



# “The Peal”

## Rotary Club of Canandaigua



Meeting Thursdays 12:15 p.m.  
American Legion Post #256  
454 North Main Street

**"CREATE HOPE in the WORLD"**  
[www.canandaiguarotary.org](http://www.canandaiguarotary.org)  
Club 4765, District 7120, Organized Apr. 24, 1919

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### Official Newsletter of the Canandaigua Rotary Service Foundation

**Today's Program:** Service Above Self Awards  
**Next Week:** CA Interact Club Running the Meeting

**Meeting notes from 16 May 2024**

**Pledge:** President Nancy Stelnyk

**Visiting Rotarians:** None

**Guests:** **Dick McGavern** hosted Jenny Goodemote and Kathy Shay from Wood Library. **Andrea Jones** introduced her son Alistair Jones.

#### Announcements:

**President Nancy** reported that **George Herren** is recovering nicely and staying up on his exercises. **Chris Hubler's** birthday was rung in with a hearty round of 'Happy Birthday.' Also, our 1<sup>st</sup> corporate member was announced with **Russ Kenyon** representing Boylan Code, LLP.

The Legion is looking for a part-time cleaner – referrals gladly accepted.

Exchange student **Stine** competed again in the discus and shot put, and will be visiting NYC with her host family.

**Jeff Anthony** touted the **ONSEYAWA Golf Tourney** on Saturday 8 June at Silver Creek GC. The largest fundraiser for our summer camp for youth.

**Adeline Rudolph** mentioned the Central On Main Ribbon Cutting 1 June, and fireworks sponsored by the Town of Canandaigua on 6 July.

#### Happy Dollars:

**Ellen Polimeni:** Her committee completed the Scholarship recommendations – a very impressive group of graduating students. A special call out to **Jack Moran**.

**Gloria Dancause:** For the Ontario County Historical Society, and the new Legion food service.

**Marty Potter:** Noted National Remembrance Week in memory of First Responders.

**Ken Poole:** For the upcoming Finger Lakes Orchestra performing Rhapsody in Blue, and to highlight his tombstone or cemetery monument cleaning procedures – if interested send him an email and he'll clue you in.

#### Program:

**Kent Gilges** introduced Canandaigua City School District Superintendent Jamie Farr for his annual report on the district and the 21 May budget and school board vote.

Jamie noted many metrics where the Canandaigua district exceeds state or national averages, and several particularly noteworthy student achievements.

Canandaigua is apparently the oldest city school district in New York, and the 8<sup>th</sup> oldest in the country! The district graduates students at a much higher rate than the average NY district, and has some of the best standardized test scores in the state.

He briefly discussed the new mascot – Gray Wolves, and the expanded free breakfast and lunch programs. The asset preservation and safety project is nearing completion, which will be mostly reimbursed by state aid.

The enhanced emphasis on College – Career – Armed Services, as choices for graduating students, and the efforts the district is making to prepare students for each of those options was discussed.

Many, many noteworthy achievements were highlighted, including a new theater club in the primary/elementary school, robotics, 2 lego clubs, a drone club, masterminds, spelling bee, and the international baccalaureate program. Also noted, Canandaigua students hold 2 of 3 statewide elected offices for NY student government.

Matt, the district finance officer, highlighted the proposed 2.9% tax rate increase, which translates to a \$2.6M increase to a proposed budget of \$89M.

School Board candidates were mentioned, with two of our own standing for election – **Kent Gilges** and **Paul Harvey**.

The Governor's and Legislature's electric bus mandate is 2 years off – scheduled to take effect in 2027. A diesel bus costs \$165,000, and the current cost of an electric bus is \$425,000. This does not include the cost of the underway mandated NYSEDA study, or the cost of electric charging infrastructure.

Never a more important time to vote!!

**Joker Draw:** **Ellen Polimeni** snagged \$16, and **Mike Wilcox** drew the 9 of Clubs. The pot grows!!