



The Voice of the Vineyards

The Weekly Electronic Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Healdsburg

“The mission of a bulletin is inform the membership,
comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable”

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Editor/Publisher: **George Heath**

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WELCOME – Dick Bertapelle

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE--Tom Cleland

VISITING ROTARIANS--None

GUESTS of ROTARIANS)

- Turner Newton – guest of **Graham Freeman**-a pickle ball partner and neighbor. Welcome
- Tim Regan – guest of **John Hazlett**-a neighbor of John's. A retired Kaiser family MD, who lost his home in the 17 fire and relocated to Healdsburg. Welcome

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

“There are two basic motivating forces: fear and love. When we are afraid, we pull back from life. When we are in love, we open to all that life has to offer with passion, excitement, and acceptance. We need to learn to love ourselves first, in all our glory and our imperfections.”

John Lennon

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- PDI Surgery Center Event -honored **Tom Cleland** and Rotary was well represented.
- **John Avakian**'s surgery went well, he is on the road to recovery.
- **Jim Westfall** reported that the Healdsburg Rotary Foundation Fund is doing very well thanks to the rise in the stock market.
- **Dave Anderson** said that Cathy is home and improving.

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Missing January Birthday people listed but none present.

HAPPY DOLLARS RECOGNITION

- ✚ **Graham** donated could have been worse dollars for his son's broken ankle after slipping on ice back east-\$50 to the club
- ✚ **Prez Dick's** 99-year-old mom got her second vaccine-\$20 to HRF community fund
- ✚ **Dave Anderson** celebrated Tom Brady's super bowl win-\$50 to HRF Scholarship fund
- ✚ **Mike Potmesil** recognized Alliance Med Center vaccinating roughly 1,000 people-\$99 to HRF Community fund
- ✚ **John Avakian** Happy about a new knee-\$50 to HRF Community fund

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- Feb. 15: Dark – Presidents' Day Holiday
 Feb. 22: Andrew Smith, Sonoma County Ag. Commiss. Cannabis in Sonoma County
 Mar. 1: **Norm Fujita & Lisamarie Kennedy** - Craft Talks

TODAY'S PROGRAM

Kevin Burke, Chief of Police has an impressive educational background including a law degree from UCB. He has served both in police departments and as a prosecutor. And for the last 10 years has been Healdsburg's Chief of Police. We have been very lucky to have him. He said he felt it was important as a police officer to be a neutral presence and to develop a strong relationship with the community. He covered several areas he identified as key issues.

- ✓ Covid-His staff is getting a second vaccine in the next few weeks. He had two members contract the virus, but neither was seriously ill. And unfortunate aspect is that the police station lobby has been closed for almost a year. Most of the policing around Covid has been a process of educating.
- ✓ Drone- (UAS. Unmanned aerial system). The department now has two drones to use for training and will eventually get a larger one. Because of privacy issues the drones are used in tactical situations only. But **Kevin** sees them as being immensely helpful in searching for missing people. It is capable of searching at night and has infrared capabilities. It will also be very valuable looking into dangerous areas in cases of fire, flooding or earthquake. In 5 years, a drone will probably be the first responder in 911 calls and will be able to transmit information to the human 911 responders. Some large cities already have this in place.
- ✓ Homeless-**Kevin** said the homeless are becoming more visible in encampments of tents and R.V.s. There is clear difference of opinion about the homeless situation in Healdsburg. The police should not be the first responders unless a crime has been committed. The city's approach is to offer services first. The city's housing director, and/ or Reach for Home try offering services-usually several times. The next step is warning and the last is impound. As an adjunct to talking about the Homeless population **Kevin** talked about the addition of a social worker to the police dept staff. The city is reviewing applications and **Kevin** feels the position will be filled before he leaves office in June.

CLOSING

PRESIDENT Dick members and guests and closed the meeting

