



# TOLEDO ROTARY SPOKE

March 26th, 2020 | 108TH YEAR | ISSUE 231



**MONDAY,  
MARCH 30, 2020**

**WENDY PESTRUE, J.D.  
PRESIDENT, UNITED WAY OF  
GREATER TOLEDO**

**UNITED WAY & COVID-19  
COMMUNITY RESPONSE**



Wendy Pestru, J.D., has over 20 years of nonprofit involvement, with expertise in program development and fundraising, primarily for academic medical centers and universities. She became President and CEO for United Way of Greater Toledo in February 2018. Her experience includes notable institutions, such as The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, Temple University College of Medicine, Defiance College and Bon Secours Health System. Her noteworthy accomplishments include establishing programs for young adults with autism, a center for neuro modulation and a stand-alone hospice facility. She and her husband Justin reside in Ottawa Hills.

[Click Here for  
Lucas County Covid-19  
Information](#)

[Click Here to join  
meeting via  
ZOOM](#)

## Upcoming Programs

**April 6th**  
**Senator Sherrod Brown**

**April 13th**  
**NO MEETING**

**April 20th**  
**Dr. Cheryl McCullumsmith  
UTMC**

**April 27th**  
**Alex Mejirski**

## Committee Meetings

**April 6th**  
**1pm**  
**Investment Committee  
via Zoom**

## Message from Executive Director, Kathy Tate

Fellow Rotarians,

Exciting news and opportunity continue beyond the success of our inaugural Zoom meeting this past Monday—thank you to all who joined the meeting!



Recently, I was informed that the Park Inn has been sold and is now under new ownership; the doors will close on March 31, 2020. The future of the Park Inn has included many rumors, none of which can be confirmed and all of which I expect will be clarified over time.

Although the challenges of moving are a bit escalated from our original plans, the timing couldn't be more perfect! Our Club and its members never cease to amaze me and I am so very thankful for all those that have immediately stepped up to help.

Here is our current status:

- Thanks to fellow Rotarian Steve Miller, we have plenty of storage space for our immediate needs at Seagate Center.
- We have a multitude of venue options available for future consideration and have confirmed use of the Aquarium at the Huntington Center during the interim, once the Governor's directive is reversed.
- I, along with club administrator Abbey Mortemore Sachs are working remotely—a huge thanks to fellow Rotarian Matt Adkins and Argyle IT for managing & implementing that process.
- Additionally, President Tim has formed an ad-hoc House Committee led by fellow Rotarian Lynette Reichle to assist in locating office space that will serve our Rotary Club now and well into the future.

Updates will be provided as known. Please feel free to reach me directly if you have any immediate questions or thoughts. You may email me at [ktate@toledorotary.org](mailto:ktate@toledorotary.org) or call my cell at 419-973-0404.

Take care, be well and be safe.

Kathy

### A Message from The Lucas County Commissioners Office Covid-19 Donations Requested

Hello Business Leader,



We have heard from a number of businesses and organizations who have wanted to step up and help our community during this COVID-19 pandemic. During this difficult time, we appreciate any and all assistance to help protect front-line workers and others from further spread of this virus.

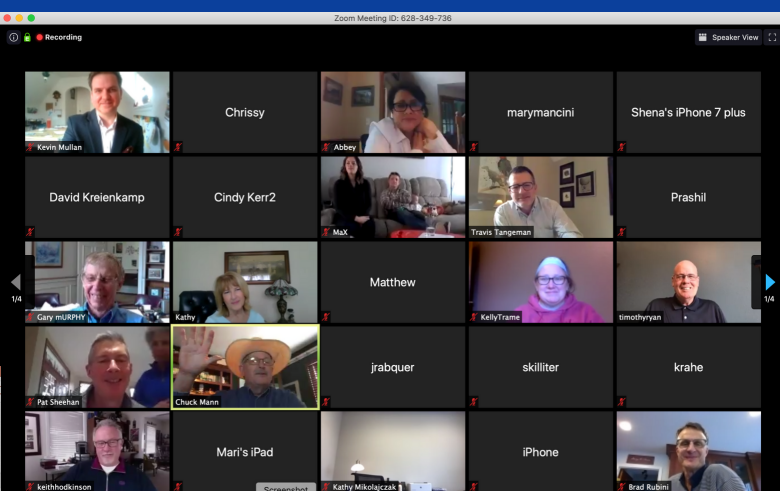
On Monday Lucas County Emergency Management was able to secure a warehouse to collect, organize, and distribute essential supplies for the community. Given the uncertainty of the coming days and weeks, below is a list of supplies needed to respond to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The resources collected will be distributed to front line organizations; for example, first responders like medical, fire, and police, and nonprofits, like homeless shelters. All resources collected will stay here in Lucas County and support operations in our community.

