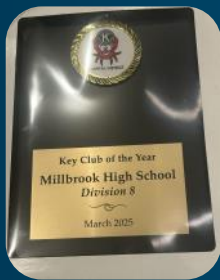




Millbrook High School Key Club of the Year



Millbrook High School was awarded **Key Club of the Year** for the Capital District at the recent DCON. Their commitment to making the community a better place is admirable. Congratulations to each Key Club member, faculty advisors Jessica Goad and Jessica Brookshire, and to our phenomenal Kiwanis advisor Ginny Grant!

Millbrook Key Club member, Ayla Pecha won the Above and Beyond award for her work on the Key Club 100th birthday party. Additionally, Sherando High School Key Club members were honored with a variety of awards.

Top: Ginny Grant with Division 8 Key Club members

Bottom left: Ginny Grant, advisor Jessica Goad, and Millbrook HS members

Bottom right: Ginny Grant with Millbrook HS and Sherando HS Key Club members

(continued on page 3)



KIWANIS KOURIER



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

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

MIKE DIDAWICK



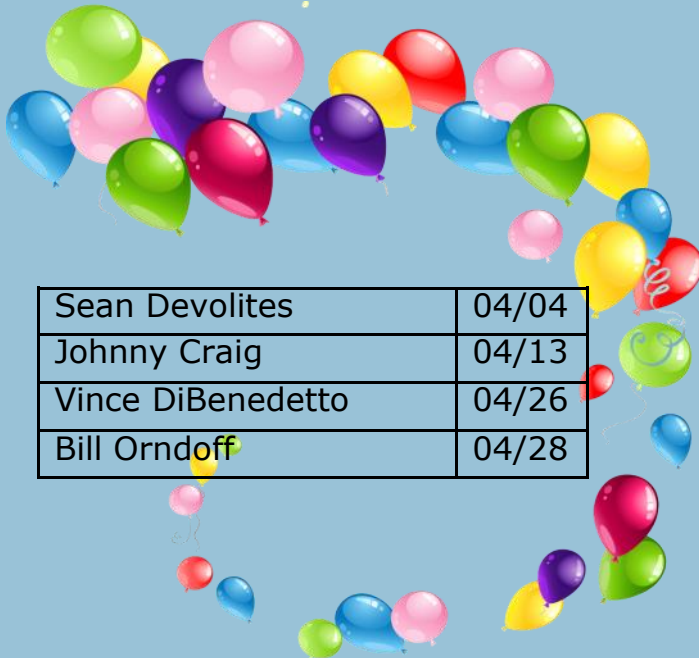
I hope everyone is enjoying the warmer weather that Spring brings us. I certainly am. Time to break out my Hawaiian shirts and flip flops.

Our exciting Spring Pancake Day is bearing down on us. The committee is hard at work and everything is coming together for a successful event. I know I always mention it but selling our tickets guarantees an outstanding result. Also, remember to sign up to work a shift or two.

(Continued on page 8)

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday To Our Members!



Sean Devolites	04/04
Johnny Craig	04/13
Vince DiBenedetto	04/26
Bill Orndoff	04/28

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

CALENDAR

April 2: Lunch meeting at the Winchester Moose Lodge; Business meeting; 12-1pm

April 8: Social; Water Street Kitchen; 6pm

April 9: Lunch meeting at the Winchester Moose Lodge; Mary Tedrow, Winchester School Board; 12-1pm

April 12: Airport Road cleanup; 8am

April 16: Lunch meeting at the Winchester Moose Lodge; Dr. Chris Scott, Valley Interfaith Council; 12-1pm

April 23: Lunch meeting at the Winchester Moose Lodge; Pancake Day Do's and Don'ts; 12-1pm

April 24: Board Meeting at Beth El Congregation; 6pm

April 25: Pancake Day setup
April 26: Pancake Day

April 30: Lunch meeting at the Winchester Moose Lodge; Handley Hilltop Singers; 12-1pm



KEY CLUB 100th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Key Club celebrated their 100th birthday with the area day care centers at Virginia Avenue Elementary School. When entering the party each day care was given a bag filled with tickets to get food and to play games.

Each table had a different birthday theme, and the Key Club members dressed as different characters. Each theme table had a craft to make and a goodie bag to take away. Mother Goose read a story and carnival games with prizes were set up in the gym. The children were served popcorn, cotton candy, pizza, hot dogs, large lollipops and drinks. The children also decorated cupcakes and sang happy birthday to Key Club.

As a special gift, each child went home with a **"Birthday in a Box"** filled with cake mix, icing, a pan, birthday supplies, and goodies.

A huge thank you goes to Kiwanian Ginny Grant for organizing this celebration of service to our community!!



These two pictures were chosen by the Capital District to be a part of their presentation at DCON.





EASTER BASKET DRIVE

Easter is quickly approaching and the K-family will be collecting items to put together Easter baskets for children at the Winchester Day Preschool, Fremont Street Nursery, and Evans Home. More than 100 baskets will be needed so each child can have a wonderful Easter holiday.

