



June 16, 2017 / Volume 26, No.92

The Crier

Rotary International District: 7980
District Governor: Paul Mangels
Club President: Helen Garten

Next Meeting

Next Meeting: June 16, 2017
Place: Westport Inn

Opener: a sub for Matt Mandell

Program: Lisa Wexler - Probate Judge

Greeters: Mathias, Sharlach, D Wong

Guests Last Week:

Anay Simunovic - Student of the Month

Anton Simunovic - Dad of SOM

Carlatta McClaren - Mom of SOM

Kim Hein - Norwalk Housing Authority

Harry Carey - speaker Norwalk Housing Authority

Rose Pierre - Scholarship Student NHA

Joe Watson - prospective member

21ST CENTURY FOUNDATION BOARD

Club Announcements

Needs Board Members Interested? Must be a Club member for at least 3 years.

email: jbcohen27@gmail.com

CHANGEOVER PARTY

Club Announcements

**Thursday June 29, 2017
5:30PM -**

EVAN HARDING POINT - LONGSHORE CLUB PARK

Club Announcements

Joe Watson was proposed, nominated and approved as a Westport Sunrise Rotary club member by the Club Board at the

Board of Directors meeting on June 12, 2017.

He will be inducted on July 7, 2017



Lisa Wexler - Probate Judge will speak at Westport Sunrise Rotary this Friday June 16.

Lisa Wexler is a versatile and talented woman. Lisa was elected Probate Judge of the Westport/Weston district in a special election in 2013. She ran unopposed for a full four-year term, and has the distinction of being the top vote-getter in both of her towns.

Lisa has been a lawyer for over 30 years, having graduated Johns Hopkins University with Honors and the New York University School of Law, where she won

the prestigious American Jurisprudence Award for Excellence in Constitutional Law. She was an associate with Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy and an in house counsel for a company listed on the NY Stock Exchange. When she came to Westport in 1989, Lisa hung out a shingle and concentrated in the areas of real estate, wills, trusts and estates. Active in town, Lisa was elected to the Westport Zoning Board of Appeals and appointed to its Planning and Zoning Commission.

In 2006, Lisa created her own radio show, The Lisa Wexler Show, which quickly gained an audience and moved from Saturday mornings to weekdays daily from 4-6 PM. Lisa won the Gracie Award, the highest honor for women in television and radio, for her interview with Gloria Steinem. She also received the CT Press Club award as the Best Radio Show in CT, and the Best of Gold Coast for 3 consecutive years. In 2011, the show moved to Westchester on WFAS-AM due to the sale of the two local radio stations. Lisa won the Best of Westchester award as well. In the summer of 2015, The Lisa Wexler Show returned to CT, broadcasting on WGCH, the Greenwich station. The slogan for the show is "If You're Thinking About It, Lisa's Talking About It".

In 2013, Lisa created another radio show, called the Acorda Scientific Excellence Award program, which conducts weekly interviews with Westchester and Fairfield County high school kids who are engaged in independent scientific research in STEM areas. The show airs on Saturday mornings on WGCH.

In 2010, Lisa co-wrote a book with her mother, Gloria Kamen and her sister, Jill Zarin, called "Secrets of a Jewish Mother", published by Penguin/Dutton. The award-winning book was later translated into Chinese, Russian and Japanese. During the book tour, Lisa appeared on The Today Show, Morning Show, Fox and Friends, CBS Early Show, Imus, and many others.

Lisa is also a frequent commentator on the news. She appeared on FOXtv in Hartford in a segment entitled "WEXing Poetic" for over a year, and has written op-ed pieces for the Hartford Courant, the Connecticut Post, as well as regular columns for other publications.

Lisa's passion is to speak for those who cannot speak up for themselves. Lisa is on the Advisory Board for Jane Doe No More, a CT non-profit whose mission is to erase the stigma of sexual assault and to educate law enforcement officers on how to treat those victims when they report crimes. She is also on the Board of the Jeffrey Modell Foundation, and actively lobbies for newborn screening for primary immunodeficiency disease to diagnose and cure this otherwise fatal genetic disease. Lisa was instrumental in getting Connecticut to fund this program- at a cost of

only \$4.00 per baby. Lisa is also the co-founder of Women in Power CT, a group that held informational seminars for women looking to change their careers.

