

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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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

August 24: Lois Nelson, Mayor of Medford

August 31: Jeff Elstad, Supt. of Public Schools: Update

September 7: No Meeting...Labor Day

September 14: United Way kickoff

September 21: Jim Jacobson, Accelerated Aviation

September 28: Tim Penny, former Congressman: "The Political Climate Today"

October 5: Meet the Congressional candidates

October 12: Meet the State Legislature candidates

October 19: Meet the City candidates

October 26: Meet the County candidates

November 2: Meet the School Board candidates

November. 9: Rotary Foundation: Roger Warehime

November. 16: Mark Blando: Director of Public Library

November. 23: Camp Enterprise Students ?

November 30: Lonna Lysne: COVID complications traveling to India, Bhutan & Nepal

ROTARY O'PINION

Monday, September 28, 2020

Editor: Todd Hale

THIS WEEK: We all appreciate the views of former Congressman, Tim Penny. It's appropriate that we ask Tim to be with us to look at the current political scene, especially the Presidential election. Welcome back to ROTARY, Tim!

BIRTHDAYS: Kim Cosens, Sept. 28, Tom Worhach, Oct. 3

STUDENT ROTARIANS: Cheryl Smith and Jenna Gleason, Laura Gebur, Nic Pilcher

NOTES FOR ROTARIANS

Now it's time for good news: Polio has been eradicated from Africa! As of August 25, it's official. The World Health Organization African Region has been certified free of the wild poliovirus. This is great news and has been a long time coming. At this time last year, Nigeria, the last polio-epidemic country in Africa, had gone three full years without a case of wild polio. But certification takes longer, to ensure that the virus is completely eliminated in all countries in a region. As of this past week, there have been 37 cases in 2020 caused by the wild poliovirus in Afghanistan and another 65 cases in Pakistan for a total of 102 cases world-wide this year. When compared with the 350,000 global cases in 1988, when the Global Polio Eradication Initiative was launched, there were still 125 countries across the planet that were polio-endemic. As of today, there are only two countries remaining that are still polio-endemic: Afghanistan and Pakistan.

In this report, ROTARY received important mention. ROTARY was a key partner in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI). ROTARIANS have raised over \$2.1 billion for polio eradication since 1988, including matching funds from the Gates Foundation, which matches every dollar raised by ROTARIANS 2 to 1, up to \$50 million per year.

When India was struggling to eliminate polio within its borders, thousands of ROTARIANS traveled to participate in campaigns and then returned home to raise awareness of the effort in their communities. India has been polio free since 2014.

Dr. Dick Huston of Faribault was given a rare opportunity to see Pakistani ROTARIANS in action when he visited the cities of Karachi and Hyderabad in November, 2019. He was a speaker not long ago to our club.

There is still a lot of work still to be done, but the needed willpower and resources will be mobilized inshallah! (God willing!) If you would like to make a contribution (to be matched 2 to 1 by the Gates Foundation, please go to endpolio.org).

USING A CRICKET AS A THERMOMETER: Did you know that you can tell the temperature by counting the chirps of a Cricket? According to Dolbear's Law, it's surprisingly simple: To convert Cricket chirps to degrees Fahrenheit, just count the number of chirps in 14 seconds, then add 40 to get the temperature. The number you get will be an approximation of the outside temperature.

So anyway: A woman has twins and gives them up for adoption. One of them goes to a family in Egypt and is named "Ahmal". The other goes to a family in Spain. He was named "Juan". Years later, Juan sends a picture of himself to his birth mother. Upon receiving the picture, she tells her husband that she wishes she also had a picture of Ahmal. Her husband responds: "They're twins....If you've seen Juan, you've seen Ahmal."