

The Noon News

October 19, 2009

Published



Waterloo Exchange Club

Firefighter of the Year—Time for the Firefighter of the Year program. Nick Anderson is this year's honoree. This is an extra special choice for the Exchange Club, since Nick's mom, Bonnie, heads up the crew that serves us lunch every week. We especially appreciate the way Bonnie goes out of her way to take care of us week in and week out. If Nick has half his mom's work ethic, dedication to the job and character as a human being, then this was an easy choice.



Nick Anderson, Fire Fighter of the Year

Fire Chief and Exchangite, Doug Carter, began the program by introducing our special guests. Mayor Hurley was on hand. Several folks from the Fire Dept came, including Larry McKinney, a retired firefighter who serves as the department's chaplain, Dave Floyd, president of the union and Chris Ferguson, who nominated Nick. Bev Brumbaugh, administrative secretary to the chief, Julie Carter, Doug's wife and Ned DeBerg, retired fire chief as well as former Exchangite, rounded out the Fire Department crew.

Nick's family was well represented. Of course Bonnie was there, along with three of Nick's brothers—Tom, Jim and Tim. His aunt and uncle, Patti and Dennis Harrington made the trip from Chicago. His older brother Tom and his uncle Dennis influenced Nick's decision to pursue his career as a firefighter. Tom is a firefighter in the Air Force, while Dennis retired as battalion chief in the Chicago Fire Department.

Mayor Hurley began the program by congratulating Nick and outlining the critical nature of the work the Fire Department does for public safety.

Chief Carter gave us some personal insights about Nick and his nomination. He told us that Nick is a Waterloo native and Columbus High School graduate. Nick joined the Fire Department in 2004. He currently serves as a paramedic and heads up the Fire Department Honor Guard. Chief Carter told us that he served as Nick's training officer and knew right away that Nick would do well. Quoting from the nomination documents, Chief Carter told us Nick is "a proud member of the Department" - willing to go the extra mile - has great relationships with his peers and the public. But, we thought the observation that Nick "gives respect while working to earn respect" was an especially fine testimony to Nick as a man and Bonnie's efforts as a mother.

Then we heard from the honoree. After thanking the Elks Club for the nice lunch and the Exchange Club for the award, Nick recognized the team effort he feels in the Fire Department. Then he went on to tell us about the folks in his family that gave him hope and encouragement in his quest to achieve his life-long dream to work as firefighter-especially during periods of adversity, when Nick didn't think he would make it as a firefighter.

Great outcome to a special story. Fine young man. Good job, Bonnie...

NEXT MEETING LOGISTICS

Program: Capt Kies, U.S. Navy
Prayer : John Woods
Pledge : Mark Johnson
Menu : Coming Soon

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Oct 26: Capt Kies, U.S. Navy
Nov 02: Jerry Anders, That Dam Update
Nov 09: Waterloo Schools Strategic Plan
Nov 16: No Meeting
Nov 23: Closed Business Meeting

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH

Oct 26: Coming Soon
Nov 02: Coming Soon
Nov 09: Coming Soon
Nov 16: No Meeting
Nov 23: Coming Soon
Order Chef Salad one week in advance

BIRTHDAYS

Oct 23: Sandy Kline
Oct 14: Ivan Miller

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"But sound aloud the praises and give the victor-crown. To our noble-hearted Firemen, who fear not danger's frown." Frederic G.W. Fenn, "Ode to our Firemen" 1878

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Expo School Project—Our Partners in Education school, Expo High School, is participating with the other High schools from the area in a project to support the Cedar Valley Food Bank by collecting canned goods or monetary donations. This is especially ironic, since many of the students at Expo depend on the Food Bank for food themselves. So, they can really use our help with this project. Members are asked to bring canned goods to support the Expo effort. This initiative will run through November 16th.

Guests—Five guests joined us for lunch. Michael Voshell from Jaylin Corporation was Larry Burger's guest. Dave Girsch invited his wife Cathy to join us. Cathy is a Deere retiree. Ivan Miller invited Michael Cook as his guest. Mike is another Deere retiree. Dick King invited Mollie Luze as his guest. Mollie is with the Cedar Valley Arboretum. DeLon Gobeli invited John Wyckoff, president-elect of the Exchange Club's Heartland District. DeLon is currently serving as District President.

Upcoming program—Wanda Martin announced that the One Nation Under God Program is scheduled for November 19th. She is working out all the details, but has Reverend Homer Larson lined up as the speaker. There will be a sign-up sheet again next week.

CVABG—Mollie Luze from the Cedar Valley Arboretum stopped by to recognize the volunteers from the Club that helped with the Fall Festival. The group included Ben Fisher, Beth Oeltjenbruns, Bill Dodd, Bill Swisher, Galen Howsare, Jackie Wagner, Judy Estabrook and Steve Harty.

There is another volunteer function coming up this Saturday, October 24th at the Arboretum. There is an Open House from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. They will be serving a chili lunch, sweet treats and warm drinks.

Sounds like they still have some work to be done in the gardens yet this year that volunteers can participate in too.

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