

Rotary



District 6110 Newsletter

Here's What's in the May Newsletter:

- District Governor Warren's Message
- Calendar of Important dates
- Box Score for the numbers-crowd
- Noel Morris receives RI Award
- District Conference Photos
- Four Way Test Speech Contest Final Four
- "The End Is Near!"
- Club Hub
- Council on Legislation raises dues, and...
- Action Plan
- Legacy Campaign Stats (They're great!)
- Welcome new members



District Governor Warren's message MAY 2025

District 6110's Legacy Campaign -
A Great Success with Lasting Impact!



Our recently completed two-day Top Golf Event, Legacy Celebration, and District Conference held in Rogers, Arkansas proved to be the great success that we all anticipated. Our host hotel - Embassy Suites - provided top-notch meeting spaces, food, and lodging. The attendance was good, with over 300 D6110 Rotarians and guests enjoying the non-stop fellowship and learning from Friday afternoon May 2nd through Saturday evening May 3rd.

Dick Schrad and Terry Bushay coordinated the **Top Golf contest**, which was held in the impressive TG facility very close to the hotel. Golfing skills ranged from excellent to none, but we all had fun! (see some photos in the montage further in the Newsletter)

Friday evening's **Legacy Campaign Celebration Dinner** was a delightful event free to all who attended. The Arkansas Cog Hogs Quartet, all members of the Fayetteville Rotary Club,

gave us a rousing start. We then honored the Benevolence of District 6110 Rotarians - past and present. The first-ever D6110 Legacy Campaign was completed with gifts and bequests to The Rotary Foundation and its Endowment totaling **\$3,375,000!** Our keynote speaker, Rotary Foundation Trustee Larry Lunsford, reminded us of all





the good work that these donations will achieve, over the long run, internationally, domestically, and locally - through projects of D6110 Rotary Clubs. (See photos later in Newsletter)

Saturday's **District Conference** lived up to its reputation as the premier annual event in District 6110. From 9:00am to 9:00pm, there was non-stop activity! Speakers covered a wide range of topics including

- disaster relief,
- synthetic intelligence (AI),
- Four Way Test Speech Contest final four
- Rotary Youth Exchange, and
- Our D2D program with Chile's District 4355 - all 5 representatives
- Rotary International President's Representative Pamela Stewart emphasized RI's Action Plan.
- The annual business meeting approved our updated Manual of Procedure and new status as an Incorporated organization.
- A discussion of District 6110's history closed the session.

The Saturday evening dinner and program provided a great conclusion to our two-day event.



Chris Lewis, Noel Morris,
Warren Lovinger (l-r)

Fayetteville's Harrison Pittman provided special musical entertainment. **Springdale's Noel Morris** was honored with Rotary's coveted "Service Above Self Award" for many years of leading annual Wheelchair Mission trips. Keynote speaker Chris Lewis gave us a deeper understanding of the huge impact that wheelchairs provide for the thousands who have received them, as well as the District 6110 Rotarians who have participated in the trips to distribute them.

I am **extremely appreciative** of the many D6110 Rotarian leaders who worked so hard to make our 2025 Legacy Celebration and District Conference such a resounding success! Plans are already underway for the 2026 Conference, which will be held in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Be sure to make plans to join your fellow Rotarians at next year's annual meeting.

Warren Lovinger DG

Rotary Dates

[Calendar icons created by pojok d - Flaticon](#)">

Rotary leaders want to get dates on their calendars - as far in advance as possible, but also as a reminder of "what's next". *Criteria: Big-picture events, NO club events/fundraisers**, but events and/or deadlines that club leaders need to know.*

Important and District-wide (and beyond) Rotary Dates

- May 29, 2025, 6:00pm: Virtual **District Training Assembly Session 1: President's Elect and Nominees ZOOM**
- May 31, 2025, 9:00am - 12:30pm Virtual **District Training Assembly Session 2-4: MyRotary/DACdb, Public Image, Rotary opportunities!**



