



The Leawood Rotarian

The Newsletter of the Leawood Rotary Club

Celebrating Over 30 Years!

leawoodrotary.org

July 20, 2025

The Week Ahead:

24

July 24: Board Meeting, 7:15 to 8:30



Click link below to launch Zoom

Meeting ID: 813 1042 7816

Passcode: Rotary

[Launch Meeting - Zoom](#)

Last Week:

We bowled. We golfed. We had fun, and helped raise money for some great causes. It's what we do!

July 16: BBBS Summer Bowl for Kids' Sake



July 16: At the Tee 2025



July 17 Meeting Highlights:



Several Rotarians received Paul Harris Fellow pins!



Melissa Koppers with Purple Pals. See page 5 for more information on the organization.



Milca Aguirre addresses the club.

July 17 Meeting Highlights:



Congratulations to Denise Rueschhoff, who was welcomed as a new member!



Davis Harrison is presented with a "Newcomer of the Year" award by Jake Schloegel.

A Leawood Rotary Tradition...

The Leawood Rotary Club has a 30-year tradition of supporting the Johnson County Aging and Human Services Agency. All Leawood Rotarians are encouraged to donate five dollars or more at the first meeting of every month. The club takes these donations and makes a quarterly payment to the agency. In this photo, Jake Schloegel is handing over a check for \$1500 to Maria Lockett of the agency. They are extremely appreciative of our donations to help fund the Food Pantry.



Aging and Human Services

Mark Your Calendars:

July 26: JCCB Christmas in July Festival, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. See page 7 for more information.

July 30: Service Day at Project Cure, 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. See page 7 for more information.

August 16: District 5710 TEAM Training, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Maceli's in Lawrence. All Rotarians are eligible to attend this no-cost event.

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

September 18 - 20: Rotary District 5710 Conference. Hyatt Conference Center in Lenexa, KS.

PURPLE PALS – OUR MISSION

Purple Pals is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that aims to provide fun, freedom, and friendship to seniors in the early stages of Alzheimer's and dementia. We strive to create a community that provides support, compassion, and understanding for seniors and their caregivers.

- 6.9M+ Americans aged 65+ live with Alzheimer's.
- Projected 12.7M cases by 2050.
- 1 in 3 seniors dies with Alzheimer's or another dementia.
- Caregivers face emotional, physical, and financial strain.

Purple Pals offers connection, support, and joyful companionship. Residents in memory care facilities often experience loneliness and isolation. **Purple Pals bridges that gap.**

We operate by connecting students and community members with local memory care facilities and senior centers to:

- Host craft nights, game days, and music therapy
- Support family caregivers with educational sessions and drop-in help
- Bring joy, consistency, and intergenerational bonding
- We raise awareness among college students about dementia and the struggles caregivers face

OUR IMPACT

- We have recruited hundreds of volunteers since our founding in 2019
- Thousands of hours of collective service delivered in the last 12 months
- Partnered with a growing list of senior care centers, universities, and Alzheimer's advocacy groups
- Raised awareness through Walk to End Alzheimer's teams

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Volunteer Opportunities

- We are always seeking students, caregivers, and compassionate community members
- Tell your friends about us! Whether they would like to contribute or volunteer, we would love to have them.

Monetary Donations

- Cover event supplies, transportation, and volunteer needs
- Help fund marketing materials: t-shirts, flyers, Purple Pals swag
- Accepted: Cash, checks, or Venmo (details on our website)

Donate Goods & Services

- Food and drinks for senior events
- Art supplies, bingo prizes, and activity kits
- Speakers, entertainers, or care-home resources
- Printing services for posters, flyers, brochures, and handouts

Gift Cards & Corporate Partnerships

- Great for raffles, volunteer appreciation, or event support
- Partner with us for supply drives or match donations

Venue Support & Hosting

- Help us secure accessible, welcoming venues with:
- Parking and ADA access
- On-site CNAs or medical staff
- Food/activity funding for caregiver respite events

Support Our Wishlist

- Amazon Registries for each chapter
- Donate craft supplies, games, snacks, and care items
- Scan the QR codes or visit our website to give directly



KU Amazon Wishlist



OSU Amazon Wishlist



KSU Amazon Wishlist

Together, we can change lives. Together, we can re-define dementia care. Together, we can bring joy. Let's be the generation that brings purpose and peace to those who came before us. To learn more about how you can donate or get involved, please visit us at <https://www.purplepals.org> or email us at purple.pals.club@gmail.com.



<https://www.purplepals.org>



purple.pals.club@gmail.com



@purple.pals.club

JCCB Christmas in July – Volunteers Needed **July 26**

Leawood Rotarians have the opportunity to volunteer at the Johnson County Christmas Bureau's upcoming **Christmas in July Festival**. The event takes place on Saturday, July 26, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., in the parking lot behind the Christian Church of Merriam, 9401 Johnson Drive. JCCB expects approximately 400 people (underserved families with children age 10 and under). They will receive free toys, books, clothing and household items. Additionally, representatives from various community resource agencies will be present to provide educational information about their services that benefit Johnson County families. There are a variety of volunteer jobs available including setting up, taking down, concessions, and booth and game attendants.

Here is the link to the volunteer sign-up:

<http://bit.ly/3FMKcyN>

Here is the link to the JCCB website page about the event: <https://jccb.org/july>



Johnson County Christmas Bureau
In Search Of VOLUNTEERS!

[JCCB.org/July](https://jccb.org/july) **SATURDAY JULY 26TH 10AM - 1PM**

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

EVENT FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AGES UP TO 10 YRS

HELP HOST FESTIVAL FUN

- BOOKS & CRAFTS
- KIDS GAMES
- MUSIC
- COMMUNITY RESOURCES
- CLOTHING & HOME GOODS
- LOTS OF GIVE AWAYS

CONTACT JCCB OFFICE
913-341-4342
ADMIN@JCCB.ORG

HOTDOGS & SWEET TREATS

July 30: Service Day at Project Cure

A Service Day has been scheduled at Project Cure for July 30th from 1 - 3:30pm. We have requested that we be scheduled to pack the Kits for Kids that they do. Details are being worked out for the packing of the kits. If for some reason that can't be arranged, we will be doing our regular sorting and warehouse work.

For those who wish to carpool, let's meet at 12:30 p.m. in the parking lot just east of the old/new UMB bank site at I-435 and State Line. If you wish to drive yourself, please get directions from Rick Robinson. This is another great chance to do good and have some fun with your Rotarian friends. If you can make this service event, please let Rick Robinson know by emailing him at: rickrobinson.kc@gmail.com