



The

Weekly Reporter

Rotary Club of Batesville

Chartered November 17, 2009

Tuesday, Oct 18, 2016

The meeting was convened by President Nikki Hutchinson. All recited the Pledge of Allegiance and Margie Walke gave the invocation.

Club meeting:

- ❖ Critical Issues Forum – excerpts from The Herald Tribune article

Over 60 people gathered for the Critical Issues Community Forum: The Heroin Crisis Sept. 29 at Ivy Tech Community College. The event, which was sponsored by the Batesville Rotary Club, Coalition for a Drug-Free Batesville, Batesville Area Chamber of Commerce, The Herald-Tribune, Margaret Mary Health and Ivy Tech, allowed participants to hear what was going on regarding the heroin issue at the local, state and federal levels.

Mike Kruse, Rotary District 6580 assistant governor, explained how this forum came about: "In October 2015, the Batesville Rotary Club invited state Rep. Cindy Ziemke to talk to our group and community members about what was happening in the Legislature. She also talked about how heroin affected her family ... (and) encouraged us to promote community discussions" concerning this issue.

Batesville Police Chief Stan Holt reported, "About five years ago, we realized we had a problem here in Batesville with heroin. We noticed it in traffic stops, and it surprised us because we never saw that before. In 2011, we were also shocked to see that surveys done in the schools showed that some students were doing heroin. We started pulling together a small group for a (drug-free) coalition.

"You talk about going into a little panic I looked at it as what is law enforcement going to do? One of the first things we did as a police department was we started getting the training on drug enforcement. We already had good partnerships with the Indiana State Police and county sheriff's departments. I took one of my guys and had him work with the state police.

Holt emphasized, "We believe our efforts are paying off We will aggressively continue doing everything we can How can the regular citizen help? If you see something that doesn't look right, report it immediately."

State Sen. Jean Leising reported, "This drug problem has crossed all levels of income We have to realize that we have to work together with law enforcement, prosecutors and state level people

"My interest peaked when I realized Fayette County, Connersville, had a serious, serious problem. Not only did they have a heroin problem, they had a hepatitis C problem, and their jail was overflowing."

She said Senate Enrolled Act 187 requires pharmacies to have a standing order for opioid overdose intervention drugs such as naloxone, commonly known as Narcan, which block the effects of opioids, stopping the overdose. "It gives access to Narcan to any individual."

"The missing component is treatment. What can we do for that person whose life was saved?" SEA 297 requires more regulation for opioid treatment centers to ensure they operate in a

reputable way. Researchers have found that medication like methadone, which is used to reduce withdrawal symptoms of opioid addictions like heroin, can be extremely addictive. By having these treatment centers accept Medicaid and the Healthy Indiana Plan, more oversight on the integrity of their operations can be provided.

House Enrolled Act 1347 "requires Medicaid to assist in mental health and addiction counseling. That is a good direction."

The senator also revealed two acts of legislation that target drug dealers:

- SEA 290 closes a loophole that allowed some drug traffickers to escape drug-dealing charges by being charged with the lesser crime of drug possession. It specifies that if a person possesses a large amount of drugs, he or she can be charged and convicted for drug dealing based solely on the amount of drugs in his or her possession
- HEA 1235 institutes mandatory minimum sentences for the worst meth and heroin dealers.

Melanie Douglas, regional director for U.S. Sen. Joe Donnelly's southeastern Indiana Office, Jeffersonville, reported, "For more than two years, Senator Donnelly has been working to address heroin and opioid use He and Sen. Susan Brooks have held two roundtables on the opioid abuse epidemic. The first was in September 2015 with federal, state and local public health officials, doctors and pharmacists to discuss the role providers play in helping to address the opioid abuse problem. The second was in April 2016 with Indiana University School of Medicine doctors, professors, faculty and medical residents to learn more about IUSM's efforts to educate and train medical students, residents and current physicians on best prescribing practices, pain management, substance abuse and treating addiction.

"In June 2016, he held a roundtable in northwest Indiana focused on drug abuse prevention efforts with federal, state and local officials to discuss federal and local partnerships and programs that are at work."

He also worked on CARA, the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act, which will provide states and local communities with important tools to prevent and treat drug addiction and support individuals in recovery, she said.



- ❖ Critical Issues – Next Step
 - “Herion – Effects on Children”
 - Input from Safe Passage, school system, and child services.
- ❖ Visioning
 - Emailed both leaders of District Visioning. Waiting on reply.
 - Goals are membership and niche in community.
- ❖ Goals
 - Membership
 - Look up contacts for various groups.
 - Goal is to Like our Facebook page and our club Like their Facebook page.
 - Fundraising
 - Batesville Day at the Indianapolis Indians
 - Raffle – need to decide what is being raffled and obtain a license.
 - Need ideas.
 - Programs
 - Nov – Margie is providing speakers.
 - Next meeting - sign up for a month.
- ❖ Dictionary Project
 - Dictionaries are ordered. Waiting for delivery.
- ❖ Rotary Youth Speech Project
 - Club will not participate this year.
- ❖ Food Pantry is requesting specific items be donated. The club will discuss the list at the next meeting to determine if there are any items which the club will donate.

Coming Programs/Events:

Note: If you just can't make it for a whole lunch hour, please try to come for the 2nd half to support our speakers. Thanks.

- Batesville Memorial Public Library **on the first and third Tuesdays @ noon and on the last Tuesday of the month at Lil' Charlies at 6 PM** for a dinner social.

Words to Inspire:

“I am only one; but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something; I will not refuse to do the something I can do.” - Helen Keller.

Other Notes of Interest:

- ❖ Websites: Our club: <http://batesvillerotary.wordpress.com/>
- ❖ District: <http://www.rotary6580.org/>
- ❖ International: <http://www.rotary.org/>
- ❖ KIVA loans: http://www.kiva.org/team/batesville_rotary



1st Is it the Truth?
2nd Is it Fair to all concerned?
3rd Will it build Goodwill and better Friendships?
4th Will it be Beneficial to all concerned?

The Rotary Club of Batesville meets Tuesday at noon, at Batesville Memorial Public Library in Batesville.

Local clubs to make up attendance: Greensburg Monday 12:00 Noon Country Club
Rising Sun Wednesday 12:00 Noon Grand Victoria Casino
Shelbyville Thursday, 6:15 p.m. Fiddlers' Three
