

WHAT'S NEWS



Rotary of Club Islip– Bay Shore

8-1-26
Chumline Newsletter

“Friendship is the foundation rock on which Rotary was built.”
~ Paul Harris.

It is with sadness we say good-bye to Sam Hanafi, our past president and forever friend, who passed away July 18, 2026.

But we know a true friend is never truly gone. Their spirit lives on in the memories of those who loved them.

Sam always had a smile and a kind word. He accepted his responsibility as our president with dignity and dedication. He always lent a helping hand when he did not have to. He shared his technology wisdom and his friendship with us.

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Sam's Installation



Billy Vavricka—Sam— Ryan Gillies



Karen Sobel—Sam— Lynda Moran

Rotaract at Suffolk County Community College is a dynamic community of college students committed to leadership, service, and personal growth. Members collaborate on meaningful projects, support local and global humanitarian efforts, and develop the professional skills needed to succeed in today's world.

As part of Rotary's youth leadership pathway, SCCC Rotaract serves as a vital bridge between Interact clubs, Rotary clubs, and career connection programs across Long Island — empowering students to make a real impact while preparing for their future.

Whether it's cleaning up a beach or providing community service to support local charities in need, **these young adults are dedicated, compassionate leaders who take initiative and inspire others through their actions.** They bring fresh energy, creative ideas, and a deep commitment to helping their communities thrive. Rotaractors at Suffolk County Community College demonstrate what it means to be people of action — building connections, strengthening neighborhoods, and creating lasting change both locally and globally.



Suffolk Community College Retractors



Join us for lunch:

The Irish Coffee Pub

See our schedule

Visit us at: <https://isliprotary.com>

Or call

Merri Ciano, President 2026-2027

631-335-6751



ROTARY CLUB of ISLIP –BAY SHORE



Sam's Board being installed. He had more friends then he had board members.

Sam giving
Rotary awards
to Thersa
Rosario and
Karen Sobel



Fellowship memories

Dennis Ciano, Liz
Mayott, Billy
Vavricka

Tom Cilmi and
John Chinnici



The gang's all here.



Dennis Ciano, Denise Torino and
Billy Vavricka

Story of Sam Hanafi *continued*

A devoted family man — Sam was a loving husband, father to two adult children, and proud grandfather. His love for his family was as powerful and unwavering as his commitment to Rotary, and he carried both with equal grace and dedication.

A practicing Muslim, Sam spent two years preparing for his Hajj and proudly completed his pilgrimage to Mecca this spring. It was one of the greatest accomplishments of his life, and he carried that pride with a quiet humility that inspired all of us.

His Rotary friends remember him as “a great person with a sense of humor,” “a special guy who will be sorely missed,” and “a loss for his family and all of us who called him our friend.” Sam’s warmth, faith, and service touched everyone who had the privilege of knowing him. Rest in peace our friend, we will see each other again.

Fellowship is Friendship

July 23, 2026 Fellowship at Bayside Clam Bar & Grill was a beautiful night. The stars were out, the breeze was gentle, and friends gathered together. Fellowships are a way to reconnect — to share stories, strengthen friendships, welcome new faces, and remind ourselves why Rotary feels like family. The laughter, the conversations, and the simple joy of being together makes lasting memories.

Come join us: August 20th at Camp Pa-Qua-Tuk- EVENT: 4 P.M

We Need Volunteers — We Need You!

Help us bring comfort, dignity, and a warm meal to young disabled individuals who cannot serve themselves. Your kindness, your hands, and your heart can make a real difference. When we show up, they feel seen. When we serve, they feel supported. When we care, our community grows stronger. **Together, we serve. Together, we uplift.**

INTERACT HIGH SCHOOL ROTARIANS

Rotary's Interact Youth Committee update: A message from the Chair...

Our Rotary Interact Youth Committee is hard at work planning our district wide, youth led Leadership Summit in November 2026, while also preparing for our own committee elections and strengthening the foundation of our team. We are collaborating across clubs, sharing ideas, and using our connections to build a meaningful and successful summit that reflects the spirit of Interact and Rotary.

