

Trumbull Rotary Friday Morning Meeting August 22, 2008

Announcements:

Trumbull Rotary Friends and Family Picnic BBQ will be held on Sunday, Sept. 7 from 2-6 p.m. at the Trumbull Rotary Pavilion at the YMCA. Please bring a dessert to share, \$5 per person.

No meeting next Friday, August 29 due to Labor Day Holiday.

The Board meeting on Sept. 3 will be at the YMCA at 7 p.m.

Career Day at Trumbull HS will be this October. Please sign up to speak about your career. Rotary organizes this event every year and looks for 30-35 presenters. If you are connected with other individuals and organizations in the community, please spread the word!

Happy Birthday Steve J.!

Happy 26th Anniversary Jim M.!

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Dawn D.: Thank you to Frank M. for filling in for the president at the new teachers luncheon at Tashua Knolls today.

Dale S.: For winning last week's raffle and drawing the queen of hearts!

Steve J.: Happy Birthday to his son, 10 years old on 8/24. And for the Mets, being in first!

Frank M.: Congrats to Allison Logey for her tremendous golf performance. She won the ladies club for the 13th year in a row at Mill Rover. She's been placing at the state level as well.

Jim M.: God bless my wife for 26 years.

Phil L.: Thank you to Tom G. for making it possible for me to have my photo taken with 2 world series trophies (Boston).

Ian M.: Acquired 2 rolls of tickets for Rotary.

Tom G.: Son Alex returns to college for his junior year tomorrow.

Bill Z.: Dropped his son off at school a few weeks ago. He and his wife were able to watch the white coat ceremony via web stream. He and his wife will be getting away to the “Castle on the Hudson” in Westchester .

Duane: Thinks Mike Rappa sounds like John McCain. Also, wanted to remind Rotarian’s that when buying big ticket items, bigger isn’t always better. He visited the Candeleró’s appliance store after bad luck at Best Buy, Bernies, etc. (he was shopping for a fridge for his mother). He was treated with wonderful hospitality, as “Woody” went above and beyond.



Rotary Welcomed Jim Himes, Democrat for Congress

Jim began by thanking Rotary. His sister received a scholarship from Rotary during her senior year of HS that enabled her to live and study abroad in Mexico for a year following HS.

Jim is running for congress against Chris Shays for the following reasons:

He has a deep love for the country. He recognized it was an easy statement to make, but it’s very personal for him. He was born and raised in Lima, Peru until he was 10 years old. Peru certainly did not offer the kinds of rights and liberties the U.S. offered. In Peru, he recalled a militart coup, and remembers soldiers with automatic weapons standing on street corners, not to protect the people, but to protect the government from the people.

At the age of ten, his mother moved him and his sisters to a small town in New Jersey. Although he was raised in a single parent home, he was able to go to school, get a four-year degree and even attend grad school on a scholarship.

Over time, he feels the country has moved away from health debate between parties. People have drifted away from the fundamental principals of what it means to be American, to stand up for the constitution, the Bill of Rights, act with competence that makes us proud to be americans. It’s our duty to use our military responsiblt respond to crisis effectively, and make the country a place where our children will be more prosperous than we are.

He disagrees with Shays on the war. Himes supports a timetabled withdrawl.

Perhaps one of the biggest flaws of our contry at this time is that Congress gave up its constitutional right to provide oversight to the government.

3 issues Himes will focus on:

1. Energy. There's a lack of leadership. We've known for years there's an energy crisis. Scientists make it very clear. We're poisoning our air and relying too heavily on oil and coal. He will fight for an energy policy.

2. Healthcare. We can do better. Himes will push for universal healthcare. It will help the country cut costs and reform a broken system.

3. Education. Education is our national security. We need to encourage our citizens to thrive, to be innovative, create new business, new technologies, etc. He will fight for a real focus on education to keep us leading the way.

In closing... "We've been told things are simple. But they aren't. They are hard. They are not black and white. The issues we have as a country are hard. But what's great about us is we do hard things. We do great, improbable things. We make sacrifices."

