

BRANDING IRON

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Building good will and better friendships

To end calendar year 2024, our Club surprised five organizations doing good in our community with year-end gifts of \$500 each. The funds come from a certificate of deposit that's maturing. Additional initiatives will be announced as our Club works to support our community. Those receiving gifts last month were nominated by Club members. Photos by Josiah Cuellar.





Travis Leintz with **Badlands Crimestoppers** told us that donations are used for crime tips that lead to an arrest; tipsters help solve crimes, are anonymous and can receive up to \$1,000.





Rhonda Dukart with **Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Center** said that there's an increase in domestic violence around the holidays. She said DVRCC will use Rotary's gift to purchase diapers and baby products.





RaeAnn Kilen said that **Women Empowering Women** will use the Rotary gift to address low income elderly women's needs. More than 125 will receive a gift card for the holidays, whether they live at home or in a care facility.





Sharlie Kilzer with the **AMEN Food Pantry** told us that the pantry is serving 350 to 400 families per year and provides kids meals and a mobile pantry in partnership with other organizations. She said AMEN will use the Rotary gift to purchase milk, eggs and cheese.





Tara Zettel with **Connect Medical Clinic** shared that the expansion is completed. CMC will apply the Rotary gift to shipping costs for post-miscarriage care kits.

Today's Meeting:

Greeters: Tami Mines & Rich Wardner *Next meeting: Val Mack & Caitlyn Claterback*

<u>Community Kindness</u>: We will be collecting funds and wish list items for Community Action's Prairie Rose Recovery Center, for adults with serious mental illness.

Invocation: May the new year bring our club new projects, new members, new success, new friends and a fervor for Rotary that doesn't end! AMEN