



FALL
Weekly

Reader

Volume 21, Issue 13, September 30th, 2021

The Plano Rotary Club
www.PlanoRotary.com

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

September 30th

Sam Grief

Plano Fire Rescue & New Training Facility

October 7th

Dr Matkin

Collin College Update

October 14th

CC Homeless Coalition

Homeless but Working

October 21

Bill Dendy

Rotary International Foundation



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Hubert Aaron

Sep 17



County Counts

HE Who Shall Be Named Joe Camarena closed camaraderie at 12:07, assigning the Invocation (appropriately enough) to **John Priest** and the Pledge to **Kathy Taylor**.

SERGEANT PRO TEM Rick Horne bade **Janelle Twyford-Silvis** to introduce her guest from the Chamber, the husband and wife team of **Elaine** and **John Tanner**. **Kathy Marcum**, a



Chamber denizen and Director of Business Development, welcomed us to her office.

John Caldwell welcomed back *Legacy Prep Charter Academy* and member-in-waiting, **Porcha Maten**, who is starting up a Rotaract Club at



Legacy Prep. And Visiting Rotarian and 5810 Grants Chair, **Larry Webb** (here to accept a giant check), explained his role: to hand out 5810 monies to fund local activities. (Of course, it's our monies coming back to us from our PHF donations.)

Joe pointed out the pizza and dessert courtesy of **Sainted Editor** and Janelle.



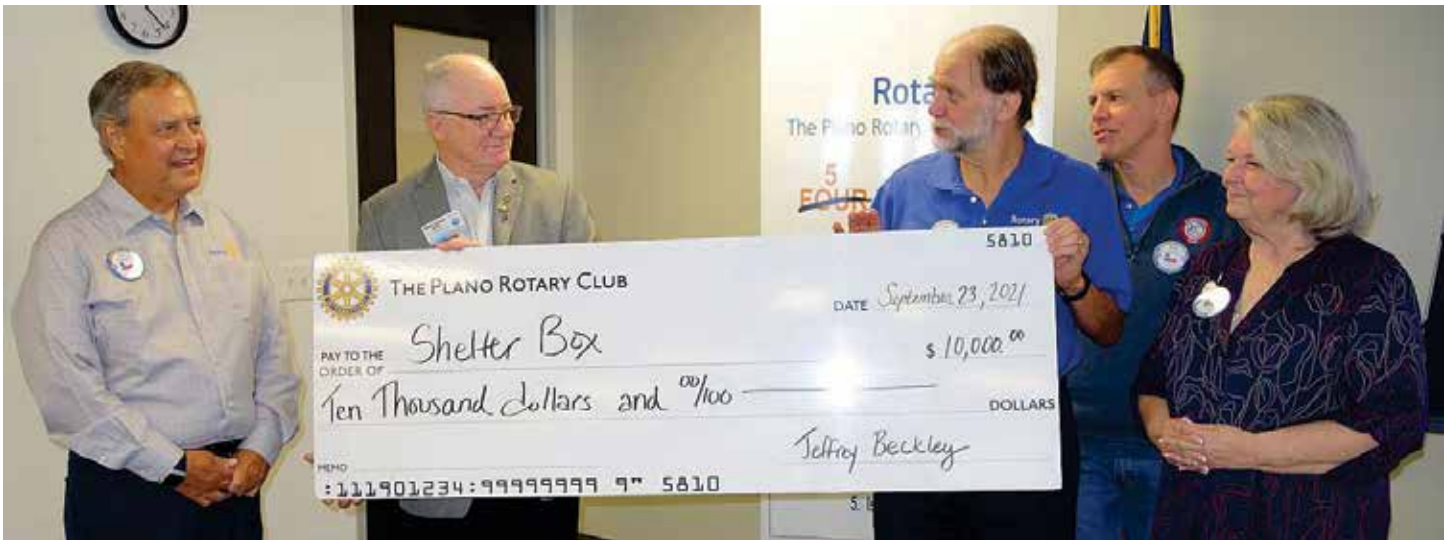
And he noted today's scrambling of the tables to ensure that "everyone can face front" by twisting their heads 90°. He invited comments. (**Sainted Editor** just made his.)

Robert Reed again touted the (faux) **BEATLES MYSTERY TOUR** concert the following weekend, saying, it'll be "Beatles all night long." (And indeed it ran to double overtime!) Joe cautioned us not to bring an album to be signed because they aren't the real thing.

Gary Garza again touted his need for volunteers at *Habitat's ReStores*. He also noted his Collin County *Habitat for Humanity* as the #1 N Tx Giving Day *Habitat* recipient in the area. (Way to encourage donations, Gary!) He then pulled out a app with a live feed of NTGD showing 321 organizations receiving \$34M in donations thus far.

Not to be outdone, **Nancy Humphrey** touted the *Hendrick Scholarship* and PISD Foundations. Porcha plugged *Legacy Prep*, and Robert Reed wouldn't let PSO be left out but magnanimously said there were many other worthies.

