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** Major Contributor

THE Frankfortarian

**THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE
ROTARY CLUB OF FRANKFORT**

P.O. Box 93, Frankfort, KY 40602

The weekly meeting of the Frankfort Rotary Club
airs on Cable 10 at 7pm Monday and 9am Tuesday

OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS: 2019-20

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NEIGHBORING CLUBS

Monday:	Eminence-Henry County Public Library.....	12:00 noon
	Owenton-Smith House.....	12:10 p.m.
Tuesday:	Lexington Sunrise-Shriners Hospital.....	7:00 a.m.
	Georgetown-Galvin's on Main (Downtown) ...	12:00 noon
	Shelbyville-Centenary United Methodist	12:00 noon
Thursday:	Lawrenceburg-Anderson Public Library	12:00 noon
	Lexington-Fasig Tipton	12:00 noon
	Louisville-Galt House.....	12:10 p.m.

**The Rotary Club of Frankfort Meets Every
 Wednesday at the Capital Plaza Hotel
 From 11:45 a.m. Until 1:00 p.m.**

**Frankfort Rotary Club website:
<http://www.frankfort-rotary.org>
 District website www.rotarydistrict6710.org
 Rotary International www.rotary.org/**

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Service Above Self

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Next Week's Speaker...

Samuella "Sam"

Daum stepped into her role as executive director of the United Way of Franklin County on Sept. 23. She has seven years of experience working with non-profit organizations such as Sunshine Center and Family Abuse Services; she was director of both organizations.



Sam Daum

Daum said her connection to United Way and its partner agencies is a personal one. When she first moved to Frankfort in the fall of 2006, she couldn't find a steady job and became homeless. She contacted those non-profits for help.

"If they had not helped me with housing and food... then I couldn't have gotten from point A to point B," Daum said.

Since becoming the local chapter's executive director, Daum has spent time getting training from the national United Way to prepare for her role. She said one of the first main focuses on her plate is the nonprofit's annual campaign.

Daum said she is impressed with United Way's mission and actions about "75% more than I already was." She said United Way wants to help in any way that it can on local and national scales.

Allen Sweeney, the president of the board of the local United Way, said Daum was chosen for her dedication to not only United Way but other service organizations in general. He said she was the best fit among the potential candidates. "One of the things we were most excited with was her passion for the organizations in Frankfort," he said.

Daum's predecessor, Randy Roberts, led the local United Way for 13 years, Sweeney said, and did "phenomenal work." Of Roberts' departure, he said, "It was a mutual agreement."

In the long term, Daum wants to find any gaps in United Way's service, if there are any. She invites the community to reach out through a phone call, letter or a Facebook post to let it know how it can maximize the work it provides residents. United Way of Franklin County can be reached at (502) 875-1675.

Happy Birthday!

Happy Birthday to fellow Rotarians Bob Bullock, Teresa Hockensmith, Barry Holder, Mark Kopp, John Loyd, Sam Marcus, Brenda Rice, Jim Terrell and Lee Troutwine. who celebrate their birthdays in January.

Board Meeting

The monthly board meeting will be on January 15 after the weekly meeting at the Capital Plaza Hotel.

Scholarship program in Japan pays dividends

By Masa Kato • from blog.rotary.org

As a regional communications specialist for Rotary International, I get excited when I hear stories about students who have had their lives changed by Rotary scholarships. Lasitha Eriyawa, a Sri Lankan, came to Japan in 2001 to pursue his college education. During his senior year, he received a scholarship from the Rotary Yoneyama Memorial Foundation, a program administered by an independent foundation named after Umekichi Yoneyama, the Father of Rotary in Japan.

Through this program, Rotarians in Japan have supported more than 20,000 international students in the past half-century. More than half of them are from China, South Korea, and Taiwan. But the foundation has accepted students from around the world. One thing that is unique is that a Rotary club in Japan is assigned as the "sewa club" (host club) for each scholar and that club members provide comprehensive support so that the students can focus on their studies.

Today, Yoneyama alumni are taking leadership roles in various fields, many of them participating in Rotary service. Lasitha is one of them. While working as a team leader in the software engineering division of a semiconductor manufacturing company in Japan, he started a project to support a government hospital in a remote area of Sri Lanka. To collect the funds, he served tea made from top-grade leafs rarely available anywhere but in Sri Lanka and asked for donations at Rotary meetings in Japan.

Lasitha told me there are several things he thinks Rotarians should know about the impact of Yoneyama alumni.

Building a bridge between countries. In international projects, communication between two countries can be strenuous. Arranging a needs assessment, providing stewardship, and reporting on a project can burn the contact people out. Yoneyama alumni like Lasitha can

provide a bridge between Japan and their native countries. In Lasitha's hospital project, many villagers had never seen foreigners and the hospital had no phone lines. Yet the Yoneyama alumni reduced the need for lengthy communications.

Providing cultural sensitivity. In service projects, it is also important to consider the feelings of local residents. Just checking through business leaders and local government may not be enough to identify small but important arrangements for the project. Alumni, who are often familiar with local customs, can provide meaningful insights. In the project Lasitha joined, in addition to direct support, sutras (readings of Buddhist scripture) by a local monk and supplies to the temple were arranged. Gaining the understanding of religious leaders helped the project build trust and cooperation among the villagers.

Creating prospective Rotary members. Lasitha, currently a member of the Rotary Club of Kofu South, was not interested in joining Rotary at first. As a Yoneyama scholar, he said he felt, "I would join someday if allowed the opportunity". But the club never forgot about him. Yoneyama scholars are not only fluent in Japanese, but also have excellent academic backgrounds in their home country as well. Many of the Yoneyama alumni who have returned to their homeland work at top levels in academics, business, or politics. Yoneyama Alumni Associations have been established in many parts of the world and often work with Rotary clubs on service projects.

The Rotary Yoneyama Memorial Foundation, as well as the legacy that Rotarians in Japan have built with respect to the Father of Rotary in Japan, are gems that are sometimes overlooked. I encourage you to share this story with anyone who is considering working with Japanese clubs or who is interested in pursuing higher education in Japan.

Rotary

