



WINTER
Weekly

Reader

IMAGINE
ROTARY

Volume 25, Issue 06, February 23, 2023

The Plano Rotary Club
www.PlanoRotary.com

Stunning Facts re: Local Indigent Healthcare

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Feb 23

Kathy Taylor

The YMCA is not a Place, but a Purpose, with a Bold Vision for a Brighter Future

Mar 2nd

Casey Wright

NTTA Government Affairs

Mar 9th

Debbie Silver ~ Author

International Optimism

Mar 16

Charlotte Dameron,

Bader House

"When Memory Fails, the Alzheimer Journey"

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Hayden Padgett	Feb 1
Sam Greif	Feb 14
Rick Grady	Feb 27
Carrolyn Moebius	Feb 27

Happy
Birthdays

February 16, 2023 meeting: We were greeted by **Eleanor Knox**. **Jeff McKee** gave the invocation, while **Cathy Fang** led the pledge. Our esteemed Sgt. At Arms, **Mike McCormack**, welcomed guest **Emily Biggerstaff**, visiting the Club for the third time, and mentioned she has filled out a membership form!



Brittnea Ussery, Executive Director of Plano ISD Education Foundation joined us again (**Nancy Humphrey's** guest, both in coordinating colors!)

Notice is hereby given that **Brittnea Ussery** has been

approved by the Board for membership to the Club. (Membership will be final as detailed in Article 13, Section 5 of the bylaws, available on Club Runner under "Club Documents" tab.)

Jeff McKee provided a Rotary Moment and explained he had heard "whispers in the wind" about Rotary and was pleased learn about "Service Above Self" and to join an organization that practices its mission, makes a difference in so many communities, and provides an opportunity to meet for lunch and fellowship.

There were two brags today. **Larry Bisno** shared a touching account about when his wife attained her U.S. citizenship four weeks ago, together with another 1,002 people, at the Plano Events Center. Because the crowd was so large, families and guests watched the ceremony from an adjacent room. Upon reuniting in the courtyard, Larry noted many tears of joy on



their faces, knowing the freedom and rights they now share. **John Priest** related his pride for his grandson, Walker Moore, a filmmaking student at college in Virginia who came in 4th at a recent film contest, winning \$400. To his surprise, this win also earned him tenfold recognition, winning \$4,000 from his college!



Johnny Lewis shared a Paul Harris moment, noting there are 1.3 million Rotary Clubs worldwide in 200 countries that fuel the engine that drives Rotary’s philanthropic programs. He welcomed (and surprised!) **Larry Bisno** for earning his “Paul Harris X 6” having generously contributed \$6,000 to RI Fund.

President Janelle introduced today’s speaker, **Larry Bisno**, fellow Rotarian and Director of Strategic Initiatives at Health Services of North Texas. He told his background was first working for an international advertising agency he transitioned to an international relief organization. When the Syrian civil war broke out, he was in Turkey, giving aid to refugees fleeing into the country. Larry served in Vietnam as well.

The cumulative effects of witnessing non-combatants being attacked made him realize he couldn’t keep the balance—he couldn’t treat everyone the same—and

11 years ago, he made the move to the nonprofit sector. He said, “Bless those who stay with it.”

Now with Health Services of North Texas he stated it has existed for about 34 years; 20 of those years in Collin Co. The location at Spring Creek @ Independence combines what was previously the Collin Co. Adult Clinic and Plano Children’s Medical Clinic. He is grateful for the work of this Club over the years and gave a shout-out to Mary Jo Dean and Texas Health Services for their support.

Poverty, the reason why many local nonprofit clinics exist, is defined by the federal government as gross income of \$13,950 or less for an individual, or \$27,750 or less for a family of four. In Collin Co., 75,657 residents live in poverty, including 32% kids and 54% women and girls. This covers adults working full or part-time occupations. There are 189,459 low-income residents, determined by a range of 101% to 200% of federal poverty level, representing roughly 17% of the population.

Knowing these facts, consider the impact of poverty on being medically uninsured. 102,642 residents are uninsured, for a variety



of reasons, including 19,218 children. 47% of total uninsured residents are women and girls. That statistic is important, as you consider the need for prenatal healthcare.

HSNT provides care for individuals who would otherwise go to emergency room, thereby helping establish a consistent care option to better improve overall health and mental wellness.

The Services provided by HSNT include

primary care for adults and seniors, pediatric and women's health, infectious disease, integrated behavioral health, prescription assistance, in-house lab tests, and a partner community pharmacy. Denton has all services, Plano has all except high risk pre-natal, and Wylie serves pediatrics only.

HSNT provides case managers and care managers to follow up with patients. Facilities are pleasant and welcoming, as everyone deserves a nice facility. Prescriptions are free because HSNT pays the fee to keep patients on a program to get the prescription. In-house lab testing is contracted with Lab Corp.

A partnership with the PISD's Head Start program and the Welcome and Enrollment Center has increased the number of patients being served by HSNT, which means more local residents are receiving quality medical care.

Patients pay typically a nominal fee of \$30 or on a sliding scale until they reach 100% of poverty. However, HSNT never discharges anyone from care who can't pay. HSNT exists for those who can't access quality care.

All providers are paid market rates, and their core belief is people shouldn't ever be denied quality care in a quality location. Trust is built in the recurring relationship which yields the best quality outcomes for patients because

they stay with their care.

According to statistics, between 3 and 7 percent of deaths nationwide occur prematurely, which means they are caused by conditions like diabetes and hypertension that, with primary care, would not have caused death.

HSNT served 16,795 patients representing 49,666 visits in Collin Co. In Plano, they served 2,285 patients representing 5,155 visits.

He said that only 8% of their funding comes from a federal grant; there is some funding from the state of Texas and city of Plano.

Questions for Larry:

Maria Mott asked if they only serve residents of Collin County? According to Larry, they serve anyone who walks in the door that qualifies; they are not limited just Collin Co. They serve people from Dallas County and Paris, Texas. Larry added, "Anyone can come to the clinic."

Bob Kehr offered that Leadership Plano is having a health fair this spring, including transportation at City Bridge Urgent Care and will share information with Larry.

The Club recited the 5-Way Test and President Janelle rang us out at 1:00 pm.



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Guests

Guest

Don Plunk
Emily Biggerstaff
Khalid Ishaq
John Stanley

Guest of

Jeff McKee
Peggy Fenwick
Nancy Humphrey
Johnny Lewis

Visiting Rotarians

Visiting Rotarian

none

Home Club

Guests		Visiting Rotarians	
Guest	Guest of	Visiting Rotarian	Home Club
Don Plunk	Jeff McKee	none	
Emily Biggerstaff	Peggy Fenwick		
Khalid Ishaq	Nancy Humphrey		
John Stanley	Johnny Lewis		