Rock Island Rotary Rock Island, Illinois

WEEKLY REVIEW

October 10, 2023

Volume XXXI, Issue 14

Meeting Tuesdays at Noon - Quad City Botanical Center

Now That's A Plan! Kai Swanson Leads Strategic Plan Prep.



Kai is a life long resident of Rock Island and joined Rock Island Rotary 2018 as part of the Augustana College Corporate membership team. He has been a very active club member and has loaned his expertise in numerous areas for the benefit of our Club. Kai is special assistant to Augustana College's president, a position he's held since 2005, though he's been on the staff of the college since his Augie graduation in 1986 with a BA degree. His past positions at Augustana include news editor for WVIK-Augustana Public Radio, public relations director for the college, and editor of the Augustana College Magazine. In 2011, he served as interim general manager of WVIK, then in 2014 was interim director of the Augustana Teaching Museum of Art. Kai serves on the Rock Island County Board, is president of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission, and chairs the board of Visit Quad Cities. He is a board member and past chair of the National Association of Presidential Assistants in Higher Education and serves on the Board Professionals Leadership Group of the Association of Governing Boards. Since 1996, he has presented Concert Conversations prior to each Quad City Symphony Orchestra concert, and is the radio voice of the Quad City Symphony on WVIK. Today he shared his expertise in strategic planning to help us as we develop our plan for the coming five years. Kai started by breaking our membership into six groups with each having a strategy taken from our current plan. The strategies were 1) Create a list of local businesses and corporations that do not currently have any members in the Club. Assign a Rotarian to be the liaison for each business to encourage membership. 2) Target diversity [age, race, religion, sex, etc.] when searching for new members. 3) Grow the mentoring program for new members. 4) Create opportunities for young. professionals to grow personally and professionally through Rotary by engaging

Sept – Dec Calendar

Oct 17 - Edwin Salazar, The Place2Be

Oct 23 - WORLD POLIO DAY Joint Evening Meeting

Oct 31 - Interact Update-Lonnie Behnke AND Aaron Baker, Education and DEAI Coordinator for the German American Heritage

Nov 7 - Laura Kann, District Rotary Foundation Chair

Center

Nov 14 - Janessa Calderon
QC Hispanic Chamber
of Commerce

Nov 21 - Patrick Olson Toastmasters

Nov 28 - Dr Sharon Varallo
Augustana's Prison
Education Program

Dec 5 - RIHS Chamber Singers

Dec 12 - Kevin Koski - "Your Mother (and Lots of Other People) Were Wrong"

Dec 19 - Rock Island Rotary's Kenya Water Project

Dec 26 - NO MEETING Jan 2 - NO MEETING

them as speakers and providing outcomes (examples) of volunteer opportunities. 5) Promote active membership beyond their weekly lunch meeting by having meetups and topical conversations in the community. 6) Growing opportunities for corporate members and ways for corporate members to stay engaged when not attending every week. Kai then asked each group to discuss the strategy and decide has it been accomplished? Should we keep it as is or modify it? Should we remove it as no longer relevant to our club? If we keep it, identify 3 action steps to move this strategy forward. After 15 minutes of discussions each group reported their conclusions. Reporters were Holly Sparkman, Gary Rowe, Kimberly Calhoun, Mark Mayeski, Angela Campbell, and Kathy Trone. Every group felt their assigned strategy should be kept but each also thought some modification was needed. Group one felt that members should be asked first, "Who do you know ..." at various businesses and organizations in the area so that recruiting could be personalized and targeted. Group two felt we have done a respectable job in adding women, some younger, and some racial diversification to our Club but that more needs to be done. They also noted that we should be targeting professionals in Milan since there is no longer a Milan rotary Club. Group 3

Continued "Strategic Plan" Page 3



P.O. Box 4514 Rock Island, IL 61204 www.rirotary.com

Officers

Cindi Gramenz, President Sue Rector, 1st Vice Pres. John Oliger, 2nd Vice Pres. Anne McGlynn, Secretary Tom Hammar, Co-Treasurer Frank Lambert, Past President Bob Swanson, Sqt. at Arms

