

OUTA SPACE

NEWSLETTER

ROTARY E-CLUB OF SOUTH AFRICA D9270

www.rotaryeclubsa.org

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Date: 5th February 2013
No 15



February is World Understanding Month for Rotarians throughout the world. Even though we practice this perpetually throughout the Rotary year, it is a particular time for us to emphasize the importance of focusing on goodwill and understanding in the world. This is especially symbolic since, the first Rotary meeting was on February 23, 1905. **It is no accident therefore, that Rotary International has also designated February 23rd as World Understanding and Peace Day.**

It is a time to not only think about our strategic goals of polio eradication but also about the projects that our Club has worked on for the past few years. Without question Rotarians, through community service, are having a major impact on improving the lives of people locally. Rotary has always recognized the real need to understand and value the different peoples and cultures of the world if World Understanding Month is a chance for all of us to pause, plan, and promote the Fourth Avenue of Service, International Service.

To promote "Peace through Service" is to continue Rotary's quest for goodwill, peace, and understanding among the people of the world.

Please remember that it is the responsibility of each Rotarian to introduce prospective Rotarians.

Quite a few pages of this newsletter are devoted to PEACE. This includes the Peace Forum that our Club is holding at Addington Primary School on 23rd February 2013 as well as the Rotary Global Peace Forum that has just taken place in Honolulu and which was attended by Jenna Reinbach & Gil Lewinsky. We will receive a report from them in due course.

The final page lists various publications that have recently featured stories about Rotary activities. Now if we are to promote Rotary and get the broader public to **UNDERSTAND** what Rotary **IS** and **DOES** we probably need to have many more "Good News" stories in the main newspapers. We often get good coverage in regional newspapers but why are there no stories about Rotary's involvement in eradicating polio in the Daily newspapers? *Who needs to be providing these articles for publication?*

Lots of food for thought!

Have Fun

Gerald Sieberhagen - Editor

Rotarians should always be on the lookout for suitable projects that would be suitable for our E-Club to undertake.

OUTA SPACE

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BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

FEBRUARY

13th Sandra Maistry
19th Linda Watts
27th Sue Sieberhagen

ANNIVERSARIES

FEBRUARY

5th Patrick & Rene Andries
10th Johnny & Gillian Stark

UPCOMING EVENTS AND DATES TO DIARISE:

2013

23rd February – PEACE FORUM conducted by our Club at ADDINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

23rd February – Rotary International 108th Anniversary Celebration

9th to 11th May – ROTARY FAMILY HEALTH DAY

17th/18th May – DISTRICT 9270 CONFERENCE – Sibaya Casino

23rd to 26th June – Rotary Convention in Lisbon.

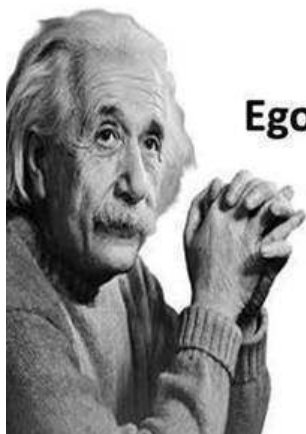
1st July – Merger of Districts 9320 & 9270 to form a new District 9370

2014

8th WORLD ROTARY CRICKET FESTIVAL in NOTTINGHAM UK in JULY
Hopefully SA IFCR will have a full team attending this Festival – Great Fun always

2019

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION IN DURBAN from 6th to 12th JUNE
SADLY, WE MISSED OUT AT THE LAST HURDLE, SO THIS CONVENTION WILL NOT BE STAGED IN DURBAN.



Ego = $\frac{1}{\text{Knowledge}}$

*"More the Knowledge
Lesser the Ego,
Lesser the Knowledge
More the Ego..."*

-Albert Einstein.



We are still hopeful that someone will volunteer to organise something for the Rotary Global Swimarathon. Who will it be? **We now have the answer.**

#O#

The funding of for improvements to the **ITHEMBALETHU EDU CARE CRECHE** in Lamontville, > R100 000 has now been approved. This is as a result of extensive work carried out by Pat Draper & Irene Kotze. Well done.

#O#

Our Literacy project, spearheaded by Nareshini Ranganthan continues to flourish – **WATCH THIS SPACE!**

#O#

Read about our Peace Forum on page 3

#O#

The **FDSA** water project appears to have come just in time judging by the very hot weather being experienced in the Velddrif area.

