

Rotary O-Pinion

UNITE FOR GOOD

Meeting each Monday 12:00 p.m. – Owatonna Country Club
Four-Way Test 1) Is it the truth? 2) Is it fair to all concerned?
3) Will it build good will and better friendships? 4) Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

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THE ROTARY CLUB OF OWATONNA IS THE GO TO AND BELONG TO CLUB FOR CONNECTING PROFESSIONALS, EMBODYING SERVICE AND UPLIFTING YOUTH.

PROGRAMS

January 5: Mike Jensen, LTO

January 12: Todd Utpadel: Musicians for Cancer

January 19: Dr. Jason, Mayo Clinic

January 26: Business

February 2: Deb McManimon: St. Vincent DePaul Society

February 9: Brad Meier, Chamber of Commerce

Feb. 16: Dan Jacott: Manager, Owatonna Country Club

Feb. 23: Rick Heidick, Rotary "Lift" Program

March 2: Amber Aaseth, Public Health Nurse

March 9: Anisha Zak: Junior Achievement

ROTARY O'PINION

Monday, February 2, 2026

Editor: Todd Hale

THIS WEEK: Welcome to Deb McManimon of the St. Vincent DePaul Society.

BIRTHDAYS: None

STUDENT ROTARIANS: Welcome to Lauren Packard, Attley Klemmenson, Anna Hilgendorf, Lucy Jacobs

IN-BOUND EXCHANGE STUDENT: Andrea, Italy

NOTES FOR ROTARIANS

*Interested in sharing your thoughts about the proposed new Police Department/Fire Hall? You are invited to two open houses this month where the city will share information with and answer questions from the public about plans to build a new police and fire facility. The first open house will be held tomorrow night, Feb. 3, and the second on Feb. 26. Both will be held from 4:00 to 6:00 pm in the City Council Chambers.

The city's plan includes constructing a new fire station on the site of the current Law Enforcement Center and a new police station at the West Hills Campus. City officials say the sites were selected based on response times, operational efficiency and the responsible use of taxpayer dollars.

At the open houses, attendees can explore information stations, review planning materials, ask questions and speak with City staff and project partners.

*ROTARIAN Edna Ringhofer has announced the couples who will compete in the "Dancing with the Steele County Stars" being held in the OHS Wenger Auditorium on April 18. Those couples competing include Emily and Mark Pearson, Jessica and Thaddeus Tuttle, Jenna and Tony Fadden, Stephanie and Andrew Thigpan, Aryanna and Aaron Kreutter, Katia Michaelson and Tyler Stenzel, Kelly and Dan Boomgarden, Amy and John Green and Melissa Olson and Chris Gohl. The couples are competing under the instruction of April Dahl of Dahl Dance. Sponsorships are now being sold from Diamond (\$1250.00) to Silver (\$125.00). Receipts will go to the Healthy Seniors. Admission to the event will be \$40.00.

*OHS grad Bri Velzke Bergstrom of St. Peter, daughter of the Dean Velzke's of Owatonna has been named the 2026 High School Music Educator of the Year by the Minnesota Music Educators Association.

So anyway: I rear ended a car this morning which started a really bad day. The driver got out of the other car and he was a DWARF! He looked up at me and said, "I am not happy." So, I said, "Well, which one are you?" That's when the fight started.