



The Leawood Rotarian

The Newsletter of the Leawood Rotary Club

Celebrating Over 30 Years!

leawoodrotary.org

November 2, 2025

The Week Ahead: November 6: Mision Despegue Marialexa Sanoja Uriarte



**misión
despegue**

PARENTS,
THE MAGIC
INGREDIENT



Marialexa Sanoja Uriarte
Founder & CEO, Misión Despegue

Misión Despegue, Inc is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization deeply committed to preventing, educating, and raising awareness of our youth's challenges and risks. Our mission is to empower Spanish-speaking families by sharing knowledge, encouraging them to find their voice and get involved in their children's education to reduce violence, suicides, and substance abuse. Our vision is to guide them based on their specific circumstances and goals and show them a path to their unique and individual journey, taking off positively.

Invoker: Phil Gibbs

Greeters: Lisa Harrison, Mel Hawk, Mary Jo Holland, Del Karmeier, Don Keith, Roxann Kerr-Lindsey, Tom Koch



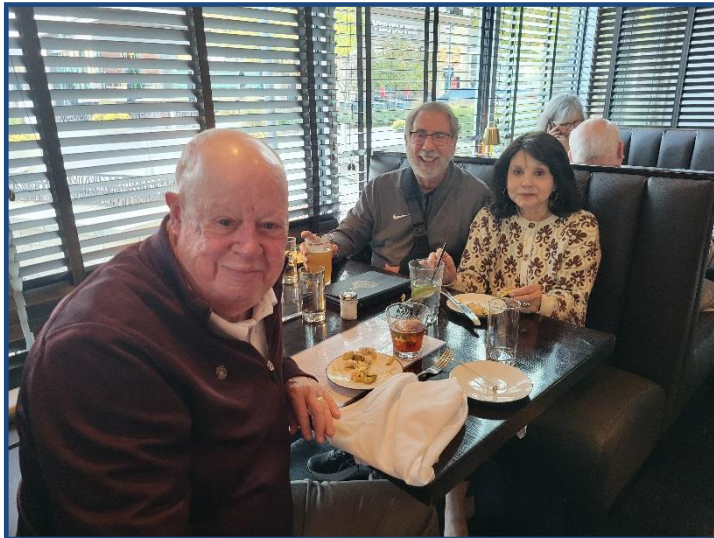
Click link below to launch Zoom

[Launch Meeting - Zoom](#)

Meeting ID: 813 1042 7816
Passcode: Rotary

Scenes From a Social

On October 30, Leawood Rotarians gathered for a fun social event at the Brass Onion in Prairiefire. The appetizers were delicious, the beverages flowing, and the conversation engaging. Leawood Rotarians are not just people of action, but also of FUN! Many thanks to Anita Williams for arranging this event!



2025 Fireside Chat

On October 22, members new to our club this year, their mentors and spouses gathered for the annual "Fireside Chat" at the home of Mary Reed. This is a great opportunity for our new members to learn more about our club and all the great things we do. Thank you, Mary for hosting this fun and informative gathering!



October 24: Club Receives Proclamation

On October 24, Mayor Elkins presented members of the Leawood Rotary Club with a proclamation for World Polio Day. The Leawood Club is very supportive of Rotary's efforts to eradicate Polio from the planet, and many are members of the PolioPlus Society.



Rotary Member Moment: Carlos Vides



We are starting a new feature called "Rotary Member Moment," which will feature a member in a short video explaining a little about themselves, their profession, and what drew them to become a member of Rotary. Our first "star" is Carlos Vides, a small business mentor who sought mentoring for himself through Rotary relationships. Carlos has a genuine care and concern for others, and it is evident in all that he does. You can watch Carlos's video on Facebook or Instagram by clicking on the corresponding link below:

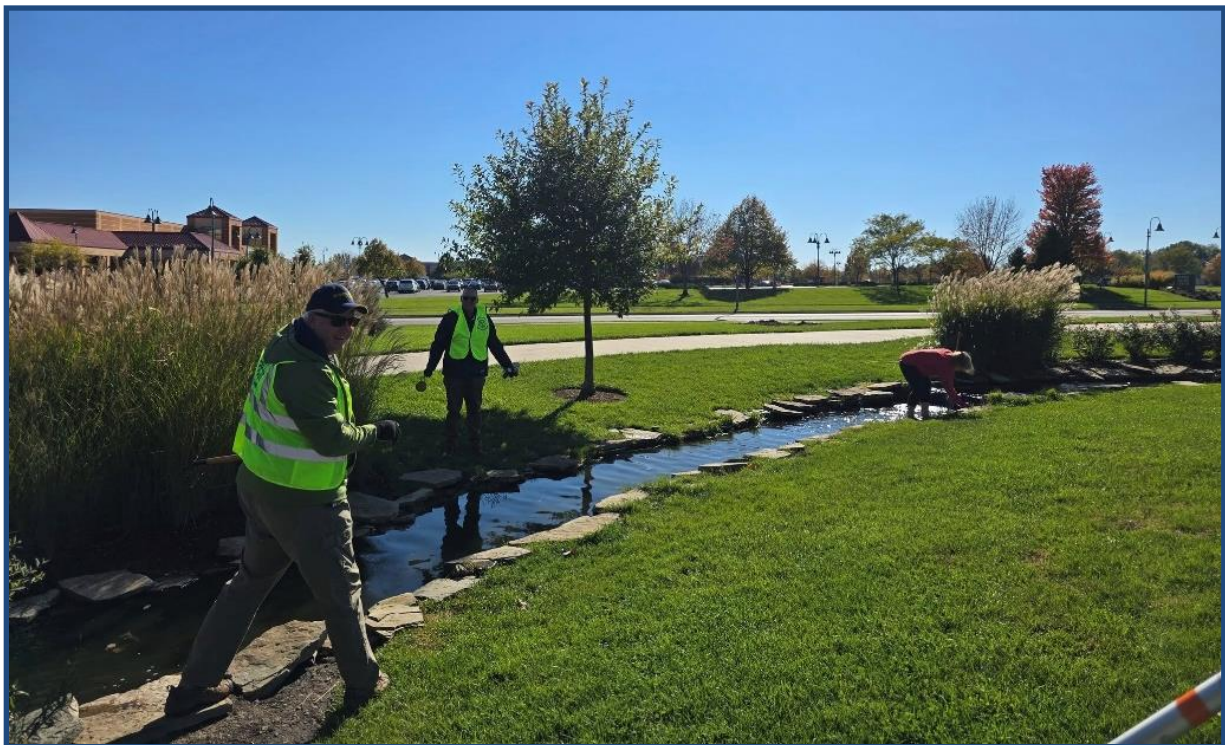
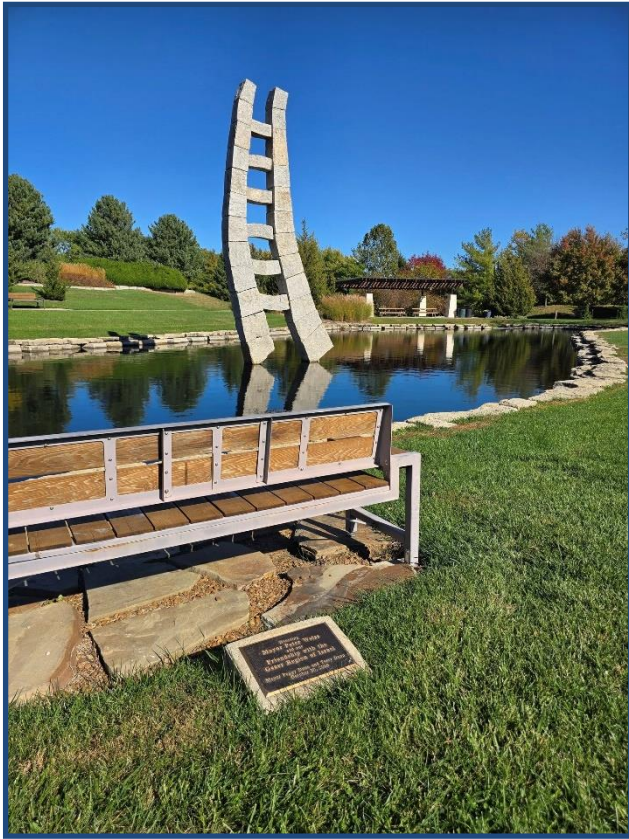
[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

Great video, Carlos! We are so proud to have you as a member of Leawood Rotary!!

Pop-Up Service Project: November 2

Members of Leawood Rotary met Sunday afternoon, November 2, to clean up one of Leawood's local gems - - Gezer Park. Visitors to the park, located at 133rd & Mission Road, can see several Rotarians mentioned on plaques for their contributions to this wonderful public space. The weather was fantastic, and the companionship matched! Leawood Rotarians - - People of Action!



Rotary Rewind:



In this photo from October 2013, Leawood Rotarians gathered in costume to participate in the city's "Trunk or Treat" event at Leawood City Park. Included in this photo are, from the left: Julie Burns, the late Charles Lusk, Dustin Burns, Margie Valentine, and Brad Moore as the Nerd!

Looking Ahead:

November Meetings:

November 13:

Club Assembly

November 20:

Rotary Foundation

December 4:

Genesis Mercado,
The Ella Initiative

Invocators for November:

November 13 – Lisa Harrison

November 20 – Mel Hawk

November 27 – No meeting

Greeters for November:

Lisa Harrison, Mel Hawk, Mary Jo
Holland, Del Karmeier, Don Keith,
Roxann Kerr-Lindsey, Tom Koch