#O#

See articles on pages 4 to 7

JAN. 25-27, 2013 HONOLULU, HAWAII





Peace through Service **CELEBRATION** **23RD FEBRUARY 2013** www.rotaryclubsa.org



The Rotary E-Club of South Africa D9270 will hold a Peace Forum at Addington Primary School on 23rd February 2013.02.02

A committee chaired by **David Tilling** has been hard at work in setting up this day of CELEBRATION.

The Addington Primary School situated adjacent to UShaka Marine World caters for many children whose parents are refugees from trouble torn countries north of our borders.

We anticipate that around 500 students and parents will attend the CELEBRATION.

Activities get underway at 9h00. Our members are encouraged to attend this event which will feature as speaker, The Rotary International Coordinator for Zone 20 which comprises most of sub-Saharan Africa, **Nick Phillips**. Then there will be music and dancing by students interspersed with student and former student's testimonies. Several primary schools have been invited to participate in an Art and Letter Writing Competition.

This will be followed by outdoor events.

The SAPS band will play music; there will be Soccer, Basketball & Netball matches and fun games and of course what would a Fun Day be without Face painting.

Food will be served from 12h00 – Hot Dogs and Breyani and the Tuck shop will also be open.

The CELEBRATION ends at 13H00 with the SAPS band playing The National Anthem.

We appreciate all the assistance provided by the Principal and staff of Addington Primary School in CELEBRATING PEACE THROUGH SERVICE.



Jenna Reinbach and Gil Lewinsky attended the above Rotary Global Peace Forum

Nobel Peace laureate Aung San Suu Kyi receives award at Rotary Global Peace Forum

By Arnold R. Grahl Rotary News -- 29 January 2013



Left: Aung San Suu Kyi addresses the second Rotary Global Peace Forum in Honolulu, Hawaii, USA. Photo by Phil Spalding **Right: Folded paper cranes in the House of Friendship.**

Aung San Suu Kyi, leader of Myanmar's democracy movement and recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize, delivered the keynote address at the Rotary Global Peace Forum held in Honolulu, Hawaii, USA, 25-27 January.

She was honored with the Hawaii Peace Award for her longstanding pursuit of democracy through peaceful, nonviolent means. After 20 years of house arrest, Suu Kyi was released in November 2010, and last year was elected to Myanmar's parliament as a member of the pro-democracy opposition party.

Suu Kyi told the attendees that absolute peace is an unattainable goal, but one that we must nevertheless continue to endeavour toward. She said that democratic institutions are necessary to guarantee human rights.

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"The kind of peace we want is very simple. We want permanent peace," said Suu Kyi. She also noted that young people have an important role to play. The Honolulu forum emphasized the importance of getting youth involved in the peace process.

"We must help our young people so that they may be able to take over our task of nation building," Suu Kyi said. "We depend on our young people to take us forward."

Engaging young people

More than 1,800 Rotarians, Rotary alumni, and supporters of Rotary's peace program took part in this event, the second of three peace forums planned by RI President Sakuji Tanaka. The first was held in [Berlin](#) in November, and a third is planned for [Hiroshima, Japan](#), 17-18 May.

"Rotary builds peace and international understanding through education, humanitarian service, and connecting with youth," Tanaka said. "To ensure a lasting legacy in this arena, we must engage young people and the new generations to come in a meaningful way, and empower them to carry Rotary's peace-building efforts into the future."

The forum also addressed environmental conservation as a means of promoting peace. Attendees adopted a declaration supporting The Green Path to Peace, which urges those in the family of Rotary to act as catalysts for peace through efforts that conserve and protect the planet. [Read the full resolution.](#)

"An environment that is healthy makes it possible for us to reach our full potential," Tanaka said. "When our basic needs are met, we are not occupied with the daily problems of survival. There is less cause for conflict. And people and nations who do not waste their energy in conflict can use it in ways that benefit everyone."

Past RI President Luis V. Giay served as the forum's convener. The three sites for the peace forums were selected by Tanaka because each was heavily affected by World War II and now represents the healing power of sustainable peace between nations.

