Rotary Motto

Service Above Self

4-Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do:

Is it the truth?

Is it fair to all concerned?

Will it build goodwill and better friendship?

Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

> <u>Avenues of</u> <u>Service</u>

Club Service

Vocational Service

Community Service

International Service

Youth Service

ROTARY NOTES JUNE 18, 2025

A publication of the Rotary Club of Warren

ASSIGNMENTS

<u>GREETERS & REGISTRATION</u> July, 2025 - Ray Sinchak

INVOCATION July 9, 2025 - Denise May

FELLOWSHIP (1st & 3rd Wed of the Month) 7/9/25 - Denise May

SPEAKERS

6/25/25 - Presidents' Night (No Noon Meeting) 7/2/2025 - No Meeting 7/9/25 - To Be Announced



Areas of Focus Peace & Conflict Prevention/ Resolution

Disease Prevention & Treatment

> Water & Sanitation

Maternal & Child Health

Basic Education & Literacy

> Economic & Community Development

The Environment

<u>Club Officers</u> President Cindy Matheson

President Elect Tony Iannucci

Vice-President Alicia Adams-Angelo

Secretary Judy Masaki

Treasurer Cheryl Oblinger

Past President Ken LaPolla

Board Members

Mike Bollas Eric Knoth Lauren Kramer Robin Martorana Marilyn Pape John Perdue Julia Wetstein



All things bright and beautiful, All creatures great and small, All things wise and wonderful: You, Lord God, made them all.

Each little flower that opens, Each little bird that sings, You made their glowing colors, You made their tiny wings.

The purple headed mountains, The river running by, The sunset and the morning That brightens up the sky.

The changing of the seasons, The pleasant summer sun, The ripe fruit in the garden, You made them every one.

The tall trees in the greenwood, The meadows where we play, The rushes by the water, To gather every day.

You gave us eyes to see them, And lips that we might tell How great is God Almighty, Who has made all things well.

(Presented by Denise May)

Rotary Club Foundation Board

President Ted Stazak

Vice-President Alicia Adams-Angelo

Secretary Judy Masaki

Treasurer Cheryl Oblinger

Andy Bednar Cindy Matheson Denise May Kim Straniak

<u>Contact us at:</u>

Rotary Club of Warren P.O. Box 68 Warren, OH 44482

Our Website: Warrenrotary.org

If you have any suggestions about our newsletter, or if you would like to become a sponsor, please

contact:

Judy Masaki



This week, Julia Wetstein was preparing to travel to Calgary, a cosmopolitan city in Alberta, Canada, for the Rotary International Convention. Although it's the center of Canada's oil industry, Calgary is steeped in Western culture which earned it the nickname "Cowtown"! This is evident in the Calgary Stampeded, a massive rodeo held in July.

Before her departure, back here in Warren, Ohio, on a warm and lazy summer-like day, Julia led Warren Rotarians in singing



the cowboy tune, Home on the Range.



Denise May then finished out her June Fellowship duties. With the summer solstice arriving on June 21st (the longest day in the Northern Hemisphere), it was the perfect time for Denise to share how those in other countries celebrate the solstice. Fairbanks, Alaska is

only 140 miles south of

the Arctic Circle, so they know how to celebrate the solstice right. Fairbanks' summer solstice celebration is all about celebrating the "Midnight Sun!"

At the Midnight Sun Festival each year, you can visit a twelvehour street fair and watch live music from over 30 acts. Additionally, you can watch a midnight sun baseball game, with the first pitch at 10:00 p.m. The game goes right through midnight and proves that the sun truly doesn't set in Fairbanks at the solstice!

Finland also celebrates the summer solstice called Juhannus. Traditionally, Juhannus was a privileged time to celebrate weddings, and the Finnish used to cast fertility and love spells around this time. While this is a national holiday today, there are no official celebrations. Instead, people gather with friends and family and retreat to their cottages in the countryside. There, they spend the day barbecuing, lighting bonfires, fishing and boating. Bathing in saunas is another popular way to celebrate.

