The Metro Memo

CREATE LASTING IMPACT

VOLUME 34-15 | WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE COLUMBIA METRO ROTARY CLUB | OCTOBER 7, 2026

Thank you . . .

to **Heather McArthur** for presenting today's inspiration, leading members in the Pledge of Allegiance, and providing a fundraising opportunity.



Heather has been a member of Metro since September 2014. She stated the things she liked most about Metro was the people and the friendships she has made since joining. Outside of work, she enjoys spending time with her children.

Members With Guests

Member	Guest
Casey Buckman	Wesam Sabri
Bill Costello	Lawrence Simonson
Bill Costello	Toby Arquette
Victoria Brees	Lisa Hussey

THE FAMILY OF Rotary

Happy Birthday to the following Rotarians this week:

Bette Wordelman ..... *October 10*

Bryan Stockton ..... *October 10*

Scott Christianson ..... *October 11*



On October 17, Metro will sponsor a team in the Walk to End Alzheimer's at Stephen's Lake Park. Please contact **Lisa Royse** or **Laura Royse** if you would like to participate.

Metro's Board of Directors will meet on October 21 at 1:00 p.m. at the Columbia Country Club. All members are welcome to attend.

The District 6080 Conference is planned for November 6 in Columbia. Please see page 3 of this newsletter for details.

The annual All-Columbia Rotary Thanksgiving luncheon is planned for November 11 at the Elk's Lodge (4747 East Elk Park Drive) at 12:00 noon. Please watch for more details as the date approaches.

*Congratulations to **Jean Leonatti** who won $50 from the private vault of **Heather McArthur**. We raised $57 for Metro charities.*

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Do you know of a 501(c)(3) organization in need of funding? If so, please contact **Ron Bodenstab** at your earliest convenience. He and his wife, Davida, are generously assisting qualified organizations.

SERVING ROTARIANS AT WORK DAY OUR COMMUNITIES

The District Simplified Grant Metro was awarded includes funds for cleanup of the nature playground at the Center for Early Learning-North (2191 East Smiley Lane). Please contact **Sarah Read** if you would like to help one (or more) of the days noted below. Each workday is tentatively planned for 1:00-4:00 p.m.

November 5

- Further cleaning/pruning of classroom window area
- Trim bushes and trees from corner walk area so kids can climb
- Trim plants growing on fenceline through fence

November 9

- Pull plants to create path between walkways through central bed on north side of garden
- Remove encroaching plants in sand area (report for giveaway)
- Re-mulch sand area
- Weed vegetable raised beds

November 12

- Remove encroaching plants in sand and arch areas
- Re-mulch sand and arch areas
- Gravel and pavers for new walkway central bed path
- Any unfinished things from prior list

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Happy Hat



Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms **Sandra Logan** invited members to share good thoughts and news about the topic of their choice. Today's contributors were **Shelley Sigholtz**, **Sarah Read**, **Wesam Sabri**, **Rob Christensen**, **Jean Leoatti**, **Charlene Boyes**, **Victoria Brees**, **Shane Winter**, and **Sandra Logan**.



In recognition of World Polio Day on October 24, Metro has set a goal of raising $500 during the month of October to support Rotary's PolioPlus program. The fundraising collection is being marketed as "Change for Change."

Members are encouraged to bring any loose change they have available to meetings during the month of October (cash will be accepted as well). At the conclusion of the last monthly meeting, a tally of the cumulative donations will be taken and reported to the club. Start saving your change today!



Invite a Friend to Rotary!

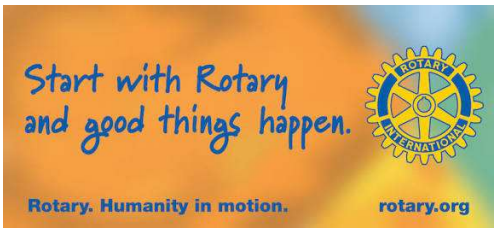
Do you know someone who would make a great Rotarian? If so, the process of nominating him/her is simple. An application form is available on the Metro website at https://tinyurl.com/23v53s44.

Need help coming up with a list of possible names to invite to a Metro meeting? You may find one, or more, of the following sources helpful.

- Work/personal contact list
- People you do business with
- Community volunteers
- Neighbors
- Active civic leaders
- Colleagues/local professionals
- Teammates
- Anyone looking to network, grow personally, and serve others

Once you have the information completed, please forward to **Victoria Brees** at maybrees@hotmail.com.

PLEASE NOTE: Anyone who brings a guest to Rotary during the month of October will have his/her name entered into a drawing that will occur the first week of next month. If you bring a guest each week, your name will be entered four times! How exciting would it be to win a prize simply for bringing a friend and/or a colleague to one (or more) of our weekly meeting(s) and helping them learn more about Rotary and our activities?



Columbia College

On March 1, 2026, Dr. Toby Arquette (below) became the 19th president of Columbia College (CC). He updated members about activities at the college.



This year, CC is celebrating its 175th anniversary. CC was originally chartered as Christian Female College, the first women's college west of the Mississippi chartered by a state legislature. In 1970, the college began admitting men and became a four-year college. In 1973, CC began serving the military, and in 1975, they launched an evening program for working adults. In 2000, CC became one of the first colleges in the country to teach online. CC focuses on access, community, and service.

Today, CC serves over 8,000 students at 15 locations. Dr. Arquette informed members that CC is currently in the process of developing its strategic plan, and he noted five areas CC plans to focus on: healthcare, workforce development, engineering, artificial intelligence, and learning innovation.

Dr. Arquette thanked the Columbia community for being so supportive of the college, and he encouraged members to reach out to him to discuss areas where local businesses may be needing employees with unique skill sets.

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District 6080 Conference

November 6, 2026
9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture
Community Welcome Center
1769 West Ash Street, Columbia, Missouri

$50 for Rotary members and $25 for Rotaractors

Register today at
https://www.dacdb.com/mmp-login/?EventID=77938650



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FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Metro's Community Service Committee would like to assist local organizations whose missions align with Rotary's to help youth, education, and the environment. If you know of an organization/group/project that could benefit from additional funding, please complete the form below.

Rotary Columbia Metro Rotary Club

Community Service Committee: Community Support Proposal Form

Please complete the information below and return to Lisa Royse at roysel@health.missouri.edu.

Date: _____

Columbia Metro Rotary Member Name: _____

Community Organization Name: _____

Contact Person and Information at Organization: _____

Requested funding amount (maximum $100): _____

Deadline for funds: _____

How does this organization contribute to our community and align with our club's mission to be a transformative influence in our community and in the world through our work with youth, education, and the environment? (2-3 sentences)

_____

_____

_____

How will the organization use the funds if awarded? (2-3 sentences)

_____

_____

_____