



Waunakee Rotary Club

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The Wisconsin Attorney General's office should refocus on issues of crime and public safety, J.B. Van Hollen says.

The Waunakee resident is running for the Republican nomination to the statewide office, and he spoke at the April 6 meeting of the Waunakee Rotary Club.

Wisconsin faces significant challenges in the realm of crime and public safety: terrorism, child pornography, identity theft, Internet crime, guns and more, J.B. said.

Faced with those problems, J.B. said current Attorney General Peg Lautenschlager abuses the power of the office by filing "nuisance lawsuits" against businesses which have not violated the law. Those lawsuits are claimed at promoting her own political agenda, and they discourage companies from doing business in Wisconsin, he said.

J.B. is originally from Rice Lake and Bayfield. He studied at UW Law School and worked as a public attorney and assistant U.S. attorney before Gov. Tommy Thompson named him to fill a vacancy in the Ashland County district attorney's office, a job to which he was elected on his own.

J.B. left the that job to enter private practice with his wife, Lynn. Then Thompson appointed J.B. to serve as district attorney in Bayfield County, winning a full term on his own there as well.

President Bush selected J.B. to be U.S. attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, which includes 44 counties. J.B. held that job for three years, until he resigned to run for attorney general 14 months ago.

With J.B. as U.S. attorney, that office increased its criminal prosecutions significantly and underspent

its budget. He credits that success with efficient management of the office and its resources.

As U.S. attorney, J.B. made it a point to reach out to local law enforcement officials to see how his office could help them. That has resulted in wide support for his candidacy among sheriffs, district attorneys and legislators, he said.

Rotarian Don Tierney received the Paul Harris Fellow award.

President Greg Garton reviewed Don's many contributions to the community through Rotary projects and other outlets, such as the Token Creek Watershed and the hockey team.

Don and Joann have been married 29 years.

Other items:

- The club voted to name Tom Reis Business Person of the Year. The award will be bestowed at the Community Awards Banquet April 23. The speaker will be Tara Arnold from Channel 27 news.

- Rex Endres reported on the success of the Whitetails Unlimited event.

- Every Rotarian Every Year donations have been coming in.

- The Rotary has donated \$250 to the handbell group.

- Rotary also donated \$250 to the post prom.

- The club has accepted resignations of Jeff Bernstein, Mike Ripp, Kevin Fisher, Kathy Palet and Nancy Wescott.

Guests: Who the heck knows? Sam Ballweg, lots of Tierneys. Anyone else?

Visiting Rotarians: None that I know of.

OFFICERS

GREG GARTON, PRESIDENT • DREW LAWRENCE, PRESIDENT-ELECT
SARAH DEKRAAY, CLUB SECRETARY
BOB PULVERMACHER, RECORDING SECRETARY • JASON BROWN, TREASURER

DIRECTORS

LARRY FELSHEIM • ED NIEBUHR • LORI DERAUF
AL DASSOW • ROBERTA BAUMANN

Calendar of Events:

April 23, Community Awards Banquet

May 19-21, District Celebration

June, golf outing

Sept. 30-Oct. 1, Oktoberfest

Birthdays: None.

Anniversaries: None.

Prayers: April 13, Msgr. Kramer; April 20, Larry Felsheim; April 27, Susan Vergeront.

Programs: April 13, Mark Green, candidate for governor; April 20, International Crane Foundation; April 27, Wisconsin Sports Development Corp, Ron Vincent; May 4, Club Assembly; May 11, International committee; May 18, Collector's Choice, John Kreuger.

Greeters: April 13, Jim Jukes and Kevin Kearney; April 20, David Kennedy and Neil King; April 27, Msgr. Jim Kramer and Dave Kruchten; May 4, Ed Kruchten and Neil Kruschek.

Living on Earth is expensive, but it does include a free trip around the sun every year.

How long a minute is depends on what side of the bathroom door you're on.

Birthdays are good for you; the more you have, the longer you live.

Happiness comes through doors you didn't even know you left open.