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The Rotary Circle of Support

We hear it often, but it still thrills us when we see the open and generous community we call home. The Rotary Club of Penn Yan took a risk last year and, leaving the 50-year-old radio auction behind, we ventured out with the chamber of Commerce to launch Flights of Fancy: Finger Lakes Wine Classic. The support and enthusiasm has been so heartening. With sponsors like our own – Community Bank, Lyons National Bank, Bank of the Finger Lakes, Knapp & Schlapi, Simmons Rockwell, and the Hampton Inn – Rotary has the opportunity to do so much. When Welliver Construction stepped up to cover all music costs of two bands, sound, and stage expenses, it freed up funds for Rotary to do its work.

With a donation from the Class of 2016 and lots of hard work by John Kreise, high school students, Rotary is putting 19 custom designed benches on the Keuka Outlet Trail this spring. One hundred children who would otherwise never get a regular camp experience because of physical and other challenges can go to a Rotary Camp for 2 weeks in the summer on Seneca Lake; fishing, swimming, canoeing, and laughing. Rotary's literacy programs, scholarships, and high school Interact Club and college Rotaract Club provide opportunities and leadership experiences not otherwise available.

And it's not just the sponsors who make this possible; we also have Friends of Rotary (\$30-99) like Stork Insurance, Constellation Brands, and Seneca Shore Wine Cellars, who want to participate. They make it possible for Rotary to orchestrate these services and events for our own community.

We ask you to support those who support Rotary. And come be a part of it Saturday, May 20. Join us in celebrating our community and our givers at the 2nd annual Flights of Fancy at the Hampton Inn on beautiful Keuka Lake. Check out www.FingerLakesWineClassic.com or call the Chamber for tickets; 800-228-2760.

TOM MAY, PRESIDENT AND CAROL WORTH, EVENT CHAIR