

The Roundtable

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Bangor Area Breakfast Rotary**

www.bangorbreakfastrotary.org

October 11, 2018

What are You Doing After School?

Nothing? Nowhere to go? If you live in the Bangor Housing community, and you are in the 6th through 12th grades, the Bangor Boys and Girls Club welcomes you. Hanna Boutin, program director for the club, described the demographics of members of the club and activities that provide a safe place for kids.



One hundred kids are in the club, said Ms. Boutin (pronounced BOW-tin). There is a \$5 annual fee, but some families struggle to pay that. The club provides transportation for kids who need it, and they must be residents of Bangor Housing. Bangor's club is one of 4,000 such clubs in the US. There are 3,798 kids in grades 6-12 in Bangor. The club offers free school lunches to families who qualify.

Mentors help low-income kids to read. "Kids in the first three grades of school with low reading abilities do not graduate from high school," Ms. Boutin said. Twenty-three "mini clubs" enable members to choose focused activities such as the Debate Club, Dance, Baking Club, Cheering, and Classic Gym Games.

The Gardening Club provided an "oh-my-gosh" moment for one young participant. "We showed them how to plant carrots," Ms. Boutin said. "When they were ready to pick, one kid said 'You mean carrots come out of the ground?!'"

The staff attempts to get to know the families. "If we can get the kids to be successful, then the families will be successful," said Ms. Boutin. "Kids love to come to us. We have no behavior problems."



Presently, participants in the Boys and Girls Club must live in the Bangor Housing complex. The club hopes to expand to include children from all over Bangor.

Many volunteers help with the work, including Americorps and University of Maine students.

The annual budget is \$138,000, with 75 percent coming from Bangor Housing. The Cole Land Transportation Museum funded placements for several children, and funds come from the United Way. The club operates under the Waterville club's charter, but it will have its own charter in November that will open possibilities for expanded space.

"Our biggest challenge is finding more space. Our clubhouse holds only 100 kids," Ms. Boutin said. "The Salvation Army may offer space next fall. We feel overlooked in Bangor Housing." She said they will maintain their headquarters in its present location.

A Prodigal Son Returns

Well, not too sure about "prodigal," but we did welcome former member/president **Bruce Roscher**. Bruce and his wife will celebrate their 37th wedding anniversary with their traditional trip to Bar Harbor this weekend. Bruce continues financial consulting in Pennsylvania. He said, proudly, that his oldest daughter is a news anchor for Yahoo News.

President June Kontio reported that the board seeks suggestions for the format of the weekly meetings. The goal is to attract new members. "Do we need the invocation? The pledge?" A new public relations committee will be formed that will need a chairman.

Ken Kimball said applications have been sent to non-profit organizations for the *All That Jazz* committee to evaluate for recipients of the program's proceeds. Three bands accepted performance invitations: Old Town, Orono and Hampden. Ken said they hope to add a fourth band.

Meanwhile, batter up! **Kendra Speed** urged distribution of tickets and posters for the club's 11th annual Veterans Day Pancake Breakfast. Because Veterans Day falls on Sunday, November 11, the breakfast will be held on Monday, November 12 at Jeff's Catering. **Tom Dorrity** will assist in logistics while Kendra is out of town. **Paul Miragliuolo** is selling business card-sized ads for the program book.

Ken Huhn's Rotary Moment gleaned fundraising activities from clubs around the country as published in the October 2018 edition of *The Rotarian*. He described his idea of having something named for the Breakfast Rotary, perhaps in Acadia National Park. Ken enjoyed a high school class reunion in Salinas, Kansas and then a trip to Denver.

The birthday fines flowed from Kendra, Ken Kimball and, because he has missed a couple of years of being present for his birthday, Bruce Roscher. **Pudge Harrison's** mother is in town, and leaving shortly. **Lisa Wahlstrom** traveled to the San Juan Islands in Washington (the state) that included a side trip to Chicago. **Caroline King** experienced happiness and sadness - her 16th wedding anniversary and her mother's funeral were on the same day.



Jennifer Khavari urges us to vote “YES” on Question 5. If approved, the \$15 million bond issue will benefit the community college system, included \$2.3 million to EMCC for capital improvements.

Lennonade: **David Zelz** noted that this would have been John Lennon’s 78th birthday (October 9, 1940). David’s mother died on Lennon’s birthday and his brother was married on the same date.

