

# ROTARY NOTARY



## Member Birthdays:

<i>Chris Stanyer</i>	<b>10/13</b>
<i>John Schlicher</i>	<b>10/17</b>
<i>Scott Jensen</i>	<b>10/17</b>

## At Rotary Today:

**Greeter:** Tammie Rhea

**Invocation, Flag Salute, and Four-way test:**  
Deb Brinegar

**Photography:** Ric Wolford

**Special Guests:**  
Zach Cooper

**Rotary Anniversaries:**  
Denise Hearson—8 years  
Tammie Rhea—7 years

**Wedding Anniversaries:**  
Anthony & Emma Ndungu — 11 years

## Quote of the Week:

Give, give give—what is the point of having experience, knowledge, or talent if I don't give it away? Of having stories if I don't tell them to others? Of having wealth if I don't share it? I don't intend to be cremated with any of it! It is in giving that I connect with others, with the world, and with the divine.

— Isabelle Allende

## AN ATHLETE'S DREAM BECOMES A LIFE OF SERVICE



Ben French started Shepherd's Way after meeting a young man named Dallas who forever changed his life, perspective, passion, and sense of direction. Shepherd's Way teaches adults with intellectual disabilities to learn to live independently. The program is meant to be a launching pad, not a landing pad, creating a roadmap for independence.

**B**en French had a plan. He was going to pitch for a major league baseball team. He had the talent and the desire. All he needed was a chance to prove himself. With a .45 ERA at the end of his junior year of high school, offers came in that summer.

Then challenges arrived in the form of injuries requiring months of rehabilitation. A broken scapula, a broken hand, and a pulled oblique muscle forever changed his plans of pitching in the major leagues. Where some might have despaired, Ben's deep religious faith, formed in college after attending a Bible study, led him to see that God might be leading him in a new direction.

This new direction brought Ben back to Wichita where he slowly found his purpose after meeting Dallas, a 6' 7" young man with autism.

Dallas and his family had been living at St. Anthony Family Shelter and were about to reach the time limit for their stay. Ben signed a lease on a two-bedroom apartment downtown and began teaching Dallas the life skills that the world said he would never be able to learn: managing his own budget, transportation, personal hygiene, meal preparation, and getting a job.

For Ben, the key to the helping Dallas make changes in his life was seeing him not for his circumstances or his disability, but for his identity and potential. Today Dallas thrives on his own. If you shop at Dillons at Central and Rock, he may have helped sack your groceries. He has worked there since 2017, when he graduated from Chisholm Life Skills Center, a program of the Wichita Public Schools.

There are 3,700 adults in Kansas whose situation is comparable to that of Dallas. If the state takes care of them throughout their lifetime, the cost per individual is around \$2.3 million. But an investment in their potential, helping them achieve independence through housing, peer mentoring, and career development, can reduce that cost to \$200,000.

Under the Shepherd's Way model, two mentors and two individuals live in a four-bedroom home, allowing for the necessary one-to-one coaching support, as well as community living to enhance the development of social skills.

The work of Shepherd's Way promises brighter futures for adults with untapped potential as employees, neighbors, and citizens. If you'd like to help, please contact Ben at [bfrench@shepherds-way.org](mailto:bfrench@shepherds-way.org).

**Announcements:**

Coming up this **Thursday, October 20!** The Wichita-Sedgwick County Historical Museum is hosting a special after-work celebration at 5:30 p.m. of the live online launch of the Sedgwick County Image archive. This is a project EWR helped fund with a 2021—2022 District Grant. Spouses and guests are welcome but please let Kim know so there is a good head count for the event.

Special thanks to **Alison O'Trimble** for

volunteering to chair our annual Thanksgiving dinner delivery drive! Currently we estimate that a dinner with all the fixin's will cost around \$85. But donations in any amount are gratefully accepted! And if you enjoy delivering turkey dinners, please sign up at Kim's table for this opportunity for service above self!

**Announcements:**

**Kevin Rathert** has a new granddaughter, born September 16. **Cathy McClain** will have a new daughter-in-law soon! **Darin Kater** was named Outstanding Fundraising Professional of the Year by the Association of Fundraising Professionals. And **Brian Burrus**, who sat behind the Raiders bench at the Chiefs game on Oct. 10, said the calls weren't any better in person than they appeared on tv.

**Next Week:**

Colonel Edward Sykes will be our speaker next **Wednesday, October 19.**

## MORE AT ROTARY TODAY



**Dave Sproul (L)** receives a handshake of appreciation from club president **Dane Estok** for earning his Paul Harris + 4 pin. We're grateful for all you do to advance Rotary's work around the world, Dave!

Add two more names to the Paul Harris honor roll! **Dave Sproul** presented **Cathy McClain (L)** and **Tammie Rhea** with their first Paul Harris pins for each of their gifts to the Rotary Foundation totaling \$1,000. Congratulations to both of you!



Welcome new EWR member **Chris Stanyer!** He's the Chief Mission Officer for Goodwill Industries and a former Downtown Rotary member. He lives in Towanda with his wife Jennifer and is being sponsored by EWR President-Elect **Darin Kater**. We're glad you're here, Chris!