



The Leawood Rotarian

The Newsletter of the Leawood Rotary Club

Celebrating Over 30 Years!

leawoodrotary.org

August 17, 2025

This Week's Program: Courtney Brooks, CEO of Global Ties

GLOBALTIES > KC

Global Ties KC has served as the premier connection point and the bridge between the heartland and the world for over 70 years by activating citizen diplomacy and relationship-building through exchange.

GLOBALTIES > KC



Courtney Brooks

President & CEO

Courtney holds an MBA & a BA in Political Science, Economics, and International Studies. She has been to all 7 continents, and has lived in China and South America. She enjoys being able to share the Midwestern spirit of hospitality with the world!



Click link below to launch Zoom

Meeting ID: 813 1042 7816

Passcode: Rotary

[Launch Meeting - Zoom](#)

Invoker for August 21:

Steve Black

Greeter Captain for August 21:

Carlos Vides

Greeters for August:

Ron Slepitz
Diane Stoddard
Tom Sullivan
Hemi Vats
Carlos Vides
Richard Wetzler

Upcoming Meetings:

Aug 28 – Board Meeting

Sept. 4 – Sara Swearingen, Junior Achievement

Sept. 11 – Heart to Heart International

Sept. 18 – Rotary District Meeting

Sept. 25 – Board Meeting

Oct. 2 – Fred Hefer, Using Analytics vs. Human Trafficking

Oct. 9 – Mike Davisson, Blue Valley Fathers' Club

Highlights of the August 14 Meeting:



Shombi Sharp



Dee Selley

We heard from a surprise visitor, Shombi Sharp, Stu and Diane Sharp's nephew, who serves as the UN Resident Coordinator in India. He spoke about the importance of creating connections with the world community and working together to solve problems.

We also heard a great presentation from Dee Selley with Gift of Life about organ donation. Dee and her colleagues present about organ donation to area high schools and educate the public about the importance of organ donation. <https://gift donor.org/>

Follow Leawood Rotary on Social Media!

Did you know Leawood Rotary has a presence on the three top social media sites? Click on the links under the three icons below to check them out and follow!



[Facebook](#)



[\(3\) Rotary Club of Leawood \(@Rotary30590\) / X](#)



[Instagram](#)

August 7: Parlor Pop-Up Event



A group of Leawood Rotarians gathered for our first Pop-Up event of the new Rotary year at **Parlor**, 1707 Locust Street in Kansas City, MO. Parlor is a comfortable place to relax and socialize while enjoying great drinks and phenomenal food from all walks of life! Many thanks to Anita Williams for organizing this fun event.

August 16: District TEAM Training

District 5710 TEAM Training took place on August 16 at Maceli's in Lawrence. "The Power of Collaboration" was one of the themes, which including discussions led by Ken Selzer and Chuck Udell. Our club received a Club Excellence Award as well!



Leawood Rotary in the PODlight!

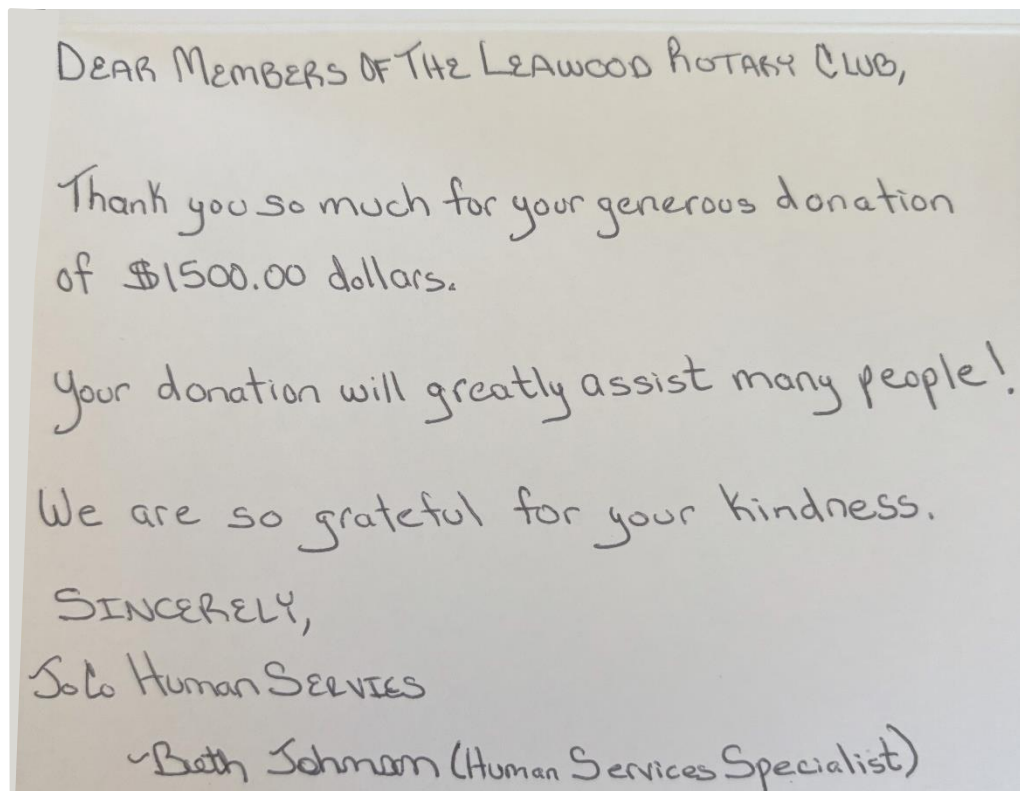


Beth Breitenstein, Leawood's Strategic Communications Director, recently invited Darren Lippe and Lisa Harrison to be part of her Leawood 360 Podcast. The three discussed all things Leawood Rotary, including our many service projects, our upcoming Labor Day 5K, and much more. The podcast is a little over 20 minutes long, and Darrin and Lisa managed to squeeze a lot of great club information into the segment. It's a great listen! Here is a link to the podcast:

[Leawood 360 Podcast | Leawood, KS](#)

A Note of Thanks

Jake Schloegel received this thank you note from Beth Johnson with Johnson County Aging and Human Services, regarding our club's recent donation.





LEAWOOD ROTARY CLUB

LABOR DAY 5K

MONDAY SEPT. 1ST **LEAWOOD CITY PARK**

STARTING AT 7:30 AM 10601 LEE BLVD. LEAWOOD, KS

Mark Your Calendars:

August 28: Blue Valley Education Foundation Breakfast, 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Overland Park Convention Center. Rotary volunteers required to be in position by 6:50 a.m. Contact Sonja Evans for details.

September 1: Leawood Rotary Labor Day Run, Leawood City Park

September 18 - 20: Rotary District 5710 Conference. Hyatt Conference Center in Lenexa, KS. Click the link below for more information and to register:

[Rotary District Conference 2025](#)