- June 3, 2025, 6:00PM: Virtual **District Training Assembly**
Session 5: Secretaries & Treasurers

- June 21-25, 2025: Rotary International **Convention** in Calgary, Canada
- July 12, 2025: **Governor John Rains Installation**, Sapulpa, OK
- August 2, 2025: **Regional District Training Assembly in Pittsburg, KS**
- August 9, 2025: Zone **Summer Leadership** Seminar, OKC [CLICK TO REGISTER](#)
- August 16, 2025: **Regional District Training Assembly in Tulsa, OK:**
- Sept 2-6, 2025: **Zone Institute**, Columbus, OH
- Sept 13, 2025; **Regional District Training Assembly in Joplin, MO**
- Sept 27, 2025: **Regional District Training Assembly in Eureka Springs, AR**
- October 16-19, 2025: **RYLA**
- March 19-21, 2026; **MAPETS** - May 1-2, 2026; **District Conference**, Renaissance Hotel, Tulsa
- June 13-17, 2026: Rotary International **Convention** in Taipei, Taiwan
- June 5-9, 2027*: Rotary International **Convention** in Honolulu, Hawaii
- May 27-31, 2028*: Rotary International **Convention** Minneapolis, Minnesota (Note: not 2029 as earlier announced.)
- 2029: Rotary International **Convention** - to be determined
- May 25-29, 2030*: Rotary International **Convention** in Chicago
- * Tentative dates and locations for planning

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT: Plug these dates into your calendar - you don't want to be a Rotarian without a date, do you?

****Check the DACdb Calendar for Club events!**



District 6110 BOX SCORE

As of 5/12/25

5	Total Member gain since 7/1/24 MOVING UP!!
8	Clubs with ZERO Foundation giving - no change last month
11.3%	Members under 40 years old
12	Generous donors to the Legacy Campaign - Donations made now
15	Permanent Endowed Foundation funds from members
25	Clubs with ZERO Polio Plus giving; STILL!

32.4%	Women Rotarians
32	Generous donors to the Legacy Campaign Bequest Society
40	*STAR* Clubs: Average \$100 per capita giving to Foundation
91%	New Member Retention rate
98%	Percent of AGs & District officers with RI "My Rotary" accounts
100%	Percent of Assistant Governors (AGs) with RI "My Rotary" accounts
105	Rotary Foundation Bequest Society Members - up 4 from last month
119	Paul Harris Society Members - \$1000/yr (to join, email Michelle Gann)
233	Major Foundation Donors "all time" - up 4!
439	Rotary Direct members - Goal: 500
2,143	RYLA Alumni (go gettem)
3,201	Rotary Club Members now - up 13 from last month
8,303	Paul Harris Fellows "all time" - also up 13 from last month
\$78,795	Polio Plus Giving so far this year
\$101,250	Legacy Campaign annual gift to District when all bequests received
\$986,000	Legacy Campaign Major gifts - 29.2% WELL DONE!
\$387,470	Foundation Annual Fund Giving so far this year
\$2,389,000	Legacy Campaign Bequests - 70.8% of total - WELL DONE!
\$2,886,676	Current value of 15 RI Foundation District Endowed Funds
\$3,375,000	FINAL Legacy Campaign Total Gifts - goal \$2 MM. OUTSTANDING!

Noel Morris receives special RI Award



At the recent District Conference, Noel Morris from the Springdale Rotary Club was honored with Rotary International's prestigious **"Service Above Self" Award** for his longtime dedication to the American Wheelchair Mission. Only about 120 Rotarians worldwide receive this recognition each year—a true testament to Noel's impact and servant leadership.

Congratulations, Noel!

Behind Noel is Chris Lewis, President of the American Wheelchair Mission, son of Jerry Lewis, and keynote speaker at Saturday night's banquet.

Side note: earlier on Saturday at the Four Way Test Speech Contest, the mother of a contestant from Springdale noted she is the Vice-Principal at an elementary school in Springdale. A new student from Mexico whose legs had been mangled in an

accident, had enrolled and he needed his own wheelchair. Rotarians at the table sprang into action - how can we help? Quick check with MSNI - yes they had one available - in Tulsa. But Noel heard of the need and a student-sized chair appeared at the school that week!

