



The Peal

Rotary Club of Canandaigua



Meeting Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. American Legion Post #256 454 North Main Street	www.canandaiguarotary.org Club # 4765, District 7120 Organized Apr. 24, 1919	Publication Date: February 26, 2026
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Official Newsletter of the Canandaigua Rotary Service Foundation

Today's Program: Canandaigua Academy Spring Musical "Shrek" Teaser

Next Week: Dr. Preston Pierce – 250 Year Celebration

Meeting Notes from: February 19, 2026

Pledge: President-Elect, Paul Harvey

Prayer/Inspiration: Adeline Rudolph

Song: Mark Sheppard – Star Spangled Banner

Visiting Rotarians: None were present.

Guests: Jay Dutcher had two guests, Mack Williamson, a perspective member, and Jeffery Sapirman. Cora Woloson was also a guest.

Remembrance: Dick McGavern let us know he had visited with Al Walker at M.M. Ewing Continuing Care Center. He shared Al is not healing as fast as he had hoped but thinks that maybe next week he will be able to start rehab. Al would love to have visitors, so feel free to stop by.

Exchange Student, Maria Polese (from Brazil):

Maria said she did great on the test she had last week in school. She moved to her new host family last weekend. She said there are always lots of kids around and she likes that. The host family has a 5-year-old daughter who absolutely adores Maria. Her host brother is 16 and has a lot of good friends. She says the rehearsals for the upcoming musical, Shrek, are going well. She will be going skiing for the first time in her life. And since President-Elect, Paul Harvey was mentioning how many gold medals the USA has won so far in the Olympics, Maria let us know that Brazil had also won a gold medal. (Lucas Pinheiro Braathen took gold in the men's giant slalom. It was the first ever gold medal in winter Olympics for Brazil.)

Announcements:

President-Elect, Paul Harvey was filling in for President, Kent Gilges who is visiting his son in Hawaii. Paul opened our meeting with some winter Olympic trivia questions. (Paul believes that he must somehow be related to Caroline Harvey on the USA Women's Hockey Team.) The great news is the team did go on to win gold, beating Canada 2-1 in overtime. Paul had our newest member, **Peter Wolak** stand and say a few words. **Ben Green** shared information on a walk-a-thon to benefit scholarships at Red Jacket School. I believe the date is May 16th, with registration at 9:30 and the walk beginning at 10am. There will be music and raffles as part of the event. **Curt Bailey** reminded us of the annual Bowl-a-Thon to raise money for high school scholarships being held Sunday, March 22nd at Roseland Bowl. Forms are now available at our weekly meetings to sign up for the event.

Happy Dollars / Fines:

Matt Parsons announced the Legion will be serving fish fries every Friday evening during Lent. Share the news with your family, friends and neighbors! **Doug Merrill** had some happy dollars because in February 2022 his youngest granddaughter was born and he joined our Rotary Club. **Kathleen Draper** will be traveling for work to Puerto Rico for a DYI water filtration class and hoping for some fun in the sun while she's there. Kathleen also let us know that she and David Hutchings will soon be holding a Bio-Char class at Sonnenberg Gardens. Stay tuned for more info. **Rick Lessard** was happy to be back at our meetings after having knee surgery. He said everything went well with his surgery. **Margie LaTourette** has four spots

available at a table she has for the Embrace Your Sisters event on May 3rd. The '2026 Tea at Two Fashion Show' is being held at Casa Larga Vineyard & Winery in Fairport. Let Margie know if you are interested in attending. **Ben Green** shared that his cousin, Andrea Schaffer, has been in the hospital for kidney stones. Andrea is a perspective member.

Cora Wolosan with Rotex: Cora is a past Rotary Exchange Student who went to India. (By the way, she has been back there 3 times since her initial exchange trip.) Cora explained that Rotex is an association of past Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE) alumni that engages with current Inbounds and Outbounds to better their exchange experience overall. Cora was with us to promote the upcoming Polar Bear Plunge Fundraiser being held on April 12th at the Beachcomber on Conesus Lake. The money raised is split between the 5 Rotary camps in our area, Rotex, and the clubs who participate in the event. Info is on our District website.



Program: *Canandaigua City Mayor, Thomas Lyon*
Thomas F.T. Lyon is a fourth-generation Canandaigua resident and a 1998 graduate of Canandaigua Academy. After earning a master's in urban planning from the University of Buffalo, followed by working in nonprofit management, Thomas returned to his roots, bringing technical knowledge in community and economic development. Thomas currently serves as a senior planner with Ontario County, bringing a wealth of regional knowledge to his role as Mayor of the city. As Mayor, he is focused on several key pillars for Canandaigua's future – economic vitality, fiscal management, sustainability, and infrastructure. Thomas shared the biggest challenge for the city council is finances. He said with a \$22 million budget, without changing anything, they are already facing a 9% increase in costs. Thomas discussed upgrades being made at the water treatment plant so water supplies to the city, town and surrounding areas can be increased

from 6-7 million gallons a day to 12 million gallons per day. He shared 51 housing units are being built at the old Labelon building, with some units being designated as affordable housing. In the old post office/YMCA there will be an event center, a brewery, steakhouse, and the DA's offices will be moving into the 2nd & 3rd floors of the old post office. There is a Center of Excellence on the lakefront in the planning stages.

Joker Draw: **Marty Potter** took home \$16 and **Ben Green** walked away empty handed after drawing the six of spades.

Upcoming Rotary Events:

- 3/6 – March First Friday** will be at The Irish Mafia Brewing Company
2971 Whalen Road, Bloomfield
- 3/7 – RLI (Rotary Learning Institute)**
Johnson City, 7:30am – 12:30pm
- 3/22 – Rotary Bowl-a-Thon @ Roseland Bowl**
(Fundraiser for high school scholarships)
- 4/11 – District Learning Assembly 8:30 – 12:30**
Waterloo High School, Waterloo
Register on the District 7120 website –
<https://rotary7120.org/>
- 5/1 to 5/3 – Rotary District 7120 Conference**
6557 Holiday Valley Rd.
Ellicottville, NY
More info will soon be forthcoming

Help Support Light Hill

Kathi Nevin shared more information on the walk for Light Hill. Light Hill will not be having their annual spring flower sale this year. You can however support their new endeavor, an indoor walk-a-thon at FLCC on April 25th from 8am to Noon. You can sign up to be part of our Rotary Club's team, **Rotary Radiance**, or you can help sponsor our team. Our team has set a goal of raising \$1000 for Light Hill. For more information, see Kathi Nevin or click the link below to go to Light Hill's website where you can register to be a participant or to donate to our team.

https://lighthillhome.org/?page_id=357

