For Immediate Release

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Written by Elaine Tears Pictures by Brandi Graham and Jane Russell

BATH ROTARY CLUB PARTICIPATES IN ROTARY DISTRICT 7120'S WATERSHED PROJECT

As part of Rotary District 7120's Watershed Project, the Bath Rotary Club recently participated in the cleanup of public access to Tyrtle Beach on Lake Salubria, located on the outskirts of the Village of Bath, and the entire waterfront of the Keuka Yacht Club, located on Keuka Lake, one of the state's Finger Lakes, in order to beautify the environment.

The local project was spearheaded by Tess McKinley, Bath Rotary Club Immediate Past President. She noted that the district encourages Rotary clubs to take on a Watershed Project around this time of year as a part of ESRAG (Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group). Those Bath Rotarians, who participated in the project at Tyrtle Beach, took pride in picking up tree branches and twigs, raking leaves, and removing other tripping hazards.

For those who do not live in the Southern Tier, Tyrtle Beach is an annual fundraiser for a multitude of youth programs in Bath and surrounding communities. The founders of the event named it Tyrtle Beach because it occurred when many local residents traveled to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina for spring break. A prominent community member is selected to jump in Lake Salubria, which is usually quite cold at the end of April, while community members and organizations pledge money for the event. Several of the past jumpers have been Bath Rotarians.

At the same time that Terry Bilancio, Brandi Graham, and Elaine Tears were at Tyrtle Beach, Jane Russell alone was cleaning up the entire waterfront at the Keuka Yacht Club, located on the shore of beautiful Keuka Lake.

(Cutlines are located on the following page.)

Cutline for Picture #1

As part of Rotary District 7120's Watershed Project, three Bath Rotarians cleaned up debris at the site of Tyrtle Beach on Lake Salubria outside the Village of Bath. Standing left to right are Elaine Tears, Terry Bilancio, and Brandi Graham.

Cutline for Picture #2

Jane Russell, Bath Rotarian, was pleased to cleanup alone the entire waterfront at the Keuka Yacht Club.

Cutline for Picture #3

Trash! Trash! Trash! Jane Russell loaded into her vehicle to drive away some of the bags of debris that she picked up on the shore of Keuka Lake as part of the Bath Rotary Club's Watershed Project.