



# Nor'Wester

Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines

[www.clubrunner.ca/northwestdesmoines](http://www.clubrunner.ca/northwestdesmoines) / Fridays @ Noon - UGCC 4000-86th St. Urbandale

## Prez Sez

*Jack Bell*

Around one month ago I briefly wrote about an interesting organization called Avenue Scholars. I emphasized that this was – yet another – organization that I was introduced to through Rotary (specifically via our club’s membership with the Urbandale Chamber of Commerce.)

I’ve sat in on several classes and recently was fortunate to attend a listening session during which the students’ feedback was solicited on a number of general (yet relevant) questions. As we were heading into the room, I couldn’t help but think back to my high school years and what my feedback might have been...or if there would have even been any...or would anyone have been interested, was I thoughtful and brave enough to speak?

Any doubts that I had regarding the courage/loquaciousness of this crew of students was dashed about 30 seconds into the session. Comment after comment followed by question after question. And much of the feedback delivered was what I had heard and witnessed from other sources and felt myself after having spent time in the classrooms. We can talk more about the feedback during a meeting if that would be interesting.

Back in my Andersen days, I always felt that if “things were quiet” that meant trouble: maybe the staff doesn’t care that much anymore, or at least not enough to suggest some changes. Clearly that was not the issue in this case...students are deeply passionate about their school-work and experience.

Just a reminder to please provide any feedback on the Ramada Tropics /likes/dislikes/can we change [xxxx]/have we considered x, y or z?, to any board member or send me an email/give me a ring.

Thanks very much to Tim for standing in for me this Friday as I am off to Rockford Illinois for a birthday celebration.

Rotary Creates Hope, Jack

## Scribbles...

*Joe Stevens - Joppa*

In 2008, Joe Stevens, his wife Jacki, and their son Caleb founded Joppa, a faith based multi-faceted non-profit organization. Joppa collaborates with Community partners, helps homeless people access existing resources, and mobilizes private donations from families, churches, and organizations to meet unmet needs in homeless housing and education. Most visible are the outreach programs bringing food, supplies and winter survival kits to individuals and families existing under bridges and in makeshift tent housing. Joe showed a moving and inspirational video of a homeless family, including one and three year old children that Joppa has helped by providing educational resources, job placement assistance, and permanent housing. Joppa now has a thrift market and resource center located in The River Plaza, from which they continue to provide homeless nutrition, medical and mental health services, transportation assistance, job development and placement services to the homeless and marginalized. On the horizon, there are permanent housing plans for a “Tiny Home Village” and a continuation of services already provided to more than 570 homeless. Each week Joppa volunteers call on

Continued...

**January 26, 2024**

***This Week's Program:***

**Jana Huegerich**  
LifeServe

Arranged By:

Jack Bell

Greeter:

Dianne Downing

Invocation:

Doyle Sanders

Sergeant:

Mark McAndrews

Scribe:

Bob Moore



***2022-23 Officers & Directors***

Jack Bell, President

Tim Olejniczak, President Elect

Bill W. Corwin, Treasurer

Dianne Downing, Secretary

Ed Arnold, Board Member

Bill D. Corwin, Board Member

Kelly Peterson, Past President



***Future Programs***

**2/2:** Dylan DeClerk  
Can Play

**2/9:** TBA

# 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, Echo Valley Golf Course, (6:30 am)  
 West Des Moines, DM Golf & CC, (Noon)

## Wednesday

East Polk County, Caring Hands, (7:00 am)  
 Adel, 1016 Main St. Raccoon Valley Comm. House (Noon)  
 The Greater Des Moines Club, check the District 6000 website for time and location

## Thursday

Waukee, Des Moines Golf & Country Club, (6:45 am)  
 Des Moines, Embassy Club - Ruan Bldg, (Noon)  
 Winterset, Pizza Ranch, (Noon)

## Friday

Des Moines, AM, Downtown Holiday Inn – Mercy, (7:00 am)

# Scribe Continued

more than 230 homeless situated in various locations around the city, mostly out of sight of the general populace. The website at [www.Joppa.org](http://www.Joppa.org) contains much more information about Joppa and ways to volunteer and to sign up for VolunTOUR, a tour of facilities, on Feb 13, 2024.

Ed Arnold, Scribe

# Birthdays



Jan 13 Marv Johnson


Upcoming Events

**Urbandale Chamber AM Exchange**  
 Tuesday, January 30

**District Assembly**  
 Saturday, March 30

**District Celebration**  
 April 20

## Achievement



District Governor, Dennis Drager, presenting me with a number of award banners

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

**Jack Bell**  
[jackfbell@yahoo.com](mailto:jackfbell@yahoo.com)



**We Need A New GOAL!**

Clothes Drive  
 Goal: 1,000 lbs!

# Future Information



Ed Arnold - Program Chair				
	Greeter	Invocation	Sergeant	Scribe
<b>Feb 2</b>	Leray Glendenning	Julia Taylor	Joe Kobes	Bill D. Corwin
<b>Feb 9</b>	Bill Grask	Wendi Wilson	Wendy Kriegshauser	Jake Heston
<b>Feb 16</b>	Tony Hunt	Kelly Peterson	Bob Moore	Mark McAndrews
<i>Can't complete your assigned duty?</i> Please assist Jack Bell by finding your substitute!				