

# ROTARY ROTAGRAPH

Official Publication of the Rotary Club of Fort Worth, Texas

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March 20, 2009

## Editorial

### A Look at the Bright Side



*Robert Gleason*

It's difficult to find much positive economic news in the current national climate. Every day we're greeted with a barrage of negative information on the health of the economy and with chart after chart of data showing an arrow headed south.

Those of us in Fort Worth, however, should take a moment to step back and evaluate how lucky we are to live and work in this market. We're not immune from the economic slowdown facing the nation, but a look at the conditions here shows that at least when it comes to housing, the Fort Worth market remains steady. Our strong job growth, diverse economy, and enduring real estate values make economic conditions in Fort Worth significantly better than national averages.

When we hear news that "prices are down 41 percent", these reports

reflect the conditions in California or Arizona when in fact, here in Fort Worth we continue to see growth in average and median sales prices in several areas of town. For instance, in the Fort Worth Central West & Southwest (TCU) sub-area, January 2009 average prices were up 5 percent from January 2008, on the same number of sales. The average length of inventory in Fort Worth housing stock is 5.5 months (anything under six months is considered extremely low by national standards). With the exception of one sub-area, homes in all sub-areas in Fort Worth averaged less than 90 days on the market in 2008. And, this data does not reflect the home sales that go unreported or are sold before they hit the market.

The strength of our city hasn't gone unnoticed. Fort Worth ranked third on Builder magazine's list of "Healthiest Housing Markets for 2009". The Fort Worth-Arlington area is ranked least likely in the country to experience home-price depreciation in the next two years (PMI Group, Inc.). It's not just analysts; our population growth projections show that new businesses and new residents are also aware of our success.

So, while the negative economic news from around the country may continue, there are some bright spots. And Fort Worth certainly shines brighter than most.

*~ Robert Gleason,  
Greater Fort Worth Association of  
Realtors*

## Program

March 20, 2009

### SPEAKER:

**Drew Pearson,**  
Sports Broadcaster  
Former Cowboys Wide Receiver  
FORT WORTH CLUB

**Chairman for the Day:**  
*Jim Austin*

**NEWSCAST:** *Tom Williams*

# Last Meeting



**Joseph DeWoody**

As a former University of Kansas volleyball player, past Rotary president, and current Deputy Editorial Page Editor for the Fort Worth Star Telegram, *J.R. Labbe*, had no problem in the role of pinch hitting speaker at last week's meeting. Delivering a rousing talk entitled, "Somebody has to be First", *J.R.* dazzled the audience with tales of the all of the firsts in her life.

*J.R.* was in the first wave of women to join Rotary in 1987, followed by being hired as the first full time female editorial writer at the Star Telegram in 1992. These roles have provided her with unique experiences in which she can lend advice and insight on such topics as: never owing apologies because of gender, being tested as a team player as a woman in leadership, working in tandem with others, learning how to be competitive, daring to be different and take risks, good communication, and the importance of women learning how

to play golf.

A self-admitted "policy wonk", *J.R.*'s favorite topics to write about include government, defense, military, criminal defense, foreign justice, and Texas Politics. She believes as deeply in the second amendment as the first and believes all of these critical issues apply as strongly to women as they do to men.

When asked about the status and future of the Star Telegram, *J.R.* admonished the attempt to compare the Dallas Morning News and Fort Worth Star Telegrams' markets to those of other two paper cities. She mentioned that there are currently more eyes accessing the paper's material than ever before and the paper's current desire to monetize these eyes and shape data presentation for the future. *J.R.* is excited about the changes the paper is currently facing and is looking forward to the future when they can most efficiently and effectively provide data when, where, and how the customer desires.

*Judith Carrier* offered the invocation; *Bonnie Sudderth* accompanied the singing of the national anthem on the piano. *Kimberly Jerige* introduced visiting guests and Rotarians, *Gary Grant* gave the newscast and *Sid Johnston* gave first readings and presented blue badges.

~ *Joseph DeWoody*,  
Pendragon Oil Company

# Make-Up Attendance

Fort Worth East — 3.9.09 — *Wilton Hammond, Emil Friberg, Bill McHarg*

Western Fort Worth — x3.10.09 — *Clem Constantine*

Fort Worth South — 2.24.09 — *Raymond Darrow, Ted Mack Wilton Hammond, Kathryn Bryan*  
3.3.09 *James Rose*

Fort Worth North — 3.4.09 — *Terry Williamson*

Fort Worth Southwest — 3.9.09 — *Larry Mundt*

*Judith Carrier* ..... Online

## Next Week's Program

March 27, 2009

**SPEAKER:**

**Dr. Scott Ransom,**  
President,  
UNT Health Science Center

Chairman of the Day:

*Kenneth Barr*

ROTARIAN: *Mike Guyton*

ROTARIAN: *Marianne Irvin, Charleen Goldston, Jerry Hendrix*

ROTARIAN: *Wayne Carson*

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# Friday's Speaker

# 100% Attendance



Drew Pearson

Drew Pearson began his football career at South River High School where he succeeded Joe Theismann as quarterback. He attended the University of Tulsa where he caught 33 passes as a flanker for a run-oriented team. There he received the University's President's Award as the team's "best spirited and most unselfish" member. Pearson graduated from Tulsa in 1972.

