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# THE FLAGSHIP



Nov. 15, 2020  
Tom King — Editor

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## *What's Next!*

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Nov. 18: Dr. Ming Wang, U.S.-China Trade Relations

Nov. 25: No Meeting  
THANKSGIVING  
HOLIDAY

Dec. 2: Board of Directors, 10:45 a.m.

Dec. 2: Club Assembly

(All meetings begin at 12:15 online — unless noted otherwise)

## Ming Wang To Talk U.S.-China Trade Issues Wednesday

**Dr. Ming Wang**, a world-class cataract and LASIK eye surgeon, philanthropist, and community activist, will be our speaker Wednesday and the subject will be U.S.-China trade relations.

He is the founding director of Wang Vision Institute and a Clinical Professor at Meharry Medical College in Nashville.



Wang has performed over 55,000 procedures, including more than 4,000 on doctors. His patients include music stars such as Dolly Parton, the late Charlie Daniels, Kenny Chesney, Naomi Judd, Nicole Kidman and

Amy Grant.

Wang is the founding president of the Tennessee Chinese Chamber of Commerce.

Wang grew up during China's Cultural Revolution in the 1960s. During this time, millions of innocent youth were deported to remote areas to face life sentences of poverty and hard labor. He had to play the Chinese violin ("erhu") and learn to dance in order to try to escape a life in labor camps. He eventually made his way to America with only \$50. He eventually graduated with the highest honors from Harvard Medical School and MIT.

Wang is a champion amateur ballroom dancer and was a finalist in the world pro-am international 10-dance championships. Playing his erhu, he accompanied country music legend Dolly Parton on her album, "Those Were the Days."

Click on this [LINK](#) to read more about our speaker.

## Knoxville Zoo's Lisa New Gives Great Update On Surviving the Pandemic

**Lisa New's** "Pandemic to Possibility" program Wednesday about the Knoxville Zoo was chock full of fascinating information about survival, the future and details about our zoo that you might not have known.

When COVID forced the March 16 closing, New, the Zoo Director, said "it was the worst time for us to close but we had no choice." They were emerging from a winter season when they are financially

strapped. They did not reopen until May 18 and they lost \$22,500 a day.

During those 63 days, they still had to care for the animals' needs and keep them protected. Keeper's schedules were changed. She said pandemic donations of \$250,000, the government's PPP program, the CARES grant, plus city and county relief made all the difference and the zoo is back to about 85% of pre-COVID attendance.



Here are a few other things she shared:

- The zoo's three tigers are doing OK after testing positive for COVID. "No doubt a keeper or someone from the public infected them," New said. "They were mildly ill."
- The zoo has a new male lion and a new female is about to arrive so the zoo will have a breeding pair.
- The new North American River Otter area will open April 2021.
- The new \$18 million Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Center will open this coming spring.

A new fundraiser is just around the corner — Knoxville's newest light spectacular called "Zoo Lights." This will be an outdoor lantern light-up at Zoo Knoxville with a variety of colorful animal lanterns, tree lights, and more. It begins Nov. 27 and runs through Jan. 3 from 5-9 p.m. nightly.

To learn more about the zoo, click on this [LINK](#)

Our thanks to Lisa for a great program!

## ***Four-Way Test***

Rotary's 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?

## ***Find Us On Facebook***

If you have not visited  
our Facebook page,  
give it a try!

Denise Bash does a  
great job of keeping  
the page updated. If  
you have not visited  
our page, we invite  
you to do so and to  
also **LIKE** the page!

Here is a [LINK](#) to  
our page.

# Sisco's Back in Town! Chris Camp Is Home!

**Bettye Sisco** flew home from Duke Medical Center yesterday and says: "I am feeling so much better. I can actually breathe. This was an adventure. It was divine intervention that I got to Duke. It has been unreal. I can breath and did fine on the plane. I didn't know I was so sick." The key finding was the discovery of a fungus in her lungs. That's now being treated with a pill a day that costs \$4,000 a month. She returns Dec. 3 to perhaps begin the clinical trial for her leukemia. And she sounded like Bettye again!