Les Myers- October 11, 2018

The Morning Gallery



Bruce Roscher- Musician and Philosopher



Stopped in Orono on a rainy day

Caroline King sent this latest information on Hurricanes Florence and Michael:

It is horrible to think that I am updating you on another Hurricane thrashing the United States, especially as we still have Maine volunteers supporting the recovery efforts for Hurricane Florence and the subsequent flooding.

I urge you to make a financial gift now to help people affected by disasters like storms and countless other crises by making a gift to American Red Cross Disaster Relief. Your gift enables the Red Cross to prepare for, respond to and help people recover from disasters big and small.

To make a gift, please contact me by phone at 207-941-2903 x402 or visit our website at www.redcross.org – you help is needed urgently!

Here is the latest Red Cross information and update:

Last night, Hurricane Michael blew through the Florida panhandle as a Category 4, and now is impacting Georgia, the Carolinas and Virginia.

This Hurricane came together quickly and is leaving homes demolished. Maine volunteers were deployed ahead of the storm to Florida, and more will deploy as the storm passes and it is safe to travel to support Red Cross shelters, food distribution, damage assessment and mental health services. We are using the word “unprecedented” to describe Hurricane Michael- **no Category 4 storm in recorded history has ever made landfall in the Panhandle/Big Bend Region.**

If you have loved ones in the region, I hope they are safe. Please encourage them to download the free American Red Cross emergency app to receive storm updates and information on shelters, emergency services.

Attached is the latest update on the storm. I will continue to share updates on the American Red Cross’ response as the storm progresses. Please keep our Red Cross responders and the nearly 30 million people in the path of Hurricane Michael in your thoughts and prayers.

Please contact me if you have any questions!

Caroline King

Executive Director

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HURRICANES MICHAEL AND FLORENCE FAST FACTS

October 11, 2018

Hurricane Michael has caused untold devastation along the Gulf Coast and the American Red Cross is helping as relief operations continue for victims of Hurricane Florence.

Hurricane Michael (Florida, Georgia, Alabama)

- Wednesday night, approximately **7,800 people** stayed in as many as **95** Red Cross and community evacuation centers across Florida, Georgia and Alabama.
- The Red Cross has mobilized more than **800 trained disaster workers** to support relief efforts across three states.
- The Red Cross has pre-positioned enough shelter supplies, including cots and blankets, to be able to support some **15,000** people.
- We're also working with partners to prepare for serving tens of thousands of meals per day.
- Since October 9, more than **4.6 million** weather alerts have been issued through Red Cross apps allowing people to make informed and lifesaving decisions.
- **On October 10, Hurricane Michael made a Category 4 landfall as the third-strongest hurricane in U.S. history. It was also the strongest hurricane to hit the U.S. in 50 years.**

Hurricane Florence (North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia)

- Wednesday night, more than **535 people stayed in 12 Red Cross shelters in the Carolinas**. This included approximately **507** people in **11** shelters in North Carolina; and **30** people in **1** shelter in South Carolina.
- In total, the Red Cross and other organizations have provided more than **124,600** overnight stays in emergency shelters across the Carolinas. The Red Cross has provided about **92 percent** of these stays.
- Today, more than **2,500** Red Cross disaster workers—about 94 percent volunteers—from all over the country are helping to shelter, feed and support people affected. Of these workers, more than **1,300** are local community members from the Carolinas who have joined with the Red Cross to support relief efforts.
- Working with partners, the Red Cross has served more than **1.55 million meals and snacks**.

- Volunteer mental health and health services professionals have provided some **47,800** contacts to provide support and care to evacuees.
- We've distributed more than **312,700 relief items** like clean up kits, rakes, shovels, bleach, garbage bags and much more to help with the massive clean-up effort.
- Since September 11, more than **5.2** million weather alerts have been sent through Red Cross apps to help people make lifesaving decisions.
- **Hundreds of blood drives were forced to cancel due to Hurricane Florence, resulting in thousands of uncollected blood and platelet donations.**
- Hurricane Florence made landfall early on September 14 as a Category 1 storm just south of Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina.
- Florence set tropical storm rainfall records in two states, surpassing 20 inches in South Carolina and 35 inches in North Carolina.
- **Over the course of five days, Hurricane Florence dumped an estimated 10 trillion gallons of water across the Carolinas.**