



Serving the Children of the World

The Nugget

Golden K Kiwanis Club
Decatur, Illinois

Club Officers 2025-2026

President: Tom McQuiston **President Elect:** Dick Virgin **Vice President:** None

Secretary: Lynda Durnil *Asst. Secretary: Roberta Williams*

Treasurer: John Baird *Asst. Treasurer: Karen Sivils*

Directors:

Cheryl Boss, Joel Hawkinson, Pat Riley, Cathy Sebok, Kathy Thompson, Sally Williams

Past President: Harold Wilkinson

Regular Meeting each Wednesday at 9:30 A.M. at Salvation Army Reception Hall

February 4, 2026

God Bless America / Pledge of Allegiance / Kiwanis Pledge: Ron Black

Invocation: Joel Hawkinson

Piano: John Baird

Mike Runners: Harold Dausman, Dan Sebok

Photographer: Joel Hawkinson

A tribute and a moment of silence was observed for the passing of Larry Wade.

Program: Mark Avery introduced Lacie Elzy, Director of Economic and Community Development and Director of Transportation Services for the city of Decatur. The new City Manager, Melissa Hon, also spoke.

Economic Projects & Investments

- Tillamook redeveloped the former Prairie Farms building on March 13; **\$70 million** investment; **50 new jobs**; capacity **15.5 million gallons/year** of ice cream; first development outside Oregon.
- Broadwing Energy will build an energy plant: **\$1 billion** investment; **~4,000 jobs** during four-year construction; **30 full-time jobs** at operation; located in the industrial corridor.
- Barnes Citizens Building slated for boutique downtown hotel with **~120 rooms**; mixed-use residential apartments; on-site coffee shop, restaurant, conference and meeting spaces.
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Transportation: Decatur Moves (Micro transit)

- Transportation is a key cornerstone of economic development, inefficient or unaffordable mobility stalls access to school, work and healthcare.
- Decatur Moves launched on **September 8** as an on-demand, curb-to-curb service after ~3 years of planning and intergovernmental partnerships; first regional transit service for all of Macon County.



- Service operates seven days per week from **5 a.m. to 8 p.m.**, is bookable via app or phone, and charges **\$2** within Decatur/Mount Zion/Forsyth and **\$5** county-wide.
- Planned capacity was **150 rides/day**; actual usage averaged **>500 rides/day** in January, with **18,396 rides** completed in January and **~70,000** total riders since inception.
- Service averaged **78,000 miles/month** with **93%** on-time performance; planned extension to midnight for shift workers was postponed due to demand exceeding capacity.

Revitalization Plan Overview (2026–2029)

- Published **2026–2029** revitalization plan with **six** priorities: economic development; modern service delivery; stronger neighborhoods; enhanced strategic oversight of economic-development tools (e.g., TIP districts); long-range planning; corridor revitalization.
- Prioritize sustainable growth beyond large firms by addressing **housing options, small businesses, transportation, and workforce**.
- Invest in neighborhoods and expand housing options.
- Streamline development processes to make approvals faster and easier to navigate.
- Update internal infrastructure and implement long-range planning to deliver services efficiently and effectively.

Health Report: Cathy Sebok – Don Wenneker is in the hospital.

Attendance: Lynda Durnil

54 members 3 speakers 2 guests 1 Kiwanis guest 60 Total

Dick Virgin – word of the week – potato – something that becomes only as a result of your being drunk. Kevin Wilmot received a prize for his answer. Linda Rowden received a prize for her guess last week.

Announcements:

Dick Virgin – 50 surveys were completed.

Cheryl Boss – There will be a Kids Invite Someone Special breakfast at Franklin Grove on February 12. She'll need volunteers from 7:45-11:00. Signup sheet available now.

- Franklin Grove has a 4th grade field trip to the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum on Feb 13, 9:30, and needs 2 volunteer chaperones who would drive their own car. Leave museum at 12:45.

Dan Sebok – Feb. 21, 7:30 pm, Sadie Hawkins Dance (St. T. Key Club). Note change of date & theme. They could use donations of water, candies, cookies, desserts. You could bring to our meeting on the 18th or drop off at St. T. They also need a couple of chaperones.

Susan Rayhill – this Sunday, Feb. 8 is the Careage House meal

- There is a trauma doll workshop Feb. 17, 8-1pm, Police Benevolent Hall at Fairview & Lincoln Park Dr., lunch provided. Come any amount of time.
- Good Samaritan Inn signup sheet for Feb 24, 11-1
- Delivered 18 trauma dolls to Teddy Bear Dentistry Group

Paula Luckenbill – she will go tomorrow (Feb 5) to Evansville to deliver lids and pick up benches.

Charles Smith – Feb 22 the Mt. Zion Key Club will have its annual Bake Sale & Tasting, 6pm, High School Cafeteria, \$5

Lynda Durnil – putting together the bylaws committee, anyone interested, let her know.

Tom McQuiston – Board meeting next Monday, Feb. 9, Central Christian Church, 1pm. Will discuss bylaws, Kite Day (Apr. 18), and the survey results.

Key Club Updates:

St. Teresa Key Club: Planning a Winter Formal on Feb. 21st, 7:30 pm.

Mt. Zion Key Club: Annual Baking Contest fundraiser, \$5, Feb. 22, 6pm, High School Cafeteria

Dates to Remember:

2/8/26 Careage House meal

2/9/26 Board meeting, Central Christian, 1 pm

2/12/26 Franklin Grove Special Someone breakfast, 7:45-11:00am, volunteers needed

2/17/26 Trauma Doll workshop, Police Benevolent Hall, 8-1pm, lunch included

2/24/26 Good Samaritan Inn, 11-1pm

Birthdays & Anniversaries: Kevin Cleary

Birthdays: Suzy Boehm, Norm Jensen

Anniversaries: John Dunn

** Due to a directive from International we are not to publish personal information.

Quote from Bob Hope: Middle Age is that time of life when you still believe you will feel better in the morning!

50-50 Drawing: Mike Heger did not draw the Queen of Hearts. The \$221 rolls over. Get your tickets!

Up Coming Programs:

2/11/26 Jami Fawley, Decatur Arts Council

2/18/26 Mark Scranton, Lincoln Square Theater

2/25/26 Clay Gerhard, Decatur Park District

3/4/26 Saramanda Hall, Big Brothers Big Sisters

Ongoing Projects

- Collecting Food Coupons for the military - Cheryl Boss
- Collecting clean plastic caps & lids for school benches & tables - Paula Luckenbill
- Collecting pop tops for Ronald McDonald House, Springfield - Paula Luckenbill
- Turn in hours to Karen Sivils - **itcpa96@gmail.com**, estimate #children helped
- Kiwanis clothing - Roberta Williams
- Golden K board meetings - 2nd Monday each month, 1:00 pm, Central Christian Church
- Decatur Lakeside 9/11 Memorial Flagpole and Flowers

Wednesday Donations

1st – Food Bank

2nd – K.N.R.F.

3rd – School Support

4th - Trauma Dolls

5th – Scholarship Fund

Speaker ideas...if you have an idea for a Golden K speaker, please let John Baird or Mark Avery know.

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Story for today: Jerry Pelz

Editor: Linda Thomas, lthomasxq@aol.com, 217-454-2605

Substitute Editors: Lynda Durnil & Roberta Williams

Click to view meeting

<https://www.youtube.com/@GoldenKKiwanisofDecatur>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100071723247020>