John Caldwell told Larry Webb that *Plano Rotary* offered food (pizza) and shelter (box) via our Giant Check.



Duncan Webb has been a Collin County Commissioner (Precinct 4) for a decade! For that same time, he's been on the Regional Transportation Council for NCTCOG. He is a Plano Metro Rotarian, but we'll excuse him that one lapse. He is currently the Chair of the Dallas Regional Mobility Council as well as a practicing attorney. He has been Chairman of the Board of the Medical Center of Plano. He has "*fingers in all pies.*"

Duncan said the mission of the commissioners is misunderstood. It is to set budgets for other County offices as called for in the Texas Constitution. So the Court controls the Sheriff's budget, and the budgets for HR, IT, Public Health, etc.



His *PowerPoint™* was fast and full. It showed a 36% population growth since the last Census, making the 1.06M stuffed county the 5th fastest growing in the nation. We are adding 81 new residents per day which means 20 new cars and housing units. But growth is becoming more manageable, down from 59% the Census before.

His maps showed population heaviest in the SW quadrant but that changes to all borders by build-out in 2055, when Collin population doubles or triples! We become bigger than Dallas.

President Joe (not Biden) IDed September's Rotarian of the Month as "*an exceptional leader*" who is "*always trying to make us better.*" He is the Club's historian, a membership, RYLA, and ShelterBox advocate, and "*a great mentor for me,*" **Johnny Lewis**. The Club stood for its latest honoree, and Robert Reed handed him **BUBBA'S BUCKET.**

Janelle caught the Rotarian Moment Ring. She's had an Ad Agency, a nonprofit dealing with Kids at Risk, worked with TI and Ericsson building business cases, EDS mind mapping, and used to be a clown in partnership with her husband. She quit the Rat Race in 2003, learning photography during husband-funded trips around the world, and creating *Allie Oop*. She then segued into the speaker introduction.

So we're growing faster than Dallas, but so it Tarrant County, and they're bigger than us now.

Duncan made a plea for vaccinations. (Surely he's aware that he lives in a Republican stronghold? And vaccines are a conspiracy by the Libs?) He said that 75% of the county has at least one dose and that 65% are fully vaccinated. (So maybe the evil Libs are making inroads?) He frightened us with the thought that if you're over 40, unvaccinated, and contract covid, you are at high risk of being hospitalized. Over 70 (our Geriatric Club of Plano gasped), and you'll die. (That's stark for a politician!)

There are over 500 different vaccination sites in Plano; there's even a mobile vaccinator to come to you for free! It'll go to churches, clubs, "wherever the need is." (214) 491-4821

Covid19vaccine@co.Collin.tx.us

Duncan said the *Pfizer* "booster" is available now, and *Moderna's* may or may not come, but vaccines for the under-12 crowd certainly will. He recommended no mix and match with boosters. Out of 1.6M tested, 99K cases have been confirmed. 29% of all hospital beds are full of covid cases. But the rush is beginning to abate.

Bob Kehr wanted to know the extent of the Labor Day Surge and was told there was none.

There is a Regional Infusion Center for *Regeneron's monoclonal antibodies* which are administered free with a doctor's prescription. It's the same treatment Trump and Abbot received when they caught covid.

The American Rescue Plan monies from the Feds went to counties, cities, ISDs, hospitals, etc. Collin got \$200M for healthcare including a detention center infirmary. The last infusion of

cash is now earmarked for low-income and high-risk individuals. *Primacare* will treat those who qualify at no cost.

Clark Stadium is the largest available vaccination center in the county, but it can be closed in inclement weather. So a new facility is arising in McKinney for drive-thru vaccinations. As a measure of the depth of the pandemic, the Medical Examiner was overwhelmed with the number of covid deaths.

Texas received \$800M for housing assistance. Plano had a food & housing program. \$173M through CARES supported food pantries, law enforcement, and emergency housing relief.

On transportation, Duncan said that Dallas has far more miles of freeway than does Collin. He's been pushing expansion of the EW 380 and now an outer loop highway. Larry Webb asked about NIMBY (not in my backyard) and was told "it's rough." Such projects are as slow as molasses. He's only managed to get 380 as a line on a map let alone State approval and funding. Developers are frustrating that effort, constructing NEW BUILDINGS in the Right of Way. As it is, the line bypasses McKinney & Farmersville.

One new plan calls for a 3rd major airport in North Texas! (And DART to it perhaps?)

He's working to remove the HOV lane from 75. All the pylons will be gone eventually. Lanes will change from NS to SN during the day.

The tax rate for all this is "extremely low;" only 5 US counties have rates as low as ours.

Joe told Duncan we'd donate a book, *Generations at Work*," to the library in his name. Then he led us in the 5-Way Test and closed at 1:04.



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EMMA SMITH | 2 YEARS

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John Caldwell
Janelle Twyford-Silvis
Janelle Twyford Silvis

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Visiting Rotarian

Larry Webb

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