



# Children's Christmas Party



Santa Claus and the Grinch came to town and visited children from around our region at our Kiwanis Club of Winchester meeting on December 11<sup>th</sup>.

There were 18 elementary schools that participated in our annual party, with a total of 72 children attending. The children and their school chaperones were provided with a delicious lunch, sang Christmas carols, saw the Grinch sneaking around the room, sat on Santa's lap, and were presented with a bag of gifts by Santa's helpers. These children received some very special presents using proceeds from our Pancake Days and a generous donation from the Moose Lodge.

A huge thank you goes out to all the Kiwanians that made this possible by shopping for and wrapping presents, donating items, and decorating the room. This would not have been possible without all the hard work by many Kiwanians, led by the extraordinary Ginny Grant and Kay Anderson! You made the holidays extra special for these children.



# KIWANIS KOURIER



KIWANIS CLUB OF WINCHESTER, VA \* Serving the Winchester/Frederick County Community JANUARY 2025

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

MIKE DIDAWICK



By the time you read this column, Christmas will be over, Hanukkah winding down, and a new year beginning.

As usual, December was a busy, special time for our club. Thanks to Tim Anderson's efforts we were able to man both entrances to Walmart for the Salvation Army Kettle Drive. Tim also coordinated the Christmas Eve blood drive with he Blue Ridge Club at the George Washington Hotel.

*(Continued on page 10)*

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

### Happy Birthday To Our Members!



Chris March	01/06
Debbie Guiffre	01/14
Travis Nesselrodt	01/21
Helen Zebarth	01/24
Mark Hillyard	01/24
Willie Murphy	01/24
Rod Bronson	01/25
Al Sibert	01/30

(for birthday errors & omissions, please email editor@winvakiw.org)

## CALENDAR

Jan 1: NO Lunch meeting; Happy New Year

Jan 8: Lunch meeting at the Winchester Moose Lodge; Business meeting; 12-1pm

Jan 8: Top of Virginia Regional Chamber Mixer; Winchester Brew Works, 320 N. Cameron St., RSVP on-line; 5:30-7pm

Jan 15: Lunch meeting at the Winchester Moose Lodge; Jess Lidle, Hershey Milton School; 12-1pm

Jan 22: Lunch meeting at the Winchester Moose Lodge; Justin Kerns, Winchester Visitors Bureau; 12-1pm

Jan 29: Lunch meeting at the Winchester Moose Lodge; Traci Toth, Wheels for Wellness; 12-1pm

Jan 30: Board meeting at Beth El Congregation, 520 Fairmont Ave; 6pm



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## ANNUAL CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY





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KIWANIS CLUB OF WINCHESTER, VA \* Serving the Winchester/Frederick County Community JANUARY 2025

## ANNUAL CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY





## DOUG BUTLER CELEBRATION

On December 18<sup>th</sup> we had the honor to celebrate Doug Butler's 100<sup>th</sup> year birthday and 75 years as a Kiwanian. The beautifully decorated room was filled with family members, friends, and Kiwanians to recognize this milestone. We shared a lovely meal, birthday cake, and a slideshow with pictures of Doug throughout his life. We also had fun while members shared events that occurred in 1924, such as the first Macy's Day Parade, the price of a house and car, and popular songs.



James Douglas Butler, Sr. better known as Doug, was born in the upstairs bedroom of a little farmhouse on Two Oakes Farm in Frederick County, Virginia, north in the village of Nain. Doug attended Frederick County Public Schools until the 9<sup>th</sup> grade when a special arrangement with the School Board gave him permission to attend Handley High School in Winchester. Graduating in 1942 all the young men in his class were promptly inducted into the service for World War II participation. He was first inducted into the Infantry but transferred to the Army Air Corps to be a part of the "Little Mike" crew and specialized in gunnery and armaments. He became a gunner on the Liberator B-24 aircraft flying in Europe. They flew 35 missions without a casualty!





## DOUG BUTLER CELEBRATION

After serving his country, Doug was offered the position of General Manager of Green Chemical Company, Inc., a local farm and orchard supply company. He accepted the employment opportunity with the stipulation that he could retire at age 55, which he did. After having a fun time as a sales associate at Lamar Sloan Ford Dealership, he completely retired.

Doug's Kiwanis service began when he joined the Kiwanis Club of Winchester on May 25, 1949 and has been an active member of our club for more than 75 years with perfect attendance. He is also a member of the Kiwanis Club of Old Town, which he helped charter. He served as President of the Kiwanis Club of Winchester in 1955 and the Capital District Lt. Governor in 1986. One of Doug's hobbies included overseeing the construction, maintenance, and promotion of the Kiwanis Area in Jim Barnett Park. In 1955, Doug and fellow Kiwanian Bill Bonnett, owner of Valley Lumber Company in Winchester, built our Kiwanis Shelter No. 1 in the park.