**[Please Click on This Link to view or print the letter with the list of items needed](#)**

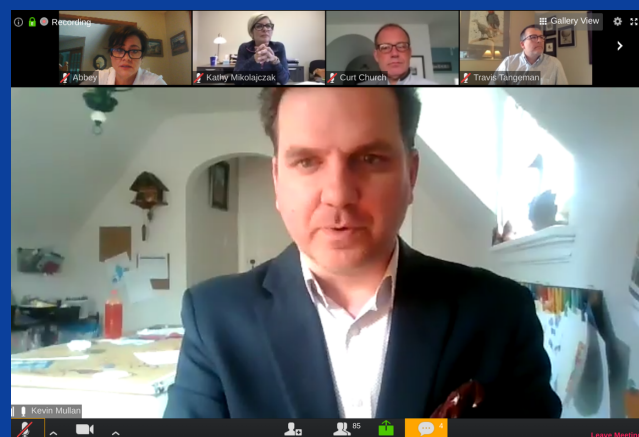
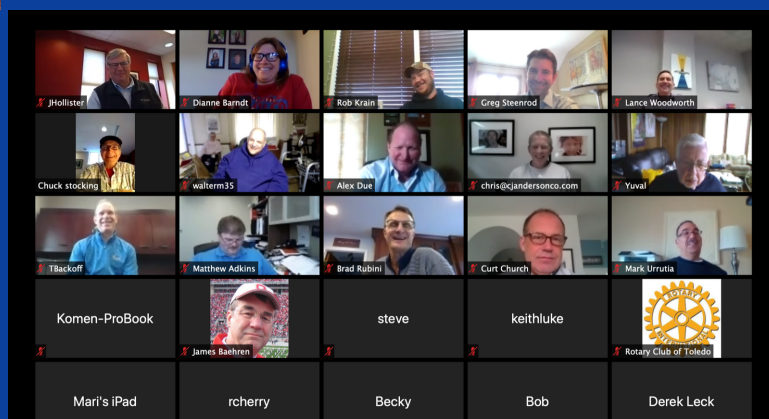


## Inaugural - ZOOM Monday Meeting

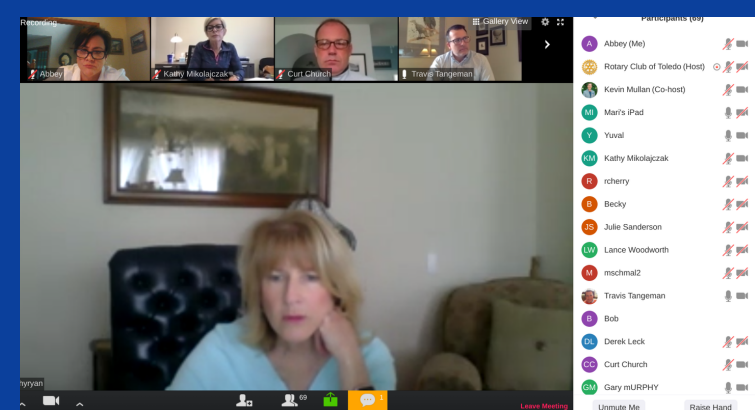
Huge success with more than 100 Rotarians and guests joining the zoom meeting  
Check out these awesome screenshots from the meeting!



Shout out to Travis Tangeman for helping make this possible!



Shout out to Kevin Mullan - we couldn't have done it without you!





