



The Sunrise

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March 2024

Bruce Dixon, editor (dixon-bruce@comcast.net)

Sunrise Calendar

(Subject to change)

March

- 1: Regular Club meeting, 7am, NCC – Know Your Rotarian **Jim Povejsil**
- 1-3: Midwest President Elect Training Seminar (PETS)
- 8: Regular Club meeting, 7am, NCC – **Mayor Scott Wehrli**
- 9: St. Pattie’s Day 5K fun run and walk, 8am start time, Centennial Beach, 500 Jackson Ave, Naperville
- 12: Board meeting, 7am, ZOOM
- 15: Regular Club meeting, 7am, NCC – Schools and Rotary
- 21: Club Social for 5K runners, 6pm-9pm, Go Brewing
- 22: Regular Club meeting, 7am, NCC – **Dawn Newman, Paul Harris Fellows**
- 29: No meeting

*please direct ideas for speakers and Club projects to **Bill Hassett***

Race Director **Ryan Siebert** reported today that sponsorships stand at a robust \$27,000 and 1,000 runners have signed up.



As 5K volunteers step forward, **Marion Ruthig** will add their names to the leadership lineup chart.

Public Relations Director **Deb Newman** announced that proceeds from the 5K will benefit:



- **NAMI DuPage’s Ending the Silence Program**, which works with schools to promote early recognition and intervention for children at risk of mental illness;
- **Samaracare’s Mental Health Access Program** to subsidize fees for children and adolescents seeking affordable counseling and psychiatric services;
- **West Suburban Community Pantry child nutrition programs**, including in-school and weekend food support.

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5K Fever



With help from **John Keough** and **Geoff Roehl**, **Lynne Nolan** demonstrates the “Woo-Hoo tunnel,” to be vigorously applied as 5K runners come to the finish on March 9.

It’s easy: Form an arch, shake your pom-poms and greet runners with a hearty “woo-hoo!” (not to be confused with the 1959 Rock-a-Teens hit of the same name).

Tom Miers’ family reports that Tom is resting comfortably following a stroke suffered this week during a skiing trip to Colorado. Watch your emails for updates. **Mary Ann Bobosky** says prayers are encouraged.



(More)



March 2024 (cont.)



Ouch! **Chris Kerstin's** wife, **Kimberly**, is off crutches as she recovers from a fall that tore all three of her right leg hamstrings. Meanwhile, Chris has shed his knee walker as he recoups from ankle surgery. Said Chris, "we're in our 50's and learning about Old erson Syndrome."

Not Your Grandfather's Fire Department

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) now comprise 70% of the 911 responses in Naperville. Deputy Chief **Phil Giannattasio**, a 17-year veteran of the Naperville Fire Department, told our February 9 meeting that all firefighters are EMS certified to meet the demands of a growing and aging population. "Many people are not



dealing with traditional medical conditions like stroke, heart attack, and trauma – it's more dealing with the soul, the mind, and talking through quality of life issues like isolation, dementia, and depression." In response to these new demands, the department created a special unit.

"We've taken three people off the 24-hour schedule, moved them to a 40-hour work week, and assigned them to a daytime special ambulance," Chief Giannattasio explained. This allows EMS teams to "slow down" and work through potential health care issues that can affect a person, call in a suitable medical practitioner or social worker, and choose the best treatment approach. Moderating the pace and adding the special ambulance has given the 911 operators needed breathing room. "And you don't always need the emergency room, an ambulance, or a fire engine, he said. "Many times all the person needs is a wheelchair or perhaps a ramp to the front door, but they don't know where to turn" to make that happen.

Attracting Business

"Companies still want to locate in Illinois," **Rita Haake** told our February 2 meeting. "So don't believe it when you hear, 'everybody's leaving!' It's not true."

Rita is senior vice-president at Choose DuPage, a county-funded private-public partnership charged with greasing the skids for new economic development. A major responsibility is identifying available sites to attract interested companies. That means forging strong partnerships with local real estate developers and community leaders.

A major achievement toward cooperative development is the Greater Chicagoland Economic Partnership (GCEP). This new collaboration includes the seven counties of northeastern Illinois (DuPage, Cook, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, Will) and the City of Chicago. The goal is "to drive economic growth and advance equity across the region and its diverse communities." Said Rita: "It's been amazing."



Government members of the GCEP board. DuPage County Board Chairwoman **Deborah Conroy** (center) stands between Cook County Board Chair **Toni Preckwinkle** and outgoing Mayor **Lori Lightfoot**. The 56-member board includes representatives of the business community.

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Deb Newman gave Sunshine Bucks for **Geoff Roehll** and **Dawn Newman** for "pulling off a great Mexican dinner party" replete with a "brilliant chef, great menu, lovely ambiance," and "beautiful decorating" by hosts **Pati** and **Tom Miers**.

(End)