



THE HUB

The Rotary Club
of Park Cities

Volume 76, Number 27

www.parkcitiesrotary.org

April 4, 2025

Serving to Make a Difference Since 1948

TODAY'S PROGRAM

Program Chair of the Day: Karen Farris



Gabrielle Madison

Bonton Farm

Gabrielle "Gabe" Madison is the President and CEO of Bonton Farms, a South Dallas farm turned community resource that is disrupting inequitable systems to change lives. In her role, Gabe provides strategic oversight and direction to the organization's rapidly expanding operations, development, human resources, community partnerships, and programming.

Under her leadership, Bonton Farms is growing by leaps and bounds, including the groundbreakings of three firsts in the Bonton Community: a Wellness Center providing medical, dental, counseling, and financial services, a Resource Center offering entrepreneurial skills and training, and a FARMacy in which community members will receive food prescriptions to combat illness and disease. In addition, Bonton Farms is preparing to break ground for Bonton Gardens, a 36-unit residential complex!

Prior to her current role at Bonton Farms, Gabe served as the organization's Board Chair. She brings more than two decades of corporate leadership experience to Bonton Farms, having most previously served as Director of Community Relations for international software development giant Thomson Reuters for more than seven years, and having served as the brand's HR Manager formerly four years prior to that. Throughout her career, Gabe has demonstrated expertise in social responsi-

bility and inclusion, revenue growth, talent acquisition, human resources, training, and development.

A passionate advocate for the North Texas nonprofit community, Gabe currently serves on the Dallas Regional Chamber Board of Directors, Baylor Alumni Board of Advocates, and is the Vice Chair on the Board of Directors for Trusted World. She has volunteered her time with the American Heart Association in various capacities over the last decade, including the Southwest Region's Board of Directors, been a member of Dallas ISD's P-TECH Impact Board, and was the first Black Board Chair of the Metrocrest Chamber of Commerce where she was tasked with identifying the organization's next president while continuing to propel the Chamber forward.

Gabe has been recognized for her outstanding work and service to others through several awards and honors, including being named one of D CEO's "Most Powerful Business Leaders" in 2019, membership in Dallas Regional Chamber's Leadership Class of 2019, Dallas Business Journal's 2017 class of 40 Under 40, D CEO's Dallas 500, and the Baylor University's 2024 Alumni Pro Texana Medal of Service.

She is the loving wife to Sterling and mommy to Alma and King!

RCPC IN ACTION



Join us for Club Leadership Training

Assembly on Saturday April 5, designed to prepare you for your role, strengthen your leadership skills, and help create a more vibrant and engaged experience for your club members.

Who should attend? Club Leadership for the 2025-26 year and anyone who wants to learn more about their roles

Dallas College-Richland Campus. Red River Hall, 12800 Abrams Rd, Dallas, TX, 75243]

See email or eBulletin for more information and to register (More events events on pg 3)

The Bonton Wellness Center Grand Opening

The Grand Opening took place on Saturday, March 30

pictures by Ley Waggoner



Be a Vibrant and Visionary Model of Service Above Self

LAST WEEK

Presiding: President **Nolan Duck**
 Invocation/Pledge: **Teresa DiFalco**
 Photographer: **John Brown**
 Advertiser of the Week: **Kathy Wall**
 highlighting **Sarah Oliai**
 Speaker: **Jared White**
 Program: **"Dallas Park and Recreation Department"**

President **Nolan Duck** called the meeting to order. New member **Teresa DiFalco** gave the invocation and then led the Pledge of Allegiance and the "Star Spangled Banner."

President **Nolan** asked for Happy Bucks and introduced our visitors and guests

Kathy Wall announced our Market Place Advertiser of the Week, **Sarah Oliai** and the Oliai Law Firm. She is an attorney at law who is Board Certified in Estate Planning and Probate Law.

President **Nolan** awarded **Teresa DiFalco** her permanent badge, indicating she is a full RCPC member.

President **Nolan** announced the Grand Opening of the Bonton Wellness Center. Several

years ago RCPC raised over \$140,000 to contribute to the Wellness Center. The RCPC Foundation granted a large percentage of those funds to outfit a dental suite so that the Center will be able to provide dental services.

President **Nolan** called the winning ticket for a chance at the raffle. The raffle is now worth \$1,730. **Cub Amos** held the winning ticket, but he did not win half of the raffle.

