

Friedmans charter members of Rotary

DAYTON - The Dayton Rotary Club is gaining further insight into its founding members as preparations advance for the upcoming 100th Anniversary Celebration. The club has uncovered interesting facts about the 20 Charter Members, many of whom had multiple connections within the original Dayton Rotary community.

Did you know that there were two Louis Friedmans among the original charter members? One was known as Louis S. Friedman, and the other simply as Louis Friedman. The two Louis Friedmans were actually cousins, both born in Hungary and both settling in Dayton, Texas.

Louis (without the S) Friedman was born on Christmas Day in 1870. At the age of 17, he immigrated to the United States in 1887 through Ellis Island. In 1895, he relocated to Dayton and founded Dayton's first mercantile store with an initial investment of only \$5,000. Friedman's Store was the largest retail establishment in Dayton for many years. In 1901, Louis married Anna Pearl Kaplan, and together they had seven children. One of their daughters was highly musically talented and was sent to the Juilliard School in New York City for training. Their daughter, Rebecca, who was well known in the community, returned to Dayton to teach music and piano to many residents. Louis Friedman was well respected and loved in the community, known for his generous spirit. He was a philanthropist who donated generously to both Dayton and Liberty communities. It is often recounted that, despite his Jewish heritage, Friedman contributed all the

Methodist hymnals to the First Methodist Church of Dayton during the early 1930s, at the onset of the Great Depression. His family later purchased a second home in Houston, and Louis embarked on a second career in real estate, where he achieved significant success. For many years, Louis and his family divided their time between Dayton and Houston until he eventually sold the Dayton property and moved permanently to Houston. In 1941, Louis Friedman became a U.S. citizen. He loved this country and felt grateful for the opportunities provided to him and his family. Louis Friedman passed away on December 21, 1947, and is buried in the Jewish Cemetery in Houston.

Louis S. Friedman, a relative of the other Louis, followed a similar path in life. He was born in Hungary on January 21, 1893, making him the younger of the two Louises. Nearly 12 years after Louis immigrated to the United States, Louis S. arrived in America in 1899 as a child. He petitioned for U.S. citizenship in 1918 to serve in World War I, which he did. On March 23, 1919, Louis S. married Esther Klein, whose family owned Klein's Hardware and General Store in Dayton. They had four children. Louis S. served on the Dayton Independent School District Board and was actively involved in the Dayton community. Like his cousin Louis, he was very proud to be an American citizen. Although he registered for the draft during World War II, he was unable to serve due to his age (47 years old). He passed away shortly thereafter on November 28, 1943.

The Dayton Rotary Club has enjoyed learning about the charter members - both their connections with fellow charter members and their ties to the Dayton community. Rotarian Dr. Jessica Johnson, who has been conducting research for the 100th anniversary, stated, "A special thank you goes to Caroline Wadzeck. She has played a key role in helping the club gather information about all of the charter members. We truly appreciate her efforts as we reflect on our historic journey in preparation for our upcoming celebration." Wadzeck, a former Dayton mayor, also serves as an officer of the Dayton Historical Society and is a docent along with being one of the curators at the local Old School Museum.



LOUIS FRIEDMAN



LOUIS S. FRIEDMAN

NEXT FBC FOOD PANTRY TUES., APRIL 14

DAYTON - Dayton First Baptist Church Food Pantry will hold its next food distribution Tues., April 14, from 9-11:30 a.m. The pantry will only be able to serve those with a Dayton 77535 zip code; proof of residence will be required. This will be a walk-in pantry, so please park and come into the food pantry entrance on the north side of the Family Life Center on Nelson Street. Picking up for others will not be allowed except under dire circumstances. The food distribution will be available the second Tuesday of each month.

