

# ROTARY CLUB OF THE NORTH FORK VALLEY

Volume 53

Issue 9

September 25, 2014

WEB SITES: [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

[www.rotary5470.org](http://www.rotary5470.org)

[www.paoniarotary.org](http://www.paoniarotary.org)

## LAST MEETING:

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Greg Thompson is organizing a highway cleanup during one of the last 2 weekends in October. Let him know if you prefer Friday or Saturday.

Regarding the "NFL Pick 'em", be sure to check every team match up. Barb won the last week's pool and donated her earnings to the scholarship fund.

Pres. Glenn read a thank you note from DG Clyde Church.

Jacquie Gannon, sponsored by Barb, was inducted into the club. She agreed to support all the aspects of the club. Barb noted that her husband, Dan, was a former member of the club as well as president until he became involved with state level Mason responsibilities.

### PROGRAM:

BRAD HARDING, President, and TISH THIBODO, Executive Director of Delta County Economic Development (DCED) talked about the organizations current agenda. Brad is

a native of Paonia and President of the First Colorado National Bank. Tish is new to her job as of June, but her husband has family roots in the county. The mission of DCED is to improve the county's economy. It is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. It has a budget of just under \$100,000 with approximately equal parts funding from public and private sources. Currently the Town of Paonia is not supporting DCED. The organization finds that collaboration with such entities as Region 10, government agencies, and businesses is essential to its success. It currently has 5 projects it is pursuing: Broadband (high speed internet); Economic development diversity; Supporting business with grants; Agriculture, emphasizing local food and value added products; and Health care.

Broadband: There will be a meeting in the Paonia Town Hall on 9/26 at 2 PM to discuss how to implement Broadband in the county. The county has a grant to formulate how to bring broadband to our community. Region 10 consultants will attend the meeting to talk about the grant. DMEA is very important to the effort. While the new DMEA ad-

ministrator claims to be supportive, he needs to hear from the community how important Broadband is to them.

Economic Adjustment Assistant Grant: A big grant to Region 10 because of Oxbow mine closure. Will help determine what is feasible for our county and what key actions can be taken to improve county economies.

REDI Grant: Its aim is to add jobs and drive up capital investment.

There will be a soil health conference in January that will help farmers, no matter how big their business.

Rural Health Care: The new hospital administrator, who sits on the DCED Board, was instrumental in making the North Fork Medical Clinic a part of the hospital and thus improving its services. The DCED project is trying to keep locals here or bring them back after medical school. DCED is also looking for ways to pay off student loans.

There are three elements that attract physicians and other professionals to the county: the hospital, schools, and broadband. The first two are strong; its broadband we need. Annette C. stated that broadband service was so essential to all of Delta County that without it the small communities and rural areas would suffer immeasurably.

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Now, your deputy editor has requested

that your editor talk about his very recent 93rd birthday (yet to be) experience!!!!!! WOW.

OK, My daughter and her husband just financed the trip for my whole family+ to the Hawaiian Islands and a cruise ship 7 day sail. (Nelda's mother would have been so proud of her, as her father is!) This was their 6th cruise with the Norwegian Cruise Lines (NCL), so... they are VIP with the crews.

As a result, the ship knew about me. I had a private meeting with the captain on the bridge, and we had a great dinner with the 2nd and 3rd officers, limousine for 3 days, etc. etc...



Now, I am tired, but so thankful. Getting old, I guess.

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cent 93rd birthday (yet to be) experience!!!!!! And, yes, Sarah this was much more luxurious than my Pacific cruise in the 40s.

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