Tom Rhodes introduced our speaker today, **Jared White**, who spoke on the Dallas Park and Recreation Department. He said that the Dallas has one of the largest municipal park system in the country. It welcomes over forty-seven million visitors every year. They champion life-long recreation and serve as responsible stewards of Dallas's parks, trails and open spaces. Their facilities include over four hundred parks on 25,000 acres, 180 miles of trails, 256 athletic fields, 206 playgrounds, forty-two recreation centers, nine community pools, seventeen spraygrounds, six 18-hole golf courses, six aquatic centers, and three

Please remember

Please let us know your joys and concerns.

tennis centers. They provide 17,000 recreation and leisure programs every year. They also manage special attractions, such as the Dallas Zoo, the Dallas Arboretum, Fair Park, Klyde Warren Park and others. The Park System returns \$678 Million to the local economy annually. For every dollar spent or invested for infrastructure, new parks, playgrounds, and other recreational improvements brings a 7:1 return on investment. Nonprofit and corporate collaborations provide for day to day operations and special interest programs. He said he is particularly proud of the trails. The trails have generated the highest return on investment at 50:1. A new trails project is "The Loop," which will be a fifty-mile urban trail network that will link North Dallas to Southern Dallas to East Dallas and Bishop Arts to Uptown. It will join thirty-nine miles of existing trails to eleven miles of new trails. The Circuit Trails Coservancy has raised \$23 million in private and non-city funds to build The Loop. They are planning Phase Two to Klyde Warren Park. Phase 1 is a five-acre park which opened in 2012. Phase 2 will add an additional 1.5 acres at a cost of \$80 million in private and public funds. It will include a 50,000 square foot event building for weddings, meetings and gathering space. There will also be an expanded dog park and children's area, the world's tallest interactive fountain and additional green space for farmers markets, carousels and a winter ice rink. The Downtown Dallas Parks Coservancy has developed four parks in conjunction with the City of Dallas. They include Pacific Plaza (2019), West End Square (2021), Carpenter Park (2022), and Harwood Park (2024). The city has installs and maintains playground and park amenities as partner with schools districts that provide after school access for recreation. The Dallas Greening Initiative is an initiative to transform city-owned spaces into neighborhood greenspaces. The goals are to increase the number of residents who have a park within a ten-minute walk of their home, to improve health, equity, and climate resilience of neighborhoods throughout the city through the creation of greenspace in areas of need, and to ensure that the residents are part of the process.

Our Mission

Building a legacy of good works and fellowship, we strive to:
 REACH those in need in partnership with others
 INSPIRE tomorrow's leaders with high ethical standards
 FOSTER lives of service above self
 – A supporting member of Rotary International

The Hub is the weekly newsletter of the Rotary Club of Park Cities (Dallas)

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www.parkcitiesrotary.org



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April						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		M.	M	M	Mtg	D
6	M	M	M	M	Mtg	
13	M	M		BD	SpE	Mtg
20	M	Mc	M	M	M	Mtg
27	M	M	M			

A=Agape Health Serv Day

BD= Brd of Dirs Mtg, 8am

BF=Bonton Farm

Cn=PCR Connect Event.

CP=ChildsPlay Work Mtg-Jill Jordan.

D=District 5810 Event

DH=Dentistry with a Heart- Michael Rainwater

F=Fellowship Event

FF=RCPC Foundation

Fund Mtg- Ed Fjordbak

FT=NTFB Truck.

FB=NTFB Event-Susan Glen

In=Interact Special Project

8 am - Tracy Gomes.

LL=Legacy of Leadership

M= Meals On Wheels- Jim Weichel

various days and times

Mn= Mentoring at Hillcrest HS

various days and times

Mc=Ronald McDonald House

1 x/mo-Kathleen Klaviter

NM=New Member Event

Pr= Program CommitteeMtg

RL=Readers2Leaders-various

days, times- Rob Levy

Rct=Rotaract- Ruth

SP=Strategic Planning

SpE=Special Service

VA=Veterans Support-

Alhilali.

Mtg

Event

UPCOMING PROGRAMS



Apr. 11 Patrick Jenevine
Dancing With the Dragon: Cautionary Tales of the New China from an Old China Hand



Apr. 18 No Meeting
Easter Holiday



Apr. 25 Brent Christopher
Children's Medical Foundation



May 2 Jason Garrett
Program to be Announced - It will be interesting!

