



BRANDING IRON

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Today's Program

Armed Forces Day, Gen. Mitchell Johnson, Adjutant General, ND National Guard

This week: Celebrating our Armed Forces

Armed Forces Day is observed on the third Saturday every May, dedicated to paying tribute to men and women currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. Our speaker this week will be Gen. Mitchell Johnson, the new North Dakota Adjutant General appointed in June 2024 by then-Gov. Doug Bergum. He commands nearly 4,100 North Dakota Air and Army National Guard men and women, with approximately 1,100 full-time federal and state employees, and oversees state and national missions. He also serves as Director of the North Dakota Department of Emergency Services, which is comprised of the Division of Homeland Security and the Division of State Radio Communications. He most recently served as commander of the ND Air National Guard. He has served overseas on six deployments and has more than 1,000 combat flight hours.



See photos of our Flower Pot Auction on Page 2!

Preschool reading makes a difference!

Jennifer Braun, Head Start director, told us last week that reading to young children, even infants, can aid in building language, communication, social and literacy skills. Studies show the more words children hear, the stronger their language skills will be once they reach Kindergarten. In March as part of our literacy emphasis, Rotarians read to 200 preschoolers age 3-5 in 14 classrooms at Head Start and the Early Childhood Program.



Community Kindness Impact: After Prom

Rotarian Nastashia Cushman is pictured with Trinity High School After Prom Party representatives, who told us about the impact of our support of the event. Dickinson Rotary collected funds in February for this activity for all Trinity High School juniors and seniors. We supported Dickinson High's party in March.



Today's Meeting:

Greeters: Chris Desilets & Tim Brooke

Next meeting: Josiah Cuellar & Martin Peterson

Community Kindness: Cash donations for Muddy 4 A Cause, directed to Brave the Shave for childhood cancer causes. We collected \$275 last month for the Kids Health & Safety Fair held May 8.

Invocation: We give thanks for all who serve in our military. We ask for their protection, and keep them safe as they remain alert and active against our enemies. Thank you for their courage and wisdom as they serve sacrificially. **AMEN**

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Annual Flower Pot Auction raises funds For childhood cancer causes, club projects

At last week's Annual Flower Pot Auction we raised \$2,250 (less \$700 expenses) for funds for club projects and Muddy 4 A Cause, supporting Brave the Shave for childhood cancer causes. Twenty flowering arrangements, succulents and even two trees were auctioned by the entertaining Tyler Schoch. Thanks to Buck Haas, Brad and Brenda Fong, and Kyle Smith for organizing and selecting quality plants from local greenhouses! We also thank Kyle and Brittney Smith for donating a beautiful selection of trees and plants for the auction, and Joy Schoch for clerking!

