#### **NEW MEMBER PROPOSAL**

The following individual has been proposed for membership in Rotary:

#### **Abby Vaughn**

Classification: Finance, Business Development Director Sponsor: Lyle Hanna

Objections should be made in writing within seven (7) days to The Board of Directors, Rotary Club of Lexington, 401 W. Main Street, Suite 305, Lexington, KY 40507. Objections are kept in strict confidence.

#### WELCOME, NEW ROTARIAN Sam Overbee

Contact Information Home Address: 222 Midland Ave. #1104, Lexington, KY 40508 Email: sam.overbee@oldnational.com Ph: 859-619-8391 Financial, Banking Sponsor: Joe Evans

Look for their bio in an upcoming issue of The 5th Page.



business and JAY PHILLIPS corporate law,

intellectual property law, and estate planning. In addition to his Juris Doctor, he holds a B.S. in Agricultural and Medical Biotechnology from UK. Jay is involved in numerous civic organizations and is currently heading the rebuild and revitalization of the Lexington Rotaract chapter. Know a young professional that would benefit from Rotaract? Contact Jay: jay.phillips@emwnlaw.com



The Signature Club of Lans



Presiding: President Bret Anderson Speaker: Patrick Wesolosky, Lafayette Chapter Kentucky Society Sons of Inspiration, Pledge, & 4 Way Test: Cheyenne McBride the American Revolution Introduction of Guests: Matt Tabb Program: Wreaths Across America and Grave Restoration for Memorial Day Introduction of Speaker: Chris Aldridge Location: The Mane on Main

## MAY LUNCH SPONSOR AGING WITH GRACE

## **MEET OUR SPEAKER**



#### **UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

- May 22 Patrick Wesolosky, Lafayette Chapter Kentucky Society Sons of the American Revolution
- Jun 5 Scholarship Program
- Jun 12 Steve Gardner, Update on Coal in Kentucky
- Doing Rotary Differently, No Lunch Meeting Jun 19
- Jun 26 President's Day, Bret Anderson

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS/ VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

May 29 5th Thursday Social, Lexington Legends, Legends Ballpark 5:30pm

- May 30 Early Morning Mixer, 46Solutions, Lexington Green, 8-9:30am
- Jun 11 Around the World Dinner, Signature Club, Club Fundraiser, Evening
- Jun 14 Celebrating our Rotary Foundation Event, TBD, 6-8:30
- Jun 21 Coffee and Donuts at Pollinator Garden, Kenawood Park, 9 Noon



PATRICK WESOLOSKY Today Rotarians will hear from Patrick Wesolosky, President of the Kentucky Society, Sons of the American Revolution (SAR). We will hear about the Wreaths Across America mission to remember, honor, and teach as well as other programs of the Lafayette Chapter, Kentucky Society, SAR. These programs honor our Revolutionary War patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities, and educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our country.

The Lexington National Cemetery has approximately 70,000 people interred there and about 1,500 of them are veterans. In 2023, Lafayette

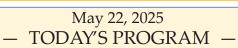
Chapter members worked to organize hundreds of volunteers who gathered at that cemetery to pay respect to those who fought for our country but are no longer with us through our inaugural Wreaths Across America program. Wreaths Across America relies on the generosity of sponsors to offset the cost of each wreath while volunteers make sure that each grave gets a wreath and those interred there get a heartfelt "thank you" for their service. The wreaths are far more than mere adornments. They are symbols of gratitude and reverence. Each headstone speaks to the enduring legacy of those who answered the call to defend the freedoms we cherish.

Last year, the Lafayette Chapter collaborated with Henry Clay High School's Army JROTC program to present the wreath laying ceremony. Every veteran grave at the Lexington National Cemetery had a wreath placed upon it by a member of the JROTC or those attending the ceremony, thanks to the Lexington community's generosity. Speaking at that event, Ret. Gen. Charles Gorton asserted that, "By holding this ceremony, we honor



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# The R@TARYClub of Lexington





those who served and those who still serve, willing to risk their lives so that we can live in a free society made up with many people, many races and many walks of life."

**Aging With Grace** 

Your Best Independent Life Club

We hope you will consider joining the Lafayette Chapter at the next Wreaths Across America annual wreath-laying ceremony to be held at noon on December 13, 2025, at Lexington National Cemetery. This ceremony has become an annual holiday reveille call that pays tribute to all those who served in our nation's military to preserve our freedom.

