



The Paddlewheel

Moorhead Rotary Club

Volume 101—Number 6

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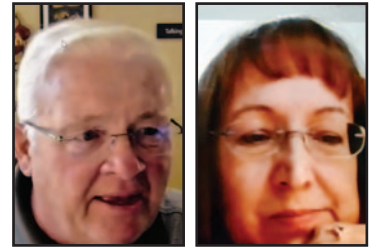
**Moorhead Rotary Club 970
District 5580**

President Jerry Roger
President-Elect Gina Monson
President Nominee 2021-2022
David Sederquist
Treasurer Emily Gess
Secretary Teresa Joppa
Past President John Andreasen

Directors (2020) Ernie Simmons,
Pat Gulbranson and Greg Johnson
Directors (2021) Kevin Heazlett
and Tracey Moorhead
Directors (2022) Tammy Finney
and Steve Astrup
RYLA Coordinator Randy Farwell
Polio Plus Coordinator Cindy Nolte
Sergeant at Arms Team
Dave Sederquist, Eric Johnson
& Jean Hannig
Program Chair Jean Hannig
Pianist Sharon Fangsrud
Song Leaders Bill Schwandt,
Bob Hanna
Photographer Russ Hanson
Paddlewheel Editor
Nancy Edmonds Hanson

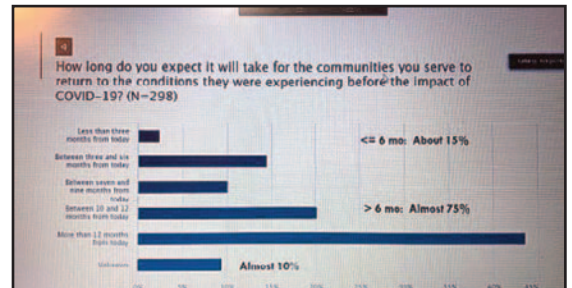
Other F-M Rotary Meetings

Monday: FM/PM Rotary
5:30 p.m., Lucky 13 Pub
Monday: Fargo West Rotary
Noon, Holiday Inn
Wednesday: Fargo Rotary
Noon, Radisson
Thursday: FM/AM Rotary
7 a.m., Ramada Plaza



Coming Up Tuesday — via Zoom

Moorhead Parks Director Holly Heitkamp updates the club on progress on the river and park trails through the city. Eric Johnson is sergeant at arms.



Economist Tonya Hansen discusses COVID's impact on businesses

President Jerry Rogers welcomed 21 Rotarians and three guests to the club's Zoom meeting. He told members he has three Rotary shirts with names and one, a women's XL, without a name. If one is yours, please pick it up and pay.

Tammy Finney said Rotary masks are on the way. They navy masks are all cotton and show the same embroidered logo as the shirts. Delivery will take two weeks once an order is placed. The masks will be distributed to members and used in conjunction with the 100th anniversary celebration next spring.

Last week's F-M Rotary Golf Outing raised \$7,000 for construction of the Rotary Natural Playground and Park being planned for the river area above First Avenue North in Moorhead.

The club's next Drive-By Food Drive is scheduled Sept. 15 just off Eighth Street at Concordia's baseball field. Future drives are being planned quarterly, possibly in different high-visibility locations. Contributions benefit Churches United

for the Homeless.

Violet Deilke reported that tickets will be distributed for the annual travel give-away, our major fundraiser, in September — possibly at the food drive.

Stacey Ackerman submitted her resignation. She has accepted a new job in the Twin Cities.

Sederunts collects happy dollars

After Brent Brandt shared Minnesota Twins trivia, sergeant at arms Dave Sederquist called for happy dollars. Jean Hannig was first to respond with a dollar for our guests and speaker, Brent, the Twins and the food drives for Churches United. Gary Nolte celebrated the fact that their internet is back in service after a neighbor's fence installation severed their connection with the online world.

Dave Tranby pointed out the spectacular moon and planets, plus a comet, offering dazzling views in the night sky. Teresa Joppa paid a fine for buying what she called her COVID car — a bright red convertible to quarantine in.

Guests 8/04

Maryann Harris-Allen
Tonya Hansen, speaker
Deb Kukowski

August Birthday

Cater, Alma Aug 01

Wedding Anniversaries

Nolte, Cindy & Gary Aug 01 1969
51 years

Baldwin, Jill & Jerry Aug 02 1969
51 years

Hendrickson, Chuck & Renae
Aug 13 1994 26 years

Moorhead, Tracey & Richard
Aug 14 1964 56 years

Belcher, Barb & David Aug 17 2013
7 years

Johnson, Eric & Kirsten Aug 21 2012
8 years

Riewer, Jon & Kristine Aug 24 1996
24 years

Schwandt, Bill & Cheryl Aug 29 1981
39 years

Rotary Anniversaries

Hannig, Jean 24 years
Aug 06 1996

Lorenson, Pat 3 years
Aug 12 2017

Blackhurst, Anne 8 years
Aug 14 2012

Nolte, Cindy 20 years
Aug 15 2000

Qualey, Neil 28 years
Jul 21 1992

MSUM economist shares details on epidemic's impacts in Minnesota and US

Jean Hannig introduced the day's speaker, Dr. Tonya Hansen, professor of economics at Minnesota State University Moorhead. Tonya is currently doing research on the state's tax incentives and their effect on the job market. She has many publications and presentations to her credit and shared recent work on how COVID-19 is affecting consumers and business.

She called the situation "COVID shock," but asked, "Is there ever a good time for a pandemic?" She said prices of all items are generally holding stable with several exceptions: Food prices are up about 5%, and energy prices are down substantially.

Unemployment was at 2.8% in January 2020 here in Fargo-Moorhead. It was up to 7.7% in April but receded to 5.5% in June. Nationally, the numbers are more dramatic: 3.6% in January but 11% in June.

The U.S. growth rate for the first quarter of 2020 is down 5% over 2019, she said. The tri-state area has fared slightly better; North Dakota is down 2.2%; South Dakota, 2.6%; and Minnesota, 4%. Second quarter numbers are substantially worse.

Tonya said that of the four kinds of economic activity that comprise the Gross Domestic Product — consumption, investment, government spending and exports less imports — the largest driver is consumption, specifically household consumers.

The biggest drop in consumption was in the service sector. Nondurable and durable goods showed less of a decrease; an increase in home products offset some of the drop in other products.

She noted that new housing construction dropped substantially nationwide, while sales of existing homes are doing well.

Government spending helped prop up the economy during the period. But the pandemic has had a huge impact on exports and imports.

How long will a recovery require? She pointed to a survey of business owners. About 15% predicted six months or less. But almost 75% said the recovery will need more than six months, including 45% who answered "more than 12 months from today."

Looking Ahead

August 11 ... Zoom

Sergeant at ArmsEric Johnson
Program.....Holly Heitkamp, Moorhead Parks
Department, Moorhead parks and bike trail
extensions

August 18 ... Zoom

Sergeant at ArmsSteve Astrup
ProgramMaryann Allen, New American
Consortium, "Supporting New Americans in F-M"

September 15 — Drive-By Food Drive #2

Most Moorhead Rotary meetings will probably continue to be conducted virtually via Zoom for the remainder of 2020, since Concordia is not permitting outside groups from meeting on campus. The board will continue to look at when, where and how indoor meetings will be able to resume.