



**ROCK COUNTY HALL OF HONOR COMMITTEE**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2014 - 4:00 P.M.**

**CONFERENCE ROOM N-1 – FIFTH FLOOR**

**ROCK COUNTY COURTHOUSE-EAST**

**Agenda**

1. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes – May 21, 2013
3. Discussion of Procedure to be Used in Selection of 2014 Hall of Honor Inductee(s)
4. Review Nominations
5. Recommendation of Inductee(s) to 2014 Hall of Honor
6. Adjournment

HOHAG

---

**NOTE:** Please contact Marilyn, Rock County Administrator's Office, at 608/757-5510 and advise if you will/will not be attending this meeting.

**MARILYN BONDEHAGEN - Rock County Hall of Honor Nomination Form**

---

**From:** Online Form Submission <noreply@co.rock.wi.us>  
**To:** <marilyn@co.rock.wi.us>  
**Date:** 4/5/2014 3:24 PM  
**Subject:** Rock County Hall of Honor Nomination Form

---

**Online Hall of Honor Nomination Form**

**Name of Nominee:** Janesville Rock Aqua Jays Water Ski Team  
**Address:** P.O. Box 1046  
**City/State/Zip:** Janesville WI 52545  
**Telephone:** 608-754-5879

**Significant Contributions to Rock County and its People****Volunteer**

Great family entertainment, free waterski show two times a week. Members volunteer their time and knowledge: President of National Show Ski Association, Treasurer of USA Water Ski Association, Treasurer of WI Federation Water Ski Association. Their driver trains and certifies boat drivers through out the US. They host many Learn to Ski Clinic.

**Leadership**

The club provides a positive creative outlet that helps young people build responsibilities, leadership, pride, a sense of accomplishment and winning attitudes

**Entrepreneurial**

Started in the 60's with nothing, now they own their own property, equipment, building, boats, ski and etc. They have come a long ways:

**Other Contributions**

Started the first National Water Ski tournament in 1975, hosted the first World Water Ski Tournament in 2012 and will again in 2014. Took over the 4th of July event when no other club could make it successful. Leading tourist and entertainment attraction in Janesville and surrounding area. Over 100,000 people attend shows and special events bring an economic impact to Rock County of millions of dollars.

**Brief Statement**

This club has performed all over the world and the skiers bring Janesville recognition and leaves a first class impression of our community everywhere they perform.

**Nominator Name:** Linda Wilson  
**Address:** 1305 East Bittersweet Drive  
**City/State/Zip:** Milton WI 53563  
**Telephone / Home:** 608-756-0426  
**Telephone / Work:**  
**Email Address:** lindajohnw@gmail.com

RECEIVED  
APR - 8 2014  
ROCK COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

# ROCK COUNTY HALL OF HONOR NOMINATION FORM

**NOMINATING INFORMATION MUST BE SUBMITTED ON THIS FORM. Failure to complete this form will result in the nomination being returned.**

NAME OF NOMINEE:

Anthony J (Tony) Farrell Sr.

ADDRESS:

2600 Meadowview Dr  
Janesville WI 53546

TELEPHONE:

608-751-2065

-----

**SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO ROCK COUNTY AND ITS PEOPLE:**

**VOLUNTEER:** 1980's Deputy Coroner Rock County Coroner's Office, most recently putting in over 30hrs w/ky. 2004-2010 Commander of the Beloit Police Dept. Reserve Unit approx 25 hrs w/ky (Retired) 47yrs Clinician in Rock City Schools. 1982 started volunteering with Special Touch Ministry, serving the concerns of people with disabilities. Presently serves the Beloit and Janesville City Councils, Janesville School Boards and the Rock County Board of Supervisors, Rotary Botanical Gardens, Janesville Performing Arts Center, Mercy Hospital & Trauma Center Government Relations Council for Forward Janesville.  
See attached list.

**LEADERSHIP:** Director of the Rock County Suicide Prevention Network. Retired Commander of Beloit Police Dept. Reserve Unit, President of the Alumni Association of Blackhawk Technical College. Director of the Survivors of Suicide Rock County. Present Director of Safety & Security for Freedom Fest of Rock City, Director of Safety & Security for New Life Assembly of God Church. Present leader for our Neighborhood Watch. Past Board of Director for Rock City Humane Society. Past Board of Directors of Marketing & Business Advisory Board (30yrs)

**ENTREPRENEURIAL:** At the very young age of 16 Tony started giving drum lessons. The love for music lead him to what would become one of Janesville + Beloit oldest (75yrs) full line music retail stores known as the Bandwagon in 1971 + Voigt Music 1939 to present. Tony worked 49 yrs as an owner with 47 of those being full time. The Business today has been passed on to our son Tony Farrell II. The dream of a young man years ago grew from a 10x10 lesson room to two full line music stores. The vision continues to change + transform to the needs of a new generation

**OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS:** #1. Given free of charge over 300K music folders to public + private schools in Rock Cty to extend the life of music for 47 yrs practice continues to today. #2. Director of Rock Cty Suicide network. #3. Sponsors student music trips, clinics, concerts, special music events, seminars + scholarships a practice that continues to this day. #4. Gives free percussion lessons + clinics #5. Speaks on Suicide prevention, safe driving re: seatbelts, texting/cell phone, alcohol + all drug abuse, bicycle safety - wearing helmets. Repercussions of not following the law + rules of Safety in Rock Cty #6 - Gives free Defense classes #7 Free lesson in Martial Arts to underprivileged kids.

**BRIEF STATEMENT:** Tony never ceases to amaze me. Over our 45 yrs of marriage I have seen the dedication to his community grow. He is truly working to make Rock Cty a better place to live. I am so very proud of him. I can attest to his countless hours making himself available 24/7 not only to his Suicide Prevention Program, but to many other situations. He takes pride in saving lives. He takes calls anytime on his personal cell. The suicide numbers of 2011 were 32. In 2013 they were 17. I attribute the reduction + to his efforts of the network of people helping him. It has been two yrs since the last student suicide.

**NOMINATOR NAME:**

Londa Farrell

**ADDRESS:**

2600 Meadowview Dr  
Janesville WI 53546

**TELEPHONE:**

Home 608-751-2064 Work —

**Deadline: Wednesday, April 30, 2014. Please return the completed form to: County Board Chair, 51 S. Main Street, Janesville, WI 53545.**

Volunteer Duties  
Past & Present

\*American Music Conference  
Beloit Police Reserve Unit  
Beloit City Council  
Blackhawk Technical College  
Clinician for Rock County Schools  
Dean Foundation Research, Madison  
\*Freedom Fest  
Forward Janesville  
Historic Auto Attractions & Museum, Roscoe, IL  
Janesville City Council  
\*Janesville Performing Arts Center  
Janesville School Board  
Medical College of Wisconsin Research, Milwaukee  
Mercy Hospital & Trauma Center  
New Life Assembly of God Church  
\*River Fest  
Rock County Board of Supervisors  
Rock County Coroner's Office  
Rock County Humane Society (past board member)  
Rotary Botanical Gardens  
\*Special Touch Ministry (serving the concerns of people with disabilities)  
State of Wisconsin Governor's Executive residence  
Suicide Prevention & Survivors of Suicide Programs  
United Way of Rock County \*Doc's Who Rock  
University of Wisconsin Medical School Research, Madison  
\*United Arts Alliance Rock County  
\*Wisconsin School Music Association

\* Connected with the Arts

**MARILYN BONDEHAGEN - Rock County Hall of Honor Nomination Form**

---

**From:** Online Form Submission <noreply@co.rock.wi.us>  
**To:** <marilyn@co.rock.wi.us>  
**Date:** 4/9/2014 3:28 PM  
**Subject:** Rock County Hall of Honor Nomination Form

---

**Online Hall of Honor Nomination Form**

**Name of Nominee:** Tony Farrell  
**Address:** 4129 Huntington Ave.  
**City/State/Zip:** Janesville, WI 53546  
**Telephone:** 608-751-2065

**Significant Contributions to Rock County and its People****Volunteer**

If you were to look up the word "volunteer" in the dictionary, you would probably find Tony's picture off to the side. He was the Forward Janesville Volunteer of the Year in 2012. The Janesville Gazette likewise honored Tony in 2012 when he was featured in the newspaper's "People Who Matter" section. He is just an exemplary person; an outstanding citizen. Greg Peck wrote of Tony in an editorial in the Gazette, "He's the consummate cheerleader for our community."

Here are a few of the areas where he serves as a volunteer:

Tony leads a suicide prevention program from the Rock County Coroner's office. He heads the program, funds it, as well as serves as its spokesperson. Since he instituted the effort, the number of suicides in Rock County have decreased dramatically. As a Rock County deputy coroner, Tony speaks on suicide prevention at schools, colleges, churches and even in homes. Due to his efforts, Tony recently received the Superior Citizen Service Award from the coroner's office. Jenifer Keach, the former Rock County Coroner said of Tony, "I couldn't ask for a more dedicated and enthusiastic team member." The man is literally saving lives on a regular bases. How many other people can say that?

Mr. Farrell also collects stuffed animals for the office's Remember Me program, which provides stuffed animals to grieving children and adults. "Tony volunteered to ask his church group for a toy donation drive," Keach said. "I had barely turned around, and Tony told us the church was donating 600 stuffed toys."

