



ROTARY EXPRESS

Rotary Club of Harrisonville, Missouri | January 14, 2026 | Service above self. One profits most who serves best.

Today's program



Jon Kling's speaker today is **C.J. Keeney**, owner and operator of Keen Aquatics, which provides pool, pond and aquarium maintenance services.

Future programs

January 21 - Mark Rorvig's guests will be DECA students rehearsing their contest presentations

January 28 - Avelicia Rosales

February 4 - Bing Schimmelpfenning

February 11 - Nancy Shelton

February 18 - Laurence Smith

February 25 - Sam Styron

Birthdays

January 24John Coffey

January 28Ali Dickey Pettie

Officers & Directors

President.....Grant Purkey

President-Elect.....Erik Winkler

President-Nominee.....Annie Knox

Secretary.....Dawson Dickey

Treasurer.....Jessica Junge

Sergeant-at-Arms.....Judy Franklin

Past President.....Jon Taber

Directors.....Jenna Giess, Larry Pfautsch, Cassie Wieberg, Jayden Love, Vanessa Hargrave

District Governor.....Andrea Brady

Asst. Gov.....Bing Schimmelpfenning

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Insurance costs rise with inflation and catastrophic weather events



Local insurance broker Holly Stark with Stafford-Leavitt Insurance Services explained some of the reasons insurance costs continue to rise. A guest of Larry Pfautsch, Holly pointed first to statistics showing a dramatic increase in the number and severity of catastrophic weather events. There were 104 such events in the 2017-22 period.

Meanwhile, repair and replacement costs have also skyrocketed in recent years, jumping 40%. That also means many buildings are underinsured, in other words not keeping up with inflation. A ripple effect is that insurance carriers are paying more for the reinsurance they buy to help cover their losses.

This situation is also complicated by a shortage of skilled labor, which drives up repair costs and reduces



Erik Winkler gave out Challenge Coins provided by the Harrisonville Police Department for those who volunteered with Shop With a Cop.

the number of competitive bids.

All of this is causing some carriers to withdraw from certain markets and to change the terms of their policies, especially on wind and hail damage, from a flat deductible to a percentage while also factoring in the age of the roof or structure.

One option to save money, Holly said, is a separate policy that fills the gap between covered losses and actual losses.

Announcements from last week's meeting

- President Grant welcomed new corporate members Kennan and Melissa Ford with Reed Automotive. They will be installed at a later date.
- Jayden Love won the Secret Greeter dollar coin.
- John Foster contributed to the PolioPlus bank, calling attention to an article in *Rotary* magazine about Missouri native Larry Lunsford, a member of the Plaza Rotary Club, who will become Rotary International president in 2027-28.
- John also reported on an attendance makeup at the Branson-Hollister club where he recalled speaking years ago about perfect attendance when he was district governor.
- Jill Filer thanked the club for the books they purchased for our Classroom Partner fourth graders, calling attention to a video on our Facebook page showing the students unwrapping their books. Jill also reminded members of the Jan. 9 Classroom Partner activity.
- Annie Knox announced that the club will be working the concession stand Thursday evening, Feb. 5, as a fundraiser for our Miracle Field 50th anniversary project. It should pay \$150. We need 2-4 people. Contact Annie if you can help.
- Vanessa Hargrave displayed samples of Rotary T-shirt sizes so members can choose the right size. Orders will be taken soon.

Club Calendar

Wednesday, January 14
50th Anniversary Committee Meeting - 1 p.m. following our lunch meeting.

Friday, January 16
High Five Friday - 8:15-9:15 a.m.,
Harrisonville Elementary School.

Monday, February 2
Monthly Board Meeting - 12 noon,
Family Center Farm & Home.



We had a good turnout of Rotarians for last Friday's Classroom Partner activity – building bird feeders. From row from left: Jill Filer, Vanessa Hargrave and Jordan Love. Standing: R.J. Knox, John Foster, Erik Winkler, Jason Zaroor, Melissa Ford and Jon Taber.