Board Members

Rebecca Arnold, Director
Amber Brummit. Director
David Hodge, Director
Ruth Lee, Director
John Phillips, Director
Tracy Pugh, Director
Molly Shattuck, Director/Co-Treas
Tyla Sherwin-Cole, Director

Program Chair 2023-24

Rebecca Arnold Presenters

Tom Hammar July: August: Kai Swanson September Rebecca Arnold October: **Holly Sparkman** November: Rebecca Arnold December: **Bob Swanson** John Wetzel January: February: Kai Swanson Angela Campbell March: April:: **Gary Rowe** Gary Rowe May:: Tom Hammar June:

Club Notes & Announcements!

- ★ WELCOME GUESTS We had two guests in attendance today. Thais Meredith from Alpha, Illinois was a guest of Jim Nordquist. Duncan Cameron a member of the Naples, Florida Rotary was a visiting Rotarian today. We hope you both enjoyed today's meeting and will join us again at "The Number One Club!".
- ★ SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES APPROACHING Pumpkin Palooza (our field trip for Earl Hanson 1st and 2nd graders is October 20th, 9:45am to 1pm. If you can only stay an hour or two, that's fine too! We're there just to help if needed and to keep an eye on things. Trunk or Treat at Earl Hanson Elementary is October 25th. Bring books/candy in your trunk and meet at the Earl Hanson School parking lot at 4:45pm. Open your trunk and the kids will come past looking for "treats"! See Sue Rector for books.
- ★ WAITING FOR OR NEEDING A NEW CLUB NAME BADGE? Email Cindi at cgramenz15@gmail.com She requests a reminder from those who need badges. With much to do it's easy to lose track! We want every member to have an accurate name badge to wear at our meetings and Rotary events.
- ★ GET YOUR TICKETS NOW! MONDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 23RD, WORLD POLIO DAY GALA CELEBRATION. We are the host Club! There will be no regular meeting that week. The Gala is an Evening banquet with incredible speakers, two lowa Rotarians who flew around the world in a small two-seat plane raising money to END POLIO. Hear their incredible story and an update on Rotary's campaign to wipe polio from the earth. Our members get a \$10 reimbursement toward your ticket cost. The public is invited. Order tickets on page 6 or just email Sue Rector..
- ★ SATURDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 9th, ROTARY HOLIDAY PARTY AT CIRCA 21. Salon Party, Dinner, Bootlegger pre-show, and Mainstage Show, "A Christmas Story". Guests are welcome, so invite your friends to join you! Sign up at Rotary. Money is not needed until next month, but seats must be reserved now! All we need to know is how many you want. See full details on cost and the event on page 9. Seats are going fast with 23 signed up to date. If you missed the signup sheet. email Bob at bobdebseanson@att.net to reserve.. Just need to know how many seats you need.
- **HAVE ITEMS FOR OUR NEWSLETTER?** Send to bobdebswanson@att.net. The newsletter goes out each Tuesday afternoon so be sure to get your request to bobdebswanson@att.net by Tuesday noon..

The Object of Rotary

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

FIRST: The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service:

SECOND: High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

THIRD: The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;

FOURTH: The advancement of international under standing, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

The Four-Way Test

(of the things we Think, Say or Do)

- 1. Is it the TRUTH?
- 2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- 3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- 4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

OCTOBER MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Steve Morenz Mike Thoms Kenda Burrows Sam Doak October 8
October 26
October 27
October 27

ANOTHER HUGE LOSS FOR ROTARY AND ROCK ISLAND!



Rotarians were saddened to receive the news that our friend and fellow member, Stan Coin, passed away Saturday, October 7, 2023. Funeral services are 10:00 a.m. Saturday, October 14, 2023, at St. George Greek Orthodox Church, Rock Island. Visitation is 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Friday, October 13, 2023, at Wheelan-Pressly Funeral Home and Crematory, 3030 7th Avenue, Rock Island, where a Trisagion (Prayer) service will be conducted at 6:30 p.m. Burial will be in Rock Island Memorial. Stan joined our club in 1953. His 70 years of membership made him the most senior member of Rock Island Rotary. He served as our president 1994-95 and received our A.T. Peara Award in 1998. Stan chaired and served on numerous Rotary Committees, is a Paul Harris Fellow plus many, and one of our most dedicated and generous members. Stan was 93 and was very proud of his

