

ÉIRINN GO BRÁCH

Or, for those not versed in the language of Ireland: Ireland Forever!



Once a year there is a day when everyone, even Rotarians, can claim to be Irish: St. Patrick's Day! This year the big day was sandwiched between days of fifty mile an hour winds, then snow and ice. It turned out to be a perfect day for the Lexington St. Patrick's Day Parade and Festival and for Rotarians to channel their inner Irish! Susan Adams reports that thousands of people packed the parade route and the 5th/3rd Pavilion. Rotary's parade entry was well represented by many Rotarians and five of our Dancing with the Lexington Stars dancers. They all had a blast walking and waiving. Our dancers even cha-cha'd their way down the street. Start practicing your dance moves and join your fellow Rotarians next year!



Five of our Dancers: Left to right: Paige Swope, Debbie Cecil, Kenny "Sky" Walker, Keary Elizabeth Snapp and Michelle Smock.

– Susan Adams

WELCOME, NEW ROTARIAN

Rick Walls
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 Home Address: 129 Millstone Dr., Richmond, KY 40475
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 Ph: 859-326-0244
 Assns & Orgs, United Way of the Bluegrass
 Sponsor: Lyle Hanna

NEW MEMBER PROPOSALS

The following individuals have been proposed for membership in Rotary:

Parveen Majumder
 Classification: Government, Financial Officer
 Sponsor: Hunter Lisle

Graham Priest
 Classification: Financial, CPA, Banking
 Sponsor: Markus Cross

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.

Community Service is at the heart of Rotary. "Service Above Self" and "People of Action" aren't just phrases—they define who we are. What sets us apart is not only the dollars we contribute, but the time, energy, and passion we invest in making a real difference.

THIS THURSDAY, MARCH 26th, You're invited to join us for a Community Service Committee meeting immediately following lunch. Be a part of creating a meaningful impact in our club and our community! Info: alisha.rotary@gmail.com

The ROTARY Club of Lexington

WHEEL HORSE

March 26, 2026

— TODAY'S PROGRAM —

Presiding: President Bill Wilson
 Inspiration, Pledge, & 4 Way Test: Gary McCormick
 Introduction of Guests: Rob Hartzler
 Introduction of Speaker: Jake Graves

Speaker: Ed Holmes, AICP, Principal, EHI Consultants
 Program: Affordable Housing in Lexington
Location: The Mane on Main

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MEET OUR SPEAKER



ED HOLMES

Being the informed citizens that Rotarians tend to be, it is likely no surprise to our membership that America has an affordable housing crisis. According to the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC), there is a national shortage of over seven million affordable homes for more than 10.8 million extremely low-income families. Why does this matter? Again according to the NLIHC, housing is "the key to reducing intergenerational poverty and increasing economic mobility."

Today's presenter, Ed Holmes, will make it clear that Lexington/Fayette County is not immune from this crisis. As you will hear, we have a housing gap of over 22,549 units! He will dig into the extent of the problem and a "path

forward."

Holmes is a certified planner with more than forty-five years of experience in sustainable redevelopment, master planning, environmental justice, and land-use planning. As founder and president of EHI Consultants, established in 2001, he has led major planning and redevelopment initiatives across Kentucky and the southeastern United States. His work focuses on neighborhood revitalization, farmland preservation, and equitable community development. Under Mr. Holmes' leadership, EHI has received recognition from the Kentucky Chapter of the American Planning Association (KAPA), the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), and the Kentucky Small Business Development Agency, which honored the firm with its 2011 Pacesetter Award. In 2017, EHI was selected for the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses Program. He received the KAPA Bill Bowdy Award for Outstanding Lifetime Achievement in Planning in 2018.

Selected Planning Projects of his include:

- LFUCG Neighborhood Small Area Plans (East End, Winburn, Armstrong Mill) – Lexington, KY

- African American Downtown Interpretive Signage Project – Lexington, KY
- Thelonious Monk Multi-Use Trail – Rocky Mount, NC
- Southend/Davis Park Urban Village Plan – Lexington, KY
- West Side Neighborhood Plan – Paris, KY
- Red River Neighborhood Plan – Clarksville, TN

Ed has also served in important public roles, including the following:

- Cabinet Secretary, Kentucky Public Protection & Regulation Cabinet (1993–1997)
- Vice Chair, Kentucky Public Service Commission (1997–2001)

Ed has served on a variety of boards including the LFUCG Planning Commission, Campbellsville University Board of Trustees, Fifth Third Bank Advisory Board, Lexington Industrial Foundation, and the Lexington Civic Center Board.

Ed is a Lexington resident and received his B.A. in Urban Planning and Design from the University of Cincinnati.

