

# Rotary Club of Arlington



# Hubcap

The Official Weekly Publication of the Rotary Club of Arlington

April 8, 2021

*In this edition: Hugh Ross, [Zoom meeting link](#), special meetings, and more...*

## *President's Message*

*By Susie Wine McAlister*



**T**HIS WEEK IS A TIME TO MOURN, AND A TIME TO CELEBRATE THE WONDERFUL LIFE OF HUGH ROSS. In February, we celebrated Hugh's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary in our club. He actually served with some of our club's charter members where he was considered a "Junior Rotarian". He was Club President 1967-68 and District Governor 1987-88. Polio Plus was one of Hugh's highest priorities and he was actually on the zoom call when Paul Alexander spoke from his iron lung. At Rotary meetings, Hugh was always there to greet you with a smile or to sing a song for the club. He was a member of the Dallas Rotary Chorus along with seven other members of our club which traveled the globe and had many stories to tell about their travels. He also was a proud Arlington High graduate where he served as Senior Class President and a member of the Arlington High Choraliers. I remember when they performed at our last Christmas Program at the church, Hugh wore his kelly green blazer. He was so excited and proud; he wanted to make sure the high schoolers knew there were several AHS Choralier Alumni in our membership. Hugh Ross had many stories to tell, but was always there to listen; such a wonderful man, and a great Rotarian. Our love and prayers to Kathy and the rest of the family.

I have been contacted by Will Ross, Hugh's son, who has

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## THIS WEEK AT ROTARY

**Dr. Jim Quick & Jeff Whitfield**

**"Rotary Peace Fellowships"**

**COMING SOON**

**April 15**

[Allen Tappe](#)

[Connection in a Disconnected World](#)

## IT HAPPENED LAST THURSDAY

*By Dan Blumberg*

**T**HE APRIL 1, 2021 ZOOM MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF ARLINGTON, Texas began at 12:05 p.m. LeeAnne Chenoweth Lawson led the club in prayer and in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. Past Club President, Past District Governor, Past International President's Assistant and all-around Rotary Royal Don Mebus led the club in the singing of "God Bless America," accompanying himself on guitar.

Club Director-Webb School Joy Bates announced that after a long pause necessitated by the Covid-19 pandemic a "Read With Rotary" event will take place at John Webb Elementary School May 19-20, 2021. Joy is seeking volunteers and a coordinator for the event. Sergeant-at-Arms Steve Brooks announced that from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. on April 6,

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asked that in lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the Rotary Foundation or to any of our own club's projects. Service details will be provided as soon as they are available.

*Susie Wine McAllister*  
**President, 2020-21**



**Hugh and Kathy Ross on their wedding day.**



**Ryan Dodson explained all the exciting developments on Front Street.**

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2021 he will be present at Grounds and Gold Co., a coffee shop at 4130 South Bowen Road in Arlington, to distribute copies of *Three Minutes for a Dog: My Life in an Iron Lung*, a book authored by recent Rotary program presenter Paul R. Alexander. The club will contribute proceeds from the books' sales to the Rotary Foundation.

Past Club President Sal Capuli announced that he is looking for Rotarians willing to lead the club in prayer and in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance for future club meetings. April 19, 22 and 29 are presently open and in need of volunteers. Devesh Agarwal, a member of the Bengaluru Rotary Club, was our only visiting Rotarian. He was accompanied by Hal Thurow. Dave Davis vouched for him as well.

Foundation Chair Sally Hopper announced that three Rotarians celebrated birthdays during the week of March 28-April 3, 2021. They are Bob Matasso (March 28); Tom Long (April 1); and April Pettitt (April 3). Sally also announced that Tom and April have made birthday contributions to the Rotary Foundation. She also announced that four Rotarians celebrated anniversaries of their joining Rotary during the same week. They are James McCroskey (9 years); Joy Bates and Deborah Coppola (five years); and Stu Reichert (4 years).

Kim Crawford introduced our speakers: Ryan Dodson and Alex Bryant, both of Dodson Commercial Real Estate firm. The firm offers both commercial real estate and property management services. Ryan spoke at length regarding their two real estate projects in downtown Arlington, an area they believe offers opportunities for redevelopment. One is Urban Union, a restaurant, office and retail destination at 500 East Division Street which opened in 2017. Urban Union began as Luke Honda, an automobile dealership, which Dodson Commercial has now redeveloped. It is still a collection of metal and cinderblock buildings and is still near railroad tracks. However, Ryan noted

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## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

ARLINGTON CHARITIES

APRIL 23, 8:00 AM TO 11:30 AM

SIGN UP AT [ARLINGTONROTARY.COM](http://ARLINGTONROTARY.COM)

[CALENDAR TAB](#)



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that his organization does not want to rebuild or tear down anything. Rather, the objective is to be creative and to breath new life into the area.