Lisa was appointed by the CT Legislature to the newly-formed Juvenile Justice Oversight Commission.

Lisa has been married to Bill Wexler for 33 years and is a resident of Westport, CT. Their son, Jonathan, is the sales director of LifeSci Capital, a biotech investment firm. Their daughter, Joanna, is a graduate of Johns Hopkins and currently enrolled in a Master's Program at NYU Wagner in health care administration. Their beloved dog, Sugar, pretty much accompanies Lisa everywhere.



Rose Pierre - Scholarship winner and Harry Carey - Norwalk Housing Authority spoke to Westport Sunrise Rotary on Friday June 9

One of a Kind

Rose Pierre is a young lady who just received her Masters Degree in Higher Education Administration from New York University. One of many NYU graduates.

What makes her special, Ms. Pierre told Sunrise Rotary last Friday, is that she came to the US with her family when she was 12, soon thereafter moved into a home managed by the Norwalk Housing Authority, and a few years later entered Norwalk Community College - on a scholarship awarded by the Norwalk Housing Foundation.

With that financial support and lots of perseverance she went on to earn her associates degree.

And on. With continuing foundation support and more perseverance, she earned her bachelor's degree at Andrews University in Michigan, in a program that enabled her to study in Israel, Egypt and Turkey.

Her takeaway was a desire to work with college students, "to help them have a better experience," and motivated her to seek a master's degree. She now proudly has it. And like many of her peers, is in the midst of a job search.

To back up a bit, the Norwalk Housing Authority is a public entity that owns and manages 18 properties that are home for over 2,000 families, and it provides rent subsidies to additional low income people and families living in apartments across the city.

For the past 20 years the NHA has operated five learning centers that leverage education to help break the cycle of poverty. All provide remedial assistance for kindergarten to fifth graders, one supports students through high school.



Harry Carey, an AT&T lobbyist and Volunteer Chair of the Foundation, told the group that 20 years ago the authority also began a scholarship program for high school students living in their units, with the idea that public housing is "a launching pad, not a landing pad."

They began with a \$5,000 donation, but could not find enough students to give out all the money. It didn't take long for young residents to catch on, so the authority organized the Norwalk Housing Foundation as a nonprofit entity, and began in earnest to help their young residents build better lives.

With contributions from area businesses, foundations and individuals they now have more than \$1 million, and will make awards to 50 students this year. Because they have no overhead they give away 100 percent of what they raise.

The foundation tiers awards according to cost of the institution - from small grants for NCC to \$7,000 to \$10,000 per year for private colleges. Students know they must perform to keep their scholarships, and they must reapply every year.

Recipients attend a range of colleges, from NCC and Southern State to Syracuse and Rochester Institute of Technology. One student will graduate from UConn's Medical School next June.

And they succeed. Low income students are "not meant to graduate from college, especially at the (75 percent) rate Foundation supported students do."

Despite its success the Norwalk Housing Authority is the only such agency sponsoring a scholarship foundation in Connecticut, and one of a very few in the nation.

Its impact, Ms. Pierre noted, is that "Your past is not your present, and certainly not your future."

(Roy Fuchs)

