District 6710

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Service Above Self

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**Next Week’s Meeting**

**Birch Bragg**

**Locals Food Hub & Pizza Pub**

Birch Bragg is Co-owner and Operator of Locals Food Hub & Pizza Pub in Frankfort, Kentucky. Locals is a progressive food hub concept combining a locally sourced wood fired pizza/restaurant operation with a small grocery store that sources every product from within Kentucky. In its first year of operation, Locals purchased over $321,000 dollars from 111 local Kentucky food and drink producers. He and his wife Michelle and their two children also own and operate Nature Friendly Farms, a small regenerative farm in north Franklin County specializing in Forest Raised Pork. He was previously the Farm Manager at West Sixth Farm from its inception, overseeing the design and implementation of the many features and spaces enjoyed there today. Prior to moving to Frankfort, Kentucky in 2016, Birch co-founded Beechmont Farms in Bowling Green, Kentucky. Beechmont Farms was a regenerative farming operation that produced pastured pork, pastured poultry, pastured eggs, blueberries, year-round produce and honey. Birch developed markets in Nashville and Bowling Green for their products through a non-traditional cooperative online CSA, restaurant sales and by selling direct to consumers through several farmers markets in the Bowling Green-Nashville area. Birch currently serves on the Downtown Frankfort Incorporated board and the Governmental Affairs Committee for the Frankfort Area Chamber of Commerce. He was formerly President of the Friends of the Franklin County Farmers Market board for two years and sat on the state board of the Kentucky Hop Growers Association. In Bowling Green, Birch co-founded Beech Bend Indoor Farmers Market and sat on the board of the Southern Kentucky Farmers Market prior to that. Birch has spent the last decade advocating for local food development and trying to help people connect the dots between the food they consume, the health of their bodies, the health of the environment and how this correlates to the health of our communities. He credits his late mother Juanita with helping him to discover his calling in life to be involved in producing amazing nutrient dense foods and promoting this community of farmers and producers. He believes that most of the problems we face as a society today can be addressed by increasing people’s access to real nutrient rich foods and by revitalizing the local food economy in our rural and urban communities. He is a firm believer that we all have a say in making our community a better place to be and a responsibility to use our voice to help create a stronger, more connected community wherever we are.

**Reminder About Lunch Boxes:**

We are still experimenting with having lunch catered in -- Terri's Catering is providing us a choice of three tasty box lunches next week. If you didn't sign up at the meeting, you can email about signing up online, or you can just call me at 407-341-7581 and I'll get you on the list. IF YOU SIGNED UP  TODAY YOU DO NOT HAVE TO SIGN UP AGAIN ONLINE. Lunch is $13 including tax, and of course there is the usual $5 charge for the hotel, so you'll be asked to pay as you sign in next week. If you reserve a lunch and don't show up. . . we'll ask you to pay next time. No freebies because the Club is still on the hook for the charge. You are always welcome to bring your own. But either way, we encourage you to have lunch with us - we're working hard at rebuilding our sense of community, and breaking bread together is an important part of that. Here is the digital link:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RWVM3TL?Name=[Name\_value]

**Scheduled Greeter & Opening Exercise 9/14/22**

Greeter – Dudley Ellis

Opening – Angela Bullock

**Raffle**

This week’s raffle item was donated by Terry Shockley.

**Happy Birthday**

Happy Birthday to the following Rotarians who will celebrate their birthdays in September: Dustin Cole, Joyce Honaker, Miranda Marston, Paula Rarden, Sherry Sebastian, Richard Taylor and Presley Winner.

**Welcome New Member**

Name: Dorisene Scott

Address: 501 Schenkle Ln, Apt. 311

 Frankfort, KY 40601

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Email: Dorisenes@dominionfrankfort.com

Classification: Senior Living – Comm. Rel. Manager

Sponsor: Tish Shade