



KIM WADE

MEET KIM WADE

Now that Kim Wade’s three children are adults, she has more time to devote to community service through Rotary. Kim was introduced to service at an early age because her father was active in the Lions Club. She was a member of the Michigan All-State Lions Club Band and traveled to international conventions, visiting mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Hawaii, and other destinations. Kim has enjoyed volunteering as a Girl Scout leader, softball mom, basketball coach, and even a soccer coach—despite knowing nothing about the sport! Now that her children are grown and she serves in a managerial position with Spectrum Reach, she can explore other service opportunities.

Kim was introduced to Rotary in several ways. She previously worked for Rotarian Tom Baker at Baker Communications and completed marketing projects for the Milward family. Kim was also familiar with Surgery on Sunday and Rotary’s support of the program.

Although she does not have much spare time, Kim enjoys quilting and playing mahjong. Her parents still live in Michigan, and her mother taught her the art of quilting. Kim has since turned a spare bedroom into a quilting room. She also enjoys reading and hopes to travel more, particularly within the United States. Washington, D.C.; Williamsburg, Virginia; Boston; and New England are among the destinations on her list. She would also like to travel in Europe. Having previously visited a childhood friend in Paris, she would love to make a return trip.

One thing is certain: Kim will be involved in multiple Rotary projects. Her husband says she has only two speeds—busy and asleep!

– John Meyers

TOYOTA BLUEGRASS MIRACLE LEAGUE OPENS ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON



The Toyota Bluegrass Miracle League begins its fall season this Saturday, September 12, at Shillito Park, offering athletes of all abilities the opportunity to experience the joy of baseball.

Established in 2006 through a collaboration involving the Rotary Club of Lexington and numerous community leaders, organizations, and volunteers, the league serves individuals age 5 and older with physical, developmental, or emotional disabilities. More than 200 players from Central Kentucky and beyond participate each season.

The league’s specially designed field features a cushioned, rubberized playing surface that provides a safe, accessible environment for athletes who use wheelchairs or walkers or have visual impairments. Covered dugouts and a barrier-free picnic pavilion make the facility even more welcoming to players and their families.

Anyone interested in volunteering at the picnic—which will serve approximately 350 people throughout five games from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.—should contact Eileen O’Brien or Tony Barrett.

The league will celebrate its 20th anniversary Friday, October 9, 6:30 p.m. at CommonSpirit Ballpark, 207 Legends Lane. The anniversary program and 2026 player recognitions begin at 6:30 p.m., with ballpark food and refreshments served throughout and following the program. **Visit bgml.org to RSVP or scan the QR code.**

The Rotary Yearling class has adopted the 20th anniversary celebration as its service project and will also assist with the event.



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UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Sep 17 Third Thursday, Field Trip: See Upcoming Events

Sep 24 Twyman Clements, Space Tango

Sep 29 TUESDAY Meeting! Larry Lunsford, President-elect, Rotary International

Oct 8 Rachel Hooper, Curator, University of Kentucky Art Museum

Oct 15 Doing Rotary Differently, No Lunch Meeting

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sep 10 Pollinator Garden Tour, Kenawood Park, Evening Social, Free

Sep 12 Toyota Bluegrass Miracle League, Opening Day, Shillato Park, 10:00 - 3:00 pm

Sep 17 Field Trip: Easterseals Bluegrass, 1900 Richmond Rd, Noon

Sep 27-30 Rotary Large Club Conference

Sep 28 God’s Pantry Food Bank, Backpack Pack-Up, 2201 Innovation Drive, 1:00-2:30 pm

Oct 9 Miracle League 20th Anniversary Celebration, CommonSpirit Ballpark, 6:30 pm

Oct 15 Keeneland Outing, Lexington Room, 11- 6:00 pm, \$125

SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE: RI PRESIDENT-ELECT LARRY LUNSORD TO SPEAK AT LARGE CLUB CONFERENCE

Rotary International President-elect Larry Lunsford will join us on **Tuesday, September 29, at noon** for our joint club meeting with Rotary Large Club Conference attendees from across the United States.

Please plan to join us at the **Hilton Downtown**. We look forward to sharing this memorable Rotary experience with you!

The ROTARY Club of Lexington

WHEEL HORSE

September 10, 2026
— TODAY’S PROGRAM —

Presiding: President Lyle Hanna
Inspiration, Pledge, & 4 Way Test: Jenny Schnurr
Introduction of Guests: Trey McCallie

Introduction of Speaker: Zack Moscow
Speaker: Landry Fields
Program: AI and Your Business

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MEET OUR SPEAKER



LANDRY FIELDS

Landry Fields is a Lexington, Kentucky business owner, speaker, commercial property investor, and podcast host who has built a reputation as one of the country’s most practical voices on applying artificial intelligence in real-world businesses.

Born and raised in Lexington, Fields is a proud graduate of the University of Kentucky, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in business and corporate communications—a foundation he draws on every time he steps up to a microphone or takes the stage. After college, he remained close to home, first working at Central Bank & Trust Company and then spending nine

years as Director of Pro AV Sales & Design at Allied Communications. In 2019, Fields founded Nova Insurance Group, a commercial insurance agency serving Kentucky business owners and families. Nova has since become more than an agency; it serves as a working laboratory for what AI can accomplish in an operating business.

Rather than talking about AI in the abstract, Fields builds practical tools. He has developed an extensive ecosystem of production tools that power his business every day—from policy-comparison engines and workers’ compensation analyzers to full agency automations and acquisition models. That hands-on approach has made him a sought-after speaker, and he now travels the country explaining how owners can implement AI within their companies without needing a technology background, a team of developers, or a six-figure budget.

