



The Paddlewheel

Moorhead Rotary Club

Volume 104—Number 50

June 18, 2024

Moorhead Rotary Club 1405 District 5580

President Steve Astrup
President-Elect
President Nominee
Treasurer Dave Sederquist
Secretary Teresa Joppa
Past President Dave Sederquist

Directors (2023) Chris Andreasen, Greg Johnson & Steve Schaefer
Directors (2024) Tracey Moorhead, & Ernie Simmons
Directors (2025) Tammy Finney & Jean Hannig
Directors (2026) Nancy Hanson & Tim Hiller
RYLA Coordinator Jon Riewer
Polio Plus Coordinator Cindy Nolte
Program Chair Jean Hannig
Paddlewheel Photographer/Editor Nancy Edmonds Hanson

June Birthday

Joppa, Teresa June 27

Anniversaries

Dovre, Paul & Mardy 66 years
Jun. 03 1958
Tranby, Dave & Sharon 50 years
Jun. 22 1974
Wai, Sam & Coralie 48 years
Jun. 20 1976

Rotary Anniversaries

Deilke, Violet 28 years
Jun. 04 1996
Escobar, Carmen 1 year
Jun. 20 2023



Coming Up — June 18

Carla Hernandez joins us this week to talk about CASA — Cultura Amigos Salud Ambiente — the Latino community empowerment organization based in Moorhead. Laura Lobo is our sergeant at arms.

MSUM President Tim Downs reports on first year heading the Moorhead campus

Moorhead Rotary's June 11 meeting was a bit upside down, as our speaker, Minnesota State University president Dr. Tim Downs, had to leave early.

The 12th president to serve the university, who assumed his office July 1, 2023, served on several campuses before being named to succeed Dr. Anne Blackhurst. His 35 years in higher education include five heading Northern State University in Aberdeen, South Dakota, and three as chief of staff at California State Polytechnic University in Humboldt. He and his wife Mary have two dogs.

Down said the "great community" to which they've moved has made him happy. "People are helpful and friendly. They're interested in education, and they support it," he said.

He added, "The state of Minnesota does a phenomenal job of supporting education."

He pointed out MSUM's national rankings in several areas. Its doctorate in education is ranked among the top ten in the United States. Programs in business and nursing, too, are considered among the nation's best.

He highlighted three of MSUM's strategic priorities: academic distinctiveness; diversity, equality and inclusion; and community engagement.



Photos/Gary Nolte & Teresa Joppa



(Top) MSUM President Tim Downs.

(Above) Sergeant at Arms Jean Hannig.

Exchange student Ansgar at his going-away party at Wild Wings.

FM Rotary Clubs receive MoorHeart Award

Five Moorhead Rotarians were among FM Rotary Foundation representatives awarded the city's top honor on June 10.



The first — academic distinctiveness — relies on a combination of focus on students' success with programs and delivery methods (both on-campus and distance learning). A new Teacher Cadet program provides opportunities for high school students to envision themselves as teachers. Another program, Smart Start, enables high-risk students to get a head start on college by starting two weeks early.

The university is working with area school superintendents and the city manager to help grow its enrollment for the coming year, when the North Star Promise Scholarships will begin offering tuition-free learning to eligible students. It's one of the lowest-priced residential universities in Minnesota, with banded tuition letting you take up to 18 credits per semester for the price of 12 and more than 300 additional scholarships exceeding \$3 million.

Announcements remind of two big dates

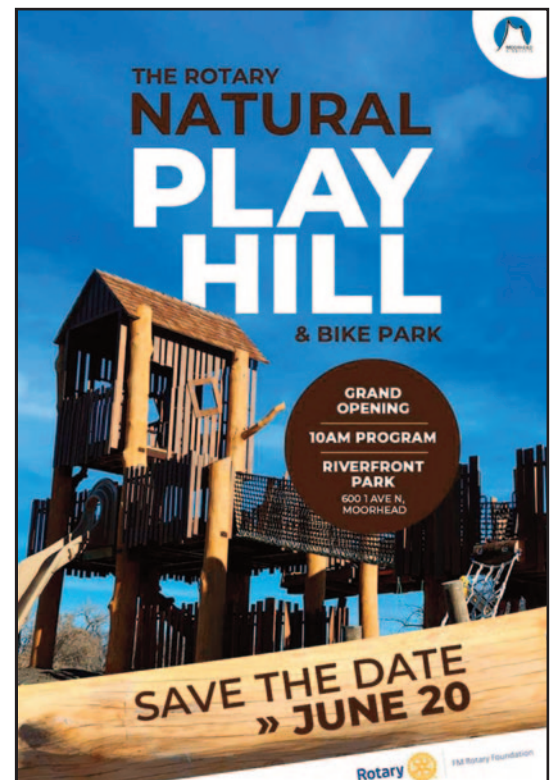
President Steve Astrup reminded members of two big days coming up later this month.

The grand opening of the Rotary Play Hill and Bike Park in downtown Moorhead is at 10 a.m. Thursday, June 20. The park — located in Riverfront Park just north of First Avenue North — is the largest project to date undertaken by the FM Rotary Foundation. The five Fargo-Moorhead clubs and more than 100 of them members provided much of the \$1.27 million that's been invested in the new playground.

Our club and the four Fargo groups, along with project chair Heather Ranck, were awarded the city's top honor at the Moorhead City Council meeting last week. The MoorHeart Award honors individuals and groups that go above and beyond in service to the community ... in this case, for Rotary's work in creating the new attraction.

Only about \$60,000 remains to be raised for the project; its cost more than doubled over the five years between its approval and its completion, largely due to inflation in construction costs. The finished park was presented to the Moorhead Parks and Recreation Department at the city council meeting. The department will now take over operation and maintenance of the 1.6 acre riverside property

The second red-letter day is Tuesday, June 25. That evening, our Kay Parries will be officially installed as governor of Rotary District 5580 at a



dinner and ceremony at River Haven Events Center. Reservations were due last Tuesday.

Sarge Jean addresses Rotary Action Plan

Sergeant at Arms Jean Hannig urged members to take a look at Rotary's action plan, which talks about "engagement in Rotary." Among its recommendations: participating in Rotary events; doing things together; visibility in the community; making new friends; welcoming new members; building connections and learning new things. Jean challenged members to think of new service projects to benefit our community and bring our group together ... or to consider reviving old ones.

Her call for happy dollars brought the first from Gary Nolte. He recommended "Fiddler on the Roof," performed this week by the Straw Hat Players and Act Up Theatre, with daughter Angie in its cast. Jon Benson announced his son Gabe is now moving the NDSU to play golf, while his daughter's soccer team won the state tournament.

John Andreasen mentioned again that only \$60,000 remains to complete funding of the Play Hill, and offered kudos to chair Heather Ranck. Dave Tranby told the group his grandson and exchange student Ansgar's team won a big game this week in the Twin Cities.

Looking Ahead

June 18

Sergeant at ArmsLaura Lobo
ProgramKarla Hernandez, CASA

June 20 — Rotary Play Hill

Grand Opening Ceremony10 a.m.

June 25

Sergeant at ArmsJon Benson
ProgramGooseberry Park Players

June 25 — Installation of Gov. Kay Parries

River Haven Event Center5:30 p.m.