

Fairport
Rotary
Club



Fairport Rotary's Award-Winning Newsletter

THE LITTLERIDGE

March 30, 2026

Edition 154



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT- ELECT

Rotarians,

As most of you know, Marybeth is away on vacation traveling down the Danube River with her daughter as this very moment. I am more than happy to step in for her while she is away. Rotarians all pitch in together to help each other out.

As Marybeth also mentioned, unfortunately she will be undergoing chemo treatments again. Keep saying prayers; they do get answered. Again, I'm here to help her out, when needed, as I know so are all of you. Service above self.

April is a busy month as noted in the calendar. Let's hope it filled with sunshine!

Dr. Mike Lischak,
President-Elect

The Power of Volunteering!

Rotary





4/6 - Bill Drage, Erie Canal Economic Impact - LUNCHEON MEETING @ SPINELLI'S; NOON

4/11 - Saturday, DISTRICT EVENT, District Learning Assembly, see page 4

4/13 - Amy Breitenburg, Spirit NY/Encompass, @ EagleVale; 6:15 p.m.

4/17 - Friday, DISTRICT EVENT - Eastern Cities Fellowship Dinner, Locust Hill (sold out)

INSPIRATIONAL ASSIGNMENTS:

4/13 Peiter Smeenk; 4/20 Andrew Spreter

4/18 - Saturday, Advent House Gala, we are a sponsor and have a table (sold out)

4/20 - Mark Waze, Build a Chair, RI Project @ EagleVale; 6:15 p.m.

4/27 - Rotary Reads - see note from Dan Arbuckle, page 4

4/27 - Ayrault Road Cleanup followed by dinner at PERINTON PIZZA, see note from Bill Stevens, page 4

EAGLE VALE



April 2026 Special Menu prepared for Rotary

April 13th

Chicken French over a Bed of Pasta
with Salad, Rolls & Butter

April 20th

Open Faced Hot Turkey Sandwich with
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Normandy Blend Veggies
with Chocolate Covered Brownies

Should you prefer only a Garden or Chicken Caesar Salad.

Please contact us 3 days prior at:

Receptionist@EagleVale.com

(585 377-5200, Ext. 221)

BIRTHDAYS

5th - Ron Roberts
6th - Brad Stewart
10th - Maureen Hall
15th Jessica Ferrindino
16th - John Hall
18th - Marybeth Christensen
28th - Chuck Steinman

ROTARY ANNIVERSARIES

Brad Stewart - 2 years
Bob Ruland - 4 years
Domenick Cecconi - 14 years
Marybeth Christensen - 17 years
Heinrich Fischer - 27 years
George Wolf - 55 years!
Ed Johnston - 56 years!!

APRIL IS

www.rotary.org/environment

ENVIRONMENT MONTH

Rotary



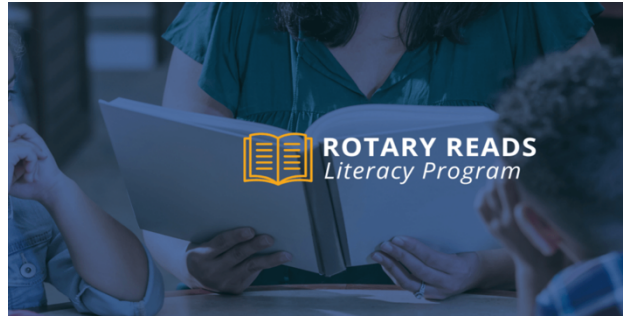
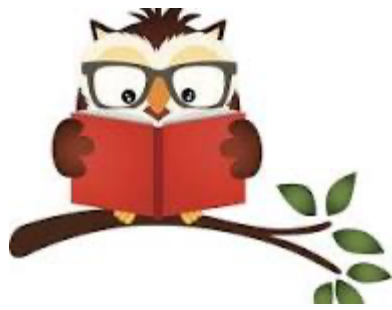
"Try to leave the world a better place than when you arrived"
~ Sidney Sheldon



THIS EASTER, AS WE CELEBRATE
NEW BEGINNINGS, LET US UNITE
FOR GOOD TO BRING HOPE AND
LIGHT TO THOSE IN NEED.