He is also the founder of AI Rockstars, a private mastermind where business owners learn how to use AI effectively within their companies—not as a novelty but as a daily oper-

ational advantage. Members receive access to his evolving library of skills, the playbooks behind them, and a community of operators learning and experimenting together in real time.

Closer to home, Fields hosts *Keys to the Commonwealth*, a long-running podcast, now in its sixth year, that tells the stories of entrepreneurs from across Kentucky. From small-town founders to statewide brands, the show has become a chronicle of how businesses are built in the Commonwealth and a reflection of Fields’ deep belief that Kentucky’s economy is powered by its owner-operators.

Fields brings an unusual perspective: He speaks both as an operator with real revenue responsibility and as a hands-on builder who develops the tools himself. His message is consistent—AI is not coming for small and midsize businesses; it is the tool that allows them to outcompete much larger companies in service, speed, and execution.

In his free time, Fields enjoys his family, playing music, golf, traveling, and finding new restaurants.

The Rotary Club of Lexington
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Bill Wilson 3Q, Dean Hammond 4Q
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ROTARY AND EASTERSEALS: A CENTURY OF SERVICE



Rotary has been part of the Easterseals story

since its beginning. In 1919, Ohio Rotarian Edgar Allen founded the National Society for Crippled Children and enlisted his Rotary club to help build a network of programs that eventually became Easterseals.

In Kentucky, the Conference of Kentucky Rotarians formed the Crippled Children's Society in 1923. The organization later became the Kentucky Easter Seals Society. The Rotary Club of Lexington helped bring that vision to life. In 1949, three Lexington Rotarians helped make the construction of Cardinal Hill Convalescent Home possible. The facility opened in 1950 during the polio epidemic.

Rotarian Dr. David Stevens, Cardinal

Hill's medical director and chairman of the Kentucky Commission for Handicapped Children, continued that legacy by helping expand Cardinal Hill's services for children and adults with disabilities.

Today, Easterseals Bluegrass carries on that legacy in Lexington. Following the 2023 renovation of its 170,000-square-foot facility, Easterseals expanded its services and its partnership with UK HealthCare's Kentucky Children's Hospital to better serve children with complex medical and developmental needs.

Next Thursday, September 17, from noon–1 p.m., we'll be "Doing Rotary Differently" with a brief presentation and tour of Easterseals Bluegrass, located at 1900 Richmond Road in Lexington.

If you'd like to order a boxed lunch, enter <https://Jan29.givesmart.com> into your browser. We hope to see you there!

– Peggy Trafton

Rotary in Review

MARVIN BARTLETT CELEBRATES THE SPIRIT OF THE BLUEGRASS

For more than 40 years, Marvin Bartlett has made a career of telling other people's stories. Last week, members of the Rotary Club of Lexington heard a few favorites and discovered why the longtime Lexington journalist remains every bit as fascinated by the people and places of Kentucky as when he first picked up a reporter's notebook.

Bartlett recently completed a 32-year career at FOX 56 News, including more than three decades anchoring the station's 10 p.m. newscast. But his Rotary presentation focused on another part of his legacy: *Spirit of the Bluegrass*, the award-winning feature series he created approximately 13 years ago.

After years covering political campaigns, disasters, crime, and breaking news, Bartlett said he found himself drawn to feature stories about interesting people and communities. The inspiration stretched back to his childhood in West Virginia, when he watched Charles Kuralt's legendary "On the Road" reports and imagined how much fun it would be to travel, meet fascinating people, and tell their

stories.

When FOX 56 later offered Bartlett the opportunity to create a weekly franchise of his own, he knew exactly what he wanted to do—with one condition: He wanted to do it his way.

"I would like to do that kind of thing around Kentucky," Bartlett recalled telling station management.

Bartlett became a true one-man newsroom for *Spirit of the Bluegrass*, shooting, writing, reporting, and editing each story himself. That freedom allowed him to return to locations when needed, work on weekends or holidays, and spend the time to uncover the story behind the story.

Nearly 300 stories later, Bartlett has collected quite a few. Rotarians heard about the Apple Valley Hillbilly Garden in Western Kentucky, where discarded toilets, shoes, appliances, and assorted junk have been transformed into folk art, including a row of com-modes appropriately dubbed "Throne-henge." There was Hazard's famous Mother Goose House; Punkytown, one man's homemade western town; Pineville's legendary Chained Rock; and even Northern Kentucky gas sta-

tions with "disco bathrooms," where pressing a button causes the lights to dim, music to play, and a disco ball to spin.

As Bartlett put it, there's suddenly a "party in the potty." Behind the humor, however, is something deeper.

Bartlett said *Spirit of the Bluegrass* became a way to preserve stories that might otherwise disappear. Because television reports can be fleeting, he eventually collected more than 80 favorites in his 2025 book, *Spirit of the Bluegrass*, choosing stories he hoped even lifelong Kentuckians might not know or might have forgotten.

And he isn't finished. "I hope you appreciate the *Spirit of the Bluegrass* as much as I do," Bartlett told Rotarians. "We'll keep sharing those stories."

After more than four decades in journalism, perhaps that is Marvin Bartlett's greatest gift: reminding us that extraordinary stories don't always belong to extraordinary people.

Sometimes, they're waiting down a Kentucky back road, and all it takes is someone curious enough to stop.

– Dan Koett



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