



# ROTARY EXPRESS

Rotary Club of Harrisonville, Missouri | January 21, 2026 | **Service above self. One profits most who serves best.**

## Today's program



Mark Rorvig's guests today are Cass Career Center DECA students rehearsing their team marketing presentations for contest. Rotarians will provide feedback.

## Future programs

**January 28** - Avelicia Rosales will be joined by newly named Executive Director Stacy Christie from Hope Haven of Cass County

**February 4** - Bing Schimmelpfennig

**February 11** - Nancy Shelton

**February 18** - Laurence Smith

**February 25** - Sam Styron

## Birthdays

**January 24** .....John Coffey

**January 28** .....Ali 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 Schimmelpfennig

## Contact info.

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## PE teacher uses Bass Pro experience to start pool maintenance business

As many teachers do, T.J. Keeney found a second job for extra income, and in a few short years Keen Aquatics has turned into a growing business.

A guest of Jon Kling, T.J. spoke about the history of his business and some of the challenges it poses. "The biggest thing is (that) people get a pool and don't realize what's involved," he said.



Although he has a background in aquariums and water feature maintenance, he prefers doing swimming pool maintenance. In fact, 99% of his business is pools. Keen Aquatics serves communities as far north as Smithville and south to Adrian.

Most of his work involves residential pools but he is starting to do more commercial work and recently bid on a contract from a homeowners' association in Raymore.

T.J. says he started the business in 2024, and his work volume increased 50% in 2025. He is also looking at getting into pool inspections and pool liners. For now, most of his business is opening and closing pools and providing weekly or biweekly pool maintenance. Services can also include pool repairs such as pumps and filters.

It's primarily a one-man operation now, but T.J. said he does employ a couple of high school boys during the summer.

He responded to several questions, one about salt water pools, which he recommends. Nancy Shelton noted that she has had a saltwater pool for 18 years with no problems. She also asked about his experience in removing mustard algae, which he said can be expensive.

## Announcements from last week's meeting

- Bill Mills won the Secret Greeter dollar coin.
- Jill Filer reported a good turnout for the bird feeder activity at our January Classroom Partner visit.
- President Grant announced that the Miracle Field 50th Anniversary Committee would meet immediately after lunch.

## About DECA

DECA (formerly known as Distributive Education Clubs of America) is a global, not-for-profit student organization preparing emerging leaders and entrepreneurs for

careers in marketing, finance, hospitality, and management, integrating classroom

learning with real-world application, business connections, and competitive events like case studies and role-plays, fostering skills in leadership, public speaking, and financial literacy for high school and college students worldwide.

It's a co-curricular program where students apply knowledge through hands-on projects, networking, and competitions, developing essential professional and entrepreneurial skills for college and careers.

Formed in 1946, the organization has more than 300,000 members in all 50 states and several foreign countries.

## Club Calendar

Monday, February 2

**Monthly Board Meeting** - 12 noon,  
Family Center Farm & Home.

Friday, February 20

**Classroom Partner Visit** - 2:30 - 3:30  
p.m., McEwen Elementary School.

**UNITE  
FOR  
GOOD**



**JANUARY 2026**



**Sponsored by**  
**Harrisonville Rotary Club**

**CASS CAREER CENTER**

**YOUNG PROFESSIONAL OF THE MONTH**

**SAMANTHA JOHNSON**

**EMT Program**

**Harrisonville High School**



## 50th Anniversary Committee update

As part of our 50th Anniversary Project planning, we as Rotarians discussed the opportunity to become a member of the Miracle League. The board voted and approved the \$570 membership fee to assist our project of funding the construction of a Miracle Field in conjunction with the planned ballfields reconstruction at North Park.

"This membership provides access to discounted services, proven resources, and ongoing support to help ensure the long-term success of this impactful project," said President Grant Purkey.

Meanwhile, the committee continues to research and explore various funding opportunities, including, grants, sponsorships and other possibilities. The club will mark its 50th anniversary in March of 2027.