

# Rotary

## Club of Plymouth



# IMAGINE ROTARY

### Plymouth

Meets at Plymouth Cultural Ctr.

525 Farmer Street  
Plymouth, MI 48170

Time: Friday at 12:00 PM



### Events

No Events found

## Broadcaster October 6, 2023

By Arthur W. Gulick on Monday, October 9, 2023

President **Chris Porman** began the meeting with the Pledge to the Flag. **June Kirchgatter** offered a meditation that urged us to think of the Earth as our mother.

GUESTS:

- **Dave Williamson**, a former member, is back in town.
- **Angela Ridpath** brought her daughter, **Grace**, as her guest.
- **Carol Marvin** attended, and she's soon to be inducted as a new member.

NEWS FROM JUAN

**Denise King** read a letter from our recent exchange student, **Juan González Colonia**. He had a great time here with us and is now back home in Colombia. He sent photos.

BIRTHDAYS

Many of us have birthdays this month. The Rowdy Table led us in singing "Happy Birthday" to **Kent Early**, who gets a year older in two days.

ITEMS FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

- Plymouth Orchards get-together for us later this afternoon.
- Bulb planting, 8:30 am, Saturday, October 14, 2023, at the Main Street islands

in downtown Plymouth (rain date is Sunday).

- Rotary Foundation Dinner Celebration, Thursday, November 9, 2023 at Crystal Gardens in Southgate MI.
- Town Hall Speaker Series, Tuesday, December 5, 2023. Doug Griffiths speaks about taking Plymouth to the next level.

## SPEAKER

New member **Rachel Ross** introduced our speaker, University of Michigan Flint Emeritus Professor of Geography, Planning and Environment **Marty Kaufman**. Professor **Kaufman** ([martyk@umich.edu](mailto:martyk@umich.edu)) spoke at length about protecting our environment, concentrating most on our management of rainwater. It's in urban areas, where we have paved surfaces that are impervious to water, where we have the most trouble. Highway water runoff is the most toxic, and clay soils are most likely to carry heavy metals (it's the positive ions in the contaminants paired with negative ions in clay). The biggest contaminant in rainwater runoff is soil. Professor Kaufman recommends some steps to manage urban rainfall: (1) avoid excessive fertilizer; (2) make boulevard medians absorb water by shaping them flat instead of raised in the center; (3) have swales (like little ditches) at the edges of the roads; (4) use porous paving in parking lots where there aren't many trucks, e.g. churches; (5) have dry wells and infiltration basins in your lawns; and (6) install systems to catch rain from your roof to flush your toilet.

## FIFTY-FIFTY

Denise King announced the winning ticket, held by **Gary Stolz**. **Eric Joy** got the Second Chance prize of \$320!

## CLOSE

We recited the Four-Way-Test:

- Is it the truth,
- Is it fair to all concerned,
- Will it build good will and better friendships, and
- Is it beneficial to all concerned?
- Plus, we add: it will be fun!

## Broadcaster September 29, 2023

By Kurt L Heise on Sunday, October 1, 2023



### Call to Order:

**Chris Porman** called the meeting to order. We had approximately 35 in attendance. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the group, and **Mary Ann Wood** delivered the meditation for the day. Lunch featured sliced pork, au gratin potatoes and salad.

### Introduction of Guests:

There were 4 guests today including our new Exchange Student, **Noa Gaethofs** from Belgium. Other guests included **Rev. Lou Carlson**, **Katie Shawnee** and Northville Township Supervisor **Mark Abbo**.

### Upcoming Events:

- **Plymouth Ghosts Cemetery Walk** October 28 from 4-8 p.m. at the City Cemetery. This year all 8 characters portrayed will be Charter Members of the **Plymouth Rotary Club** or their wives! Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 the day of; check the Plymouth Historical Museum website for details.
- **November 9** – Rotary Foundation Banquet at Crystal Gardens, Southgate. \$75.00 per person. Go to the District 6400 website for details.
- **“Town Hall Speaker Series”** sponsored by Plymouth Rotary is Tuesday, December 5 at 7 p.m. at the Cultural Center. The guest is **Doug Griffiths**, author of *‘13 Ways to Kill your Community.’*

**Chuck Bares** then gave a brief update on the Rotary Foundation and the event on November 9 to further the cause. Many of the activities of the Rotary Foundation can be found in the most recent Rotary International Magazine.

#### **Program:**

Our special guest speaker was Northville Township Supervisor **Mark J. Abbo**. Supervisor Abbo was elected Township Supervisor in November 2020 for a four-year term. He returned to the office after previously holding the same post from 2000-2012. Prior to that, he was the Township Treasurer from 1999-2000 after being a Township Trustee for seven years. During his pause from the Township, Supervisor Abbo, a certified public accountant, was recruited to work as Wayne County's Chief Financial Officer because of his business acumen and his ability to contain costs. He was also the Wayne County Commission's Chief Fiscal Advisor, a position he held from 2016 to 2022.

He also is Treasurer for Metro Solutions, a non-profit organization in Southfield, Michigan, which provides healthcare to the uninsured and underserved in Metro Detroit. Prior to Wayne County, Supervisor Abbo spent 38 years in the private sector, including working for such accounting firms as Coopers & Lybrand, now PwC, and Main Hurdman, now KPMG. He was also the CFO of a \$600 million auto supplier.

Supervisor Abbo discussed the many exciting projects underway in Northville Township, including the Michigan International Technology Center (MITC) along Five Mile Road, upgrades to the new Northville Township Legacy Park (formerly the Psychiatric Hospital site), the use of an embedded Social Worker in the Police Department, the \$36 million Essential Services Complex slated for 7 Mile Road, a new skatepark, cricket pitch area, and other initiatives. The Essential Services Complex will house the Township's Police Department, a second Fire Station, and the DPW facility. It will also serve as a 1,400 square foot trailhead building for the new Legacy Park pathway. The new “Unity Skatepark” will cost \$655,000 and is being paid for with township, county and private funds.

Supervisor Abbo was very proud of the fact that Northville Township has a AAA bond rating, and he gave kudos to Plymouth City and Township for their many collaborative ventures between the three communities.

#### **50/50**

Wrapping things up, the 50/50 was won by **Chris Porman** for \$55. **Gary Stolz** would have won \$300 in the Second Chance drawing, but he was not in attendance.

**Until we meet again –**

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

**Respond to the weekly email or Email Marie.morrow@pcuw.org or Call Marie - 734- 453-**

Salad options available:

Maurice Salad

Cesar with or without chicken

Greek with or without chicken

Spinach with or without chicken

Mediterranean

**Club Leaders**



[Chris Porman](#)  
President



[James Gietzen](#)  
President-Elect



[Candice Towers](#)  
Secretary



[James Van Horn III](#)  
Treasurer



[Charles J. Bares](#)  
Rotary Foundation Chair



[June Kirchgatter](#)  
Membership Chair



[Penny Joy](#)  
iPast President



[Marie A. Morrow](#)  
Club Executive Secretary



[Sam J. Kennedy](#)  
Assistant District  
Governor