[Watch Meeting  
Video HERE](#)


## MONDAY, MARCH 23RD RECAP

**ERIC ZGODZINSKI, PHD.  
LUCAS COUNTY HEALTH  
COMMISSIONER**

Eric Zgodzinski moved to Toledo in 2001 from Cleveland where he was a senior sanitarian at the Cuyahoga County Board of Health. He has held many positions at the Toledo health department including supervisor of health services, director of community services response and preparedness, and director of community and environmental health services.

He was a biology major at Thiel College in Greenville, Pa., and graduated with a bachelor's degree in 1991. He also has a master's degree in public health from the Northwest Ohio Consortium for Public Health and he just received doctorate degree through the University of Illinois at Chicago.

His book, Essentials of Public Health Management, was released in 2005. Dr. Zgodzinski, who was promoted to the position of Toledo-Lucas County Health Department Commissioner in June 2016, said he is working with other community leaders to operate a strategic plan to improve the health of the local community. Instead of a shotgun approach, the Toledo health community needs to pick one or two health issues as priorities to focus time and resources on, he said. His personal priority is to lift Lucas County up from 73rd place out of 88 Ohio counties in health outcomes for local residents. The health outcome rankings are based on indicators such as the number of violent acts committed, access to care, and the obesity rate, among others, he said.



**Click on the graphic to  
the right for local  
Covid-19 information**

## LUCAS COUNTY **CORONAVIRUS** INFORMATION

Visit the [Lucas County Health Department web site](#) for the most up-to-date information on Coronavirus in Lucas County.



# Toledo Rotarian Maria Arcocha White featured in The Rotarian Magazine

## 4 QUESTIONS ABOUT

### Diversity, equity, and inclusion

with Maria Arcocha White

Rotary Club of Toledo, Ohio  
Founder and CEO of Inclusivity LLC



#### 1 What does the phrase “diversity, equity, and inclusion” mean to you?

I immigrated to the United States from Cuba in 1962, when I was three years old. Growing up, I was the only person like me, and I was called names. So I’ve always been very sensitive to exclusion.

When I started my career in the 1980s, women and people of color had begun to come into the professional workforce, and U.S. businesses were starting to realize that there were growing minority populations they needed to appeal to. For me, that translated into a personal passion around diversity. But after working for almost 30 years in the diversity-training space, I realized that we were not focusing enough on creating cultures of inclusion. I started my own company to take a different approach.

I lead with inclusion, because I believe that if you create an inclusive environment, then diversity will come. If you focus only on diversity, you’re just focusing on checking boxes of people who are visibly different. You’ll never change culture because you’re not focusing on behavior.

Diversity is a fact. Inclusion is an act — it takes effort and practice. But over time, it should lead you to a more equitable place, with equal opportunity for all people.

#### 2 How can an organization create a culture of inclusion?

It’s all about the way people behave toward one another. To be inclusive is to be open to difference. So you may need to behave in a different way than you’re used to. One sign of an inclusive culture is that people are listening for assumptions that reflect bias and they feel comfortable saying, “Why do you believe that to be true?” It’s not taken as a judgment. It’s just people trying to help each other and the organization to be successful.

Another sign is that people notice when others are excluded and then do something about it. Like noticing when somebody looks lost. You go up to them and say hi. It seems like such a little thing, but it’s huge! Be approachable. Smile at people. Learn their names. You’d be amazed at how many people don’t do those things.

#### 3 What can Rotary members do?

First, clubs need to put this on their agenda. Even if you don’t think it applies to your club, it absolutely does. Diversity is so broad; it’s not just about race and gender. Just think about how you would describe the majority of people in your club,

and then identify people in your community who are outside that norm. If you want your club to grow, then you need to think about this, because the world is becoming a more diverse place all the time.

Second, clubs need to find ways for members to feel included and engaged. My club used to put a lot of effort into recruiting folks but not so much into getting them involved once they were there. This year we created a program in which new members are assigned an “ambassador” who gets to know them and eases them in.

#### 4 How can we ensure a positive outcome?

Change is uncomfortable for everyone, so we need to lead gently and sensitively and to remember our mission. No organization should welcome people who don’t share its mission and values. We’re not going for diversity of values. The way we’re going to grow is with people who are aligned with the values of Rotary. But helping them all feel included is important to success. — JOHN M. CUNNINGHAM

Read Rotary’s diversity, equity, and inclusion statement at [rotary.org/diversity-equity-and-inclusion](https://rotary.org/diversity-equity-and-inclusion).