Tony is a musician, a promoter of the arts and a volunteer in the arts community. He will be inducted in the Arts Hall of Fame this April. He is an excellent drummer. He volunteers as a percussionist at his home church – New Life Assembly of God.

One of his favorite ventures was playing for the Docs Who Rocks fundraiser gala for the United Way at the Janesville Performing Arts Center.

Security is a big deal with Farrell. He provides security for celebrities who are in the area. He also provides security as a volunteer for the school board, county board of supervisors, as well as city council.

Tony heads the security team at his church. He is also in charge of security for the church's annual patriot rally -- Freedom Fest. In the years that Tony has served as the head of security, the church has never had a serious security issue. He and his team do an excellent job.

Farrell's favorite charity is Special Touch Ministries, which provides services including summer camps for people with disabilities. Tony and his wife Londa volunteer each summer to work security at the camp.

Farrell teaches self-defense classes, largely on a volunteer bases, for women as well as children. He is a martial arts expert.

Tony is a brilliant man. I know few people who are his equal. As such, he served for years as a volunteer research scientist. He majors in neuro-research. Recently, he was hired to work in the field so he is no longer a volunteer in this area.

**Leadership**

Tony is a leader of leaders.

He is the President of the Blackhawk Technical College Alumni Association

He served in the past on the board the Rock County Human Society

The served for years as a sergeant of the Beloit Police Reserves Unit

### **Entrepreneurial**

Farrell spent most of his working years as the owner of Voight Music Centers in Janesville and Beloit. There he donated around 300,000 music folders to band and orchestra departments for school-age students in public and private schools over a span a of 47 years.

He helped start a small business in Waupaca, WI constructing pre-fab homes

### **Other Contributions**

He headed the drug and alcohol counseling ministry at Rock Assembly of God, Janesville.

He is also available to help people, regardless of their social/economic status. He offers free but valuable counsel on such issues as health and fitness, mental health issues, finances and more.

### **Brief Statement**

Tony is an honest man. A caring man. A man of integrity. He truly loves God and he loves people.

I can't think of a more deserving individual for the Rock County Hall of Honor than Tony Farrell.

I am honored to offer this nomination.

**Nominator Name:** Michael Jackson  
**Address:** 2112 N. Wrihr Rd.  
**City/State/Zip:** Janesville, WI 53546  
**Telephone / Home:** 608-756-5820  
**Telephone / Work:** 608-756-4175  
**Email Address:** Jackson1679@gmail.com

**MARILYN BONDEHAGEN - Rock County Hall of Honor Nomination Form**

---

**From:** Online Form Submission <noreply@co.rock.wi.us>  
**To:** <marilyn@co.rock.wi.us>  
**Date:** 4/22/2014 2:26 PM  
**Subject:** Rock County Hall of Honor Nomination Form

---

**Online Hall of Honor Nomination Form**

**Name of Nominee:** Mark D. & John P. Finnegan  
**Address:** 7765 S. Lathers Rd  
**City/State/Zip:** Beloit, WI 53511  
**Telephone:** 362-7792

**Significant Contributions to Rock County and its People****Volunteer**

Lifetime Commitment to area Charities & Schools/ Clinton Baseball, volleyball, Football, /BMHS-Hockey/Rock County Fury Hockey, /Beloit Youth Hockey, /Salvation Army, /Relay For Life/Vets Roll/Shopiere 4th Festivities/Riverfest/and many, many more.

**Leadership**

Founders of Vets Roll, Community Service Support, Clinton Youth Sports, Beloit Youth Hockey & Board of Directors. WI Amateur Hockey (WAHA) Region Director.  
Recognized 2011 as Laurence A. Raymer Headliner, 2012 DAR Award, 2012 Red Cross Heroes Award, 2013 City of Loves Park Young at Heart Patriot Award, 2013 IL State Senate Commendation, 2013 IL State Assembly Hometown Heroes Award, 2013 IL Governors Volunteerism Award,  
2012-2013 Legislative Commendations: States of WI/ILL/MD

**Entrepreneurial**

Family ownership & operation of Finnegan's RV 1777 Gardner St. So. Beloit, ILL 61080 (608)207-8319 (Mark) Family Business started in Beloit, WI in 1969 by Father Cy Finnegan

**Other Contributions**

Support for dozens of other Regional and Local Organizations  
Annual contributor (Corporate Sponsor) of MDA Tub Run

**Brief Statement**

Surprised, Honored and Humbled to even be considered for this recognition.

**Nominator Name:** Phillip Owens

**Address:** 726 Hackett St

**City/State/Zip:** Beloit

**Telephone / Home:** 608-365-1925

**Telephone / Work:** 608-728-0365

**Email Address:** powens@tds.net