The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (NSSAR or SAR) was founded in 1889 and is headquartered in Louisville, Kentucky. It is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and promoting education to our future generations. SAR members volunteer untold hours of service each year in their local communities. SAR is very active in assisting veterans. It proudly assists teachers with living history interpreters, lesson planning materials and reenactment events for school

#### The Rotary Club of Lexington 401 W. Main, Ste. 305 Lexington, KY 40507 Phone: 389-8100

#### 2024-2025 OFFICERS Bret Anderson - President Kim Johnson - Past President Alisha Chaffin - Secretary Eric Brooks - Sergeant- at -Árms Chris Anderson - Treasurer Peggy Trafton - Executive Director (Staff) Trafton@rotarylexky.org

Jenny Schnurr-Office Assistant (Staff) jenny@rotarylexky.org

#### DIRECTORS

Chris Aldridge (2025) Chris Campbell (2025) John Wharton (2025) Susie Basham (2026) Edwin Gibson (2026)

Shawn Lyons (2026) Brigitte Blom (2027 Dylan Harper (2027) Chris Peck (2027)

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#### WHEEL HORSE

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#### THIRSTY ROTARIANS AND WANNABES **MEET AT THE THIRSTY FOX**

The Rotary Club of Lexington held a member development event on Thursday, May 1st at the Thirsty Fox in downtown Lexington. With the forecast of thunderstorms, we wondered how attendance might fare, but it surpassed all expectations! About fifteen potential members and around thirty current ones came out to pass along their excitement for ALL THINGS ROTARY. A mixture of delicious appetizers prepared by Zim's and libations from the friendly staff at the Thirsty Fox provided for an evening of fun and new acquaintances. Brief words by President Bret Anderson and Membership Chair Markus Cross rounded out the gathering and everyone enjoyed the interaction of visitors with seasoned and new members. Follow ups to our visitors were quickly underway afterward and one question with which I leave you; What are you doing to promote the fantastic Rotary lifestyle this week?

- Markus Cross

### **LEXINGTON LEGENDS TO HOST ANOTHER LEGEND: ROTARY CLUB OF LEXINGTON**

It's spring and nothing says spring like baseball!

The 5th Thursday of May will find Rotarians and friends enjoying a VIP experience at the Lexington Legends game! The Legends are off to a fantastic start with over 10,000 people at their opening weekend! Thanks to Rotarian Tim Mueller, Legends VP of Business Development, we will enjoy the 6:45pm game in style in two Legends Suites. You won't even need to buy a ticket!

The tickets and wristbands will be at the VIP entrance / admin office entrance next to the box office. Tim will have the tickets under Rotary Club of Lexington. Order off the Suites' menu found in the suites or bring up whatever food you'd like from the main level concessionaires. There will be a bar on the suite level to make that Thirsty Thursday libation easy to access. We are even inviting new members in the soon to be chartered Rotary Club of Woodford County.

Register through http://e.givesmart.com/events/Gqy so we have an approximate number of people. See you there!



#### Wheel Horse

#### TOMMY BELL AWARD WINNER PERFORMS BOTH "ABOVE" AND "BELOW" PAR

The May 8 Rotary Club meeting was the annual Tommy Bell Award program that recognizes the Outstanding Student-Athlete in Fayette County. This vear's winner was Kylah Lunsford, an interscholastic golfer from Henry Clay High School, the alma mater of both Bruce Bell, the program's emcee, and his father, Tommy, for whom the award is named. Kylah is a three-time Fayette County Public Schools Cup Champion and bronze medalist in the Kentucky All-State Championship her junior and senior years. Kylah was named Miss Kentucky Golf in 2023. A member of the National Honor Society with a 4.35 GPA—and an all-A student all four years at Henry Clay-she plans to attend Murray State University on a golf scholarship and will compete in the competitive Missouri Valley Conference next year. She said that she takes academics and athletics seriously and will carry the Tommy Bell Award with pride.

Rotarian Bruce Bell said that this is the 39th year of the Tommy Bell Award and he recognized fellow Rotarian Bill Straus, who came up with idea for the award almost four decades ago. Tommy Bell was an NFL referee for two famous Super Bowls. The first was Super Bowl III when Joe Namath predicted an upset win by the New York Jets over the Baltimore Colts. That was followed by Super Bowl VII, in which the last undefeated team, the Miami Dolphins, defeated the Washington Redskins (now Commanders). But he was not only a sports legend, but also a respected judge and a member of Rotary, the Chamber of Commerce, Easter Seals, the March of Dimes, and the University of Kentucky Board of Trustees, along with numerous other civic activities. After the awards presentation to the University of Kentucky, Walls was owner of a car business for twenty-five years before being called to the minisbeing a father figure to him growing up and the antics he and Bruce got into as

Kylah Lunsford, Bell introduced the program's speaker, Gordon Walls, a friend of the Bell family. A graduate of both Henry Clay High School and try. He spoke fondly of the elder Bell students at Henry Clay. He said there are seven things he learned from Tommy Bell. The first is to care for young people and be invested in their lives. Second, to serve others as he did with



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#### **Rotary in Review**

so many organizations he served on. Third, keep us laughing. Fourth, make a lasting impression on people and the community. Fifth, take a stand—"if not you, who?", Bell would famously say. Stay in the game even if you are playing hurt was the sixth point. And, seventh was "still feel the ripples like a cannonball into the pool." Touching one life leads to touching other lives. Tommy Bell's impact is still being felt decades later and this year's recipient the first golfer to receive the award—is following in his footsteps through her impressive community service and academic record that are well "above" par and her outstanding golf accomplishments that aim to be well "below" par. - Paul Chewning



#### **BRUCE BELLAND KYLAH LUNDSFORD**