

Fairport Rotary Club  
**THE LIFTBRIDGE**  
 May 15, 2022  
 Edition 61



It all started on Thursday...



**RED RAIDER PICNIC PLATE – THAT’S A WRAP!**

From Bob L & Terry O’N

We served 450 meals yesterday, including donations to the Pines, House of Mercy, and the VFW.

Thanks to all Rotarians who helped with the event!

**Bob**

We have year-to-date ticket sales of over \$6,000 and another \$4,000+ from sponsorships. We may be able to add over another \$1,000 when all is said and done, similar to last year. We will have a better breakdown of exact profits once all out-standing ticket sales and sponsorships have been collected. Stay tuned. Thanks to those members who went above and beyond with ticket sales and **thank you** to all who labored to make this year’s event a success!



Thank you to our cooks!



Tom & Dan taking a carload of meals to House of Mercy!



Pines’ tenants enjoying their free meals!



Thank you to our sponsors!



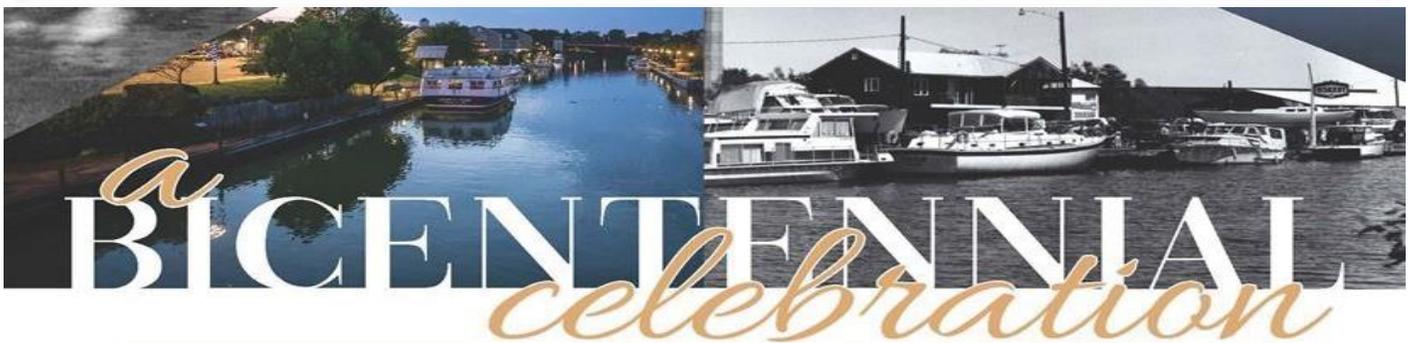
## ROTARY CALENDAR

May 16 – NO MEETING

May 23 – YANA (You Are Not Alone), Family Counseling Services of the Finger Lakes, Amy Babiarz @ EagleVale

May 30 – Memorial Day Parade, 10:00 am, NO MEETING in the evening

Tuesday, June 2, Red Wings Baseball Game – mark your calendar now!



1:00 - 3:00 PM	Unveiling of Historic Markers	Bushnell's Basin - 234 South Main - Kennelley Park
3:00 - 6:00 PM	Perinton Historical Society Canal Artifacts, Photos, and Period Actors	Kennelley Park North and South Bank
3:00 - 7:00 PM	Bill Poray Canal Side Tours	Starting from Kennelley Park
4:00 - 5:30 PM	Mini Duck Races	Kennelley Park
4:30 - 5:00 PM	Mama Goose on the Loose Singalong	Kennelley Park
5:30 - 6:30 PM	Fairport High School Jazz Combo	Kennelley Park
6:30 - 8:30 PM	Live Music by the Swooners and Beverage Tastings	Liftbridge Lane West
8:30 PM - Sunset	Bridge Lighting	Liftbridge

**FRIDAY • MAY 20, 2022**

## ROTARY READS

Fairport Rotarians have a unique opportunity to promote “Service Above Self.” This is an opportunity that you will walk away feeling better about yourself and proud to be a Rotarian. If you are working full time, try to set something up during a lunch hour or early am. Believe us all who have participated in the past – you will be enlightened by our youth!

From Dan A.:

Thanks to all who have signed up to participate in our Rotary Reads Literacy Project scheduled for May 23-27. if you are interested in participating, please reply with your chosen time slot to Dan A. ([arbuckle@rochester.rr.com](mailto:arbuckle@rochester.rr.com)) by Tuesday, May 17.