The plan is to collect items in April in hopes each member will bring at least one item to a club meeting to help fill the baskets. YCPO will put in a request to purchase items, if needed.

Once items have been collected, the Kiwanis Club will assemble the baskets before and after the April 12th lunch meeting. Below is a suggestion of possible items to provide:

- | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Easter baskets | Easter grass | chocolate bunnies |
| candy | fruit snacks | stickers |
| bubbles | puzzles | crayons |
| stuffed animals | snacks | drawing supplies |
| markers | craft items | coloring books |

(we **DO NOT** need plastic eggs, we have tons left over from last year’s drive)

Thank you for making Easter a special day for the children of our region.





NEW MEMBER INDUCTION

On March 5th, Greg Smythe was inducted as a new member by his sponsor, George Johnson, Membership Committee Chairperson Jody Wall, and President Mike Didawick. Greg is the Director of Sales at the Village of Orchard Ridge and joined Kiwanis to help kids, make friends, and be involved in our community. We look forward to getting to know Greg and working with him on one of our many service projects.



SOCIAL NEWS

Robann Riggleman & Debbie Guiffre

The monthly social was held on March 11th at Piccadilly Brew Pub. Six Kiwanis members and one guest had a great time together: Becky and Dan Starliper, Craig Organ, Boyd Hamman, Debbie Guiffre, Pat Snapp, and Robann Riggleman.

Plan on enjoying good food and camaraderie at the next social at 6:00 pm on April 8th at Water Street Kitchen in Old Town Winchester.





CIVIC CLUB APPRECIATION RECEPTION

April 10, 2025

As a valued community partner, we are cordially invited to the Civic Club Appreciation Reception to recognize all the area Civic Clubs. This event allows you to network with other community leaders and recognize our community groups.

Date: Thursday, April 10, 2025

Time: 5:30-7:30 pm

Location: The Chapel at Orchard Ridge
A Center for Faith and Community Life
400 Clocktower Ridge Drive
Winchester, VA 22603



Please RSVP by April 3, 2025 at <https://www.thevillageatorchardridge.org>



MARCH GUEST SPEAKERS



On March 12th Justin Kerns, the Executive Director of Discover Winchester, the Winchester-Frederick County Convention & Visitors Bureau, visited our weekly meeting and spoke about the vital work they do to promote our community. Their job is to encourage people to visit our region by sharing what our community has to offer. The Visitor Center is a great place to start a vacation as they have Civil War and Patsy Cline exhibits, a gift shop, lists of hotels and restaurants, and suggestions on a large variety of events going on in our area. It is also a great resource for everyone who resides in our area as they keep an updated calendar with community events, provide genealogy resources, maps, information about guided tours, and so much more. Thank you, Justin, for all the work in promoting our lovely community.

Rabbi Aaron Stucker-Rozovsky was a guest speaker at our March 19th lunch meeting. He currently has two positions, serving as the rabbinical leader of Beth El Congregation in Winchester and as a Chaplain for the Army National Guard. Rabbi Aaron gave a very interesting talk about his military experiences as a military police officer, then transitioning to becoming a military chaplain. He first signed up to serve while still in college after the 9-11 attacks on our country. After graduating he was commissioned as an officer and deployed to Guantanamo Bay and Afghanistan. It was during this time that Rabbi Aaron made the decision to enter the rabbinate. Deployments for military members are very stressful, and a chaplain provides emotional and spiritual counseling to both military members and their families. Thank you for your mission in supporting those who have chosen to serve our country.



Adam Packham, founder of the non-profit Heroes on the River, spoke at our March 26th lunch meeting. Adam is a veteran, and he recognizes that many veterans suffer when they return home after a deployment. These men and women have experienced traumatic situations in war-torn countries, which changes them into different people. After returning home, they often don't have a proper transition back into their community and with their families. There is a high rate of divorce and suicide amongst military members that have deployed. Adam's mission is to provide these service members with a connection to their community. Heroes on the River engages veterans through outdoor events, such as skydiving, hiking, mountain biking, rappelling, and rock climbing. At their skydiving event last year, 98 veterans skydived at the Front Royal Airport. One Kiwanis member stated that he did not know anyone else that gave as much to our veteran community as Adam! Adam, the work you do is life-changing for our veterans. Thank you!





KIWANIS KOURIER



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

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

(Continued from page 2)

Guess what? We may have a full slate of officers for next year. The nominee for the office of Secretary is not official. I personally want to thank Jim Coots and Rick Ours for stepping up as President-elect and Vice President, respectively.

The annual Apple Blossom Festival is just a month away. Please consider attending the Queen's Dinner as it is supported by our community's civic clubs. The Bloom is a celebration of Spring and our community. There are a large variety of events, there is something for everyone.

-Mike

Celebrating members
birthdays in March



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

Kiwaniis 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.



Visit our Website: www.winvakiw.org Find us on FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/winkiwaniis>

