



**Waunakee
Rotary
Club**
May 6, 2011
Vol. 45 No. 36

If Waunakee Rotarians learned anything new about Todd Schmidt, it was that he possesses a pretty healthy sense of humor.

Todd gave his classification talk at the April 28 Rotary meeting, beginning with quiz on the places he's from and a slide of him measuring his tongue. (It's 4 inches, if you're curious.)

Todd was born in Elkhorn and graduated from Elkhorn High School in 1992. He attended UW-Platteville where he initially studied engineering then changed his major to political science. Todd also holds a master's degree in public administration from the University of Northern Illinois.

He has interned in Platteville, and worked in Janesville and Brown Deer, where he was assistant manager for five years. Todd then was the city manager in Milton, and he shared some interesting history about that city. In particular, it's documented that the Milton House harbored runaway slaves.

Todd also showed slides of family – his wife, Tonya, and two children, Sawyer, 6, and Sydney, 9. All Schmidts were shown donning mustaches (another example of that sense of humor).

All kidding aside, Todd said as Waunakee's new village administrator, he plans to keep listening, learning and building relationships.

Waunakee has developed sound planning, and Todd said during a slow economy, the best thing a community can do is plan. Eventually, when the economy turns around, a community with plans will be ready for new opportunities.

Waunakee has had successful developments, Todd said, and pointed to the industrial park as an example.

"In 15 or so years of activity, the park has come a long with a variety and a mix of businesses," he said.

Current development plans today include the Forward Development Group's proposal for a mix of medical offices, retail and some housing just south of the village at Woodland Drive and Hwy. Q.

Don Tierney has proposed a couple of residential projects south of Waunakee at the former Veridian site and northwest of Waunakee at Kopp and Hellenbrand roads.

Some of Todd's goals are to ensure Waunakee can continue to offer residents a top-notch quality of life and make sure it remains a great place to live with its dynamic library, Village Center, Chamber of Commerce, protective services, schools and football program.

Another goal is to communicate and remain accessible to residents. Todd has a blog, accessible at www.waunablog.blogspot.com, and his goal is to have 200 residents sign up in a year.

He also plans to upgrade the village's website and to lead a bicycle tour through the village to visit the various project areas.

Overall, Todd said the village has a reliable village staff team whose professionalism and expertise make his life easier.

Other news:

•The Russians are here! All Rotarians are invited to a welcome party Saturday evening, April 30. Also, drivers are needed to take the tour van around May 2, 3 and 4.

•Also on Saturday, April 30, from 9 a.m.-noon Rotarians are needed to help spruce up Village Hall during the Rotary at Work Day. There will be cookout afterwards.

•On May 2, Rotarians will put

OFFICERS

BRENT ZIEGLER, PRESIDENT • JOHN CULLEN, PRESIDENT ELECT
PHIL WILLEMS, CLUB SECRETARY
BOB PULVERMACHER, RECORDING SECRETARY • JOY MCMERTY, TREASURER

DIRECTORS

ELLEN SCHAAF • JOHN CULLEN • LINDA OLSON

Calendar of Events:

- April 30 – 9 a.m.-noon, Rotary at Work at Village Hall
- April 30 – Welcome party for Russian delegation
- May 6-8 – District 6250 Conference
- May 13, 8:30-11:30 p.m., Teen Dance for Polio Plus at Village Center

sand down at the Village Park Playground at Division and Main streets.

•John Cullen said about 20 people are expected to help with the "Visioning" meeting at Rex's starting at 5 p.m. May 16.

Guests: Pete Derauf, guest of Lori Derauf; Mike George, guest of Todd Schmidt; David Meicher and Jay Varheyi, guests of Gordy Meicher; Shawn Smith, guest of Connie Blau; Jerry Tierney, guest of Don Tierney.

Birthdays: None.

Anniversaries: May 6, Don and Joanne Tierney; May 6, Roxanne and Kevin Johnson; May 8, Todd and Tonya Schmidt; May 9, Ed and Jan Niebuhr.

Prayers: May 5, Leonard Allen; May 12, Susan Vergeront; May 19, Pat Durden.

Programs: May 5, The Russians are Coming (delegation to lunch with the club); May 12, Club Assembly; May 19, Friendship Force (June Trip to Azerbaijan); May 26, Rob Grede, author of "The Spur and The Sash," real life Civil War drama.