

# The Spoke

## Rotary Club of Danbury

[www.danburyrotary.org](http://www.danburyrotary.org) ,

District 7980

June 12, 2019

P.O. Box 788, Danbury, CT 06813

### From the Editor's Desk:



Sadly, the person who would be our incoming president this Rotary year, Michele Geffert, has suffered a job transfer. This is the second time in a row she has been cheated out of a club presidency due to a transfer. It may be that Michele will spend the rest of her Rotary career being a "would be" club president. We certainly hope not. She has already paved the way nicely for Allison Fulton, who graciously stepped up to the plate soon to be given the gavel at the Ridgewood Country Club annual Passing of the Gavel Dinner.

#### Michele's Parting Gift

Allison has been there before. She is an admirable placement. She needs our support so let's all pitch in and give Allison all of the help she needs.

Yours in Rotary Service, Ralph

### Tary's Rotary Minute:

Not only do we have many interesting guest speakers and off site visits, we have planned a few rather interesting adventures in the past. One of those involved a fishing trip out of Niantic Seaport on LI Sound 35 years ago involving 6 intrepid Danbury Rotary fisherman. Numerous Bluefish were caught, but the "near" catch of the day was a 450 pound Tuna that remained on Ralph's line for about 9 minutes, with the rod going from fisherman to fisherman to first mate. Ralph had 5 Bluefish on an umbrella rig, and the tuna swallowed one of them whole. Every time the fish broke the water, it looked like it was the size of a small house. The boat captain became excited indicating he would receive half the value of the catch if they could land it---at that time about \$2,000. Unfortunately it was not to be. The most memorable part of the visit wasn't the big fish, though. It was the 20 foot swells that followed, with the entire crew lucky to return home safely.



Yours in Rotary Service, Tary

### Make-ups-

- |       |           |   |
|-------|-----------|---|
| Mon.  | 12:15 pm, | Norwalk, Norwalk Inn  |
| Mon.  | 6:15 pm,  | Newtown, Newtown Country Club                               |
| Tues. | 12:00 pm, | Wpt, Branson Hall at Christ and Holy Trinity Church         |
| Wed.  | 12:15 pm, | Danbury, Ethan Allen Inn, Danbury                           |
| Wed   | 6:15 pm   | Ridgefield Dinner Club, Bernard's, 20 West Lane, Ridgefield |
| Fri   | 7:30 am   | Westport Sunrise, The Westport Inn                          |
| Fri.  | 12:15 pm, | Wilton, Marly's Bistro                                      |

### Mike Rosen, Chief Revenue and Development Officer of Fairfield County's Community Foundation, Provided the Club an Understanding of How Valuable the FCCF is to the Community:



The FCCF is an organization designed to help all of the non-profits in Fairfield County reach their potential. Its primary goal is to close the opportunity gap in Fairfield County, and the speaker even offered to manage our scholarship fund for us (they are currently managing 75 of them in Fairfield County) but so far we are doing just fine with ours. Mr. Rosen indicated that the organization's mission is to promote philanthropy as a means to influence

change in the County, with the expectation of leveling the playing field for all.

The foundation was established in 1992, currently has assets of \$200 million and has awarded \$220 million in grants to 625 nonprofits since its inception. At present it manages 600 charitable funds. Clearly it is another valuable asset in our community.

**Representatives From The Non-profits we Support Were also Invited to lunch, including Habitat for Humanity, Guiding Eyes for the Blind, Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation, TIBCO, Danbury Grass Root Academy, The South American Cleft Palate Initiative, Housatonic Valley Council Against Substance Abuse, Regional Hospice, and the Danbury Museum and Historical Society.**



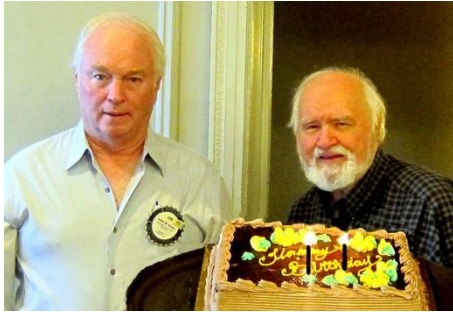
(top, l to r) Corriane Gagliardi, Mike Rosen, Louanne Bloomer, Carl Bailey, Caitlyn Landry, and Laura Shulman Cordeia. (front l to r) Fran Norman and Brigid Guertin. Allison Fulton is not shown,

**Next Week, June 19<sup>th</sup>** we will pass the gavel at the Ridgewood Country Club. A tux is optional. Cocktails are at 6:30 and dinner will be served at 7:30. Bring a guest but let **Caryl Lucchesi** know if you do when you inform her of your own attendance. It is the event of the year, so mark it clearly on your calendar



**Amber Alerts:**

7/27 and 28 Village Fair Days, N, Milford, CT  
10/5 9 am-1 pm Home Depot, Danbury



**Happy Birthday, Jim Gargan, and Happy Anniversary, Ralph and Jane Welsh (60<sup>th</sup>)**

The ability to hear is inversely proportional to age. We have an example of this fact to the right.



**Rotary Club of Danbury Officers 2018-19**

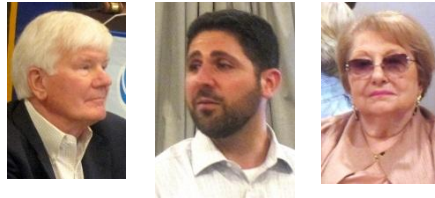
- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| <b>President-</b> | Dr. Fred Kayal     |
| Pres. Elect:-     | Allison Fulton     |
| Vice Pres.-       | Tim Seibert        |
| Secretary-        | Dr. Mark Havira    |
| Treasurer-        | Frank Scahill, Jr  |
| Sergeant at Arms- | Edward Walsh       |
| <b>Directors-</b> |                    |
| Anita Ragona      | John Murphy        |
| Robert J. Vetter  | Jeffery Kass       |
| Dr. Mark Havira   | Tim Seibert        |
| Tary Tarlton      | Frank Scahill      |
| Allison Fulton    | Dr. Ralph S. Welsh |

*No Spoke issues missed since 1/4/06*  
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**Jim Gargan Held the Winning Ticket, but Pulled a Losing Card:** Jim correctly pointed out that duces are only valuable when they are wild in Poker. Well today duces are not wild, and this was not Poker. Still, he has 6 more chances. No \$10 needed for the 2 weeks.



**Visitors:** Rotarians Jack Smoot and Alon Sapir, plus our president's better half, Leila Kayal. We hope to see all of them again, soon.



**SERVICE ABOVE SELF**

Nels DeAlmeida is a ruthless substitute for the Sgt at Arms, but he met his match when he met Alon Sapir, Pres. of the Tribury Club. Alon indicated he would place a dollar in the pot in exchange for payment for a Tribury raffle ticket, or more. We don't recall if Nels took the bait, but



interestingly our guests all wanted to contribute including a very large donation from Carl Bailey.

