



Nor'Wester

Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines

www.clubrunner.ca/northwestdesmoines / Fridays @ 11:45 - Cozy Cafe 8535 Birchwood Ct.

August 14, 2026

This Week's Program:

**RYLA
Students**

Arranged by: Mark McAndrews

Greeter:
Brad Helgemo

Invocation:
Jack Bell

Sergeant:
Mark McAndrews

Scribe:
Jeff Bremer

Future Programs

8/21: Adelyn Koch
ISU Pre Vet Student

8/28: TBA

9/4: NO MEETING
Happy Labor Day

Message from the President

Wendi Wilson

With the State Fair just around the corner, it is a great reminder of the fun, food, and innovation this season brings. It is also the perfect time for our club to embrace new ideas and processes that create meaningful value.

Here are a few upcoming updates and initiatives:

World Food Prize Record breaking meal packaging

They are calling for 1000 volunteers to package 600,000 meals in an hour on October 20th from 6-7:30.

We are organizing several social events over the next few months, including dinner at the Living History Farms 1900s house on November 12th. Attendance is limited to 12 people and registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Please register on the Living History Farms website soon to secure your spot.

To help us welcome new members, we will have a new Rotary brochure and business cards ready by September 1st. You can use these to invite friends and local businesses to join our club. Please start thinking about potential invitees or members you would like to partner with for business outreach. Each one brings one this year!



Birthdays

August 11 Bill D. Corwin

August 12 Julia Taylor



2026-27 Officers & Directors

Wendi Wilson, President
 Mark McAndrews, President Elect
 Bill W. Corwin, Treasurer
 Bill W. Corwin, Secretary
 Ed Arnold, Board Member
 Bill D. Corwin, Board Member
 Tony Hunt, Board Member
 Kelly Peterson, Board Member
 Dianne Downing, Past President

Other Locations

Monday

West Polk County, Food Depot, 3000 SE Grimes Blvd, Suite 200 in Grimes (Noon)

Tuesday

Ankeny, Ankeny Golf & Country Club, (11:45)
 Ankeny, Magee's Irish Pub, (6:00 pm)
 Johnston, Hyperion Golf & CC, (7:00 am)
 Dallas Center, Memorial Hall, (Noon)
 Norwalk, City State Bank, (Noon)
 West Des Moines, DM Golf & CC, (Noon)

Wednesday

East Polk County, Lutheran Church of the Cross (7:00 am)
 Adel, Adel Public Library, 303 S. 10th St. (Noon)

Thursday

Waukee, Des Moines Golf & Country Club, (6:45 am)
 Des Moines, Embassy Club - Ruan Bldg, (Noon)
 Winterset, Pizza Ranch, (Noon)
 Rotary Club of HOPE, First & Third Thursday of Month
 (5:30 pm - Virtual Zoom Meeting)

Friday

Des Moines, AM, Wakonda Club, (7:00 am)

Upcoming Events

Board Meeting August 20 at 11:45 am

CFUM Monday, August 24

Scribbles

Shelby Chavez-Chun Clive Community Services



On Friday, we heard from Shelby Chavez-Chun, Executive Director of Clive Community Services ("CCS"). Shelby shared a personal story about how her background and experiences have motivated her to help others, describing how she began as a volunteer and eventually worked her way into the Executive Director position.

She provided an overview of CCS and its services, which include a food pantry, clinic, and clothing closet. In a typical month, approximately 160 households visit the pantry, more than 200 use the clothing closet, and 15-30 people receive medical services. Many of those served are families in which both parents are employed—sometimes working multiple jobs.

CCS began 12 years ago as a project to assist a Burmese population in the area. The story goes local residents noticed children heading to school in Iowa winters wearing flip-flops. After helping several children who had suffered frostbite to their toes, the effort grew into what is now CCS.

Shelby remains deeply engaged with CCS clients, offering perhaps the organization's most invaluable resource: her time. One of her primary goals is to assure those who visit that they are not alone—a feeling she knows firsthand from her own experiences. Her commitment was evident when she had to step away from our meeting to take a call from someone she was actively assisting.

When asked about CCS's staffing, Shelby noted that there is currently just one employee: herself. She emphasized the critical importance of volunteers, of whom CCS has approximately 25. Board support is also essential.

At RYLA last week, we heard the story of a young person and a starfish—which, if you haven't heard, ask Mark to tell you about on Friday. It's a story about making a difference in the world, one small step at a time. Your scribe's guess is that Shelby has heard that story.

Scribe, Jack Bell

Future Info

Bill D. Corwin - Program Chair

	Greeter	Invocation	Sergeant	Scribe
Aug 21	Bill D. Corwin	Dan Boes	Tim Olejniczak	Brad Helgemo
Aug 28	Dianne Downing	Justin Nickel	Kelly Peterson	Jack Bell
Sep 4	Leray Glendenning	Jeff Bremer	Doyle Sanders	Dan Boes

Can't complete your assigned duty? Please assist by finding your substitute!

Items for the Nor'Wester should be submitted by end of the day each Monday. Please send to:

Wendi Wilson

wwilsonod@gmail.com

