

Summer Weekly

Volume 283, Issue 348, July 25th, 2019

Reader

The Plano Rotary Club
www.PlanoRotary.com

Habitat for Humanity: Building Homes, Families & Hope

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

July 25th
Sean Terry
Redevelopment of Collin Creek Mall
Mixed-Used Project

Aug 1st
NO NOON MEETING
(1st Thursday of the month)

Aug 8th
Beverly Grogan -Dist. 5810
Governor
Rotary District Update


ENDPOLIONOW

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Camarena, Joe	Jul 01
Akers, Sara	Jul 10
Bisno, Larry	Jul 16
Fenwick, Peggy	Jul 19
Jackson, Matt	Jul 22
Monroe, Jim	Jul 22
Mott, Maria	Jul 23



President Jeff Beckley spoke about future service and social events. We want to have a service project in late September (when it's below 95 degrees). **Plano East** will have their 1,000 flags display in Oak Point Park for **Veteran's Day**. We plan to have an all Rotary clubs family picnic on **Saturday, November 9** at the site.

VISITING ROTARIAN **HOME CLUB**

Sean Foster

Park Cities

GUEST

Bob Kehr

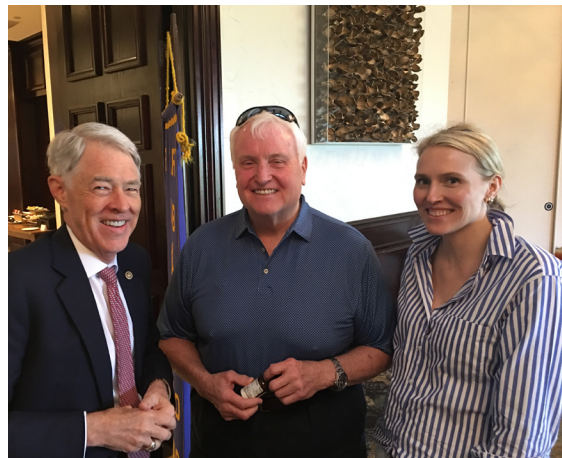
Kristen Earp

GUEST OF

Janelle Twyford-Silvis

Randy Brodhead

Kristen is **Randy's** daughter, and has his smile.



Our speaker was Rotarian Celeste Cox, CEO of **Habitat for Humanity** of Collin County (Habitat). She spoke about six topics: 1) the need for affordable housing 2) building homes and the challenges 3) the need for qualified applicants 4) repairing homes 5) building communities like Cotton Groves 6) the Habitat ReStore on Spring Creek and Custer.

1) Need for affordable housing Collin County is an expensive place to live. The median monthly rent was \$1,344 in 2017. The average home is worth \$342,000 and the average family income is \$42,000.



The US population has grown 14% since 2000, Collin County has grown 80% and Frisco has grown 350%. More people = less land for Habitat homes and the remaining land is rising quickly in value.

2) Building homes The Habitat mission is to build new homes for lower income families. This is becoming more difficult because of the decreasing availability of land and increasing construction costs. The homes are simple, decent and affordable. The house is owned by Habitat and the family pays a 0% interest mortgage to them. One home can serve two families. When the first family moves away or gets too big, the home is refurbished and sold to a second family. Habitat has built 214 homes since 1992, with 11 built in 2018.

The homes are mainly built by volunteers, with at least one experienced crew chief. Rotarians can help Habitat by volunteering, by donating gently used products to the ReStore (see 6), and by donating money. September 19 is North Texas Giving Day. If you want to volunteer as an individual or a group, the next orientation is at the Plano ReStore 2060 W. Spring Creek #402 on Saturday, August 17th at 11 AM. Here's the phone & URL: 972-542-5300 ext. 114 <https://habitatcollincounty.org/volunteer/#vol>

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Building volunteers receive onsite training, site supervision, tools and all the needed materials. In 2018, over 6,900 volunteers provided over 30,000 hours of service to build & repair homes and to support Habitat operations. Volunteers have two frequent questions: I don't know how to build houses. Will you have any volunteer work for me? Yes! It takes many roles to complete homes and keep Habitat running smoothly. Our volunteers help with a variety of tasks at job sites, as well as in the ReStore. For more information, contact our Volunteer Coordinator at Volunteer@habitatcollincounty.org What hours do volunteers work? The volunteer hours vary by assigned task. The schedule for building homes is usually on Saturday (8 AM – 4 PM), but sometimes it includes weekdays. The schedule



for assisting at the ReStore also varies. Please contact our Volunteer Coordinator for more information.