"Growing up in Japan after World War II, I saw the importance of peace. I saw the consequences of war," said Tanaka. "Working for peace is a lifelong task. Every day, in 34,000 clubs around the world, we work together for a more peaceful world by bringing water, health, education, and hope to the people who need it most."

Books build peace

In his comments to the forum, RI President-elect Ron Burton recalled a book project he took part in years ago in San Antonio, Texas, and how precious it was to see children clutching their new books.

"There is a reason why we do it the way we do, why we go in as a club, in person, and give these things to the kids with our hands, one human being to another. It's saying, here's something that will help you, and I am giving it to you because I care," Burton said. "How do you build a world with more peace? You start with one Rotarian, handing one kid her first book."

Rotary clubs have long embraced the call for peace at the grassroots level by addressing the underlying causes of conflict and violence, such as hunger, poverty, disease, and illiteracy. Ten years ago, Rotary decided to take a direct approach to promoting world understanding by providing future leaders with the tools they need to "wage peace" on the global stage.

Since 2002, Rotary clubs have annually sponsored up to 60 scholars who embark on one to two years of study — earning either master's degrees or certificates — in peace and conflict resolution at Rotary Peace Centers at universities around the world.

Everyone has a role in peace

Posted on [February 1, 2013](#)

Kai Nestman, left, with RI President Sakuji Tanaka, centre with 3 Rotaractors, the one on the right is **Andrea Tirone, a former Ambassadorial Scholar in D9270**, at the Global Peace Forum in Honolulu, Hawaii. Photo courtesy of Kai Nestman.



By Kai Nestman, a member of the Rotaract Club of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

This past weekend I was fortunate to participate in a Rotary Global Peace Forum in Honolulu, Hawaii. The forum placed a heightened emphasis on young people as catalysts for peace. Workshops brought together participants from around the world to discuss and engage in peace education, technology, intercultural understanding, peace through humanitarianism, and world peace through personal health, among many others. Young people offer us the greatest opportunity to move towards world peace.

Peace can be described as a lifetime journey that individuals travel through in the quest to achieve harmony – a personal expedition in search of harmony that could extend to the cosmos, our environment, the relations between each other, and our harmony with oneself. Peace could include a world free from violence and suffering, yet full of tolerance and love. Aung San Suu Kyi, a Nobel Peace Prize recipient and Member of Parliament in Burma (Myanmar), was the keynote speaker at Rotary's peace forum.

"Young men and women should not need to think about peace. If they need to think about peace there is something wrong with society; there is something wrong with their family situation, or their social situation," described Daw Suu Kyi when I asked, "what encourages people to believe in peace, and especially youth in this process?"

Suu Kyi continued in her response that, "the young must also understand the sedative for peace and the drive for peace... [and] because there is so much turmoil in the world we live in, that more and more young people understand the value of peace."

Youth must gain access to the opportunity to broaden their horizons and cultural understanding through experiences such as a [Rotary Youth Exchange](#). Rotary International sends more than 8,000 secondary school students each year to over 80 countries where students live with host families and bridge international friendships over a year-long exchange.

There are many opportunities for young people to study abroad, live in another country with host families, and engage in a new culture and language. These experiences through high school or during college and university develop international relationships between two similar yet different cultures. This exchange precipitates peace.

As Aung San Suu Kyi stated, "we depend on our young people to take us forward." This could be significant in the quest to achieve world peace; however, we must look to organizations such as Rotary International and educational institutions to promote this shift in international experience and ensure greater accessibility. Everyone has a role in peace, but we must empower youth to grow as peacemakers.

Editor's note: [Kai Nestman](#) is a member of the Rotaract Club of Ottawa and past Rotary Youth Exchange student to Thailand. Kai participated in the Rotary Global Peace Forum in Honolulu, Hawaii, through a generous partnership with the Rotary Club of Sunshine Coast-Sechelt (District 5040).



Declaration of Peace

The Green Path to Peace

Honolulu, 27 January 2013

All human beings have the right to live in a state of peace, free from violence, persecution, inequality, and suffering. As leaders and friends of the Rotary movement, united in service, we publicly declare our commitment to creating a more peaceful world.

We value our shared environmental resources and encourage the family of Rotary to enlist our global perspective and demonstrate that we are catalysts for peace. By conserving and protecting our planet, we support “The Green Path to Peace.”

