

“Unite for Good”

Vol. 73 No. 22 CLUB 1085 The Rotary Club of Sugar House The Sweetest Club in Rotary District 5420 March 26, 2026

<http://www.sugarhouserotary.com>

PO Box 526102, SLC, UT 84152 Thursday 12:15 pm, Program 12:30 pm,

In Person meeting. Columbus Adult Education Center, 1860 South 300 East, SLC. Enter West Door

OPENING – 12:30 PM

Conducting Hal Weight
 Pledge and 4way TBA
 Thought TBA
 Music Merrill Smith

Robert Kirby

Editor’s Note: Since I personally have lmao too many times to count, I have included his final column as his Tribune epithet. Enjoy his writing below:

human irony. Humans are the only animal that can actually reason itself stupider.

In my early law enforcement days, I pulled over a car for clipping through a school zone. The driver was polite and respectful when I asked for his license and registration. Then he handed me his Latter-day Saint [temple recommend](#).

Since it was the first time this had ever happened, I was confused. After a few minutes, I decided that, as a police officer and a Mormon, I had a job to do. So I

SMILE, SING A SONG

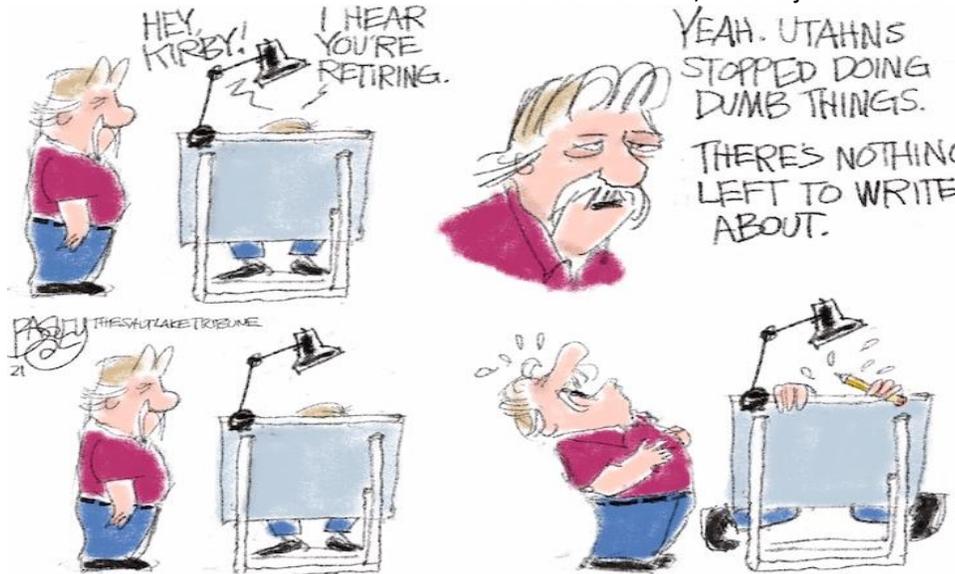
Smile and the world smiles with you,
 Sing a song.
 Don’t be weary,
 Just be cheery all day long.
 Whenever your trials,
 Your troubles and your care
 Seem to be more
 Than you can really bear,
 Smile and the world smiles with you.
 Sing a song.

I wrote my first newspaper column in 1986. Did it for free. The Springville Herald was a small-town weekly and couldn’t afford to pay me. That was OK because I was in it entirely for the fun.

YEAH. UTAHNS STOPPED DOING DUMB THINGS. THERES NOTHING LEFT TO WRITE ABOUT.

WELCOME SONG

Welcome to Sugar House Rotary,
 We’re mighty glad you are here
 We’d like to sing you a long song
 But a wrong song might appear
 So sit you down and make some
 Friends today . . . RIGHT HERE



Given that I was still a cop at the time, I wrote under a pseudonym. The idea was to keep the two sides of my brain separate. Didn’t work.

wrote him a ticket and then wrote “void” on his recommend.