long tenure in our club and his perfect attendance record. Stan had a distinguished career in the food industry and as a founder of the American Bank of Rock Island where he served as president and chairman of the board for more than fifty years. He served on numerous community organization boards and committees and was very active in the St. George Greek Orthodox Church and in his support of Trinity Medical Center Less than two weeks ago he and bride Kay celebrated their 65th Anniversary.. To say Rock Island Rotary will miss Stan is a substantial understatement. He was a great man and Rotarian.

Strategic Plan- Continued from page 1

Group three felt our mentoring program is very important and suggested that mentors be provided with a check list like new members so they can monitor and encourage new members to take advantage of the various suggested opportunities for becoming an involved member. They also supported the idea of preparing an orientation video for new members. They felt that prospective members should get more information on what Rotary is and what we do before they actually join. Group 4 said much of what previous groups said about bringing in new members applied to their area. They felt we do a pretty good job of providing volunteer opportunities, but need to reach out to make sure newer members are included. Group five believed Rotary gatherings outside our normal meeting are important for getting to know one another better and are particularly important for new members.. They mentioned that in past years we held quarterly social events and suggested we consider doing something similar. Group six stated that they strongly support our corporate membership option and believe it has been of great benefit to the club. They feel that the inability of associate members to have Rotary International accounts and therefore cannot achieve Paul Harris Fellow status makes them feel less than full Rotary members. Kai brought things to a conclusion stating that above all else, "We must be welcoming to People who are not here! President Cindi announced that this was the first of 3 Club Assemblies scheduled to work on our 2024-2029 Strategic Plan. We appreciate Kai's insight and very helpful program!

Help End Hunger With This Year's District-Wide Service Project!

Thank you for your generous food donations in the month of September for Christian Care! For October, we will be collecting SPAGHETTI SAUCE, CEREAL, AND CANNED FRUIT for Heart of Hope! Your monthly donation should equal approximately 5 lbs. Please bring to any Tuesday meeting in October and Cindi will help manage the delivery of those items. If you need assistance or special arrangements or have any questions, please contact Danielle Scott or Cindi Gramenz. Our food collection schedule for the rest of the year will be:

Jan – Project NOW Head Start Feb – SAL April – World Relief

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED



Our Trivia Night Committee is working hard to ensure the 2023 event has the best Silent Auction ever! If you have items to donate for the Auction, please contact Sue Rector and she will arrange to get or pick up anything you have and store it until auction time. Baskets need to be created, items photographed, and descriptions prepared for advertising. That all takes time and "time flies". So, it is not too early to take inventory of those gifts you received and done need or use, and purchased you made and never put to use. Contact Sue at srector@gmail.com or 563-343-7985 and she will gladly arrange to take it off your hands.

FOUNDATION RAFFLE



Today's raffle offered a 50-50 Cash Drawing and a bottle of fine imported wine. Raffle chair Bud Phillis called on Beth Kauzlarich to draw the tickets. The first lucky winner drawn was Sue Rector. She took the cash and promptly donated it back to the Rotary Foundation. The second lucky winner taking the wine was PDG Ruth Lee. Ruth also donated her wind back to the Club for a future Foundation raffle. Proceeds raised through our weekly raffle go so support the Rotary International Foundation. Funds may be used to assist members in achieving Paul Harris Awards or may be directly donated to the Foundation. Thanks to all who participated.



OCTOBER 14 2023 —

THIS SATURDAY!



WALK FOR FREEDOM

JOIN US AS WE WALK FOR THE MILLIONS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIMS ACROSS THE GLOBE.

A21.ORG/WALK

Click to Register

What: Rotary District 6420 Task Force Against Human Trafficking is hosting an A21 Walk for Freedom. This is a WORLDWIDE event, single file, silent walk. We encourage walkers to wear black. We will have signage and posters available to take on the walk. T-shirts are available to purchase online when you register for this FREE walk.