We believe that the integration of today’s youth into the peace process is essential to a peaceful future. Each new generation enters into a more globalized, connected, and diverse world than the one before it. Young people increasingly view themselves as global citizens: they are more tolerant of cultural, ethnic, and religious differences, and they are passionate advocates for the principles of justice and equality. As the world becomes smaller, the voices of young people and their calls for peace — amplified by technology and social media — become louder and more compelling.

We recognize that a peaceful tomorrow must begin with the actions we take today. We can nurture the seeds of future peace by encouraging young people’s creativity, energy, and idealism, and empowering them to become catalysts for change. It is up to the leaders of today to demonstrate their commitment to peace over war, friendship over enmity, and compromise over conflict, for young people will carry these values forward as the leaders of tomorrow. As each generation inspires and supports the next, the seeds of peace will grow into a green path to peace, constantly moving forward.

We express our desire for a peaceful world through the action of service. By serving and helping others, we gain empathy and understanding, build lasting bonds of friendship, and empower others to become peacemakers. Consider some of the ways that we have enhanced peace together through Rotary:

- Around the world, nearly 14,000 Interact clubs, comprised of young people ages 12 to 18, and 9,000 Rotaract clubs, comprised of men and women ages 18 to 30, afford their members the opportunity to develop leadership skills, serve their communities, and advance international understanding and goodwill.
- For more than 75 years, students and host families have broadened their horizons through Rotary Youth Exchange. Each year, more than 8,000 students in 80 countries have the opportunity to bridge cultures and enhance international understanding through short-term and long-term exchanges.
- Through The Rotary Foundation’s Peace Fellowships, more than 700 Rotary Peace Fellows have earned master’s degrees or professional certificates that enable them to pursue careers in peace-building and conflict resolution.

We urge everyone who shares our vision of peace to take action:

1. Identify “The Green Path to Peace” through service projects in Rotary’s six areas of focus.
2. Be an activist. Use your voice and your vote to encourage your elected leaders to adopt peaceful conflict resolution practices instead of resorting to war.
3. Use social media to engage with people of different nationalities, cultures, and religions who share your commitment to peace.
4. Provide opportunities for young people to develop their leadership potential and become active stakeholders in their communities.
5. Discuss and share strategies for helping young people deal with common sources of conflict they may encounter in their everyday lives, such as gang violence and bullying.
6. Connect with others to make a difference. There are Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas, working in more than 34,000 communities worldwide. Join us in advancing *Peace Through Service*.

Peace is not a final destination to be reached, but an active and continuous process. All of us are capable of becoming peacemakers in our own lives, and through our words and actions, we will demonstrate that peace is possible.



Rotary on the world stage at World Economic Forum

Posted on [January 31, 2013](#)

By RI General Secretary John Hewko



I recently had the privilege of representing Rotary International at the [World Economic Forum](#) in Davos, Switzerland.

Every year, the economic forum brings together in Davos several thousand of the world's leading figures from the private sector, government, and academia. The forum also invites a select group of 40 non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Following the concerted efforts of senior Rotary leaders, Rotary has been fortunate to be chosen as one of those NGO invitees.

The four-day event involved a non-stop program of meetings, receptions, and networking opportunities, which represented an incredible opportunity to introduce Rotary to a very select audience. In all, I was able to have a substantive conversation with almost 120 individuals about Rotary and our efforts to eradicate polio. In addition, because of my prior US government experience with the Millennium Challenge Corporation, I was asked to participate in a number of discussion sessions dealing with international development and health issues. This afforded a further opportunity to showcase the work of Rotary and the polio eradication effort.

For more than two decades, Rotary has been taking the lead in the global effort to eradicate polio. We are This Close to finishing the job. To have Rotary be a part of such a collection of distinguished world leaders at the economic forum further underscored that Rotary is a major player on the international stage.

This of course could not have happened without the commitment and dedication of the 1.2 million Rotary members worldwide – men and women who have worked so long to bring us to the threshold of our ultimate goal: a polio-free world.

Bill Gates was in a restaurant.

After the meal, he gave \$5 to the waiter as a tip. The waiter had a strange look on his face after receiving the tip. Gates enquired "Anything wrong"?

The waiter replied: "I'm just amazed because at the same table your son gave me a \$500 tip" Bill Gates smiled and said "He is the son of the World's richest man, but I am the son of a woodcutter....."

