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Jan Burch, Editor | Article submissions always welcome. | December, 2024

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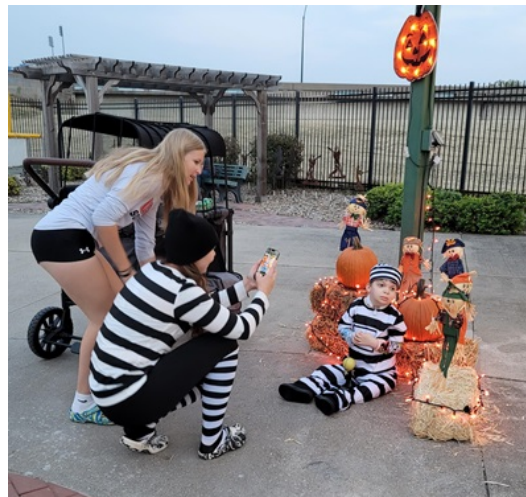
## FALL 2024 SEASON WRAP-UP



## Trophies Abound!

For many, it's the highlight of the year—receiving a personalized trophy. Yes, trophies were prepared for all spring and fall players and distributed at the Halloween/Trophy/Pizza party! We are extremely grateful to our good friends at USSSA Sports/**Central Iowa Sports** for again donating ALL of the trophies. Such a great way to cap off our successful 2024 seasons!

Some coaches may be delivering trophies to their players. If not, we'll hold all



## Annual Halloween/Trophy/Pizza Party

What a fun event! Some 300 players and families dressed up in their Halloween best, walked through the lane of decorated trunks and collected some sweet stuff, and then made it into the ballpark for fun, games, and, of course, pizza! Our new video board was also ablaze with Halloween cartoons and short movies! Thanks to Will Sales, Brewers coach, and a whole host of volunteers who decorated the ballpark, facilitated the games, handed out trophies and pizza, quite frankly, joined in the Halloween fun. As they say, “a good time was had by all.”



## Trunk Or Treaters

Wow! What fun to “trick or treat” at our splendid trunks leading up to the ballpark! Nearly 20 groups/organizations/individuals dressed up not only their vehicle trunks, but also themselves, and handed out yummy treats!



**Thank You, Buresh Home Solutions!**

for every walk at I Cubs home games. KML was the selected charity for July. Amazingly, there were 66 walks in July! We received a check for \$660. Again, thank you, Buresh!

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## Vision Financial Golf Tournament

Our friends from Vision Financial Group presented the KML with a check for \$3,649 following the organization's annual golf tournament that benefitted all of the Miracle Leagues in the metro. We have been fortunate to have been a beneficiary for ten years, and while 2024 may have been the last tournament, we do thank VFG for its generosity over the years.

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## KIWANIS CLUBS OF...

Des Moines Golden K  
Johnston  
West Des Moines

## CORPORATE/INDIVIDUALS

Ann McGowan In Memory of Terry McGowan  
Sally Ehlert  
Drew & Kayla Engebrecht  
Christ the King Knights of Columbus # 13159  
Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council  
Danish Brotherhood Lodge #15  
Mary Langdon  
Marcia Munger/Keller Williams  
State Savings Bank  
Trever Daumler  
Turner Construction

THANK YOU



TEAM SPONSORS

## CORPORATE FRIENDS

Benevity Community Impact Fund/  
Principal Financial Group  
Buresh Home Solutions  
City of Des Moines Employees/  
Combined Charities Appeal  
Friends of Al Knudsen (Memorial Golf Tourney)  
United Way of Central Iowa (Donor Option)  
Vision Financial Group  
Wellmark Foundation & Employees  
Wells Fargo Community Support Foundation  
Your Cause

## IN-KIND SPONSORS

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WinCommunications

[MORE INFO AT KIWANISMIRACLELEAGUE.ORG](https://www.kiwanismiracleleague.org)

## Our 2024 Contributors

All of our efforts would not be possible without the generosity of our donors. Company payroll deductions and/or matching corporate contributions, team sponsors, memorial gifts and/or pavers, in kind contributions, and concessions income, just to name a few of our sources. THANK YOU, donors!

## Board of "Angels"

Our "angel's" meet nine months each year to conduct the official business of the Kiwanis Miracle League.



Shown around the board table at our November annual/board meeting are (left side of table): Jim Sanders, Deb Buse, Jenn Anderson, Bob Syroka, Drew Engebrecht, Jan Burch, and Bob Mitchell and (right side of table) Mike Musich, Ron Peterson, Thom Wierenga, Tom Pflanz, Bill Keck, and Carol Towner. Plus Christy Nelson and Rachel McCann were attending via zoom with Kerry Walter-Ashby absent. Alie Muller-Heit resigned from the board and was replaced by Tim Askland, White Sox coach and member of the Des Moines Golden K Kiwanis Club.



We recognized **Ron Peterson** for his faithful service to the Kiwanis Miracle League and presented him with a commemorative plaque. Ron has served in numerous ways since our inception in 2007, most recently as chair of our risk management/background check program. Ron could be found almost every Saturday at the ballpark—checking in players, changing the team signs, operating the video board, raising and lowering the flags, etc.

**THANKS, RON!**

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Announcer Jeff Pierson



Announcer Tom Pflanz



Announcer Bob Syroka

Many remember our long-time PA Guy, **Al Knudsen**, who announced our games each Saturday from 2008 – 2022. He was hard to replace; in fact, many would say he was irreplaceable! But three of our KML friends stepped in. Thanks to **Jeff Pierson, Tom Pflanz, and Bob Syroka** for making our ball games extra special.

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## Site Improvements

Thanks to the generous proceeds of the Al Knudsen Memorial Golf Tournament, we were able to make several improvements to our ballpark facility this summer.

- Coating floors in our three restrooms
- Removing root bound tree and replacing with concrete
- Replacing numerous broken or sunken concrete pads
- Replacing inground colored lights around John Brommel statue
- Cleaning exterior bricks
- Replacing three tents with permanent metal frame gazebos
- Repainting all exterior doors
- Insulating family restroom for winter storage purposes

All of this wouldn't have happened without the supervision and many hours of labor by our Facilities Committee, chaired by Bob Syroyka. Bob, Bob Mitchell, and Tom Pflanz provided much needed oversight to make all of the above happen! THANKS, Guys!

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- November 21 KML Annual Meeting
- November 28 Happy Thanksgiving!
- December No board meeting
- December Happy Holidays to All
- January 16 KML Board Meeting



 KML NEWS! 



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