**PP Chris Camp** is home from UT Medical Center. Doctors are still treating the infection she has been battling since August. She remains off of her chemo treatments. Chris says she will meet with doctors this week to decide on her treatment options now.

**Faye King**, PP Tom's way-better half, remains quarantined at home after being exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID. Faye was tested Wednesday and the test was negative. Her quarantine ends Friday.

## 17 Members Honored on Veterans Day



Wednesday, November 11, was **Veteran's Day** when those who sacrificed their lives for our country and served honorably in our military branches are celebrated. President Ed Jones took a few minutes to recognize the 17 veterans who are members of the our club.

These are our veterans and we hope we didn't overlook anyone:

**U.S. Army:** Wayne Davis, Jonathan Johnson, Tom King, and Terry Kerbs (Army National Guard).

**U.S. Air Force:** Jim Dodd, Jim O'Brien, John Hoffman, Ron Lawrence, Larry Click, Sam Taylor, Tom Pattison, Mike Singletary, Harry Gregory, Chuck Laine (Air Force Reserves).

**U.S. Marine Corps:** Tim Phillips, Bob Parker.

**Tennessee Air National Guard:** Bill Nichols

We salute all of our veterans!

## Great Season for Luke, CAK!

**Luke Myers** is a middle linebacker at CAK who has tackled anyone who came his way this season. Luke, the son of Allison and Noah, is a 6-1, 180-pound junior. CAK finished an 11-1 season, losing to Goodpasture, 61-42, in the state quarterfinals Friday night. Luke had 10 tackles — two for a loss and one for a sack. He broke the CAK season record with 126 total tackles. He also has 4.0 GPA and wants to play linebacker or safety in college.



## *Our 3 Holiday Projects* **ETCH, Angel Tree & Bell Ringing**

We may not be meeting in person, but these are busy and exciting times for the Rotary Club of Farragut. These three major projects are, naturally at this time of the year, tied to Christmas and making Christmas and the holidays a very special time for many special people in our community.

- **Christmas gifts for kids at East Tennessee Children's Hospital (ETCH)**
- **Angel Tree gifts for the Boys & Girls Club of the Tennessee Valley**
- **Salvation Army Red Kettle Bell Ringing**

And in case you have not noticed the calendar lately, we have only 40 days until Christmas — less than six weeks away.

What follows here are updates on these truly important service projects.

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### ***Children's Hospital Christmas Project***

Our project for the kids at ETCH to have a fun Christmas with toys that we donate is off to a start .... but it is a slow start and we need to pick up the pace Farragut Rotarians. This is a great project, spurred by new member Scott Bertini and being coordinated by our Service Projects Committee.



We need to get excited about this project folks. Do not wait until the last minute to send in your gifts. Share this project on your social media.

Here is a quick update from Scott: “There are 152 beds at ETCH and not every one will be filled, but our stretch goal is 152 toys. But ETCH will be thankful for whatever we can provide. Right now we have roughly 25 gifts but the concerning part is that they are only from roughly four or five donations.”



We also are planning to deliver the toys in handmade Christmas bags. The Hardin Valley Academy Interact Club on Monday will start sewing 152 bags for toys. PP Leah Berry, our advisor to the HVA Interact Club, bought more than \$100 of fabric for the students to use. “They also are working on fabric donations this week and a web-savvy student in the club may create a virtual tree for gifts that can be sent to Scott's email address,” Leah says. “They are really excited about the project!”

Service Projects Co-Chair Sonya Ford says anyone who wants to sew a Christmas bag is welcome to help us. She says dimensions of the bags are 24" x 36" and the bag should be in Christmas print or colors. “For any of our non-sewers who want to learn how to sew I'm happy to give lessons,” Sonya says.

Here is a [LINK](#) to sign up if you are interested in helping with this project.

