



North Scottarian

North Scott Rotary - Eldridge and Davenport, IA
February 26th, 2025

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Deb Peterson
dennis.peterson1@gmail.com
563-570-4185

No cash? No problem! Scan
below to send \$ to
@NSRotary via Venmo.



PROGRAM RECAP

Dr. Kit Evans-Ford with Argrow's House & Café

Deanna Jensen-Valliere introduced Dr. Kit Evans-Ford of Argrow's House, who describes her role as "Spiritual Director and Social Entrepreneur". Argrow's House derives its name from Dr. Evans-Ford's grandmother, a domestic abuse survivor, with the organization providing residence, employment, and empowerment to women healing from violence and abuse. The recent recipient of the Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis service award for representing local communities, she and her husband Rev. Dwight Ford serve on Project Now, providing a broad range of services to help meet basic needs and achieve self-sufficiency.

The inspiration for Dr. Evans-Ford stems from her own story of survival of violence and abuse as an 8-year old. She identifies the three stages of recovery as: Establishment of Safety, Remembrance and Mourning, Reconnection With Ordinary Life.

This non-profit organization quickly expanded from meeting space to housing, then to acquisition of a strip mall. This expansion has allowed employment for survivors in the manufacture of items sold via storefront and on-line sales. Products include bath balms, developed in conjunction with a "soap mentor" in the Caribbean, essential oils and self-care items, women's accessory items, chewable jewelry for autistic children, apparel, and hope boxes. The organization recently hosted a ribbon-cutting for its opening of Argrow's Cafe.

Argrow's House has commenced operation of the Autistic & Loved "sensory gym", providing sensory friendly events catering to children suffering from the effects of autism. The gym has seen visits from 350 families in 6 weeks, with the organization seeking to provide "joy, and helping through the journey of survival".

Dr. Evans-Ford encourages women to "be a game changer in your family", with a focus on prevention, encouraging survivors to "pay attention to our kids". Stating that children are "fearfully and wonderfully made", Argrow's House takes steps to ensure that potential predators do not seek to prey on the vulnerable. She strives to encourage entrepreneurship amongst survivors. Mo's Bites, a local company providing food truck services is headed by a survivor that emerged from the program.

Survivors are encouraged to identify:

- What do you survivors need? Connect them with resources.
- What do customers crave? Build it!

Meeting notes submitted by Drew Wilson



UPCOMING PROGRAM

Joe Cook from Amazon

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Fri, Feb 28th: Friendly Friday at NSJH
Fri, Feb 28th: Joe Cook from Amazon
Tues, March 4th: Rotary Reads at John Glenn 11:00 (Stephanie Eckhardt, Eric Langan, Jan Touney)
Fri, March 7th: TBA
Sat, March 8th: President Elect Training DMACC Newton, IA
Tues, March 11th: Rotary Reads at John Glenn 11:00 (Ardita Grunwald, Jill Grunwald, Tony Knobbe)
Thurs, March 12th: Big For A Day Ed White 11:05 , a group will also be at Neil Armstrong at 11:30
Fri, March 14th: 10:30 Board Meeting at Steeplegate
Fri, March 14th: Update on Iowa Legislature from State Rep. Gary Mohr arranged by Richard Pokora
Fri, March 21st: Jennifer Claeys Quad City Outdoor Womens Club arranged by Marcia Brandt
Tue, March 25th: Rotary Reads at John Glenn 11:00 (Tracy Lindaman, Theresa White)
Wed, March 26th: 8:30 am Dictionary distribution to 4th grades at Truman, Filmore and Harrison Elementaries, Davenport.
Fri, March 28th : 7:20 am Friendly Friday at NSJH
Fri, March 28th: TBA
Tues, April 1st: Rotary Reads at John Glenn 11:00 (Crista Ashcraft, Deanna Jensen-Valliere, Tricia Kane, Tracy Lindaman)
Fri, April 4th: TBA
Fri, April 11th: 10:30 Board Meeting at Steeplegate
Fri, April 11th: TBA
Sat, April 12th: District 6000 Conference at FFA Enrichment Center DMACC Ankeny, Iowa

CLUB SERVICE

GREETERS:

