



Waunakee Rotary Club

June 26, 2008
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The Dean Foundation seeks to promote medical research and health and safety programs that have a positive impact for those in need.

Dan Muxfeld told the Waunakee Rotary Club about the foundation and its objectives at the June 19 meeting.

Affiliated with Dean Health System, the foundation was established over 20 years ago to promote research and take over the system's community health and safety programs.

The foundation attempts to meet needs that aren't being met by any other organization.

"We make sure that our mission is unique and specific to something that isn't being done," Muxfeld said.

He said the foundation works with other foundations too, seeking to dovetail, not conflict with their missions.

Muxfeld said the research supported by the foundation gives patients options they wouldn't have otherwise and helps to bring new solutions to the market.

As for the community health and safety initiatives undertaken by the foundation, Muxfeld said the foundation makes good use of community resources and 90 cents of every dollar goes directly to aid program recipients.

An example of a safety initiative is the Child Auto Passenger Safety plan, which is important because auto accidents still are the leading cause of unintended injury or death for children under 14, Muxfeld said.

He said the safety plan is three-pronged. The outreach and education portion seeks to show the dangers of not wearing seatbelts, but the plan also inspects car seats and rents them out.

The Dean Foundation is involved with a number of community health

initiatives, but the Benevolent Specialists Project free clinic is special because it's the only one of its kind in the state, Muxfeld said. The clinic provides specialized or secondary care to low income people. Muxfeld said the clinic serves 1,000 patients a year who are either uninsured or don't qualify for government programs.

The clinic works with other free primary care clinics to ensure people can see a specialist. It really serves as a safety net or alternative for care where none exists, Muxfeld said.

He said the country has excellent health care and doesn't have a health care problem; instead we have a health care access problem. Many different health care organizations and hospitals provide a tremendous amount of charity care, but that's not the ultimate solution, according to Muxfeld.

He hopes to see positive change in his lifetime, but in the meantime he plans to continue to help fill in the system's holes.

Wauktoberfest

Muxfeld also gave a brief presentation on a re-branded fall celebration in Waunakee: Wauktoberfest, which he called "ultimately the ultimate celebration of Waunakee's German-ethnic heritage."

The event will run Oct. 4-5 on the Endres Manufacturing grounds. Featuring polka bands, eating contests and of course, beer, the event hopes to be affordable and have activities for the whole family.

Wauktoberfest's proceeds will go to help not only the Rotary, but also the Lion's Club and the Waunakee Community Foundation.

Other items:

•Connie Blau reminded people that the Senior Citizens Picnic is com-

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Calendar of Events:

- Steak Fry, 6 p.m. cocktails, 7 p.m. dinner, June 24 at Rex's Innkeeper.
- Service Club Olympics, July 21-22
- Waunafest, July 24-27

ing up on July 9 at Centennial Park.

•Jerimiah Gollon also said participants are still needed for the Service Club Olympics.

Guests: Brent Neevel, guest of Roberta Baumann; Joyce Muxfeld, guest of Dan Muxfeld.

Birthdays: None.

Anniversaries: June 27, Kim and Nanette Wilde; June 29, Jim and Joanne Leonard; June 30, Fritz and Sheri Durst
June 30; Gene and Catherine Smith.

Prayers: June 26, Susan Vergeront; July 3, Leonard Allen; July 10, Kim Wilde; July 17, Pat Durden.

Programs: June 26, Kathyrene Auerback, Madison Environmental Group; July 3, Club Assembly.

Greeters: June 26, Jonny Buroker and James Chancellor; July 3, Scott Cochems and John Cullen; July 10, Al Dassow, Lori Derauf.

Make up meetings online

It's easy to make up a meeting on the Internet. The site is www.rotaryclubone.org. Print out the form and give it to Phil Willems, the club secretary.