Thanks, Dan



	Teacher Name and Grade	Day and Time	Day if teacher specified “any day”	Rotarian Reader
1	Sarah McCafferty, 2nd	Monday 5/23 8:30-8:50		Tanya W-T
2	Julie Rich, 2nd	Any day 12:00-12:20	Tue, 5/24	George and Holly W
3	Steve Ryan, 5th	Any day 12:30-1:00		
4	Sharon Riter, 1st	Wed. 5/25 1:00-1:20		Becky W
5	Terrie Clarke, 4th	Any day 11:35-12:05	Fri, 5/27	George and Holly W
6	Theresa Sanna, 3rd	5/24 1:50-2:10		
7	Kelly Janicek, 3rd	M 5/23 12:10-12:30		
8	David Janicek, 1st	M 5/23 1:30pm to 2pm		
9	Sheila Cocilova, 2nd	Any day 9:40-10:00	Thu, 5/26	Cindy H
10	Jeannine Moran, 1st	Any day 12:45		
11	Sarita Iuliucci, 1st	any day 9: 25 to 9 :40		
12	Barb Gonyeo, 3rd	Wed. 5/25, 10-10:20		Bob H
13	Christina Young, K	Any day 10:45-11:30	Wed, 5/25	Maureen H
14	Ashlea Nacey, K	Any day 12-12:30	Wed, 5/25	Dan A
15	Mary Mercer, K	Any day 12-12:25		
16	Tracy Lipa, 5th	5/27 8:40-9:00am or 12:25-12:50		
17	Anne Steger, 1st	M 5/23 11:05 - 11:30 or T 5/24 11:05 - 11:30	Mon, 5/23, 11:05	John B
18	Meghan Roberts, K	Wed 5/25 1:15-1:35		Scott and Cathy B



Tom  
Wolans  
MEMBER  
Spotlight



**Summarize the first half of your life:**

was the youngest of five boys, in a family with parents who fled from their hometown in the southeast corner of Poland, just miles away from the Ukrainian border during WWII. By chance they met in Austria and decided that they had a better chance together, in the world that was changing around them, so they decided to get married. Two of my brothers were born in Austria, when my parents took a leap again and agreed to take the opportunity and work on a farm in Virginia. So, with two children and only \$7 in their pockets, it was off to America. After several years on the farm, the family moved north to Binghamton, to be closer to relatives and a strong Ukrainian community that shared the same struggles which they had endured.

Like clockwork, every two years, a new Wolanski son was born, when I came around, my father had to stay at home to watch my brothers, while my mother took a cab to the hospital to deliver me. Being surrounded by my brothers, I soon found out that regardless of what I did, one of my brothers had done something worse. Each new school year I would enter a classroom to a new teacher and would get that look, “not another one”.

I enjoyed having the freedom to hang out with my friends, play sports, with the understanding that I need to be home for dinner. Another rule my mother had for all of us, was that for us to play on any sports teams, we had to each have our own uniforms and mend them if needed. I still retain those skills and am the best at mending in our household. I played lacrosse at Binghamton Central and was a starter at crease attack. After high school, I followed my brother's footsteps and went to Broome Community College, then onto RIT from which I earned my bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering Technology.

At RIT, I met Ann Perretta, who lived across the hall from me in the dorms and we started dating a couple weeks later. After Ann graduated, we were married and she moved to Binghamton, where I was working for a small civil engineering firm. After two years living across the street from my parents, it was time to move. Ann found a job in Northern Virginia, and we picked up stakes and moved there for five years.

After being married for 5 years, we had our first child Sara in Virginia, which made us understand how important family was and how we missed our families in upstate New York. I began to interview back in New York State and took a job in Albany, with CHA. We had our second child Leah in Albany and in 1992, I was offered a position in Rochester by CHA to manage their office. I took the position and ultimately was able to expand their local office here to over 50 people and open offices in Buffalo and Syracuse. While living here in Rochester, our third daughter Michelle was born.



We found our home in Fairport, during our first visit to look for one, purchasing former Judge Gary Rood's home on County Clare Cres., where we still live.

## **The Second Half**

With things going well at CHA I was named a partner, thinking I was going to spend the rest of my career there and then retire. Well, the firm was sold to a private equity firm and with the downturn in the stock market in 2008, the new owners began to lay off its senior staff, which included me. After working for a couple firms in the area, I've been fortunate to be offered a position with GPI a large engineering firm, which I've been with for 8 years.

More importantly, the family thrived, which each of my daughters earning their college degrees and finding their soulmates. My oldest Sara is in Boston, Leah here in Rochester and Michelle in Baltimore. Sara and her husband Dave are the proud parents of our first grandchild Maeve who will turn 1 this month and now have their second on the way. We're looking forward to many more grandchildren to come.

Ann retired from being a teacher here in Fairport, just as COVID hit us and I'm in the process of transitioning into retirement, so that we can travel and spend time with our grandchildren and children.

## **Favorite Thing about Rotary**

I enjoy the fellowship and being able to work as a team to make a difference.