# Community Needs & Service Project Opportunities

## American Red Cross

### Blood Services & Covid-19

An update on the critical need for blood donations at this time. Due to many blood drive cancellations across our area, we are in need of blood donations.

### **Shortage As Coronavirus Outbreak Threatens Availability of Nation's Supply**

*Nearly 2,700 Red Cross blood drives have been canceled across the country due to coronavirus concerns, resulting in some 86,000 fewer blood donations.*

The American Red Cross now faces a severe blood shortage due to an unprecedented number of blood drive cancellations in response to the coronavirus outbreak. Healthy individuals are needed now to donate to help patients counting on lifesaving blood.

**Individuals can schedule an appointment to give blood** with the American Red Cross by visiting [www.RedCrossBlood.org](http://www.RedCrossBlood.org) or calling 1-800-RED-CROSS.

As the coronavirus pandemic has grown here in the U.S., blood drive cancellations have grown at an alarming rate. To date, nearly 2,700 Red Cross blood drives have been canceled across the country due to concerns about congregating at workplaces, college campuses and schools amidst the coronavirus outbreak. These cancellations have **resulted in some 86,000 fewer blood donations**. More than 80 percent of the blood the Red Cross collects comes from drives held at these locations.

#### **Volunteer donors are the only source of blood for those in need**

The Red Cross expects the number of cancellations to continue to increase, which is causing heightened concern for blood collection organizations and hospitals across the country. This blood shortage could impact patients who need surgery, victims of car accidents and other emergencies, or patients suffering from cancer.

"I am looking at the refrigerator that contains only one day's supply of blood for the hospital," said Dr. Robertson Davenport, director of Transfusion Medicine at Michigan Medicine in Ann Arbor. "The hospital is full. There are patients who need blood and cannot wait."

"As a nation, this is a time where we must take care of one another including those most vulnerable among us in hospitals," said Gail McGovern, president and chief executive officer, American Red Cross. "One of the most important things people can do right now during this public health emergency is to give blood. If you are healthy and feeling well, please make an appointment to donate as soon as possible."



# Community Needs & Service Project Opportunities Cont.

## American Red Cross

### Covid-19

Be Red Cross Ready – helpful information on how to prepare and cope with the outbreak.

## Be Red Cross Ready

*Prepare so you can protect.*



## Steps to Help Protect Against Coronavirus COVID-19

### About Coronavirus COVID-19

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is responding to an outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a new Coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in China and has now spread to multiple countries including the U.S.
- According to the CDC, patients with COVID-19 have reportedly had mild to severe respiratory illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure and include fever, cough and shortness of breath.
- Call your healthcare professional if you develop symptoms and have been in close contact with a person known to have the disease, or if you have recently traveled from an area with widespread or ongoing community spread of the disease.
- The following health and preparedness tips can help you stay healthy and prepare for possible disruptions due to this coronavirus. Most importantly, stay informed about the latest information by visiting the CDC website at [cdc.gov/covid19](https://www.cdc.gov/covid19).

### To Help Prevent the Spread of Respiratory Illnesses, Use Healthy Practices:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds (the time it would take you to sing 'Happy Birthday' twice) or, if soap is not available, use hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw it in the trash. If a tissue isn't available, cough or sneeze into your elbow, not your hands.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Follow CDC's recommendations for using facemasks, which is for people who show symptoms of COVID-19 to help prevent the spread of disease to others, and for health workers and caregivers in close settings.
- Practice healthy habits: get sleep, eat nutritious food, drink fluids, be physically active and manage stress.
- Influenza and pneumococcal disease are the leading causes of vaccine-preventable respiratory illness in the U.S., so protect yourself with an annual flu vaccine and if eligible, the pneumonia vaccine.