Never forget your past – it's your Best Teacher.

Annus Horribilis

December 31, 2012

2012 was the worst year for the environment in living memory.

By George Monbiot, published in the Guardian 1st January 2013

It was the year of living dangerously. In 2012 governments turned their backs on the living planet, demonstrating that no chronic problem, however grave, will take priority over an immediate concern, however trivial. I believe there has been no worse year for the natural world in the past half century.

Three weeks before the minimum occurred, the melting of the Arctic's sea ice broke the previous record. Iconic remnants of the global megafauna – such as rhinos and bluefin tuna – were shoved violently towards extinction. Novel tree diseases raged across continents. Bird and insect numbers continued to plummet, coral reefs retreated, marine life dwindled. And those charged with protecting us and the world in which we live pretended that none of it was happening.

Their indifference was distilled into a great collective shrug at the Earth Summit in June. The first summit, 20 years before, was supposed to have heralded a new age of environmental responsibility. During that time, thanks largely to the empowerment of corporations and the ultra-rich, the square root of nothing has been achieved. Far from mobilising to address this, in 2012 the leaders of some of the world's most powerful governments – the US, the UK, Germany and Russia – didn't even bother to turn up.

But they did send their representatives to sabotage it. The Obama administration even sought to reverse commitments made by George Bush senior in 1992. The final declaration was a parody of inaction. While the 190 countries that signed it expressed "deep concern" about the world's escalating crises, they agreed no new targets, dates or commitments, with one exception. Sixteen times they committed themselves to "sustained growth", a term they used interchangeably with its polar opposite, "sustainability".

The climate meeting in Doha at the end of the year produced a similar combination of inanity and contradiction. Governments have now begun to concede, without evincing any great concern, that they will miss their target of no more than two degrees of global warming this century. Instead we're on track for between four and six. To prevent climate breakdown, coal burning should be in steep decline. Far from it: the International Energy Agency reports that global use of the most carbon-dense fossil fuel is climbing by around 200 million tonnes a year. This helps to explain why global emissions are rising so fast.

Our leaders now treat climate change as a guilty secret. Even after the devastations of Hurricane Sandy and the record droughts and wildfires that savaged the United States, the two main presidential contenders refused to mention the subject, except for one throwaway sentence each. Has an issue this big ever received as little attention in a presidential race?

The same failures surround the other forces of destruction. In 2012 European governments flunked their proposed reform of the Common Agricultural Policy, which is perfectly designed to maximise environmental damage. The farm subsidies it provides are conditional upon farmers destroying the vegetation (which also means the other wildlife) on their land. We pay €55bn a year to trash the natural world.

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This contributes to what I have come to see as a great global polishing: a rubbing away of ecosystems and natural structures by the intensification of farming, fishing, mining and other industries. Looking back on this year a few decades hence, this destruction will seem vastly more significant than any of the stories with which the media is obsessed. Like governments, media companies have abandoned the living world.

In the UK in 2012, the vandals were given the keys to the art gallery. Environmental policy is now in the hands of people – such as George Osborne, Owen Paterson, Richard Benyon and Eric Pickles – who have no more feeling for the natural world than the Puritans had for fine art. They are busy defacing the old masters and smashing the ancient sculptures. They have lit a bonfire of environmental regulations, hobbled bodies such as Natural England and the Environment Agency and ensured that the countryside becomes even more of an exclusive playground for the ultra-rich, unhampered by effective restraints on the burning of grouse moors, the use of lead shot, the killing of birds of prey and the spraying of pesticides that are wiping out our bees and other invertebrates.

In the same spirit, the government has reduced the list of possible marine conservation zones from 127 to 31. Even these 31 will be protected in name only: the fishing industry will still be allowed to rampage through them. A fortnight ago, the UK lobbied successfully for quotas of several overexploited fish species to be raised, while pouring scorn on the scientific evidence which shows that this is madness.

George Osborne has done the same thing to the UK's climate change policies. Though even the big power companies oppose him, he is seeking to scrap or delay our targets for cutting carbon emissions and to ensure that we remain hooked on natural gas as our primary source of power. The green investment bank which was supposed to have funded the transition to new technologies is the only state bank in Europe which is forbidden to borrow. It might as well not be there at all.