In 1973, Pearson was selected as a free agent by the Dallas Cowboys, where he rose to become one of the NFL's greatest wide receivers, earning career records of 489 receptions and 7,822 receiving yards, along with 189 rushing yards, 155 yards returning kickoffs, and 50 touchdowns (48 receiving and 2 fumble recoveries). Named one of the Top 20 Pro Football All-Time Wide Receivers, he was also recognized for his achievements by being named to the 1970's NFL Hall of Fame's All-Decade Team.

Pearson was named All-Pro 3 times (1974, 1976-77) All-NFC in

1975 and 2nd Team All-NFC in 1978. In addition, Pearson was a Pro Bowler in 1974, 1976 and 1977. Pearson led the National Football Conference (NFC) in pass receptions in 1976 with 58. He served as offensive captain for the Cowboys in 1977, 1978, 1982 and 1983.

Pearson's success as a Cowboy resulted in three NFC Pro Bowl appearances, three Super Bowl appearances and a victory in Super Bowl XII in 1978. He also scored a touchdown in Super Bowl X.

In 1980, the Cowboys selected Pearson as their nominee for NFL Man of the Year. Pearson is known around the NFL as "Mr. Clutch" for his numerous clutch catches in game-winning situations, especially the "Hail Mary" reception from Roger Staubach that sealed the victory in a 1975 playoff game, one of the most famous plays in NFL history.

Since his retirement in 1983, Pearson has worked extensively as a sports broadcaster for such networks as CBS and HBO, and he currently hosts the 98.7 KLUV Dallas Cowboys post-game show. He is also the CEO of Drew Pearson Companies, a manufacturer of licensed headwear since 1985.

Please join us this Friday to congratulate the following members who have achieved 100% attendance, consecutive years as of December 31, 2008.

## 49 Years

*Bill McHarg*

## 37 Years

*Emil Friberg*

*Wilton Hammond*

## 21 Years

*Judith Carrier*

## 19 Years

*Kathryn Bryan*

## 5 Years

*Clem Constantine*

## 3 Years

*Sid Johnston*



## Advertise here!

Rotarians are family and we stick together, so place your ad here where we can find you! Contact one of these committee members now to reserve your space!

**Deadline-May 15!**

*Marilyn Ackmann  
Raymond Darrow  
Erma Johnson-Hadley  
Barbara Lamsens  
Jim Parr*

*Jim Austin  
Victor Garcia  
Brad Hancock  
Martin Noto  
Paula Parrish*





## WILKIE, CHRISTOPHER M.

"Chris" November 7



**Associations - First Command Educational Foundation**

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[cwilkie@firstcommand.org](mailto:cwilkie@firstcommand.org)  
 9029 Morning Meadow Drive  
 Keller, 76248 817.714.4065

Christina 2009

Dr. Chris Wilkie is the Deputy Executive Director of First Command Educational Foundation. Having earned his doctorate of Human Sexuality from the Institute of Advanced Study of Human Sexuality, Chris participates in Infectious Disease community planning for the State of Texas. He and his wife, Christina, have an 18 month old daughter, Mayson and they enjoy participating in church activities together.

ROTARY CLUB OF FORT WORTH, TEXAS

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### ROTAGRAPH

Craig Schaefer / Roger Yandell ..... Co-Editors  
Associate Editors

Roger Yandell ..... Last Meeting  
 Perry Pillow ..... Advertising  
 Roger Yandell ..... Personals  
 Craig Schaefer ..... New Members  
 Craig / Roger ..... Editorials

## Personals



The City of Fort Worth Commission for Women recently honored the 2009 Outstanding Women of Fort Worth in the field of advocacy for women. *Kathryn Bryan* was presented with the award for 2009 Outstanding Woman Volunteer at the Fort Worth City Council Meeting last week. Other awards were given to Outstanding Women in the Workplace, Outstanding Young Woman Volunteer, and the Outstanding Women's Advocacy Organization. *Kathryn* was pleased to share this special evening with many friends, husband Lowell and other family members including her 92-year old mother who resides in Ft. Worth.

### You can make a difference!

Friday, April 3, 2009  
 Fort Worth Club  
 Camellia Rooms  
 10:00 am - 2:00pm



- 4.5 million American lives are saved each year by blood transfusions.
- Someone needs blood every three seconds.
- Three lives are saved by one pint of donated blood.
- Ten pints of blood are in the body of an average adult.
- One unit of blood is roughly the equivalent of one pint.
- A, B, AB and O are the four main types of blood types. AB is the universal recipient, O negative is the universal donor.
- Blood centers often run short of types O and B blood.
- Shortages of all blood types happen during the summer and winter holidays.



## Call us...

Have you received an award? a promotion? undertook some civic role? traveled overseas (or anywhere)? underwent major surgery? married? caught a champion-size fish? won a golf tournament? shot a hole-in-one? fathered (or grandfathered) or mothered (or grandmothered) twins or triplets? have an unusual hobby? any other out-of-the ordinary activity? If you have, call, fax or email the information to the Rotary office for insertion of your news in the *Personals* column of the *Rotagraph*.  
 Phone: 332-7977 or E-mail [neva@rotaryfortworth.org](mailto:neva@rotaryfortworth.org).