In Austria's southern region of Tirol, Austrians celebrate with a tradition that goes back to the Middle Ages. For centuries, locals have created massive bonfires atop many of the mountains. They then light them as the sky goes dark on the longest day of the year. These fires turn the mountaintops into beacons and cast a mystical effect across the whole mountain.

In southwest England, Stonehenge is perhaps the world's most famous stone circle. How the massive bluestones which make up the circle came to this part of England is still a mystery – as well as how they were arranged in such elaborate formation. Aligned for the summer solstice, Stonehenge is actually closed for normal admission on the solstice itself. Instead, you can just sow up to see the stones for free. Once there, you'll enjoy the company of others who come to respectfully watch the sunrise above the heel stone and through one of the remaining stone arches.

In the southern hemisphere, June 21st is actually the winter solstice. Down in Hobart, Tasmania, the Tassies celebrate the winter solstice in a very unique way. Each year, over 1,000 Tasmanians strip to their skin and run into the Derwent River for a quick dip! The event marks the end of the Dark Mofo Festival, an art and music festival. Here, you'll enjoy tons of events besides seeing the brave souls who take a swim in the 53 degree Fahrenheit water.



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PRESIDENTS' NIGHT is right around the corner! The event will be held on Wednesday, June 25th from 5 to 9 p.m. at The Von Isley Estate (547 S. Main St., Niles, OH 44446). Cocktails will be followed by dinner from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., rewards and recognitions, and entertainment throughout the evening. Warren Rotarians are asked to wear their Paul Harris Fellow Medals to the event. President Cindy Matheson would like to thank all those who are sponsoring the event: Ted Stazak, Mike Wilson (SCOPE), Ken LaPolla, Don Powers, Bob Hoy, John Gibson, Bill Beinecke, Platz Realty Group, Music Machine, and Howland Alarm. MARK YOUR CALENDARS: There will be no club meeting at Noon on Wednesday, June 25th or Wednesday, July 2nd. Have a safe and enjoyable Fourth of July! Weekly Club meetings will resume on July 9th. THE NILES ROTARY CLUB'S STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL was rescheduled due to inclement weather. It will now be held on July 3rd at 5:30 p.m. in front of the McKinley Memorial. Guys without Ties will provide entertainment.

<u>THE 2025 ZONE INSTITUTE</u> will be held in Columbus, Ohio September 4th through 7th. You will be able to network, innovate, collaborate and celebrate the outstanding work of Rotary. Follow Rotary Zones 30 & 31 Institute on Facebook for updates and current information. It's the closest thing to a RI Convention!

<u>PREPARATION FOR ROTARY YEAR 2025 - 2026</u>: Plans are underway for securing speakers for the upcoming Rotary Year. If you know of anyone who could present on a topic of interest, please email Alicia Adams-Angelo at Lish.Angelo@gmail.com or catch her at a club meeting. <u>MEMBERSHIP DRIVE</u>: Don't forget to introduce some friends or colleagues to Rotary! Bring new people to a club meeting and earn the chance to win \$100 each month.

PROGRAM:

MIKE KEYS, DIRECTOR OF WARREN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT



Mike Keys has been the Director of Community Development for the City of Warren since January of 2003. He had previously worked with Tony Iannucci, starting in 1998, and was involved in the development of the Amphitheatre. He met with the governor to report on project support from the community and The Rotary Club of Warren, which was instrumental in acquiring \$1.5 million from the state.

Today, the City of Warren's Community Development Department is responsible for overseeing federal and local grant dollars in an effort to improve living conditions for low-to-moderate income families by providing safe, affordable housing and economic opportunities. Funds are used to support a wide range of community development needs, including infrastructure improvement, housing services, economic development assistance, and support services. All of this leads to creating strong, vibrant neighborhoods and enhancing the quality of life for all Warren residents.

Keys visited with our club this week to discuss recent work of the department as well as current and upcoming projects. First, he reported that the demolition of the Reeves Building, which was vacant and unsafe for

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years, is a key step in the Peninsula Project. A new hotel will be constructed on the site of the Reeves Building, and other commercial activity will continue to transform a section of Downtown Warren into a hub of commerce, shopping and entertainment.