Feb. 28: Dick Cole & Ken R
Mar 7: Jen Kress and Marcia Brandt
Mar 14: Amy T. and Rich Horst
Mar 21: Sam Culver and Rily G
Mar 28: M. Bristley and Jan Touney

PIANO:

Feb 28: Marguerite Holzworth
Mar 7; :Teri Wittkowski
Mar 14: Tewanta Lopez
Mar 21: Marguerite Holzworth
Mar 28: TBA

NEWSLETTER:

Feb 28: Becky Bray
Mar 7: Bill Hoover
Mar 14: Marcia Brandt
Mar 21: Sam Culver
Mar 28: Drew Wilson

SONG LEADERS:

Feb 28: Jeff Ashcraft
Mar 7: Paul Holzworth
Mar 14: Kelly Meyer
Mar 21: Drew Wilson
Mar 28: John Maxwell

INSPIRATION:

Feb 28: Becky Bray
Mar 7: Theresa White
Mar 14: Deanna JV
Mar 21: Dick Cole
Mar 28: Drew Wilson

SERGEANT AT ARMS:

Feb 28: Ross Paustian
Mar 7: Jim Smith
Mar 14: Pat Olsen
Mar 21: Kelly Meyer
Mar 28: John Maxwell

MEETING RECAP

Attendance 2.21 was 65. 56 members and 9 guests present. Via Zoom were **Steve Suiter, Duncan Cameron, Charlie Jones, Paul & Marguerite Holzworth.** Guests were Deborah T, guest of **Kelly Meyer,** Mike Zimmer, guest of **Richard Pokora,** Shasha Grunwald, Ron May, Kit Ford (speaker plus 2), Marinette Miller Meeks and her assistant. Fines collected by **Nathan Kessler** were \$81.

Inspiration: In honor of Judy **Stephanie Eckhardt** reminds us to "live in the moment", there is "no right or wrong way to grieve"; Project Jack encourages 4th and 5th grade students the opportunity to "pay it forward"; and in the words of artist Dan Fogelberg, "I'm just a living legacy of the leader of the band."

U.S. Rep Marianne Miller-Meeks, guest of **John Maxwell** (or **Tony Knobbe?** - the reader decides) states things are "Fast and Furious in DC". Rep Meeks expects Congress to codify wording of a bill regarding gender in sports, predicting that at least 7 Democrats expect to support the bill. The budget bill advanced from committee as the "Tax Cut Jobs Act", expectation of passing via reconciliation. Ms. Meeks reiterates with questioning from **Dr. Brad Burt** that the bill will not include Ukraine funding. She also defends questioning from **Pat Olsen** regarding district residency compliance, stating that Members are allowed to live out of district in the case that their district becomes gerrymandered so as not to include their residence.

Sam Culver is recognized for receiving her Rotary "blue badge".

Tracy Lindaman introduced newest member **Angie Thompson**, who states her current employment with the Dignity/Runge/Weerts funeral home group does not include digging graves.

Paul Kalainoff is continuing to solicit host families.

Theresa White enticed potential Friendly Friday participants with pop-sockets (or hot-pockets - again, the reader decides)
continued on next page

Order North Scott Rotary items clothing at :
<https://www.empoweringabilities.org/stores/north-scott-rotary/>

MEETING RECAP (CONTINUED)

Tyler Bindrum encourages members to sign up for Big Brothers/Big Sisters "Big For A Day" event on 3/12 - sign up at Ed White Elementary or online.

John Maxwell announces Rotary Reads sign-up slots are filled for the next 5 weeks.

Business and Personals:

Eric Langan encourages a safety check on remote attender **Steve Suiter** to combat sleeping or drowning.

Sean Eckhardt extends thanks to Rep Meeks for taking steps to clear up insurance payments to Navy veterans.

Jeff Ashcraft advises that knee replacement recovery is progressing and thanks neighbors **Pat Olsen** and

Nathan Kessler for not volunteering to help shovel the driveway.

Sandy Pistole donates \$1 and apologizes for lack of recent attendance due to assignment change at Von Maur (though did not advise on potential make-ups).

Carrie Keppy reports that **Glen Keppy** suffered a fall on Sunday and is recovering at Ridgecrest.

Rily Grunwald announces sign ups available on Facebook for the Quad City Engineering and Science Council bridge building contest.