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please note that RCPC meetings and other events are public events where photos and video are customarily taken. By attending you are consenting to free use of your likeness on RCPC and related websites, social media, streaming video, emails, newsletters and similar methods.

Have a Great Idea for a Speaker? Your ideas are needed! Send your ideas with the details to Richard Stanford.

Help Wanted! At ANY RCPC Event or Project. Take a few pictures, include a few sentences (who, what, when, where and WHY) and send to Betty for The Hub

RI Foundation: \$100 (or more) Every Rotarian Every Year! See Greg Pape.

RCPC Foundation: \$100 (or more). See Birthdays below, then Herb Hammond

Attendance Rule Change. For those wanting to maintain Perfect Attendance, make-ups may now be completed within a year. RI is no longer tracking attendance.

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<http://bit.ly/RCPC/linkedin>



<http://bit.ly/RCPCtwitter>



<http://bit.ly/RCPCyoutube>



[RCPCgoogleplus](http://bit.ly/RCPCgoogleplus)

Miss a Meeting? Watch it on YouTube or as an event on Facebook!



<http://bit.ly/RCPCyoutube>

<https://www.facebook.com/events/>

Share Rotary! Post on your social media when you're at a meeting or event. Use our hashtags!

Like and Follow us on Social Media: Website:

<https://parkcitiesrotary.org/>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/RotaryClubOfParkCities

YouTube: www.youtube.com/channel/UCf4ZH-2nwIscW8XNTnsbonw

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/company/park-cities-rotary-club/?viewAsMember=true

Make a post about or while at Rotary and use these hashtags



#PeopleOfAction



#parkcitiesrotary



#district5810proud



#goodthingshappeneveryfriday

THOUGHTS ON...

China

There are a billion people in China. It's not easy to be an individual in a crowd of more than a billion people. Think of it. More than a BILLION people. That means even if you're a one-in-a-million type of guy, there are still a thousand guys exactly like you. ~ **A. Whitney Brown**

We do not benefit from a relationship with China or any other country in which we put our values and our ideals aside. ~ **Barack Obama**

It remains to be seen, for example whether China can continue to develop as a market economy while still retaining an authoritarian communist political system.

~ **Peter Dicken**

China is a long caravan, longer and stronger than the Wall.

~ **Genevieve Taggard**

What's the third largest nation in the world after China and India? It's the Facebook nation - 430 million people on Facebook.

~ **James G. Stavridis**

China is a big country, inhabited by many Chinese. ~ **Charles de Gaulle**

COMING ATTRACTIONS continued)

Annual Interact Spring Fling!

Join us for a day filled with fellow-ship, laughter, and memorable moments as we come together to celebrate Service Above Self through Interact.

Open to all Rotarians, Interact Sponsors and Students!

Cost is \$25/adults, \$15/students.

Saturday, **April 12th**, 9am-1pm Dallas College - Brookhaven Campus, Building H Room 125, 3939 Valley View Lane, Farmers Branch, TX 75244.

REMINDER: Bring in your gently used and new shoes that you have collected at your school for the shoe drive. Register on the email or eBulletin

HE WHO LAUGHS LASTS

Life Reflections by George Carlin

- I'm not into working out. My philosophy is no pain, no gain.
- I've always wanted to be somebody, but I should have been more specific.
- Ever notice that anyone going slower than you is an idiot, but anyone going faster than you is a maniac?

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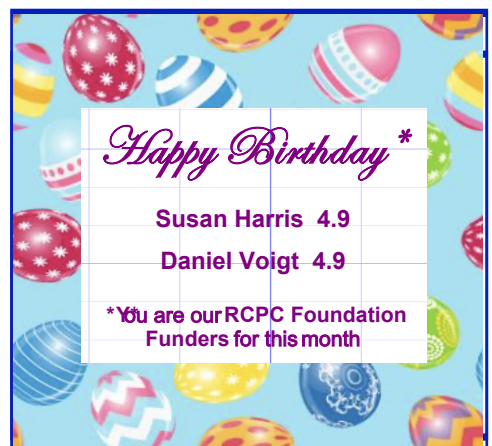
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Dallas College-Richland Campus. Red River Hall, 12800 Abrams Rd, Dallas, TX, 75243 See email or eBulletin for more information and to register



Rotary Club of Park Cities Market Place

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