### To Prepare your Household for a Possible COVID-19 Outbreak in the U.S., Use Preparedness Practices:

- Obtain at least a 2-week supply of food staples, household and sanitary products, if asked to stay home (a best practice to increase your preparedness for any hazard).
- Keep current prescription medications in regular supply, with at least a 30-day supply of needed health items.
- Learn how your local public health authorities will provide guidance to your community and stay informed.
- Learn how your children's school or daycare, and your workplace plan to handle a possible outbreak. Create a plan to accommodate any closings, event cancellations or postponements.
- If you care for older adults or children, plan and prepare for caring for them, should they or you become sick.

# Community Needs & Service Project Opportunities Cont.

## The United Way

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:**

United Way of Greater Toledo is looking for volunteers over the next three weeks to help build weekend meal packs & distribute the packs, in addition to lunch/breakfast meals, for TPS students displaced from school. Additional details are listed below, and the link to sign up as a volunteer is [www.feedtoledokids.org](http://www.feedtoledokids.org). There are over 1,500 time slots that need to be filled. We will be taking all sanitary precautions for these volunteer opportunities, such as hand washing, sanitizing, offering gloves, and social distancing volunteers.

There are two ways to volunteer.

**Build meal packs.** These volunteers will sign up in small group blocks (25 or less) for a one hour shift on Tuesday or Wednesday for the next 3 weeks. Volunteers will help to assemble 10,000+ shelf stable weekend meal kits.

**Distribute meals** beginning March 18 at one of 15 locations around Toledo. These shifts are from 10:45 am -1:15 pm and locations will be finalized on Monday. These working groups will again be small groups (5 or less) helping to distribute thousands of meals each day.

Volunteers can sign up at [www.feedtoledokids.org](http://www.feedtoledokids.org) on multiple distribution days, as consistent volunteers will help expedite the distribution. We ask that at any time if volunteers are feeling sick, if they are someone in a high risk audience or someone who cares for that population, they do not volunteer at this time.

United Way is working with Connecting kids to Meals, TPS and many other partners in our community to help children get food during this school shutdown. Please sign up to volunteer at [www.feedtoledokids.org](http://www.feedtoledokids.org), email [jennifer.archer@unitedwaytoledo.org](mailto:jennifer.archer@unitedwaytoledo.org) with any questions about this volunteer opportunity.

If you or your staff need help with accessing food or information during this time remember you can call 2-1-1 24/7. 2-1-1 is a community resource for questions about many aspects of daily life within Lucas County. As parts of our daily lives shift on a frequent basis in response to COVID-19, it can be difficult to keep up with the latest information. That said, all medical questions must be redirected to the Lucas County Community COVID-19 lines (419-251-4000 and 419-291-5355) to talk to medical professionals who are available 24/7 to answer your inquiries.

2-1-1 continues to serve as a critical community lifeline, connecting citizens with resources. If you have questions about closures or the status of assistance programs, please feel free to reach out to 2-1-1 for this information. If you would prefer to find information online, please visit Toledo-Lucas County Health Department website at

<https://lucascountyhealth.com/coronavirusupdates>

Thanks so much for your support in this effort!

Chad J. Rutkowski  
M.Ed. | Senior Development Officer



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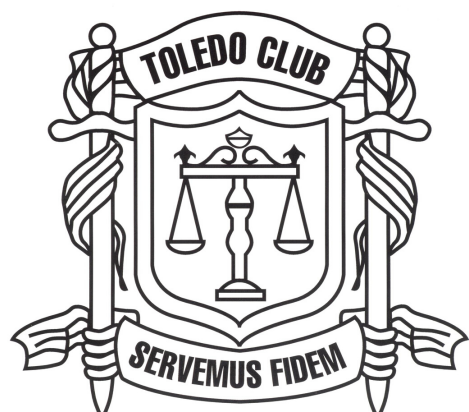
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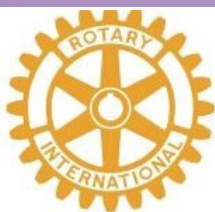
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**Executive Director** | Kathy Tate

**Club Administrator** | Abbey Mortemore Sachs

**Toledo Rotary Website** | toledorotary.org

**Toledo Rotary Phone** | 419.241.7060

### Rotary International

**President** | Mark Daniel Maloney

**Governor, District 6600** | Carolyn Huston

**Area 4 Assistant Governor** | Cynthia Smith

**RI Website** | rotary.org