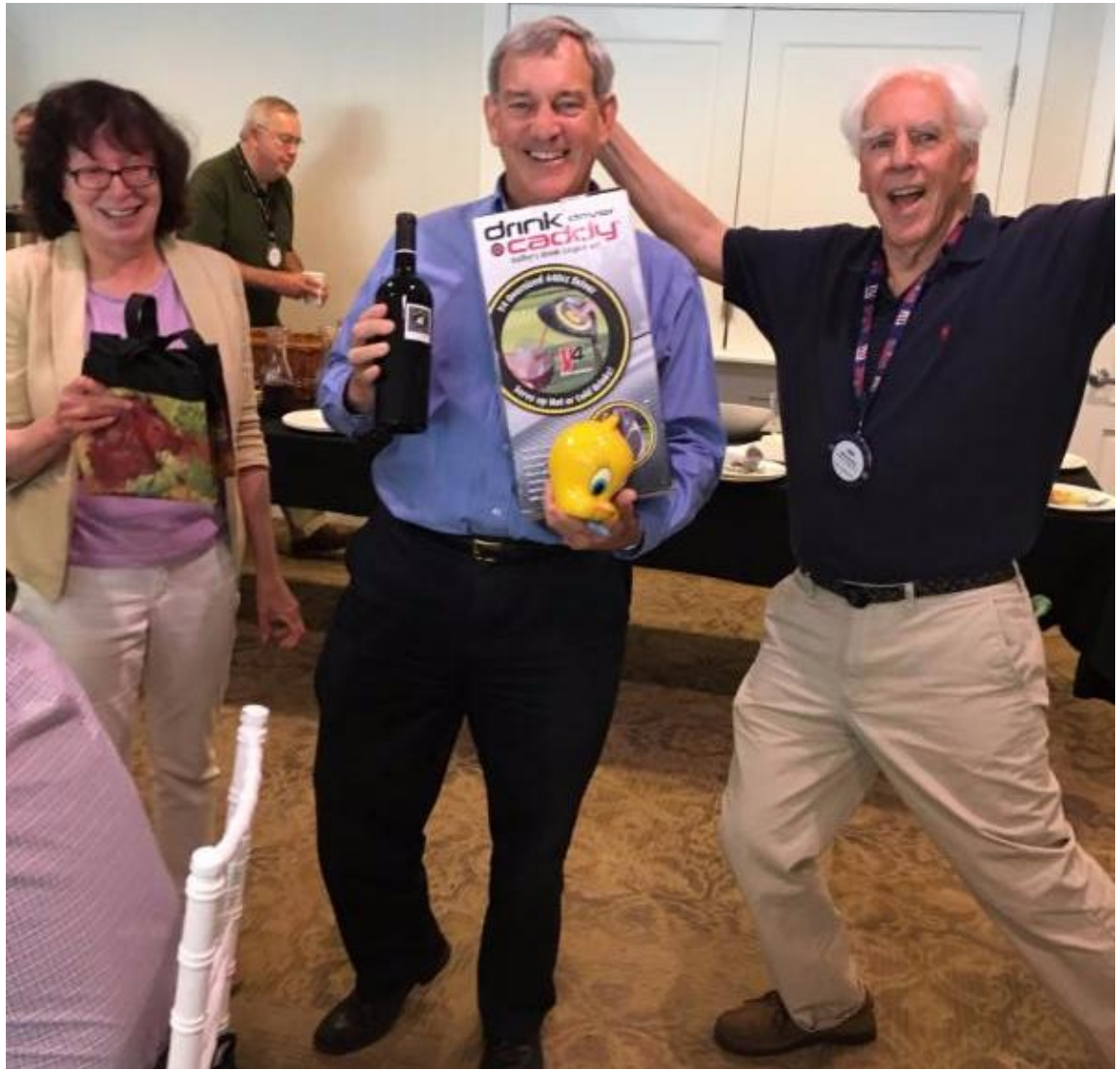
PHOTOS



Cheryl Eldh Opens



Steve, for all you do, this Duck Plate's for you



Joe is really happy he won the raffle; Roy is even happier.



Dad and Mom and Anay (Student of the Month) Simunovic and Helen and Joe

**Westport Sunrise Rotary - Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
May 1, 2017
Vestry Room, Christ & Holy Trinity**

Present: Helen Garten, Mario SaCouto, Ron Holtz, Karen Kleine, June Getraer, Yvonne Senturia, Ed Horne, Jeff Cohen, Liz Wong and Phil Sharlach.

Guests: Ralph Krueger, Steve Violette and Gene Cederbaum.