When: Saturday, October 14th at 10:00am

Where: Start at the base of pedestrian walkway in Moline OR Bettendorf and walk across the new 74 bridge. You can go one way or both, your choice. Each way across is 1-mile.

Why: Awareness is key for eradication of this heinous crime. Please join us to help spread awareness throughout the Quad Cities and surrounding areas. Your attendance is all that is needed-no fees to walk!

Please register today for this FREE walk

You are Invited

You are cordially invited to attend the 2023-2024 District Foundation Dinner! Our featured speaker will be Greg E. Podd, Trustee of The Rotary Foundation from Phoenix, Arizona. Greg previously served as Rotary International's Vice President during the 2015-2016 Rotary year and as a Rotary International Director during 2014-2016. We are excited by this opportunity to hear a Rotary Foundation Trustee speak about our Rotary Foundation - they do not come to our District all that often. Spouses, partners, and friends you want to share Rotary with are invited to join you. Please plan to attend!

The event will be held on November 2, 2023, at the McCormick Event Center at 205 East Third Street, Rock Falls, IL 61071. A cash bar will open at 5:30pm and the dinner will commence at 6:00pm. Cost is \$50 per person and must be paid via credit card in advance. Registration closes on October 26th. To register go to

MyEventRunner - Event Public Fill. (control/click)

I look forward to seeing you there! If you have any questions, please let me know.

Laura Kann Dístríct Rotary Foundatíon Chaír 678-315-2406 LKK1@comcast.net

FINE\$ & HAPPY/SAD DOLLAR\$

VP John Oliger took the podium again saying he had nothing, but then went on to collect fines from Bud Phillis and Justin Peterson for needing to leave early today. He then fined Kathy Trone and Julie Gelaude for a front-page article in the Quad City Business Journal regarding the Walk for Freedom. Kathy and Julie are the Illinois chairpersons of the event. He then noted that Kevin Koski had paid a fine to have John announce that today was "Hug a Kevin Day". Members were told they could either hug Kevin at the end of the meeting or pay a dollar fine. Suffice it to say, some hugged, some paid. Kevin did place himself at the door as our meeting concluded. Asking for happy/sad dollars, John recognized Ruth Lee who paid a dollar and urged everyone to cheer for her Minnesota Twins. They are tied 1-1 with the Astros in a best of 5 playoff series. Amber Wood paid a dollar to announce that SAL Diaper Drive benefiting Hiney Heros who provide 50 diapers per month to families in need. See the flier with details later in this newsletter. Kathy Trone paid a happy dollar reporting that she and Julie Gelaude recently spoke at the Galena Rotary Club and got great support including a commitment that some members would try to come to the Quad Cities to join the Walk for Freedom. Grandberry-Pugh had a happy dollar to report that the Rocky Career Day had 107 professionals signed up to participate including several from our Club. The event is scheduled for October 17th. So again, like Superman, John Oliger, posing as a mild-mannered Modern Woodman executive, proved he is faster than a speeding bullet, stronger than a locomotive, and able bend steel in his bare hands (or at least pull some dollars out of our pocket). Next, will he leap tall buildings in a single bound? Tune in next week to find out!

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION MINUTE

Welcome to Week ONE of RI's Month of Economic & Community Development.

Southampton Rotary (Ontario, CA), in collaboration with Rotary Hand Up, recently announced that work started earlier in September on a \$54,600 water project in Guatemala. This is being made possible by the receipt of a generous Global Grant of \$34,000 CAD from the Rotary Foundation that the club has been working on for the past 18 months.

The Hand Up Clubs have contributed \$20,600 to this project. As well as writing the grant application and leading the project on behalf of Hand Up, the Rotary Club of Southampton made a direct cash contribution of \$2,000 CAD towards this vital endeavor. Southampton Rotary has closely partnered with the Rotary Club of Huehuetenango in Guatemala to execute this initiative. The project involves the installation of eight rainwater harvesters in the remote highland village of Tuilam, during the fall of 2023. This innovative project will not only provide a supplementary water source for the 490 residents of Tuilam but also alleviate the burden of fetching water from a spring located approximately one kilometer down a steep hill from their village.