Rotarians are truly People of Action!

DisCon25 Photos

As noted above, about 300 people attended this month's District Convention, Legacy Dinner and Top Golf outing. Here are just a few snippets of what you missed if you were some of the 90% District Rotarians who missed it! Plan on next year's **District**







PS: Mark your Calendar for DisCon26: May 1-2, 2026; Renaissance Hotel, Tulsa!

District Conference Delegates Hear the Four Way Test Speech Contest

By Ronald L. Petersen Sr.

The 4-Way Test Speech Contest took place during the District Conference luncheon on Saturday, May 3rd, in Rogers, AR.

- **Tierany Sloan** sponsored by the Rotary Club of Cassville, MO, won first place and earned a \$1,000 prize.
- **Riley Sebolt** sponsored by the Rotary Club of Rogers, AR,
- **Aaron Oesterle** sponsored by the Rotary Club of Springdale, AR, and
- **Evan Gaines** sponsored by the Rotary Club of Tulsa Sunrise in Tulsa, OK were the runners-up receiving \$350 each.



Tiernay Sloan-

Aaron Oesterle -

The Four-Way Test Speech Contest stands as a shining example of Rotary's commitment to fostering youth leadership and moral values. By encouraging participants to examine their lives through the lens of the Four-Way Test—questions of truth, fairness, goodwill, and benefit—it inspires a broader understanding of ethical decision-making. Each year, the program grows in popularity, drawing enthusiastic participation from clubs throughout the district.

The contest's multi-tiered structure ensures that contestants are rigorously tested and recognized for their merit.

Beginning with club-level eliminations, participants progress through regional competitions and semi-finals before reaching the esteemed "Final Four." This journey not only cultivates public speaking skills but also instills a deep appreciation for the Rotary ideals.

As the audience at the District Conference witnessed, the competition is not just about accolades. It is a platform where young voices shine, offering perspectives that challenge and inspire. With Tierany Sloan's exceptional performance and the compelling speeches of the runners-up, this year's contest reaffirmed its reputation as one of District 6110's most cherished programs. For those eager to get involved in next year's contest or learn more about Rotary's impactful initiatives, clubs are encouraged to reach out to their Assistant Governor or District Committee Chair, PDG Ron Petersen, at 417-359-3417 or via email at ronsr@cbciradio.com. Together, the Rotary family continues to nurture the leaders of tomorrow, demonstrating the transformative power of ethical leadership and community engagement.



1st Place	runner up
Riley Sebolt - Runner-up	Evan Gaines - Runner-up



Club Hub - MAY 2025

"The Club Hub"

District 6110 Rotarians are *People of Action!*



Immediate Past President Stacie Hopper-Goldsmith displays the banner for being the **Bull Shoals-Lakeview Rotary Club** placing as the #2 Club in the District for Rotary Foundation giving in her year. Congratulations!



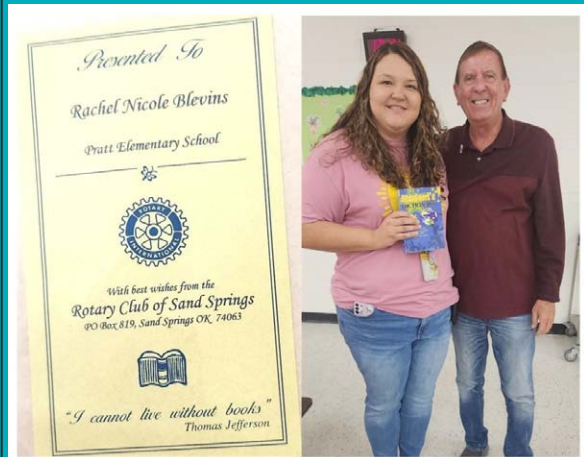
The **Fayetteville Rotary Club** recently added some of the Fayetteville Bike Trail to the stretch of Highway 45 that they regularly clean. In April, Diane Warren and several others picked up several bags of trash alongside the trail and in the creek as well as continuing the process of removing invasive plants and other debris.