If there is hope, it lies with the people. Opinion polls show that voters do not support their governments' inaction. Even a majority of Conservatives believe that the UK should generate most of its electricity from renewables by 2030. In the United States, 80% of people polled now say that climate change will be a serious problem for their country if nothing is done about it: a substantial rise since 2009. The problem is that most people are not prepared to act on these beliefs. Citizens, as well as governments and the media, have turned their faces away from humanity's greatest problem.

To avoid another terrible year like 2012, we must translate these passive concerns into a mass mobilisation. Groups like 350.org show how it might be done. If this annus horribilis tells us anything it's that action, in the absence of such mobilisation, is simply not going to happen. Governments care only as much as their citizens force them to care. Nothing changes unless we change.

www.monbiot.com

Does Peace not also include mankind making peace with the environment and ending the ongoing destruction?

And God promised man that good and obedient wives would be found in all corners of the World.

Then he made the earth round.....

And laughed.....and laughed.....

In January, RI was recognized in several news media worldwide. Below is a listing from RI, and we'd also like to hear from you about some of the Rotary mentions in your local media.

TIME Magazine – January 3, 2013

Polio eradication is featured as the cover story in the international edition. The story includes significant mentions of Rotary's key role in the initiative throughout the article.

<http://healthland.time.com/2013/01/03/the-final-battle-against-polio/#ixzz2HItp3nxa>

TIME Magazine – January 13, 2013

India's successful battle against polio was featured in TIME and positions Rotary as the leader in the global eradication effort: <http://world.time.com/2013/01/13/how-india-fought-polio-and-won/>

Wall Street Journal – January 13, 2013

This article reflects on India's tremendous achievement of two years polio-free and what it means for the country. Rotary and its partners' efforts in the fight against polio are

recognized. <http://blogs.wsj.com/indiarealtime/2013/01/13/what-two-years-without-polio-mean-for-india/>

New York Times – January 11, 2013

This article, which appeared on the India Ink blog of the New York Times website, was written by Ashok Mahajan, a member of the Rotary Club of Mulund, Maharashtra, and a Trustee of The Rotary Foundation. He reflects on India's milestone of two years polio-free and shares some lessons learned that could be applied to Pakistan. <http://india.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/01/11/lessons-from-india-how-to-promote-the-polio-vaccine-in-pakistan/>

Discover Magazine – Year in Science Issue – January 2013

The story prominently features Rotary and polio eradication as one of the top 100 stories for the publication's annual "Year in Science" issue. The reporter travelled with a group of Rotary volunteers to India, which resulted in this high-profile placement.

<http://discovermagazine.com/2013/jan-feb/99-the-virus-that-will-not-die#.UO2spm-CnTo>

SET-TV (Taiwan national TV network) – December 7-8, 2012

The Taiwan national TV network travelled to India with a group of Taiwanese Rotarians who volunteered during national polio immunization rounds. The story aired twice.

<http://rotary.synapticdigital.com/Latest-Stories/rotary-volunteers-participate-in-national-immunization-day-to-help-fight-polio/s/2ab73150-73bd-47d8-8b81-0224c7479eec>

MBC (Korean national TV network) - November 22, 2012

A TV crew from MBC accompanied a group of Korean Rotary members volunteering during a NID in India. The network aired a 15-minute piece about their efforts. To watch the video, select 2012-11-22 and scroll to the 12-minute mark. <http://www.dgmbc.com/AVODservice/VODPlayer.jsp?pid=T0027&mno=&channel=T>

The Korean Herald – January 7, 2013

Korean pop star and YouTube sensation Psy's participation in the "This Close" campaign is

highlighted. http://www.koreaherald.com/common_prog/newsprint.php?ud=20130107000769&dt=2

PhRMA Donation

Rotary International's innovative campaign to develop the World's Biggest Commercial to raise public awareness about polio eradication has struck a chord with the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA). To help spur participation in the commercial, the largest pharmaceutical trade group in the United States has donated \$50,000 to Rotary's PolioPlus program – enough to provide oral vaccine to protect more than 83,000 children against this paralyzing disease. The World's Biggest Commercial currently has more than 4,700 photos from more than 115 countries. Join the commercial at endpolionow.org.

22 hours ago

And now we are once again OUTA SPACE