Tony Sheard, Chair of the club's International Services Committee, expressed his enthusiasm, saying, "Our club has a proven track record of successfully completing international humanitarian service projects, such as our water and maternity health projects in Cameroon. We are delighted to lead this venture in Guatemala on behalf of Hand Up, and we eagerly anticipate its completion in early 2024."



PAST DISTRICT GOVERNOR AND ROCK ISLAND ROTARIAN RUTH LEE SETS A HIGH BAR!



One great benefit of Rotary is through your membership you get to meet some truly nice, generous, and incredible people. Rock Island Rotarian are blessed to have that opportunity with our fellow member, Ruth Lee. Ruth served as our president in 2005-06, She received our club's highest award, the A.T. Peara Award in 2009 and served us and District 6420 as our Governor in 2013-14. Her "behind the scenes" generosity is done without fanfare or seeking recognition. However, it does not go unnoticed. Many of us strive to become Paul Harris Fellows by donating \$1,000 to the Rotary International Foundation. Some of us have earned Paul Harris +1 or +2 for donating a second or third \$1,000. Today Ruth was recognized as **Paul Harris** +21. In presenting the award to Ruth, long time Foundation Chair Bud Phillis said he doubted Ruth could name all of the family members, friends, and fellow Rotarians she has honored with Paul Harris Fellow recognition. Ruth humbly replied that she has been

donating over many years and it all adds up! Rock Island Rotary is proud of you, proud to be fellow Rotary members with you, and thank you for your commitment to helping bring peace and better understanding to our world. Congratulations to our good friend and colleague, Ruth Lee.

FIVE REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD ATTEND THE ROTARY WORLD POLIO GALA MONDAY, OCTOBER 23rd



- 1. Our Club is hosting the event right here at the Botanical Center. You should support Club activities and projects.
- 2. Our regular Club meeting on Tuesday, October 24th has been cancelled to encourage members to attend Monday night's Gala.
- 3. For those that pay for lunch as part of your dues, you will get a \$10 reimbursement toward your Gala tickets to adjust for not having a Tuesday luncheon.
- 4. There is an incredible program lined up featuring the two Rotarian pilots who flew their small two-seat airplane around the world to raise money and awareness for Rotary's "END POLIO NOW campaign. They will tell of their amazing journey, the numerous heads of state they met, and the outpouring of support and donations they raised to end polio.
- 5. Ending Polio is Rotary's premier international project. When Rotary made the commitment to end polio in 1985 there were 350,000 cases in more than 125 countries including the United States. 1,000 children were DYING of polio each day!

Today the entire world with the exception of 2 countries is polio free. Those countries, Pakistan and Afghanistan report a total of 7 cases so far in 2023. Those cases are isolated in one district in Pakistan and one province in Afghanistan. We are closing in on ending the disease for ever! However medical experts tell us if we were to stop now, within 5 years there would be a resurgence of the disease with as many as 200,000-300,000 cases worldwide every year.

Tickets for the event are \$25 each (many of us will receive a \$10 reimbursement). Of that \$17.50 will fund the upscale buffet banquet, and program expenses. \$7.50 of every ticket will be donated to Rotary's End Polio Now campaign. So, it is too much to ask that you attend? Perhaps your spouse or other guest would like to hear the program. Be a part of ending this dreaded disease!

Rotary Clubs of the Quad Cities

WORLD POLIO DAY CELEBRATION



MONDAY, Oct. 23 at Quad City Botanical Center

2525 4th Ave., Rock Island, II

Reception: 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Dinner: 6:30 p.m. followed by
program featuring

pilots John Ockenfels and Peter Teahan



- Flight to End Polio -

May 5-July 30, 2023 • 25,338 miles • 38 stops • 23 countries • \$1.5 million

The Rotary clubs of eastern lows and western Illinois are hosting a joint World Polio Day banquet on Monday, Oct. 23, 2023, at the Quad City Botanical Center in Rock Island, Ill. The evening will begin with a reception at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. We are honored to welcome Rotarians PDG John Ockenfels and Peter Teahan who have traveled the world to raise awareness and raised over \$1.5 million to help End Polio Now. Tickets for the Banquet are \$25 each with \$7.50 of each ticket going to Polio Plus. Learn more about Flight to End Polio: https://www.flighttoendpolio.com/.