President's Comments/Updates

Westport Farmers Market (Staples Culinary/Gillespie): Request for \$2500 from FCCF Youth Services Account for May 2017 - May 2018. History: board gave \$2000 in April 2014, December 2014 and \$2500 in January 2016. Staples Culinary buys food at WFM and cooks for the Gillespie Center once a month. Karen and June asked whether Gillespie Center or Culinary Club knows we are buying the food. Ed: not giving money for recognition, but if we think is a good cause. Liz: who cooks in the summer months - the teacher sometimes with some students. Vote: Jeff opposed, rest in favor.

Charitable giving committee recommendations presented by Gene:

\$44,150 available from 2015-2016 fundraising, and told board would consider support for additional \$6000 with justification. List of applicants with 2017 recommendations from the committee. Committee criteria on first page of grant application, seen by all applicants and used by committee when reviewing grants. Provision of direct services in Fairfield County ideal; Preference given to applicants where a WSR member is actively involved. Complete list of criteria not on hand at board meeting. Jeff: if the committee thinks these are good guidelines, then I am happy with it.

Motion to transfer \$5,000 additional from club funds to the 21st Century Foundation Charitable Giving Account (Helen proposed/Ed seconded) passed 8:1.

Motion to recommend the list from the Charitable Giving Committee to the 21st Century Foundation board (Helen proposed/ Phil seconded) failed 4:5 with one abstention.

Gene asked to return to June board meeting with additional information requested by the board, after meeting with Charitable Giving Committee.

Rotary policies and procedures presented by Yvonne:

In response to questions and concerns from members, circulated reiteration of guidelines of WSR and RI following the Rotary principles of "Service above Self" regarding Announcements, Happy dollars and Circularization of members. After discussion and edits, with unanimous approval of the board, the resulting document will be presented to the membership at Club Assembly.

Youth Service Committee - Helen for Justin

Request for \$250 per student for four students to attend RYLA on Mother's Day. Questions about lack of notice regarding the request. Unanimous approval (Helen proposed; Karen seconded)

Meeting adjourned at 7:07pm.



Nick's Notes:

STAY TUNED NEXT WEEK

**JOIN ROTARY AND CHANGE THE WORLD
(VIDEO)**



(sourced by Dennis Wong)

IDENTIFYING PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS FOR OUR CLUB

Think of your contacts, acquaintances, friends and family members who might qualify for membership in the Club. It's not necessary to know whether they are ready to join Rotary.

Professional Contacts:

Consider your supervisor, current and former colleagues, acquaintances from professional associations and people you have done business with recently.

Service Contacts:

Consider neighbors, community leaders and acquaintances who have volunteered with you on Rotary or non-Rotary events or service projects.

Community Contacts:

For example:

Medical Professionals, Real Estate Agents, Financial Managers/Planners, Religious Leaders, Lawyers, Business Consultants, Accountants, Veterinarians, Non-Profit Professionals, School Administrators, Social Workers

Have a name?

Send it in with some contact info.

jbcohen27@gmail.com



June Birthdays

June Getraer - June 5
Eileen Flug - June 7
Justin Phillips - June 10
Rick Jaffe - June 11
Ken Bernhard - June 14
Dennis Wong - June 19
Diane Cady - June 20
Ron Holtz - June 23
Vik Muktavaram - June 30

Club Announcements

**PICTURES: TAKE / TOOK A
ROTARY ORIENTED PICTURE??**

SEND IT IN AND WE'LL PUT IT IN

THE CRIER

Submit to:

jbcohen27@gmail.com

Gillespie Center Schedule

On the *first Saturday* of each month, two Rotarian's are assigned to deliver and serve meals to the homeless at the Gillespie Center. Please contact

