



KIWANIS KOURIER



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

MAY 2025

Pancake Day April 26, 2025



What a fantastic Pancake Day! Huge shout out to the Pancake Day Committee and our Major Beneficiary, Family Promise! Without their leadership, organization, time, and talent, we would not be able to put on this extraordinary event. Thank you to the members that helped set up on Friday and worked one, two, or three shifts on Saturday. It truly takes a community to put on our Pancake Day. THANK YOU!



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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

MIKE DIDAWICK



We successfully completed another Pancake Day. Everything was running smoothly during my shift, and other Kiwanians I talked with had the same opinion. Now is the time to get our ticket money turned in so we can close the books on this one. Thank you to everyone that made this day a success.

We will be voting on our new officers and directors at our business meeting on May 7th. I am excited to announce we have a full slate for each

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MAY BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday To Our Members!



Les Veach	05/06
Jon Eye	05/10
Diane Diaz	05/11
Kari Dorsey	05/17
Jeff Kenney	05/19
Lenny Millholland	05/24
Jerry Kerr	05/26
Mark Dunford	05/29
Debbie Knotts	05/30
Jim Coots	05/31

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

CALENDAR

May 7: Lunch meeting at the Winchester Moose Lodge; Business meeting; 12-1pm

May 13: Social at Water Street Kitchen on the Walking Mall; 6pm

May 14: Lunch meeting at the Winchester Moose Lodge; Scholarship and Service Awards; 12-1pm

May 21: Lunch meeting at the Winchester Moose Lodge; Will Marchant, Amateur Radio and Rocketry; 12-1pm

May 28: Lunch meeting at the Winchester Moose Lodge; Megan Slaughter, Connected Communities; 12-1pm

May 29: Board Meeting at Beth El Congregation; 6pm



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PANCAKE DAY MAJOR BENEFICIARY FAMILY PROMISE

When a non-profit organization applies to become the Pancake Day Beneficiary, they are agreeing to sell pancake day tickets, attend committee meetings, and provide volunteers on the day of the event. They work very hard to earn 20% of the net proceeds of our semi-annual fund raising event.

This year we had the pleasure of meeting and working with the Family Promise Northern Shenandoah Valley leadership Robin Russell and Emma Bridges, along with their many volunteers that helped make our day a success.

Family Promise helps “flip the lives” of families experiencing homelessness. They use a multi-tiered approach to put families on the path to stability.

They can provide emergency shelter, rental and utility assistance, mediation with landlords to prevent eviction, financial training, employment support, and transportation assistance.

A vital piece of their approach is to provide the financial tools and guidance to families in order to better manage their budget. They go through their financial statements with a fine tooth comb to determine where money is being spent. In order for a family to maintain a stable future, it is important for them to get a handle on where money is being wasted and how to save money.

We thoroughly enjoyed getting to know Robin and Emma, and appreciate how they are helping the families of our region. Thank you!





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SOCIAL NEWS

Robann Rigglesman & Debbie Guiffre



The Village at Orchard Ridge graciously held a Civic Club Appreciation Reception to recognize all the area civic clubs. Nine Kiwanians attended the reception: Jim Coats, George Johnson, Ginny Grant, Craig Organ, Pat Snapp, Greg Smythe, Rick Brown, Julette Michael, and Mike Didawick. We appreciate the Village at Orchard Ridge for recognizing the organizations that work hard to give back to our community.

The next social will be held on May 13th at Water Street Kitchen at 6pm.

EASTER BASKET PROJECT

Thank you very much for donating candy, baskets and toys in order to fill over 100 Easter baskets for children at Freemont Street Nursery and Winchester Day Preschool. Buying items and taking the time to put together the baskets is not work when you know you will be putting a huge smile on a child's face. Thank you!





APRIL GUEST SPEAKERS

On April 9th, Dr. Mary Tedrow spoke to our club about the history of education in our country and how it has evolved. Dr. Tedrow is a longtime educator, having taught literacy at local high schools, lectures at Shenandoah University, and is a new member of the Winchester Public School Board. We appreciate Dr. Tedrow taking the time to share a vital topic that impacts the children we work with.



Dr. Chris Scott, the President of the Valley Interfaith Council (VIC), spoke to our club on April 16th. The VIC is comprised of leaders of local faith communities. Their mission is about promoting respect and understanding amongst all the religious beliefs in our region. It is through kindness and respect that we can create a culture of peace. Thank you Dr. Scott for providing positive words of hope in uncertain times.

Our club was entertained by the Handley High School Combo Choir on April 30th. Led by Director Gloria Law, the Treble Ensemble, Chamber Singers, and Concert Choir, joined together to sing a variety of Broadway show hits, such as "Into the Woods" and "Mama Mia." We were thoroughly captivated by their fantastic voices, dance moves, and smiling faces. Having the Handley High singers visit our club is always a highlight during Apple Blossom week. Thank you for sharing your time and talent with our club!

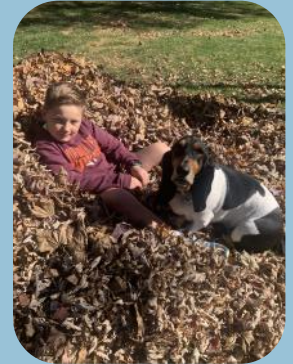




SPOTLIGHT ON OUR MEMBERS



May's Featured Kiwanian: Carolyn Wright



Birthplace: Winchester, VA

Family: Carolyn is married to Jay and they have an 8-year old son, Turner.

Best advice: "Start saving early, even if it's not much."

Favorite quote: "It always seems impossible, until it's done." -Nelson Mandela

Career: Carolyn works in government consulting and project management.

Accomplishments: Virginia Tech graduate

Most interesting place visited: New Zealand's Franz Josef Glacier

Most interesting thing ever done: cave rafting under a ceiling lit by glow worms

Why you joined Kiwanis: to reconnect and give back to the community

What activities do you enjoy the most with Kiwanis: meeting new people at the Wednesday's meetings



Pictures from Carolyn's induction on April 2nd with President Mike Didawick and sponsor Jody Wall.

Kiwanis Club of Winchester is successful because of its many volunteer members who give so freely of their time and effort.

THANK YOU FOR BEING A MEMBER OF KIWANIS CLUB, CAROLYN



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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

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position. I want to thank the members for stepping up to lead our club for the next year.

President: Susan Corrigan President-elect: Jim Coots Vice President: Rick Ours
Secretary: Nancy Huth Treasurer: Dennis Grubbs Past President: Mike Didawick
Board of Directors 2024-2026: Debbie Guiffre, Doug Green, Robann Riggleman, and Ryan Taylor
Board of Directors 2025-2027: Susan Creasy, Jon Eye, Juliette Michael, and Craig Morcom

On May 14th we will have the honor of awarding scholarships, service awards, and Teenager of the Year to some extremely talented, bright, and service-oriented Key Club members.

It is Apple Blossom Time again. I look forward to seeing some of our members attend the Queen's Dinner, which is hosted by local civic clubs each year.

Enjoy the festival and the "Field of Blooms."

-Mike



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

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Club Contacts

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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/winkiwanis>