HAPPY EASTER ROTARIANS





One of our club's biggest challenges over the last several years has been to develop a better relationship with the Fairport School District. These are not built overnight. Sincere cooperative efforts like the dictionary project show our commitment to the district and aid in building this relationship. Another such project is coming up. Read on.

The Rotary Reads event is back by popular demand! Mark your calendars for April 27 – May 1 when the Jefferson Avenue Elementary School will be hosting our event. Reading to these youngsters is a fun way to share Rotary's commitment to literacy with our local students.

Contact me at danandrutharbuckle@gmail.com if you would like first dibs at signups or to discuss this project.

Dan Arbuckle

SAVE-THE-DATE

WHAT: District Learning Assembly

WHEN: Saturday, April 11, 2026,
8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

WHERE: Waterloo High School
Waterloo, NY

WHY: To help prepare your club for
increased impact, greater
attraction and more enhanced
member experience

REGISTER AT:

<https://rotary7120.org/event/district-learning-assembly-1/>

All are invited:

Club Officers/Leaders, Club Board of Directors,
Club Committee Chairs & members,
new and current members. Also, prospective members.

**THIS
IS
BILL.
BE
LIKE
BILL.**



Mark your calendar now for a fun evening of exercise and delicious Italian favorites as Fairport Rotarians tackle the trash along Ayrault Road on Monday, April 27. We will meet in CENTER PARK at 5:00 for fashionable vests and marching orders then head to our super STF-supporter PERINTON PIZZA in Egypt for Kevin's delicious buffet. A signup sheet will be circulated during the April meetings. Seating is limited in the restaurant so you will want to get your name on the list the first time you see it. See me for answers to your questions.

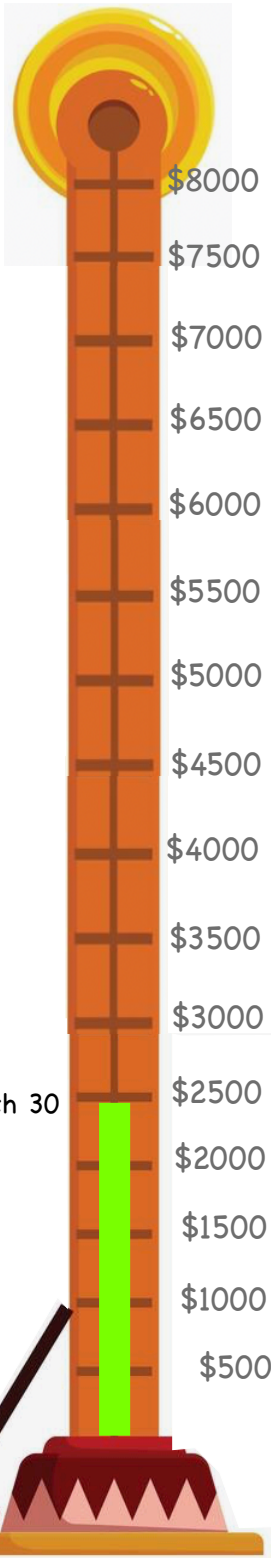
Bill Stevens



CORNER

APPEAL

TREASURER'S



Savor the Flavor Results 2026

Ticket Sales	\$24,125*
Lottery Sales	3240*
Auction Sales	8160*
Sponsorships	8700**
TOTAL	\$44,225*
Expenses	\$14,680
NET	\$29,545

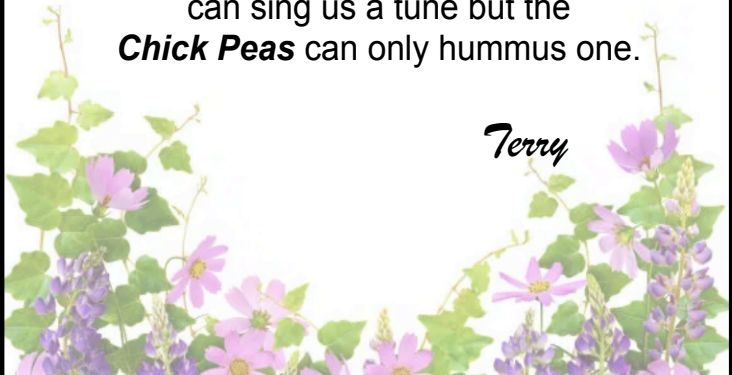
* New Record

** Sponsorship Committee still produced an impressive income number although the Club lost its major 2025 sponsor, CNB at \$3500.