Bruce Paul
bruce.a.paul@gmail.com

Apr 1, 2017: Vik Muktavaram, Fiona Hodgson

May 6, 2017: Ann Lloyd, Avi Kaner

June 3, 2017: Jack Mullen, John Krubski

July 1, 2017: Mark Mathias, Bill Harris

August 5, 2017: Bill Harmer, TBD

September 2, 2017: Leigh Overland, TBD

October 7, 2017: Tom Lowrie, Anil Nair

November 4, 2017: Rick Jaffe, Nora Jinishian

December 2, 2017: Kate Kirby, Karen Kleine

Club Announcements

The Crier includes the "*Club Calendar*", where the upcoming Club events are listed. Please submit

event information to: jbcohen27@gmail.com

Club Meeting Schedule

Sunrise Rotary Club members serve as greeters and deliver the openers at the Club meetings on a rotating basis. If a member is unavailable on the assigned date, it is essential that he or she find a replacement

and submit the name to:
jbcohen27@gmail.com

Greeters

April	Krubski; Bloom; Hodgson
May	Clarke, Press, Tooker
June	Mathias, Sharlach, D.Wong
July	Violette, Mullen, Bruce
August	Hawley, Haberstroh, Schexnaildi
September	Sa'Couto, Ross, Multavaran

Meeting Openers

April	7	D. Wong
	14	NO MEETING
	21	Senturia
	28	Wolgast
May	5	Schexnaildi
	12	Cady
	19	Galan
	26	Krueger
June	2	Harmer
	9	Eldh
	16	Mandell
	23	Paul
	30	Lavielle
July	7	Bloom
	14	Press
	21	Jaffe
	28	Hill

Programs

June 2: Jennifer Reid - Lyme Connection
 June 9: Harry Carey - Norwalk Housing Authority
 June 16: Lisa Wexler - Probate Judge
 June 23: Richard Frank - Photographer
 June 30: Bill Green - Hinged
 July 7: Rona Wall - EMDR
 July 14: CLUB ASSEMBLY
 July 21: Lou Mall - Human Services Mentorship Program

Avenues of Service

Rotary's commitment to Service Above Self has been channeled through the Avenues of Service, which form the foundation of club activity. Club Service (Fun, Fellowship and Fundraising) Club Service focuses on strengthening fellowship and ensuring the smooth functioning of Rotary clubs.

Vocational Service (Four-WayTest)

Vocational Service involves club members serving others through their professions and aspiring to high ethical standards. Rotarians, as business leaders, share skills and expertise through their vocations, and they inspire others in the process.

Community Service (Charitable Giving and Hands-On) Community Service is the opportunity Rotary clubs have to implement club projects and activities that improve life in the local community.

International Service (International Projects and PolioEradication) International Service encompasses efforts to expand Rotary's humanitarian reach around the world and to promote world understanding and peace. It includes everything from contributing to Polio Plus to helping Rotary Youth Exchange students adjust to their host countries.

New Generations Service (Rising Young Voices)

New Generations Service recognizes the positive change implemented by youth and young adults through leadership development activities such as RYLA Rotaract and Interact club service projects, and creating international understanding with Rotary Youth Exchange.

WSR Board of Directors

President: Helen Garten
President Elect: Ron Holtz
Past President: Jeff Cohen
Secretary: Yvonne Senturia
Treasurer: Elizabeth Wong
Sgt. at Arms: Roy Fuchs P.E.N.:TBA
Member at Large: Ed Horne
Member at Large: Mario SaCouto
Member at Large: Justin Phillips
Member at Large: June Getraer
Member at Large: Phil Sharlach
Member at Large: Karen Kleine

The Crier


Editor/ Photographer **Jeff Cohen**
Reporter/Photographer **Roy Fuchs**
Columnist **Nick Clarke**



The Westport Sunrise Rotary Club meets 7:30 AM every Friday Morning at The Westport Inn 1595 Post Road East. Meetings are open to all Rotarians and their guests.

 [View on Instagram](#)

Stay Connected with us!

 [Like us on Facebook](#)

[Follow us on **twitter**](#)

[Visit Our Website](#)

Place article copy here. Be sure to make the articles short and concise as people tend not to read much more than a couple of paragraphs. Place article copy here.



Westport Sunrise Rotary | P.O. Box 43 | Westport | CT | 06881-0043