

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Rotarian Gary Torello 860-997-0620

CHESTER RESIDENT FEEDS MANY WITH ROTARY PARTNERSHIP

Chester, CT – The Rotary Club of Southern Connecticut is excited to report that our Turkey Drive partner; Chester resident Leah Kisselbrack, organized over 30 friends to take a freezing plunge into the cold waters of a local lake and in doing so raised over \$14,000 from friends, family and the community to support local families and area food banks. A great job by Leah!

What began as a modest “event” in 2020 to have some safely-distanced fun that could benefit local food pantries by asking friends and family to donate grew to over 30 “plungers” with community supporting donations of over \$14,000. The day turned out to be a huge success. Numerous local businesses provided door prizes to assist in the collection efforts. The sun was shining and hot chocolate kept everyone warm.

This year Rotary Club of Southern Connecticut President Gary Torello also involved the local Chester Rotary Club through which Leah’s collected donations will be included in the annual Thanksgiving Rotary/ Liberty Bank food drive where Liberty Bank will provide an additional matching 25% to increase the money that will be distributed by Leah to over \$17,500. Chester Rotarians Deb Vilcheck and Francine Curto coordinated the deposits and production of checks which will be distributed by Leah.

The Nutmeg Rotary is thrilled and proud to be able to support and help increase Leah’s contributions to local food banks that will help struggling Southern CT families. Other individuals and organizations who raise donations for food banks are encouraged to contact President Gary Torello at the Nutmeg Rotary to discuss partnering opportunities that can increase donations through fund matching.

The Rotary Club of Southern Connecticut (“The Nutmeg Rotary”) is a district wide “Passport” rotary club that serves the entire Southern CT area and is a service organization dedicated to helping both the community and other Rotary clubs throughout Southern CT.

The Rotary Club of Chester CT is made up of local residents, business and community leaders and is part of a global network of 1.4 million neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.



L-R: Liberty Bank Deep River Branch Manager Stephen Rednak, Chester Rotary Turkey Drive Coordinator Francine Curto, Leah "Wonder Woman" Kisselbrack, Chester & Deep River Social Services Director Rosie Binninger, Rotary Club of Southern Connecticut President Gary Torello



Polar Plunge 2021 participants. Hi-Res photos available at:

The Rotary Club of Southern Connecticut - A Passport Rotary Club
In service to the community and local Rotary clubs throughout Southern CT
203-584-7278