The pop group **Black Eyed Peas** can sing us a tune but the **Chick Peas** can only hummus one.

Terry





MEMBER
Spotlight

BRAD BARRY



SUMMARIZE THE FIRST HALF OF YOUR LIFE: I was born in Auburn, NY in 1991, the youngest of three boys with brothers 12 and 16 years older than me. My father worked in educational administration, so I grew up as the principal's son while my mom stayed home to raise me.

Our family moved several times during my childhood, from Fillmore to Andover and eventually back to Fillmore, where my parents opened a small diner downtown. It was truly a family operation, just my mom, dad, and me. When they first opened, mornings started early. They would unlock the doors at 5 a.m., and I often slept under the tables in the back before walking up the hill to school.

I wasn't a cook at first, I simply watched my dad work the grill day after day. One evening someone ordered a fish fry when my dad wasn't available to make it, so I stepped in, relying on what I had learned from watching him a thousand times. It turned out well, and from that moment on I found my place beside him in the kitchen. Those years quietly shaped my work ethic and taught me how deeply small businesses connect people and communities.

Music also played a major role in my early life. My older brothers performed in a band, and I quickly wanted to be part of it. I learned drums, studied music recording in college, and for my senior project recorded an album with them, officially forming The Barry Brothers. We spent years playing festivals and events across the region while recording music in a studio my parents built for us in Fillmore.

Alongside music, my brother and I launched a business selling DirecTV/AT&T and ADT home security out of an old hardware store on Main Street. At one point we employed more than 20 people, an experience that sparked my passion for entrepreneurship and helping others succeed.

SUMMARIZE THE SECOND HALF OF YOUR LIFE: The second half of my life began when I met my wife, Jillian, at one of our shows at the Stillwater Inn in Belfast, NY in 2012. We married in 2014 and soon moved to the Rochester area, purchasing our first home in Gananda as we began building both a family and a future together.

In 2016, our family experienced a profound loss when my 14-year-old niece, Elizabeth, passed away after battling leukemia. Losing someone so young was incredibly difficult to comprehend and navigate, but it reshaped my perspective on life. It deepened my compassion and strengthened my desire to live a life centered on service, presence, and appreciation for the time we are given.

In 2017, we welcomed our daughter Harper, who quickly became the center of our world. After several wonderful years in Gananda, we felt called toward adventure and simplicity. In 2021, we sold our home, moved into a travel trailer, and spent a year exploring the country together, visiting national parks, slowing life down, and creating memories we will always treasure.

When our travels ended, Fairport called us home. We now live right by the canal and absolutely love being part of this community. My parents have since moved nearby, making this season of life feel especially full and connected. Life is good.

FAVORITE THING ABOUT ROTARY: My favorite thing about Rotary is the people. I joined looking for meaningful ways to give back locally, but what I found was a community of friends united by a shared purpose- serving others and making our community stronger.

SOMETHING NOBODY KNOWS ABOUT YOU: Something many people don't know about me is that I write poetry in my spare time. It's a creative outlet that helps me slow down, reflect, and stay connected to the deeper meaning behind the busy rhythm of everyday life.

FREEZIN FOR A REASON

Don't forget to support Brad as he takes the cold plunge in the freezing waters of Conesus Lake to raise money to support critical children's programs, including Camp Haccamo.

Here is the link to support him:

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/team/fairport-rotary?new=true>

You can cheer him on in person, or take the plunge with him, noon April 12 at the Beachcomber on Conesus Lake, 5909 West Lake Road. Sponsored by District 7120's Youth Exchange and Rotex Rotaract Club.



Fellowship & Fun



Many Rotarians showed up for a fun night of fellowship at Bonnie and Clyde on March 18.

And several members and even honorary members gathered together to paint bowls for a Perinton Food Shelf Fundraiser.



What fundraiser you ask? Check out this **COMMUNITY EVENT** where YOU can support Perinton Food Shelf in an entirely different way!





