



THE HUB

The Rotary Club
of Park Cities

Volume 76, Number 03

www.parkcitiesrotary.org

July 24, 2026

Serving to Make a Difference Since 1948

TODAY'S PROGRAM

Program Chair of the Day: Monty Montero



Darren Collins

Project Hand Up

Darren Collins is the Co-Founder and acting director of Texas non-profit Project HAND UP, which was kickstarted through a Rotary Foundation Global Grant. Originally from Seattle, Washington he has trained more than 20,000 people in over 15 countries and forty-five U.S. states to use puppetry and performance as tools for education and behaviour change.

Darren began teaching puppetry for crime and drug abuse prevention in the mid-90s at the America's PRIDE and DARE conferences. In 1999, he made his first trip to Cambodia to help develop puppet presentations on waterborne illnesses. There, he also penned germ theory videos that aired on government television in Myanmar. With a background as a family entertainer and educator, Darren spent decades using the performing arts to address health, disease prevention, and social issues in engaging ways for all ages. Motivated by his belief that "Any uncomfortable subject can be made compelling and enjoyable to all ages," he quit his performing career to start Project HAND UP in 2013.

Project HAND UP was founded with the ambitious acronym Healthy Africa (or America, Australia, or Asia...) a New Directive Using Puppets. HAND UP. But the name was also strategic. The

charity was not about providing resources like a "hand out" but providing knowledge as a "hand up." Project HAND UP is passionate about using edutainment to engage and educate audiences about taboo or otherwise tedious or uncomfortable subjects. During the COVID-19 pandemic, restrictions opened new ways of engaging with audiences. In addition to handling the design & implementation of in-person school and community behaviour change/education programs, services now include creative writing and video production, media buying, cinematography, and post-production. Project HAND UP also airs as an educational children's puppet show to 13 million children weekly on Kenyan Akili Kids! TV (a family network in Kenya) to teach children and families about health, hygiene, and disease prevention.

Collins is the recipient of the Rotary Foundation's 2017 Service Above Self Award and is also a Paul Harris Fellow, Major Donor, and graduate of Rotary University and the Rotary International Leadership Institute. He now resides on the edge of a national forest in Nairobi, Kenya, where he shares his home with the local wild hyrax population.

RCPC IN ACTION

26-27 Dues Are Past Due

RCPC Past Treasurer Paul Pirok reported the Good News that dues would remain the same as last year - no increase. He asked that all members pay prior to June 1st. Ways to pay include,

- Check mailed to the club address or brought to the meeting
- Credit card through the website (**there will be an additional fee**)
- Zelle also via the website (no fee)

Save the Dates!

✓ **Sunday, Sept. 13**, Join RCPC members at Dudley's Sports Bar to watch the Cowboys' first game. Details will be available closer to the event.

✓ **Saturday, Oct. 17**, 9:00-11:30 am NTFB Volunteer Packing Day

District 5810

It's Time for the Emerald City Awards Gala! Fri, August 21

"There's no place like Rotary."
Drury Hotel, 165 CityLine Drive,
Richardson 75082

Reception: 6 to 7 pm

Dinner and Program: 7 to 9 pm.

Attire: Green Summer Casual -
No Shorts

Ticket Price \$65, Italian Buffet,
including two drink tickets
Register on the District 5810
website

Join Rotary District 5810 for the Emerald City Awards Gala as we celebrate the outstanding clubs, members, and leaders who make a lasting impact through Rotary service.

RCPC Is Cookin' at Ronald McDonald House

From Kathleen Klaviter: Great time was had by all!

We made smothered pork chops, mashed potatoes and green beans for 60 and received many compliments from the families! News: the House has a new chef, Chef Marcus. He was

impressed with our teamwork and ability in the kitchen.



Tuesday, Aug. 11, 5:00-7:30 pm **Rotary Means Business Social Networking Event**, 12 Cuts Brazilian Steakhouse 18010 Dallas Pkwy, Dallas 75287

Business Casual RSVP on District 5810 website. *Network Like Only a Rotarian Can!*

Saturday, Oct. 24, 10:00am. District 5810 will join Rotary members and supporters across Zone 25B & 29 for the **World's Largest Polio Walk** in support of Rotary's **End Polio Now** campaign. Brookhaven Main Campus, 3939 Valley View Lane Farmers Branch, TX 75244 **Registration - \$25**

Be a Vibrant and Visionary Model of Service Above and Beyond Self

LAST WEEK

Presiding: President **Mark Kashar**
 Invocation and Pledge: **Clement George**
 Introduction of Visitors and Guests: Pres. **Mark**
 Advertiser of the Week: **Kathy Wall** and State
 Farm Insurance
 Photographer: **Ley Waggoner**
 Speaker: **Brad Sham**
 Program: "The Cowboys"



President **Mark Kashar** called the meeting to order. **Clement George** gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by "The Star Spangled Banner."

