



Wednesday, September 24, 2025

**UNITE  
FOR  
GOOD**

Rotary

## Broadcaster September 19, 2025

By Timothy E. Joy



The meeting today began with the Pledge of Allegiance and a meditation moment by CJ Lang. CJ spoke about the status of our country and the degradation of civility and the opportunity to discuss thoughts, different ideas, and opinions different than our own in a discourse that allows civility and exchange without rancor.

Please sign up for lunch each week.

Guest- Bob Riser a Jackson Mi Rotarian. Mike Richardson introduced his grandson Joshua. Deb Madonna is also a guest. James Van Horn led the club in our Hello song-pick a key, any key.....

Our guests were invited to lunch first!

PDG Russ Jones presented Paul Harris awards to Mike Richardson. Mike's wife Cathy was recognized for her support of Rotary and grandson Joshua was presented a Paul Harris award!

### Events

September 26th  
Plymouth  
Weekly Club  
Meeting

### Club Leaders



Candice  
Towers  
President



Preston  
Gee  
President-  
Elect



Daniel  
Amos  
Treasurer



Nancy Ann  
Baldwin  
Rotary  
Foundation  
Chair



Eric M. Joy  
Youth  
Exchange  
Chair



James  
Gietzen  
iPast  
President



Marie A.  
Morrow  
Club  
Executive

Today's program was introduced by our guest Deb Madonna. Deb thanked our Club for our support for Plymouth Miracle league. Deb is a former AM Rotarian. Deb became aware of the difficulties of getting around from Ian Flanagan as he was writing a book entitled "Kevin Can". She has known Jesse Lindlbauer for 14 years and the SJ5K event at the PCCS Park. The SJ5K has raised over \$1.5M and helped 60+ families.

Ian and Jesse are co-authors of the book. And they are disability educators.

Ian was disabled at 10 years old and couldn't attend school for a couple of years. The Livonia Rotary Club stepped up to tutor Ian and get him back on track with his education. Ian thanked Rotarians for the impact of everything we do. And we don't realize that impact!

Ian and Jesse became friends while attending high school. They rode the bus together. Ian helped Jesse navigate the world of disabilities. They are both creative.

Jesse spoke about the Super Jesse 5K which Rotary has sponsored consistently. Jesse brother in law started the 5k. The money helps other families with disabilities.

Ian spoke about how they came up with "Kevin Can". It shares how young children would inquire about their disabilities. The kids don't know how to approach a disabled person. They created the book to educate the kids about disabilities. The book is geared to young kids and early readers and the hope is that the parents will read the book and learn also.

Disability doesn't mean you can't have fun! It means fun is done differently.

Kevin Can is available for purchase for \$10. Available at Elephant Ear bookstore. Also on Amazon.

Upcoming Meetings- September 26 WDIV will be here to discuss their downtown Plymouth studio and coffee shop!

The 50/50 was won by someone- sorry I missed it!

The meeting concluded with the Four Way Test!

## Broadcaster September 12, 2025

By Kurt L Heise on Saturday, September 13, 2025

### Call to Order:

**President Candice Towers** called the meeting to order. **Your Scribe** led the meditation today with a prayer for peace, healing and reconciliation, also thankful for great Chicken BBQ weather!

**Lunch** was served – a yummy plate of meatloaf, mac & cheese and sides.

### Introduction of Guests & Announcements:

Guests today included **PDG Liz Smith** and **Chris Matus** from DTE.



- **Sep. 18 at 7 p.m.** Fundraiser for 88.1 the Park radio station at Chicane, featuring Nashville recording artist and P-CCS Alum Grace West. Tickets are \$50. **Don Soenen** will donate 20 percent of dinner proceeds to the cause in

addition to the tickets!

- **Sep. 19** Accessibility Advocates will be our guest speakers, outlining their efforts to expand and improve public access and awareness for wheelchairs and strollers.
- **September 26** – Bob Ellis from WDIV Channel 4 will share their plans for 'FourGrounds' the coffee shop/information station coming soon to the former Heidi's Place at Harvey and Ann Arbor Trail.
- **September 27** - '**PAWS for Polio**' presented by the Livonia club at the Livonia Rotary Park from 1 to 4:30 p.m. Bring your furry friends!

### **Today's Feel-Good Story – Candice Towers**

Candice shared the story of Mr. Gary Melaney from Jackson MI, who was provided with a free chicken dinner by the club several years ago as he was down on his luck and could not afford one. Since then, Gary has gotten a full-time job and has continued to 'pay it forward' by writing a \$200 check to the BBQ in 2024 and a \$300 check this year. Gary is grateful to the club for helping him through a tough time and continues to show his sincere appreciation!

### **Today's Presentation – Chris Matus, DTE**

Chris serves in the government affairs division of DTE, having formerly worked for Senators Levin and Peters and Wayne County. Chris shared several slides with the group outlining DTE's goal of full decarbonization by 2050, with further use of solar and wind power. The main goal of this effort is to no longer be reliant on coal power while retaining the Fermi II plant in Monroe. DTE serves 2.3 million electric customers in Southeast Michigan. They are investing \$1.58 billion in new infrastructure each year and providing \$50 million to assist low-income customers. Chris also explained DTE's four-point plan for transforming the electric distribution system, focusing on:

- Quickly transitioning to a smarter electric grid
- Aggressively updating existing infrastructure
- Rebuilding significant portions of the grid; and
- Tree Trimming

Chris also pointed out that DTE has spent \$3.3 billion with Michigan businesses in 2024, with more than 1,800 businesses, creating 92,000 jobs and investing \$24 billion in Michigan businesses since 2010. And, while everyone complains about rising utility bills, Chris pointed out that DTE's rates remain below the average of electric providers nationwide, and that bills overall have kept pace with inflation.

### **50/50**

Wrapping things up, the 50/50 was won by **Kasey Kohn** for \$58. **Dave Willett** would have walked home with the second chance drawing, but he did not buy a ticket!

### **Until we meet again –**

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**Lunch ordering- Advance sign up is IMPORTANT!**

**Respond** to the weekly email or Email [Marie.morrow@pcuw.org](mailto:Marie.morrow@pcuw.org) or Call Marie - 734- 453-6879 X 4

Salad options available:

Maurice Salad

Cesar with or without chicken

Greek with or without chicken

Spinach with or without chicken

Mediterranean