Sergeant: **Nathan Kessler**

Fines **Sandy Pistole** for "impersonating a Sarge", **Eric Langan** for his stylish vest and, stating "some days are too easy", fines **Angie Thompson**, **Greg Schaapveld**, **Jeff Ashcraft**, **Dr. Fred Mulch**, **Rev. Rich Pokora**, **Mike Zimmer**, **Drew Wilson** "tails I win", **Sam Culver**, Rep. Marianne Miller-Meeks, **Pat Olsen**, **John Maxwell** and **Tony Knobbe** for sucking up to our Rep, Dr. **Brad Burt**, and anyone not a member of FFA.

notes submitted by Drew Wilson

ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE

North Scott Rotary youth exchange committee is looking for host families for the 2025-26 school year. This can be for a partial or whole school year.

If it's not a good fit for you right now, what about a friend or family member? Please help us spread the word!

Please let Paul Kalainoff or Marcia Brandt know if you are interested or would like any information!

Paul: kalainoff@gmail.com

Marcia: marwoods11@hotmail.com

YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE!

Is there something you'd like to share in the newsletter?

Email Danielle Hines:

Danielle.Hines@edwardjones.com

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER

Our newest member, Angela (Angie) was born in West Virginia and has lived and worked in many states. Angie has a



degree in Speech Communications and Business. She moved to Rock Island in 2002 and since 2006 she has worked as a Family Service Counselor, doing preplanning for funerals and burials. She represents Memorial Park Cemetery, Runge and Weerts Funeral Homes. Angie is very active in her church, singing in the choir and playing flute in the church band. Her sponsor is Becky Bray. Please take time to welcome Angela to North Scott Rotary!

WOOHOO! BLUE BADGE!



Congrats to Sam Culver on earning her blue badge!

Thank you for being an active part of our club! We are so happy you're here.

FRIENDLY FRIDAY REMINDER!

Please join us at the North Scott Junior High for Friendly Friday this week! It's super quick and fun! We pass out goodies and welcome the students into the building. I'd love to see a big crowd of Rotarians (and somebody please take a photo!)

Start time is 7:40, any questions contact Theresa White.

SPECIAL GUEST REP. MILLER-MEEKS



Representative Miller-Meeks attended our meeting last week and gave us an update on what's going on in DC. She mostly opened the floor for questions since she only had a limited time to speak.

“Big for a Day” Power Lunch Events



IT TAKES LITTLE TO BE BIG

 Big Brothers Big Sisters.



Celebrating 30 years of
People you can bank on.®

North Scott School District

Ed White – Wednesday, 3/12/25, 11:05AM-12:30PM

Neil Armstrong – Wednesday, 3/12/25 11:30AM-1:00PM

It takes Little to be Big in a child’s eyes! What better way to send a message of support and encouragement than to visit them at school for a “Power Lunch”! Big Brothers Big Sisters is partnering with the North Scott School District to host a Power Lunch events at Logan Elementary on March 12th.

Send a strong message!

Big for a Day Power Lunch events provide you and your team the opportunity to send a strong message to area youth that the community supports and believes in their potential. Volunteers will learn about our area schools, meet great kids and gain a greater understanding of how they can support youth initiatives like Big Brothers Big Sisters.

A POWER lunch!

Following a brief welcome, you'll be introduced and paired with a student for the lunch/recess hour. Volunteers are provided lunch from Capriotti's courtesy of QCBT. A variety of icebreaker and fun activities will be available to get to know your student and have a great experience. The Power Lunch lasts a little over an hour and is in a group setting, with all volunteers and students in the same general area. Start and end times vary but are usually between 11AM and 1PM.

Make it a group thing!

Gather a group of employees/co-workers to participate! Wear your company shirts! Bring some swag for your student, build your team and connect with school and community partners and together make a difference!



Register Options: Any size group is welcome. Maximum is 15.

Option 1) Visit bbbsmv.org and select the Big for a Day button. Pick Logan Elementary option in the signup genius and register your group/individuals.

Option 2) Reserve your school and group by contacting BBBS. Provide names at least two days prior to event

For questions and to reserve your company, please contact: Jay Justin at jjustin@bbbs-mv.org **563.323.8006**