Fairport EMPTY BOWLS

A benefit for the Perinton Food Shelf

April 12, 2026 Noon-4pm
The DeLand House
 1 E Church Street, Fairport NY

TICKETS \$60

Choice of handmade bowl

 Soup servings made by local restaurants

 Bread, beverage & sweets
 Adult beverages available for purchase

**ENTERTAINMENT
LIVE AUCTION**

Tickets available at
www.FairportPartnership.org

With thanks to our sponsors




Hosted by the Fairport Perinton Partnership

Event info & Tickets



Charitable giving



March 16, 2026

Fairport Rotary
Attention: Mr. Vincent Barone
19 Valewood Run
Penfield, NY 14526

Dear Fairport Rotary Members,

On behalf of all of us at The Advent House, thank you for supporting our annual Advent House Gala as a 35th Anniversary Platinum Sponsor. Currently, it costs us about \$750 per resident per day to operate. Your support of our fundraising efforts ensures that we can continue providing 24-hour care to our residents completely free of charge.

At The Advent House, our mission is to establish a ministry where persons nearing the end of their life can die with dignity and in comfort. Here, they and their loved ones can be together in a holistic, supportive environment that extends into the bereavement process.

We are truly appreciative of your thoughtfulness and generosity. I look forward to seeing you at the gala!

Sincerely,

Heather A. Bundschuh
Community Engagement Officer

Thank you so very much!

P.S: \$500 of your donation is tax-deductible. No goods or services were provided in return for your donation. The Advent House is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit.

FROM CHARITABLE
GIVING RECIPIENT
DISABLED AMERICAN
VETERANS NY #15



The members of DAV NY 15
Thanks the Fairport Rotary
for the generous donation to our
Chapter. This will help us keep
our promise to Americas Veterans

The members of
DAV NY 15

March 23, 2026 meeting of Fairport Rotary Club was called to order by Andrea Jones, Sargent of Arms committee member. She asked Connie to lead the Pledge with Brandon delivering an enlightening invocation. President Elect Mike greeted us and announced we are changing the order a bit with Happy Dollars of which he dropped money in the box for his new knee and thanking all those that were involved with Savor the Flavor of Fairport, Marilet, friend of Nancy's whose father was in the club in the 70's, Maureen for 2 Iowa State victories in the Men's NCAA tournament.

50-50 The winning ticket was drawn by Holly and Brad Barry held the winning ticket

MEAL: Tossed salad, rolls, roasted sirloin, roasted potatoes, mixed vegetables, coffee, water.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Pat George reported on the successful Savor the Flavor event that was held on March 1. Ticket sales were \$3,000. over last year, with many being online and purchased at the door. Great that we are bringing in outside people and we will continue with new promotions. Auction and raffle took in over \$11,000. In 2026 we paid the restaurants \$200. each to cover the cost of their help and believe we are the only event that does so. Restaurants and wineries are pleased with the way we treat them, supply the assistance with the Boy Scouts and club members. There is an \$800. deposit down on next year's linens. It was a tremendous success with a tremendous number of hours spent by the committee. Now the question is "How do we grow the revenues? "
- Becky stated that 3 of the auction items went for over asking price and total brought in \$8173. with the raffle \$3200. Brad Stewart won the Heisman Trophy which he will keep in his position this year for collecting the most items that also raised the most money for the auction and raffle.
- Heinrich pointed out an article in the April 2026 Rotary Magazine which features the tiny homes mentioning Mark Fuerbacher and Ed Johnston and the DSG and club money that made it possible. To learn more visit lihihousing.org/tinyhouses.
- Tom Weldgen brought us up to date on the Rotary Foundation, that we have met our goal for the year. Will working on getting everyone in the club a sustaining member.
- Bill Stevens announced that 5 weeks from tonight, April 27 we will do the Ayrault Road clean up. with dinner after at Perinton Pizza, Ro 31 east of Turk Hill
- PE Mike introduced our guests, Miralet, a friend of Nancy's since 1st grade, visiting from Oregon, Travor, Bruce & Nick who are receiving Rotary information tonight.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

March 30 Deborah Reynold, Dollars for Scholars
April 6 Lunch, Erie Canal
April 11 District Learning Assembly Waterloo High School

April 13 Spirit NY

April 17 Eastern Cities Dinner, Locust Hill CC

April 18 Advent House Gala, Midvale Country Club, 6:00 PM

April 12 Polar Plunge - Please support Brad Barry as he plunges into Conesus Lake at the Beachcomber Restaurant area.