Rotarian Joe Leek displays the t-shirts made for the Rotary Rocks Out Hunger event.

ANTJEA WOLFF / THE MORNING SUN

The **Pittsburg Rotary Club's** "**Rotary Rocks Out Hunger**" event raised \$4,700 for **The Lord's Diner** which was double funds collected in years past. This is a major project of the club. Organizer Jon Bartlow presented 5 bands for the event, and people stayed long!



On the left is the bookplate from a dictionary presented "20+" years ago to 3rd grader Rachel Blevins by the **Sand Springs Rotary Club**. On the right is teacher Rachel Blevins and Rotarian Mike Baldridge, who heard how the gift of a dictionary helped inspire a student to become a teacher!



The **Rotary Club of Sapulpa** and La Margarita provided a Cinco de Mayo teacher appreciation lunch for the teachers at Liberty Elementary STEM Academy. President Cathy Gebetsberger (L-R) and member Cindy McGuire with Liberty School teachers Bonnie Wood, Lori Reed and counselor Kaylie Tollett.



Rotary is truly an international organization! President-Elect Patri Zapico (left) Rotary Club of Giron, Spain, District 2201, attended her daughter's graduation at MSSU and wanted to exchange banners. **Joplin Rotary Club's** President, Jennifer Shotwell, invited Rotarian and MSSU President Dean VanGalen to assist and he conducted a special reception for them.



The **North Tulsa Rotary Club** named Jillian Swets as the "Educator of the Year" at the Investing in Tomorrow event. Swets has worked with the **Southside Rotary Club's** Interact Club at McLain High School for Science & Technology.



The **Parsons Rotary Club** conducted its annual Chili Feed to raise funds for its projects. Former RYLA student and new member Martha Castillo (L-R), past President Glenn Fischer and member Craig Newland prepare the secret recipe that raises over \$6,000 annually.



The **Rotary Club of Tulsa** proudly honored Tulsa's finest at their "Above and Beyond Service Awards", recognizing the Police Officer and Firefighter of the Year! Founded in 2008, these awards celebrate extraordinary public servants who go above and beyond in character, commitment, and compassion—both in their professions and in our community.

ROGERS NOON ROTARY CLUB
PRESENTS



INAUGURAL **DICK DANIEL GOLF CLASSIC**

SUPPORTING STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS &
DICK DANIEL DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN
AWARD



Mark your calendar for August 18 to attend the **Rogers Noon Rotary Club Dick Daniel Golf Classic**. Registration opens soon! Email Mac Kaiser [HERE](#) for all the details.

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? Is YOUR club doing service to its community? Is it telling its story? Are you "People of Action?" Let us know with "just the facts" to: Wally Bloss, District Public Image Chair: Wbloss@Gmail.com

The END is Near - hurry!

We are just about 45 days from the beginning of the new Rotary year on July first. Which means we need to finish this year strong!

Think about these::

- Consider naming a **ROY**: Rotarian of the Year. Consider the member who always "shows up" and does what is asked, or the one who ran the new fundraiser, etc.

- Be sure to get your **Foundation** \$ giving in to RI ASAP! (Like RIGHT NOW)

- Consider awarding a **non-Rotarian** service-minded community member a Paul Harris Fellow using club points. (How? - ask [Ed Hardesty](#))

- Make sure to delete any members who have left the club, or you will be billed for them!

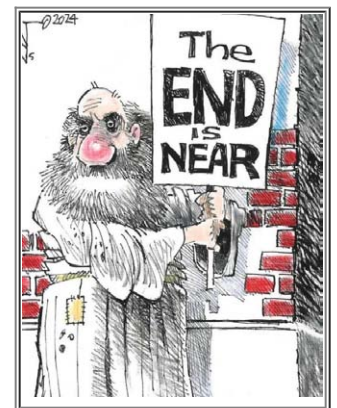
- Make sure your new **officers** are listed in DACdb/RI.

