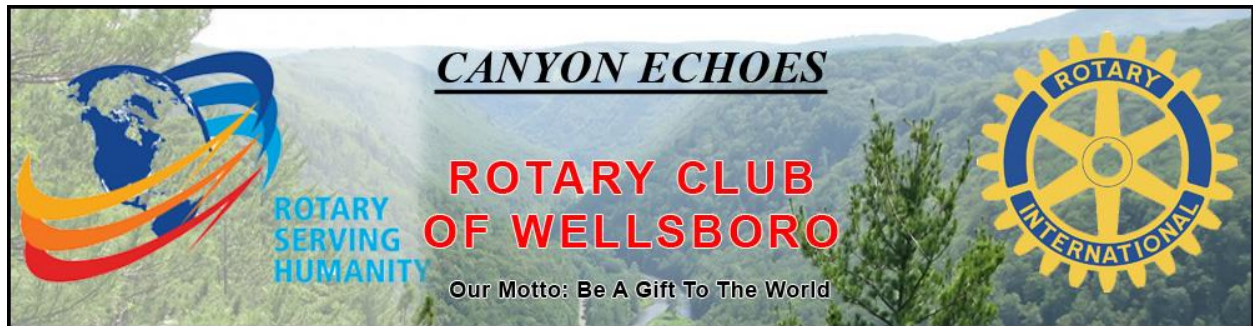


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Matt Baker stepped up at the last minute on the evening before the meeting to volunteer to take the program today. He spoke on how legislation at the state level gets made.

Matt began with the context that there are 2-3 thousand bills introduced in any given year. Only about 10% get enacted into law. The process is very complicated because of the check and Balances built into the system. Plus, amendments are always being added. Matt has had over 30 bills passed into law, plus he was influential in getting a multi-million dollar grant for Wellsboro's Soldiers + Sailors Hospital Emergency Department expansion.

As chairman of the health Committee, Matt oversees legislation that has to do with health insurance and the well-being of the citizens, as well as \$30 Billion in state health expenditures.. Last year, there was a big fight over making Oral Chemo Medication have parity with intravenous medicine for insurance reimbursement. Many times, the drugs are more expensive, because these oral medications can attack the cancer better. With over 80,000 people in Pennsylvania diagnosed with cancer every year, having effective drugs that are covered under insurance plans is very important.

Illegal drugs have been a growing concern over the last decade. The increase of “designer drugs,” where maybe one or two ingredients is changes to side-step the rules and illegality, has been a major factor. 10 people die every day in Pennsylvania from drug overdoses, and this is the worst public health crisis in recent history.

Matt has 65,000 constituents in a land area that is larger than the 62 most populated districts in the state. He has been ranked #1 in the state for constituent services for the last 24 years. His 3 local offices process over 1,000 PennDot services a month. Matt handed out several brochure explaining the complicated legislative process.



CLUB NEWS OCTOBER 20TH, 2016

Secretary **Jim Tutak** chaired today's meeting.

Jim Paxson offered the invocation
We sang “God Bless America” with Pat’s accompaniment.

Guests:

No guests today.



FE Student Report

Yvesan Yu told us that he had been chosen as a “prince” in the Homecoming Court, and that he had a good time. There was a dance on Saturday night, and he teaches a hip-hop class at the local dance academy. He is looking forward to a trip on December 17th.

Club Announcements

Teri Carson reported that the road clean-up on Thursday October 6th was successful and only took an hour and ten minutes to complete.

50/50 this month benefits the Animal Sanctuary. The 50/50 winner today was **Dick Ford**, who contributed his winnings back to the Club.

Membership Committee would meet at Timeless Destination at 5:30 on October 20th.

Secretary’s Report:

Jim Tutak read a resolution to honor his old Rotary Club, Jersey City, which is celebrating its 100 anniversary. The resolution was quite humorous, in that it offers absolution to the Jersey City Club for sending us Jim Tutak!