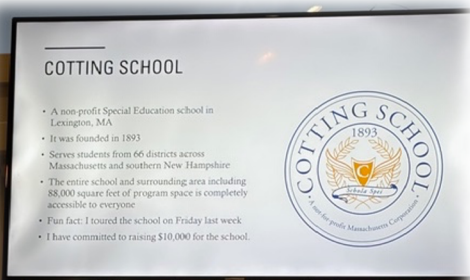


PROGRAM:

Holly Evans, marathon runner, Rush Henrietta Rotarian, CFO of Fairport Electric, mother, wife. She supported her husband as he prepared for the Ironman in Lake Placid and now he is supporting her as she prepares for a marathon in Paris, April 12 which is the 5th largest and the Boston Marathon April 20. The path to these marathons has been more than preparing her running skills. She had to calculate miles to kilometers, plan her diet, strength training, stretching and the logistics for travel. Holly has been running since middle school although she is not fast she is determined to accomplish her goals. She received 14 weeks notification that she was selected for these events. She was selected through a process and is



running for specific charities. In Paris it will be for the ALS Therapy Development Institute. There are treatments but still searching for a cure. In Boston the Cotting School, a non-profit Special Education school in Lexington, Ma. will be the recipients for the \$10,000. she has pledged to raise. Recently she got to run with the 9th grade students. As Holly has a son in Special Education here she was able to relate. There will be a



fundraiser at the Newport Yacht Club on March 28, 2-5, \$40 admission. Holly was presented with a Fairport Rotary mug!



Meeting was adjourned at 7:30

Submitted by Maureen Hall



Fairport Rotary Newsletter – **March 16, 2026** at Eagle Vale – Fairport Fire Department Speakers

Terry O'Neil collected funds. He is still collecting Savor Ticket, ad money, and auction funds at every meeting – PLEASE get all money to Terry now. Jake Shelly sold 50/50 tickets.

Andrea Jones of Sargent at Arms Committee gaveled us to order and started with Ron Roberts for the Pledge followed by Brad Allen with our words of inspiration and calling out our women members for Rotary official Women's week celebration – resulted with applause!

President Marybeth then opened the meeting and welcomed all introduction of guests - Nick Ferraine – found us electronically and joined us again tonight – he sat in on Cindy's Literacy committee meeting tonight and is very interested in joining and also in being on that committee! Bruce Rosen - visiting us interested in our fire dept. presentation tonight. Kimberly Miranda from the Irondequoit Rotary Club. She is Area 13 assistant Governor for E-Club, Irondequoit, Roc City, Rochester AM, and Rochester Latino clubs. Came to see how we operate. Cathy Peets joined us after attending Savor event and speaking with several of us at the event. She is evaluating us for possible membership!

Other announcements by Mary Beth - There are a number of great training sessions coming up in the District. Trying to encourage greater penetration and induction of new members – drawing them in and making sure that they are welcomed and involved. Check out the District website and our own website to get information – including upcoming meetings, other local projects, and other club projects in our District.

Other club announcements - social gathering at Bonnie & Clyde in village at 4 pm this Wednesday, March 18. 4-6 Andrea Jones arranging. Cindy Hunt – food donation requests are on tables – get a bag after the meeting, take it and bring it back next week!

Vin Barone presented for second time, a sign up for Advent House – our club took major sponsor status and bought a table of 10 for dinner on April 18 at Midvale. We are looking for 10 attendees that will each pay \$100 discount rate for their meal. If more than 10 sign up, there will be a lottery to see who gets the 10 seats. Talk to Vin with questions

We broke for our dinner of Chicken Caesar salad and dessert brownies.

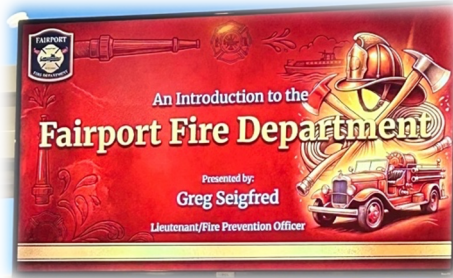
After dinner Marybeth re-convened us with some other announcements. She asked all our women members to stand and be recognized for Rotary Women's week – thanked Brad Allen his comments earlier!