Transportation assistance for veterans

Veterans, surviving spouses, and dependents may all be eligible for free transportation services. If you need transportation to local or out of town medical appointments, lab visits, outpatient procedures or picking up prescriptions at the pharmacy, the RISE Center may be able to help. Contact the RISE Center at 409-832-

2599 to find out more. A DD214 - Texas-issued, non-expired ID is required.

This program is supported by a grant from the Texas Veterans Commission Fund for Veterans' Assistance. The Fund for Veteran's Assistance provides grants to organizations serving veterans and their families. For more information, visit tvv.texas.gov.



Dr. Nitin Mahajan Cardiologist



Dr. Nitin Mahajan is a board-certified specialist in the interventional cardiology field. His clinical interests include the treatment of coronary artery disease, hypertension, peripheral vascular disease, fibrillation, congestive heart failure, hypercholesterolemia, critical limb ischemia, and varicose veins. Passionate about providing high quality care for cardiovascular diseases, Dr. Mahajan believes in educating patients so that they can become active participants in their own health and live healthier lives.

Dr. Mahajan earned his medical degree from Maulana Azad Medical College (University of Delhi) in India. He obtained his Master of Public Health degree from the University of Texas School of Public Health. He completed his residency at the Maimonides Medical Center and did his fellowship in general cardiology at Wayne State University in Detroit, followed by a fellowship in interventional cardiology at Michigan State University.

His holistic practice philosophy embraces a focus on personal attention to each individual, treating them with respect and dignity regardless of their condition.

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1201 NORTH TRAVIS STREET - LIBERTY

SHC collecting books for military, vets

LIBERTY - The Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center (SHC), as part of its Texas America250 programming, has announced a new book drive in support of our military and veterans. The SHC Quarterly Book Club has partnered with Operation Paperback to support active-duty military, veterans and their families with books donated through the club. Books must be new or gently used, without writing or damage, and can be either paperback or hardback. To ensure books are in like-new condition, publication dates within the past 5-7 years are preferred. Popular categories include mysteries, action novels, westerns, fantasy and science fiction, but all genres are welcome. Military and veterans also request nonfiction

genres, like history, current events and business and investing books. Club members and Center staff plan to deliver books to the Veteran Affairs Medical Center in Houston for use in clinics throughout Southeast Texas and to ship books through Operation Paperback.

By working with Operation Paperback, the club can send books where they will be of most benefit, which may be to troops overseas, wounded warrior programs, military families or hospitals. Club members invite the community to bring book donations to the Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center, 650 FM1011, during regular business hours Tuesday to Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Books will be collected through July 4.



Richard Till was in charge of mixing up the pancake batter for those tasty pancakes at the Dayton Noon Lions pancake supper last Thursday.

Boots, Bling & Bandanas, April 25

DAYTON - Join CASA of Liberty and Chambers Counties for dinner, live and silent auctions, entertainment and an evening to benefit the ongoing work in support of children and families in crisis. The annual fundraising gala, Boots, Bling & Bandanas, will be held at the Dayton Community Center, Sat., April 25, from 6-11 p.m. Help put an end to child abuse by becoming a partner in the community and supporting this worthwhile cause.

Tickets are \$50/individual or \$500 for a table for 10. Sponsorship packages range from \$250 to \$5,000 with donations in any amount gladly accepted.

Donations for the silent and live auctions are currently being accepted and help raise funds to serve CASA's mission of advocating for the best interests of children who have been abused or neglected in the court system. Use the QR code to register. To arrange for pick up of auction items, call 936-334-9000.



St. Patrick's Day Luncheon

Betty Farthing	Barbara Parrish	Nafanua Pilgreen	Ethel Henderson
Doris Morgan	Jeannette Matthews	Lois Watts	James Stewart
	<h3 style="color: #2e7d32;">Magnolia Place</h3> <p>HEALTH CARE, LLP 1620 Magnolia Street, Liberty Phone: 936-336-8844 • Fax: 936-336-5316 magnoliaplacellp.com</p>		
Laverne Zbranek			Juan Morales