

EARLY BIRD WEEKLY



NewbergRotaryEarlybirds.org

July 1, 2021

Pancake Breakfast still needs sponsors.
Contact [Carrie Palmore](#) for details.



SummerFest is coming. Bob has signs. Newberg asks that we avoid placing on public lands until two weeks prior to event.

Tony Buckner, NHS Assistant Principal, and Tim Burke, NHS Athletic Director accepted a check last week to help fund a new flag pole for the baseball field.



The school will do or arrange for the labor, we're helping them fund the expenses.

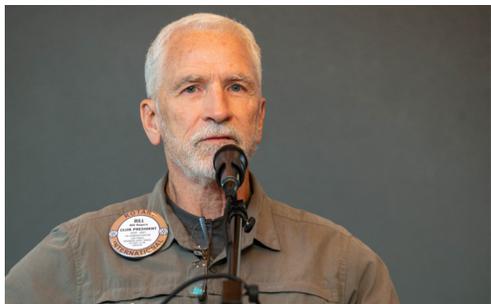
Tim Burke says about Tony, "...he sees a need and makes it happen." He continues, "This is how do things here. Our community rallies with us and gets it done."

Last week was our last Zoom meeting, which made Casey pretty darned happy.

And Bill's last meeting as club president. He was pretty darned happy for his own reasons.

Last week was Travis Toedtemeier's classification talk.

Most of us have our original fear of public speaking, many of us do still.



Travis related the story of his 4th grade book report where he let his nerves get the better of him and ran, crying, from the room.

He did not do that for us so there will be no embarrassing video for any of you to share.

Travis, with a half-sister twenty one years older, for all intents and purposes grew up in Forest Grove as an only child.

Faith Bible Christian School was his entire primary education and he was very involved in basketball, baseball and soccer.

His aunt was his sitter and her four sons filled a place of brotherliness.

Mom was part of, and had wanted her own, big family.

When Travis was 13 his dad was arrested and did two years for a white collar crime.

Junior High sucks anyway without losing everything you know and moving in with family. He stayed mad at his Dad for a very long time.

If anything good came of it he learned a little humility and became much closer with his mom.

He was being recruited to Cascade College but Ali (his would-be wife) was going to George Fox, so that's where Travis went and earned his degree in Interdisciplinary Studies (it's the degree they give to people that don't know what they want to do).

At 22 he got news his Dad had been diagnosed with liver disease. This meant that he would miss out on the adult years of being buddies with his dad. Clay lasted six years and passed in 2016.

Out of college he drove truck for Pacific Coast Produce before becoming a case manager with Chehalem Youth and Family Services.



Reflecting on his time there, you "see and hear things that no one should have to."

Chehalem House is kind of like a lock down that could feel like a jail as they work to prevent kids from hurting themselves, staff and other kids.

He worked six years with Yamhill County Health and Human Services as a Job Developer finding or creating meaningful jobs for people with mental health issues.

He felt a pull to do something more but needed a Masters Degree to move up. So he enrolled in an online course with Liberty University and graduated ... right at the beginning of the pandemic.

2017 saw their first baby, Noah. Jolene Joy, their COVID baby, was born last March.

Travis was feeling the burnout of his position. When friend asked to join him in a new venture with a similar mission Travis responded that he didn't want to do that. That he didn't want to help people anymore.

But the pull of his nature and the push of his friend meant a new beginning last December as an Employment Specialist with [Alliance Services](#).

Bouncing backward on a note of faith and worship was Travis sharing a mission trip with his Dad in 2011 to Haiti after the quake. He saw there abject poverty compounded by destruction. What he also saw, when visiting a church for a worship service, were people praising and worshipping God. He reflected that he had never felt as close to God as he did when surround by people that had lost the little they had and worshiped with gratitude and humility.

SummerFest 2021 ~ Presenting Sponsor