A number of members attended the 100th anniversary of East Rochester – very nice evening! She reported on progress by Strategic planning committee under Dr. Mike Lischak with Dr. Mark Finke and his group of committee members. Mark and team have been meeting for an hour or more weekly and made great progress on the development of structure for the plan. This is just the start, and the Board will now evaluate where we go from here and our next steps.

Rotary dictionaries – delivered by Vin Barone and committee to 100 third graders. Next, 3/24 looking for help to deliver to Brooks Hill, and 3/27 to deliver to Northside. Let Vin know if you want to help it is a lot of fun talking to them and also talking about Rotary and the 4 way test. Dan Arbuckle not here tonight, but he has been coordinating sessions for club volunteers to go and read to students. Contact Dan if interested in more info.

Pres Marybeth introduced our speaker, Greg Seigfred, Lieutenant and in Charge of annual Fire Prevention week and prevention programs. Married and lives in Fairport.

Greg presented a very informative and detailed review of our Fire Department from organization to service delivery. Dave Scheirer assisted with operation of the slide show. Our fire department is one of very few that is 100% volunteer! ZERO are paid members! This means we do not have a large tax cost to covering a paid group! They have 76 members now – 60 are qualified to wear the full gear allowing entry to homes with a subset qualified to wear oxygen breathing packs if required.

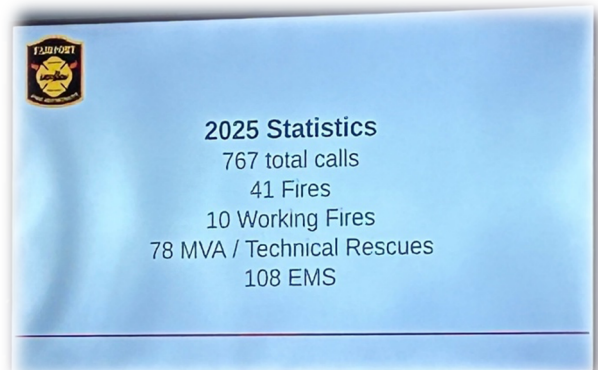


The department costs are covered by the Village and the Town for funding as well as by fund raising events. They hold an annual fund drive asking for community donations. They also hold an open house during the annual Scarecrow Festival where they ask for support, such as the Memorial Day and Fourth of July parades, band performances, music in park, and online - where you can contribute through United Way.

Greg explained and also answered questions about how they are dispatched, the use of their phones / aps, and pagers. The initial way to get them is to dial 911 for the Monroe County dispatch center – they can tell where most of us are when we phone in and their system is locating us, and then they ask for the address and other info to confirm as they send out notice. They had 757 alarms last year. 41 fires, 10 confirmed full building fires, 78 motor vehicle accident calls, and 108 Emergency

Medical service calls. They are equipped with a lot of equipment he showed allowing both land, water, and trail access.

He was asked what WE could do for THEM? How can we help? He liked the question – help tell their story, make sure people know what they do; look for interested volunteers. A major thought from Greg – statistics show approx. 67% of fire issues are in places with no working fire / smoke, or CO-2 alarms. They keep a supply in trucks to hand to people that need their help. They cost \$40 each and they have to buy these to keep a supply on hand – we could donate to them for some of these.



Great program and Marybeth thanked Greg and presented his official Rotary coffee mug.

Pres Marybeth began the 50/50 – calling on Kim Miranda who drew number 3299371 for small pot \$10 won by Bob Hunt but when he drew the card for the large pot of \$345, it was the lowly 2 of hearts.

Marybeth called for any further announcements or questions? Being none, she gaveled the bell and ended the meeting! Be careful driving. Go forth and help make someone smile! Board meeting to convene right after.

From Tom Weldgen – REMINDER - we are in the final months of our Rotary year and looking for your further supporting contributions for the Foundation – our Charity. Our donated funds ensure that we have funds available back to us from the District to support our qualified 501 c 3 charities, and to support the District Grants for added projects. We receive District funds every year based on our support, and we are a significant supporter in the District. Thank you all for supporting these efforts to keep and expand Rotary worldwide.

Meeting adjourned
Respectfully submitted,
Tom Weldgen

