

## The Big Wheel

Club 2520, District 6150  
 May 13, 2024  
 Volume 106, Issue 44  
 Rotary Club of Jonesboro  
 P.O. Box 654  
 Jonesboro, AR 72403  
 Chartered August 1, 1919

## Club Leaders



Erika Krennerich Chudy  
President



Jennifer Hannah  
President-Elect  
Public Image Chair



Dana L. Kennedy  
Secretary



Jeremy Todd Watson  
Treasurer

## Events

May 14th

Jonesboro Club Meeting May 14, 2024 - Mayor Harold Copenhaver

May 21st

Jonesboro Club Meeting May 21, 2024 - Jessica Maddox

## Birthdays



Hatton Weeks  
May 12th



Erika Krennerich Chudy  
May 12th



Emelda LaVonne Williams  
May 18th



Jeff Purinton  
May 19th



Jared White  
May 26th



Michael R. Weaver  
May 28th



Lori Chandler  
June 2nd

## This Week's Program -- May 14, 2024

### *Working for Jonesboro*

We are honored to have Mayor Harold Copenhaver as our speaker today.

Copenhaver has strong roots in Jonesboro. Elected as mayor in November 2020, Copenhaver was previously senior business development officer at Centennial Bank, worked as a farm manager and in the insurance industry. Experience in those positions, plus a term in the Arkansas Legislature, composed the foundation for a Copenhaver administration focused on strong fiscal management, public safety and quality of life.

A graduate of Jonesboro High School and alumnus of Arkansas State University, Copenhaver has an extensive background in insurance and agri business. He and his wife, Kathleen, have dedicated their lives to giving in Jonesboro, volunteering and serving on community boards and committees. The mayor manages the everyday activities of the City Administration, but in addition, serves also as our city's ambassador. He spends time working for Jonesboro with other officials at the State and Federal level, representing the needs of Jonesboro and working to garner support for the City's programs.

Come to the meeting and hear what the Mayor plans for Jonesboro. Bring a friend or colleague.



## Save the Date

### *May 1-28 -- Fill the Pack -- Summer Food Program*

We will be assisting Westside Schools with replenishing their food supplies for their summer backpack program. Donations will be accepted for the month of May. Item examples: boxed Ravioli's, canned fruit, peanut butter, breakfast bars, Pop-Tarts, cereal, etc.

### *June 14 -- Shrimp Boil Fundraiser*

All Hands on Deck! This is our 1 big fundraiser of the year. Come to one of our Shrimp Boil meetings at 11:00 before our Tuesday meetings or contact **Will Branch** to learn how you can help.

The Rotary Club of Jonesboro's 2024 Shrimp Boil. Pickup is June 14, 2024, 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Rotary Centennial Plaza, downtown Jonesboro.



### *June 29 -- District Governor Induction*

DGE Brian Rega will be inducted as District Governor on Saturday, June 29, 2024, at the Cooper Alumni Center, at 5:30 p.m.

## Good News -- May 7, 2024

**Chad Harbison** carried the mic for Good News.

**Norman Stafford** announced that we were recycling again. He asked members to recycle the cups after the meeting.

**PP Beverly Parker** was happy that her program last week got quite a few mentions and people were recycling more.

**Kathleen Pruitt** said her son was graduating from University of Arkansas with his Ph.D.

**Gregory Hansen** went to Hot Springs for the last race of the season.

**Sam Hummelstein** asked members what happened on May 4, 1987. It was the date the Supreme Court ruled that Rotary could not bar women from membership. Today's Rotary has 45% female membership.

**Donald Cooper** is taking his daughter to a concert on the 16th.

**Danny Rainwater** is going to be a grandparent for the ninth time.



[Barbara J. Widner](#)  
June 5th



[Carolyn B. Hudgins](#)  
June 8th

[Tony Thomas](#)  
June 11th

## Last Week's Program -- May 7, 2024

### **Update on NYIT**



Last week our program was presented by Casey Pearce, NYIT's associate director of external relations and marketing, who updated the club on how the medical school is progressing.

Arkansas, according to Pearce, is generally in the bottom five states in health outcomes and does not have enough physicians with about 35% of them being over 60 years of age. Over ten years ago, Arkansas State University began seriously exploring starting a medical school. Eventually, it became clear that it would be much more efficient to partner with another school rather than start from the ground up. The result is NYIT.

NYIT is located east of Manhattan on Long Island with about 8,000 undergraduate students. It has operated a medical school there since 1977.

Where medical schools turn out MDs or Doctors of Medicine, osteopathic schools turn out DOs or Doctors of Osteopathic Medicine. According to Pearce, the training is the same. There are four years of undergraduate and four years of medical school with three-to-seven-year residencies of special training. DOs are more likely to practice general medicine like family practice and internal medicine.

MDs, generally speaking, treat symptoms of disease whereas DOs look at the whole person, the interconnectedness of body, mind, spirit, and what other factors may be contributing to issues, Pearce said.

The Jonesboro school has 115 students per year. The first class was in 2016. There are about 3,000 applications for the 115 positions each year. About 30% of students are from Arkansas.

Rural Arkansas needs doctors in primary care. About 25% of NYIT graduates specialize in family medicine and 27% specialize in internal medicine. Since most doctors stay in the area where they do residency, NYIT sends its residents to rural areas. The biggest number of graduates stay in Arkansas and Mississippi.

## Report Card -- May 7, 2024

Total Active Members - 109  
Active members - 64  
Active-Service - 16  
Active-Partner - 4  
Active-Modern - 3  
Active-LOA - 1  
"Active Rule of 85" members - 18  
Honorary members - 6

Total Attendance - 47  
Active Members - 42  
Friends of Rotary - 0  
Honorary members - 0  
Proposed - 0  
Guests - 5 [Read More](#)