A design for a pedestrian bridge connecting Perkins Park and the Amphitheatre with Downtown Warren was also recently reviewed. This, along with improvements to the Amphitheatre, such as new restrooms and perimeter fencing, and the addition of pickle ball courts, a splash pad, and new playground in the park will add to the quality of life for those living in the area.

Finally, removal of the Summit Street Dam has improved the Mahoning River's health and safety and opened it for more recreational use.

Other current and upcoming projects that Keys discussed are as follows:

- The Golden Triangle The City is ready to go to bid, as soon as the feds give the OK. This will be the second largest industrial site in the area, with more than 2,000 jobs. \$3 million worth of projects will include creating safer intersections for truck traffic.
- 2. West Side Renovations will result in 42 fulltime employees at the Cleveland Steel Container site on Enterprise Blvd., as well as a new industrial park which is a \$12 million investment. A Mini Cooper place is also now opening on Southern Blvd.
- 3. A Joint Economic Development District (JEDD) involving Warren and Champion Townships is being explored as a way to boost economic development in the area. It will help with a site for a potential new Mercy Health facility.
- 4. Kimberly-Clark is coming to Warren. The million-plus-square foot facility is being constructed on a former steel mill lot off of Pine Avenue and will span Howland and Warren Townships. Phase II is underway, including site preparation and paving. This project will result in 491 jobs with a payroll of \$500 million. This will be a big boost to our economy, and the City is hoping to have the building up by the end of next year.

Tony Iannucci, as a testament to Keys' work with the Community Development Department, shared that Guy Coviello, President and CEO of the Youngstown/Warren Regional Chamber, at a recent Chamber meeting, said Warren's population has grown for the first time in decades, its median age has dropped by two years, poverty has declined 1.5% more than the state average and median income has risen 28% compared to Ohio's 20%. "Warren is getting bigger, younger, richer," he declared. "When was the last time anybody uttered that sentence?"



*** Patti Augustine was happy to see Mike Keys. She also reported that she is going to be a great-grandmother again in October! And she saw a coyote across her pond.

*** Robin Martorana was happy to see the sunshine finally! She is also looking forward to our upcoming Warren Rotary President, and offered a Happy Buck for outgoing President Cindy Matheson.

*** Ted Stazak offered a Happy Buck for our speaker. He was pleased to report that The Rotary Club of Warren Foundation Board of Administrators approved a \$20,000 pledge to the Genesis Society of the Museum of Science Fiction & Fantasy Arts. He is thankful that his family has received a good report on his Mom's response to chemotherapy. And he said "The Magic of Potary" was a perfect theme

chemotherapy. And he said "The Magic of Rotary" was a perfect theme for Cindy Matheson's year as President.

*** Julia Wetstein enjoyed our speaker and encouraged him to rejoin Warren Rotary, because "we're moving and shaking!" She also offered a Happy Buck for Cindy's great year as President.

*** Lish Adams-Angelo offered Happy Bucks for: our speaker and all of the amazing work being done in Warren; Cindy's successful year and Tony's upcoming year; and all Warren Rotarians. She also reported that she and her husband have been hosting Scrapper boys and that it's such a joy to be a part of their lives.

*** Meghan Reed offered a Happy Buck for Mike Keys, and she thanked the Rotary Foundation Board for their pledge. She said that more than 3,000 people viewed the Museum's exhibit at the Medici!

*** Ray Sinchak enjoyed Warren Rotary's fun and successful year. *** Tony Iannucci offered a Happy Buck for Cindy and for Mike Keys and the Warren City Community Development Department.

*** Cindy Matheson thanked our speaker and said she's proud to be a part of Warren. She appreciated everyone's confidence in her leadership this past year, and she's looking forward to what Tony has to offer. She thanked all who are sponsoring and attending Presidents' Night. She wished Julia Wetstein a good trip to Calgary. And she's excited that Speed Limit has had a busy week.

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