President **Mark** asked for Happy Bucks. A happy event was that member **Stephanie Bohan** was back today.

Visiting Rotarians and guests were introduced, **Elisa Garcia** introduced our Market Place advertiser of the Week, **Kathy Wall** and State Farm Insurance.

Sgt-at-Arms **Jack Carpenter** reminded everyone to donate to the RCPC Foundation during their birthday month or anytime. The goal is 85% participation rate.

President **Mark** presented PP **Nolan Duck** with a bound book highlighting his year as President, 2024-25.

President **Mark** also reminded us that there would be no Noon Meeting on September 4, for the Labor Day weekend. Also, on Sept. 13, members are invited to Dudley's Sports Bar to watch the Cowboys' first game.

President **Mark** called for the Raffle. **Stephanie Bohan** held the winning ticket but did not win the raffle.

President **Mark** introduced our speaker today, **Brad Sham** to speak on the Dallas Cow-boys. Brad has been an announcer for the Cow-boys for over forty years, starting on radio and then on TV. He has won many awards, including Texas Sportscaster of the Year nine times and induction into the Texas Sports Hall of Fame in 2020. Brad began by saying that he likes Rotarians and admires their work in the community. He said he



Please remember

Please let us know your concerns.

could not stay after the meeting today to answer questions because he was going to a funeral. He said before he started talking about The Cowboys, he wanted to give a "sermon." He said he was old enough to realize some things he had not been taught. One is if you fall down, get back up. Don't let a mishap discourage you. It is not over. Get back up and try again. Another is that everyone has to die but don't be afraid if you have lived your life the right way. He said many of his generation don't talk about stuff. If we don't understand the concept of death, we need to prepare for living in sunshine. Some of us are seeing each other at funerals way too often. Why does this happen? Why do we deteriorate and die? Maybe so you will appreciate life while you have it. Gratitude! Make sure young people are not afraid of death. Appreciate what you have.

he said he does not know anyone who does what he does who did not start out as a fan. He is still a fan. He has been a Cubs fan all of his life, so he knows it is not about winning. It is about the journey with the team. Being a fan is supposed to be fun. If you are happy only when your team is winning, you will be unhappy most of the time.

In ten days he will be going to training camp. He has changed his opinion of training camp. The season starts with a Plan, then Camp, then Pre-Season, then the team will be better — or not. you just have to let them grow up; enjoy the journey. He said he is more excited than he has been in three or four years. They have upgraded their personnel. He is interested in looking at the young offensive staff. The staff have changed the system. There is a specific plan for each player. It can't be done in the summer. In pre-season many of the players don't play because of the possibility of injury. The season starts on September 13, and it will take a month to see how they play. He was asked how broadcasting has changed since the '70s. he replied that it hasn't, but everything else has changed. He said in the '70s all the broadcasters were in one big room. He would invite players to his hotel room to be interviewed and broadcasted through a rotary phone from there.

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

The Hub is the weekly newsletter of the Rotary Club of Park Cities (Dallas)
 Betty Dawson, Editor

Shutterbug Committee
 Ley Waggoner, Chair

Bulletin/Internet Advertising
 Mark Neace, Interim Chair



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2026-2027

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 Rotary Club of Trans Amadi, Nigeri
 President of Rotary International

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CREATE LASTING IMPACT

Mike Callahan
 RC of Prestonwood
 Governor, District 5810
www.rotary5810.org



July						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			M	M	Mtg	
5	M	M	M	M	Mtg	
12	M	M	M	M	Mtg	
19	M	M	M	M	Mtg	
26	M	M	M	M	Mtg	

A=Agape Health Serv Day
BD= B'd of Dirs Mtg, 8am
BF=Bonton Farm
CC=Crossroads Com. Pabtry
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
FC= Foot Care Clinic
FB=NTFB Event-Susan Glen I
CM Cafe Momentum