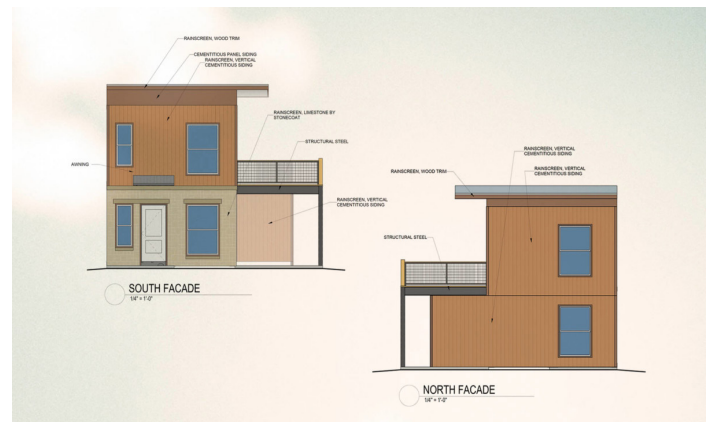
3) Qualified applicants Habitat is looking for

families that need decent, affordable housing to help keep their family safe, healthy and strong. Becoming a Habitat family can be a 12-18 month journey, depending on a family's financial situation. Our Homeownership Program will be adding new applicants to our list from July 1st-31st, 2019. There are currently 267 families on the list. The family income needs to be between 30% and 60% of the median income level, or between \$25,000 and \$46,000 for a family of four. Families that qualify for our homes will be paired with a mentor to help them assimilate and understand the Habitat organization, and take the steps necessary to homeownership. Families that don't qualify immediately will be given a plan of action to work towards gaining qualification. With each family added, our Habitat family grows. We have a strong relationship with our families from the qualification phase, then through the construction process and sweat equity work. Even after closing on their new home, we keep them informed about what is going on in our affiliate and ways they can be a part of our mission. All families will attend our Family Seminar and learn about our Habitat Homeownership Program.

4) Repairing homes There are many elderly and disabled homeowners who have trouble keeping up the exterior of their home. Through the Neighborhood Revitalization Program, Habitat has repaired 645 homes in Collin County, including 75! In 2018. Groups of volunteers work alongside the homeowner to revitalize the exterior. **Services include:** 1) roof, foundation, doors, windows, siding and painting 2) health and safety, including ADA 3) weatherization 4) landscape and clean up. A little work makes a big difference in an elderly homeowner's life.

5) The Cotton Grove Development in McKinney is a collaborative effort of Habitat, industry professionals at JDL group and the City of McKinney Community Development Corporation. It will feature: 35 Townhomes We are transforming 2.75-acres of land into a 35-unit, affordable housing, town-home community. Cotton Groves will be an eco-friendly, sustainable development and will be the first to utilize re-purposed shipping containers for an entire neighborhood.

From shipping containers to homes!!



35 Families We want families in need of decent, affordable housing to become home owners. Families can apply via a pre-approval process and our Family Selection Committee will select homeowners based on three criteria: 1) the applicant's level of need 2) their willingness to partner with us 3) their ability to repay a mortgage through an affordable payment plan. There will be a 2,600 sq. ft. Amenity Center for social opportunities, health clinics, gardening classes, fitness and fun. The Cotton Groves HOA will maintain the facilities and schedule special events to promote a healthy, well-balanced lifestyle for residents and the surrounding neighborhoods. An open space community park will be maintained by the HOA. The park aligns with and supports the overall priorities of Cotton Groves to be a safe, prosperous, livable,

environmentally conscious and collaborative community. The park will be about 1/2 acre and will serve Cotton Groves as well as nearby residents.

6) The ReStore in West Plano sells: appliances, paint & supplies, doors & windows, tile & wood flooring, tools, lighting, bathroom sinks, tubs, toilets, faucets, cabinets, furniture for every area of the house and kitchen sinks! They are open to the public and the prices are 20% to 50% off retail. Sales since 2010 are more than \$5,000,000. The proceeds have enabled Habitat to finance and build 23 homes. They receive donations from the public, builders, remodelers and retailer stores. Call 214-598-0090 for free pick-up and tax deduction receipts. The ReStore has received over 36,000 donations since 2010.



Ian Corbin, Nakia Goodson & David Hatley work at the ReStore on Spring Creek and Custer.

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For more information, contact
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MarshallReeves@philanthropyhabitatcollincounty.org
or
Volunteer@habitatcollincounty.org

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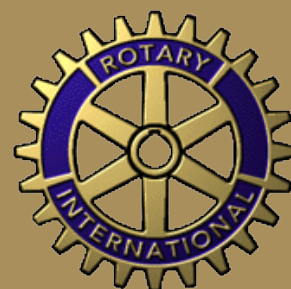
Sean Foster

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Their Summer!!!

