

CLASSIFICATION: Cathy Wyland is Community Education Director for Mahtomedi Schools. Community Ed. in Mahtomedi is funded for the most part by participant fees and serves the community and beyond. Their theme is Link, Learn, Lead and programs include all ages from early childhood to the elderly in Mahtomedi. Cathy mentioned some events that are part of the community: Sunday Farmer’s Market 9am-1pm at Maht. District Ed. Center (DEC), ECFE Vehicle Fair-August 20 6-7:30pm at DEC., Empower Me-Personal safety geared to children and their parents-Tues., Oct. 1 6:30 – 7:30pm at St. Andrews, PUNKINMANIA-Oct.12 from 9am-3PM at DEC, TedX Mahtomedi-Nov.10 from 3-7pm at White Bear Unitarian Univ. Church, Vets Day ceremony at Veteran’s Park on Nov. 11 at 5pm, the 18th Ann. Mahtoreadi on Nov. 25 from 6:30-8:30pm at Chautauqua Theatre, Meet With Santa on Dec. 1 from 11am to 2pm at DEC, and Tree of Light and Remembrance Ceremony, Dec.6 at 6:30pm in Veterans Park.

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THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:
“I must respect the opinions of others even if I disagree with them.”
- Herbert H. Lehman

DID YOU KNOW?

35

White Bear Lake Rotarians were awarded Perfect Attendance pins for 2018-2019?

Happy Birthday to you...
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August 1.....John Jacobson
August 1.....Rich McNamara
August 7.....Scott Mueller
August 8.....Justin Bradshaw
August 12.....Steve LaLiberte
August 17.....Pam Bowers
August 19.....Pam Tschida
August 22.....Wayne Kazmierczak
August 27.....Art Hancock

Program: Jackie Reis presents
Jennifer O’Donoghue, “Education Reform in Mexico”

Jackie introduced her daughter Jennifer who is part of Mexicanos Primeros concentrating on reforming education in Mexico. After college, which included the U of M and Stanford, Jennifer was an English teacher at a refugee camp in Thailand. She has been with Mexicanos Primeros for 10 years. That organization focuses on the right to learn for all Mexican children, holistic and intercultural learning, and Spanish, English, and indigenous language for each child. Mexico is far behind most the Latin American countries in educating students. Only 30% of schools are accessible to disabled students and only 54% of schools have adequate supervision and oversight. Education in rural areas is especially poor. In addition to the focus on students, Jennifer’s organization is trying to give the teaching profession in Mexico a professional trajectory to help make training relevant and provide quality preparation. Very few teachers participate in ongoing professional learning. It has taken much effort to get the government to recognize that progress must be made and, more importantly, measured to improve education. Jennifer and Mexicanos Primeros reps have addressed both chambers of the Mexican government to help them recognize that from the first day of life the state must guarantee that a national strategy for childhood care and learning is in place. The government set large goals based on recommendations from Mexicanos Primeros, language was added to the constitution, but then funding was cut in a major way. Although the process has been frustrating for Jennifer, she realizes that progress has been made through her hard work. She takes pride in her role and the affect Mexicano Primeros has on education in Mexico.

Writer of the week: Darrell Stone

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