- Make the new officers' **installation** an "event"; invite spouses, have a gala, celebrate the year's successes, make it special.

- Set your 2025-2026 **goals** in RI's [Club Central](#)!. (Need help? Ask your AG!)

- Send a **News Release** to the local media re the new President (SEE ATTACHED)

- Do the boring **administrivia** stuff: New signatures for checking accounts, verify logins/passwords for social media accounts, check if your state requires annual renewal of



Non-Profit status, etc.

-Ask every member which club **committee** they want to be on next year and follow through.

Council on Legislation makes changes to Rotary Operations

By Rolf Hufnagel



Every three years, Rotary International convenes a "Council on Legislation" to review possible changes in the operation of the organization. Delegates are seated at One Rotary Center, our headquarters in Evanston, Illinois from every District and review dozens of options that have been forwarded from Rotary Clubs and Districts.

Past District Governor Rolf Hufnagel represented District 6110 at the COL in April and offers this report:

We had a total of 492 districts represented. There was an additional cadre of approximately 100 people, including translators, Rotary staff, members of the Rotary board of Directors and Council officials.

It began with a Sunday afternoon 3:00 to 6:00 meeting to review the ground rules. All members of the Council had previously attended a Zone COL training session as well taken an online course.

The work began on Monday with 4 sessions, Tuesday 2 sessions, Wednesday 4 sessions and Thursday with 2 sessions. Whew!

We addressed 86 Enactments. Some were easily decided, others took hours.

The ones that caused the most discussion were:

Proposed Enactment 25-49: To increase per capita **dues**. This PASSED after a long discussion, 351/135. RI dues will increase by \$3.50/ year for 2025-2026, and increase by \$3.75 for each of the following two Rotary years.

PE 25-72. Remove the requirement to hold an Annual District Conference, PASSED 252/216.

PE 25-76 to amend PETS to PELS (President-Elect **Training** Seminar to **Learning**). PASSED 254/221, with a provision that each PETS can elect to change or not.

PE 25-07 decrease the number of members to charter a new club from 20 to 15. PASSED 305/177.

There were many enactments that attempted to micro-manage club or district activities. These were turned down. We had a number of Enactments that were withdrawn and postponed.

The whole session was handled as a parliamentary process. Rules were strictly enforced under the Parliamentary rules. Very strictly. This was a very worthwhile set of meetings for any Rotarian. It was very interesting to see how our rules and changes are implemented.

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? Click [HERE](#) for more info on several other items that were decided.

Rotary International President Stephanie A. Urchick set the tone for the Council on the opening day, stressing the cross-cultural and cooperative nature of Rotary.

"This Council represents the heart of Rotary's democratic process and the best of our

international spirit," Urchick said. "The gathering is one of Rotary's most powerful expressions of multiculturalism. Here, voices from every corner of the globe come together – not to compete, but to collaborate."

Rotary Action Plan

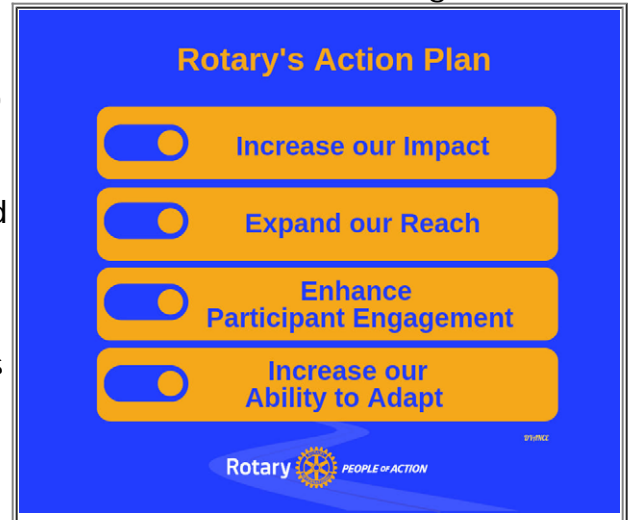
By Pamela Elaine Crawford

It is fun to watch on Facebook and see all the scholarships being handed out across the District to high school students. Think of the **Impact** that Rotarians are making on these students with that money. And they remember that Rotary gave them money; I meet people who say that a Rotary scholarship is what drew them back to Rotary. **Outcome!**