In keeping with Interact tradition, we will soon hold elections that are open to any Interactor on our committee who wishes to step up and serve. Leadership opportunities are at the heart of Interact, and we are encouraging students to consider participating in a role.

Throughout **August**, we will meet **Wednesdays from 6:00–7:00 PM via Zoom.** These meetings help us stay organized, connected, and ready to deliver an outstanding youth leadership experience for District 7255. **To join the youth committee, contact student Youth Committee Chairperson Michael DeMassi at Michaeldemasi1005@gmail.com.** Please provide a brief description of your involvement at your school's clubs and why you would be interested in serving at the district level and what ideas you have. **Please share this information with your Rotary club's Interact advisors.** *Michael DeMassi, besides being the Youth Committee Chairperson, also attends the Gift of Life Board meetings. Thank you Mikey for your dedication and commitment to Interact and Rotary.*

ROTARY CLUB of
ISLIP -BAY SHORE

**Gift of Life Long Island
Board Meeting**

**Wednesday, September, 16 2026 at
6:30 pm at the Courtyard Marriott
Hotel in Central Islip (next to the LI
Ducks Stadium).**

ZOOM IS AVAILABLE.

**Save the Date:
GIFT of LIFE GALA
April 29, 2027 @ 6:30
FlowerFields, Saint James**

Help us save another 50,000 children

DATES TO FOLLOW:

August

8/6

Board meeting *Irish Coffee Pub 11:15*

8/6

**Regular meeting (BRING YOUR BEST wholesome JOKE-
win a prize)** *Irish Coffee Pub 12:15*

8/13

Regular meeting: guest speaker Michael DeMassi, Interact

8/20

Camp Pa-Qua-Tuk- EVENT: 4 P.M

September

9/3

Board meeting -Labor Day 9/7 *Irish Coffee Pub 11:15*

9/3

Regular meeting -Club Assembly *Irish Coffee Pub 12:15*

9/11

Snapper Derby on Friday, at Gilbert Park 4 pm - 7 pm
rain or shine

9/17

Regular meeting: Speaker *Irish Coffee Pub 12:15*

9/25

Breakfast meeting East Islip School Business
Partnership—Rotary Meeting at 1 Craig B. Gariepy St.
use back door @ 8 a.m.

October

10/1

Board meeting *Irish Coffee Pub 11:15*

10/1

Regular meeting *Irish Coffee Pub 12:15*

10/15

Regular meeting do collection for World Polio Day (10/24)

10/29

Fundraiser – Comedy Club in Bohemia tickets \$25.00 pp
doors open 6:30 p.m. show starts 8:00 p.m.

Join us for lunch:

Irish Coffee Pub, Carlton Ave, East Islip

See our full Meeting and Event schedule, visit us at: <https://isliprotary.com>

Rotarians know how to have fun!

Each week, we enjoy games, friendly competition, and the chance to win prizes.

July 23, 2026 Fellowship at Bayside Clam Bar & Grill; Happy Dollars: \$53 in honor of Sam Hanafi

Rotary Foundation News: Changes are coming to Raise for Rotary, The Rotary Foundation's peer-to-peer fundraising tool. Celebrating its sixth anniversary with some exciting updates; It's migrating to a new platform and has an updated logo. Users can now download a donation report from their fundraising pages to more easily track who donated and when. If users are fundraising for PolioPlus through physical activity, they can now track their activities on the exercise app Strava to share their progress with more people. Check it out, it's simple to use and share. For more information visit <https://raise.rotary.org/en-GB>

ROTARY CLUB of
ISLIP -BAY SHORE

Merri P. Ciano
President 2026-2027
Rotary Club of Islip –Bay Shore
District 7255 Interact Committee
East Islip High School Business Partnership
No. Babylon High School Career Connection Council

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ROTARY
District 7255

