

March 7, 2019
"Water and Sanitation Month"

Rotary



UPCOMING MEETINGS

March 14 – Virginia Cyber Range

March 21 – Virginia Water Resources

March 28 – Taiwan GSE Team

Apr 4 – Science & Math Scholarships

Rotary Club of Blacksburg (Club 5753)

PO Box 770 Blacksburg, VA 24063
Mark Woolwine, President George Karnes, District
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104TH ANNUAL DISTRICT CONFERENCE

March 15-17, 2019 at The Homestead. Regular
Registration Now Open!

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Four Way Test: Of
the things we
think, say, or
do...Is it the
truth? Is it fair to
all concerned?
Will it build
goodwill and
better
friendships? Will
it be beneficial to
all concerned?



Wilderness Road Chorus

Wilderness Road Chorus is a women's singing group that sings barbershop-style harmony music at community events as well as producing its own musical shows. It rehearses weekly at Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, Blacksburg.

The singers are women from the New River Valley who want to learn about and perform this style of music that was developed in America in the 1800s. Along with jazz, barbershop harmony is an American music form.

Barbershop-style harmony has four parts: lead, a solid sound that usually sings the melody; tenor, a light, sweet, harmony part sung above the lead; bass, a rich mellow part singing the lowest notes of the chord; and baritone, a harmony part crossing above and below the lead. It is sung a cappella.

All the parts blend to create the unique sound that is described as "ringing the chord." When all the four notes in the chord are sung correctly, the audience hears a fifth tone ringing through the room. The barbershop sound is used for all kinds of music—patriotic, traditional, country, and others.

Wilderness Road Chorus is directed by Lavelva Stevens, of Pulaski, who teaches piano, organ, and vocal production.

Wilderness Road Chorus has provided entertainment for conventions and conferences. It also is part of its mission to sing at assisted living and retirement centers.

Women, 16 years of age and older who are interested in singing with the chorus, are invited to rehearsal. Contact Jo Burroughs, (540) 998-0555. Or on Facebook at Wilderness Road Chorus, the website, www.wildernessroadchorus.org.





DR. UJALA NAYYAR, VIRUS HUNTER

Dr. Ujala Nayyar dreams, both figuratively and literally, about a world that is free from polio. Nayyar, the World Health Organization's surveillance officer in Pakistan's Punjab province, says she often imagines the outcome of her work in her sleep. In her waking life, she leads a team of health workers who crisscross Punjab to hunt down every potential incidence of polio virus, testing sewage and investigating any reports of paralysis that might be polio. Pakistan is one of just two countries that continue to report cases of polio caused by the wild virus.



In addition to the challenges of polio surveillance, Nayyar faces substantial gender-related barriers that, at times, hinder her team's ability to count cases and take environmental samples. From households to security checkpoints, she encounters resistance from men. But her tactic is to push past the barriers with a balance of sensitivity and assertiveness.

"I'm not very polite," Nayyar said with a chuckle during an interview at Rotary's World Polio Day last year in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA. "We don't have time to be stopped. Ending polio is urgent and time-sensitive."

Women are critical in the fight against polio, Nayyar says. About 56 percent of frontline workers in Pakistan are women. More than 70 percent of mothers in Pakistan prefer to have women vaccinate their children. That hasn't stopped families from slamming doors in health workers' faces, though. When polio is detected in a community, teams have to make repeated visits to each home to ensure that every child is protected by the vaccine.

Multiple vaccinations add to the skepticism and anger that some parents express. It's an attitude that Nayyar and other health workers deal with daily. "You can't react negatively in those situations. It's important to listen. Our female workers are the best at that," says Nayyar. With polio on the verge of eradication, surveillance activities, which, Nayyar calls the "back of polio eradication", have never been more important.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|-----------------|--------|
| Susan Erickson | 4-Mar |
| Philip Walker | 7-Mar |
| Mike Burnop | 13-Mar |
| Jamie Dunn | 16-Mar |
| Brian Mack | 16-Mar |
| Christine Smith | 20-Mar |
| Al Bowman | 22-Mar |
| Alec Siegel | 29-Mar |



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Contact Barbara Ecton with questions:
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