The project includes Legal Draft Beer Co., a brewery. Mr. Luke's former business office now houses Dodson Commercial's real estate office. A former body shop on the property now houses Sugar Bee Sweets; Cartel Taco Bar; Inspirations Catering; Lone Star Axe Throwing; and Camp TUF, a gym. The Topsy Oak occupies another location within the project and has generated among the highest per-square-foot sales tax revenue in the area.

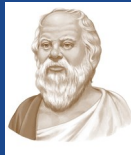
The idea behind the project is to create a unique "only in downtown" destination that is distinguishable from other retail developments. The project's "development themes" include creative/urban design, unique materials, green spaces and patios, density and interest, connectivity, placemaking/public spaces, mixed use, funky and cool and walkable. Metal and cinderblock buildings have been preserved even though some of the materials with which they were constructed no longer comply local building codes. This has required asbestos remediation, brownfield remediation, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality qualification and other, similar tasks. The objective is to preserve the unique aspects of the buildings.

The businesses in the project have survived the Covid-19 pandemic in part because they offer patios for outdoor dining, drinking and other activity. The project seeks a diversity of uses, including office space, restaurants, bars and other things. At present Dodson Commercial is looking for a sushi restaurant, a yoga facility, a hair salon and other businesses that will make the project more cool and funky. New buildings are planned for the project. Ryan hopes to recruit great businesses that do not compete directly with current tenants. The idea is to offer businesses that offer complimentary goods and services to customers and that promote no

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The secret to change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new."



**Socrates**



[Rotary Club of Arlington](#)

## [Social at Urban Alchemy](#)

April 23

5:30 to 7:30

403 East Main Street

[Click Here for more details and to Register](#)

### ZOOM LINK FOR OUR NEXT MEETING

Click This Link to Join Our Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88294278772?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88294278772?pwd=QytrelQ3bitINVFEEd2xKVFlaNiNtQT09)

[pwd=QytrelQ3bitINVFEEd2xKVFlaNiNtQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88294278772?pwd=QytrelQ3bitINVFEEd2xKVFlaNiNtQT09)

Meeting ID: 882 9427 8772

Passcode: 1923

One tap mobile



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## BIRTHDAYS

Bob Cooke Birthday Fund  
April 4 – April 10

**April 4** Mojoy Haddad

**April 9** Gloria Pena

**April 9** Tommy Thompson

**April 10** Hal Thurow

Our club has a tradition of writing birthday checks to the **Rotary Foundation** in the amount of the number years they are celebrating (or rounding it up a little higher if they chose). The gift sent to the **Rotary Foundation** goes into a pool that eventually funds our club grants and also earns you points toward your next Paul Harris pin. Checks can be mailed to Sally Hopper, 3409 Viscount Drive, Arlington, TX 76016. (Please note this is the **Rotary Foundation** not the Arlington Rotary Foundation. Thanks!)

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more than friendly competition. Dodson Commercial also plans a second downtown redevelopment project on East Front Street, also a commercial area near our city's railroad tracks. They hope to open twenty small shop spaces that will house "street businesses" along wide sidewalks with trees, green space, attractive street lights and ample parking. They also hope to build loft apartments on the second floor that recent UTA graduates seeking a funky, urban dwelling might lease. Again, the idea is to make it a cool area and, perhaps, something like the Main Street we lost long ago.

There is also some hope that one of these projects will include a seasonal farmers' market that is open six weeks twice a year. There is also an intention to shut down traffic on Front Street occasionally and to have art festivals there. President Susie thanked Ryan for his presentation and for the gift to Arlington that are these projects. She also announced that to thank Ryan for his presentation and to honor him the club will donate to the Webb library in his name a book on Henry Ford. President-Elect Kurt Bartley announced that Dr. Jim Quick, a member of our club, and former Rotary Peace Fellow Jeff Whitley will present next week's program.

Tom Ware presented The Last Laugh.

President Susie reminded us that the club will have a social on April 23 at Urban Alchemy, another downtown Arlington business from 5:30 to 7:30. Contact Diane Patrick, Director of Fun, to make reservations. A good turn-out is already 🍷

## CONGRATULATIONS!



Rotarians celebrating their club anniversary of "Service Above Self."

**Amanda Sullins**     **3 Years**     **April 5, 2018**

**Kim Crawford**     **21 Years**     **April 6, 2000**

**Andy Nguyen**     **10 Years**     **April 7, 2011**

**Vera McKissic**     **7 Years**     **April 10, 2014**

## Volunteers Needed at Webb for Read with Rotary

May 18 or May 19

Volunteers Hours available in blocks of 1,2 or 3 hrs.

Rotarians can email Joy Bates at [jbates@legacyfinancial.com](mailto:jbates@legacyfinancial.com) to let her know when they would like to volunteer.

She also needs someone who can coordinate last minute changes as she will be out of the country on those days.

## MISS THE LAST MEETING?

The recording of the last Zoom meeting can be viewed for a limited time by clicking

[HERE](#). Passcode: 3=ZMhL^7

EACH ONE  
BRING ONE



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