USE THE QR CODE AT RIGHT TO REGISTER, or email: srector3614@ gmail.com or call: 563-343-7985

Dinner: \$25% of which \$7% supports PolioPlus



Mark Your Calendars!

Rock Island Rotary's

T i fight

Friday, November 10 - Rock Island Holiday Inn Doors Open at 5:30pm, play begins at 6 Contact Kathy Trone to register or donate to the Silent Auction!



Rotary Reindeer Ramble 5K Run/Walk

9:00 a.m. Sunday, December 3, 2023

START & FINISH Schwiebert Riverfront Park Bike Path. Course is out and back; wheeled distance.

RUNNER'S AWARDS Overall male and female top 3 finishers. Age group awards 0-14, 15-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-64, 65-74, 75+

COMPETITIVE WALKER'S AWARDS Overall male and female top 3 finishers. Age group awards per age groups 0-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60+

REGISTRATION \$25 Pre-registered before Nov 19; \$30 after Nov 19.

PACKET PICKUP & REGISTRATION 7:45 to 8:45 AM RACE DAY Sunday, December 3 @ Holiday Inn, downtown Rock Island, 226 17th Street, Rock Island, IL 61201

Proceeds benefit Rock Island Rotary Youth Programs!





< Register

www.GetMeRegistered.com/RotaryReindeerRamble

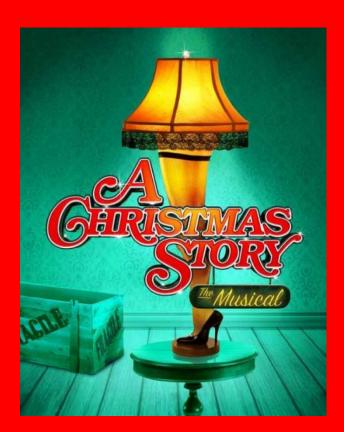
HELP FIGHT HUNGER – HELP ROCKY INTERACT CLUB

Most of us have heard of the Student Hunger Drive, a friendly and very worthwhile competition between Quad City area schools. The Rocky Interact Club is working hard to help Rock Island High School win this year and asks us to help. It is simple and very easy, just click on the link and make a donation online. Your donation will be used to purchase food for distribution to those in need throughout our local area. Interact will receive credit for your help! Donate Now, Donate Often!



You can donate virtually now for the food drive. Just control/click on this link:

ROCK ISLAND ROTARY HOLIDAY PARTY 2023



Circa 21 Presents the classic holiday movie is brought to life in this delightful Tony-nominated musical Set in the 1940s in the fictional town of Hohman, Indiana, the musical follows 9-year-old Ralphie and his quest for the Holy Grail of Christmas gifts — an Official Red Ryder carbine-action 200-shot Range Model air rifle. Rebuffed at every turn with a similar echoing response, Ralphie plots numerous schemes to achieve his desperate desire for the coveted BB gun. All the iconic scenes from the movie are here: from the leg lamp to the bunny suit!

Tickets include a private pre-show Party with Complimentary Hors D'oeuvres and Cash Bar (5:00-6pm)

Plated Dinner (5:45-7:00pm)

Bootleggers Warm-up Show (7:15pm)

Mainstage Show – *A Christmas Story* (7:30pm)

GROUP RATE

ONE ADMISSION \$58.90 TWO ADMISSIONS \$117.80

*Tax & Tip included (not including deserts & bar)
Circa Subscriber? Pay Just \$3.50 per person for gratuity!
Reserve Seats at Rotary Starting September 19th, Pay Later
SIGN UP AT SERGEANT'S TABLE!





Diaper Drive Kick Off

Help SAL Community Services collect 15,000+ diapers to be distributed through Hiney Heroes' network of community partners!

Diaper Drop Off

SAL Community Services 3800 Avenue of the Cities Moline, IL

Monday, October 23 6 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Diapers and Pull Ups of all sizes - especially 4, 5, & 6

Open packages accepted!

For complete details, visit givebutter.com/SAL-diaper-drive-2023