

# Rotary



## Club of Williamston Sunrise

### Club Leaders



[Laska J. Creagh](#)  
President



[Christopher A. Lewis](#)  
President - Elect



[Gene Klco](#)  
Secretary  
Webmaster



[Steve Terry](#)  
Treasurer



[Earl K. Wolf](#)  
President - Nominee



[James Conroy](#)  
Club Director



[Elgar Brown](#)  
Sergeant - at - Arms



[Wanda Bloomquist](#)  
iPast President

### Speakers

**September 27, 2022**

[Laska Creagh](#)

Meet at Tavern 109

**October 04, 2022**

[Tracy Purrenhaage](#)

Statewide Recycling

### 9/13/22-Adam Spina

By Gene Klco on Wednesday, September 21, 2022

Meeting: September 13, 2022

Attendance:

Chris Lewis presiding in Laska's absence.

Pledge of Allegiance

Announcements: Janet Eyster indicated that trees doing well in newly planted forest in Township Park, so well in fact that 75 trees need to be fenced for the winter. She is seeking as many volunteers as possible for this project on Friday, September 16 from 9-12, and Sunday September 18 from 9-12 and 1-4. She needs to know ASAP if getting help, as this is a project that she cannot do on her own.



Today's speaker: **Adam Spina**, Superintendent of Williamston Community Schools. From a Covid perspective, Adam remarked that it was nice to be at the point that the district could again focus on what it does best, i.e., educating its students, instead of having to devote so much time being a de facto health department. He described recent updates to improve school safety, including every building having a single point of entry, night lock door systems, key card entries, instant notification to 911 and patrol cars regarding 140 access points (buildings and locations in buildings). Emergency safety protocols have been reviewed, and there will be a practice safety stand-down on November 1.

Another major topic of Adam's presentation was a discussion of the Recreation Millage, which has a life cycle of 10 years, and is now up for renewal. The ballot proposal is seeking an extension of the current 0.7321 mil for another 10 years, not an increase. This millage covers Community Pool and Fitness Center expenses not funded by user fees. The bulk of the millage revenue generated is spent on heat, maintenance and repair of the Community Pool. Students access the pool for swim team, Wave Club and 4<sup>th</sup> grade aquatic safety classes. More information on the recreation millage is available on the district website.

Adam concluded his presentation with a review of district enrollment, finances and staffing. Pre-Covid enrollment was about 1900, and Adam noted that enrollment made a nice recovery last year and was still trending upward. The biggest barrier to enrollment increases prospectively is the lack of housing for parents who desire to locate in Williamston. He noted that school of choice accounts for ¼ of enrollment but that is not sustainable over time, as these students use resources without an expanded tax base. The state education budget for this year included a 5% increase in per pupil

funding. The district is focusing on replenishing the sinking fund and investing in staff to address student mental health needs, including an increase in school social workers, the addition of a school mental health specialist, and the addition of a school nurse (the first ever!).

**Further announcements:**

1. Still need volunteers to staff the Saturday Golf Outing, and additional golfers!
2. Plans for the 5k Run and the Fall Festival are moving ahead nicely. Wanda reported that the festivities will include 4 food trucks, music, Nature Discovery, pumpkins, corn hole contest. The Forest dedication will be at 10:30 a.m.
3. Earl Wolf and Jim Miller are still working on the monarch trip (1<sup>st</sup> week in February). Interested parties should contact either Earl or Jim.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sharon LaPointe  
A poor substitute for Gene

## September Birthdays

By Gene Klco on Wednesday, August 31, 2022  
Wishes for a Happy Birthday in **September** go out to:

**Mark Steinberg September 1**

**Janet Eyster September 14**

**Simone Ranes September 15**