

## Upcoming Speakers

6/1 - MSU Athletic Department  
6/8 - Laura Miller, West KY Special Olympics  
6/15 - Mike Keith, Tennessee Titans

## Club Leaders



**John A. Williams Jr.**  
President



**Glen Anderson**  
President-Elect



**Phyllis B. Russell**  
Secretary



**Thomas Scott Taylor**  
Treasurer



**Melanie W. McNeill**  
President-Nominee

**Roger Truitt**  
Rotary Foundation Chair

**Don Barger**  
Sergeant-at-Arms



**Jamie B. Futrell**  
iPast President

**Denise A. Chapman**  
Club Executive Secretary

## Birthdays

**Jim Dudley**

May 28

**Richard J. Grana**

June 13

**Joe Framptom**

June 14

**Jill T. Chambers**

June 16

**Dee Dee Whittaker**

June 19

**Steve Shrewsberry**

June 20

**Ashley Grooms**

June 24

**Debbie Wattier**

June 25



# GearTeeth

The Rotary Club of Paducah

Website: [www.PaducahRotary.org](http://www.PaducahRotary.org)

May 25th, 2016 Issue 77, Number 43

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4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.*

## Investing Today in Tomorrow's Workforce

May 25th, 2016



It is graduation season, and the first students enrolled in the Community Scholarship Program proudly crossed the stage on May 7th to accept their diplomas. **Ashely Wright, Director of Institutional Advancement at West Kentucky Community and Technical School** said the program, initiated by the Paducah Rotary Club, along with other partners, has "moved the needle" for many.

Wright said the program has achieved two of its initial goals, which is to increase the high school graduation rate in McCracken County, and to increase the number of students advancing to post-secondary education. Since the program's inception the high school graduation rate increased 2.2% at Paducah Tilghman and 5.5% for McCracken Co. From 2013 until 2016 the number of

students going on college has increased 10.6% overall. This reverses a decline from 2011, and represents a higher rate than the surrounding counties. "It is a key factor in the success of these students," said Wright.



**Dr. Lisa Stephenson**, often called "the heart of the program," said data indicates CSP students stay enrolled in college and perform at a higher academic level compared to non-CSP students. Stephenson said the retention rate of CSP students is 64.2% compared to 46.9% for others. The CSP students are also earning 17.99 college credit hours on average than non-CSP students at 15.14. The cumulative GPA for CSP student is 2.83 compared to 2.02 for others.

The Kentucky General Assembly passed a bill this year to provide funding for students to attend the state's community colleges, but was vetoed by Governor Matt Bevin. It is expected a revised bill will be presented to the

legislature in January, which has prompted questions about the local program. Wright said although a \$5 million capital campaign to provide continued support for CSP has been put on hold for now the major donors, such as local government, Rotary Club and others have committed to one year of funding to keep the program going until the new legislation is passed.

Stephenson said, "All should feel like proud parents" during this graduation season. "Thank you for believing in them," she said.

For more information on the program visit  
<http://www.westkentucky.kctcs.edu/en/Academics/K12/CSP.aspx>

## Announcements

May 25th, 2016



**Rotary Playground** - The countdown to the Rotary Playground construction week has begun! President John said 900 four- hour shifts need to be filled the week of June 20-26th. Rotarians are also asked to loan out tools for the construction. For more information on how you can help please contact John or Denise. Volunteers can sign up for work shifts at this website <http://www.paducahrotaryplayground.com>

**Community Donation** - Julie Harris accepted a donation from the Club on behalf of the River Heritage Center.

**New Member Proposal** - Upon recommendation of the Membership Approval Committee and the Board of Directors, **Nikki R. Coursey** has been proposed for membership in the Rotary Club of Paducah. *Objections must be filed in writing to the Club Executive Secretary within seven days. It is not necessary to respond if you do not object to this recommendation.*

## What Does Rotary Mean to You?

May 25th, 2016

We all have different reasons for being in Rotary and get different outcomes from being here. Some of us enjoy the comradery of weekly lunches, some of us use Rotary to network with other active businesses in our community, some of us volunteer for everything and get great enjoyment out of helping others, and on and on.

In an effort to understand what Rotary means to us and ultimately to help spread around the community all that Rotary means and does for each of us individually, we are going to test a campaign and have Rotarians tell "what Rotary means to me".

Every other week we would like for a Rotarian to stand at lunch and tell what Rotary means to them in hopefully a 2-3 minute "elevator speech". We will start with some of our past presidents to get the momentum rolling and then hopefully have enough volunteers to fill-in from there.

If you are willing to participate, please contact Denise, Mike Muscarella or John to get on the calendar.

## Guests

May 18th, 2016



Sen. Danny Carroll, Rep. Gerald Watkins and Commissioner Bill Bartleman – guests of Ken Wheeler

Nikki Coursey, Kaitlyn Hargett and Nichole Dumas – guests of Mike Muscarella

Pierre McCombs – guest of Tony Hamilton

Anne Gwinn, Lorry Beth Wilson, Barbara Maxey, Susan Graves, Renea Akin, John Williams and Justin Hill – guests of Dr. Barbara Veazey

Lorrie Haase – guest of Becky Straley