LL=Legacy of Leadership
M=Meals On Wheels-Jim Weichel
Mn= Mentoring at Hillcrest HS
various days and times
Mc=Ronald McDonald House
1x/mo-Kathleen Kivler
NM=New Member Event
Pr= Program Committee Mtg
RL=Readers2Leaders-various
days, times- Rob Levy
Rct=Rotaract- Ruth Alhaili
SP=Strategic Planning Mtg
SpE=Special Service Event
VA=Veterans Support-

UPCOMING PROGRAMS



July 31 **Meghna Tare**
Earth Day



Aug. 7 **Trey Bowles**
Park Cities Angel Network



Aug. 14 **Mary Pat Higgins**
Dallas Holocaust Museum



Aug. 21 **Carl Flowers - America 250 Series**
The Spirits of '76

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 Jack Carpenter.

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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ROTARY CONNECTED



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



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



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



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

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



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

<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-2nwIscW8XNTnsbnw

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

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



#PeopleOfAction



#district5810proud



#parkcitiesrotary



#goodthingshappeneonfridays

THOUGHTS ON ...

Hands

You cannot shake hands with a clenched fist.

~ **Indira Gandhi**

Never raise your hand to your children; it leaves your midsection unprotected.

~ **Robert Orben**

All is in the hands of man. Therefore wash them often.

~ **Stanislaw J. Lec**

Human salvation lies in the hands of the creatively maladjusted.

~ **Martin Luther King Jr.**

It was on my fifth birthday that Papa put his hand on my shoulder and said, 'Remember, my son, if you ever need a helping hand, you'll find one at the end of your arm.'

~ **Sam Levenson**

The fragrance always remains in the hand that gives the rose.

~ **Heda Bejar**

Don't rule out working with your hands. It does not preclude using your head.

~ **Andy Rooney**

Hold a true friend with both hands.

~ **Nigerian Proverb**

Win hearts, and you have all men's hands and purses.

~ **William Cecil Burleigh**

Use your enemy's hand to catch a snake.

~ **Persian Proverb**

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

The ladder we built before we were ready by Vansh Sain, from *Rotary 360 i*

"In 2022, I was 16 and president of my Interact club at Hansraj Model School. There, I noticed something I couldn't ignore — children of construction workers in my neighbourhood with no real access to consistent education; a girl carrying bricks after school; a boy who couldn't read at 12

"With my fellow Interactors, I launched *Shiksha Ki Seedhi*: a simple weekend program offering life skills and basic tutoring to children of construction workers. We started small: storytelling sessions, hygiene workshops, recycled notebooks. But the spark ignited; kids showed up hungry to learn, parents began to see change.

HE WHO LAUGHS LASTS

A man buys a lie detector robot that slaps people when they lie. He tries it on his son. "Did you skip school?" SLAP! "Okay, I went to a movie." "Which one?" "A documentary." SLAP! "Fine, it was an action movie." The father laughs, "When I was your age, I never lied." SLAP! The mother laughs, "He must be your son." SLAP!

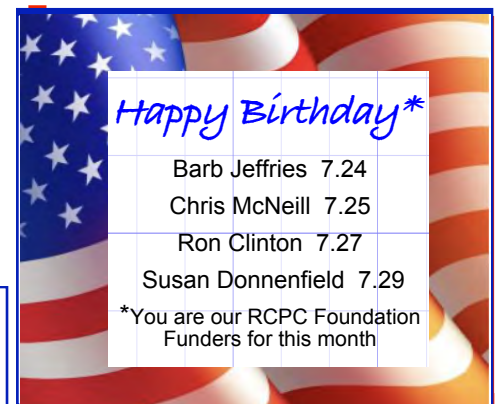
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"In 2023, I chartered the Rotaract Club Of Delhi Genesis Midwest, and we scaled it. We added weekend schools teaching digital literacy, public speaking, English, math, and science to more than 70 kids every weekend. Subjects also included life skills, programming for leadership, communication, financial literacy, sustainability, and eco-responsibility

"Three years later, we have reached more than 150 children, involved more than 40 volunteers, and logged more than 1,000 hours of service. That girl now carries books, not bricks. That young boy reads fluently.

"You don't need funding, a team, or a plan. You don't need to be ready!". Just start.



Rotary Club of Park Cities Market Place

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