- **Due Date for Toys:** December 11th. We will be delivering all the donations to the hospital the following week on the 15th.
- **Price Range:** It is recommended toys be in the \$5-\$20 range.
- **Age Range:** Infants to 21 years but most under 18. Some ideas for older children would be craft kits, science kits, gift cards, board games, books, etc.
- **What Not To Give:** Used Books / Stuffed Animals

## **GIVING OPTIONS**

**DONATE TOYS THROUGH AMAZON/ONLINE:** If you would like to purchase toys online, feel free to have them shipped directly to Scott's home. His address is 1227 Amber Glades Lane, Knoxville TN 37922. Please send me an email at [scottbertini@gmail.com](mailto:scottbertini@gmail.com) to alert me or put some type of identifier on the package label such as "ETCH"

**DONATE TOYS BY PICK UP/DROP OF:** If you plan to purchase locally, let me know. Scott is happy to arrange a time for you to either drop them off at my home or pick up from your home as needed.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Scott at (865) 898-4421 or email [SCOTT](#) or call Sonya (865) 323-3780 or email [SONYA](#)

## ***Angel Tree for B&G Club Christmas***

**PP Jonathan Johnson** is again heading up our **2020 Angel Tree** Project for the kids at the Boys & Girls Club of the Tennessee Valley. Below is an image that offers gift suggestions for the kids.

As in years before, do not wrap the gifts. Just put them in a plastic bag and tie the bag up. Jonathan asks that you drop the gifts off at



the Boys and Girls Club downtown 967 Irwin St. or they can drop them off at Jonathan's office at A&W Supply, 10653 Dutchtown Rd.

He says the drop-off deadline is Monday Dec. 7.



# Gift of JOY

You can give the Gift of Joy to Club members this holiday season!

The gift ideas below are suggestions.  
Any and all gifts will help our Club members have a holiday full of joy and cheer!

Female Club Member Wishes			Male Club Member Wishes	
Easy Bake Oven	Jewelry Box	 <b>BOYS &amp; GIRLS CLUBS</b> OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY	Ninja Turtle	Remote Cars
Make-up/Nail Polish	Littlest Pet Shop		Legos	Art Supplies
Flower Making Set	Educational Games		Army Toys	Slime Kit
Art Supplies	Barbie & Ken Dolls		Athletic Balls	Educational Games
Dolls	Movies		Blocks	Pokémon
Doll Clothes	Hair Accessories		Dinosaurs Toys	Star Wars Toys
			Headphones	

## *Salvation Army Bells at Kroger*

Our Bell Ringing Boss **Mike Singletary** says it's time he gets our team roster in shape for our **Salvation Army Red Kettle** project at Kroger in Farragut on two December Saturdays — the 12th and 19th.



He has three weeks to recruit our team, which will work two-hour shifts beginning at 10 a.m. and ending with the 6 p.m. shift (which is a one-hour shift). We will ring at the main entrance of Kroger's, Farragut, the entrance closet to Kingston Pike.

Each two-hour shift is manned by a pair of club members. If you can sing and play the music of the season, come along and that will create more interest for us.

“Our service will be especially important this season because of the economic hard times suffered by many people during the pandemic,” Mike says.

If you would like to sign up, please email [MIKE](#) or you can call him at (865) 671-1899 and he will build the roster. The sooner you respond the better chance you have of getting your preferred shift time.

This is a great project for our club and a fun one to work!

## This Mystery Rotarian Is a Toughie!

Only one guess was delivered to the administrator's email box in the **November Mystery Rotarian** sweepstakes last week. Those first clues were tough. It's not getting any easier with today's next four clues:

- They have a skeleton key that fits the door locks of all 1988 Jaguars.
- Had a pet raccoon named Pedro that they bottle fed from a baby.
- Has a prosthetic bone in their head.
- Their Hungarian Latin teacher told them: "Smart ones learn, but dumb ones like you, they never do!" Our Rotarian didn't go to school in their 4th, 5th, and 6th grade years. "I went on to earn an undergrad and a Master's degree from an on-campus college with a 3.5 GPA," they say today.



The first correct guess emailed to TOM KING will win a bottle of great wine from **Dixie Lee Wines & Liquors**. If no one can solve the mystery, then the Mysterian wins the wine!

## A Thought for the Week

"Learning to ignore things is one of the great paths to inner peace."  
— **Robert J. Sawyer**