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# The Line Up

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Jan Burch, Editor | Article submissions always welcome. | May, 2025

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2025 SPRING SEASON

## Opening Day is May 10th!

Yes, spring is in the air! And it's KML baseball time! We're so excited about playing again at the Kiwanis Miracle League ballpark! Saturday is the first of eight Saturdays of play. And we will be starting with Opening Ceremonies at 8:15 AM. We'll have some remarks from some familiar faces. Cubby Bear will join us. And watch the fun as the SE Polk Girls Softball team challenges the ZaGaZig Shrine clowns to another fast-paced exhibition game. Our first "official" game will be at 8:30 with the Dodgers and the Mets. We have 25 new players this spring. So come meet up with your teammates from past years and get to know our new players, too!



## Round Up for Metro Miracle Leagues May 12-17

Local Fareway stores are hosting a significant event that will benefit all of our Miracle Leagues here in the Des Moines area very soon. When you shop at **FAREWAY** any time during May 12-17, you'll be asked if you would like to "round up" the amount of your purchase. This "round up" money will be donated by the **FAREWAY** Stores to our Leagues.

What a great idea! Be sure to shop at Fareway May 12 through 17. THANK YOU, Fareway stores.

## New Spring Coaches

We welcome three new coaches this spring. **JOE SCAGLIONE** will be an **ORIOLES** coach (youth). **NANCY LUDWIG** is joining the **RED SOX** team (youth). And **ZAC ARMINGTON** will be a **NATIONALS** coach (adults). Glad to have all three of you on board.

Are you interested in becoming a coach? Talk with any of our board members. We could use one or two more this spring.



## All Star Weekend

Every year, our Miracle League Association, based out of Atlanta, GA, hosts the **MIRACLE LEAGUE ALL STAR WEEKEND**. This year it is in Conyers, GA, and happened May 2-4. Leagues from around the US are invited to send a player family or two to the weekend event. Our Athletics coaches, **Jenn Anderson and Bob Anderson, and son/player, Jacob**, represented us. Jenn is also a KML board member and attended some of the meetings for directors. We sure hope they enjoyed meeting ML players from all over the country, and even Mexico!



Now's your chance to be an owner! Become one of our 2025 KML Team Sponsors! It's easy. Make a donation of \$500. This money goes toward our general operating expenses—electricity, insurance, water, general maintenance, and all the little things that it takes to keep us lookin' good and up and running. You'll be recognized with a banner hanging on our dugout fences and listed in various brochures and on our website. Pick up a TEAM SPONSOR brochure at our concessions window. Join our growing list of 2025 team sponsors:

***Kiwanis Club of West Des Moines***

***Ann McGowan In Memory of Terry McGowan***

***Buresh Home Solutions***

***Christ the King Knights of Columbus # 13159 (double)***

***Iowa State Bank***

***Jonathan Lund/City of DM Combined Charities Appeal***

***Middendorf Insurance***

***Mary Langdon***

***Sally Ehlert***

***Sogeti***

***Stanley Consultants in Honor of Sabrina Kriechel's retirement***

***Turner Construction Company***

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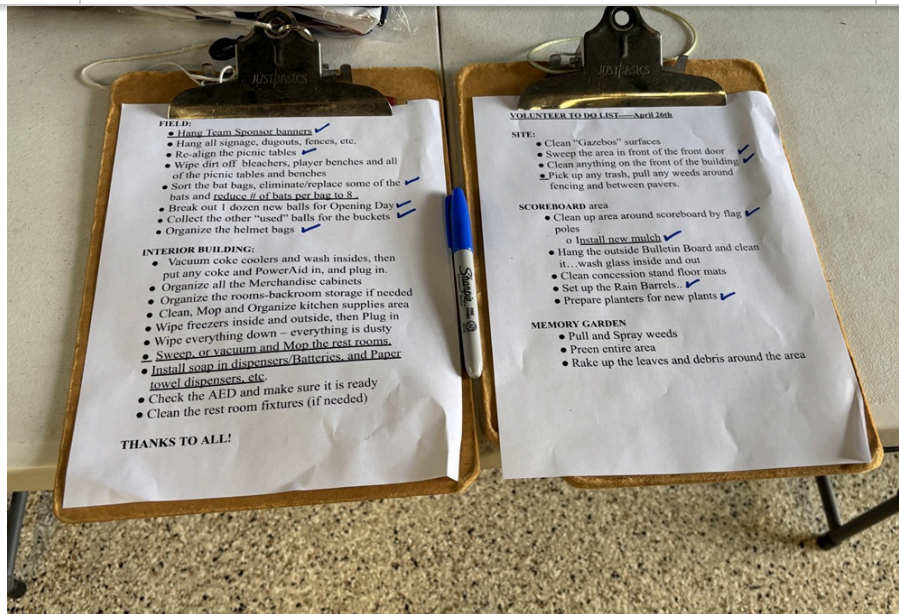
## Buddies Needed for Spring Games

Each season, we eagerly welcome volunteers to be buddies for our players.

This spring, to fill every spot for every game for eight Saturdays, we need to recruit 1,250. Yes, **ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY** volunteers!. We're about half way to our total, so still have many slots to fill.

Individuals and groups are welcome. Perhaps your church group would like to enjoy an hour or two at our ballpark? Or friends from work? Your next door neighbor? Signing up is easy...just go to our website and click on VOLUNTEER. <https://www.kiwanismiracleleague.org> It's great fun!

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## Spring Clean Up

Our ballpark seems to get a bit dirty and scruffy over the long winter months. But thanks to a band of eager volunteers and Facilities Chair, **Bob Syroka**, the dirt and grime are nearly gone. Landscaping and mulching has been accomplished. Outfield and dugout banners are hung. Concession area is spic and span; food supplies are ordered. Yes, we will be ready for May 10th.



## Waukee Resources Fair

Our KML was pleased to participate in Waukee School's annual REGION 2 (DALLAS COUNTY) TRANSITION FAIR on April 14. More than 30 organizations provided parents and caregivers much needed information about the services, activities, and FUN things

Pic caption: KML Board members Christy Nelson, Bob Mitchell and Jan Burch visited with many attendees about the good things happening at the Kiwanis Miracle League. Recruited several new players and an assistant coach!

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## Calendar of Events

- May 10** Opening Day
- May 15** KML Board Meeting
- May 17** KML Games All Day
- May 24** KML Games All Day
- May 31** KML Games All Day
- June 3** Iowa Barnstormers Night, Games 6 & 7 PM (youth only)
- June 7** KML Games All Day
- June 14** KML Games All Day
- June 21** KML Games All Day
- June 28** KML Games All Day
- June 14** ML Night AT the Iowa Barnstormers, 7 PM
- June 17** World Series DMPD/FD Night, Games 6 & 7 PM (youth only);  
8 PM Adults—tentative
- June 19** KML Board Meeting
- June 21** Team Pictures Day
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 KML NEWS! 



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