I asked our District Rotary Foundation Chair, PDG Ed Hardesty, to update me on scholarships that the district helps fund. District 6110 works the Action Plan through both the clubs and the district. Global Grant money is used for District Scholarships just as many of the clubs use District Grants to help award their scholarships.

We have been making Clinton Scholars since 2014.

At last count, we had helped District 6150 in Arkansas fund 14 scholars, mostly from Africa. These students attend the Clinton School in Little Rock. The Clinton School of Public Service was the first in the nation to offer a Master of Public Service.



We have had one Peace Scholar in our District, Bobbie Bigby of Tulsa. She was a Rotary Peace Fellow in 2014-2015. She earned her MA in International Studies, Peace and Conflict Resolution at the University of Queensland, Australia in our program. Sadly, as she finished her studies in Australia, she was diagnosed with breast cancer and underwent surgery and treatments. She then came back to Tulsa and worked with refugees from Myanmar.

District 6110 was an original Peacebuilder District and helped to endow the program. Peacebuilder Clubs are a Rotarian movement creating energy and momentum for peaceful conflict resolution around the world.

Ty Rossow is a recent Global Grant Scholar sponsored by the Southside Tulsa Rotary Club. You may have seen our talk with him during the 2024 District Conference. And we are currently in the process of working on another Global Grant Scholar.

Giving to The Rotary Foundation Annual Fund (Share) allows us to fund many scholarships and other educational opportunities in our District. Our input of funds has an output of educated young people to be our leaders of the future...impact and outcome. It is not too late to make a gift for the 2024-2025 Rotary year...even a little bit goes a long way!

Legacy Campaign Smashes thru goal at finish!

Governor Warren noted the final goal-smashing figure for the Legacy Campaign of **\$3,375,000** in his column above. This is a wonderful and significant increase beyond the original \$2,000,000 goal.

Here's a bit more info on this permanent addition to the Rotary Foundation and how it will help District 6110:

New Legacy Campaign Giving by state:

- Arkansas - \$1,470,306 (43.5%)
- Oklahoma - \$1,180,492 (35.0%)
- Missouri - \$606,896 (18.0%)
- Kansas - \$117,306 (3.5%).

The final total of **\$3,375,000** includes:

- \$986,000 (29.2% of total) as Major Gift (cash) donations from 12 Rotarians and spouses and
- \$2,389,000 (70.8% of total) as bequest donations from 32 Rotarians and spouses.

The vast majority of the gifts and bequests were assigned by donors to "TRF Endowment - Share". Though it will be years before all the bequests will be paid (at the passing of the donors), the Endowment will eventually be returning 3% of the donated total ($\$3,375,000 \times 0.03 = \textbf{\$101,250}$)

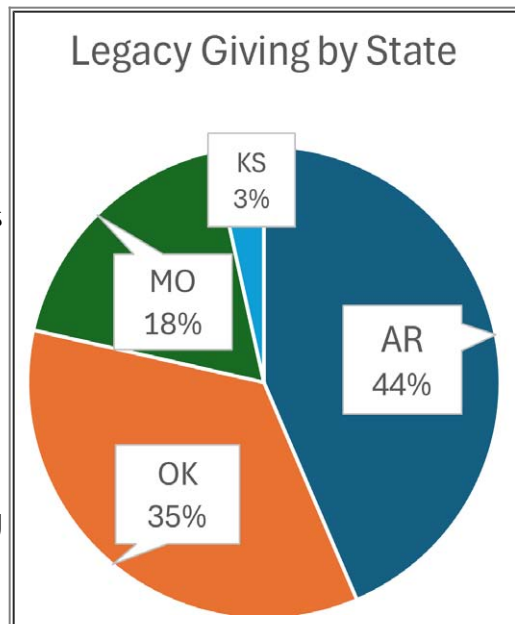
to District 6110 annually forever as District

Designated Funds (DDF) that we will be able to

distribute to our D6110 Rotary Clubs and our international participation projects.

