

Rotary



Rotary Club of Homewood
P.O. Box 19333 • Birmingham, AL 35219

Keynotes

Meeting: Thursdays, 12 Noon, Homewood Library

October 6, 2016

Website: www.homewoodrotaryal.com



THIS WEEK'S SPEAKER: Mike Raita - ABC 33/40 Sportscaster



Mike Raita is a Cincinnati, Ohio native and a 1981 graduate of Ohio University. Mike is an EMMY award winning sportscaster and is in his 27th year covering sports, 21 of those years at ABC 33/40. He got his start in broadcasting in 1981 with CNN, but his career as a sportscaster started in 1982 in Knoxville with stops along the way in Cincinnati, Columbus, and Dayton, Ohio. He likes to point out that he may be Northern by birth, but he is Southern by choice!

The Associated Press has named Mike the State Of Alabama's "Best Sportscaster" on several occasions and the AP has also recognized his feature reporting. Mike has won the Southern League's "Broadcaster Of The Year" award twice. Currently, he is the host of the Zone Sundays at 10:35 on ABC 33/40 and Monday thru Thursday on My68 at 10:30. He is also the host of Friday Night Blitz Gameday at 6:30 on Fridays during the high school season and co-hosts the Friday Night Blitz with Jeff Speegle on ABC 33/40 Fridays at 10:20.

Away from the office, when not at the ballpark, Mike enjoys working around his home. In fact he enjoys yard work so much that if he wasn't working in television, he says he'd like to have his own landscaping business.



OCTOBER IS ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MONTH

Global Community Development Project

From RI Website

Imagine a community where the residents are all free to plant, grow, harvest, and eat healthy food whenever they want without having to pay for it. Sound too good to be true?

That's exactly what residents of more than 20 cities and towns in France are doing through a project called Potalib. Launched by the Rotaract Club of Versailles, Potalib was inspired by the Incredible Edible project, an international food-sharing movement founded by Nick Green in England. The Rotaract members obtained Green's permission to apply the concept in France, changing the name to "Potalib," a contraction of "potager libre" (free vegetable garden).

The club registered the Potalib name, created a brand, and now sells the project as a kit to French institutions, local communities, and corporations. The materials include seeds for as many as 18 kinds of vegetables, information on how to cultivate them, and 12 wooden bins, each about a cubic meter in size and filled with around 270 kilograms of soil. In cities where the gardens are planted, the club sponsors a festive opening-day ceremony, featuring a free meal cooked by club members and a professional chef. "The goal is quite simple: To give everyone, from the wealthiest to the poorest, the opportunity to eat quality vegetables," says Club President Thibaut Mathieu. "Everyone" includes parents who want to teach their children "that fries do not grow in the ground," joke the project's supporters. According to a recent survey, one in four children in France doesn't know that fries come from potatoes.

Potalib also offers the homeless a reliable source of free healthy food.

Mathieu says that people readily take responsibility for maintaining the vegetable gardens and no instances of theft, hoarding, or vandalism have been reported. Instead, Potalib is bringing communities closer together. "I was almost afraid to take some vegetables at first," says Nathalie from Plaisir, a suburb of Paris. "But now I do it with great pleasure. I made new friends there. We plant seeds and we have a good time!"

Each Potalib package costs more than \$15,000. Mathieu says that would be a high price for one person to pay, but not for a town, government department, or a company. The money is paid directly to the club, which then pays the suppliers, "who have become genuine and trusted partners," he says. Potalib is also good for local business. If the community isn't able to fund the entire project, the club contacts companies in the area. Mathieu says a local company can finance one or several bins in its city, and in doing so, improve its image by showing the public that it cares.

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THE ROTARY WAY



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 understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

Rotarian Code of Conduct

The following code of conduct has been adopted for the use of Rotarians: **AS A ROTARIAN**, I will:

- 1) Act with integrity and high ethical standards in my personal and professional life.
- 2) Deal fairly with others and treat them and their occupations with respect.
- 3) Use my professional skills through Rotary to: mentor young people, help those with special needs, and improve people's quality of life in my community and in the world.
- 4) Avoid behavior that reflects adversely on Rotary or other Rotarians.

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 20, 2016
ANNUAL DRAWING FOR SEC GAME TICKETS
AND OTHER PRIZES

YOUR PARTICIPATION IS IMPORTANT.
DONATE A PRIZE. SELL TICKETS. HELP A STUDENT!

Global Community Development Continued

Outside of France, Rotaract clubs in Belgium, Canada, and Germany have inquired about duplicating the project. "We receive, on average, four new applications from cities per week," says Mathieu, adding that the Versailles club is planning to create a separate Potalib website soon.

The Versailles Rotaractors started Potalib in 2012, around the time they were forming their club, which was chartered in 2013. The project has not only benefited an increasing number of communities, it's also helped to expand the club's membership, which has mushroomed from 16 members to 60. Mathieu credits the project's success to the Rotaract club's sponsor, the Rotary Club of Versailles. "They have always given us good counseling. Without 'our' Rotarians, we would not be here today," says Mathieu.

Rotary



Economic and Community
Development Month

OCTOBER 2016

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2	3	4	5	6 SPEAKER: Mike Raita Sportscaster ABC 33/40	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 SPEAKER: Kelly Peoples The Bell Center	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 SPEAKER: Leah Ratliff LifeSouth Community Blood Centers	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 SPEAKERS: Erin Stephenson and Brooke Coleman Community Foundation	28	29
30	31					

Board of Directors: Carol Chesnutt, Janice Scholl, John Krontiras, Robert Sprain, Debbie Roberson, Sandy Nelson, Merrick Wilson, Damon Holditch, Melody Salter, Debbie Fout, Mike Hathorne, Bo Duke - Ex-Officio

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