

ROTARY NOTARY



Member Birthdays:

<i>Anthony Ndungu</i>	3/17
<i>Darin Kater</i>	3/18

At Rotary Today:

Greeter: Elizabeth Farha

**Invocation, Flag Salute,
and Four-way test:**
Jessica Dunbar

Photography:
Ric Wolford
Fred Heismeyer

Rotary Anniversaries:
Greg Ek—15 years
Cathy McClain—15 years
Lindsay Hall—5 years

Wedding Anniversaries:
Dave & Sid Sproul—45 years
Fred & Patty Thurlow—40 years

Quote of the Week:

Consult not your fears but your hopes and your dreams. Think not about your frustrations, but about your unfulfilled potential. Concern yourself not with what you tried and failed in, but with what it is still possible for you to do.

— Pope John XXIII

BE A PART OF WICHITA'S BIG READ THIS MONTH AND NEXT



Today's speakers, Savannah Bell (L) and Nicole Rogers (R) promoted the annual Big Read, a National Endowment for the Arts annual event that highlights the shared experiences of reading a book and participating in a variety of events around it.

What better way to bring people together than by sharing the experience of reading the same book, then hosting discussions and presentations around it?

That's the premise of the annual "Big Read" event, sponsored by the Wichita Public Library. This is the fifteenth year for the Big Read in our community. "Can't We Talk About Something More Pleasant?" by cartoonist Roz Chast is this year's selection. The book is a memoir spanning the last few years of the lives of Chast's parents. Chast tells the story using color cartoons, family photos, and documents.

Savannah Bell, with the Wichita Public Library, said the book is based on the author's experiences as an only child dealing with her aging parents. Making it the focus of this year's Big Read

provides an opportunity to discuss heavy topics in a light-hearted manner. The choice of this book was meant to spur community-wide discussion about aging, caregiving, end-of-life issues, grief, and more. You can read the ebook using your library card from March 12—April 30.

A month's worth of events, including a mini film fest and a presentation by the author, are part of the Big Read. The film fest is a collaboration with the Tallgrass Film Association. Films will be shown on Thursdays beginning on March 16 through April 13 at 5:30 p.m. at the Advanced Learning Library, 711 W. 2nd St. A film chat will follow at the Monarch.

Other featured events that are part of the Big Read include a community topic discussion with the Medical Society of Sedgwick County, StoryTime with

Students, a Positive Aging Day Conference at WSU, and an Ethics Conference. A complete schedule of events can be found online at:

wichitalibrary.org/bigread

Dr. Nicole Rogers, the Chair of the College of Health Professions at WSU, said the book takes a super-heavy topic—our own mortality—and makes it funny. Family caregiving touches almost everyone's life, and yet we as a society don't do a very good job of tackling the topic of serious illness.

As a partner in the Big Read, WSU is hosting events that focus on aging. Wichita artist Micala Gingrich Gaylord will gather personal items connected with memories of love from local elders. "Love is Memory" will be shown from April 1 through May 20.

The Big Read culminates in a presentation by Roz Chast on Saturday, April 15 at the WSU Metroplex, 6:00 p.m. followed by a book signing. Get your book and join the Big Read.

Club Announcements:

Donations will be accepted through **March 22** for the Amani House Women's Shelter in Kenya. We are **SO CLOSE** to our goal of \$2,500—raising \$2,065 to date. Please refer to Kim's email for details and a link to contribute online.

On Sunday, April 16 there will be a special showing for all area Rotarians and their guests of "Ride of the Cyclone." Purchase your discounted tickets by **Wednesday, March 15**. Please see Kim's Tuesday email for details and the phone number to call for reservations/payment.

EWR Slate of Board Members for 2023–2024:

President: Darin Kater
 President-Elect: Tom Church
 Past President: Dane Estok
 Program Chair: Michael Moeder
 Secretary: Susan Addington
 Treasurer: Brittany Sweeney
 Community Service: Megan Madsen
 EWR Foundation Liaison: Denise Hearson
 Public Relations: Elizabeth Farha
 Social Activities: Jessica Dunbar
 Technology: Anthony Ndungu
 Membership: Alex Kruse
 Rotary Foundation: Dave Sproul

Next Week:

NO MEETING on Wednesday, March 15. See you back at the Wichita Country Club on March 22!

MORE AT ROTARY TODAY



A win-win for everyone! **Scott Hampel (L)** and **Greg Ek (R)** placed a friendly wager regarding the outcome of the Big 12 Men's Conference. The result was a win for the EWR Foundation (both purchased brackets in our "Battle of the Brackets" fundraiser) and nifty new sports attire for Texas fan Hampel, and Ek, a true-blue fan of KU.

MIXIN' IT UP WITH EWR



EWR members met at the WSU Rhatigan Student Center on March 9 for a mixer organized by president-elect **Darin Kater**. Looks like a fun time for all!

SERVICE WITH A SMILE

March's monthly community service was preparing a meal at the Ronald McDonald House. **Scott Nelson (L)** and **Larry Hund (R)** help put the finishing touches on a batch of chicken enchiladas for the day's meal. This year, EWR members are volunteering in the community on the first Wednesday of every month as part of our commitment to service above self.