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- Apr 2** Chris McCarron, Hall of Fame Jockey
- Apr 9** Navy Rear Admiral Mike Brown
- Apr 16** Doing Rotary Differently

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mar 27** Early Morning Mixer, 46Solutions, Lexington Green, 8:00-9:30am
- Apr 18** Opening Day Miracle League, Shillato Park, 10:00 - 2:00pm
- Apr 22** Keeneland Outing, Lexington Room, \$125
- Apr 24** Early Morning Mixer, 46Solutions, Lexington Green, 8:00-9:30am
- Apr 25** RYLA, Life Adventure Center, Versailles, 8-6pm
- Apr 27** God's Pantry, Backpack Pack-Up, 817 Winchester Rd., 1:00- 2:30pm

LEXINGTON ROTARY YEARLING PROJECT PARTNERS WITH THE NEST



Members of the Lexington Rotary Yearling Project organize donations at The Nest – Center for Women, Children & Families, sorting baby items and essential supplies for local families.

As part of Rotary Club of Lexington’s Yearling Project, a group of Rotarians recently spent the afternoon volunteering at The Nest Center for Women, Children & Families in Lexington, Kentucky, helping organize and store incoming donations so they can reach local families more quickly and efficiently.

The project came together after Kristie Woodrum of Commerce Lexington met with Jeffrey White from The Nest to identify a meaningful onsite service opportunity for Rotarians. Jeffrey welcomed the idea of a hands on workday focused on sorting and putting away donations in the storage room, making it easier for staff to locate and distribute items to families in need.

New Rotarians taking part included Clifford Gookin, Gary Wilmhoff, Marianna Taulbee, Louis Hatcher, Zack Moscow, Abby Vaughn, Dick Carroll, John Rich, Leah Anderson, Ruth Ann Palumbo, and Bryan Dollins. They were joined by Gerry van der Meer, and Jim Richardson. Together, they put “Service Above Self” into action by tagging, shelving, and consolidating supplies for The Nest’s programs.

Kayla Bentley, Engagement and Outreach Coordinator for the Family Assistance Program, expressed her appreciation for the group’s efforts and for Rotary’s ongoing support. She noted that donations are always needed, especially diapers and pull ups in sizes 3–5, which are in constant demand among the families The Nest serves.

In addition to the indoor work, Zack Moscow led a team outside on the playground, where volunteers picked up trash, gathered sticks, and blew leaves to create a cleaner, safer space for children and families who visit The Nest. The day ended with Rotarians and Nest staff celebrating a productive partnership that strengthens vital services for the community.

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Editorial Standards: Chicago Manual of Style, 17th ed.

Since 1977, The Nest has offered support to individuals and families in crisis, facing adversity, or experiencing unexpected needs via four free pro-

grams offered in English and Spanish: early childhood education and care; family assistance for basic human needs; counseling and advocacy for

survivors of intimate partner violence; and parental education and support.

– Marianna Taulbee

Rotary in Review

THE RISE AND FALL OF GARVICE KINCAID

Sometimes we take for granted the talents of our own Club members, only to be reminded that our membership is diverse and well-versed in many areas. One such reminder came in the form of the March 12 Club luncheon, which featured fellow Rotarian Robert Mucci speaking on the life and times of Lexington legend Garvice Kincaid. In 2025 Mucci authored *Ahead of the Pack, Garvice Kincaid and his Empire: A Southern Legacy*. The program was presented in a question-and-answer format, with Past President Bret Anderson serving as the moderator. Mucci worked at Kentucky Central Life Insurance (KCL) – a Kincaid enterprise - for fourteen years. As a preface to his discussion of the rise and fall of this famous (and infamous) legend, Robert claimed to be more of a storyteller than an author.

The story of Garvice Delmar Kincaid is a story about a man who turned \$1,500 (lent to him by his father) into a \$500 million empire over a forty-year

period. It is a story of a young man who had an incredible need to be respected and appreciated, but who also tended to intimidate and offend those around him by his brisk remarks and his talent of knowing as much, if not more, about their business affairs than they did. Robert feels that this, more than anything else, explained why Kincaid was not really “accepted” within the close-knit Lexington community. An example of this lack of acceptance was his being blackballed from membership at the Idle Hour Country Club.

Mr. Kincaid was a true visionary and a man who was ahead of his time. He saw the importance of the media in its early years and appreciated how it had the ability to influence our perceptions and desires. He understood that distressed debt and real estate could provide enormous returns well before business icons like Michael Milken and Warren Buffet. At his death, it was reported that his estate was comprised of more than 175 organizations and business entities,

including nineteen banks, consumer finance companies, a life insurance company, several radio stations, a television station, numerous hotels, a Florida resort, and multiple real estate holdings.

But his dynasty did not last. Its downfall was due to well-intended but ultimately failed estate planning which at his death called for a trust made up of three separate accounts. The trust was administered by his bank, Central Bank & Trust and was overseen by a three-person advisory committee. While the committee was composed of trusted lieutenants, Mr. Kincaid did not factor in that the arrogance and greed of those trustees and the ability of any two trustees to combine against the third would destroy his financial empire within twenty years of his death. Unfortunately, it also resulted in the collapse of KCL, which impacted thousands of families around the country, employees, agents, policyholders, and shareholders.

– Paul B. Chewning

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