Dr. Sylvester Youlo, an orthopedic surgeon and sports medicine specialist at Ascension Via Christi, is also an author of fiction and non-fiction books including, “The Boy from Pleebo”, a book about his journey from struggles as a boy born to teenage parents in Pleebo, Liberia, to one of the top graduates of Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine in Ohio, serving a residency in Orthopedic surgery at the University of Wisconsin Hospital and a Fellowship in sports medicine at the University of Kentucky. He has a special interest in sports injuries and likes to have the patient understand their medical condition and fully participate in the treatment plan.

Outside of the office Sylvester enjoys writing, public speaking and cooking. He is best known for his book, “The Boy from Pleebo”: a gut-wrenching yet heartwarming story of grit, survival, perseverance, and never relinquishing a dream no matter how impossible it seems. It begins in the small town of Pleebo, in Liberia, and ends in the US. Sylvester tells his true story of a young African boy’s optimism in the face of illnesses, poverty and his harrowing experiences as he alone tries to escape a civil war that is ravaging his home country in West Africa. The book allows the reader to see, and even experience, the life of a teenager as he, without parents, treks from one refugee camp to another around Africa. It ends with how the once forgotten refugee kid will become one of the top graduates of an American medical school. The book also navigates a unique but complex relationship between Liberia and the United States dating back to the end of the slave trade. It addresses repatriation of free black slaves to Africa, and the creation of a society in Africa that resembles the American segregated society of the pre-nineteen sixties. These events would set the stage for a bloody fourteen-year civil war in Liberia.

Sylvester will have copies of “The Boy from Pleebo” and his most recent book, “PEASCO” available for purchase.

Entering his 38th season in pro baseball, Jay Miller spent the last three years as President of the Sugar Land Skeeters, overseeing two Atlantic League championships and successive attendance increases, highlighted by a league-record single-game mark in 2016. The veteran baseball executive was named Senior Vice President of the Texas Rangers in 2010 and promoted to Executive VP for Rangers Enterprises, Customer Service and Sales in 2012. During his five seasons with the Rangers, including two World Series appearances, he was involved with business operations, sponsorship sales and customer experience.

In 2015, Jay returned to the Round Rock Express as team president and oversaw one of Minor League Baseball’s most successful franchises from 1999-2010. The Express established a new Double-A attendance record in their inaugural season in 2000 more than 660,000 fans and he was named Texas League Executive of the Year.

Jay was awarded The Sporting News’ Minor League Executive of the Year in 2001 and 2003, and named Baseball America’s Minor League Executive of the Year in 2005, when he oversaw Round Rock’s move to Triple-A and the club eclipsed 700,000 in attendance. Prior to coming to Round Rock, the Chicago native was General Manager of the New Orleans Zephyrs from 1996-98, when he oversaw the construction of a new stadium and led the franchise to record attendance totals in 1997 and 1998, the latter of which was capped by the Zephyrs winning the first-ever Triple-A World Series championship.

A 1981 graduate of Wheaton College, Jay began his baseball career in 1982 as Assistant General Manager with the Eugene Emeralds (Short Season A; Northwest League). After serving as General Manager of the Salem Redbirds (High A; Carolina League), he accepted a position with the Texas Rangers and became the team’s Director of Customer Relations during a 12-year stay with the franchise.

In 1997, Jay was named to the Wheaton College Baseball Hall of Fame. He was also named to the East Aurora (IL) High School Hall of Fame in 2003, the Florida State League Hall of Fame in 2009 and entered the New Orleans Professional Baseball Hall of Fame in 2011.
Congratulations!

**Birthdays**

Andrew Hippisley 03/19  
Dick Shaw 03/21  
Kevin Colborn 03/23  
Grant Stannard 03/23  
Art Allen 03/24

**Anniversaries**

Tim Witsman 31 years  
Martha Housholder 31 years  
Paul Attwater 24 years  
Sue Tirukonda 8 years

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**MENU — March 25**

- Metro Salad
- Beef Burgundy
- Chicken Pesto
- Pasta Primavera Alfredo
- Mashed Potatoes
- Asparagus & Baby Carrots
- Bite Size Desserts

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**ROTARY MEETING - MARCH 18TH**

Guest Speaker, Col Mark Baran, informed and delighted us with his knowledge and humor regarding the KC-46 and the courageous people who keep it in the air.

Sue Tirukonda introduced new Rotary member, LaTasha St. Arnault. Welcome, LaTasha!

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**JUST SAYIN’…**

THE ROTARY OFFICE CLOSES AT 10:30 AM ON MONDAYS TO LEAVE FOR BOTANICA AND SET UP THE NOON ROTARY MEETING. IF YOU CALL OR EMAIL AFTER 10:30 TO ADD OR CANCEL A GUEST WE WILL NOT RECEIVE IT UNTIL AFTER THE MEETING.

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**MORE UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

- April 1 — Jay Miller, President, Wichita Baseball, 2020
- April 8 — Richard Rierson, CEO, Dose of Leadership
- April 15 — Keitha Adams, Women’s Shockers Basketball Coach
- April 22 — Scott Colby, Financial Advisor
Past President, Tammy Allen, congratulated members on their anniversaries. Congratulations Jim Grier, 45 years, Ben Grisamore, 30 years and Dave Crockett 40 years. Thank you for your years of service to the Wichita Rotary Club!

Tammy congratulated Rachel Janes and Scott Schwindaman on their Red Badge exchange. Well done, Rachel and Scott!