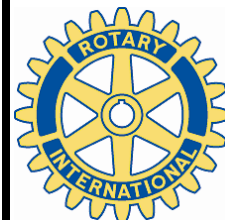




The Rotary Big Wheel

Anderson, Ind.

Feb. 20, 2007



Today's Program: State of the City, Mayor Kevin S. Smith

Imagine having to report to 58,000 people. Doesn't sound like fun, but that's what Anderson's Mayor, Kevin S. Smith, was elected to do – serve that many Andersonians.

Beginning his State of the City address to Rotarians, the mayor pointed out that he was just happy to be invited back. He lightened the mood by joking that his speech last year was just really bad. (One of his honest staff members pointed this out!)

The mayor believes 2006 was a positive one. There was visual progress – paving, demolitions and beautification – but they are just as busy on other projects, upgrading the water pollution control facilities to

name just one.

“Private investment is driving the economy,” he said. “The people in this room are responsible for completing major projects.

The city earned over \$1 million last year on investments. This eases a monetary burden from taxpayers. The city property tax rate has decreased back to 2004 levels. Two million was saved by negotiating health insurance packages. The mayor calls the available \$3 million cash reserve a testament to efficient government.

The plan is to avoid police and fire layoffs as our financial challenges grow. In other areas, however, job functions



You can hear the mayor Wednesday evenings, from 6 to 7 on 1240 AM WHBU.

have been combined – sometimes five jobs into one person's responsibility.

The mayor is no doubt proud of the city's infrastructure. More streets have been paved than in any time in history – 17.58 miles. In 2004, \$650,000 was budgeted for paving. The figure for 2007 is

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Invocation, Pledge and 4-Way Test: Bob Jackson

Rotary Moment No. 509, Rotary District Conference: David Porter

Two weeks ago our president-elect, David, called our attention to the annual conference of District 6560. The district conference is the most important meeting of the year for Rotary in our area.

In the last few years the French Lick Springs Hotel and Resort has been under going a remarkable transformation. It is now open along with a new casino close by. One mile away is the West Baden Hotel with its magnificent dome. This will be the more luxurious of the two hotels and will open soon. Many years ago the area was the location of the most notorious and yet illegal casino in the Midwest. Legal gambling has come to French Lick. “River Boat” gambling now has come to a place that has water without a river and a river boat

that can go no where unless there is another biblical flood. Overall more than 225 million dollars has gone into work on the facilities.

Our Rotary District Conference will be held at the French Lick Springs Hotel and Resort on Friday, Saturday and Sunday April 20 to 22. If you have been wanting to see what has transpired at old French Lick, this is a legitimate opportunity to do so while participating in a fine Rotary conference and taking advantage of reasonable room rates.

Aside from the new peripheral activities available for chance taking, you might like to use your real skill on the forty-five holes of golf that are available. Even the courses have been rebuilt. In addition, there are the tennis courts, the reno-

vated pools, horseback riding and the carriages. Spring will be in bloom. This should all be a great incentive to make this a wonderful spring outing for you and your family. Children are very welcome and you all will have lots of fun.

District conferences are definitely NOT just for club officers. District conferences are for ALL Rotarians and their families. Learn more about Rotary and enjoy Indiana's greatest resort at the same time.

You and your family deserve a break, a spring break in the blossoming hills of Southern Indiana. There are no private rail cars to take you there as there were 80 years ago, but these days the roads are excellent and the drive a pleasure. We will see you there in April.



President

Pam Coletti

President-elect

David Porter

Secretary

Dana Donahue

Treasurer

John Kane

Board members

Deanne Beard

John Dick

John Eddy

Tammy Ihnat

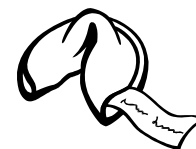
Debbie Webb

David Welsheimer

Good Fortune

You can't see the future if you're stuck looking in a rear view mirror.

~ Mayor Smith ~



State of the City, continued from page 1

\$1.7 million.

Sadly, Anderson has seen a loss of 23,000 jobs. It's the end of Guide Lamp. Sounding positive, the mayor points out, "You can't see the future if you're stuck looking in a rear view mirror."

Last year 562 new jobs were available, and 452 projected. The Anderson business incubator is in place for small business start-ups. Along with this, forty new businesses were brought to the city and several businesses expanded.

Announcements

If you have an announcement you'd like to have made during a Rotary meeting, kindly call President Pam at 631-0844 or e-mail your announcement to pam-coletti@aol.com by Monday evening preceding the Tuesday meeting.

- A big thank you is extended to Charles and Hazel Dickmann, Jeanne and Tim Lee, Bobbette and Tom Snyder, and Jim and Marilyn Ault. These Rotary members and spouses funded the new sound system for the Country Club. Thanks, especially, to Charles Dickmann for organizing and leading the effort.
- Starting in March, George Vinson will be taking directory photos on the first Tuesday of each month. This is for new or re-take pictures.
- Valentine's Day Bonus Campaign—District 6560 will give a 1 for 1 match for gifts to Rotary International Annual Fund of \$50 or \$100. Gifts must be made between now and Feb. 28. See John Eddy, John Kane or Pam to make a contribution.
- Rotary license plates—\$15 comes back to our club. Forms are available at the door.
- District conference is April 20-22 in French Lick. Half price rooms are available for early reservations. See Pam or David for registration forms.

Harold Phillips Literacy Fund



All members are encouraged to make a donation to the Harold Phillips literacy fund during the month of their birthday. The money is used to buy books for Madison County preschoolers in Head Start. See Pam Coletti or John Kane to donate.

New members

Scott Richards was born in Brookville, Ohio. He is a graduate of Anderson University, and says his decision to go there was an easy one because his future wife had already applied.

He has served as executive director of the Christian Center since Sept. 2006. He has three kids, Emily, Ben and Jack, and enjoys golfing.

Don Young was born in Knoxville, Tennessee. He served in the military for 12 years, and is a Vietnam veteran. Don is district manager at Kings Title, serving Marion, Muncie and Anderson. He is married to Pamela, and has a son, Derek, a student at Ball State. Don enjoys golfing and fishing.



- David Markle 2/4
- William Surbaugh 2/4
- Mike Padfield 2/6
- Carrie Dixon 2/9
- Kathryn Wykoff Cooke 2/10
- Dan Sager 2/12
- Lisa Floyd 2/16
- Alan Rowley 2/27
- Jason Sims 2/28

Upcoming programs

Purdue School of Technology	Feb. 27
Student Speech Contest	March 6
Iraq Part 2	March 13

50/50 Raffle



Won by: Don Young
Total collected: \$66