



The Rotary Club of
Columbia/Patuxent

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making a difference through unity.



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February 20, 2015



**THE
COMPASSIONATE
FRIENDS**
Supporting Family After a Child Dies

This Week's Program: Barbara Allen, The Compassionate Friends

Program: Today we were joined by Barbara Allen of The Compassionate Friends. When a child dies, at any age, the family suffers intense pain and may feel hopeless and isolated. The Compassionate Friends provides highly personal comfort, hope, and support to every family experiencing the death of a son or a daughter, a brother or a sister, or a grandchild, and helps others better assist the grieving family.

The Compassionate Friends was founded over 40 years ago when a chaplain at the Warwickshire Hospital in England brought together two sets of grieving parents and realized that the support they gave each other was better than anything he, as a chaplain, could ever say or provide. Meeting around a kitchen table, the Lawleys and the Hendersons were joined by a bereaved mother and the chaplain, Simon Stephens, and The Society of the Compassionate Friends was born. The Compassionate Friends jumped across the ocean and was established in the United States and incorporated in 1978 in Illinois.

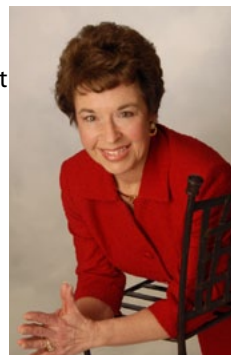
Each chapter, along with the supporting National Office, is committed to helping every bereaved parent, sibling, or

grandparent who may walk through our doors or contact us.

Today TCF has about 660 chapters serving all 50 states plus Washington D.C., Puerto Rico, and Guam offer friendship, understanding, and hope to bereaved parents, siblings, grandparents, and other family members during the natural grieving process after a child has died. Around the world more than 30 countries have a Compassionate Friends presence, encircling the globe with support so desperately needed when the worst has happened.

In addition to this newsletter Barbara provided an overview of what helps and hinders when a friend or family member loses a child, grandchild, or sibling. Please see the attachment for more information.

Learn more at www.compassionatefriends.org



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UPCOMING PROGRAMS		UPCOMING EVENTS	
February 27	The Howard County Conservancy	February 27th	Deadline for Grant Nominations (to Anne London)
March 6th	TBD	March 11th	Hammond High Career Day (see Kellie Lego)
March 13th	Howard County Fire and Rescue	March 13th	Grant Recipients Announced
		March 22nd	Soup'r Sundae 2015. 12:00pm-2:00pm, WLHS
		April 10th	Club Meeting - Grant Day
		May 8th-9th	District Conference (Frederick, MD)
		June 14th	Club Annual Dinner (Howard County Conservancy)
		June 27th	Ken Solow District Governer Induction Dinner (HCC Health Sciences Building - Rotary Atrium)

The Other Howard County Rotary clubs:

Clarksville

Claret Hall, Tuesdays 7:45 a.m.

Columbia

Eggspectations, Tuesdays @ 6:30 p.m.

Columbia Town Center,

Sheraton Inn, Wednesdays @ 12:15 p.m.

Elkridge

Elkridge Furnace Inn, Wednesdays @ 6:30 p.m.

Ellicott City Sunrise,

Tersiguel's, Thursdays @ 7:15 a.m. Ellicott City,

Tersiguel's

Thursdays @ noon

NEXT MEETING: FEBRUARY 27, 2014