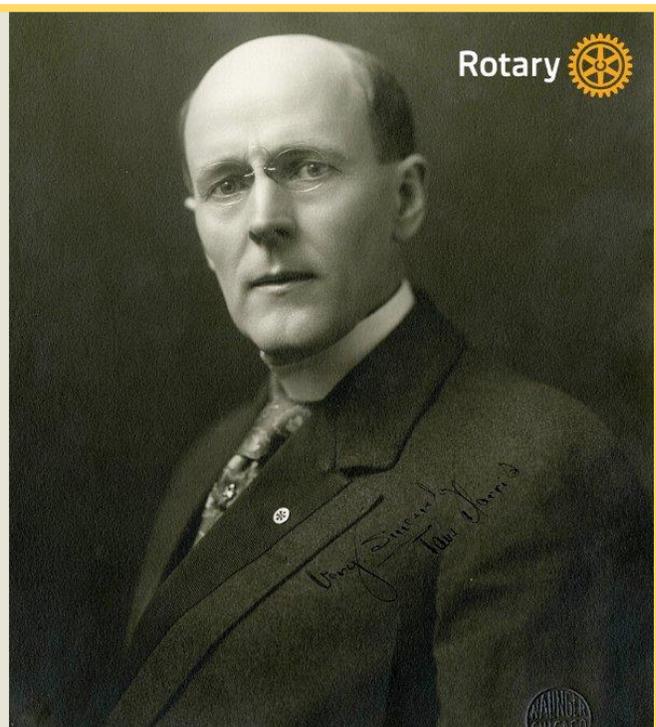
## **Something nobody knows about me**

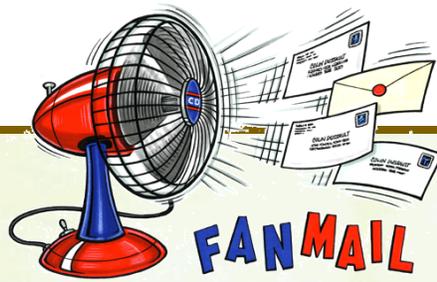
I was on a weeklong TV show, when I was a child, Romper Room.

## **Tom W**

**"I have no hesitation in saying that world peace could be achieved and made permanent if reared on Rotary's firm foundation of friendliness, tolerance, and usefulness."**

**Paul Harris**  
founder of Rotary International  
1940 Convention





April 15, 2022

Dear Mr. Knapp,

Thank you so much for selecting me to be the recipient of the R. Clinton Emery Memorial Scholarship by the Fairport Rotary Club. I feel honored and so grateful to use this money towards my education at Ithaca College. It is much appreciated!

After doing some research about Mr. Emery, I'm so sad I will never get the chance to meet him, as he seems like an amazing person. I connected to the fact that he attended Hamilton College; my uncle coaches basketball there and I'm very familiar with it. Another commonality is that we will have gone to the same college town of Ithaca (him at Cornell). I'm sure Mr. Emery was very engaged at the Cornell campus, just as I hope to be at Ithaca's campus. Similarly to Mr. Emery, I highly value the importance of being civically engaged in my life and am eager to vote when I turn 18 later this month. I also found out that he owned a cottage on Canandaigua Lake, one of my favorite places.

It was said that Mr. Emery was known for his "fierce client loyalty and exceptional work ethic," which I hope to exemplify in my future work as a counselor. Mr. Emery was truly inspiring and I will strive to make a positive impact on my community as he did.



My deepest gratitude,  
Meghan Diessler

## Rotary Meeting, EagleVale, May 2, 2022 – “Got a Cobble?”

We seem to be reverting to the format where eating precedes meeting. Or so it appeared.

Brad A led the Pledge and Scott B gave the Invocation

President John read the new Vision Statement for Fairport Rotary, noted that Connie B had returned from peregrinations – experienced snail-like but not at all slow, and that Mary Beth was imminently to dip her toes in retirement.

Cindy H announced that the June 6<sup>th</sup> meeting will be at Lollipop Farm, the public face of the Humane Society of Rochester and Monroe County.

Dan A touted a sign-up sheet (to be distributed electronically) for this year’s “Rotary Reads.”

Bob L rallied the troops for the upcoming Pirate Plate encounter with the battle cry, “Ticket Sales!”

“Tour de Cure,” the velocipede fund raiser for the Diabetes Association was promoted by Dennis B. The support systems for this cyclists’ jaunt are well regarded.

President John announced that the Fairport Club acquitted itself well at the District Conference receiving numerous awards.

A Memorial Service for past member Sam S will be held at the Perinton Community Center on May 13<sup>th</sup> at 4PM.

Tom W awarded Dave S a Paul Harris+2 pin. Way to go!

Our evening’s speaker, Mary S Stevens, was introduced by Cindy H. Rounding the circle – she is a Fairport graduate – Mary returned to the village after many years away and having snagged Bill S for a husband.



Her topic, Cobblestone structures of Western New York, was particularly apt because 90% of the cobblestone structures in the United States lie within a 70-mile radius of Rochester! Cobblestone structures were an outgrowth from the emergence of an increasingly affluent populace comprising farmers with instant access to the relatively free building material, the small stones that lay in their fields.

Aided by Bill’s dexterous control of the slide projector Mary gave numerous examples of cobblestone structures – residences and businesses, and even a barn. Different patterns were created by juxtaposition of shape (round or elongated), color (white, yellow or brown) and placement (space between rows of stone).

Perinton boasts three cobblestone structures: Fieldstone Grove, Huber Road and Macedon Center Road.

Warren K. won the small pot.

George T. W.