Now THAT is a legacy of which we can all be proud!

These figures add to the permanent Endowment giving by many Rotarians prior to the Legacy Campaign both in bequests and cash gifts.



Welcome New Rotarians MAY, 2025

<p>Randy Green (right) of the Bentonville Satellite Rotary Club inducted Kristi Weiser (Center) with Katie Boykin (left). Note how they place the very nice membership certificate in a frame anyone would be proud to hang.</p>	<p>New Member Chair, Bob Headlee (left) of the Joplin Rotary Club along with President Jennifer Shotwell (right) welcomed Suzi Kidd, District Scouting Executive to the club.</p>

New Members From: April 13, 2025 To: May 12, 2025

Note: For members to appear on this list, their start date must be entered

Member Name	Start Date	Club	Sponsor
Alphin, David	05/01/2025	Northside Fayetteville	David J. Savage Sr.
Blake, Ken	05/01/2025	Bristow	Matt Smith
Castillo, Charrisa	04/27/2025	Pittsburg	Becky E McDaniel
Choate, Jason R.	04/17/2025	Carthage	Jeremy Jadwin
Crider, Kristin	05/01/2025	Bella Vista	Sue Stacey
Curry, Heather L	05/01/2025	Iola	Donna Grigsby
Ellis, Gary	04/13/2025	Coweta	

Eubanks, Mar	05/02/2025	Sand Springs	Beau Wilson
Farmer, Scott A.	04/17/2025	Carthage	Belinda Farmer
Giem, Hope	04/17/2025	Muskogee	
Hanson, Luke	05/01/2025	Bella Vista	Kathleen McGuire
Hinytzke, Steve	05/01/2025	Holiday Island	Peggy Lodewyks
Hudson, Rhonda	04/27/2025	Bartlesville Daybreak	Annah Fischer Lisa Cary
Johnson, Ebony	05/01/2025	Tulsa	
Johnson, James Algernon (JIM)	05/01/2025	Springdale	
Kidd, Suzi)	04/18/2025	Joplin	Jennifer Shotwell
Kruger, Stephanie M	04/28/2025	Springdale	Dean LaGrone Lance Taylor
Lesh, Eric	05/07/2025	Springdale	
Lynch, Kim	05/05/2025	Muskogee	Blake Farris
Mather, James E II (JIM)	04/21/2025	Downtown Rogers	Dana Mather
McDonald, Laura G	05/05/2025	Broken Arrow	Sue Moore
McGill, Teresa	05/05/2025	Muskogee	
Mense, Betsy	04/21/2025	Joplin	Charles Keeter
Mossman-Celestin, Valerie R (VALERIE)	04/25/2025	e-Club of Engagement	Charles Adams
Nichols, Monroe	05/01/2025	Tulsa	
Roberts, Lynsey	05/01/2025	Muskogee	
Ryan, Edward P (EDDIE)	05/10/2025	e-Club of Engagement	Kylie A Ryan
Shanks, Bill	04/17/2025	Rogers	Jim Parker
Shirley, Jace	05/07/2025	Rotaract Club of U of AR Fayetteville	
Singh, Simone L.	05/01/2025	Northside Fayetteville	Robert Bradley
Stanley, Timothy	05/01/2025	Northside Fayetteville	David J. Savage Sr. Travis L. Fink
Stice, Colleen	04/30/2025	Tulsa Sunrise	Christopher B. Sprague
Sweger, Justice	05/01/2025	Bristow	Keith Symcox Matt Smith
Wieser, Kristi	04/23/2025	Bentonville	
Wischhusen, Linda	04/24/2025	Bella Vista	