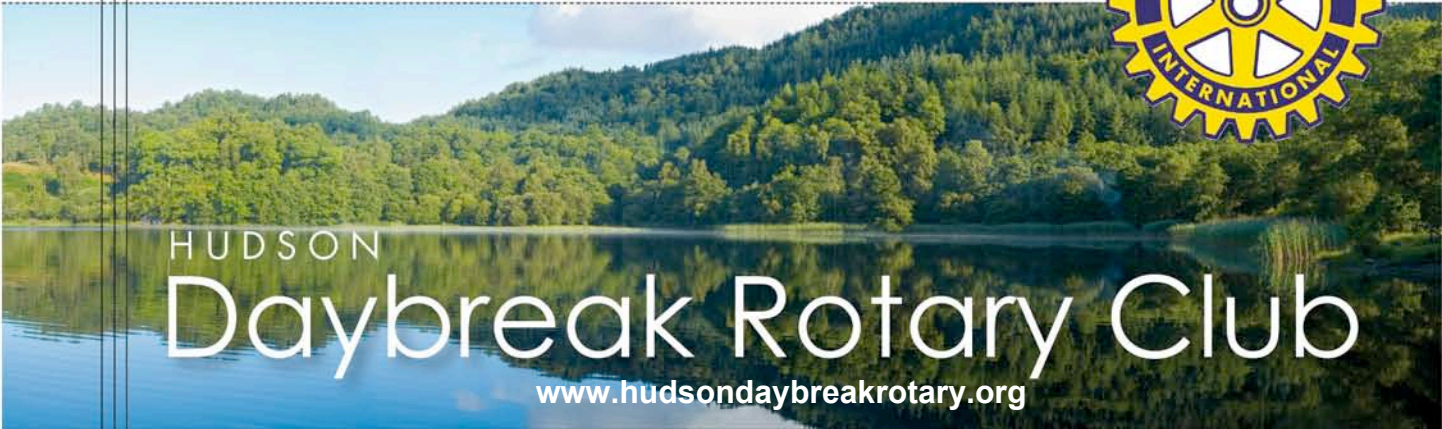


*"Enhancing Opportunities for Youth, Creating a Better Community for all"*



**Rotary speaker for July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010: Linda Ewing**

Our speaker was Linda Ewing from the Special Children's Center. Linda Ewing is the non-profit center's Executive director. The center, operating out of Hudson, is nationally recognized for its expertise in providing therapy services to children. Special Children's Center is undergoing some significant changes including an expansion of services, programs, and moving to a new facility. Historically, Special Children's Center has been supported financially by Daybreak Rotary.

Linda is a former Rotary member of Club 9 in Minneapolis and expressed her gratitude for Daybreak Rotary's support in the past and hopefully in the future. The Special Children's Center started in 1987 in partnership with Camp Avanti. It had a pediatric therapy focus on children ranging from OT-PT-and ST with mild developmental issues to children with severe and profound disabilities. Also, SCC has always treated adults. In the beginning, SCC was a for-profit organization, but transitioned to a non-profit in 2006. Currently SCC employs 27 people and has a board of directors.

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**ANDREW TERWILLIGERS  
GREETERS**

JULY 7  
Herb Till & Len Johnson

JULY 14  
Ed Lucas & Joe Kroll

JULY 21  
Yvonne Larsen & Todd Gillingham

JULY 28  
Chuck Roberts

AUGUST 4  
John Marnell & Dean Knudson

**INVOCATIONS**

JULY 7 – Rich Richardson

JULY 14 – Chuck Roberts

JULY 28 – Mark Gherty

**THE FOUR-WAY TEST**

- Is it the truth?
- Is it fair?
- Will it build goodwill and better friendship?
- Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

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2009 was a year of extraordinary change. The SCC went through lease issues and legal battles. In the end they needed to search for a new home. Now in 2010, they are in the midst of building a new facility off exit 4 at 742 Sterbenz Drive. It will be a 13,400 square foot facility offering a 40 by 25 therapy pool and updated technology capabilities.

The future holds many exciting changes.

Special Children's Center is looking forward to moving into their new facility mid September. They are growing and adding OTs, PTs and STs to their staff. They are known as one of the best educational centers in the area. Their staff of therapists is highly educated and the center works with 12 doctors in the area on patient referrals. Results of 71 client interviews showed that SCC is meeting or exceeding all of the patient's expectations.

SCC has expanded their business model to become Medicare Certified. They are also expanding relationships with surrounding school districts, including Hudson and Ellsworth. The four main counties they serve include St. Croix, Pierce, Barron and Polk. SCC is currently serving about 356 clients with an annual budget of two million dollars.

One finally change will be their name. Because they serve adults as well as children, look for the new name Avanti Center to be displayed at their new location.



Linda Ewing of the Special Children's Center speaks to the Hudson Daybreak Rotary.