

The Weekly Newsletter of the
Only Normal Rotary Club in the World
Chartered June 17, 1949



The Normal Spoke

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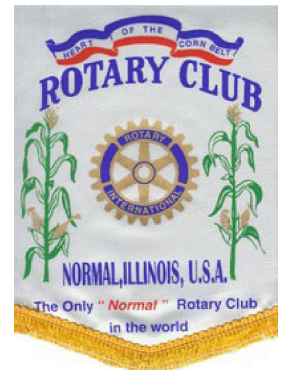
RI No. 3282 District No. 6490

July 8, 2020 Volume No. 72 Issue No. 02

Link to Rotary International <http://www.rotary.org/>

Normal Rotary Website: <http://www.normalrotary.org/>

District 6490 Website: <http://rotarydistrict6490.org/> (The District Newsletter is on the left side of the main page)



Reporter: Art Drake	Editor: Larissa McIlvain	
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At the July 8, 2020 Zoom meeting of the Normal Rotary Club, President Fred Hahn used a new bell to tinkle us to order.

This day in history:

- Col. John Nixon gave the first public reading of the U.S. Declaration of Independence to a peaceful crowd gathered at Independence Square in Philadelphia in 1776.
- In 1947, construction work began on the United Nations Building in NYC.
- Kevin Bacon and Wolfgang Puck are celebrating their birthday today.
- Fred's astrologer says that if you were born on this day, you are recognized as having a fascinating mixture of sensitivity and mystery. You have a high social IQ and are quite confident in understanding the feelings of others.
- And finally, exactly 163 days ago, we were wishing for warm weather.

Announcements:

- Linda Healy announced that, due to covid concerns, the resumption of construction of the Habitat for Humanity Rotary house has been **postponed until July 25**. Volunteers will have to sign a new waiver. Safety precautions will be in place. See habitatmclean.org for details.
- Alan Chapman touched base with Rob Glover, who plans to attend our in-person Rotary meetings when they resume.
- Speaking of which, before Fred's bell tinkled us to order, Ray Ropp mentioned that another Rotary Club in the district has held in-person meetings that were also webcast on Zoom. That club checks each incoming member and visitor for a fever. There was interest

in this precaution, but there was also concern that some people can have covid without symptoms and still spread the disease.

Judge: Linda Healy raked in a bunch of virtual bucks by calling out anyone who was not wearing a Rotary pin.

- Linda paid a happy fine because her son and his girlfriend had been exposed to covid, isolated for two weeks and came out of isolation healthy and happy.
- Hank Campbell was happy to celebrate his and Mary's 53rd anniversary. Mary celebrated by going kayaking. Hank celebrated by coming to an online Rotary meeting.
- Art Drake was happy that he and Jan became great-grandparents on July 2, thanks to Clair (with that "l") Anne Goemans, who was 7 pounds 1 ounce.
- Judge Linda tried to drum up some more judicial income by calling for "sick of being at home" fines. I don't know that anybody fell for that one.

Remember to pay your fines, happy fines and birthday donations! You may mail a check to the Normal Rotary Club or consider using your bank's bill pay option to save a stamp. The Club's mailing address is: Normal Rotary Club, PO Box 333, Normal, IL 61761

Program: Andrew Hunt and Jeremy Kelly told Rotarians about Illinois Fire Juniors and its effort to develop a community soccer complex. Illinois Fire Juniors is the biggest soccer group in Bloomington-Normal. About 2,000 kids in our community play soccer. There has been talk of a soccer complex for several years. Their lease on land at the airport is up, although it could be extended if there is satisfactory progress on the complex.

Land has been obtained in the neighborhood of Raab Road and Towanda Avenue, and they have the money to get started. The first phase would be basic soccer fields, and subsequent phases would include full-size, youth-size and championship size soccer fields, a championship field, parking and an indoor training facility. Facilities would be flexible to accommodate other sports as well. The indoor training facility should be a significant revenue source.

Andrew and Jeremy said the complex would attract more sports tourism to B-N. Soccer parents spend plenty of dough hauling their young athletes to far-off games where their dollars go to restaurants, gas stations and sporting goods stores (to buy equipment that the young athletes may have forgotten).

It will cost about \$3 million to build the basics at the sight, according to Andrew and Jeremy. The rest will cost millions more. They want community support in the form of cash gifts, in-kind donations, sponsorships and naming agreements.

For more information, check their web site: www.illinoisfirejuniors.com/Donate



Thought for Today:

"Good friends help you find important things when you have lost them....things like your smile, your hope and your courage" - From the BBC



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2020-2021

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