visit us on the web at www.hickoryrotary.org

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• = Benefactor
† = Senior Active Member
PHF = Paul Harris Fellow
LOA = Leave of absence

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