



THE SPOKES SPEAK - GEARED TO SERVICE

Rotary Club of the North Fork Valley

POB 1543, Paonia, CO 81428

WEB SITES: www.rotary.org www.rotary5470.org www.paoniarotary.org

Meeting Thursdays at Noon in the Paonia Town Hall

District 5470

Club 1180

Vol 55 Issue 2 January 12, 2017

LAST MEETING: January 5, 2016

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Casino night will be January 28, 2017 at Shadescapes in Hotchkiss. It will be a dressy affair. There will be a silent auction. Bring auction items to Jackie Parks.

The club's facebook page is up. Put some posts on it.

Remember to feed the polio jar. Also, pay your dues!

HELP, we need a new pianist!

PROGRAM: Niki Carpenter set the bar high on January 5, when she presented the first program of 2017 to the NFV Rotary Club: 'My Standing Rock Experience.' Niki, a 4-yr Paonia resident, is an EMT and adventurer, who spent 2 weeks last Fall in Standing Rock, ND, standing with and aiding her fellow Americans.

After a grueling 17-hour drive, she and companion, Tofer, arrived at base camp at 5 am, with the rising sun and unrelenting wind, and hooked-up with NFV locals, Steve Morris and JC. There were about 25 NFV residents at the camp, together with other gifts from the NFV, such as lumber, fire wood, food, and solar panels. The primary camp - Camp of the 7 Sacred Fires - began organically last April with approximately 80 Native Americans, and has grown to 10,000. There were 5-6 thousand supporters during Niki's time there.

The primitive accommodations - porta-johns, tents, teepees, carports, and elemental kitchens - weren't always sufficient, but amazing nonetheless. People contributed by constructing camp supports and shelters, providing propane needs, cooking, attending fires, chopping wood, milling about, or handling crisis management situations. Managing the sanitary needs of the camp became increasingly difficult as the number of people grew and colder weather descended.

Niki worked as an EMT under the supervision of a nurse. Their medic tent was well-stocked with medicine, supplies and nirvine tea, which met a variety of needs from infections, diabetes, burn wounds, respiratory ailments, and coughs to hypothermia. Nirvine tea is an herbal tea most often used to relax the nervous system and to provide relief from anxiety and stress.

The impacted area is near the confluence of the Cannonball and Missouri Rivers, and 1/4 mile north of the Oceti Reservation. Hunting and fishing rights will be compromised if the pipeline is allowed to cross the Rivers, not to mention the 17 million people who are served downstream by the Missouri River. Existing treaties, which are being disregarded, further complicate matters.

Surprises: The 1/4 mile long Flag Road displaying flags from supportive indigenous communities as far away as New Zealand; the Welcome Center; and ceremonial morning rituals and evening

story-telling that deepened Niki's insight into Native American culture. Observing the Voice splinter as the size of the camps grew. Lack of leadership being both positive and negative. Incessant noise from helicopters and planes flying overhead, with photos and videos being taken of the camps.

Niki was most impressed with the non-violent nature of the camps, and the Native American's prayer of hope that hearts will soften. She was most distressed by our Federal government which continues to strip Native American communities of basic human rights.

Currently: the Army Corps of Engineers, at President Obama's request, is investigating a viable rerouting alternative and requiring an EIS. [Many thanks to Kathy Thompson for note taking in my absence. -ED]

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL: January is vocational service month. **CLASSIFICATION:** What first brought you to Rotary? In all likelihood, someone identified you as a prospective Rotarian because you are a respected member of your business or professional field - in Rotary parlance, your "classification". Each Rotary club's membership represents a cross-section of its community's business and professional population, which encourages diversity in experiences and perspectives. Classification and vocational service go hand in hand. Just as Rotarians represent their vocations in Rotary, so do they represent Rotary in their vocations.

INTEGRITY AND ETHICS: Promoting integrity through ethical behavior is an essential part of what it means to be a Rotarian. Two standards developed by Rotarians - The Four-Way Test and the Rotary Code of Conduct - provide a road map for ethical behavior in the workplace and other areas of life.

The Four-Way Test: The Four-Way Test was conceived in 1932 by businessman Herbert J. Taylor, a member of the Rotary Club of Chicago, who served as Rotary International president in 1954-55. Having taken on the task of saving a company from bankruptcy, Taylor developed the test as an ethical guide to follow in all business matters. The company's survival was credited to this simple philosophy. Adopted by Rotary International in 1934, the Four-Way Test remains an essential standard against which Rotarians measure ethical behavior. It has been translated into dozens of languages and promoted by Rotarians worldwide. [Our Four-Way Test banner hangs in the front of the room at every meeting. - ED]

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

January 12: Mayor Charles Stewart, State of the Town of Paonia

January 19: Dave Knutson, Grand Mesa Nordic Council

January 26: Chris Lazo, the Audubon Society Christmas bird count

