



Here in Imperial, clean drinking water is as close as the nearest sink or water fountain.

That's not the case in most of the public schools in Lebanon, where the only available water has been polluted with algae, rust and other contaminants that gather in the school's water supply.

The Imperial Rotary Club is raising funds to install a water filtration system in one of the schools in Saida, Lebanon (the ancient Sidon mentioned in the Old Testament). The project was initiated by Rotarians in Lebanon, who, to date, have provided 148 systems, representing just 12 percent of the 1,200 Lebanese public schools in need of such filters.

Last Friday, local residents who donated to the project were treated to Lebanese food prepared by members of the Imperial Rotary Club and served in St. Patrick's parish hall.

Included on the menu were Chicken Shawarma (gyros), Fish Tagine, tabbouleh (parsley-bulgur-tomato salad), hummus (sesame seed paste and ground garbanzo beans) with pita chips, whole wheat pita pockets, cucumber salad in yogurt dressing and a dessert of pistachio-almond ice cream.

Members of the Interact Club helped decorate the room and serve the dinners under the leadership of Rotary sponsor Annette Kasselmann and Interact President Suzy Kasselmann.

Diners were also treated to a brief slide show of the water project, presented by Rotary President Bill Bryan, and to several musical numbers from the 9th Street Singers.

The approximate cost of one filtration system is \$2,500. With an initial donation of \$1,000 from the club and \$700 raised from the dinner, the club is \$800 from their goal of raising enough funds to pay for one filtration system.

Contributing to the fund or to learn more about this project or Rotary, contact Club President Bryan at 308-883-0264.