



STEPHEN & MELISSA EDELL CARTER EDELL FOUNDATION

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www.uarotary.org

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For make up locations, check the club web site or call the make-up hotline at (614) 470-1002.



Angela Lanctot introduced our guest speakers, **Stephen and Melissa Edell**, Upper Arlington residents, healthcare professionals, and the courageous co-founders of the Carter Edell Foundation.

The foundation was established in memory of their 14-year-old son, Carter, who tragically died by suicide in September 2025. Stephen and Melissa shared heartwarming memories of Carter—a bright, funny, and curious teenager who loved taking apart computers, telling jokes, spending time outdoors, and playing for the Hastings football and tennis teams. Because Carter had no prior history of mental health struggles, his passing was a profound shock, driving his parents to ensure no other family has to endure a similar tragedy.

The Mission: Closing the Gap Between Concern and Action

Melissa and Stephen outlined the foundation's core mission: to reduce youth suicide by advancing education, awareness, and policy change.

They highlighted a critical gap in current mental health support: having resources available is not the same as connecting youth to those resources. The foundation aims to empower the adults who interact with our children daily—teachers, coaches, nurses, and parents—with practical training to:

- ☐ Notice meaningful changes in a young person.
- ☐ Ask caring, direct questions without fear of overstepping.
- ☐ Escalate the situation by looping in the right professionals.
- ☐ Follow Up by staying with the child until support is activated.

"We just really don't want anybody else to go through what we went through... A phone call can save a life."

By treating mental health crisis intervention similarly to regular CPR training, the foundation hopes to instill confidence in adults to act swiftly when they notice warning signs. The Edells are currently collaborating with experts like Dr. John Ackerman and the Kids Mental Health Foundation at Nationwide Children's Hospital to develop these vital programs.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view this meeting and all previously recorded Rotary meetings



GREETERS

August 11

Roger (Rod) Essig
Jessica Grisez

August 18

Bob Nolan
Chris Copeland

August 25

Brian Bainbridge
Jay Babbitt

REGISTRATION DESK

August 11

J.D. Dickerson
Mike Brady

August 18

Sandra Cotter
Jeanine Hummer

August 25

Ted Foster
Brendan King

CALENDAR

August 11 - Scioto CC/ZOOM

Molly Kreuzman, Program
Director, Ohio Goes to the
Movies

Host: Herb Gillen

August 18 - Scioto CC/ZOOM

Heidi Munc, Vice President of
User Experience – Nationwide,
“How Nationwide looks at user
experience and the intersection
between design and technology”

Host: Kelly Marlow/Steve Schoeny

August 25 - Scioto CC/ZOOM

Tim May, “Buckeye Football
Preview”

Host: Wayne Harrer

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Submit your volunteer opportunity
to herb@herbgillen.com for inclusion
in the Rotaryview Newsletter.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Please submit your social event
reminder to herb@herbgillen.com for
inclusion in the Rotaryview Newsletter.

OUR NEXT MEETING

AUGUST 11TH
Scioto Country Club / ZOOM

Upper Arlington
Rotary
Club



STEPHEN & MELISSA EDELL

CARTER EDELL FOUNDATION

Upcoming Community Event: "Forward for Hope" Race

To honor Carter, raise mental health awareness, and provide a positive community gathering as students head back to school, the foundation is hosting its inaugural race.

Event Details:

- What: Forward for Hope (5K, 1-Mile Walk/Run, and a "Memory Mile" to honor lost loved ones)
- When: Thursday, August 15th at 5:30 PM (Note: August 16th is Carter's birthday!)
- Where: Thompson Park
- Registration: Available via the Columbus Running Company website, or <https://runsignup.com/Race/OH/Columbus/ForwardForHope5K>

Nationwide Children's Hospital will also be on-site with a tent full of resources. Even if you do not plan to run, Rotarians are highly encouraged to come out, cheer, and show support.

How Rotarians Can Help

The Edells emphasized that Rotary members are a vital part of the community prevention network. As a young organization, the Carter Edell Foundation is actively seeking community support to build a strong, lasting impact.

They are currently looking for:

- Individuals with experience in nonprofit strategy, fundraising, or policy change to join their advisory board.
- Volunteers and participants for the upcoming race.
- A commitment from all of us to "shorten the pause"—to boldly ask someone if they are okay when we notice a change in their behavior.

Crisis Resource Reminder: If you or someone you know is in crisis, text or call 988 immediately and stay with the individual until help arrives.

For more information, to volunteer, or to offer your expertise, you can reach Stephen and Melissa at TheCarterEdellFoundation@gmail.com or visit TheCarterEdellFoundation.org.



THE MEETING



President **Glen Dugger** opened the meeting, followed by a poignant prayer led by **Dave Dewey**, who focused on mental health support for young people, asking for guidance to "connect each student with the people and the tools to build resilience and health." Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Glen wished happy birthday to **Tom Davis**, along with welcoming guest **Olivia Milburn**, hosted by **Jessica Grisez**. Then the club turned its attention to a deeply impactful presentation.

SORTING OUT WHERE TO CONTRIBUTE

ORGANIZATION	DONATION DESIGNATIONS	ADDRESS	MEMBER CONTACT	EMAIL
Upper Arlington Rotary Club	Club dues	P.O. Box 12013 Columbus, OH 43212	Peggy Concilla	concillapl@gmail.com
Upper Arlington Rotary Foundation	Annual \$365 and some other club funding requests	1704 Sundridge Dr. Columbus, OH 43221	Andy Livingston	andy.w.livingston@gmail.com
Rotary International Foundation	\$125 Club, Paul Harris and Polio Plus	2902 Halstead Rd. Columbus, OH 43221	Milt Lustnauer	milt@miltssellshomes.com