**Doug's energy, commitment to service, and love of life is to be admired and emulated. Each day is a challenge for our 100-year-old member who refuses to sit around and "grow old."**



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KIWANIS CLUB OF WINCHESTER, VA \* Serving the Winchester/Frederick County Community JANUARY 2025

## INTERCLUB NEWS

Tim Anderson

Our quarterly interclub was held on Christmas Eve, December 24<sup>th</sup> working with the Kiwanis Club of Blue Ridge at their Christmas Eve Blood Drive at the George Washington Hotel. Thank you to everyone that volunteered and/or donated blood. Donating blood is a fantastic gift to give to someone in need at Christmas and throughout the year.



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## SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING

Our club rang the Salvation Army Red Kettle bell on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at the Walmart on Route 50. We manned both doors and rang the bell for eight hours. It was a beautiful day to support the Salvation Army's mission of providing food, clothes, and financial assistance for those in need. Thank you to everyone that helped out.





## NEW MEMBER INDUCTION

On December 4<sup>th</sup>, Diane Diaz was inducted as a new member by her sponsor, Debbie Knotts, and President Mike Didawick.

Diane is a returning member to our club, and we are thrilled to have her "official" return, as she has already been working Pancake Days. Her business as the Owner/Instructor for Valley Basic Life Support teaching the guidelines of emergency rescue & preparedness, CPR and first aid also demonstrates her commitment to service for our community.

Diane's creative explanation for the meaning of Kiwanis is:

- K: kind
- I: individuals
- W: who
- A: are
- N: needed
- I: in
- S: service of children



We look forward to working with Diane as we improve our community one child at a time.

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President Mike Didawick presented Steve Pettit with a Legion of Honor certificate for 50 years of service with the Kiwanis Club of Winchester. Thank you for your amazing commitment to our club and the community, Steve!





# KIWANIS KOURIER



KIWANIS CLUB OF WINCHESTER, VA \* Serving the Winchester/Frederick County Community JANUARY 2025

## SOCIAL NEWS

Robann Riggleman & Debbie Guiffre



A wonderful time was had by all at the December 20<sup>th</sup> social held at Pat Snapp's beautifully decorated house. Twenty-five Kiwanians and guests enjoyed the delicious food, the "thieves present exchange", and fellowship. Thank you Pat for being such a gracious hostess!





# KIWANIS KOURIER



KIWANIS CLUB OF WINCHESTER, VA \* Serving the Winchester/Frederick County Community JANUARY 2025

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

*(Continued from page 2)*

We had another successful Children's Christmas Party thanks to the herculean efforts of Ginny Grant and Kay Anderson. The thrill of watching 72 children from the area elementary schools brings out the spirit of the season. Special thanks go to the members who helped shop, wrap, set up, chaperone, and donate money to help offset the expenses. The Moose Lodge provided a special lunch and made a significant monetary donation.

Celebrating Doug Butler's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on December 18<sup>th</sup> was unforgettable. I am very honored to be President this year and able to preside over the festivities. Of course, without Pat Snapp and Susan Corrigan's help, I would have been in trouble. It was amazing sitting at the head table watching Kiwanians from our club and the Blue Ridge club, friends, family, and other guests visit with each other. Doug's brothers Ben and Steve, his son Jimmy from Charleston, SC and friends from Martinsburg attended the celebration. One special guest was SGM Clifton Moore of the Army Corps of Engineers, who thanked Doug for his military service.

Spring Pancake Day will be here before we know it. The committee is already working on plans to ensure a successful event. Consider volunteering to serve on this most important committee.

For the new year, one of the first tasks the Board of Directors will be working on is updating our by-laws. This is an important task to complete, as the changes will need to be approved by our membership and Kiwanis International.

2025 will be another busy year for our club and it will take all of us working together to make it a success. I am looking forward to jumping into the new year and helping out.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

### **Board Members: 2023-2025**

Jim Coots  
John Hess  
Robann Riggleman  
Lennie Wolfe

### **Board Members: 2024-2026**

Doug Green  
Nancy Huth  
Rick Ours  
Ryan Taylor

### **Officers**

President—Mike Didawick  
President-Elect—Susan Corrigan  
Secretary—Brenda Dodd  
Treasurer—Dennis Grubbs  
Past President—John Conrad

### **Kiwanis Club of Winchester, VA**

**P. O. Box 2591  
Winchester, VA 22604**

### **Club Contacts**

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Brenda Dodd, Secretary: sec@winvakiw.org  
Susan Corrigan, Kourier Editor: editor@winvakiw.org

The Kiwanis Club of Winchester meets for lunch each Wednesday from 12 to 1 pm at the  
**Winchester Moose Lodge**, 215 E. Cork St., Winchester, VA 22601.

Newsletter submissions may be emailed to editor@winvakiw.org, no later than the 22nd of each month.



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