I soon learned that what kept me sane as a cop worked in writing newspaper columns — namely, an appreciation for

The driver understandably lost his mind when I gave that back to him. It was probably the first time that had ever happened to him as well. He complained to my chief, and it cost me a day off.



It's probably no surprise that I've been [suspended](#) a lot during my life. While I took my lumps, the laughs ultimately were worth it.

In 1989, I left law enforcement and took up writing full time. I knocked out columns on various subjects, all with the intention of highlighting our collective sense of cluelessness as humorously as possible. It worked. Mostly.

One of my favorite responses came from a third grade girl who wrote to tell me how much I made her mother laugh.

"And than [sic] she peed her pants. It was halarrious [sic]."

Five years after leaving police work, I was freelancing when [Jay Shelledy](#), then the editor of The Salt Lake Tribune and himself a former cop, tracked me down and basically told me I was now working for him.

When I began writing for The Trib, I wrote mainly about Mormons and Utah culture. It was a target-rich environment. Mostly because, as [Walter Lippmann](#) once said, "Where all think alike, no one thinks very much."

While most people appreciated the humor, I did receive angry feedback from fellow Mormons accusing me of light-mindedness, heresy, and being in desperate need of excommunication or blood atonement.

Such intolerance wasn't the case only for Mormons. It was just as true for those who took themselves and their cause so seriously that they actually attempted to change my mind through insult.

You've given me a lot of laughs over the past 26 years, as well as support when I wrote about my [wife's cancer](#), my [dad's death](#), my [brother's suicide](#) and the [death of a friend](#). I can't thank you enough.

But it's time for me to go. I'm retiring. I have far more time behind me than I do ahead, and there are other projects I want to pursue.

So, this will be the last newspaper column I write. Please [continue to support The Salt Lake Tribune](#). Being informed is important, even if it means that you don't always like what you read.

All my best,

Kirby

Upcoming Meetings

4th Thursday, March 26; Lunch: Robert Kirby.

1st Thursday, April 2: Lunch; Business meeting and birthday celebration. Service project: Pantry Drive for Highland High School Family Student & Family Support. We will meet at the Columbus Adult Education Center and consolidate

donated items and take them to Highland High.

2nd WEDNESDAY, April 8: Lunch; New place, different day. Pat's Barbecue, 155 West Commonwealth Ave, SLC. First street south of 2100 South coming from West Temple. Also it is around the back side of Jim Beck's son's restaurant Egg Break, which if you get lost, you can turn in their parking lot and make a continuous counterclockwise drive through the parking lot in the rear. Speakers will be Kristi Guest and Lynda Brown.

3rd Thursday, April 16: No Meeting.

4th Thursday, April 23; 6:00 pm 90th Club Anniversary Dinner and Program. Westminster University, Adamson Alumni House. A BIG EVENT. A BIG DEAL.

Definite: 5th Thursday, April 30; Lunch: Teacher Appreciation Awards. South Salt Lake Community Center, 2531 South 400 East

[Sugar House Rotary Club Leadership Team](#) 2025-2026

President	Harold (Hal) Weight
VP/President Elect	Jeff Driggs
Dir. International	Gene Davis
Dir. Membership	Tom King
Dir. Public Image	Darrel Thompson
Dir. Communications	Dale Lambert
Dir. Community Events	James Beck
Dir. Foundation	Errol EerNisse
Sgt. At Arms	Stacey Bank
Secretary/Treasurer	David Baranowski

Highland High Student and Family Support is very grateful for our annual drive. At this time there is a high need for the following items: Editor's note: Winco is a great place to buy many of these items at very affordable prices.

Flour
Sugar
Spaghetti Noodles/Spaghetti Sauce
Cup of Noodles (chicken and beef) Steve Knudson is single handedly coving this one.
Cup of Fruit
Spaghetti O's and Meatballs
Ravioli
Cereal (no chex)
Costco Granola Bars
Body Wash
Shampoo/Conditioner
Deodorant