

# Rotary O-Pinion

## ROTARY OPENS OPPORTUNITIES

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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### OFFICERS

**JOHN CONNOR**, President

**Glen MEGER** , President Elect

**LESHIA CUMMINS/DIANE HOLLAND** Sec.

**JIM BRUNNER/STEVE ARNOLD** Treasurer

**TROY KLECKER**, Past President

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**FACEBOOK PAGE:** [www.facebook.com/RotaryClubofOwatonna](http://www.facebook.com/RotaryClubofOwatonna)

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John Connor

Roger Warehime

Loren Olson

Jim Brunner

Todd Hale

Dave Effertz

Diane Holland

Ryan Gillespie

Mathew Hughes

Troy Klecker

Leshia Cummins

**THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF ROTARY IS TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY INITIATIVES THAT INCLUDE LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES SO THAT MEMBERS WILL ENGAGE IN SERVICE ACTIVITIES THAT PROMOTE YOUTH IN OUR COMMUNITY AND AROUND THE WORLD.**

### PROGRAMS

January 4: Holly Jorgenson: Let's Smile Executive Director

January 11: David Ulrich: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Mining

January 18: Dr. Brian Bunkers, Owatonna Mayo Clinic

January 25: Jeff Elstad, Supt. of Public Schools

Feb. 1: Troy Klecker: City Development Director: "A look at 2021"

Feb. 8: Kory Kath, OHS Principal

Feb. 15: Jessica Metcalf: Shelterbox program of which Rotary is involved.

Feb. 22: Lisa Kern, Director, Benedictine Care Facility

March. 1: Amanda Starks, Director: Rachel's Light

March 8: Dr, Nuga, Pres, Riverland and Barb Embacher, V.P. Academic Affairs

March 15: Mayor Tom Kuntz/Kris Busse: State of the City

March 22: Keith Hiller, Owatonna Police Chief

March 29: Maureen Schlobohm and Nancy Ness, co-directors of Community Pathways

April 5: Open

April 12: Owatonna Park and Recreation: We All Play Report

April 19: Open

April 26: Open

# ROTARY O'PINION

Monday, February 22, 2021

Editor: Todd Hale

**THIS WEEK:** An update from Lisa Kern, Executive Director of Benedictine Living (formerly KODA).

**BIRTHDAYS:** Cory Michaelson and Leshia Cummins, Feb. 20, John Muellerleile, Feb. 25

**FEBRUARY STUDENTS:** Last day for Elise Egbert, Jenna Spatenka, Sam Buegler, and Zachary Liebl

## **NOTES FOR ROTARIANS**

In case you missed President Connor's memo: Our club will continue to meet via ZOOM for the foreseeable future. If you haven't joined us for ZOOM meetings, we would appreciate you considering joining these meetings as attendance is very important.

You should have received your invoices for dues for the first quarter. Remember that we are now billing \$50.00 for January through March with an optional donation to the Paul Harris Fellowship. If you did not receive an invoice, please reach out to ROTARIAN Jim Brunner. When in-person meetings resume, we will begin billing for lunches.

ROTARIAN Steve Arnold has accepted the position of club treasurer.

The Board has approved that we look at starting an environmental project. ROTARIAN Chad Lange brought up an idea of starting a monarch butterfly field. President Connor has visited with ROTARIAN Dr. Beth about forming a pollinator garden and she was enthusiastic to help. Chad Lange has offered a tract of land to establish a pollinator garden. Stay tuned for more information.

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

Did you know that ROTARY members around the world have contributed nearly \$890 million toward eradicating polio in the African region? The legacy of those efforts is a health care infrastructure that is playing an important role in the COVID-19 pandemic and is poised to respond to future public health emergencies.

## **LOVE FRIED FOODS?**

Do you love fried foods? A review of studies qualifies just how bad fried food can be. In an analysis of more than 1.2 million men and women from around the world, Chinese researchers calculated the effect of eating French fries, fried fish, fried snacks and other fried foods on cardiovascular health. Comparing the groups with the highest intake of fried food with people who ate the least over an average of nine years, they find that high consumption increased the relative risk for coronary heart disease by 37% for stroke, by 37% for heart failure, by 2% for death from cardiovascular disease, and by 3% for death by any other cause. Makes one think twice when ordering those fries from McDonalds.

## **AROUND TOWN**

Two events have gone by the wayside this year due to COVID-19. The 'Smokin' in Steele' has been canceled for the second year. The Farm and Home Show this spring has been canceled.

According to Scott Kozelka, manager of the Steele County Free Fair, plans are moving ahead for this year's fair in August. Right now, Gov. Walz has ruled that fairs and other outdoor events are limited to 250 people. "We are hoping that this number will be relaxed by fair time," Kozelka said. "We obviously do not have fencing around the fairgrounds and could not limit the crowds on the fairgrounds."

## **SO ANYWAY**

The 14-year-old and her best friend got front-row tickets to a Peter, Paul and Mary concert. When they returned home, the girls said, "During the show, we looked back and saw hundreds of little lights swaying to the music. At first we thought people were holding up cigarette lighters. Then we realized the lights were reflections of all the eyeglasses in the audience."