



ROTARY NOTARY

Member Birthdays:

Greg Ek

5/27

At Rotary Today:

Greeter: Deb Brinegar

**Invocation, Flag Salute,
and Four-way test:**

Anne Schneider

Special Guests:

Michael Andrusak

Sam Farha

Josh Johnsrud

Evan Kaufman

Makenna Miller

Sharon Van Horn

Kay Wentworth

Wedding Anniversaries:

Ric and Nancy Wolford—

45 years

Joe and Gayle Goetz—25 years

Vanessa and Ryan Rohlman—

8 years

Quote of the Week:

Do not be embarrassed by your failures, learn from them and start again.

— Richard Branson

HOW ONE MAN TOLD THE TRUTH AND SAVED A COMMUNITY



Tony Mattivi was a federal prosecutor for more than 20 years and was the lead prosecutor on the capital case against the al Qaeda operative who masterminded the bombing of the USS COLE in Yemen in 2000. As the Assistant U.S. Attorney, he prosecuted the case of three southwest Kansas men who plotted to bomb an apartment complex in Garden City where Somali immigrants were living.

What would you do if you knew about a plot to murder innocent people in your community? Especially if you knew that sharing this information with authorities could endanger your life?

Today's speaker, former Assistant U.S. Attorney Tony Mattivi, told how in 2016 Dan Day reported to law enforcement that three men were plotting to set off a car bomb at an apartment complex in Garden City where Muslims from Somali lived and worshiped. The men were members of a militia group who were upset with what they felt was an increase in "homegrown violence" in the U.S. The trio of Patrick Stein, Curtis Allen, and Gavin Wright began calling themselves the Crusaders. They decided that the Somalis were part of the

homegrown violence and began developing a plan to make and/or obtain explosives to carry out their plan. Their plan had become more focused, definite, and dangerous.

Building a case against the trio required more help from Day, specifically, as a confidential informant who would wear a hidden recording device while discussing the plot. With militia meetings taking place in remote locations such as farm fields or inside Wright's mobile home business with loud music in the background, agents couldn't be located nearby to monitor the conversations in real time. Day knew that if the trio learned he was an informant, they would likely kill him.

During the next few months the men made plans to manufacture a homemade

explosive using ammonium nitrate, which is used widely in agriculture as a high-nitrogen fertilizer. They attempted to purchase hand grenades, mortars, blasting caps, and C-4.

Dan Day introduced them to "Brian," an FBI undercover employee who offered to provide the Crusaders with automatic weapons and explosive devices. The caveat was this: "Don't plant ideas," Mattivi said. "We don't create bad guys—if there's a crime we want to let them do it."

In October 2016 the men were arrested after a controlled delivery of 300 lbs of urea fertilizer was made. The trio were charged and, in 2018, a jury returned a guilty verdict against all three. And what about Dan Day? He testified for five straight days. He still has horrible PTSD. But he's a hero for taking a risk that ultimately saved many lives.

MORE AT ROTARY TODAY

Announcements:

Next Wednesday we will present our donations of socks, puzzles, toiletries, and other needed items to veterans at the Bob Dole Veterans' Hospital. Please bring your donation with you if you haven't already!

Volunteer to sell food tickets at RiverFest! Our club is scheduled to help on June 9 and 10. Sign up sheets are available at Kim's table.

Step up and volunteer to be a greeter or prayer leader at an upcoming meeting! What a fun and easy way to offer Service Above Self!

Our own Fred Heismeyer will throw out the first pitch at the Wichita Wind Surge baseball game on June 1. Purchase special tickets for that evening and sit in seating just for Rotarians! To purchase tickets click on this link and enter the code Rotary:

[Bit.ly/3rSdRjH](https://bit.ly/3rSdRjH)



Michael Caffrey introduces new EWR member **Matt Leavitt**. Matt is a criminal defense attorney with Hulnick, Stang, Gering & Leavitt and attended KU, both as an undergraduate and for law school. Welcome, Matt! We're glad you're here!

Our May 11 meeting was a Fireside at the Wichita Sedgwick County Historical Museum. Director Eric Cale is pictured addressing our club members who attended. The museum accepts donations of local historical items that tell part of our community's story. But please, no Victorian settees. The museum already has plenty already!



What do adult socks, puzzles, and personal hygiene items have in common? They are all items that are needed at the Bob Dole VA Center. Rotarians are encouraged to donate these items at our May meetings at the WCC. On May 25, all collected items will be presented to the Bob Dole VA Medical Center Director and the Public Affairs Officer who will be our guest speakers. Monetary donations (cash preferred) will be accepted for those that want others to do the shopping. Last year we collected about \$250 worth of items... let's go for \$300 this year! Should you have any questions, please contact Deb Brinegar at 316-841-1842 or deb.brinegar@cox.net



Next Week:

Candace Ifabiyi from the Bob Dole Veterans' Hospital will be our speaker. We will present our donated items to her at the meeting.